

# The Ascent

September 2006

Pastor Norman Dake

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## Ascension Lutheran Church

4803 South Lewis Avenue

Tulsa, OK 74105-5154

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## A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR

Before Jesus' ascent into heaven, he gave his disciples their final instructions (Matthew 28:19-20). They were to make more disciples through baptizing and teaching.

Teaching and learning the Word of the Lord are the work of the baptized. With the advent of another school year, we recommit ourselves to this ministry to which God has called us. There is something for all ages.

**RALLY DAY.** September 10 is Rally Day. We will kick off the new school year with special outdoor activities. At 10:30 A.M. you are invited to bring your pets for a blessing of the animals. Our single worship service at 11:00 will be followed by a congregational picnic and "intergenerational games direct from Wittenberg." Sunday School classes will begin on September 17 at 9:45.

**DO YOU AKALOO?** AKALOO derives from the Greek word for "follow" and is the theme of our Sunday School material for this year. It's fun and festive, as well as educational. Check it out. Barbara James, Ronda Falkensten, Tina Coates, Roberta Napier, and Ellen Harris are our staff.

**CONFIRMATION.** For those preparing to make the promises of baptism their own as they demonstrate their growth in the Christian faith. Keith Khoo is heading up this program. Parental involvement is welcome.

**YOUTH.** Our confirmation grads will continue to

explore the expanding dimensions of their faith, with Ed Engelke building upon the special relationship he has established with these young people.

**ADULTS.** Proving that you're never too old to study the catechism, I will continue to lead a class on the Basics of the Christian Faith, using Martin Luther's Small Catechism as a framework for our study of the Scriptures. Never a dull moment!

**OUR CALLING IN EDUCATION.** Our adult class spent two weeks reflecting on the draft of the ELCA's social statement on education. Katherine Tooley spoke on our behalf at a hearing of the Arkansas-Oklahoma Synod in August. Our input will help give shape to a final version of this document. Among other things, Our Calling in Education encourages all of us to be involved in life-long learning.

**MY CONTINUING EDUCATION.** On September 18-20, I will be attending the Fall Theological Conference sponsored by the Arkansas-Oklahoma Synod. We'll be focusing on the book of Romans.

**FIRST COMMUNION.** While we have no set age at which children may begin to receive the Lord's Supper, if you have a child who has demonstrated a readiness to receive this sacrament, let me know and we'll schedule a time to talk about the meaning and practice of Holy Communion.

Peace & Blessings!

Pastor Norm

## **Church Council Minutes - From August 13, 2006**

Meeting called to order at 12:13PM with Jim Harris presiding. Also in attendance: Pastor Dake, Keith Khoo, Chris Falkensten, Eileen Imwalle and Barbara James.

Devotion offered by Eileen Imwalle with Minutes from past Council meeting on July 16<sup>th</sup> approved as corrected.

### **Committee Reports:**

#### **Pastor's Report:**

- Pastor to begin 1<sup>st</sup> communion lesson starting this fall. Notice to be provided in Ascent.
- Pastor planning vacation from Oct 9<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup>; Mutual Ministry to secure visiting Pastors for the Sundays.
- Additional topics presented and discussed without vote needed.

#### **Treasurer's Report:**

- July, 2006 finances reviewed and approved by council as presented.
- Quarterly giving statements sent to congregational members will include financial information for review; detailed monthly information will no longer be presented here.
- Treasurer's Report is available for review – posted on bulletin board outside office.

#### **Property:**

Work Day planned for September 30<sup>th</sup> – no local football teams playing so plan on coming.

### **Continuing Business:**

Interior lighting received a much needed upgrade. Additional accent lighting in Church and Narthex shall be attempted after this initial round of activity pending receipt of additional funds to finance.

A volunteer webmaster is needed from within the congregation.

### **New Business:**

Council authorized that a recycling container for paper products be located on the property for use by congregation. A money-making activity maintained by the company providing container; look for its arrival soon.

Council is looking at adding to the existing sign on Lewis – providing a welcome message inviting the public to attend worship. C. Falkensten will review cost and sign addition; an offer was made by a member of the congregation to provide financial support to complete.

September Council meeting to be held Sunday, 9/17, following Traditional Worship service; Chris Falkensten to provide devotion and lunch.

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

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Chris Falkensten, Council Secretary.

