



Ascension In Action

Ascension Lutheran Church

April 2019

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Pray, Write, Run

It isn't a time of intense study; it isn't a time of vacation. It isn't a time of monastic silence; it isn't a time spent posting on Facebook. It isn't a time of solitude; it is a time of solitude.

This summer marks my seventh year at Ascension (as a pastor) and my first sabbatical. In the church, a sabbatical is a time of renewal. Pastors and deacons are granted a three month sabbatical every seven years to take time for personal rest and renewal.

Every sabbatical looks different because renewal looks different to everyone. My sabbatical will focus on three areas:

Family Faith

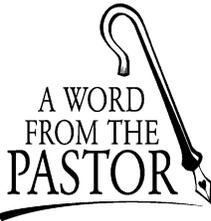
Ascension has welcomed and included me and my family from day one – and I am so grateful for that. But there is one disadvantage to being a pastor: you don't get to worship as a family. And for both Kristen and I, worship is the primary way we experience faith – in the singing, praying, listening, and communing done together. So, this summer we will be taking time to experience faith as a family. We'll worship together at the church Kristen was raised in, Beth-El Mennonite. We'll attend a family camp. We'll pray together. I look forward to singing hymns with Zora in church, not just before bed.

Write

It was only after I became a pastor that I began to enjoy writing. The struggle and joy of crafting sermons awoke within me a hobby I never knew I desired, but also one I haven't quite figured out. So, I'm going to explore writing this summer. Poetry, fiction, non-fiction – I'll try it all. I'll be attending a Festival of Homiletics (a fancy word for preaching) in May, a poetry class in June, and a week-long writers retreat in July. I may or may not be any good at it. I just looking forward to exploring what has been on the margins for a while.

Run

Seven years ago as I was preparing to move here from Minnesota, Pastor Dan emailed me and asked if I wanted to do something called "Faster Pastors." I thought it was a 5k friendly run. Turns out it was a 12 person 200 mile 30+ hour team race. I'd dabbled in running before, but since coming

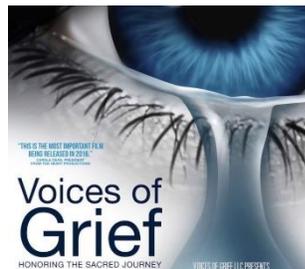


here I've gotten hooked. Running allows me to see God's creation, to clear my head, to challenge my body, and to eat lots of cookies. This summer I'll spend a lot of time on the trail running, culminating in a 50k (31 mile) race outside of Fairplay. I won't win, but I hope to finish.

I'll be on Sabbatical May 13-August 12. Please support and pray for Pastor Dan, Deacon Mary, and the rest of the staff in my absence. Hopefully it isn't too easy without me! I am so thankful to you, the congregation for this gift of renewal. But, I also hope this serves you. In this time of renewed vision for Ascension, it's wise to have a pastor who is centered, renewed and ready engage with you in the mission God is calling us to.

God bless,
Pastor Daniel

Voices of Grief film at Ascension April 13



Are you or someone you know in a season of grief? Do you wonder why you can't "Just shake it off?" or why your loss "Still bothers you?" Get answers and support to these and other questions that surround grief. Ascension Lutheran will be offering a free showing of

The Voices of Grief: Honoring the sacred journey on Saturday, April 13, from 10 am - 12 pm. This beautiful, 45-minute movie offers a refreshing perspective on the many paths that grief takes and addresses the ways our grief-avoiding culture complicates the process. Following the film, there will be a group discussion and fellowship time. This film is all-ages friendly and we encourage you to invite friends and neighbors from the community.

For those interested in ongoing grief support, Jess Reyes, a member of Ascension, will be offering a grief support group using the Method of Grief Recovery program. Jess is a certified instructor in this method and brings her own poignant story of loss and recovery. To RSVP or for more information, please contact Elisa Thompson at 719.641.5184 or elisat92@gmail.com.

