

*Ascension*  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
ELCA  
November 2016

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## JOYFUL WORSHIP



## 500th Anniversary Celebrations of the Reformation

Area music ministers are planning two exciting events to mark the 500th anniversary of the Reformation in 2017. The first is a joint performance of Theodore Dubois' *Seven Last Words of Christ* on Sunday, March 5, 2017 as we begin our Lenten journey. This beautiful and moving work will be presented by area church choirs, including Ascension, St. John's Lutheran, Church of the Resurrection, and St. Luke's, the Carroll University Chamber Singers, with area soloists and orchestra. The joint performance will be under the direction of Dr. Mark Aamot, Professor Emeritus, Carroll University, and will take place in Shattuck Auditorium on the Carroll University campus. The second event is a hymn festival planned for October 2017, with more details to follow. We look forward with joy to the opportunity to collaborate with our neighbors and offer these two events to the greater community.

## Coming in December!

Advent/Christmas Concert Worship, December 10 & 11  
Children's Christmas Program, December 18

## Pastoral Acts

### Baptized

Adelyn Hamm, October 9  
Grace Lytle, October 16

### Married

Jill & Mark Otto, October 1

## Pastor Becky Fetter's Installation

By the grace of God, the Rev. Rebecka J. Feters is called as the pastor of Christ the Victor Lutheran Church. She will be installed at a service of Holy Communion on Sunday, Nov. 6, at 2 p.m., at Christ the Victor, 15700 W. Coffee Rd., New Berlin. The Rev. Kristin Nielsen, Assistant to the Bishop, Director of Rostered Leadership of the Greater Milwaukee Synod will preside. The Rev. Kerstin Hedlund will preach. Your prayers and presence are requested. A reception at the church will immediately follow the service.



Cross Partnership Sunday



JOLT acolytes

## Autumn Rituals

**D**ear People of God,  
Already the winds of autumn have brought us to the gates of November. How quickly the days of summer have given way to falling leaves and crisp morning breezes. **November 6** will gather us to the celebration of All Saints Sunday. We will once again read the names of those connected to our community who died during the past year and light candles in remembrance of all who have gone before us and now rest from their labors. This year we will give thanks for:

Fabricio Aparicio  
Lorraine Birner  
Judy Ewell  
Andrew Frey

John Gresl  
Susan Krist  
Elmer Norris  
Barbara Wendorf



We live within the communion of saints. We trust the promise of God that the power of the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ holds true for each of us - as it has for the generations that have come before us and as it will for the countless generations that will come after us. Often times in our world, we find the power of God's promises overshadowed by the darkness of the cross in our lives. Where Easter joy should reign over us, we find ourselves overwhelmed with pain, death, and grief. All Saints Day gathers us with the whole communion of saints in heaven and on earth.

In Celtic Christian spirituality, the place where heaven and earth meet—the moments where God enters into our world—are called “thin places.” This is an idea that suggests a thinning of the veil between life and death, between human and divine, between ordinary and miraculous. For most of us, these places are what we crave for in our lives of faith. “Give me a sign, Lord.” Ever heard yourself speaking those words? I have. Usually in the most despairing moments—the moments when no answer seems best—is when I hear myself telling God to get on with it. Tell me which way so I can move on, step up, go forward, put something behind me. Once in awhile, I really feel that God nudges in one direction or another. Most of the time, I pray and I hope and I cross my fingers—not the sign of the cross mind you, just that hopeful kind of lucky wish and jump. Sometimes God blesses and other times God somehow puts me back at the beginning and lets me start over. The path is not always easy but I hold on to hope and I trust that God is there in the midst.

**November 13** will call us to gather for the annual meeting of the congregation. In our church governance, it is the congregation that approves a yearly budget, elects new church council members, and approves a slate of candidates to attend our regional assembly of congregations next June. The meeting will begin at noon and will be a potluck. We invite you to join us to hear about Ascension and the mission and ministry of the congregation as well the continued work on Ascension Arise, our 2025 Vision. On

**November 6**, in-between services at 9:45, you will have the opportunity to review the 2017 budget and ask questions in a smaller setting before the annual meeting the following week. Our community continues to renew itself as God guides and shapes the ministries entrusted to us in this time and place. I give thanks to God for the power and presence of God and God's people as we walk together to the glory of God.

*Rev. Christian Marien*

### Important Dates

Sunday	Nov. 6	All Saints Day
Sunday	Nov. 13	Annual Meeting



## SPIRITUAL GROWTH



### CRASH Lock-In

**J**oin your CRASH friends for an awesome over-night with our friends from Christ the Servant's youth group Friday, Nov. 11–Saturday, Nov. 12. Games, worship, midnight bowling, food, and more; \$20 per participant

Drop off and pick up are both at Christ the Servant. Drop-off at 7 p.m. on Friday. Pick up at 6 a.m., on Saturday. Participants are asked to bring snacks and drinks to share or for themselves. No energy drinks.

Pillows, blankets, PJs, movies, games, etc. are what most people bring.

### CRASH Fall Retreat

All students in grades 9-12 are invited to Ascension's CRASH Fall Retreat, Nov. 18-20. We will be staying in a multi-level, multi-room house in Jacksonport, WI (approximately 3 hrs. away, near Sturgeon Bay). Our beautiful retreat home is located right on the shore of Lake Michigan.

The retreat is a weekend to recharge physically, mentally, and spiritually. The cost is \$125/person, which includes: transportation, lodging, and all meals; however, we are asking each student to bring a snack to share - chips, cookies, granola bars, beef jerky, etc. If you have not paid your non-refundable \$50 deposit, please do so along with your final payment of \$75 by Nov. 1.

We depart Ascension on Friday, Nov. 18, between 5-5:30 p.m. Please arrive at Ascension between 4:30- 4:45 p.m. Eat dinner before you arrive! We will return to Ascension on Sunday afternoon approximately 5 p.m.

