

The *Ascent*

April 2007

Ascension Lutheran Church

4803 South Lewis Avenue

Tulsa, OK 74105-5154

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A NOTE FROM PASTOR NORM

One of our stated missions as a community of faith is to “worship our Lord through Word and Sacrament, celebrating Christ’s victory over sin and death as the hallmark of our faith,” (Ascension Mission Statement).

Holy Week and Easter provide us with several opportunities to worship and celebrate.

April 1 Sunday of the Passion

8:30 AM Celebrative Praise Service

11:00 AM Traditional Service

With Procession of Palms

April 5 Maundy Thursday

7:00 PM

With Footwashing and Holy Communion

April 6 Good Friday

7:00 PM

Tenebrae, The Service of Darkness

April 8 Easter Sunday

8:30 AM Celebrative Praise Service

11:00 AM Traditional Service

Easter Breakfast – 9:45 AM – Jordan Hall.

\$4.00 Adults ~ \$2.00 children under 12

Easter Egg Hunt



Worship is not only what we do; worship expresses who we are as the people of God.

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN WORSHIP

In order to assist us in our worship life, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America has produced a new hymnal, Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW). Let me bring you up to date with where we are in regards to this new worship resource.

Last fall we purchased 12 copies of the pew edition of ELW, together with the Leader’s Desk Edition, for review by our Worship and Music Ministry Team. In February, 10-12 Ascenders attended a workshop which introduced us to some of the new liturgies and hymns. From what we have learned and experienced in this process, it is now the recommendation of both our Worship and Music Ministry Team and the Church Council that we move forward in acquiring ELW for use at Ascension.

Why a new hymnal? Our current Lutheran Book of Worship (LBW, the green book) is now almost 30 years old (© 1978). In these 30 years, God has blessed the church with writers and composers who give fresh expression to our historic faith with new words and melodies. In addition, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America has become more intentionally multi-cultural, and our worship resources need to reflect that. While maintaining much of what is familiar and comfortable to us, ELW incorporates some of what is fresh for use by a new generation. As LBW has served us well for the last 30 years, it is expected that ELW will serve the church for the next 25-30 years.

What’s new? There are 10 orders of worship, seven of which are new and three of which have been retained from LBW, so we already know some of the settings and the words will be familiar to us. Among the new liturgies there are orders of worship that are set to music that will be familiar to us from hymns and other sources, and will be easy for us to learn. Others use Hispanic and African melodies. We won’t necessarily learn them all, and we probably won’t use them all. But this is a resource that we can use according to our gifts and preferences.

What else is new? We have been using the Revised Common Lectionary with its three-year cycle of Lessons for use in Sunday Worship. There are now Prayers of the Day for each Sunday in the three-year cycle. All 150 psalms are included, as is Luther’s Small Catechism. There are also orders of worship for Daily

Prayer, the services of Holy Week, and a Service of Healing. Of course, there are also liturgies for Holy Baptism, weddings, and funerals.

Is everything new? No. Our favorite hymns with familiar melodies are included in abundance among ELW's over 740 songs. Of those that are new, our Sunday School children have already learned at least one. They can teach the rest of us.

What about our contemporary worship service? One of the things that surprised me at our February workshop is how much of ELW can be adopted for use in a contemporary worship setting. An accompaniment edition for guitar is in production.

How much will this cost? While we can purchase more hymnals later as needs arise and resources allow, it would be good if we could place one copy of ELW in each of the hymnal racks. That would require the purchase of at least 70 more hymnals (\$20 each) to go with the copies we already have on hand. This would be enough for all but a few of our more heavily attended worship services. In addition, we would need to purchase two accompaniment editions for the organist (one for the liturgies and one for the hymns @ \$55 each), 80 or more dedication bookplates for the front covers (\$7.50 per package of 10), a CD-ROM (\$395) which will allow us to download the liturgies for reprinting in our worship bulletin, and the shipping costs (@ \$75).

