



*Ascension*  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
ELCA  
January 2018

Nonprofit Org.  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
Waukesha, WI  
Permit No. 705

1415 Dopp Street  
Waukesha, WI 53188-4997

**CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED**



**NEWSLETTER CONTENTS**

<b>Pastor's Perspectives</b>	Winter GriefShare Begins Jan. 9 ..... 9
The Work of Christmas ..... 2	Meals Needed! ..... 9
Happy New Year! Now What? ..... 3	HOPE Ministry ..... 9
<b>Joyful Worship</b> ..... 4-5	Knit Wits ..... 9
<b>Spiritual Growth</b>	Young at Heart ..... 9
BLAST January News ..... 6	A Taste of the Daniel Plan ..... 10
BLAST January Calendar ..... 6	Journey of Hope Cancer Ministry ..... 10
JOLT ..... 6	<b>Mission Outreach</b>
Puppets of Praise Performances ..... 6	Mission Outreach 2018 ..... 11
CRASH Schedule ..... 7	Cross Partnership ..... 11
Looking Ahead to March 3 ..... 7	Cross Mardi Gras Ball ..... 11
Prayer Group ..... 7	Tutoring ..... 12
Pastoral Acts ..... 7	Help Needed at Salvation Army ..... 12
<b>Caring Relationships</b>	<b>Administration</b>
Care Ministries ..... 8	Your Council at Work ..... 13
New! Foster and Adoption Ministry! ..... 8	Treasurer's Report December 2017 ..... 13
Yoga Returns January 15 ..... 8	Thank You from Staff ..... 13
Blood Pressure Screenings ..... 8	Calendar ..... 15
Gratitude ..... 8	



*The promises of the Lord are promises that are pure, silver refined in a furnace... purified seven times.*

~ Psalm 12:6

### The Work of Christmas

In January, we celebrate Epiphany. Epiphany commemorates when the wise kings came from afar to pay homage to the Christ child. They brought with them extravagant gifts. By following a star, they arrived at the home where the Holy Family stayed. Matthew tells us that they were “overwhelmed with joy!” And when they entered the house their knees gave way and they worshiped Jesus on bended knee because the presence of God even in the form of this toddler was too great to stand!

This time of year, early January, we think about promises. The ubiquitous new year’s resolutions. Promises, promises, promises. There’s nothing wrong with making New Year’s resolutions; it’s just that they quickly evaporate as the calendar turns to February, then March. Fortunately, unlike some of the promises that roll around this time of year, God’s promises are like a treasure. The Psalmist teaches us that God’s promises give us something that we can cling to even in the midst of tragedy. When all else seems bleak, God’s promises are a light. Psalm 119:50 reads, “This is my comfort in my distress, that your promise gives me life.”

God’s word offers us unfathomable treasure because God’s word is Jesus. That means that the same Christ child whom the wise men sought is the same Christ who is present in the proclamation of the Good News. So this precious priceless gift of Jesus is a treasure for all of us - no matter what we’re going through. God’s promises are pure and will not fail. God says, “I will turn your mourning (read your depression, your anger, your disappointment, your struggle) into joy, I will comfort you, and I will replace your sorrow with gladness...and you will be satisfied with my abundance.” Isn’t it good to know that we serve a God that keeps promises? Certainly God’s greatest promise fulfilled is Jesus.

In this New Year, may God give us new eyes to see Christ again like a priceless treasure. Even though the Christmas season is over, there is still an awesome miracle in our midst. May we seek the star that hovers over the manger and by extension illuminates the cross. God has revealed God’s self to us through Jesus. “Arise shine for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you!” Even though the Christmas season is over, I am reminded that now our real work begins. Now that the world around us has returned to business as usual, we are challenged to rise up and shine! Our Christmas light is beyond a season and cannot be contained or constrained by dates on a calendar. The Christ child is born unto us every day and our Epiphany is continuous. We discover Jesus in various places and we Rise and Shine.

I’d like to share a little poem written by the great theologian Dr. Howard Thurman:

#### The Work of Christmas

When the song of the angels is stilled,	To find the lost, To heal the broken,
When the star in the sky is gone,	To feed the hungry, To release the prisoner,
When the kings and princes are home,	To rebuild the nations,
When the shepherds are back with their flock,	To bring peace among brothers,
The work of Christmas begins:	To make music in the heart.

Sisters and brothers, the work of Christmas continues! Rise and Shine!