## **Church Council Minutes From Special Council Meeting on August 22nd, 2006**

Meeting called to order at 7:02PM with Jim Harris presiding. Also in attendance: Pastor Dake, Keith Khoo, Chris Falkensten, Eileen Imwalle, Sandy Isakson, Lillian Cantrell and Barbara James. Guests included Ed and Janice Engelke.

Following discussion of Church facility use and property security, the Council unanimously voted as follows:

- Immediately change all exterior locks of all facility doors and reissue keys as covered by new policy.
- Adopt new Church Policy, with changes noted on draft copy, titled "Policy for Use of Church Property and Facilities".
- Adopt new Church Policy, with changes noted on draft copy, titled "Lock and Key Policy".

Final copy of policies, as approved above, shall be completed and made available for review to any congregational member as needed.

Meeting adjourned at 9:13pm

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

**7:30 FIRST PRAYER SERVICE.** At its September 7<sup>th</sup> meeting (6:30 P.M. in Pastor Norm’s office), the Worship and Music Committee will do an assessment of this service. Everyone who would like to provide input to the committee is welcome to attend or to submit written comments to the church office prior to September 7.

**ASCENT NEWS ITEMS;**

Please submit any news items by email to [norma-dreyer@utulsa.edu](mailto:norma-dreyer@utulsa.edu) or call me at my home phone, 583-3759 by the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month. Merci. Gracias. Tak. Danke. Go Maith. Kiitos. Dank je. Grazie.

**DECODING THE LITURGY 101**

By Pam Dake

This is the second article in a monthly series whose purpose is to help explain why Christians do and say some of the things we do and say in our worship services. As before, my source is the Altar Guild and Sacristy Handbook, by S. Anita Stauffer.

The worship space is the sacred place where we assemble as baptized members of the body of Christ. "While always and everywhere present, the triune God is present most fully and most powerfully in worship. Worship is the time when we come into God’s presence most intentionally and most intensively. Through their architecture, beauty, and symbolism, church buildings help us to be most fully present to God."

"The worship space is the space used for corporate worship and its preparation is the responsibility of the altar guild. There are usually three main divisions of worship space: narthex, nave, and chancel...In many newer buildings, there is less distinction between nave and chancel, though the chancel (even if it is in the center of the space) is still usually raised for the purpose of visibility."

"The narthex is the place of gathering and entering, the place of transition from everyday life as individuals and families to corporate worship with the baptized people of God. It is a place for persons to greet one another and to prepare for worship. The narthex also has important liturgical functions. It is used for the formation of liturgical

processions prior to the entrance hymn in the Eucharistic liturgy, wedding processions, and the burial procession prior to the funeral rite. In addition, the congregation as a whole may gather in or move in procession through the narthex on such days as...Palm Sunday, Easter Eve, and the Day of Pentecost. Receiving lines after weddings and other services also often form in the narthex."

"Various pieces of art...may be placed in the narthex to reflect the day or season of the church year. Such art can help worshipers with the transition from the 'outside' world to the place, event, and meaning of corporate worship."

"The nave is the place of assembly, where the congregation gathers for worship. Derived from the Latin word *navis*, which means ship, the nave reminds us of the church sailing in the ocean of time..."

"The third main section of worship space is the chancel—a raised platform in the front of the nave or near the middle of a centralized space. Most worship leadership is conducted from the chancel, since it is the place of both altar and pulpit. The chancel is furnished with various appointments and accoutrements that serve both practical and symbolic functions, and their design often reflects local cultural influences (such as Latino, African or Native American). It is vital never to obscure the central things—altar, pulpit, and font—with secondary and sometimes undesirable items (for example, overly abundant Christmas decorations or floral arrangements). Too many banners, too many

flowers and other items clutter the space, create visual pollution, and distract worshipers from the

central things. Let the central things *be* central in people's eyes."

**6F:** Come join us in Jordan hall on Friday September 1, from 6-9 pm, for the:  
First \*\* Friday \*\* Family \*\* Fun \*\* Food \*\* Fellowship Night  
September's activity will be a game of Bunko. Dinner will be provided by Doris Williams and there will be a freewill offering to offset the expense. Invite your friends!

