



Ascension
LUTHERAN CHURCH
ELCA
Sept 2018

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PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

Dear People of God,

“Karibu tena.” Translates from Swahili to English as, “welcome again.” It is the invitation and the hope of our brothers and sisters in Tanzania who are already excited for our next visit either here in Waukesha or in Arusha, Tanzania. There is so much to share with you. If you missed Sunday, Aug. 26, during worship or the potluck gathering that evening, please consider joining our delegates on Sunday, Sept. 23, between services for more stories and inspiration from our visit.

As we are walking into our fall programming here at Ascension, I will only take the time to share one story with you from our time in Tanzania. I have a new understanding for the work of the Holy Spirit in our midst. I am well aware of God’s timing and tending in my life. Often times, I am overwhelmed by what God is doing to shape my life and my walk in different ways.

In Tanzania, early in our trip, Bishop Elias Kitoi offered these words. He said, “In America you have all the clocks, and In Tanzania we have all the time.” A reminder that everything that happens will happen in God’s timing. Our rush to keep a schedule was limited by the smoothness of the road before us and the length of the welcome and hospitality of the place we where our visiting was coming to an end. I learned to slow down and to let the rhythm of Africa and the leading of our brothers and sisters set the tone for our sense of direction and timing.



Andrew and Bishop Kitoi

The second interaction with the Bishop of the Meru Diocese came with this story. We planted trees at every church we visited. Our first Sunday visit brought us to Maroroni Parish where the Bishop joined us for a building fundraiser during a 4½ hour service. At the end of the service, the Bishop and I planted a tree together. I got dirty, somehow he did not. When we went to take the picture together to commemorate the planting, I apologized for my dirty hands trying not to get dirt on his hands or alb. He looked at me as he grabbed my hand and said, “Pastor Chris, it is okay. In Africa, God reminds us that we all come from the dirt.” Such a simple reflection overflowing with both hospitality and relationship. I was humbled to go as a delegate to Tanzania. I was privileged to meet people of faith who now call us family across an ocean and a continent. Thanks be to God!

And now, back to the clock! Or at least back to the school year that calls us to new fall programming here at Ascension. I want to share with you two invitations for you to consider as September unfolds.

First, we are preparing for a fall small group emphasis around Max Lucado’s new book, “Anxious for Nothing.” Lucado writes these words, “Does the road you’re traveling loom large with mountains to cross, obstacles to avoid, and hairpin curves to navigate? Could you use some calm? If so, I have a scripture for you:

“Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.” Philippians 4:6-7.

This new small group study begins the week of Sept. 16. I will be leading one small group at church on Monday nights beginning on Sept. 17. Join me or ask at the small group table beginning on Sunday, Sept. 9 about other possible groups to join.



Pastor Chris and Pastor Lema

The second invitation has been brewing in my heart for a long time. In the Lutheran Christian world, we only baptize once. As the Apostle Paul says in the book of Ephesians, “⁴ There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; ⁵ one Lord, one faith, one baptism; ⁶ one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.” In our Lutheran theology, when someone is hungry for a reformation or renewal of their faith, we invite individuals to affirm their faith by entering into a time of study and reflection and spiritual discernment with the eventual response becoming a crafted and shared statement of faith affirming who they are as a disciple of Jesus.

I am excited to invite you to consider an adult confirmation experience – an affirmation of your faith with twice monthly gatherings and book study conversations; reflections on our Lutheran Christian theology, and a crafting of a public profession of faith to be shared along with the laying on of hands. Regardless of your age or your place on this journey of faith – perhaps this is an opportunity for you to consider in the days ahead. We will meet for the first time together on Monday night, Sept. 10, 7 p.m. to provide an introduction. If you can’t make that gathering but want to join us, just drop me an email and I will add you to the list.

So much is ahead of us... Opportunities to GROW like BLAST, JOLT, CRASH and Adult Education on Sunday mornings between services; Opportunities to SERVE like literacy tutoring, the NAMI walk and the Outreach for Hope bike ride; opportunities to WALK like GriefShare, small groups, Supermoms, Knit Wits; opportunities to WORSHIP like communion assistants, readers, choirs, handbells, Altar Guild, ushers, worship leaders, and well – WORSHIP. Come, join us, welcome to the ministries of God’s church - your church - Ascension Lutheran Church! Peace be with you!



