

GOOD AFTERNOON!

WHAT'S HAPPENING (February 12) HAPPY ST. VALENTINE'S DAY!

Worship Services are Saturdays at 4:00 p.m., and Sundays at 8:00 and 10:30 a.m. Adult Bible Class and Sunday School classes are at 9:15 a.m.

Pastor Mike Paulison from Mission Experience - Haiti will be preaching and leading the Bible Class this weekend.

Ash Wednesday is Next Week During the Lenten season you are invited to worship each Wednesday, beginning with Ash Wednesday worship, February 18. Wednesday worship continues through March 25. We have worship at 11:30 in the morning and 6:30 in the evening. Prior to the evening worship a supper is served by one of our boards or organizations from about 5:00 until 6:15. Our Lenten Theme this year will be "I Love to Tell the Story: The Story of God's Deliverance in Exodus." Sermon titles for Lent are:

Ash Wednesday, February 18 "God's Deliverance," Exodus 1-2

February 25 "Names," Exodus 3-4

March 4 "From Bad to Worse to Best" Exodus 5-11

March 11 "A Bunch of Lies but a Greater Truth" Exodus 14-15

March 18 "Bread From Heaven" Exodus 16

March 25 "Lent = Love" Exodus 20

The Concordia Nebraska A Capella Choir, directed by Dr. Kurt von Kampen, has included Ascension in its Spring 2026 tour throughout Wyoming, California, Nevada and Colorado, and they will be here at Ascension on Sunday, March 15 during the 10:30 worship service! Their repertoire will include a capelli pieces from Benjamin Culli, Kyle Pederson, and Brahms' Requiem, "How Lovely is Thy Dwelling Place." What a beautiful addition to our Lenten worship!

Youth Burrito Fundraiser Many thanks to EVERYONE who helped with the Youth Burrito sale fundraiser in support of this summer's mission trip to Lutheran Valley Retreat! Thanks also to Ascension Foundation for matching funds raised! The youth sold HUNDREDS of delicious burritos! If you missed it or would like to buy more, frozen burritos are available for half price, \$3.00, this weekend!

Help Needed – Altar Guild The Altar Guild is in need of members to help with Sunday's 8:00 am services. This would include cleaning up communion after the service, taking a count of how many received communion and then setting up communion for the next service. One on one help is available until you feel comfortable on your own.

Please contact Charmaine Rohde for more information. 303-618-8889

First Lent, then Easter...then our Faithbook, Our Faith 14, after His Ascension!

Let's begin to pray now as we get started on the 2026 edition, our 14th edition of this beloved booklet. You and Your story matter...to God, to you and to us. We begin to develop this 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 400-550-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 5 or sooner. 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. Your story for His Glory! Thank you for your prayers and stories, Jude Donovan

Ascension Church Patio Project – 2026 Fundraising Appeal

“You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.” We will need \$100,000.00 to complete the remodel of the old bell tower/patio area, which will enhance the grounds for multiple uses. Please take time to look at the pictures of the planned design and prayerfully provide what you can to Ascension - Project Peter, which will be used to pay for this project, to complete it this spring. Watch the fund thermometer in the Narthex to keep track of the fundraising effort for the patio Church front area.

Sincerely, the Capital Campaign Grounds Upgrade Committee: Bob Hea, Art Gordon, Kim McCormick, Chuck Mielke, Terry Utecht, Kathleen Wucherpfenning

Larry Nisbet, Campaign Committee Chair

Extended Day Preschool Happy Valentine's Day! We had our parties today and it was fun fun fun! It was such a great way to kick off our long President's Day weekend. This weekend is usually one of the last weekends for skiing but with our low snowpack we might have to find other activities to do. If you have a child who will be 3 or 4 by October 1st and are thinking about preschool, please contact me. I would love to talk to you about the benefits of our preschool for your kiddo. 😊

Have a wonderful weekend! Grace and peace, Meg Stenman, Preschool Director

“Welcome to GriefShare!”

