



Ascension
Lutheran
Church

Ascension Lutheran Church // August 2022

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 Txhaus Tug Tuabneeg.

From the Desk of Pastor Bill

Dear Friends in Christ,

Last month, I wrote about one of several issues I noticed that needed attention at ALC. I had heard a lot of different complaints, not about the Communications Team, but about how communication in general wasn't working very well within the congregation. Members weren't getting different kinds of information to the people or places that needed it in order to keep the members aware of what was going on and when it was happening and who was involved.

I explained how communication was something that the entire congregation was responsible for. I thought I would get all kinds of complaints because I was describing something that needed to be fixed at ALC in order for the congregation to take some steps toward healing.

I was surprised that I didn't get any complaints at all! Instead, I received a bunch of compliments! Members of the congregation sent me emails, called me by phone, and stopped me in the halls before and after worship services to say how much they appreciated the issue being raised and to say how important it was for every member of the congregation to be responsible for keeping every other member informed.

That was quite pleasant to hear. It was also good to hear that a lot of ALC members were aware of this need for change. Well, maybe you need to hear some good news, too. A couple of the church office workers mentioned that, while it's not been perfect, they've definitely experienced some improvements in our communications with them.

You, too, deserve a word of thanks. Thank you for taking the responsibility and helping improve the communications between us all. God's peace be with you.

Your Servant in Christ, PB

All things work together for good to those who love God.

Romans 8:28

In this Issue

Message from Pastor Bill

Pastor Germán
Novelli-Angrisano's
Installation

Food Pantry Needs

Verizon Tower
Construction

Rev. Hartmut Barsnick
Update

Plant HOPE Mum Sale

2023 Giving Changes

José Andrés Guerrero
Health Update

eGiving with Vanco

Contact Information

Worship schedule

English: 9:00 am

Spanish: 10:15 am

Hmong: 11:30 am

Pastor Germán Novelli-Angrisano's Installation

Mark your calendars!

Sunday, September 4, 10:00 am

Pastor Novelli will be installed at a unified worship service. Watch social media and the bulletin for more information.

Food Pantry Needs

The food pantry is still up and running, even with all the commotion!

It is open the first and third Thursday of the month from 10:00 am – 11:00 am. We currently prepare for 75 families.

We are always in need of paper and plastic grocery bags.

Prices are going up for the items we hand out! Any financial help is always GREATLY APPRECIATED!!!

Verizon Tower Construction

In mid-August, the Verizon tower on the East side of Ascension's property will undergo some upgrade work. During this time, a man-lift will block a few parking spots for approximately a week, depending on the weather. We have been told that no sidewalks around the church will be affected.

Who in the Bible knew the most people?

Abraham knew a Lot.

(If you laughed at this joke, let Cindy, Charlie, Gail, or Ar know!)

Rev. Barsnick Update

Ascension members have a special friend in the **Rev. Hartmut Barsnick of Athenstedt, Germany**. His ministry to the people of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Tanzania, South-Central Diocese is an ongoing inspiration to us and especially to the members of AMIS (Ascension in Mission). AMIS has given generously to the ministry that supports orphans and widows, trains and pays teachers, and supplies items like sewing machines to young women and men desiring to start their own businesses.

Each Sunday for many months we have remembered Pastor Barsnick in prayer. He has experienced a return of cancer and has been housebound. With good care from his wife Marlis, his doctors and visiting nurses, he has been making very slow but steady progress. He continues his Tanzania work by phone, email, text, and letters. He remains hopeful and faith-filled.

Please continue to hold Pastor Barsnick in your own prayers, and be hopeful too, for that ministry and all ministries that make a difference in the lives of those in need.

We will publish Pastor Barsnick's new address as soon as we receive it.

Plant HOPE Mum Sale



**Ascension Lutheran Church
Saturday & Sunday,
September 10 & 11, 2022**

AMIS (Ascension in Mission) is holding their 3rd annual plant sale to raise money to help support mission projects, both locally and globally. These lovely, locally grown mum plants are perfect for your fall garden or to give as a gift for Grandparents Day.

These large mum plants will be available for purchase. or you can pre-order by calling Marilyn Lange at 262-490-5892 or emailing her at mlange8959@gmail.com. Plants may be picked up at the church on Saturday, September 10th or Sunday, September 11th. Plants are \$12 each, or 3 for \$30. All proceeds will go to support Mission Projects; your purchase also helps support a local family business.