While this is not an insignificant amount of money, we already have about 70% of the funds in Abiding Gifts money that has been designated for this purpose. We also have someone who has offered to purchase the altar book (\$140) for us. There are others who have expressed a desire to purchase hymnals as dedications or memorials. It's my hope that as the Holy Spirit moves you to support this endeavor that we will be able to make this purchase without using funds

from our budget. It is, moreover, an investment in the worship life of this congregation for years to come.

When will this happen? I'm going to set aside our adult Bible study time on the Sunday after Easter (April 15) at 9:45 to show a short video that introduces the ELW, and we will have our copies of the new hymnal for people to examine. A tentative timetable would give us a couple of months (April-May) for inviting people to make donations for church use or to purchase hymnals for personal use, ordering the materials over the summer, and having them ready for introduction into our worship life by next fall.

Together we will continue to stay focused in our mission "to worship our Lord through Word and Sacrament."

Peace and Blessings!

Pastor Norm

P.S. What color are the new hymnals? Officially the color is called nu-cranberry. We'll call it red.

Pastoral Care:

If you are in need of pastoral care when dealing with health issues, life choices, or other personal challenges, please contact Pastor Norm.



If you would like to purchase a hymnal or other ELW item and dedicate it to a loved one, please fill out the lower section and return it to the office with your payment. We will place a bookplate in the front of your hymnal with your dedication.

Name _____ Phone _____

I would like to donate:

- _____ ELW hymnal(s) at a cost of \$20 each
- _____ Accompaniment edition - \$55 each
- _____ Donation toward CD-Rom (total cost \$395)
- _____ Other donation to cover miscellaneous costs

in honor / memory (circle one) of _____

EASTER BREAKFAST

The confirmands and youth will be providing breakfast on Easter morning at 9:45 AM. The proceeds will be going to support a child in need, an ongoing mission project. The cost is \$4.00 for adults and \$2.00 under 12 years of age. Breakfast menu includes pancakes, egg casserole, bagels and cream cheese, muffins and fruit.

Church Council Minutes - March 11, 2007

The March 11th meeting was called to order at 12:30 with Chris Falkensten presiding. In attendance were Pastor Dake, Keith Khoo, Eileen Imwalle, Barbara James, Sandy Isakson, Ed Dreyer and Pam Dake.

Minutes from the February 11th meeting were approved.

Pastor reported that three children had received their God & Family Awards at the 2nd service. They were Logan Falkensten, Nathan Napier, and Nicole Ramirez. Congratulations to all of them.

Pastor is on the steering committee for Conference 3. He is serving as a mentor for Diaconal Ministry candidate Sue Way from Oklahoma City.

Treasurer's Report.

The treasurer's report was reviewed and approved by council. It is available for review and is posted on the bulletin board outside the office.

Christian Education.

- The Audio Adrenaline Concert was well attended and enjoyed on February 16.
- Easter Breakfast will be served by the youth. They will begin selling tickets in the next couple of weeks. They have decided to adopt a child from another country for a year. The proceeds from the breakfast will go towards this. The youth will also prepare for the Easter egg hunt to follow the breakfast.

Evangelism.

The 5x5x5 gatherings have met a couple of times and have been successful thus far. Cathy Newsome is still working on the web site and is putting together a newspaper announcement for the Easter services.

Worship and Music.

The worship and music committee has decided to purchase 80 of the hymnals, and books for the organist. The money will come from abiding gifts and hymnals to be donated in memory of loved ones. The altar copy has been donated by one of our members. They also discussed the services for Holy Week and Easter.

Stewardship.

- DB will be putting a blurb in the future Ascents about stewardship.
- We are looking at introducing an amendment changing the budget due date from September to mid to late October.

Property.

- Necessary tree trimming was done with the Christmas funds provided to property.
- Jim and Chris are replacing lights in various places where needed
- Keith and Chris are looking at continued improvements of the lighting in the Narthex and the Sanctuary. A spring work day date is still to be established.

