

The Acts of Ascension



Through My Window

By: Pastor



Grace and peace to you,

What did you get for Christmas last year? Strangely, the answer to this question for most people is, "I can't remember!" In the past, we encouraged members and friends of Ascension to consider Advent as a time to step out of the retail-oriented holiday season. Some statistics before the pandemic of 2020 are staggering. Spending in November and December tops one trillion dollars in the United States. On average, each household spends over \$1500 on gifts. Nearly a quarter of shoppers expect to go into debt over their purchases, with sales going on high interest credit cards.¹ Again, what did you get for Christmas last year? If the answer is, "I can't remember," then maybe this year, giving and receiving can change to spend less and love more.

Most of us are familiar with the Advent calendars that have small doors with a treat in each day leading up to Christmas. A *reverse* Advent calendar is taking a box or basket and filling it up with an item each day from the food cabinet or clothing closet. At the end of the month of December, take the box to the foodbank or other charity. Look up "reverse Advent calendar" online for many ideas that focus outward. It's not about feeling guilty for buying gifts, but our overall spending can be less. Our gifts can have more meaning with some planning and prayer. The love of Christ can be spread to more people. Generosity can make a greater impact. The Christ child can be the focus.

Looking forward to spending less and loving more,

Pr Jim

¹ <https://fortunly.com/statistics/christmas-spending-statistics/>



Gracia y paz para ti,

¿Qué obtuviste por Navidad el año pasado? Curiosamente, la respuesta a esta pregunta para la mayoría de las personas es: "¡No puedo recordar!" En el pasado, alentamos a los miembros y amigos de Ascensión a considerar el Adviento como un momento para salir de la temporada navideña orientada al comercio minorista. Algunas estadísticas anteriores a la pandemia de 2020 son asombrosas. El gasto en noviembre y diciembre supera el billón de dólares en Estados Unidos. En promedio, cada hogar gasta más de \$ 1500 en regalos. Casi una cuarta parte de los compradores esperan endeudarse por sus compras, con ventas de tarjetas de crédito de alto interés.¹ Una vez más, ¿qué obtuviste por Navidad el año pasado? Si la respuesta es: "No puedo recordar", entonces tal vez este año, dar y recibir puede cambiar para gastar menos y amar más.

La mayoría de nosotros estamos familiarizados con los calendarios de Adviento que tienen puertas pequeñas con un regalo en cada día previo a la Navidad. Un calendario de Adviento *inverso* es tomar una caja o canasta y llenarla con un artículo cada día del gabinete de alimentos o del armario de ropa. Al final del mes de diciembre, lleve la caja al banco de alimentos u otra organización benéfica. Busque "calendario de Adviento inverso" en línea para muchas ideas que se enfoquen hacia afuera. No se trata de sentirnos culpables por comprar regalos, pero nuestro gasto general puede ser menor. Nuestros dones pueden tener más significado con un poco de planificación y oración. El amor de Cristo se puede difundir a más personas. La generosidad puede tener un mayor impacto. El niño Jesús puede ser el foco.

Con ganas de gastar menos y amar más,

Pr Jim

¹ <https://fortunly.com/statistics/christmas-spending-statistics/>



The Acts of Ascension

A monthly publication of
Ascension Lutheran Church

1440 SE 182nd Avenue
 Portland OR 97233-5009
 Church Office: 503-665-8821

Church Office Hours

Monday – Friday, 9:00am – 3:00pm

Web site:

www.alcportland.org

Our Mission Statement:

Go and Share Jesus Christ

Our Vision Statement:

Take part...

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CareConnect

CareConnect Caregiver Support Group is on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month from 11:00am to 12:00pm in the Community Room. Enter through the Community Room south parking lot outside corner door.

If you are a caregiver (frontline) for anyone with memory problems, you will benefit from the resources and support at CareConnect.

CareConnect Schedule through Oct. 2022

Wednesday, October 5 and 19

Wednesday, November 2 and 16

Wednesday, December 7 and 21

Wednesday, January 4 and 18

NewsLetter
DEADLINE

**Please submit articles
 on or before
 Wednesday, Nov. 23**

SNOW AND ICE



It is the season to remember our policy on canceling services due to weather. If a snow and ice day affects a scheduled service, always call the church office to listen to the updated message before driving to church that day. We will also update the website and send out a Constant Contact email, but for those without Internet access, call the church office.

