



Ascension In Action

Ascension Lutheran Church

September 2016

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Declaration on the Way: Lutherans and Catholics working together

There was a big meeting in New Orleans this August. Every three years the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) gathers for its church-wide assembly. Delegates from all 65 synods come together to worship, to learn, to serve, and to make big decisions that affect the future of our church.

This year, there were a few big decisions. There was an agreement to work as a church to aid minor migrants. There was a decision to merge our three lay rosters into one roster called "Deacon." Budgets were set for 2017, 2018, and 2019 for both the ELCA and for World Hunger. You can see a list of major decisions at www.elca.org/News-and-Events/7852.

One of the biggest decisions was approving a document titled "Declaration on the Way: Church, Ministry, and Eucharist." Leading up to next year's 500th anniversary of the Reformation, this document has been in the works for many, many years. It affirms 32 statements of agreement between Lutherans and Catholics on the topics of the church, ordained ministry, and communion. In addition to passing at our church-wide assembly, it has been forwarded to the Lutheran World Federation, approved by the US Conference of Catholic Bishops, and commended to Cardinal Kurt Koch, president of the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity, for further reflection and action. Learn more at www.elca.org/Declaration-on-the-Way.

A few examples from the document:

(3) "[Catholics and Lutherans] hold in common that the church on earth is gathered by the proclamation

of the gospel of God's saving mercy in Christ, so that the gospel, proclaimed in the Holy Spirit by the apostles, remains the church's normative origin and abiding foundation."

(14) "Catholics and Lutherans agree that all the baptized who believe in Christ share in the priesthood of Christ. For both Catholics and Lutherans, the common priesthood of all the baptized and the special, ordained ministry enhance one another."

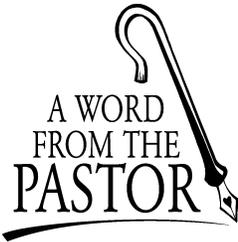
(30) "Lutherans and Catholics agree that in the sacrament of the Lord's Supper, Jesus Christ himself is present."

A sceptic might think this document means nothing. That it marks the decision of some bureaucrats, but won't make a difference on the ground.

I disagree. First, from a historical perspective, this is a big deal. Sure, Lutherans and Catholics will remain separate, but it matters that after 500 years, the two can see each other as another expression of God's church. Second, many in our own congregation and across the world have come to the Lutheran church after feeling abandoned or worse by the Catholic church. The same is likely true the other way. This document can't undo harm that happened at the hands of the church, but here we work together to heal wounds and point towards a cooperative future.

But the main reason I think this is worth celebrating, is that I'm betting God prefers it when we get along. There's much to do in this world. Much to proclaim. Much to heal. Much love to share. May this agreement be a step in doing so together in ways we haven't done in 500 years.

Pastor Daniel





What's Happening

September will be a time of celebration as we complete our south-end facility renovation. Be watching for information concerning a dedication ceremony.

Has everyone visited the Ascension website?? If not, please take a few minutes to look through the website: www.ascensioncos.org —there is a lot of information. I hear tell the audio of the sermons are going to begin being posted there, if not already.

With your help we supplied children from our Children's Learning Center with school supplies as well as additional supplies delivered to Audubon Elementary to help families in need. Please take time and read the stories in this newsletter of how your gifts helped just a few families.

With September here, the days are getting a little shorter and cooler. That also signals the start to many of our fall activities such as confirmation; Sunday School; God's Work, Our Hands service project; and many other opportunities to get involved in. Be watching the newsletter and Sunday bulletins for additional activities.

“A Community of Grace, Called to Serve.”

Peace be with you, Greg Gulliksen, President CPC
637-9313 / greg.gulliksen@gmail.com



The August 9 CPC meeting included the following actions and discussions:

- Pastor Daniel Smith led a devotion on baptism. He spoke of how we are adopted into God's family and His promise when we are baptized. For some reason Pastor Daniel has baptism on his mind a lot lately.
- Council shared stories on things they had learned from pastors over the years.
- Rex Rudy reported on the July financials. We are in good fiscal shape as we end the summer months.
- Board Directors gave brief updates on current activities and future plans as we get into fall activities. Some of those activities are noted above and are expanded on in this newsletter.