*Rev. Angela Khabeb*

### Happy New Year! Now What?

One of my favorite authors is a woman named Jan Richardson. She writes in a way that shapes her words into pure inspiration. I find myself returning to her words again and again as I travel this journey of faith and life. A couple of years ago, Richardson lost her husband after a brief and complicated illness. Over the past couple of years, Richardson has explored her grief as she has wandered the path of love and loss and anger and sadness and resurrection. What I am most grateful for in Richardson’s words is her honest and straightforward heading as she has undertaken her own journey into the unknown, unplanned world she never expected to entertain. So...in celebration of the season of Epiphany - the appearing of the Magi and the overwhelming presence of the light of Christ upon the world - I leave you with these words, written by Richardson, as a blessing in these first days of the new year. May God bless your journeys – each and every step.

#### For Those Who Have Far to Travel ~ An Epiphany Blessing

If you could see the journey whole  
you might never undertake it;  
might never dare the first step  
that propels you from the place  
you have known toward the place you know not.

Call it one of the mercies of the road:  
that we see it only by stages as it opens before us,  
as it comes into our keeping step by single step.  
There is nothing for it but to go and by our going take the vows the pilgrim takes:  
to be faithful to the next step;  
to rely on more than the map;  
to heed the signposts of intuition and dream;  
to follow the star that only you will recognize;  
to keep an open eye for the wonders that attend the path;  
to press on beyond distractions  
beyond fatigue  
beyond what would tempt you from the way.

There are vows that only you will know;  
the secret promises for your particular path  
and the new ones you will need to make  
when the road is revealed by turns  
you could not have foreseen.  
Keep them, break them, make them again:  
each promise becomes part of the path;  
each choice creates the road that will take you to the place where at last you will kneel  
to offer the gift most needed—  
the gift that only you can give—  
before turning to go home by another way.



May the light of the star over the manger shine light on a new road in this new year. To God be the glory!

*Rev. Chris Marien*

# JOYFUL WORSHIP



## WONDERS OF HIS LOVE

He rules the world with truth and grace  
and makes the nations prove the glories of His righteousness,  
and wonders of His love.

## MARY HAD A BABY

Mary had a baby (My Lord)  
Mary had a baby (Oh My Lord)

Mary had a baby (My Lord)  
The people keep a-comin' an'  
the train done gone.



# SPIRITUAL GROWTH



## BLAST January News

Welcome back to BLAST! We pray that all of you had a wonderful Christmas. We look forward to seeing everyone as we gather on Jan. 7, for our Large Opening, in East Hall, at 9:45 a.m.

Please empty your Heifer Banks, into a baggie, and bring your Heifer Offering to East Hall on the 7th. Each class will find their Heifer Jars, on the tables, as you enter East Hall.

We will celebrate the 3 & 4-year-old class and 2nd, 3rd, and 4th grade classes with treats for reaching their Heifer animal goals. We will also celebrate students who have their Baptismal Birthdays in Jan.

## BLAST January Calendar

- Jan. 7      9:45 a.m. Large Opening in East Hall  
10 a.m. Students move to classrooms
- Jan. 14     9:45 a.m. Students meet in classrooms
- Jan. 21     9:45 a.m. Students meet in classrooms
- Jan. 28     9:45 a.m. Students meet in classrooms  
10:15 a.m. Students come to East Hall for Puppets of Praise Show  
(Parents, please pick your children up at 10:35 a.m. in East Hall).

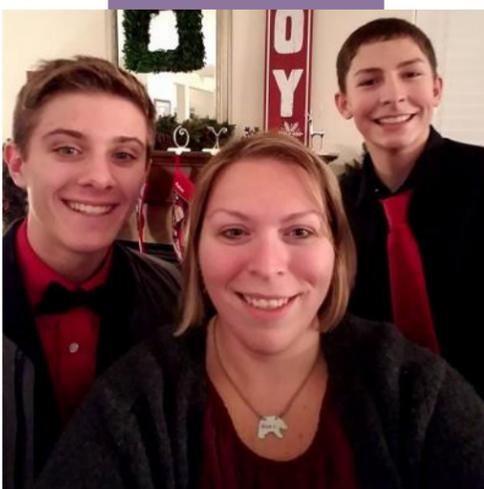
## JOLT

Jolt resumes Wednesday, Jan. 17 at 6:30 p.m. JOLT students, your Advent projects are due to PC no later than Jan. 17! We look forward to reading your faith interviews! Also, students should still be doing their weekly sermon notes and turning them in to PC.

