

The *Ascent*

February 2010

Ascension Lutheran Church
4803 South Lewis Avenue
Tulsa, OK 74105-5154
918-743-5741 / FAX: 918-743-4854
E-mail:
welcome@ascensionlutheran.net
pastornorm@ascensionlutheran.net

If you receive the Ascent by email and want to print your own copy, please change the VIEW to print layout.

A Note from Pastor Norm

On Passion Sunday (AKA Palm Sunday—this year on March 28), we have an extended reading of the passion story from one of the gospels and no homily. The story is allowed to stand on its own and speak for itself.

That gospel reading on Passion Sunday rotates from year to year between Matthew, Mark, and Luke (this year we are in the Year of Luke). John's version of Jesus' suffering and death is the appointed reading for Good Friday (this year on April 2), which seems not to be very widely observed here in Oklahoma. Is Jesus' crucifixion and burial merely an inconvenient distraction on our way to the celebration of Easter?

With that in mind, I want to use John's passion story as the basis for the meditations at our weekly Lenten soup suppers in February and March (6:30 meal; 7:00 brief and informal worship).

Our **Ash Wednesday** worship at 7:00 P.M. on **February 17** will offer the imposition of ashes, reminding us that we are dust and to dust we shall return (Genesis 3:19).

On the remaining Wednesdays during Lent, we will use John the Baptizer's words: "Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the

world," (John 1:29) as our unifying theme as we examine the passion story in John 18:1-19:42.

BEHOLD THE LAMB

- February 24 - **John 18:1-27 "I AM" and "I am Not"**
- March 3 - **John 18:28-19:16a Sweet Swap**
- March 10 - **John 19:16b-25a Man in the Middle**
- March 17 - **John 19:25b-27 Women at the Cross**
- March 24 - **John 19:28-42 Take a Final Bow**

What would Easter mean without Good Friday? How can we truly celebrate Jesus' resurrection if we haven't also observed his suffering and death? So plan to join us as together we "Behold the Lamb" throughout the coming 40 days of Lent.

Peace and Blessings!

Pastor Norm

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.

Church Council Minutes

January 10, 2009

Officers Present: Pastor Norman P. Dake, President Keith Khoo, Vice President Sandy Isakson, Treasurer Eileen Imwalle
Council Members Present: Jim Harris (acting Secretary), Ed Dreyer

Call to Order: Keith Khoo
Lunch provided by Keith Khoo
Pastor Norm Dake opened meeting with prayer.
Motion by Sandy Isakson to approve Minutes of December 13, 2009 meeting.
Second: Ed Dreyer. All in favor. None opposed.
Motion carried. Minutes approved.

Standing Committee Reports:

Pastor's report

A Congregational Renewal Workshop is scheduled for Saturday, January 23 at St Andrew's church in Sand Springs. The pastor, members of the Renewal Committee and a number of council members are planning to attend.

The pastor will be attending the Book of Faith Advocates' meeting in Chicago on February 11-13.

Treasurer's report

Eileen Imwalle presented the Treasurer's report for December noting that Ascension's actual income for 2009 was \$23,685 below the 2009 expenses. It was also noted that the actual Expenses in 2009 were \$4,000 less than budgeted. Sandy Isakson made a motion to accept the report and Jim Harris seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried. Report approved.

Worship and Music report

We are currently using a temporary organist at the 11:00 service on a week-to-week basis with no permanent solution to that position. It was also noted that the grape juice being used at the early service seemed to be spoiled and it was suggested that we use smaller storage containers in order to keep the opened bottles in the refrigerator a shorter period of time.

Stewardship report

The 2010 offering envelopes are now available at the front of the church.

Property report

Some vandalism has occurred during December in the form of someone breaking the glass enclosure of the pole light next to the sidewalk closest to the parking lot. In addition someone has been taking one of our ladders stored in the closed-in air conditioning area and placing them on our roof. We have since locked the two ladders with a chain to prevent this from happening again.

Mutual Ministry report

A Mutual Ministry report was submitted by Cathy Newsome and Ellen Harris. Their report documented the results of their evaluation of Pastor Norm and Mary Faulkner and their recommendations.