- Pastor Dan noted the blessing of the backpacks for the CLC kids was a special time for those children. The "Ask a Pastor" series has been a success. Both Pastors will address questions in children's sermons, sermons, newsletters, and even during adult education hour on Sunday mornings.
- Pastor Daniel noted he would be taking his last two weeks of parental time off in mid August. He met with a number of pastors as they welcomed First Lutheran's interim pastor.
- Pastor Dan gave an update from the building committee. Construction is moving along. The walls are about ready for paint. Cabinets will be installed soon. Finishes will occur in August with work expected to be completed in early September.
- The pastor's led a discussion concerning looking to Ascension's future. Council approved the formation of a call committee to review and recommend a company to lead Ascension through some strategic planning in looking to our future.
- Rex went through the budget process with Council. Boards will begin looking at their respective budgets in August.
- Pastor Dan led closing with prayers and the Lord's Prayer.
- The approved minutes of recent meetings are posted on the kiosk in the Fellowship Hall and are available in electronic format from the church office.

WATCH FOR CHILDREN

Now that school is back in session, Ascension's CLC and Sunday School also have more children running around outside. Please be careful when entering and exiting our parking lot from both the south and north drives at any time of day. It is easy to miss children and adults walking along Circle Drive when exiting the north drive.

THANK YOU ...

Dear Fellow Ascension Members,

The Kuzma family would like to thank all of you for your support to us following Bob's passing. The outpouring of sympathy from prayers, cards, food, and the tremendous food buffet you put out for the memorial service was wonderful as so appreciated. Your words of comfort and attendance at Bob's service was once again so typical of our Ascension Community who always rises to the "call to serve."

Love and thanks,
Salinda, Jeff, Jennifer, and Jessica

Building Committee Update

Hopefully by the time you receive this newsletter the project will be essentially finished. We anticipate that by Labor Day that all except a few minor “touch-up” items will have been completed. Following completion of the work the inspections for the Certificate of Occupancy and re-licensing of the CLC will need to be successfully completed. Then it will be time to move back into the CLC.

The project has run relatively smoothly with no major surprises. As a result, it will end well within the congregation approved budget. A final accounting will be given once this portion of the project is completely wrapped up.

Capital Campaign Update

Through the end of July we had received \$248,000 in contributions. As has been stated before, your continued support is very important as we need to 1) reimburse the church cash reserves from which we will borrow to complete the current contract, 2) accumulate monies to fund the needed renovations in the sanctuary, and then 3) to reduce the mortgage with the remaining contributions from pledges to the \$464,000 Capital Campaign.

Extra, Extra: Medium-sized Church Makes **HUGE** Difference!

Just in case you wondered if the Blessing of the Backpacks School Supply Drive made a difference, let me share a story with you that Teresa Adams, our CLC Director, shared with me. Teresa took a father and his daughter into the room where the donated school supplies had been set up. While Teresa and the father chatted, the little girl took off for the backpacks. She returned quickly and gleefully to Teresa and her father. “Look!” she exclaimed to her father, “It’s the backpack I wanted!!!” The father told Teresa that every time they had gone to Walmart this summer the little girl was adamant that she needed this backpack for school. This broke the father’s heart because they are a homeless family right now and he knew there was no way for him to buy her that particular backpack. But thanks to your generosity, a little girl started school with the backpack of her dreams and a burden was lifted from her father. In addition to this child, about 30 other CLC children received their school supplies through Blessing of the Backpacks. Thank you Ascension Lutheran!

