

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday	Worship with Communion	8:30 am
	Adult Bible Study / Sunday School	9:45 am
	Worship with Communion	11:00 am
	Confirmation	11:00 am
Monday	Staff Meeting	8:30 am
	Ministry Council	7:00 pm
Tuesday	Bible Study	9:30 am
	Worship Team	7:00 pm
Wednesday	WOL Chapel	8:15 am
	Quilters	9:00 am
	Women of the Word Bible Study	9:30 am
Thursday	Men’s Bible Study	6:15 am
	Ascension Day Worship	6:30 pm
Saturday	Men’s Club	8:00-10:00 am
	Worship with Communion	5:00 pm
	Muffins with Mom	

STEWARDSHIP

1 John 5:3 – “For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome.” God’s commandments are not burdensome, but that’s only true for Christians precisely because we know that we are not saved by our keeping of the Law. We are saved by grace. Therefore, we are set free by grace to walk in newness of life, to grow in faithfulness, and rejoice in the Law of the Lord, loving God and our neighbor by keeping His commandments.

Stewardship Report

For the weekend ending April 28th

In-person attendance: 5:00 – 62
8:30 – 109
11:00 – 58
TOTAL – 229

Amount Received to Share Christ’s Love

Budgeted Amount	\$	12,478
Amount Received	\$	14,188
Surplus/(Shortfall)	\$	1,710

2024 Surplus through March: \$18,512

2024 BIBLE READING CHALLENGE!

2024 BIBLE READING CHALLENGE! At Ascension we strive to be people of the Word as we engage with Scripture on a regular, even daily, basis. In 2021-2022 we read through the Bible in two years. In 2023 we read through the book of Psalms. In 2024, we invite you to join with brothers and sisters in Christ at Ascension in reading through all four Gospels: Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. The Gospels are at the heart of God’s story of salvation for us as they trace the birth, life, death, resurrection, and Ascension of Jesus our Savior. The reading schedule is available in the church library.

Each Friday, Pastor posts a video on Ascension’s Facebook page and YouTube channel highlighting a theme or insight of that week’s readings.

Our reading for **May 5 – May 11** is **Mark 5 & 6**.

CONFIRMATION

CONFIRMATION Congratulations and blessings to our 2024 Confirmation class being confirmed this weekend, **Sunday, May 5**, at the **11:00 am** worship service.

Marianne Blank
Noah Maxfield

Olivia Cosentino
Emma Nickolotsky



ASCENSION DAY WORSHIP

ASCENSION DAY WORSHIP! You’re invited to join us for the celebration of the Ascension of our Lord! This festival is the namesake of our congregation. We will be gathering for worship for Ascension Day 2024 on **Thursday, May 9** at **6:30 pm**. Rev. Dr. Sam Nafzger, will be the preacher. There will also be a Ted Drewes frozen custard reception outdoors following worship!

SUNDAY SCHOOL OPENING

Children in Preschool through Grade 8 are invited to meet in the sanctuary at **9:45 am** each week for a brief Sunday school opening. Details about Sunday school for all ages are on page 5 of the News & Notes.

LIKE US



LIKE US ON FACEBOOK Like Ascension to stay current with events, Bible studies, photos, videos and other great resources!

There are four Ascension-related Facebook pages:

Church page: "Ascension Lutheran Church LCMS"

Youth page: "Ascension Youth Fellowship"

Word of Life page: "Word of Life Lutheran School"

Young Adults: "Ascension Community Group"

LAST MONTH'S ONLINE VIEWS

4/07: 304

4/14: 205

4/21: 290

4/28: 251

Note to Worshippers

Ever want to re-watch a worship service or listen to a sermon again?

Ascension livestreams our worship services.

Go to: AscensionStL.com/livestream to find archived services.

