

The *Ascent*

February 2007

Ascension Lutheran Church
4803 South Lewis Avenue
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A NOTE FROM PASTOR NORM

In Luke 9:51, the Gospel writer begins a travelogue. Following Jesus' birth in Bethlehem and his presentation in the Temple in Jerusalem (Luke 1:1-2:38), the early part of Jesus' life and ministry (Luke 2:39-9:50) takes place almost exclusively in Galilee, the northern territory of Israel. The climax of Jesus' life and ministry (Luke 19:28-24:53), including his crucifixion and resurrection, will take place in and around Jerusalem, in the south. In between there is a travel narrative (Luke 9:51-19:27).

Luke begins his travelogue by telling us that Jesus "set his face to go to Jerusalem." Jesus' journey was not a vacation, nor was it a sight-seeing excursion. It was the way of the cross; it was the way of death.

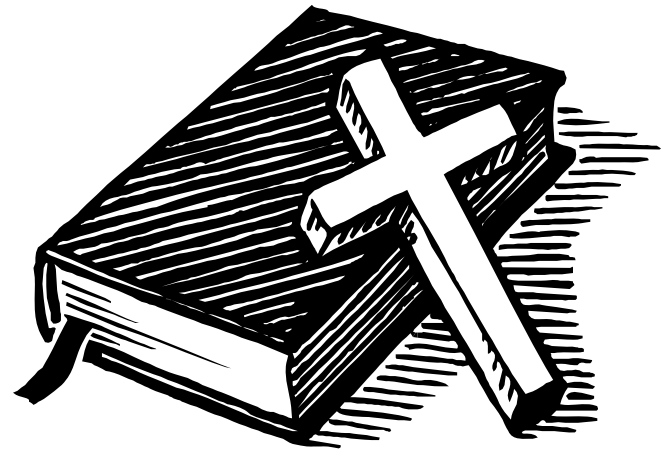
During the season of Lent, we are invited to join Jesus on a 40-day journey that will take us to the cross on Good Friday and the empty tomb on Easter morning. Our Lenten journey begins on Ash Wednesday, February 21, when we will gather at 7:00 P.M. for a service of worship that will include the imposition of ashes, reminding us that we are dust and to dust we shall return (Genesis 3:19 and 18:27, for example).

On the remaining Wednesday evenings during Lent (February 28-March 28), we will gather in Jordan Hall at 6:30 for a soup supper, followed by a brief worship service. Our theme for those gatherings will be "Jesus' Encounters on the Way to the Cross," and we will focus on some of the people who crossed paths with Jesus on his way to Jerusalem and crucifixion.

Also during February we will begin our 5x5x5 small group journey into Bible study and prayer. The five lead couples for 5x5x5 have received their initial orientation and training. While they are responsible for identifying and recruiting the remaining 5 members of their small groups, we don't want anyone left behind who would like to be part of this exciting and stimulating process. You may indicate your interest in participating in a 5x5x5 group by placing your name on the sign-up sheet in the narthex of the church or by calling the church office.

Peace & Blessings!

Pastor Norm



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

Church Council Minutes - January 14, 2007

Meeting called to order at 12:15pm with Jim Harris presiding; also in attendance were Pastor Dake, Keith Khoo, Chris Falkensten, Eileen Imwalle, Lillian Cantrell and Barbara James.

Minutes from Council meeting on December 10th were approved by unanimous vote.

Committee Reports Presented:

Pastor's Report:

- Pastor provided information on general church activity and the support and care provided to its members over the past month.
- Gave thanks for the holiday gift for all staff members.

Treasurer's Report:

- December, 2006 finances reviewed and approved by council as presented.
- Treasurer's Report is available for review – posted on bulletin board outside office.

Christian Education:

- Holiday Program completed as scheduled.
- Reported that Roberta Napier has agreed to function as chairman for this committee in 2007.

Evangelism: No report presented.

Worship and Music: No report presented.

Stewardship:

- Christmas Gift Catalog items were received during the holiday. Many thanks to those involved and a list of items with their completion will be forthcoming.

Property:

- Several interior leaks were repaired by construction company.
- South drive to receive attention and signs noting no parking and fire lane. This area has become congested and it is asked of all members to please park in noted spaces and keep drive area clear.
- Reminder, if there is anything you note that needs attention, please advise church office so that it can be addressed.

Mutual Ministry / Helping Hands:

- No report presented.

