



*Ascension*  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
ELCA  
March 2015

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# THE *Ascension* NEWSLETTER



*Ascension*  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
ELCA



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1415 Dopp Street  
Waukesha, WI 53188



**MONDAY - THURSDAY**

9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

**FRIDAY**

9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

## EXECUTIVE STAFF

### Pastor

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### Pastor

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### Director of Children's Ministries

Vacant

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## CHURCH COUNCIL & MINISTRY TEAM LEADERS

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### Treasurer

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### Director of Operations

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## MUSIC STAFF

### Adult & Children's Choir Director

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### House Band Leader

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## BROKEN BUT FORGIVEN

A few years ago, a friend of mine sent me a reflection. It struck me for its honesty and wisdom and so I have kept it in my files to reread it as the season of Lent unfolds.

*This past week I went to a very touching confirmation service. It was refreshing to worship as a welcomed guest with a different liturgical tradition. As I heard familiar scripture, the words seemed to leap off the page and dance in new ways right in front of my eyes. Call it the Spirit or the fact that my kids were quietly drawing at my feet, but I was actually able to listen. The sermon progressed with a common theme and was predictable until the preacher turned to the adult confirmand and said, "If you are saying yes to the church, because you think the church is going to make you whole, it is not." At this point I sat up straight in my chair. What was he daring to say? As a preacher he was being almost too bold; he was telling the tenuous truth about the church that is rarely recognized or overtly advertised. He continued, "The church is made up of broken people, broken parts of the body of Christ." As he explained the church as a motley band of faithful followers who sometimes get it right and at other times get it absolutely wrong, my heart swelled with emotion. He said to the young woman confirming her faith, "Your job is not to fix the church; your job is to join the church in its brokenness and its desire to love God and the world. By the end of the sermon, my eyes were laced with tears. It is true! The church does not make you completely whole or always happy. The church is made up of people, broken people who live broken lives, tainted by sin.*

*Often people shop for the perfect church, seeking out the church that does not look broken, rundown, stuck in a rut, or out of date. Will they ever find a church that is not at some level broken? Sometimes members just stop going to church, frustrated with this issue or that person so it seems easier to just give up and not go. How can churches heal and grow when people give up, don't talk, and avoid brokenness? As a church we are transitioning into the season of Lent...when we individually and corporately follow Jesus to the cross. It is not an easy road, but a necessary journey of intense introspection. In many ways we are asked to feel the splinters of our own brokenness and rediscover our need for Jesus who offers complete forgiveness. The church is made up of broken, yet forgiven parts. The church is not a perfect place, but it is a place where forgiveness is given perfectly.*

Since the church God calls us to share and to be is not about us as individuals, there is a different sense of identity offered in the church compared

*Pastor Christian Marien*

to the rest of the world. We can be a part of a country club and yet among the club members there is a level of knowing of who owns what and who interacts with whom. On the field of sport, the team may find an identity under a team name, but individual accomplishment is still sought and rewarded. In almost every aspect of society, individual identity is preferred over the identity of the community.

I can only speak to one example where this has not been true. In the year 2000, when the cast of the television show *Friends* was preparing to go through contract talks, the six stars were brought in separately for negotiations. Yet, after the first meeting, the six stars met and realized they had more power as a cohesive community standing together than standing alone. The result was a higher equal salary for the stars because they stood as one instead of continuing the tradition of every man for himself.

As we continue the Lenten journey toward Holy Week, I am reminded that in our common identity as children of God we are able to find strength for future steps. I thought it might be helpful to share encouraging Scriptures in these days under the shadow of the cross.

*And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another - and all the more as you see the Day approaching. ~ Hebrews 10:24-25*

*For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. ~ Romans 12:4-5*

*How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity! ~ Psalms 133:1*

*I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another in what you say and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly united in mind and thought. ~ 1 Corinthians 1:10*

I pray that this Lent will be a time of seeking for our hearts, that we too might join the whole church in its brokenness and its desire to love God and the world. God be with you in these days. See you in church.





## A LENTEN DEVOTION

*Pastor Angela Khabeb*

1. First, take a deep breath. Perhaps this newsletter came to you along with other mail that requires your response and attention. The other stuff can wait - really! You can take a few minutes right now to pause and be with God. The world won't fall apart if you do. Take another deep breath. You are God's beloved child, a creature who lives by God's word. God's word is gift and life.

2. The author of the following psalm lived and died thousands of years ago, but the words remain, because they are inspired by God's very own Spirit. These words deserve your attention, so take your time as you read this psalm. Whisper the words aloud, or read through each verse twice if this helps you pay attention.

Psalm 147:1-12

*Praise the Lord!*

*How good it is to sing praises to our God; for the Lord is gracious, and a song of praise is fitting. The Lord builds up Jerusalem; and gathers the outcasts of Israel. God heals the brokenhearted, and binds up their wounds.*

*God determines the number of the stars; and gives to all of them their names. Great is our Lord, and abundant in power; God's understanding is beyond measure. The Lord lifts up the downtrodden; but casts the wicked to the ground. Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving; make melody to our God on the lyre.*

*God covers the heavens with clouds, prepares rain for the earth, makes grass grow on the hills and gives to the animals their food, and to the young ravens when they cry.*

*The Lord's delight is not in the strength of the horse, nor in the speed of a runner; but the Lord takes pleasure in those who worship him, in those who hope in God's steadfast love.*

*Praise the Lord!*

3. Consider some ways in which God has been gracious to you. Think of specific times that God has responded to your physical needs, your emotional needs, and your spiritual needs.

4. What does it mean to you to hear God's love described as *steadfast*?

5. Think about your day's plans - or your hopes for our Lenten journey, if that is more helpful. How can you sing, praise, and trust in God's steadfast love in what you do today?

6. Take some time to pray. Communication is like oxygen to a relationship. Without communication, the relationship dies. Our prayers do not need to be perfect. God is perfect. Our prayers do not need to be a certain length. God is immeasurable. Our prayers do not need to be eloquent. God knows us intimately. Our prayers can be as simple as *thank you*.

7. Make the sign of the holy cross and say: *Under the care of God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.* Then, as Martin Luther would say, go about your day joyfully!

*(7 steps adapted from Rev. Katherine Olson)*



## PASTORAL ACTS

### Baptisms

Feb. 8 Kai Acompanado (pictured)

Feb. 8 Hunter Kelsey

## YOUR COUNCIL AT WORK

*Nada Draeger, Council President*



February's council meeting began with an orientation/potluck. We welcomed Cynthia Carlson, Meg Douglas, Alan Gilgenbach, and Jeremy Poling, along with our returning members Paul Wehmeier, Peter Laper, Katie Voss, Sheri Greger, Becky Klotz, Cathy Rapp, and Marcy Schaefer. Our group will be reading Max Lucado's *Before Amen*, led by Pr. Chris, as our devotion. We discussed chapters 1 and 2.

