



ASCENSION


LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL

15870 46th Ave N, Plymouth, MN 55446

Email: office@AscensionPlymouth.com

www.ascensionplymouth.com

Weekly News Feb. 9 – Feb. 16 2020

Sunday, February 9th	Worship Sunday School/Confirmation Class Quarterly Voter's Update Wise Penny	8:30 & 11:00 am 9:45 am 10:00 am 1:00 pm
Monday, February 10th	Worship	7:00 pm
Tuesday, February 11th	Shepherding Mtg.	6:30 pm
Wednesday, February 12th	Sisters in Sharing Choir Practice/ Small Group Design Mtg.	9:30 am 7:00 pm 8:00 pm
Saturday, February 15th	Men's Bible Study	8:00 am
Sunday, February 16th 	Worship with Holy Communion Sunday School/Confirmation Class Adult/Teen Bible Study Outreach	8:30 & 11:00 am 9:45 am 10:00 am 11:00 am



Quarterly Voters' Update: A meeting is scheduled **today** between worship services which will include an update on the building project and ministry updates from our elders.



Coming Soon... Ascension App! Our app is currently in the final stages of review. It will soon be available for download in the GooglePlay and Apple Stores. The app will help us stay connected and up to date on congregational happening and events. We plan on having more interactive sermons (with live study questions and room for personal notes), podcasts, and more!



Sunday Worship Survey Ends TODAY! God-willing we will soon be moving into our new sanctuary. The worship committee would like every confirmed member of Ascension to fill out a simple worship survey. You can take the survey online at AscensionPlymouth.com/worship or fill out a paper copy located in front of the mailboxes. Thanks for your input!



Food Shelf Donations: Our food pantry needs help restocking items that have helped families out. Here are the updated items we are looking for:

- Cereal (4) Boxes
- Applesauce (2) Jars
- Pasta (4) Boxes
- Sauce (3) Jars
- Baby Wipes (6) pkgs
- Diapers (2) Each: Size 4 & 5
- Kleenex (2) Boxes



Preschool Registrations: We are accepting registrations for the 2020-21 school year. All our information and forms are also on our website: ascension-plymouth.com/preschool-home. Contact Tammy Melott for any questions.



Year-End Giving Statements: Thank you all for your generous support of our Ascension ministry this last year! 2019 giving statements were e-mailed to everyone. If you have any questions or would like a paper copy put in your church mailbox please contact Eric Fehlhaber: efehlhaber@gmail.com or (715) 965-6382.



Choir Practice Change Ash Wednesday through Lent: With Lent fast approaching choir will be moving practices to 6:15 - 6:45pm starting February 26th. Please note that the changes are updated on our calendar.



second harvest
HEARTLAND

Second Harvest Thanks: We had twelve volunteers that worked together to package 10,201 lbs. of food which equals 8,500 meals and 265 meals per person in our local community. To God be the glory!



THE TALK: On **Thursday, Feb. 20th**, Patti Reagles, a Licensed Independent Clinical Social Worker with Christian Family Solutions, will be presenting on the difficulties of talking with ageing parents about the realities of future health care, lifestyle and financial decisions. Free childcare provided upon request. Please RSVP online at www.AscensionPlymouth.com.



Ice Skating: Group Life Ministry invites you to enjoy ice skating on **Saturday, February 22nd at 6:00 PM** at the Central Park of Maple Grove (12000 Central Park Way, Maple Grove, MN). The LED lit refrigerated ice loop is 20 feet wide and 810 feet long, designed for leisure skating (no hockey sticks or pucks). Skating is free and skate rental is available for \$6.00 or feel free to bring your own skates. A sign up sheet has been posted on the Group Life bulletin board if you are interested in participating.



Youth Dodgeball: All Ascension youth grades 6 - 12 are invited to join us for a fun-filled afternoon of dodgeball action at St. Croix Lutheran Academy on **February 23rd**. We'll enjoy pizza and pop before heading out at 12:30. See Pastor with any questions.



