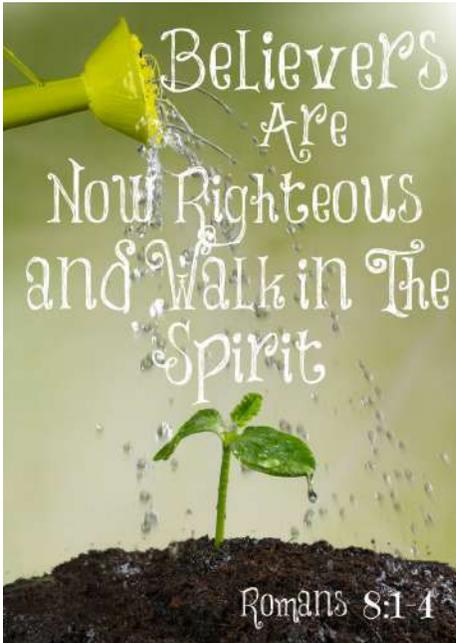




**ASCENSION
LUTHERAN
CHURCH**

INVITE ■ GROW ■ SERVE

**July 11-12, 2020
Pentecost 6**



Although for the time being we are not gathering to worship in person, we are grateful to gather in spirit, and by means of technology.

Our Country Spirit livestream online service is 6 PM Saturdays, traditional worship is at 9:30 AM

Sundays and worship with Praise Alive is on Sundays at 11 AM. Go to our website,

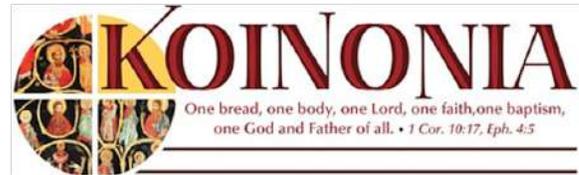
ALCTO.org, to see livestreams (they appear on the website front page when services begin), or watch on our Facebook page,

<https://www.facebook.com/ascensionlutheranto>

You do not have to have a Facebook account to view the livestreams. You *will* need a Facebook account to join in with comments and “likes,” etc.

Questions or troubleshooting needs?

Call or text (818) 621-3542.



Small Group Holy Communion

Before we begin an outdoor worship service or come back to in-person worship in the sanctuary, we would like to offer opportunities for you, in groups of 15 or less, to fellowship with other Christians, to pray, and to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

“Koinonia” is the New Testament word for “fellowship,” “community,” “sharing,” “participation,” and “contribution.” In the midst of this COVID-19 time, we all yearn for “koinonia,” in Jesus’ name, and we need to do that in the safest ways possible.

Beginning on July 15th, people may go to our website (www.alcto.org) or call the church office and speak directly with a staff person (805-495-0406) during office hours, to reserve your place in a group, for that one time. Then beginning July 19th, we will offer many times during the week and times on the weekend to come for this “koinonia” small group. You are invited to sign up as an individual, family or Life Group.

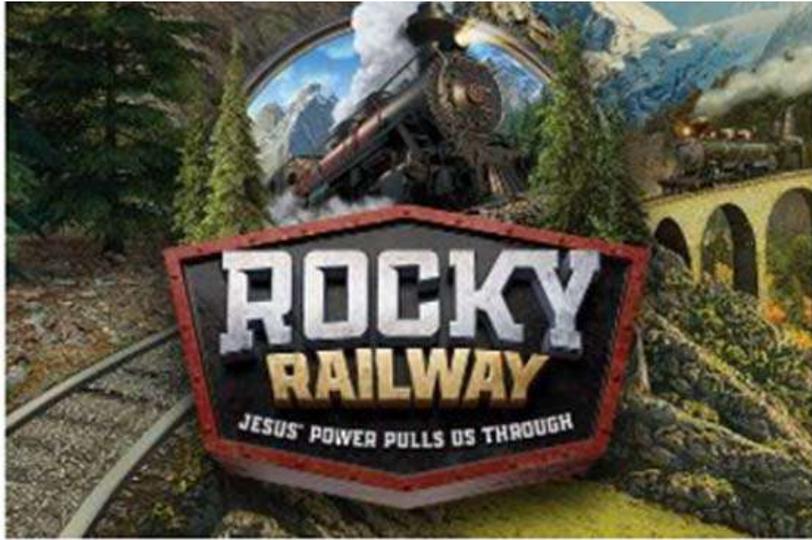
We’ll meet on the west patio. The chairs in a circle will be physically distanced and you will wear a mask out of consideration for others’ well-being (and your own). When the appointed times become filled then we will add other times.

