

GOOD AFTERNOON!

WHAT'S HAPPENING (August 31)! *Happy Labor Day!*

Summer Worship Worship times are 4:00 p.m. on Saturdays and 9:00 a.m. this weekend. At 10:15 join us for our last Coffee Under the Trees of the summer, sponsored by the Stewardship committee.

The Church Office will be Closed on Monday, Sept. 4 in observation of Labor Day.

Fall Worship and Education Schedule

Next Saturday afternoon we will return to our regular worship schedule, with a worship service at 4:00 p.m., on Saturdays, and services at 8:00 and 10:30 a.m. on Sundays. Adult Bible Class will begin at 9:15 with Pastor's study of I Corinthians.

Sunday School classes begin next week, at 9:15 a.m. on Sunday, September 10:

Adults with Pastor John in the Fellowship Hall;

Young Adults with Jenna and Mike Lawrenz in the Music Room;

Sunday School Opening with Stephanie Roettjer and Tricia McCulley in Room 106;

Preschool – Kindergarten with Lori Rolling and Jackie Viren in Room 110;

1st - 3rd Grades with Katie Brehmer in Room 108;

4th - 6th Grades with Tricia McCulley in Room 106;

7th - High School with Anita Baresel and Christa Kirschner in Room 201.

The Memorial Service for Mary Wing will be this Saturday, September 2 at 11:00 a.m. A meal will follow the service.

The Memorial Service for Bernice Arsenault will be in the Columbarium next Saturday, September 9 at 11:00 a.m. There will be a meal on the lawn following the service.

HAPPY 100TH BIRTHDAY on August 27 to Mr. Bill Luther! Bill is a WW2 vet who lives in Los Angeles, and is a longtime viewer and participant in our online worship services. Bill's good friend Weston shared the happy news with us this week; if you would like to sign a birthday card for Bill, please stop by the table in the narthex this weekend!

The Hands All Around Sewing Crafts Sale is coming to Ascension! Mark your calendars for Friday, September 8 from 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. and Saturday, September 9, from 10:00 – 3:00 p.m., when Ascension will host the Littleton Hands All Around charity sewing group for its annual sale in the Fellowship Hall! This is an exciting opportunity to see and purchase these fine, locally-handmade items, and we anticipate many attendees from the community for this sale, which has previously been held at the Buck Rec Center.



A BIG celebration is planned for September 10th!! *Did you know that June 19 marked Pastor John's 40th year in ministry?* We're going to celebrate this as well as the start of Sunday school and have a VBS reunion party!

Also, 3rd graders will receive their Bibles and confirmands will get their small catechisms during the church service. We'll have a wonderful picnic lunch at 12 pm with fried chicken, a dunk tank, and an inflatable obstacle course!!

If your last name begins with A-M, bring a side; N-Z, bring a dessert. Sign-up on the bulletin board. Any questions, contact Stephanie, stephanieroettjer@gmail.com
Thanks!

Extended Day Preschool News! "Wow - how have we already flown through two weeks back in school? We have been busy learning all about our new classroom, new friends and teachers, and new rules and expectations. We have had so much fun exploring the toys and centers at school.

Now that we have gotten into the groove of our new school year, we are going to begin launching our curriculum next week. For the month of September, we will be delving into "All About Me and You". This is a great chance to introduce ourselves to our classmates and get to know all about them, as well. This also provides the opportunity to discuss similarities and differences within our class and among helpers in the community. Then, while talking about our community, we are going to welcome members from our community that help us everyday - police officers, fire fighters, librarians, veterinarians, etc. What a fun month we have in store!!!!"

– Kelly Lafferty, Director

EDP Update: As you know, Kelly Lafferty's last day as EDP Director will be September 15. We have been blessed by her leadership, her enthusiasm, her dedication and spirit over these last several years!

The Preschool Director Search Team, made up of Pastor John Larson, Stephanie Roettjer, Christa Kirschner, Jenna Lawrenz, Jim Wert and Tim McClaren, have been diligently working to find a new Preschool Director, and one individual really stood out to us: **Meg Stenman**. She was offered the position and has accepted, and will be joining us next Tuesday, September 5! Meg is well-qualified, with over 19 years of experience and a master's degree in education. She loves working with children and families and values the importance of the relationship between church and school. We are blessed to have her!