## Puppets of Praise Performances

Puppets of Praise is back to a regular schedule starting Jan. 7. We meet for rehearsals from 9:45-10:35 a.m. Everyone in 6th-12th grade is welcome to join. Our performances for BLAST are:

- \* Jan. 28 - Black light performance
- \* Feb. 25
- \* April 22



## CRASH Schedule

- Jan. 7, 9:45 a.m. - Sunday Morning Conversations  
*Join Tony for doughnuts and conversation around living out your faith in today's world.*
- Jan. 7, 6-8 p.m. - CRASH Youth Group
- Jan. 28, 5:30-8:30 p.m. - Snow Tubing at The Rock Snow Park  
*Join us for a night of fun in the snow! Cost is \$15/student, which includes the event and fast food dinner.*

## Prayer Group

Are you looking for a way to enhance your spiritual life or become more involved? Maybe the Prayer Group is for you. Join us at our next meeting. For winter, the Prayer Group meets from 2-3 p.m. on the first and third Monday of each month.

*For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I with them. ~ Matthew 18:20*

## Looking Ahead to March 3

It's time to put the Chili Cook-off on your calendar, start thinking about assembling your team, and find your best recipe for the Chili Cook-off on March 3. This family-friendly event goes from 5-6:30 p.m., and all the proceeds go to support the CRASH - ELCA Youth Gathering trip to Houston this June. Don't miss this fun, delicious, and highly competitive event that supports our CRASH students.

## Pastoral Acts

### Baptisms

Dec. 3      Charlie Payne

### Funerals

Dec. 15      Georgia Wilson



## Care Ministries

We begin our year by getting our lives back in order after the holidays - putting away the Christmas decorations, as well as perhaps finding places for new gifts received. Some of the best gifts are not wrapped in a box or given during the holiday season, but they are meaningful and can be given throughout the year. Here are ways to help make the world a better place through gifts of time:

- Find a cause you care about. Mission Outreach has many ways to support a variety of ministries and causes.
- Love to cook? Perhaps you can make a meal for someone who just came home from the hospital or is in the GriefShare program.
- Don't have a lot of time? Consider giving blood. The American Red Cross or Blood Center of WI welcomes blood donors and each donation truly does make a difference. Just one pint of donated blood can save many lives.
- Lift a soldier's spirit. Get involved with Ascension's Military Ministry and make a difference for our active and deployed military members.
- Donation Stations. Gift giving could be a matter of cleaning out your closets and providing agencies with clothing, furniture, or appliances. Agencies such as the Hope Center and Hebron House will gladly accept gently-used clothing. Dress For Success helps disadvantaged women succeed in the workplace with donated professional attire.
- Gifts of Creativity. Love to crochet, knit, or scrapbook? Consider joining the Knit Wits, prayer shawl ministry, baby baptismal blanket ministry, or Living Letters ministry.

There are many ways to give to neighbors in our church and community all year around not just during the holidays. Giving in simple ways can help others in need and improve your health and happiness.

*Brenda Lytle, RN, Director of Care Ministries*

## NEW! Foster and Adoption Ministry!

*Open Your Heart, Open Your Home*

Maybe you are looking for information about fostering or adopting children, or perhaps you are a foster parent or have adopted a child and are looking for resources and support from your church family. This ministry may be for you. Contact Brenda Lytle at [brenda@ascensionelca.org](mailto:brenda@ascensionelca.org) if you're interested.

## Winter GriefShare Begins Jan. 9

Join us for the winter GriefShare series running Jan. 9 – March 27, from 6-8 p.m., in the Youth Room. Ascension's GriefShare program helps participants from our own church and from our surrounding community. The beauty of this program is that we see growth in how people are able to overcome their sadness and get back to a "new normal" for their lives. They make relationships with other participants and our program is filled with tears along with laughter.

Free meals are provided beginning at 5:30 p.m. in West Hall. Meals are provided by Ascension's generous small groups, ministries, and individuals.

## Meals Needed!

Is your small group looking for a way to serve others? Does your family enjoy cooking together? Are your ministry leaders looking for a way to bless people from our church and outside community? Well, Care Ministries is once again looking people/groups to provide meals for GriefShare. The new session runs Jan. 9-March 27. (See above article). Sign up on the Care Ministries bulletin board or contact Brenda Lytle, [brenda@ascensionelca.org](mailto:brenda@ascensionelca.org), if you are interested.