Pastor Chris and Pastor Lema

Pastoral Acts

Baptism
Jocelyn Maechtle, Aug. 26

Funeral
Lloyd Buth, Aug. 2



Music Ministry Kick-Off

Join us to sing and ring this fall — all are welcome! Participation in a music ensemble offers fellowship opportunities as well as providing musical leadership in worship. Adult ensembles begin **Wednesday, Sept. 5**; children’s music ensembles begin **Thursday, Sept. 13**. Contact vicki@ascensionelca.org with questions or to join.

Angel Choir welcomes children in grades K-3 (younger children ages 3-4 welcome with older siblings) on **Thursdays, 5-5:30 p.m.**, in the music room. The Angel Choir sings in worship approximately every 6 weeks, September-May. At times, young children can become intimidated at the prospect of singing in front of the congregation. Please know all children are warmly invited to participate in the Angel Choir on Thursday afternoons regardless of whether or not they choose to sing with the group in worship.

Joyful Sounds Choir invites students in Grades 3-8 to sing together **Thursdays, 5:30-6 p.m.**, in the sanctuary. The Joyful Sounds choir sings in worship approximately once each month, September-May.

Youth Ringers welcomes students in grades 4-8, and meets **Thursdays, 6-6:30 p.m.**, prior to JOLT. The Youth Ringers will provide music in worship approximately every other month, September-May. Learn to read music, follow a musical score, and ring handbells. No previous musical experience necessary.

The **Ascension Choir** invites high school students through adults on **Wednesdays, 7:30-8:45 p.m.**, in the sanctuary. The Ascension Choir provides musical leadership in worship approximately three Sundays per month, primarily at the 8:30 service (occasionally at 10:45), and at special evening worship services throughout the church year.

The **Ascension Ringers Handbell Choir** welcomes students in high school through adults on **Wednesdays from 6:00-7:15** in the sanctuary. The handbell choir rings 5 octaves of Malmark handbells and 4 ½ octaves of Malmark handchimes. Ascension Ringers provide music in worship once per month, primarily at the 8:30 service (occasionally at 10:45), and at special services throughout the church year.

Joining the Ascension Ringers does not call for previous experience with handbells, but does require the ability to read music. Reading music is an acquired skill and those interested in learning to read music with the goal of joining the handbell choir are encouraged to contact Vicki Taylor, Director of Music Ministries to arrange learning opportunities.

Ascension’s **Praise Band** provides musical leadership each week at the 10:45 worship service. The band is led by Ben Janzow and rehearses **one Sunday afternoon per month, 12-1:30 p.m.** Singers and instrumentalists are invited to email Ben_Janzow@yahoo.com for additional information.

Instrumentalists of all levels are invited to offer their musical gifts for use in worship. Contact vicki@ascensionelca.org with questions, or to make arrangements.



BLAST

9/9 Rally Day - Children three-years-old – fifth grade are invited to Rally Day from 9:45–10:35 a.m. Students and parents will find their classrooms, meet teachers and superintendents, then gather together in large group to hear all about the amazing things to come in our BLAST ministry. Online registration (preferred) is available at tinyurl.com/BLASTRegistrationALC, or go to the [church website](#) and find it and other BLAST information under the Connect tab. Registration: \$40/child or \$50/family.

9/16 3-year-old Welcome Stepping Stone – Children 3-years-old and their parents are invited to this introductory stepping stone where we explore what lies ahead in children’s ministry. This takes place in their classroom during the regular BLAST hour. A light breakfast will be served.

9/23 Kindergarten Bibles Stepping Stone – Kindergarten students and parents/grandparents will gather to learn about the Bible. This is a great experience for parents/grandparents to learn how to share God’s love with their children/grandchildren through some of the most well known stories of the Bible.

10/14 Green Meadows Petting Farm – BLAST has a thrilling day exploring the wonders of God’s creation (\$12/person – includes farm, hay ride, pumpkin, lunch, and for those 2nd grade and under – a pony ride too). Our time together will begin at 11 a.m. with an energetic family worship service in the barn followed by lunch at 11:30 a.m. Then families will be free to explore the farm for the remainder of the day. All ages are invited!