Students need to bring a pillow and blanket/sleeping bag, toiletries, towel, and appropriate clothing (we will be outdoors at times). Cell phones and other electronics will be allowed with limited use. Participants/parents will receive an email with a final packing list and other details on Sunday, Nov. 13. Contact Tony 262-547-8518, [tony@ascensionelca.org](mailto:tony@ascensionelca.org), with questions.



### CRASH SCHEDULE

<b>Youth Group</b>	Sunday, Nov. 6 : 6-8 p.m.
<b>Lock-In (@CTS)</b>	Friday-Saturday, Nov. 11–12: 7 p.m.–6 a.m.
<b>Fall Retreat</b>	Friday-Sunday, Nov. 18–20
<b>College Care</b>	Sunday, Nov. 20, 12 p.m.

## Christmas Float: Follow the Star to Bethlehem

Once again, Puppets of Praise is creating a float for the Waukesha Christmas parade on Nov. 20, and we could use help!

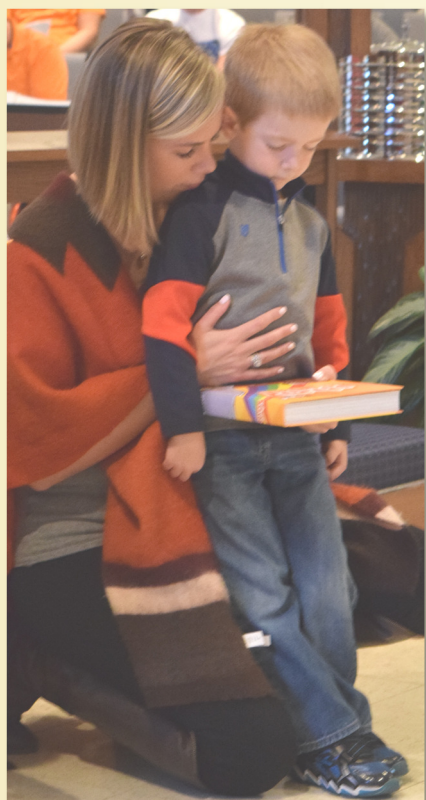
If you have a tow vehicle, extra Halloween candy, or are willing to walk the parade and hand out candy, let us know! We also love seeing people from Ascension on the parade route and will join Special Friends for hot chocolate and warm food afterwards. For any questions, please contact Cheryl Anspach at [puppetsofascension@gmail.com](mailto:puppetsofascension@gmail.com).



## JOLT

In November, we gather for our normal large and small group times. On Nov. 17 JOLT will receive their Advent project.

Nov. 3	No JOLT
Nov. 10	6:30-8 p.m.
Nov. 17	6:30-8 p.m.
Nov. 24	No JOLT



## BLAST

In November, we begin rehearsal for the Christmas Program. Information about the Christmas program, (including music sheets) will be sent home through email and class handouts.

Nov. 6	Christmas Program Rehearsal The Sadducees' Question (Luke 20:27-38)
Nov. 13	Christmas Program Rehearsal God's Love Is Forever (Luke 21:5-19)
Nov. 20	Christ the King / Christmas Program Rehearsal The Day Jesus Died (Luke 23:33-43)
Nov. 27	Christmas Program Rehearsal Large Group Gathering / No Classroom

## Thrivent Voting

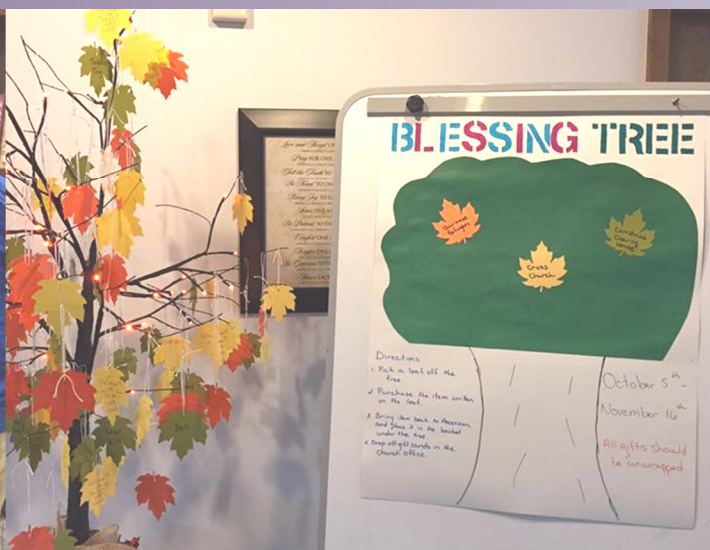
The 2016 Thrivent Board of Directors voting is taking place now until Nov. 25. Go to [Thrivent.com](http://Thrivent.com) and vote online.

Remember you can make a difference in our ministries by applying to lead a Thrivent Action Team. You will receive a \$250 Visa gift card, t-shirts, and marketing materials. So think of something you have a passion for and get a group together to sponsor a team. Last month, in the newsletter, there was an extensive explanation of how you can make a difference. If you have any questions, please talk to me at church or call me at 262-544-5619.

*Donna Savin*, Thrivent Advocate



# CARING RELATIONSHIPS



## YOGA RETURNS

Care Ministries will be hosting another six week session of yoga, which runs Monday, Nov. 7-Dec. 12, from 6-7 p.m., in East Hall. YMCA Instructor Martha will be joining us, and we can provide some mats for attendees who do not have one. The cost is \$12 for the entire six weeks (\$2/class). Bring your fee, mat, and water bottle on Nov. 7 and let's get in shape and reduce our holiday stress!

## Blood Pressure Screenings

Look for the table in the Hearth Room between services on Nov. 6, Dec. 4, Jan. 15, Feb. 19, March 5, April 23, and May 7. If you are a healthcare professional and are interested in helping, please contact Brenda Lytle, [brenda@ascensionelca.org](mailto:brenda@ascensionelca.org).

