



THE HEART OF ASCENSION

November
2019



You're invited! Come share an evening of grown up fun and learn about interesting places to visit. Plan to bring 2 or 3 of your favorite photos from someplace you've visited or lived and share them. The fun will begin at 7 PM on Saturday, **November 2, 2019**, at the Ciccone's. You can bring photos on your phone, a jump drive, or hard copy to share. Chili, fixins and chips will be provided. Bring a beverage or dish to share.

When you go to bed on **Saturday, November 2nd**, don't forget to turn your clocks back an hour and enjoy an extra hour of sleep! Daylight Savings Time ends on Sunday, November 3rd.



Fall Back



PLANNING MEETING – Wednesday, **November 6** at 6:30 PM we will be meeting to plan the church calendar for 2020. Please bring any dates you would like to include.

Congregation Meeting

A Congregation Meeting will be held on Sunday, **November 10, 2019**, after the Education Hour.

The next free **ASCENSION COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON** will be held in the Fellowship Hall on Monday, **November 11, 2019** beginning at 11:30 AM with lunch served at Noon. This is Veterans Day so, if you typically cannot attend these luncheons because you are working, come join us! Please share this news with friends and family. All are welcome!



OUTREACH COMMITTEE PUMPKIN FEST/FLEA MARKET 2019

Your Outreach Committee is very happy to report our 6th year was so successful AGAIN. The profit ballpark figure is **\$2,200** with a few figures to still be finalized. All 90 pies were sold and all the pumpkins. We were jammed with tables inside for the flea market. Having been blessed with gorgeous weather, some tables were also set up outside. The craft sales were not as much as we had hoped for, but we will make them available to the congregation in December in case you would like a unique gift for someone.

Close to 30 volunteers (including members and non-members) went above and beyond what was asked of them. (Their names are not listed in fear of missing someone.) We are grateful to God and those who helped. This project requires a lot of hard work, but our volunteers make it “a labor of love.”

We are so glad to have this event grow each year as an outreach to the community.



Maggie Larrow



Olivia Owens and Melissa Markel

Pie making photos are courtesy of Trish Young.



Do you celebrate Advent?

A few years ago, my daughter and I did a gingerbread man project with my grandson’s kindergarten class. We told them that we make these cookies every year for Christmas, and then asked the politically correct questions about what their families celebrate. One little guy proudly waved his hand and announced, “We celebrate Advent.”

Do you celebrate Advent? Do you know children (friends, relatives, neighbors) who need to know that there is a time of preparation for the coming of Jesus, our Lord and Messiah? In mid-November, we will be offering Advent calendars for children and teens. Please consider taking one or two or ten of these to share with a child to help him/her “celebrate Advent!”



Thank You, LORD!

We Thank Thee

By Ralph Waldo Emerson

For flowers that bloom about our feet,
Father, we thank Thee.
For tender grass so fresh, so sweet,
Father, we thank Thee.
For the song of bird and hum of bee,
For all things fair we hear or see,
Father in heaven, we thank Thee.
For blue of stream and blue of sky,
Father, we thank Thee.
For pleasant shade of branches high,
Father, we thank Thee.
For fragrant air and cooling breeze,
For beauty of the blooming trees,
Father in heaven, we thank Thee.
For this new morning with its light,
Father, we thank Thee.
For rest and shelter of the night,
Father, we thank Thee
For health and food, for love and friends,
For everything Thy goodness sends,
Father in heaven, we thank Thee.



Please note that there will be no Thanksgiving Eve worship service this year.

FALL APPEAL will be starting on Sunday, November 3rd! These monies will be used to help pay for the relocation of a new pastor and the rewiring of the old section of the church (to remove the aluminum wiring that caused the fire). Envelopes will be available in the Narthex. Just put your donation in the envelope, put your envelope number on the outside (if applicable), and put it in the offering plate. Please consider giving your best possible gift, which should be in addition to your regular giving as to not take away from paying for the normal day-to-day operation of the church. This program will be running through December 1st. Thank you!!





SOAR RESPITE NIGHT will be held on Friday, **November 8, 2019** from 6-9 PM and **we will be having a costume party!** SOAR (**S**pecial **O**pportunities, **A**bilities, and **R**elationships) is for children with special needs and their typical siblings ages 2-10. This free event is a “night off” for parents where children will have fun playing games, creating crafts, making music, and forming relationships with their buddy and other children. **We try to have a buddy for each child, so we can always use more volunteers!** If you would like to volunteer or have any questions, please email soar@ascensionpgh.com or see Emily Marcellus.