JOLT (Journey of a Life Time)

JOLT is crazy, fun, small groups, learning, large groups, games, worship, sharing, trusting, exploring, growing, honest, surprising, unexpected! Ascension welcomes 6th – 8th graders to the JOLT class of 2018-19. At your baptism, your parents and sponsors made a promise to God: to bring you to worship, teach you the Lord’s Prayer, the Apostles’ Creed, and the Ten Commandments. Your parents and sponsors promised to place in your hands a Bible and provide you with ways to grow your faith. Through JOLT, they make good on that promise! JOLT is Thursday evenings from 6:30 – 8p, starting Sept. 13. This first JOLT of the year is for students and parents together.



CRASH

Sept. 9 Kickoff & Potluck Lunch – Students entering grades 9-12 and parents are invited to our annual orientation event. We will gather for lunch after second service. We will distribute information packets, collect registration forms, review the calendar, allowing time to sign up for retreats, mission trips, and other events, and meet the CRASH leadership team. Beverages will be provided, but each family is asked to bring a dish to share. See you at 12 p.m.

Sept. 16 & 23 Youth Group – Sunday evenings, from 6–8 p.m., we gather together for ridiculous fun and games, food, reconnecting, and diving into God’s Word and call in our lives. Friends are always welcome.

Sept. 30 9th Gr. Confirmation Capture – Students and parents will gather from 12-2:30 p.m., with Tony for a time of conversation and activities in preparation for their upcoming confirmation. Lunch will be provided. Additional information will be sent directly to families preparing for confirmation.



CARING RELATIONSHIPS

YOGA

Are you interested in finding ways to become healthier in your mind, body, and soul?

The purposes of yoga were to cultivate awareness, self-regulation and higher consciousness. Yoga builds muscle strength. Strong muscles do more than look good. They also protect us from conditions like arthritis and back pain, and help prevent falls in elderly people. And when you build strength through yoga, you balance it with flexibility.

Aside from the physical benefits, one of the best benefits of yoga is how it helps a person manage stress, which is known to have devastating effects on the body and mind. We all have stress! Yoga's incorporation of meditation and breathing can help improve a person's mental well-being. Yoga does more than burn calories and tone muscles. It's a total mind-body workout that combines strengthening and stretching poses with deep breathing and meditation or relaxation. People of all ages and fitness levels can do the most basic yoga poses and stretches. Yoga is a great activity for you if you have diabetes, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, or heart disease. It gives you strength, flexibility, and mind-body awareness. Do you have arthritis? Yoga can help you stay flexible and strong without putting added stress on your joints. You get the added benefit of a mind-body approach that can help you relax and energize. If you're pregnant, yoga can help keep you relaxed, strong, and in shape. Ascension cares about your health. Whether you are young, old, flexible, stiff, or just want to maintain good health and wellness, join our class this fall!

Brenda Lytle RN
Director of Care Ministries



YOGA CLASSES

Monday, Sept. 10, 6 p.m.

East Hall from 6-7 p.m.

\$15 for six weeks

Instructor: Jessica Popp, HumanKind Yoga.

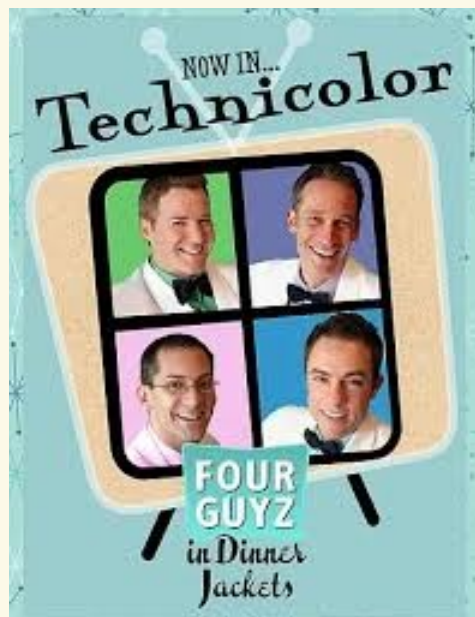
Bring your water bottle, mat, and fee to the first class!

YOUNG AT HEART

Breakfast at Christina's: Wednesday, September 12, we will have our breakfast gathering at Christina's Restaurant at 9 a.m. This is located on Delafield St. Casual breakfast with friends. No need to register, just show up. Questions to Celeste Defenbaugh at 262-370-4522, Beth Hoffmann at 262-542-7447, or Arlene Davis at 262-542-9119.

