

# The Ascent

JUNE 2006

Ascension Lutheran Church  
4803 S. Lewis Ave., Tulsa, OK 74105  
Pastor Norman Dake

E-mail: [welcome@ascensionlutheran.net](mailto:welcome@ascensionlutheran.net)  
[pastornorm@ascensionlutheran.net](mailto:pastornorm@ascensionlutheran.net)  
918-743-5741 / fax: 918-743-4854

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## PASTOR'S COMMENTS:

“In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams. Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit, and they shall prophesy,” (Acts 2:17-18).

In his sermon on that first Pentecost, Peter quotes from the book of the prophet Joel (2:28-29). In both Peter's sermon and in Joel's prophecy, we have the clear revelation that through the working of the Holy Spirit we're never too young to dream, and never too old.

In our celebration of Pentecost at the 11:00 service on June 4, we will acknowledge five more dreamers who will affirm the promises of their baptism through the rite of confirmation. The confirmands are four young people (Alyssa Anwar, Frankie Imwalle, Alex James, and Kelsey Khoo), and one adult (Annette Stange). As the Holy Spirit blows in their hearts, their dreams will give shape to their life in the faith and, we hope, help to give shape to our life together at Ascension. We're never too young to dream.

We're never too old to dream, either. As the Ascension Church Council gathers in retreat on June 23-24, we will have opportunity to dream about our life and ministry together. If you have a vision that you would like to see incorporated in our strategic planning process, please share it with one of the council members (Jim Harris, Keith Khoo, Chris Falkensten, Eileen Imwalle, Lillian Cantrell, Sandy Isakson, and Barbara James) or me. As I come to know more about the ministry of Ascension, I appreciate the fact that everything that has come before me and everything that is part of our current practice started with a dream.

At the Arkansas-Oklahoma Synod Assembly (Jim Harris and I were delegates; talk to one of us if you would like to know more about the proceedings there) in April, Kelly Fryer inspired us with her presentations on “Daring to be Church Again.” The first step in that process is “Daring to Dream It.” She reminded us that the dream is not ultimately ours; it is God's dream. The church doesn't have a mission; God has a mission to love, bless, and save the world. We are simply God's earthly agents to accomplish that mission. We are part of God's dream.

So in the Spirit of Pentecost: Dream on!

Pastor Norm

# Church Council Minutes

## From May 21, 2006

Meeting called to order at 12:25PM with Jim Harris presiding. Also in attendance: Keith Khoo, Chris Falkensten, Eileen Imwalle, Barbara James, Sandy Isakson, Lillian Cantrell and Pastor Dake.

Devotion offered by Barbara James with Minutes from past Council meeting on April 9<sup>th</sup> approved as submitted by Secretary.

### Committee Reports:

Pastor Dake deferred his time to Council to discuss subjects offered in New Business. Installation of Pastor went as scheduled and we again are grateful for his leadership within our congregation.

### Treasurer's Report:

April, 2006 finances reviewed and approved by council as presented:

Expenses: Actual = \$7,883 Budget = \$12,448

Income: Actual = \$12,053 Budget = \$12,448

Account Balances at end of April:

Church Checking: \$27,246

Building Fund: \$9,803

Savings Account: \$28,541

- Council notes significant difference between actual and budgeted expenses due to lag in Pastor's salary and budgeted items beginning in May – the gap will close quickly to match budget forecast.
- Additionally, Council notes reduction of Building Fund Account used to offset any monthly difference between monthly donations to Fund and mortgage amount due.

Christian Education:

- Nursery Coordinator needed for Ascension; someone willing to coordinate scheduling of volunteers from congregation – in absence of maintaining consistent programming, Ascension may need to hire attendant next fall.

### Worship and Music:

- Committee noted that review of songs taken and being incorporated into worship activities.

### Property:

- Eileen Imwalle to coordinate review of needs with anticipation of repairs to curbside walkways at east (2) and south (1) walkways for accessibility to all facility areas.

### Helping Hands:

- While our pantry is still very full thanks to your continuing support, Ascension's program provided food to approximately 30 people in April. Our need for food items and cash donations for perishable items continues; a specific list of needs and recommendations will be posted in Church areas.

### Continuing Business:

Handicap ramps and accessibility under review from above.

Interior lighting needs within Worship and Narthex areas under review; desire is to improve lighting and aesthetics within both areas during the summer pending further discussions.

New Business:

Thrivent Coordinator – Jim Harris to approach current Thrivent members to act as Ascension representative.

Council will participate in an overnight retreat on June 23rd, hosted by the Harris Family, to discuss with Pastor future plans for the church regarding both short term and long term goals – stay tuned for more information.

Katie Williams' Graduate Quilt was presented to her May 28<sup>th</sup> at Ascension.

Confirmation schedule and program discussed – confirmands to be presented in the 11:00 a.m. service on Pentecost.