This month the **BAND OF BROTHERS** will meet on Saturday, **November 16, 2019**. Fellowship starts at 8:30 AM and the Bible Study begins at 9:00 AM. This group is led by Bill Seitz and meets in the Fireside Room. All men (young and old) are welcome to attend!

MORNING WITH THE LORD – Join us for *Praise and Prayer Time* Wednesday mornings at 10:00 AM in the Fireside Room. For more information, please see Bob Booth.



November Anniversaries:

- 10 Paul & Mary Jasper
- 19 Pastor Martin & Anne Lee
- 26 Ron & Myra Davis



**Birthdays
This Month**

November Birthdays:

- | | | | |
|----|------------------|----|--------------------|
| 4 | Tommie Tinneny | 20 | Justin Vasil |
| 4 | Marty Rist | 21 | Flo Pizzica |
| 5 | Sally Long | 24 | Ryan Preisendefer |
| 7 | Darryl Gunther | 25 | Lois Kitzki |
| 10 | Michael Lipinski | 26 | Laurence Clark |
| 10 | Melissa Markel | 27 | Lydia Jarboe |
| 11 | Jim Vasil | 27 | Bekki Weber |
| 14 | Leona Karczewski | 28 | Garret Vasil |
| 17 | Janine Nicolette | 28 | Stephan Weber |
| 18 | Kyle Agostino | 30 | Gene Williams, Sr. |
| 18 | Patricia Young | | |

IF WE MISSED YOUR BIRTHDAY OR ANNIVERSARY, PLEASE CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE AT 412-364-4463.



Materials are available in the Narthex to pack a shoebox for **Operation Christmas Child**. If you have any questions, please see Bob Marcellus or email him at rembem@comcast.net.

THRIVENT POP TAB CHALLENGE: Please continue to save your pop/soup/canned goods top tabs until December 3rd for Ronald McDonald House. Collection containers are on the table in the Narthex and on the shelf by Barb's desk by the Fireside Room.





A Veterans Day Prayer

November 11th is Veterans Day. Please remember our Veterans in your prayers: Dear Father, receive our grateful thanks for all who have served our country in the armed forces, putting themselves in harm's way to protect the citizens of our land. Help us to honor them for the sacrifices they have made. Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer. Amen.

A New Podcast for Lutheran Women

Lutheran Ladies: Are you searching for a Lutheran podcast that really catches your ear? An audio retreat full of inviting conversations, laughter, and fellowship with your Lutheran sisters? **Look no further!** Join Sarah Gulseth, Erin Alter, Rachel Bomberger, and Bri Gerzevske on the sofa in *The Lutheran Ladies' Lounge*. It's a podcast oasis for you, dear sisters — so come on in, sit, rest your feet, and stay a while. **Podcast episodes are available at kfuo.org/lutheranladieslounge and wherever you get your podcasts.** For bonus content from the show and a chance to help shape future on-air conversations—and enjoy friendly fellowship with other Lutheran ladies—join *The Lutheran Ladies' Lounge* Facebook discussion group: **facebook.com/groups/LutheranLadiesLounge**. *The Lutheran Ladies' Lounge* is produced by KFUE Radio, the official broadcast ministry of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and available wherever you get your podcasts. Visit kfuo.org/lutheranladieslounge for program archives and additional information.



The Fifth Annual **Camp Erin Purse Gala**, presented by New York Life, is a fundraiser for Camp Erin Pittsburgh (a ministry of Good Samaritan Hospice), a weekend bereavement camp for children who have lost a loved one. This event will be held on Thursday, **November 7, 2019** at The Hyundai Club at PNC Park at 6:30 PM (VIP entrance at 5:30 PM). Tickets are \$100 for regular admission and \$125 for V.I.P. admission. The event features upscale food and drinks, 20+ designer bags, a silent auction and more. Complimentary parking is included in Red Lot 6, thanks to ALCO Parking. Tickets and sponsorship opportunities still available! For more information or to purchase tickets for the Purse Gala, visit the Upcoming Events page of the Concordia website www.concordialm.org or call Event Chair Frank Amato at 724-845-7338.