“So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.”
Isaiah 41:10

Our GriefShare Support Group now has 10 participants. Three are referrals from Ascension (thank you, Pastor, Adam Wilson/Jackie Viren, and Mike Price), the others found us from the Griefshare website, our banner and signs outside of church,

and word-of-mouth. I was once again, fully amazed at the power of the Holy Spirit that enveloped us with care and support.

The GriefShare 13-Week support group at Ascension for 2026 begins Tuesday, February 3, and will end, Tuesday, April 28. Meetings are at Ascension Lutheran Church, Tuesday afternoons, 1:30-3:30 pm. GriefShare programs are Christ-centered and designed to help all grievers, regardless of religious affiliation.

February topics are:

2/17 - "Loneliness & Sadness"

2/24 - "Self-Care"

Contact griefshare.org/findagroup to register or contact Sherry Hitztaler (hitz2@comcast.net) for more information. All who grieve the loss of a loved one are welcome - whether that loss is recent or years ago. Feel free to drop in for a session that appeals to you to see if you are comfortable with our setting.

Above all, please pray for our participants: Barb, Chris, Geri, Kerrie, Libby, Mary and Mike, Mary, Susan, Vanessa and all who are grieving the loss of a loved one. Pray for our Grief Support Team: Pastor John, Linda, Suzy, Dawn, and myself that we can fully support our participants on this grief journey, "From Mourning to Joy," through the love of Christ. Thank you, Linda Olsen and Sherry Hitztaler; Co-Facilitators

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted." Matthew 5:4

HAAT Force HAAT Force sends thanks for your awesome generosity. Our warm weather has provided a break for them to assess their needs. Here's a list of their current needs:

- Ziplock bags - quart or gallon, any brand
- Single serve packets of cereal
- Shelf stable single serve meals - Hormel Compleats and similar
- Shelf stable single serve milk, white or chocolate
- Men's and women's new underwear, all sizes
- Small bottles of hand sanitizer
- Small bottles of dish soap
- Hygiene wipes
- Adult size gloves
- Adult winter jackets
- Hot Hands hand warmers

Place donations in the HAAT Force box. Questions? Contact Ann Kaneko, 720.289.6782 (cell), kanekoa43@gmail.com.

Save the date! VBS is scheduled for June 1-5, 2026. Our theme this year is "Rainforest Falls." Beneath a canopy of chattering birds and howling monkeys, kids plunge into a lifelong adventure of discovering the nature of God. They'll explore what it means to have a relationship with God, their Creator, a safe place in life's storms.

Ascension Quilters meets each Friday in the Fellowship Hall beginning at 12:30 pm, all abilities for more information please call Jackie Adams, 720-877-0162

Bible Study with Pastor Ginkel: The group is studying 1st and 2nd Corinthians, focusing on a chapter a week. You are welcome to join them each Wednesday at 10:00 am in Room 106.

Saturday Afternoon Bible Study We will meet this Saturday at 3:00 pm, for our Lifelight Bible study on the book of Acts, with a focus on evangelism. Anyone is welcome to join! Email Curt at Kengle0920@gmail.com

Young Adult Bible Study The Young Adult Bible Study will meet on Friday, February 20, at 6:30 pm at Jenna and Michael Lawrenz' house, for their Bible study by Louie Giglio. For more information, please call or email Jenna at 303-913-3512 or jenna.lindeman@cune.org

We live in a "I can do it myself" culture. Sometimes we might be tempted to think a Christian estate plan is just a collection of documents (will, trust, POA). However, we need to look deeper into the factors influencing a good plan. A will might refer to a certain percentage of gift to family or ministry, but a beneficiary designation on an account like an IRA might supersede with different instructions. It is important to have help making sure these documents agree. Your Ascension Gift Planning Counselor can assist. Contact Jason Jones at Jason.Jones@lfnd.org or call him directly at (970) 988-0305.

Flowers on the Altar for this weekend are given by Wayne and Shelia Beu, in joyful celebration of their 54th Wedding Anniversary!