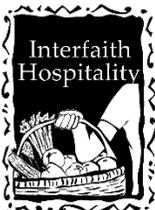


What's Happening

- Pastor Dan Holt opened the meeting with a devotion tying in the recommendations from our Visioning Team. He invited discussion on how well we feel like we belong and how well our faith is supported at Ascension.
- Ann Marie Hindley reported nearly on-budget financials; however, CLC revenues are down. This is an issue for day care centers across Colorado Springs.
- Jerry Dollar, on behalf of the Board of Stewardship, recommended the council accept a large gift from Clara Remele's estate. The motion to put \$50,000 toward the mortgage and place \$50,000 in unrestricted endowment funds passed.
- The council discussed the Visioning Way Point Team's presentation from last month. A vote was taken to adopt the new mission statement, "In God's grace, Ascension creates faithful community" along with the new vision statement, "Transformed by God's grace, the people of Ascension shine God's light into darkness."
- Pastor Daniel closed the meeting in prayer.

- Property and Grounds is having a key pad installed on the Southside door near coffee bar. Please let the office know if you will need the combo.
- The Board of Social Outreach has started its World Hunger campaign. Have you picked up a "piggy bank?" Let's remember those who hunger during this time of Lent.
- Ascension's Book Club is currently reading "Becoming Nicole: The Transformation of an American Family" by Amy Ellis Nutt. We are fortunate to have a community that will listen, share, and respect those with differing opinions. Read the book and join in on the discussion.
- Deacon Mary is organizing a no-cost Faith Formation Worship on April 6th. Dr. David Anderson and his wife Gloria, founders of Milestone Ministries, are joining us for the exciting event. If you can't make the workshop on Saturday, join us for an intergenerational event on Sunday the 7th between services.
- Remember the Free Food Pantry when shopping at your favorite grocery store. We are successfully helping others with this community outreach.

Ascension Hosts Two Weeks of IHN in May



Exciting news! Ascension has the privilege of hosting 2 weeks of IHN the weeks of **May 12, 2019 – May 26, 2019**; because of this opportunity the families will have more stability. This will allow the families more time to concentrate on moving forward and alleviate stress and worry that comes with weekly moving. Routine is vital to child devolvement there for 2 weeks of hosting will give us at ascension the opportunity to establish more lasting connections with the families as well as provide stable living conditions.

Ascension has been proof positive of how our community comes together to provide the best possible experience to struggling families who would otherwise be on the streets; after all we are a community of grace called to serve! Starting **April 7th, 2019** sign ups will be available through our church website, and starting **April 12th, 2019** sign ups will also be available in the welcome center after both services.

Blessings and Thanks! Ron and Debbie Mohler

- Soup Suppers are being held throughout Lent on Wednesdays at 6:00 followed by worship at 7:00.

KPC Respite Center 5th Anniversary Celebration April 11



Join us on the evening of April 11th as we celebrate the anniversary of Lutheran Family Services Rocky Mountains re-starting this important ministry. Tour the Respite Center, enjoy some food, and participate in this recognition. More information will follow in the coming weeks.

Save the Date!

The leaders of Ascension's Small Groups are excited to be hosting a **Small Groups Fair** in the Fellowship Hall between services on Sunday, May 12th. This will be an opportunity to see the various groups we have to offer, visit with the leaders of the groups, and sign up!

Honoring Clara Remele as She Honored Us

On behalf of the entire Ascension Lutheran Church congregation; the Board of Stewardship wishes to acknowledge the generosity of Clara Remele at the time of her passing. Clara left a final bequest of \$100,000 to Ascension. As per her wishes, \$50,000 will be used to pay down the mortgage and \$50,000 will be placed in endowment.

