



NEWS AND NOTES
January 1 & 2, 2022
“Loved by Christ, Sharing Christ’s Love”

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday	Worship with Communion Epiphany Party Worship with Communion	8:15 am 9:45 am 11:00 am
Monday	Staff meeting	8:30 am
Tuesday	Tues. morning Bible study Worship Team	9:30 am 7:00 pm
Wednesday	WOL Chapel Quilters Women of the Word Bible Study Confirmation	8:15 am 9:00 am 9:30 am 6:30 pm
Thursday	Men’s Bible study Men’s In-Home Bible study	6:15 am 7:00 pm
Friday	Office closed	
Saturday	Men’s Club Worship with Communion	8:00 am 5:00 pm

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

WINTER CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE Work continues and includes cleaning and replacing the outside of the stained glass window in the choir loft which is currently in process. A hard surface flooring may be laid in the chancel. Other future projects include baseboard installation, new carpeting, pew refinishing, and additional work in the narthex.

To God be the glory!

Donations for the Capital Campaign 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 and she will supply you with a form. All pledges are kept confidential.

STEWARDSHIP

Luke 2:40 – “And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.” At Christmas God became man. And as a man, Jesus grew up and increased in strength and wisdom. We are called to follow in the footsteps of Jesus, to grow in His image. The power for this growth comes from receiving the grace of Jesus in His Word and Sacraments. How is the Lord calling you to grow this year?

Stewardship Report	
For the weekend ending December 26 th	
In-person attendance:	260
Online attendance:	645 (reached)
Amount Received to Share Christ’s Love	
Amount Received	\$ 18,121
Budgeted Amount	\$ 12,019
Surplus/(Shortfall)	\$ 6,102
Capital Campaign Donations Since October 2019:	\$906,285

ANNUAL MEN’S RETREAT UPDATE

The Annual Men's Retreat is scheduled at Camp Wartburg Friday night and Saturday January 14 - 15, 2022. Brian and Jeff Becker, authors of **Tender Lions**, offer this presentation explaining the risk factors on boys (and their families) when strong father-son emotional bonds are absent. Discover what it takes to build (or rebuild) those vital connections.

This weekend event is intended for all men, married or single, who are interested in strengthening their family relationships. Register with the Camp by calling them at (618) 939-7715, ext. 15. Please also let Mike Gibbs (JackFan39@Yahoo.com) know so he can share carpooling information with you.

Registration deadline is January 7, 2022. If you need a copy of the flyer, please see an usher.

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"

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/stream to find archived services.

STORM ANNOUNCEMENT

HELP OUR NEIGHBORS AFFECTED BY RECENT STORMS The storms of December 10th have left many Missourians in need of comfort. A member of Christ Lutheran in Augusta lost her life, and the family home was destroyed. Families from St. Paul Lutheran in New Melle have incurred residential damages. The sanctuary roof of St. Trinity Lutheran in St. Louis was damaged beyond repair and requires replacing. The stories of loss and grief are mounting.

The Missouri District will continue to support affected congregations and families in the days ahead—sharing the "peace that passes all understanding" to ease their burden, as well as our financial resources. Due to the significant property damage that has occurred, we invite all of you to join in these efforts of comforting our brothers and sisters in Christ.

Thank you for showing the love of Christ to a state needing comfort. Should you have any questions, please reach out to the District office at 314-590-6200, donate directly at <https://mo.lcms.org/donate>, or checks may be mailed to:

Missouri District LCMS
660 Mason Ridge Center Drive, Suite 100
St. Louis, MO 63141

Another giving option is to donate to LCMS Disaster Response. You may give online at: www.lcms.org/givenow/disaster.

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.

WOL RESTAURANT NIGHT

WORD OF LIFE RESTAURANT NIGHT AT NOODLES

Tuesday, January 18th - All Day
Hampton Village

FUNDRAISER.

