

**GOOD AFTERNOON!**

**WHAT'S HAPPENING (January 5)! Blessed Epiphany!**

**Worship Services** are at 4:00 p.m. on Saturdays, 8:00 and 10:30 a.m. on Sundays. Sunday School and Adult Bible Class are at 9:15 – 10:15 am on Sundays.

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

**The Funeral Service for Marie Kerluke** will be on Sunday, January 8, at 1:00 pm at Ascension.

**The Photo Directories Have Arrived!** You can pick up your Pictorial Directory in the Narthex! If you didn't get your picture taken but would like a directory – please call the church office at 303-794-4636 and we'll set aside one for you.

**Undecorate!! We need a few hands to undecorate the sanctuary** this Saturday, January 7 beginning at 8:30 am. Crumbs of old Christmas cookies will be served to all who come to help!!

**AARP Tax Training** for tax counselors is scheduled to take place at the Ascension fellowship hall over the next couple of weeks (this coming Monday 1/9, Tuesday 1/10, Wednesday 1/11, and the following Tuesday 1/17, Wednesday 1/18, and Thursday 1/19). We are pleased to be able to host this training after a 2-year hiatus!

**Beginning on January 1, 2023** the following people will provide leadership to our congregation:

President - Tim McClaren

Vice-President - Bob Hea

Secretary - Barbara Rutter

Treasurer - Margo Pasha

Board of Elders - Jim Wert

Board of Trustees - Chuck Mielke and Terry Utecht

Board of Education - Christa Kirschner

Board of Youth - Ian Kirschner

Board of Stewardship and Ladies Guild - Linda Achziger

Board of Outreach - Joyce Lord

Social Ministry - Anita Baresel

Life Enrichment - Tom Munson

Columbarium - Presently seeking a chair or co/chair

We thank the following leaders who have completed their service in their various positions:

Tom Munson - President

Tim McClaren - Vice-President

Scott Luethy - Board of Elders

Carol Stamp - Ladies Guild

Norm and Connie Fringer – Columbarium

**Pastor John will begin a new Bible Study** on Sunday, January 8 at 9:15, entitled "Galatians - Solid Stuff."

**The Bloodmobile is Coming to Ascension on January 8!** From Vitalant: "The first week of January is the most difficult week of the year to secure blood for patients." If you would like to sign up to donate blood on Sunday, January 8, please email the church office at [alutheran@aol.com](mailto:alutheran@aol.com). Donors will receive a long-sleeved t-shirt!

**2023 God's Creation Calendars** Thank you for supporting our youth and their efforts towards a summer mission trip! We have extra calendars if you'd like to still purchase one for \$10! Please give your cash or check to Stephanie. Thank you!

**The Youth Winter Retreat is coming up on January 15 -16!** We'll be traveling to the mountains (leaving at 12:00 p.m. Sunday the 15th), staying in a cabin, and learning about God's love for us. Fun games, good food, beautiful scenery, and God's Word! Geared towards 6th-12th graders; invite your friends! Cost will be \$15.00.

**RSVP by January 8th!**

**Family Game Night!** Friday, January 27th, 6:00-7:30 pm. Whether you're young or young at heart, we've got a space for you. Bring your favorite game or come ready to learn a new one as we enjoy an evening of laughter and fun together. Come ready to play Bingo with everyone at the beginning of the evening. After that, feel free to play whatever sounds the most fun to you! And prizes! Also, gaga ball, human hungry hippos, cards, board games! Pizza provided. Questions, contact Stephanie at [stephanieroettjer@gmail.com](mailto:stephanieroettjer@gmail.com)

**THE LADIES GUILD INVITES YOU TO JOIN US AND PASTOR LARSON FOR A BROWN BAG LUNCH & BIBLE STUDY**

DATE: THURSDAY, JANUARY 12, 2023

TIME: 11:30 A.M.

WHERE: FELLOWSHIP HALL

Ascension Ladies Guild will provide dessert, coffee and tea. Please remember to bring a friend, your mites, nickel bags/socks, your Bible, and most importantly do not forget your brown bag lunch!

**The 2023 Flower weekly signup sheet** is located on the bulletin board on the landing just down from the Narthex. Simply fill out your name, dedication for a special event, and write a check for the number of arrangements, each arrangement is \$27.00, the cost for both arrangements are \$54.00, this is the same cost as 2019. If you want to share your special event with another person that is perfect – we love to celebrate everyone's special day.

You are welcome to take your donated flowers home after the last service, or you can opt to give them another good deed. The Ladies of Circle IV will take the flowers left to the homebound and hospitalized members of our church to brighten their day!

You may pay for your flowers using the envelopes located below the sign-up sheet and place it in the weekly offering plate. It is particularly important to mark your check

clearly "ALTAR FLOWERS" so the offering counters do not credit it to the General Fund, but to floral budget. The church does not have a floral budget, and all Altar Flowers are made possible by donations. Please remember to pay for your flowers by the Sunday you are dedicating them.

Thank you all for your flower donations and the beauty, which they bring to our Church.

