

GOOD AFTERNOON!

WHAT'S HAPPENING (November 13 Edition)!

Voters' Meeting - November 22: "On Sunday, November 22, at about 12 noon, the Voters of Ascension will meet to transact some of the more important business for the upcoming calendar year. At this meeting, we will be approving the 2021 Budget. Also, this is the meeting for election of officers and Board chairs. ***We especially are looking for a President and Treasurer.*** We will also have an update on the Education Wing Project construction. If you are able, please attend this most important meeting. Lunch will be provided by the Ascension Foundation and served by the Ladies Guild." Arvin Michel, President

Christmas Decorating!! Yes, it is almost that time! We will be decorating the sanctuary on **Saturday, November 28 starting at 8:30 a.m.** I need about 5 people to come help fluff and decorate trees, fluff, and hang garland, and put up Poinsettias. If you are interested in helping please let me know via email, call/text, catch me at church or drop a note in my box. Bri Fort, bribly@gmail.com, 623-680-9510.

Calendar At-a-Glance (November 14-20):

- Saturday (11-14): **2:00 p.m. Ann Clausen Memorial Service**
5:00 p.m. Traditional Worship w/ Holy Communion
- Sunday (11-15): 8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship w/ Holy Communion
9:15 a.m. Lawrenz Baby Shower
9:15 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion
- Monday (11-16): 9:30 a.m.—2:30 p.m. Extended Day Preschool
- Tuesday (11-17): 9:30 a.m. Ladies Bible Study
9:30 a.m. Ladies Small Group Bible Study
- Wednesday (11-18): 9:30 a.m.—2:30 p.m. Extended Day Preschool
10:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study (Pastor Don Ginkel-The Book of Revelation)
5:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study
5:00 p.m. Wednesday Night Live
5:30 p.m. Wednesday Night Live Meal
5:00 p.m. WNL Music/Worship/Arts (Art)
6:00 p.m. Pre-confirmation & Confirmation Classes
6:00 p.m. Agape Rehearsal
- Thursday (11-19):
- Friday (11-20): 9:30 a.m.—2:30 p.m. Extended Day Preschool

"Many thanks for the kind words, prayers, and notes of condolence from you, the wonderful family of Ascension, to us at the passing of Brian's brother David Wilson. Blessings to you all." Marion and Brian

Many Heartfelt Thanks! “Thank you so much to Christa and the youth who visited and brought me goodies this past Sunday! It was so wonderful to see you and to feel connected to Ascension through you!” Phyllis Westra

“Thanks to the Youth Group for the care package, the flowers, and especially for the visit!” Millie Fitzpatrick

Thank You! — Stephanie Stasny has been our head chef for Wednesday Night Live dinners for several years, often assisted by Collin Brinkman (her dad) and Lilly Brinkman (her daughter). At this time, Stephanie needs to step back from that position, although we hope she will be able to return in the future! We want to express a huge “thanks” to Stephanie, Collin, and Lilly for all the delicious dinners and hours they have spent throughout the years, and we will miss their cooking until they return again. In the meantime, Laurie and Jim Mullane will be our head chefs on Wednesday, beginning this week. We thank them for their interest and willingness to step up and fill this need. Welcome, and we look forward to your cooking!

Interim Coordinators Needed - As you probably know, Kathy Johnson will be leaving her position as Education Director at the end of December. We are currently searching for a part-time employee for this position, and we will continue this search. In the meantime, we want to be prepared to continue offering and managing Sunday school and Wednesday Night Live as they are now. In order to do that, we are looking to fill two interim part-time positions. These would both be paid positions. Here are the positions that we need:

Sunday School Coordinator—This person would be responsible for coordinating Sunday school each week. This includes arranging for any substitute teachers, leading a brief opening each week for the youngest kids, ordering curriculum, answering questions, communicating with families, etc. (Approximately 8 hours per week.)

Wednesday Night Live Coordinator—This person would be responsible for coordinating Wednesday Night Live each week. This includes planning the dinners, printing and distributing curriculum as needed, scheduling teachers/leaders, communicating with students and parents, etc. (Approximately 8-10 hours per week.)

If you can help in these areas, or if you know of someone who can, please talk to Pastor or Kathy Johnson. Thanks for your consideration!