This council year will focus on the Arise 2025 Vision. This will be included in each month's agenda. We will be launching this with a strategic weekend retreat lead by Craig Greenwood that will include council, church staff, and delegates chosen from the wings. Possible dates are late April/early May. I will update you each month on our progress.

Katie Voss reported on the two meetings held earlier in February regarding Sunday School. Key components that came out in

our discussion were the engagement of students and their parents and the quality of the Sunday School program. It was determined that a strategic team should be formed to make improvements. Katie will contact parents and teachers who have shown a passion for Sunday School to be on this team.

Beginning in March, once a month, a council member will be present at the Welcome Center to answer questions or take concerns of the congregation to be shared at our meetings. This service will be offered either the first or second Sunday of the month and will be printed in that week's bulletin and e-alert.

I am looking forward to all the exciting possibilities that 2015 will bring to Ascension and serving as your Council President, and I welcome your input and suggestions.

## UPDATE ON ASCENSION'S WISH LIST

*Pastor Chris Marien*



What an incredible gift - the generous hearts of this community! I am grateful to share with you some of the gifts that have been given to Ascension since I shared the wish list in the February newsletter:

- \$500.00 towards a new microwave and additional kitchen tools
- \$750.00 towards the completion of the costs for new communion trays
- \$750.00 offered towards the completion of the costs of new communion trays. (Ascension has asked if this family would be willing to direct their gift in another direction).

Ascension is grateful for these gifts as the items on the wish list fall outside of our normal general fund and weekly offerings. It is often a challenge in the church to remind the community that the general fund should be able to cover the costs of operating the church (i.e. salaries, utilities, general programming costs, worship supplies) as well as be available for extra/additional unplanned costs that arise. As a congregation, there are times when the special *ask* for specific items is also a wonderful expression of God's gifts to us returned to God. We are always looking, hoping, praying for the correct balance. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Pastor Chris or a member of the church council.



## FINANCIAL REPORT

Meg Douglas, Treasurer

General Fund Activity					
	2015	2015	Variance	2014	Variance
Item	Actual	Plan	to 2015	Actual	to 2014
			Plan		Actual
<b>Income</b>					
Contributions	\$57,345	\$63,650	\$(6,305)	\$53,311	\$4,034
Rent, Interest, & Other Income	\$5,869	\$5,433	\$436	\$6,316	\$(447)
From Restricted Funds	\$6,871	\$5,786	\$1,085	\$595	\$6,276
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$70,085</b>	<b>\$74,869</b>	<b>\$(4,784)</b>	<b>\$60,222</b>	<b>\$9,863</b>
<b>Expenses</b>					
Communications	\$2,114	\$2,008	\$(106)	\$2,514	\$400
Facilities	\$27,764	\$29,757	\$1,993	\$28,638	\$874
Financial Development	\$8,241	\$8,244	\$3	\$8,239	\$(2)
Leadership Development	\$-	\$33	\$33	\$51	\$51
Administration	\$22,128	\$21,720	\$(408)	\$16,350	\$(5,778)
Caring Relationships	\$2,966	\$2,175	\$(791)	\$2,115	\$(851)
Joyful Worship	\$9,315	\$8,082	\$(1,233)	\$5,431	\$(3,884)
Mission Outreach	\$2,597	\$2,703	\$106	\$2,300	\$(297)
Spiritual Growth	\$6,579	\$7,599	\$1,020	\$3,066	\$(3,513)
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$81,704</b>	<b>\$82,321</b>	<b>\$617</b>	<b>\$68,704</b>	<b>\$(13,000)</b>
<b>Surplus/(Deficit)</b>	<b>\$(11,619)</b>	<b>\$(7,452)</b>	<b>\$(4,167)</b>	<b>\$(8,482)</b>	<b>\$(3,137)</b>
<b>Mortgage Balance</b>	<b>\$877,347</b>				
<b>Restricted Funds Balance</b>	<b>\$187,972</b>				
<b>General Fund Balance</b>	<b>\$(3,989)</b>				
<b>Ascension Arise Contributions</b>	<b>\$9,111</b>				
<b>Restricted Contributions</b>	<b>\$4,132</b>				

### WHAT THE NUMBERS MEAN:

Our general contributions ended 9.9% behind plan for 2015, and they were 7.6% ahead 2014 actual.

Our bottom line is \$4,167 behind plan.

Our general fund balance is currently at a loss.

If you have questions or comments on the financials or would like more details, please email me at [mdouglas1021@gmail.com](mailto:mdouglas1021@gmail.com).

## CONGREGATION STATISTICS 2014

Amy Gilgenbach, Director of Administration

Every year in February, as a member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), Ascension reports to the Greater Milwaukee Synod the membership and attendance information listed below. These statistics are compiled from our membership database, information from worship and ministry leaders, and the pew pad forms you fill out.

Over the past three years, Ascension has made an effort to clean up our membership rolls. This effort has resulted in a leaner but more accurate and, consequently, more functional membership roll. In 2015, we look forward to updating members' time and talent offerings for ministry use to further expand the breadth and depth of Ascension's many ministries.

Please remember to update the church office with any changes to your household record (address, phone, adult child moving out, etc.). We do our best to keep track of all our congregation members but sometimes, the only information we have comes from you. You may call the church office, email [admin@ascensionelca.org](mailto:admin@ascensionelca.org), or use one of the membership forms on our website <http://ascensionelca.org/membership/> to update your household record.

*I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me - just as the Father knows me and I know the Father - and I lay down my life for the sheep. ~ John 10:14-15*

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Baptized Membership	1878	1856	1713	1496	1322
Confirmed Membership	1397	1394	1306	1137	1037
Average weekly worship	589	600	560	561	524
New members including baptisms	72	63	58	28	82
Releases/transfers (by request, inactivity or statistical adjustment)	43	78	195	237	250
Deaths	8	7	6	8	6
Confirmation	12	30	16	15	23
Total number of people (including children) actively participating in the life of the congregation	1525	1500	1130	1386	1216

The following information is not reported to the ELCA but is tracked for our own statistical purposes. Please note that member and non-member activities are counted.