**Severe Weather Shelter Network – update from Ann Kaneko:** The shelter site for our region is at Faith Community Center, while they are waiting for permits to be issued. The last couple of weeks have seen some extreme cold temperatures. SWSN has been busy. We were able to gather lots of supplies for them, and they are most grateful. Now, for the first time this season, we have been asked to help launder towels and blankets that the guests used. Staff at the shelter put the dirty laundry into plastic bags. I picked up 4 bags and will leave them at Ascension downstairs by the double doors. If you are able, please pick one up. Return the cleaned laundry within a week to Ascension, and I will take it back to the shelter. Thanks in advance for your help.

Ann Kaneko - [kanekoa@comcast.net](mailto:kanekoa@comcast.net), 720.289.6782 (cell)

### **EPIPHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH OF CASTLE ROCK IS HIRING**

Epiphany seeks qualified candidates for two (2) positions: Administrative Assistant (Full-time) and Accounting Specialist (Part-time). Learn more about these positions and how to apply at [www.epiphanylc.org/jobs](http://www.epiphanylc.org/jobs).

**The Rocky Mountain District LCMS** located in South Metro Denver has an immediate opening for a qualified Business and Office Manager.

This position is charged with the financial and operational oversight and management of the District and its ministries. Provides assistance and guidance in the business direction of the District in areas of planning and execution, follow-up, and communication.

#### **[Business and Office Manager Job Description](#)**

For information on who we are visit <https://rm.lcms.org/about-us/>.

Qualified persons are invited to send resumes to [business@rm.lcms.org](mailto:business@rm.lcms.org) by January 31, 2023.

### **From the Capital Campaign Committee:**

***2 Corinthians 9:11 You will be enriched in every way to be generous in every way, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God.***

Despite many challenges over the last three years, the people of Ascension have committed to the West Wing upgrade. Through prayer and working together, we have achieved a beautiful, renovated facility we all can be proud of, one that advances our mission to "Gather around the Word and Sacrament for worship and nurture... to receive power to reach out in Christ's name..."

The cost of the project is nearly paid. The pennies and dollars you have generously provided have added up to \$952,749.28, of the total project cost of \$1,064,000.00. In

this last month of the three-year project, additional contributions of \$55,577.69 would pay the project and loan off. Please prayerfully consider your support of this effort.

Your Capital Campaign committee thanks you for your contributions, your prayers and your commitment to Ascension and the West Wing Peter Project. - Jim Adams, Art Gordon, Bob Hea, Kim McCormick, Chuck Mielke, Dawn Munson, Kathleen Wucherpennig. Past President Arvin Michel, President Tom Munson and Pastor John Larson.

**Gifts on a Mission** We will resume our gatherings at church on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month from 1:00 to 4:45 pm beginning on Thursday, January 5<sup>th</sup>. Come and join us!

**From Ascension's Extended Day Preschool** "WOW, Colorado's weather helped us all go out of 2022 with a bang!! We completed our lessons on Holidays Around the World - the students were so intrigued by all of the different traditions, cultural practices and rituals, and the multitude of celebrations that are enjoyed around the World. The Preschool students had so much fun with one of our Holiday traditions - singing all of the Holiday songs they spent the past month practicing. We also enjoyed decorating Gingerbread Houses with our families after.

The Preschool is out of session for Christmas Break now!! We are all reminiscing over the precious memories we have created with the students throughout this first half of our school year - every laugh, snuggle, song, dance, tear, and all of the teachable moments are near and dear to our hearts and we can't wait to return in the New Year to continue making more memories!!" Warm Regards, Kelly Lafferty, Director

**The Genesis 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 Saturdays or email Curt at [Kengle0920@gmail.com](mailto:Kengle0920@gmail.com).

**Study on Wednesday Mornings:** A Bible Introduction. When was it written? Inspiration and Languages. Overview of Old and New Testaments. And more. Taught by Pastor Don Ginkel. We meet from 10:00 to 11:15 a.m. in Room 106 in classroom to the right of the main entrance off the parking lot. Join us if you can.

**Today we celebrate God's great gift of His Son Jesus, born for us.** Celebration is wonderful. What if you could plan a scenario for the celebration of your use of God's gifts when He calls you home to be with those same angels who celebrated on Christmas night in the skies of Bethlehem. Your intentional gift plan in your estate could generate that celebration. Your Ascension Gift Planning Counselor can help you get started. Contact Jason Jones at [Jason.Jones@lfnd.org](mailto:Jason.Jones@lfnd.org) or call him directly at (970) 988-0305.

