



NEWS AND NOTES
January 15 & 16, 2022
“Loved by Christ, Sharing Christ’s Love”

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday	Worship with Communion Sunday School/Adult Bible Study Worship with Communion	8:15 am 9:45 am 11:00 am
Monday	Staff meeting	8:30 am
Tuesday	Tuesday Morning Bible Study Worship Team	9:30 am 7:00 pm
Wednesday	WOL Chapel Quilters Women of the Word Bible Study Bells Grade 7 & 8 Confirmation Choir	8:15 am 9:00 am 9:30 am 5:45 pm 6:30 pm 7:00 pm
Thursday	Men’s Bible study Men’s In-Home Bible study	6:15 am 7:00 pm
Saturday	Confirmation Retreat Worship with Communion	9:00 am 5:00 pm

STEWARDSHIP

John 2:3 – “When the wine ran out, the mother of Jesus said to him, ‘They have no wine.’” Behold the faith of Mary. She sees a problem and simply lays it before her Son and Lord, saying, “They have no wine.” She does not offer a proposed solution, and she does not demand. She simply states her need and waits for the Lord’s response. She trusts that the Lord is a giver, and she knows that He always provides. May such a faith be ours!

Stewardship Report

For the weekend ending January 9th

In-person attendance:	166
Online attendance:	39 (reached)
Amount Received to Share Christ’s Love	
Amount Received	\$ 8,402
Budgeted Amount	\$ 12,019
Surplus/(Shortfall)	\$ (3,617)
Capital Campaign Donations since	
October 2019:	\$942,004

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 now completed. 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 room upgrade.

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.

CHRISTIAN FRIENDS OF NEW AMERICANS

A growing stream of refugees, especially those from Afghanistan, is now arriving in St. Louis. In partnership with the International Institute, Christian Friends of New Americans (CFNA) is seeking to provide for these families’ needs with items such as shoes, warm coats and warm comforters. Items will be accepted and appreciated until further notice.

Contact Laura Brink at lbrink@cfna-stl.org or (314) 249-9219 with questions. A flyer with this information and including a list of drop-off sites for collection of these donations is on the bulletin board in the lobby.

HINTZE LIBRARY AND COFFEE AREA REMODEL

We are blessed with a church library that has been recently updated and more greatly utilized. This same library space is also being used more for other events such as our Thursday morning men’s Bible study and Sunday morning coffee fellowship. In an effort to make this area easier to maintain and more accessible for multiple uses, we will be installing a high-quality vinyl wood-like floor as well as new furniture.

Much of the flooring being used is extra material from our classroom renovation at Word of Life this past summer. The rest of the cost is being covered by a generous donation above and beyond our capital campaign. The new furniture is being funded through undesignated funds. We pray this new renovation will be well-received and well-used.

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 **Matt 14 – Matt 25**.

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.

ASCENSION'S NEW ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

MEET ASCENSION'S NEW ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT: MEGAN ENDERLE

My name is Megan Enderle (Bello). I am a St. Louis native and a graduate of both Word of Life and Lutheran South. I studied Animal Science at Mizzou where I completed my bachelor's degree.



My husband, Charles, and I were married in 2014 and moved to Fort Bragg, NC where he was stationed with the US Army. Since then we have been stationed at Fort Huachuca, Arizona and Savannah, Georgia. We moved back to St Louis the beginning of 2021 when he became a US Army recruiter in Ballwin.

We have a 3-year-old daughter, Charlotte, who is an absolute blessing. We also have a dog and two cats. I enjoy spending my free time reading, gardening, working on projects around our house, and spending time with family. Most of all I enjoy being back in St. Louis and being close to my family and friends.

Please note: Megan's first day in the office has been moved back to Monday, January 24th due to a case of COVID at the preschool her daughter attends.

SINGING SAINTS

The Singing Saints of St. Paul Lutheran high school in Concordia, MO are performing a concert at Hope Evangelical Lutheran church on Sunday, January 23rd at 4:00 pm. The 50 voice choir, under the direction of Dr. Jerrode Marsh, has a 50-year tradition of touring nationally and internationally.

Hope Evangelical Lutheran is located at 5218 Neosho St. 63109 in South St. Louis City. An offering to assist the choir will be collected. If you are interested in hosting a student, please email Julie Binder at jbinder@outsaviorlcs.org.

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 / 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: rwbjhb@sbcglobal.net / (314) 413-2603
Contact Chris: chris.thies@outlook.com

CONFIRMATION PRAYER RETREAT

CONFIRMATION PRAYER RETREAT Deaconess Anna Johnson and Pastor Clark are planning Ascension's biennial confirmation retreat for our 7th and 8th grade confirmation students. The retreat will take place at Ascension from 9 am to 6 pm on Saturday, January 22nd.

During our time together, we'll be focusing on prayer and the Lord's Prayer. Activities will include exploring the prayer Jesus Himself taught us to pray, examining how we benefit from God's gift of prayer in our daily lives, and beginning a prayer journal. Students will also work together to compose the prayers that will be prayed at our 5 pm worship that evening.

We'll also plan to worship together that evening as students help in leading the prayers they wrote. The day will also include breakfast and lunch.

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.

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 CHOICE DOLLARS



THRIVENT
FINANCIAL

Eligible members of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans who have been designated Choice Dollars: If you haven't already done so, be sure to direct your designated Thrivent Choice Dollars by March 31, 2022. After that date, any undirected Choice Dollars® will expire.

