

**WEEKLY CALENDAR**

Sunday	Easter Sunrise Service	6:30 am
	Easter Breakfast	7:30-11:00 am
	Worship with Communion	8:00 am
	Worship with Communion	9:30 am
	Anderson Baptism	9:30 am
	Worship with Communion	11:00 am
Monday	OFFICE CLOSED	
Tuesday	Bible Study	9:30 am
Wednesday	WOL Chapel	8:15 am
	Quilters	9:00 am
	Women of the Word Bible Study	9:30 am
	Confirmation Class	6:30 pm
Thursday	Men’s Bible Study	6:15 am
	Moms in Prayer	8:15 am
Saturday	Worship with Communion	5:00 pm

**STEWARDSHIP**

**John 20:1** – “Now on the first day of the week ...” All is made new by the resurrection of Jesus! Even the day of worship has transitioned from the Old Testament’s Sabbath (Saturday) to the Lord’s Day of the New Testament (Sunday). For the Lord has made all things new: In rising from the dead as the new Adam, He has begun a new week for a new creation. We are also made new in Him — a new heart, a new life, new desires, a new outlook toward God. All this comes from our risen Lord’s grace. Especially after the sort of year we’ve had since last Easter, it sure is good news to hear that the Lord makes all things start afresh!

**Stewardship Report**

For the weekend ending March 24<sup>th</sup>

In-person attendance: 5:00 – 40  
8:30 – 108  
11:00 – 68

**TOTAL – 216**

Amount Received to Share Christ’s Love

Budgeted Amount	\$	12,478
Amount Received	\$	14,497
Surplus/(Shortfall)	\$	2,019

2024 Deficit through February: \$7,347

**2024 BIBLE READING CHALLENGE!**

**2024 BIBLE READING CHALLENGE!** At Ascension we strive to be people of the Word as we engage with Scripture on a regular, even daily, basis. In 2021-2022 we read through the Bible in two years. In 2023 we read through the book of Psalms. In 2024, we invite you to join with brothers and sisters in Christ at Ascension in reading through all four Gospels: Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. The Gospels are at the heart of God’s story of salvation for us as they trace the birth, life, death, resurrection, and Ascension of Jesus our Savior. The reading schedule is available in the church library.

Each Friday, Pastor posts a video on Ascension’s Facebook page and YouTube channel highlighting a theme or insight of that week’s readings.

Our reading for **March 31 – April 6** is **Matthew 23 & 24.**

**EASTER BREAKFAST**

**EASTER BREAKFAST** Enjoy a delicious meal, and support our youth! Ascension’s Youth Group will be serving breakfast in the Fellowship Hall from **7:30 am to 11:00 am** on Easter morning. The menu will include muffins, sausage, fruit, and a variety of casseroles. See you there!



**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS**

**CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED** A reminder that the church office will be closed on **Easter Monday, April 1, 2024.**



**SUNDAY SCHOOL OPENING**

Children in Preschool through Grade 8 are invited to meet in the sanctuary at **9:45 am** each week for a brief Sunday school opening. Details about Sunday school for all ages are on page 5 of the News & Notes.

## LIKE US



**LIKE US ON FACEBOOK** Like Ascension to stay current with events, Bible studies, photos, videos and other great resources!

**There are four Ascension-related Facebook pages:**

- Church page: "Ascension Lutheran Church LCMS"
- Youth page: "Ascension Youth Fellowship"
- Word of Life page: "Word of Life Lutheran School"
- Young Adults: "Ascension Community Group"

### LAST MONTH'S ONLINE VIEWS

- 2/04: 309
- 2/11: 288
- 2/18: 275
- 2/25: 269

### Note to Worshippers

Ever want to re-watch a worship service or listen to a sermon again?

**Ascension livestreams our worship services.**

Go to: [AscensionStL.com/livestream](https://AscensionStL.com/livestream) to find archived services.