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Sunday School (3k-5th gr.)	202*	176	179	151	123**
JOLT (gr. 6-9)	30	47	84	68	60
CRASH (gr. 9-12)	34	17	35	70	40
Total children involved in Spiritual Growth ministries	266	240	298	289	223
Baptisms	19	27	17	22	26
Marriages	6	8	13	6	8
Funerals	12	13	12	10	10

\* Includes 6th grade \*\* Incomplete





## MEET THE BAND

*Ben Janzow, Celebration Band Leader*

*Come let us sing for joy to the Lord; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation. ~ Psalm 95:1*

Ascension's 10:45 a.m. worship service offers an energetic worship experience each week led by the Celebration Band. God has blessed Ascension throughout the years with musicians offering up their time and talents to the praise of Jesus. Let's meet the band...

Ben Janzow: Celebration Band leader. Ben has led the band since 2001. He is a full-time musician teaching private guitar lessons in Waukesha, performing on weekends, and leading Ascension's Celebration Band at the 10:45 service. Ben enjoys hiking, biking, island travels, and time with friends and family.

Katherine Deitsch: Vocals. Katherine has sung with the band since 1992. She has worked in many fields and has been a certified pharmacy tech for 10 years. Katherine enjoys spending time with her husband Dana, kids, and grandkids. She also enjoys crafting and fun in the sun.

Paula Schmidt: Vocals. Paula has sung with the band since spring of 2014. She has been in HR for the past 16 years. Paula enjoys the outdoors, music, and camping. She also plays French horn.

Elizabeth Bagley: Vocals. Elizabeth has sung with the band since April 2013. She is an attorney who enjoys theatre and can be seen performing at The Waukesha Civic Theatre. Elizabeth is also a Brewers baseball fanatic.

Jim Finn: Keyboards. Jim has been playing with the band since 2008. He is an attorney and is also involved in real estate development. Jim enjoys music, golf, antiques, restoring old cars, and gardening.

Kenny Berdoll: Bass. Kenny joined the band in 1991. He has had a long history in the local music scene dating back to 1969. Kenny has worked at Best Buy for many years and recently renewed his vows to his wife Maxine.

Dave Chyla: Bass. Dave has played with the band since 2002. He is a self-employed manufacturer's representative as well as a gigging musician. Dave enjoys cars, boating, cooking, and a good craft beer.

Dan Roland: Drums. Dan has played drums with the band since 2006. He is a dental ceramist and enjoys the outdoors, camping, fishing, hunting, and spending time with family.

Jeremy Poling: Drums. Jeremy joined the band in the fall of 2014. He is an energy engineer and enjoys running, photography, and playing Legos with his son.

Brian Bennett: Drums. Brian has been playing drums with the band since 2011. He is Director of Architectural, Construction, and Environmental at Northwestern in the real estate investments department. Brian enjoys triathlons and coaching kids' sports teams.

Please take the time to say *hi* to our wonderful musicians after church any Sunday. Praise be to God!

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

*Jennifer Koutnik, Former Director of Children's Ministries*

I want to thank Ascension for allowing me to guide our littlest members for the last three and a half years! I have enjoyed my job immensely, and it is difficult to step away. I am grateful for the opportunity and I hold many beautiful memories of these years. My four girls and I will still be worshipping at Ascension, so be sure to still say *hello* on Sunday mornings.

Here are some words I read and loved this week on a beautiful blog about saying goodbye...

*So here's what's in a good goodbye: Until we meet again, you do what you do. You be the you that God has made and called you to be. Run the course the Lord has set before you. Know that God loves you and has put a host of people around you to help you run, so that you may help others run as well.*

Pastor Ed Myers, *Grace and Grind* blog



## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY BENEFITS THE CHURCH

*Pastor Chris Marien*

As we discuss the future and are learning to look forward to what God has in store for our Children's Ministry, you are invited to ponder the gifts and benefits of Children's Ministry in the life of the church:

1. It helps the church pass on the faith.
2. It helps bring new families to church.
3. It allows the church body to use their talents and spiritual gifts.
4. It helps train future church and world leaders.
5. It provides accidental learning for volunteers. Often adults learn as much as kids.
6. It raises community awareness of the church through special events.
7. It helps worship go smoothly. Through education, children learn the importance of being in worship.
8. It helps build a strong youth ministry.
9. Having children present helps the pastor to keep the Gospel simple.
10. Having children present brings joy to the whole congregation.
11. Having children present reminds the congregation that all people were made in God's image.
12. Having children present gives adults some real life examples of childlike faith.
13. Having children present helps the church learn to offer different music styles.
14. Having children present gives a sense of excitement and hope for the future.
15. It brings joy to the church to see children grow through the years.
16. It provides senior adults with the opportunity to be spiritual-grandparents.
17. It provides ways for churches to cooperate with one another.
18. Volunteers benefit from additional fellowship.
19. It allows artistic people to share their talents. Children's Ministry crafts is one area that can greatly benefit from these abilities.
20. When a church is struggling to recover its theological and spiritual heritage, it helps reform families and the church.

What joy to share in the conversation and the dreams for the future of our children. Please consider sharing your thoughts by filling out our Sunday School Vision survey at <http://tinyurl.com/ssvision-survey>.

## 5TH GRADE STEPPING STONE: FIRST COMMUNION

On Saturday, March 7, from 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m., in East Hall, our communion class occurs for both the student and a guardian – parent, grandparent, aunt, uncle, family friend. It is an important time of faith building and conversation. The sacrament of Holy Communion is a tangible reminder of God's great love for us.

The Rite of First Communion will be celebrated at the 9 and 10:45 worship services on Palm Sunday, March 29, and Sunday, April 12.







## CRASH

*Tony Acompanado, Director of Youth Ministries*

### CRASH SCHEDULE

March 1	Mime Travel – St. Stephen the Martyr - Greendale
March 8	Mime Travel – Jackson Park Lutheran - Milwaukee
March 13, 6-10 p.m.	Pizza & Laser Tag
March 15	Mime Travel – Cross Lutheran - Milwaukee
March 22	Mime Travel – Christ the King - Delafield
March 22, 6-8 p.m.	CRASH Youth Group
March 25	CRASH hosted Soup Supper
March 29	Mime Travel – Grace Lutheran - Kenosha

### FUNDRAISERS

March 8, 15, 22	Kringle orders (Narthex)
March 29	Kringle pick-up (Narthex)

Fundraisers to support the CRASH summer trip to the ELCA National Youth Gathering in Detroit launched with the Chili Cook-off on Feb. 28 and will continue with the Kringle sale this month. With trip costs upwards of \$900/participant, your support of these fundraisers is crucial to making trips such as these possible. Thank you in advance for your participation and generosity!



