

Let's Do It!



**MISSION
POSSIBLE**

OUR VISION ■ OUR FUTURE ■ GOD'S GLORY

Issue #3 - Nov. 2017

Capital Campaign News from Ascension Lutheran Church, School, & Foundation

**Upcoming
Campaign Events**

**Advance Commitments
Gathering**

- Fri, Dec. 1
- 6:30 PM
- Pederson Hall
- RSVP required

**Mission Possible
Celebration Luncheon**

- Sun, Dec. 10
- 12:30 PM

**Commitment Worship
Services**

- Sat., Dec. 16 &
Sun., Dec. 17

**Ascension School (K-8)
Mission Possible
Gathering**

Led by Karen Jonas

**Ascension Early
Childhood Center
Mission Possible
Gathering**

Led by Pam Musburger
Dec & Jan
**PARENTS - STAY TUNED
FOR DETAILS!**



www.ALCTO.org/MissionPossible

Celebrating the Dream, the Mission, and the Promise

On Dec.10th, all Ascension Lutheran church, school, ECC, and foundation family members will have the opportunity to come together to celebrate God's many blessings on our ministries and community. This will also be an exciting time to set our sights on Ascension's future growth and our expanded opportunities to impact our local community - and the world!

The **One Ascension Mission Possible Celebration Luncheon** will focus on three key elements for how we can ensure our success in achieving our stewardship campaign goals:



After a delicious meal, we'll enjoy an inspirational program including musical entertainment (including our ALS kids!) and presentations from church and capital campaign leadership as well as a skit from our youth group.

While the adults are enjoying a meal and planning the future of Ascension, the children will be enjoying a **Kid's Pizza Party** in the Lundring Center. We'll be providing pizza and activities to engage and entertain the children, from 4 years old to 6th grade.

And for the toddlers - the Honey Tree Preschool at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, located near the CLU campus, has graciously offered to make their facilities available for childcare (ages 2 - 3 years old). Snacks will be provided.

You should have received your Invitation by now - it contains all of the event details. Seating is limited so we encourage you to please **RSVP, no later than 11/22:**

- Online on the **Mission Possible** webpage on the church's and school's websites (link below)
- Sign-up sheets on the patio between church services
- Calling the church office at 805-495-0406
- Sign-up sheet in the school office
- Sign-up sheet in the Early Childhood Center office

We look forward to celebrating Ascension's Dream, Mission, and "Possible" with you and your entire family!



Lundring Center & Soiland Recreation Center
in the Gilbert Sports Arena at CLU

Making Commitments - Key Dates to Remember

Our **Mission Possible** Campaign is in full swing. This fall, Ascension has actively been praying, studying God's word, gathering to discuss our vision and mission goals, and communicating the process for our capital campaign. It's been a rewarding experience to get to know people in a deeper way, talk and pray together about the vital ministry we share, and consider the ways in which moving forward on the Master Plan for our church and school will help us strengthen the ongoing mission and ministry of the Ascension family.

We're at that point when we will soon be encouraged to offer financial commitments to our **Mission Possible** Campaign. As we draw closer to making our commitments to resource the vital needs of our church, celebrate this opportunity to serve God with what He has first given you.

**One cannot be too kind. . . .
or too generous.**

Karsten Lundring

Our campaign is about more than just finances. Ours is the privilege and opportunity to carry forward the legacy of Ascension Lutheran Church and School, celebrate the abundance God places in our lives, and carry forward God's vision for us here. Thank God for the many blessings you've received in the past and for the miracles yet to come. **Here are the ways you can make your commitments to our campaign:**

- **Friday, December 1st : ADVANCE COMMITMENTS GATHERING**

To help us build momentum for generous giving in our congregation, an Advance Commitments Gathering for the purpose of receiving early financial commitments will be held in Pederson Hall on Friday evening, December 1st, at 6:30 PM. Anyone who would like to make an early, inspirational financial commitment to our campaign is welcome to participate. **Please RSVP to the church office (805-495-0406) or Pastor Paul (PastorPaul@ALCTO.org).**



- **Saturday, December 16 and Sunday, December 17: COMMITMENT WORSHIP SERVICES (Also Christmas Cantata Sunday!)**

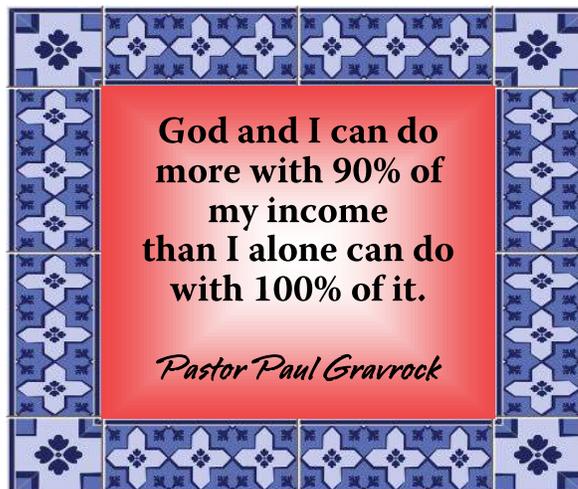
After prayerful consideration, each of us will decide on the amount of our financial commitments to our **Mission Possible** Capital Campaign. Pledges to our capital campaign are above and beyond our regular offering and may be contributed as a one-time gift or in weekly, monthly, quarterly or annual payments over the coming three years ending in December 2020. **A commitment card and envelope will be arriving in the mail soon. We encourage you to bring these with you to church on December 16th or 17th.**