DONATE FROM YOUR SMARTPHONE

Scan the image you see here by using your phone's QR code reader (bar code scanner) to be taken directly to Ascension's on-line giving page. Simply set up your account, using your credit card, debit card, or checking account and donate electronically. Smartphone users can also download the Vanco Mobile app from the Apple or Google Play Store and set up an account. Please use only one email account per contribution envelope number.



PRAYER REQUESTS

PEOPLE WE ARE PRAYING FOR IN THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH We are praying for the following individuals as we ask the Lord for healing and restoration.

- Jan, Aunt of Jeff Stiles, God's provision and guidance for her in body, mind, and spirit
- George, student at Word of Life who is being treated for cancer
- Matthew Driskill, undergoing continued testing and treatment for cancer
- Christine, Mother of Jeff Branch, as she is being treated for leukemia
- Jim Lotz, strength in the midst of a serious heart condition
- Brenda Radosh, healing following eye surgery

5-PART MINISTRY FOCUS

5-PART MINISTRY FOCUS

Ascension's Ministry Council has been working hard, meeting in addition to its monthly meetings to update the ministry focus of our congregation. Being focused helps us be faithful stewards of our resources and set priorities as we seek to "share Christ's love." Our 5-part focus for 2024-2026 includes the following key areas:

1. Christ-Centered Worship, Spiritual Growth, and Fellowship
2. Community Outreach
3. Multi-Cultural Outreach
4. Partnership with Word of Life School
5. Intergenerational Fellowship

The Ministry Council is now working on goals for the congregation within each of these areas. We'll be unpacking these goals more with the congregation during our pre-worship announcements over the coming weeks. We look forward to working together as a church family!

CONGREGATIONAL ASSEMBLY MEETING

CONGREGATIONAL ASSEMBLY MEETING All members of Ascension are invited and encouraged to attend a congregational voters' meeting on **Monday, May 13 at 7:00 pm** in the church Fellowship Hall. Items that will be discussed at the meeting include:

1. Sharing Ascension's updated 5-Fold Focus with an opportunity for Q and A
2. Significant staff changes that will be implemented over the summer
3. An update on the next steps of the 4:19 facilities maintenance and improvement program
4. An update on the church budget
5. An update on Word of Life Lutheran School and its new endowment fund

GRADUATION MILESTONE

2024 GRADUATES If you are graduating from 8th grade, high school, trade school, military service, or college; Ascension would like to celebrate your accomplishment.



Pastor Clark will invite you to the front of church and give you a special blessing and gift. We look forward to celebrating with you and hope to see you at any church service the weekend of **May 18 and 19**

DOCTOR OF MINISTRY UPDATE

DOCTOR OF MINISTRY UPDATE Pastor Clark has finished the required course work for the Doctor of Ministry program at Concordia Seminary. He continues to work on his final project and has completed writing 4 of 6 chapters. As chapters are completed, he passes them on to his faculty advisor at the seminary for edits. Please keep him in your prayers as he aims to wrap up this program before this fall.

ASCENSION YOUTH FELLOWSHIP



ASCENSION YOUTH FELLOWSHIP (AYF) is the volunteer-led youth ministry at Ascension Lutheran Church for the children of Ascension and beyond. We have two distinct groups that gather based upon their ages: The Junior Youth

is open to all youth in grades 5 through 8; and the Senior Youth is open to all youth in grades 9 through 12.



YOUTH SUNDAYS

- **Junior Youth meet from 3:00-5:30 pm**
- **Senior Youth meet from 4:45-8:00 pm**

A meal including both Junior and Senior Youth will take place at **5:00 pm**.

YOUTH SUNDAY DATES:

May 19 (Youth BBQ)

QUESTIONS? If you have any questions about Ascension Youth Fellowship, please contact Lisa Clark or Pastor at the church office.

Lisa Clark

(314) 659-7558

lisaclark.lc@gmail.com

SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

SUMMER CONCERT SERIES Ascension's Free Outdoor Concert Series will again take place Saturdays in June at 7:00 pm. The following is a schedule of concerts. A big thanks to our Music Director, Gabe Maichel, for organizing this series.