## HOPE (Healing Our Pain...Eventually) Ministry

This ministry arose out of our GriefShare group. About 8-12 men and women get together a couple times a month for social events and service work. In Nov., the group went for pizza and a movie together. On Dec. 5, HOPE provided a meal for the fall GriefShare session. Have you suffered loss and would like to get your life back on track? This is the perfect ministry group for you! Please contact Brenda if interested!

## Knit Wits

The Knit Wits are busy making hats and scarves, since the need always seems to be big right here in town. We can always use your help. Donations of hats, scarves, and waterproof-mittens are welcome. They'll be given to Cross Lutheran Church, the Salvation Army, and Waukesha school children. Any and all sizes are needed.

We are also making lapghans for patients at the VA Medical Center; seems they are forgotten after Christmas. Twiddle muffs are also in demand for Alzheimer's patients. Contact Maddie Goetter (262-527-4013) for more information.

If you like to knit or crochet, consider joining Knit Wits on Jan. 20 for our monthly Knit Fest. We'll spend the day here at Ascension creating our charity hats and more. Thanks again for your generous support!

Ascension Knit Wits: keeping the community warm, one stitch at a time.

## Young at Heart

Young at Heart enjoyed a trip to the Wilson Art Center on Saturday, Dec. 16 to see the Leahey Family perform their Irish Christmas music. It was great! On Dec. 20, we had our YAH Christmas Luncheon. Mary Lou Charapatta performed on the piano, while we sang Christmas carols. Always a good time.

In Jan., we will have our luncheon on Wednesday, Jan. 17. We start at noon in East Hall. Please bring a dish to pass if you are able. After lunch and socializing, we will have time for games. Come and join in the fun. On Wednesday, Jan. 10, we will meet at Christina's Restaurant at 9 a.m. for breakfast. No need to register, just show up. If you have questions, call Celeste Defenbaugh at 262-370-4522, Beth Hoffmann at 262-542-7447, or Arlene Davis at 262-542-9119.

## Yoga Returns January 15

Care Ministries is hosting an eight-week yoga session from Monday, Jan. 15-March 5, from 6-7 p.m., in East Hall. Cost is \$20 for the entire eight weeks (\$2.50/class). Bring your fee, mat, and water bottle on Jan. 15 and let's get in shape and reduce our stress in the new year!

## Blood Pressure Screenings

Blood pressures will be taken between church services in the Hearth Room once a month. Care Ministries is providing health professionals for this free service!

- Jan. 14
- Feb. 11
- March 11
- April 15
- May 6

## Gratitude

Thank you so much for the beautiful, comforting prayer shawl. May God bless you and your ministry.

*Kathy Wojtkiewicz*

### A Taste of The Daniel Plan: Blue Light

Hey! What do you think of our new “Foster Grants?” No...don't worry! We have not finally gone over the edge! These are our new blue light blocking glasses.

Recently, we were introduced to these while attending a Healthy Lifestyle Retreat in San Diego hosted by one of our health mentors, Dr. Jay Davidson, and his team of holistic doctors. Attendees each received a pair of the blue light blocking glasses. Dr. Jay explained that the electronic devices we use such as TV's, cell phones, computers and iPads emit a glowing light which is referred to as “blue light.” The blue light that is emitted from electronic devices is similar to the light rays found in daylight. Light is responsible for synchronizing human circadian rhythms, or body clocks. When blue light rays pass through the retinas of your eyes, it sends a signal to your brain to stop pumping drowsiness-inducing melatonin and start making cortisol which is the hormone that wakes you up.

As we mentor people toward living a healthy lifestyle, the topic of sleep often comes up. Many people share their frustration with trying to get a decent night's sleep. While there are many reasons why people have difficulty sleeping (stress, depression, toxins, restless children and pets, etc.) this seemed very eye opening and could be the key for a lot of people.

Think about it: Are you someone that uses your computer or iPad in the evenings before you go to bed? Do you sleep with your cell phone on your nightstand? Do you watch the news or another show on TV right before retiring to bed? All of those devices emit blue light which has the same effect as having a couple cups of espresso right before going to bed.

Since we have attended the retreat, we put on our blue light blocking glasses whenever we are viewing an electronic device after 8:00 p.m. The results have been nothing short of amazing! We consistently get a good night's sleep, which allows us to wake feeling refreshed and ready to start a new day. In the past, we both struggled to get 5 ½ hours of sleep. Now, we consistently get 7 – 8 hours of sleep, which is what is recommended. (It is important to note that you first have to make time and give yourself permission to sleep that amount of time, which is something many people just don't do in their constant state of busyness).