Address and Phone Updates: Elizabeth Bible-Miller (phone change) 303-601-4718; Lester (Les) Young (address change) 6455 Peak Vista Cir., Colorado Springs, CO 80918; Larry & Flo Westra (***additional address change, please check***) **PO Box 20242**, Colorado City, CO 81019. **Please note these changes in your directories!**

It is, once again, time to renew your Lutheran Witness subscriptions—Please contact the office ONLY if you wish to CANCEL a current subscription or if you wish to ADD a new subscription. The cost of a subscription is \$22 (you can place your check made out to Ascension and noted ‘Lutheran Witness-2021’, in the offering plate). **The deadline for changes is December 14!** (*New subscriptions will begin in March of 2021.*)

Join us for a Baby Shower for Jenna and Michael Lawrenz! We will have a baby shower for Jenna and Michael Lawrenz **this coming Sunday, Nov. 15**, during the Education Hour at 9:15 a.m. In case you did not know, they are expecting TWIN GIRLS to add to their two adorable sons, Tobin and Jensen. Jenna is the Young Adult Coordinator at Ascension. To help Jenna and Michael celebrate, we will have a baby shower in the Fellowship Hall at Church. Join us if you are able! They are registered at both Target and Walmart; in case you want to get them a gift. If you are interested, we are also setting up a monetary fund that they will be able to access for many diapers, clothes, and other necessities. If you would like to contribute to this fund, feel free to make out a check to Ascension Lutheran Church, but be sure to clearly mark it "Lawrenz Shower." If you would prefer, feel free to give this to Pastor or Kathy Johnson. Likewise, if you have any questions, contact Pastor or Kathy Johnson. Hope you can join us, either in person or in spirit! Congrats, Jenna and Michael!

Are you missing the yummy home canned goodies you always purchased at the Ladies Craft & Bake Sale? I have some good news for you! Maureen James, who always donated a large number of those wonderful home canned goods will be selling what she has to those from Ascension who would like to purchase! Her phone number is 303-798-5839 (be certain to leave a name and number if she does not pick up) and her address is 12 Meadowlark Lane, Littleton. Maureen will be donating all monies earned to the Ladies Guild!

The International Children's Choir CANCELLED: Originally scheduled for the weekend of November 21/22 has been postponed due to Arapahoe County's new Covid rules limiting us to 50 people per service. They will definitely be rescheduled sometime in 2021 and we will keep you posted on the dates.

Wednesday Night Live MENU for November 18: Chicken & Rice, Dinner Rolls, Broccoli, Grapes, Ice Cream Sandwiches (Menu is subject to change!)

Pastor's Topics for Wednesday & Sunday Adult Classes: On Sundays (November – December), Pastor will be doing a study on the Scripture lessons of the week and on Wednesdays, Pastor begins a study on prayer.

We began a verse-on-verse study of Revelation on November 11 and will continue to meet Wednesdays at 10 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Our study is written and taught by Pastor Don Ginkel. Everyone is cordially invited to attend. Light refreshments will be served.

News from Extended Day Preschool! Our Extended Day Preschool continue classes in person. If you are Director certified or know of someone who is and who would be interested in this part time position (20 hours per week), please contact the church office. Thanks for joining us in prayer for this ministry! **The Preschool is currently accepting online registration for Winter and Spring 2020/2021** and we have openings available in both classrooms (Contact the Church Office with questions)!

The Young Adult Group will be meeting at Ascension at 6:30 p.m. (2nd & 4th Thursday): Our Next Meeting will be held on December 10: If you would like to join us, please contact Jenna (jenna.lindeman@cune.org).

MOPS and Operation Christmas Child! We thank you for the items that you were able to supply! We were able to fill 10 boxes!

God's Creation Calendar Sales: It is that time of year again! The time of year that we look forward to the next. As you look forward to the year 2021, please consider buying a God's Creation Calendar from the youth. We will be selling these calendars as a fundraiser for our summer mission trip. Each calendar costs \$10 with a substantial amount of that going to the youth group. Thank you for all your support!

Social Ministry is humbled to be able to have the Christmas Family Program as one of our most rewarding Missions. This is a program that is set up to offer help to members of our OWN congregation that are struggling to give their families a Christmas. **Thank you!**

Prayer: For God's mighty hand to bring to an end this virus; For our country, and for our newly elected officials at all levels as they seek to govern, may they be guided by His strong hands; For those who have lost jobs or been downsized; For Crystal Sundet and her family, following the death of her sister, Ruby; For Ed Geisler and his family, following the death of his brother, Bob; For friends and family of Nicole Schill, who died from an infection, friend of Rose Kahler; For Doris Rohde, with a fractured pelvis from a fall on November 7; For Doris Kuhlman, with fractures in her leg, following a fall on November 11; For Sharon Utecht, mother of Terry, following knee replacement surgery on Monday, November 9, for comfort, peace and strength in rehab (no visitors); For Bev Kistler, awaiting surgery on November 23; For Jay Visneyi, friend of the Groelings, with Bile Duct Cancer; For Jenny Cotton, a friend of Joyce Gallagher and for Hayle, caregiver of Joyce, both with Covid; For Ryan O'Byrne, grandson of Barb Bader, undergoing testing for possible digestive issues; For Elle Lambert, following back surgery on November 10; For Julie Woods, daughter of Judy Bress, following successful surgery on her colon on November 9; For Dale in rehab for a spinal infection & Rosemarie Calender recovering at home, with heart issues; For Judy Mihok, following a recent hospitalization for infections; For Sherrie Shelton, in rehab, for multiple issues; For healing and strength for Dave Hitztaler; For Eric Craig, brother of Kathie Harvey, following additional surgery on November 3 - also pray for employment issues.