Born March 19, 1919 in Pittsburg; Clara passed on July 1, 2018 at the age of 99. Clara was an Army spouse, raised 3 daughters, and loved the army life, traveling around the world and living in such places as Germany, Wales, Japan and Panama plus stateside in Texas, Wisconsin and Colorado. Her husband, Lt. Col. Jack H. Remele, retired after his tour of duty in 1971, staying in Colorado Springs, their last stateside tour of duty, a place they both loved. They made their life and home in Colorado Springs since moving here in 1966.

Clara was an active member of Ascension Lutheran Church and served on our Endowment Committee for many year. We send our prayerful thoughts to her family and many friends.

US & THEM WE:

By now, you've no doubt heard: Our 2019 Lenten ELCA World Hunger Campaign theme is: **THIS LITTLE PIGGY WENT TO MARKET**. The Board of Social Outreach invites you to join us as we seek to raise enough money to buy 200 piglets (\$30/each). These piglets will provide a source of income for those in need around the world. From the ELCA website: "It doesn't take long for a tiny piglet to grow to 200 pounds or more. And when this not-so-little piggy goes to the market, it's worth a pretty penny. Should a family have a failed harvest, medical expense or other unexpected need, this gift can be cashed in to make all the difference."

Every year, the Ascension Family has amazed me with your generosity in helping us reach our goals for this annual campaign. SO – look for those fun piggy facts around the church. Take home a piggy bank to fill with change and/or cash, then bring it back on Palm Sunday (April 14). Use those World Hunger Offering envelopes. All of the money raised will go to ELCA World Hunger AND help us reach our goal of 200 piglets!

Blessings, Sharla Saunders - Board of Social Outreach



Ascension Lutheran Church Endowment Fund

Thank you and God's blessings for the following gift-away to the Endowment Fund:

Clara Remele memorial

RUTH CIRCLE

All ladies of Ascension are invited to join us on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 9:30am for fellowship and casual Bible Study. We have started a new book, *Fierce* by Alice Connor. Our hostess for April 11, 2019 is Sally Walker who will lead our discussion on Rahab and Bathsheba. If you are new Ascension or just looking for a casual Bible Study group, we hope you will come and join us! Please contact Nancy Shatto for any questions, or a book, at 719-426-9444 or njshatto@yahoo.com.

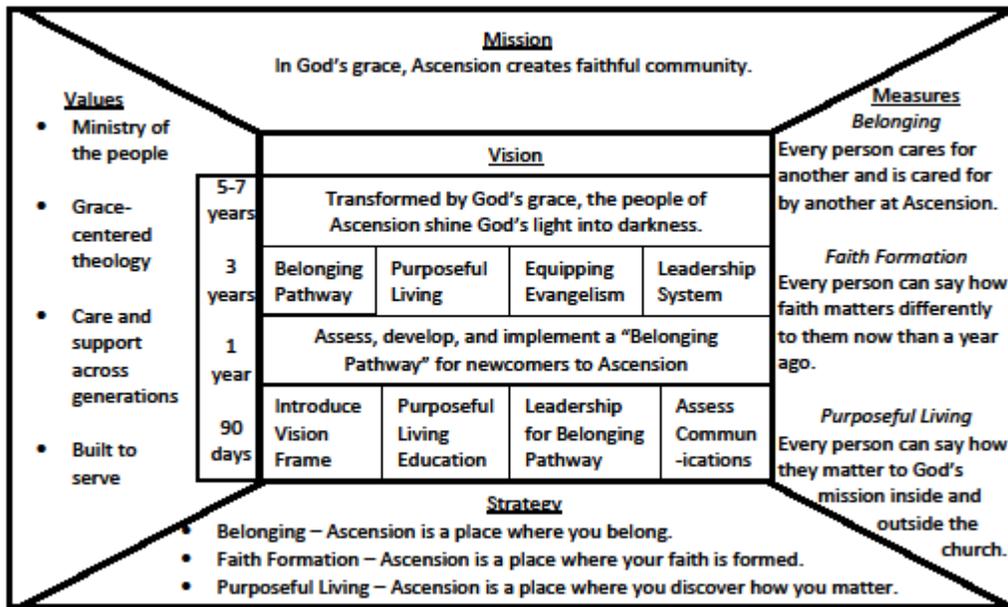
UPDATE FROM THE ORGAN SURVEY COMMITTEE



We want to keep you informed on our progress in developing options and collecting information on an organ replacement for the church. Here is our most current information:

- We are collecting pricing and costs for the various replacement options and refining that information. We hope provide the congregation an informational sheet in the next few weeks, along with an analysis of the differences between the different options.
- We are working on a survey to distribute to all members of the congregation that will provide feedback on worship preferences, the impact of music in the life of the church, and personal preferences on the options for replacing the organ.
- We continue to plan for a congregational meeting between services on May 5 to review all of the information collected and answer more questions.

Please remember to pass your questions and comments to the members of our survey committee so we can be sure to address them: Rich Johnson, Rich Gaona, Gail Tucker, Jim Melzer, Sue Trinko, Alice Deloughry, Annie Saunders, and Dennis Bagenstos. Thank you!



Strategic Vision Waypoint Team

Our Strategic Vision Waypoint Team comprised of Carol Bramschreiber, Sadie Hjelmsted, John Hayes, Tom Johnson, Pastor Dan Holt, and Pastor Daniel Smith has completed its work. The team briefed the CPC in February with its recommendations and the CPC approved the work in their March meeting. This Vision Frame is a concise view of the approved recommendations. We are now working on the first set of 90-day goals. We are introducing this Vision Frame throughout our congregation, our Pastors are focusing their Lenten Supper sermons on Purposeful Living, the CPC is working with the Board of Evangelism to form our Belonging Pathway project team, and the Pastors are forming a team to assess Ascension's communications pathways and systems. The CPC will track the implementation of our Vision and periodically report the status back to the congregation. If you have any questions, feel free to approach any of the team members.



Notes from the Music Room!

As we come to this time of year and I feel meditative in preparing for Lent, my mind and ear often turns to Hildegard of Bingen. Hildegard was born in 1098AD into a noble German family and died in 1179AD as the abbess of two Benedictine monasteries. She is an incredible figure in music, religion, medicine, and history. Hildegard was a mystic, who said that her visions began at age three, though she was too afraid to write them down until she was an abbess in her 40s. Miraculously for the time, her visions were welcomed and preserved, with Pope Eugenius III himself inquiring about them and giving his blessing for her writings after hearing portions of *Scivias* (Know the Ways) read at the Synod of Trier. In fact, she was such a powerful speaker that she traveled and preached throughout publicly Germany, not just in private monastic settings, often calling for reform. As a

musician, her music is some of the earliest notated music, and she is probably the very first woman whose music has survived to this day. You can even find her music on YouTube now. To us it sounds much like the rest of Gregorian chant - beautifully meditative - but for its time, it was somewhat daring. And Hildegard often wrote her own lyrics, instead of relying strictly on scripture and the liturgical mass for her texts. But more than that, Hildegard was a woman of science. She studied extensively in the monastery library and learned everything she could from healers to care for the health of her flock, but unlike many other female healers, she could read and write in Latin to preserve her knowledge. And she had enough authority for her writings to be preserved. In German markets you can still find home remedies made according to Hildegard of Bingen's recipes. In summation, this spring I will look for inspiration to an intelligent woman of vision who lived a life of service, Hildegard of Bingen.

Soli Deo Gloria, Megan Miller

The Five Gifts of Discipleship and Stewardship

As persons of faith, we are called to grow in faith, love and obedience to the will of God. As we are baptized, we take on a new life in Christ and are given 5 gifts of discipleship, 5 ways to practice our faith that guide us on our life-long faith journey. These five gifts of discipleship, also known as the Faith Practices of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America are:

- **To live** among God's faithful people
- **To hear** the word of God and share in the Lord's Supper
- **To proclaim** the good news of God in Christ through word and deed
- **To serve** all people following the example of Jesus
- **To strive** for justice and peace in all the earth.

