

GOOD AFTERNOON!

WHAT'S HAPPENING (November 16)!

Worship and Education Schedule

Worship services are at 4:00 p.m., on Saturdays, and 8:00 and 10:30 a.m. on Sundays. Adult Bible Class begins at 9:15 with Pastor's study of I Corinthians. Sunday School classes are at 9:15 a.m.

Thanksgiving Eve Service will be Wednesday, November 22 at 7:00 pm.

Prayers and Help Needed for EDP Preschool Teacher Ama Orr! Ama is a 65-year-old U.S. citizen who has worked as a teaching assistant at our preschool for over a year. She is originally from Ghana and has been in the U.S. for more than 25 years. She has several certificates in Early Childhood Development. The children and other EDP staff members love her very much. She works here because it is an opportunity to get experience in teaching young children and - most importantly - because she loves teaching these young children.

On Tuesday, November 7, 2023, Ama came to work and at about 10:30 am had a devastating heart attack and stroke. She is currently a patient at the Sky Ridge Hospital and is in their Severe Stroke Rehabilitation Unit. Her road to recovery is very steep and prognosis is she will not make a full recovery.

Ama's job is an hourly job, and she does not receive any benefits i.e., health Insurance or sick pay. Ama's good friends are raising funds to assist her with rent, insurance, phone, internet, medical bills, food and may need Assisted Living while she regains enough strength to live in her own home. She may need/choose to go home to Ghana to be with family. Please pray for Ama, and if you would like to help, **please visit her Go Fund Me site**, <https://gofund.me/8a720c6d>. Thank you!

The Sunday School children are participating in a service project by filling Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes for children around the world. If you'd like to also be a part of it, we have extra shoeboxes! Please pick up a red and green shoebox in Room 106 on the shelf. Instructions and labels are already in the box, secure with a rubber band (not taped). Return by November 19th. Questions, contact Stephanie, stephanieroettjer@gmail.com

You won't want to miss this item at the BAKE AND CRAFT SALE - NOV. 19th!

PASTOR JOHN modestly and graciously agreed to let us record him singing The Lord's Prayer, along with a bonus hymn of his choosing, to be sold on USB drives at the Bake sale! All proceeds will go to Missions.

To all bakers and crafters, please consider donating your favorite baked goods and/or crafts for this event. Items are needed by Saturday November 18th 9-noon in the Fellowship Hall. Contact Charmaine Rohde if you have questions, [303-618-8889](tel:303-618-8889) Thank you.



At the September Voter's Meeting, the Trustees introduced a new project to the Congregation involving repairs to the Bell Tower. The Bell Tower, which does not contain a bell, is in need of a major renovation after 60+ years of weathering. The cost to renovate is estimated to be \$285,000. The cost to tear down the tower is estimated to be \$156,000. Both estimates include permitting costs, Littleton taxes, and 5% additional cost contingency. The congregation will be asked to choose between the two options at the upcoming December 3rd Voter's Meeting. The actual work would not take place until 2024. Due to the significant cost difference between the two options along with the fact that the tower does not serve a purpose, the Trustees recommend removing the tower. Enlarging or redesigning the patio would then become a possibility to investigate.

Mark your calendars for the next Voter's Meeting on Sunday, December 3 at noon. Lunch will be provided by the Foundation and served by the Ladies Guild. Items on the agenda include:

- Approval of the 2024 budget;
- Election of officers and committee chairs;
- Discussion of the bell tower. The Board of Trustees will provide information regarding cost of removal and cost for repair and restoration.

Reminder - please return your 2024 Pledge Card as soon as possible to the church office, they are very important in determining our budget for next year. There are blank cards available in the narthex. Thank you!

Christmas Cards Thank you to Mary Hert, who has ordered and arranged the beautiful Christmas Cards now available for sale in the office lobby. Please make checks out to "Ascension Lutheran Church" with "Cards" written in the memo line.

Ascension Christmas Families: During the months of November and December we seek to help some of our own families who need assistance during the Christmas season. Our Social Ministry committee sponsors "Christmas Families." If you would like to participate you can help in a number of ways – we need funds to buy presents and gift cards for gifts and for the Christmas meal. Checks should be made out to Ascension and please indicate that the gift is for Christmas Families. If you would like to be the person who does the shopping for the adults, youth and children on our list, we could use your shopping skills. Dana Niederbrach (303.886.7860) is coordinating this effort – you may contact her with questions or if you'd like to volunteer.

Advent by Candlelight – Wednesday, December 6! Elves are needed to help set up on Tuesday or Wednesday afternoon – December 5/6 and then to help cook, finish preparations, serve and clean-up on December 6. We need cookie makers! If you would like to make something for dessert - we would love to sample your baking skills. Please text or call Laurie Mullane at 303-794-7937 or email LJMullane@msn.com if you would like to volunteer to help or make cookies.