## DONATE FROM YOUR SMARTPHONE

Scan the image you see here by using your phone's QR code reader (bar code scanner) to be taken directly to Ascension's on-line giving page. Simply set up your account, using your credit card, debit card, or checking account and donate electronically. Smartphone users can also download the Vanco Mobile app from the Apple or Google Play Store and set up an account. Please use only one email account per contribution envelope number.



## NEW MEMBER CLASS

**NEW MEMBER CLASS** Are you interested in learning more about what Lutheran Christians believe? Are you looking for a church home and a church family? Does your child attend Word of Life School and you would like to be connected to one of the school's association congregations? Then please consider attending Ascension's New Member Class. In this 7-week class we'll go over the basic teaching of the faith and answer any questions you may have about Ascension and its mission and ministry.

The class is taught by Pastor Clark and will meet on Sunday mornings at **10:00 am** in the Concordia Conference Room beginning **April 14**.



## EASTER LILIES

**Just a reminder that Easter Lilies may be picked up after the 11 a.m. service on Easter Sunday, March 31, 2024.**



**Please note: lilies will be discarded on April 4<sup>th</sup>.**

## KFUO SPONSORSHIP

**KFUO RADIO WORSHIP BROADCASTS** Our LCMS radio station, KFUE AM 850, has invited Ascension to broadcast its Sunday morning early service from May through July. These broadcasts are listened to by many both locally on the radio and world-wide via the internet. Ascension is seeking individuals and families to sponsor a broadcast. Broadcast sponsorships can be dedicated in memory of someone, celebration of a special event, or in thanksgiving. A sponsorship is \$150. Please contact the church office to sponsor a broadcast. See below for the list of current sponsors and dates still available.



- May 5: Don Sprinz
- May 12:
- May 19:
- May 26:
- June 2:
- June 9:
- June 16:
- June 23:
- June 30:
- July 7:
- July 14:
- July 21:
- July 28:

## LUTHERAN SCHOOL GROWTH

**THANKFUL FOR LUTHERAN SCHOOL GROWTH!** The Sunday, February 25 cover of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch featured a story that highlighted the significant growth of Lutheran schools in the St. Louis area. Since 2019, overall enrollment at Lutheran schools in the St. Louis area has increased by 19%. Our own school, Word of Life has also seen a trend in increased enrollment growing from approximately 175 students in 2019 to 224 students in 2024. We give thanks to God that more children and youth are hearing about their Savior Jesus Christ each and every school day! You can access the Post-Dispatch article at [stltoday.com](http://stltoday.com). The article is also displayed on our lobby bulletin board.

## ASCENSION YOUTH FELLOWSHIP



**ASCENSION YOUTH FELLOWSHIP (AYF)** is the volunteer-led youth ministry at Ascension Lutheran Church for the children of Ascension and beyond. We have two distinct groups that gather based upon their ages: The Junior Youth

is open to all youth in grades 5 through 8; and the Senior Youth is open to all youth in grades 9 through 12.



### YOUTH SUNDAYS

- **Junior Youth meet from 3:00-5:30 pm**
- **Senior Youth meet from 4:45-8:00 pm**

A meal including both Junior and Senior Youth will take place at **5:00 pm**.

### YOUTH SUNDAY DATES:

**May 19** (Youth BBQ)

### SAVE THE DATE

Mark your calendars for these other important dates!

- The Missouri District Youth Gathering **April 5-7, 2024**
- Youth Trivia Night will be **Saturday, April 20, 2024** from **6:00-10:00 pm**. Proceeds will benefit the 2025 National Youth Gathering in New Orleans.

**QUESTIONS?** If you have any questions about Ascension Youth Fellowship, please contact Lisa Clark or Pastor at the church office.

**Lisa Clark**

(314) 659-7558

[lisamclark.lc@gmail.com](mailto:lisamclark.lc@gmail.com)

## YOUTH TRIVIA NIGHT

**YOUTH TRIVIA NIGHT** The Youth Trivia Night will be **Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup>**. This annual trivia night / silent auction is the primary fundraiser for participation in the tri-annual LCMS National Youth Gathering.