Potluck: Please come to the Young at Heart potluck luncheon and special presentation on **Wednesday, September 19th**, at noon in the East Hall here at church. We will have socializing and games. We always have an enjoyable afternoon of fun.

Four Guyz in Dinner Jackets: We are organizing a bus trip on Saturday, October 20 to see *Four Guyz in Dinner Jackets* at the Shauer Center in Hartford with dinner to follow at the Mine Shaft. Watch for more details in the bulletin.



GriefShare Begins in Fall — Meals Needed

Grief Share will resume on Tuesday, Sept. 11, from 6-8 p.m. in the Youth Room. It will be a 12-week session facilitated by Mary Lou Charapata. If you know someone or have suffered the loss of a loved one and are stuck in grief, this may be a great program for you. If you or a family member or friend would like to join this program, please contact Brenda Lytle at 262-547-8518 or brenda@ascensionelca.org.



If you enjoy making meals or would like to volunteer and provide for those suffering loss, please watch for the sign up for meals on the Care Ministries' bulletin board, or contact Brenda for the Sign Up Genius online form to sign up.

HOPE (Healing our pain...Eventually) Ministry

Our ministry has loved getting together and gathering for social events and service projects this summer. We attended a hot air balloon festival; an Outdoor Players show at Lapham Peak and Pewaukee Waterfront Wednesday. We also plan on doing a clothing sort for Chosen in September.

If you are interested in joining this grief group for these events please keep watch at the Care Ministries bulletin board or contact Brenda Lytle at 262-547-8518 or Brenda@ascensionelca.org

"YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE PERFECT TO BE THE PERFECT PARENT!"



Thousands of teens in foster care would be glad to put up with you. These and similar slogans from the AdoptUSKids public awareness campaigns featured older children awaiting adoption, touch people's hearts that are saddened to learn that most foster teens are never adopted and instead they "age out" of foster care with no place to call home, no parents to guide them into young adulthood and beyond. In fact, in Waukesha County, they do not even have foster parents for kids over the age of 10 years old! Perhaps you are not in a place or not interested in fostering teens, but would love to make a difference to help children and support organizations that support foster children. Ascension Lutheran Church would like to make a difference in these children's lives by creating awareness, education, and promotion in our community. We are beginning our new ministry this month! Please join us if you have a passion for foster or adoption care children.

AARP Smart Driving Course

We are offering the AARP Smart Driving Course on Sept. 27, 12-4 p.m. Sign-up to register on Care Ministries' bulletin board. AARP member cost is \$15; non-AARP member cost is \$20. Fee includes workbook and is payable at the time of the class. Bring your AARP membership card and driver's license. Check with your insurance company to see if completion of this course will decrease your insurance premium.



Foster/Adoption Meeting

Thursday, Sept. 6

*Perhaps you have an interest in helping children in our foster care system or families that have recently adopted. This need is **HUGE** and we would like to create a ministry that will make a difference!*

A TASTE OF THE DANIEL PLAN

It's that time of year when we think about gearing up for the next 6-week Daniel Plan study. We thought it would be a good time to refresh people's memory about what the Daniel Plan actually is.

The study has its roots in the story of Daniel. As you probably know, Daniel was a courageous slave that dared to be different and do what he thought was right. Specifically, read Daniel 1 for the complete story.

The Daniel Plan can be summed up in one word: Abundance. It teaches us how to live abundantly in the Lord through its "Five Essentials" of Faith, Food, Focus, Fitness and Friends.

We all need God to make changes in our lives. How often have you prayed for God to teach you how to be a better person? You have probably also prayed for others that God might reach down and help them some way. Maybe you have asked God to renew your health. Whatever your request, relying on God's power is the basis of your faith that your prayer might be granted. The Daniel Plan teaches ways to improve your faith and your focus so that God becomes a better center point of your life. God wants us all to live abundantly in Him.

Let us dispel any thought that the Daniel Plan is a diet, which is what many people mistakenly believe. While it does cover the topic of food, it has absolutely nothing to do with counting calories or deprivation. Rather it teaches about the healthy foods that can be eaten in abundance. It teaches how the wrong foods can actually cloud our minds and weaken our bodies. Eating the right foods will provide our bodies with the right fuel so we have energy and focus to serve God, just like Daniel.