FOR HEALTH & HEALING

Miss Mary (cancer and Alzheimer's – friend of Karen Booth); Bunny Bondsman and Mary Heath (metastatic cancer – friends of Steve and Kelly Vogel); Mason Kelly (toddler recovering from brain surgery – friend of Carolyn Walker); Shut-ins: Elva Fields, Helen Goettmann, Lois Kitzki, Phyllis Kitzki, Clay McClellan, Don Sohngen, Nadine Weber

FOR STRENGTH & COMFORT

For all those who lost loved ones, especially Pete and Vanessa and the Candreva family on the loss of Pete's brother, Mike; the Ciccone family on the loss of Jennifer's father; for the citizens, survivors, relief workers, missionaries, and families affected by hurricanes, earthquakes, terrorist attacks and disasters worldwide

FOR THANKSGIVING

For the healing of Nancy Mahler (friend of Karen Booth); the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ; the gifts of love and God's Word; family and friends; our country

FOR SAFETY/PROTECTION

For our college students; missionaries; our armed forces; unborn children

FOR DIRECTION AND FAITH

For those who are experiencing a crisis of faith; women with unplanned pregnancies

GENERAL PRAYER, GUIDANCE, AND PROVISION

For the Gaertner family; Operation Christmas Child recipients and participants; SOAR Respite Nights and participating families; Gene Williams, Jr. and DiscipleMakers; Pastor Eric Andræ and Campus Ministry in Oakland; seminary students; the residents and staff of Concordia Lutheran Ministries; Shepherd's Heart Fellowship; Food For The Poor; Christian Counseling Associates counselors and their clients; those with special needs (physical, mental, or emotional)

***Please note that prayer requests will remain on the prayer list for 60 days and then be removed unless an extension is requested by notifying the church secretary.**



The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
LCMS Stewardship Ministry

St. Paul wrote to the 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, Abel gave the firstborn of his flock, and it was acceptable in God’s sight. Abraham was. By faith, Abraham 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 I say? For time would fail me 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 – the joy of knowing the One to whom we give is the One who gives us all good things.



www.lcmsfoundation.org 800-325-7912 Ext 1684

Harvest and Inheritance

Gathering is a natural activity often accomplished without much thought to the effort. The 'grasp reflex' of humans is alive and well. The evidence of harvest is obvious, whether gathered for others or for self.

Reaping, on the other hand is more of a consequence, not easily gathered. For sure, what a person sows, they reap. What is important in sowing to obtain joy, meaning or blessing?

Inheritance is something that another person gives to, or for, another. For some, it's a birthright. For others, it's heirlooms with special meaning. For many, it's a natural inclination of familial love. God's Word informs us that 'God Himself is our inheritance'.

A plentiful harvest is a reoccurring reminder of God's desire to give yields that produces sustenance among the living. Around the world, it's a material ingathering that is enjoyed by the righteous and the wicked alike. Harvest reminds us of the spiritual legacy as well!

In collecting harvests from labor, Christian stewards return a portion to the One who provides all for use and enjoyment. Believers give their first-fruits to God as evidence of a 1st Commandment faith. When earthly life is complete, this giving can return a portion of the substance of a Christian steward's harvest, so the Lord's work is strengthened. A joyful tradition during biblical ages, it continues as a tradition in ours.

Truly an undeserved heritage is given in God's yields! St. Peter wrote under inspiration, "Jesus Christ has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an **inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you.** 1Peter 1:3b-4

The gift of eternal life has been endowed on the Cross as an inheritance waiting for all who are called by the Holy Spirit. Consider reflecting such inheritance in your own plans.

Contact Robert Wirth, LCMS Foundation Gift Planner at robert.wirth@lfn.org or 716-863-4427 for more information. You can discover that your congregation has a trusted charitable guide available to encourage you to plan and direct your passion to give to family and beloved ministries, so others might know that your own heart is reformed and wholly devoted to God.



Upcoming Lutheran Hour Broadcasts

November 3, 2019: “Stranger Danger” – Genesis Series – The different ways we relate to strangers reveal the contradiction of being human. (Genesis 18) Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

November 10, 2019: “For Such a Downer” – Genesis Series – The cross of Jesus is not a downer, but it is an equalizer. If you think you're up on top and you're pushing others aside, the cross of Jesus will bring you down. And if you're down and desperate for some company, you have a friend in the crucified Jesus. (Genesis 21) Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

November 17, 2019: “The Dawn Wall” – Genesis Series – Sacrifice is acting on the hope of a better future by offering up something valuable in the present. (Genesis 22) Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

November 24, 2019: “God Is Love” (1 John 4:7-12) Guest Speaker: Pastor Jeff Cloeter
Lutheran Hour broadcasts can be heard on WWNL/1080 AM on Saturdays at 3:30 PM and on Sundays at 8:00 AM. You may also read the sermon or listen to it at <https://www.lutheranhour.org/sermon.asp>.



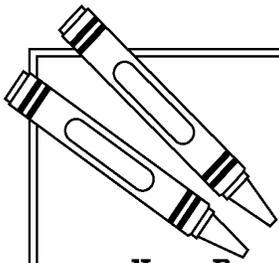
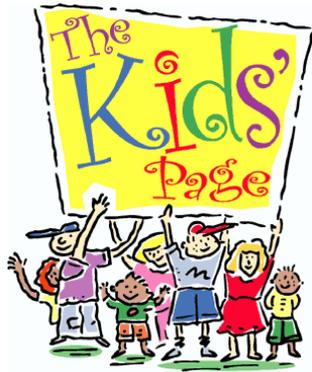
ADVENT DEVOTIONS: “Call His Name Jesus” ADVENT BEGINS DECEMBER 1ST!

