

# The *Ascent*

August 2009

**Ascension Lutheran Church**  
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## A Note from Pastor Norm

A church bulletin made a humorous reference to prayer: "So far today, Lord, I've done all right. I haven't gossiped; I haven't lost my temper; I haven't been greedy, grumpy, nasty, selfish, or over-indulgent. I'm very thankful for that. But in a few moments, Lord, I'm going to get out of bed; and from then on, I'm going to need all the help I can get."

Perhaps this little anecdote seems to trivialize prayer. Shouldn't we save prayer for the big stuff--like cancer, family strife, loss of a job, financial difficulties, or world peace? Why bother God with the little stuff—like getting out of bed or going through the routines of our day?

Or is it we who trivialize prayer by assuming that it's not all that important? If our friends ask us to remember them in our prayers, do we automatically say "yes" and then promptly forget all about it, because prayer seems like no big deal? If we ask our friends to remember us in their prayers, are we simply making polite conversation because we don't want to ask for help or don't want to feel obligated to return a favor?

When Jesus taught his disciples (including us) to pray, it was in the words of the Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6:5-14; Luke 11:1-4). The first word in that prayer is "our." Jesus taught us to pray with and for one another. There is nothing trivial about that.

Let me raise up a couple of prayer opportunities for you.

Each Sunday we have a Prayer List for use during our worship services. We pray for people by name. But since our concern for hurting people doesn't

end with "Go in peace, serve the Lord," we make that prayer list available to all who would like to remember those folks in their daily prayers throughout the week. I often use my time on my bicycle as prayer time. If you would like to be a part of our intercessory **Prayer Chain**, contact Mary Faulkner in the church office.

ELCA Presiding Bishop Mark Hanson has invited us "to join in 50 days of renewed and focused prayer" leading to the start of the ELCA Churchwide Assembly on August 17, 2009. These **50 Days of Prayer** are no trivial matter. Items before the Churchwide Assembly include Full Communion with the United Methodist Church (already adopted by the UMC), funding of an HIV and AIDS Strategy, consideration of a social statement on human sexuality, and a recommendation to develop a social statement on justice for women in church and society. If you would like to know more about any of these proposals, I have a copy of the *2009 Pre-Assembly Report to Congregations*. If you would like timely updates during the Churchwide Assembly (August 17-23, 2009), they will be available at [www.elca.org](http://www.elca.org)

Pray on!

Pastor Norm

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**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.*

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# Church Council Minutes

July 12, 2009

Officers Present: Pastor Norman P. Dake, President Keith Khoo, Vice President Sandy Isakson,

Council Members Present: Ed Dreyer, Kelly Knopp, Lynn Jacobsen

Call to Order: Keith Khoo

Motion by Sandy Isakson to approve Minutes of June 14, 2009 meeting. Second: Lynn Jacobsen. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried. Minutes approved.

## Pastor's report

Membership rolls have been updated.

- The rolls are required by the Constitution to be updated every year.
- Persons who have been inactive for 3 years have been dropped from the rolls.
- The names of 30 persons who attend sporadically have been referred to the Evangelism Committee.

## Treasurer's report

Motion by Kelly Knopp to approve the Treasurer's report. Second: Lynn Jacobsen. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried. Treasurer's report approved

## Old Business

An amount which members agreed to raise for the repair of the roof is still outstanding. Fundraising ideas were discussed including the possibility of requesting Thrivent matching dollars to increase the funds raised in some food-related fundraiser.

## New Business

Keith Khoo met with Dennis Franchini, Church Council President of Joy Lutheran Church. Exchange of information and dialogue with Joy is expected to continue.

Church Council shall meet for a mini-retreat on Saturday, July 25, 2009 to identify and develop our church goals. The mini-retreat will be held

at Keith Khoo's house from noon to 4 p.m. Keith has agreed to serve lunch.

Pastor Norm received an inquiry about the possibility of leasing some space to K-Life, a group associated with Kanakuk Camps. K-Life is looking for the use of a large space (like Jordan Hall) on two evenings (Monday and Tuesday) each week (from September through May) and an additional meeting one Thursday evening each month, and possibly more. Pastor Norm and other members of the Church Council will (tentatively) meet with individuals from K-Life on Friday morning, July 17, 2009, at 10 a.m. to obtain more information about this opportunity.

Next regularly scheduled Council Meeting will be August 9, 2009. Eileen Imwalle will provide lunch (if Eileen is not available, Sandy Isakson agreed to provide lunch).

