



## NEWS AND NOTES

April 3 & 4, 2021

*“Loved by Christ, Sharing Christ’s Love”*

### WEEKLY CALENDAR

Today	Sunrise Worship-No Communion	6:30 am
	Worship with Communion	8:00 am
	Worship with Communion	9:30 am
	No Sunday School/Adult Bible Study	
	Worship with Communion	11:00 am
Monday	Church Office is Closed	
Tuesday	Pastor’s Seminary Class	10:15 am
	Worship Team	7:00 pm
Wednesday	Quilters	9:00 am
	Bell Choir	6:00 pm
	Grade 7 & 8 Confirmation	6:30 pm
Thursday	Men’s Online Bible Study	6:15 am
Friday		
Saturday	Pastor on KFYO	9:00 am
	Nepali Fellowship – Fellowship Hall	10:30 am
	Worship with Communion	5:00 pm

### CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

**CAPITAL CAMPAIGN IMPROVEMENTS** Renovations will soon begin in the church sanctuary. The gray stone throughout the sanctuary (such as what surrounds the windows and what is used in the niches for the altar flowers) will be cleaned. In middle to late April, scaffolding will be erected in the chancel to begin the process of refurbishing the chancel ceiling, painting the walls, and cleaning the beautiful stained glass window. Shortly after that, the altar, baptismal font, kneelers, pulpit, lectern and chancel chairs will be cleaned and refinished. Church services will continue to be held as usual, although the church will look a little strange! WOL will be a hotbed of activity this summer. The new HVAC system, which couldn’t be installed last summer due to COVID, will be installed this summer. New energy-efficient windows will be installed in the original school building. All the windows, including the windows on the interior classroom doors, will have black-out shades installed. A new security system, which also affects the church, will begin to be installed. Also, there will be a complete remodel of the three classrooms in the early childhood wing (grades K - 2). This remodel is funded entirely by contributions over and above the monies pledged and allocated to the school through the "Sharing Christ's Love" capital campaign.

God has truly blessed Ascension. Praise be to Him!

Donations can be made using a designated yellow-bordered envelope that is in your envelope box. Envelopes are also available outside the church office. The envelope can be placed in the locked wooden box on the table in the narthex. Donations can also be made online. If you would like to make a pledge, please contact Elaine Hilgeman (at 314-918-1434 or [emh200@swbell.net](mailto:emh200@swbell.net)) and she will supply you with a form. (All pledges are kept confidential.)

**SANCTUARY RENOVATION UPDATE** The next phase of our sanctuary renovation is underway! The stonework around our stained-glass windows, and in other areas of the sanctuary, is being cleaned. This is the first deep-cleaning our stonework has had in over 80 years, and the improvement the cleaning makes is remarkable! Painting the chancel at the front of the church is tentatively scheduled for the end of April. This will include scaffolding standing in the chancel for 2 to 4 weeks. However, worship in our sanctuary will be able to continue during this time. We are also holding brief informational meetings to share the sanctuary renovation plans with the congregation. These meetings will be held following all three worship services the weekend of April 10 and 11. These renovations are made possible by our capital campaign, "Sharing Christ's Love—Today and Tomorrow."

### STEWARDSHIP

**GENEROSITY THOUGHTS 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 Saturday Sabbath to the Lord’s Day of the New Testament. For the Lord has made all things new. He has begun a new week for a new creation in rising from the dead as the New Adam. We are also made new in Him – a new heart, a new life, new desires, and 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’s sure good news to hear that the Lord makes all things start afresh.

#### Stewardship Report

For the weekend ending March 28th

In-person attendance: 184  
 Online attendance: 178 (reached)

#### Amount Received to Share Christ’s Love

Amount Received \$ 11,129  
 Budgeted Amount \$12,019  
 Surplus/(Shortfall) \$( 890)

Capital Campaign Donations Since  
 October 2019: \$763,264

## BLOOD DRIVE

**Word of Life & Ascension Lutheran Church Blood Drive**  
Sunday, April 25<sup>th</sup> 9:00 am – 1:00 pm in the WOL gym  
To schedule an appointment, call Barb Hartung at 314-772-6651 or go to [www.bloodcenter.org](http://www.bloodcenter.org) and use sponsor code 10695. Masks are required.

