

## **GOOD AFTERNOON!**

### **WHAT'S HAPPENING (February 16)!**

**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.

**This Weekend** the Reverend Michael Paulison from Mission Experience - Haiti will be preaching, and he will share information about Mission Experience during the Adult Education hour on Sunday.

Rev. Paulison's first church was Trinity Lutheran in Sterling, Colorado, starting in 1991. He served there for 11 years, then he moved to Aurora to start The Experience which was an outreach congregation to young adults. In 2014, after years of short-term Mission trips, he started Mission Experience as an orphanage. Today it has not only a growing orphanage, but a thriving school, and growing business center.

**President's Day is Monday, February 20** The church office and Extended Day Preschool will be closed.

**Ash Wednesday Services** Ash Wednesday services are on February 22, at 11:30 am and 7:00 pm. Weekly Midweek Lenten worship services will be every Wednesday at 11:30 am and 7:00 pm, through March 29. There will be a Lenten Meal beginning at 5:30 pm each Wednesday in Lent. The Ash Wednesday meal is sponsored by the Ladies Guild.

**Funeral Services for Norma Ogg** will be on Monday, February 27, at 10:30 am.

**Pastor John's Bible Study** on Sunday mornings is entitled "Galatians - Solid Stuff!"

**Pastor John is offering an Adult Instruction Class** on Saturday, March 4 from 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. and on Sunday, March 5 from 1:00-4:00 p.m. This two-part class is designed to teach the basics of Christian faith and the Lutheran denomination. There is no cost. The instruction book will be provided to you. Free refreshments!! If you are not a member of Ascension and would like to see what we believe you're invited to attend. If you can't attend both days, days will be added later for you to receive all the instruction. Questions? Talk to Pastor!

**Disaster Relief - Earthquakes in Turkey and Syria** The death toll following the earthquakes in Turkey and Syria has grown to more than 41,000 people. Many more are injured and homeless. Please pray for all those who are affected. If you would like to donate to the relief effort, please visit the LCMS Earthquake Disaster home page at <https://www.lcms.org/givenow/earthquake> or Lutheran World Relief at [LWR Earthquake Relief](#)

**Your Story for His GLORY!** You and Your story matter...to God, to you and to us. We begin to develop the 11<sup>th</sup> edition of our devotional book, by asking each of you to join us in praying that God will bring to mind how much a part of your life HE really is. We collect these stories and publish them to read between Easter and the Ascension.

Please listen carefully to the Lord's leading, as you write a 400-500-word story that tells of a time or situation that God used to bless or heal you, answered prayers, give you hope. Sign up begins now by emailing me at [Heyjude264@aol.com](mailto:Heyjude264@aol.com). or signing up on the list on the narthex bulletin board. We will need all of you to help fill the pages. Please email that you will write a story NOW, then plan to send your FAITH Story to me by March 1. I will be glad to interview you and help you write if you like. Call me to discuss it at 303-972-0873. With God's help and yours, this booklet can bless us and glorify God. Thank you for your prayers and stories, Jude Donovan

**Lutheran Women's Missionary League Prayer Service** will be Saturday, February 25! The prayer service is a balance of God's Word, hymns and prayers, along with time of spiritual reflection authored by Rev. Dr. Mitchel Schuessler. The service will be hosted by Trinity's Rev. Dr. Adam C. Koontz and accompanied by Rev. Thomas E Lock (Kantor).

All members are welcome to attend. Childcare is available. Saturday, February 25, 2023, 8:30 am – Coffee & pastries; 9:00 am – Service. There will be a collection of Mites for Mission Projects. Trinity Lutheran Church, 4225 West Yale Avenue, Denver, CO 80219. *Sponsored by LWML South Central Zone.*

**Family Night** on Wednesday, February 22nd! On Ash Wednesday, join us to make resurrection gardens, pretzels, and crafts to help explain and observe the start of Lent for children. Come for dinner at 5:30pm followed by activities from 6-6:45pm. **Sign-up** on the youth and family bulletin board or contact Stephanie. Thank you!

**Young Adult Group** will meet on Friday, February 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm. Please contact Jenna Lawrenz at [jenna.lindeman@cune.org](mailto:jenna.lindeman@cune.org).

**St. Patrick's Day - Bunco Night!!** Ascension will be hosting Bunco Night on Friday, March 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. Don't know how to play Bunco? No problem ... we will teach you! Please bring your favorite snack to share, and don't forget to wear GREEN! Childcare will be available! Please sign up on the bulletin board in the narthex.

**Severe Weather Shelter Network** As always, thank you all for your generous donations! The shelter network is very happy to be at Immanuel Lutheran Church now. Many of their guests actually spend their days in spaces that are close to the church or a convenient bus route that makes it easy for them to get there. There is no dishwasher in the church kitchen, so they have an ongoing need for disposable cups, plates and bowls. Donations of dinner size plates, bowls for cereal, and hot or cold cups (no lids), and plastic wear are much appreciated. Mark them for SWSN and leave them on the counter in the kitchen ((there's a supply of labels there). I will deliver them to Immanuel. Ann Kaneko , [kanekoa@comcast.net](mailto:kanekoa@comcast.net), 720.289.6782 (cell)

**Join Boy Scout Troop 361 - Camping, Leadership & Adventure!**

We invite all 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th and 9th grade boys to join us on MONDAY, MARCH 20<sup>th</sup> 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM. No scouting experience necessary! We meet in the hall beneath the church.