## MIME

The Mime performance season launched on Sunday, Feb. 22, with the group traveling to Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Milwaukee. The students have worked incredibly hard to learn their performance pieces, but more importantly to better understand God's story in Jesus Christ. The group is excited to share God's story of love with those congregations that have so generously invited us to share the gift of Ascension's Youth Mime Ministry.

## BLESSED TO BE A BLESSING SCHOLARSHIP

Amount of scholarships:

- Up to \$2,000 paid evenly over four years

Eligibility requirements:

- Ascension member
- Attend a Lutheran college or university
- Be in good standing at the college or university

Application deadline:

- April 10, 2015

Who should apply:

- High school seniors planning to attend a Lutheran undergraduate school in the fall
- Members who are not currently receiving the BTAB Scholarship and are planning on attending a Lutheran undergraduate school in the fall
- Members who are planning on attending a post graduate school in the fall to pursue a career in ministry within the ELCA

Please fill out an online application at:

<http://tinyurl.com/btab scholarship>  
(Paper copies are available in the church office).

## CARE MINISTRIES

*Brenda Lytle, RN, Director of Care Ministries*

We have many volunteers who do wonderful things for Ascension. A handful of these volunteers are our pastoral assistants that I refer to as my *angels*. Ascension's pastoral assistant program exists to spread Christ's love and Word by extending significant pastoral care throughout the congregation and the community. Six pastoral assistants do visits at hospitals, at rehabilitation facilities, and with homebound members. Many pastoral assistants have formed close bonds with our members as they visit, pray, and share sacraments with those in need. We will recognize our pastoral assistants at the 9 and 10:45 worship services on Sunday, March 17 with a blessing and affirmation. Our pastoral assistants are Paul Wehmeier, Jim Hahn, Bill Rudd, Sally Wagner, Iva Richards, and Bonnie Theisenhusen. A special thanks to you for all you do!

## CARE MINISTRIES PROGRAMS AND EVENTS IN 2015

### GRIEF SHARE

Tuesdays, Jan. 6-March 3. This program is for those that have suffered significant loss and features biblical concepts for healing from your grief through a DVD series, workbook, and a support group. This inter-generational group has been a phenomenal community outreach to those suffering with grief. Please feel free to join us or invite a loved one. Please contact Brenda Lytle, at [Brenda@ascensionelca.org](mailto:Brenda@ascensionelca.org) if interested or with questions.

### YOGA/TAI CHI

Mondays, Jan. 26-March 9, from 6-7 p.m., in East Hall. Instructor Ann Hurley from the YMCA is teaching the class. Come and enjoy increased flexibility and relaxation.

### AARP SMART DRIVING COURSE

Wednesday, March 25, from 12:30-4:30 p.m., in room 106. AARP member cost is \$15. Non-AARP cost is \$20. All payable at the time of the class. Sign up on the clipboard at the Welcome Center. Some insurance companies will give reductions for the completion of this course. Certificates will be given.

### BLOOD DRIVE

Ascension is having another blood drive on Saturday, May 30, from 8 a.m.-12 p.m., in the West Hall. We need many donors during this time of low supply and high demand of blood! More information will be coming soon!

### DIVORCE CARE AND DIVORCE CARE FOR KIDS

This Christian-based program is intended for anyone dealing with divorce. It will also help families that are broken apart by divorce. This series features videos, discussions, and workbooks that focus on recovery from the hurt. The kids program will help children find relief from the anxiety of what's happening in their families.

### SENTRY RECEIPTS

Ascension collects these in our West Hall donation center. Please make sure you ask for a sticker for the back of the receipt at the time of purchase. The receipts are not accepted without these stickers. This ongoing collection helps with expenses for our Care Ministries.

### TRANSPORTATION MINISTRY & HOMEBOUND MINISTRY

Looking for volunteer opportunities this spring? Volunteer to drive people to and from church or an appointment during the week. Contact Judy Franke, at 547-3921. Are you interested in visiting a homebound member in their home? Contact Beth Hoffman, at 542-7447. Do you have a pet certified in Pet Therapy? We may soon be integrating some pet therapy for interested homebound members.





## SOCIAL SECURITY SEMINAR

Brenda Lytle, RN, Director of Care Ministries

A Social Security Seminar will be held by Ascension member, James Murray, on Sunday, March 22, at 12:15 p.m., in East Hall.

*Social Security retirement benefits are a core component of retirement income for many Americans. They are one of the few sources of retirement income that is predictable, unaffected by market ups and downs, and that may be adjusted for inflation periodically...When it comes to Social Security retirement benefits, your decision shouldn't be based on 'one-size-fits-all' assumptions. Your age, marital status, health and financial needs are all important considerations.*

This seminar is intended as an introduction to Social Security retirement benefit basics. It does not cover every filing situation (some of which can be complex), but it can help lay the groundwork for further exploration of this important benefit.

Remember, it's your Social Security retirement benefit. Make the most of it!



## CAREGIVER WORKSHOP

This 6-week workshop improves self-care and reduces stress. It develops skills for handling difficult emotions such as anger, guilt, and depression. It builds confidence while handling caregiver demands and making tough decisions. Learn effective communication skills helpful when dealing with family members, doctors, paid help, and care receivers. This class also assists with using community resources.

This class will be at Oak Hill Terrace, 1805 Kensington Dr., on Wednesdays Feb. 25; March 4, 11, 18, 25; and April 1 from 1:30-4 p.m. To register call ADRC Community Health Coordinator, at 262-548-7827

## MILITARY MINISTRY

Ascension has a new leader for Military Family Ministry. Our thanks and gratitude goes out to Sheri Greger for her leadership for the Military Family Ministry! She has a passion for the military and we look forward to seeing this ministry grow and support our military veterans and families!

*The kind of comfort we share is directly related to our awareness of God's comfort in our lives.*

Shelly Chapin, author of *Counselors, Comforters, and Friends*.



## PRAYER MINISTRY: NEW TIME

Bonnie Thiesenbusen, Ministry Leader

Since anytime is a good time to go to the Lord in prayer, the Prayer Team will now be meeting from 2-3 p.m., on the first and third Mondays of the month, in the Prayer Room. We hope you will join us as we pray for wisdom, the needs of our church family and friends, the community, nation, and the world, and, most importantly, we praise the Lord from whom all blessings flow! Our words come from our hearts and from the love we have for the people that we pray for. You will not be asked to pray aloud unless you are comfortable doing so.

*I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. ~ John 15:5*

## SMALL GROUPS: DID YOU KNOW?

Jan Zastrow, Small Group Ministry Leader

The Tuesday Women's Bible Study and the Thank Goodness It's Tuesday (TGIT) small groups were in competition with each other over which group would bring in the most cans of soup during February for the Cross Food Pantry Souper Bowl.