Elisa Thompson, Director of Parish Education

Create A Legacy



*Ascension Lutheran Church
Endowment Fund*

God’s People Using God’s Resources to Fulfill God’s Calling

Gift’s-Wills-Property-Insurance-Memorials-Estates

Legacies Created

Thanks and God’s blessings to the following donor(s)
for gifts to the Endowment fund:

Kay Richardson – birthday giftaway

Phil Trent – birthday giftaway

Leave a Legacy

You can “Leave a Legacy” by leaving a lasting gift through the wise distribution of your accumulated wealth. Your funds or possessions can do double duty and work for you during your lifetime. Then they can go to care for family beneficiaries for a period of years and finally help spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ through the many areas of ministry, mission, and education in your local church or church at large. For more information, contact a member of the Endowment Committee, one of the Pastors, or visit Ascension’s web site; www.Ascensionlutheranelca.org

Simply Giving is an Easy and Generous Choice

The Simply Giving Program, endorsed by Thrivent Federal Credit Union, is a simple and reliable way to make your regular contributions to our congregation through automated giving. Imagine not worrying about where you left your checkbook. Enjoy no more concerns over your offering when you are on vacation or otherwise unable to join one of our services!

Authorization forms are available at the reception desk near the main entrance. Once completed, the forms can be returned to the Church Office. It could not be any simpler.

In His name,
Your Stewardship Board

US & THEM WE:

The August 2016 issue of "Living Lutheran" magazine takes a good look at the concept of community organizing as a way to combat some of the many social issues we see all around us every day, while yet being an effective witness for Christ. One quote from the magazine really resonated with me: "Justice is what love looks like in public." I like that. It's one thing to say you love justice in your own heart, head, or home (or, to speak from personal experience, in a church board meeting where you are surrounded by other like-minded people). But it rises to a new level when we commit to taking public action in our community and world. Thank you for your strong commitment to the many opportunities we have to show Christ's love to others in public ways. Here are some upcoming events that we will be involved in. Please let me know if you would like more information!

September 9 & 10: Faster Pastors will be running to raise money for refugees. If you would like to contribute, you can do so with a check in the offering plate (memo line-Faster Pastors), or see our post and give online (ascensioncos.org). Check out the poster in the Narthex. Let's see if we can't get those pastor-guys to the finish line!

September 11, noon-3pm: God's Work. Our Hands. This is an afternoon of service work all over the city, with a closing celebration at First Lutheran from 3:30-4:00. Check with Pastor Daniel for more info.

Sept 13: Together Colorado A group from Ascension will be attending the statewide leaders meeting of to learn more about possibilities of addressing community issues at the systemic level.

LFS Innkeeper Dinner: There will be a silent auction and dinner, followed by a program highlighting the work of Lutheran Family Services. You are all invited! See their website lfsrm.org/events for ticket and event info.

October 25: Mosaic "Partners In Possibilities: Breakfast 8-9 am. Ascension would LOVE to fill a table, so please contact Sharla Saunders (sharsaunders1227@gmail.com or 719-244-7025) if you are interested. The event is free to attend, but there will be a specified time for people to make a support commitment.

In Christ,
Sharla Saunders, Director, Board of Social Outreach

THANK YOU...

Ascension family: My family and I want the thank you for your prayers and cards as Benny struggled with poor health the last 6 months before his death May 25. Also thank you all for the calls and sympathy cards, afterwards. The service was a tribute to him, as was the luncheon following. I'm blessed to be part of the Ascension family.

Cheryl Johnson



It's time for our annual Holiday Bazaar here at Ascension Lutheran Church. Mark your calendars for Saturday, October 15th from 9am to 2pm. Lots of your favorite vendors and some new offerings as well!

If you are interested in having a table, please contact Kirsten Johnson at (719)440-5896 or email at kirstenj_hg@msn.com. Proceeds benefit the youth traveling to Houston in 2018 for the National Lutheran Youth Gathering.

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY...

**to family & friends of Al Mosher at his death.

**to Chris Tucker & family at the death of his mother.

RUTH CIRCLE

All ladies of Ascension are invited to join us on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 9:30am for great fellowship and casual Bible Study from the WELCA *Gather* magazine. Our study this fall will be on "When God Forgives the Guilty." Our September 8 lesson is from the book of Jonah, *Jonah and the terrible, horrible, no good, very bad day*. Hostesses this month are Bev Broin and Joan Magee. If you are new to Ascension or just looking for a casual Bible Study group, we hope you will come and join us! Copies of the study are available in the church office.