Eat well and do good—that's the basic recipe with Noodles Fundraising. Join us for the flavors you love while we help our community

**Tuesday,
1/18/2022
All Day**

PARTICIPATING LOCATION:
64 Hampton Village Plaza
St Louis, MO
314-457-1769

30%

of qualifying sales will directly benefit:

**Word of Life
Lutheran School**

For online and Noodles APP orders, at online checkout enter Offer Code: **GIVING30**.

Guests must show the flyer when ordering. Electronic image of flyer on a phone or tablet is acceptable. Only valid at date, time and location specified above. Gift cards, Catering, and other retail purchases excluded.



READ ALONG WITH PASTOR

God's Word is our source of life and strength during pandemics and at all times. Read along with Pastor Clark as he goes through the entire Bible in two years.

Each Friday, Pastor posts a video on Ascension's Facebook page and YouTube channel highlighting a theme or insight of that week's readings. Ask an usher for a daily reading schedule or stop into the church office.

The readings for next week are **Zech 9 – Malachi 4**.

LAY BIBLE INSTITUTE

The Lay Bible Institute, offered three times a year by Concordia Seminary faculty members, is an ongoing study of the Bible and how it relates to today's life and events.

The next event is called "[Strength for Today and Bright Hope for Tomorrow](#)" and is led by Dr. Dale Meyer. It is on Saturday, Feb. 12, 2022 from 10 am - 3 pm on the campus of Concordia Seminary.

Registration is \$20, and the deadline to register is January 31, 2022. Sign up on the Seminary's website csl.edu.

NEW ADMIN ASSISTANT

WELCOME! NEW ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT, MEGAN ENDERLE Ascension's Hiring Committee (Randy Agne, Pastor Clark, Pam Fox, Laura Lane, and Marcia Passanise) recently offered the position of Administrative Assistant to Megan Enderle and she has accepted. Megan is a graduate of Word of Life Lutheran School as well as 2005 graduate of Lutheran South. She is a member of Timothy Lutheran Church. Megan's husband is a recruiter for the US Army, and they have a three-year-old daughter.

Megan has significant experience working in a front-office setting and we are confident she will be a blessing to our ministry. We look forward to welcoming Megan to Ascension's staff as she becomes a part of our team on Monday, January 10, 2022.

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 bshippy@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 / Fellowship Hall
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: rbjhb@sbcglobal.net / (314) 413-2603
Contact Chris: chris.thies@outlook.com

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: Deaconess Anna Johnson, Joel Her, and Friends

Senior High

Teachers: Rob Bremer and Friends

Adults

Teachers: Pastor Clark, Pastor Kobs, and Friends


Nepali Fellowship

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

Sunday School Co-Coordinators

Lisa Clark and Deaconess Anna Johnson

THRIVENT GRANTS

 Ascension has had about 54 grants approved in 2021. Thank you all very much for taking the time to apply for these grants to help with activities such as Think Spring/Think Fall sales, summer concerts, WOL activities, Advent by Candlelight, Outside Nativity, and many others.

See the lobby bulletin board for a list of the approved grants. **54 grants x \$250 = \$13,500** of free money from Thrivent for so many wonderful events. Thank you very much, Thrivent.

We could definitely use a few more people in 2022 to step up and help as we will need grants for VBS, Easter Egg Hunt, and the WOL musical in addition to all the grants we applied for this year. Contact Karen with questions or to help with Thrivent grants.

Karen Hilkerbaumer
314-378-2977
gbomber@swbell.net

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 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.



YOUTH SUNDAY The next time we meet will be on January 9th. The Youth Disciples will meet from 2 till 3:30 pm and the Jr/Sr Youth will meet from 4 till 6 pm. Watch your email inbox for details.

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.



As a reminder, you are eligible to be a participant if you are currently in the 8th through 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.

GATHERING REGISTRATION Registration forms for the Gathering are available and are being emailed out to all those eligible in our mailing list. As our mailing list is not complete, please let us know if you need a registration form but have not gotten the email. We need registration forms returned to allow us to begin more detailed planning of our transportation, lodging and chaperone needs.