The youth are asking the Congregation's help with donations of themed baskets or gift cards to local businesses to be used for the silent auction. Please drop off donations to the church office by **April 7<sup>th</sup>**.

There will soon be a sign up board in the lobby for tables. \$20 per person, 8 people per table.

Text or call Kathy Thies with any questions  
(314) 580-2074



## GRADUATION MILESTONE

**2024 GRADUATES** If you are graduating from 8<sup>th</sup> grade, high school, trade school, military service, or college; Ascension would like to celebrate your accomplishment. Pastor Clark will invite you to the front of church and give you a special blessing and gift. We look forward to celebrating with you and hope to see you at any church service the weekend of **May 18 and 19**.

## THRIVENT GRANTS RECENTLY APPROVED

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WOL – Boys' Basketball Tournament food

EEH – Dairy Queen gift certificates  
EEH – Bounce house rental  
EEH – Cotton candy machine rental  
EEH – Drinks  
EEH – Snacks  
EEH – Arch books from CPH & craft



ALC – Lent dinner served by Women's Bible Study  
ALC – Lent dinner served by Ministry Council  
ALC – Choir music for Good Friday & Easter  
ALC – Youth Easter breakfast  
ALC – Summer Concert Series Ad in STL Hills newsletter

## SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

**SUMMER CONCERT SERIES** Ascension's Free Outdoor Concert Series will again take place Saturdays in June at 7:00 pm. The following is a schedule of concerts. A big thanks to our Music Director, Gabe Maichel, for organizing this series.

June 1  
Side X Side  
(Percussion Ensemble)

June 8  
The Bottlesnakes Trio  
(Folk & Blues)

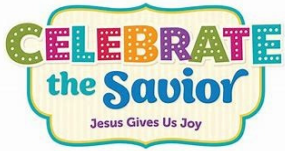
June 15  
Fanfare  
(Cover Band)

June 22  
The Knights of Swing  
(Jazz Big Band)

June 29  
Two Times True  
(Jazz)



## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



**SAVE THE DATE!**  
Join us this summer,  
**June 10-14, 2024** from **9:00 am-12:00 pm**, for Vacation Bible School. Watch for more info!

## WORD OF LIFE NEWS



### **WOL APRIL RESTAURANT NIGHT**

Smoking Barrels BBQ  
5641 S. Kingshighway Blvd  
**Tuesday, April 16<sup>th</sup>**  
All Day,  
Dine In or Carry Out  
WOL will receive a percentage of sales



## LUTHERAN DAY AT THE BALLPARK

**LUTHERAN DAY AT THE BALLPARK** Join us for Lutheran Day at the Ballpark on **Sunday, May 5** at **1:15 pm** for an interleague matchup between the St. Louis Cardinals and the Chicago White Sox. Sit with other families from your school and enjoy the view from the right field loge. Tickets are \$25 and include a free hot dog and soda. Tickets can be picked up at your school beginning May 1. The first 25,000 fans, ages 16 and older, will take home an exclusive Cardinals purse. Then, stick around to watch the Lutheran South Lancers battle the Sullivan Eagles following the Cardinals game. Kids, 15 & under get to run the bases between the games.

Alumni are invited to join us at 11:30 am in the Cunningham Corner for a pre-game party including food and drink. Entrance to the alumni party is free.  
Get your Cardinals tickets today at <https://bit.ly/ballpark24>

## LUTHERAN SOUTH SUMMER CAMPS

**LUTHERAN SOUTH SUMMER CAMPS** Does your child enjoy shooting hoops? Love creating and drawing? Want to try a new sport like football or field hockey? LuSo Summer Camp offers a variety of athletic and enrichment activities with morning and afternoon sessions available. From playing tennis to the trombone, we have coaches and instructors who offer positive reinforcement. Your campers will have fun while learning a new skill. Register today at [LSlancers.org/summer](https://LSlancers.org/summer)