COMMUNION SERVANTS WANTED!

We are in need of **Communion Assistants** for the 10:30 AM service especially. If you are willing to serve, please call Susan Curtis (573-4776) for details. Thank you!



Notes from the Music Room

Welcome back to a new fall! We're excited to start off a new season of music together! The chancel choir is returning to share their voices on the first and third Sundays of the month. The bell choir is dusting off their gloves to play every fourth Sunday of the month. And we're excited to hear from our talented instrumentalists as well as the beautiful voices of our children and youth! Now is a great time to consider whether you feel called to join us in singing at choir practice on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 pm or rehearsing with the bells on Sunday's at 11:45 am. The choir is looking forward to a joyful Christmas Cantata by Pepper Choplin and some heavenly music by young star composer Dan Forrest, with plenty of beautiful music besides. Everyone is welcome to come and see what it's all about!

This summer, we let our hair down singing hymns, gospel, Hank Williams, Beatles, and even Sesame Street songs with the Joyful Noise Choir on Sunday mornings. We want to continue that fun into the fall, so at 6:00pm on Wednesdays, singers of all ages and skill-levels are invited to come to the choir room and sing along for joy!

Megan Miller

INTERFAITH HOSPITALITY NETWORK

Thank you for your continued support of this vital program to provide safe housing for homeless families in the Colorado Springs churches. As a charter member of IHN, we have been supporting this vital program since the late 1990s. We will be helping our IHN partner church (Beth-El Mennonite) when they host IHN families in early September. Our days will be Tuesday, 6 September and Wednesday, 7 September. Feel free to contact John or Kathy Hayes at (719) 572-1052 or at kittypawz@aol.com if you have any questions about IHN or would like to help.

BECOME INVOLVED...

****Prayer Ministry** – as we pray for people it helps us to have updates to keep us connected to the person and situation. If you have a prayer concern or would like to become a member of our Prayer Chain, contact the office, 634-1694 or office@ascensionlutheranelca.org.

****Funeral Committee** – Contact Bonnie Vawter (579-6707) if you would like to be added to the list of volunteers to help with food or serving at funerals. We are always looking for volunteers!

****Coffee Fellowship Hour – Smell the Aroma!** Please help keep the coffee hours going by signing up to host a Sunday morning Fellowship Hour! All directions for

coffee making are in the coffee station, or just ask for assistance. One or two people is all it takes, and you are so appreciated! See the sign-up sheet on the Kiosk in Fellowship Hall.

****Quilters for a New Beginning** – meets every Wednesday from 9-1 in the Fellowship Hall. They spread out quilts in all phases of creation, and if you'd like to help put together quilts for a good cause, come and join us. No experience necessary, just a good heart willing to learn and participate.

****Mercy's Gate – formerly Northern Churches Care** – Pantry items and toiletries are collected in the cupboard in the Fellowship Hall. Ongoing needs: crackers, mac & cheese, oatmeal, spaghetti, corn, green beans, spaghetti sauce, tomato products, tuna, gravy toothpaste, tooth brushes, face soap.

****Knotty Kneedlers** – We continue to make small blankets and now sweaters for the Indian reservations, as well as prayer shawls. If you would like to become involved in this ministry, or just want to join us for fellowship and work on your own project, we meet every Wednesday at 1pm, in Fellowship Hall. Contact Bonnie Vawter, 579-6707, with any questions.

****Terrace Gardens Bingo - Prizes and Volunteers are needed.** We could use some of the following prizes: gently used men and women's clothing, some small containers of ladies' perfumes, adult coloring books, and crayons. Please mark items as "Bingo Prizes" and place them in the Terrace Garden Bingo box located on the counter behind the Welcome Center. We are also in need of some additional volunteers to help the residents with their bingo cards and to help them determine which prize they would like to have. We play three games of bingo for one hour each month and all residents are winners in each game. Feel free to contact John Hayes at 572-1052 or at blazehayes@aol.com if you'd like to learn more about this Outreach program.

