

# The Ascent

Ascension Lutheran Church  
4803 South Lewis Avenue  
Tulsa, OK 74105

E-mail: [welcome@ascensionlutheran.net](mailto:welcome@ascensionlutheran.net)  
[pastornorm@ascensionlutheran.net](mailto:pastornorm@ascensionlutheran.net)

*JULY 2006*

Pastor Norman Dake

918-743-5741 / fax: 918-743-4854

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## **A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR**

This month I want to share with you a few highlights from our recent council retreat and a preview of coming attractions.

**WORSHIP:** A new hymnal has been in production by the ELCA. It will be published in October. As we consider the use of this new worship resource, let me make a few observations. First, I know that change can be difficult for some. Twenty eight years ago (1978) Lutheran Book of Worship (the green hymnal) was new. But with frequent and persistent use, we learned the liturgies and some new hymns, and LBW is now the hymnal with which we are most familiar and comfortable. In time, the new Evangelical Lutheran Worship (the cover will be burgundy in color) will become just as familiar and comfortable. And we'll only need one book!

Secondly, the rebuilding of our choir can be a great asset to us to help us learn what is new and lead us in the musical part of our worship. If God has blessed you with musical gifts, I hope that you will prayerfully consider sharing these with us through the Ascension choir. The choir is currently on summer break, but voices old and new will be welcomed come September.

Finally, it will cost about \$4,000 to provide the needed hymnals (\$20 per copy) and related resources for the organist, altar, and office. While this is not an insignificant amount, I trust we can find creative ways (Abiding Gifts, Thrivent grant, "Give Ascension a Christmas gift," or other fund raisers) to fund such a purchase outside of our regular budget with gifts over and above our regular tithes and offerings.

In regard to our worship space, the council is moving forward with plans to improve the lighting in our sanctuary. More long term, we observed that 2008 will mark the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our sanctuary, and that would be an opportune time to look at updating other things to keep God's house an inviting and worshipful place for members and visitors alike.

**STEWARDSHIP:** Beginning on July 30, we will lift up stewardship opportunities here at Ascension. While financial stewardship is an important part of our spiritual life together, so is the stewardship of our time and talents. We have been blessed to be a blessing (Genesis 12:2), and each member will be given an opportunity to prayerfully consider how God is calling us to share the gifts which we have been given. There are many tasks that need to be done in the ministry of this congregation. By indicating those areas where you feel God is calling you to serve, we have a better chance of channeling your skills and interests in a rewarding and fulfilling way. Many hands make light work.

**6F NIGHT:** First Friday, Family Fun, Food & Fellowship Night (6F for short) will kick off on Friday evening, July 7, at 6:00 P.M. in Jordan Hall. The first Friday of each month will become an opportunity for all of the Ascension family to gather for food, fellowship, and fun. For those who have indicated that every three months (when we have a fifth Sunday with only one service followed by a pot luck luncheon) is not frequent enough to bring our entire congregation together, this will be another option for spending time outside of worship with the rest of the Ascension family.

As for the third F (Family), please interpret this in the most inclusive way. If you are part of the family of God, you're part of the family. If you are part of the Ascension family, you're part of the family. If there are people whom you would like to invite to join us but they're not ready for a Sunday morning experience or already have another church home, this is an opportunity for them to experience another slice of life at Ascension. Our "Family" is meant to include young and old, single and married, those with a house full of children as well as "empty nesters."

Family Fun means that our activities will be rated Double G, for good and Godly. Movie night and game night are a couple of ideas already on the schedule. If you have other ideas or would like to help, Pam Dake (747-8557) is the one who is coordinating 6F Night.

GETTING ACQUAINTED: I've had the privilege of meeting many of you (and learning some names two or three times; be patient with me, I'm working on this). For those of you whom I haven't met, I hope to call you in the weeks ahead so that we can schedule a time to get acquainted.

Blessings!

Pastor Norm

**Pastor Norman Dake's  
Installation  
May 7, 2006**



Pastor Norman Dake &  
Bishop Floyd Schoenhals



Pastor Norm and Pam

**Church Council Minutes - From June 24, 2006**

Jim Harris called the meeting to order. Also in attendance; Pastor Dake, Eileen Imwalle, Barbara James, Keith Khoo, Sandy Isakson and Pam Dake.

Motion was made to approve last months minutes by Sandy Isakson and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Keith Khoo. All approve.

**Pastor's report:** Confirmands were confirmed and senior quilts were given out the first part of June. Local pastors got together to plan for ministering in the community. HIPPA question from last month resulted in merely taking off the "reason" column from the prayer list.