PASTOR'S OCTOBER REPORT

Deaths / Funerals / Memorials –

Esperanza Ureno (non-member) - died 10/3/2022 - memorial service 11/6 at 3pm

Marriages –

None to report

Transfers, New Members, etc. –

None to report

Baptisms –

Benjamin Mora (son of Scott and Becky [Knoke] Mora) baptized on October 2, 2022

Spencer Kelley, Rachel (Greco) Kelley's husband, private baptism, Oct 10

Latino Members and Friends –

Pastor Ruberto – leading a once per month communion service at 4pm on the 2nd Sundays

A new Lutheran Service Book in Spanish was released by Concordia Publishing House, and we ordered 24 at an introductory price of 70% off (\$10 each)

Pr Ruberto has been teaching Friday evenings about the various service settings for use in worship

Hana Laughton is continuing her deaconess studies with Pr Herb as her mentor. She filled in to teach Confirmation for me while I was visiting family on 10/28

Confirmation –

Confirmation began October 14, with 6 students attending

Circuit Visitor Info –

Faith, The Dalles – Pr Butch Olsen is the vacancy pastor as they consider calling a full-time pastor

River of Life, Troutdale and Immanuel, Sandy are moving forward with the process of a dual parish agreement in order to call a shared pastor.

Immanuel, Sandy changed service time from 10am to 1pm in order to allow pastors from the circuit to fill for services

Congregations within Circuit 6 seeking a pastor, Faith - The Dalles; Our Savior - Bingen; Grace - Klickitat; River of Life - Troutdale; Immanuel - Sandy

Miscellaneous –

Stewardship Board

Focusing on the next couple of months as a “Season of Generosity”. I will prepare a brochure that encourages people to consider giving a gift that is meaningful. The board is researching card making kits for crafty people to make for the holiday season. These cards can be a replacement for expensive greeting cards that are not personalized. Stewardship will also encourage the gift of “Music Boxes” from the Human Care Board project - which cost around \$25.

Human Care Board

The Human Care Board will be very active over the next 2 months. Thanksgiving Eve food donation for SnowCap along with receiving the offering for the Benevolence Fund. In addition, they will organize and deliver stockings for the adults at My Father's House. The “Music Box Ministry” project is also moving forward.

“Love in Action” - a new helping hands ministry for members and friends who need help for a variety of needs. Do you know a person in need of help after surgeries, during emergencies, for small maintenance issues, lawncare, or cleaning? Let Pastor Jim know and he can help.

(Continued on page 3)

PASTOR'S SEPTEMBER REPORT (Cont. from page 3)

Mission Board

Met with the Hoefers regarding the Mission Board's activities that relate to Human Care and Outreach

Discussions regarding the role of Mission Board ensued, along with possible mission trip ideas (to the Yucatan)

Outreach Board

The Outreach Board met on October 19 to get updates on progress.

- Word of God (handing out Gospel bracelets, sharing Bibles, and "Bible Promises for You" books);
- Joining Jesus on His Mission (Bible studies and emphasis on missional living)
- Add new members to the Outreach Board - (Jamie Bailey and Pam Eilers attended to see if Outreach is a fit)

Dates and Times to Remember –

Sunday, Nov 6 – Daylight saving time ends

Sunday, Nov 6 – All Saints' Day observed

Sunday, Nov 13 – LWML Sunday (mission fundraiser)

Wednesday, Nov 23 – Thanksgiving Eve Service (7pm) (SnowCap / Benevolence Fund giving)

Thursday, Nov 24 – Thanksgiving Day

Sunday, Nov 27 – Advent 1

Wednesdays, Nov 30; Dec 7, 14, 21 – Advent Midweek (3:30 & 7pm)

Saturday, Dec 24 – Christmas Eve Service (7pm, no communion)

Sunday, Dec 25 – Christmas Day (One service at 10am, no communion)

Saturday, Dec 31 – New Year's Eve Service (7pm)

Sunday, Jan 1 – New Year's Day (One service at 10am, no communion)

THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE

Wednesday, Nov. 23 at 7:00pm we will have our annual Thanksgiving Eve worship service where you will have an opportunity to place your gifts upon the altar to have them blessed to be a blessing to all those who receive them. All proceeds will benefit SnowCap unless you note otherwise on any monetary gifts which will go to our benevolence fund.