The cumulative effects of lack of sleep from artificial light can be debilitating. It can result in weight gain, depression, cancer and heart disease, not to mention brain fog, inability to concentrate, and irritability that people often associate with lack of sleep.

One of the Five Essentials of the Daniel Plan is “focus.” Sleep plays a major role in our ability to focus not only on our lives, but also on God. Make it your New Year's resolution to give yourself permission to get the recommended amount of sleep and start taking steps to make good sleep happen for you. Have a happy and refreshed 2018!

*Steve & Carol Spieker*



### Journey Of Hope Cancer Ministry

Ascension's new Journey of Hope Cancer Ministry is up and running. We have six trained members who have accepted the calling to help those with a cancer diagnosis. Do you know someone who belongs to our church family and would benefit from this ministry? Please contact Brenda Lytle at [brenda@ascensionlca.org](mailto:brenda@ascensionlca.org).

### Mission Outreach 2018

2017 was a year of special events for Mission Outreach. During the year, we welcomed a delegation from our partner congregation in San Jorge, El Salvador for the first time ever. Our tutoring program became fully operational with classes on Saturday mornings and Wednesday afternoons for students from 2nd grade through age 80. In the summer, we held our first ever community outreach event for the neighborhood and continued with other outreach activities. We began to shape our partnership with a congregation in Tanzania and started planning our first delegation to Tanzania. We shared several worship and fellowship activities with Cross. We collected and donated cases of water, mountains of macaroni, clothing, toys, food for local needs, and books and educational supplies to begin a library for the children of San Jorge. We sponsored over 80 students in Tanzania. This was all in addition to the many ongoing ministries that Mission Outreach is constantly involved in.

Where do we go from here? Where do you fit into the ministries? Where is God calling you to serve? Please prayerfully consider if there is a ministry under Mission Outreach that interests you and come to one of our meetings to learn more or reach out to a ministry leader. Watch for announcements in the e-alerts or bulletin to see what is happening and then take the step and say, “Here I am Lord.”

*Shirley Wehmeier*, Mission Outreach Wing Leader



*Preparing Christmastime outreach packets for Ascension's neighborhood.*

*Learning about Advent calendars at the one-year tutoring anniversary celebration.*

*Mt. Macaroni*

### Cross Partnership

Our group of hard workers served another spaghetti dinner at Cross Lutheran Church on Dec. 6. We served 150-200 people, who enjoyed a hot meal, including desserts prepared by our members. Thanks and God's blessings to all the volunteers who make this happen.

Cross will be closed the first week of January; therefore, we will not provide a meal until Feb. 2018.

### Cross Mardi Gras Ball

Friday, Feb. 9 is Cross's 9th Annual Mardi Gras Ball - an evening of dinner, dance, and music! It is at the Sheraton Milwaukee Brookfield, 375 S. Moorland Road, Brookfield. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. Reservations are due by Feb. 1 at a cost of \$75/person. This is the major fundraiser for Cross's Community Ministries. How can you help?

- Attend the Ball.
- Provide a basket for the silent auction.
- Purchase an ad for your business or a personal message for the brochure.

Contact Arlene Davis or Shirley Wehmeier for information on any of the above.



*You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'*

~ Matthew 22:37-40

**Tutoring**

On Saturday, Nov. 18, students and tutors celebrated the first anniversary of the tutoring program at Ascension. Monthly themes included money, geography, directions, and navigating the school system. Students made great strides in learning the English language and the culture of America. Guidance provided by Greater Waukesha Literacy gave us the tools to work with individuals and with groups of students.

The celebration focused on an exchange of customs, foods, and songs. Students had the opportunity to decorate cookies, examine Advent wreaths and calendars, and learn about family Christmas treasures. We learned about Sweet December, the beginning of advent in the Karen Burmese culture. It is a time of celebration of the harvest, family, and the joy and hope found in Christmas. On Nov. 30, people stay awake all night singing songs, worshipping, playing games, and dancing to welcome the month of December.

We tasted German potato soup and enchiladas, plantains, and beans from El Salvador. Jo Buth made Shwegyi Sanwei Makin (sesame-topped semolina cake with coconut milk). The cake is usually served on festive occasions or when entertaining guests. The port city of Bassein, Burma, located in the Irrawaddy Delta, is particularly known for this dessert. Birthday cake and hot fudge sundaes rounded out the meal.

