

**GOOD AFTERNOON!**

**WHAT'S HAPPENING (September 1)! Happy Labor Day Weekend!**

**Worship Services** are at 4:00 p.m. on Saturday and 9:00 a.m. on Sunday this weekend. Following the 9:00 service, you are invited to join us for Coffee Under the Trees, hosted this week by the Stewardship committee. The Adult Bible Class will follow at 10:30.

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

Beginning next Sunday, September 11, we will return to our regular 8:00 am Traditional and 10:30 am Contemporary Worship Services. The Saturday Traditional worship service will be at 4:00 pm.

**Please note** that the church office and EDP will be closed on Monday, September 5 in observance of Labor Day. The next issue of Happenings will be sent out on Thursday, September 15, as the Administrative Assistant will be out of town next week.

**Welcome New Members!** Please welcome these new members who will be received at the 4:00 and 9:00 services this weekend: David Clausen, Rebecca Clausen, Arlis Rubio, Scott Holub, Colin O'Connell, Megan O'Connell, Cheryl Beth John, Nancy Harder, and Carolyn Helstrom.

**The annual All-Church Education Sunday Picnic will be held SUNDAY, September 11th, following the second service!**

Come and celebrate with us the start of a brand new year of sharing Christ's love through teaching and learning! There will be tasty food like fried chicken, potato salad, fruit, and dessert. Also, games and fellowship will add some fun to our wonderful morning! See you there!

**Please attend the "Next Steps" Church Planning Meeting THIS SATURDAY, 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!

**Get ready to kick-off our Christian Education Program on September 11th**

**from 9:15-10:15 AM!** Bible study for all ages, wonderful teachers, fun and engaging lessons about Jesus, music, and crafts! Our theme for the year is "Shine" based on Psalm 27:1.

**Youth Nights are starting up the 4th Sunday of every month!** First one will be on **September 25th** from 4-5:30 pm, in the Youth Room. Games (like sardines), creative Bible study, and pizza! Friends are invited! Questions, contact Stephanie.

**Beginning on Wednesday, September 7, an Adult Bible Class will be held** in the Fellowship Hall from 5:00 until 6:00. You are invited to a verse by verse, chapter by chapter study of the Gospel of Luke, led by Pastor John. We begin in Luke 10:25 - the Parable of the Good Samaritan - on that evening. Though a meal is not provided this year, we will look at our options for food and drink at our study. All are welcome. You are welcome. If you have ever said that you need to really study the Bible, this is the class for you!!

**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](mailto:stephanieroettjer@gmail.com).

**LIKE MUSIC? GOT ABILITIES? “Hide it under a bushel, NO!”**

You can ring a bell, sing in the choir or participate in a Praise Band. Choir and Bell rehearsals start Wednesday, September 7. Bells at 6 and Choir at 7 pm. Praise Bands on September 6 and 13 at 7 pm. What musical GIFT has God given you to share and USE? You are welcome to just give it a “try” for the first three weeks. No permanent commitment required; just “give it a chance.” Questions or want to sign up? See our Director of Music Ministries, Michael Zehnder, or email him at [musicmikealc@gmail.com](mailto:musicmikealc@gmail.com). “Music heals all forms of misery” - Friedrich Nietzsche.

**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 had our Parent Orientation last Friday, and our students walked 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!!!!”

**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](mailto: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 on Wednesdays, in 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](mailto:jenna.lindeman@cune.org)).

**Ascension Foundation Happenings:** Our August meeting consisted of reviewing past missions for 2022, consisting of some 16 support areas local and worldwide. We are setting budgets for the coming year that will include approximately \$38,000 for our ongoing missions of support.

Our Goal and criteria are to ensure that we are involved in forwarding God’s word in all our mission selections, that include a college student’s study for full-time church work

and a mission family studying to complete his studies for the full-time ministry in the near future.

Additionally, we are supporting God's word and work in several world missions fields, along with local support to a growing Denver mission church and projects in need. We will continue with an update sharing our final funding selections later this fall.

For the Foundation, Jim Shelton

**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!

**Fall days are approaching, and it's time to think "Craft and Bake Sale".**

We all enjoyed wonderful goodies at coffee hour this summer. Would you consider baking some more for the Bake sale? Or go through your favorite recipes. Crafts take time, so let's get started! Think: Fall decorations, Christmas items and ornaments, hand-made jewelry. Any woodworkers out there? We'd love your items, too! November 20 is our big day- - mark your calendars. And thanks so much from the Ladies Guild!