The biblical word for church is “assembly,” which means the church includes everyone. Therefore, when we ask for help from our church families, we ask everyone. If everyone took a little time out of their busy schedules to volunteer to help someone at Ascension, we would not have any needs. Perhaps you have an hour or two on a Tuesday afternoon. We may have a member that would appreciate help with a small errand to the pharmacy or doctor. Perhaps you don't have any plans this weekend; then maybe you could prepare a meal for a post-hospitalized member. Let's say that the only time you have available during the week is before worship. Could you drive a homebound member to church with you?

In January 2017, Care Ministries plans on recruiting members through Sign Up Genius for helping others with needs in our congregation. You can sign up for a little or a lot of time at a table in the narthex between and after worship. By being a part of this sign up process, you have control of it.

Let's come together as a church! Ascension Care Ministries is blessed with many quality programs and ministries that help others. We have ministries that provide meals for those in need, visits, prayers, and comfort to the sick and homebound, and we touch the hearts of many. For more information, contact Brenda Lytle, [brenda@ascensionelca.org](mailto:brenda@ascensionelca.org).

*Brenda Lytle*, Director of Care Ministries

## Changes for SOS Ascension Angels in 2017

All of us do get involved when we hear of a particular need from one of our brothers or sisters. We all are SOS Angels, whether you have officially signed up or not. Think back on your past year, and I am sure each of you can come up with examples of how you were involved with a specific need of our Ascension family. We are in the early stages of developing a new format that will alert every member of our church to a request for help, and it is our hope that every member will use this new tool to be an angel to one of our own. We hope the coming New Year will bring a renewed energy and interest in being involved in our church's many different ministries, not only SOS Angels.

Have a Blessed Thanksgiving Holiday with your loved ones!

*Nada Draeger*

## Forget Me Not: Ed Haker

**E**d Haker enjoys good conversation and loves his family and God. He finds joy in serving others, and, these days, he says it's about the small things you can do for someone like hold the door open, smile, and just be friendly!

Ed grew up in Milwaukee around 46th and Hadley. When he was 10-years-old, he had rheumatic fever and spent six months in bed. During that time, his parents bought him a book about boats and thus began Eddie's love for boats. At about age 10½, Eddie designed and built his first boat; it had a wood frame and was covered in muslin. He made it water tight by covering it with salt water and then he painted it. It even had an outboard motor! Over the years, Eddie designed and built 50-100 boats for many people. He remembers fondly building one in Nancy's Grandpa Jung's basement and one in his aunt's extra bedroom. Eddie also took part in a boat race on Lake Winnebago. It started in Neenah; the halfway point was in Fremont on the Wolf River; and then back for a total of 92 miles. The boat was 10 feet long and went 35 miles per hour. Eddie drove that boat on his knees, and during the race, he had a steering problem, but he was able to repair it and finish. He proudly displays a picture Nancy took at the end of the race. Eddie said that part of his life went very quickly!

Eddie was 16 when he started delivering ice cream for Luick Seal Test around Milwaukee. It was during WWII and one day, his employer came to Eddie and needed him to drive the semi delivering ice cream to Green Bay, Madison, and the Great Lakes Naval Base. So at 16, Eddie became a semi-truck driver.

Eddie graduated from Washington High School in Milwaukee and went on to graduate from Marquette. Eddie's cousin Joan set him up on a blind date with a girl she worked with and so began his life with Nancy. They were married on April 11, 1953.

Eddie had different jobs but in the early 1950's his uncle offered him a job building homes. It didn't take Eddie long to know that designing homes and helping people get the home they wanted was his passion. He designed and built homes for his family and made a career of designing and building homes for others. When he wasn't doing that, he was working as a mechanical engineer consultant. He enjoyed working with people one-on-one.

Ed and Nancy were blessed with three daughters: Vicki, Karen, and Lori. When Lori was ten and a half, she became very sick with the chicken pox, and on April 1, 1971, Lori died.

Nancy and Ed turned their grief into the Lori Jean Haker Memorial Fund, which continues to support professorships for infectious disease research through Children's Hospital to this day.

Ed and Nancy were long time members of Sherman Park Lutheran Church, where Ed held all of the church offices and served on various committees. One of his favorites was supervising the addition at the church.

Here at Ascension, Ed is a member of the Monday night AMEN Ministry group and filled the altar candles for many years. He said he enjoyed the quiet of the sanctuary as he filled the candles. Over the years, you may have seen Ed and Nancy in the summer months caring for the outdoor plants as they watered and pulled weeds.

Over the past few years, Ed has written his life story, about 12-13 chapters, for his family to enjoy one day. What a gift he has given to his family! These days, Ed and Nancy enjoy their six grandchildren and six great grandchildren. "I see how the Lord has taken me by the hand and guided me all these years," Ed states, showing his faith and trust - a lesson we can all learn from.



*Ed and Nancy Haker*

## Line Dancing Success

Twenty-five people kicked up their heels for some fun aerobic dancing on Monday nights this fall. The music was current and upbeat, and the routines were well-instructed. Thanks to Ascension's own Linda Elder for her time, choreography, and instruction. Watch for classes this spring.

I am so thankful to the wonderful ladies who joined me during the 5-week session of the *Life Line Exercise Class* in which we exercised through line dancing and low to mid-level aerobics. We began each session with a Scripture reading regarding dance. We praised God through dance to several contemporary Christian songs, each having a special message. Because of our participants, we raised over \$250 for our Care Ministries projects.

From Ecclesiastes 3:4 - *A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to **dance**.*

In Praise to God! — *Linda Elder*



# CARING RELATIONSHIPS

## Knit Wits

As the weather cools down, the Knit Wits warm up making hats for the Christmas Clearing Council, Cross Lutheran Church, the Salvation Army, Hope Center, and our other charities. Hat donations are always welcome! Our 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Hat Blessing will take place on Sunday, Nov. 13, at both services. The pastors will bless all the hats the Knit Wits have made since March. Then we'll start delivering our hats to the community.

