

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.

“For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given,
and His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”

Isaiah 9:6

CHRISTMAS WORSHIP AT ASCENSION

2:00 pm Saturday, December 24th
(note new time)

A Festive Unified Worship

Members of the Hmong, Latino and English Ministries’ music groups and
Sunday School children will sing and play music of the season.

Members of Santa Fe Church are invited to join worship at Ascension.

Christmas Day

No Worship Services on Christmas Day, Sunday, December 25th

New Year’s Eve and Day

Ascension’s Latino Ministry is invited to worship at Santa Fe on
New Year’s Eve Day, Saturday, December 31st, at noon.

NO 9:00 am English Worship on New Year’s Day, Sunday, January 1st

NO 10:15 am Latino Worship on New Year’s Day, Sunday, January 1st

NO 11:30 am Hmong Worship on New Year’s Day, Sunday, January 1st



LATIN AMERICA - Mexican Holy Family pottery

In this Issue

Christmas Worship

Kitchen Calamity

More Than a Roof
Update

“In As Much” Sunday

Give Thanks/
Muab ua tsaug/
Den Gracias

Gifts that Make a
Difference

Nativities from
Around the World

Food Pantry Volunteers
at Work

Contact Information

Worship services

English: 9:00 am

Spanish: 10:15 am

Hmong: 11:30 am

Kitchen Calamity

On the evening of Thursday, November 3rd, 2022, the building alarms were tripped by an explosion in the kitchen. Fortunately, the building was empty so no one was hurt and the damage was contained to the kitchen and adjacent rooms. The first assessment revealed combustion of cleaning products in the kitchen. The exploded material was dispersed throughout the kitchen, gym, and dining room, coating all these areas (ceiling, walls, furniture, food pantry food, tables, and kitchen equipment) with a fine chemical powder. Unfortunately, food must be discarded and there will also be loss of equipment.

However, first steps have already been taken. Cleanup by Paul Davis has begun, chemical evaluation is underway, inventory of losses has been taken and insurance claims have been filed.

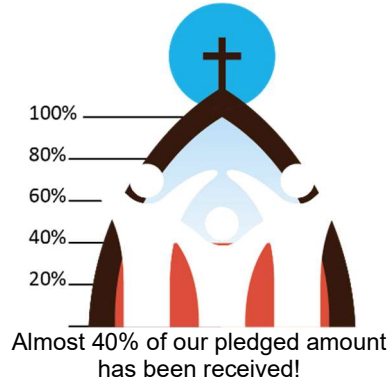
Use of the kitchen is suspended as Ascension works through this loss. Our traditional Community Thanksgiving meal must be cancelled. However, our food pantry has received wonderful support from Feeding America so that food delivery to the 75 neighbors that depend on food bags will continue. Our non-profit tenants who routinely use our kitchen to cook and serve meals to the homeless have also made alternate plans to continue their services. The good news: Ascension's mission to "serve all people" remains strong because God is with us.

Ascension Building Team,
Jack Loppnow, Chair

More Than a Roof

Campaign Update – Good News!

The roof and air conditioning project is complete! Final invoices are being reconciled. Thanks to the commitment of faithful givers to the More Than a Roof Campaign we have received **\$202,347** in gifts that has been applied to the cost of this project. We are only three quarters through the first year of our three-year campaign and we have received almost **40%** of the \$508,866 that was pledged. We are so very grateful for this strong support.



The Building Team is now planning to restore areas in the building damaged by leaks. Projects to replace concrete steps and sidewalks are in the works to further improve our Ascension home. Office ceilings and lights damaged during the roof project have been replaced, giving the office area a bright new look. The room above the gym, previously used for scouts and sanctuary, is being repurposed for youth programming.

Thank you all who have worked, prayed, and shared their gifts. We are indeed so much More Than a Roof!

Lee Her, Campaign Chair and
Jack Loppnow, Building Team
Chair

“In As Much” Sunday

“Verily, I say unto you, in as much as you have done it unto the least of these people, you have done it unto me.”
Matthew 25:40

This year’s “In As Much” Sunday will be Sunday, December 11th. Again, donations of Christmas gifts will be for children in need at Hephatha Lutheran Church, our partner congregation. Gifts should be **unwrapped** and for infants to 4-year-olds.

When you give these gifts with love, you help make a child’s Christmas come alive. The true meaning of Christmas is shown through the spirit of giving. Thank you for your generosity.

Christy and Chuck Kudy will be delivering the gifts to Hephatha on Monday December 12th.

Christmas Blessings,
Jan Fox



CROW NATION - John Guilian,
Mary Gives Birth to Jesus



Give Thanks/Muab ua tsaug/Den Gracias

“Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.”