## VOCATIO: HIGH SCHOOL RETREAT

**VOCATIO: HIGH SCHOOL RETREAT** Thinking About Serving as a Pastor or Deaconess? If you are in high school and thinking about a vocation as a pastor or deaconess, then consider attending this summer's "Vocatio" retreat at Concordia Seminary. Vocatio is a retreat that encourages high school students to find God's calling for their lives through experiencing many aspects of the Seminary including worship and devotions, sessions with professors, and even some fun and recreation. Vocatio takes place from **June 22 to June 29, 2024**. The cost is only \$100 per person. Register at [www.csl.edu/register/VocatioHighSchool](http://www.csl.edu/register/VocatioHighSchool)

## VOCATIO: RETREAT

**VOCATIO: RETREAT** Interested in a distinctively Lutheran retreat that provides the space to rest in God's Word, time to spend in prayer and the opportunity to learn from some of the brightest theologians in the church? Concordia Seminary, St. Louis invites you to attend *Vocatio: Retreat* — a three-day retreat (**April 14-16, 2024**) geared toward college students and second-career men and women who are considering serving as a pastor, deaconess, missionary or chaplain. Registration is free and includes lodging and meals. To register visit [www.csl.edu/vocatio-retreat](http://www.csl.edu/vocatio-retreat) Hurry! Registration closes March 29.

## CFNA VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

**CFNA VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY** Looking for ways to be the hands and feet of Jesus to refugees in St. Louis? CFNA is seeking volunteers to drive refugee clients to medical appointments. Transportation to appointments is the last and most crucial link to accessing needed medical care. Appointments are mostly on weekdays during normal business hours. Interested? Reach out to Paige Bernau, RN at [pbernau@cfna-stl.org](mailto:pbernau@cfna-stl.org). More information can be found on the bulletin board in the lobby.



**Christian Friends of New Americans**  
4019 SOUTH GRAND, ST. LOUIS, MO 63118 | 314-351-1740

## CFNA DONATIONS NEEDED

**DONATIONS NEEDED** Thank you for your past support of refugees and immigrants who have made the U.S. their home. Many arrive with little or nothing at all and are in need of basic household and personal care products as well as other necessities. The pace of new arrivals settling in our country continues to grow steadily. The demand for household furnishings outweighs the supply. There is a great need for laundry detergent (40+oz size), paper towels, toilet paper, facial tissue boxes, dish soap, bar soap (4oz), shampoo with conditioner, toilet bowl cleaner, disinfectant wipes, garbage bags (13 gallon), stick deodorant, tooth brushes, toothpaste (6oz) floss, mouthwash. Next time you shop please consider purchasing an extra item(s) of any of the above items. Donations should be placed in the box in coat closet.

## JOIN ONE OF OUR BIBLE STUDIES

Bible studies are a wonderful opportunity to be in God's Word and enjoy fellowship as you grow in faith and friendship. For more information on any of the Bible studies listed below, you may contact the leaders directly or our Bible Study and Small Group Coordinator Barbara Shippy at [bjshippy@gmail.com](mailto:bjshippy@gmail.com) or (314) 795-2568.

**Sunday Morning Bible Study** All are welcome!  
Join us for Bible class between worship services.  
Sundays from 9:45–10:30 am / ongoing  
Location: Ascension / Fellowship Hall  
Leaders: Pastor Clark & Pastor Kobs

**Tuesday Morning Bible Study** (Men & Women)  
Tuesdays from 9:30–11 am / ongoing  
Location: Ascension / Concordia Room  
Leader: Pastor Clark  
Contact: [pastor@ascensionstl.com](mailto:pastor@ascensionstl.com) / (314) 832-5600

**Women of the Word Bible Study**  
Wednesdays from 9:30–11 am / ongoing  
Location: Ascension / lower level classroom  
Leader: Marlene Maxfield  
Contact: [marmaxfield@aol.com](mailto:marmaxfield@aol.com) / (314) 221-0999