Each “Koinonia Group” time will include a brief introduction of each other, a simple worship service of prayers, Scripture, Holy Communion, and blessing. The group may visit afterwards until we need to get ready for the next group to arrive.

Thank you for your prayers and if you have any questions, email one of the pastors or call the church office.

We look forward to seeing many of you, and sharing in these “Koinonia Groups.”

Called to create opportunities for all people to become devoted followers of Christ



VBS, JULY 27-31

Reservations Begin for On-Campus VBS Experiences!

Exciting news! We are now ready to start taking reservations for the on-campus portion of ALCTO VBS 2020.

Careful plans have been made for small groups of Bible schoolers to attend in-person activities on the Ascension campus. If you want to come, please visit this special page:

<https://tinyurl.com/ALCTOVBS-ONCampus>

It has been set up so you can find the time slot that works best for you and reserve your space. Activities are 50 minutes long, giving us 10 minutes to sanitize between groups.

Important note: If you previously signed up, you will be included in emailings for all the fun online activities in VBS. To attend the in-person activities, you must fill in the In-Person Groups reservation form separately.

Thank you for your understanding. We look forward to a great fun week!

**VBS
NEEDS:**

**CARDBOARD
BOXES**

**TRAIN-RELATED
DECOR**

Please drop off outside church office
during business hours or Sunday morning

Wow, kids! Our youth and adult volunteers have been working hard with Pastor Julie and Youth Director Addie Behm to come up with the best hybrid online, on-demand, on-campus Vacation Bible School you've ever seen! You need to sign up now. That way, they'll know how many supplies to order. Go to our frequently updated VBS page --

*<https://alcto.org/vacation-bible-school/>
-- for news and music videos with songs you can start to learn and enjoy!*

Fair Trade Products Available for Order

Ascension's Fair Trade Ministry Team is currently taking orders for the Fair Trade products listed on the July 2020 order form. You can place your order by: (1) sending your completed order form by email (as email attachment) to fairtrade@alcto.org; or by (2) sending an email with the items you wish to order along with your name, address, phone number to fairtrade@alcto.org; or by (3) completing an order form at the church office. **All orders must be placed by 3:00 PM, Monday, July 27, 2020.** Pre-orders are required. The Team will only order products and quantities based on all preorders received.



Payment by cash, check or credit card is at the time of order pick-up. Shipping times are very unpredictable these days. We will notify you of the pick-up date and time. Items will be available for pick-up outside the Ascension Lutheran Church office. For those unsure about venturing out to come to the Church Office, we will be happy to bring your items to you. The Team will follow applicable safety requirements. If you are interested in helping

with Ascension's Fair Trade Ministry, we would love to have you join us! Drop us a note at fairtrade@alcto.org. Be sure to add us to your email address list so that you don't miss out on updates shared from time to time.

Visit Our website, ALCTO.org, and go to Announcements

*Thank You for Supporting Fair Trade!
With Fair Trade, Every Purchase Matters!*

Bread for the World Update

Please remember to join us and Bread for the World, a collective Christian Voice, in an Offering of Letters urging our nation's decision makers to end hunger at home and abroad.

Time is of the essence: Congress reconvenes July 21 and 22, and the Senate will likely take up its own version of the House's Heroes Act. We want to be sure they prioritize hungry people affected by COVID-19 and strengthen food assistance programs.



The next few weeks are critical for California. Ask your senators to continue their support for Californians who are struggling to put food on their tables.

Senator Kamala Harris: (202) 224-3553

Senator Dianne Feinstein: (202) 224-3841

To see ee sample letter and find out more visit our website announcements page, here:

<https://alcto.org/announcements/>

Events Calendar



News You Can Use

ALCTO.org has a newly upgraded Calendar feature! Now, if you click on Calendar on our top front page menu, you'll be taken to a Calendar that receives live updates from Ascension's master calendar.

You can check scheduled events and find out information about them. You can find out what other ministries are up to, and find contacts to exchange information.

