

Ascension Lutheran Church // September 2026

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

Worship in the Renaissance ... Faire?

The year is 1574, and Elizabeth I is the queen of England. The village is busy with merchants selling their wares, minstrels singing for coin, and crowds moving through the streets. It is Sunday morning, and I gather with others atop a hill near a crossroads in the village. We sit on benches facing an open structure containing a modest altar with the holy book, the *Book of Common Prayer*, and a simple cross. A lectern stands to one side.

Only 57 years earlier, Martin Luther published the Ninety-five Theses, challenging papal authority and criticizing its perceived corruption. The Elizabethan Religious Settlement established the Church of England as a conservative Reformed Protestant church. During this time, the *Book of Common Prayer* was authorized as the church's official liturgy and the Thirty-nine Articles as a doctrinal statement.

The worship service begins with the minister reciting scripture followed by confession and forgiveness of sins. "We have left undone those things which we ought to have done, and we have done those things which we ought not to have done ...," Psalms are recited, and prayers of praise are said by those gathered. We confess our faith using the Apostles' Creed, "I believe in God the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth ...," followed by the Lord's Prayer. The service closes with a series of collects or prayers of thanksgiving, for peace, and for grace.

No, I am not a time traveler, but Kevin and I are regular visitors to the Bristol Renaissance Faire near Kenosha. This year, I attended the worship service held on Sunday mornings for the first time. I was struck by the familiar language used in the service; words I have both heard and recited for as long as I can remember. I felt a sense of comfort knowing that this worship service, although based on the 16th century Church of England, was so similar to the worship services I attend.



But this experience is more than a history lesson; I have a personal connection to these events. I have been able to trace my mother's family back to this same time period. Richard Hilliard was my 13th great-grandfather and was a proponent of the Reformed church (which we Lutherans call the Reformation). His son, Nicholas, was a well-known goldsmith and miniature portrait artist for Queen Elizabeth I. I imagine their families attended worship regularly and heard and said the same words we use today.

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"God's Work. Our Hands."

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Trunk or Treat

Egg Roll Sale!

Treasurer's Report

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.

2026 Unified Worship Schedule and Special Events

This schedule may change.

Unified Services (10:00 am)

September 20 – “God’s Work. Our Hands” with our community partners

October 18 – NO unified worship service

October 25 – Reformation Sunday, Stewardship, **Congregational Meeting**

November 1 – All Saints’ Day/ Día de los Muertos

November 15 – Pastoral plaque dedication, eggroll sale

December 20 – NO unified worship service

December 24 – Christmas Eve worship service, 4:00 pm

January 3, 2027 – Hmong New Year celebration, 10:00 am

11:30 am Worshipping Community

September 6 – NO worship service

September 13 – 11:30 am Blessing/Prayer for hunters & hunting season with lunch to follow

September 13 – **First day of Sunday school**

December 13 – NO worship service

December 27 – NO worship service



2026 Special Events

Outreach For Hope: Ride Run Walk 2026

Saturday, 9/26/2026

Time: 8:30 am

Locations: Grafton, Milwaukee, Kenosha & Waukesha

<https://www.ofhrrw.org/>

Contacts: Ar Lee (414-405-9202)

Pr. Aida Muñiz (414-645-2933)

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

Sunday, 11/15/2026

Time: 12:00 pm,

First come, first served!

\$24.00 for a dozen

\$12.00 for half dozen

Lee Her, 414-477-8941

S.W.A.G. Youth Night:

3rd Saturday of each month,
6:00 pm-9:00 pm

Silver City Fest

Saturday, September 12th,
12:00 pm-5:00 pm
Pierce Street

Doors Open Milwaukee
Ascension Lutheran Church
Saturday, September 26th,
10:00 am-2:00 pm

Pride Worship Service
(rescheduled)
Ascension Lutheran Church
Thursday, October 8th,
6:00 pm

An Annual Day Devoted to Loving Our Neighbors and Church

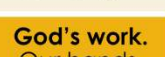
“God’s Work. Our Hands.” is the ELCA’s annual day of service. Here at ALC, we will be honoring it during the unified worship service on Sunday, September 20th, 2026.