There is also a section on fitness. People often get scared away at any thought of exercise. What people don't realize is movement is life. As it is stated in the Daniel Plan, the best exercise is the one you will actually do. With all the drive though restaurants, dry cleaners, banks and pharmacies and not to mention all of our remotes and smart phone apps, many people are even depriving themselves of the occasional stroll to accomplish something. Our inactivity is actually killing us! Movement literally gets our blood circulating and keeps our muscles and organs functioning! Without movement, we will die.

Finally, the "Friends" essential teaches us that we are "better together." When we live in community with God and one another we are stronger.

Can you say your body is a suitable vessel for the Holy Spirit to dwell within you? The time to make changes is now!

Don't wait until you get some dreadful diagnosis. Many people don't realize how what you think, what you put in your bodies or how you may be neglecting your bodies will affect your future. Join us for the next 6 week Daniel Plan study starting on Sunday, Oct. 7, 6 p.m.

If you would like to join us for this study, contact us at cspieker@budgetblinds.com.

Steve & Carol Spieker



6-Week Daniel Plan Study
Sunday, Oct. 7, 6 p.m.

This column offers health and nutritional perspectives and 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.

Partnership: Tanzania

Mission Trip to Tanzania

Our delegation returned home on August 9 physically tired, but spiritually energized by our time with our Tanzanian brothers and sisters. We worshipped, ate, and sang side by side with our new friends. Because this was our first delegation visit, we did our best to see as many parts of our ministry as we could. We visited projects that we have supported through the Greater Milwaukee Synod's companion synod relationship such as the water project for 15,000 people with dreams of expanding for another 20,000; the goat project that benefits widows and orphans; and the coffee project. We were able to tour the Cultural Arts Centre project that was built under the guidance of the Stubbs missionary family that Ascension supported. We also worshipped at seven of the eight churches of the original Mararoni parish. The church is growing rapidly in Tanzania leading the Samaria parish and its preaching points Galilaya and Neema to become independent from Mararoni due to the large size of all of the congregations. On Sunday August 5, we signed our covenant, finally becoming official sister parishes. Stay tuned for more information about our next steps in supporting all three congregations and their two primary schools.

Meru Coffee Project Visit

One highlight of the partnership trip to Tanzania was our visit to the Mt. Meru coffee project. After so many years of thinking about coffee production it was almost unbelievable to see it in person. Our tour of the production facility at Makumira was hosted by the two project coordinators, Felix and Moses. We learned that there are five processing facilities that take in coffee from 2000 growers. All coffee is processed the same day it is picked in order to preserve maximum quality.

We toured two different coffee farms and walked among the coffee trees. There seemed to be a bountiful crop of coffee and some of the cherries were starting to ripen. We learned that the growers are gradually switching to a new variety of coffee plant that is more disease resistant and also produces a higher yield. All Mt. Meru coffee is shade grown; walking amid the coffee trees under the protective canopy of banana trees was an experience we will never forget!

Mt. Meru premium coffee is great for home and office. We have many convenient packaging options including bulk, pre-measured and individual serving (K-cup). Coffee is for sale in the narthex between services every Sunday.

Mt. Meru coffee: Supporting Families • Growing Futures • Changing Lives



Partnership: Cross Lutheran Church

We will not be serving a meal at Cross Lutheran Church in September. They will be closed that week for the Labor Day holiday. We will again serve in October. Thanks for all of your support for the meals and the Cross block party.



NAMI Walks: In Memory of Ryan Pichler

Join other Ascension members to support the work of NAMI in the annual walk for mental health on Saturday September 15. This year the Ascension Team will be walking in memory of Ryan Pichler. Check-in is at 9:30 and walk begins at 11 AM. It will be held at Frame Park. If you cannot walk, you can sponsor the Ascension team either in the narthex or online at www.namiwalks.org, team Ascension Lutheran. Contact Cheryl Anspach at cheryllnaa@gmail.com.

MISSION OUTREACH

Partnership: El Salvador

We have received exciting news from our sister parish, San Jorge. Thanks to their efforts to raise funds through food sales and raffles, combined with support from Ascension, they have been able to replace their failing roof, as well as adding a ceiling with ceiling fans, and security windows and doors.