Continuing Business:

Nominating Committee provided list of candidates for upcoming year; vote to ratify at Annual Congregational Meeting on January 28th.

2007 draft budget discussed, modified and approved for Congregation review and acceptance.

New Business:

First 5 X 5 X 5 program to begin January 16th.

February Council meeting to be held Sunday, 2/11, following Traditional Worship service pending discussion by new council members for meeting times in future.

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.

ASCENT NEWS ITEMS: Please submit any news items by email to norma-dreyer@utulsa.edu or call me at my home phone, 583-3759 by the 21st of each month.

6F Night, Friday, Feb. 2

Please join us for dinner and a game of Bunco! Folks with a last name starting with A-F, bring taco fixin's; G-L, bring salads; M-R, bring side dishes; S-Z, bring desserts. Our dinner will be Southwestern in theme. Invite your friends for a great evening of fun and fellowship.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY: Our next Bible Study will be on Tuesday, **Feb. 27**, at 10:00 am in the adult classroom. We will continue our new study on Lutheran Basics.

TRINITY MINISTRIES EVENTS:

Tuesday, Feb. 27, 10:00 am: Tulsa author Eddie Faye Gates and entertainment by the Penn School Handbell Choir; Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, lunch \$6.

FaithLens. FaithLens is a free online weekly Bible study for youth, connecting current events with the Scripture lessons for the upcoming Sunday. Visit www.elca.org/faithlens to check it out.

*****The DB Woods family would like to express thanks for your thoughts and prayers during their time of bereavement.***

Ascension Annual Congregational Meeting, January 28th, 2007

- Meeting called to order by Jim Harris at 9:50am.
- Opening prayer provided by Pastor Dake.
- Voting members present signed in with 43 members in good standing present, providing a quorum for voting purposes.
- New Council Members and positions presented by Jim Harris for review by Congregation.
- Motion made to accept nominated members and officers by acclamation.
- Motion seconded and vote carried by unanimous count.
- Congregation budget presented for review and discussion.
- Following discussions and review, motion made to accept budget as presented.
- With second, the vote carried unanimously to accept budget as presented in Annual Report.
- Pastor provided remarks of thanks to the retiring Council Members.
- Incoming President Chris Falkensten provided brief remarks of thanks to Council and Congregation and made a request that all members assist in the growth of Ascension.

Respectfully Submitted, Chris Falkensten

COMING EVENTS: February 2007

				1	2 6F – 6:00 p.m. Jordan Hall	3
4 Worship 8:30 & 11:00 Sun. School 9:45	5	6	7 Praise Band 6:30	8 Worship & Music Committee 6:30 pm	9	10 ELW Seminar Fellowship Luth. 8:30-3:45
11 Worship 8:30 & 11:00 Sun. School 9:45 --- Council Mtg. 12:15	12 Women's lunch at Temple Israel- 12:00 noon	13	14 Praise Band 6:30	15	16 MercyMe concert, ORU	17
18 Worship 8:30 & 11:00 Sun. School 9:45 --- Conf. 3, First Luth 3:30 pm	19	20	21 Praise Band 6:30 --- Ash Wed. Service 7:00 p.m. --- Ascent articles due	22	23	24
25 Worship 8:30 & 11:00 Sun. School 9:45	26	27 Trinity Min., Pr. Of Peace, 10 am --- Women's Bible Study, 10 am	28 Praise Band 6:30 --- Lent Supper/ Worship 6:30 p.m.			

FEBRUARY READINGS:

Feb. 4 – Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

Isaiah 6:1-8 (9-13)
Psalm 138
1 Corinthians 15:1-11
Luke 5:1-11

Feb. 11 – Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

Jeremiah 17:5-10
Psalm 1
1 Corinthians 15:12-20
Luke 6:17-26

Feb. 18 – Transfiguration of Our Lord

Exodus 34:29-35
Psalm 99

2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2

Luke 9:28-36 (37-43)

Feb. 21 – Ash Wednesday

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 or Isaiah 59:1-12
Psalm 51:1-17

2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

Feb. 25 – First Sunday in Lent

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

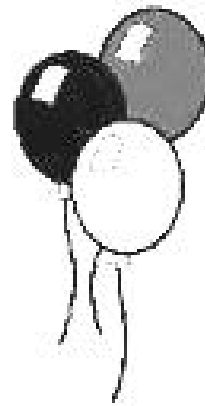
Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16

Romans 10:8b-13

Luke 4:1-13

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS:

