



NEWS AND NOTES

March 2 & 3, 2024

“Loved by Christ, Sharing Christ’s Love”

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday	Coffee & Donuts	7:45-10:45 am
	Worship with Communion	8:30 am
	Sunday School / Adult Bible Study	9:45 am
	Worship with Communion	11:00 am
	WOL Bake Sale	
Monday	Staff Meeting	8:30 am
	Ministry Council	7:00 pm
Tuesday	Bible Study	9:30 am
	WOL Restaurant Night	
Wednesday	Lent Worship	8:30 am
	Quilters	9:00 am
	Women of the Word Bible Study	9:30 am
	Meal	5:00 pm
	Bell Choir	5:45 pm
	Lent Worship	6:30 pm
	Choir	7:30 pm
Thursday	Men’s Bible Study	6:15 am
	WOL Musical	6:30 pm
Friday	WOL Musical	6:30 pm
Saturday	Men’s Club	8:00-10:00 am
	WOL Musical	3:00 pm
	Worship with Communion	5:00 pm

STEWARDSHIP

John 2:16 – “And he told those who sold the pigeons, ‘Take these things away; do not make my Father’s house a house of trade.’” The Lord’s house is not a place to sell, but a place to receive and a place to give. It’s not a place for our schemes and plans. Instead, the church is a place for the Lord’s gracious giving and our faithful sacrifices in response.

Stewardship Report

For the weekend ending February 25th

In-person attendance: 5:00 – 66
8:30 – 84
11:00 – 72

TOTAL – 222

Amount Received to Share Christ’s Love

Budgeted Amount	\$	12,478
Amount Received	\$	29,452
Surplus/(Shortfall)	\$	16,974

2024 Deficit through January: \$13,508

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 3 – March 9** is **Matthew 15 & 16**.

BLESSING BAGS

BLESSING BAGS There are many in need in our South St. Louis City community and other parts of St. Louis. However, sometimes it’s difficult to know how to best help. One simple way is by sharing one of Ascension’s “Blessing Bags.” These pre-made bags contain items that are meant to be of help to those who may be homeless or in need. Simply keep a bag in your vehicle, and distribute it to someone who needs help. Maybe even include a note of encouragement or Bible verse? Help yourself to a blessing bag—they are located in the basket in the lobby.

EASTER EGG HUNT

EASTER EGG HUNT Save the date of **March 16** for Ascension’s Easter Egg Hunt! There is a sign up board in the lobby if you would like to help with this year’s festivities. There is also a bin of empty plastic Easter eggs. We invite you to take a bag of eggs home, fill them with candy, and return them to church by March 10. We ask God’s blessings on this egg hunt that also shares our resurrected Savior with our community.

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 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.



MIDWEEK LENT MEALS

MIDWEEK LENT MEALS A meal will be served starting at **5:00 pm** on Wednesday evenings before the Midweek Lent services. Below is a list of the groups serving and the menus. A huge thank you to all of our volunteers!

- **3/6** Ministry Council: serving Mexican
- **3/13** 30's & 40's Bible Study Group: serving grilled cheese, soup & salad
- **3/20** Women of the Word: serving Chicken Tetrizzini

THANK YOU

Thank you for all of your prayers, cards, and encouragement during Anna's recent hospitalization. We appreciate the love and support of our Ascension family, and we are happy that she is now home and on the road to recovery.

-The Muhlke Family

LENT 2024

LENT 2024: THE PASSION OF OUR LORD During this year's season of Lent, we'll be focusing on "The Passion of Our Lord." Reading from a compilation of all four Gospels, we will follow Jesus during the final hours before his death as we hear the entire story of Jesus' passion for our salvation. There are two opportunities for worship each Wednesday. Our **8:30 am** worship will follow the order of Matins and include the kindergarten through grade eight students of Word of Life Lutheran School. Our **6:30 pm** worship will follow an order of Evening Prayer which will include chanting as well as Lent and Evening Hymns.

✠ **Wednesday of Lent 1 – February 21, 2024**
The Lord's Supper Pastor Kobs

✠ **Wednesday of Lent 2 – February 28, 2024**
Gethsemane Pastor Clark

✠ **Wednesday of Lent 3 – March 6, 2024**
Palace of the High Priest
Seminarian Joel Her

✠ **Wednesday of Lent 4 – March 13, 2024**
The Praetorium
Seminarian Josh Wareham

✠ **Wednesday of Lent 5 – March 20, 2024**
Calvary
Seminarian Michael Winckler

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

MAUNDY THURSDAY: MARCH 28, 2024
Worship with Communion **8:30 am & 6:30 pm**

GOOD FRIDAY: MARCH 29, 2024
Tre Ore Worship at Timothy and on KFUE AM 850
12:00 pm-3:00 pm
Tenebrae Worship at Ascension **6:30 pm**

EASTER SUNDAY: MARCH 31, 2024
Sunrise Service at **6:30 am**
Worship with Communion at **8:00 am, 9:30 am, & 11:00 am**



WOL BAKE SALE

WOL BAKE SALE Ready to satisfy your sweet tooth and support our Word of Life 8th graders at the same time? This weekend, **March 2nd and 3rd**, the 8th grade families will be supplying delicious treats for sale before and after all church services. Cookies, cupcakes, cakes, and more! All proceeds from the bake sale will propel the Word of Life 8th graders closer to their goal of funding their class trip to Branson. They thank you for your support!