After taking a short winter break, classes will resume on Saturday, Jan. 6. As we look forward to next year, both tutors and students look to enhancing relationships and building on the learning of this past year. Many thanks to all of you who participated in the tutoring program.

**Help Needed at Salvation Army**

The temperatures are becoming bone-chilling and snow is starting to appear, so the Waukesha Salvation Army is asking for donations of warm clothing for homeless men. The Waukesha Salvation Army is urging those who can count on a warm bed, a cozy, warm living room, and a comfortable, indoor workplace to consider opening their hearts to homeless men in Waukesha County bearing up under the coldest weather so far this winter.

They are in desperate need of:

- Wool hats
- Thick/warm outdoor gloves
- Warm socks, including boot socks
- All sizes of men's boots
- All sizes of men's warm winter coats
- Large, XL, XXL warm men's winter coats
- Scarves
- Men's T-shirts sizes L, XL, XXL
- Men's pajama pants sizes L, XL, XXL
- Men's boxer underwear sized L, XL, XXL

Donated items can be dropped off at the Salvation Army Food Pantry (red double-doors off the parking lot) at 445 Madison St., Waukesha, from 8 a.m.-noon and 1 p.m.-4 p.m., Monday through Friday. Questions can be directed to Dana Baumgartner, shelter manager, at 262-547-7367.

**Your Council at Work**

As we look toward the new year, it has come time for me to complete my time with council. It has been such a blessing to work with our great council members. I have learned so much from each of them. A huge thank you to all.

This past year, we have continued to align the 2025 Vision with every aspect of Ascension. This has allowed us to focus on what our needs are and create ways to fulfill those needs. Our upcoming focus will be the many building improvements and repairs. Please watch for ways you can help in the coming months.

With these building repairs, our budget has been overhauled to address future needs as well as planning for immediate funds. Please take some time to review our 2018 budget to see our wings at work in our church and community. As you consider your personal contributions, take some time to educate yourself on the current needs to see how you can help. If each member can increase their giving by just a few dollars each week, our missions, services, and programs will be able to grow and our building will begin to take on new life.

As always, if you questions or concerns, please contact one of our council members. Thank you.

Have a very blessed New Year,

*Cynthia Carlson*, Council President

**Treasurer's Report: December 2017**

November's contributions were less than expected and fell short of the budgeted amount, which has been the trend for the last half of the year. Expenses, however, were less than the budget resulting in a positive ending amount.

For Ascension to end the year on a positive note, the monthly contributions to the general offering need to increase in December by \$52 per household. This is the perfect time of year to express our gratitude for our financial blessings. May the Lord light your way.

*Darwin Moore*, Council Treasurer

<u>General Fund Activity</u>	<u>Nov. '17 Actual</u>	<u>Nov. '17 Budget</u>	<u>Variance to 2017 Budget</u>	<u>Variance for 2017 YTD</u>
<b>Income</b>				
Contributions	\$45,947	\$50,710	(\$4,763)	(\$26,183)
Revenue	6,484	5,052	1,432	6,379
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$52,432</b>	<b>\$55,762</b>	<b>(\$3,331)</b>	<b>(\$9,590)</b>
<b>Expenses</b>				
Communications	\$1,708	\$1,943	\$235	\$928
Facilities	6,909	8,738	1,829	(23,225)
Financial Dev.	3,927	3,837	(90)	(146)
Leadership Dev.	0	0	0	264
Administration	22,075	22,116	42	6,575
Caring Relationships	2,454	2,087	(367)	760
Joyful Worship	6,894	7,726	832	(1,036)
Mission Outreach	4,727	3,833	(893)	1,560
Spiritual Growth	6,810	6,942	132	507
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>55,503</b>	<b>57,223</b>	<b>1,719</b>	<b>(13,814)</b>
<b>Surplus/(Deficit)</b>	<b>(\$3,072)</b>	<b>(\$1,460)</b>	<b>(\$1,612)</b>	<b>(\$23,403)</b>

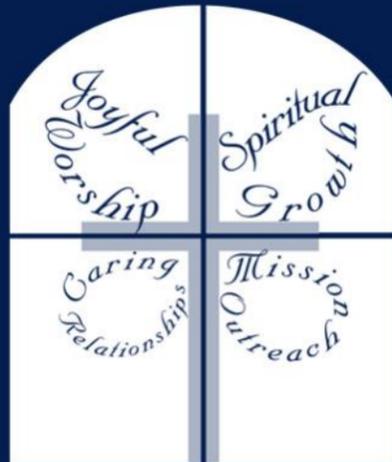
**Thank You from the Staff**

Dear Ascension Members,

Thank you for all the kindness you have shown us throughout the holiday season. For the gifts, treats, words of encouragement and appreciation, and hugs, we thank you!

