

## **GOOD AFTERNOON! *Blessed Lent!***

### **WHAT'S HAPPENING (March 12)**

**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.

**Holy Baptism** Charlotte Mae Michel, daughter of Garrett Michel and Carolyn Johnson, will be baptized here at Ascension this coming Saturday afternoon, March 14. Blessings to Charlotte and her family!

**The Memorial Service for Judy Bress**, who died on February 18, will be Thursday, March 26 at 11:00 am. A meal will follow the service.

**Our Friend and Fellow Member, Lee Valdez**, is mourning the loss of his wife, Kathy, who died on Thursday, February 26. Lee and his family are in need of assistance for Kathy's burial expenses. If you would like to make a contribution, please write a check to Ascension with "Valdez Burial" on the memo line. Thank you in advance!

**The Season of Lent** During the Lenten season you are invited to worship each Wednesday 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:

March 18 "Bread From Heaven" Exodus 16

March 25 "Lent = Love" Exodus 20

**Tell Your Friends! 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 this Sunday, March 15 during the 10:30 worship service! This internationally-renowned choir has been joining congregations in worship for over 87 years. Members are chosen by audition and represent most academic disciplines. The choir will sing a variety of choral works by composers such as J.S. Bach, Johannes Brahms, Felix Mendelssohn, Gerald Finzi, and David von Kampen. What a wonderful addition to our Lenten worship!

**Prayers needed!** Received yesterday from Rev. Mike Paulison, Mission Experience – Haiti:

"Our school and orphanage in Haiti, God's Garden, has been attacked. What we learned today is that the gangs often switch troops around like police. Recently a new group of gang members have moved into our area. They decided to attack God's Garden. They beat up four of our guards. They asked where our guns are, but we don't have any there. They then took an evaluation of all the things that we have on site. They said they want things like the large generator. They said they will call tomorrow and tell us what they want. Prayers needed. Please share this prayer request. I am more than willing to give them possessions. We are praying they spare God's Garden, Grace Academy and our staff."

**Seasonal help needed!** Join us in choir as we prepare our special music for Lent and Easter. Rehearsals will be after the evening midweek Lenten services on Wednesdays, from 7:05-8:00pm in the music room. Thank you!

**Our Easter egg hunt** for church, preschool, and neighborhood families will be on Saturday, April 4th! We're needing donations of pre-filled eggs. We'll have empty eggs and bags available starting this Saturday for you to take home, fill, and return. Or you can just buy already pre-filled eggs from the store. Please return by April 3rd. We appreciate your generosity and support. Thank you for your help!

**A Dice Game for All!** Mark your calendars for our annual Bunco Night on Friday, March 20th at 6:00 PM! Don't know how to play Bunco? No problem...we will teach you! Bring a favorite snack to share, drinks and pizza will be provided. Childcare available but please RSVP ahead of time with Stephanie. See you then!

**Faith Book** Are you ready to share God's journey with you to bless others? Just let me know you are writing then send your story to me as soon as possible at [Heyjude264@aol.com](mailto:Heyjude264@aol.com). Thank you. Pax Christi, Jude

**Extended Day Preschool** A little green Irishman visited preschool this week. He was a little naughty and made a mess of the classrooms. We have amazing kids who quickly worked together to get the classrooms back in ship-shape in no time. 🍀

Since next week is our Spring Break we had chapel with Pastor John again this week. He talked about Easter and why we celebrate the death of Jesus. I hope these children hold on to the truth...Jesus LOVES them so very much that He died for their sins. That simple truth will give them great comfort throughout their lives. ❤️ Grace and peace, Meg Stenman, Preschool Director

### **Ascension Church Patio Project**

It would be wonderful to begin the project that has been so beautifully designed to enhance our outside patio area, knowing full well that it is going to take \$100,000.00 to complete but pulling together we can get this done. Now please, prayerfully consider supporting this beautiful upgrade to our Ascension campus.

During this Lenten season as we look forward to what God provided – Easter and that astonishing gift to us. Let us work together to complete this wonderful outdoor area where we will work together, meet together and share in the love of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

As you consider your donation, small or large, make your donation payable to Ascension and denote the funds for “Project Peter”. Let us get this project going and completed this spring.

Luke 6:38: “Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.”

Blessings,

The Capital Campaign Grounds Upgrade Committee: Bob Hea, Art Gordon, Kim McCormick, Chuck Mielke, Terry Utecht, Kathleen Wucherpfenning Larry Nisbet (Campaign Committee Chair)

**“Welcome to GriefShare!”**

Our GriefShare Support Group just finished its first month; nine sessions remain with nine participants. I am amazed at the power of the Holy Spirit that envelopes us with the Lord’s care and support.

The GriefShare 13-Week support group at Ascension for 2026 is underway, 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.

March topics are:

3/17 - “Regrets”

3/24 - “Grief and Your Household”

3/31 - “Grief and Your Friendships”

Above all, please pray for our participants: Barb, 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. When I told our group last week that they are In the prayers of our congregation, they were all thankful for your prayers. We are too!

Thank you, Linda Olsen and Sherry Hitztaler; Co-Facilitators

Please email me ([hitz2@comcast.net](mailto:hitz2@comcast.net)) or call the church office if you are interested in joining us.