2019 Advent Devotions are entitled: “*Call His Name Jesus.*” The devotions focus attention on when God became one of us ... born poorly, humbly, and vulnerably into this world of sin and darkness. “This is the start of God’s final act to save us,” said Dr. Kari Vo, theological writer for LHM and the author of this year’s devotions. The devotions can be used to complement a family or group Bible study. The reflection questions help users ponder the text and provide a jumping-off place for group discussion. The devotions can be received as an e-mail subscription throughout the holidays; they can also be read online, heard as a podcast, or downloaded at www.lhm.org/advent. Copies will be on the table in the Narthex mid-November.

Podcast: “Speaking of Jesus”

The Barna (evangelical Christian polling) group found that less than one in ten Americans has a conversation about God, faith, and spirituality once a month. In addition, 70% of self-identified Christians are reluctant to have a spiritual conversation with anyone, even with other Christians. Therefore, LHM aims to inspire individuals to have more spiritual discussions in their home, digitally, and throughout their community in order that more individuals may come to know Him personally. Each week four or five Christians (from different walks/stages of life, and different family backgrounds) have a real conversation about Jesus, His relevance, what He means to them, and how to apply to their daily life. The podcast, “Speaking of Jesus” is unscripted, yet focused. For more information, and to find podcast locations, visit: www.lhm.org/podcasts.





Just for KIDS

King David's Prayer of Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving is a special time to thank God for all He has given us.

Use the code to fill in the missing words from a portion of King David's prayer from 1 Chronicles 29:10-13 (NIV).

CODE	1 = everlasting	6 = honor	11 = ruler
	2 = exalted	7 = kingdom	12 = thanks
	3 = glorious	8 = LORD	13 = things
	4 = God	9 = O	14 = wealth
	5 = head	10 = praise	15 = you

" _____ be to _____, _____, ...
 (10) (15) (9) (8)

from _____ to _____ ...
 (1) (1)

Yours, _____, _____, is the _____;
 (9) (9) (7)

_____ are _____ as _____ over all.
 (15) (2) (5)

_____ and _____ come from _____;
 (14) (6) (15)

_____ are the _____ of all _____.
 (15) (11) (13)

Now, our _____, we give _____, _____,
 (4) (15) (12)

and _____ your _____ name."
 (10) (3)

"Praise be to you, O LORD, ... from everlasting to everlasting. ... Yours, O LORD, is the kingdom; you are exalted as head over all. Wealth and honor come from you; you are the ruler of all things. Now, our God, we give you thanks, and praise your glorious name."

MAKE A TABLE LANTERN

Make this candleholder to decorate your family's

Thanksgiving dinner table.

What you need:

- Tiny leaves
- Glue
- Small glass jar with a wide mouth (salsa jars work great)
- Colored tissue paper (use fall colors if you can)
- Paintbrush
- Small votive candle

How to make it:

1. Collect tiny autumn leaves.
2. Glue the leaves to the outside of the jar.
3. Tear tissue paper into small pieces.
4. Use the paintbrush to cover the outside of the jar (including the leaves) with glue. Work on small parts of the jar at a time.
5. Lightly press the tissue paper pieces onto the glue until the entire outside of the jar is covered.
6. When the jar is completely dry, place the candle inside.
7. Ask an adult to light the candle during Thanksgiving dinner.



**ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH
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PITTSBURGH, PA 15237**

Address Correction Requested

SUNDAY SCHEDULE:

Prayer time at 8:45 AM in Fireside Room
Worship Service: **Sunday at 9:30 AM**
Christian Education: **11:00 AM**

Office Hours:

Monday – Friday **9:00 AM-Noon; 1:00-4:00 PM**

**OUR MISSION AND VISION
STATEMENT:**

Acknowledging the great gift of God the Father in sending His Son, Jesus Christ, as our Savior, we the people of Ascension Lutheran Church, as guided by the Holy Spirit, are committed to the furtherance of God's Kingdom. We will share and live the Gospel in our homes, our church, our community, and the world. Motivated by Christ's love for us, we are dedicated to spiritual growth and unity, worship and fellowship, and compassionate service. We recognize this as our common purpose and pray that God will enable us by His strength and wisdom to seek His will.

THE HEART OF ASCENSION

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Barbara Marcellus is the Editor.

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