

GOOD AFTERNOON! WHAT'S HAPPENING (August 18)!

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 Christa and Ian Kirschner. 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!

From Ascension's Extended Day Preschool: "We're **BACK!!!!** It is hard to believe we said goodbye to last year's students almost three months ago!!! We hope all of our families had a wonderful summer break and are getting as excited as we are to begin this school year. Our teachers have been working diligently this entire week preparing the classrooms and supplies.

We are welcoming everyone with a Parent Orientation this Friday, and our students will be walking down a red carpet to their new classrooms Monday morning. As we help the students transition back into school next week, we will be focusing primarily on our Back to School curriculum - we will be introducing the centers of the classroom, the daily jobs everyone is going to have, and our rules and expectations. BUT, most importantly, we will be playing!! This is, after all, how we learn... through play. We will be freely moving through every center in the classrooms to allow for students to start building friendships and getting to know our teachers better!! We are so excited. We are going to have a GREAT SCHOOL YEAR!!!!"

Please attend the "Next Steps" Church Planning Meeting, August 27, 2022, from 9:00-11:00am!

At our August 6 meeting, 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 teachers' meeting. Come hear about the exciting plans we have for the new year and receive your curriculum!

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

NEEDED: Adult volunteers to help out with youth events and/or youth night! Be a part of this exciting, rewarding ministry towards 6th-12th graders! To find out more information, talk to Stephanie or email at stephanieroettjer@gmail.com.

GOT MUSICAL TALENT?

You know where the GIFT of singing or playing an instrument comes from, right? 😊 God bestows GIFTS upon mankind so they may be USED. Your gift of musical talent actually BELONGS to the rest of us, did you know that?

*“For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. We have **different gifts**, according to the grace given to each of us.” (Romans 12)*

So this is your wake up call. What musical GIFT has God given you to share and USE? Bells? Choir? Instrument? Praise Band? See our Director of Music Ministries, Michael Zehnder, or email him at musicmikealc@gmail.com. Rehearsals start September 6 & 7. “To sing is to bring to the surface all the depth of one's being.” - Marty Rubin.

Lectors Needed: If you would like to assist in worship services by reading aloud the Bible readings, please let us know and we will add you to our Lector List. For the 4:00 Saturday services it is helpful (but not required) for the Lector to also assist Pastor and the Elder with serving communion. If you are interested, please contact the church office alutheran@aol.com or call us at 303-794-4636.

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.

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.

Young Adult Group Bible Study will meet on Friday, September 9 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!

It's still only 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.

Littleton's Western Welcome Week is here! Here is the link for the schedule of fun family events for this weekend: <https://www.westernwelcomeweek.org/events/>

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. For years you may have been working with your financial advisor, creating a financial plan to carry you forward through retirement. Your estate gift plan should coordinate with this plan, looking to use the right assets to make gifts to family and the right assets to make gifts to ministry. Your Ascension Gift Planning Counselor can share your gifting goals with your financial advisor and work toward designating those gifts. Contact Jason Jones at Jason.Jones@lfnd.org or call him directly at (970) 988-0305.

Prayers: For Gregg and Barb Williams' granddaughter, Ainsley; For Lila Loots' brother, Gordon Loots; he has been diagnosed with a brain tumor and a blockage of an artery. He is in the hospital in Omaha and will have surgery on Friday. 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; For Gary Westerman, Charlene Dierking's brother-in-law; 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 has been hospitalized with diverticulitis in Omaha. For Virginia Downs, for heart issues; For Jackie Pearman, who had major surgery on her knee on August 16; For Mike Zehnder's brother, Tom, now recovering at home; For Lee Valdez; For Mary Lou Regan, with complications from COPD; For Harriet Metz; 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.

Happy Birthday! To Jerry Gerdes, who will be 84 on August 18; 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

Happy Anniversary! To Jerry and Judy Peterson, who will celebrate their 58th Wedding Anniversary on August 23!

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

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.

<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Service Time</u>	<u>Attendees</u>	
Saturday, 8/13	4:00 pm	74	
Sunday, 8/14	9:00 am	136	Total: 210

Online Views (as of August 14) for August 7: 101 views.

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

Sat. (8-20)	9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.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
Mon. (8-22)	9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.	Extended Day Preschool – First Day!
Tues. (8-23)	9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.	Extended Day Preschool
	9:30 a.m.	Ladies Bible Study
	7:00 p.m.	Elders Meeting
Weds. (8-24)	9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.	Extended Day Preschool
	10:00 a.m.	Mid-week Bible Study w/Pastor Ginkel
	6:00 p.m.	Sunday School Teachers’ Meeting
	6:30 p.m.	Education Volunteer Meeting
Thurs. (8-25)	9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.	Extended Day Preschool
Fri. (8-26)	9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.	Extended Day Preschool
Sat. (8-27)	9:00-11:00 a.m.	“Next Steps” Church Planning Meeting
	4:00 p.m.	Traditional Worship with Holy Communion
	4:00 p.m.	Reception of New Members
Sun. (8-28)	9:00 a.m.	Traditional Worship with Holy Communion
	9:00 a.m.	Reception of New Members & Baptism of Mikey O’Connell
	10:00 a.m.	Coffee Under the Trees – Social Ministry
	10:30 a.m.	Adult Bible Study

Stewardship:

2022	This Week	Year-to-Date (YTD)
Financial Needs	\$12,300.00	\$405,900.00
Received Amount	\$7,521.25	\$401,458.47
Project Peter Receipts	\$3,680.00	\$105,679.13

Project Peter Loan Balance: \$197,503.72

Flowers for August 20-21 were given by Edna and Linda Achziger in loving memory of Carla Achziger and Lloyd Winn.

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CHRIST FOR YOU this week on KFUO.org: Dig into curious topics on Cross Defense (8/27 at 11:00 a.m. CT), study our Lutheran Confessions on Concord Matters (8/27 at 10:00 a.m. CT), and study Deuteronomy 11-14 on Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8:00 a.m. CT) and Romans 7-10 on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m. CT). Find your favorite programs on demand at kfu.org or the KFUO Radio app!

Hymn Preview: *In our worship together this week we will sing these lines from the hymn, "Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me" (LSB 761):*

*Not the labors of my hands Can fulfill Thy Law's demands;
Could my zeal no respite know, Could my tears forever flow,
All for sin could not atone; Thou must save, and Thou alone.*

- Augustus M. Toplady, b. 1740