The Acts of Ascension



Through My Window



By: Pastor Jim Sprengle

Grace and peace to you,

"Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer," (Romans 12:12 ESV). Looking through the windows of our church on Ash Wednesday, it seemed as though God had shaken up a snow globe. The snow started falling during the early service at 3:30pm, and by 10:00pm nearly 12 inches had fallen. We canceled the late service that day because the weather and roads became far too dangerous. Some people spent an entire night stuck on the freeways after work that day, only arriving home on Thursday morning when traffic cleared. I heard the disappointment in many people's voices as they missed out on receiving ashes on their forehead and the service that marks the beginning of their Lenten journey.

However, it should be no surprise that our service was canceled. God told Adam and Eve that life would be hard after they introduced sin into the world. From the trials we face in our environment to the bodily struggles we face internally, life is challenging. St. Paul exhorts Christians to "rejoice in hope" because it gives us energy and motivation to weather the storms of life. When they do come, he encourages us to be patient, along with praying constantly to our Father. A snowstorm causing havoc on Ash Wednesday should not be a surprising start to Lent, as we know that sin causes many trials. Yet, we place our trust in a Savior who says, "Take heart, I have overcome the world," (John 16:33 ESV). With eyes on the cross and open tomb, we are given hope, patience, and a prayer-filled life... no matter what comes our way.

Blessings,

Pr Jim

Gracia y paz para ti,

Alégrense en la esperanza, muestren paciencia en el sufrimiento, perseveren en la oración. (Romanos 12:12 NVI). Mirando a través de las ventanas de nuestra iglesia el Miércoles de Ceniza, parecía como si Dios hubiera sacudido un globo de nieve. La nieve comenzó a caer durante el servicio temprano a las 3:30 p.m., y a las 10:00 p.m. habían caído casi 12 pulgadas. Cancelamos el servicio tardío ese día porque el clima y las carreteras se volvieron demasiado peligrosas. Algunas personas pasaron una noche entera atrapadas en las autopistas después del trabajo ese día, y solo llegaron a casa el jueves por la mañana cuando el tráfico se despejó. Escuché la decepción en las voces de muchas personas cuando se perdieron la oportunidad de recibir cenizas en la frente y el servicio que marca el comienzo de su viaje cuaresmal.

Sin embargo, no debería sorprender que nuestro servicio haya sido cancelado. Dios les dijo a Adán y Eva que la vida sería difícil después de que introdujeran el pecado en el mundo. Desde las pruebas que enfrentamos en nuestro entorno hasta las luchas corporales que enfrentamos internamente, la vida es un desafío. San Pablo exhorta a los cristianos a "regocijarse en la esperanza" porque nos da energía y motivación para capear las tormentas de la vida. Cuando vienen, nos anima a ser pacientes, junto con orar constantemente a nuestro Padre. Una tormenta de nieve causando estragos el Miércoles de Ceniza no debería ser un comienzo sorprendente para la Cuaresma, ya que sabemos que el pecado causa muchas pruebas. Sin embargo, ponemos nuestra confianza en un Salvador que dice: "Pero ¡anímense! Yo he vencido al mundo," (Juan 16:33 NVI). Con los ojos en la cruz y la tumba abierta, se nos da esperanza, paciencia y una vida llena de oración ... no importa lo que se nos presente.

Bendiciones,

Pr Jim

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The Acts of Ascension

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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 will begin meeting again 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 or otherwise) for anyone with memory problems, you will benefit from the resources and support at CareConnect.

CareConnect Schedule through May 2022

Wednesday, March 1 and 15 Wednesday, April 5 and 19 Wednesday, May 3 and 10

ALC TREASURER'S REPORT



WOMEN'S HOME BIBLE STUDY!



Join with your friends in this new in home Bible Study. The Study will be covering Psalms

starting with chapters 1 through 10. Contact Bonnie Webber, (503) 915-2771 or Elly Brown, (503) 674-8015 for all the details.

PASTOR'S FEBRUARY REPORT

Deaths / Funerals / Memorials -

- Mary Niska, died 2/27, memorial service TBA by family, probably in the late spring

Marriages – None to report

Transfers, New Members, etc. – Steven & Kysa Schaefer (twins Benjamin and Jakob) - transferred in from Zion Lutheran, Portland

Baptisms -

Hunter Blubaum, Amber Blubaum, Liliana Sweany-Blubaum, Bentley Blubaum, Piper Blubaum private baptism on February 11, 2023

Latino Membership –

Pastor Ruberto – Every Sunday worship at 5:00pm in Spanish began on February 26. Communion Sundays will be 2nd and 4th of each month. Brad is playing for some services, while we can use help if anyone would like to play piano or guitar. They are using the new Spanish Lutheran Service Book along with its hymns. Hana continues to progress with her deaconess studies while staying busy at Ascension, Trinity, and Lutheran Latino Min.