**TRINITY MINISTRIES EVENT:  
"LUTHER LAND" TOUR - SLIDE SHOW AND  
PRESENTATION**

**Pastor Norm Dake, Ascension Lutheran  
Tuesday, September 5  
10:00 am**

Come along with Pastor Norm Dake on a colorful slide tour of his trip to the land of Martin Luther's life and work. The itinerary of your journey will include:

- **Eisleben** (the place of Luther's birth and death);
- **Erfurt** (where Luther received his university and monastery training);
- **Wittenberg and the Castle Church**, (where Luther posted his 95 theses, leading to the beginning of the Reformation);
- **Worms**, (the location of Luther's defense of his beliefs and his bold statement that "...Here I stand. I can do no other. God help me. Amen.") and;
- **Eisenach**, (the location of Wartburg Castle, where Luther was brought following his conviction by the medieval church and the state).

The presentation will begin at 10:00 am at Ascension Lutheran Church, with lunch following. The cost for lunch is \$6.00 and reservations are required by Thursday, August 31. You can make reservations either through your church's Trinity Ministries representatives or by calling the Trinity Ministries Center at 794-5041.

See you in "Luther Land!"

**SHALOM FEST:** The Temple Israel congregation invites you to attend their 13th ShalomFest on Sunday, Sept. 10 from 12:00noon - 7:00 pm. ShalomFest is an annual celebration of Jewish food, music, dance and tradition: a window into Jewish Culture for Tulsans of many different faiths. See blue flyer in Narthex for more info.

**IMMIGRATION WORKSHOP:** "Employing Immigrant Workers Legally" will answer employers' questions about immigration laws on Wednesday, September 13 at 7:30 p.m. at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 8730 E. Skelly Drive. The program is open to all.

**COMING EVENTS:**

September	1	6:00 p.m.	<b>6F</b> – Dinner and Bunko game
	5	10:00 a.m.	Trinity Ministry LutherLand presentation, Jordan Hall.
	7	6:30 p.m.	Worship & Music Committee – open to all
	9	9:00 a.m.	Construction begins on the new Thrivent Habitat home
	9-10		Fellowship Lutheran celebrates 30 <sup>th</sup> anniversary
	10		<b>RALLY DAY / LUTHERPALOOZA!</b>
	17	12:15 p.m.	Council meeting
	18-20		Synod Theological Conference at Western Hills Lodge, Hulbert, OK
	23		Fun at Jim & Ellen Harris' lake home
	26	10:00 a.m.	Women's Bible Study, Adult Classroom
	30	9:00-1:00	Church work day.

**LOCKS & KEYS.** The locks on the outside doors and the doors to the church office have been changed. If you have old keys, you are asked to return them to Mary in the church office. If you need access to the



## TULSA THRIVENT & HABITAT BUILDS SECOND LUTHER HOME

The Tulsa Lutheran congregations have been awarded another Thrivent Builds grant for a second Tulsa Habitat home.

The second Habitat home will be built at 3711 West 53rd Place. This will be a four bedroom home; the new owner will be Lester & April Flatt and their children. This location is just a few blocks S.W. of the I-44 & 33rd West Ave exit.

We plan to start construction on **Saturday, 9/09/2006**. We will build every Saturday and Wednesday from 9:00AM - 3:00PM. We should have the home built in 9 weeks, Dedication is planned for Saturday, 11/11/2006.



We pray that you will be a partner of the building program again, by working at the site, help prepare a noon lunch for the workers, make a donation for materials. Our 10% share of the Habitat project is \$6,005.00. A gift of \$15.00 will buy 5 wall studs, a gift of \$25.00 will buy a roll of insulation, a gift of \$50.00 will buy a sink, a gift of \$80.00 will buy an interior door, a gift of \$100.00 will buy a window, etc. **All checks should be made out to "Tulsa Thrivent Builds", and directed to Howard Seigfreid, the Tulsa Thrivent chapter coordinator.**

So, when your congregational champion/ coordinator asks you to volunteer your time and monies, say YES. Thrivent & Habitat are willing to put their monies and labor to help make more decent housing in the Tulsa area. Let us do our part. May the Lord continue to work thru each of us. If you have any questions or comments, please contact me.

Howard Seigfreid  
918-252-1406

9036 E. 68th St.,  
[hseigfreid@cox.net](mailto:hseigfreid@cox.net)

Tulsa, Ok. 74133



**ASCENSION HABITAT COORDINATOR: LILLIAN CANTRELL.** Please be willing to sign up to help with this exciting project. Volunteer opportunities will include work-on-site, preparation of meals, gifts in kind, lots of fetch and carry jobs. See Lillian (or Shirley and Bill Bryant) for details. A sign-up sheet will be on the information table in the narthex.





