



# Ascension News

One Church, One Body, One Spirit, Serving all People  
Una Iglesia, Un Cuerpo, Un Espíritu, Sirviendo a todas las personas  
Ib Lub Tuamtsev, Ib Lub Cev, Ib Tug Ntsujplig, Ua Num Rua Txhaus Tug Tuabneeg

## From Pastor Aida's Desk

Dear Siblings in Christ,

The beginning of our Palm Sunday journey started by marking our foreheads with ash, a visible reminder that we are dust, that we are finite, that we are bound to one another in fragile and sacred humanity. In a moment when our nation feels restless, loud, divided, and rising with both righteous protest and dangerous rhetoric, Lent arrives not as escape, but as invitation.

An invitation to go deeper. An invitation to remember who we are. An invitation to strengthen *the ties that bind*. Lent does not call us away from the world. It calls us into it, more rooted, more disciplined, more clear.

Jesus' forty days in the wilderness were not passive. They were formative. The wilderness clarified his identity and strengthened his resolve for the ministry ahead. Before he overturned tables, before he challenged empire, before he carried a cross, he was grounded in prayer, fasting, and community. So too for us.

The ties that bind are not sentimental, they are spiritual infrastructure. They are what sustain movements. They are what carry us through crucifixion moments toward resurrection hope. Beloveds, this is not a season for retreating from the world. It is a season for deepening our spiritual muscles so that when we act, we do so anchored in Christ.

The darkness may feel loud.  
But the Light still binds us.  
And resurrection still awaits.

May this Lent strengthen our courage, deepen our compassion, and tighten the sacred ties that hold us together.

Strength for the journey,

Pastor Aida



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## Sunday Worship Services

- English: 9:00 am
- Spanish: 10:15 am
- Hmong: 11:30 am

10:00 am unified worship services at least once a month

For specific dates, see the calendar under News & Events at [www.ascensionmke.com](http://www.ascensionmke.com).

## 2026 Unified Worship Schedule and Special Events

This schedule may change.

### Unified Services (10:00 am)

March 15-Ascension Involvement Fair & Annual Budget Meeting

April 5-Easter Sunday

April 19-?

May 17

June 21

July 19

August 16

September 20

October 18

November 1-All Saints Day

November 15

December 20-?

December 24-Family Christmas Eve Service, **4:00 pm**

January 3, 2027-Hmong New Year Celebration

### Special Services

April 3-Good Friday, 7:00 pm

### 11:30 am Worshipping Community

May 24-NO 11:30 am Service!

June 14-11:30 am Outdoor Service-front patio with lunch to follow

August 30-11:30 am Back Packs Blessing

September 6-NO 11:30 am Service!

September 13-11:30 am Blessing/Prayer for Hunters & Hunting Season with lunch to follow

December 13-NO 11:30 am Service!

December 27-No 11:30 am Service!

### 2026 Special Events

#### SWAG Lock-In

March 2026

Day is TBD!

Kou Thao, 414.378.2733

#### Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, 4/11/2026

3:00 pm

Park is TBD

Ar Lee, 414.405.9202

#### SWAG Family Grill Out

Saturday, 6/20/2026

Kou Thao, 414.378.2733

#### Ascension Picnic

Saturday, 8/1 or 8/8

11:00 am

Park is TBD

Jerry Vang, 414.477.2997

#### Trunk-or-Treat

Saturday, 10/24/2026

Setup: 12:00 pm

Event: 2:00 pm-4:00 pm

PangNha Vang, 414.336.8276

#### Egg Roll Fundraiser

Saturday, 9/26/2026

Sunday, 9/27/2026

Lee Her, 414.477.8941

**\*SWAG (Youth) Night: 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each month, 6:00 pm-9:00 pm**

**Next AMIS meeting is on Friday, March 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm the Maes'.**

## Holy Week Schedule 2026

### Maundy Thursday

Thursday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>

Worship with other churches in the Milwaukee area.