**Prayers:** For Athenia Michel, who has been diagnosed with breast cancer; For Dave Clausen, who will have a knee replacement on Thursday, January 5; For Tom Snyder, Cynthia Snyder's husband, who has a broken hip; For Damar Hamlin, for full recovery from his injury; For Alan Backhus, who will have a heart ablation on Monday, January

9; For Mike Lindstrom, friend of Lori Rolling. Mike is struggling with stage 4 emphysema; For Bill and Pauline, friends of Joyce Gallagher. Bill has been in a hospital in Las Vegas with low heart function since before Christmas, he needs test results so they can do surgery; For the family of Cathy, friend of Joyce Gallagher's, who passed away just before Christmas; For Donna Berning, sister-in-law of Kim McClaren; she had to have emergency surgery on January 2 due to bleeding in her brain; For Roger Gaide and his family, at the death of his mother, Marjorie; For Bernice Arsenault and her family, at the death of her sister, Addie Vig; For Wendell Rolf, Patricia's brother-in-law, who has entered hospice care; For Lori Pickering, who had shoulder surgery on Thursday, December 29; For Pat Pointer, aunt of Lorine Grau, who has had complications with knee replacement surgery; For Rita Kratzer; For Tom Zehnder, Mike's brother; For Harriet Metz; For Ethan Nelson and his family; For Lorine Grau; For Nadine Ginkel; For Carol Zeller; For world leaders, that they will pursue peace in Ukraine; For our country; For God to send His Holy Spirit on all believers for strengthening of faith and witness.

**Happy Birthday** to Larry Nisbet's father, Don, who will be 100 years young on January 15!

**Blessings to Graham and Larisa Neilson and their family** - their son, George Harwood Neilson II, will be baptized on January 15 at Graham's church, Holy Name Catholic Church in Sheridan!

**Flowers on the Altar** for January 7-8 are given by David and Carol Zeller in joyful celebration of their 51<sup>st</sup> Wedding Anniversary!

**Ascension's Prayer Group**

Are you making resolutions for the New Year? Have you selected a Word for 2023? Consider making both PRAYER!

Grant us grace, O God,  
to begin this year in Your faith  
and to continue it in Your favor,  
that being guided in all our doings  
and guarded all our days,  
we may spend ourselves in Your service  
and finally, by Your grace,  
attain to the glory of eternal life;  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

~ written by W E Orchard, 1877-1955

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

<b><u>Attendance</u></b>	<b><u>Service Time</u></b>	<b><u>Attendees</u></b>	
Saturday, 12/31	3:00 pm	170	
Sunday, 1/1	10:00 am	53	Total: 223

**Online Views** (as of January 2) for December 24: 133 views

**Calendar At-a-Glance (Saturday, January 7 – Sunday, January 15):**

Sat. (1-7)	8:30 a.m.	Undecorating the Sanctuary
	4:00 p.m.	Worship with Holy Communion
Sun. (1-8)	8:00 a.m.	Traditional Worship with Holy Communion
	8:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.	Blood Drive
	9:15 a.m.	Education Hour/Sunday School
	10:30 a.m.	Traditional Worship with Holy Communion
	1:00 p.m.	Funeral Service for Marie Kerluke
Mon. (1-9)	9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.	<b>Extended Day Preschool Resumes</b>
Tues. (1-10)	9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.	Extended Day Preschool
	9:30 a.m.	Ladies' Bible Study
	6:30 p.m.	Church Council
Weds. (1-11)	9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.	Extended Day Preschool
	10:00 a.m.	Weekday Bible Study with Pastor Ginkel
	5:00 p.m.	Bible Study with Pastor John
	6:00 p.m.	Confirmation Instruction
	6:00 p.m.	Gloria Dei Ringers
	7:00 p.m.	Ascension Chorale
Thurs. (1-12)	9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.	Extended Day Preschool
	11:30 a.m.	Ladies' Brown Bag Lunch & Bible Study
Fri. (1-13)	9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.	Extended Day Preschool
	12:30 p.m.	Quilters Group
	6:30 p.m.	Young Adult Group
Sat. (1-14)	9:30 a.m.	Social Ministry Meeting
	4:00 p.m.	Traditional Worship with Holy Communion
Sun. (1-15)	8:00 a.m.	Traditional Worship with Holy Communion
	9:15 a.m.	Education Hour / Sunday School
	10:30 a.m.	Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion
	12:00 p.m.	Youth Winter Retreat

**Stewardship:**

<b>2022</b>	Saturday, Dec. 31	Year-to-Date (YTD)
Budgeted Revenue	0.00	\$642,502.00
Received Amount	\$14,054.00	\$669,034.00
Project Peter Receipts	\$10,620.00	\$238,559.00

<b>2023</b>	Sunday, January 1	Year-to-Date (YTD)
Budgeted Revenue	\$12,000.00	\$12,000.00
Received Amount	\$3,505.00	\$3,505.00
Project Peter Receipts	\$0.00	\$0.00

Project Peter Loan Balance: \$55,577.69

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

**@KFUOradio** on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#).

**CHRIST FOR YOU this week on [KFUO.org](http://KFUO.org):** Begin the Gospel of John on Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8:00 a.m. CT), also begin a series on the English Reformation on The Coffee Hour (weekdays at 9:00 a.m. CT), and study Exodus 33-36 on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m. CT). Find these programs on demand at [kfu.org](http://kfu.org) or wherever you get your podcasts!

**Hymn Review:** *In our worship together this week we will sing these lines from the hymn, "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light," LSB 411:*

*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.*

*- Kathleen Thomerson*