**Treasure's report:**

Expenses:	Actual \$20,267.82	Budget \$12,448.00
Income:	Actual \$17,559.00	Budget \$12,448.00
Account Balances		
	Checking \$26,921.78	
	Building \$ 9,084.87	
	Savings \$28,640.47	

(Expenses high – Paid Moving expenses / Income high – Interest income)

Pastor Norm made motion to accept Treasurer's Report, Barb James 2<sup>nd</sup>, all in favor.

**Christian Ed:** Pastor plans to meet with this committee this month to get plans going for next fall.

**Worship & Music:** Funeral arrangements made for Gladys Boyd who died on Wednesday, June 7. The funeral will be held on Friday, June 9, with Pastor Norm presiding. The women of the church providing lunch.

New Hymnal: "Evangelical Lutheran Worship" is coming out in October, 2006, at a cost of approximately \$20 per copy. We need about \$4,000 to replace all LBW's and the organist's copy. The Altar book cost \$140, which we may be able to do without. We discussed methods of raising funds for this or possibly using abiding gifts.

Pastor Norm suggested that we use the contemporary version of the Lord's Prayer for the contemporary service.

Pastor also proposed using the chapel for the 7:30 service to provide a more intimate setting for the small gathering of people. He will talk to the people who attend that service to see what they want to do.

Pastor reported that he had found some lights left on and the fire doors left open on Sunday. We need to remind the ushers and altar guild members to be sure to turn off all lights and close all fire doors when they leave the building. Fire doors are the heavy steel doors at the top and bottom of the stairs on the Sanctuary side of the building, the door into Jordan Hall, and the door into the Confirmation wing from the elevator lobby.

Mary is working on new volunteer scheduling for the summer months. Barbara is revising the Altar Guild schedule. If you would like to serve in any capacity as a volunteer, please contact Mary in the office at 743-5741.

Mary is also working on a newspaper article for the Tulsa World and the Tulsa Beacon introducing Pastor Norm. This will be sent to the newspapers asap.

We discussed looking into purchasing copyright to "Sunday's and Seasons" from Augsburg Fortress. This is an online worship planner which includes liturgical texts, readings for each Sunday, prayers of the church, etc. The cost of a subscription is approximately \$400 per year.

**Stewardship:** Beginning to work on next year's figures. **Pony Express to ride again.** We plan to use last year's program. It seemed to be well received.

**Investment committee:** Council to get with them on the Continuing Resolution regarding the Scholarship Fund.

**Old Business:** Keith Khoo made a motion to accept the application for the use of the Educational Fund, for the amount of \$7000.00, as approved by the benefactor, for the Pastor's son's college expenses. It is Joel's last semester at ORU. Sandy Isakson 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion, 5 approve, 1 abstain.

Lighting scenarios were discussed to fix the lighting in the Sanctuary. To be continued next month.

**New Business:** Keith Khoo made a motion to approve the non-budgeted repairs to the air conditioners in the fellowship Hall and in the Adult Sunday School room. Barbara James 2<sup>nd</sup>, all in favor. (Approx \$1500)

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday coming up next month, July 30<sup>th</sup>. Sunday BBQ, burgers, etc., will be provided, please bring side dishes, salads and desserts. Sandy Isakson made a motion to purchase a re-useable, outdoor sign for the front of the property to advertise the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday, not to exceed \$125.00. Keith 2<sup>nd</sup>, all in favor.

Next meeting July 16<sup>th</sup>, Keith devotion and lunch.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectively submitted,

Eileen Imwalle, stand-in secretary.

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



Pastor Norm, Barbara James, Jim Harris, Sandy Isakson, Keith Khoo, Eileen Imwalle



Look! They let me drive the boat!

### **Council retreat at Grand Lake**

### **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.

Please keep the following people in your prayers:

Don Doty  
Linda Cooper  
Shauna, Brook and Briana Bailey  
Judy and Ken Bailey  
Dean McArdle  
Bill Burgess  
Pam Nielsen  
Shirley Bryant

Our prayers also go out to the family and friends of Gladys Boyd who went to be with the Lord on June 7, 2006.

### **JUST A FUNNY TO SHARE:**

You know you're a Lutheran when:

- \* You hear something really funny during the sermon and smile as loudly as you can!
- \* Its 100 degrees, with 90% humidity, and you still have coffee after the service.
- \* Doughnuts are a line item in the church budget, just like coffee.
- \* The communion cabinet is open to all, but the coffee cabinet is locked up tight.
- \* All your relatives graduated from a school named Concordia.
- \* When you watch a "Star Wars" movie and they say, May the Force be with you, you respond, and also with you.
- \* You actually understand those folks from Lake Wobegon, MN.
- \* And lastly, it takes ten minutes to say good-bye.