Helping Hands.

- Carol and Eileen along with several helpers put together 72 jars purchased by Family and Children Services. They are for personal use and will be used as door prizes for up-coming events. We discussed creating a label that says "Made for you by Ascension Lutheran Church."
- We will be putting together 20-30 baskets for Easter Dinners.
- The pantry is in need of our basic foods along with toilet paper and soaps.

Old Business.

- We are reviewing the time and talent list for additional committee members. If you are interested in joining a committee please let a council member know. We welcome you to join any of the committees but the ones most in need of assistance are the Stewardship and Evangelism committee.
- Roger and Pam have agreed to chair the committee for the 40th Anniversary of the sanctuary to be celebrated next year. Ed has agreed to join the anniversary committee and the Worship and music committee.

New Business

- The council approved the use of the facility by NAMI (National Alliance for the Mentally Ill).

- The program Simply Giving, presented by Tim Veldstra last Sunday will be available to members at no cost. Thrivent will be returning if members are interested. A motion was made to adopt the Simply Giving Plan. More information to come.
- A motion was made to transfer our Pine Island membership to Pastor Dean Moss and for dues to be brought current by transacting parties. We have not used the membership for several years.
- Ed and Norma Dreyer have agreed to be representatives at the Arkansas-Oklahoma Synod ELCA Assembly to be held April 19th & 20th at the Tulsa Marriott.
- Pam Dake has suggested that we invite past members to join us during Holy Week and Easter. Invitations will be made with the services and times listed.
- Keith is still looking into the pictorial directory.
- Our next meeting will be on April 15th.

Respectfully Barbara James

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: Come join us in Jordan hall on Friday 13, from 6-9 pm, for *** Fabulous ** Friday ** Family ** Fun ** Food ** Fellowship Night.*** Families whose last names begin with A-E should bring side dishes, F-J bring desserts, K-R bring main dishes, and S-Z bring salads. After dinner we will enjoy a movie and popcorn.

STEWARDSHIP: Stewardship is much wider in spectrum than just money. While money is essential to operate our church and it holds a high priority with stewardship, there are many other opportunities to serve. What could you do to serve your church? "Declare how much God has done for you." --Luke 8:39

COMING EVENTS: April 2007

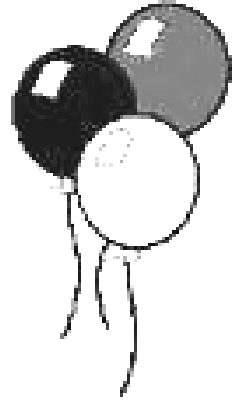
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Palm Sunday 8:30 Celebrative Praise 9:45 Sunday Sch. 11:00 Traditional Holy Communion	2	3 6-9 NAMI	4	5 Maundy Thur. Service, 7:00 p.m.	6 Good Friday Service, 7:00 p.m.	7
8 Easter 8:30 Celebrative Praise 9:45 Easter Breakfast 11:00 Traditional Holy Communion	9	10 6-9 NAMI	11	12	13 6 F potluck and games, 6:00, Jordan Hall	14
15 8:30 Celebrative Praise 9:45 Sunday Sch. 11:00 Traditional Holy Communion 12:15 Council	16	17 6-9 NAMI	18	19 OK/AR Synod Assembly	20 OK/AR Synod Assembly	21 OK/AR Synod Assembly
22 8:30 Celebrative Praise 9:45 Sunday Sch. 11:00 Traditional Holy Communion	23	24 10:00 Women's Bible Study 6-9 NAMI	25	26	27	28
29 ONE SERVICE 9:45 Sunday Sch. 11:00 Blended Holy Communion 5TH SUNDAY POTLUCK	30					

APRIL BIRTHDAYS:

4/3 Bill Rasbold
4/7 David Bruce
4/7 Warren Werling
4/8 Andy Christy
4/9 Donald S. Robertson
4/10 Stan Lewis
4/11 Mary Malsam
4/11 Doug Napier
4/12 Gerald Peterson
4/14 Brian Malsam

4/16 Devil Blust
4/16 Shelby Helm
4/27 Lucille Langley
4/28 Merl Lindburg

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



RECYCLE ** RECYCLE ** RECYCLE ** RECYCLE ** RECYCLE ** RECYCLE ** RECYCLE

We have received notice from the recycling company that our volume of recyclables is falling short of the neighbors about it. Recycling is a form of our stewardship for God's creation.