Stewardship:

Budgeted Amount/Year to date:	\$ 563,854 (\$12,582/week)
Received Amount/Year to date:	\$ 532,665
Payroll Protection Program Loan:	\$ 89,000 (\$ 621,665)
Renovation Funds (Project Peter):	\$ 136,557
Virus Fund/Received to date:	\$ 36,660 (Distributed: \$ 26,900)

Attendance (November 7 & 8):

Saturday: 44	Sunday: 8 a.m. 67	10:30 a.m. 38	Total: 149
Sunday School: 61			

Flowers for November 14 & 15 were donated by Bob & Deb Shiflet in loving memory of their fathers, COL. Kenneth Elwood Shiflet and CTC. George Walker Branan

West Wing Committee Update: “There is a lot happening in our effort to launch the West Wing Project. The following is a summary of recent events:

- The Contract with our Construction Company, Himmelman Construction, was signed last week.
- The closing of the Construction Loan with the Lutheran Church Extension Fund is scheduled for this Friday, November 13.
- The Committee met last Tuesday, with the Himmelman Construction representatives concerning the details of construction. Examples of their concerns were, location of storage boxes and dumpster, workers parking, and order of construction. We expect a complete timeline for the project soon.
- The Elders have notified the Staff of our expectations and the Staff is planning how they will continue to serve the Congregation during the construction activities.
- The City of Littleton is ready to grant us a permit so the project can proceed.

In addition, the Committee needs your prayers for wisdom, patience and the Lord’s guidance. The project will run well into the first half of 2021 and this will require close attention to scheduling and affect the planning of many events.” West Wing Committee: Chair Bob Hea, Jim Riebling, Roger Koester and Chuck Mielke

An Update from Littleton Family Services: “Our next scheduled date is **December 8 from 4-6 p.m. for the distribution of Christmas Gifts (for those who signed up)!**

We are so grateful for your continued support and enthusiasm of LFS. We appreciate you all more than you'll ever know!!” Much love, Missy & Megan

‘Tis the Season – The Littleton Family Services Adopt-A-Family program is here!

Remember, if you adopted a family, gifts are due to Littleton Family Services by December 1st and we will make pick-up or drop-off arrangements with you. If you have any questions, please reach us at support@littletonfamilyservices.org.

The Ladies Small Group Study will next meet on November 17, at 9:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. They will continue to meet on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays each month.

KOINONIA Bible Study will next meet on November 19, from 1:30-3 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. They will continue meeting on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays each month.

Virus Relief Fund Update—The Virus Relief Fund was set up at the beginning of the Colorado stay-at-home phase to assist members and the community who may need financial assistance during this pandemic. It has been a huge help to a number of families and individuals.

To date, the committee has contacted 30 individuals or families to see if they need assistance, and we have given assistance to 27 of those. (The others indicated they are doing OK at this time.) This financial assistance thus far totals \$ 26,900. Our goal

is to have the fund last until a few months after businesses can return to near capacity of operation, so we are trying to make distributions accordingly.

If you would like to contribute to the fund, we encourage you to send a check made payable to "Ascension Lutheran Church" and mark it, "Virus Relief Fund."

Ascension is thankful that we can help our members and community during this time, and the recipients are so grateful. If you have any questions about the fund, or if you know of someone who needs assistance, feel free to contact Pastor or Kathy Johnson.

Severe Weather Shelter Network has begun at Ascension! "We need YOU - with our guests sheltering in motels this year we still need to provide our guests a meal. Here is how you can help, Registration Assistant (10 a.m.-2 p.m.), Food Packaging (5:45 p.m.- 8 p.m.) and Food Delivery (6:45 p.m.-8 p.m.). Dinner and Breakfast bags will be prepared at Ascension then delivered to our guests. Masks/gloves will be required while working with food and our COVID-19 NEGATIVE guests. If you can help please click here -> [SWSN 2020-2021 SURVEY](#) or drop a note in my box in the Narthex. If you want more flexibility for volunteering please contact me, we have options. I am happy to answer any questions you may have, please give me a call or send an email." Brianna Fort, bribly@gmail.com, 623-680-9510.

