

GOOD AFTERNOON! WHAT'S HAPPENING (October 1)

Fall Worship Schedule Saturday afternoon worship services are at 4:00 p.m. Traditional Sunday worship is at 8:00 and 10:30 a.m. Adult Bible Class and Sunday School will meet at 9:15 a.m. Pastor is leading a Bible study on the Book of Revelation.

Pastor John will offer an Adult Instruction Class on Saturday, October 10 from 9:00 am – 1:00 pm, and Sunday, October 11 from 1:00-4:00 pm. This two-part class is designed to teach the basics of Christian faith and the Lutheran denomination. There is no cost. The instruction book will be provided. If you are not a member of Ascension and would like to see what we believe (or even if you are a member, and would like to have a refresher of Lutheran doctrine), you are invited to attend.

Please note: There will be no Wednesday 5:00 pm Bible Study with Pastor John next week, October 7.

Rev. Michael Zehnder will be soon resigning from his position as primary Organist and Minister of Music and Worship here at Ascension, to move to Phoenix to be closer to his five children. He will remain at Ascension through nearly the end of November, and his last weekend playing the organ will be November 21/22. He will continue handling all worship and music duties through November 30, and has begun working with the Elders and staff to help manage important transition activities. We will recognize Mike's long service with a farewell celebration between services on Sunday, November 15.

This past summer we rejoiced with Mike as he celebrated his 50th year in Christian Ministry! As he says, "By the end of November, I will have been at Ascension for just shy of 10 years, making this the longest ministry tenure of my career. My first place and last place of ministry hold the longevity records." Despite his physical challenges, Mike has continued to bless us with his superb musicianship, attention to detail, his caring leadership for our music and worship program, his spiritual guidance and friendship. Please pray for Mike as he prepares for his move, and for the Elders and staff as we begin our transition.

October is Tuna Month at Ascension! In October, we will be accepting donations in the box in the narthex for our local food bank, Integrated Family Community Services, IFCS.org. Next time you're at the grocery store, please pick up some extra cans, it is appreciated! *They would love to receive imperishable food donations all year!*

Ascension Lutheran Ladies Guild Invites You to join us for the South-Central Zone LWML Fall Rally! This Saturday, October 3, 2026, here at Ascension Lutheran Church, Littleton, 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Cost is \$10.00/person, a light breakfast & lunch will be provided.

- Registration is from 9:00 a.m. – 9:45 am.
- Bible Study 10:00 am – Curt Engle from Ascension Lutheran

- Business meeting / Election of Officers will be held in the morning after the Bible Study, with installation of Officers in the afternoon.
- Guest Speaker: Jenni Talcott, Manager of Annual Giving from AbleLight

Ingathering for AbleLight: new towels of various sizes – colored (no white), oversized yard games (tick tack toe, checkers connect, etc.) or Amazon gift cards to purchase the yard games. Art supplies - paint, glue, paper, etc.

Please RSVP as soon as possible to Linda Achziger at linda.achziger@gmail.com or you can call at 303-921-6081. Ladies, do not forget to bring a Bible, a Friend, and your Mighty Mites!

Parent/youth mission trip meeting is scheduled for this Sunday, Oct. 4th. We are gearing up for next year's incredible summer of growth, service, and community for our youth in Rapid City, SD! Planning is officially underway so make sure to attend to receive information, ask questions, and find out more! There are two times available: 9:30 AM in the youth room OR 11:30 AM in room 106...pick one! Questions, ask Stephanie, stephanieroettjer@gmail.com

Stewardship Please check your mailbox, where you will soon find a letter from Pastor and an opportunity to pledge your financial gifts for 2027. You will also find a Time and Talents Card to let us know your interest in serving in our various ministries. We can't do it without you! Stewardship Sunday is October 10-11, you are encouraged to bring your pledge card and Time and Talents card to put in the offering plate that weekend. *Both of these are important as we plan ministry and our budget for 2027.*

Take A Look at the Columbarium! You will see a beautiful new Rock Garden, placed there by Ellise Friend, daughter of Ed and Carrie Friend. Ellise designed and completed this project in order to earn her Silver award for Girl Scouts. The Silver award is the highest award you can earn at the middle school "Cadettes" Girl Scout level. She spotted this opportunity for beautification and function improvement while helping her Dad with his service of caring for the gardens around the Columbarium. She drew inspiration for the pictures from the lovely stained glass windows that are overhead. She created the designs and she and her family all worked together to build it. They are hopeful that it will help our church community to feel at peace when they are visiting their loved ones in that area. Ellise is grateful to the church board for approving her project idea and we are thankful to God for giving us good weather to labor in for project completion!