We also continue to make lapghans (lap afghans) for VA patients and baby items for the USO. If you like to knit or crochet, but don't have time to join us, feel free to make a hat or lapghan and give it to Maddie Goetter or another Knit Wit.

### Upcoming Knit Wit Activities

- \* Thursday, Nov. 3, 11:30 a.m.- 3 p.m. - Lunch & Knit
- \* Saturday, Nov. 12, 9 a.m.- 4 p.m. - Knit Fest, at Ascension
- \* Sunday Nov. 13, 8:30 and 10:45 worship services – 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Blessing of Hats
- \* Monday, Nov. 28, noon-3 p.m. - Lunch meeting at Ascension, BYO lunch
- \* Thursday, Dec. 1, 11:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Lunch & Knit



Susan Otto and Diane Pavetich,  
two of Ascension's Knit Wits

## A Taste of The Daniel Plan

**E**xcuse us for repeating ourselves but this is worth repeating! We all have cancer! Knowing this is one of the reasons we are so passionate about teaching people about living a healthy lifestyle. Very few people realize they have cancer cells floating around in their bodies. Like most, they imagine they “catch” cancer much like you catch a cold or perhaps it’s in their genes and it is just a matter of time until they get the dreaded diagnosis.

In the same way, very few people realize there is much they can do to prevent cancer. The reality is God made our bodies to be well-oiled machines. Quite simply - our bodies are amazing! When God created us, He equipped us with a high tech immune system capable of battling injuries, infections, even cancer to restore our health. The problem is our modern lifestyle has overwhelmed our immune systems. The situation is much like a Volkswagen trying to pull a fully loaded semi-trailer uphill; it simply was not designed to do that. Most people are throwing so much toxic waste at their immune system in the form of processed foods, toxic chemicals, and other things, the body simply can't do what it is designed to do, which is fight disease.

We have attended a number of workshops on the subject of cancer where we have gotten to see microscopic views of the human immune system at work. Your immune system goes after “bad” cells. Cancer cells have a different shape than normal, healthy cells. When your immune system is not overworked with clearing out a barrage of toxicity, it will seek out cancer cells. When the immune system locates a cancer cell, it literally sucks it out of existence, as if it were a vacuum cleaner hose sucking up a bug. It is hard to fathom God planned all that.

It's easy to ignore the fact you have cancer cells floating around in your body. Left unchecked, the number of active cancer cells will double every 90 days. Doesn't sound like a big deal? The chart contained in this article illustrates in numbers exactly what it means to have cancer cells “double.” More alarming is knowing a mammogram will not detect cancer until the cells have been left to double for TEN YEARS!

We lost a friend to cancer this summer. We were just informed of another friend diagnosed with cancer that is living out his final days, and tomorrow, we will be attending the funeral of someone that died solely because of his lifestyle. All of these folks were “our age.” We think that is unacceptable and is why we encourage you to look into The Daniel Plan. The study is a blueprint of God's plan for you to live out a healthy and purposeful life of service to Him.

To start your journey to health, go to [www.danielplan.com](http://www.danielplan.com) or <http://danielplan.com/healthyhabits/chili-lime-chicken/> to check out our suggested recipe for this month.

*Steve & Carol Spieker*

Time Period	Number of cancer cells
90 days	2
1 year	16
2 years	256
3 years	4,896
4 years	65,536
5 years	1,048,576
6 years	16,777,216
7 years	268,435,456
8 years	4,294,967,296

*This column is for educational purposes only. It is not a substitute for, nor does it replace, professional medical advice, diagnosis, or treatment of health conditions. Please consult your physician or other healthcare professional before beginning or changing any health program to ensure it is appropriate for you.*



## Special Friends

In October, Special Friends attended the Trick or Treat Spooktacular at the Milwaukee County Zoo. This annual event is always fun, and the zoo goes above and beyond in making everyone feel welcomed!

The acronym PURE from the Pure Ministries (special needs ministry in Georgia) is a fabulous description of all our special friends. PURE stands for:

(P)erfectly created by a loving sovereign God, designed for His purposes;  
(U)nique in his or her own gifts, blessings, talents, desires, and contributions;  
(R)eceptive and responsive to our communication, touch, and acts of love;  
(E)ternal: there are no disabled souls.

This month, I will discuss Down syndrome. According to the National Down Syndrome Society, one in every 691 babies in the U.S. is born with Down syndrome, making Down syndrome the most common genetic condition. Approximately 400,000 Americans have Down syndrome and about 6,000 babies with Down syndrome are born each year. All people with Down syndrome have feelings, thoughts, interests, and know what they want from life. Most people, with support, lead interesting, independent, and fulfilling adult lives.

Down syndrome occurs when an individual has a full or partial, extra copy of chromosome 21. This additional genetic material alters the course of development and causes the characteristics associated with Down syndrome. A few of the common physical traits of Down syndrome are low muscle tone, small stature, an upward slant to the eyes, and a single deep crease across the center of the palm. Although, it is important to remember that each person with Down syndrome is a unique individual and may possess these characteristics to different degrees or not at all.



### Down Syndrome facts

- \* Life expectancy for people with Down syndrome has increased dramatically in recent decades – from 25 in 1983 to 60 today.
- \* The incidence of births of children with Down syndrome increases with the age of the mother; however, due to higher fertility rates in younger women, 80% of children with Down syndrome are born to women under 35 years of age.
- \* People with Down syndrome attend school, work, participate in decisions that affect them, have meaningful relationships, vote, and contribute to society in many wonderful ways.
- \* All people with Down syndrome experience cognitive delays, but the effect is usually mild to moderate and is not indicative of the many strengths and talents that each individual possesses.
- \* Quality educational programs, a stimulating home environment, good health care, and positive support from family, friends, and the community enable people with Down syndrome to lead fulfilling and productive lives.

