

GOOD AFTERNOON! WHAT'S HAPPENING (August 11)!

Worship Services are at 4:00 p.m. on Saturdays and 9:00 a.m. on Sundays through September 4. Following the 9:00 service, you are invited to join us for Coffee Under the Trees, hosted this week by the Community Outreach Committee. The Adult Bible Class will follow at 10:30.

The nursery is available during the worship services and also during the Adult Bible class.

New Member / Adult Instruction Class! Are you interested in becoming a new member at Ascension, or would you like to learn more about being a Lutheran Christian? Adult Instruction classes with Pastor John will be on Saturday, August 20 from 9:00 till 1:00 pm and Sunday, August 21 from 1:00 till 4:00 p.m. All are welcome – come and bring your questions!

Notes from the President: Congregation Planning Meeting, August 6, 2022

Approximately 30 members were in attendance. We opened with a prayer.

We set a goal to refocus and look for new opportunities.

We adopted a participatory workshop format.

Our guidelines were to think big, be creative, and collaborate.

We reviewed the mission statement, which is posted outside the office. We especially focused on the action verbs: gather, reach out, seek, make disciples, and serve.

We discussed some ways we are following this mission:

- 1) We're welcoming.
- 2) We give 10% to missions worldwide.
- 3) We're strong in the Word, have Bible studies, etc.
- 4) We're present in the community with a YouTube channel, preschool, etc.
- 5) We visit the homebound.
- 6) We have a good music program.

We discussed ways we could follow the mission better. This led to several "wildly important goals" which we phrased as "How might we" questions.

- 1) How might we attract younger members and involve youth?
- 2) How might we become the community church in this area?
- 3) How might we change, grow, look forward?
- 4) How might we be more welcoming to members?
- 5) How might we enrich lives?
- 6) How might we become better disciples?
- 7) How might we involve youth and members in leadership roles?
- 8) How might we integrate the lonely?
- 9) How might we bring God's Word to the most people?
- 10) How might we focus within the church in addition to focusing outside the church?
- 11) How might we communicate better internally and externally?

- 12) How might we improve our prayer lives?
- 13) How might we engage other congregations and help weaker congregations?
- 14) How might we serve the homebound?
- 15) How might we assist Pastor?
- 16) How might we combine/blend traditional and contemporary music?

While all the goals were good and valid, as a group we voted to see which we wanted to pursue. The list above is sorted according to the number of votes.

We agreed to address the top two vote-getters:

- 1) **How might we attract younger members and involve youth?**
- 2) **How might we become the community church in this area?**

We brainstormed ways to address these goals until the 11:00 meeting end time, and the next step is to discuss all the ideas we gathered, and narrow our focus so we can move forward with planning. The next meeting will be on **Saturday, August 27 from 9:00-11:00 am**. Please plan to attend!

Sunday School Teacher's Meeting: August 24th, 6:00-6:30pm, will be our Sunday school teacher's meeting. Come hear about the exciting plans we have for the new year and receive your curriculum!

Also, we're looking for a 1st-2nd grade Sunday school teacher. Pray about it and talk to Stephanie stephanieroettjer@gmail.com about the possibility of joining our team and being a part of the children's ministry!

Anyone working with children or youth (18 and younger) is required to attend an education and training session and background check as part of our policy. Mark your calendars on August 24th at 6:30pm. Contact Stephanie with questions, stephanieroettjer@gmail.com.

Parents of school-aged children: Make sure to pick up your copy of the "Back to School Prayer Guide." This booklet is provided to you as a way to pray for your children as they head back to school. Using Colossians 1 as a guide, you'll be asking the Lord to give them wisdom this next year and also to calm their fears (and yours). Questions, ask Stephanie, stephanieroettjer@gmail.com

LIKE TO SING?

It's been said, "God respects me when I work, but he loves me when I sing." - Rabindranath Tagore. Our choir is starting up again. First rehearsal on Wednesday, September 7 at 7:00 pm. Open to all teenagers through adults. This year we are preparing for a hymn festival with Michael Burkhardt on September 30. Questions or want to sign up? See our Director of Music Ministries, Michael Zehnder, or email him at musicmikealc@gmail.com. "Singing is one preparation for heaven." - Joseph Gurney Bevan.

The Romans Bible study led by Curt and Karen Engle The group meets Saturdays from 3:00-3:55 pm at the church before worship. If you are interested in joining the

Genesis study please join them in Room 201 on an upcoming Saturday, or email Curt at Kengle0920@gmail.com.

Pastor and Marilyn will be heading to Phoenix to see Pastor's parents following worship on Sunday, the 14th, and he will be back in the office on Friday, August 19.