SUNDAY SCHOOL & CATECHISM LESSONS FOR TODAY:

- PreK & K: Jesus and the Children
- Grades 1-5: The Four Soils
- Grades 6-8: Jesus Teaches about Prayer

PRESCHOOL AND SUNDAY SCHOOL MISSION OFFERING

This year our preschool and Sunday School offerings will be supporting evangelism and outreach through Costa Maya Ministries in Mahahual, Mexico. Check out our mission board in the entryway or go to costamaya-ministries.org for more information. **So far we've raised 514.46!**



Shepherding Flock Thank You: A special thanks to Flock #1 for serving our congregation this week. Don't forget the sign up is in the fellowship hall!



Divine Call Update: After much prayerful deliberation, I have decided to return my Call to Divine Savior Academy. I am excited to continue my ministries at West LHS and Ascension! Thanks to all who shared thoughts, prayers, and notes in my church mailbox as I considered where my gifts could best be used in God's Kingdom at this time.



Women's Event: Unplug & Recharge: Come join women and girls (age 10+) of faith as we gather to unplug from the stressors of life and recharge with God's Word. Speakers from Holy Hen House will be sharing encouragement for women to consider in addition to several recharge options. **Saturday, March 21 at 11:00 - 4:00 pm** at Mount Olive Lutheran Church in Shakopee.



New LWMS Mission Calendar: Check out this calendar hanging by the News Board. February's focus is on **Pastor Kevin Schultz—The Vine Church, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho**. Read more about building relationships helps to spread the word.



Like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ascensionplymouth/.



Synod Prayers: *East Asia* – Satan and his allies never rest; you know this, Lord. Because many people still hate you and your Word, we have been forced to withdraw our missionaries and their families from East Asia and move them to nearby, less-hostile countries. Yet from history we have seen that persecution has helped spread your Word. We ask you, Lord, to do that again here. Be with the missions and their pastors in this time of stress. Give them strength, Lord God, to bear persecution, continue to faithfully share your gospel, and lead more souls to you. Amen.



Church Cleaning Schedule: We are so thankful for all of the hands that work together to keep Ascension clean and welcoming!

Feb. 14th: Terry & Mary Steinbach, Dennis & Beth Svendsen

Feb. 21st: Ron & Mary Swift, Mike & Jennifer Tripp



Special Gifts Needed for Piano Fund or Chancel Furnishings:

Because our current piano is starting to show its age and is becoming less effective in accompanying choir and worship. The worship committee investigated several different options (new/used, electric/acoustic) and decided that a new classic grand piano would best suit our needs. We have a piano fund established, but approximately \$4900 more is needed to cover the purchase of the piano.

Initial rendering of the new altar, baptismal font, and lectern have been posted. The design committee hopes these will beautify the sanctuary and communicate the centrality of Word and Sacrament in our worship. We will be finalizing the details of these pieces in the coming weeks. The estimated cost of construction and shipping is \$13,000.



If you would like to give to either the piano/chancel furnishings fund, please indicate it on the "other" box of your offering envelope or select "other" and write a note for online giving.



From the Stewardship Committee:

As we start a new year and a new decade, your Stewardship Committee would once again like to remind you of several special giving opportunities at Ascension:

- **Tuition Assistance Fund:** This fund is designed to support Ascension members who are attending Martin Luther College or Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary with the intent of becoming a teacher or pastor. Although we do not currently have any students studying for the public ministry, we invite to consider contributing so funds would be available for future workers from our congregation. You can designate special gifts to the "Tuition Assistance Fund".
- **Endowment Fund:** This fund was established to provide an alternate revenue stream that could be used to supplement special projects or programs not included in our regular budget. The Fund currently has \$30,000 in assets which is invested through WELS Investments. An additional \$55,000 donation will be arriving soon. Individuals often contribute assets to endowment funds in connection with wills and estate planning but cash donations may be made at any time. If you would like to contribute please direct your donation to the Endowment Fund or contact Dan Fischer.
- **Thrivent Choice Dollars:** If you have investments or insurance through Thrivent, you may be able to direct funds to the church or non-profit organization of your choice. Undesignated 2019 Choice Dollars expire on March 31, 2020. Go to Thrivent.com to check your Choice Dollar balance or designate funds. Please note that Ascension is listed under Minneapolis rather than Plymouth.

Lastly, we want to encourage all members to **periodically review/revise their financial support of our congregation and synod** especially for significant changes in income or expenses. Our congregation has historically been very blessed for which we give thanks to the Lord whose goodness and mercy endure forever.

Thank you for all of your support of Ascension through time, talents and treasures.