Old Business

The Renewal Committee (Merger Committee) has been informed that Bethany Lutheran Church will get back to us after February 1st on our response to their questionnaire about merger.

New Business

Linda Christy has asked to use the Fellowship Hall for a fundraiser on February 6th to raise money for a church in Peru. Eileen Imwalle made a motion to approve that use and it was seconded by Sandy Isakson. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

Katherine Tooley has asked that we use the Fellowship Hall on February 13th to host a "Chili Night" get together of the congregation. Sandy Isakson made a motion to approve, Jim Harris seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

Jerry & Mary Peterson will be celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary on Sunday, March 7th and have asked to use the Fellowship Hall that afternoon for the celebration. Norm Dake made a motion to approve, Ed Dreyer seconded it. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Eileen Imwalle. Second: Sandy Isakson. All in Favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

Closing benediction by Pastor Norm Dake.

Respectfully submitted by Jim Harris

~~~~~  
**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.  
 ~~~~~

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.

FOR YOUR PRAYERS: Please keep the following people in your prayers who are residing in nursing homes: Doyle Hill, Betty Collins, Dorothy Steeples, Gerry Oltrogge, Dorothy Ingalls.

COMING EVENTS: February 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Worship: 8:30 & 11:00 Sunday School: 9:45	1 <i>Ruth Rasbold</i> <i>Sean Faulkner</i>	2	3 Daytime 5x5 10:00 <i>Jane Devault</i>	4 Worship & Mus. 6:30	5	6 FP Univ., 10-12
7 Evang. Mtg. 12:15	8 <i>Ashley Engelke</i>	9 <i>Jason James</i>	10 <i>Christine Coleman</i>	11	12	13 FP Univ. 10-12 Chili Fest, 6:00
14 Council Mtg. 12:15	15	16 <i>Carroll Werling</i>	17 ASH WEDNESDAY, 7:00	18 <i>Doris Elliott</i>	19	20 FP Univ. 10-12
21 <i>Alyssa Anwar</i>	22	23 Women's Bible study, 10:00	24 Lenten supper & service 6:30	25	26	27 FP Univ. 10-12
28 <i>Roberta Preston-Napier</i>						

~~~~~
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.
 ~~~~~

## Dear Friends at Ascension,

I want to thank you for the gloves, scarves, socks and stocking hats you donated to the children of Oaks Indian Mission. It is people like you that make it possible for us to keep our doors open. As you, Oaks operates solely on donations. Because of this, every donation we receive is very important for our children. During these uncertain times we can be sure that there will be children who will need the Oaks. And as long as there are people like you who continue to support this ministry we can continue to offer the boys and girls a shelter of Christian love. Again, from me, the children and the entire staff here at Oaks, we would like to thank you from the bottom of our hearts for the help you have provided.

Respectfully Yours,  
 David Schachle, Executive Director

## FEBRUARY READINGS:

### Feb 7 – 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany

Isa 6:1-8 (9-13)  
 Psalm 138  
 1 Cor 15:1-11  
 Luke 5:1-11

### Feb. 21 – 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent

Deut 26:1-11  
 Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16  
 Rom 10:8b-13  
 Luke 4:1-13

### Feb 14 – Transfiguration of our Lord

Exod 34:29-35  
 Psalm 99  
 2 Cor 3:12-4:2  
 Luke 9:28-36 (37-43)

### Feb 28 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Lent

Gen 15:1-12, 17-18  
 Psalm 27  
 Phil 3:17-4:1  
 Luke 13:31-35

### Feb 17 – Ash Wednesday

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 or Isa 58:1-12  
 Psalm 51:1-17  
 2 Cor 5:20b---6:10  
 Matt 6:1-6, 16-21