On the same page, you'll find a link to our Room and Information request form. When the time comes that we are safely back up and running with on-campus events again, it will be your one step place to make requests for room use and/or to tell us about a church-, school- or foundation-related event you'd like to have announced.

Sharing Words or Pictures of Hope!

Asylum seekers in immigration detention are experiencing intensified isolation due to restrictions on visits from family, faith leaders and volunteers in an effort to slow the spread of COVID-19. These visits are a vital source of hope for our immigrant brothers and sisters, hungry for contact with the outside world. ***But we & our friends at Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service (LIRS) believe hope can't be quarantined.***

Let's use our creativity to connect with asylum seekers in detention and share a gift of hope with them by sending letters & pictures of hope! Sending a letter or a hand-made picture or drawing to someone in immigration detention is a way we can share a message of hope – a message of hope that God will protect our friends in immigration detention from the Covid-19 virus, that they will feel God's comforting presence, and that they are not forgotten.

It's easy! Just write a message of hope and encouragement in English, Spanish, Arabic, Ukrainian, or Haitian. For languages other than English, there are online translation resources such as Google Translate that can be helpful. Or you can contact a friend who might be able to help with phrases and translations. If you're taking language courses in school, this could be a great opportunity to use your language skills. You can include a poem or a Bible verse for extra encouragement. We invite you to write more than one letter/card or make more than one picture!

Please sign the letter/card or drawing/picture with your *first name only* and city/state. *Please do not share any personal information such as your phone number, last name or personal address.*

If you make a picture or drawing, please no glitter, stickers or glue. The decorated part of a greeting card you've saved could share both a beautiful image and your hand-written words of hope.

Here are some phrases in English & Spanish you might want to use:

Dear Friend	Querido Amigo
Greetings From [City/State]	Saludo desde [City/State]
Please know that you are not alone or forgotten	Quiero que sepa que no está solo, ni olvidado
I am praying for your protection and safety during this challenging time	Estoy orando para su protección y seguridad durante estos momentos difíciles
I stand in solidarity with you	Me solidarizo con usted
Please know that thousands of people are working to keep you and your family safe	Miles de personas están trabajando para que usted y su familia esten protegidos
May God Bless You	Que Dios los bendiga

Ascension's Matthew 25:35 Outreach Ministry Team will collect your letters/cards and drawings/ pictures weekly and will send them to partner organizations for delivery to asylum seekers detained in the ICE Immigration Detention facility in Adelanto, CA. We will place a small box, clearly marked, on the table in the Church Office for your letters, cards, pictures and drawings. *You do not need to place your cards/letters/drawings in envelopes.* If you are not comfortable venturing out, we will be happy to come by your house and pick up your cards or drawings. We will wear masks & follow safe distancing.

Let's keep the children, young adults, women and men in immigration detention facilities in our prayers for health and safety. For more information, please contact Carol Bjelland (carolb@netscape.com)/Ascension's Matthew 25:35 Outreach Ministry Team.

LUTHERAN RETREATS, CAMPS & CONFERENCES

El Camino Pines & Luther Glen Farm

GET READY. GET SET. AND LET THE FUN BEGIN!

VIRTUAL SUMMER BANQUET COMING TO YOU SOON!



Friends of camp!

Each summer ends with a big party! Campers, donors, counselors, parents and church leaders all come together to celebrate the hard work and passion the summer staff brings to Southern California.

For everyone's safety, we are hosting our first ever VIRTUAL Summer Banquet on **Saturday July 25 at 5pm.**

It is our desire to gather friends and supporters of camp, family and friends of our summer staff, campers and their families, pastors, youth workers, and YOU for a night online to connect, hear and see what God is doing in our ministry. Hearing the camp staff sing will lift your spirits!

Join us for LRCC's 11th Annual Summer Banquet. We will be singing your favorite camp songs, sharing our faith stories, fundraising money for summer and celebrating joy!

All are welcome. We hope to see you there!

LRCC | 909-797-2513 | office@LRCChome.com | www.LRCChome.com

CLICK TO LEARN MORE:
<https://lrcchome.com/banquet>

IN NEED OF PRAYER

Our newsletter prayer list focuses on Ascension members and immediate family members only. A name is added to this list only with the permission of the person or the person's family.