June 1
Side X Side
(Percussion Ensemble)

June 8
The Bottlesnakes Trio
(Folk & Blues)

June 15
Fanfare
(Cover Band)

June 22
The Knights of Swing
(Jazz Big Band)

June 29
Two Times True
(Jazz)



KFUO SPONSORSHIPS

KFUO RADIO WORSHIP BROADCASTS Our LCMS radio station, KFUE AM 850, has invited Ascension to broadcast its Sunday morning early service from May through July. These broadcasts are listened to by many both locally on the radio and world-wide via the internet. Ascension is seeking individuals and families to sponsor a broadcast. Broadcast sponsorships can be dedicated in memory of someone, celebration of a special event, or in thanksgiving. A sponsorship is \$150. Please contact the church office to sponsor a broadcast. See below for the list of current sponsors and dates still available.

May 5: Don Sprinz – "To spread the hidden manna" Rev. 2:17

May 12: Board of Elders – In honor of all mothers.

May 19: Ed & Lisa Holderle

May 26: Doris Burns, Becky & Geoff Welton – In memory of Rev. Justin Burns.

June 2:

June 9: Richard & Claudia Seifert

June 16:

June 23: Randy & Sharon Agne – To God be the Glory as we celebrate our anniversary of 50 years on June 22.

June 30:

July 7: Karl & Debbie Hofmann – In memory of our parents Earl & Dolores and Robert & Jan.

July 14: Peggy Triska – In honor of loved ones.

July 21: Donna Arrigo – In dedication to our Savior, Jesus Christ, and all his blessings, and in remembrance of my mom's birthday on July 22.

July 28: Jack Pendleton



CONGRATULATIONS!

CONGRATULATIONS to Ascension's concluding seminarians, Joel Her and Michael Winckler! They both received their pastoral calls this past week. Also, second year seminarian Joshua Wareham received his vicarage assignment.

Joel and his family will be going to Cornerstone Light of Life Lutheran Church in Maplewood, MN.

Michael and his family will be going to Trinity Lutheran Church in Friedheim, MO.

Joshua Wareham will be preparing to go to Sri Lanka.

We will be recognizing each of them during worship the weekend of **May 12, 18 & 19**.

May 12: 8:30 am – Michael Winckler

May 18: 5:00 pm – Joshua Wareham

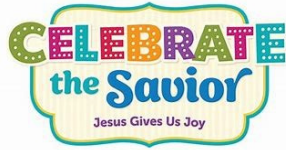
May 19: 11:00 am – Joel Her

Blessings to them and their families as they begin this next chapter in their ministry!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL!

Join us this summer,
June 10-14, 2024 from 9:00 am-12:00 pm, for "Celebrate the Savior" Vacation Bible School.



Calling all helpers! Please see the poster in the church lobby to sign up to help with VBS! Leaders and helpers are needed.

Online student registration is open! <https://vbsmate.com/astl>

WORD OF LIFE NEWS



MAY RESTAURANT NIGHT

May 14, 4-8:00 pm

Panera, Chippewa Location
25% of sales goes to WOL
Flyer needed or WOL needs to be mentioned when order is placed
Online Order Code: FUND4U



2024-2025 POSITIONS AVAILABLE

WOL is now collecting resumes for aide and after school care positions available for next school year. Interested applicants can contact Principal, Melissa Bergholt at (314) 832-1244 or mbergholt@wordoflifeschool.net. Please also contact her for more information or with questions.