- **January 2018: COMMITMENT FOLLOW-UP VISITS**

Because we hope to have a 100% response to our capital campaign, we have enlisted a group of volunteer leaders who will visit those who have not yet made a commitment. The purpose of these visits is to answer any questions, provide information, and collect the commitment cards (in a sealed envelope for confidentiality) and return them to church.

- **Saturday, January 27 and Sunday, January 28: CELEBRATION WORSHIP SERVICES**

We will share the results of the commitments received to date, and give thanks to God for His abundance in the life our church.





The Possible

Reaching Our Goals: Making the Vision a Reality

HALLELUJAH GOAL = \$7,300,000

Allows us to complete all of the projects for this initial phase of our Master Plan.

CELEBRATION GOAL = \$4,300,000

Refurbishes our Sanctuary and builds our permanent Early Childhood Center. Additional funds would be required to complete the expansion of our main worship facility.

CORNERSTONE GOAL = \$2,100,000

Refurbishes our sanctuary and begins work on the Early Childhood Center. Additional funds would be needed in order to complete our projects.

Our financial goals are set for our **Mission Possible** Campaign. Every dollar given will be a step forward toward bringing our vision to life. The more we're able to raise, the more we'll be able to accomplish toward completing the Master Plan for our campus.

Our campaign team has challenged us to consider generous financial commitments over and above our regular offerings in order to meet our campaign goal of raising a significant amount over the next three years. Please prayerfully consider the important part you play in helping meet this challenge. Everyone's gifts are needed!



The Joy of Generosity

By examining God's word for us in Scripture, we learn the joy that comes from generous giving, rather than through the accumulation of things or the abundance of material possessions. In 2 Corinthians 8 and 9, St. Paul makes it clear that the Corinthian people's giving to the church in Jerusalem is just as important to their own spiritual welfare as it is for the physical welfare of the Christians in Jerusalem.

Paul emphasizes three important concepts:

- ✦ **Give voluntarily, give joyfully, and give first to the Lord**
"God loves it when the giver delights in the giving!" (II Corinthians 9:7b)
- ✦ **Give proportionately as God has blessed you.**
Remember that God asks a tithe—10%—of our income. If one has a household income of \$50,000 a year, \$5,000 should be dedicated to the Lord's work. If one makes \$100,000 a year, the gift should be \$10,000, and so on.
- ✦ **Trust in God to provide for your needs**
"God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work." (II Corinthians 9:8)

What if the only thing standing between God's great generosity and the world's great need is us?

Walter Brueggemann

Please prayerfully consider how you can give joyfully and generously to the mission of Ascension. Your investment will inspire your personal growth in faith and dedication. Remember the words of Jesus, "Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." (Matthew 6:21)

Worship



Teaching



Fun



Community Outreach



Volunteerism



ASCENSION
LUTHERAN

CHURCH • SCHOOL • FOUNDATION

1600 E. Hillcrest Dr.
Thousand Oaks, CA 91362

A Youthful Future!

Thoughts on the Capital Campaign from Two Ascension Teens



Throughout this beautiful transforming journey, I have had the privilege of teaching the younger kids that will eventually be the future of Ascension Lutheran Church. Recently we taught them how to use their money, give some to God, and keep some for themselves. We created this “toy” that helped teach them how the things in this world are not nearly as important as what we can give to God. God should be our number one priority, especially in this time of the capital campaign.

As a lifetime member, I see what an incredible congregation we have and believe more people should be able to experience that Ascension life. I am very involved in the youth group and each time someone new comes to Bible study, I get very excited because I believe everyone should know God and His love through the people at Ascension. We are very blessed to be a part of this congregation and I think we should open our doors for more people to know about our incredible congregation.

Through the Mission Possible campaign, we are able to open our doors to more people. And by expanding the Early Childhood Center, we are opening our doors to **the future of Ascension - the kids**. We’ll be able to provide a future full of love and a future in which each person who takes part will feel great pride.

Rebecca Smuck

My experience in working with the Mission Possible-focused Sunday school class was eye opening! Watching the kids engage and work together really made me realize what Ascension can become. The lesson was all about how we can use our treasures for God, the world, and our community. I think this was a perfect lesson as the all children had ideas on how they could use their gifts to help others. Not only are these kids and youth our future, but they each hold skills and talents that should be used in this growing church.

Maia Berg

