

CONNECTIONS

Ascension Lutheran Church
January, 2019



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

Jan 1st	New Years Day
Jan 6th	Epiphany Sunday
Jan 8th	Confirmation resumes after Christmas break
Jan 13th	Baptism of Our Lord
Jan 18th	Medford Garden Club
Jan 21st	Martin Luther King Jr Day
Jan 27th	Annual Congregational Meeting after Worship

Communion Worship every Sunday-9:30 AM.

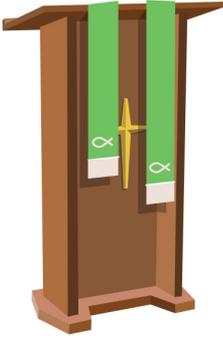
Education—10:45

www.ascensionlutheran.com

**Hearing Devices and Large Print Bulletins are available—
ask an usher for assistance.**

OFFICIAL NOTICE!!

**THE ANNUAL
CONGREGATIONAL
MEETING WILL BE HELD
ON JANUARY 27th AT
11:00AM.**



Letting Christ spill out

Pastor Doug Vold

The January newsletter comes out sometime between Christmas (Dec. 25) and Epiphany (Jan. 6) which means that it is still the season of Christmas. Oh, I know. Most of the world has long since moved on from Christmas, tired of it now after months of seeing and hearing about it. It is an archaic piece of trivia to point out that the 12 days of Christmas actually begin on Christmas day.

But while we decide whether or not we still feel Christmassy, it's a good time to remind ourselves of an abiding truth. Whatever happened that we celebrated on Christmas is still a thing. It is still real even after the decorations are put away and even after the bills are paid. The sign in the neighborhood of the church building says, "Keep Christ in Christmas," but now is time for the annual reminder to "Let him out."

The baby Jesus is an adorable image, and one that is easily accessible to the world around us. Aside from the profundity of the incarnation, a baby is cute and lovable. But the story and its sweetness can be lumped away with all the other charming stories of the holidays. And left there until next year.

But if it is true that we have been visited by the mystery we call God, how could we just move on from that? If we have glimpsed the wonder of the divine in the Word made flesh, can we let that wonder do its work in our hearts? The humility of finding ourselves in awe can be a real game changer. The world looks different after that. And my place in it a wondrous miracle.

Let us think about the power of wonder and its role in evoking faith. And even though such things as art, music, beauty and hope seem of so little value in the world of politics and markets and consumerist culture, we would be people who know differently. Christmas has happened in our hearts and lives and we can live as wonder-filled beings. That would be letting the light of the Christ spill out into the darkness. Christmas, much to our surprise, is still happening.



The light that
shines in
darkness!



Age 5-5th grade:

January 6 – Family Sunday School

January 13 – Sandwich Making

January 20 – Workshop

January 27 – Workshop

Middle School:

January 6 – Homebound Communion

January 13 – Sandwich Making

January 20 – Bible Study with Pastor Doug

January 27 – Activity with Tara

High School:

January 6 – Homebound Communion

January 13 – Sandwich Making

January 20 – Starbucks / Bible Study with Tara

January 27 – Helping with Sunday School

Baby Class:

January 13



**2-5 year old Class: January 6, 13 & 20
(6th is Family Sunday School)**



HELP NEEDED!

Sunday School is in need of some people willing to help with teaching or co-teaching classes! We will need help with age 5-5th grade, Middle School, and High School! Anyone willing to help please talk to Tara at church or email at tara@ascensionlutheran.com!



PUZZLE

A fresh start

Baptism is a blessing because it changes us and gives us hope.