PreSchool Aide: up to 20 hours/week, mornings on the St. Lucas campus

Middle School Aide: 20 hours/week, on the Ascension campus

Extended Care: 10 hours/week, 3:15-5:15 pm, Monday - Friday on the Timothy Campus

WORD OF LIFE ENDOWMENT

We are excited to celebrate our 50th year in school ministry! To support our school well into the future, an endowment has been started. Our goal is to raise \$100,000 as the initial principal amount. We are happy to share that \$15,000 has already been raised between a \$10,000 donation and \$5,000 in matching funds from the Lutheran Legacy Foundation. LLF will continue to match 20% of the funds donated to this endowment up to \$500,000 or the first 10 years of donations. More information can be found on the website.

<https://wordoflifeschool.net/endowment/>

LUTHERAN SOUTH NEWS



LUTHERAN SOUTH SUMMER CAMPS Does your child enjoy shooting hoops? Love creating and drawing? Want to try a new sport like football or field hockey? LuSo Summer Camp offers a variety of athletic and enrichment activities with morning and afternoon sessions available. From playing tennis to the trombone, we have coaches and instructors who offer positive reinforcement. Your campers will have fun while learning a new skill. Register today at LSlancers.org/summer

LUSO DUTCH TOUCH SOCCER CAMP The LuSo Dutch Touch Soccer Camp is a great way to start your summer training! The Dutch coaches will be here to teach new technical and tactical skills that you can use in club and high school soccer. Students in grades 7-12, join us **June 24-27** from **6:00-8:30 pm** at Lutheran South. Register at LSlancers.org/summer

CFNA VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

CFNA VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY Looking for ways to be the hands and feet of Jesus to refugees in St. Louis? CFNA is seeking volunteers to drive refugee clients to medical appointments. Transportation to appointments is the last and most crucial link to accessing needed medical care. Appointments are mostly on weekdays during normal business hours. Interested? Reach out to Paige Bernau, RN at pbernau@cfna-stl.org. More information can be found on the bulletin board in the lobby.



Christian Friends of New Americans
4019 SOUTH GRAND, ST. LOUIS, MO 63118 | 314-351-1740

CFNA DONATIONS NEEDED

DONATIONS NEEDED Thank you for your past support of refugees and immigrants who have made the U.S. their home. Many arrive with little or nothing at all and are in need of basic household and personal care products as well as other necessities. The pace of new arrivals settling in our country continues to grow steadily. The demand for household furnishings outweighs the supply. There is a great need for laundry detergent (40+oz size), paper towels, toilet paper, facial tissue boxes, dish soap, bar soap (4oz), shampoo with conditioner, toilet bowl cleaner, disinfectant wipes, garbage bags (13 gallon), stick deodorant, tooth brushes, toothpaste (6oz) floss, mouthwash. Next time you shop please consider purchasing an extra item(s) of any of the above items. Donations should be placed in the box in coat closet.

JOIN ONE OF OUR BIBLE STUDIES

Bible studies are a wonderful opportunity to be in God's Word and enjoy fellowship as you grow in faith and friendship. For more information on any of the Bible studies listed below, you may contact the leaders directly or our Bible Study and Small Group Coordinator Barbara Shippy at bjshippy@gmail.com or (314) 795-2568.

Sunday Morning Bible Study All are welcome!
Join us for Bible class between worship services.
Sundays from 10:00-10:45 am / ongoing
Location: Ascension / Fellowship Hall
Leaders: Pastor Clark & Pastor Kobs

Tuesday Morning Bible Study (Men & Women)
Tuesdays from 9:30-11 am / ongoing
Location: Ascension / Concordia Room
Leader: Pastor Clark
Contact: pastor@ascensionstl.com / (314) 832-5600

Women of the Word Bible Study
Wednesdays from 9:30-11 am / ongoing
Location: Ascension / lower level classroom
Leader: Marlene Maxfield
Contact: marmaxfield@aol.com / (314) 221-0999

Thursday Morning Men's Bible Study
Thursdays from 6:15-7:30 am / ongoing
Location: Ascension / Hintze Library in Church Lobby
Leader: Mike Gibbs
Contact: jackfan39@yahoo.com / (314) 352-1297