****Campbell's Soup Labels:** Please just cut the UPC bar code and the picture of the "point value boy" from the following products: Campbells - soups, chunky soups, Healthy Request, Supper Bakes; Pepperidge Farm, Spaghetti-Os, Swanson, V-8 beverage caps and Prego Spaghetti Sauce. Thanks for continuing to collect these to help the people with disabilities.

****Pop can tabs** help the Ronald McDonald House. They may be placed in the container in the cupboard in the Welcome Center.

SENIOR LUNCHEON

A new season of SENIOR LUNCHEON kicks off at "Rocco's" (3802 Maizeland Rd.), Friday, September 16, 11 AM. Anyone of you 55+ are especially welcome! Call Susan (573-4776) with questions, for reservations, for a map, or to carpool. Sign up at the kiosk in the Fellowship Hall. See you there!!

SUP 2016

Deepening Faith & Friendships

*Select Thursdays, 12 pm – 1:30 pm

August 18: Colorado & the Settlement of the West with special guest, *Casey Pearce* from The Museum of Mining and Industry.

September 15: Perspectives on Welcoming the Stranger with guests, Dr. Eric Sandras (Dr. E) and Pastor Greg from The Sanctuary Church in Co. Springs.

October 20: *Engaging Our Story*, a Reformation conversation led by pastors.

November 17: *Planting Seeds of Abundance*: Special guests, Brad and Kathy Chewakin on Fall Prevention and Lyn Harwell from Seeds' Community Café on food & spirituality. Food provided by The Local' food truck, the Seeds' food truck. *Cost: \$13.*

December 15: Service Project making gift baskets for the children & families of the CLC.

SUP is a gathering time focused on faith formation for older adults through fellowship, learning and service opportunities. If you're interested in a presentation, regardless of age, you are still welcome to attend.

Health & Faith

November's "Abundant Life" at a Glance

"The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly."

John 10:10

A team of ALC members dedicated to encouraging the congregation in living abundantly in Christ is connecting with the Penrose St. Francis Healthy Church Initiative. The Initiative seeks to connect health and faith. This November, the team will lead the congregation in a number of learning opportunities, gatherings, fitness efforts and service projects aimed to help people of all ages connect their faith and health, encouraging abundant life in Christ.

November 1st - WALK TO BETHLEHEM: Walking is mentioned 247 times in the Bible starting in Genesis. Join us on an imaginary Walk to Bethlehem! Our walk begins on November 1st, with a "flight" to Casablanca, Morocco, a walk along northern Africa, and finishing on Christmas Eve in Bethlehem. Together, we will log over 3000 miles of walking! Our journey provides members an opportunity to exercise the physical body by walking (or other forms of movement), exercise the spiritual body by praying, and exercise the mind by learning about different

countries and cultures. Each week we will log our miles, see our progress displayed, learn about countries, and be offered verses for meditation.

November 2, 6:30 pm – Special guests from the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) will share "In Our Own Voice." This is a presentation devoted to hearing first-hand stories of individual's struggles with mental illnesses and how in giving voice to their experience can help others. This is a Confirmation night. All are welcome! Please bring a food item to share.

November 6, 9:15 am – *Adult Sunday School*: A session devoted to addressing issues focused specifically on elder care. Families with elder members and/or older adults concerned for their health and aging issues like memory, functioning independently may find this time very beneficial. Special guest, Katie Johanson, a student under Sarah Qualls, PhD (professor and head of the department for the Center on Aging at UCCS).

November 13, 9:15 am – Sunday School for M.S., H.S. and Adults: Suicide seems to be in our local news a lot. The Suicide Prevention Partnership will present a class that helps answer questions like: What can you do or say to help a depressed or suicidal friend? What shouldn't you do? How do you tell a person you think they need help? What are signs to look for?

