



More Than Ourselves

The ALC 175: *Gathered in Faith, Growing in Mission* Anniversary Celebration & Campaign is about more than us. It's also about all those who we are in community with, standing should-to-shoulder conducting God's work through our hands. Our welcome to them is a part of our witness to the world, and presence in Greater Milwaukee.

Here are the some of the ways we support God's work in the world with our facilities:

- » The Gathering of Southeastern Wisconsin serves about 1,000 meals a week out of our shared kitchen, gym, and dining hall.
- » La Familia de Arte, a collaborative neighborhood art program, provides workshops for neighborhood youth and their families to creatively express themselves and build unit.
- » Southside Organizing Center (SOC) engages with residents and businesses on the south side of Milwaukee to help our neighborhood thrive.
- » The Inner Beauty Center helps the sexually exploited discover their value and purpose with a drop-in center and street outreach.
- » Lutheran Social Services serves children, families, and adults across Milwaukee by offering services such as Children's Long-Term Support, REACH Crisis, and Comprehensive Community Services, along with a bilingual Family Coach serving South Side families.
- » Walker's Point Youth & Family Center provides council and shelter to at risk youth in our community and maintains their administrative offices here at Ascension.
- » Share Our Best Furniture Ministry, in partnership with Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Menomonee Falls, supplies furniture to those in need.
- » The Greater Milwaukee Synod Office remains a central space for the congregations of our synod.

"In the just reward of labour, God's will is done; in the help we give our neighbour, God's will is done; in our world-wide task of caring for the hungry and despairing, in the harvests we are sharing, God's will is done."

- For the Fruit of All Creation

Step 3: Place God First in Your Budgeting and Spending

The Ten Commandments stress that God must be first in our lives. Jesus said, “Seek first His kingdom and His righteousness and all these things shall be yours as well.” (Matthew 6:33)

Many experience difficulty, giving generously despite the desire and pledge to do so, because they attempt to give from what is left over at the end of the week or month rather than from first fruits, from all they have received.

The simple practice of placing God and The Church first in budgeting and spending has helped many to experience joy in their giving. When you do this you are giving from all that a good and loving God has provided. And you are practicing stewardship, understanding that you are but a temporary trustee of what God has entrusted to you.



“Serving the Lord in unconventional ways—through the opportunities at Ascension and all our partners—has fulfilled me deeply as I have grown into this place and watched our congregation change and become something new.”

-Sue Kaschak, ALC 175 Celebrations & Hospitality Team Member