## LIKE US

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

**There are 4 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"

## READ ALONG WITH PASTOR

Feel like you need some hope, peace, and joy during COVID-19? God's Word is our source of life and strength during pandemics and at all times. Pastor Clark will be reading God's Word daily using a plan that will go through the entire Bible in two years. Pastor would love for you to read along with him! Printed reading schedules are available from the usher's pre-worship, or in the church office. Every Friday Pastor will also post a video on Ascension's Facebook Page and YouTube Channel that will highlight a theme or insight for that week's readings. The readings for next week are **1 Chron 18–29**

## COME EARLY OR STAY LATE

**COME EARLY OR STAY LATE**, but be sure to make plans to enjoy live Easter music on the church lawn between Easter services. Music will be played from 9:00 - 9:30 and again from 10:30 - 11:00. This will provide a time to safely socialize with your Ascension friends while celebrating our Savior's resurrection. It's also a great witness to our community, so be sure to join us!

### Note to Worshipers

**Ascension broadcasts its worship services via livestream on the internet.**

You can also find archived services.

Go to: [Ascensionstl.com/stream](http://Ascensionstl.com/stream).

## ON-LINE BIBLE STUDY GETS A REFRESH



Have you been crashing? Looking for a connection to God's word? Virus got you down and you need some support? Join us online each Sunday from 9:45-10:40 am for Sunday morning Bible class — right in your browser!

We're trying out a new service that offers better opportunity for real-time interaction during Bible class. Rather than streaming via Facebook, you can join by going to [ascensionstl.whereby.com/meet](http://ascensionstl.whereby.com/meet). No Camera? No problem! You can connect with a webcam, just a microphone, or neither and use the chat! Join us on Sunday mornings at 9:45am to dig into God's Word together.

## DONATE FROM YOUR SMARTPHONE

Scan the image you see here by using your phone's QR code reader (bar code scanner). You will 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 GIVE+Mobile app from the Apple or Google Play Store and set up an account. Please use only one email account per contribution envelope number.



## WHAT IS PASTOR STUDYING?

Pastor Clark is about half way through the Doctor of Ministry program at Concordia Seminary in St. Louis. During the spring and summer of 2021, Pastor is taking two classes. One class is Doctoral Research and Writing, which will assist Pastor in writing his final Major Applied Project. The other class is The Missio Dei—The Mission of God, which goes in-depth into the topic of evangelism and outreach with special emphasis on our context at Ascension. Please keep Pastor's studies in your prayers.

## RECENT THRIVENT GRANTS



### 2021 THRIVENT GRANTS

72" TV for meetings in Concordia Room  
Purchased new easel for church  
Desserts for WOL Black History Assembly  
Portable outside stage for Easter and Summer concerts  
Food for helpers assembling portable stage  
Think Spring - purchase additional annual flowers  
Think Spring - purchase supplies for event  
Think Spring - food/drinks for volunteers Fri/Sat  
Ad in STL Hills newsletter to promote summer concerts

## 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!

### Parents and Littles

Teachers: Jasmine Duerr and Friends

### Preschool and Kindergarten

Teachers: Marcia Passanise and Friends

### Grades 1 through 3

Teachers: Emily Jones, Brittany Schelp, and Lisa Clark

### Grades 4 through 5

Teachers: Rich Schaefer and Carl Anderson

### Junior High

Teachers: Anna Johnson, Joel Her, and Friends

### Senior High

Teachers: Rob Bremer, Matt Lorenz, and Friends

### Adults

Teachers: Pastor Clark, Pastor Kobs, and Friends

### Nepali Fellowship

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

### Sunday School Co-Coordinators

Lisa Clark and Anna Johnson

## COMMUNICATIONS POSITION EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

**COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR** Ascension's Ministry Council recently approved of the creation of a part-time Communications Coordinator staff position at Ascension. In cooperation with the pastors, Communications Team, and administrative assistant, the Communications Coordinator will oversee Ascension's communication through website, social media, and print material. The position is approximately 10 hours a week. If you are interested in a more detailed job description, please contact Ascension's Communication's Team: [commteam@ascensionstl.com](mailto:commteam@ascensionstl.com).

