GOOD AFTERNOON!
WHAT'S HAPPENING (November 19)

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 usually meet at 9:15 on Sundays; this week we will have our annual Ladies Guild Craft and Bake Sale in the Fellowship Hall! Please join us!

Adult Instruction Class will be this Saturday, November 21 from 9:00 am – 1:00 pm, and Sunday, November 22 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.

FAREWELL FROM REV. MICHAEL ZEHNDER

Dear Church Family,

As I move on to a new city (Gilbert, AZ) and a new role as Interim Music Director in Anthem, AZ, I want to express my deepest gratitude for your support, guidance, collaboration, and all your wonderful cards celebrating my retirement. It has been a true privilege serving alongside the staff, leaders, and members of this church for the past 10 years.

No one could have predicted all that we would navigate together—from major campus renovations to the challenges of COVID-19 and establishing our online worship services. Through it all, I have learned that this church is filled with unsung heroes. From those who faithfully prepare coffee, clean pews, replenish water, make and serve food and manage mailings, to those who manage budgets, organize concerts, direct mission outreach, and maintain our facilities, it truly takes an army of selfless, faithful people to share God's love with the world.

I have deeply enjoyed leading the Music Ministry with such capable colleagues, as well as my occasional forays into pastoral work. Thank you for trusting me with these opportunities. I have learned so much from all of you, and I will always look back on my time here with immense gratitude.

Please stay in touch! You can continue to reach me at musicmikealc@gmail.com, or by phone and text. My new address is listed in the latest November directory available in the Narthex. I will be serving as Interim Music Director at Cross of Christ Lutheran in Anthem, AZ.

My last Sunday playing the organ will be November 22, and I will officially move on Thanksgiving Day. I will miss you all dearly and will continue to pray for God's richest blessings on your lives and ministries.

Farewell and God bless you,

Rev. Mike Zehnder

Mike Zehnder's last Sunday at Ascension is this Sunday, November 22nd. Feel free to join us in the front of the sanctuary as we sing Peter Lutkin's "The Lord Bless You and Keep You" with the Chorale at the end of the 8:00 service, and at the beginning of the 10:30 service on Sunday.

******Pie Social*** After Thanksgiving Worship on Wednesday, November 25***
We are planning a PIE SOCIAL after the Thanksgiving Eve worship service!
We need pies to serve - please bring yours to the church kitchen before the service, thank you so much!

ASCENSION BAKERS AND CRAFT SALE:
The time is here! All crafts and bake goods can be brought to the church this Saturday Nov. 21st between 9:00 and noon!

The Sale will be this Sunday, Nov. 22nd, between services in the Fellowship Hall. Thank you!

Call Charmaine with questions. 303-618-8889

IT'S CHRISTMAS DECORATING TIME!! We are switching it up a bit this year and will be decorating on **Friday, November 27th - 9:00am** - Remember, no ladder climbing necessary and breakfast snacks will be available. (We should be done before the Broncos kickoff). For more info, please reach out to Bri Bly, call / text / email 623-680-9510

Ascension Christmas Families: In December we support families who need a little help in the Christmas season. 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. For more information, please contact Dana Niederbrach (303.886.7860).

Advent by Candlelight - Wednesday, December 2, 6:00 pm: Join us for a special evening of devotion and fellowship! Our dinner menu will be: Tossed Green Salad, Italian Beef or Parmesan Chicken, Cheesy Potato Casserole, Green Beans & Bacon, Rolls & Butter, Christmas Cookies, Water and/or Coffee.

Special devotions and music will take place between courses. The cost for the meal is $12.00 for adults and $6.00 for children 12 and under. (Maximum $30.00 per family) Attendance is limited to 110 people, please RSVP by signing up in the narthex by November 27.

Elves are needed to bake cookies! We would love to sample your baking skills and are in need of 25 dozen. Help is needed on Wednesday, December 2nd:

- Food prep (morning)
- Prepare Salads (5:00)
- Servers
- Clean-up

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.

We appreciate everyone's help to make this a memorable event!

WANTED: Table Centerpieces for Advent by Candlelight!

Do you have a pretty table centerpiece that you would be willing to bring for Advent by Candlelight? We are trying to make things easier on volunteers this year by just requesting that item. It would help us greatly!

If you still would like to be a table decorator it would be greatly appreciated!! We need decorators for 15 round tables of 6-7 and 2 rectangle tables of 8. This year we will use church glasses, silverware, decorative Christmas paper plates and tablecloths (if needed). Tables may be decorated Tuesday (1-6 p.m.) or Wednesday (before Noon). For more details - please contact Lisa Taylor Wert by phone or text 720-980-9446. You can decorate more than one table!