November 13, 12 pm - *Service Project*: Share a potluck lunch before joining together to assemble Baby Care Kits for Lutheran World Relief. Bringing a baby into the world can be a difficult and scary thing for a mother living in poverty. The items in the kit provide some things a mother needs to care for her baby. Donate supplies (a detailed list will be provided) and/or join in the fun of assembling them. All ages welcome! A Thrivent Action Team grant will help buy supplies.

November 17, 12 pm – *SUP: Fall Prevention & Soul Food*: Therapist and member, Kathy Chewakin will lead a time of learning for the group on Fall Prevention with lunch provided by Seeds' Community Cafe. *Cost: \$13.*

November 20, 9:15 am – *Adult Sunday School*: Stress is an epidemic. What are ways to manage stress well? How can our faith in Christ and various spiritual practices aid in this management?

November 23 - *Service Project*: Join other Ascension members to help serve Thanksgiving dinner provided by the Springs Rescue Mission at City Auditorium on the day BEFORE the holiday.

November 27, 9:15 am – *Adult Sunday School*: "There's No Such Thing as a Magic Pill": This will be an educational session on the safety and benefits of the many categories of medication. How to become your own best advocate when dealing with the resources available in today's healthcare arena. It will start a discussion on becoming comfortable asking questions about medications and how to create a resource for yourself and your family. Goal: a better informed individual will ensure a safer, more engaged healthcare consumer.

Bridge Group

Our Bridge Group will meet at 5:30 pm on September 17th at Ascension. If your card playing skills are a little rusty or you would like to learn how to play this great game, we have help sheets and bridge instructors available to help. Feel free to contact John or Kathy Hayes at (719) 572-1052 or at kittypawz@aol.com if you have any questions about this group.

TOUR DE VINEYARDS

Many have made reservations for the Tour De Vineyards in Palisade on Sept. 17. For those interested in weekend rides, sign up to "lead" a ride. If you don't have one in mind, select one of our past rides from the web site or ask others for suggestions. If uncomfortable about "leading" a ride, just invite others to join you for a ride. You don't have to be out front actually leading. See you on the trails.

Carol and Bev Godec



**SMALL GROUP
MINISTRIES
QUARTERLY UPDATE**
All are welcome; come join
in the fellowship!

DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS

Contemplative Prayer Group

Discussions on theology and practice of contemplative prayer and contemplative silence together.

Meets; Monthly on Monday at church 7:00 pm.

Contact: Pastor Dan Holt, 634-1694 or office@ascensioncos.org

LIGHT (Ladies in God's Hands Together)

A gathering of moms who support each other in our parenting roles.

Meets; Monthly on Sunday at church 9:15-10:15 am. Contact Katy for actual dates.

Contact: Katy Snider, 603-767-6274 or katy.snider@asd20.org

Ruth Circle

Women in fellowship and Bible study from *Lutheran Woman Gather* magazine.

Meets: 2nd Thursday at 9:30 am in Fellowship Hall except for July & August.

Contact: Darcy Ayen, 488-0414 or dkdayen@gmail.com

Tuesday Morning Bible Study

One of the Pastors leads study on Bible or religious topics chosen by group, or scripture for the week.

Meets: Tuesday morning at church 10:30 am, except during the summer months.

Contact: Pastors Dan or Daniel, 634-1694 or office@ascensioncos.org

Tuesday Noon Women's Bible Study

Bring a lunch and eat while discussing a chosen Bible topic with a small group of women.

Meets: Tuesdays noon at church

Contact: Carol Thompson, 634-0670

Thursday Night Serendipity

Six-week studies with topics decided by the group.

Meets October through May.

Meets: 1st & 3rd Thursdays at 6 pm at the church.

Contact: Rich & Judi Johnson, 264-8196, or jrajohnson@aol.com

FELLOWSHIP GROUPS

Ascension Artists

Bring your current art or craft project or start a new one & work on it with other creative folks. We share and learn from each other.

Meets: Weekly Thursdays from 3:00-5:00 at the church in the Fellowship Hall or downstairs.

Contact: Arlayne McKee, 649-8265 or arlayne@juno.com

Bridge

Come play bridge once a month with others who love this card game!

