



ALC 175: Gathered in Faith, Growing in Mission

Over the next two months, we will be sharing the details of *ALC 175: Gathered in Faith, Growing in Mission* Anniversary Celebration & Capital Campaign. Through town halls, bulletin inserts, and events in 2027, we hope that you will receive this information, listen for how God is calling Ascension Lutheran Church to the future, and prayerfully consider your support through gifts to the *ALC 175: Gathered in Faith, Growing in Mission* Campaign, above and beyond your regular stewardship to address building needs, and capacity building.

The *ALC 175: Gathered in Faith, Growing in Mission* Anniversary Celebration & Capital Campaign will culminate with the return of our commitments before Sunday, November 15th.

The Next 175 years at Ascension

We are one Church, one Body, one Spirit, growing together in Christ by proclaiming the Good News and serving all people. This is the mission that we are called to at Ascension.

Throughout our history, Ascension has been about people. Different laborers in our mission, like the laborers of the vineyard, who share the Love, Hope, and Power of God. As our community and our world have changed, so have we, **faithfully responding to God's call.**

There is no way that the founders of Ascension, and the founders of the Ascension Endowment Fund, could have envisioned everything that this congregation would become, and the different ways in which it is supported. With confidence and in community, the community of Ascension has always been *Gathered in Faith, Growing in Mission.*

Different Laborers for Different Missions. All God's Work through Our Hands. All important.

We are *Gathered in Faith*, but in recent years we have *Grown in Mission* to include many partners who share our campus daily. With our roof successfully replaced, we now turn our attention to ensuring our campus continues to serve our disciples, mission partners, and community alike.

As we look to the future, to be ready for all that God calls us to next, Ascension's leadership has once again stepped boldly forward in faith to ensure that not only our shared campus is set for success, but our ability to ensure its continued stability is secured.

Now, we are launching the *ALC 175: Gathered in Faith, Growing in Mission* Anniversary Celebration & Capital Campaign, a bold and faithful step to revitalize our shared spaces so that God's ministry at Ascension might continue for years to come.

We invite you to prayerfully consider the goals of the *ALC 175*. We invite you to take some time to consider the investment needed to secure our hopes, dreams, and vision for the future of Ascension.

"What then shall we say, brothers and sisters? When you come together, each of you has a hymn, or a word of instruction, a revelation, a tongue or an interpretation. Everything must be done so that the church may be built up." -1 Corinthians 14:26



As we prepare for these campaigns, each week we will be sharing excerpts of *Six Steps to Joyful Giving*, written by Dr. Bob Gronlund, that remind us that generosity is a faith practice. Like prayer, study, and worship, it requires our attention.

Step 1: Recognize Your Need to Give

It is a fundamental spiritual and psychological principle that life and its gifts are to be used and shared. Life cannot be hoarded, or it turns in upon itself and you lose it. *“Whoever would save his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for My sake will find it.”* (Matthew 16:25) We each have a deep inherent need to give. To give is to live!

But unfortunately, instead of focusing on our own need to give, all too often we center on the need of the church to receive. The church does seek our support, but we must remember it is God’s Church and it will prosper and flourish in God’s own good time whether we give to it or not. The wonder of it all is that God invites us to be a part of God’s church and to experience the joy and blessing of generosity, supporting and extending its mission.

Just as a coin, Christian giving has two sides. For too long, we centered mostly on the side entitled “The Need of the Church”. We need to begin concentrating on the side headed “My Need to Give,” for giving is an integral part of spiritual life and growth.

“I am proud to be a part of our Ascension community and honored to be part of the stewardship of our mission, our shared campus, and its future. May the Holy Spirit continue to faithfully guide and provide for ALC for the next 175 years!”

CHARLIE KUDY – CAMPAIGN CHAIR