“Many people reduce people with disabilities and diseases to their diagnosis without seeing the fullness of their common humanity,” according to Amy Julia Becker in *Christianity Today*. God does not, however, for 1 Samuel 16:7 says, “The Lord does not look at the things man looks at. Man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.” May we all be blessed to see each other as God sees us.

If you have any questions and/or suggestions for our ministry, please contact Marge Schroeder at 262-695-2384. Everyone is invited to join us at our events. ~ *Marge Schroeder*

## Young at Heart

We meet for breakfast at Denny's on Grandview Blvd. on Wednesday, Nov. 2, at 9 a.m. Come and join the group for food and socializing. Our potluck luncheon is Wednesday, Nov. 16, from noon-3 p.m. We will enjoy lunch and then socialize or play Sheepshead or Sequence. No need to register, just show up. If you are able, bring a dish to pass. We meet in Ascension's East Hall. If you have questions, contact Celeste Defenbaugh at 262-370-4522, Beth Hoffmann at 262-542-7447, or Arlene Davis at 262-542-9119.

# CARING RELATIONSHIPS

## Ascension's College Students Need You!

With the Christmas holiday and final exams right around the corner, this is a great time to show our college kids that Ascension is thinking about them. We want to send care packages to remind them that we love them; therefore, we are collecting donations until **Nov. 18**, so we can send the packages just in time for finals. We will be assembling the care packages on **Sunday, Nov. 20, at noon**.

Do you have a child in college? Please fill out the form at [ascensionelca.org/events/collegecare](http://ascensionelca.org/events/collegecare). You can also contact Becky Klotz, [becky.klotz23@yahoo.com](mailto:becky.klotz23@yahoo.com) or 414-750-7866. For your child to receive a care package, please plan on participating in some way – either help assemble packages and/or donate items or money for postage.

## Items Needed

(Please place items in the bin in the narthex)

- ♦ **Homemade** cookies and treats are always a favorite (please no nuts)
- ♦ Package(s) of fun-sized candy, cookies, crackers or snacks
- ♦ Subway, Starbucks or iTunes gift cards
- ♦ Gum/mints
- ♦ Coffee, tea, or hot chocolate packets
- ♦ Stain remover or laundry detergent “pods”
- ♦ Lip balm, toothpaste/toothbrush or lotion
- ♦ Pens, Sharpies, highlighters or Post-its
- ♦ Razors and shaving cream
- ♦ Silly toys like slinkys, silly putty, playing cards, Rubik's cubes or silly string

A card and a devotional will also be included in each package.

Don't have time to shop? Consider donating money to help with postage or for us to purchase items on your behalf. Checks can be made payable to Ascension Lutheran Church with *College Care* on the memo line.

## Thank You from Gigi

Thank you to the many people of Ascension who supported and helped me following my husband John's death. It meant so much to me.

In gratitude,

*Gigi Gresl*

## Thank You from the ELCA

Thank you for your generous gift of \$1,400 to the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) for the ministry of Randal and Carol Stubbs. Your generosity shows your commitment to walking newness alongside our brothers and sisters in Christ around the world.

Because of your support to ELCA Global Church Sponsorship, together we are able to:

- Send more than 150 Missionaries and over 85 Young Adults in Global Mission to serve in more than 45 countries around the world.
- Provide scholarships to International Women Leaders responding to God's call to ministry, either in their home country, neighboring countries, or ELCA colleges or universities in the U.S.
- Accompany our companions around the world by responding to their priorities through investing in evangelism, education, church expansion and other important Global Ministry projects.

For more information on how your gift is impacting God's work throughout the world, visit [ELCA.org/globalchurch](http://ELCA.org/globalchurch), or contact me directly at [Andrew.steele@elca.org](mailto:Andrew.steele@elca.org) or 773-380-2758. Again, thank you for your incredible generosity!

Peace,

*Andrew C. Steele*, Director, ELCA Global Church Sponsorship



## COMMUNICATIONS AND CALENDAR DEADLINES

**W**ith the beginning of a new cycle of ministry, I would like to remind church and ministry leaders about the communications and calendar guidelines/deadlines that we've established over the past couple of years for Ascension. The goal is to have material that is fresh and interesting for readers so that your message gets through and your activities are well-publicized.

**E-alert and bulletin announcements** – For a short news brief (two to three lines) about an upcoming event. Events will be run two weeks prior to the event, unless there is something related to the event that will take place sooner, i.e. event registration. If that is the case, please re-write and re-submit periodically to keep things interesting. E-alert announcements can link to our website for expanded content. The deadline for both e-alert and bulletin announcements is noon on Tuesday. Please email your items to me, [admin@ascensionelca.org](mailto:admin@ascensionelca.org).

**Newsletter** – For articles about your group's activities, purpose, and ministry. Deadline is the 15th of the month prior. Please focus on activities only in the next month to keep material new and engaging for readers. Please do not submit the same article for repeated months; make revisions and make it appealing for people. No pre-printed or full-page flyers are permitted due to space constraints. Please consider attaching a photo (not clipart) with your article as a jpg. or png. file. Email newsletter items to Kate Mattson, [kate@ascensionelca.org](mailto:kate@ascensionelca.org).

**Website** – If you have information on the website ([www.ascensionelca.org](http://www.ascensionelca.org)) that needs to be updated (and we recommend that you update information at least yearly!), please send the changes to Kate Mattson, [kate@ascensionelca.org](mailto:kate@ascensionelca.org). If you have a new ministry or mission page you would like on our website, please review it with your wing leader and then submit it to Kate.