**\* St. Paul Lutheran Church**  
**\* 6:30 pm**  
(2812 W. Wisconsin Ave.)

### Good Friday

Friday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>

**Ascension Lutheran Church**  
**Unified Worship**  
**\* 7:00 pm**

### Easter Sunday

Sunday, April 5<sup>th</sup>

**Ascension Lutheran Church**  
**Unified Worship**  
**\* 10:00 am**





## Unified Service, Annual Budget Meeting & Involvement Fair!

Sunday, March 15th  
Unified Service @ 10AM



1236 S Layton Blvd, Milwaukee, WI

## Thrivent Choice Dollars

### REMINDER

Thrivent Choice Dollars must be used by March 31<sup>st</sup>. Thanks to all who have designated AMIS as their choice.

You are a Blessing,  
*Jan Fox*

## Ascension Photos

A big "Shout Out" to the team that has been decluttering ALC's office.



## Youth SWAG Nights



## 1st ladies luncheon this month



## Treasurer's Report

|                      | <u>Through</u><br><u>1.31.26 Goal</u> | <u>1.31.26 Actual</u> | <u>2026 Budget</u> |
|----------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Endowment            | \$8,300.00                            | \$8,333.33            | \$100,000.00       |
| Donations            | \$15,770.00                           | \$34,967.02           | \$190,000.00       |
| Building Rental      | \$16,123.98                           | \$16,516.18           | \$194,264.86       |
| Misc                 | \$1,879.95                            | \$(313.08)            | \$22,750.00        |
| Roof Donations       | \$1,245.00                            | \$3,243.00            | \$15,000.00        |
| <b>TOTAL REVENUE</b> | \$43,318.93                           | \$62,746.45           | \$522,014.86       |

|                       |             |             |              |
|-----------------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| Administration        | \$23,502.49 | \$28,288.27 | \$283,162.56 |
| Ministry              | \$2,921.60  | \$2,655.19  | \$35,200.00  |
| Building              | \$12,574.50 | \$23,760.62 | \$151,500.00 |
| Utilities             | \$5,650.64  | \$9,127.18  | \$68,080.00  |
| Addtl Roof Prinp. Pmt | -           | -           | -            |
| <b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b> | \$44,649.23 | \$63,831.26 | \$537,942.56 |

|            |              |              |               |
|------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| Difference | \$(1,330.30) | \$(1,084.81) | \$(15,927.70) |
|------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|

Happy 2026, Ascension Disciples, friends and partners! Our January started off with some larger building expenses: signage updates out front at 1236 to reflect our worship times, and at 1300 to bring our partners up to date and in the same format (and we will need to still add two more), and larger expenses to replace some burnt out motors with our HVAC system, due to the power outages happening in our neighborhood. Those those larger expenses totaled about \$10K.

Other than that, we are off to a solid start to the year, where our recommended budget (to be considered by the congregation on 3/15/26 at the 10:00 am unified worship service) predicted a strong start to the year in mission investments (donations) and meeting our targets for building rental and Endowment support.

As we approach our annual budget meeting and new involvement fair, I ask that you prayerfully consider your time and talents this year as part of your mission investment.

*Charlie Kudy, Treasurer*

### Get it on the Calendar!

Contact Bonny López or Chuck 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, [bonnylopez@ascensionmke.com](mailto:bonnylopez@ascensionmke.com)

### Next Ascension News

**April 1<sup>st</sup>**

Articles are due by noon on **Friday, March 20<sup>th</sup>**.

Please email your group's content to:

**Cindy Jackson**, lead - [cindy\\_jaxn@yahoo.com](mailto:cindy_jaxn@yahoo.com)

**Gail Brodersen-Heins**, community - [grheins@hotmail.com](mailto:grheins@hotmail.com)

**Charlie Kudy**, Ascension teams/website - [kudy826@gmail.com](mailto:kudy826@gmail.com)

**Ar Lee**, Hmong ministry - [lisab070520@gmail.com](mailto:lisab070520@gmail.com)

### Ascension Contact Information

Phone: 414-645-2933

Website: [www.ascensionmke.com](http://www.ascensionmke.com)

Rev. Aida Muñiz: [pastoraida@ascensionmke.com](mailto:pastoraida@ascensionmke.com)

Chuck Ellingson: [officemanager@ascensionmke.com](mailto:officemanager@ascensionmke.com)

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

If you know someone who would like a printed copy of this newsletter, please contact Jan Fox at 262-782-5680 or Chuck in the church office.