While there are many understandings of the word stewardship, one that connects well with faith practices focuses on our relationship with God, each other and what is entrusted to us. Perhaps the fullness of the connection can be expressed as how God's faithful people accompany each other to grow in relationship with Jesus Christ through the use of the varied gifts entrusted to us for God's work in the world.

Live among God's faithful people

Among the special gifts from God is Christian community. The Holy Spirit calls us and forms us into the Body of Christ; though many and diverse, yet one. Whether following Christ on our personal journey or as a community, we are thankful for the varied gifts entrusted to us for building up the body and doing God's work in the world. This includes modeling a life of grace, gratitude and generosity.

Hear the word of God and share in the Lord's Supper

As we hear God's word, we hear words of challenge and also words of encouragement. The words of challenge often lead us to reflect on how we can grow in our faith. The words of encouragement offer us hope when all seems hopeless. As we take the bread and wine during the Lord's Supper, we receive God's presence in our bodies and forgiveness of our sins as gifts. While we are broken human beings, hearing the word of God and sharing in the Lord's Supper provides us a peace and hope and joy that sustains us in using our gifts. As the bread becomes for us the Body of Christ, so we become the Body of Christ for God's purposes in the world.

Proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed

"When we think of the goodness of Jesus and all he has done for us, our soul cries out alleluia, thank God for

saving us." This is a paraphrase of a song, but it highlights that when we think of Jesus and all that Jesus has done for us, we do want to cry out because the love of Christ is SO AMAZING! Instead of crying out, we often decide to tell the story of Jesus and how the love of Jesus has melted us, molded us, filled us and used us. As servants of Christ and stewards of the mystery of the gospel, we share a living, daring confidence in God's grace and invite others into the journey. We not only tell the story of Jesus in our own words, but also declare God's work through our deeds of kindness and compassion.

Serve all people following the example of Jesus

If we follow the example of how Jesus served, then we have to reach out like Jesus did and help the "least of these". We visit those in prison and we visit the sick. We provide resources for the homeless and hungry. We provide financial support to those who have experienced disasters. We are set free by the gospel to serve our neighbors through the generous sharing of our time, talent and resources. We give our money to support the ministries of the church and direct it where it can be most helpful. As we give of ourselves, we often discover meaning in life, and encounter Christ in others.

Strive for justice and peace in all the earth

We live in a broken world in which we face war, poverty, hatred, prejudice and other societal challenges. God's desire for us is for all to have an abundant life, but that is not the reality in today's world. Scripture presents care of creation and its diversity as fundamental to our human vocation and mission. Our Christian ethics invite us to acknowledge the relationship between ecological conditions and human justice. As members of the Body of Christ, we strive through our individual efforts and the ministries of our faith communities to ease the suffering in the world. We pray that all creation will be made new, and that through the Holy Spirit we will be both resilient and transformed in our efforts toward peace. Called to love all humanity, we challenge systems that perpetuate poverty, injustice and degradation of God's creation. We are a people who believe Jesus is God's "YES" to us and our lives can be "YES" to others.

We are called to make disciples of all nations as we do justice, love kindness and walk humbly with God. Furthermore, it is required of stewards to be trustworthy as we join together to restore the goodness of God's creation and experience wholeness in our relationship with God, one another and the entire creation.

Developed by: ELCA Faith Practices Team, March 2016

Faith Seeking Understanding Book Club

Faith Seeking Understanding, Ascension's Book Club, will be reading and discussing "Becoming Nicole: the Transformation of an American Family" by Amy Ellis Nutt. This book about a transgender teenager should lead to some challenging and engaging discussion around identity, parenting, and faith. The discussion and potluck will be Saturday, April 13 at 5:30. All are invited. Questions? RSVP? Ask Pastor Daniel

BECOME INVOLVED...

