



# Ascension News

One church, One Body, One Spirit, Serving all People.  
Una Iglesia, Un Cuerpo, Un Espíritu, Siviendo a todo los personas.  
Ib Lub Tuamtsev, Ib Lub Cev, Ib Tug Ntsujplig Ua Num Rua.

## Holy Week Worship

Dear Friends in Christ,

**Palm/Passion Sunday, April 10** – 9:00 am in English, 10:15 am in Spanish and 11:30 am in Hmong

Liturgy will start in Commons with palm branches. We will process into the sanctuary for the Passion part of the liturgy. Communion will be served.

**Maundy Thursday, April 14** - 11:00 am and 6:45 pm in English, 6:00 pm in Spanish

Our worship focuses on Jesus' Last Supper and Holy Communion.

Pastor Novelli is planning a 6:00 pm Maundy Thursday worship service in Spanish at Ascension, to which members of Santa Fe Lutheran Church are invited.

**Good Friday, April 15** - 11:00 am and 6:45 pm in English

Worship will focus on Christ's crucifixion with what's called a Tenebrae service. This is a service that starts with all the lights on and slowly gets darker as the service continues until there's only one candle left burning.

Pastor Novelli is planning a 6:00 pm Good Friday worship service in Spanish at Santa Fe Lutheran Church, to which members of Ascension are invited.

**Easter Sunday, April 17** - Combined worship at 10:00 am celebrating Christ's resurrection.

Pastor Bill



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## Worship schedule

English: 9:00 am

Spanish: 10:15 am

Hmong: 11:30 am

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## Building Team Update

The Building Team has been focused on interior and exterior building safety. An electrical contractor has been engaged to correct lighting problems in the front courtyard and replace lamps in the parking lot with LED lamps to increase illumination. A tree removal service will be removing dead trees along 26th Street. We continue to study and search for cameras to provide surveillance around the exterior of the building. Finally, an active shooter workshop lead by MPD Officer Eric Schilling-Mess is scheduled for March 28 at 5:00pm in the sanctuary. Tenants and leadership members have been invited to attend. Members of the congregation are also welcome.

Finishing touches to the chapel lounge are also underway to complete it for use.

Members of the Building Team include: José Guerrero, Tom Kaschak, Chuck Kudy, Diane Loppnow, Jack Loppnow, Art Maes, and Ed Riebe

## Roof Work Resumes!

Reports from our roofing contractor, Noffke, indicate that work on the roof may begin again in April, weather permitting.

## AMIS Update

AMIS's theme is Blessed to Be a Blessing. Our funds are small, but we voted to donate to the ELCA Disaster Response, where the money will be sent to Ukraine. We pray that you have done the same.

Jan Fox, AMIS Coordinator



## More Than a Roof Campaign Update

With joy and gratitude, the campaign steering committee is thrilled to announce that as of March 19, the total pledged for the campaign is \$681,858!

We are grateful for everyone who has responded to support this critical work.



## From Ascension Human Resources

We are continuing to seek a food pantry coordinator to fill the opening we have resulting from the retirement of David DeHayes. This is a very important service to our community. Increasing prices and the pandemic have placed difficult burdens on families with limited resources. This ministry has been active through the pandemic and families have become dependent on the food provided. Ascension has a dedicated corps of volunteers who bag and hand out these groceries at a drive-through event in our parking lot. They will testify that this is a wonderful way to serve.

Our food pantry distributes food on the 1st and 3rd Thursday mornings of the month. General responsibilities of the coordinator include:

- Collection of food from local food donation organizations
- Management of collected food at Ascension
- Supervision of food pantry volunteers in the packing and distribution of food

This part-time position requires physical strength to lift food crates and a vehicle capable of transporting large boxes of food materials. It is subsidized with an hourly wage and a mileage allowance. This service has meant a great deal to area families that have suffered through the pandemic. We pray for a leader to come forward and continue this work.



## ELCA Disaster Response

Your gifts designated for “Eastern Europe Crisis Response” will be used entirely (100%) to provide support for people impacted by conflict in the region.

Give through your congregation or make your check out to *Lutheran Disaster Response* and send to:

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, ELCA Gifts Processing Center, P.O. Box 1809, Merrifield, VA 22116-8009 and write “Eastern Europe Crisis Response” or “Where needed most” on your check’s memo line.