**Social media** – Ascension has a Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/ascensionlutheran/](http://www.facebook.com/ascensionlutheran/)) and we'd love to have a photo of your event and a small brief to announce it. Please follow our page and share with your friends. We occasionally post announcements to Facebook. If you have something we should share, please email it to [admin@ascensionelca.org](mailto:admin@ascensionelca.org) or post it on our Facebook page.

**Media screen in the narthex** – We use information from the calendar, newsletter, e-alert, or bulletin to create these eye-catching displays. We will be replacing the broken screen soon.

**Narthex displays/tables** - Please know we are limited in the amount of narthex space we can use. Stand-alone displays (tripods) in the narthex are generally discouraged; with space constraints and potential impediment to traffic flow, there's a chance your display may not be seen. Reservations are required for table use. Please contact me to schedule or with questions, [admin@ascensionelca.org](mailto:admin@ascensionelca.org).

**Calendar reservations** – Please contact me to reserve meeting space, preferably by the Tuesday to the week prior so it can be printed in the bulletin calendar.

Many blessings on your ministries!

*Amy Gilgenbach*  
Director of Administration



## MISSION OUTREACH



*Iva Richards and a resident of Hearts with Haiti, a home for disabled people in Jacmel.*

### Hurricane Matthew

Please pray for our friends in Haiti who have once again been devastated by a natural disaster, this time Hurricane Matthew. We pray especially for Hearts with Haiti, which operates a home for physically and mentally disabled people in Jacmel, a coastal town that was hit hard. Hearts with Haiti is not a project of Ventures in People, which several members support, but it is a good friend and does excellent work. Everyone in the Jacmel house is safe, mostly because it is new cement block construction, as is the coffee processing shop that they operate. Much of the rest of the town is flattened. If you want to help, send a monetary donation to VIP, PO Box 1062, West Bend, WI, 53095. 100% of your donation will go to the people who need it because we are all volunteers. One of the local volunteers, Karen Hintz, will be going to Haiti in November and she will take the funds with her. Please check out the websites VIP Haiti and Hearts with Haiti for more information. Donations to help the victims of Hurricane Matthew may also be made through ELCA disaster relief on line at [community.elca.org/donations/hurricane-matthew](http://community.elca.org/donations/hurricane-matthew).

Thank you,  
*Iva Richards*

### Meru School Project

**T**hank you to everyone who donated to help send the children from our Tanzanian partnership congregations to school. Your money will ensure that the children will be able to attend school and have the books and uniforms they need. Things we take for granted in the US are a wonderful blessing to those who have so little.

We also thank Thrivent for their financial assistance in providing the sample Tanzanian breakfast and in sponsoring three children. As we learn more about our brothers and sisters in the Meru Diocese, we continue to find ways to share in their ministries.

Thank you to all of you who donated to the Fill the School House Project for the students in our partnership congregation in the Meru Diocese of Tanzania. Our original goal was 50 students. When we decided to extend the project to the end of the small group study, we raised our goal to 75 students. The final collection is enough to support 89 students by raising funds for maize and beans tuition, books and uniforms for them. Praise God for your generosity!

### Meru Coffee Project

During the past weeks, we had a chance to share flavored coffees from the Mt. Meru Coffee Project and received a very positive response. As you plan your holiday entertaining or your Christmas gifts, please consider purchasing one of the coffees you enjoyed. K-cups are also available. Stop at the coffee cart on Sunday mornings to enjoy a cup and then purchase a bag or two for home or for the upcoming holidays. If we don't have what you want in stock, please let us know it will be available by the following week.

### Hope Center

The 18th Annual HOPE Thanksgiving Dinner and Auction is Nov. 17 with cocktails and silent auction at 5 p.m. Dinner and live auction begin at 7 p.m. at Country Springs Hotel, Pewaukee. This gala dinner event will include raffles, games, and a time to share in fellowship. The cost is \$85/person. Please contact Pr. Ted Romberg if you are able to attend so we can fill a couple Ascension tables. If you can't attend the event, please consider donating a basket for the silent auction. Small groups can work together to plan and provide a themed basket. It can be fun to put together and will bring support for this much needed program. Contact Shirley Wehmeier for more information or to donate, [pwehmeier@wi.rr.com](mailto:pwehmeier@wi.rr.com).





## Bike Ride: Final Numbers

An enthusiastic group of 300 bike riders from young to “older” gathered with an estimated 100 volunteers for the annual Outreach For Hope benefit. Braving cool temperatures and persistent rain, their collective effort resulted in another successful year, raising over \$113,000.

This year’s event drew rider/volunteer participation from 47 Greater Milwaukee Synod churches, with Ascension continuing as a leading congregation in both contributions and volunteers. Ascension provided over 50 participants (23 Spirit Spinner riders plus volunteers) and the riding team raised \$2660!

By every measure, the planning team succeeded and thanked all of Ascension’s bikers, volunteers, and contributors for their generous support. Funds from the event help support life-giving ministries to the poor through programs developed by congregations in Milwaukee, Racine, and Kenosha.

## Habitat for Humanity

Everyone deserves a decent place to live. People in our community and all over the world partner with Habitat for Humanity to build or improve a place they can call home. Habitat homeowners help build their own homes alongside volunteers and pay an affordable mortgage. With our help, Habitat homeowners achieve the strength, stability, and independence they need to build a better life for themselves and their families.

In June of this year, Milwaukee Habitat welcomed its 1,000<sup>th</sup> family served in the Greater Milwaukee area into their new home. Over the past 32 years, Milwaukee Habitat has carried out their vision of building a world where everyone has a decent place to live through new construction, home rehab, and repair programs. For the last four years, Milwaukee Habitat has focused all of their work in the Washington Park neighborhood as part of a five-year neighborhood revitalization strategy. In that time, over 200 families have been served, crime rates have decreased, and property values have risen, helping build a strong community in partnership with families in need of affordable housing.