## BINGO!

Fun was had by all at  
our 6F Night on  
August 4<sup>th</sup>.



**LET THERE BE LIGHT!** Special thanks to Keith Khoo, Jim Harris, Pam Dake, and Pastor Norm for their help in installing new track lighting in the sanctuary. The lights were dedicated at the beginning of the July 30 worship service. Between the Jacobsen Abiding Gifts (thank you, Betty and Lynn) and special contributions from our members, we have been able to cover the cost of this non-budgeted item. This is Phase 1; stay tuned for Phase 2.

# Lutherpalooza 2006



## Rally Day

Sunday, September 10

10:30 a.m. – Blessing of the Animals

11:00 a.m. – All Congregational Worship Service

12:15 p.m. - Congregational Picnic and Games

\*Sunday, September 17 – Classes begin  
at 9:45 a.m.

Friday  
Family  
Fun  
Food &  
Fellowship Night

September 1, 2006

6-9 pm

Dinner

Family-Friendly Bunko game

Dinner provided  
by  
Doris Williams.

We will have a  
freewill offering  
To offset the expense.

Invite your friends!



# SERVING OUR LORD – September 2006

## 7:30 SERVICE:

**Altar Guild:** Doris Elliott

All are invited to join us for this brief prayer service

## 8:30 SERVICE:

### Communion Assistants:

3 Cathy Newsome  
10 Linda Christy  
17 Carol Anwar  
24 Denise Khoo

### Lectors:

3 Cathy Newsome  
10 Linda Christy  
17 Carol Anwar  
24 Denise Khoo

## 11:00 SERVICE:

### Acolytes::

3 Katie Bruce  
10 Preston Napier  
17 Hailey Peterson  
24 Frankie & Becca Imwalle

### Altar Guild:

Ardith Andrist, Lillian Cantrell, Randi Clark,  
Donna Glocker

### Communion Assistants:

3 Lillian Cantrell  
10 Betty & Lynn Jacobsen  
17 Ron & Bonnie Peters  
24 Linda Christy & Sandy Isakson

### Counter Schedule:

3 Mary Faulkner & Bonnie Peters  
10 Stan Lewis  
17 Doyle Hill & Linda Christy  
24 Gerry Oltrogg &, Jerry Peterson

### Greeters:

3  
10 Ron & Bonnie Peters  
17 Linda Christy & Barbara James  
24 Helen Allen & Donna Glocker

### Lay Assistants:

3 Chris Falkensten  
10 Sandy Isakson  
17 Linda Christy  
24 Ron Peters

### Lectors:

3 Lillian Cantrell  
10 Ronda Falkensten  
17 Mary Peterson  
24 Barbara James

### Ushers:

3 Stan Lewis & Don Robertson  
10 Doug & Roberta Napier  
17 Gary Collins & Doyle Hill  
24 Eileen Imwalle & Gerry Oltrogge

### Nursery Attendant:

3  
10 Jean Connely  
17 Eileen Imwalle  
24 Ellen Harris

### Altar Flowers:

3  
10 Warren & Carroll Werling's 8<sup>th</sup>  
Anniversary  
17 Merl Lindburg in honor of Billie's  
birthday  
24

*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 still need Nursery Attendants! If you are interested in volunteering, please see Annette Stange!

***A special thank you to Barbara Shelby, Sandy Isakson and Shirley Bryant for helping out in the office. You are much appreciated!***

## VIA DE CRISTO WEEKEND #15:

Via de Cristo Weekend #15 is fast approaching and registrations are being accepted. The weekend will be held at St. Scholastica Retreat Center in Ft. Smith, Arkansas, on October 12-15, 2006. Participants arrive around 6 p.m. on Thursday and leave about 6 p.m. on Sunday. All meals, lodging and supplies are included for the \$175 registration fee.

Via de Cristo offers an opportunity for you to reflect on your personal values and goals, evaluate your relationship with Christ, and respond to the call of Christ to serve in today's world. It is a span of three days where, without distractions from the outside world, you laugh, sing, worship, and listen to talks from fellow lay persons and clergy. You will have the opportunity to discuss the talks with a small group of new friends and contemplate the message Christ has for YOU from what is shared.

