

## **GOOD AFTERNOON! WHAT'S HAPPENING (April 13)!**

**Blessed Eastertide to Everyone!** Worship Services are at 4:00 p.m. on Saturdays, 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. on Sundays, with Sunday School and Bible Classes for Youth, Young Adults and Adults from 9:15-10:15 a.m on Sundays.

**Easter Drama** Linda Olsen, organist and member of Ascension, will play J.S. Bach's famous *Tocatta and Fugue in D minor* this weekend, April 15 and 16! This piece is very dramatic and complements the readings for the services which describe the experiences of the disciples after the crucifixion. It is about 15 minutes long, so plan to come at 3:45 pm on Saturday and 7:45 am on Sunday as we praise God through music.

**Easter Lilies** If you purchased an Easter lily this year, thank you! Please feel free to pick them up in the next couple of weeks.

**The Quarterly Voter's Meeting for Ascension Lutheran Church** will be next Sunday, April 23 beginning around noon. A luncheon, funded by our ALC Foundation and served by our Ladies Guild, will be offered. The meeting will include a discussion concerning the proposed Constitution and Bylaws.

**Ascension's Faith Book** We still have a few copies of 2023 Faith Book now in the narthex. Thank you to all our wonderful writers who shared their stories in an overwhelming and most generous number of ways. Pax Christi, Jude Donovan

**What a wonderful time we had at our Easter egg hunt!** About 100 neighborhood, preschool, and church families enjoyed Easter crafts, a photo booth, and the egg hunt as well as taking home an Easter kite. Thank you to all who volunteered to make this a memorable event!

**A big thank you** to the youth, parents, and others who helped cook, serve, and clean-up at our Easter breakfast! We used Thrivent Action Teams funds towards purchasing the food. **Thank you** to the 250 attendees who came and to those who donated towards our youth summer mission trip! We raised about \$1,700 with matching funds from the Foundation. We are very grateful for your generosity and appreciate your support! Thank you!!

**Calling all VBS volunteers** including crew leaders, station leaders, and other helpers! We will have a meeting on **Wednesday, April 26th** at 6:30pm. Plan to receive your staff t-shirt, lessons, and instructions. See you there!

**Severe Weather Shelter Network** The shelter network needs help with laundry - blankets and towels. There are a few bags downstairs by the double doors. If you are able, please pick one up. Return the cleaned laundry to the same spot within a week, and I will take it back to the shelter. Thanks in advance for your help. I've included a clean bag for returning the laundry. Ann Kaneko, [kanekoa@comcast.net](mailto:kanekoa@comcast.net), 720.289.6782 (cell).

**Lutheran High Spring Concerts at Grace Lutheran in Parker!** Wednesday, April 19 at 7:00 p.m., Wind Ensemble and BluHi Jazz; Tuesday, April 25 at 7:00 p.m., Bel Canto and Men's Choir; Wednesday, April 26 at 7:00 p.m., Jubilate Home Concert. See more information at <https://www.lhsparker.org/performingarts>

**The Trustees Meeting** will be Saturday, April 15 at 9:00.

**Extended Day Preschool** "After completing our Easter lessons last week, we introduced another version of rebirth - PLANTS and FLOWERS!! For the first week of this curriculum, we discussed seeds and the growth cycle of plants. We learned how many seeds are in different kinds of food (apples, peaches, beans, etc) and graphed which one had the most and least, and both classrooms planted beans to watch how they change as they sprout.

We also completed our annual Trike-a-thon on Wednesday this week. After learning how we can keep ourselves safe (wearing a helmet, watching out for cars, staying out of the street, etc), we put all of our knowledge to the test as we rode our trikes, bikes, and scooters around a track outside after fundraising money to support children in need at St. Jude's Hospital.

Next week, we will transition into the parts of a plant and their needs (nutrition through soil, water, and sunshine). We will continue watching our plants grow and beans sprout!!" -- Kelly Lafferty, Director, Ascension Lutheran Extended Day Preschool

**Young Adult Group** will meet on Friday, April 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm. Please contact Jenna Lawrenz at [jenna.lindeman@cune.org](mailto:jenna.lindeman@cune.org).

**Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS)**! Our next meeting will be Monday, May 8 at 9:30 a.m. Our kiddos are supervised by trusted adults while we enjoy some mommy time! Come check us out! Contact Jenna Lawrenz at 303-913-3512 with any questions.

**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. You can register at this link: [vbspro.events/p/ascensionluth](https://vbspro.events/p/ascensionluth) *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](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.

**Can a gift from a future estate plan be converted into a gift for ministry today?** Twenty years ago, you planned a gift. Back then, you had a need for the security of that backup money. Today you no longer have that need. Also today, your favorite ministry has a definite need as it reaches out with Jesus. You want to give some of it now. Your Ascension Gift Planning Counselor can help you evaluate whether there is a

simple way to do that. Contact Jason Jones at Jason.Jones@lfnd.org or call him directly at (970) 988-0305.

