

# Ascension In Action

Ascension Lutheran Church

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## Kairos Ministry

In this time of transition in our church, the leadership has been planning on how to move forward with developing our ministries and hiring staff. A current proposal is Kairos Ministry. Kairos is a Greek word meaning the critical time of God. Kairos Ministry covers two critical and timely areas of concern for us: senior ministry and volunteer coordination.

This story begins with some members wanting to build a senior ministry program that would be known for its excellence. A big part of that program was going to be health ministry. That took a step back when economic concerns led us to cut our Health Ministry Coordinator. Our hope at that time was to bring health ministry into a larger senior program that also would include education, service and fellowship. We hoped to hire a staff person who could recruit, train and provide oversight for these areas of ministry for seniors.

As we presented our senior program to people in the congregation, larger concerns about other programs and volunteer coordination arose. In view of that feedback, the planning group retooled the program to include recruiting, training, and providing oversight for more groups and ages. Now, the Kairos Ministry Coordinator would recruit, train and provide oversight for other volunteers and programs. **In summary, the Kairos Ministry Coordinator has become a “go to” person for recruiting volunteers and equipping people for service and overseeing our wide variety of programming and small groups with special emphases on seniors and Health Ministry.**

Ascension has long valued recruiting, training and oversight. Our seniors have always been involved in our programs and ministries. The Kairos Ministry is a proposal that would help us to grow and improve in these two critical areas. We continue to ask for

God’s guidance and your input as we move forward.

Sincerely, Pastor Dan

## Create A Legacy



*Ascension Lutheran Church  
Endowment Fund*

### God’s People Using God’s Resources to Fulfill God’s Calling

Gift’s-Wills-Property-Insurance-Memorials-Estates

### Legacies Created

Thanks and God’s blessings to the following donors for their recent gifts to the Endowment fund: Gary Barnes, Dennis and Judy Conroy, Lola Jaworski, Norman and Dorothy Miller, and Bill and Dee Yocum.

### Leave a Legacy

All gifts to the Endowment Fund are greatly appreciated and will remain a lasting legacy of your generosity. If you have forgotten, it is never too late to acknowledge your birthday, or someone else’s, or your anniversary, or someone else’s. A dollar spent for God is an investment for an eternity. For more information, contact a member of the Endowment Committee, one of the Pastors, or visit Ascension’s web site: [www.ascensionlutheranelca.org](http://www.ascensionlutheranelca.org).

“If you limit your actions in life to things that nobody can possibly find fault with, you will not do much.”

—Lewis Carroll

**Financials**  
**As of May 31, 2010**

	<b>Current Month</b>	<b>Year- To-Date</b>
<b>Revenue</b>		
Budget	\$54,379	\$271,897
Actual	58,837	279,221
<b>Above/(Below) Budget</b>	<b>\$ 4,458</b>	<b>\$ 7,324</b>
 <b>Expense</b>		
Budget	\$54,379	\$271,897
Actual	44,707	246,580
<b>(Above)/Below Budget</b>	<b>\$ 9,672</b>	<b>\$ 25,317</b>

Operating Cash: **\$32,443** (Note: Congregation voted on June 13 to set \$25,000 aside for future Capital Replacement Fund expenses)

**What's Happening?**

First, a big thank you to David Snell, who led the congregation as President the past 4 years. For the past year he has also been CEO of the Fuller Center for Housing in Americus, Georgia, so has had many additional responsibilities and has been commuting between the Springs and Georgia.

At the Congregational Meeting on June 13 the Congregation elected new Officers, Board Directors, Board members, and Endowment Committee. Thanks to all who served in the past and those who agreed to serve for the next 2 years. The congregation also approved a change in Call for Pastor Hedstrom to a 60% Call effective October 1. The other major item approved was a resolution to set \$25,000 aside for the Capital Replacement Fund to cover replacement and/or repairs of large expense items such as furnaces, parking lots, windows, etc.

On June 20 the Rev. Dr. Dan Holt was recognized for being awarded the Doctor of Ministry degree and for nearing completion of 13 years at Ascension.

A new two-year Holiday House lease with Family Connections for the KPC Kid's Place was recently signed. The massive amount of items recently

donated by Ascension members has helped greatly as they have been very busy caring for many children the past few weeks.

A recent risk assessment visit by our insurance company, Church Mutual, did not identify any major items of concern. The Board of Church Property and the Health Ministry Team has already addressed a number of the minor items noted in the inspection report.

The next few years will be ones of change and opportunity for Ascension. The Congregation Planning Council will be working hard to vision for the future. Consider the question: How can Ascension best serve all of its members as well as others outside our parish that so desperately need assistance? Only through an ongoing dialogue among Ascension members can answers to that question be gotten.

In Christ,  
Bill Ayen, President

**Congratulations ...**

\*\*to Dan Carlson on his appointment by the State Department as a Foreign Service Diplomatic Security Engineering Officer. He began 9 months of training for the position in Washington DC in June. Parents are Bob and Dorothy Carlson.

\*\*to Andrew Gulliksen for being selected as a Mayor's 100 Teens!

\*\*Rev. Dr. Dan for being awarded his Doctorate degree in May.

\*\*to Bob Curtis, for earning the Chartered Financial Consultant professional designation from the American College in Bryn Mawr, PA. This designation is given to qualified and experienced professionals who can provide comprehensive financial strategies in a broad range of financial areas. To earn this designation, Bob's completed eight courses (over 675 hours studying) and 16 hours of supervised exams on a broad range of financial topics. Also, his work history and academic record were approved by an evaluation board at the American College. Way to go, Bob!

## Come to the Mountain!

The Women's Retreat is a mountain-top experience!! Rainbow Trails Lutheran Camp is in the mountains just outside Canon City. It takes a little over two hours to drive there from the Springs, but you'll drive along the Arkansas and see lovely Fall changes in your surroundings as you go. Once you turn off the Highway and get close to camp---we always see deer and elk. You can sit on the huge porch in a comfortable rocking chair and just stare into the fantastic view of Pikes Peak and mountain sides dotted with Aspen changing color. There are beautiful streams flowing through camp with handmade strong wooden bridges to crossover. We'll be staying in a lodge not a cabin and the cook is GREAT!! Rainbow Trails is supported by our Synod and Thrivent and many generous contributors. WHAT else can I tell you so that you will put us on your CALENDAR!!



The retreat is worth every penny and every minute you invest in this experience. The cost is \$85 for the entire weekend--4 meals, 2 nights lodging, a terrific speaker Dr. Ingrid Bibey, a craft, hikes, a mystery guest, and a special Friday night beginning. This event is only 42 hours long.

Need more information?? Contact Nancy Albertson, Carol Caldwell, Cindy Gaona or Judy Leiseth.

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## Terrace Garden Bingo Thanks You!

Our sincere thanks to all of you who are donating prizes for our monthly Terrace Garden Bingo outreach. The program continues to be greatly appreciated by the residence of Terrace Gardens. To assist you in knowing what we need for prizes we have added take home cards of suggested prizes to the Bingo donation box at the welcome desk. Please clearly mark your prize donations "Bingo Prizes" and place them in or near the box at the welcome desk. Thanks again for your support.

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## Exciting News from Family Connections

As many of you heard at the annual meeting, Family Connections has signed a two-year lease with Ascension to rent the Holiday Drive house. This is fabulous news for the KPC Respite Center and the families it serves. It is thrilling to know the critical mission of the KPC Respite Center will continue as part of Ascension's social outreach ministry.

In other exciting news, a member of Ascension has joined the team at Family Connections. Elisa Thompson, Ph.D. will be volunteering at Family Connections through the end of the year. Elisa's first priorities will be grant writing and helping Gregg Doan expand the parenting education program.

The Board of Directors, Gregg Doan and the staff truly appreciate the support of Ascension Lutheran Church! As Gregg said, "We couldn't provide these valuable services without your support. Thank you!"

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## RUTH CIRCLE

There will be no Ruth Circle in July but we will continue our regular meetings on Thursday, August 12, at 9:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. We will conclude the study on Prayer that Pastor Dan introduced us to at the June luncheon.

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## Thank You ...

\*\*to my Ascension family and Pastors for all the prayers, cards, visits, phone calls and support provided me after my stroke. You are a wonderful church family and you contributed to my recovery immensely. In faith and friendship, Phyllis Sands.

\*\*to Pastor Dan from the ladies of Ruth Circle for filling in at the last minute as our guest lecturer for the Spring Luncheon!

\*\*to Christel Walter and the ladies of Ruth Circle for continuing to care for the planters located by the front entrance. They are a wonderful addition and welcome!

## More Thanks ...

\*\*to all who helped make this year's Vacation Bible School such a rewarding experience for our little ones! It was a huge success!

\*\*for all the cards and congratulations! My hope is that this degree has helped me in preaching the gospel of Jesus Christ among you. With great gratitude, Rev. Dr. Dan

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## Ascension at the Sky Sox!

Attention all Ascension Sky Sox fans and those who would love a good time with friends at the ballpark! This year our Ascension at the Sky Sox will be held Sunday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>, at 1:00 p.m. Come hear the choir (and friends) sing the National Anthem, enjoy the 50c hot dogs and the game! We have a great time. If you would like to join in singing the National Anthem, down on the field with the choir, please let Wini know and come to two practices, August 15th and 22nd between services. Sign up will be the first Sunday in August and continue until the 15th. If you will not be here those Sundays, you can contact me earlier. Tickets are \$5.00 each and parking pass is \$4.00/car. Contact Wini at [w\\_klein@ascensionlutheranelca.org](mailto:w_klein@ascensionlutheranelca.org) (office).

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## SAVE THE DATE/INNKEEPER CHALLENGE

Save the date for Lutheran Family Service's 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Innkeeper Dinner and Silent Auction, *Colors of Hope*, at the Cheyenne Mountain Resort – Tuesday, September 21, 2010 at 5:30 p.m.

In the meantime, get your creative juices flowing! Friends of LFS are asking for your help with donations for our silent auction. We are challenging our congregations, their small study, service, youth or scout groups, choirs, pastors, and individuals to create and donate unique *gift baskets* or *certificates for services offered*. Items valued at \$75 or below sell best. If you have several items, you could make more than one basket! We have listed below some ideas to get you started. Don't be afraid to "color outside the lines."

Certificates for Time and Services

**Cuisine:** prepare a gourmet meal, organize a meal for kids at a fire station, host a tea party, provide a dessert-a-month for 3 months

**Pastor/Celebrities:** "food and conversation" with a pastor or local radio or TV personality

**Specialty talents:** knitting, sewing, crafting, photography, computer services, typing, tutoring

**Musical ensemble:** provide music for a party/gathering, solo or duet singing, piano presentation

**Yard work:** mowing, weeding, raking leaves, trimming trees, mending fences

**Household services:** washing windows, cleaning kitchen appliances, handyman repairs, organizing things

**Vacation condo:** A night or more at your condo (& maybe a local restaurant gift certificate)

**Other ideas:** pet sitting/walking, house sitting, watering houseplants, taking kids to the park, running errands, painting, conducting a tour related to a hobby (such as bird-watching or geology)

### *Gift Basket Ideas*

**For our popular *Wine Cellar Tables*, anything beer or wine:** bottles of wine, accessories, munchies

**Sports fan:** tickets to any sports venues, memorabilia, logo clothing, orange & blue things

**Chocolate:** Gourmet candies, truffles, snacks, cocoa, light or dark

**Books/Media:** Adventure, mysteries, history, romance, how-to, politics, sports, hobby, repair

**Tea/Coffee:** Gourmet, mugs, tins, cakes, accessories, café certificates

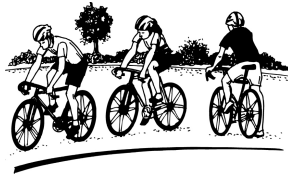
**Kids:** grandma's toy box, games, books, amusement/recreation passes, DVDs, rainy day/travel kits

### *Instructions*

For each basket or certificate we need the following information: name, address, and phone number for a contact person; estimated retail value of the items; list of contents of baskets & detailed description of services; name of group donating and theme; a yes or no if a receipt is needed for tax purposes. Please wrap any basket in cellophane or plastic for safety and ease of transportation. Deliver items no later than September 12, 2010 to Rebecca Hamilton-Lyons, [Rebecca.hamilton-lyons@lfsco.org](mailto:Rebecca.hamilton-lyons@lfsco.org), 314-0232. Or deliver to First Lutheran Church Gathering Place on Monday, Sept. 13, 2010 between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.

## Holy Pedalers

We will continue to list ride information in the church bulletin and send e-mails to those who have indicated a desire to ride. All last minute information including cancellations can only be communicated by e-mail. If you would like to be on the e-mail notification list please contact Bev Godec.



**HOLY**  
PEDALERS

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## BECOME INVOLVED ...

**\*\*Volunteers needed** to help Thursday mornings to copy and fold bulletins in the church office. Please contact Kim in the Ascension office for more information.

**\*\*Worship Board Volunteer Opportunities** – the board is seeking additional communion bread makers and Sunday greeters! Please contact Jean Schimmack if you are able to help with either of these!

**\*\*Coffee Fellowship Hour – Smell the Aroma!** Please help keep the coffee hours going by signing up to host a Sunday morning Fellowship Hour! All directions for coffee making are in the coffee station, or just ask for assistance. One or two people is all it takes, and it is so appreciated! See the sign-up sheet on the Kiosk in Fellowship Hall.

**\*\*Knotty Knitters & Crocheters** – Besides being a group for fellowship, the knitters and crocheters are also providing Prayer Shawls for Ascension. We have also made over 40 helmet liners for our troops and several baby blankets for Global Health Ministries. If you would like to become involved in this ministry, or would like to contribute towards the yarn for special projects, please contact Bonnie Vawter.