**Thursday Morning Men's Bible Study**  
Thursdays from 6:15–7:30 am / ongoing  
Location: Ascension / Hintze Library in Church Lobby  
Leader: Mike Gibbs  
Contact: [jackfan39@yahoo.com](mailto:jackfan39@yahoo.com) / (314) 352-1297

**Thursday Evening Men's Bible Study**  
Thursdays from 7:00–8:00 pm / ongoing  
Location: Personal residence  
Leaders: Rob Bremer and Chris Thies  
Contact Rob: [rwbjhb@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rwbjhb@sbcglobal.net) / (314) 413-2603  
Contact Chris: [chris.thies@outlook.com](mailto:chris.thies@outlook.com)

## SUNDAY MORNING ADULT BIBLE STUDY

**FAST FORWARD** We have begun a new Sunday morning Bible study topic. Each Sunday we'll be "fast forwarding" to the Scripture readings that will be used in worship the *next* weekend. As we look ahead at God's Word together, our discussion might even help inform and shape the sermon for the next weekend. Come join Pastor Clark on Sundays at **10:00 am** in the Fellowship Hall to be a part of the conversation and be a week ahead!

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

At Ascension, we strive to engage with EVERY person at EVERY age in learning more about our Savior, Jesus.

On Sunday mornings, we have a class for YOU!

Students in Preschool through Junior High meet in the church sanctuary at 9:45 am for Sunday School opening.

### Toddlers & Parents

If you are ready to get your family in a Sunday morning Bible class habit, join us in the nursery for a special Sunday School option just for you. Singing, activities, and stories focused on God and his love for his littlest learners (and their caregivers). Contact Brittany Schelp at (417) 438-7860 for more details.

### Preschool and Kindergarten

Teachers: Marcia Passanise, Dan Passanise & Cathy Kramer

### Grades 1 through 3

Teachers: Emily Jones, Brittany Schelp, Mary Pastor, and Aubrey Blank

### Grades 4 through 5

Teachers: Rich Schaefer and Carl Anderson

### Junior High

Teachers: Deaconess Anna Johnson, Lisa Clark, and seminary students

### Senior High

Teachers: Rob Bremer, Jeremy Johnson, and seminary students

### Adults

Teachers: Pastor Clark, Pastor Kobs, Gagan Gurung, and John Gurung

### Nepali Fellowship

Teachers: Pastor Clark, Gagan Gurung, John Gurung, and Friends

### Sunday School Coordinator

Deaconess Anna Johnson

### Assistant Coordinator

Brittany Schelp



## SUNDAY SCHOOL UPDATES

### WHAT ARE WE LEARNING ABOUT IN SUNDAY SCHOOL?

#### March 31

Easter Sunday-no Sunday School this weekend

## WORSHIP NOTES

**PREACHER:** Pastor Matthew Clark

### LITURGIST:

Vicar John Gurung: Sundays at 11:00am  
Seminarian Joshua Wareham (2<sup>nd</sup> year): 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of month  
Seminarian Joel Her (4<sup>th</sup> year): 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of month  
Seminarian Michael Winckler (4<sup>th</sup> year): 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of month  
Pastor Matthew Kobs: 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of month  
Seminarian Kurtis Polodna (1<sup>st</sup> year): 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of month

**MINISTRY OF MUSIC:** Gabe Maichel, organist

**ACOLYTES:** 6:30 volunteer; 8:00 volunteer;  
9:30 volunteer; 11:00 volunteer

**NEXT WEEK:** 5:00p Tyler Kern  
8:30 Noah Maxfield; 11:00 Rain Hernandez/Samuel Gurung

**ALTAR GUILD:** 8:00 Debbie & Mike Gibbs  
9:30 Sharon Agne; 11:00 Julie Krapf  
**NEXT WEEK:** 5:00p Sharon Agne  
8:30 Becky Harmon; 11:00 Michelle Rosner