Meets: monthly Saturday night at the church. Actual dates in church bulletin

Contact: John & Kathy Hayes, 572-1052 or kittypawz@aol.com

Dining Out

Group participants take turns selecting the date, time, and restaurant each month. The hosts then make reservations for all those who are able to attend.

Meets: Monthly on Thursday or Friday nights. Call to add your name to the email list. Actual dates in church bulletin and by email.

Contact: Laurel & Art Thorstensen, 550-2882 or revmeme@hotmail.com

Knotty Kneedlers

Bring your latest project and enjoy coffee & fellowship with others while working on it.

Meets: every Wednesday at 1 pm in Fellowship Hall

Contact: Bonnie Vawter, 579-6707 or bonnievawter@q.com

Men's Breakfast

Get together with other men for fellowship over breakfast.

Meets: Thursdays at 7 am at Big Train Restaurant, 3050 N Nevada.

Contact: Rich Johnson, 264-8196 or jrajohnson@aol.com

NONY (Not Old, Not Young)

We're a group at Ascension who don't fit in with the youth and don't fit in with the seniors, but want to hang out together. If you feel neither old nor young, you are invited, and so are your friends.

Meets: Occasionally. Dates will be advertised in the bulletin and What's Up

Contact: Pastor Daniel, 634-1694, or office@ascensioncos.org

Quilts for New Beginnings

No experience necessary to make pillowcases and quilts for Family Promise (formerly IHN). We'll teach you all you need to know. Kits are available for those who would like to contribute, but cannot attend.

Meets: Wednesdays 9 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Contact: Anita Arends, 573-4747

Red Hat Flashes

Ladies 50+ invited to come out in red hats & purple to eat brunch & have a good time!

Meets: Monthly on the third Tuesday of the month at various restaurants. Actual location & time in church bulletin.

Contact: Grace Buhler, 528-8976 or fgbuhl@aol.com

Senior Luncheon

Dine at various restaurants around city. Good food and good conversation! 55 + are welcome. Couples and singles

Meets: 2nd or 3rd Friday's, September through May.

Locations & times in news letter & bulletin

Contact: Susan Curtis, 573-4776 or sbcurtiz@gmail.com

Walking Group

Walks at various venues.

Meets: Tuesdays & Thursdays mornings as weather permits. Please call to confirm special times & locations as they can change from week to week.

Contact: Wini Klein, 636-1232 or wklein636@msn.com

SERVICE & SUPPORT GROUP

Terrace Gardens Bingo

Have fun helping nursing home residents play Bingo and win prizes.

Meets: Terrace Gardens monthly, 3rd Wednesdays at 10 am

Contact: John & Kathy Hayes, 572-1052 or kittypawz@aol.com

SEASONAL GROUPS

Biking, Holy Pedalers

Most weekends, rides are scheduled. Group members can sign up to schedule and lead rides. Bike riding is mostly on trails, with some lightly traveled roads. Most rides include a stop for breakfast or lunch in support of fellowship.

Meets: Weekly, March – October, weather permitting. Most rides are on Saturdays with occasional weekday rides. Time & location by email & in Ascension Office's *What's up* weekly email

Contact: Bev Godec, 550-9202 or bgodec@msn.com

Camping

Bring your RV, motor home, pull behind trailer or tent and join other folks who enjoy the great outdoors for fellowship and fun! We will share calendar dates and great camping sites with one another via email.

Meets: During the late spring and summer months at different times and locations based on interest.

Contact: Donna or Scott Crump, 622-0927 or donnac664@aol.com

Hiking/Snowshoeing

Breathe the fresh air and enjoy the pristine scenery as you explore Colorado's great outdoors.

Meets: Group will be notified by email when an outing is planned.

Contact: Aimee Calderon, 387-7379 or aimeebuesing@yahoo.com



Spaghetti Supper/Variety Show/Raffle SUNDAY, October 30th

The annual Spaghetti Supper/Variety Show/Raffle is just around the corner! Join us at **5 p.m. on SUNDAY, October 30th**, (doors open at 4:30) for a night of fun and fellowship at Ascension Lutheran Church. Funds raised will support Middle and High School youth at Ascension, ensuring all, regardless of their financial situation, have the opportunity to participate in meaningful events.