Community Partner: SOPHIA

Our featured community partnership this month is SOPHIA. SOPHIA stands for Stewards of Prophetic Hopeful Action and its mission is: “People of united by a passion for justice, commitment to community and a practice of hope.”

SOPHIA is a coalition of diverse faith communities in Waukesha County dedicated to building and deepening relationships within and among our communities. SOPHIA empowers people to work together on issues of justice and the common good. SOPHIA builds relationships in the public and private sectors, uniting people with common values to have a powerful voice; to stand together to change injustices affecting those who are marginalized. We seek to form a community of neighbors who can, together, make our communities places where everyone has a chance to succeed.

SOPHIA is a faith community organized around task forces for justice and hope. Through the diverse faith traditions, all our united in a call to stand up for the poor, the sick and the marginalized. SOPHIA works to impact public policies that affect those who are most vulnerable through education, advocacy empowerment and action to transform our communities. To learn more about SOPHIA, see their website at <https://sites.google.com/view/sophia-waukesha>.

Bob Stoll is Ascension’s SOPHIA leader and many members are involved in supporting the work of SOPHIA through the task forces or through the community efforts. There are two unique opportunities in September. Please take the opportunity to learn more about SOPHIA’s efforts in supporting those in need.

Share the Journey: Walk in solidarity with our immigrant brothers and sisters on September 8 from 9-11. Watch announcements for details.

Experience Solitary Confinement: Hear testimonials from people who have spent time in solitary on September 22 and view a solitary confinement cell from 9-11 a.m.. Watch announcements for details.



Tutoring News

The tutors and their students spent many hours reviewing the 100 civics questions and preparing to demonstrate their use of the English Language by speaking, reading and writing. Check out www.uscis.gov and see how many questions you can answer! The hard work of students Edwin Aparicio and citizenship tutor, Kathy Williams, as well as student Linda Wah and tutor, Rick James are being honored at the Celebration of Literacy. (Special thanks to Sandy Eggers for also working with Edwin.) The annual event is being held at Tuscan Hall on September 5 beginning at 5:00 with cocktails, silent auction and dinner at 6:30 with a program honoring Edwin and Linda who were able to obtain citizenship this past year. What an honor to be recognized at this event by the Greater Waukesha Literacy Council. Tickets are still available. Call 262-547-7323 to get more information and reserve your spot.



Rick James, Linda Wah, and Jo Buth



Edwin Aparicio



Kathy Williams

After a brief summer hiatus, the tutoring program will begin on Saturday, Sept. 15, in the Spiritual Growth. Tutors and students will meet each week to improve their English skills and learn about our culture. One Saturday of each month will feature group activities including the following:

Saturday, Sept. 29 – “Getting Your Home Ready for Winter” with Ron Marien

Saturday, Oct. 27 – Adults: “Money Smarts” with Gina Rodriguez from La Casa de Esperanza

Children: “Using Money” with Stephanie Hansen, the Greater Waukesha Literacy Council

Stop by and see us on Saturday mornings and see if this is a ministry you would like to join.

Barbara Nordberg

Tutoring Coordinator

Outreach for Hope Bike Ride Sept. 8

Sept 8, 2018 at St. Bruno’s in Dousman www.ofhbikeride.com

- Remember Lloyd Buth by contributing to his memory. Go to his fundraising page at www.ofhbikeride.com
- Ride routes for ALL members of the family
- Up to 14 mile Trail ride OR 20, 30 or 50 mile road rides.
- Picnic lunch following ride
- Virtual Rider Registrants (no fee) result in \$20 registration match
- 2018 Goal \$120,000

Join as one of Ascension’s Spirit Spinner Team Members and participate as a RIDER or VOLUNTEER or DONOR. Contact Jeff Kirk at 262-524-8975 or jeffrey@kirks.us.



