

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday	Worship with Communion	8:30 am
	Graumann Baptism	8:30 am
	Adult Bible Study / Sunday School	9:45 am
	Worship with Communion	11:00 am
Monday	Staff Meeting	8:30 am
	Ministry Council	7:00 pm
Tuesday	Pastor’s Circuit Meeting (NO Bible Study)	
	Worship Team	7:00 pm
Wednesday	WOL Chapel	8:15 am
	Quilters	9:00 am
	Women of the Word Bible Study	9:30 am
	Bell Choir	5:45 pm
	Confirmation Class	6:30 pm
	Choir	6:45 pm
Thursday	Men’s Bible Study	6:15 am
Friday	Church Office Closed	
Saturday	Men’s Club	8:00-10:00 am
	Worship with Communion	5:00 pm

STEWARDSHIP

John 20:19 – “Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, ‘Peace be with you.’” The peace we have in Jesus is what makes a life of good works possible. Since we know that it is Jesus who saved us, and not our works, we are now free to do good works not out of self-interest, but for the right reasons: out of thanksgiving toward God and love for our neighbors.

Stewardship Report

For the weekend ending March 31st

In-person attendance: 6:30 – 41
8:00 – 76
9:30 – 204
11:00 – 88
TOTAL – 409

Amount Received to Share Christ’s Love

Budgeted Amount	\$	12,478
Amount Received	\$	28,073
Surplus/(Shortfall)	\$	15,595

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 **April 7 – April 13** is **Matthew 25 & 26**.

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 next **Sunday, April 14**.



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

- 3/03: 350
- 3/10: 223
- 3/17: 282
- 3/24: 319
- 3/31: 473

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.



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. The article is also displayed on our lobby bulletin board.

5-PART MINISTRY FOCUS

5-PART MINISTRY FOCUS

Ascension's Ministry Council has been working hard, meeting in addition to its monthly meetings to update the ministry focus of our congregation. Being focused helps us be faithful stewards of our resources and set priorities as we seek to "share Christ's love." Our 5-part focus for 2024-2026 includes the following key areas:

1. Christ-Centered Worship, Spiritual Growth, and Fellowship
2. Community Outreach
3. Multi-Cultural Outreach
4. Partnership with Word of Life School
5. Intergenerational Fellowship

The Ministry Council is not working on goals for the congregation within each of these areas. We'll be unpacking these goals more with the congregation during our pre-worship announcements over the coming weeks. We look forward to working together as a church family!

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:** Doris Burns, Becky & Geoff Welton
- June 2:**
- June 9:**
- June 16:**
- June 23:** Randy & Sharon Agne
- June 30:**
- July 7:**
- July 14:**
- July 21:**
- July 28:** Jack Pendleton



THANK YOU

To My Ascension Family:
For all the many cards, kind comments, hugs, casseroles, brownies, cookies, cupcakes, soups, meals, prayers – particularly the prayers, I thank you from the bottom of my heart!! It's a long road ahead but I know with the help of God and all of you, I'll be okay. God Bless you all!!
Jack Pendleton

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!

- 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

YOUTH TRIVIA NIGHT

YOUTH TRIVIA NIGHT The Youth Trivia Night will be **Saturday, April 20th**. 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 7th**.

There is a sign up board in the lobby for tables. Doors open at **6:00 pm**, Trivia starts at **7:00 pm** \$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 8th 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)

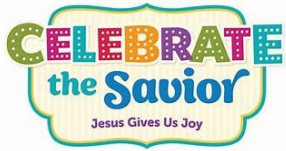
June 15
Fanfare
(Cover Band)

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 16th
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



CONCORDIA SEMINARY CALL DAY

CALL DAY 2024 Concordia Seminary's Call Day service is **Tuesday, April 23**. At **3:00 pm**, second year students will receive their vicarage assignments and at **7:00 pm**, concluding students will receive their pastoral calls. Services can be viewed at csl.edu/callday. Ascension's fourth year Seminary students, Joel Her & Michael Winckler, will receive their pastoral calls. Also, fourth year seminarian Peter Frank, the husband of former Ascension member Laura Gibbs Frank, will be receiving his pastoral call.

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

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 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 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?

April 7, Lesson 12

"The King of Glory" is the title for this week's lesson. King David prays, thanking God for His blessings and seeking His guidance. As David worships and acknowledges the true God, he asks God's blessing on his household and nation. David's psalm praises and glorifies God as it looks ahead to the coming of the glorious Savior and King.

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 Rain Hernandez/Samuel Gurung
NEXT WEEK: 5:00p
8:30 Liam Travers; 11:00 Olivia Cosentino

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

Vic & Cathy Salini in honor of the marriage of our daughter Kelley Lea Decker to Tim Foufas on Saturday, April 6, 2024.

ALTAR GUILD: 5:00p Sharon Agne
8:30 Becky Harmon; 11:00 Michelle Rosner
NEXT WEEK: 5:00p Sharon Agne
8:30 Becky Harmon; 11:00 Michelle Rosner

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS:

5:00p Rich Schaefer & Randy Agne
8:30 Josh Wareham &
11:00 Josh Wareham &
NEXT WEEK: 5:00p
8:30 Joel Her &
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 Bella Bracken
8:30 Laura Blank; 11:00 Jo Bruns
NEXT WEEK: 5:00p Rich Seifert
8:30 Marlene Maxfield; 11:00 Tom Hinton

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK: April 14, 2024 –
Third Sunday of Easter

First Reading *Acts 3:11-21*
Second Reading *1 John 3:1-7*
Holy Gospel *Luke 24:36-49*

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

04/07 Michael Lotz, Sinjin Watz
04/09 Bella Bracken, Elsie Hilkerbaumer
04/10 Nathanael Mays, Lucas Smith Jr, Diane Weber
04/12 Elyse Stewart
04/13 Kevin Keller

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

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK

04/10 Matt & Melissa Bergholt
04/12 Gene & Patty Bockelmann

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