Motion by Pastor Norm to adjourn meeting. Second: Sandy Isakson. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by Kelly Knopp

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## GLOBAL LINKS

Connect to the global church through [elca.org](http://elca.org)

### ONE BILLION HUNGRY PEOPLE

The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations projects that world hunger will reach a historic high in 2009 with over one billion people going hungry every day. See <http://blogs.elca.org/hungerrumblings>

### NEW MISSIONARIES PREPARE TO SERVE

This summer 88 new missionaries are being prepared for service at missionary orientation. This includes long-term and 2-year contract missionaries, volunteer missionaries, and Young Adults in Global Mission. Missionary sponsors are needed to support their ministry. To sponsor a missionary from your area or who is serving with your synods international companion, e-mail [globalmissionsupport@elca.org](mailto:globalmissionsupport@elca.org) or call 800-638-3522, ext. 2969.

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**ASCENT NEWS ITEMS;**

Please submit any news items by email to [norma-dreyer@cox.net](mailto:norma-dreyer@cox.net) or call me at my home phone, 583-3759 by the 21st of each month.  
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# This and That

**SIMPLY GIVING:** If you are interested in the Simply Giving program, please contact Mary in the church office. Simply Giving is a service for people who wish to have their offerings transferred electronically to the church's account rather than having to write checks.

**Helping Hands Jar orders for August:** Family and Children's Services has asked us to make 30 dessert jars for them before September. We will do a run of jars in late August. If anyone wants any of the following 3 varieties-- Munchy Crunchy Cookies, Cowboy Cookies, or Nutty Chocolate Brownies, please let me know. Contact Carol Anwar at [caroll@sbcglobal.net](mailto:caroll@sbcglobal.net) or 296-0235. We must have your requests by August 20th. Jars are \$6 each. All proceeds go to the Adopt a Family program at Christmas

**Motorized scooter chair for sale - \$1200:** We are selling my dad's motorized scooter chair. It was barely used. It is a name brand product, and Medicare/insurance paid over \$6000 for it. We checked and to buy it new with cash is over \$3000. It breaks down into 4 pieces so it can be easily hauled in a car trunk! The heaviest piece is no more than 35 pounds. If you should know of anyone that is in need of one of these chairs, we are asking \$1200 for the chair and a 2 foot ramp will be included. If interested, call Carol Anwar at 296-0235 or email at [caroll@sbcglobal.net](mailto:caroll@sbcglobal.net)

## COMING EVENTS: August 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Worship: 8:30 &amp; 11:00</b> <b>Sunday School: 9:45</b>						1 <i>Ellen Harris</i> <i>Barbara James</i>
2 <b>Evangelism 12:15</b> <i>Tresa Helm</i>	3 <i>Nathaniel Griffin</i>	4	5	6 <b>Worship &amp; Music 6:30</b>	7 <i>Bonnie Peters</i>	8 <b>Clean-up Day 8-1</b>
9 <b>Council Mtg. 12:15</b>	10	11	12	13 <b>Trin. Min. Alma, AR trip, 8 a.m.</b>	14	15 <i>Cathy Newsome</i>
16 <i>Dave Imwalle</i>	17 <b>ELCA Church-wide Assembly begins</b> <i>Jack Frierson</i>	18	19 <i>Andrea Engelke</i>	20 <b>Trin. Min. 7 pm India with Pastor Norm</b> <i>Christie Pena</i>	21 <i>Michelle Engelke-Griffith</i>	22 <i>Helen Bradley</i>
23	24	25 <i>Dave Devault</i>	26 <i>Chris Gausvik</i>	27 <i>Barbara Shelby</i>	28	29
30	31					

*Birthday honorees are highlighted in italics on the calendar. If your birthday does not appear, please contact the church office at 743-5741 so we may update our records.*  
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## AUGUST READINGS:

### August 2 – 9<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15  
 Psalm 78:23-29  
 Ephesians 4:1-16  
 John 6:24-35

### August 9 – 10<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

1 Kings 19:4-8  
 Psalm 34:1-8  
 Ephesians 4:25-5:2  
 John 6:35, 41-51

### August 16 – 11<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Proverbs 9:1-6  
 Psalm 34:9-14  
 Ephesians 5:15-20  
 John 6:51-58

### August 23 – 12<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18  
 Psalm 34:15-22  
 Ephesians 6:10-20  
 John 6:56-69

### August 30 – 13<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9  
 Psalm 15  
 James 1:17-27  
 Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