Like Ascension’s Mission Outreach on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/Ascension.ELCA.MO/>

BLOCK PARTY

Thank you to all who helped make the Community Block Party a success. Special thanks to Iva Richards and her team of volunteers who delivered 400 invitations to the neighbors and others in the community. Arlene Davis and her crew served hundreds of hamburgers and hotdogs prepared by the Guys Who Grill and the Aparicio families provided the pupusas. Carol and Steve Spieker and Christine Parent did an amazing job of collecting and organizing the door prizes so generously donated by so many Ascension members. Jessica Parent hosted the registration table. Thanks also to all of the volunteers who were helpful in welcoming our guests and making sure that the day went smoothly from setting up, to registration, to kids' activities to clean up at the end. It is impossible to name all of the people involved but it was truly a group effort. Thanks to all.



KNIT WITS—St. Joseph's Medical Clinic

Dear Friends,
Thank you for your generous contribution toward St. Joseph's Medical Clinic, Inc.'s Gala to be held on September 29, 2018. Your contribution makes it possible for our agency to create awareness about the health needs of the uninsured and underinsured in the Waukesha County community.

Sincerely,
Kiersten Gonzales, Marketing Coordinator

CHOSEN, INC.

On behalf of Chosen, I wanted to thank your congregation for the continuous clothing donations this summer that have been made for The Family Closet for Foster/Adoptive children in our community. Your donations have been generous! Thank you!

Blessings in Christ,
Karen Schlindwein
Executive Director of Chosen, Inc.

NAMI Waukesha

Dear People of Ascension,
Your gift comes at a time that is crucial to individuals and families affected by mental illness in our community. On behalf of the individuals and families that we serve, we gratefully acknowledge your contribution of \$250.

Your support helps provide education, information, support and advocacy programs free of charge to people experiencing mental health challenges. Because of you, we are able to continue to work to keep families together when dealing with the devastation of mental illness. Your generous gift today helps share the message of hope for individuals and families that every single person can get the mental health treatment they need and experience recovery.

THANK YOU

I want to thank everyone, for their great support while I was in the hospital, rehab, and home. I appreciate the visits, hot meals, and transportation to my doctor appointments. Thank you for sharing your wonderful ministry with me!

Beverly Humber

"Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever!"

Raise the Roof Update

We want to thank everyone who has contributed to the Raise the Roof campaign and to let everyone know where we are. If you haven't noticed, there is a new roof over east and west hall along with the narthex and office area. Our old roof was well beyond its useful age. The previous roof and flashings were completely removed, and all new material installed. This roof system should last 25 to 30 years or more, so we should all feel secure come rain, sleet, or snow for a good long time.

We also have a brand-new skylight installed in the center narthex where an old leaking one was. Once the roof was removed it was found that our existing skylight was in extremely bad shape and there was no hope of saving it. In the weeks ahead, you will notice additional finish work taking place inside and out as we clean up some of the damage from our leaks. Since we are getting close to wrapping up this project, we are out securing bids for the next, which is to replace the siding on the sanctuary, office hall, and east and west halls. We no longer want our house of worship to double as a woodpecker café, which it has.

Again, we want to thank everyone for their support in helping us preserve our physical building. As we move forward, we will keep all informed of our progress.

Operations Group: Cynthia Carlson, Daren Maas, Mike Jahner, Scott Tenwinkel

Treasure's Report

The July reporting period has had mixed results. The summer months can be a 'slow time' for giving. The contributions portion of our income fell short of the budget by (\$3,800). Even so, this is an improvement from last month's (\$7,000) deficit in giving. Over time, the deficits tend to add up to a larger number on a year-to-date (YTD) basis.

In an effort to alleviate the giving shortfall, church council decided to use a portion of the Ascension Arise funds to pay the principal portion of the monthly mortgage payment. This lessens the shortfall on the Income Statement. A portion of the house sale funds was also used to pay for the rest of the improvements and delayed maintenance on the rental houses.

On the expense side, we incurred some large expense items under the Facilities category. We continue to have ongoing larger HVAC maintenance expenses that was not anticipated in the budget. The rest of the improvements to the rental houses was made of almost \$5,700. Even after the Facilities deficit of (\$10,100), the expense total was reduced to just an (\$1,800) overage in spending. When comparing income to expenses, the result was a positive \$2,700 for overall Operations. Thank you for your ongoing support.

As mentioned last month, Jim Ballantyne is stepping down as Assistant Treasurer. We have hired a part-time bookkeeper to replace him.

