

GOOD AFTERNOON!

WHAT'S HAPPENING (February 23)! *A Blessed Lenten Season to You!*

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.

Lenten Midweek Services are 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. Next Wednesday's meal is sponsored by the Social Ministry Committee.

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 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 11th 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. 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.*

Young Adult Group will meet on Friday, February 24th at 6:30 pm. Please contact Jenna Lawrenz at jenna.lindeman@cune.org.

St. Patrick's Day - Bunco Night!! Ascension will be hosting Bunco Night on Friday, March 17th 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.

New Way of Giving! *We're excited to share a new way to give to Ascension instead of worrying about a check on Sunday morning. You may recognize QR codes from restaurant menus.*



If you use your cell phone to "take a picture" of the QR code you see on the left, you can click on the pop-up which will take you our Vanco electronic giving application on our Ascension website. You will see a list of programs at Ascension to which you can contribute.

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, 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 20th 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. Visit 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.

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 "March, already?? We have finished up our Healthy Habits curriculum for last month, and we learned so much about how to keep our minds, bodies, and teeth healthy - we loved our special visitors and activities throughout the month. We now are transitioning into a school-wide favorite theme - ANIMALS!!! For the first week, we will be introducing reptiles. We are going to hatch eggs, make salt dough snakes, and represent snake-skin with glue on our hands (super fun, we love getting messy!!).

We also get to celebrate Dr. Seuss' birthday next week. We will be having a visitor from Bemis Library coming to share Dr. Suess books and songs!! We are also all going to bring in our favorite books to read aloud to our friends in class!!"

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

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!*

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.

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. While financial gifts are valuable, passing on the faith is even more important. You can include a statement of faith in your will, or at least share a family blessing in writing, to become a special gift that lasts long after the Lord calls you home. Your Ascension Gift Planning Counselor has resources to help you craft this statement. Contact Jason Jones at Jason.Jones@lfnd.org or call him directly at (970) 988-0305.

Prayers: For Lee Valdez' wife, Kathy; For Bob Stamp, who will have a pre-operation appointment on March 3rd, a PET scan on March 6th, and surgery for melanoma on

March 16th. For Ethan Nelson, whose cancer treatment has been difficult but successful. He will start the next phase in 3 weeks. For Art Gordon's brother, Dean, who had a pacemaker put in on Monday and will soon be undergoing dialysis; For Carol Mickelson, who suffered a fall and has broken two ribs; For Cathy Utecht, who will have knee replacement today, February 23 at Littleton Hospital; For Mavis Slifka, who had surgery on Friday, February 17; For Joyce Gallagher, who will have a tubal ligation in her ear on February 28; For Joyce's sister, Dee Snyder, with a fractured sternum from a car accident; 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; 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 is having surgery today, February 23; For Crystal Sundet, who will have surgery on Wednesday, March 1 at Littleton Hospital; For Lynn Hendrickson; 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.

Ascension's Prayer Group

Heavenly Father, thank You for Your Son who confronted the powers of darkness. Help us to use these days of Lent to grow in wisdom and prayer, so that we may witness to that saving love proclaimed in Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Please join the Ascension Prayer Group as we meet on Zoom every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month at 2:30 pm. Contact: MargoALPasha@yahoo.com

<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Service Time</u>	<u>Attendees</u>	
Saturday, 2/18	4:00 pm	60	
Sunday, 2/19	8:00 am	84	
	10:30 am	64	Total: 208
Ash Wednesday, 2/22	11:30 am	40	
	7:00 pm	83	Total: 123

Online Views (as of February 20) for February 12: 279 views

Calendar At-a-Glance (Saturday, February 25 – Sunday, March 5):

Sat. (2-25)	10:00 p.m.	Confirmation Instruction
	4:00 p.m.	Traditional Worship with Holy Communion
Sun. (2-26)		FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT
	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
Mon. (2-27)	9:30-2:30 p.m.	Extended Day Preschool
	10:30 a.m.	Funeral Service for Norma Ogg

Tues. (2-28)	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. (3-1)	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
	5:00 p.m.	Bible Study with Pastor John
	5:30 p.m.	Lenten Meal – Social Ministry
	5:45 p.m.	Gloria Dei Ringers
	6:00 p.m.	Confirmation Instruction
	7:00 p.m.	Midweek Lenten Worship
	7:50 p.m.	Ascension Chorale
Thurs. (3-2)	9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.	Extended Day Preschool
Fri. (3-3)	9:30-2:30	Extended Day Preschool
	12:30 p.m.	Quilters Group
Sat. (3-4)	9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.	Adult Instruction Class
	9:30 a.m.	Ladies Guild Board Meeting
	4:00 p.m.	Traditional Worship with Holy Communion
Sun. (3-5)		SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT
	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
	12:15 p.m.	Youth Event – Slick City
	1:00-4:00 p.m.	Adult Instruction Class

Stewardship:

2023	Sat/Sun, February 18-19	Year-to-Date (YTD)
Budgeted Revenue	\$12,000.00	\$96,000.00
Received Amount	\$11,049.00	\$105,489.00
Project Peter Receipts	\$6,050.00	\$18,435.00

Project Peter Loan Balance: \$39,630.30

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CHRIST FOR YOU this week on 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 or the KFUE Radio app!

Church Library Corner:

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

7. Therefore it is reasonable to say that the only purpose for which all Christians should labor, is that they should build up both the divine word and Christ in themselves, by exercising and strengthening their faith continually. No other works can make a man a Christian. Thus Christ answered the Jews when they asked Him what they should do in order to do works of a godly and Christian kind. He said: "That is the only divine work, that you believe in Him whom God has sent," whom God the Father has alone ordained to that end.

Therefore a right faith in Christ is, truly, superabundant wealth, for He brings with Himself all felicity, and takes away all infelicity. Thus Mark says, in the last chapter: "Therefore he who believes and is baptized is saved, and he who does not believe is condemned." The prophet Isaiah surveyed the wealth of the same faith, and said: "God will make a small remnant on earth, and into the remnant righteousness will flow like a flood," namely the faith, in which the fulfilling of all commands is quite briefly contained, will abundantly justify all who have it, till they need nothing more to become righteous and religious. Thus St. Paul says in Romans 10: "That which a man believes in his heart, makes him righteous and devout."

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