September 2-3 ANGEL TREE ALERT!!!! The end of September, on 9/23-24, our Prison Ministry volunteers will be at the back of the sanctuary to collect your donations for Angel Tree children. The cost for gifts has risen again, so please, squeeze out a few dollars or a few dollars more to give Christ and Christmas gifts this year. Checks can be made to **Ascension with Angel Tree on the memo line**.

Contact Jude Donovan, Heyjude264@aol.com or 303-972-0873 for more info.

Some, not all, of the Portals of Prayers have a few weeks missing in the middle toward the end of September. We have received some Portals of Prayer that include those missing dates. They are at the Welcome Center near the Coffee Bar.

At their meeting on Tuesday, August 22, the Rocky Mountain District Board of Directors gave their approval to Ascension's new Constitution and Bylaws. To get to this point is a great accomplishment resulting from the efforts of many including our entire congregation. Special thanks go to our Constitution Committee, Tim McClaren, Ed Giesler, Arvin Michel, and Pastor Larson whose time on this project encompassed several years. Thanks also go to our Council and Voters' Assembly who gave their approval to submit our documents to the District.

The next action we must take is to activate our revised system of governance under this approved document and elect officers and assemble the 2024 budget based on it. Watch for upcoming announcements from our President, Tim McClaren, and our Council to accomplish this necessary step.

Want to try something new? Our bell choir is looking for a few new ringers!

If you can count and have good hand-eye coordination, you can do this! Ascension has five octaves of handbells and three octaves of handchimes and plays in service approximately once a month. Rehearsals are 6:00 – 6:45 p.m. Wednesdays, starting September 6th. For more information, contact Stephanie, stephanieroettjer@gmail.com

WANT TO SING (OR PLAY) ON A PRAISE TEAM?

The Youth Praise Team (for youth and young adults) and the Agape Praise Team (for adults) are looking for interested singers and instrumentalists. If you like contemporary music and can sing in tune or if you play an instrument such as guitar, drums, sax maybe this could be an area of your service to the Lord. Youth Praise Team sings on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month and Agape leads worship on the 2nd and 4th Sundays. For the youth team, see Stephanie Roettjer (stephanieroettjer@gmail.com) or for Agape see Michael Zehnder (musicmikealc@gmail.com). The Praise Teams lead the contemporary worship at the 10:30 service starting September 17.

LIKE TO SING?

Sorry, I wasn't listening for an answer – I was thinking about singing! How about you? Now is the time to quit thinking and just do it! The Ascension Chorale is starting up again. The first rehearsal is on Wednesday, September 13 at 7:00 pm, open to all high school age through adults. Questions or want to sign up? Please contact Ann Westra, Choir Director, at annw_music@yahoo.com.

"Singing is one preparation for heaven." - Joseph Gurney Bevan.

NEW Kid's Group! "KICKS" (Kids in Christ knowing the Savior) is geared towards 3rd-5th graders. Mark September 24th on your calendar for our first time getting together from 12-1:00 PM. We'll have lunch, play games, and have a devotion. Meet in the youth room! Bring your friends! Questions, contact Stephanie at stephanieroettjer@gmail.com

Sunday Night Live (our middle school/high school youth group night) has been moved to a different time frame due to popular demand! We're going to meet on the

3rd Sunday of the month; first one starting on **Sept. 17th!** Count on lunch, games, and Bible study! 12-1:30 PM. Friends are invited! Contact Stephanie for more information!

Mamas' Coffee Connect! We are excited to start a new group for mamas! This will take the place of our MOPS group that met in the past. This is for all moms with kids at home! We will meet the second Monday of each month through the school year from 9:30 - 11:30 am! Our first meeting is on **Monday, September 11th!** Come for some mama time with devotions, crafts, food, and, of course, coffee! There will be childcare for children who are infant through age 5! Please join us and bring a friend! Contact Jenna Lawrenz at jenna.lindeman@cune.org with any questions!

