



**NEWS AND NOTES**  
**January 8 & 9, 2022**  
*“Loved by Christ, Sharing Christ’s Love”*

**WEEKLY CALENDAR**

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

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 3:21 – “Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heavens were opened.”** We know why the people were baptized, but why was Jesus baptized? He didn’t need repentance or forgiveness. The answer is that He did it for us. The reason God sent His Son into the world is to fulfill all righteousness for us, to do what we could not do. The whole of Jesus’ life, everything He did and said, was one great offering to the Father in our stead to fulfill all righteousness for us. With our righteousness fulfilled in Jesus and given to us in Baptism, our hearts now overflow with thanksgiving and praise.

|  |              |
|--|--------------|
| <b>Stewardship Report</b>                      |              |
| For the weekend ending January 2 <sup>nd</sup> |              |
| In-person attendance:                          | 260          |
| Online attendance:                             | 62 (reached) |
| Amount Received to Share Christ’s Love         |              |
| Amount Received                                | \$ 13,719    |
| Budgeted Amount                                | \$ 11,538    |
| Surplus/(Shortfall)                            | \$ 2,181     |
| Capital Campaign Donations Since October 2019: | \$910,018    |

**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.

**CHRISTIAN FRIENDS OF NEW AMERICANS (CFNA)**

A growing stream of refugees, especially those from Afghanistan, is now arriving in St. Louis. In partnership with the International Institute, 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](mailto: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.

## 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](https://Ascensionstl.com/stream) to find archived services.

## STORM ANNOUNCEMENT

**HELP OUR NEIGHBORS AFFECTED BY RECENT STORMS** The storms of December 10<sup>th</sup> 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](https://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 18<sup>th</sup> - 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 1 – Matt 13**.

## 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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:rbjhb@sbcglobal.net) / (314) 413-2603  
Contact Chris: [chris.thies@outlook.com](mailto: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!

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



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](mailto:bmuhlke@stjohnsbank.com).

If you have questions, go to [Thrivent.com/thriventchoice](https://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 8<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:Kathy.Thies@Hotmail.com)

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



## 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 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 |

## 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](mailto: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](http://campwartburg.com) or call (618) 939-7715.

## WORSHIP NOTES

**PREACHER:** Pastor Matthew Kobs

**LITURGIST:** Seminarian Joel Her, 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of month  
Seminarian Ben Wescoatt, 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:** 5:00 open;  
8:15 Anya/Kiera Stiles; 11:00 Kyan Sawyer  
**NEXT WEEK:** 5:00 Sean Wescoatt;  
8:15 Allie Johnson; 11:00 Javyn Sawyer

**ALTAR GUILD:** 5:00 Diane & Mark Bracken;  
8:15 Melissa Maxfield; 11:00 Jones  
**NEXT WEEK:** 5:00 Bev & Rich Schaefer;  
8:15 Jan & Jack Pendleton; 11:00 Maria & Carlos Lopez

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

**READERS:** 5:00 Rich Seifert;  
8:15 Tracy Middleton; 11:00 Ted Cox  
**NEXT WEEK:** 5:00 Mark Hofman;  
8:15 Marlene Maxfield; 11:00 Tom Hinton

**READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK:** January 16, 2022 –  
**Second Sunday after the Epiphany**  
**First Reading** *Is. 62:1-5*  
**Epistle Reading** *1 Cor. 12:1-11*  
**Holy Gospel** *John 2:1-11*

**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**

01/09 Lilliah Danneman  
01/11 Savannah Breitenfeld  
01/12 Gabrielle Ferranto  
01/13 Ava Morton, Manoj Gurung, Becky Harman  
01/14 Brian Hilkerbaumer, Melissa Fox  
01/15 Jill Munoz, Melvin Sheets, Leslie Todd

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

### **WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK**

01/13 Sarah & Troy Hansen

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 |