

**GOOD AFTERNOON!**

**WHAT'S HAPPENING (May 7) *HAPPY MOTHER'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.

**Holy Baptism** This Saturday we celebrate the Baptism of Dutton Wayne Collins, son of Cooper Collins and Amy Modglin Collins, and on Sunday at the 10:30 service we will celebrate the Baptism of Levi Henry Stratton, son Christofer and Kelly Stratton. Blessings to these children and their families!

**The Funeral Service for Millie Fitzpatrick**, who died on Friday, April 24, will be this Saturday, May 9, at 1:30 pm at Ascension. A meal will follow the service.

**The Voters of Ascension Lutheran Church** met for a one-hour meeting on Sunday, April 26. 47 Voters signed in. President Bob Hea directed the meeting. Some of the highlights included:

- A summation of the final financial report from 2025. In a written report Mike Price, our Treasurer told us that we received \$143,000 more than we spent last year. This year our first quarter was also strong receiving \$19,000 more than we expected.
- An update on the Patio Project. Though we had hoped to see the project completed by summer, it appears that the completion will probably be in September. The budget of about \$230,000 seems to be reliable.
- Information about our preschool. The preschool was able to stay within budget this past year and have had a good first quarter in 2026. Lisa Wert, our Board of Education Chair, had the opportunity to share information about how a number of other preschools in our area conduct business and attract students. A number of ideas of how to grow our preschool were mentioned.
- Pastor John shared information about his leave of absence this summer. He mentioned that Rev. Dr. Larry Alb will be the primary preacher during the absence, and that Curt Engle, a licensed lay deacon, will be preaching twice during that period. The Elders are working on a visitation plan for our homebound.

The next Voter's Meeting will be on December 6, 2026 at noon.

**Sunday School News**: Our last class (preschool-high school ages) before summer break will be this Sunday, May 10th with games, songs, crafts, and ice cream sandwiches!

Also, a big THANK YOU to our wonderful Sunday school team! They are a blessing to us! We appreciate you - Lori Rolling, Jackie Viren, Katie Brehmer, Christa Kirschner, Meghan O'Connell, Krissy Schwerin, Ann Kaneko, Dianne Patterson, Jenna Lawrenz, Stephanie Roettjer, and Pastor John!

**Mother & Daughters Tea! This Saturday, May 9 at 10:00 am** we will have a wonderful morning for our moms and daughters! Join us for a Mother and Daughters'

Tea on May 9<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am! The cost is \$8.00 per person. We will have a fun craft, yummy food, and refreshing beverages! *If you haven't had a chance to RSVP, please call the church office 303-794-4636 to let us know you are coming, thank you!*

**Youth (7th-12th grades) are invited to a GAME NIGHT** on Friday, May 15th in the youth room! GAGA BALL PIT, Video game tournament, air hockey, sardines, and more! We'll have prizes/trophies and yummy snacks! Join us from 6:30-8:30pm! Friends invited!

**\*Board of the Month\*** This month we are highlighting the Board for Evangelism. As you heard at the recent Voters' Meeting, this particular Board supports ongoing ministries championed by members of the congregation. These include Angel Tree (Jude Donovan), Prison Ministry (Bob Estes, Dave Zeller), HAAT - Homelessness Awareness and Action Task Force (Ann Kaneko), and GriefShare (Sherry Hitztaler, Linda Olsen). The Board also hosts larger events onsite with the goal of bringing our neighbors to the Church. This year we are hosting a community Blood Drive on July 25<sup>th</sup> and a free dinner/concert featuring the Blue 88's band on August 29th. If you feel called to help with any of these ministries, please reach out to one of the members listed above, Anita Baresel, or Bob Hea.

**LADIES GUILD SALAD SOCIAL!** You are Invited to a Salad Social! On Thursday, May 14, 2026 AT 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. We invite you to spend time socializing and enjoying a variety of salads.

Bring: Your favorite salad to share - Your Mite Box – and of course, a friend!