If you need a grocery bag, you may pick one up at the narthex entrance.

Thank you all for your support of this amazing service to our community!



LCMS Stewardship

Newsletter Article – November 2022

What Makes for a Cheerful Giver?

St. Paul wrote to Church of Christ in Corinth: “Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver” (2 Cor. 9:7). God loves a cheerful giver. But who is a cheerful giver?

Abel was. By faith, he gave the firstborn of his flock, and it was acceptable in God’s sight. Abraham was. By faith, he prepared cakes and a tender choice calf for God and entertained angels unaware. So also were David and Solomon. By faith, David would not make a sacrifice to God that cost him nothing, so he paid Araunah his due. By faith, Solomon built a house for God, where his name would dwell and thereby where He would dwell to be Israel’s God and they His people.

What more shall we say? For time would fail us to tell of all those who gave not simply for the joy of giving but for the joy of knowing the One to whom they gave.

So also our Lord, who for the joy set before Him, gave everything – yes, even His life – enduring the cross and scorning its shame. He gave to the shedding of His blood, willingly and resolutely setting His face toward Jerusalem to die for the life of the world. Though He was rich in every way, He became poor, so that by His poverty, we might be rich beyond measure.

So then, let us like Abel and Abraham, like David and Solomon, and even like our Lord Jesus Christ, give cheerfully to God for the work of His kingdom in our midst. Like them, let us decide in our heart for the joy set before us. It’s the joy of knowing the One to whom we give is the One who gives us all good things.

CHRISTMAS GREENERY SALE

A Fundraiser for Ascension Children’s Ministry

STILL ONLY \$30 EACH!

(Payment due at time of order)

Orders and payment due on or before: Monday, Nov. 14

Delivery date: Saturday, Nov. 19



Fill it an order form and turn it in with your payment to Ascension Lutheran Church. You may place it is the mail slot by the office door or bring it to church and put it into the offering plate. *(If you do not have a printer, please write out your order with the proper information and turn this in with your payment. Please make checks payable to Ascension Lutheran Church.)*

Any Questions?

Contact office@alcportland.org or 503-665-8821



Christmas Greenery Order Form

Name _____

Contact phone number _____

Item	Quantity	Total Cost at \$30ea.
22" Wreath		
23" Cross		
	Total Due	

Preferred payment method: Check (*cash also accepted*)
Please make checks payable to Ascension Lutheran Church.

Place this order form (or a handwritten order) and your payment in an envelope marked Greenery Fund Raiser.

Return to the church office or the mail drop box to the left of the office door no later than Monday, November 14.

Delivery will be Saturday, November 19.

**Thank you for supporting our
Children's Ministry at Ascension!**





NOVEMBER

BAPTISMS

Sherry Porath	Nov 1, 1945
Rick Vanover	Nov 1, 2009
Lukas Arronson	Nov 5, 1989
Daniel Reinert	Nov 8, 1987
Kaye Beaulieu	Nov 11
Janelle Hart	Nov 12, 1989
Randy Schroeder	Nov 14, 1954
Wyatt Brown	Nov 25, 2012
Ava Wentela	Nov 30, 2008
Natalie Wentela	Nov 30, 2008



NOVEMBER

BIRTHDAYS

Senai Lavadores	Nov 5, 2003
Darlene Knoke	Nov 7
Matt Ernst	Nov 10, 1980
Elliot Noonan	Nov 10, 1992
Van Sooter	Nov 13, 1937
Ava Wentela	Nov 14, 2006
Mae Smith	Nov 15, 1947
Justin Zuriaga	Nov 15, 2008
Sean Ritchie	Nov 17, 1995
Gordon Strutz	Nov 20, 1945
KaiLeah Woods	Nov 20, 2016
Jennifer Alvarado	Nov 22, 1999
Don Tigges	Nov 23, 1928
Rebecca Williamson	Nov 25, 1941
Sasha Harris	Nov 27, 1990
Dale Porath	Nov 27, 1945