## Clarke Square Spotlight:

### Botanica & Gift Shop



Daniel Saucedo  
| Botanica & Gift Shop

National Avenue is home to many entrepreneurs. It is also where you can find Botanica & Gift Shop, specializing in spiritual products and services. CSNI talked with business owner Daniel Saucedo about his business and the inspiration for it. “Since childhood, it has always been my dream to start my own business,” Saucedo recalled. “I credit my entrepreneurial spirit to my mother who created and sold candles in my hometown of Honduras [...] My upbringing was filled with nature and our family embraced the healing elements that the Earth

provides for those suffering with an ailment. As an adult, I have continued to lean on and grow my spiritual practices and when I decided to start my own business it felt like a clear choice.”

Originally located on Cesar E. Chavez Drive for several years, Saucedo moved his business to National Avenue & 22nd Street, where he has enjoyed getting to know his many neighbors and their businesses. He said that by far most of his customers come in through word of mouth or just sheer interest in seeing the store from the street. “We offer various spiritual products as well as spiritual help—my store is truly unique in this way, because it provides customers with not only products but tools that are not found at other botanica shops in Milwaukee.”

When asked what advice he has for other business owners in the area, Saucedo had the following to say: “Never think you will not be able to have your own business and that as soon as they lay the first stone of their business, help from the community and business neighbors will be made available to support their business venture. I want entrepreneurs to know that their dreams, plans and projects can become a reality.”

Botanica’s website is currently under development, but people can find their products at 2200 W. National Avenue. Clarke Square residents can receive a 10% discount on incense sticks for the month of April. Want to learn more about Botanica? Contact them at [botanicagiftshop@gmail.com](mailto:botanicagiftshop@gmail.com) or follow them at [@botanicagiftshop](https://www.facebook.com/botanicagiftshop) on Facebook and Instagram.

## VIA’s New Executive Director



JoAnna Bautch comes to VIA CDC from Citizen Action of Wisconsin, where she served as the Director of Movement Politics. There, she worked to achieve the mission of social, economic, and environmental justice. JoAnna played a key role by leading programming that develops local leaders into progressive candidates that are ready to run for and win elected office, especially women, people of color, and LGBTQ+ candidates. Previously, JoAnna served at the United Community Center (UCC), where she focused on her community-centered work by leading communications efforts focused on uplifting the education, economic development, and health of Milwaukee’s southside neighbors.

Bautch is a community organizer and communications professional who has spent her career working with advocacy and non-profit organizations across Milwaukee. Growing up in Milwaukee, JoAnna attended and graduated from Milwaukee Public Schools and then received her Bachelor’s degree in Communications from Alverno College.



# From Palm Sunday to Good Friday

## Easter Word Search



J H E D H S N S P G  
Z E O P N I A E Z G  
N R S R Y P I N Y O  
J H O U A U L O A G  
X H C L S M S T R Z  
T P M E V O L S P Q  
B S S I N J G E S B  
R M Z C R O S S M H  
R F A F F P O O X D  
Z D J L O L T T P W



### Get it on the Calendar!

Contact Bonny Lopez in the church office with any church-related meetings, even if held virtually, or in a non-church location. Let's keep each other informed of our sacred work!

Bonny Lopez,  
ascension53215milw@gmail.com



CROSS  
LOVE  
PRAY  
THORNS

JESUS  
NAILS  
SIN  
TOMB

LAMB  
PALMS  
STONES



### Ascension Contact information

Phone: 414-645-2933

Regular office hours: Monday – Thursday 9:00 am – 4:30 pm

Pastor Bill Mains (interim pastor)

Pastor Germán Novelli Machado

Chuck Ellingson (office manager)

### Next Ascension News

**May 1**

Articles are due by noon on **Friday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>**

Please email your group's content to:

**Cindy Jackson**, lead - cindy\_jaxn@yahoo.com

**Gail Brodersen-Heins**, community - grheins@hotmail.com

**Jacob Guerrero**, Latino ministry -  
jakeishere1122@gmail.com

**Charlie Kudy**, Ascension teams - kudy826@gmail.com

**Ar Lee**, Hmong ministry - lisab070520@gmail.com

If you know someone who would like a printed copy of this newsletter, contact Jan Fox at 262-782-5680.

