



**ASCENSION**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL

15870 46<sup>th</sup> Avenue N, Plymouth, MN

July 2019

# Monthly Messenger

## Last Month in Review...



### Sermon Series on the book of Galatians: "No other gospel!"

"We live in a world where exclusivity isn't generally well received. It's typically expected that people should be open to new opinions and new ideas. But is the same true when it comes to our Christian faith? Should we be quick to mold our message to fit with the times? Paul's letter to the Galatians teaches us that the good news of Jesus can never be changed and never goes out of style. There is only one gospel by which we live and on which we take our stand!"



### Summer Bible Study:

Our summer Bible study will continue reviewing Luther's *Small Catechism*--the Sacraments, the Keys and Confession, and the Lord's Prayer. *New this year, we will be providing a simple Bible study and game time for kids so that parents with little ones can also join us!*



**Sanctuary Expansion Groundbreaking:** We had a short groundbreaking service on **June 2nd** after worship thanking God for his many blessings and ask his continued goodness and guidance as we go forward with the building project. **The building committee as slated a mid August date for the digging/excavation to begin.**

2019

**Volunteer Appreciation Dinner**

### Volunteer Appreciation Dinner:

We had a wonderful turnout for the baked chicken dinner on **June 12** —good times and great conversation were had by all! Thanks to Randy Hebb for organizing this event!



Like us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/ascensionplymouth/](http://www.facebook.com/ascensionplymouth/). Check out photos of past and upcoming events.



### June Annual Voter's Meeting:

The voters elected the following elders and church officers to 2-year terms: President: Jeff Siewert; Secretary: Brian Stein, Group Life Elder: Randy Hebb, Outreach Elder: Wayne Johnson. The following positions are vacant: Education and Support Elder. They also gave the Board of Education the authority to pursue the temporary hire of a preschool teacher for the upcoming school year.



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## Treasurer's Report

|                     |            |
|---------------------|------------|
| 07-01-18 Balance .. | \$(17,802) |
| Offerings.....      | \$ 280,573 |
| Other Receipts....  | \$ 148,947 |
| Expenses .....      | \$ 409,791 |
| 05-31-19 Balance... | \$ 1,927   |

| (763) 559-0579 | [www.AscensionPlymouth.com](http://www.AscensionPlymouth.com) |  
Pastor Roloff: [pastorroloff@AscensionPlymouth.com](mailto:pastorroloff@AscensionPlymouth.com)

## This Month's Preview...



**Preschool Enrollment:** We rejoice that the Lord continues to increase our enrollment for the upcoming school year. Our current totals stand at M/W/F: 10, T/TH: Full at 16, 4/5 Day: 14.

### PICNIC IN THE PARK



### Our Group Life is planning a congregational CHURCH PICNIC!

Location: Nelson Lakeside Park

Address: 1860 Symes Street, Long Lake, MN 55356

Date/Time: Sunday, July 14th **3:00 PM to 7:00 PM**

Charcoal and lighter fluid for grilling will be provided. The picnic shelter has been reserved and is located just west of the boat launch area. Bring your own meat to grill as well as your own drinks and tableware. Please add your name to the sign up sheet in the Fellowship Hall if you plan to attend and write down if you are going to bring a salad, side dish or dessert.

Amenities at Nelson Lakeside Park include a fishing pier, a swimming beach (no lifeguards) and playground equipment. Feel free to bring yards games if you like.



**Food Shelf Donations:** We are still asking for your help in restocking our food pantry. We are still in need of:

- Baby Wipes: 8 pkgs.
- 1 pkg Diapers (size 3,4,5)

A donation drop off cart is set up in the hallway along with a list of needed items. Please mark off any items you would like to purchase.



**Updated Church Directory:** There is a draft copy of the new directory available by the member mailboxes in the fellowship hall. Please take a moment to verify your information or make any needed corrections.



**Miraculous Missions VBS:** Mark your calendars and join us **July 22-25th 9am-11:30am.**

**Donations/Wish List:** Our theme for VBS this July is "Miraculous Mission," and as in years past we want to make it an exciting and memorable experience for the children and families that the Lord sends to us. If you have space items you would like to donate you can drop your items in the pack n' play in the fellowship hall.

**Limited Openings:** Register at [ascensionplymouth.com](http://ascensionplymouth.com). This exciting gospel ministry needs volunteers of every age and God-given giftedness as we plan, decorate, and teach the children of our community about Jesus. There is a limited number of student openings remaining. Please see the website for more details.

**Decorating Help:** For those of you that would like to help with putting decorations together we have dates set aside to help. **Tuesday, July 2, 9, 16 & Thursday, July 11th from 6:30-8:00 PM**

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# I NEED MORE ...

## I Need More... SECURITY

Everyone knows disappointment sooner or later. It's that time when the car broke down, when national security was breached, when we lost our job. It's that time when doctors couldn't cure us or our loved ones, our investments disappeared, friends disappointed us, when we disappointed ourselves.

We try to limit disappointment or prevent disappointment from becoming a disaster. We make promises. We buy insurance. We do our homework before making big decisions. We search for what is "guaranteed or your money back." We go to the doctor recommended by trustworthy friends.

What we're really looking for is security. We just want something we can count on; something that is stable; something that is safe and stays that way. But isn't it striking that even with all the protection agencies, certifications, types of insurance, promises, and money-back guarantees in today's world, we're still left searching for more security?

When it comes to things that can threaten our sense of security, the possibilities appear endless. You probably have had that sinking feeling and said to yourself, "There's always something. What am I supposed to do? If it's not one thing, it's another. Either *this* or *that*..."

At such trying times, find strength from these verses in the Bible: "I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 8:38-39).

Notice: "neither" *this*, "nor" *that* "will be able to separate us from the love of God..." The love of God is a faithful, stable, and dependable love. And if we want proof of that, we need only consider how God sent his only Son for us. Jesus came and died on the cross, and he rose again. Our sins weren't too much for him to bear. Death itself could not hold him in his grave. Satan could not stop him from carrying out his mission. Many religious leaders hated Jesus. One of his own disciples betrayed him. One denied him. The rest abandoned him. And the vocal majority crucified him. Did any of these prevent Jesus from keeping God's promise to save us? No! God's love prevailed for the whole world, and now whoever believes in Jesus has eternal life!

God's love will never disappoint you. Nothing in all creation can separate you from God and the power of his love in your life. For Jesus came, he died, and he rose again. We have this as our security: God's love is guaranteed.



**WELS**  
Christ's Love, Our Calling.