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

**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.

Register here: <https://vbspro.events/p/alcvacationbibleschool>

**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 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> 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](mailto:Kengle0920@gmail.com)

**Young Adult Bible Study** The Young Adult Bible Study will meet this Friday, March 13, at 6:30 pm at Jenna and Michael Lawrenz' house, for their Bible study by Louie Giglio. For more information, contact Jenna: 303-913-3512 [jenna.lindeman@cune.org](mailto:jenna.lindeman@cune.org)

**We live in a "I can do it myself" culture.** The truth is that with creating a Christian estate plan, we need an entire team, to assist us to make sure that our plan is well grounded. The estate plan certainly can focus on care for the family to whom you are responsible. But it also plans the distribution of financial assets that have accumulated over the years. Your financial advisor is tremendously valuable, bringing to the table your conversations about planning for family, education and retirement. These topics should be factored into your estate plan. Bridging the gap between current financial plans and estate plans is something your Ascension Gift Planning Counselor can assist with. Contact Jason Jones at [Jason.Jones@lfn.org](mailto:Jason.Jones@lfn.org) or call him directly at (970) 988-0305.

**Flowers on the Altar** this weekend are given by Ken and Diane Cole, in joyful celebration of their 44<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary on March 16!

**Prayers:** For Ed Geisler, who is improving after an infection and is at The Center at Lincoln Rehab Center in Parker; For Caroll Haeffele, who has entered hospice care; For Tricia McCulley; For Rev. Bob Seible's niece, Sandy Wynn, as she recovers from surgery; For Dianne and Alan Backhus and their family, at the death of Dianne's brother Don; For Anita Baresel, who will have back surgery on March 12; For Henry Peepgrass, who is doing better and has moved to Orchard Park for rehab; For Viola Raasch's younger brother Al, who has brain cancer; For strength and peace of mind for Diana Gaide, in treatment for muscle weakness; For relief from pain for Mike Zehnder and his nephew Nick; For Jaclyn Warren, that her health be fully restored and that she be protected from future issues; For Michele Yowell, C.J. Earhart and Jim Nichols, as they go through cancer treatments; For Tonya Cronberg; For Janet Parrott, in hospice care; For wisdom and discernment for our leaders, that we might have peace the Middle East, Ukraine, Haiti, and Venezuela; For God to send His Holy Spirit on all believers for strengthening of faith and witness.

<b><u>Attendance</u></b>	<b><u>Service Time</u></b>	<b><u>Attendees</u></b>	
Saturday, 3/7	4:00 pm	50	
Sunday, 3/8	8:00 am	93	
	10:30 am	62	
			Total: 205
Wednesday, 3/11	11:30 am	48	
	6:30 pm	79	
			Total: 127

**Online Views** (as of March 9) for March 1: 147 views.

<b>Stewardship</b>	Feb. 28-Mar. 1, 2026	Year-to-Date (YTD)
Budgeted Revenue	\$13,000.00	\$130,000.00
Received Amount	\$18,125.00	\$154,101.00
Project Peter 2026	\$1,675.00	\$ 16,733.00

**Calendar (Saturday, March 14 – Sunday, March 22):**

Sat. (3-14)	10:00 am	Baby Shower – Desi Quintana
	3:00 pm	Baptism – Charlotte Michel
	3:00 pm	Saturday Bible Study
	4:00 pm	Traditional Worship with Communion
Sun. (3-15)		<b>4th Sunday in Lent</b>
	8:00 am	Traditional Worship with Holy Communion
	9:15 am	Sunday School / Adult Bible Study
	10:30 am	Traditional Worship with Holy Communion & Concordia University A Capella Choir
	11:45 am	Choir Lunch
Mon. (3-16)	8:30 am – 1:30 pm	Extended Day Preschool
Tues. (3-17)		<b>ST. PATRICK'S DAY</b>
	8:30 am – 1:30 pm	Extended Day Preschool
	9:30 am	Ladies' Bible Study
	1:30 pm	GriefShare Support Group
Weds. (3-18)	8:30 am – 1:30 pm	Extended Day Preschool
	10:00 am	Bible Study with Pastor Ginkel
	11:30 am	Lenten Worship
	5:00-6:15 pm	Lenten Meal
	5:30 pm	Confirmation Instruction
	5:45 pm	Gloria Dei Ringers
	6:30 pm	Lenten Worship
	7:15 pm	Ascension Chorale
Thurs. (3-19)	8:30 am – 1:30 pm	Extended Day Preschool
	1:30 pm	Koinonia
Fri. (3-20)	8:30 am – 1:30 pm	Extended Day Preschool
	12:30 pm	Ascension Quilters
	6:00 pm	Bunco Night!
Sat. (3-21)	9:00 am – 3:00 pm	Heritage Fine Arts Workshop
	3:00 pm	Saturday Bible Study
	4:00 pm	Traditional Worship with Communion
Sun. (3-22)		<b>5th Sunday in Lent</b>
	8:00 am	Traditional Worship with Holy Communion
	9:15 am	Sunday School / Adult Bible Study
	10:30 am	Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion