

GOOD AFTERNOON!

WHAT'S HAPPENING (May 11)! HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!

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.

Mother's Day is This Sunday! We will be honoring mothers with flowers and muffins on their special day, Sunday, May 14!

Pastor John will be attending the Spring Pastor's Conference in Estes Park Monday through Wednesday, May 15-17.

Reminder: A Special Voter's Meeting for Ascension Lutheran Church is scheduled for Sunday, June 11 at 11:00 a.m. to offer amendments and to approve the newly composed Constitution and By-Laws.

CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS

If you are planning to submit an amendment to the proposed new Constitution & Bylaws at our June 11 Voters' Assembly meeting, I urge you to submit it as soon as possible before the meeting for several reasons.

- This would allow sufficient time to ensure your proposed amendment is well understood so that none of your intent is overlooked.
- This would allow sufficient time to determine if two or more proposed amendments can be combined because they are similar.
- This would allow time for research should it be needed to ensure there are no conflicts with Synod or other Articles or Sections in the document.
- This would allow sufficient time to assemble all proposed amendments so they can be handed out at the beginning of the meeting.

Remember, proposed amendments must be submitted in writing. As I said in the first meeting, I am available should you need help in preparing an amendment for submittal. I am sure other members of our Constitution Committee would agree to do the same.

Proposed amendments can be given to Dawn at the church office, put in my mailbox, sent to my e-mail address (conconguy@comcast.net), or given to one of the other Committee members (Tim McClaren, Ed Geisler, Pastor Larson). Thank you for your interest and help in this most important endeavor. - Arvin Michel

Summer Worship will begin the weekend of June 3-4; summer worship times will be 4:00 p.m. on Saturdays and 9:00 a.m. on Sundays.

Do you have a Summer Date to Celebrate? Beginning on Sunday, June 4, "Coffee Under the Trees" is BACK for the summer! Individuals, couples, families, Bible study groups or committees can come together to sponsor the coffee and goodies after the Sunday morning worship service. This is a wonderful opportunity for fellowship! Sign up today in the narthex!

As we get closer to summer break, a big **THANK YOU** to all of our Christian education teachers, Sunday school teachers, staff, and volunteers! We are blessed by your servant hearts and value you! Thank you for making a difference!

The Last Sunday School for the children will be this coming Sunday, May 14th. We will have an end of the year party with ice cream, crafts, and games!

High school parents - May 14th is the last day to register for our summer youth mission trip to Mescalero, NM! Please see Stephanie with questions or email at stephanieroettjer@gmail.com. Thanks!

Young Adult Group will meet on Friday, May 12th at 6:30 pm. Please contact Jenna Lawrenz at jenna.lindeman@cune.org.

Vacation Bible School Will Be Here Soon! 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 your children at this link: vbspro.events/p/ascensionluth

Snacks and other items are needed for VBS: To sign up, please click on this link, which will take you to the Sign-Up Genius page for Ascension. *Thank you so much!*

Vacation Bible School Needs 2023

Extended Day Preschool "Wow, it's hard to believe that I am writing the last *What's Happening* entry for this school year. These past 10 months have flown by, and it has been incredible to see the student's growth in academics, social emotional learning, and their ability to love Jesus every day!!! We have been blessed with an amazingly supportive school family.

We are closing out our last week of school with the last bit of our transportation unit. After completing space travel the first week and land/water last week, we are going to transition to our beach and vacation theme - how do we all travel for our upcoming Summer vacations?? We are also going to participate in some super fun events. We are going to have a special water day on Monday - sprinklers, bubbles, water for buckets, shovels, etc. HOW FUN!!! We will celebrate our year of songs learned with Pastor John in our End of the Year Program in front of parents and extended family on Friday, followed by our Prekindergarten March. We will watch them all walk across the stage in their gowns and accept their diploma (and try not to cry!!). We know they will do GREAT THINGS in this next step of growth!!!

It is bittersweet to say so long at the end of the school year, but we will be so excited to hear about all of our families Summer adventures when we all return in the Fall!!!

-- Kelly Lafferty, Director, Ascension Lutheran Extended Day Preschool

Items Needed for Orphanage at Mission Experience Haiti: From Pastor Mike Paulison: "Please help us collect toiletries for our orphanage this month - we are trying to collect as many as possible as it will allow staff to limit their trips to markets for safety reasons. Here is a list of what we are collecting if you all can help:

Ivory soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant (no perfume), baby powder, shampoo (as natural as possible), towels, and washcloths.”

Please bring the items to the church office by Monday, May 22, and Pastor Mike will pick them up. Thank you in advance!