The Monday Night Men and The Early Bird Men small groups were also in competition for the most cans of soup for the Cross Food Pantry during February.

An Ascension small group is committed to working at the Waukesha Food Pantry on the third Thursday of the month.

Two of Ascension's small groups are working together to provide lunch at the Hope Center in March.

Ascension currently has 15 groups meeting year around.

The Daniel Plan is being taught for the second time, thanks to Sarah Anderson.

Ascension has 13 groups studying *Before Amen* by Max Lucado. The group leaders are: Jim Ballantyne, Melissa Bissing, Linda Blodgett/Linda Hansen, Sara Doyle, Jim and Kathy Hahn, Dave Hammer, Chris Holloway, Deb Scheffler, Shirley Wehmeier, Bob Zastrow, and Jan Zastrow. The church council and the church staff are also studying the book.

If you would like your group activities and mission projects mentioned in a newsletter article, please e-mail [jan\\_zastrow@yahoo.com](mailto:jan_zastrow@yahoo.com). If you would like to start a small group or join an existing one, please contact Jan Zastrow, [jan\\_zastrow@yahoo.com](mailto:jan_zastrow@yahoo.com), or a pastor, [PA@ascensionelca.org](mailto:PA@ascensionelca.org) or [PC@ascensionelca.org](mailto:PC@ascensionelca.org).



## Girlfriends: SPRING HAS SPRUNG

This is shaping up to be a busy spring! Please join us for these faith-renewing and inspirational events and enjoy the fellowship of your Ascension Girlfriends.

### INSPIRE U, MARCH 7

Looking for a way to re-ignite or further develop your faith journey? Girlfriends is going to Inspire U (a full day of faith-building, inspirational speakers) on March 7. Tickets are \$35, and we are offering a \$10 rebate/scholarship. Please register online at Inspire U, <http://www.elmbrook.org/event/2015-03-07-inspire-u>. Let us know if you register, so we can arrange to rebate the \$10 scholarship. Ticket sales close March 6 or when they sell out, so act quickly!

### TITUS TEA, APRIL 16

Once again, Ascension Girlfriends will be going to the Titus Tea at Country Springs. Please mark your calendar for 6:30-9 p.m., Thursday, April 16, and look for more information from Girlfriends in March when tickets go on sale. Last year, Ascension women filled two tables.

### WAUKESHA RIVERWALK, MAY 2

Registration is open now for Waukesha's annual RiverWalk for Breast Cancer, scheduled for May 2. Sign up online at <http://tinyurl.com/AscensionRiverWalk2015> to walk with or donate to Ascension's team, organized by Ascension Girlfriends.

If you have questions about any of these events, please contact a member of the Girlfriends'organizing board: Cheri Ehrlich, Kathy Bue, Robin Gallo, Amy Gilgenbach, Becky Murray, and Kris Wiese







## HOLY WEEK WITH THE MEN OF ASCENSION

Are you ready to follow Jesus and join the crowds eager to seek out the man that everyone was talking about? Is this man Jesus the man that the people of Israel were waiting for? Is he the man to take on the soldiers of Rome? Are you ready to follow him as he confronts the Jewish leaders? Are you ready to stand next to him as he faces off against Pilot? Will you be one of those followers that follow him to the Cross and watch as he gives up his life?

Come follow Jesus this Holy Week as we look at the *Killing of Jesus*, sponsored by AMEN Men's Ministry, Monday, March 30, through Thursday, April 2, 6:30-7:45 a.m. in East Hall.



## SPECIAL FRIENDS

Marge Schroeder, Ministry Leader

The Tim Tebow Foundation launched an initiative to create *Night to Shine* proms in up to 50 different cities across the country. On the night before Valentine's day, Ascension Lutheran Special Friends, guests at *Night to Shine* events at Brooklife Church in Mukwonago, were treated to a red carpet entrance and a limousine ride. The Tim Tebow Foundation provided flowers, professional photography, food, dancing, and games, and guests received a crown or tiara in a special ceremony.

The vision of *Night to Shine* is to provide an extraordinary prom night experience centered on God's love for people with special needs, ages 16 and older. The goal was to make every individual feel special and loved that night, as if they were the only ones there, and this was achieved, as evidenced by the smiles and laughter throughout the night. I hope we will be able to do this again next year.



## KNIT WITS

March activities include:  
Monday, March 2, 1-3:30 p.m. - Meeting at Ascension.  
Monday, March 9, 12:30-3:30 p.m. - Lunch & Knit, at Culver's, 2600 N Grandview Blvd.  
Monday, March 16, 6:30-8:30 p.m. - Meeting at Ascension  
Saturday, March 2 - Knit Fest at Ascension

All women interested in knitting, crocheting, or looming hats for charity are welcome to join us. Supplies are provided for charity projects. Donations of clean, unused yarns are always appreciated. For more info, contact Maddie Goetter, at 262-527-4013.



## YOUNG AT HEART

We will be having our potluck luncheon on Wednesday, March 18, from 12-3 p.m., in East Hall. If you are over 55 and would like to join us, please do! Please try us! We have a great buffet lunch and fellowship. Sometimes we have entertainment, and other times we just visit and play cards or board games. You do not have to join anything. It is very casual! Come when you can and leave when you must. One guarantee – God is with us! If you have questions, contact Celeste Defenbaugh, 262-370-4522.

## A TASTE OF THE DANIEL PLAN

Steve and Carol Spieker, Daniel Plan Team Members



When it is time to think about what's for dinner or what to pack for your lunch, how do you come up with a decision? Do you smack your lips together and imagine what you're hungry for? Do you go through the imaginary check list in your head trying to discern what you haven't had for a while? Or do you think, *What could heal my body?* You may ask, *What could heal my body?* While few realize this, it is true there are many foods that can actually heal your body. It is sad, but true. All of our bodies need healing due to what we as Americans knowingly and unknowingly put into our bodies each day. Whether or not you choose to acknowledge it, our bodies have become toxic waste dumps as illustrated by rampant chronic illnesses, obesity, and autoimmune diseases that plague our population.

How many times have you heard someone say, *I am obese, I have diabetes, I have high cholesterol...* or whatever... *because it's in my genes.* Today's science tells us that is pretty much hogwash. The groundbreaking science of nutrigenomics explains that molecules in our food do much more than provide fuel for our bodies. Rather, they provide instructions that constantly tell every cell in our body what to do. More than 95% of chronic illness is related to what our genes are exposed to. The bad news is that you can no longer blame your parents for your ill health. The good news is you are in control of improving your own health!