### **LADIES BRUNCH!**

**WHEN:** MONDAY, MAY 18, 2026 AT 11:30 A.M.

**WHERE:** TOAST RESTAURANT (2630 Belleview Ave. Ste. 100, Littleton)

**WHY:** SOME GOOD FELLOWSHIP AND ENJOY A DELICIOUS MEAL

We would love to have you join us for a brunch at Toast Restaurant on Monday, May 18 at 11:30 a.m. Delicious items like Bourbon Praline French Toast, Omelets, Burritos, Biscuits & Gravy, or luncheon special like Monte Cristo, Reuben, Triple Decker Club Sandwich or Cobb Salad. Something for everyone.

Please make a reservation if you would like to attend no later than by Friday, May 15. Please contact Shelia Beu by contacting her by texting 720-202-4739 or email, sheliabeu@yahoo.com.

**JOIN OUR PRAISE TEAMS!** With Ann Kirkpatrick's arrival as our new CWL, this is an excellent time to join the Youth or Agape Praise Teams. We are especially looking for a bass player to join us this year. Rehearsals take place before the service at 9:30 AM in the sanctuary, and music is provided in advance with the YouTube links to assist with preparation.

If you are interested in joining or would like more information, please contact Ann Kirkpatrick at [annkirkpatrick@yahoo.com](mailto:annkirkpatrick@yahoo.com) or reach out to our Minister of Music and Worship, Michael Zehnder, at [musicmikealc@gmail.com](mailto:musicmikealc@gmail.com).

**The 2026 13-Week GriefShare program at Ascension** ended Tuesday, April 28 as participants joyfully honored our loved ones as we reminisced about memorable moments, characteristics that we missed, and ways to “make their memory as blessing.” Fittingly, our last session was “What Do I Live For Now?” Please continue to keep all of our grievers in your prayers.

Linda and I are very thankful for the support from Pastor Larson, Church Council, and Dawn Munson as well as our congregation which enables this special and important program. We look forward to starting the 2026-27 Ascension GriefShare program next fall. We also welcome new volunteers to our program. Please contact Sherry at hitz2@comcst.net for more information.

Thank You, Co-Facilitators: Linda Olsen and Sherry Hitztaler

***“God is our refuge and our strength, an ever-present help in trouble.” Psalm 46:1***


**Wednesday Evening Bible Class** Pastor Larson's Bible Class meets on Wednesdays from 5:00-6:00 pm. This coming Wednesday, join us for a new study of the Book of Titus in the Fellowship Hall.

**Online Auction to Benefit Mission Experience in Haiti** From Rev. Mike Paulison: “Despite all the troubles in Haiti, God’s provision remains constant. To follow God’s call, we need your help!

We will be hosting an online auction as a fundraiser this year. We are requesting donations of various items, such as a themed gift basket, handmade craft, artwork, weekend away, house cleaning, lawn mowing, home chef for date night, tickets or passes to places or events, etc. (Please make all donations a minimum of \$50.00 in retail value).

Please send a photo, description, dimensions, estimated value, as well as your name / contact info (we don’t mind advertising if you have a business!), suggested opening bid and minimum bid (if needed) to [sarah@missionexperience.org](mailto:sarah@missionexperience.org). Submissions are needed by the end of September.”

**Extended Day Preschool** Where does rain go once it hits the ground? How does water evaporate from the oceans, and why? What is the difference between salt water and fresh water? These questions align with our theme this week: Land and Water. It is also National Teacher Appreciation Week, and I really appreciate Shelly and Melina for all the work they do behind the scenes and make teaching look easy (ha ha). This has been such a special year and I am so happy the children could show the congregation (10:30 service) how happy they are to be here by singing some of their favorite songs with Pastor John (and the children all shouted AMEN!). ❤️

 Grace & Peace, Meg Stenman

**Ascension Church Patio Project**

This spring, 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. Please make your donation payable to Ascension and denote the funds for "Project Peter".

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."