NOVEMBER

ANNIVERSARIES

Kevin and Merci McInaney	Nov 7, 1987
Ty and Nichole Fogarty	Nov 19, 2011
Joe and Wanda Cassetty	Nov 24, 1990
Dave and Jan Oswald	Nov 29, 1975

God's blessings and congratulations to all who are celebrating special days in November! Did we miss your special date? Please let the office know so we can get our records corrected for next year!



MUSIC BOX MINISTRY

There is a new ministry that you can be either a small or big part. First, you can donate to the project. Second, you can tell us who might want a box. Also you might make a box for someone, ORRRR, you can do all of it!

This is a wonderful way to spread music into the life of those that need a pick-me-up. It is also a way to connect personally by decorating the box to suit their tastes.



Wooden Music Box Covers



Electronic Music Disk

The Ministry we are partnering with is Day-spring Music Ministry. We plan to get the electronic music devices from them and donate to that ministry. Then we will buy wooden "music box covers to decorate. Please let Pastor know if you want to know more about this exciting outreach ministry!

PLEASE REMEMBER THEM IN RAYER

Gina Kreps, Judy Blubaum, Emily Kohnke (Webber Family), Alondra (a friend of Gina Kreps), Rich Zahursky, MaryLou May, Mike Hatley, Lorraine Haggard, Andrew May, Esperanza Gutierrez, Kim Laxton, Antonia Martinez (mother of Esperanza Gutierrez), Ava Wentela (Sue Wentela's granddaughter), Carol Santorufo (sister of Sue Wentela), Mike Fogarty, Members and friends with Covid, The people of Ukraine, *Barbara Schrader, *Larry Hart, *Dale Porath. *Home Bound.

** If you know of anyone who needs prayer and you have permission to include them in this publication, Please call the church office to let Michele know. 503-665-8821*



PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY

Marie Cassetty Brown, Air Force — Ramstein Air Base, Germany AFB LA (sister-in-law of Wanda Cassetty);

Dakota Saunders, US Navy — Based in Cecilia Italy (godson of Carrie Graham);

Alex Williamson, Air Force, Reserve — Washington (grandson of Rebecca Williamson);

Michael Williamson, Air Force, Reserve — Texas (grandson of Rebecca Williamson);

Jamie Wong-Lopez, Marines — Annapolis MD (nephew of Kevin and Merci McInaney);

Clayton Wright, Air Force — Yokota AFB Japan (grandson of Virginia Jacobs);

Colton Wright, Navy — (grandson of Virginia Jacobs);

Tyler Young, Navy — Deployed (nephew of Karen Arronson).



If you would like to be a “link” in our prayer chain, or if you have a prayer request, please send an email to: office@alcportland.org or call: 503-665-8821

A PRAYER FOR UNITY AS A CHURCH BODY

“I, therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.” Ephesians 4:1-3

God, help our church body to walk in a manner worthy of the calling You have given us. Help us in all our interactions with one another to have humble and gentle hearts. Grant us patience for one another, bearing with one another in love. Grant the Body of Christ unity. May we walk humbly with You, God, allowing You to show us our wrongs. Amen!

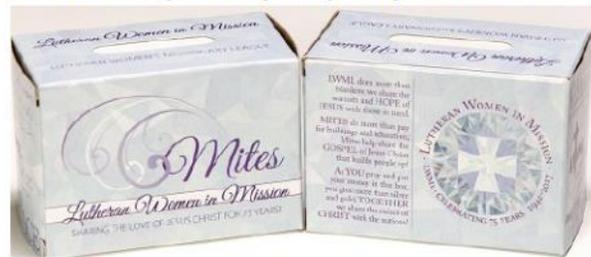
Ascension's "Lutheran Women in Mission" News ~ November 2022

"Serving prayerfully with love and joy in Jesus' name"