Prayers of peace and comfort for:

Dick Krum and family on the death of Dick's mother, Frances Krum
The family of Pastor Steve's uncle, Pastor Ervin Langholz, on his death. Pastor Steve gives "thanks to God for Ervin, his faith, his love, his humor and his joy-filled ability to relate so well to everyone."

Prayers of healing for:

Margaret Skinner's 17-year-old granddaughter, Lily Skinner, who has tested positive for Covid-19 and Prayers for protection for Margaret's son Bill Skinner.
Verlon Meyer, recovering from a stroke

Continuing prayers for:

Lara Abounayan	Susanne Maliski
Maria Bartush	Judy Marshall
Gloria Benfatto	Ralph May
Lillian Carter	Bill Munn
Mary Cartrett	Helen Nenne
Dominic Cavaliere	Paul and Betty Olson
David Corra	Doris Owings
Ruth Crizer	Laurie Peyton
The Crockett Family	Hal Phillips
Larry David	Mike Ricci
Barry Disselhorst	Dave Rosinbum
Bill Ernst	Carlene Schultz
John Ernst	Arnold Schwarz
Keira Graves	Terry Shepersky
Karen Guetschoff	Grace Sica
Penny Hunter	Marion Sullivan
Debbie Kahn	Jan Timmons
Bob Kielhorn	Barbara Webb
Henry Leland	Darlyne Williams

Prayers for safekeeping for those on the front lines of the pandemic:

Dr. Summer Baird, who is working in hospital ICU in Santa Barbara
Kathleen Mullen's niece, Nora Cialkowski, who is an ICU nurse in Chicago working with Covid-19 patients
Linda Morrow's family members, Jason and Andrea, who are nurses at Mayo Clinic in Minnesota
Lucy Peterson's daughter, Jill, a nurse in the San Diego area
Lucy Peterson's grandson, Anthony, a nursing assistant at a convalescent home in the San Diego area
Jennifur Schneider, an ER nurse in the San Diego area

Prayers for safekeeping:

Connor Braaten, USMC
Scott Clark, U.S. Navy
LCpL. Alexander Daley
Cody Davidson, US Army
Tim David, U.S. Army
Jack Ingles, USMC
ET1 Patrick Maccarone, USN
Jake Marshall, USMC
Scott Mochatel, U.S. Coast Guard
LCJG Caroline Truesdell, USCG

Prayers for our global partners in ministry:

Sister Emilia, Pastor David, in Pachacamac, Peru
Pastora Adita and Filadelfia Lutheran Church, Peru
Pastor John Rutsindintwarane, Rwanda
Our Companion Synods in El Salvador and Hong Kong
ELCA World Hunger and Disaster Response
Corus/ Lutheran World Relief/ IMA Lutheran World Relief/
IMA
Eric LeCompte and the Jubilee USA Network
David Beckmann and Bread for the World
Fair Trade
Guardian Angels
Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service
Lutherans Restoring Creation
(To learn more, ask our Global Ministries Team.)

Worship Services Delivered to Your Email

We don't want anyone to miss out on our wonderful live-online worship services. So if you've been having difficulty viewing them on our website or Facebook page, we invite you to let us know you would like to be added to the EMAIL VIEWER LIST. You will be sent the link to the live service when it's just starting – by email or by text, or both.

Be sure to include:

- 1) which service time/s you want,
- 2) whether you want an email or a phone text, or both,
- 3) and, of course, which email or phone number is best for you.

Send notes to ssmith@alcto.org.



ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH

INVITE ■ GROW ■ SERVE

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

In God we trust.

Weekly worship

Saturday 6 pm Country

Sunday 9:30 am Traditional

11 am Contemporary

Childcare at all Sunday services

Pastoral Care

Emergency Line

(320) 322-1945

Called to create opportunities for all people to become devoted followers of Christ

Pericopes

Isaiah 55:10-13

Psalms 65:1-8, 9-13

Romans 8:1-11

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

Next week

Isaiah 44:6-8

Psalms 86:11-17

Romans 8:12-25

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

See Kelly's Life Groups Story

<https://tinyurl.com/Life-GroupKelly>

LIFE GROUPS ARE MEETING ONLINE

email: swallace@alcto.org



Get reconnected with the
click of a button.