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

01/09/2022	Youth Sunday
07/09-13/2022	LCMS National Youth Gathering

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 voice & text
Kathy.Thies@Hotmail.com

Chris Thies
(314) 910-3148 voice & text
Chris.Thies@Outlook.com

EPIPHANY PARTY

EPIPHANY CELEBRATION!



Ascension will be celebrating Epiphany the weekend of January 1ST and 2ND.

Not only will Epiphany be our theme in worship but also during our Sunday school time. Children, youth, and adults are invited to join us for an Epiphany Party starting at 9:45 am in the lower-level Fellowship Hall.

Join us as we celebrate a Savior who has come for all nations—including you!

EPIPHANY SERMON SERIES

EPIPHANY SERMON SERIES: ILLUMINATING JESUS



The season of Epiphany in the Church Year is a time of light, and revealing Jesus as the Savior of the nations. Sermons at Ascension during Epiphany 2022, will focus on the theme of "Illuminating Jesus."

Each weekend's message will focus on the Gospel text for that week and a piece of art that helps to illuminate and illustrate what the Biblical text says. Through the written, spoken, and visualized word, we seek to illuminate the One who is the Word made flesh. Come hear and see your Savior!

January 1/2	Matthew 2:1-12
January 8/9	Luke 3:15-22
January 15/16	John 2:1-11
January 22/23	Luke 4:16-30
January 29/30	Luke 4:31-44
February 5/6	Luke 5:1-11
February 12/13	Luke 6:17-26
February 19/20	Luke 6:27-38

WORSHIP NOTES

PREACHER: Pastor Matthew Clark

LITURGIST: Seminarian Joel Her, 1st Sunday of month
Seminarian Ben Wescoatt, 2nd Sunday of month
Seminarian Michael Winckler, 3rd Sunday of month
Pastor Matthew Kobs, 4th Sunday of month

MINISTRY OF MUSIC: Gabe Maichel, organist

ACOLYTES: 5:00 open;
8:15 Noah Maxfield; 11:00 Blake Patzius
NEXT WEEK: 5:00 open;
8:15 Anya/Kiera Stiles; 11:00 Kyan Sawyer

ALTAR GUILD: 5:00 Lisa Holderle;
8:15 Becky Harman; 11:00 Julie Krapf
NEXT WEEK: 5:00 Diane & Mark Bracken;
8:15 Melissa Maxfield; 11:00 Jones

MULTIMEDIA ROOM: 5:00 Bella Bracken, Anna Clark;
8:15 Matt Bergholt, Bill Maxfield, Grant Maxfield;
11:00 Vernon Schmidt

READERS: 5:00 Robert Hofmann;
8:15 Mary Pastor; 11:00 Troy Hansen
NEXT WEEK: 5:00 Rich Seifert;
8:15 Tracy Middleton; 11:00 Ted Cox

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK: January 9, 2022 –
Baptism of our Lord/First Sunday after the Epiphany
First Reading *Is. 43:1-7*
Epistle Reading *Rom. 6:1-11*
Holy Gospel *Luke 3:15-22*

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

TOGETHER IN MISSION MISSIONARIES

Dr. Daniel & Joan Jastram - Asia
Erin Mackenzie - Dominican Republic
Rev. Matthew & Kali Wood - Indonesia
John & Erica Tape - Latin American & Carribean Region

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.

ASCENSION MEMBERS AND FRIENDS SERVING IN THE MILITARY

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

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

01/02 Carisa Depew, Grant Maxfield, Deepshaysh Gurung
01/03 Mackenzie Moore
01/04 Allie O'Toole
01/06 Gary Notch, Rebekah Rhyne
01/07 Lilly Barman-Gianino, Blake Patzius
01/08 Kris Schneidewind, Katherine Van Booven

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

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK

01/02 Kathleen & Roy Migneco
01/04 Cindy & Jack Winter

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

ASCENSION MEMBERS AND FRIENDS SERVING AS FIRST RESPONDERS

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

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