Troop 361 is a Scout-led troop focused on leadership skills, scouting skills, camping, service to community, summer camp, high adventures, outdoor activities, rank advancement to Eagle Scout, and more!

Our scouts are friendly, studious, athletes, school leaders and well rounded citizens. Upcoming campouts include snowshoeing at Camp Ben Delatour, hiking and biking in Moab, and summer camp at Camp Alexander.

**RSVP:** [troop361co@gmail.com](mailto:troop361co@gmail.com). Visit [www.troop-361.com](http://www.troop-361.com) to learn more.

**Are you interested in stamp collecting?** Dave Zeller has been a stamp collector for many years. He has some envelopes that bear foreign and domestic stamps that can be soaked off. If a young person collects stamps or is interested in learning, Dave is willing to show them how to soak stamps off of an envelope so they can do it themselves. Please contact him at [296cgt@gmail.com](mailto:296cgt@gmail.com).

**The Ascension Foundation** has reached about 85% of our fundraising goal for 2023. We are so grateful for the prayerful donations from those of you who believe in the mission of the Foundation and will continue to strive to be good stewards of your funds. We will suspend our request for more funding at this time and see where the market takes us this year. Thus far, we have funded the Severe Weather Shelter Network, Chikondi Malawi, Integrated Family Community Services and the Save the Seminary Campaign. Keep your eye on our bulletin board for important updates!

**From Ascension's Extended Day Preschool** "After completing our theme on Kindness (inspired by Martin Luther King, Jr.), we transitioned into our Chinese New Year celebrations. As we enter into the Year of the Rabbit, we have been discussing the origin of this Holiday - we looked at a globe to discover where China is located, and explained how Chinese New Year starts on the 1st new moon of the year. We expanded our knowledge on further attributes of the Holiday - red and gold are considered lucky colors, what all of the animals mean (rabbit symbolizes luck), and we explored with how they celebrate in their households (clean house, feast with family, decorate in red, make lots of noise with fireworks, wear new red clothes on the New Year Day)." Warm Regards, Kelly Lafferty, Director

**6th-12th graders are invited to a "sliding" fun time at Slick City!** Mark your calendars for **Sunday, March 5th**. We'll meet at Ascension at 12:15, back by 3:00. Cost is \$20, friends are invited! Please RSVP to save your spot! Questions, [stephanieroettjer@gmail.com](mailto:stephanieroettjer@gmail.com)

**Save the Dates for Vacation Bible School!** This year Vacation Bible School will return to its 5-day schedule ... and the out-of-this-world theme for 2023 is "Stellar: Shine Jesus' Light!"

Dates for VBS will be Monday, June 5 through Friday, June 9. *Spread the word!*

**Needed!** Someone to help get the Jesus bags in the narthex ready for Sunday morning each week. This includes new coloring sheets in the clipboards, making sure there are enough crayons, and switching out toys. Please contact Stephanie if you're interested. Thank you!

**Gifts on a Mission** Visit us anytime during our regularly scheduled Craft Gatherings on the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays of the month beginning at 1:00 PM in the church Fellowship Hall. Watch our Bulletin Board for info, news, updates about Crafted with Love by GOAM for Missions.

**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:** We are studying "The End Times." 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.

**It is important to involve family in your gifting plan from your estate.** In elder years, it is common to rely on family to help with core functions of life, even paying bills or managing affairs. It is wise to discuss priorities with the whole family, but especially with those who will be stepping in to help in the later years of life. Your Ascension Gift Planning Counselor can help share your plans. Contact Jason Jones at [Jason.Jones@lfnd.org](mailto:Jason.Jones@lfnd.org) or call him directly at (970) 988-0305.

**Prayers:** For Cathy Utecht, who will have knee replacement on February 23 at Littleton Hospital; For Mavis Slifka, who will have surgery on Friday, February 17; For Joyce Gallagher, who will have a tubal ligation in her ear on February 28; For Michael Paradise, friend of Jan Burmeister, who has been diagnosed with brain cancer, and may have only 6–12 months to live; For Dave and Carol Zeller's granddaughter, Sarah, who was hit by a car last week; prayers are working mightily! Sarah went home from the hospital on Tuesday, but will be in a back brace for some time. For Marion Wilson's brother, Jerry Vahle, who is undergoing chemo for bladder and prostate cancer; For Kenny Shiflet, Bob and Deb's son; For Athenia Michel, who will have surgery for breast cancer on Thursday, February 23; For Crystal Sundet, who will have surgery on Wednesday, March 1 at Littleton Hospital; For Matthew Loptien, for restoration of his hearing in his left ear; For Lynn Hendrickson, who has Stage 4 cancer; For Tom Zehnder; For Lorine Grau; For Nadine Ginkel; For all of the victims of the earthquakes in Turkey and Syria, and for those who are injured and displaced; For peace in Ukraine; For our country; For God to send His Holy Spirit on all believers for strengthening of faith and witness.