Directions: Write the boxed letters in the squares below. Then unscramble those letters to form two words that complete the Bible verse and represent the gift of baptism.

~~~~~

We were therefore buried with him  
through baptism into death in order that,  
just as Christ was raised from the dead  
through the glory of the Father,  
we too may live a \_\_\_\_\_.

Romans 6:4, NIV

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\_\_\_\_\_

Answer: f i e l e w n ; n e w l i f e

## ALCW NEWS



**ALCW Board Meeting, Thursday**

Dec 6th, 2018, 9:30 a.m.

**Sarah Circle, Jan 8th, 9:30a**

**Martha Circle, Jan 9th, 12:30p**

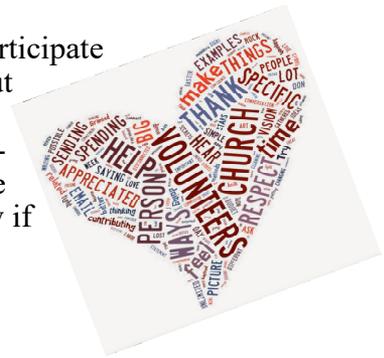
**Coming Attractions:**

LOOK FOR MORE INFORMATION ON COMING ATTRACTIONS IN FUTURE BULLETINS AND EMAILS. HAPPY NEW YEAR! - *ALCW*

Are you in need of a new or replacement name tag? Let Paul know so that he can make one! Contact him at the Church phone number 541-773-3594 or email [secretary@ascensionlutheran.com](mailto:secretary@ascensionlutheran.com)



Looking for a way to be more active or participate in Worship? We are always on the look out for folks who maybe interested in Ushering, Serving, Bearing Communion or reading the lessons as Lector. We have simple instructions in needed. Let the office know if your interested. Thanks!



### **The Blessing Bags need your help!**



We're looking to stock up on cold weather items like: - hand warmers, white socks, men's hats and gloves. In addition we are looking for toothpaste, water and granola bars.

As always, unused fast food condiments packets are welcome. Financial donations are also welcome. Questions? - ask Tara Williams.



## SAVE THESE DATES!!!

The annual used book sale benefiting the SMART Reading Program in the Rogue Valley Schools will be held February 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> in the Social Hall of Ascension Lutheran Church.

Please check your books and bring those you no longer want to the church, dates to be announced at a later time. Please—no encyclopedias, dictionaries, magazines or Reader's Digest Condensed Books, as these rarely sell and are difficult to dispose of.

We anticipate that this will be the final used book sale. Originally organized by Doris and Art Lundahl and the Empty Nesters, the sale has raised thousands of dollars for SMART. This has been used to purchase books for the students to take home to share with their families.

We have continued to support SMART, both monetarily and with volunteer readers. Recently the sale has been handled by the Community Life Committee. After some discussion we feel that the time has come to find other ways to support SMART.

We hope that you will support our last sale by both donating books to the sale and by shopping for new books to fill your shelves.

## **NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT—2018**

*Many thanks to Terry Helmling, Sharon Johnson, Nancy Thiebes, and Mary Ellen Campbell for their service on the council.*

As required by the Constitution, the Nominating Committee announces the following nominations for the 2019 Congregation Council:

### **Current Council Members running for an additional term:**

Eddie Adamson  
Gary Landmann  
Wayne Einarson

### **Members running for their first term on council:**

**Dave Gray**—2 year term  
**Bob Treulich**—2 year term  
**Mike Dahl**—2 year term  
**Jo Heim**—1 year term (completing term of a vacated seat)

Continuing council members are Judy Cheatum, Martha Baker, Ruth Swenson, and Troy Olivadoti

### **Oregon Synod Representatives:**

Paul and Laura Kimberly  
Tara Williams

In 2018 an Endowment Committee was formed and requires three elected representatives who can serve three year terms. This year we will elect all three and stagger their terms.

**Gene Obie**—3 years  
**Kristie Wilson**—2 years  
**Ted Menold**—1 year

Voting members of the congregation can nominate other members to hold office if that member agrees to run. To be included on a written ballot, names must be received by the church office by January 19, 2019. Nominations will be accepted by the floor as long as the nominee is present to accept the nomination. If none of the nominees are contested, the elections can be done by a voice vote.