Don't miss this opportunity to help support Ascension Lutheran Church or Word of Life Lutheran School. If you want the money to go to a specific area, please contact Brad Muhlke (i.e. if you want it to be allocated toward Capitol Campaign or WOL windows or ALC kitchen, etc.) Brad's e-mail is bmuhlke@stjohnsbank.com.

If you have questions, go to Thrivent.com/thriventchoice, call 800-THRIVENT and state "Thrivent Choice" or contact Keith Poppitz (314) 843-6823 or Paul Himmelsbach (314) 780-6071.

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.



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.

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

MARRIAGE MILESTONE CELEBRATION

MARRIAGE MILESTONES Ascension is celebrating the gift of marriage at any service the weekend of February 12th and 13th. We are inviting all couples who have been married in the past year and couples celebrating five-year anniversaries (i.e. 5 years, 10 years, 15 years, etc.) Your marriage, love and commitment to one another are something to celebrate!

We will have a special blessing and gift for those couples participating in worship at any service the weekend of February 12th and 13th. All couples joining us will be affirmed and blessed by the entire congregation.

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 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

RETIREMENT MILESTONE CELEBRATION

TO THOSE WHO RETIRED IN 2021 As a community of faith, we mark various milestones in life with prayer and blessings. We celebrate births and baptisms. We acknowledge graduates, confirmands and bless marriages. We also want to mark another important rite of passage, a time of occupational endings and new beginnings called retirement.

We wish to honor you and your work and assure you that we welcome your gifts, your wisdom, life experiences and faith as you embrace a new role in the next stage of your life and journey of faith. Please join us for worship at any service the weekend of March 5th and 6th as we celebrate this milestone in your life with a blessing and a gift.

LUTHERAN WITNESS SUBSCRIPTIONS



Renewal for The Lutheran Witness is due by January 30, 2022. The fee is \$15.96.

Note that invoices are sent each month so no money should be sent now.

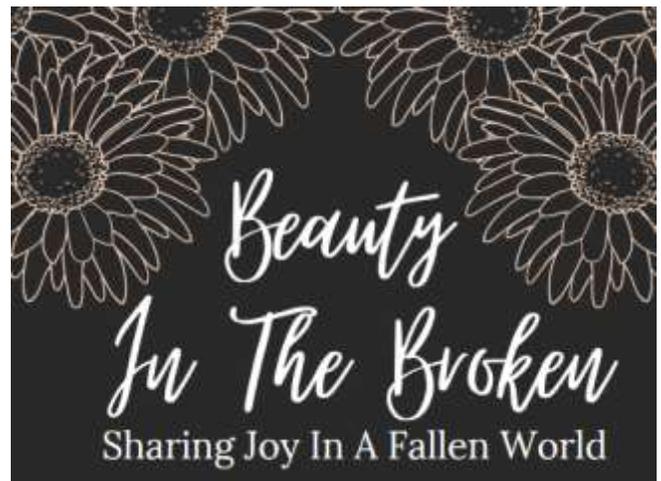
Please send renewal information to the following address:

The Lutheran Witness – Circulation
c/o Concordia Publishing House
3558 South Jefferson Ave.
St. Louis MO 63118-3968

Renewals may also be e-mailed to lwsubscriptions@chp.org.

If you have any questions regarding subscriptions or pricing, please call (800) 325-3040 and select Option 2.

WOMEN’S RETREAT



On January 21-22, 2022, Beauty in the Broken, a Women’s Retreat, will be held at Camp Wartburg in Waterloo, IL featuring Lisa Clark, editor at Concordia Publishing House.

In a world of grief, pain, and brokenness it can be tempting to give up, to lose hope. But Jesus shows us that He has already begun His work to mend the hurting, restore the lost, and make all things new. He calls us to witness to the freedom we have in Him and to His promises of perfection by working beauty in a broken world. Join together with fellow women to rediscover what it means to live like Christ and to point to a hope beyond anything the world could imagine. Bring friends and family with you for this retreat that rests in the promises of Revelation 21:1–6.

The cost is \$55 and registration is at campwartburg.com or call (618) 939-7715.

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
Jane Schmidt, Saturday organist

ACOLYTES: 5:00 Sean Wescoatt;
8:15 Allie Johnson; 11:00 Blake Patzius
NEXT WEEK: 5:00 open;
8:15 Gabby Wescoatt; 11:00 Kyan Sawyer

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

Nancy & Terry Nickolotsky in thankfulness for many blessing received in 54 years.

Lois & Ed Peek in gratitude for countless blessing received.

ALTAR GUILD: 5:00 Bev & Rich Schaefer;
8:15 Jan & Jack Pendleton; 11:00 Maria & Carlos Lopez
NEXT WEEK: 5:00 Debbie Hofmann;
8:15 Nancy & Doug Pfitzinger; 11:00 Marcia Passanise

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

READERS: 5:00 Mark Hofman;
8:15 Marlene Maxfield; 11:00 Tom Hinton
NEXT WEEK: 5:00 Debbie Meyer;
8:15 Melissa Maxfield; 11:00 Rain Hernandez

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK: January 23, 2022 –
Third Sunday after the Epiphany
First Reading *Neh. 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10*
Epistle Reading *1 Cor. 12:12-31a*
Holy Gospel *Luke 4:16-30*

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

01/16 Sandi Kitson
01/17 Timothy Danneman, Christina Rosenberg
01/18 Elizabeth Nease
01/19 Scott Anderson, Joyce Meckfessel, Kayelyn Coleman,
Enock Mugisha
01/20 Oliver Duerr, Phul Tamang
01/21 Laurie Wallach, Isabella McMeans, Dylan Moore

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

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK

01/20 Nancy & Terry Nickolotsky
01/21 Sarah & Marcus Tanurchis

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