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

**Vacation Bible School!** 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 meet each Saturday at 3:00 pm, for our Lighthouse Bible study on the book of Acts, with a focus on evangelism. Email Curt at [Kengle0920@gmail.com](mailto:Kengle0920@gmail.com)

**Young Adult Bible Study** The Young Adult Bible Study will meet Friday, May 15, 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)

**A good gift plan within an estate includes inheritance for family and gifts to ministry.** Some might consider this a difficult task. How does an LCMS Foundation Gift Planning Counselor help? Working on your estate can be complicated as you balance legal, tax and financial issues, along with your desires to care for family and support ministry. Your Ascension Gift Planning Counselor has tools to organize all these things. Contact Jason Jones at [Jason.Jones@lfnd.org](mailto:Jason.Jones@lfnd.org) or call him directly at (970) 988-0305.

**Flowers on the Altar** this weekend are given by Rose Kahler and Wayne Wren, in loving memory of Emily Wren.

**Prayers:** Prayers of Thanksgiving for the gift of our mothers and grandmothers; Please pray for Lisa Lujan's mom, who took a fall on Friday night, May 1<sup>st</sup>, and broke two ribs, and for Lisa's dad, who has some health concerns; For Barb Bader, recovering at home after hip surgery on May 4; For Linda Achziger's cousin Stoney, following a stroke, and her cousin Leonard, with Parkinson's; For Susan Sherrer-Firth, who had a kidney procedure on May 5; For Hank Peepgrass; For Mike Price,

recovering from ankle surgery; For Judy and Roger Koester's grandson Dale's father-in-law, Bill Tibbs, in Riley, Texas, and for his wife Pam, as she cares for Bill and her mother at home; For Bill Burchett; For Mike Zehnder, as he considers next steps for his back pain; For Michele Yowell and C.J. Earhart, as they go through cancer treatments; For wisdom and discernment for our leaders, that we might have peace in the Middle East, Ukraine, Haiti, and Venezuela; For God to send His Holy Spirit for strengthening of faith and witness.

<b><u>Attendance</u></b>	<b>Service Time</b>	<b>Attendees</b>	
Saturday, 5/2	4:00 pm	58	
Sunday, 5/3	8:00 am	106	
	10:30 am	111	
			Total: 275

**Online Views** (as of May 5) for April 26: 127 views.

<b><u>Stewardship</u></b>	May 2-3, 2026	Year-to-Date (YTD)
Budgeted Revenue	\$13,000.00	\$234,000.00
Received Amount	\$21,195.00	\$278,100.00
Project Peter 2026	\$1,975.00	\$ 26,208.00

**Calendar (Saturday, May 9 – Sunday, May 17):**

Sat. (5-9)	10:00 am	Mother-Daughter Tea
	1:30 pm	Funeral Service – Millie Fitzpatrick
	3:00 pm	Saturday Bible Study
	4:00 pm	Traditional Worship with Holy Communion
Sun. (5-10)		<b>MOTHER'S DAY</b>
	8:00 am	Traditional Worship w Holy Communion
	9:15 am	Sunday School / Adult Bible Study
	10:30 am	Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion
Mon. (5-11)	8:30 am-1:30 pm	Extended Day Preschool
Tues. (5-12)	8:30 am – 1:30 pm	Extended Day Preschool
	9:30 am	Ladies' Bible Study
	6:30 pm	Church Council
Weds. (5-13)	8:30 am – 1:30 pm	Extended Day Preschool
	10:00 am	Bible Study with Pastor Ginkel
	5:00 pm	Bible Study with Pastor John
	5:45 pm	Heritage Arts Guild Meeting
	6:00 pm	Confirmation
	6:30 pm	Ascension Chorale
Thurs. (5-14)	8:30 am	Extended Day Preschool
	9:00 am	Foundation Meeting
	12:30 pm	EDP Spring Program
	6:00 pm	Ladies Guild Supper

Fri. (5-15)	8:30 am	EDP Teacher Workday
	12:30 pm	Quilters Group
	6:30 pm	Youth Game Night
	6:30 pm	Young Adult Group
Sat. (5-16)	9:00 am – 3:00 pm	Heritage Fine Arts Workshop
	3:00 pm	Saturday Bible Study
	4:00 pm	Traditional Worship with Holy Communion
Sun. (5-17)		<b>CONFIRMATION</b>
	8:00 am	Traditional Worship w Holy Communion
	9:15 am	Confirmation Questioning & Reception
	10:30 am	Traditional Worship with Holy Communion