All Saints Sunday will be October 31-November 1. During worship services that weekend, Pastor will read the names of those we have lost since All Saints Day in 2025.

If you would like to have a loved one mentioned, please let us know: (a) Their name and how you were related; and (b) When they passed away. We will have a Page of Remembrance in the bulletin for loved ones who passed prior to 2025. Please let us know by Monday, October 26. Thank you!

Our email is office@alutheran.org, and phone is 303-794-4636.

Ascension Quilters As the quilters return from Summer break, we want to thank Jackie Adams for her leadership as she retires from the group. The quilters meet Fridays at 12:30pm in the fellowship hall. The point of contact for information will be Patti Zeggert. Call or text with questions to 720-341-1390.

GriefShare Last month, September of 2026, began the FOURTH Season of GriefShare programs at Ascension with the seminar, "Loss of a Spouse." A season consists of two (one-day each) seminars in the fall, ("Loss of a Spouse" and "Surviving the Holidays"); and a 13-Week Program, "From Mourning to Joy," conducted through the months of February, March, and April of 2027. We have had many (at least 150 plus) benefit from these helpful programs.

Our next fall program is "Surviving the Holidays," on Saturday, November 7, 2026, from 10:00 AM until NOON in Ascension's Fellowship Hall. This program is for anyone and everyone who is grieving the loss of a loved one. Registration for November 7 - on-line at griefshare.org/findagroup; call the Church office at 303-794-4636; or contact Sherry Hitztaler - hitz2@comcast.net.

Please consider this program for yourself, family, or friends; invite anyone you feel would benefit from this timely and helpful program. There are publicity flyers on the small table just outside the sanctuary for you to take and distribute. Posting at your work, athletic or community centers would be most helpful. If you are interested in helping with this event and would like to help with set-up, provide snacks, etc. that would be most appreciated! Please contact me! Linda and I and our entire team thank you for your prayers and your help! – Sherry Hitztaler

I will proclaim the name of the Lord. Oh, praise the greatness of our God.
Deuteronomy 32:3

ANGEL TREE Thank you to the generous hearts and open wallets in support of gifts for the children of incarcerated parents. You may still donate if you were not prepared to do so. You may put cash or checks into an envelope and mark it ANGEL TREE. If a check, make it to Ascension with Angel Tree on the memo line. We welcome continuing donations until October 25....but don't wait or forget to donate. I'm always amazed at the great generosity of our members and most grateful for your support. Pax Christi, Jude Donovan

Ladies Brunch!

Our next outing for Brunch is coming up Monday, October 5 at Toast. Hope you can make it!

WHEN: MONDAY, October 5, 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, October 5 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.

Please make a reservation if you would like to attend no later than this Friday, October 2. Please contact Shelia Beu by contacting her by texting 720-202-4739 or email, sheliabeu@yahoo.com.

Save the date for our Trunk-or-Treat! It will be on Saturday, October 24th, from 5:30-7pm! We will have treats, a bounce house, games, and crafts!

Also, we need trunks! If you are willing to decorate your trunk and hand out treats, please let Jenna or Stephanie know! There will be a sign-up sheet in the narthex this coming Sunday!

NEEDED: Bags of candy for our Trunk or Treat event! There will be a donation bin available for drop-off. Thank you! We appreciate your generosity!

ASCENSION BAKERS AND CRAFT MAKERS:

It's time to begin planning and working on what you would like to make or bake for the upcoming Ladies Guild Craft and Bake Sale! The date has been set, November 22nd. This sale supports the following Missions:

Lutheran High School, Lutheran Braille Workers, His Little Feet, University Chapel-Boulder, Orphan Grain Train, Messiah Lutheran Campus Ministry-Grand Junction, Lutherans for Life, and Lutheran Valley Retreat.

It takes YOU to make this a successful event through your generous contributions. If you have any questions, please contact Charmaine Rohde 303-618-8889.