Circuit Visitor Info -

Immanuel, Sandy - I am covering the first Sunday of each month at 1:00pm, while the other Sundays are covered by other pastors in the area. River of Life, Troutdale and Immanuel, Sandy are working together in a joint call committee to interview candidates to fill the dual parish pastor position.

Immanuel, Hood River is now vacant and seeking a vacancy pastor. They are currently receiving vacancy help from Pastor Ted Will, who committed to part time coverage.

Miscellaneous -

Property Management

Roof for sanctuary is waiting for a stretch of clear weather to begin replacement.

Sanctuary lighting is installed and working as planned.

Red van was repaired by Doug Whittier (hole drilled in gas tank by gas thief) - thanks for your help, Doug!

Human Care Board

Met on February 21 to discuss future projects and ideas.

Planning for First Image fundraiser, continued support for My Father's House, and the Love in Action ministry were all on the agenda.

Planning an Easter Breakfast Benevolence Fundraiser - look on the announcement board in the narthex to sign up!

Outreach Board

Met on February 17, discussed greeters and how to welcome visitors, Gospel bracelets, and preparing greeting cards that can be given with gifts from the benevolence fund or other help.

Planning for Gospel Bracelets (including a Spanish version) - ordered Spanish version of Gospel bracelet cards, sent out an email to the congregation for a 5000 bracelet challenge through Lent (help put bracelets together on Wednesdays!) Do you know any businesses that are willing to put a basket of Gospel bracelets on their counters? We can reach out by making them available to customers.

Sunday School

Met on February 20 with all teachers and volunteers. A new lesson plan was agreed upon from Concordia Publishing that includes an online access point for all. The "One Room Schoolhouse" version gives teachers the ability to connect with children from kindergarten to 6th grade in the same lesson. We also agreed on a schedule for teachers.

Terry is working with Brad to bring kids together for a song they will sing on Easter Sunday.

Dates to remember:

Wednesdays, Mar 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 – Lent midweek services (3:30 & 7pm) Supper (6pm)

Sunday, Mar 12 – Daylight Saving begins

Thursday, Apr 6 – Maundy Thursday, 7pm

Friday, Apr 7 – Good Friday, 7pm

Sunday, Apr 9 – Easter Sunday

Sunday, May 14 - Mother's Day / Life Sunday

Thursday, May 18 – Ascension Day (7pm)

Sunday, May 28 – Pentecost Day

Monday, May 29 – Memorial Day

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Marie Cassetty Brown, Air Force — Retired after 23 years of service

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).

PLEASE REMEMBER THEM IN PRAYER

Gina Kreps, Jessica Brown, Bill and Sylvia Guthrie, Jerry and Alma Bangs, Kevin McInaney, Judy Blubaum, Robert (Virginia Jacob's Brother), Cindy Linnemann, Brian Laxton, Carlyn Staudt, Karla Deal, Mike Fogarty, Emily Kohnke (member of the Webber Family), Rich Zahursky, Mike Hatley, Lorraine Haggard, Esperanza Gutierrez, Kim Laxton, Antonia Martinez (mother of Esperanza Gutierrez), Ava Wentela (Sue Wentela's granddaughter), *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



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 Lenten Prayer "Come My Light"

Dimitrii of Rostov

Come, my Light, and illumine my darkness.

Come, my Life, and revive me from death.

Come, my Physician, and heal my wounds.

Come, Flame of divine love,

and burn up the thorns of my sins,

kindling my heart with the flame of thy love.

Come one, come all! CHURCH WORK PARTY!

Church work party! Please join us on Saturday, March 18th from 9am-Noon in getting the church grounds ready for Easter.

Bring your favorite tools and work gloves to help trim bushes, weed beds and plant pretties near the entrances of the church.



Birthdaus

Celia Kreps	Mar. 1	Jenny Schuldheisz	Mar. 21
Linda Strefling	Mar. 6	Karen Zahursky	Mar. 23
Mike Potter	Mar. 21	Tracy Schaffer	Mar. 25
Corey Ritchie	Mar. 21	Luke Teyema	Mar. 30

Margo Bachhuber	Mar. 1	Karon Keup	Mar. 20
Eileen Hatley	Mar. 4	Kevin McInaney	Mar. 21
Ayde Alvarado	Mar. 6	Corey Ritchie	Mar. 21
Ellie Graham	Mar. 10	Ruby Sylvia	Mar. 22
John Hazen	Mar. 11	Pam Eilers	Mar. 23
Miki Etzel	Mar. 12	Morgan Berg	Mar. 25
Jenny Schuldheisz	Mar. 12	Madison Fogarty	Mar. 25
J.E. Knox	Mar. 13	Carolyn Shore	Mar. 28
Audrey Bauch	Mar. 16	Janice Hart	Mar. 29
Don Hilliard	Mar. 17	Hilary Sylvia	Mar. 29
Wilma Mukul	Mar. 17	Clydette Hilliard	Mar. 31
Margaret Hubbard	Mar. 19	Barbara Patch	Mar. 31



Bruce and Judy Blubaum March 3, 1961
Paul and Debbie Walter Mar. 29, 1975

God's blessings and congratulations to all who are celebrating special days in March!

Did we miss your special date? Please let the office know so we can get our records corrected for next year!

BRACELET PROJECT FOR SPANISH SPEAKERS

MAKE BRACELETS

Wednesdays at 2:00pm and 6:00pm March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29.

Volunteers will help put bracelets together during the Wednesday Lenten get togethers, along with laminating Spanish language cards when available



~ OR~

HELP SPREAD THE GOSPEL!

Know a business in town that is willing to put a basket of bracelets on their counter? Family owned restaurants, mechanics, retail stores, hotels - or any place willing to put a basket of Gospel bracelets in their business will help spread the Word.



Thursday,
March 23, 2023
Early submissions
welcome!

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Easter Breakfast Fundraiser



Easter Sunday, April 9 the Human Care Board is hosting an Easter Breakfast Fundraiser between services! The fundraiser will support the Benevolence Fund

Tickets will be sold in advance to estimate the number who will attend; however no advance purchase is necessary!

The Cost is \$5 and under 12 years old is free!

Tickets will be used to enter you in the drawing for door prizes too! (You are welcome to donate further the day of the event for this valuable ministry!)

Check out the white board in the Narthex for opportunities to provide food for the event! You may purchase your tickets between services!

Sunday School in March

GOD CREATES A WORLD AND A KINGDOM

We hope you will bring you children to take part in the Sunday School program here at Ascension! We will be practicing for special Easter music in the weeks before then and also have wonderful lessons for them to learn! Look below for the weekly summary of what will be taught!

LESSONS FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH

Lesson 2—March 5

Today, we will study "The Fall and a Promise." The slithery serpent caused Eve to doubt God's Word with one simple question: "Did God actually say . . .?" (Genesis 3:1). Seeking to gain wisdom, Eve and Adam rebel against their Creator. Suddenly aware of their condition before God, they vainly attempt to hide their sinful exposure. With sin comes punishment that is just; yet our heavenly Father does not leave humankind without hope. Instead, He promises One who will come to rescue His people from the jaws of death and Satan. As a family, discuss the importance of God's promise of the Savior.

Lesson 3—March 12

Widespread sin and corruption filled the earth, but "Noah found favor in the eyes of the Lord" (Genesis 6:8). In today's lesson, "A New Beginning," students will learn how, following God's command, Noah and his family begin constructing a massive ark, with provisions for an extended journey. At the Lord's direction, each animal kind boards the ark, along with Noah and his family. The fountains of the deep open and rain falls for forty days, swallowing up every living thing. Through the flood, God keeps Noah's family safe and lands them on a mountain. Discuss the sign of the promise God gives us: the rainbow.

Lesson 4—March 19

In today's lesson, "A Call to Action," Abram responds to God's calling as he leaves his idolatry and homeland to follow the one true God. Abram takes his wife, Sarai, and nephew Lot as they journey to the land of Canaan. The Lord's appearance prompts Abram to build an altar, celebrating God's promise to give this land to his descendants. Discuss how God guides and leads us by His Word today.

Lesson 5-March 26

"A Promising Dream" is the title of this week's lesson. Jacob undeservedly receives his father's blessing—he and his offspring will dwell in the land of Canaan. As the days of Isaac's life approach their end, Jacob rightly fears for his life. Following the urging of Isaac and Rebekah, Jacob sets out for the house of his uncle Laban. Along the way, Jacob dreams of a ladder reaching to heaven, with the Lord Himself standing at the top. The preincarnate Christ repeats God's promise to give this land to Jacob and his descendants. As a family, consider discussing how God can use even sinful people to fulfill His plans.



Ascension LWML

(Lutheran Women in Mission)

Let's Get Together, Yah, Yah, Yah - Wouldn't that be Great!!! Save these dates and join us!