Cost will be \$10.00 for adults, \$5.00 for children (maximum \$30.00 per family).

We are limited to 130 guests, so please RSVP on the sign-up sheet in the narthex by November 30th.

We need Table Decorators again! They were so beautiful last year! Tables may be decorated for Advent by Candlelight on Tuesday (1:00-6:00 pm) or Wednesday (before 4:00 pm). For more details - please contact Lisa Wert by phone or text 720-980-9446, or email lisajeanschilling@msn.com if you would like to be a Table Decorator. If you can't be a Table Decorator but have items that would make a beautiful table, contact Lisa for pick-up. Approximately 15 people will be needed for 15 tables! You can decorate more than one table.

Thank you for your support in creating a wonderful event for our members and friends! It will be a memorable evening and we look forward to seeing you there.

Christmas Sanctuary Decorating!

Do you love decorating? Or do you just love Christmas? If you answered yes to either of these then please join us in decorating our beautiful Sanctuary and Narthex. We will begin decorating at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, December 2. There is a sign up on the landing, or let Bri Bly know if you are able to help. bribly@gmail.com *Note: You DO NOT need to be able to get up on a ladder to help.*

The Poinsettia ordering chart is on the landing Bulletin Board in the Narthex. Poinsettias are \$30.00 each this year, a price increase from the last few years. We have ordered **only 16 - Poinsettias**. Individuals can dedicate a Poinsettia for the Holiday Season, and the plants can be taken home after New Year's. Envelopes for payments are located below the ordering chart. Please make sure that you place a check mark next to Poinsettias and note Poinsettias on your check.

Canto Deo Festival Choir and Orchestra will have their Christmas concerts on December 16, 17, 18 and 19; times and locations are at www.cantodeo.org

The youth are starting to fundraise for their 2024 summer mission trip to Las Animas, CO. They will be working on home repairs for the elderly and disabled. So, they are selling the beautiful 2024 God's Creation Calendars starting this Sunday for \$10. Sign up on the table in the narthex. Thank you for your support!

Families of all ages! We're hosting a **Family Photo Scavenger Hunt** on Friday, November 17th at 6:30pm, we will meet here at church! Don't miss out on this fun opportunity to laugh with your family and create lasting memories! Make sure to bring a phone to capture pictures. There will be prizes and dessert! Questions, ask Stephanie or Jenna.

From Ascension Foundation: By now you have received the Foundation's update on a few of our exciting and important missions. We would like to give a hearty Thank You to Jerry Gerdes, who puts this all together. If you have any questions or comments, please contact any of our board members.

Extended Day Preschool News!

This week we are especially THANKFUL for our families, friends, preschool, and Jesus! We read about The Boy Who Shared His Lunch and then had a special "caring and sharing" snack. We also made more turkey crafts and sang turkey songs. The preschool parents have really rallied together and we have set up a Go Fund Me site for Ama. She has blessed so many children (and adults) and it is now time that she feels our love for her. We have next week off for fall break and we all wish you a Happy Thanksgiving! 🦃 – Meg Stenman, Preschool Director

On November 4, ALC hosted the GriefShare seminar, "Surviving the Holidays" for all who have lost a loved one and are facing the Holidays without their special family member or friend.

Seventeen participants met to view the informative and expert video and discuss helpful tips for "dealing with emotions, re-evaluating traditions, negotiating social events and finding hope for the future." All our participants left with a small wooden Christmas ornament and a note: "May this Christmas Season bring you peace and hope! From your friends at Ascension Lutheran Church."

This very successful morning was possible because of ALC's wonderful GriefShare Team. Many thanks to: Dawn Munson - Printing, Publicity, Hospitality; Jan Nichols – Registration; Anita Baresel - Hospitality, Social Ministry; Dennis and Joyce Lord - External Publicity; Durwin Schmitt - Video and Tech; Mike Zehnder - Social Media Margo Pasha and the Prayer Team; Norm Hermsmeyer - Event Signage (outside) at ALC; Linda Achziger - Child Care; Linda Olsen and Pastor John - Co-Facilitators

Thank you for supporting this program with your prayers, referrals, and interest. Please continue to keep our GriefShare participants and Team in your prayers.



Our next event will be GriefShare's signature program: the thirteen-week class session beginning at ALC on February 6, 2024. More information to follow.

I am so thankful for this team, Pastor John, and our church community.
Sherry Hitzler, Co-Facilitator and Team Coordinator

SHARING JESUS – It's Important – It's Easy – And Here's How. Written and taught by Pastor Ginkel. Wednesdays at 10:00 am. Room 106. Please join us. Pastor Don's booklet, SHARING JESUS, is available on request.