## **2020 Decennial (every ten-year) Census Jobs with the U.S. Census Bureau.**

Recruiting for various positions across the entire state of Oregon from now, well into mid-late 2020 when the Decennial Census wraps up... the Census Bureau offers competitively paid part-time/flexible employment; jobs range from \$14.50-16/hour (Douglas County) depending on position and county, and all jobs with the Decennial Census are temporary by nature of our operations... Interested in how to apply?

Visit: [www.2020census.gov/jobs](http://www.2020census.gov/jobs)

## **Grave Plots for Sale**

Ascension has a double lawn crypt with Hillcrest Memorial Gardens for sale of \$6,500. The price might be somewhat negotiable.

The grave plot details were printed in November's Newsletter and the November email. We would like to get the plots sold soon, so if interested please contact Eddie Adamson at 541-773-2792 or email [eddie.adamson@carestream.com](mailto:eddie.adamson@carestream.com). If no one here at

Ascension is interested, the sale of the grave plots will soon be open up to the community. The hope is to have them sold before the end of the year.

Crypt information:

- Value: Today's price \$7,746
- Lawn Crypt (2 caskets) - Stacked (No Caskets in plain)
- Total occupancy of Lawn Crypt is as follows: 2 bodies, 1 body and 3 cremations, or 4 cremations
- New owner is responsible for own caskets and headstone

If a deed is wanted (optional), additional \$500

## **PRAYER CHAIN**

Ascension has an active prayer chain waiting to meet your needs. If you or a loved one has a need or is in crisis and in need of support and prayer please call Jeanette Eliason at 779-2912 or [bandjeliason@hotmail.com](mailto:bandjeliason@hotmail.com) or the church office. Our prayer chain is generally an email chain, but some phone calls can be made. ~Jeanette



# Puzzle!

The 10 words below are spelled correctly but are missing the letter O. Use them to complete the Bible verse below, where you'll find all the missing O's.

S, NE, JHN, ANOTHER, GD,  
LVED, UGHT, T, ALS, LVE

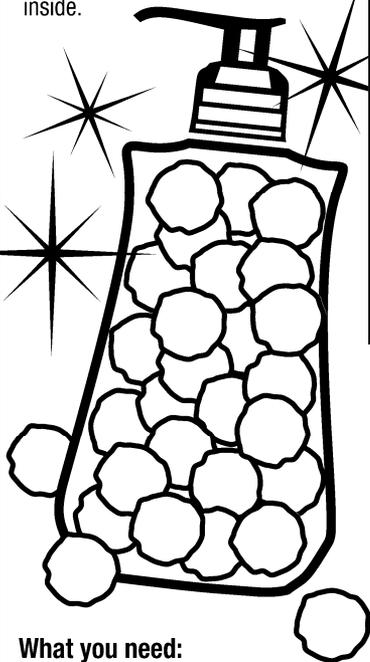
Dear friends, since \_\_\_o\_\_\_ \_\_\_o\_\_\_  
\_\_\_o\_\_\_ \_\_\_o\_\_\_ us, we \_\_\_o\_\_\_ \_\_\_o\_\_\_  
o\_\_\_ \_\_\_o\_\_\_ \_\_\_o\_\_\_  
o\_\_\_ \_\_\_o\_\_\_ \_\_\_o\_\_\_.

1 \_\_\_o\_\_\_ \_\_\_o\_\_\_ 4:11, NIV

Answer: Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. 1 John 4:11, NIV

# Washed Clean

Decorate a soap bottle as a reminder of how baptism cleans us on the inside.

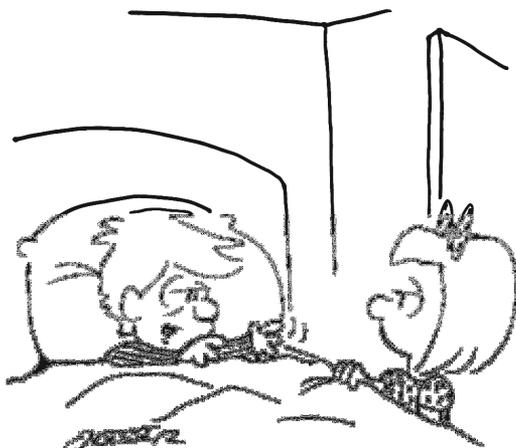


## What you need:

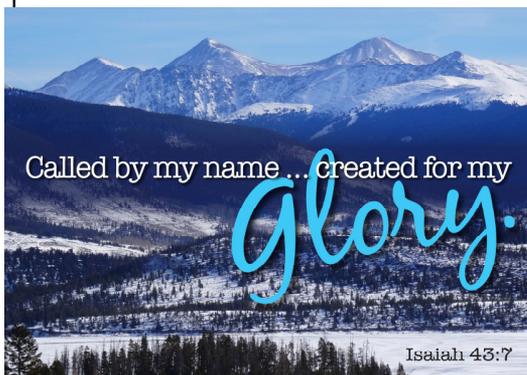
- Bottle of clear liquid hand soap
- Small craft pompoms (different colors)
- Wooden skewer

## What you do:

1. Remove the bottle label and unscrew the lid.
2. Using the skewer, push pompoms down into the soap one at a time.
3. Replace the lid and put the dispenser in a bathroom or kitchen.



"Tell Mom I'll stay home today and do Sunday school online."



## ?? ? Bible Quiz ? ??

What did Jesus say brings greater joy in heaven than 99 righteous people?

- A. The singing of angels
- B. One sinner who repents
- C. 100 righteous people
- D. None of the above



Answer: B (See Luke 15:7.)

## Travel Healthy



Travel, whether for fun, necessity or just plain adventure, increases your exposure to germs while decreasing your ability to fight infections. Whatever the reason for your travels, it's more fun and relaxing if you are able to maintain your health.

### **Before a trip you can do the following:**

- ◆ Get your rest. At least a couple of nights of good rest is important. Sleep is important in maintaining your immune system, so don't short yourself.
- ◆ Make sure your vaccinations are up to date, especially ones recommended for the places you plan to travel. Plan to do this several months before you leave. Some vaccinations are given in steps (such as hepatitis) and may take up to six months to do a whole series.
- ◆ Research the area you are going to and check out any current illness or outbreaks. Purchase hand sanitizers, wipes or other items to wipe down surfaces.