"Past": Just a note about our recent Zone Rally at Christ The Vine in Damascus on OCT 15th ~ Thank you for your donations to the Ingathering. A few of us from Ascension attended and delivered the items. Our goal was keeping with the theme, "What's your 80!", in line with our celebration of LWML's 80th Anniversary this year. Someone donated 80 jars of Baby food, and many other items were received, including lots of Peanut Butter and Tuna, to stock CTV's Food Pantry. Thank you! Pictures are on our LWML-OD Website: www.lwmlor.org/district-news

"Present": TIME SENSITIVE* Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church is presenting a Women's Retreat, **"WHERE LOVE ABIDES."** Registration is *open until Nov 6th. It's a one-day event being held Saturday, November 19, 2022, from 9am to 3:30pm. It's a day dedicated to diving deeper into what God's Word says throughout all seasons of life. We will spend time in worship, prayer, small group sessions, and hearing from our special Guest Speaker, renowned author, Donna Snow! Bring a friend, your Bible, journal, and some excitement to connect with other sisters in Christ! We have plenty of room and look forward to you coming for some "girl talk," laughter and meaningful insights. The cost of \$20 includes a continental breakfast, snacks, and a box lunch from Ingallina's (Box Lunch choices are on the registration form). Childcare is available and you can indicate that when you sign up. Scholarships may also be available if paying the full price would keep you away. Register online: www.bsbc.com/women.html Location: Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church • 9800 SE 92nd Avenue • Happy Valley • OR• 97086 • (503) 788-7000

AND our **"Fast Approaching"** - Special Date here at Ascension: **LWML SUNDAY, NOV 13th**. It's our special day to share with you about some of the things we can accomplish together. We especially thank Pastor Jim for his support and participation on this special day. This year's Theme is "For Us and With Us" based on Romans 8: 31-39. This is also our annual fundraiser day for LWML Missions here at Ascension, between church services. Please help support us and our efforts by participating in our Bake and Small Crafts Sale. If you can donate items for the sale, please have them pre-priced and you may drop them off here at church between Noon and 1pm on Saturday, Nov. 12th, or bring them before early service on Sunday, Nov. 13th. And, please check out what we have available for you to take with you for a fair price. We'll also have our large Mite Box on our tables in the Narthex, so you may drop off your Mites too. **We invite each of you (women AND men)**



to wear purple in support of our Missions. We thank you all so much for your help and support, and especially for your prayers for our Missions and missionaries! Our Oregon District Mission

Grant Goal for 2022-2024 is \$100,000.00 (\$75,000 for Oregon District Mission Grants, with \$25,000 for LWML [National]); Mites received as of September 30, 2022, total \$17,034.78.



Check out our National Website video: <https://www.lwml.org/posts/free-resources/introduction-to-lwml-video>

"Future":

Saturday, DEC 3rd — LWML women's Christmas get together & fellowship at Ascension, 10am-Noon. --- Let's share some stories and cookies and sing some Christmas Carols!!! We'll do a "White Elephant" Gift Exchange (or, if you'd rather purchase a gift, let's keep it at around \$5.) Ladies, we hope you can join us &;>).



Celebrate the
Lord of the Nations
Psalm 33:12-13

Looking Forward to our National Convention in 2023, here are the dates and location: June 22-25, 2023; **Milwaukee, Wisconsin**