Merry Christmas and happy Epiphany!





# 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.

## Executive Staff

**Lead Pastor**  
Rev. Christian W. Marien  
[PC@ascensionelca.org](mailto:PC@ascensionelca.org)

**Pastor**  
Rev. Angela T. Khabeb  
[PA@ascensionelca.org](mailto:PA@ascensionelca.org)

**Director of Administration**  
Amy Gilgenbach  
[Admin@ascensionelca.org](mailto:Admin@ascensionelca.org)

**Director of Care Ministries**  
Brenda Lytle, RN  
[Brenda@ascensionelca.org](mailto:Brenda@ascensionelca.org)

**Director of Faith Formation**  
Tony Acompanado  
[Tony@ascensionelca.org](mailto:Tony@ascensionelca.org)

**Director of Music Ministries**  
Vicki Taylor  
[Vicki@ascensionelca.org](mailto:Vicki@ascensionelca.org)

## Support Staff

**Administrator - Joyful Worship & Spiritual Growth**  
Tamie Greenwood  
[Tamie@ascensionelca.org](mailto:Tamie@ascensionelca.org)

**Administrator - Caring Relationships & Mission Outreach**  
Kate Mattson  
[Kate@ascensionelca.org](mailto:Kate@ascensionelca.org)

**Praise Band Leader**  
Ben Janzow  
[Ben\\_janzow@yahoo.com](mailto:Ben_janzow@yahoo.com)

**Nursery Staff**  
Becca Tenwinkel  
Victoria Kirk

## Ministry/Operations

**Director of Ministries**  
Kelly Hoeg  
[khoeg@wi.rr.com](mailto:khoeg@wi.rr.com)

**Director of Operations**  
Peter Laper  
[Peterlaper@gmail.com](mailto:Peterlaper@gmail.com)

## Church Council

**President**  
Cynthia Carlson  
[Cynthiacarlsonalc@gmail.com](mailto:Cynthiacarlsonalc@gmail.com)

**First Vice President**  
Craig Greenwood  
[ctgreenwood1@att.net](mailto:ctgreenwood1@att.net)

**Second Vice President**  
Jay O'Grady  
[Jayogrady@wi.rr.com](mailto:Jayogrady@wi.rr.com)

**Secretary**  
Linda Hansen  
[Lindahansen@wi.rr.com](mailto:Lindahansen@wi.rr.com)

**Treasurer**  
Darwin Moore  
[myddm1@twc.com](mailto:myddm1@twc.com)

**Council Members-at-Large**  
Chris Holloway  
[Christine.holloway@cdw.com](mailto:Christine.holloway@cdw.com)

Bryn Kirk  
[brynkirk@gmail.com](mailto:brynkirk@gmail.com)

Becky Klotz  
[becky.klotz23@yahoo.com](mailto:becky.klotz23@yahoo.com)

Aaron Niezwaag  
[theniezwaag@gmail.com](mailto:theniezwaag@gmail.com)

Roger Nordberg  
[rbnordberg@gmail.com](mailto:rbnordberg@gmail.com)

Cathy Rapp  
[catherinerapp@sbcglobal.net](mailto:catherinerapp@sbcglobal.net)