- ◆ Check the medications you take regularly in luggage you always have with you, so they aren't delayed or missing.

### **During your trip:**

- ◆ Be sure to wash your hands often and avoid touching your face, mouth, eyes or nose.
- ◆ Try to avoid touching public surfaces, and if necessary, wipe it down with a sanitizing wipe. A good example would be the tray table on an airplane.

- ◆ Keep dirty clothes separate from clean clothes.
- ◆ Keep shoes wrapped and separate in plastic bags so they don't come in contact with clothes.
- ◆ Don't pack your schedule and give yourself some down or rest time.
- ◆ Eat well nutritiously and stay hydrated. Overeating or too much alcohol can push your body past it's limits.

### **After your trip:**

- ◆ Your dirty clothes should be separated, so throw them in the laundry as soon as you get home.
- ◆ Unpack your shoes and consider wiping or spraying them with a disinfectant.
- ◆ Use a disinfectant spray to spray the inside and out side of your suitcase.
- ◆ Get back to your healthy routine of eating and exercise.

Enjoy a healthy, fun trip!!

*Judy Dahl RN*



## Ascension Lutheran Church

675 Black Oak Dr.  
Medford, OR 97504-8314  
541-773-3594  
[www.ascensionlutheran.com](http://www.ascensionlutheran.com)

**Communion Services every  
Sunday at 9:30 AM**

### **Our Mission**

We, the members of Ascension Lutheran Church, gratefully rooted in the Good News of God's Grace, proclaim our partnership with the whole church of God and give ourselves to worship, witness and service.

### **Our Vision**

We are a community of believers, empowered by the Holy Spirit to support and serve one another.

We believe that we are called to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through our words and especially through our deeds toward all who live in the greater Rogue Valley of Southern Oregon.

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| Sun |                                                                                   | Tue |                                                            | Wed |                                                                                                                                | Thu |                                                             | Fri |                                                                                                | Sat |                                              |    |                                                                                     |
|-----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|------------------------------------------------------------|-----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-------------------------------------------------------------|-----|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|----------------------------------------------|----|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 30  | 9:30 - Worship                                                                    | 31  |                                                            | 1   | New Years Day!<br><br>Office Is Closed                                                                                         | 2   |                                                             | 3   | 9:00a - Joyful Noise                                                                           | 4   | 6:30 - AA                                    | 5  |  |
| 6   | 9:30 - Worship<br><br>10:45am - Education Hour                                    | 7   |                                                            | 8   | 9:30a - Arts and Spirituality Mtg<br>9:30a - Sarah Circle<br>3:45p - Discovery Chorus<br>4p - Finance Mtg<br>6p - Confirmation | 9   |                                                             | 10  |                                                                                                | 11  | 6:30p—AA                                     | 12 |                                                                                     |