Discussed and agreed that Church worship times shall remain the same during the summer; as we reach out to the community and invite others; we want to maintain a consistent schedule.

As required within By-Laws, Council discussed, motioned and voted (5-2) to allow Ascension Youth to solicit members in an effort to collect gift cards as donations – further details to be provided by group explaining full purpose at later date.

Pastor and Council covered number of items regarding church policy and activities as he has reviewed past efforts and minutes of Council and Church – including Pastor's Lutheran Class, Wedding Policy, HIPAA and LSS Task Force.

Council supported Jim Harris' efforts to review reimbursement of Pastor's spring '06 tuition payments for son attending Oral Robert's University – while vote not taken, guidelines exist for this purpose and Council supports effort to review ability to request payment from fund as established.

Council agreed that minutes of Council Meeting, while published in Ascent, shall also be posted for review in Church Office and are always available to any interested party.

June council meeting to be held at the retreat on June 23-24. The July Council meeting will be on 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday at noon with Keith Khoo providing devotion and lunch.

Closing prayer provided by Pastor Dake - for thanksgiving, healing and comfort for Ascension Members, families in need and the future of our Church.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Chris Falkenstein, Council Secretary.

## SUNDAY READINGS FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE:

June 4 – Day of Pentecost

First Reading: Acts 2:1-21 or Ezek 37:1-14

Psalm 104:24-35

Second Reading: Romans 8:22-27 or Acts 2:1-21

Gospel: John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

June 11 – Holy Trinity

First Reading: Isaiah 6:1-8

Psalm 29

Second Reading: Romans 8:12-17

Gospel: John 3:1-17

June 18 – Second Sunday after Pentecost

First Reading: Ezek 17:22-24

Psalm 92:1-4, 11-14

Second Reading: 2 Cor 5:6-10 [11-13] 14-17

Gospel: Mark 4:26-34

June 25 – Third Sunday after Pentecost

First Reading: Job 38:1-11

Psalm 107:1-3, 23-32

Second Reading: 2 Cor 6:1-13

Gospel: Mark 4:35-41

## HELPING HANDS

That very full closet is running low on a few items:

Peanut Butter	Jelly
Spaghetti sauce	Fruit
Tuna/Spam	

If you don't have time to shop, we will do it for you. Just place your check in the offering plate and put Helping Hands in the memo slot. We have been averaging four families per week and for the past few weeks have been doing six families. With summer here and children not getting school lunches, demand I'm sure will go up. Thanks to everyone for their support in helping our neighbors in need. We've done it for over 30 years. Lets go for another 30!

PS: We have plenty of ramen noodles, canned vegetables and paper products right now. Watch the *Ascent* for updates!!

Eileen Imwalle

## ***PROPERTY COMMITTEE NEEDS***

**Garden rake:                   \$17.99**  
**Flat of flowers:               \$ 9.99**

### **Experience of riding a John Deere Lawn Tractor.....priceless!**

We are currently looking for a few volunteers. If you could donate just a couple of hours a month to help maintain and ameliorate our campus, please call Dave Imwalle 446-0474 or let Mary know in the Church office.

David Imwalle

## **MESSAGE FROM YOUR EDITOR, KATHERINE TOOLEY**

An fyi for you: my email address has changed. It is [kjtooley@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kjtooley@sbcglobal.net) . Please send any and all submissions for the *Ascent* to me at that address. You may also call me at 599-8002. Remember, the deadline for all issues is the 25<sup>th</sup> of the month! Thank you.

## **THRIVENT BUILDS with Habitat for Humanity**

5/14/06

Letter to Ascension:

All of the Thrivent/Habitat volunteers want to thank those of you who provided lunches for the “Luther Home” Habitat project. The lunches not only refreshed everyone, but gave all of us time to have fellowship with each other. Everyone did not come to work at the same time, or work in the same area of the building, so the lunches became a gathering for all of us. We know it took a lot of planning, time and monies to do the lunches, and we want each of you to know it was appreciated by everyone. May the Lord continue to bless each of you.

--Howard Seigfreid

## **JUNE BIRTHDAYS**

6/1     Dorothy Burgess  
6/13    Sandy Isakson  
6/24    Dakota Walters  
6/25    Steve Faulkner  
6/26    Frances Rowland  
6/29    Linda Christy

*If your birthday does not appear, please notify the church office, so that we may update our records.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

**CONGRATULATIONS!** To Katie Williams on her graduation from Union High School. Katie plans to attend Oklahoma State University in Stillwater.

**PASTORAL CARE:** If you have a pastoral care need, such as hospitalization or personal issues, please inform the pastor of your needs.