The Daniel Plan shares some simple ideas for food choices that can get you on the road to improved health. These are foods that were put on this earth by the *Big G.* (That's God not General Mills!) Plant based foods are filled with phyto-nutrients which work hard to reduce inflammation (disease), rid our bodies of toxins, improve the way our bodies metabolize food, optimize our immune system and keep our bodies from prematurely aging. Cruciferous vegetables such as broccoli, cabbage, and kale, just to name a few, are great detoxifiers. Green tea, garlic, and even unsweetened cacao powder are also known for their superior detoxifying properties. Dark berries, orange and yellow vegetables, and leafy greens, such as kale and spinach are also rich in antioxidants. You can even help to balance your hormones with food like ground flax seeds, miso, and tempeh. All of this is essential for optimal health.

The scriptures teach us how to live and love fully. Isn't it funny how so many of us skip over the parts that instruct us to honor the vessel of the Holy Spirit (a.k.a. our body)? The Daniel Plan takes all the guesswork out of that and lays out easy to understand principles that help us to honor God with our bodies. Honoring our bodies is not only an act of worship, but fills us with energy and vitality so we can serve one another. Isn't it time for you to take part in The Daniel Plan?

### APPLE POMEGRANATE SALAD (loaded with natural antioxidants)

#### Salad Ingredients

- 2 Diced Organic Fuji Apples
- 1/2 Cup Pomegranate Arils
- 1 Head Organic Chard

#### Dressing Ingredients

- 1 Cup Olive Oil- Extra Virgin Cold Pressed
- 1/3 Cup Lemon Juice
- 1/2 Cup Fresh Basil
- 2 Tbsp Raw Honey
- 1 Pinch Sea Salt

#### Preparation:

Begin by blending all dressing ingredients until well combined. Toss in large mixing bowl with all salad ingredients. Be sure to slice the chard thin for best results. Serve slightly chilled. Optional: Add walnuts for additional nutritional benefit.





## OUR PARTNERSHIPS: CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Shirley Wehmeier, Mission Outreach Wing Leader*

Eleven Ascension members attended the Mardi Gras Celebration, a fundraiser for the ministries of our partner congregation Cross Lutheran, Milwaukee. It was a delightful evening of sharing friendship, building relationships, and raising money to support the many ministries of Cross. The relationship between Cross and Ascension has been a blessing for more than 35 years. Check out the Mission Outreach bulletin board for photos of the event. What do we have in store for the next 35+ years in our partnership?

### CROSS FOOD PANTRY

Our February Souper Bowl Challenge brought together several small groups who challenged each other to collect the most cans of soup. At publication, the final counts were not in but we know it has led to some good competition and friendly encouragement. If your group has not participated in a challenge, why not do so in March as we collect canned vegetables? Our goal is always to provide enough food for one week's worth of bags which is 200 cans. You can bring your cans to the West Hall donation center whether you collect on your own or as part of a small group. Thanks to all who so faithfully share.



## COMPANION SYNOD RELATIONSHIPS

*(Adapted from the [www.elca.org](http://www.elca.org))*

When companions engage one another in authentic relationships, everyone's lives are changed.

Companion synod relationships of the ELCA connect Lutheran churches throughout the world with ELCA synods and congregations. These relationships are concrete expressions of the communion and fellowship with the more than 140 Lutheran member churches of The Lutheran World Federation. Each of the 65 synods has at least one international church companion and many have additional relationships, resulting in more than 120 companion synod relationships. (Note: Greater Milwaukee Synod companion synods are Salvadoran Lutheran Church and Meru Diocese of Tanzania).

These relationships are rooted in "accompaniment," which promotes the values of mutuality, inclusivity, vulnerability, empowerment and sustainability. Through the program, companion churches and ELCA synods nurture and strengthen one another for life and ministry through prayer, study, communication, exchange of visitors, and sharing of resources.

We are a church that believes God is calling us into the world — together. Companion church relationships enrich and deepen our ministries by exposing us to global challenges and perspectives as we seek to work with one another to build up the body of Christ and the world.



## EL SALVADOR PARTNERSHIP

### MISSION TRIP TO EL SALVADOR

We have 12 people participating in the mission trip to El Salvador which is scheduled for Easter week. Edwin Aparicio has been working with our brothers and sisters in El Salvador to plan the week. It will be a time of building relationships, learning more about each other's cultures, and celebrating our partnerships. During this trip, delegates will see the progress of the Agroferreteria, the hardware store that we helped develop, and will meet the people at San Jorge, our new partner congregation.

## SUPPORT THE EL SALVADOR MISSION TRIP

### VIRTUAL MISSION TRIP

If you can't travel to El Salvador, there is still something you can do to be part of the trip. Each week there will be ways to learn more about El Salvador and our partnership so that the entire congregation can feel more connected to our partners. We also ask that you prayerfully consider a monetary donation to help offset the cost of the trip for the travelers who are going on our behalf. Here are ways you can be involved:

- Participate in the Virtual Mission activities
- Make a donation to assist the travelers as they represent our congregation
- Make a donation to assist our partners from San Jorge so they can be part of the trip activities
- Pray for the travelers and our brothers and sisters from El Salvador
- Plan a way that your small group or you personally can send something with the travelers

### DINNER AND A MOVIE

Join us for dinner and a showing of the film *Romero*, which depicts the ministry of Arch Bishop Oscar Romero during the civil war in El Salvador. Bishop Romero is on the path to sainthood within the Catholic Church because of his deep-rooted conviction to the faith. His ministry had a profound effect on people of all faiths and all of El Salvador. We will meet at 4:30 p.m. on March 15 at church to share a meal and watch the film together. The movie is not appropriate for young children, so please let us know if you need childcare when you RSVP. This is a step in helping Ascension learn more about the history of El Salvador. RSVP to Shirley Wehmeier, [pwehmeier@wi.rr.com](mailto:pwehmeier@wi.rr.com).

## TANZANIA PARTNERSHIP

### THE MT. MERU COFFEE PROJECT

The Mt. Meru Coffee Project (MMCP) provides funding for two important programs that benefit farmers: farmer training and fertilizers and pesticides.

**Farmer Training:** The MMCP encourages farmers to improve both the quality and quantity of the coffee they produce. Farmers are finally understanding that higher quality and higher yields mean more income for them.

Recently, 60 farmers attended a training conducted by the Tanzania Coffee Research Institute. As a result, farmers are working more intensively on their farms and are seriously considering uprooting old, non-productive coffee trees, and planting new, improved varieties. Those who attended the training are also training other farmers and setting up demonstration plots to show the benefits of improved fertilization and mulching.