Please consider joining our Mission Outreach’s 11th consecutive year with Milwaukee Habitat for Humanity. We have been blessed over the past several years to do interior painting. We do not have a firm date yet nor a dedicated task, but it will likely be either Nov. 5 or 12. Please contact Ric Simon if you are able to help, 262-794-2808. For more information about Milwaukee Habitat, please visit their website at [milwaukeehabitat.org](http://milwaukeehabitat.org).

There are also projects in Waukesha for those of you who are looking for volunteer opportunities closer to home. Ascension has several people who regularly work on local homes for Habitat Waukesha County. In 2015, HWC completed three homes and opened a ReStore. This year, they have been building six homes, repairing 40 homes, and continuing to operate the ReStore. For these reasons, it is more important than ever to have strong volunteer support! To sign up for volunteer orientation or for more information, contact the volunteer coordinator at [tyler@hfhwaukesha.org](mailto:tyler@hfhwaukesha.org), or 262-309-6025, or click the volunteer button and create your volunteer account.

# YOUR COUNCIL AT WORK

## Council News

Ascension's by-laws state, "the Congregation Council shall be responsible for the financial and property matters of this congregation."

This is most visible as the council, staff, and wing leaders collaborate in the budget process. The process begins in late summer when the council sets a specific dollar amount for the annual budget. We arrive at this number by looking at giving over the past several years and then setting what we view as a realistic amount of contributions for the coming year. (Unfortunately, there has been no growth in this number in recent years. When you receive stewardship material in the near future, I would ask that your household engage in earnest prayer and reflection on God's will for your role in supporting the church in your giving and in your service).

After this number has been set, the Director of Ministries, Director of Operations, and staff meet with their areas of ministry and with a Financial Development Team member. The Budget Team meets to arrive at a balanced budget proposal. This can involve a number of meetings. The

Budget Team members are the Treasurer, Council President, 1st Vice President, Director of Ministries, Director of Operations, and the pastors.

This proposal is then brought to the church council. The church council then reviews this line by line, asking questions and engaging in discussion. All of this is aimed at achieving a plan to carry out God's work through His flock at Ascension. This work was completed last night at a late hour.

There will be a question and answer opportunity in early November. Please avail yourself of this opportunity to be informed. Ascension's Annual Meeting is Nov. 13 at noon, beginning with a potluck lunch. The budget will be presented and voted on at this time. In addition to the budget, we will be electing church officers and representatives to Synod Assembly and addressing congregational reports and decisions. Please plan to be a part of this important meeting in the life of Ascension.

*Paul Wehmeier*, Council President

## Financial Report

In September the contributions were less than budgeted, however the total income was greater than budgeted. The actual expenses were greater than budgeted and greater than the total income. This resulted, again, in a deficit for the month.

*Patti Mueller*  
Treasurer

<i>General Fund Activity</i>	<b>September 2016 Actual</b>	<b>September 2016 Budget</b>	<b>Variance to 2016 Budget</b>
<b>Income</b>			
<i>Contributions</i>	\$42,647.56	\$44,525.00	\$(1,877.44)
<i>Rent, Interest, other income</i>	\$7,568.23	\$5,420.83	\$2,147.40
<i>Restricted Income</i>	\$6,674.00	\$3500.00	\$3,374.00
<b>Total Income</b>	\$57,089.79	\$53,445.83	\$3,643.96
<b>Expenses</b>			
<i>Communications</i>	\$2,113.03	\$1,991.66	\$121.37
<i>Facilities</i>	\$7,800.91	\$7,482.32	\$318.59
<i>Financial Development</i>	\$7,442.62	\$3,756.00	\$3,686.62
<i>Leadership Development</i>	\$0.00	\$33.33	\$(33.33)
<i>Administration</i>	\$22,406.57	\$22,280.91	\$125.66
<i>Caring Relationships</i>	\$1,617.83	\$2,345.25	\$(727.42)
<i>Joyful Worships</i>	\$8,748.45	\$8,054.49	\$693.96
<i>Mission Outreach</i>	\$4,400.00	\$6,208.34	\$(1,808.34)
<i>Spiritual Growth</i>	\$8,713.96	\$7,046.90	\$1,667.06
<b>Total Expenses</b>	\$63,243.37	\$59,199.20	\$4,044.17
<b>Surplus/(Deficit)</b>	\$(6,153.58)	\$(5,753.37)	\$(400.21)