### COMMUNION ASSISTANTS:

8:00 Jack Pendleton  
9:30  
11:00 Carlos Lopez  
**NEXT WEEK:** 5:00p Rich Schaefer & Randy Agne  
8:30 Josh Wareham &  
11:00 Josh Wareham &

**A/V ROOM:** 5:00p Bella Bracken, Anna Clark,  
Matthew Hofman;  
8:30 Bill Maxfield, Grant Maxfield;  
11:00 Vernon Schmidt, Jason Fletcher, Julie Krapf,  
Kyan Sawyer

**READERS:** 6:30 Tracy Middleton; 8:00 Jane Fryar  
9:30 Lisa Holderle; 11:00 Dianne Thies  
**NEXT WEEK:** 5:00p Bella Bracken  
8:30 Laura Blank; 11:00 Jo Bruns

**READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK:** April 7, 2024 –

### Second Sunday of Easter

First Reading *Acts 4:32-35*  
Second Reading *1 John 1:1-2:2*  
Holy Gospel *John 20:19-31*

**USHERS:** 5:00 Karl Hofmann, Robert Hofmann, Ed Holderle,  
Walter Scoggins, Walt Simpson;  
8:30 Gene Bockelmann, Jake Bremer, Rob Bremer,  
Nathan Decker, Jack Pendleton;  
11:00 Paul Brock Sr., Dave Jones, Carlos Lopez, Rain  
Hernandez

### TOGETHER IN MISSION MISSIONARIES

Dr. Daniel & Joan Jastram - Asia  
Erin Mackenzie - Dominican Republic  
Rev. Matthew & Kali Wood – Indonesia

## PRAYER REQUESTS

The Church Staff prays for you during their weekly staff meetings. If you have a specific prayer request, please contact the church office.

### ASCENSION MEMBERS, FAMILY, AND FRIENDS SERVING IN THE MILITARY

Alex Jones	James Keltner	Daniel Harms
Brian Kitson	Thomas Kitson	Tristan Rabun
	Jamie Federhofer	

### BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

03/31 Bonita Benda, Katherine McMeans  
04/02 Debbie Hofmann  
04/03 John Rabun  
04/04 Janet Morton, Dominique Nocito, Luke Schave,  
Isaiah Shippy  
04/05 Beth Hartung, Craig Krapf, Renee Ott, Olivia Urschler

Please contact the church office if your birthday has been omitted in error.

### WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK

04/06 Allison & Jonathan Bradshaw

Please contact the church office if your anniversary has been omitted in error.

### ASCENSION MEMBERS AND FRIENDS SERVING AS FIRST RESPONDERS

Kevin Keller	Phil Green	Gary Steffens
Ross Hetz & Firehouse		Denise Strittmatter

### ASCENSION ELDERS and the families they serve

**Rich Schaefer** – Agne to Broughton  
**Rudy Blank** – Brumback to Freer  
**Mark Maxfield** – Fryar to Hill  
**Jeff Stiles** – Hill-Stout to Komrska  
**Randy Agne** – Krapf to Moffat  
**Carlos Lopez** – Monaghan to Pogue  
**Jack Pendleton** – Preston to Simpson  
**Steele Shippy** – Sittmann to Zaza  
**Paul Brock Sr.** – Elder at Large  
**Gene Bockelmann** – Elder at Large  
**Joe Benda** – Elder at Large  
**Gagan Gurung** – Nepali Members

### LCMS CONGREGATIONS IN OUR SOUTH ST. LOUIS CIRCUIT

Ascension	Hope	St. Luke's
Concordia	Messiah	St. Trinity
Epiphany	Mt. Olive	Timothy
Holy Cross	St. Johns	Trinity
Jefferson Avenue Mission		



### ASCENSION'S WOL SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS

Doug Pfitzinger – President	Rick Anderson
Jim Fox – Treasurer	Vernon Schmidt