1 Thessalonians 5:18

“Den gracias a Dios en toda situación, porque esta es su voluntad para ustedes en Cristo Jesús.”

1 Tesalonicenses 5:18

“Ua tsaug rau txhua qhov xwm txheej; vim qhov no yog Vajtswv lub siab nyiam nyob hauv Yexus Khetos rau nej”

1 Thexalaunikes 5:18

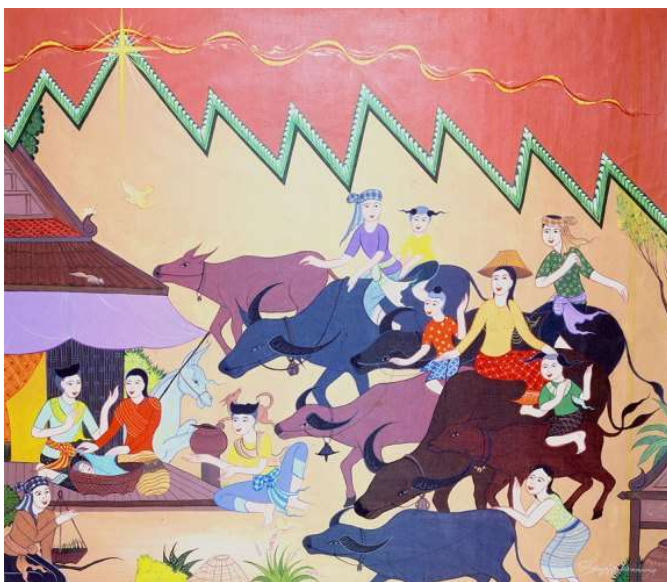
I am so thankful for your faithful support and generosity to our beloved Ascension Lutheran Church! I want to especially thank all of you who have returned your 2023 Commitment Card that was mailed to you along with your quarterly giving statement in early November. As we look forward to where God will lead us into the New Year and beyond, I am encouraged by you, my Ascension

brothers and sisters, for your steadfast faith and dedication to sharing the love of Christ with one another and in our community.

If you have not yet sent in your commitment, it is not too late! You can drop your Commitment Card in the offering basket at church or mail it back to church in the envelope that was provided in the mailing. If you did not receive the mailing, please contact Ascension Office Manager Chuck Ellingson at 414-645-2933. His office hours are Monday-Thursday 9:00 am-4:30 pm.

The image shows a commitment card from Ascension Lutheran Church. It has two versions: English and Spanish. The English version includes fields for Name, Address, City, State, Zip, and Phone. There are checkboxes for "I am willing to give", "I am willing to give in cash", and "I am willing to give in kind". There are also checkboxes for "I am willing to give to the church" and "I am willing to give to the community". The Spanish version has similar fields and checkboxes.

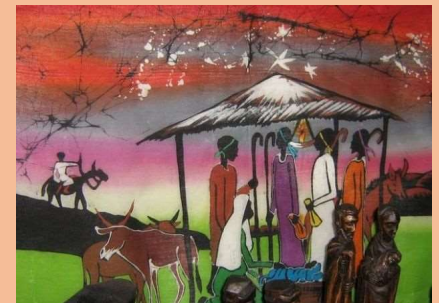
God's Blessings!
Grace Thomsen, Stewardship
Chairperson



THAILAND - Sawai Chinnawong, *Nativity*

Gifts that Make a Difference

If you're looking for a gift for that 'hard-to-buy-for' loved one, consider a gift through ELCA Good Gifts. Catalogs are on the welcome table at Ascension. Select a goat, pig, school supplies, etc. for a needy family or student around the world in honor of your grandchild or a friend. Or go to ELCA.org/goodgifts



TANZANIA - Tanzanian nativity batik

Nativities from Around the World

Jesus Christ was born for all people of all times. To illustrate this truth, Christians around the world often depict baby Jesus as coming into their own culture, in the present time. I hope you have enjoyed the nativity artworks included in this newsletter, created by artists around the world.

Blessings,
Cindy Jackson



Food Pantry Volunteers at Work

The Food Pantry volunteers served over 75 families recently. All recipients received a turkey, a box of food, milk, and fruit. All food came from a gift from the Siebert Foundation, after losing everything we had in the pantry due to the fire.

We will have two dates in December to hand out food: December 8th and 22nd.

I am feeling very thankful for the help we have received in our crisis, and for our faithful volunteers!!!!

Sue Kaschak



Get it on the Calendar!

Contact Bonny López 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 López, ascension53215milw@gmail.com

Ascension Contact information

Phone: 414-645-2933

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

Pastor Germán Novelli-Angrisano (Latino pastor)

Chuck Ellingson (office manager)

Next Ascension News

January 3

Articles are due by noon on **Friday, December 23rd**.

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

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