Thursday Evening Men's Bible Study
Thursdays from 7:00-8:00 pm / ongoing
Location: Personal residence
Leader: Rob Bremer
Contact Rob: rwbjhb@sbcglobal.net / (314) 413-2603

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY UPDATES

FAST FORWARD We have begun a new Sunday morning Bible study topic. Each Sunday we'll be "fast forwarding" to the Scripture readings that will be used in worship the *next* weekend. As we look ahead at God's Word together, our discussion might even help inform and shape the sermon for the next weekend. Come join Pastor Kobs on Sundays at **10:00 am** in the Fellowship Hall to be a part of the conversation and be a week ahead!

SPRING NEW MEMBER CLASS Ascension holds a class for those who desire to learn more about what Lutheran Christians believe. This is a great opportunity to become a member of Ascension and a closer part of our church family. New member classes meet for approximately 7 weeks, from **10:00 am to 10:45 am** on Sunday mornings in the Concordia Conference Room, and are taught by Pastor Clark. All are welcome!

SUNDAY SCHOOL

At Ascension, we strive to engage with EVERY person at EVERY age in learning more about our Savior, Jesus.

On Sunday mornings, we have a class for YOU!

Students in Preschool through Junior High meet in the church sanctuary at 9:45 am for Sunday School opening.

Toddlers & Parents

If you are ready to get your family in a Sunday morning Bible class habit, join us in the nursery for a special Sunday School option just for you. Singing, activities, and stories focused on God and his love for his littlest learners (and their caregivers). Contact Brittany Schelp at (417) 438-7860 for more details.

Preschool and Kindergarten

Teachers: Marcia Passanise, Dan Passanise & Cathy Kramer

Grades 1 through 3

Teachers: Emily Jones, Brittany Schelp, Mary Pastor, and Aubrey Blank

Grades 4 through 5

Teachers: Rich Schaefer and Carl Anderson

Junior High

Teachers: Deaconess Anna Johnson, Lisa Clark, and seminary students

Senior High

Teachers: Rob Bremer, Jeremy Johnson, and seminary students

Adults

Teachers: Pastor Clark, Pastor Kobs, Gagan Gurung, and John Gurung

Nepali Fellowship

Teachers: Pastor Clark, Gagan Gurung, John Gurung, and Friends

Sunday School Coordinator

Deaconess Anna Johnson

Assistant Coordinator

Brittany Schelp



SUNDAY SCHOOL UPDATES

WHAT ARE WE LEARNING ABOUT IN SUNDAY SCHOOL?

May 5, Lesson 12

"The King of Glory" is the title for this week's lesson. King David prays, thanking God for His blessings and seeking His guidance. As David worships and acknowledges the true God, he asks God's blessing on his household and nation. David's psalm praises and glorifies God as it looks ahead to the coming of the glorious Savior and King.

WORSHIP NOTES

PREACHER: Pastor Matthew Clark

LITURGIST:

Vicar John Gurung: Sundays at 11:00am
Seminarian Joshua Wareham (2nd year): 1st Sunday of month
Seminarian Joel Her (4th year): 2nd Sunday of month
Seminarian Michael Winckler (4th year): 3rd Sunday of month
Pastor Matthew Kobs: 4th Sunday of month
Seminarian Kurtis Polodna (1st year): 5th Sunday of month

MINISTRY OF MUSIC: Gabe Maichel, organist

ACOLYTES: 5:00p Tyler Kern
8:30 Kiera Stiles; 11:00 Kyan Sawyer / Samuel Gurung
NEXT WEEK: 5:00p open
8:30 Liam Travers; 11:00 Fuego Hernandez

ALTAR FLOWERS The flowers that grace our chancel have been provided by:

The families of the 2024 Confirmands:

Marianne Blank	Olivia Cosentino
Noah Maxfield	Emma Nickolotsky

ALTAR GUILD: 5:00p Jane Fryar
8:30 Melissa Maxfield; 11:00 Julie Brock/Lisa Schrum
NEXT WEEK: 5:00p Jane Fryar
8:30 Melissa Maxfield; 11:00 Julie Brock/Lisa Schrum

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS:

5:00p Rich Schaefer
8:30 Joshua Wareham & Steele Shippy
11:00 Joshua Wareham &
NEXT WEEK: 5:00p Rich Schaefer
8:30 Joel Her & Jack Pendleton
11:00 Joel Her & Rudy Blank

A/V ROOM: 5:00p Bella Bracken, Anna Clark, Matthew Hofman;
8:30 Bill Maxfield, Grant Maxfield;
11:00 Vernon Schmidt, Jason Fletcher, Julie Krapf, Kyan Sawyer

READERS: 5:00p Randy Agne
8:30 Janis Nafzger; 11:00 Troy Hansen
NEXT WEEK: 5:00p Tom McCain
8:30 Anna Kobs; 11:00 Carlos Lopez

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK: May 12, 2024 –

Seventh Sunday of Easter

First Reading *Acts 1:12-26*
Second Reading *1 John 5:9-15*
Holy Gospel *John 17:11b-19*

USHERS: 5:00 Karl Hofmann, Robert Hofmann, Ed Holderle, Walter Scoggins, Walt Simpson;
8:30 Gene Bockelmann, Jake Bremer, Rob Bremer, Nathan Decker, Jack Pendleton;
11:00 Paul Brock Sr., Dave Jones, Carlos Lopez, Rain Hernandez

PRAYER REQUESTS

The Church Staff prays for you during their weekly staff meetings. If you have a specific prayer request, please contact the church office.

ASCENSION MEMBERS, FAMILY, AND FRIENDS SERVING IN THE MILITARY

Alex Jones	James Keltner	Daniel Harms
Brian Kitson	Thomas Kitson	Tristan Rabun
	Jamie Federhofer	

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

05/06 Jackson Grote, Ralph McMeans
05/09 Marie Muhke
05/10 Jonah Maxfield
05/11 Emily Maichel

Please contact the church office if your birthday has been omitted in error.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK

05/08 Scott & Wendy Gardner, Karl & Debbie Hofmann
05/09 Mark & Barbara Shaffer
05/11 Matthew & Ally Maxfield, Bill & Marlene Maxfield

Please contact the church office if your anniversary has been omitted in error.

ASCENSION MEMBERS AND FRIENDS SERVING AS FIRST RESPONDERS

Kevin Keller	Phil Green	Gary Steffens
Ross Hetz & Firehouse		Denise Strittmatter

ASCENSION ELDERS and the families they serve

Rich Schaefer – Agne to Broughton
Rudy Blank – Brumback to Freer
Mark Maxfield – Fryar to Hill
Jeff Stiles – Hill-Stout to Komrska
Randy Agne – Krapf to Moffat
Carlos Lopez – Monaghan to Pogue
Jack Pendleton – Preston to Simpson
Steele Shippy – Sittmann to Zaza
Paul Brock Sr. – Elder at Large
Gene Bockelmann – Elder at Large
Joe Benda – Elder at Large
Gagan Gurung – Nepali Members

LCMS CONGREGATIONS IN OUR SOUTH ST. LOUIS CIRCUIT

Ascension	Hope	St. Luke's
Concordia	Messiah	St. Trinity
Epiphany	Mt. Olive	Timothy
Holy Cross	St. Johns	Trinity
Jefferson Avenue Mission		

ASCENSION'S WOL SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS

Doug Pfitzinger – President	Rick Anderson
Jim Fox – Treasurer	Vernon Schmidt

TOGETHER IN MISSION MISSIONARIES

Dr. Daniel & Joan Jastram - Asia
Erin Mackenzie - Dominican Republic
Rev. Matthew & Kali Wood – Indonesia