Join our Ladies Guild for an evening of food and fun! All are invited to a Potluck Salad Supper - dessert and coffee provided! Thursday, May 25th at 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. We will have a short presentation from Project Angel Heart, and we will decorate paper bags for the group to use in their missions!

Art supplies will be provided. Bring your favorite salad to share! Bring your Mite boxes! And Bring a Friend!

Forté Handbells - Ascension Life Enrichment Event – June 3!

The Life Enrichment Series is excited to announce that Forté Handbells will be performing at Ascension on Saturday, June 3rd at 7:00 pm! Forté is an advanced handbell quartet that uses artistry and energy to glorify God through music. *Not only do they produce beautiful music, but they are truly innovative and exciting to watch.*

Tickets are not required. There will be a freewill offering taken at the door, with proceeds going to the group to cover travel expenses, pay for equipment maintenance, etc. Don't miss out!

Ushers needed! Are you looking for a way to become involved and help at Ascension? Please consider becoming an usher! The time commitment is minimal, but provides an excellent service to the church. Please contact Jim Wert, 720-300-2347, or any of the elders, or the church office at 303-794-4636 to be added to our usher list.

Prison Ministry Opportunity: This year our Faith Book included several stories about prisoners and prison ministry. I hope that these gave you a clearer picture of why we at Ascension have a Prison Ministry and how we are blessed and are blessing others. One way we support the incarcerated is through our annual Angel Tree drive in September. Another way is that we just donated 500 copies of the Gospel of John to the mens' Federal prison at the request of the Chaplain. Bob Estes and Dave Zeller also take the Prison Bible into the Douglas County jail as part of their ministries. At this point we have spent most of our 2023 budget on those booklets and Bibles. Please ask the Lord to guide you to donate to support Prison Ministry outreach. If you choose, you may write the check or cash to Ascension and place prison ministry/social ministry on the memo line. Thank you for your generosity. Please join us in prayer to lift up these men and women and their families. God works in all our hearts. For more info, contact Jude Donovan at Heyjude264@aol.com or 303-972-0873.

The Denver Society of Creation is sponsoring a conference from May 18-20, 2023 at Mt. Zion Lutheran Church, 500 Drake Street, Denver, Colorado, which is intended to challenge the LCMS to commit to an age for the earth based on the Bible.

The conference, entitled “Getting Back to the Bible on the Age of the Earth” features

several knowledgeable speakers: Dr. Robert Carter, Pastor Brian Flamme, Rev. Dr. Joel Heck, Rev. Dr. Adam Koontz, Pastor Jared Melius and Pastor Bryan Wolfmueller.

Topics to be discussed include the following:

- Is the Age of the Earth Important?
- Creation in the New Testament
- Hermeneutical Humility
- The Genesis Genealogies
- Were the Pyramids Built Before the Flood?
- The Biblical Minimum and Maximum Age of the Earth
- The History of the Earth's Age in the Missouri Synod

Please join us for the conference. All are welcome! **Cost will be \$25.00. For more information and to Register, visit www.denversocietyofcreation.org .**

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.

Can my estate plans change over time? The answer is yes! Since you put your estate plans in place 15 years ago, your children have become incredibly successful in their professions, and you now have seven grandchildren under the age of seven. You have a sense the Lord will be calling you home within the next ten years. Your love for family now leads you to consider family inheritance as support for grandchildren's college education. Whether it is this change or your unique one, your Ascension Gift Planning Counselor can help you think and pray through it. Contact Jason Jones at Jason.Jones@lfnd.org or call him directly at (970) 988-0305.

Prayers: For Rick Eastridge, who will have shoulder surgery on Tuesday, May 23; For Mark Nielsen, who will have shoulder surgery on Friday, May 26; For Rose and Anna Kahler and their family, at the death of Vernon Kahler; For Lorine Grau, who has entered hospice, and for Del and their family; For Beth (Bible) Miller's husband, Stephen, seriously ill and hospitalized at Swedish; For increased strength for Gayla Buehe; For Carolyn Helstrom, who will have surgery on her foot on May 31; For Reverend Bob Seible, recovering from surgery to remove the cancerous lobe on May 9; For Lawrence Brown; For Brian Wilson, who will have surgery to treat cancer on his leg; For Mavis Slifka; For Barb and Wayne Bader's grandson, Ryan O'Byrne, who has medical issues; For Michael Paradise, friend of Jan Burmeister, who has brain cancer; For Lynn Hendrickson; For Nadine Ginkel; For peace in Ukraine and throughout the world; For our country; For God to send His Holy Spirit on all believers for strengthening of faith and witness.