The Variety Show Sign-up sheet will be posted on the Youth Board. Please contact Mary Stoneback at (303) 475-4886 or Kim Knoche at (719) 661-7086 with any Variety Show questions.

Tickets can be purchased in the Fellowship Hall between services beginning October 2nd. Ticket prices: Adult - \$10; Child (ages 3-10) - \$5; Family - \$30. Children under 3 are free.

Helping Youth at Ascension

The Ascension Youth are asking for your help in making their Annual Spaghetti Supper/Variety Show fundraiser on **SUNDAY, October 30th** a success. They are requesting donated items that will be raffled off between the acts during the Variety Show. Your donation is tax-deductible and greatly appreciated. Please drop off your donations at the front office Monday-Friday between 9 am and 12pm or Sunday mornings. For any questions, please contact Carie Hagen at (719) 332-3301. Thank you for supporting our 2016 Spaghetti Supper, Raffle and Variety Show!

HS Youth Meet-ups!

Hey HS youth, we're meeting monthly so keep an eye out for times you can hang out with friends, make some new ones, dive into God's Word together and enjoy a variety of activities. Next meet-up is Thursday September 24, 5-8 pm; we're doing college care packages! *Host: The DeLoughrys*

CoSLu is back!

What is CoSLu you ask? It's a group made up of all the ELCA MS/HS youth groups in the Springs. Four congregations including, ALC, Grace, First and Christ the King Lutheran Church are combining efforts to provide the youth in our congregations opportunities to meet one another, and enjoy fun activities, service projects, and Bible study and worship together. As has been emphasized in the Rocky Mountain Synod this past year, we are church better together. As ELCA Lutherans in Colorado Springs, we share a witness not only in and through our individual congregations, but together with our common identity in Christ. Some of us are small, some of us are larger but no matter our size, we are each gifted and so we wanted to explore this sharing.

SEPTEMBER 4, 5 pm...On Sunday September 4, starting at 5 pm at Grace Lutheran Church (1128 E. Boulder St.) the MS and HS youth from the various ELCA congregations in Colorado Springs are invited to enjoy a night together with food, fellowship, Bible study and the Balloon Glow at Memorial Park. Please bring a dessert to share! *Cost: \$5 (at the door)*

Mark Your Calendar for future CoSLu events: Sunday October 2 @ First, Confirmation Retreat @ RT Nov. 4-6, HS Gathering @ RT Nov. 18-20, Sunday December 4 (Location TBD), MS Gathering Jan. 13-15 in Fort Collins, Sunday February 17, 5 pm @ ALC, Sunday March 5, 5 pm @ First, Sunday April 2 @ Christ the King, Saturday May 13 @ RT (high ropes & team building)



September 18 is Rally Day

Sunday School starts off with Rally Day, September 18 at 9:15 A.M. Join your children in learning about the Old Testament story of Abraham and Sarah. In this story, we learn how God makes and keeps his covenant with Abraham. Be part of the fun, see you there!



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Ascension Lutheran Church, ELCA
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Pastor Daniel Smith

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Diaconal Minister of Faith Formation – Mary Stoneback

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Our Website: www.ascensionlutheranelca.org

October newsletter deadline: Sept. 18

*In Our Thoughts
& Prayers*

Beth Ayen (Daughter-in-law of Darcy & Bill Ayen), Chuck Blaney, Dale & Dorothy Brown, Sharon Budd (Sister of Darcy Ayen), Brad Buhler, Andrew & Zeb Dyer (sons of Clarice Lakota), Jacquelyn Ellison (Granddaughter of Marilyn & Troy Goodenough), Tom & Sandra George, Leilani Limiac (daughter of Fairuza Limiac), Hazel Quindt, Jeff Sebben, Jerry Smith, Cathy Stanley, Joshua & Virginia Stanley (Parents of Marilyn Gulliksen), and all of our men and women serving overseas.