## HINTZE LIBRARY NOTES

### STATUS OF HINTZE LIBRARY WORK



Hello Hintze Library patrons. Let me share with you the status of the work on our library collection.

The inventory is basically complete and new titles are being incorporated into the collection. I hope that next month, I can share with the congregation the process for checking out these volumes and will have a monthly Library Look to review various interesting titles.

Thank you for your patience and I look forward to opening the library collection for use.

Claudia Seifert, Parish Librarian

## KITCHEN APPLIANCES NEEDED

Ascension members Eric & Flora Mukindi are in need of a working stove. The stove is currently gas, but electric would be preferred. This switch would require gas and electric work to be done. If you have a "gently used" appliance, or could help convert the stove from gas to electric, please contact the church office at (314) 832-5600 or [pam@ascensionstl.com](mailto:pam@ascensionstl.com).

## WOL RESTAURANT FUNDRAISER



### WOL RESTAURANT FUNDRAISER

Tuesday, April 13th  
Corner of Eichelberger & Hampton  
3:00 pm - 10:00 pm

20% of all Drive Thru Sales and Mobile Orders  
**THIS FLIER MUST BE PRESENTED**

Go to: <https://wordoflifeschool.net>

## ANNUAL PLANT SALE

**THINK SPRING!** Ascension's annual plant sale fundraiser will be held on Saturday, April 24<sup>th</sup>, 9-1 pm to benefit Ascension's youth activities. Choose from a colorful selection of fresh, locally grown annuals, perennials, vegetables and hanging baskets. Order forms are available in the church lobby and at [www.ascensionstl.com/plants](http://www.ascensionstl.com/plants). Completed order forms with attached payment can be placed in the box next to the Plant Sale display in the church lobby. Sorry, plants listed on the order form must be pre-ordered. **Pre-orders are due by 4/9/21.** Your order will be available for pick up on the 24<sup>th</sup> and will conveniently be delivered right to your car in the alley off Loran Street behind church! To keep everyone safe, social distancing practices will be observed. You will also have the opportunity to shop additional annuals, perennials and yard art at the Word of Life school playground, but those items will exclusively be available on sale day. Please Contact Karen Hilkerbaumer at 314-378-2977 or [gbomber@swbell.net](mailto:gbomber@swbell.net) or Julie Headrick at 314-258-2169 or [hea102@sbcglobal.net](mailto:hea102@sbcglobal.net) with questions.

## WORSHIP NOTES

**PREACHER:** Pastor Matthew Clark

**LITURGIST:** Seminarian Joel Her, 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Month;  
Seminarian Matt Lorenz, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Month  
Seminarian Michael Winckler, 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Month  
Pastor Matthew Kobs, 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Month

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

**ACOLYTES:** 6:30 8:00 9:30  
11:00 Rain Hernandez & Tyler Kern

**NEXT WEEK:** 8:00 am TBD; 9:30 am TBD;  
11:00 am TBD

**ALTAR FLOWERS:** Thank you for the generous donations of Easter lilies that beautifully grace the altar and fellowship hall for all four Easter services.

**ALTAR GUILD:** 5:00 Debbie Hofmann; 8:15 Nancy & Doug Pfitzinger; 11:00 Marcia Passanise  
**NEXT WEEK:** 6:30 TBD; 8:00 Melissa Maxfield; 9:30: Diane & Mark Bracken 11:00 Cheryl & Jim Chambers

**MULTIMEDIA ROOM:** 5:00 Bella Bracken;  
8:15 Bill Maxfield, Grant Maxfield; 11:00 Vernon Schmidt

**READERS** 6:30 Tracy Middleton; 8:00 Tom McCain;  
9:30 Lisa Holderle 11:00 Tom Hinton  
**NEXT WEEK:** 5:00 Debbie Meyer  
8:15 Brad Muhlke; 11:00 Troy Hansen

**READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK:** April 11, 2021 –  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter**  
**First Reading** Acts 4:32-35  
**Epistle** 1 John 1:1-2:2  
**Holy Gospel** John 20:19-31

**USHERS:** 5:00 Walter Scoggins, Walt Simpson; Karl Hofmann, Robert Hofmann, Ed Holderle  
8:15 Jake Bremer, Rob Bremer, Jonathan Gibbs,  
Jack Pendleton, Gene Bockelmann, Nathan Decker,  
Mark Shaffer  
11:00 Dave Jones, Carlos Lopez, Paul Brock Sr.,  
Roger Jensen

### TOGETHER IN MISSION MISSIONARIES

Dr. Daniel and Joan Jastram-Asia  
Erin Mackenzie-Dominican Republic  
Rev. Matthew & Kali Wood-Indonesia  
DCE Krista & Joel Young-Africa

## 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 or fill out a note from the Record of Fellowship folder and place it on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

### BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

4/4 Janet Morton, Dominique Nocito, Luke Schave  
4/5 Beth Hartung, Craig Krapf, Remeo Ott, Olivia Urschler  
4/7 Patricia Bockelmann, Matt Lorenz, Michael Lotz, Isabella Bracken, Karen Rogier  
9/10 Nathanael Mays, Lucas Smith

Please contact the church office if your birthday has been omitted by mistake.

### WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK

4/6 Jonathan & Allison Bradshaw  
4/10 Matt & Melissa Bergholt

Please contact the church office if your anniversary has been omitted by mistake.

### YOUTH OF THE WEEK

Anish Gurung  
Shresti Gurung  
Emma Hansen  
Emma Hartung

### ASCENSION MEMBERS AND FRIENDS SERVING AS FIRST RESPONDERS

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

### ASCENSION MEMBERS AND FRIENDS SERVING IN THE MILITARY

Alex Jones James Keltner  
Brian Kitson Thomas Kitson  
Tristan Rabun

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

Ascension	Emmaus	Epiphany
Holy Cross	Hope	Messiah
Mt. Olive	St. Johns	St. Lucas
St. Luke's	St. Trinity	Timothy
Trinity		

## WOL DISC GOLF TOURNAMENT FUNDRAISER



Word of Life School will be hosting a disc golf tournament to raise money for the athletic department to purchase new uniforms and equipment for various sports teams.

**Where:** Watson Trails Park in Sunset Hills

**When:** Saturday April 10th- sign up for a tee off time between 10am-2pm

**What:** Teams of 4 will play a scramble through 9 holes of disc golf. A scramble is where each member of the team tees off. The team then gets to decide which throw was the best and each member of the team will throw their next shot from that disc. This continues until one player makes it into the basket.

**Cost:** \$20 adults; \$10 students (K-12th grade). Cash or check payable to Word of Life paid at the check-in table the day of the event.

**Sponsors:** For \$50, businesses can sponsor a hole. Your company's name will be on a sign by the hole that you sponsor. Proceeds will go to the Word of Life Athletic Department.

**Disc:** Players must use a frisbee golf disc. If you do not have one, the athletic director has a select number that can be borrowed on a first come first serve basis.

**Contact:** **Emily Maichel** to sign up for a start time, a disc, or to sponsor a hole at 314-591-3069 or [Athleticdirector@wordoflifeschool.net](mailto:athleticdirector@wordoflifeschool.net)

## WORD OF LIFE 2021 AUCTION



### AUCTION 2021 PAJAMA PARTY



*Have some wonderful NEW items that would make an amazing auction item? Maybe have a condo at the lake or in the woods that you would be willing to give away for a weekend? The 2021 Auction Committee would be happy to have them. Email [auction@wordoflifeschool.net](mailto:auction@wordoflifeschool.net) to let us know what you can contribute.*



*The 2021 Auction will be held in the comfort of your own home in May. Funds raised from the 2021 online auction will be used for school improvements.*



The WOL School Auction takes place every other school year and raises funds to support WOL in various ways that are determined by the school principal and auction planning committee. Our last auction supported the purchase of Chromebooks and tablets for our K-8 students.