2/1 Ruth Rasbold
2/1 Sean Faulkner
2/3 Sheryl Miller
2/3 Dan Moore
2/8 Ashley Engelke
2/9 Jason James
2/10 Christine Coleman
2/13 Sandra Bom
2/16 Carroll Werling
2/17 Lorraine Doty
2/18 Doris Elliott
2/21 Alyssa Anwar
2/28 Roberta Preston-Napier



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

Attention Ascension Women;

All Ascension women have been invited to a luncheon at Temple Israel on Monday, February 12th at 12:00 Noon. It is their annual interfaith luncheon. Only two churches have been invited, Ascension and John Knox Presbyterian. Pastor Dake will be one of the presenters on the subject of "Our Sacred Symbols and Their Meaning". Lunch will be served promptly at noon and program at 12:30 and completed by 1:30p.m.

We would like a many women as possible to represent our church. Please let Pastor Norm or Sandy Isakson know if you can join us, by Sunday, February 4, 2007. Temple Israel is located right behind Utica Square Shopping Center, on 22nd Place and there is a parking lot on the south side of the Temple. For more information contact Sandy Isakson(627-7994) or Pastor Norm. We can arrange a car pool, if you are interested. Please join us!

THRIVENT BUILDS WITH HABITAT FOR HUMANITY - Luther Home #3

Are you ready to start building? We hope to start building Luther Home #3 around 3/10/2007. The new Habitat home will be in the Ben Franklin area, at Hwy 75 and Apache, close to the Nicole Vann home, Luther Home 1.

The weather has delayed the installation of the concrete foundation and slab, but we hope it will be complete in the near future. We plan to work each Wednesday and Saturday from 9:00am-3:00pm as we have done in the past. We had scheduled a planning meeting for 1/22/2007, but that had to be delayed until 1/29/2007 with the ice storm.

Each congregational champion will be asking you to volunteer your time and monies to complete the Thrivent Builds - Luther Home #3. For those of you who have not volunteered in the past, consider working at the new habitat home, YOU WILL ENJOY IT.

To get involved, contact your congregational champion, or you can contact me at my home, 252-1406, or by e-mail hseigfreid@cox.net

May the Lord continue to lead us in helping others who need to secure decent housing for their families.

Howard Seigfreid

Serving our Lord, February 2007

11:00 am	Nursery Attendant	Ushers	Lectors	Acolytes	Communion Assistants	Lay Assistant	Greeters	Counters
4	Need volunteers	Doug & Roberta Napier	Brenda Ramirez	Preston Napier	Betty & Lynn Jacobsen	Chris Falkensten	Betty & Lynn Jacobsen	Merl Lindburg Mary Faulkner
11		Merl & Billie Lindburg	Barbara James	Nicole Ramirez	Mary Peterson Sandy Isakson	Ron Peters	Mary & Jerry Peterson	Stan Lewis Bonnie Peters
18		Stan Lewis Don Robertson	Pam Dake	Alex James	Bill & Shirley Bryant	Sandy Isakson	Helen Allen Randi Clark	Ronda Falkensten Denise Khoo
25		Ron & Bonnie Peters	Ronda Falkensten	Frankie Imwalle	Barbara James Lillian Cantrell	Linda Christy	Lillian Cantrell Ardith Andrist	Gerry Oltrogge Jerry Peterson

8:30 am								
4			Linda Christy		Linda Christy			
11			Pam Dake		Denise Khoo			
18			Carol Anwar		Carol Anwar			
25			Eileen Imwalle		Ellen Harris			

Altar Guild: Ardith Andrist, Lillian Cantrell, Randi Clark, Donna Glocker

*****Nursery volunteers*** are needed. Please sign up in the Narthex. Plan on being in the nursery at 10:30 am to receive the children as they arrive.**

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 notify the church office (743-5741) of the change

Make your money work smarter and have more control of your financial objectives.

You're invited to attend this free informational seminar, hosted by Green Country Associates. Tuesday, February 6, 2007, 7:00 PM, Grace Lutheran Church, 2331 E 5th Pl (5th and Lewis), Tulsa, OK

Refreshments will be served. Child care will be provided by a local chapter. Please call 918-877-2704, or send an e-mail to ed.meyer@thrivent.com today to reserve a place for yourself and a guest.

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Pastor Norman Dake

Sunday Services:

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

**E-mail: welcome@ascensionlutheran.net
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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