Most participants have put off attending for some time because of busy schedules. And once they attend a weekend, they regret that they did not do so earlier. Via de Cristo is one of many opportunities with the church for enrichment, renewal, and spiritual growth. The Weekend is for lay persons and clergy alike. It is intended for those who live strong and active lives in Christ, and for those who seek to be renewed and strengthened in their relationship with Christ and their local congregation.

Registration forms may be obtained from the church office. Deadline for registration is September 29, 2006. Scholarship funds are available if needed.

For more information, contact Karen Dahlgren, Pre-Weekend Coordinator, at 918-335-4120, or by email: [kkdahlgren@cablone.net](mailto:kkdahlgren@cablone.net).

## WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY:

Mark your calendars. Bible study will be at 10:00 a.m. on September 26 in the Adult Classroom.

## AMAZING ILLUSION:

Relax and concentrate on the 4 small dots in the middle of the picture for about 30-40 seconds.

Look at a wall near you (any smooth, single colored surface)

You will see a circle of light developing  
Start blinking your eyes a couple of times and you will see a figure emerging.

What do you see? Moreover, who do you see?



WOW!

**WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?** Pastor Norm's Sunday morning Bible class is using Martin Luther's Small Catechism, with its recurring question of "What does this mean?", as a guide in its continuing study of the Scriptures and the Basics of the Christian Faith. 9:45 in the Adult Classroom on the 2nd floor.



## Life Planning NewsNotes- For All Generations- September 2006

### OKLAHOMA WILLS – A QUIZ

In Jesus' day, Wills were in common use as we read in Hebrews 9:16-17: *For a will takes effect only at death since it is not in force as long as the one who made it is alive.* In our day too, it is important to understand the value of wills. The following True or False quiz will help you measure how much you know – or do not know – about Wills in Oklahoma. To see how you did, see the Answers section.

#### True or False:

1. Oklahoma will honor a handwritten will as long as an attorney has signed it.
2. A married couple only needs to have one will.
3. If a person dies without a will, the state takes one-half of the estate for probate fees.
4. It is illegal to open and read a deceased person's will until after the funeral.
5. A "codicil" is the stamped impression that makes a will valid.

#### Answers:

1. Oklahoma does not require that a will be signed by an attorney. However, it must be properly witnessed.
2. Each individual should have his or her own will.
3. While it is true that the state, in the absence of a valid will, dictates the disposition of the estate, it certainly does not automatically receive half the amount. However, if one dies with no will, there may be a substantial increase in probate costs.
4. A will can be opened and read anytime after death, or earlier with appropriate permission.
5. A "codicil" is an addendum added later to a previously prepared will. (*All five T or F statements are false.*)

### Lutheran Planned Giving

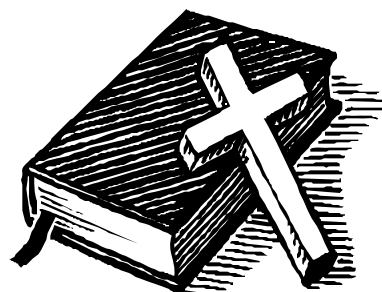
*LPI NewsNote: The Life Planning Institute, a Division of Trinity Ministries, Inc. provides confidential financial help in cases of need for preparation of Wills, Advance Directives, Durable Powers of Attorney for Health Care, and simple Living Trusts. For assistance or information, simply see your Pastor or call Trinity Ministries at 918-794-5041. Date of the next seminar is October 14, 2006.*

#### UNDER THE BIG TOP:

The Arkansas-Oklahoma Synod Outreach Team is planning a gathering for all ELCA Lutherans in the Tulsa area on Sunday, October 1, at the property the Synod owns for a possible new mission in Broken Arrow. This event is still being planned by our friends at Trinity Ministries, but we'll be under a tent. Watch the Sunday worship folder for more details as they become available.

#### EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN

**WORSHIP.** The Worship and Music Committee has pre-ordered at a reduced pre-publication price 12 copies of this new hymnal, together with a copy of the Leader's Desk Edition. These materials, together with an introductory workshop sponsored by the Arkansas-Oklahoma Synod in February 2007, will help us decide on the use of this new worship resource at Ascension. We have received about half of the funds for this preliminary purchase. Additional contributions are welcome.



## **Ascension Lutheran Church**

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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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