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

Ascension Quilters will meet in the Fellowship Hall from 12:30-3:00 p.m. on Friday, November 17. For more information, call Jackie Adams at 303-798-5161.

Learning to acknowledge God's blessings is the beginning step of faithful management of His gifts. Few give from a sense of feeling deprived. Giving happens from responding to God's abundance. How would you describe that abundance? How

could you describe that abundance in a few sentences, including it in a Christian preamble in your will, or leaving behind a written Family

Blessing. Your Ascension Gift Planning Counselor can help you get started.

Contact Jason Jones at Jason.Jones@lfnd.org or call him directly at (970) 988-0305.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

Please consider praying with us on Zoom every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month at 2:30 pm. Contact MargoALPasha@yahoo.com

Prayers: For Ama Orr, one of our Extended Day Preschool teachers, who has had a stroke; For Michael Finnessy, Jim and Judy Finnessy's son, who is quite ill; For Joann Sorrentino's daughter, Cara, who has cancer in her eye; For Clyde Wiggins, who took a fall last Thursday, and is recovering from a concussion and bruises; For Brian Dierking, who took a fall and hit his head; For Lynn Hendrickson, who has stopped treatment for cancer; For Jimmy Anzai, who has entered hospice care; For Henry Kerluke, whose health is failing; For healing for Nancy Lugton's friend, Linda Parker; Prayers for Carol Stamp, who has had a minor stroke; For Millie Cox, who had eye surgery on November 15; For Tim McClaren, who had surgery for a sinus problem on November 15; For Tricia McCulley; For Barry Kratzer; For David Stocker, Stephanie Roettjer's father; For Lawrence Brown; For peace in Israel and Gaza, 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.

Prayers of Thanksgiving ... and "*Congratulations!*" to Lisa Wert's oldest son, Noah Schilling, who will be marrying Julieth Forero Martinez on Saturday, November 25th, in Parker, Colorado!

Many thanks to the Jim Shelton Memorial Fund that funded the new big screen TV in room 106. Also, thanks to Terry and Sean Utecht for mounting it, and to their faithful helper Caleb Gilbert for all his assistance. This room may soon be known as the Jim Shelton Lounge. After all, a lounge needs a big screen TV and a bathroom, everything that that room now has!!

Happy Birthday to Viola Raasch, who turns 95 on Thanksgiving Day - November 23!

Flowers on the Altar are given by Diego and Amy Garcia, in joyful celebration of their 27th Wedding Anniversary!

<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Service Time</u>	<u>Attendees</u>	
Saturday, 11/11	4:00 pm	64	
Sunday, 11/12	8:00 am	76	
Sunday, 11/12	10:30 am	80	Total: 220

Online Views (as of November 14) for November 5: 152 views.

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

Sat. (11-18)	9:00 a.m	Set Up for Ladies Guild Sale
	4:00 p.m.	Traditional Worship with Holy Communion
Sunday (11-19)	8:00 a.m.	Traditional Worship with Holy Communion
	9:15 a.m.	LADIES GUILD CRAFT & BAKE SALE
	10:30 a.m.	Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion
	12:00 p.m.	Youth Sunday Funday!
Mon. (11-20)	9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.	NO Extended Day Preschool – Thanksgiving Break
Tues. (11-21)	9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.	NO Extended Day Preschool
	9:30 a.m.	Ladies Bible Study
Weds. (11-22)	9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.	NO Extended Day Preschool
	7:00 p.m.	Thanksgiving Eve Service with Holy Communion
Thurs. (11-23)		THANKSGIVING DAY – Office Closed
Fri. (11-24)		Office Closed
Sat. (11-25)	4:00 p.m.	Traditional Worship with Holy Communion
Sunday (11-26)	8:00 a.m.	Traditional Worship with Holy Communion
	9:15 a.m.	Adult Bible Study / Sunday School
	10:30 a.m.	Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion
	12:00 p.m.	KICKS – Kids in Christ Knowing the Savior (3 rd -5 th Graders)

Stewardship:

2023	Sat/Sun, November 11-12	Year-to-Date (YTD)
Budgeted Revenue	\$12,000.00	\$552,000.00
Received Amount	\$25,502.00	\$615,814.00
Project Peter Receipts	\$25.00	\$56,047.00

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CHRIST FOR YOU this week on KFUE.org: Hear stories from Deaconess Kim Bueltmann (missionary to refugees in Germany), Benjamin Kolodziej (history of LCMS music), and Deaconess Dr. Tiffany Manor and Rev. Ken Krueger (church worker wellness) on The Coffee Hour (weekdays at 9:00 a.m. CT), begin studying 1 Corinthians on Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8:00 a.m. CT), and study Mark 10-11 on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m. CT). Find your favorite programs on demand at kfuo.org or the KFUE Radio app!