**THANK YOU!** Thanks to all who helped to make my installation and reception such a beautiful experience. Special thanks to Mary Faulkner for the extra effort and her usual stellar performance in planning, preparing, coordinating and attending to all of the details that made for a wonderful evening.  
– Pastor Norm

**CONFIRMATION:** Next Sunday, June 4, there will be a reception at 10:30 a.m. in Jordan Hall in honor of our Confirmands. Confirmation will then take place at the 11:00 service.

**NOT AFRAID TO ASK:** Pastor Norm will offer a class in Lutheran faith and practice. While building on basic tenets of the Christian faith, this discussion group will also try to respond to questions raised by class participants who are “not afraid to ask” how Biblical theology in a Lutheran key can be a resource in their spiritual walk. For newcomers, who would like to know more about the Lutheran Church or possible membership at Ascension, and for any who would like to renew their understanding of Lutheran faith and life. Sundays, beginning on June 4, at 9:45 a.m.

**MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE!** The growing Ascension music team is looking for singers, instrumental musicians, and clerical and technical support. The only requirement is that you believe music is a vital part of the worship experience. Prior experience is not required. Join us on Wednesday nights at 6:30 p.m. and help us make a joyful noise!

**LUTHERAN COMMUNITY CHOIR:** Under the umbrella of Trinity Ministries, this choir is comprised of area Lutherans. It is newly formed, and recently debuted at the Habitat House dedication. There are NO tryouts or auditions. If you love to sing, but have limited time, the schedule was made with you in mind! There will be a Fall Concert on October 8<sup>th</sup>, with one rehearsal scheduled for Aug. 19 from 9:30 – 12:30 at Immanuel Lutheran in Broken Arrow, and another rehearsal just prior to the concert. Open to all area Lutheran singers. See Pam Dake for more information.

**WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDY:** We will meet on Tuesday, June 27<sup>th</sup>, at 10:00 a.m., at Sandy Isakson’s house for a brief Bible study and get together. The lesson will be from the *Lutheran Woman* magazine. All Ascension women are invited to attend.

**TRINITY MINISTRIES EVENT:** Thursday, June 8<sup>th</sup>, at 10:00 a.m., at Joy Lutheran. Presentation by TV Newscaster Lori Fulbright on personal safety. Cost for lunch is \$6.00. Reservations required by Monday, June 5<sup>th</sup>, and may be made with Warren Werling or Billie Lindburg.

## COMING EVENTS:

June	4	10:30 am	Reception in Jordan Hall in honor of the Confirmands
	4	11:00 am	Confirmation Ceremony at the late service
	7	6:00 pm	Worship & Music Committee meeting
	8	10:00 am	Trinity Ministries program “Personal Safety” at Joy Lutheran
	23-24		Council retreat
	27	10:00 am	Women’s Bible Study & brunch at Sandy Isakson’s home

# Serving Our Lord

## June 2006:

### 8:30 SERVICE:

#### **Communion Assistants:**

4 Eileen Imwalle  
11 Dave Imwalle  
18 Denise Khoo  
25 Carol Anwar

#### **Lectors:**

4 Ellen Harris  
11 Jim Harris  
18 Cathy Newsome  
28 Carol Anwar

### 11:00 SERVICE:

#### **Acolyte Teams: Crucifer/Torch Bearer:**

4 Katie Bruce  
11 Preston Napier  
18 Hailey Peterson  
25 Frankie & Becca Imwalle

#### **Altar Guild:**

Linda Christy, Barbara James, Betty Robertson

#### **Communion Assistants:**

4 Lynn & Betty Jacobsen  
11 Linda Christy & Sandy Isakson  
18 Ron & Bonnie Peters  
25 Donna Glocker & Doyle Hill

#### **Counter Schedule:**

Week One Bonnie Peters, Mary Faulkner  
Week Two Stan Lewis  
Week Three Doyle Hill, Linda Christy  
Week Four Gerry Oltrogge, Jerry Peterson

#### **Greeters:**

4 Bill & Shirley Bryant  
11 Ron & Bonnie Peters  
18 Ardy Andrist, Lillian Cantrell  
25 Jerry & Mary Peterson

#### **Lay Assistants:**

4 Jerry Peterson  
11 Chris Falkensten  
18 Sandy Isakson  
25 Linda Christy

#### **Lectors:**

4 Katherine Tooley  
11 Sandy Isakson  
18 Linda Christy  
25 Rosemary Ohde

#### **Ushers:**

4 Doyle Hill, DB Woods  
11 Doug & Roberta Napier  
18 Merl & Billie Lindburg  
25 Eileen Imwalle, Gary Collins

*Thank you for volunteering at Ascension!  
Please mark your calendars for the dates you  
are assigned to serve.*

*If you cannot volunteer on your assigned date,  
please find a substitute and contact the Church  
Office (743-5741) with the change.*

**We need Nursery Attendants! If you are  
interested in volunteering, please see Barbara  
James!**