|     |                                                                                   |     | 630 - Comm Quilters                                        |     |                                                                                                                                |     | 9:30a—Bible Study<br>12:30p - Martha Circle<br>6:30 - Choir |     | 9:00a - Joyful Noise<br>1p - Brightline Eaters<br>6:00p - Grace Notes                          |     |                                              |    | 2p - Girl Scouts                                                                    |
| 13  | 9:30 - Worship<br><br>10:45am - Education Hour                                    | 14  | 3p - Admin Mtg                                             | 15  | 8:30a - Quilters<br><br>3:45p - Discovery Chorus<br>6p - Confirmation<br>7p - Council                                          | 16  |                                                             | 17  |                                                                                                | 18  |                                              | 19 |                                                                                     |
|     |                                                                                   |     | 630— Comm Quilters                                         |     |                                                                                                                                |     | 9:30a—Bible Study<br>6:30 - Choir                           |     | 9:00a - Joyful Noise<br>1p - Brightline Eaters<br>3:00p - Comm Life Mtg<br>6:00p - Grace Notes |     | 12:30p—<br>Medford Garden Club<br>6:30p - AA |    |                                                                                     |
| 20  | 9:30 - Worship<br><br>10:45am - Education Hour                                    | 21  |                                                            | 22  |                                                                                                                                | 23  |                                                             | 24  |                                                                                                | 25  | 6:30p - AA                                   | 26 | 2p - Girl Scouts                                                                    |
|     |                                                                                   |     | MLK Jr Day—<br>Office Closed<br>6:00p - Community Quilters |     | 8:30a - Quilters<br>3:45p - Discovery Chorus<br>6:00p - Confirmation                                                           |     | 9:30a - Bible Study<br>6:30p - Choir                        |     | 9:00a—Joyful Noise<br>1:00p - Brightline Eaters<br>6:00p - Grace Notes                         |     |                                              |    |                                                                                     |
| 27  | 9:30 - Worship<br><br>10:45am - Education Hour<br>11a - Congregational Annual Mtg | 28  |                                                            | 29  |                                                                                                                                | 30  |                                                             | 31  |                                                                                                | 1   | 6:30p - AA                                   | 2  |                                                                                     |
|     |                                                                                   |     | 630— Comm Quilters                                         |     | 8:30a - Quilters<br>3:45p - Discovery Chorus<br>6:00p - Confirmation                                                           |     | 9:30a—Bible Study<br>6:30 - Choir                           |     | 9:00a - Joyful Noise<br>1p - Brightline Eaters<br>6:00p - Grace Notes                          |     |                                              |    |                                                                                     |