****Flower Chart** – The 2019 Flower Chart is posted in the office for you to sign up on for a special Sunday for you or a family member, or a special occasion. Check with Arlayne for more info.

****COFFEE 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.

****Ascension's Free Pantry:** Remember to pick up groceries for the pantry when you do your own grocery shopping. They can be placed directly in the pantry outside the CLC or in the cupboard in the Fellowship Hall. It's making a difference.

****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.

****Quilts for New Beginnings** – 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 hats and scarves 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.** Our church has been supporting bingo at the

Terrace Garden Healthcare Center for about 35 years. We call three games of bingo from 10:00-11:00AM on the third Wednesday of each month for the residents. We normally have about 15 players. We call out numbers until every player wins in each game. After they win, we help them (if needed) to the prize table where they can pick out a prize of their choice. The prizes are all donated by members of the Ascension family. We could use some of the following prizes: gently used men's clothing (sizes Large and higher), women's clothing (large and Plus sizes), sweat pants and tops (large sizes), hygiene products (body washes, lotions, tooth paste, shampoo, etc), playing cards, some small containers of ladies' perfumes, adult coloring books/crayons, and lady's jewelry. Please mark items as "Bingo Prizes" and place them in the Terrace Garden Bingo box located on the counter behind the Welcome Center. The residents really look forward to our bingo each month and it is rewarding to help them. *We are always looking for volunteers to help us.* We've lost a couple of our volunteers because of deaths and moves. Please contact John Hayes at 572-1052 or at blazehayes@aol.com if you'd like to help or learn more about this Outreach program. *Thank you for your continued support of this 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.

****COMMUNION CLEAN-UP Help Needed!** The Altar Guild is looking for a volunteer to clean up communion just once a month after the second service on the second Sunday of the month. Duties would include throwing the leftover bread and wine/juice outside under a tree, disposing of the cups, washing the trays as needed, and taking home soiled linens to launder. If you can help, contact Dorathy Reed at dreed0258@gmail.com or 262-210-1200.

Bridge Group

Our Bridge Group will meet on a TBD date in April at 5:30PM 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.

Milestone Ministries offers workshops



Coming up on April 6-7, 2019, Ascension will welcome Rev. Dr. David Anderson and his wife Gloria Anderson, founders of Milestone Ministries. Milestone Ministries is a ministry that develops and provides vital Christian resources for faith formation and outreach to individuals, congregations, and community members. The duo will offer several workshops throughout the weekend and will lead an intergenerational hour on Sunday April 7 in between services. All are invited to attend these offerings. You'll leave with practical tools to grow in your faith in Christ. More information to come.

We Welcome the Children in Worship

Children are a vital part of our Christian community, and at Ascension we believe worship nurtures the faith of adults and children. We also understand it's not always easy for parents of young children on Sunday mornings. So, we offer the following options to help both you and your children engage in worship:

Worship with your child. Your child is encouraged to join you in worship. Our congregation welcomes children in worship, noises and all. Better yet, engage your child: Point out the words of the hymns, help them see what is happening, pray with them. For those times when it's hard for children to participate, *focus bags* and *worship bags* are available outside the sanctuary. *Focus bags* help when it can be hard to sit still by giving busy hands something to play with. *Worship bags* have a coloring sheet with lessons for the day.

Take a break with your child. If you need a break, our *Comfort Corner* is located in the choir room next to the organ. The room features a rocking chair, books and small toys, and window into the sanctuary (with closable blinds if you need to nurse). A speaker also plays sound from sanctuary into the room.

Use the nursery. If you struggle to engage in worship while caring for your child, our *nursery* is available for children age 0-5 and is staffed by two attendants each Sunday. Located downstairs, the ushers can help you find it. You can safely leave your children in the nursery for the whole service or bring them back up for the children's sermon, communion, or other parts of worship.