Your Ascension Lutheran Church Foundation has supported the Concordia Adopt A Student program for several years, as a result of your generous donations. The Adopt A Student program assists students with expenses during their years at seminary. This year, the Foundation supported Harold Stevens. Harold is attending Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, MO. His home church is St. John's Lutheran Church, in Denver, CO. He is married, with children, and was formerly employed in the corporate world. One quote from a letter received from Harold that demonstrates his experience at seminary is, "I am truly content when I am interacting with others of faith, and that helps remind me of why I want to become a Pastor." How blessed we are to be able to support his journey!

Denver Society of Creation: If you'd like to receive our emails or newsletters, you can sign up by going to our website, www.denversocietyofcreation.org or email info@denversocietyofcreation.org and request to receive our emails. Also, we've been posting videos of our speakers on the web site, so if you missed a meeting and would like to see the presentation, just go to our website, click on "Past Speakers" and select the video you would like to view.

Lisa Riebling, who has been the one heading up the banner committee and is the one who changes the banners at various times in the church year, is stepping down from that position. We are looking for a person to be in charge of the changing of the banners. If interested, or inquisitive, you can contact Lisa at 720-732-0081 or riebling4@msn.com.

Come join Mission Experience for their 2020 virtual banquet!!! When? Tomorrow, Nov. 14 at 6 p.m. All you need to do is click/or type in the following Zoom link- <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87982681832?pwd=UUVNZTI2Z2FhaVVJckxGTXFuVEd0Zz09> or use Meeting ID: 879 8268 1832 Passcode: 019049 **(The Zoom address will be**

posted on our website www.missionexperience.org. You can go there or Facebook and just click on the link). Join people from all over the country to hear and see how God is blessing and moving through Mission Experience. There will be auction items available such as a week at a ski in/ski out Condo in Vail, four days at a large cabin near Fairplay, CO and a Lakehouse in WI. To view the items and bid please go to <https://www.32auctions.com/MEAuction2020> starting Nov. 9. The banquet will include a video of our kids, an interview with Kerby, a message from Pastor Mike as well as fun and games. There will be prizes such as an Alexa Echo show with screen (runs all smart devices), Bose bar TV speaker, and Apple iPad tablet. Come join the fun and help ME!!! ALSO: Feel free to share our newest video - "From field to orphanage in four years!!!!"

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?feature=youtu.be&v=U4IBlhFR7IE>

The 2020 Lutheran High School Auction will be a global event! "Mark your calendars for **Friday night, November 20!** That is the night of the 21st Annual Lutheran High School Auction! This year it is a "Global Event" as we will have people in attendance on campus AND parties in homes as we celebrate and support the ministry of Lutheran High School! Tickets for the on-campus event went on sale October 16. Tickets are not needed to host or attend a LuHi Home Auction Party. We are looking for 50+ hosts to gather people in their homes on that night to celebrate and support Lutheran High School. You can sign up to host a party and find all of the details at www.lhsparker.org/auction. Everyone is invited to become a part of this amazing night of support for the ministry of Lutheran High School! Thank you!" Kristin Gehrke & Cheryl Cattau - Auction Coordinators

The second visit with your Ascension Gift Planning counselor is called "Design."

Using your information and your goals, the counselor will diagram and give you visual design choices that will get you thinking about what the Lord is guiding you to do. To get your Lifetime Plan for Giving started, contact Jason Jones at Jason.Jones@lfnd.org or call him directly at 970-988-0305.

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This week on KFUO.org, finish 2 Timothy and begin Titus on Sharper Iron's "The Word is Trustworthy" series (weekdays at 8 a.m. CT), study a curious theological topic on Cross Defense (11/16 at 2 p.m. CT), consider how our Lutheran Confessions tie into our life in the church on Concord Matters (11/17 at 2 p.m. CT), and continue studying 2 Samuel on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11 a.m. CT). Find these programs on demand at kfu.org or wherever you get your podcasts!

As always, if you are aware of someone who does not receive or check email regularly, please let them know that this email will be posted on the website in the same place that Happenings have always been posted.

"I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to follow Jesus. God set the stars to give light to the world. The star of my life is Jesus. In him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike. The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus."

This is the first verse and the refrain of the opening song for Saturday & Sunday Worship. What more can we aspire to than to walk as a child of the light? To follow Jesus. I cannot say that I do it well...in my case it is more of a stumble than walk, but I keep trying!

I pray that you are blessed this week and that your walk as a child of the light grows stronger as you continue to move forward! Please pray the same for me! (Kathie Harvey)