Please look for the sign up sheet in the Narthex.

God's Creation Calendars are here! $10 for a beautiful 2027 calendar with Scripture verses and stunning pictures. Proceeds will go towards the youth summer mission trip to Rapid City, SD next summer! They will be partnering with local service agencies by assisting with a summer children's program, working in a community garden, painting the outside of residential homes, and working in a food pantry. Thank you for supporting our youth! Available in the narthex.

At the upcoming December 6th Voters' Meeting we will elect several board chairs. This week we highlight the position of Board for Evangelism Chairperson. Please prayerfully consider running for one of these positions or serving on a board. *We are in need of volunteers.*

Per our bylaws, "The Board for Youth shall have the responsibility to develop and maintain a program of ministry to and by the youth, for obtaining volunteers for the youth program, and generally supervising the purposes and structure of the youth organization(s)."

If you are interested in running for this position please reach out to Dawn Munson at the Church office.

12/6/26 Voters' Meeting Agenda - 12:00 pm

A. Call to Order (Quorum?)
B. Opening Prayer
C. Presentation of the Minutes
D. Pastor's Report
E. Treasurer's Report (2026 YTD & 2027 Budget)
F. Recommendations of the Council
G. Elections
H. Reports of Board Chairmen and Committees
I. Unfinished Business
J. New Business
K. Adjournment
L. Closing Prayer

ANGEL TREE! Once again our generous and faithful members have shared in a gift of almost $1800.00 to purchase Christmas gifts for the children of incarcerated parents. With the matching funds certificate, we will be donating $3,600.00. The Ascension Foundation also has contributed $5,000.00 to Angel Tree Camps, sports and other activities. Thank you, each and every one who supported this ministry of Prison Fellowship. Imagine the delight and joy these children feel when our gifts arrive to brighten their Holy Day of Christmas. Please also pray for these families and their parents as they are not together. May the Lord strengthen these family ties and bless them. Pax Christi, Jude



Ride Needed: For Rev. Ed Maas, who has had successful cochlear implant surgery for his hearing, and is not able to drive for some time. Rev. Maas lives at Brookdale Park Place, 111 N. Emerson Street, Apt. 1742, Denver, CO 80218. He can reimburse for ride expenses. If you can help, please contact his daughter, Kaye Mathews, at 303-909-1989 or mathewskaye7@gmail.com.

Patio Project Update! Installation of the shade structure has begun! Next, the remaining concrete will be poured, the rock skirts around the legs will be built, and the new signage installed.

We are close to achieving our fundraising goal of $100,000 to support this project. Please consider making a donation to Project Peter. Every penny counts! The new structure will be a beautiful addition to our church.

PRESCHOOL NEWS

This week we are learning about the letter I. Ms. Melina teaches us about upper case and lower case letters. Lower case I looks like this: i The color of the week is brown. We are learning about Thanksgiving. Tomorrow we will bring snacks to share with each other, just like the Pilgrims and Native Americans did a long time ago. It's almost time for Thanksgiving Break! There is no school next week!

BUTTER BRAIDS ARE HERE!

Many thanks to those who purchased Butter Braids! Our preschool received a record breaking profit of $1,060.00!! Thank you for your generous support!

Butter Braids are available for pickup after services this weekend. If they aren't in the Narthex they can be found in the kitchen freezer with your name on them. If they are already paid for please just take them. If you still need to pay for them please make checks payable to Ascension Lutheran Church and write "Butter Braids" on the memo line. All Butter Braids are sitting in marked boxes with names in the freezer.

40TH ANNIVERSARY PRESCHOOL T-SHIRTS ARE NOW AVAILABLE!

The cost is $15 dollars for any size - Adult S M L XL 2XL and Youth S M L

Cash and checks are accepted. Please make checks payable to Ascension Lutheran Church and write "Preschool T-shirt" on the memo line. Please let Lisa know what your order is and she will fill it for you!

Ascension Quilters The quilters meet Fridays at 12:30pm in the fellowship hall. The point of contact for information is Patti Zeggert. Call or text with questions to 720-341-1390.

Saturday Bible Study Please join us a little early this Saturday, at 2:45 pm, for our Bible study on the Book of Mark. We will bid "farewell" to the Castlemans, who are moving to TN. Everyone is welcome! If you have questions, please email Curt at Kengle0920@gmail.com

The Young Adult Group will meet again on Friday, December 11, at 6:30 pm at Jenna and Michael Lawrenz' house. Please contact Jenna at jenna.lindeman@cune.org.

NO Bible Study with Pastor Ginkel on November 25: We will take a break for the Thanksgiving holiday. We will meet again to study the Book of Luke on Wednesday, December 2.