Do you know of someone grieving the death of a spouse? A friend, a relative, maybe you are the griever...if so, you know that the life of a surviving spouse has changed forever. The new Grief Support Team at Ascension Lutheran Church is conducting a one-day, two-hour seminar LOSS OF A SPOUSE on Saturday, September 16, 10:00 AM-Noon. There is no cost and child care is available. This seminar provides practical advice from others who've been there; what to expect in your grief; how to cope with life without your spouse; and how to find God's comfort, peace, and hope. This Seminar is part of a nondenominational program, GriefShare, offered by local churches throughout the nation. People of all faiths (or none) are welcome and will feel comfortable attending. For more information or to register, see www.griefshare.org or call/email Sherry Hitztaler at 303-913-0846, or hitz2@comcast.net. In addition, co-facilitators Linda Olsen and Sherry Hitztaler will be available for questions after the 4:00 service on August 26 and after the 9:00 service on August 27.

The Severe Weather Shelter Network season starts October 1st. In preparation for this, they are inviting all the homeless in our region to a party at Immanuel Lutheran Church on September 8 from 4-7 pm. This gathering will provide opportunities to meet and greet as well as get folks registered for the season. They need the following items for their party:

- 100 hot dogs (100 have already been donated)
- 200 hotdog buns
- 150 single serve bags of chips (50 already donated)
- 200 bottles of water

Leave donations in the kitchen by September 7, marked SWSN (labels provided). I will deliver them to Immanuel. Contact me (Ann Kaneko, kanekoa@comcast.net, 720.289.6782, cell) if you have any questions. Thanks in advance.

Rev. Dr. Adam Koontz, the Pastoral Representative from the Denver Southwest Circuit, will be at Ascension on Thursday, September 14, from 10:30 a.m. until 12:00 p.m., to provide a report concerning the recent Synodical Convention in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. This gathering is open to all.

Some of the topics Dr. Koontz will cover will be the conversations and decisions made concerning the recent move of Concordia University - Texas to separate from the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. He will address what this will mean for the

governance of the other institutions in the Concordia University System. Dr. Koontz will also address reports about the recruitment of church workers through the Set Apart to Serve (SAS) initiative. He will be available to receive your questions, as well.

Rocky Mountain District 2023 Fall Seminar Theme: "Mighty Fortress" A one day seminar with interesting and educational presenters and entertainment, will be sponsored by the SOAR Committee of the Rocky Mountain District/LCMS at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 2100 Wadsworth Blvd., in Lakewood on Saturday, September 23. Registration of \$30/person covers a continental breakfast, lunch, and costs for the speakers and facility. Last year over 100 members registered! Seminar schedules and registration forms are available in the narthex.

Readers / Lectors Needed: If you would like to assist in worship services by reading aloud the Bible readings, please let us know and we will add you to our Lector List. Lectors are especially needed for the 10:30 Sunday service. For the 4:00 Saturday and 10:30 Sunday services it is helpful (but not required) for the Lector to also assist Pastor and the Elder with serving communion. If you are interested, please contact the church office office@alutheran.org or call us at 303-794-4636.

The Saturday afternoon Bible study led by Curt and Karen Engle: We are studying Exodus on Saturdays at 3:00 pm here at Ascension, and anyone is welcome to join us! We hope to see you there! Email Curt at Kengle0920@gmail.com

Study on Wednesday Mornings: Pastor Don Ginkel's study is called "A study of Spiritism, Satanism, Humanism, Scientology in light of Scripture.

Pastor John's Adult Bible Study on Wednesday Afternoons: On Wednesday, September 10, at 5:00 p.m. Pastor John will begin a study of the Book of Daniel.

The Chosen Series is now on local TV, Channel 2, KWGN, on Sunday night at 8:00 pm. The Chosen is the story of Jesus choosing His Disciples.

Available – Gently Used, Good Quality Ladies' Clothing, Size 14, mostly Large size and some Medium tops, some from Alfred Dunner. Please call the Church Office.

Be Careful! Recent Car Break-ins at Area Churches Littleton/Jefferson County has had some recent car break-ins in church parking lots over the summer ... don't let it happen to you! Always lock your car, and never leave your keys in it! [More Info Here](#)

New Church Email Address: Please note (and spread the word) that our church email address is now office@alutheran.org, thank you.

Life is full of starts and stops, but the Lord looks at all our lives in one grand design. Our estate plans dwell in this grand design vision, instead of focusing only on the moment. You want to bless your family, maybe children and grandchildren. Yet you wonder if putting a plan together today will capture their needs in the future. What if more grandchildren are born? Your plan needs to be broad enough to allow for that grand design. Your Ascension Gift Planning Counselor can help you consider your gifting wishes. Contact Jason Jones at Jason.Jones@lfnd.org or call him directly at (970) 988-0305.

Prayers: For Joyce Gallagher, who will have eye surgery on Thursday, August 31; For Norm Slama, Nancy Lugton's sister-in-law's husband, who has been in ICU in Nebraska for 23 days after a heart attack; and for Nancy's friend, Linda Parker, who has scleroderma; For Del Grau's niece, Laura Burkard, who will have an ultrasound and MRI on her thyroid and spots on her lung next week; and for his friend Bruce, who unfortunately had to go back to the hospital with West Nile virus after a relapse over the weekend; For Jeanine MacCluskey; For Vicki and Sandra Wing and their family, at the death of their mother, Mary, on August 22; For Ryan O'Byrne, Barb and Wayne Bader's grandson, who had surgery on his stomach a few weeks ago; For Jim Hayden, who will have a small part of his lung removed on September 8; For Kim McClaren, who will have her right knee replaced on Tuesday, September 5; For Rick Westra, who had a tumor removed from his kidney on August 25; For Crystal Sundet, who is back at Littleton Hospital for abdominal surgery; For Larry Koldeway, whose stent surgery was postponed for six weeks; For Lorraine Winckler, who is recovering from knee replacement; For Sharon Seible, recovering from surgery on her foot, and healing from broken bones in both feet; For those affected by Hurricane Idalia in Florida, Georgia and the Carolinas this week; For peace throughout the world; 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 Larry and Janice Koldeway, in joyful celebration of their 25th Wedding Anniversary!

Happy Birthday!!! to Alvera Sturgeon and Edna Achziger, who will both be 95 on Friday, September 8! Happy Belated 100th Birthday to our new friend and faithful worship service viewer, Bill Luther, in Los Angeles, California!

Blessings and Best Wishes to Jessica Bindner and Peter Munson, son of Tom and Dawn Munson and grandson of Jan Nichols! They will be united in marriage by Pastor John in Palmer Lake, Colorado, on Friday, September 8.

<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Service Time</u>	<u>Attendees</u>	
Saturday, 8/26	4:00 pm	90	
Sunday, 8/27	9:00 am	120	Total: 210

Online Views (as of August 29) for August 20: 181 views.

Calendar At-a-Glance (Saturday, September 2 – Sunday, September 10):

Sat. (9-2)	11:00 a.m.	Memorial Service for Mary Wing
	4:00 p.m.	Worship with Holy Communion
Sunday (9-3)	9:00 a.m.	Worship with Holy Communion
	10:00 a.m.	Coffee Under the Trees – sponsored by Stewardship
	10:30 a.m.	Adult Bible Class
Mon. (9-4)		LABOR DAY- OFFICE CLOSED

	9:30 a.m.- 2:30 p.m.	NO Extended Day Preschool
Tues. (9-5)	9:30 a.m.- 2:30 p.m.	Extended Day Preschool
	9:30 a.m.	Ladies Bible Study
Weds. (9-6)	9:30 a.m.- 2:30 p.m.	Extended Day Preschool
	10:00 a.m.	Bible Study with Pastor Ginkel
	5:00 p.m.	Bible Study with Pastor John
	6:00 p.m.	Confirmation Class
	6:00 p.m.	Gloria Dei Ringers
Thurs. (9-7)	9:30 a.m.- 2:30 p.m.	Extended Day Preschool
	1:30 p.m.- 4:00 p.m.	Set up for Hands All Around Sale
Fri. (9-8)	9:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m.	Hands All Around Sewing Sale
	9:30 a.m.- 2:30 p.m.	Extended Day Preschool
	6:30 p.m.	Young Adult Group
Sat. (9-9)	9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.	Hands All Around Sewing Sale
	11:00 a.m.	Memorial Service for Bernice Arsenault
	4:00 p.m.	Worship with Holy Communion
Sunday (9-10)	8:00 a.m.	Traditional Worship with Holy Communion
	9:15 a.m.	Adult Bible Study
	10:30 a.m.	Traditional Worship with Holy Communion
	11:30 a.m.	Pastor's 40 th Anniversary of Ordination and Education Picnic Celebration!

Stewardship:

2023	Sat/Sun, August 26-27	Year-to-Date (YTD)
Budgeted Revenue	\$12,000.00	\$420,000.00
Received Amount	\$7,893.00	\$413,533.00
Project Peter Receipts	\$155.00	\$53,523.00

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