Respectfully,

Darwin Moore
Treasurer



Congregation Meeting Sept. 16, 12 p.m.
Purpose: To provide a recommendation for the use of the proceeds from the sale of the church-owned property at 412 S. Moreland and subsequent vote.

September 2018

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2 9a Worship 10:45a Worship Outdoor 12p AMEN Cookout CY 6p AA begin. WH 7p AA closed WH	3 LABOR DAY Office Closed 9:45a Al-Anon WH 2 pm Prayer Group	4 6:30a AMEN 106 9:30a Women's Bible Study HR 9:30a TGIT PR 6:30p Mutual Ministry PR	5 8a Private PR 12:30p Wed Women's PR 6 pm Handbells S 7p AA WH 7p Ballantyne 106 7:30 pm Adult Choir S	6 10a Al-Anon WH 12 p Outreach for Hope WH 6:30 p Foster/Adoption Group PR	7	8 Outreach for Hope Bike Ride
9 Rally Day 8:30a Worship 9:45 Adult Ed S 9:45a BLAST 10:45a Worship 10:45a Span. Wor. EH 12p CRASH Kick-off EH 5p Intern Team 6p AA begin. WH 7p AA closed WH	10 9:45a Al-Anon WH 11:30a Staff Mtg 1p Living Letters PR 6p Yoga EH 6:30p AMEN 106 7p Affirmation PR	11 6:30a AMEN 106 9:30a Women's Bible Study HR 6:30p Grief Share 7p Holloway Group 106	12 Newsletter Deadline 8a Private PR 9a YAH @ Christina's 11:45a Men's Lunch 6p Handbells S 7p AA WH 7p Ballantyne 106 7:30 pm Adult Choir S	13 10a Al-Anon WH 10a TGBG PR 5p Angel Choir MR 5:30p Joyful Sounds MR 6p Youth Ringers S 6:30p JOLT EH	14	15 9a Knit Wits EH 9a Tutoring 9:30a NAMI Walk
16 8:30a Worship 9:45 Adult Ed S 9:45a BLAST 9:45a 3-yr-old Stepping Stone WH 10:45a Worship 10:45a Span. Wor. EH 12p Congregation Mtg 6p AA begin. WH 7p AA closed WH	17 9:45a Al-Anon WH 2p Prayer Group 6p Yoga EH 6:30p AMEN 106 7p PC Small Group	18 6:30a AMEN 106 9:30a Women's Bible Study HR 9:30a TGIT PR 1p Pastoral Asst. PR 6:30p Grief Share 7p Council 106	19 8a Private PR 12p YAH Potluck EH 12:30 Wed Women's PR 6p Handbells S 7p AA WH 7p Ballantyne 106 7:30 pm Adult Choir S	20 10a Al-Anon WH 5p Angel Choir MR 5:30p Joyful Sounds MR 6p Youth Ringers S 6:30p JOLT EH	21	22 9a Tutoring
23 70th Anniversary 8:30a Worship 9:45 Adult Ed S 9:45a BLAST 10:45a Worship 10:45a Span. Wor. EH 6p AA begin. WH 7p AA closed WH	24 9:45a Al-Anon WH 6p Yoga EH 6:30p AMEN 106 7p PC Small Group	25 6:30a AMEN 106 9:30a Women's Bible Study HR 6:30p Grief Share 7p Holloway Group 106	26 8a Private PR 12p Knit Wits EH 6p Handbells S 7p AA WH 7p Ballantyne 106 7:30 pm Adult Choir S	27 10a Al-Anon WH 10a TGBG PR 12p AARP Class 106 5p Angel Choir MR 5:30p Joyful Sounds MR 6p Youth Ringers S 6:30p JOLT EH	28 Women's Retreat	29 9a Tutoring
30 8:30a Worship 9:45 Adult Ed S 9:45a BLAST 10:45a Worship 10:45a Span. Wor. EH 12p Praise Band S 6p AA begin. WH 7p AA closed WH Women's Retreat						

KEY

EH	East Hall	N	Narthex	S	Sanctuary	CY	Court Yard
HR	Hearth rm	NR	Nursery	WH	West Hall	<i>Italics offsite</i>	
MR	Music rm	PR	Prayer rm	YR	Youth rm		

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OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY-THURSDAY
 9 a.m.—4 p.m.
 FRIDAY
 9 a.m.—12 p.m.



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