That day, we will have a group of representatives from some of our community partners. They will set tables in the Commons area, and we will be able to learn more about what they do for our community and how the church partners with them.

ALC’s outreach work builds bridges, and we partner with others to be a blessing to our community here on the south side of Milwaukee



Ascension
Lutheran Church



AMIS Plant Sale



Trunk or Treat



Pride Worship 2026



Egg Roll Sale!



September 20th

Sign up to bring finger food for the fellowship time after the unified worship service on the sign-up sheet on the welcome desk in front of the sanctuary.

Gao McCrary

Renaissance

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It has been 450 years since Martin Luther, Queen Elizabeth I, and Nicholas Hilliard were alive. There have been centuries of individuals – paupers, princes, farmers, artists, children, and teachers – all worshipping the triune God. All felt sustained, protected, and loved by the same God. All confessed their faith with the same Apostolic Creed and prayed the same prayer Jesus taught his disciples. This is not about a long church history, but a story of a steadfast God who is the same throughout time.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Cindy Jackson



Treasurer's Report

	7.31.26 Goal	7.31.26 Actual	2026 Budget
Endowment	\$ 58,330.00	\$ 66,669.93	\$ 100,000.00
Donations	\$ 110,827.00	\$ 118,487.35	\$ 190,000.00
Building Rental	\$ 113,314.69	\$ 114,077.92	\$ 194,264.86
Misc	\$ 13,270.08	\$ 28,330.81	\$ 22,750.00
Roof Donations	\$ 8,749.50	\$ 21,215.00	\$ 15,000.00
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 304,491.27	\$ 348,781.01	\$ 522,014.86

Administration	\$ 165,168.72	\$ 162,950.02	\$ 283,162.56
Ministry	\$ 20,532.16	\$ 16,378.23	\$ 35,200.00
Building	\$ 88,369.95	\$ 99,670.10	\$ 151,500.00
Utilities	\$ 39,711.06	\$ 51,892.23	\$ 68,080.00
Recon. Discrepancies		\$ (5,050.48)	
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 313,781.90	\$ 325,840.10	\$ 537,942.56

Difference	\$ (9,290.63)	\$ 22,940.91	\$ (15,927.70)
Outstanding Debt	\$244,502.82		

Next Ascension News

October 1st

Articles are due by noon on **Friday, September 18th**.

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/website - kudy826@gmail.com

Ar Lee, Hmong ministry - lisab070520@gmail.com

Greetings Ascensionites, friends, and neighbors!

Our ministries continue to hum through summer ... but are about to pick up for "regular programming" in fall. Second-quarter statements should have been received during August by our faithful community who feel called and are able to share their treasure with us. We have had 70 individual giving households (units) this year in 2026, including the 43 households that pledged in 2026.

Ascension Endowment support continues, as does our campus income from our ministry partners. As of the end of July, we have paid off about \$23,000 in additional principal on our roof loan and are aiming to pay off another \$12,000 before January 2027.

We received our official notice from the Mission Investment Fund about our loan rate reset, and our rate came in lower than expected at 6.75%, when we were anticipating a rate of 7.25%. In turn, this means a lower monthly payment that Ascension needs to accommodate for every month, and more funds can be dedicated for the running of our ministries.

If you are interested in enrolling in Vanco, our online giving option, please contact Chuck Ellingson in the office at 414-645-2933.

If you have any questions on the finances of our church, please feel free to contact me at 414-758-4079 or kudy826@gmail.com.

Charlie Kudy, Treasurer

Ascension Contact Information

Phone: 414-645-2933

Website: www.ascensionmke.com

Rev. Aida Muñiz: pastoraida@ascensionmke.com

Chuck Ellingson: 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.

Get it on the Calendar!

Contact Bonny 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