Prayers: For successful treatment for Michele Yowell, who has been diagnosed with cancer; For Norm and Linda Finfrock's niece, Rachel Bohlmann, who has been diagnosed with cancer and will be going through chemotherapy. Prayers for her recovery and strength as she goes through her treatments. For Lori Rolling's family member, who has blood clots; For Joyce Gallagher, at the death of her friend Marie on February 2; For Kealan Cornell, 20-year-old son of Shawn and Chandra Cornell, who will have a procedure of his heart on Friday, February 20. Kealan has a genetic disorder called WPW. The procedure that will be done can solve this issue. For Kathy Chamberlain, with a broken wrist; For Bill Winckler, recovering from surgery; For Marilyn Loptien, recovering from knee replacement; For Joan Antonnen and her family, at the death of her sister, Judy Lesch; For Doc Williams' sister, Susan, who has entered hospice care; For the family of Paul Keator, friend of Joyce and Dennis Lord, who has died from a heart attack; For Zack Phillips, Melanie Butler's son; For Roger Koester, recovering from hip replacement surgery; For Eugen Ihly, following surgery on his spine; For Larry Koldeway, recovering from pneumonia; For Nancy Lugton's brother-in-law, Jay Harris, for successful treatment of cancer in the lymph nodes and healing of issues in his kidneys, and for healing for her friend, Linda Parker, with scleroderma; For Starla Moltz; For C.J. Earhart, in treatment for cancer; For Jules Civilla, for successful treatment; For Dianne Backhus' brother, Don Rabe, in San Antonio, for continued healing of the fractures in his pelvis; For Tonya Cronberg; For

Gayla and Larry Buethe's grandson, Landon; For Janet Parrott, in hospice care; For Michael Lawrenz's grandmother, Anita; For peace in Haiti, the Middle East, Ukraine and Venezuela; For wisdom and discernment for world leaders; For God to send His Holy Spirit on all believers for strengthening of faith and witness.

From Phyllis Westra "Thank you so much for the Valentine's Day card and gifts that I received from the youth at church, I enjoyed the cocoa and the socks! Happy Valentine's Day!"

<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Service Time</u>	<u>Attendees</u>	
Saturday, 2/7	4:00 pm	68	
Sunday, 2/8	8:00 am	106	
	10:30 am	81	
			Total: 255

Online Views (as of February 11) for February 1: 158 views.

<u>Stewardship</u>	Feb. 7-8, 2026		Year-to-Date (YTD)
Budgeted Revenue	\$13,000.00		\$78,000.00
Received Amount	\$33,119.00		\$106,734.00

Calendar (Saturday, February 14 – Sunday, February 22):

Sat. (2-14)		ST. VALENTINE'S DAY
	3:00 pm	Saturday Bible Study
	4:00 pm	Traditional Worship with Communion
Sun. (2-15)	8:00 am	Traditional Worship with Holy Communion
	9:15 am	Sunday School / Adult Bible Study
	10:30 am	Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion
	12:30 pm	Youth Retreat
Mon. (2-16)		PRESIDENTS' DAY
		NO Extended Day Preschool
Tues. (2-17)	8:30 am – 1:30 pm	Extended Day Preschool
	9:30 am	Ladies' Bible Study
	1:30 pm	GriefShare Support Group
Weds. (2-18)		ASH WEDNESDAY
	8:30 am – 1:30 pm	Extended Day Preschool
	10:00 am	Bible Study with Pastor Ginkel
	11:30 am	Lenten Worship with Holy Communion
	5:00-6:15 pm	Lenten Meal
	5:30 pm	Confirmation Instruction
	6:30 pm	Lenten Worship with Holy Communion
Thurs. (2-19)	8:30 am – 1:30 pm	Extended Day Preschool
	1:30 pm	Koinonia
Fri. (2-20)	8:30 am – 1:30 pm	Extended Day Preschool
	12:30 pm	Ascension Quilters

	6:30 pm	Young Adult Group
Sat. (2-21)	8:30 am-3:00pm	Heritage Fine Arts Workshop
	3:00 pm	Saturday Bible Study
	4:00 pm	Traditional Worship with Communion
Sun. (2-22)		1st SUNDAY IN LENT
	8:00 am	Traditional Worship with Holy Communion
	9:15 am	Sunday School / Adult Bible Study
	10:30 am	Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion
	1:00 pm	Memorial Service for Mary Ferguson