HAAT Force: Food Items Needed for Homeless Individuals
New or gently used
- warm jackets - adults - all sizes
- warm gloves - all sizes
- blankets
- shoes/boots - adults - all sizes

Please bring these items to the collection box in the narthex, thank you! As always your donations and giving hearts are greatly appreciated !!!

***You need help to construct a good estate plan and the gift plan within it to family and ministry*.** But it is also true that no one else can tell you what your plan must look like. God has given you the responsibility to steward these assets. If your goal is to do significant things with God's gifts, then your Ascension Gift Planning Counselor can assist you in becoming concrete about what is important to you. Contact Jason Jones at Jason.Jones@lfnd.org or call him directly at (970) 988-0305.

This Saturday, November 21, we will say farewell to Dick and Joanne Castleman. The Castlemans, who joined our congregation about 5 years ago, have been active in worship at the Saturday service and in the Saturday small group study. They have served as Assistant Treasurers for our congregation the last number of years. This coming week they head to their new home in Lebanon, Tennessee, about 25 miles east of Nashville. May our Lord Jesus bless you in your new home. Thank you for your time with us.

Flowers on the Altar this weekend are given by Linda and Carol Achziger, in loving memory of their parents, Ed and Edna Achziger.

Prayers: For Shelia Beu and her family, at the death of her brother, Dave Siedschlag, on Monday morning, November 16, in Michigan; Please also pray for Wayne Beu's

friend, Kay Rudolph, who has had her leg amputated; For Mike Price, having ankle surgery today, November 19; For Dick and Joanne Castleman, as they move to their new home in Tennessee; For Gary Selzer's brother, Larry, hospitalized in CA with pneumonia; For Jaina Wohletz, who has mono; For Janice Ross, the sister of Judy Koester, who is gravely ill; For Carmen Gutierrez, who has been sick with a respiratory illness for several weeks; For Dennis Lord, who had knee replacement surgery on Monday, November 16; For Mike Schulten, who had his right knee replaced on November 11; For Kim McClaren's mother, Vera Berning, who has entered hospice care in Indiana; For courage, peace, and skilled medical care for Jude Donovan, and for successful cataract surgery for her on Thursday, November 19; For Mike Zehnder, as he prepares for his move to Phoenix; For Jill Plant; For the friends and family of Nicholas Graham, the Lakewood Police Officer who was killed in the line of duty on November 5; For all those affected by the flooding in Pagosa Springs and Southern Colorado.

Happy Birthday! Birthday Blessings to Viola Raasch, who will celebrate her 98th birthday on Monday, November 23!

Happy Anniversary! Happy 68th Wedding Anniversary to Charles and Lois Titus, celebrating their special day on November 24!

Attendance	**Service Time**	**Attendees**	
Saturday, 11/14	4:00 pm	69	
Sunday, 11/15	8:00 am	84	
	10:30 am	82	
			Total: 235

Online Views (as of November 16) for November 8: 283 views.

Stewardship	Nov. 14-15, 2026	Year-to-Date (YTD)
Budgeted Revenue	$13,000.00	$598,000.00
Received Amount	$10,689.00	$604,947.00
Project Peter 2026	$5,185.00	$ 88,238.00

Calendar (Saturday, November 21 – Sunday, November 29):

Sat. (11-21)	9:00am-12:00pm	Set up for Ladies Guild Bake/Craft Sale
	9:00am-1:00pm	Adult Instruction Class
	2:45 pm	Saturday Bible Study & Farewell to the Castlemans
	4:00 pm	Traditional Worship with Holy Communion
Sun. (11-22)	8:00 am	Traditional Worship with Holy Communion
	9:15 am	Sunday School / Ladies Guild Bake/Craft Sale
	10:30 am	Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion
	1:00-4:00pm	Adult Instruction Class
Mon. (11-23)		NO Preschool – Thanksgiving Break

Tues. (11-24)		NO Preschool
	9:30 am	Ladies Bible Study
	7:00 pm	Elders Meeting
Weds. (11-25)		NO Preschool
		NO Bible Study with Pastor Ginkel
	7:00 pm	Thanksgiving Worship
	8:00 pm	Pie Social
Thurs. (11-26)		**THANKSGIVING DAY** – No Preschool
		Church Office Closed
Fri. (11-27)	9:00 am	Church Decorating
		NO Preschool
		Church Office Closed
Sat. (11-28)	3:00 pm	Saturday Bible Study
	4:00 pm	Traditional Worship with Holy Communion
Sun. (11-29)		**FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT**
	8:00 am	Traditional Worship with Holy Communion
	9:15 am	Sunday School / Adult Bible Study
	10:30 am	Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion