



ASCENSIONNEWS

March 2025

Volume 54 Issue 3

"60th anniversary look back"



ASCENSIONNEWS
Ascension Lutheran Church
4900 Blue Ridge Blvd.
Kansas City, Missouri

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Ascensionnews is prepared primarily for the members of Ascension Church, but is sent to others whom we feel may be interested in the ministry at Ascension.

LENTEN SCHEDULE 1974

Once again that special season of the year called Lent is upon us--a time when we gather perhaps more frequently in church to worship our Lord Jesus Christ, our Savior. There can be no doubt of our need to draw strength from Him, for these troubled times in which we live must drive us into His Word and into His arms for the help we so sorely need. As is customary, there will be special services every Wednesday evening during Lent at 7:00 p.m. All our members, their friends, and anyone who feels the need of knowing God a little better, are cordially invited.

Ash WEDNESDAY, February 27: A Service of Repentance with Holy Communion (individual cups). Sermon by the pastor.

DRAMAS AND SERMONS ON THE THEME "THE HOUR OF TRIAL"

Like all of us, the "Church" family has its problems. There are times when nothing goes right for Mr. and Mrs. Church and their son Frank, and their nerves become frayed. There is the problem about Grandma who should not be living alone. A dinner guest's flippant talk catches them off-guard. Hurt feelings disturb their relationship to the church.

These and other real life situations will be dealt with in the dramas and sermons entitled "The Hour of Trial," which will be presented in our special Lenten services this year.

What do the problems and irritations of daily life have to do with the Upper Room, Gethsemane, and Calvary? Our Lenten dramas and sermons will establish the connection. They will bring Christ to your dinner table. It will be your feet that He washes, your sins that He forgives, your hours of trial for which He prepares you.

The "Church" family has set a place for you at their table. They will not be hurt if you do not come. But you may be. It is for your frayed nerves that our Lord said, "Watch and pray."

Be in church every Wednesday evening during Lent to find strength in the Lord for the inescapable trials of life.

- March 6 -- "I Am Among You As One Who Serves"
- March 13 -- "Watch and Pray"
- March 20 -- "He Died for All"
- March 27 -- "Whoever Confesses That He Belongs to Me, I Will Do the Same for Him"
- April 3 -- "Father, Forgive, as We Forgive"

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*Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love; and he relents over
disaster. Joel 2:13*

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March Birthdays: 1st Carole Calia; 4th Sophie Durham, Charlie Nance, Stephen Reynolds; 5th Will Reynolds; 7th Pam Rinas; 9th Elijah Malvitz; 13th Alice Schannuth; 17th Allison Eckhoff, Ella Eckhoff; 18th Bob Lane, JoAnn Schlueter; 20th Delbert Bettin; 21st August Bartels; 28th Pat Gordon, David Talley; 31st Sarah Eckhoff, Steve Stucky

March Baptismal Birthdays: 6th Sandra Bachmann; 15th Beverly Mettlen; 20th Sarah Durham; 22nd August Bartels, Jorjana Pohlman; 23rd Brittney Malvitz; 25th Wayne Steckelberg; 27th Jared Bartels; 28th Lisa Kearney

March Anniversaries: 16th Jeff & Joan Fisher, Charles & Eileen Green; 25th Jerry & Liz Bethke

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Olly, Olly, Oxen Free!

Do you remember shouting those words as a kid playing hide and seek? There were a lot of kids around the church where I grew up and we always preferred to play outdoors. Our church was on a corner lot with a big “front yard” space. When we played hide and seek, eventually we’d have to end the game and someone would shout these words to let us know it’s ok to come out from our hiding places. With the cold temperatures and more than average snowfall, it feels like I’ve been stuck in the house for weeks – I’m ready to hear that it’s time to come outdoors again.

When Pastor Dunn dismisses us from the communion rail, he pronounces his own message of freedom when he tells us “go in peace, you are free!” He reminds us that in Christ, we have been freed from sin and death. We don’t have to barricade ourselves. Because of Christ, we can endure whatever comes our way. The outdoor thermometer reading may not be comfortable, the noise from the news may worry or disappoint, the prices in the grocery store may cause us to rethink the list but these are temporary things. The love we have as God’s own child is bigger, brighter, warmer than any secular challenges and it’s free because the debt was paid in blood by our Redeemer.

Many of us are life-long Lutherans and recognize these familiar, reassuring words. We think everyone knows them but guess what?!? That’s no longer the case. Your neighbor, your co-worker, the server delivering your lunch – odds are high they haven’t grown up hearing them. It’s our turn to let people know they’re loved by God.

Most of us would be uncomfortable standing at the corner, shouting this news, but we can tell the world by our actions, by building relationships, showing compassion instead of anger. The gift of God’s love is free and is for everyone.

There are several activities happening at church – easy opportunities to invite others to come along. Come to the Family Game Night on March 29 and invite friends.

Participate in our servant event at Harvesters on April 5 and bring someone with you. Invite a friend to join you for a home-cooked meal at church during one of our Lenten meals (served at Ascension on March 12 and April 17).

We are free! Share the good news!

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The Righteous Shall Live by Faith for I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. Romans 1:16

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Build up your “Prayer Muscles”

March 5, Ash Wednesday, is the start of Lent. The season lasts for 40 days (not counting Sundays) until we celebrate Easter on April 20.

From April 20 until May 29 is another 40-day stretch, the period after Easter, when we hear about the risen Lord meeting his disciples and others, preparing them for his ascension into heaven.

That’s about 80 days for you to practice and strengthen your “prayer muscles” in preparation for Ascension’s second annual “**Ascension Day of Prayer**” on **Thursday, May 29**. We will gather for prayer on that day. This workout doesn’t involve warmups or require special shoes. The only gear you need is your Bible and maybe a prayer journal.

Prayer is time spent with God. Praise Him, cry out to Him, bring Him your cares and concerns, ask Him to comfort and heal others. The focus is on Him and the relationship He wants to have with you. It can be a few minutes or more but please plan to spend time EACH day – 4 simple steps:

- **Present** yourself to God in prayer
- **Pray** – praise, ask in His name
- **Read** your Bible
- **Listen** for His response as you ponder what you’ve read

The Lord will bless us during this time.

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*Jesus Frees Us to Become Children
of God While Others
Sought His Death*



2025 Lenten Midweek Service Schedule

Wednesday Schedule:
4:00p.m. 1st Worship Service
5:00-6:00 p.m. Meal
6:30p.m. 2nd Worship Service

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>
March 5-Ash Wednesday	Messiah
March 12	Ascension
March 19	St. Paul
March 26	Messiah
April 2	Ascension
April 9	St. Paul

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The **Lutheran Urban Mission Agency Auxiliary** will meet on Wednesday, March 19 at Ascension Lutheran Church, 4900 Blue Ridge Blvd., Kansas City, MO. Registration begins at 9:00 a.m. with the opening service at 9:30 a.m. The program will be Food Pantry Updates. The Mission of the Month collection is non-perishable food pantry items and monetary donations. Lunch will be served. Please RSVP by March 16 to Brenda Frolin, frolinbk@aol.com. All ladies of the congregation are invited to attend and all donations for the Mission of the Month collection are appreciated. Thank you! “For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me.” Matthew 25:35.



2025

Ascension Lutheran Church
4900 Blue Ridge Blvd.
KC MO 64133

816-358-1919
secretary@ascensionlckc.org
Walkers M-F, 7-10am

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sunday Worship Schedule: Bible Study 8:15am Sunday School 8:30am ~ Worship Service 9:30am						1 Basketball 9-11am
2 New Dimensions of Praise Fellowship Hall 10am Bd of Elders following worship	3	4	5 Ash Wednesday Service @Messiah 4pm 1 st Service 5pm Meal 6:30pm 2 nd Service	6	7 Bible Study 10am Basketball 7-9pm	8 No Basketball
9 New Dimensions of Praise Fellowship Hall 10am	10	11 Church Council 6:30pm	12 Mid-week Lenten Service @Ascension 4pm 1 st Service 5pm Meal 6:30pm 2 nd Service	13	14 Bible Study 10am No Basketball	15 No Basketball Craft Day 9am-6:30pm
16 New Dimensions of Praise Fellowship Hall 10am	17	18	19 Mid-week Lenten Service @St. Paul 4pm 1 st Service 5pm Meal 6:30pm 2 nd Service	20	21 Bible Study 10am Basketball 7-9pm	22 No Basketball
23 New Dimensions of Praise 10am Mite Box Sunday Bd of Human Care following worship	24 Dorcas Circle 6:00pm	25	26 Mid-week Lenten Service @Messiah 4pm 1 st Service 5pm Meal 6:30pm 2 nd Service	27	28 Bible Study 10am	29 Basketball 9-11am Game Night 4-7pm Fellowship Hall
30 New Dimensions of Praise Fellowship Hall 10am	31					

For God So Loved the World “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. John 3:16-17