**Flowers on the Altar** are given by Bob and Deb Shiflet, in joyful celebration of Deb's birthday on February 14, and their 45<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on February 18<sup>th</sup>!

**Ascension's Prayer Group Ephesians 6:18 (AMP)**

With all prayer and petition pray [with specific requests] at all times [on every occasion and in every season] in the Spirit, and with this in view, stay alert with all perseverance and petition [interceding in prayer] for all God's people.

Please join the Ascension Prayer Group as 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>Attendance</b>	<b>Service Time</b>	<b>Attendees</b>	
Saturday, 2/11	4:00 pm	69	
Sunday, 2/12	8:00 am	96	
	10:30 am	66	Total: 231

**Online Views** (as of February 13) for February 5: 156 views

**Calendar At-a-Glance (Saturday, February 18 – Sunday, February 26):**

Sat. (2-18)	4:00 p.m.	Traditional Worship with Holy Communion
Sun. (2-19)		<b>TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD</b> Guest Preacher: Rev. Mike Paulison of Mission Experience
	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
	1:00 p.m.	Baptism – Bella Lou Collins
Mon. (2-20)		<b>PRESIDENT'S DAY—Church Office Closed</b>
		NO Extended Day Preschool
Tues. (2-21)	9:30 a.m.- 2:30 p.m.	Extended Day Preschool
	9:30 a.m.	Ladies' Bible Study
Weds. (2-22)		<b>ASH WEDNESDAY</b>
	9:30 a.m.- 2:30 p.m.	Extended Day Preschool
	10:00 a.m.	Weekday Bible Study with Pastor Ginkel
	11:30 a.m.	Midweek Lenten Worship with Holy Communion
	5:00 p.m.	Bible Study with Pastor John
	5:30 p.m.	Lenten Meal – Ladies Guild
	5:45 p.m.	Gloria Dei Ringers
	6:00 p.m.	Confirmation Instruction
	6:00 p.m.	Family Night
	7:00 p.m.	Midweek Lenten Worship with Holy Communion
	7:45 p.m.	Ascension Chorale
Thurs. (2-23)	9:30 a.m.- 2:30 p.m.	Extended Day Preschool
Fri. (2-24)	9:30-2:30	Extended Day Preschool
	12:30 p.m.	Quilters Group
	6:30 p.m.	Young Adult Group
Sat. (2-25)	10:00-11:30 a.m.	Confirmation Instruction
	4:00 p.m.	Traditional Worship with Holy Communion
Sun. (2-26)		<b>FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT</b>



	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
	4:00 p.m.	Sunday Night Live–Youth Bible Study, Games, Pizza

### **Stewardship:**

<b>2023</b>	Sat/Sun, February 11-12	Year-to-Date (YTD)
Budgeted Revenue	\$12,000.00	\$84,000.00
Received Amount	\$17,926.00	\$94,440.00
Project Peter Receipts	\$1,125.00	\$12,385.00

Project Peter Loan Balance: \$46,930.30

**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:

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**CHRIST FOR YOU this week on [KFUO.org](http://KFUO.org):** We begin Lent with an Organ Recital and Worship Service on Ash Wednesday (2/22 at 11:00 a.m. CT), study John 9-10 on Sharper Iron's "The Word Became Flesh" (weekdays at 8:00 a.m. CT), and study 2 Timothy 1-4 on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m. CT). Find your favorite programs on demand at [kfu.org](http://kfu.org) or the KFUE Radio app!

### **Church Library Corner:**

From *The Freedom of a Christian*, by Martin Luther (continued from last week):

6. You may ask, however: "What then is that word which gives such signal grace, and how shall I use it?" The answer is: It is nothing else than the message proclaimed by Jesus, as contained in the gospel; and this should be, and, in fact, is, so presented that you hear your God speak to you. It shows how all your life and labor are as nothing in God's sight, and how you and all that is in you, must eternally perish. If you truly believe this, and that you are indeed guilty, you necessarily despair of yourself; you believe that Hosea was right when he said: "O Israel, there is nought in you except your corruption, but in Me is your help." In order that you may come out of yourself and flee from yourself, i.e., escape your corruption, He sets you face to face with His beloved Son, Jesus Christ, and says to you by means of His living and comforting word: "You should surrender yourself to Him with firm faith, and trust Him gladly." Then, for your faith's sake, all your sins shall be forgiven and all your wickedness overcome. You yourself will be righteous, upright, serene, and devout. You will fulfill all commands, and be free from all things, as St. Paul says in Romans 1, "A justified Christian lives only by his faith"; and in Romans 10: "Christ is the end and the fulfillment of all commandments for them that believe in him."

<https://lutheranreformation.org/theology/on-the-freedom-of-a-christian/> for more information.