**\*\*Meals Ministry** – Contact Susan Curtis if you can help with meals for new parents, those who have lost a loved one, or those who need help on a need basis due to special circumstances.

**\*\*Funeral Committee** – Contact Darcy Ayen or Judi Johnson if you would like to be added to the list of volunteers to help with food or serving at funerals. We are always looking for volunteers!

**\*\*Campbell's Soup Labels:** Please just cut the UPC bar code and the picture of the "point value boy" from the following products: Campbells - soups, chunky

soups, Healthy Request, Supper Bakes; Pepperidge Farm, Spaghetti-Os, Swanson, V-8 beverage caps and Prego Spaghetti Sauce. Thanks for continuing to collect these to help the people with disabilities.

**\*\*Terrace Gardens Bingo – Prizes** are needed. Please mark items "Bingo Prizes" and place them in the Terrace Garden Bingo box located in the cupboards in the Welcome Center. Questions?? Call Bev Godec.

**\*\*Prayer Ministry** – as we pray for people it helps us to have updates to keep us connected to the person and situation. If you have a prayer concern or would like to become a member of our Prayer Chain, contact Carol Thompson or email the church office. Or go online to [www.ascensionlutheranelca.org](http://www.ascensionlutheranelca.org).

**\*\*Northern Churches Care** – Pantry items and toiletries are collected in the cupboard in the Fellowship Hall. See the Kiosk for suggested items.

**\*\*Altar Guild** – Call Sandy Trent if you can help with Communion set up or clean up.

**\*\*Pop can tabs** help the Ronald McDonald House. They may be placed in the container in the cupboard in the Welcome Center inside the front doors.

**\*\*Lutheran Family Services** is in urgent need of volunteers and household items for the Refugee Program as many new families are arriving in Colorado Springs. Any donations or volunteer time you could give would be greatly appreciated. If you would like to help LFS contact Tarrie Burnett at 314-0737.

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## Hiking

In July we will only be doing one hike due in part to losing the first weekend to 4<sup>th</sup> of July activities. On Sunday afternoon, July 11, we will hike parts of the Greenway Trail and Sante Fe Trail. We will start at 1 PM from the Park and Ride at Woodmen Road and Commerce Drive. We will go north (the Greenway Trail becomes the Sante Fe trail after about 1 mile) and will continue north as far as individuals care to walk. This easy trail will provide all ages and abilities a chance to enjoy the outdoors. Please join us on the 11<sup>th</sup>.

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## CHURCH STAFF

Normal Office Hours: 9-3 on M-Th, 9-noon F (719) 634-1694

Pastor Keith Hedstrom – off on Friday

Pastor Dan Holt – off on Friday

Office Administrator – Kim Cespedes

Director of Worship & Music Ministries, Wini Klein –  
Tue, Wed, & Thur

Consultant for Health Care – Dr. Dennis Caldwell

Child Development Center Director – Kay Fritzler

### **E-mail addresses:**

office@ascensionlutheranelca.org (Kim Cespedes)

k\_hedstrom@ascensionlutheranelca.org (Pastor Hedstrom)

d\_holt@ascensionlutheranelca.org (Pastor Holt)

w\_klein@ascensionlutheranelca.org (Wini Klein)

k\_fritzler@ascensionlutheranelca.org (Kay Fritzler)

clc@ascensionlutheranelca.org (CLC)

trinko2@msn.com (newsletter articles)

**Our Website: [www.ascensionlutheranelca.org](http://www.ascensionlutheranelca.org)**



Bev Ayen (Sister-in-law of Bill Ayen), Dennisha Becker, Dale Brown, Brad Buhler, Pamela Cobb (Sister of Phil Trent), Florence Cousins, Isaac Curtis (Father of Bob), Lexi Davenport (Friend of Carie Hagen), Marsha Davis (Sister of Darcy Ayen), Ulane Finn (Brother of Dorothy Brown), Karen Friedli (Sister of Darcy Ayen), Isaac Grimes, Rob Grimes, Joey Hanlon (Friend of Marilyn Gulliksen), Loren Hedstrom (Father of Pastor Keith), Adam Hohm (Nephew of Dionn Mathews), Bill Larson (Father of Krista Reynolds), Pat Lewis, Don Mattke, Al Mosher, Carrol Ockwig (Father of Jane Paradis), Martha Rademacher (Daughter of Pat & Charles Lewis), Rev. Leonard Rudolph (Former Ascension Pastor), Phyllis Sands, Karen Sebben, Helen Seifert, Carol Thompson, John Thompson (Brother of Sandy Trent), Doreen Walker, Dee Yocum, and all of our men and women serving overseas, especially Joe Christensen, Kyle Cornell, Keith Johnson, Brian Lindeman, Wes Sturdivant and their families.