Romano's - Benefit for the Arapahoe Santa Claus Shop

On Wednesday, October 14, 2026, please enjoy delicious dining or take out at Romano's Italian Restaurant to help raise funds for the Arapahoe Santa Claus Shop! The Arapahoe Santa Claus Shop is an entirely volunteer 501(c)(3) nonprofit that has been supporting families in Littleton, Englewood and Sheridan with holiday toys for young children since 1959. Also needed are donations of:

- Tax deductible money donations
- New toys
- You can also help by:
- Volunteering (youth and adults are welcome!)

Visit our website: <https://www.arapahoesantashop.net>. P.O. Box 2004 Littleton, CO 80161-2004; Email us at arapahoesantashop@gmail.com

PRESCHOOL NEWS

Did you correctly guess who our special storytime reader from Bemis Library was last week? Yes, it was our very own Sheena Shakely! She let us hop like bunnies! This week we had school pictures taken by our very own favorite photographer-church member Kathy Wucherphennig! What a blessing our church family is to our preschool! God certainly has showered abundant blessings on us this year! Our letter of the week is "D". D is for Dot! Big dots, little dots, and all kinds of patterns made with dots!

Update from Mission Experience: From Rev. Dr. Mike Paulison: A lot is happening right now at Mission Experience. At God's Garden South, we revamped the second dorm, and it is now another set of classrooms for Grace Academy. We are also building four more classrooms, a dining hall, and a kitchen next to our original Grace Academy building. We added another grade so we now serve kindergarten through 8th grade. We will attempt to add the last grade to our middle school next year (the Haitian middle school is grades 7-9). We now have almost 350 students. In Haiti, not many children go to high school, but in 2 years we will graduate a large class with no high schools nearby. In the meantime, with our next kitchen and dining hall, we are attempting to add a hot meal every day to our school. So far, we have given sandwiches to our hungry kids. The orphanage in the north continues to go well. We continue to bring small teams into the north, and we have five trips planned for next year. Thank you for your prayer and support, we could not save or educate children without you!

From HAAT Force: Food Items Needed for Homeless Folks

Here are a few things we could use as we prepare for the fall:

- Hormel Compleats (or similar microwaveable meals)
- Mac & cheese cups
- Pop-up can of soup / tuna / other meals
- Individual packages of trail mix / nuts
- Individually packaged crackers

Please bring these items to the collection box in the narthex, thank you!

The Young Adult Group will meet again on Friday, October 9, at 6:30 pm at Jenna and Michael Lawrenz' house. Please contact Jenna at jenna.lindeman@cune.org.

Bible Study with Pastor Ginkel: Pastor Ginkel's Bible Study Class meets on Wednesdays at 10:00, Room 106. Will study Luke. All about Jesus! One chapter a week. Printed handouts. Light refreshments. Please join us if you can.

Saturday Bible Study Please join us this Saturday at 3:00 pm for our Bible study on the Book of Mark. Everyone is welcome!

The goal of our study, using LifeLight questions, is to learn Gospel truths on our own through Scripture lookups. As Jesus reveals God's truths to His slow-learning disciples in the Book of Mark, He also reveals His truths to us: "And He said to them, 'Do you not yet understand?'" (Mark 8:21). If you have questions, please email Curt at Kengle0920@gmail.com

Patio Project Fundraising

We are now nearly halfway to the fundraising goal of \$100,000 dollars to support the campus remodeling project. Take some time to look at the architectural pictures in the narthex and then walk the area and imagine the excitement of achieving the plan and beautifying the grounds. The actual work will be starting soon and a big "thank you" for the wonderful donations made so far. However, we need to complete the fundraising goal, please consider adding to the amount, with a small or large donation to Project

Peter. Every penny counts! With your prayers and support we will keep moving forward and get this project completed this fall.

Thank you for your generosity, prayers and support. Blessings, The Capital Campaign Grounds Upgrade Committee: Bob Hea, Art Gordon, Kim McCormick, Chuck Mielke, Terry Utecht, Kathleen Wucherpfenning, Larry Nisbet (Campaign Committee Chair)

Anonymous Tip from a Parishioner “With winter coming soon it may be a good idea to consider purchasing an EMERGENCY FOOD BUCKET, to have on hand. Costco and Amazon have a large selection at good prices.”