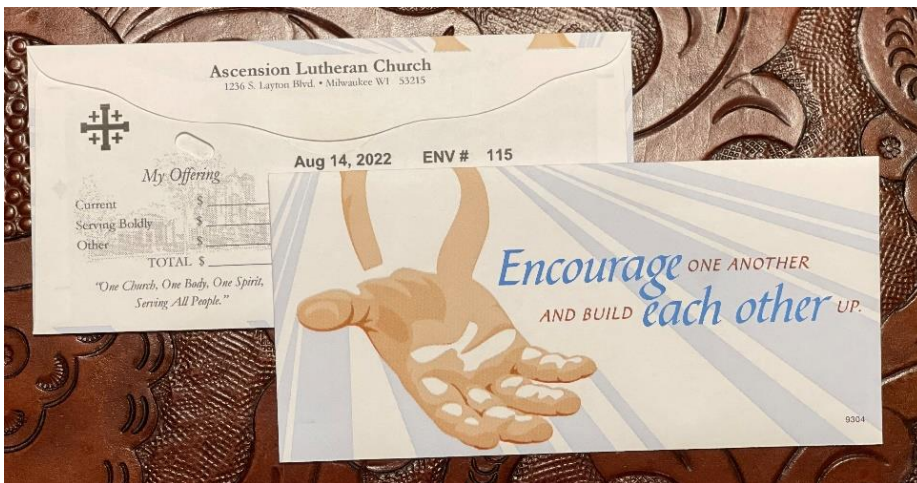


Coming Change to Giving in 2023!

Ascension is blessed so have so many faithful and generous givers! We appreciate you and give thanks to God for your consistent support of our mission!

Our regular offerings to the church are given in different ways. Some of us, myself included, continue to use the pre-printed offering envelopes we purchase each year. After cleaning up the list of those who wanted to continue using envelopes in 2022, we ordered a total of 91 boxes. To date, only 59 people have used their envelopes. The cost for ordering, processing, and mailing out envelopes to those who don't pick them up in church is \$1,000.00. In addition to the cost, many hours are spent in processing and mailing, not to mention the waste of all the unused boxes of envelopes.

As chair of your Stewardship committee, I proposed to the Leadership Council that we discontinue use of pre-printed offering envelopes. In their place we will prepare offering envelopes that will be available in the sanctuary on Sundays and that can be mailed to folks who want them sent to their homes. We will ask you to continue writing your envelope number in the memo line if you are writing a check, or on the outside of the envelope if you are giving cash.



I encourage you to use your envelopes through December of 2022. Thank you for supporting and making arrangements for this time- and money-saving change for our church! We request that disciples not discard their unused offering envelopes. Your unused offering envelopes can be used sometime in the future. Please feel free to cross out old dates and write in new ones,

ALSO, please read the article on the next page on how you can join the 40 Ascension members who long ago stopped using envelopes and made the change to electronic giving, also known as eGiving.

Thank you,
Grace Thomsen

José Andrés Guerrero Health Update

We are pleased to share the good news that José Andrés Guerrero is recuperating well after having had heart bypass surgery. Please keep José in your prayers for continued recuperation.





Did you know our church offers multiple ways to give? Our eGiving options are convenient alternatives to cash and checks, which are difficult to use if you're joining us virtually and can easily be forgotten at home when worshipping in person. But that's not the only reason to consider our eGiving program for your one-time gifts or recurring donations. Here are seven benefits of eGiving.

- 1. It Makes Giving Easy**
eGiving makes it simple for you to give exactly how and when you want. You can make a one-time donation or set up recurring gifts right from your computer, tablet, or phone.
- 2. It's Safe and Secure**
You never need to worry about your donation making it into our account. Unlike with checks and cash, which can be misplaced, gifts made via eGiving are directly sent to our church's bank account. Our payment solutions provider ensures your personal information remains secure.
- 3. No Cash, No Checks, No Problem**
Never worry about forgetting your cash or checkbook at home again. With eGiving, you can make a donation right from your phone. For further worry-free giving, you can also set up recurring donations online, so your gift continues even when you can't make it to service.

- 4. You Can Choose Where Your Gift Goes**
We know our members feel passionately about supporting many causes. Our church uses donations to fund everything from mission trips to building maintenance. When you make a gift using our eGiving tools, you can direct the funds toward the cause you wish to support at our church.
- 5. It Gives Our Church Stability**
Your generous donations support our mission, operations, and many ministries. By setting up recurring donations online, you enable us to maintain financial stability and plan for the future.
- 6. You Can Give on the Go**
With eGiving, you don't have to physically be at church to contribute. Use our church's convenient eGiving tools to donate from the beach, on the road, or right at home.
- 7. You Can Easily Track Your Giving History**
From your eGiving account, you can view past donations, update bank account or credit and debit card information, and set up recurring gifts or adjust existing ones.

SUPPORT OUR CHURCH WITH eGIVING

eGiving brings flexibility to your generosity. You can direct funds, set up one-time or recurring payments from your phone or tablet and give from anywhere at any time! Learn more about our eGiving options by calling Chuck Ellingson, Office Manager, 414-645-2933, Office hours: 9:00 am – 4:30 pm Monday – Thursday.

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

Next Ascension News

September 1

Articles are due by noon on **Friday, August 19th**

Please email your group's content to:

Cindy Jackson, lead - cindy_jaxn@yahoo.com

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

Charlie Kudy, Ascension teams - kudy826@gmail.com

Ar Lee, Hmong ministry - lisab070520@gmail.com

Ascension Contact information

Phone: 414-645-2933

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

Pastor Bill Mains (interim English pastor)

Pastor Germán Novelli-Angrisano (Latino pastor)

Chuck Ellingson (office manager)

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