*Dave Hammer, Ministry Leader*

### Inputs for Fertilizer and Pesticides:

Thanks to congregations participating in the MMCP, it has also been able to provide funding for micro loans (inputs) to farmers to purchase fertilizers and pesticides to improve the quality and quantity of their coffee production. To date, about 170 farmers have applied for and received inputs. Being able to purchase fertilizer and pesticides enables the farmers to implement the training that they have received.

What can you do to get involved? The ongoing purchase of Mt. Meru Coffee is the single most important way in which we can participate in this partnership. Mt. Meru Coffee can be purchased every Sunday and is available in: whole bean, drip and perk, in both regular and decaf; four flavors of regular and decaf Drip; and single cup servings.

Doing justice never tasted so good!







## ELCA GLOBAL LINKS

### STAY INFORMED. BE INSPIRED. GET INVOLVED

#### **Holy Land:** ELCA presiding bishop visits companion church

In mid-January, ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton led a delegation to the Holy Land. She met with political and religious leaders in the region and with members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land, an ELCA companion church. See [www.ELCA.org/News-and-Events/7721](http://www.ELCA.org/News-and-Events/7721).

#### **Africa:** ELCA response to Ebola totals \$275,000

With more aid planned the ELCA, working with partners including its companion churches in Liberia and Sierra Leone, has provided \$275,000 in aid for those affected by Ebola. The disease has had a “devastating impact” on the lives of many people, particularly women and children, said Vitaly Vorna, program director for Lutheran Disaster Response. See [www.ELCA.org/News-and-Events/7720](http://www.ELCA.org/News-and-Events/7720).

#### **Ukraine:** Humanitarian assistance helps thousands fleeing conflict

Working with ACT Alliance members Hungarian Interchurch Aid and the Russian Orthodox Church, Lutheran Disaster Response is providing food, water, blankets, diapers and hygiene kits to approximately 20,000 refugees and other people who have fled from the conflict in the Donetsk and Lugansk regions of Ukraine. See [www.ELCA.org/News-and-Events/blogs/ELCALutheranDisasterResponse/287](http://www.ELCA.org/News-and-Events/blogs/ELCALutheranDisasterResponse/287).

#### **Central America:** Aid helps work with unaccompanied child immigrants

The ELCA has provided nearly \$400,000 in humanitarian assistance to help support its partners who serve the thousands of unaccompanied minors coming to the United States from Central America. See [www.ELCA.org/News-and-Events/7719](http://www.ELCA.org/News-and-Events/7719).

#### **Madagascar:** Walking with others

For Madeline Thomas, a Young Adult in Global Mission serving in Madagascar, accompaniment – walking hand in hand with others – is not an abstract principle; it’s a real-life joy. See [www.ELCA.org/News-and-Events/blogs/HandInHand/477](http://www.ELCA.org/News-and-Events/blogs/HandInHand/477).

#### **Kenya:** Empowering women for success

Through a ministry of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Kenya, an ELCA companion church, educational seminars are helping women start small businesses and expand their roles in their communities, congregations and families. See [www.ELCA.org/News-and-Events/blogs/HandInHand/481](http://www.ELCA.org/News-and-Events/blogs/HandInHand/481).

#### **Christian unity week focuses on message of Samaritan woman at the well**

Members of the ELCA joined Christians worldwide Jan. 18-25 for the 2015 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. “More than ever, the cause of unity among Christians needs [the Samaritan woman’s] kind of courageous witness,” said the Rev. Donald McCoid, ELCA director for ecumenical and inter-religious relations. See [www.ELCA.org/News-and-Events/blogs/NewsBlog/71](http://www.ELCA.org/News-and-Events/blogs/NewsBlog/71).

#### **Preventing mosquito nets from being fishing nets**

The distribution of mosquito nets through the ELCA Malaria Campaign includes education on their proper use, which helps prevent them from being used as a tool to gather food rather than as a barrier to disease. See [www.ELCA.org/News-and-Events/blogs/ELCAMalariaCampaign/295](http://www.ELCA.org/News-and-Events/blogs/ELCAMalariaCampaign/295).

#### **South Africa:** Young Adults in Global Mission

Nine Young Adults in Global Mission are serving in a variety of urban and rural settings in Southern Africa. Learn more at [www.ELCA.org/Our-Work/Global-Church/Global-Mission/Young-Adults-in-Global-Mission/South-Africa](http://www.ELCA.org/Our-Work/Global-Church/Global-Mission/Young-Adults-in-Global-Mission/South-Africa). Support their work at <http://search.ELCA.org/Pages/OurWork/South-Africa.aspx>.

#### **Link to Global Links**

Help people to stay informed, be inspired and get involved. Link your website to the latest edition of Global Links at <http://download.ELCA.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/ELCA%20Global-Links%20Newsletter.pdf>.

## HUGS TO HONDURAS

*Bonnie Thiesenhusen, Trip Leader*

“Hmm...” (that’s my thinking sound). I look out the window and think, “hmm... I wonder when I will see green grass, flowers, and leaves on the trees.” It is the beginning of March and the days will pass quickly and the flowers and spring greens will appear and I will “hmm” about something else to look forward to, like another mission trip to Honduras over Thanksgiving. It is not too early to think about it! In fact, we need to start thinking now.

I am sure many of you have thought about taking a step in faith and go on a mission trip - a trip of a lifetime - a life changing trip. What would it be like to travel to Honduras and work with homeless children? I am also sure that if you have talked to the people who have gone they have encouraged you to also go! Consider making it a family experience.

At this time, I am gathering information from the Minnesota organization that coordinates our mission trips as to projected costs and possible itinerary. Please pray about it—think about it and let me know if you are considering taking a trip for the Lord. “Hmm...”



## IN OUR OWN BACKYARD

This part of Mission Outreach has two distinctive and important aspects:

First, Mission Outreach provides information and encourages volunteering and donations to our local community programs that provide for those most in need in our community. Many individuals and small groups have participated in volunteer efforts within the community. Mission Outreach members will help link you to the community needs. Mission Outreach can also be a resource to those in our congregation who may need to connect with community resources.

Secondly, Mission Outreach has made a commitment to truly do ministry in our neighborhood. We are discussing ways to do this in the most meaningful way. We welcome others to become part of the conversation as we move forward in this new outreach effort because this will take congregational commitment.



## SOPHIA TRAINING

What is SOPHIA? How can I get involved? There will be a training on March 7, 8 a.m. to noon. A light breakfast will be followed by information about SOPHIA and its many efforts. This training will be held at First Congregational/UCC Church 100 E Broadway, Waukesha. All are welcome.