**Ascension Quilters** will begin meeting again on Friday afternoons in the Fellowship Hall beginning next Friday, September 9, from 12:30-3:00 p.m. For more information, please call Jackie Adams, 303-798-5161.

**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.** Have you ever been to multiple different doctors, each treating a certain condition, only to find that what one is doing is impeding what the other is trying to do? This can happen in estate gift planning as well. Your Ascension Gift Planning Counselor can coordinate the work of all your professional advisors so that they are creating a unified plan. Contact Jason Jones at [Jason.Jones@lfnd.org](mailto:Jason.Jones@lfnd.org) or call him directly at (970) 988-0305.

**Prayers:** For the Capparuccia family (Larisa Neilson's family); for Darlene Neilson, Larisa's mother-in-law; For Ellen Thompson's sister, Karen, whose cancer has returned; For Jan Burmeister and her family. Her daughter Tracy's husband, Steve, fell and died on August 12. He was only 56 years old. For Annette Wolfer and her family, at the passing of her beloved husband, Beau, on August 20; For Gregg and Barb Williams and their family, at the loss of their granddaughter, Ainsley; For the family, friends and neighbors of Jacoby Kramp, who died on August 20; For Lila Loots' brother, Gordon Loots; he has been diagnosed with a brain tumor and a blockage of an artery. For the Lord's blessing on our church planning efforts this month; 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 Harriet Metz; For Gwen Geisler; 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 Jim Wendelken, one of our long-time members, who 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

**The Funeral Service for Beau Wolfer** will be held here at Ascension on Monday, September 12, at 1:00 p.m.

**Ascension's Prayer Group:**

**James 5:16** (AMP) Therefore, confess your sins to one another [your false steps, your offenses], and pray for one another, that you may be healed *and* restored. The heartfelt *and* persistent prayer of a righteous man (believer) can accomplish much [when put into action and made effective by God—it is dynamic and can have tremendous power].

Ascension's Prayer Group meets on Zoom every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month at 2:30 pm. If you'd like to join us, contact [MargoALPasha@yahoo.com](mailto: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.

<b><u>Attendance</u></b>	<b><u>Service Time</u></b>	<b><u>Attendees</u></b>	
Saturday, 8/27	4:00 pm	64	
Sunday, 8/28	9:00 am	148	Total: 212

**Online Views** (as of August 29) for August 21: 111 views.

**Calendar At-a-Glance (Saturday, August 27 – Monday, August 5):**

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 – The Social Ministry Committee
	10:30 a.m.	Adult Bible Study
Mon. (8-29)	9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.	Extended Day Preschool
Tues. (8-30)	9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.	Extended Day Preschool
	9:30 a.m.	Ladies Bible Study
Weds. (8-31)	9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.	Extended Day Preschool
	10:00 a.m.	Mid-week Bible Study w/Pastor Ginkel
Thurs. (9-1)	9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.	Extended Day Preschool
	1:00 p.m.	Gifts on a Mission
	1:30 p.m.	Koinonia Bible Study
Fri. (9-2)	9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.	Extended Day Preschool
Sat. (9-3)	4:00 p.m.	Traditional Worship with Holy Communion
Sun. (9-4)	9:00 a.m.	Traditional Worship with Holy Communion
	10:00 a.m.	Coffee Under the Trees – Stewardship Committee
	10:30 a.m.	Adult Bible Study
Mon. (9-5)		LABOR DAY – Church office closed

**Stewardship:**

2022	This Week	Year-to-Date (YTD)
Financial Needs	\$12,300.00	\$418,200.00
Received Amount	\$9,236.83	\$410,695.30
Project Peter Receipts	\$1,285.00	\$106,964.13

Project Peter Loan Balance: \$197,503.72

**Flowers for August 27-28 were given by Jim and Tanya Schmitt in joyful celebration of their 22<sup>nd</sup> Wedding Anniversary!**

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**CHRIST FOR YOU this week on [KFUO.org](http://KFUO.org):** Study Deuteronomy 15-18 on Sharper Iron's "The Law of God is Good and Wise" (weekdays at 8:00 a.m. CT), study Romans

11-14 on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m. CT), and hear our Lutheran Confessions on Concord Matters (9/3 at 10:00 a.m. CT) and curious theological topics on Cross Defense (9/3 at 11:00 a.m. CT). Find these programs on demand at [kfu.org](http://kfu.org) or the KFUE Radio app!

***Hymn Preview:*** *In our worship together this week we will sing these lines from the praise song, "My Savior My God":*

*That He would leave His place on high  
And come for sinful man to die  
You count it strange, so once did I  
Before I knew my Savior.*

*- Aaron Shust, born 1975*