Quilt Show & Book Sale First Presbyterian Church of Littleton is hosting their annual Western Welcome Week Quilt Show & Book Sale on Friday, August 19 and Saturday, August 20. Information about times and entries is on the bulletin board in the narthex and in the church office.

Littleton's Western Welcome Week will soon be here! Here is the link for the schedule of fun family events from Friday, August 12 – Sunday, August 21:

<https://www.westernwelcomeweek.org/events/>

Young Adult Group Bible Study will meet on Friday, August 12 at 6:30 pm. If you would like to join us, please contact Jenna (jenna.lindeman@cune.org).

Calling all our young adult (or young at heart) ladies! We are planning a ladies' night for Saturday, August 20th, at 6:30 pm! The evening will include a fun home decor craft, charcuterie boards, a little wine, and a lot of fun! Please contact Jenna Lawrenz for more details and to let her know if you can make it! Her contact information is (303)913-3512 or jenna.lindeman@cune.org!

Gifts on a Mission is a group of people who gather together twice a month to do a little crafting and have a lot of fun! Why are we called "Gifts on a Mission?" Because the things we make are sold for mission projects near and far! Come join us! We meet in the Fellowship Hall on the first and third Thursdays of each month, "open house," 1:00 to 5:00 pm. Come and learn a new craft!

Bible Study on Wednesdays - THE MANY WONDERS OF HEAVEN. Written and taught by Pastor Don Ginkel. This is an in-depth study. We meet from 10:00 to 11:15 in Room 106, the classroom to the right of the main entrance off the parking lot.

Here it is August, and we are already starting to think about the Ladies Guild Craft and Bake Sale in November. It's not too early to get ideas! Anytime you're shopping or looking around craft stores, you'll find lots of ideas, and plenty of time to get something done! Don't forget our own Crafters' Group. They meet on the first and third Thursday afternoons of the month, and they are working on so many clever items. Please join them! And thank you for all you are doing.

Ascension Photo Directory! Thank you to everyone who participated by being photographed for our new pictorial directory. Our publication will be going to print very soon and will include our registered members contact information including

Names Address Phones email

If you would prefer any or all of your information be omitted, please contact the parish office by Friday, August 19.

Save the Date! Saturday, October 8, 2022, 2:30-9 PM | Denver Zoo

You are invited to join **Alternatives Pregnancy Center** for an epic fundraising event at the Denver Zoo! Bring the whole family as we gather to celebrate this momentous anniversary.

Over 40 years, Alternatives has impacted over 100,000 lives in all Denver communities. Because of you, lives have been changed, families united, babies born, and women empowered to choose life. This is cause for celebration!

From daytime zoo admission, evening dancing and live music into the night, there is something for every member of your family. Enjoy a scavenger hunt, an animal encounter and place a bid through our silent and live auctions as we look ahead to the next 40 years. Join us for the afternoon, evening or the whole day! Get tickets today.

[Get Tickets](#)

For your estate plan and the gift plan within it to work, it takes coordination of all your professional advisors to make sure you are creating the best plan.

There can be tax implications circling your estate gift plans. Your Ascension Gift Planning Counselor can point out some of the potential issues you might be facing. But only your accountant or tax preparer will be able to reliably calculate those taxes based on your income and circumstances. Contact Jason Jones at Jason.Jones@lfnd.org or call him directly at (970) 988-0305.

Prayers: For the Lord's blessing on our church planning efforts this month; For a happy and successful beginning for Ascension's Extended Day Preschool, starting again on August 22 – for EDP's director, teachers, children and families; For Magda Merbach, aged 103, who is hospitalized for stomach issues; For the Achziger family, whose relative, Rusty, has died; For Deb Shiflet, who will have cataract surgery; For Gary Westerman, Charlene Dierking's brother-in-law, who has Covid and other health issues; For Jacoby Kramp and his family. Jacoby is a neighbor of Hank and Chris Peepgrass. Jacoby attended our preschool and is now 13; he has a brain tumor and is expected to only live a few months. For Kim McCormick, who is hospitalized with diverticulitis in Omaha. For Virginia Downs, at UC Health in Highlands Ranch for heart issues that are affecting her diabetes; For Jackie Pearman, who will have major surgery on her knee on August 16; For Mike Zehnder's brother, Tom, who suffered a fall on July 27, just now coming out of a coma; For Lee Valdez; For Mary Lou Regan, with complications from COPD; For Harriet Metz, who has an infection after having had two back surgeries; For Gwen Geisler; For Joan Anttonen's sister, Judy, in hospice care; For Lorine Grau; For Nadine Ginkel; For Carol Zeller; For members of our congregation who are having financial challenges; For world leaders, that they will pursue peace in Ukraine; For our country; For God's mighty hand to bring to an end this virus. For God to send His Holy Spirit on all believers for strengthening of faith and witness. For those who are homeless, that they may find safe places to live.