## 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 three distinct groups that gather together based upon their ages: the Youth Disciples is open to all youth in grades 1 through 4; 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.

Did you know that there are approximately 100 Ascension children from first grade to seniors in high school that AYF tries to reach through this ministry? Did you know there are another 14 youth on our rolls that are active in AYF but are not members of Ascension? Did you know, before COVID, we had 50-60 youth regularly involved in our activities? And now that we are starting activities again we are still seeing strong numbers in participation. This would not be possible without the love and care that Ascensionites regularly show these youth through your personal interaction, prayers and financial support. Thank you!

**YOUTH MINISTRY COMMUNICATION** The primary communication method used by the youth ministry is email. We will also use the monthly Messenger and the weekly News & Notes to communicate but the most up to date information is handled via email. If you do not receive emails from our Ascension Youth Fellowship email account at [ayflcms@outlook.com](mailto:ayflcms@outlook.com), please email us at that address and request to be added to the mailing list. You can also like our Ascension Youth Fellowship Facebook page as we update that regularly.

**EGG MY YARD FUNDRAISER** The Egg My Yard fundraiser has been so much fun with more than 30 Eggings completed as of Easter morning. This fundraiser is scheduled until April 11 so keep an eye on your email inbox for any Eggings that come up in the next week.



take heart

### TAKE HEART – JR & SR YOUTH MO DISTRICT VIRTUAL RETREAT

The combined Jr & Sr Youth MO District Virtual Retreat is scheduled for the evening of Saturday, April 10. Join us at 5:30pm for a meal followed up with the virtual event from 7 till 10pm with parent pickup at 10:30pm. Thanks to the generosity of a few Ascensionites, there is no cost to attend.

Pastor Gerard Bolling will be the featured presenter along with Daniel Meyer and Dana Otto as emcees with our favorite band, Bread of Stone, leading us in song. While the virtual event runs from 7 to 10pm, we will be gathering together at 5:30pm for a meal of Chick-fil-A chicken strips and mac & cheese along with a salad and dessert. There will also be a Q&A session with the band and Pr. Bolling starting at 10pm.

Our COVID Event Entry procedures will be followed along with mask wearing, social distancing and regular sanitizing of both hands and reused surfaces.

Check your inbox for the details and please register by the date mentioned in the email.



**ASCENSION PLANT SALE** The annual plant sale is being held April 24th and the youth of Ascension get heavily involved in volunteering at the event as much of the plant sale proceeds gets donated to this ministry. We will be targeting this year's donation from the plant sale to our efforts to attend the 2022 LCMS National Youth Gathering. An email has gone out to the potential Gathering participants requesting their assistance on April 22, 23 and 24 for the setup and sale of the plants. Check your inbox for the details.

**YOUTH ROOM FRIDGE** Now that things are starting back up on youth activities, we have regrettably found that our beverage refrigerator in the youth room is extremely bare. The next time you visit your local grocer, can you grab some beverages and drop them off to us in the church office? We could use bottled water, juice packs, and soda. And please, for the sake of your volunteer youth workers, no energy drinks or Dew!

**2022 LCMS NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING** The planning at the national level for the LCMS National Youth Gathering in Houston on July 9-13, 2022 is proceeding full steam ahead with full anticipation of no or only minor restrictions related to COVID-19 by the time of the Gathering. The planning at Ascension to get a group of youth to this event is also still underway.

As a reminder, you are eligible to be a participant if you are currently in the 7th through 11th/12th grades. For those of you that will be 19 or older at the time of the Gathering, you can also participate as a Young Adult Volunteer as a helper in the day to day activities of the Gathering.

More information will be forthcoming about this wonderful event and various fundraisers will be held to help offset the trip costs.

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

**Kathy Thies**  
(314) 580-2074  
[Kathy.Thies@Hotmail.com](mailto:Kathy.Thies@Hotmail.com)

**Chris Thies**  
(314) 910-3148  
[Chris.Thies@Outlook.com](mailto:Chris.Thies@Outlook.com)