### **HELP NEEDED!!**

Rosemary Ohde will be moving very shortly and seriously needs boxes, help packing & sorting household items. If you have some time to share, please give her a call ASAP!

Also, if anyone has a pick-up or van and would be willing to help, on an infrequent basis, members of the Church are asked to assist in hauling off unneeded but donatable items, please give Katherine Tooley or Mary Faulkner a call and we'll keep a list of "hauler helpers"!

### **HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!**

Tom and Doris Williams celebrated 50 years of marriage on Thursday evening, June 22<sup>nd</sup> with a reception in Jordan Hall. Congratulations, Tom and Doris, and thanks for sharing your celebration with your family at Ascension!

### **WERLING BABY!!**

Michael and Diane Werling of Lowell, Massachusetts are the parents of Ava June Werling. She was born June 27, 2006, and weighed in at 6 ½ ounces and is 19 ¾ inches long. Proud Great Grandparents are Warren and Carroll Werling. Congratulations!!

**NOT AFRAID TO ASK:** Pastor Norm is offering a class in Lutheran faith and practice. While building on basic tenets of the Christian faith, this discussion group also tries 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. Please join us on Sunday mornings at 9:45 a.m. in the adult classroom.

**6F:** Come join us in Jordan hall on Friday July 7, from 6-9 pm, for the:

First  
Friday  
Family  
Fun  
Food &  
Fellowship  
Night

July's activity will be a potluck dinner and showing of a family-friendly (G-rated) movie. Please bring a potluck dish to share. Invite the kids' friends, too!

**WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY:** We will be taking July & August off. Please plan on joining us in September!

**ELCA YOUTH GATHERING:** Lauren Doty, together with youth leaders Lisa McArdle and Pam Funk, will be attending the ELCA National Youth Gathering in San Antonio July 3-10. Please keep them in your prayers. We will welcome them home and receive a report from them on July 16.

**FIFTH SUNDAY CELEBRATION:** On Sunday, July 30 we will have another *Fifth Sunday Celebration* with a combined service at 11:00 a.m. followed by a potluck lunch in Jordan Hall. Please plan on bringing a salad or dessert to share; meat will be provided.

## TRINITY MINISTRIES EVENT:

**Tuesday, July 18, Planetarium and Air & Space Museum:** Join us from 10:00 to Noon at the Planetarium and museum at 3624 N. 74<sup>th</sup> E. Ave. Guided tour plus short film. Admission is \$8.00; lunch extra, on your own. Reservations please - 794-5041. For questions, see Warren Werling or Billie Lindburg.

## COMING EVENTS:

July	3-4	Church office will be closed	
	5	6:30 pm	Worship & Music Committee meeting
	7	6-9 pm	6F - First Friday Family Fun Food & Fellowship Night
	3-10	ELCA Youth Gathering in San Antonio	
	16	12:15 pm	Council meeting
	18	10:00 am	Trinity Ministries event at the Planetarium and Air & Space Museum
	23	TBA	Joy Lutheran installs Pastor Nathan Allen as their new pastor
	30	11:00 am	Fifth Sunday – one service at 11:00 am followed by a potluck lunch
September			
	5	10:00 am	Trinity Ministries meet at Ascension. Pastor Norm will do his Luther Land Presentation
	9-10		Fellowship Lutheran celebrates 30 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary
	10		Rally Day
	18-20		Synod Theological Conference at St. Crispins

## JUNE BIRTHDAYS

7/1	Cleta Bixler
7/3	Edward Engelke
	Doris Kurin
7/5	Hayly Helm
7/8	Ronda Falkensten
7/9	Lynn Jacobsen
7/16	Mary Peterson
7/20	Keith Khoo
	Kelsey Khoo
7/21	Rosemary Ohde
7/22	Ronald Oestmann
	Stacey Baker
7/24	Keri Duis
	Eric Johnson



*If your birthday does not appear, please contact the church office at 743-5741 so we may update our records.*

# FIRST Friday

## FAMILY FUN FOOD & FELLOWSHIP NIGHT

July 7, 2006

6-9 pm

Potluck Dinner

Family-Friendly (G-rated) Movie

Invite the Kids' Friends, Too!

