



# THE MESSENGER



Ascension Lutheran Church

## **“Belong, Believe and Become all that God Promises”**

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When we give to God, he multiplies it.

God’s blessing to us is when we give, because our generous giving helps his work on earth to grow. God promises to multiply what we give to him, and He will use your giving to grow generosity in others. They will see that we trust Him in all things, and they will bless us. Those blessings will reap a harvest that God can multiply for His kingdom in ways we could never imagine.

The apostle Paul quotes Jesus as saying, “it is more blessed to give than to receive”. (Acts 20: 35) Jesus is saying that when we give – whether it is time, energy, service, encouragement, resource, or whatever- there is a greater blessing than when we are on the receiving end.

There is no limit for God on how many blessings He wants us to receive. He wants to see His children happy and content. He blesses us to wake up each day, walk, talk, see, feel, touch and I could go on and on. Those are a whole lot of blessings. God blesses us in so many ways and we should be thankful for that. Prayer is the simplest and surest way to convey appreciation to our Lord. Sincere simple prayer, given from the heart and expressing our thanks for the precious gift of life.

God bless us in the church too. When we come together, we praise Him and share the spiritual food that makes us grow in faith and gratitude for sacrifice on the cross. God delights when sisters and brothers gather in His name to give and receive.

The Bible is telling us that there is more joy in giving than in receiving. Whether it’s monetary or anything else, let us do it with joy and happiness because God rejoices and gives back in blessings. But also, when we give, it gives us the joy that others will also be blessed. God blesses all those who give without expecting anything in return because they will receive a reward from our Father.

Pastor Emilce Erato



***The following need your prayers...***

Andrea, Stephanie Baio, Bill Ciampa, Gray Collingwood, Chris Dand, Elsie, Sylvia Erato, Lucille Fritz, Brian and Dylan Gasperetti, Hunter George, Andrea Graham, Teagan Graham, Kathryn Graven, Paul Haas, Jarien Hillock, Virginia Heinsch, Angela Herber, Joanne Kempel, Cynthia Listort, Amanda Marascia, Bill and Fran McGowan, Chuck Miata, Nicki, Marlene Proct, Schneider family, Moira Sheldon, Donna Slyman, Robert Smith, Peter Stevenson, Miriam Valder, Barbara Walsh, James Wheeler, and Kenneth Wheeler.



Mondays

11-12 p.m. Brew Crew-AA

Tuesdays

11-12 p.m. Brew Crew-AA

Council 10 a.m. 3/19

3:30-5 p.m. Girl Scouts 3/26

6-8:30 p.m. Power Up-Tae Kwon Do

Wednesdays

11-12 p.m. New Life-AA

Road to Recovery 7:15-8:30 p.m.

Thursdays

6-7:30 p.m. Power Up-Tae Kwon Do

Fridays

11-12 p.m. New Life-AA

Saturdays

9-11:15 a.m. Road to Recovery-AA

Sundays

10:30 a.m. Worship Service



Annabelle Skarda      March 8  
Jim Brosnan            March 17  
Trevor Gasperetti      March 31

**Join us during this Lenten Season.**



Good news from the Graham Family

Aidan passed his Doctoral Boards so now he is officially a Doctor of Physical Therapy!  
Declan received a promotion at work as of the New Year!  
Teagan took his road test and passed the first time!



## Memorial Fund

A gift has been given in memory of Matthew Castel by Lois Altvater.

A gift has been given in memory of dear friend, Gail C. Streich. RIP Gail. Always in my heart, never forgotten. All our love Harriet & Emily (Orso) Wheeler.

A gift has been given in memory of Edith Benning by Harriet Wheeler.

A gift has been given in memory of Edith Benning by Caren & Helmut Prill.

A gift has been given in memory of Edith Benning by Eleanor & Guenter Betz.

## MARCH OUTREACH

### ELCA Good Gifts

ELCA Good Gifts provides more than 50 different gift-giving options that grow the church, fight hunger and transform lives. These gifts, starting at just \$10, provide direct support for the church wide ministries of the ELCA.



## Easter Flowers 2024

**\$15 for tulips or daffodils**

**\$18 for lilies**

**Order by March 17<sup>th</sup>**

Lily \_\_\_\_\_

Tulip \_\_\_\_\_

Daffodil \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Envelope # \_\_\_\_\_

# of plants \_\_\_\_\_

Amount enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

*Please dedicate my plants in the bulletin as follows (Please print).*

In memory of


\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

by \_\_\_\_\_

In honor of

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

by \_\_\_\_\_



# HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SCHEDULE

**Palm Sunday 10:30 a.m.**

Reading of the Passion according to Mark.



**Maundy Thursday 11:00 a.m.**



**Good Friday 11:00 a.m.**



**Easter Sunday 10:30 a.m.**



## *Church Council*

### *The Good News and the Bad News*

The good news is we are near the finish line from our flood last May. All paid by insurance, we have had ceilings, flooring and cabinets replaced on all 3 levels in the parish hall.

The bad news is we are very close to needing to close our doors. We have spoken for years about our financials. Stock market fluctuations as well as a severe decline in attendance have affected us. We have gas, electric, water, copier, cleaning, landscaping and insurance bills on top of salaries to be paid out and not enough money coming in to cover these bills which forces us to withdraw from our "savings".

If you haven't been able to attend in a while (we have had a cold winter) or if you have relocated, please consider mailing an offering or dropping one off soon. The office is staffed Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to noon and we have a locked mailbox outside the door. We celebrated 100 years in May 2023, let's not make that the end for Ascension.