APRIL READINGS:

Apr. 1 – Passion/Palm Sunday

Isaiah 50:4-9A
Psalm 31:9-16
Philippians 2:5-11
Luke 22:14-23:56 or
Luke 23:1-49

Apr. 2 – Monday of Holy Week

Isaiah 42:1-9
Psalm 36:5-11
Hebrews 9:11-15
John 12:1-11

Apr. 3 – Tuesday of Holy Week

Isaiah 49:1-7
Psalm 71:1-14
1 Corinthians 1:18-31
John 12:20-36

Apr. 4 – Wednesday of Holy Week

Isaiah 50: 4-9A
Psalm 70
Hebrews 12:1-3
John 13:21-32

Apr. 5 – Maundy Thursday

Exodus 12:1-4 (5-10) 11-14
Psalm 116: 1-2, 12-19
1 Corinthians 11:23-26
John 13:1-17, 31b-35

Apr. 6 – Good Friday

Isaiah 52:13-53:12
Psalm 22
Hebrews 10: 16-25 or 4:14-16; 5-7-9
John 18:1-19:42

Apr. 8 – Easter Sunday

Acts 10:34-43 or Isaiah 65:17-25
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
1 Corinthians 15:19-26, or Acts 10:34-43
Luke 24: 1-12 or John 20:1-18

Apr. 15 – 2nd Sunday after Easter

Acts 5:27-32
Psalm 118:14-29 or Psalm 150
Revelations 1:4-8
John 20:19-31

April 22 – 3rd Sunday after Easter

Acts 9:1-6 (7-20)
Psalm 30
Revelations 5:11-14
John 21:1-19

April 29 – 4th Sunday after Easter

Acts 9:36-43
Psalm 23
Revelations 7:9-17
John 10:22-30

Serving our Lord, April 2007

11:00	Nursery Attendant	Ushers	Lectors	Acolytes	Communion Assistants	Lay Assistant	Greeters	Counters
1	Need volunteers	Mary Peterson /Don Robertson	Pam Dake	Hailey Peterson	Shirley Bryant Sandy Isakson	Linda Christy	Mary Faulkner/ Barbara Shelby	Merl Lindburg/ Mary Faulkner
8		Stan Lewis / Brenda Ramirez	Jean Connely	Frankie Imwalle	Berry & Lynn Jacobsen	Jerry Peterson	Bill & Shirley Bryant	Stan Lewis / Bonnie Peters
15		Doug & Roberta Napier	Lillian Cantrell	Preston Napier	Lillian Cantrell, Linda Christy	Chris Falkensten	Sandy Isakson / Donna Glocker	Ronda Falkensten / Denise Khoo
22		Merl & Billie Lindburg	Brenda Ramirez	Nicole Ramirez	Mary Peterson / Sandy Isakson	Ron Peters	Merl & Billie Lindburg	Gerry Oltrogge / Jerry Peterson
29		Ron & Bonnie Peters	Pam Dake	Alex James	Donna Glocker / Doyle Hill	Sandy Isakson	Betty & Lynn Jacobsen	Linda Christy / Doyle Hill
8:30			Lectors		Communion Assistants			
1			Pam Dake		Eileen Imwalle			
8			Carol Anwar		Carol Anwar			
15			Ellen Harris		Ellen Harris			
22			Keith Khoo		Denise Khoo			
29			One Service @ 11:00					

*****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

THRIVENT BUILDS WITH HABITAT FOR HUMANITY - LUTHER HOME #3

What a fabulous week, we had 56 students from Bishop Kelly help us to build Luther Home #3 this week. THANKS, to these students who skipped spring break trips to help us get the building enclosed. It has been a joy for all of us to see the attitude these young people express in their lives. We hear terrible stories about the youth of today, that is not true of these Bishop Kelly students. Pastor Maas from Trinity Ministries would be proud of the union these young people had with us in the building of the new home for the Oti-Lisa Brown family.