## THANK YOU FROM SAINT A

On behalf of Saint A, I would like to thank you for your generous donation of 30 gift cards for the Saint A Toy Drive on December 19, 2014. Your contribution makes it possible for us to achieve our mission to advance foster care, education, and mental health services throughout Southeastern Wisconsin and beyond.

I would like to invite you to visit us at our main campus, 8901 W. Capitol Dr., to learn more about our agency. For more information, please visit our website at SaintA.org.

We look forward to your ongoing support, and thank you again for your contribution.

*Teri Zynicki - President and CEO*





SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
<b>1</b> 6am Mime Travel 7:30am Worship 9am Worship 9am Spanish Worship PR 9am Children's Church EH 10:45am Worship 10:45am Sunday School 6pm AA mtg WH 7pm AA closed mtg WH	<b>2</b> 9:45am AI Anon WH 1pm Knit Wits WH 2pm Prayer Grp PR 6pm Yoga/Tai Chi EH 6:30pm AMEN 107	<b>3</b> 6:30am AMEN 107 9:30am TGIT 107 9:30am Women's Bible Study HR 10am Private Grp PR 6pm Grief Share EH 6:30pm SOPHIA S 7pm Mutual Ministry PR	<b>4</b> 9am Young at Heart, Denny's 9:30am Cross Meal 9:30am Staff Mtg 10am Private Group PR 12:30pm Women's Nurture Grp PR 5:30pm Private Grp 106 6pm Soup Supper EH, WH 7pm Lenten Worship 7pm AA Wisdom WH 7:45pm Choir S	<b>5</b> 10am AI Anon WH 10am TGBG PR 5pm Angel Choir S 5:45pm Joyful Sounds S 6pm Quilting, Bissetts 6:30pm JOLT EH, YR, S, HR 7pm Ballantyne 107	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 9am 5th Grade Stepping Stone EH, WH 9am Handbells S
<b>8 DAYLIGHT SAVINGS</b> Blood Pressure Screening 6am Mime Travel 7:30am Worship 9am Worship 9am Spanish Worship PR 9am Children's Church EH 10am Puppets EH 10:45am Worship 10:45am Sunday School 6pm AA mtg WH 7pm AA closed mtg WH	<b>9</b> 9:45am AI Anon WH 12:30pm Knit Wits Lunch, Offsite 1pm Living Letters 106 6pm Yoga/Tai Chi EH 6:30pm AMEN 107	<b>10</b> 6:30am AMEN 107 9:30am TGIT 107 9:30am Women's Bible Study HR 10am Private Group PR 6pm Divorce Care HR 6pm Grief Share EH 6:30pm AMEN 106 7pm Holloway 107	<b>11</b> 10am Private Group PR 11:45am Men's Nurture Grp 106 5:30pm Private Grp 106 5:45pm Handbells S 6pm Soup Supper EH WH 7pm Wisdom Grp WH 7pm Lenten Worship 7:45pm Choir S 8pm Schmidt Grace Grp PR	<b>12</b> 10am AI Anon WH 5pm Angel Choir S 5:45pm Joyful Sounds S 6pm Quilting, Bissetts 7pm Ballantyne 107 7pm Care Ministries 106 7pm Mission Outreach PR	<b>13</b> 6pm CRASH	<b>14</b> 9am Jubilate S 10:30am Folk Choir S 10:30am Jubilate EH, WH 12:30pm Jubilate S
<b>15 NEWSLETTER DUE</b> 6am Mime Travel 7:30am Worship 9am Worship 9am Spanish Worship PR 10am Puppets Workshop EH 10:45am Worship 4:30pm Mission Outreach Dinner & Movie EH 6pm AA mtg WH 7pm AA closed mtg WH	<b>16</b> 9:45am AI Anon WH 2pm Prayer Grp PR 6:30pm AMEN 107 6:30pm Knit Wits WH	<b>17</b> 6:30am AMEN 107 9:30am TGIT 107 9:30am Women's Bible Study HR 10am Private Group PR 6pm Divorce Care HR 6pm Grief Share EH 7pm Council 107	<b>18</b> 9:30am Staff Mtg. 10am Private Group PR 12pm Young at Heart EH, K 12:30pm Women's Nurture Grp PR 5:30pm Private Grp 106 5:45pm Handbells S 6pm Soup Supper EH WH 7pm Lenten Worship 7pm Wisdom Grp WH 7:45pm Choir S	<b>19</b> 10am AI Anon WH 10am TGBG PR 5pm Angel Choir S 5:45pm Joyful Sounds S 6pm Quilting, Bissetts 6:30pm JOLT EH, YR, S, HR 7pm Ballantyne 107	<b>20</b> 12pm Private Event EH	<b>21</b> 9am Handbells S 9am Knit Fest WH
<b>22</b> 6am Mime Travel 7:30am Worship 9am Worship 9am Spanish Worship PR 9am Children's Church EH 10:45am Worship 10:45 Sunday School 12pm Social Sec. Seminar EH 6pm AA mtg WH 6pm CRASH EH, S, YR 7pm AA closed mtg WH	<b>23</b> 9:45am AI Anon WH 6:30pm AMEN 107	<b>24</b> 6:30am AMEN 107 9:30am TGIT 107 9:30am Women's Bible Study HR 10am Private Group PR 6pm Divorce Care HR 6pm Grief Share EH 7pm Holloway 107	<b>25</b> 10am Private Group PR 12:30pm Smart Driving 106 5:30pm Private Grp 106 6pm Soup Supper EH WH 6pm Handbells S 7pm Lenten Worship 7pm Wisdom Grp WH 7:45pm Choir S 8pm Schmidt Grace Grp PR	<b>26</b> 10am AI Anon WH 5pm Angel Choir S 5:45pm Joyful Sounds S 6pm Quilting, Bissetts 6:30pm JOLT EH, YR, S, HR 7pm Ballantyne 107	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 9am Choir S
<b>29 PALM SUNDAY FIRST COMMUNION</b> 7:30am Mime Travel 7:30am Worship 9am Worship 9am Spanish Worship PR 9am Children's Church EH 10:45am Worship 10:45 Sunday School 12pm Celebration Band S 6pm AA mtg WH 7pm AA closed mtg WH	<b>30</b> 6:30am AMEN EH 9:45am AI Anon WH	<b>31</b> 6:30am AMEN EH 9:30am Women's Bible Study HR 10am Private Group PR 6pm Divorce Care HR 6pm Grief Share EH 7pm Holloway 107		<b>Room Key</b> EH = East Hall HR = Hearth Room K = Kitchen N = Narthex PL = Parking Lot PR = Prayer Room S = Sanctuary WH = West Hall YR = Youth Room		