Please bring  
a  
Potluck  
dish  
to share



# Fifth Sunday Celebration

July 30, 2006

11:00 a.m.

one combined Service  
followed by a potluck lunch

ribs, hamburgers, & hotdogs  
will be provided



Please bring  
Side dishes  
and desserts to share

## Personal Safety Presentation by Lori Fulbright

June 8, 2006

Trinity Ministries' meeting.

Lori Fulbright, Evening News anchor for Channel 6 was the guest speaker for the June Trinity Ministries meeting. She was funny and entertaining, but the information was no joke, and potentially life-saving.

The key points are summarized below.

1. The key to personal safety is being aware of what is going on in your surroundings. Pay attention, especially when getting in and out of your car, both at home or in public places. Many Tulsa muggings, car-jackings and kidnappings have happened in supermarket parking lots at 1:30 pm! And, ladies, keep control of your purse at all times, especially when shopping. Wear it close to your body. Don't leave it in your cart and wander away from it when choosing groceries. Your purse should be the first thing you place in the car, before you unload your cart.
2. Train yourself to notice people. If you make a game of it, and frequently practice describing people you see, you are more likely to be able to give an accurate description of a perpetrator. The police can't catch someone until they have a description! (Ask Warren Werling for help with this skill.)
3. A strong survival instinct is important if you are victimized. When you hear a news story about an incident, reflect on what you would have done differently, if you had been the victim.
4. The most common ploys used by criminals to choose a victim are asking for two things: directions, and money. **DON'T STOP WALKING TO TALK WITH THEM, EVEN FOR A SECOND.** You have just volunteered for the job of victim. Wave your arms, make noise, and tell them to "**GET AWAY FROM ME, GET AWAY FROM ME!**" as you keep walking. Lori said that she knows it's hard for Christians to seem rude or embarrass someone else or ourselves, so she suggests, if it will make you feel better, to say "**PLEASE GET AWAY FROM ME!**". She says that other people don't pay attention to car alarms, so don't let the "panic button" on your keychain give you a false sense of security if something happens to you.
5. Trust your instincts. Lori says that fear is a gift from God. If you start feeling prickles of fear, pay attention to them, and be extra vigilant. You may save your own life that way.
6. The recent upsurge in the crime rate in Tulsa and around the country is being attributed to the methamphetamine epidemic. A Meth addict desperate enough to rob or attack you is crazy from the drug, and you can't reason with him. Don't argue. Don't quote scripture, lie on hands, or offer to pray with him. Give him whatever belongings he wants. Nothing is as precious as your life.
7. **NEVER NEVER NEVER** get in the car with a perpetrator, even if he has a weapon. He wants a quiet, quick get-away. Don't give it to him. Have a resistance plan. Fake a faint (shouldn't be too hard!), or act like you are having a heart attack (that might not be a stretch, either). Get down on the ground. (If you have ever tried to get a sleeping child out of a car, you know that it's nearly impossible to carry someone who is dead weight, especially if he weighs more than 30 pounds.) Maybe he will give up and go find another, easier, mark. Make a lot of noise. Yell for help, saying you need an ambulance. Buy a whistle, and carry it with you, or sound a personal alarm.
8. 85% of recent burglaries are "knock and kick" intrusions. Always answer the door, so they know you are there, but **DON'T OPEN IT**, even with a chain or other "safety device". Talk through the door. If you don't answer when they ring or knock, they may break in because they think the house is empty. Yell and ask them what they want. Then call the police, and report what they said and a description, because there is a good chance that one of your neighbors will be their next victim.
9. Hide your extra checks somewhere unexpected. (Then, call your best friend and tell her where you put them!) Don't hide things in the freezer. (The thieves heard that was a good place to hide stuff, too, and that's the first place they'll look!)
10. Never leave mail with checks in your mail box. Only mail them at the Post Office.
11. It is illegal for Oklahoma law enforcement organizations to solicit money over the phone. Never give money to anyone who calls asking for donations.
12. Never pay money to collect a prize, no matter how tempting it is.

13. Lock your car doors when driving. Don't drive with the windows down.
14. When on vacation, leave lights on, both inside and out. Use timers, if possible. Leave a radio on. Get a "Watch order" from local police. This means that they will drive by your address at least once every 8 hours. Don't stop your mail or papers, but have someone pick them up. Ask a neighbor to put some trash out on your curb on trash pick-up days. Thieves drive around late at night, looking for the houses with no trash out in front.
15. Thieves HATE three things: Neighborhood watch signs, burglar alarms, and dogs. Get one or more of these.
16. Talk with family members, especially kids, about situations, not STRANGERS. (Those two precious little girls who have been murdered here recently would have said that the men weren't strangers-they were neighbors.) Have a family code word. If someone were to ask your loved one to go somewhere with them, that person should have the secret code word to prove they are telling the truth before they could be trusted.