**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: Bi-monthly on Monday at church 7:00 pm.

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

Ruth Circle

All ladies of Ascension are invited to join us for fellowship and casual Bible Study. We are starting a discussion of "Fierce: Women of the Bible and Their Stories..." by Alice Connor in January 2019. If you are new Ascension or just looking for a casual Bible Study group, we hope you will come and join us!

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

Contact: Nancy Shatto, 426-9444 or njshatto@yahoo.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

Thursday Night Serendipity

Six-week studies with topics decided by the group. Meets October through May.

Meets: 1st & 3rd Thursdays at 6:30 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: Rich & Judi Johnson, 264-8196, or jrajohnson@aol.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

Ladies' Lunch Bunch

Ladies of Ascension meeting once a month to enjoy each other's company over lunch. There is no age requirement. Please RSVP to Judy Conroy by the Sunday before the lunch.

Meets: 3rd Thursday at 11 am at Mackenzie Place

Contact: Judy Conroy, 481-9605 or jnconroy@comcast.net

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

Faith Seeking Understanding

We read books that usually address hot-button issues in order to have the civil conversations so lacking in our world. Topics have included race-relations, immigration, faith and homosexuality, and criminal justice. The discussions at the end of each book are friendly, honest, and happen over a potluck! All are welcome!

Meets: Occasionally. Dates will be advertised in the bulletin, What's Up, and on the website. Pastor Daniel can also put you on an email list.

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

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 GROUPS

Quilts for New Beginnings

No experience necessary to make quilts for Family Promise, One Nation and World Relief. 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. – 12:30 p.m.

Contact: Anita Arends, 573-4747

Terrace Gardens Bingo

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

Meets: Terrace Gardens monthly, 3rd Wednesdays from 9:45-11:15 am

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

SEASONAL GROUPS

Biking, Holy Pedalers

Rides are scheduled most weekends. 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, April – October, weather permitting. Most rides are on Saturdays. Time & location by email & in Ascension Office's *What's up* weekly email

Contact: TBD

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. Please contact Aimee if *you* would like to plan an outing!

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



AIA April 2019 Issue #4
Ascension Lutheran Church, ELCA
2505 N. Circle Drive
Colorado Springs, CO 80909

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CHURCH STAFF

Normal Office Hours: 9-12 Mon-Fri (719) 634-1694
Pastor Dan Holt – off on Friday
Pastor Daniel Smith
Music Director – Megan Miller
Diaconal Minister of Faith Formation – Mary Stoneback
Office Administrator – Arlayne McKee
Consultant for Health Care – Dr. Dennis Caldwell
Child Learning Center Director – Teresa Adams
E-mail addresses: office@ascensioncos.org
d.holt@ascensioncos.org (Pastor Holt)
d.smith@ascensioncos.org (Pastor Smith)
m.stoneback@ascensioncos.org (Mary Stoneback)
music@ascensioncos.org (Megan Miller)
takmusic530@outlook.com (Teresa Allen)
t.adams@ascensioncos.org (Teresa Adams)
clc@ascensioncos.org (CLC)
ts.trinko@gmail.com (newsletter articles)

Our Website: www.ascensioncos.org

May newsletter deadline: April 21

*In Our Thoughts
& Prayers*

Beth Ayen (Daughter-in-law of Darcy & Bill Ayen), Brad Buhler, Katie Bui (Daughter-in-law of Anita Arends), Gwen Epley (Sister of Arlayne McKee), Tom & Sandy George, Elaine Glover, Steve Hahn (Grandson of Joan Magee), Cheryl Johnson, Darcy Johnson, Hazel Quindt, Judy Resh (Sister of Dee Yocum), Jeff Sebben, Jerry Smith, Betty Snow (Mother of Terry Snow), Virginia Stanley, Bruce Yocum, and all of our men and women serving overseas.