November Servant Schedule 2022

ELDERS and ACOLYTES	USHERS	AV and POWERPOINT	GREETERS and READERS	COUNTERS and FLOWERS
6 Communion Early Elder: 8:30 Randy Schroeder 11:00 Dan Parshall Acolyte: 8:30 11:00	8:30 Bob Rekdahl Stan Chapulis 11:00 Marcus Young Matthias McInaney	AV: 8:30 Laura Potter 11:00 John Hazen Power Point: 8:30 Wanda Cassetty 11:00 Rebecca Williamson	Greeters: 8:30 Margo Bachhuber Elizabeth Alvarado 11:00 Riki Neagle Carrie Graham Reader: 8:30 Randy Schroeder 11:00 Julie Williamson	Altar: Virginia Jacobs and Margo Bachhuber Flowers: Lottie Guerick Counters: Dave and Jan Oswald
13 Communion Late Elder: 8:30 Randy Bryant 11:00 John Hazen Acolyte: 8:30 11:00	8:30 Stan Chapulis 11:00 Marcus Young Johnnie Driessner Randy Schroeder NEEDED	AV: 8:30 Teresa Osgood 11:00 Michele Sprengle Power Point: 8:30 Taylor Osgood 11:00 Rebecca Williamson	Greeters: 8:30 Carlyn Staudt 11:00 Julie Williamson Reader: 8:30 Randy Bryant 11:00 Julie Williamson	Altar: Jessica Brown Flowers: John and Wendy Hazen Counters: Bob and Elaina Ritchie
20 Communion Early Elder: 8:30 Herb Hoefler 11:00 Bob Ritchie NOV 23 at 7pm: John Hazen Acolyte: 8:30 11:00 Jaden Mundo	8:30 Stan Chapulis Bob Rekdahl 11:00 Jonathan Mundo Joshua Mundo	AV: 8:30 Laura Potter 11:00 J. E. Knox Power Point: 8:30 Rebecca Williamson 11:00 Rosemary Knox	Greeters: 8:30 Norma Dillon Jean Dillon 11:00 Margaret Hubbard Esperanza Gutierrez Reader: 8:30 Jim Eckart 11:00 Carlyn Staudt	Altar: Virginia Jacobs Altar Nov. 23 Debbie Rekdahl Flowers: Karon Keup Counters: Bonnie Webber and Rebecca Williamson
27 Communion Late Elder: 8:30 Bruce Blubaum 11:00 Dan Parshall Acolyte: 8:30 11:00	8:30 Bob Rekdahl 11:00 Matthias McInaney James Freeman Bob Freeman John Knoke	AV: 8:30 Stan Chapulis 11:00 Laura Potter Power Point: 8:30 Debbie Rekdahl 11:00 Rebecca Williamson	Greeters: 8:30 Sue Lewis Heather Guide 11:00 Christina Freeman Reader: 8:30 Wanda Cassetty 11:00 J. E. Knox	Altar: Wendy Hazen Flowers: Bonnie Webber Counters: Karon Keup and Sheryl Maier Nov 23 and 27

November Calendar 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 6:00pm Elder Meeting	2 11:00am Care Connect 2:00pm Crafting Fun!	3 6:00pm Praise Team 7:00pm Choir Practice	4	5
6 All Saints Day (Obs.) 8:30am Worship w/Comm. 9:45am Education Hour 11:00am Worship 6:00pm Online Worship Posted 300pm Esperanza Ureno Memorial Service	7	8 6:00pm Council Meeting	9 2:00pm Crafting Fun!	10 6:00pm Praise Team 7:00pm Choir Practice	11 Veterans Day 6:30pm—8:00pm Noche Familiar (Family Night) OFFICES CLOSED	12 10:30am Chosen 2 Study
13 LWML Sunday 8:30am Worship 9:30am Bake and Craft Sale 9:45am Education Hour 11:00am Worship w/ Comm. 4:00pm Latino Worship w/Comm. 6:00pm Online Worship posted	14	15 6:00pm 3:10 Group	16 11:00am Care Connect 2:00pm Crafting Fun!	17 6:00pm Praise Team 7:00pm Choir Practice	18 6:30pm—8:00pm Noche Familiar (Family Night)	19 8am-12pm Church Cleanup 9:00am—3:30pm Women's Day Retreat at Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church
20 Last Sunday of the Church Year 8:30am Worship w/Comm. 9:45am Education Hour 11:00am Worship 6:00pm Online Worship Posted	21	22	23 2:00pm Crafting Fun! 5:00pm Praise Team 6:00pm Choir Practice 7:00pm Thanksgiving Eve Worship	24 THANKSGIVING  Church Office Closed	25 6:30pm—8:00pm Noche Familiar (Family Night)	26 10:30am Chosen 2 Study (End of Season 2)
27 Advent 1 8:30am Worship 9:45am Education Hour 11:00am Worship w/ Comm. 6:00pm Online Worship Posted	28	29	30 2:00pm Crafting Fun! 3:30pm Advent 1 Worship 7:00pm Advent 1 Worship			