From Dee Paulison: Thank you for hosting Bethesda Auxiliary's craft table last Sunday! We greatly appreciate Ascension's continued support of our ministry to

AbleLight. The funds raised by Ascension, \$640.00, will help support AbleLight's clients and caregivers, scholarships and support of the group home in the Dominican Republic. Thank you for your generosity!

From Bob Stamp: Thank you all, my Ascension friends for the cards and notes, and thanks to Pastor John for the visits and flowers, during my dealing with melanoma. After 2 surgeries, I am on my way to healing! Thanks be to God! Bless all of you for your kindness. - Bob Stamp

Happy Birthday and many happy returns to Bob Olsen, who will be 80 on May 12!

Happy Anniversary to Del and Lorine Grau, celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary on May 12!

New Address Bernice Arsenault's new address is 8160 W. Coal Mine Ave., #219, Littleton, CO 80123.

Flowers on the Altar are given by Laurie and Jim Mullane in loving memory of their son, Ben, on his 27th 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 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, 5/6	4:00 pm	67	
Sunday, 5/7	8:00 am	88	
	10:30 am	67	Total: 222

Online Views (as of May 9) for April 30: 197 views

Calendar At-a-Glance (Saturday, May 13 – Sunday, May 21):

Sat. (5-13)	9:30 a.m.	Ladies Guild Board Meeting
	9:30 a.m.	Social Ministry
	4:00 p.m.	Worship with Holy Communion
Sun. (5-14)		MOTHER'S DAY
	8:00 a.m.	Traditional Worship with Holy Communion
	9:15 a.m.	Education Hour / Sunday School End-of-Year Party
	10:30 a.m.	Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion
Mon. (5-15)	9:30-2:30 p.m.	Extended Day Preschool
Tues. (5-16)	9:30-2:30 p.m.	Extended Day Preschool
	9:30 a.m.	Ladies' Bible Study
Weds. (5-17)	9:30-2:30 p.m.	Extended Day Preschool
	9:45 a.m.	EDP Rehearsal in Sanctuary

	10:00 a.m.	Weekday Bible Study with Pastor Ginkel
	6:00 p.m.	Gloria Dei Ringers
Thurs. (5-18)		THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD
	9:30-2:30 p.m.	Extended Day Preschool
	9:45 a.m.	EDP Rehearsal in Sanctuary
Fri. (5-19)	12:30 p.m.	Extended Day Preschool Spring Fling End of Year Program
Sat. (5-20)	4:00 p.m.	Worship with Holy Communion
Sun. (5-21)		CONFIRMATION SUNDAY
	8:00 a.m.	Traditional Worship with Holy Communion
	9:15 a.m.	Questioning of Confirmands
	10:30 a.m.	Traditional / Confirmation Worship with Holy Communion

Stewardship:

2023	Sat/Sun, May 6-7	Year-to-Date (YTD)
Budgeted Revenue	\$12,000.00	\$228,000.00
Received Amount	\$15,297.13	\$245,220.00
Project Peter Receipts	\$25.00	\$44,095.00

Project Peter Loan Balance: \$13,352.13

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CHRIST FOR YOU this week on KFUO.org: Study Revelation 2-3 on Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8:00 a.m. CT), study 1 Samuel 13-16 on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m. CT), and questions surrounding the Augsburg Confession's authority on Concord Matters (5/20 at 10:00 a.m. CT). Find your favorite programs on demand at kfu.org or the KFUO Radio app!

Church Library Corner:

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

17. Should you ask: "What is the difference between the priests and the laity in Christian standing, if all are priests?" the answer is that spiritual mischief and other wrongs have been done to the little words "priest" or "pastor." These words have been taken away from the community in general and handed over to those little communities which we now call "the clergy." The Holy Scriptures make no distinction beyond calling the instructed or the consecrated, *ministros*, *servos*, *æconomos*, i.e., helpers, servants, stewards, whose duty is to preach Christ, and faith, and Christian freedom to others. For although we are all equally priests, still not all of us can serve and minister and preach. Thus St. Paul says in I Corinthians 4: "We do not desire to be held by the

people to be other than servants of Christ and stewards of the gospel.” But there has now grown out of the stewardship such a worldly, outer, gorgeous and awe-inspiring lordship and authority that the worldly powers proper cannot compare with them. Indeed, it is as if the laity were something other than Christian people. The whole meaning of Christian grace and liberty and faith is taken away, together with everything we have in Christ, and, indeed, we are robbed of Christ Himself. Instead, we have received much man-made law and many man-made works, and we have become altogether the servants of the most unsuitable people on earth.

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