## Executive Staff

### Lead Pastor

Rev. Christian W. Marien  
PC@ascensionelca.org

### Pastor

Rev. Angela T. Khabeb  
PA@ascensionelca.org

### Director of Administration

Amy Gilgenbach  
Admin@ascensionelca.org

### Director of Care Ministries

Brenda Lytle, RN  
Brenda@ascensionelca.org

### Director of Faith Formation

Tony Acompanado  
Tony@ascensionelca.org

### Director of Music Ministries

Vicki Taylor  
Vicki@ascensionelca.org

## Support Staff

### Administrator - Joyful Worship & Spiritual Growth

Amy Stryker  
AmyS@ascensionelca.org

### Administrator - Caring Relationships & Mission Outreach

Kate Mattson  
Kate@ascensionelca.org

### Praise Band Leader

Ben Janzow  
Ben\_janzow@yahoo.com

### Nursery Staff

Becca Tenwinkel  
Victoria Kirk

## Ministry/Operations

### Director of Ministries

Kelly Hoeg  
khoeg@wi.rr.com

### Director of Operations

Peter Laper  
Peterlaper@gmail.com

## Church Council

### President

Paul Wehmeier  
paulkw@wi.rr.com

### First Vice President

Cynthia Carlson  
cynthiac1966@live.com

### Second Vice President

Craig Greenwood  
ctgreenwood1@att.net

### Secretary

Marcy Schaefer  
marcyschaefer@yahoo.com

### Treasurer

Patti Mueller  
mombski@aol.com

### Council Members-at-Large

Alan Gilgenbach  
al@gilgenbach.net

Bryn Kirk  
brynkirk@gmail.com

Becky Klotz  
becky.klotz23@yahoo.com

Roger Nordberg  
rbnordberg@gmail.com

Jeremy Poling  
polingj@alummi.msoe.edu

Cathy Rapp  
catherinerapp@sbcglobal.net

## Wing Leaders

### Joyful Worship

Amy James  
Jamesgang247@aol.com

### Caring Relationships

Cheryl Anspach  
cheryllynnaa@yahoo.com

### Spiritual Growth

Sheri Greger  
Sheri\_frogs@yahoo.com

### Mission Outreach

Shirley Wehmeier  
pwehmeier@wi.rr.com



*Ascension*

LUTHERAN CHURCH  
ELCA

1415 Dopp St.  
Waukesha, WI 53188  
262-547-8518

[www.ascensionelca.org](http://www.ascensionelca.org)  
[Facebook.com/ascensionlutheran](https://www.facebook.com/ascensionlutheran)

## OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY-THURSDAY

9 a.m.—5 p.m.

FRIDAY

9 a.m.—3 p.m.



# November

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 6:30am AMEN 107 9:30am TGIT 107 9:30am Women's Bible Study HR 5pm GriefShare WH 6pm GriefShare YR 6:30pm Mission Outreach 107 7pm Mutual Min. PR	2 8am Private PR 9:30pm Cross meal (off-site) 12pm Private NR 12:30pm Women's Nurture, PR 6pm Ringers 6:30pm TNT EH 7pm AA Wisdom, WH 7:30pm Choir S	3 10am Al-Anon WH 5pm Angel Choir 5:30pm Joyful Sounds 6pm Youth Bells 7pm Ballantyne Sm Grp 107	4	5 12pm Private EH
6 <b>ALL SAINTS Daylight Savings Ends</b> 8:30am Worship 9:30am BP checks 9:45am BLAST 9:45am Budget listening session 10:45 Worship 6pm Daniel Plam 107 6pm CRASH YR/EH/S 6pm AA beginner 7pm AA closed	7 9:45am Al-Anon WH 12pm Private NR 5:30pm Prayer Group PR 6pm Yoga EH 6:30pm AMEN 107	8 6:30am AMEN 107 9:30am Women's Bible Study HR 5pm GriefShare WH 6pm GriefShare YR 7pm Holloway Sm Grp 107	9 8am Private PR 11:45am Men's Nurture 106 12pm Private NR 2:15pm Staff meeting 6pm Ringers 6:30pm SOPHIA EH 6:30pm TNT S 7pm AA Wisdom, WH 7:30pm Choir S	10 10am Al-Anon WH 10am TGBG PR 5pm Angel Choir 5:30pm Joyful Sounds 6pm Youth Bells 6:30pm JOLT EH/WH/S 7pm Ballantyne Sm Grp 107	11 <div>CRASH lock-in, off-site</div>	12 9am Choir S 1pm Ringers S
13 8:30am Worship 9:45am BLAST 9:45am Exec Com PR 9:45am Puppets WH 10:45 Worship 12pm Annual Mtg EH 6pm Daniel Plan 107 6pm AA beginner 7pm AA closed	14 9:45am Al-Anon WH 12pm Private NR 1pm Living Letters 106 6pm Yoga EH 6:30pm AMEN 107	15 <b>Newsletter Deadline</b> 6:30am AMEN 107 9:30am TGIT 107 9:30am Women's Bible Study HR 1pm Pastoral Asst mtg 5pm GriefShare WH 6pm GriefShare YR 7pm Council 107	16 8am Private PR 12pm Private NR 12pm YAH Potluck EH 12:30 Women's Grp PR 6pm Ringers 6:30pm TNT EH 7pm AA Wisdom, WH 7:30pm Choir S	17 10am Al-Anon WH 5pm Angel Choir 5:30pm Joyful Sounds 6pm Youth Bells 6:30pm JOLT EH/WH/S 7pm Ballantyne Sm Grp 107	18 <div>CRASH retreat, off-site</div>	19
20 8:30am Worship 9:45am BLAST 9:45am Puppets 10:45 Worship 2pm Puppets WH 5pm Puppets/Special Friends WH 6pm Daniel Plan 107 6pm AA beginner 7pm AA closed WH	21 9:45am Al-Anon WH 12pm Private NR 5:30pm Prayer Group PR 6pm Yoga EH 6:30pm AMEN 107	22 6:30am AMEN 107 9:30am Women's Bible Study HR 5pm GriefShare WH 6pm GriefShare YR 6pm Ringers 7pm Holloway 107 7:30pm Choir S	23 8am Private PR 12pm Private NR 7pm Worship 7pm AA Wisdom, WH	24 <b>THANKSGIVING Office Closed</b> 10am Al-Anon WH	25 <b>Office Closed</b>	26
27 <b>ADVENT 1</b> 8:30am Worship 9:45am BLAST 9:45am Puppets EH 10:45am Worship 12pm Praise Band 6pm Daniel Plan 107 6pm AA beginner 7pm AA closed	28 9:45am Al-Anon WH 12pm Private NR 6pm Yoga EH 6:30pm AMEN 107	29 6:30am AMEN 107 9:30am Women's Bible Study HR 6pm Private EH 5pm GriefShare WH 6pm GriefShare YR 6pm Ringers 7:30pm Choir S	30 8am Private PR 12pm Private NR 6:30pm TNT EH 7pm Worship 7pm AA Wisdom, WH	<div>KEY</div> <div>EH East Hall</div> <div>HR Hearth Room</div> <div>N Narthex</div> <div>NR Nursery</div> <div>PR Prayer Room</div> <div>S Sanctuary</div> <div>WH West Hall</div> <div>YR Youth Room</div>		