March 18, 2023 (Sat 10am-11:45) Ascension LWML Meeting in Community Room - Let's get together to review and make some plans for 2023. Do we want to plan a Mother's Day themed Pot Luck for May 6th or 20th; perhaps a donation to Bethesda; a future meeting date to invite our YWR* (Young Woman Representative) to share her experiences with us from the LWML (National) Convention in Wisconsin, that she is planning to attend June 23rd.

Note: April 1, 2023 (Sat) at Trinity, Portland: Tentative date for a Celebration of Life service for Julia Reiss, who was called to her eternal rest on January 10, 2023. She was active in all levels of LWML and served as Oregon District President 2000-2004 and as Host Committee Chairman for the LWML (National) Convention that was held in Portland in 2009. Julia also enjoyed her service when she was a member of the Northwest District LCMS Board of Directors. If you wish more information and updates, contact Mae Smith (maes7010@gmail.com).

April 15, 2023 (Sat) Immanuel-Sandy: LWML Mt Hood Zone Spring Gathering

Is anyone interested in Car-pooling? More information, including the Theme and what Ingathering items we will be collecting, will be shared once the Planning Committee has met.



Exciting News about who our YWR is at Convention 2023! The LWML Oregon District has selected Hana Laughton, whom many of us know from her involvement here at Ascension over the years. If you want more information about this convention, visit the Oregon District's website: https://www.lwmlor.org (Events Page/Convention 2023)



September 22-24, 2023 (Fri-Sun)- Isaiah 60: 1-3 OD Fall Retreat Join us for a fun weekend at Aldersgate Retreat Center, Turner, OR. Regis-Arise! Shine! tration will be available this summer www.aldersgateretreat.com

Please remember to pray for our Missions and Missionaries. Praise God from whom all Blessings Flow!!! The LWML (National) Mission Goal for the 2021–2023 biennium is \$2,150,000. We are filled with gratitude and joy as we announce that God has worked through your generosity and stewardship to surpass this goal. We continue to praise God for His provision and for you. Each time you choose to give to LWML Mission Grants, you are directly pouring God's mercy and message into the lives of others. The people you are helping range in age from little children to the elderly, and their homes are located across the globe. Some recipients may be right in your neighborhood, others are men, women, and children living abroad. No matter their age, or how near or far, God knows the needs of every single person. Thank you for coming alongside LWML as together we proclaim Christ, support missions, equip women, and serve others! If you would like to look at the various ministries the 2021-2023 Mission Grants are supporting, please visit our website: www.lwml.org/mission-grants.

MARCH SERVANT SCHEDULE 2023

Mar.	1 Lenten Midweek 2	5 Communion Early	8 Lenten Midweek 3	12 Communion Late	15 Lenten Midweek	19 Communion Early	22 Lenten Midweek	26 Communion Late
m¬Om∝« —— «m¬≺⊢o»	Elder: 3:30 Randy Schroeder 7:00	Elder: 8:30 Randy Schroeder 11:00 John Hazen Acolyte: 8:30 11:00	Elder: 3:30 Randy Schroeder 7:00 Dan Parshall	Elder: 8:30 Bruce Blubaum 11:00 Herb Hoefer Acolyte: 8:30 11:00	Elder: 3:30 Randy Schroeder 7:00	Elder: 8.30 Randy Bryant 11:00 Dan Parshall Acolyte: 8.30 11:00 Jaden Mundo	Elder: 3:30 Randy Schroeder 7:00	Elder: 8:30 Dave Oswald 11:00 Bob Ritchie Acolyte: 8:30 11:00
⊃отшко	3:30 7:00 Marcus Young	8:30 Bob Rekdahl Jim Eckart Stan Chapulis NEEDED 11:00 Marcus Young Matthias Mchaney	3:30 Marcus Young	8:30 Stan Chapulis NEEDED 11:00 Matthias McInaney Marcus Young Johnnie Driessner John Knoke	3:30 Marcus Young	8:30 Stan Chapulis NEEDED Bob Rekdahl Randy Schroeder 11:00 Jonathan Mundo	3:30 Marcus Young 7:00 Marcus Young	8:30 Jim Eckart NEEDED 11:00 Matthias McInaney Bob Freeman James Freeman Marcus Young
<> ∞ ₵₵		AV: 8:30 Laura Potter 11:00 Michele Sprengle Power Point: 8:30 Wanda Cassetty 11:00 Michele Sprengle		AV: 8:30 Teresa Osgood 11:00 Laura Potter Power Point: 8:30 Taylor Osgood 11:00 Rebecca Williamson		AV: 8:30 Laura Potter 11:00 J. E. Knox Power Point: 8:30 Debbie Rekdahl 11:00 Rosemary Knox		AV: 8:30 Stan Chapulis 11:00 John Hazen Power Point: 8:30 Jenny Schuldheisz 11:00 Rebecca Williamson
GKHH-HKV KHAOHKV	Greeters: 3.30 7.00	Greeters: 8:30 Margo Bachhuber Elizabeth Alvarado 11:00 Riki Neagle Carrie Graham Reader: 8:30 Randy Schroeder 11:00 J. E. Knox	Greeters: 3:30 7:00	Greters: 8:30 Sue Lewis Heather Gulde 11:00 Rebecca Williamson Reader: 8:30 Sheryl Maier 11:00 Peggy Hall	Greeters: 3:30 7:00	Greters: 8:30 Norma Dillon Jean Dillon 11:00 Esperanza Gutierrez Riki Neagle Reader: 8:30 Karon Keup 11:00 Virginia Jacobs	Greeters: 3:30 7:00	Greeters: 8:30 Sheryl Maier 11:00 Christina Freeman Reader: 8:30 Jim Eckart 11:00 Carol Hoefer
A⊐⊢AR r⊐o≩mko co⊃s⊢mko	Altar: Margo Bachhuber Counters: Bob and Elaina Ritchie	Altar: Karen Zahursky Flowers: Cindy Reinert Counters: Bob and Elaina Ritchie	Altar: Karen Zahursky Counters: Bonnie Webber Rebecca Williamson	Altar: Jan Oswald Flowers: Wendy Hazen Counters: Bonnie Webber and Rebecca Williamson	Altar: Jan Oswald Counters: Karon Keup and Sheryl Maler	Altar: Margo Bachhuber Flowers: Karon Keup Counters: Karon Keup and Sheryl Maier	Altar: Margo Bachhuber Counters: Dave and Jan Oswald	Altar: Sunday and Midweek: Virginia Jacobs Flowers: Counters: Dave and Jan Oswald