From Ellen Thompson: Thank you to all my friends who have sent cards, remembered me in prayer and have shown such wonderful care and love. I love you all. Ellen Thompson.

From Bob Stamp: Many thanks to all of you for the cards, calls and good wishes for my birthday. I appreciated them! And I'm grateful for your friendship. Bob Stamp

Happy Birthday! Jim Wendelken, one of our long-time members, turns 100 years-old on Saturday, August 27. Congratulate him by sending him a note or a card at: 4604 W. Tufts Ave. Denver, CO 80236-3300

Ascension's Prayer Group:

Psalm 145:18-20a

The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth. He fulfills the desires of those who fear him; he hears their cry and saves them. The Lord watches over all who love him.

Please join us as we call on our Sovereign God in prayer. Ascension's Prayer Group meets on Zoom every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month at 2:30 pm. If you'd like to join us, contact MargoALPasha@yahoo.com

Help for Ukraine: To support the people of Ukraine, please pray for them. If you desire to contribute to their needs, the link for Mission Advancement is: [Give online via LCMS Mission Advancement](#). By mail, you can make your check out to "The LCMS," and write "Ukraine Relief" in the memo line. Mail to: The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, P.O. Box 66861, St. Louis, MO 63166-6861.

Attendance	Service Time	Attendees	
Saturday, 8/6	4:00 pm	61	
Sunday, 8/7	9:00 am	120	Total: 181

Calendar At-a-Glance (Saturday, August 13 – Sunday, August 21):

Sat. (8-13)	9:00 a.m.	Social Ministry Meeting
	4:00 p.m.	Traditional Worship with Holy Communion
Sun. (8-14)	9:00 a.m.	Traditional Worship with Holy Communion
	10:00 a.m.	Coffee Under the Trees – Community Outreach
	10:30 a.m.	Adult Bible Study
	1:00 p.m.	Faith Day at the Rockies
Tues. (8-16)	9:30 a.m.	Ladies Bible Study
Weds. (8-17)	10:00 a.m.	Mid-week Bible Study w/Pastor Ginkel
Thurs. (8-18)	1:00 p.m.	Gifts on a Mission
Fri. (8-19)	9:30 a.m.	EDP Parent Orientation
Sat. (8-20)	9:00 a.m.- 1:00p.m.	Adult Instruction Class
	4:00 p.m.	Traditional Worship with Holy Communion
Sun. (8-21)	9:00 a.m.	Traditional Worship with Holy Communion
	10:00 a.m.	Coffee Under the Trees – The Kirschner Family
	10:30 a.m.	Adult Bible Study
	1:00-4:00 p.m.	Adult Instruction Class

Stewardship:

2022	This Week	Year-to-Date (YTD)
Financial Needs	\$12,300.00	\$393,600.00
Received Amount	\$12,706.43	\$393,937.22
Project Peter Receipts	\$680.00	\$101,999.13

Project Peter Loan Balance: \$197,503.72

Flowers for August 13-14 were given by Terry and Cathy Utecht in joyful celebration of their 42nd Wedding Anniversary on August 16!

Online Views (as of August 8) for July 31: 105 views.

KFUO Radio, the broadcast voice of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, shares Christ for you anytime, anywhere on KFUO.org via worship services, Bible and theology studies, practical talk programs, and sacred music. Find programs on demand at kfu.org and wherever you get your podcasts! Find us on social:

@KFUOradio on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/kfuoradio), [Twitter](https://twitter.com/kfuoradio), and [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/kfuoradio).

CHRIST FOR YOU this week on KFUO.org: Study Deuteronomy 6-10 on Sharper Iron's "The Law of God is Good and Wise" (weekdays at 8:00 a.m. CT), study Romans 3-6 on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m. CT), and study a curious theological topic on Cross Defense (8/20 at 11:00 a.m. CT). Find your favorite programs on demand at kfu.org or on the KFUE Radio app!

Hymn Preview: *In our worship together this week we will sing these lines from the praise song "For the Fruits of His Creation":*

In the just reward of labor, God's will is done

In the help we give our neighbor, God's will is done.

In our world-wide task of caring For the hungry and despairing,

In the harvests we are sharing, God's will is done.

-Fred Pratt Green, b. 1903