



Dear friends in Christ,

“O God, from my youth you have taught me,
and I still proclaim your wondrous deeds.

So even to old age and gray hairs,

O God, do not forsake me,

until I proclaim your might

to all the generations to come.”

As we each add another birthday candle to our cake each year, do you ever wonder, as I do, about how best to be a faith mentor to the younger generations? That’s what the prayer of Psalm 71 encourages us to do. Let’s talk about this as we meet together. Then, let’s do it! We are looking for mentors for our high school youth. And, let them teach us, as well.

Love and blessings in Christ,

– Pastor Steve

Fall Brings Flurry of Special Events

Fall, with its cooler weather and drifting leaves, also brings special events at Ascension. Here are just some of the activities you won’t want to miss:

- **Oct. 6:** Blessing of the Pets, 6 p.m., parking lot
- **Oct. 9:** Women’s Ministry Cookie Exchange, 7 p.m., Founders Hall
- **Nov. 10:** Gifts of Hope class; **Nov. 17:** Gifts of Hope fair, Founders
- **Dec. 1:** Hanging of the Green, Sanctuary, 6:30 p.m. (dinner at 5:00 p.m.)
- **Dec. 8, 15, 22:** Advent services, 7:15 p.m., Sanctuary (8th in gym)

Also, check out the enclosed flyer for Adult Ed offerings.

There are some wonderful classes coming up. Look for more information on all of these activities—and many more—in the weekly newsletter.



Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, recently re-elected to a second term as head of the ELCA, is coming to Ascension in December.

Sunday, Dec. 8 — Mark Your Calendar!

As part of a thank-you tour across the country, Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton will visit Ascension Sunday, Dec. 8.

On that day, we’ll have two services, one at 9:00 a.m. and another at 11:00 a.m. Bishop Eaton will preach.

The tour is in
(Continued on back page)

Church Office: 805/495-0406

Church Emergency Line: 805/405-7431

Pastor Steve Herder: pastorsteve@alcto.org

Parish Nurse: Diana Doerfler, 805/405-0547

SAM’s Tram: Brian Festerling, 805/558-8076 3M: Beverly David, 805/495-0190; bdavidgpe@yahoo.com

Editor: Susanne Hopkins: s.write@verizon.net

Website: www.alcto.org

There's a Place Just for You in a Life Group

Where can you find God's Word, good friends, and fun all rolled into one package? An Ascension Life Group!

You may already be a part of one of these groups that are an important part of life at Ascension. But if not, why not check one out? New groups are starting now.

"Life Groups are meant to connect people in faith, fellowship and prayer. [They] are intended to help form meaningful, God-centered friendships," says Sara Wallace, Ascension's Life Group coordinator. "In our busy lives it's hard to



Life Groups meet in homes, cafes, and on campus.

take time with God. Life Groups give people an opportunity to put the craziness on hold and recharge."

There are several groups for seniors meeting both during the day and in the evening, Sara says.

Some are for couples,

while others concentrate either on men or women.

If there is nothing that works for you, you can start one yourself. "We welcome people starting new groups," Sara says, adding that host training classes are offered periodically. "It's very simple and open to anyone."

For more information, contact Sara at swallace@alcto.org.

Bishop Eaton ... (Continued from front page)

recognition of those churches who have supported ELCA global ministry efforts, ELCA World Hunger, Lutheran Disaster Response and projects in Africa.

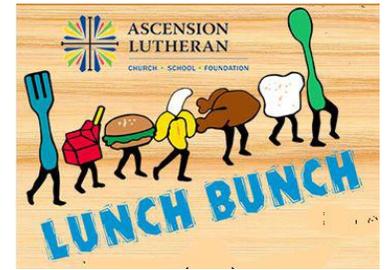
"We are a church that believes God is calling us into the world — together," says the ELCA web site.

Over the past five years, Ascension has donated more than \$225,000 to the ELCA to help people around the world, including in our own community. The money was raised through our Global Ministry Team's annual Gifts of Hope held each November.



To all our friends with birthdays in October, November and December.

Happy Birthday, Jesus!



Join us Wednesdays at noon for good food and fun in Founders Hall. Cost is \$5. Sign up by noon Monday with the church office. Here's the upcoming menu:

October

2: Burritos w/chicken and beans, watermelon

9: Pesto pasta w/tomatoes, garlic toast, birthday cake—*invite a friend (friend eats for free!)*

16: Chile rellenos, side salad, Mexican wedding cookies

23: Three-meat wraps, chips, ice cream bars

30: Hot dogs, potato salad, fruit

November

6: NO LUNCH BUNCH

13: Chicken tortilla soup, chips, birthday cake

20: Sloppy Joes, carrot and celery sticks, apple crisp—*invite a friend (friend eats for free!)*

27: Chicken enchiladas, side salad, cookies

December

4: Pasta w/meat sauce, side salad, brownies

11: Twice-baked potato w/ham and broccoli; side salad, birthday cake

18: Chicken Milanese w/spinach salad, cupcakes

Contact 3M for household help. Call or email coordinator Beverly David, 805/495-0190; bdavidgpe@yahoo.com