* MARCH CALENDAR 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 Lant 2 Michwook	2	٠	4
			11:00am Care Connect 2:00pm Crafting-Gospel	6:00pm Praise Team	6:30pm—8:00pm Noche Familiar (Family Night)	
			3:30pm 2nd Midweek in Lent 6:00pm Gospel Bracelets 6:00pm Dinner-Pizza 7:00pm 2nd Midweek in Lent	7:00pm Choir	7:00pm Confirmation	
5 Lent 2 8:30am Worship w/Comm. 9:45am Education Hour 11:00am Worship	6	7 6:00pm Elder Meeting	-	9 6:00pm Praise Team	10 6:30pm—8:00pm Noche Familiar (Family Night)	11 10:30am The Chosen Season 3
			6:00pm Dinner-Casseroles and sides 6:00pm Gospel Bracelets 7:00pm 3rd Midweek in Lent	7:00pm Choir	7:00pm Confirmation	
12 Lent 3 8:30am Worship 9:45am Education Hour 11:00am Worship w/ Comm. 5:00PM Spanish Worship w/ Comm.	13	14 6:00pm Council Meeting	15 Lent 4 Midweek 11:00am Care Connect 2:00pm Craffing-Gospel Bracelets 3:30pm 4th Midweek in Lent 6:00pm Dinner-Soup	16 6:00pm Praise Team 7:00pm Choir	17 & Noche 6:30pm—8:00pm Noche Familiar (Family Night)	18 9:00am—12:00pm Church Work Party
6:00pm Online Worship			1,000		7:00pm Confirmation	
=	20 NEWSLETTER	21 6:00pm 3:10 Group	22 Lent 5 Midweek 2:00pm Crafting-Gospel Bracelets 3:30pm 5th Midweek in Lent	23 6:00pm Praise Team	24 6:30pm—8:00pm Noche Familiar (Family Night)	25 10:30am The Chosen
5:00PM Spanish Worship 6:00pm Online Worship Posted	ITEMS DUE		6:00pm Dinner-Mexican 6:00pm Gospel Bracelets 7:00pm 5th Midweek in Lent	7:00pm Choir	7:00pm Confirmation	OedSUITS
26 Lent 5 8:30am Worship 9:45am Education Hour 11:00am Worship w/ Comm. 5:00PM Spanish Worship w/ Comm. 6:00pm Online Worship	27	28	29 Lent 6 Midweek 2:00pm Crafting-Gospel Bracelets 3:30pm 6th Midweek in Lent 6:00pm Dinner-Appetizers and Desserts 6:00pm Gospel Bracelets 7:00pm 6th Midweek in Lent	30	31 6:30pm—8:00pm Noche Familiar (Family Night) 7:00pm NO Confirmation	