Including a statement of your Christian faith is important in your estate plans. Creating that statement of faith is something we do in community. When beginning to write a Christian Preamble or Family Blessing, it is wise to have conversation with others, such as your pastor, a mentor in the faith, or specific friends, so that in community you can focus your thoughts in a concise way. Your Ascension Gift Planning Counselor can assist you in having those discussions. Contact Jason Jones at Jason.Jones@lfnd.org or call him directly at (970) 988-0305.

Flowers on the Altar this weekend are given by Scott and Stephanie Luethy, in joyful celebration of their 43rd Wedding Anniversary on October 8!

Prayers: For comfort and healing for Nikki Becker and her extended family, as her half-brother, Elijah, was killed in Atlanta last week; For Athenia Michel, who will have a procedure on Monday, October 5; For healing and relief from pain for Stephanie Luethy’s mom, Barb Muirhead, at Sloane’s Lake Rehab after taking a fall, and has fractures in her left arm and shoulder and a rib; For John Oldefest, who will have a medical procedure for his veins; For Richard Kositzke, recovering from knee replacement surgery on September 29; For Tim McClaren’s father, Ron McClaren, following a stroke on September 17 with some paralysis; For Jim Bame, for healing following back surgery; For Sharon Seible, who will have hip surgery on October 7; For Tori Stewart, Bruce and Phyllis McConnell’s granddaughter, who has a torn ACL; and for Tori’s father, Adam Stewart, who has suffered a heart attack; For Linda Finrock, that the Lord will slow the macular degeneration in her eye, and for discernment as she considers treatment; For Mary Hert’s 3-year-old great grandson, Lane, and for his parents, Trey and Madison. Lane will have MRI and EEG tests on October 8 to determine the cause of his seizures; For Jeff Bair; For Roger and Judy Koester’s nephew, Brian Heller, and for his wife and family; For Mike Zehnder, for relief from pain as he prepares for his move to Phoenix; For Mavis Slifka; For Jim Nichols.

<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Service Time</u>	<u>Attendees</u>	
Saturday, 9/26	4:00 pm	70	
Sunday, 9/27	8:00 am	97	
	10:30 am	63	
			Total: 230

Online Views (as of September 30) for September 20: 283 views.

<u>Stewardship</u>	September 26-27, 2026	Year-to-Date (YTD)
Budgeted Revenue	\$13,000.00	\$507,000.00
Received Amount	\$8,740.00	\$516,063.00
Project Peter 2026	\$1,105.00	\$ 46,978.00

Calendar (Saturday, October 3 – Sunday, October 11):

Sat. (10-3)	9:00am	LWML Zone Rally
	3:00 pm	Saturday Bible Study
	4:00 pm	Traditional Worship with Holy Communion
Sun. (10-4)		LWML SUNDAY
	8:00 am	Traditional Worship with Holy Communion
	9:15 am	Sunday School / Adult Bible Study
	10:30 am	Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion
	11:30 am	Parent / Youth Mission Trip Meeting
Mon. (10-5)	8:30am-3:00pm	Preschool
	11:30am	Ladies Brunch
Tues. (10-6)	8:30am-3:00pm	Preschool
	9:30 am	Ladies Bible Study
Weds. (10-7)	8:30am-3:00pm	Preschool
	10:00 am	Bible Study with Pastor Ginkel
	5:45 pm	Gloria Dei Ringers
	6:00 pm	Confirmation
	6:30 pm	Ascension Chorale
Thurs. (10-8)	8:30am-3:00pm	Preschool
	9:00am	Foundation Meeting
Fri. (10-9)	8:30am-3:00pm	Preschool
	12:30 pm	Ascension Quilters
	6:00-8:00pm	Youth Pumpkin Carving & Game Night
	6:30pm	Young Adult Group
Sat. (10-10)	8:30am-3:30pm	Heritage Fine Arts Workshop
	9:00am-1:00pm	Adult Instruction
	9:30am	Evangelism Board
	1:30pm	David Harris Memorial
	3:00 pm	Dick & Doris Kuhlmann - Inurnment
	3:00 pm	Saturday Bible Study
	4:00 pm	Traditional Worship with Holy Communion
Sun. (10-11)		STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY
	8:00 am	Traditional Worship with Holy Communion
	9:15 am	Sunday School / Adult Bible Study
	10:30 am	Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion
	1:00-4:00pm	Adult Instruction