## Wing Leaders

**Joyful Worship**  
Amy James  
[Jamesgang247@yahoo.com](mailto:Jamesgang247@yahoo.com)

**Spiritual Growth**  
Vacant

**Caring Relationships**  
Cheryl Anspach  
[cheryllynnaa@yahoo.com](mailto:cheryllynnaa@yahoo.com)

**Mission Outreach**  
Shirley Wehmeier  
[pwehmeier@wi.rr.com](mailto:pwehmeier@wi.rr.com)

# January

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<b>1</b> Office Closed 9:45am Al-Anon WH	<b>2</b> 6:30am AMEN 107 9:30am TGIT 107 9:30am Women's Bible Study HR 7pm Mutual Ministry PR	<b>3</b> 8am Private PR 9:30am Cross Meal 12:30pm Women's Nurture Grp PR 6:15pm Handbells S 7pm AA Wisdom WH, HR 7pm Ballantyne Grp 107 7:30pm Choir S	<b>4</b> 10am Al-Anon WH 10am TGBG PR	<b>5</b> 5pm Family Movie Night EH	<b>6</b> <b>Epiphany</b> 9am Tutoring 106, 107, HR, PR, WH 9am Knit Wits EH, WH
<b>7</b> 8:30am Worship 9:30am Puppets WH 9:45am BLAST EH, SG, PR 9:45am CRASH YR 10:45 Worship 6pm AA Beginner WH 7pm AA closed WH	<b>8</b> 9:45am Al-Anon WH 1pm Living Letters 106 6:30pm AMEN 107	<b>9</b> 6:30am AMEN 107 9:30am Women's Bible Study HR 5:30pm GriefShare Dinner WH 6pm GriefShare YR 6:30pm Mission Outreach 106 7pm Holloway Grp 107	<b>10</b> 8am Private PR 9am YAH, Christina's 11:45am Men's Nurture Grp 106 6:15pm Handbells S 7pm AA Wisdom, WH 7pm Ballantyne Grp 107 7:30pm Choir S	<b>11</b> 10am Al-Anon WH	<b>12</b> <b>Newsletter Deadline</b>	<b>13</b> 9am Tutoring 106, 107, HR, PR, WH
<b>14</b> 8:30am Worship 9:30am Puppets EH 9:45am BLAST SG, PR 9:45am BP Screening HR 10 am Adult Ed S 10:45 Worship 6pm AA Beginner WH 7pm AA closed WH	<b>15</b> 9:45am Al-Anon WH 12pm Knit Wits EH 6pm Yoga EH 6:30pm AMEN 107	<b>16</b> 6:30am AMEN 107 9:30am TGIT 107 9:30am Women's Bible Study HR 1pm Pastoral Asst. PR 5:30pm GriefShare Dinner WH 6pm GriefShare YR 7pm Council 107	<b>17</b> 8am Private PR 12pm YAH Potluck EH, WH 12:30pm Women's Nurture Grp PR 5:30pm Youth Bells S 6pm JOLT Dinner 6:15pm Handbells S 6:30pm JOLT EH 7pm AA Wisdom, WH HR 7pm Ballantyne Grp 107 7:30pm Choir S	<b>18</b> 10am Al-Anon WH 10am TGBG PR 5pm Angel Choir 5:30pm Joyful Sounds	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 9am Tutoring 106, 107, HR, PR, WH 9am Knit Wits EH, WH
<b>21</b> 8:30am Worship 9:30am Puppets EH 9:45am BLAST SG, PR 10 am Adult Ed S 10:45 Worship 6pm AA Beginner WH 7pm AA closed WH	<b>22</b> 9:45am Al-Anon WH 6pm Yoga EH 6:30pm AMEN 107	<b>23</b> 6:30am AMEN 107 9:30am Women's Bible Study HR 1pm Pastoral Asst. PR 5:30pm GriefShare Dinner WH 6pm GriefShare YR 7pm Holloway Grp 107	<b>24</b> 8am Private PR 5:30pm Youth Bells S 6pm JOLT Dinner 6:15pm Handbells S 6:30pm JOLT EH 7pm AA Wisdom, WH HR 7pm Ballantyne Grp 107 7:30pm Choir S	<b>25</b> 10am Al-Anon WH 5pm Angel Choir 5:30pm Joyful Sounds	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 9am Tutoring 106, 107, HR, PR, WH
<b>28</b> 8:30am Worship 9:30am Puppets EH 9:45am BLAST SG, PR 9:45am CRASH YR 10 am Adult Ed S 10:45 Worship 12pm Praise Band S 6pm AA Beginner WH 7pm AA closed WH	<b>29</b> 9:45am Al-Anon WH 6pm Yoga EH 6:30pm AMEN 107	<b>30</b> 6:30am AMEN 107 9:30am Women's Bible Study HR 5:30pm GriefShare Dinner WH 6pm GriefShare YR	<b>31</b> 8am Private PR 5:30pm Youth Bells S 6pm JOLT Dinner 6:15pm Handbells S 6:30pm JOLT EH 7pm AA Wisdom, WH HR 7pm Ballantyne Grp 107 7:30pm Choir S	<b>KEY</b> EH East Hall      S Sanctuary HR Hearth Room      SG Spiritual Growth Wing N Narthex NR Nursery      WH West Hall PR Prayer Room      YR Youth Room		