Lori's presentation really got my attention. (As you can see, I took notes!) I realized that I had been putting myself in danger in many ways. I learned a lot from her, and I want everyone else to have this information, too. Please take these suggestions to heart, and share them with people you know and love. I've told you just about everything I learned, but if you would like more information, contact me (Pam Dake).

## **SUNDAY READINGS FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE:**

**July 2, 2006**

### **FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

Lamentations 3:22-33 *or* Wisdom of Solomon 1:13-15; 2:23-24

Psalm 30

2 Corinthians 8:7-15

Mark 5:21-43

**July 9, 2006**

### **FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

Ezekiel 2:1-5

Psalm 123

2 Corinthians 12:2-10

Mark 6:1-13

**July 16, 2006**

### **SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

Amos 7:7-15

Psalm 85:8-13

Ephesians 1:3-14

Mark 6:14-29

**July 23, 2006**

### **SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

Jeremiah 23:1-6

Psalm 23

Ephesians 2:11-22

Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

**July 30, 2006**

### **EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

2 Kings 4:42-44

Psalm 145:10-19 (Psalm 145:10-18 [NRSV])

Ephesians 3:14-21

John 6:1-21



## Serving Our Lord - July 2006

### 7:30 SERVICE:

All are invited to join us for this brief prayer service

### 8:30 SERVICE:

#### Communion Assistants:

2 Carol Anwar  
9 Eileen Imwalle  
16 Denise Khoo  
23 Cathy Newsome  
30 FIFTH SUNDAY

#### Lectors:

2 Carol Anwar  
9 Ellen Harris  
16 Jim Harris  
23 Cathy Newsome  
30 FIFTH SUNDAY

### 11:00 Service

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

2 Avery Baker  
9 Alex James  
16 Katie Bruce  
23 Preston Napier  
30 Alyssa Anwar

#### Altar Guild:

Shirley Bryant, Sandy Isakson, Eileen Imwalle

#### Communion Assistants:

2 Bill & Shirley Bryant  
9 Barbara James & Mary Peterson  
16 Pam Funk & Lillian Cantrell  
23 Betty & Lynn Jacobsen  
30 Linda Christy & Sandy Isakson

#### Counter Schedule:

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

#### Greeters:

2 Linda Christy & Barbara James  
9 Helen Allen & Donna Glocker  
16 Betty & Lynn Jacobsen  
23 Bill & Dorothy Burgess  
30 Jim & Ellen Harris

#### Lay Assistants:

2 Pam Funk  
9 Ron Peters  
16 Jerry Peterson  
23 Chris Falkensten  
30 Carol Anwar

#### Lectors:

2 Lisa McArdle  
9 Lillian Cantrell  
16 Ronda Falkensten  
23 Mary Peterson  
30 Barbara James

#### Ushers:

2 Gary Collins, Doyle Hill  
9 Stan Lewis, Don Robertson  
16 Merl & Billie Lindburg, Gerry Oltrogge  
23 Doug & Roberta Napier  
30 Ron & Bonnie Peters

#### Nursery Attendant:

2 Ellen Harris  
9 Bonnie Peters  
16 Annette Stange  
23 Ronda Falkensten  
30

*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 Annette Stange!

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**Phone: 918-743-5741**  
**Fax: 918-743-4854**

**Pastor Norman Dake**

**Sunday Services:**

**First Prayer – 7:30am**

**Celebrative Praise – 8:30am**

**Traditional Liturgy – 11:00am**

**Sunday School – 9:45 am**

**Office Hours: 8:00am–12:00 noon Mon-Fri**

**Website: [www.ascensionlutheran.net](http://www.ascensionlutheran.net)**

**E-mail: [welcome@ascensionlutheran.net](mailto:welcome@ascensionlutheran.net)  
[pastornorm@ascensionlutheran.net](mailto:pastornorm@ascensionlutheran.net)**

## **Mission Statement:**

- **Proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ to all people in all walks of life with every possible means, in accordance with the Work of God, Creeds and Confessions of the church.**
- **Worship our Lord through Word and Sacrament, celebrating Christ's victory over sin and death as the hallmark of our faith**
- **Teach our members the relevancy of faith in life.**
- **Extend care and the call of Christ to each person in accordance with their needs**
- **Promote fellowship among our members.**



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