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 Youth will serve Easter Breakfast on **Sunday, March 31, 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

lisaclark.lc@gmail.com

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

EASTER LILIES

EASTER LILIES Donations are needed to purchase the lilies that grace our altar on Easter Sunday. With your lily purchase, you have the opportunity to honor a loved one or include a note of thanksgiving that will be printed in the Easter bulletin.

To order, please complete the following form and return it to the church office **by March 24, 2024**.

The cost of the lily is \$14.

Make checks payable to Ascension Lutheran Church.

Thank you!

Name _____

Number ordered _____ Total at \$14 each _____

I will pick up _____ I will not pick up _____

Dedication _____

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 4th.



OTHER EASTER EGG HUNTS

TIMOTHY LUTHERAN CHURCH EASTER EGG HUNT

Saturday, March 23

11:00 am – 12:30 pm

at Lindenwood Park

- Egg Hunt Fun, Easter
- Bubble Eggstravaganza
- Face Painting
- Games & Crafts
- Easter Bunny
- Family Photo Op

Register at www.timothystl.org/egghunt



ST. LUCAS LUTHERAN CHURCH EASTER EGG HUNT

Saturday, March 30

12:30 – 2:00 pm

7100 Morgan Ford Rd

St. Louis, MO 63116

- Registration begins are 12:30 pm
- Crafts, Games & other activities
- Generous prizes and drawings
- Easter Egg Hunt begins at 1:00 pm

WORD OF LIFE NEWS



WOL OPEN POSITION

Join our amazing, caring and ministry focused team of teachers!

Word of Life is now seeking qualified applicants for the Middle School Math position that is open for the 2024-2025 school year. Experience *and* an enthusiasm for teaching math is required.

For more information or to apply, contact Principal, Melissa Bergholt, at 314-832-1244 or mbergholt@wordoflifeschool.net.

WOL RESTAURANT NIGHT

JJ Twigs

Hampton Location

Tuesday, March 5th

All Day

10% of Sales for Dine-In or Carry-Out



WOL MUSICAL Don't miss your opportunity to "Seize the Day" as Word of Life Lutheran School presents the musical production of Newsies Jr. The lights shine bright as our stars hit the stage for three performances in the Word of Life Gymnasium.

- **Thursday, March 7 at 6:30 pm**
- **Friday, March 8 at 6:30 pm**
- **Saturday, March 9 at 3:00 pm**

Tickets (\$10 for premium seating and \$8 for general seating, processing fees apply) are available online.

Visit wordoflifeschool.net/newsiesjr/ for ticket information.

Come and see the Newsies make headlines!



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

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 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. 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 TRIVIA NIGHT

CFNA TRIVIA NIGHT

April 6, 2024

Doors open at **5:15 pm**

Trivia begins at **6:00 pm**

Abiding Savior Lutheran Church
4355 Butler Hill Road
St. Louis, MO 63128

\$30 per person

\$200 per team of eight

All information, including how to register, sponsor, and donate, can be found at the CFNA website.

<https://www.cfna-stl.org/trivia>

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 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 / (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 / (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 / (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 / (314) 413-2603
Contact Chris: 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 3, Lesson 8

Today's lesson, "The Faith-Full Family," tells of Ruth's loyalty to her widowed mother-in-law, Naomi. Returning to Naomi's ancestral home in Bethlehem, Ruth glean's Boaz's fields to provide food for herself and Naomi. Ruth finds favor with Boaz, who purchases Naomi's land and redeems Ruth from her widowhood. Having married Boaz, Ruth bears a son, Obed, the grandfather of King David.

WORSHIP NOTES

PREACHER: Pastor Matthew Clark

LITURGIST:

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

MINISTRY OF MUSIC: Gabe Maichel, organist

ACOLYTES: 5:00p Tyler Kern
8:30 Noah Maxfield; 11:00 Zane Norris/Samuel Gurung
NEXT WEEK: 5:00p open
8:30 Marianne Blank; 11:00 Carolyn Her

ALTAR FLOWERS The flowers that grace our chancel have been provided by:

Rich & Jackie Edinger with thankfulness for many blessings received.

The Muhlke family in memory of Kathleen Muhlke.

ALTAR GUILD: 5:00p Tracy Middleton
8:30 Melissa Maxfield; Jim & Cheryl Chambers
NEXT WEEK: 5:00p Lisa Holderle
8:30 Melissa Maxfield; Julie Brock & Lisa Schrum

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS:

5:00p Rich Schaefer & Randy Agne
8:30 Joshua Wareham & Steele Shippy;
11:00 Joshua Wareham
NEXT WEEK: 5:00p Rich Schaefer & Randy Agne
8:30 Joel Her & Steele Shippy;
11:00 Joel Her

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: 5:00p Melissa Bergholt
8:30 Brad Muhlke; 11:00 Jo Bruns
NEXT WEEK: 5:00p Tom McCain
8:30 Nathan Decker; 11:00 Marla Lopez

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK: March 10, 2024 –

Fourth Sunday in Lent
First Reading *Numbers 21:4-9*
Second Reading *Ephesians 2:1-10*
Holy Gospel *John 3:14-21*

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

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

03/03 Diane Broughton, Paul Hyde, Janey Rathgeber
03/04 David Johnson
03/05 John Bender, Sandra Pfeuffer
03/06 Christopher Bergholt, Michael Cosentino, Louis Meyer
03/07 Lara Corvera, Cary Eldridge, Jessica Gerner-Smith, Rachel Haywood
03/09 Jenny Kesel, Jenna Tervort

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

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK

03/03 Becky & Buck Ball
03/08 John & Bee Danback

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

TOGETHER IN MISSION MISSIONARIES

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