## Serving our Lord, August 2009

| 11:00 am | Ushers                          | Lectors          | Acolytes         | Communion Assistants              | Lay Assistant | Greeters                        | Counters                        |
|----------|---------------------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 2        | Merl & Billie Lindburg          | Lillian Cantrell | Elizabeth Balman | Bill & Shirley Bryant             | Sandy Isakson | Ed & Norma Dreyer               | Merl Lindburg<br>Mary Faulkner  |
| 9        | Stan Lewis<br>Karol Wagar       | Karol Wagar      | Jack Frierson    | Doris Elliott<br>Donna Glocker    | Ron Peters    | Bill & Shirley Bryant           | Stan Lewis<br>Bonnie Peters     |
| 16       | Ed & Norma Dreyer               | Lillian Cantrell |                  | Ron & Bonnie Peters               | Linda Christy | Merl & Billie Lindburg          | Denise Khoo                     |
| 23       | Doug & Roberta Napier           | Linda Christy    | Nathan Napier    | Lillian Cantrell<br>Linda Christy | Sandy Isakson | Donna Glocker<br>Karol Wagar    | Gerry Oltrogge                  |
| 30       | Gerry Oltrogge<br>Mary Peterson | Katherine Tooley | Jack Frierson    | Barbara James<br>Karol Wagar      | Ron Peters    | Barbara Shelby<br>Mary Faulkner | Mary Faulkner<br>Barbara Shelby |
|          |                                 |                  |                  |                                   |               |                                 |                                 |

| 8:30 a.m. | Lectors       | Communion Assistants | <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Altar Guild</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Ardith Andrist</i><br/><i>Lillian Cantrell</i><br/><i>Randi Clark</i><br/><i>Donna Glocker</i></p> |  | <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Thank you for volunteering at Ascension!</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Please mark your calendars for the dates you are assigned to serve.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>If you cannot volunteer on your assigned date, please find a substitute and notify the church office (743-5741).</i></p> |  |  |
|-----------|---------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|--|
| 2         | Linda Christy | Eileen Imwalle       |                                                                                                                                                                                            |  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |  |  |
| 9         | Ellen Harris  | Denise Khoo          |                                                                                                                                                                                            |  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |  |  |
| 16        | Cathy Newsome | Cathy Newsome        |                                                                                                                                                                                            |  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |  |  |
| 23        | Jim Harris    | Denise Khoo          |                                                                                                                                                                                            |  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |  |  |
| 30        | Keith Khoo    | Eileen Imwalle       |                                                                                                                                                                                            |  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |  |  |

### Altar Flowers Provided by:

|    |                                                                                        |
|----|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2  |                                                                                        |
| 9  |                                                                                        |
| 16 |                                                                                        |
| 23 | Katherine Tooley in honor of her mother                                                |
| 30 | Dorothy Burgess in memory of Bill's birthday / Betty & Lynn Jacobsen in memory of Jane |

## **Mission Position - House Parents**

Oaks Indian Mission, Oaks Oklahoma, is seeking mission-minded married couples that are committed to providing a Christian-family environment and positive role model that our children deserve and need. House parents are responsible for loving and caring for up to 10 children in a residential setting. While consistency is of the utmost importance, we desire a two-year commitment.

A private apartment, utilities and food are provided for the couple or family, with one parent fully employed receiving benefits that include salary, vacation, sick leave, holidays and health insurance (other benefits are also available). The spouse would be in a supportive role but would be free to seek outside employment.

Oaks Indian Mission offers a secure and loving Christian home environment to Native American children, providing a sure foundation and the needed skills for a successful life. Oaks Indian Mission was founded by the Moravian Church in 1801 in Spring Place, Georgia to serve the Cherokee people and moved with the Cherokee during the Trail of Tears (mid 1800's) to New Spring Place (Oaks), Oklahoma, and is now affiliated with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Today, the Mission offers residential childcare for up to 40 Native American children of all tribes, ranging from the age of 4 to 18.

Website: [www.oaksindianmission.org](http://www.oaksindianmission.org) <<http://www.oaksindianmission.org>>

Contact Person: Wes Straw

Contact Phone: 918-868-2196

Contact Email: [wesley.straw@oaksindianmission.org](mailto:wesley.straw@oaksindianmission.org) <<mailto:wesley.straw@oaksindianmission.org>>





Tour de Revs rode through Tulsa on Tuesday, July 28, with a stop at Joy Lutheran Church. The three Lutheran pastors, Fred Soltow, Ron Schlak, and Brian Bennett, from the WV-WMD synod are traveling over 13,000 miles to raise awareness and funds for world hunger. The bicycle that they are riding is made of bamboo and is 10 feet long and weighs 52 pounds. It is the only one of its kind in the world and was designed for this tour. They will complete their travels at the Churchwide Assembly in Minneapolis on August 20<sup>th</sup>. Ascension members contributed \$525 toward the World Hunger Appeal.

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Tulsa, OK 74105-5154

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

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

**[pastornorm@ascensionlutheran.net](mailto:pastornorm@ascensionlutheran.net)**

***Mission Statement:***

**Responding to Gods love,**

**We faithfully**

**Welcome**

**Worship**

**Grow**

**Witness**

**Serve**

*Glowing and Growing  
in the Light of the Lord*



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