## Serving our Lord, February 2010

| 11:00 am    | Ushers                    | Lectors              | Acolytes                                                                                          | Communion Assistants              | Lay Assistant                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Greeters                       | Counters                         |
|-------------|---------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 7           | Ron & Bonnie Peters       | Katherine Tooley     |                                                                                                   | Barbara James<br>Karol Wagar      | Linda Christy                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Ed & Norma Dreyer              | Merl Lindburg<br>Mary Faulkner   |
| 14          | Stan Lewis<br>Karol Wagar | Linda Christy        |                                                                                                   | Lillian Cantrell<br>Linda Christy | Sandy Isakson                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Chris & Catherine Gausvik      | Stan Lewis<br>Bonnie Peters      |
| 17 Ash Wed. | Merl & Billie Lindberg    | Chris Gausvik        |                                                                                                   | Lynn Jacobsen<br>Sandy Isakson    | Ron Peters                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                |                                  |
| 21          | Ed & Norma Dreyer         | Carroll Werling      |                                                                                                   | Ron & Bonnie Peters               | Jerry Peterson                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Donna Glocker<br>Sandy Isakson | Denise Khoo<br>Kelsey Khoo       |
| 28          | Doug & Roberta Napier     | Karol Wagar          | Nathan Napier                                                                                     | Barbara James<br>Karol Wagar      | Linda Christy                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Merl & Billie Lindberg         | Jerry Peterson<br>Barbara Shelby |
| 8:30 a.m.   | Lectors                   | Communion Assistants | <b>Altar Guild</b><br><br><b>Dorothy Burgess</b><br><b>Betty Jacobsen</b><br><b>Barbara James</b> |                                   | <i>Thank you for volunteering at Ascension!</i><br><br><b>Please mark your calendars for the dates you are assigned to serve.</b><br><br><b>If you cannot volunteer on your assigned date, please find a substitute and notify the church office (743-5741).</b> |                                |                                  |
| 7           | Carol Anwar               | Carol Anwar          |                                                                                                   |                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                |                                  |
| 14          | Eric Pfaff                | Eric Pfaff           |                                                                                                   |                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                |                                  |
| 21          | Linda Christy             | Linda Christy        |                                                                                                   |                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                |                                  |
| 28          | Ellen Harris              | Denise Khoo          |                                                                                                   |                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                |                                  |

### Altar Flowers Provided by:

|    |                 |
|----|-----------------|
| 7  | Dorothy Burgess |
| 14 |                 |
| 21 | Lent            |
| 28 | Lent            |

# HOW ARE LUTHERANS HELPING IN HAITI?

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America is answering God's call to assist the 3 million people in Haiti affected by the recent earthquake. ELCA has offered:

## Immediate Response

- Provisions for water containers, purification materials, and temporary shelter materials.
- Coordination of 400 people on the ground through partnerships with other international faith-based organizations and with local partners in Haiti.
- Dispatches of quilts, layettes, and health kits

## Contributions

- \$250,000 committed immediately from ELCA Disaster Response
- \$2.7 million sent by ELCA members, doubling original projection of \$600,000 in donations.
- \$1 million pledged from Lutheran World Relief (LWR)
- \$1 million or more possible via Thrivent's \$1 match per \$2 member donation.

## How can you as an ELCA member or family help?

1. **Pray** for those affected and for those who are there to help.
2. **Give** to the Haiti Earthquake Fund to help with quick, effective assistance:
  - At Ascension, specifying on your check "for ELCA Disaster Response/Haiti Earthquake Fund"; 100% will go toward relief in Haiti.
  - Through Thrivent, if a member, for a match on your donation. See details at <https://www.thrivent.com/helpinghaiti/>.
  - Via LWR's Text-to-Give Service. Text the keyword "LWR" to 40579 to donate \$10. Remember to reply YES to the confirmation. The donation will be billed to your cell phone account. Standard messaging/data rates may apply.
3. **Act** by making health kits or quilts to bring hope and health to people in Haiti, and all around the world,. Visit [lwr.org/beinvolved](http://lwr.org/beinvolved) to learn more.

For updates on ELCA/LWR extended assistance in Haiti, see [www.lwr.org/Haiti](http://www.lwr.org/Haiti),

## \*\*\* New Thrivent / Habitat Project \*\*\*

Thrivent Financial and Habitat for Humanity announced that the Tulsa Thrivent chapter and the Tulsa Habitat affiliate have been awarded a grant of \$49,772 to help build the 6th Thrivent Builds with Tulsa Habitat home in the Tulsa metro area in 2010.

In addition to the Thrivent grant of \$49,722, the Tulsa area Lutheran congregations' share of the building costs is \$8,415, and the Tulsa Habitat affiliate's share of the costs is \$26,013, a total of \$84,150.

We plan to start construction of the new Thrivent Builds with Habitat home in mid March 2010, and finish about May 15th, 2010. We plan to work each Wednesday and Saturday of each week, except Easter weekend, from 9:00am-3:00pm. It takes about 340 volunteers to finish a home in 9 weeks.

We hope each Lutheran church will make the Thrivent Builds with Habitat home a line item in their 2010 budget, or establish a fund raiser event to assist in raising the \$8,415 needed to fund our share of the building costs. Checks should be made out to "Thrivent Builds", and mailed to Steve Parker or Howard Seigfreid.

We are asking each Tulsa metro area Lutheran church to be involved in the construction and fund raising of this needed Habitat home in the Tulsa metro area.

For more information, call Steve Parker at 918-251-5813, or Howard Seigfreid at 918-252-1406.

# Mardi Gras Chili Fest and Bingo Night

February 13, 2010  
6:00 PM in Jordan Hall

Please join us for our chili contest. We will have 3 categories:  
chili (your definition), chili mac, and white chili.

## Chili Contest



Sign up as a family or a team!  
**BINGO!**

**Voting for the best chili will be by cash in jars,  
benefiting Helping Hands. Prizes will be awarded!**

**BINGO will follow the chili supper.  
Bring a wrapped white elephant gift as a prize.**

*Questions? Care to help?  
Call Katherine Tooley at 599-8002.  
Sign up by February 6<sup>th</sup>*

# Annual Congregational Meeting

## Minutes from the Annual Meeting – January 24, 2010

Keith Khoo called the meeting to order on Sunday, January 24<sup>th</sup>, at 9:45 AM with 36 members present.

Pastor Norm Dake offered a prayer.

### **Congregational Renewal Report:**

Several members of Ascension attended the Congregational Renewal meeting at St. Andrew Lutheran Church on January 23<sup>rd</sup>. There will be a meeting at Bethany Lutheran on February 20<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 PM to address the issue of merger..

### **Church Council Elections:**

Keith opened the nominations for officers and council members. After discussion, the nominations were:

President – Keith Khoo

Vice President – Jim Harris

Treasurer – Cathy Newsome ( Chris Gausvik offered to take Cathy's place on the Mutual Ministry Committee so that Cathy could serve as Treasurer.)

Secretary – Kelly Knopp (continues term)

Council members: Lynn Jacobsen (continues term)  
Ed Dreyer (continues term)  
Barbara James  
Bonnie Peters

Katherine Tooley made a motion to elect all new officers and council members by acclamation. Norma Dreyer seconded. Motion passed.

### **Annual Report:**

The Annual Report of the Congregation was presented and reviewed.

### **2010 Budget:**

The budget for 2010 was presented, reviewed and discussed. Ron Peters made a motion to approve the 2010 budget as presented. Katherine Tooley seconded. Budget approved.

There was a recommendation from the Mutual Ministry Committee of a 2% pay increase for Pastor Norm Dake and Mary Faulkner, as well as Social Security benefits for Mary Faulkner beginning in January 2010. The donor of the Scholarship fund has approved releasing \$15,000 of that fund to be applied to pastoral and staffing support. Ron Peters made a motion to approve this recommendation. Sandy Isakson seconded. Motion approved.

### **Amendments to the Model Constitution for Congregations:**

A handout was made available with the proposed amendments to the constitution. Discussion followed. Ellen Harris made a motion to adopt the Amendments to the Model Constitution. Norma Dreyer seconded. Approved.

### **Adjournment:**

Eileen Imwalle made a motion to adjourn. Chris Gausvik seconded. Meeting adjourned.

Pastor Norm Dake closed with a Benediction.

Minutes taken by Pastor Norm Dake and transcribed by Mary Faulkner.

**Ascension Lutheran Church**

4803 South Lewis Ave.

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*



**Ascension Lutheran  
4803 S. Lewis Avenue  
Tulsa, OK 74105-5154**