The building is enclosed, the roofer, plumber, electrician, dry-waller will soon be done with their work, and we can continue to caulk, paint, install insulation, interior doors, asphalt floor tile, base cove, cabinets, etc.

Come out on Wednesday's and Saturday's, from 9:00am to 3:00pm, and help us to finish the home for the Brown family. The fellowship is great, you will enjoy working with your fellow Lutheran's, and being part of this great project.

We will not be working on Saturday, April 7th, Easter weekend.

If you have any questions, ask your congregational champion, or call me at 252-1406.

May the Lord continue to bless this great building project.

Howard Seigfreid

Church bulletin bloopers

They're back! Church Bulletins! Thank God for church ladies with typewriters. These sentences actually appeared in church bulletins or were announced at church services.

- The Fasting & Prayer Conference includes meals.
- The sermon this morning: "Jesus Walks on the Water." The sermon tonight: "Searching for Jesus."
- Our youth basketball team is back in action Wednesday at 8 PM in the recreation hall. Come out and watch us kill Christ the King.
- Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.
- The peacemaking meeting scheduled for today has been canceled due to a conflict.
- Remember in prayer the many who are sick of our community.
- Smile at someone who is hard to love. Say "Hell" to someone who doesn't care much about you.

- Don't let worry kill you off -- let the Church help.
- Miss Charlene Mason sang "I will not pass this way again," giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.
- For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.
- Next Thursday there will be tryouts for the choir. They need all the help they can get.
- The Rector will preach his farewell message after which the choir will sing: "Break Forth Into Joy."
- Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24 in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.
- A bean supper will be held on Tuesday evening in the church hall. Music will follow.
- At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be "What Is Hell?" Come early and listen to our choir practice.
- Eight new choir robes are currently needed due to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones.
- Scouts are saving aluminum cans, bottles and other items to be recycled. Proceeds will be used to cripple children.
- Please place your donation in the envelope along with the deceased person you want remembered.
- The church will host an evening of fine dining, super entertainment and gracious hospitality.
- Potluck supper Sunday at 5:00 PM - prayer and medication to follow.
- The ladies of the Church have cast off clothing of every kind. They may be seen in the basement on Friday afternoon.
- This evening at 7 PM there will be a hymn singing in the park across from the Church. Bring a blanket and come prepared to sin.
- Ladies Bible Study will be held Thursday morning at 10 AM. All ladies are invited to lunch in the Fellowship Hall after the B. S. is done.
- The pastor would appreciate it if the ladies of the Congregation would lend him their electric girdles for the pancake breakfast next Sunday.
- Low Self Esteem Support Group will meet Thursday at 7 PM. Please use the back door.
- The eighth-graders will be presenting Shakespeare's Hamlet in the Church basement Friday at 7 PM. The congregation is invited to attend this tragedy.
- Weight Watchers will meet at 7 PM at the First Presbyterian Church. Please use large double door at the side entrance.
- The Associate Minister unveiled the church's new tithing campaign slogan last Sunday: "I Upped My Pledge - Up Yours".

Ascension Lutheran Church

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Phone: 918-743-5741

Fax: 918-743-4854

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

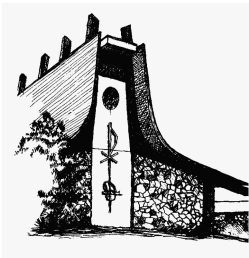
E-mail: welcome@ascensionlutheran.net

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.**

*Glowing and Growing
in the Light of the Lord*



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