**Prayers:** For Susan Estes, daughter of Del & Lorine Grau, who will have mouth surgery on April 18<sup>th</sup>; For Dean Gordon, Art Gordon's brother; For Ron McCulley; For Kathy Valdez; For Lila Loots' brother, Gordon; For Hank Peepgrass, who is home from the hospital after having breathing problems; For Lisa O'Neal; For Joyce Gallagher and her family, at the death of her brother Michael Stoddard's sisters, Jeanesta (28) and Jillian (24), in a car accident; For Bob and Deb Shiflet's son Walker, as he runs in the Boston Marathon on April 17<sup>th</sup>; For their friend Bee and her daughter Emily, who has a very rare lung cancer; and also for Bob and Deb's son, Kenny; For Athenia Michel; For Marion Wilson's brother, Jerry Vahle, who is in rehab due to complications from chemo and radiation treatments; For Janet Parrott, whose mitral valve procedure for her heart on April 10 was successful; For Elle Lambert, who will have a heart procedure today, April 13; For Jimmy Anzai, who had surgery on April 11; For Lorine Grau and her family, for relief and peace as she is treated for cancer; For Nancy Harder's sister, Karen Hartman; For Ethan Nelson, as he is treated for cancer; For Michael Paradise, friend of Jan Burmeister, who has brain cancer; For Lynn Hendrickson; For Nadine Ginkel; 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** for this weekend are given by Dennis and Joyce Lord in joyful celebration of their 5<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary, and by Carmen Gutierrez in joyful celebration of her grandson Gabe's 16<sup>th</sup> birthday!

### **Ascension's Prayer Group**

#### **1 Peter 1:3 (NIV)**

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead

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><u>Attendance</u></b>	<b><u>Service Time</u></b>	<b><u>Attendees</u></b>	
Maundy Thursday	105		
Good Friday	126		Total: 231
Easter Saturday, 4/8	4:00 pm	61	
Easter Sunday, 4/9	8:00 am	213	
	10:30 am	195	Total: 469

**Online Views** (as of April 11) for April 2: 262 views

**Calendar At-a-Glance (Saturday, April 15 – Sunday, April 23):**

Sat. (4-15)	10:00 a.m.	Confirmation Instruction
	3:45 p.m.	Bach's <i>Toccatina and Fugue in D Minor</i> – Linda Olsen
	4:00 p.m.	Worship with Holy Communion
Sun. (4-16)	7:45 a.m.	Bach's <i>Toccatina and Fugue in D Minor</i> – Linda Olsen
	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
Mon. (4-17)	9:30-2:30 p.m.	Extended Day Preschool
Tues. (4-18)	9:30-2:30 p.m.	Extended Day Preschool
	9:30 a.m.	Ladies' Bible Study
Weds. (4-19)	9:30-2:30 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. (4-20)	9:30-2:30 p.m.	Extended Day Preschool
Fri. (4-21)	9:30-2:30 p.m.	Extended Day Preschool
	12:30 p.m.	Quilters Group
Sat. (4-22)	4:00 p.m.	Worship with Holy Communion
Sun. (4-23)	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.	Voters Meeting and Lunch

**Stewardship:**

<b>2023</b>	Sat/Sun, April 8-9	Year-to-Date (YTD)
Budgeted Revenue	\$12,000.00	\$180,000.00
Received Amount	\$33,784.00	\$203,333.00
Project Peter Receipts	\$20,806.00	\$42,882.00

Project Peter Loan Balance: \$15,092.82

**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](https://www.facebook.com/kfuoradio), [Twitter](https://twitter.com/kfuoradio), and [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/kfuoradio).

**CHRIST FOR YOU this week on [KFUO.org](http://KFUO.org):** Study 1 John 1-2 on Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8:00 a.m. CT), study Judges 14-18 on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m. CT), and hear about the Table of Duties on Concord Matters (4/22 at 10:00 a.m. CT). Find your favorite programs on demand at [kfu.org](http://kfu.org) or the KFUO Radio app!

## **Church Library Corner:**

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

13. From this you will understand on what ground it is rightly attributed to faith, that it fulfills all laws, and makes us godly without the help of anything else. You will see that, of itself, it fulfills the first commandment, which decrees: "Thou shalt honor thy God." If you were constituted entirely of meritorious works from top to toe, you would still not be a godly man, nor do God honor; nor would you have fulfilled the very first commandment. For God is not honored unless truth and good and all are ascribed to Him, their true source. Meritorious works do not make that ascription, but only genuine faith. Therefore faith alone is the means of man's righteousness, and the fulfilment of all commandments; for he who fulfills the first and chief commandment, will also fulfill all other commandments with certainty and without strain. Works, however, are lifeless things. They can neither honor nor praise God, although they may be done, and admit of being done, to God's honor and glory. But we are not discussing works just now, for they are mere consequences; rather our subject is the initiator, the shipwright, himself. The active agent is the one who discharges his duty to God and who does the works. That active agent is none other than faith, and it resides in our hearts. Faith is the beginning and end of religion. It is therefore a dangerous and dubious proceeding to teach that God's commandments can be met by performing works of merit. They are met by faith, and this before any works have been done. Works follow, once the commandments have been met, as we shall see.

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