

**Ascension Lutheran Church
Church Council and School Board Joint Meeting
Monday, March 23, 2026 – 5:30pm
Founder's Hall**

Call to Order and Welcome – Ashley Steere, School Board President

Dinner and Fellowship - Pastor Tim Delkeskamp to lead devotion and prayer
Announcements – Pastor Tim

Mission Statement - We are called to create opportunities for all people to become devoted followers of Christ.

Motto: Invite – Grow - Serve

Approval of Agenda – Ashley Steere

New Business:

High Level Budget Presentation– Kaylee Searway, Director of Operations

Sabbatical Update – Pastor Tim

Strategic Planning Update/ State of Elementary School/Middle School – Rich Gregory
- Church/School Integration

State of the School - Early Childhood Center – Jenni McCoy and Brooke Costi, Directors

Old Business:

Land Sale- Kaylee Searway

Senior Leadership Presentation

Closing Prayer - Rich Gregory

Adjournment – John Rarick

Information Items:

June 28th at 12pm- Congregational Meeting

October 21st at 5:30pm- Joint Council/School Board Meeting

**Ascension Lutheran Church
Council Agenda
Monday, March 23, 2026 - 7:00 pm
Founders Hall**

Welcome and Call to Order – John Rarick, President

Mission Statement: We are called to create opportunities for all people to become devoted followers of Christ.

Motto: Invite - Grow - Serve

Approval of Agenda – John Rarick

Treasurer's Report – Steve Smuck

New Business

- **Nominating Committee report** – Carrie Leonard

Recurring Business

- Affirm New Members, Confirmands, and Baptisms

Old Business

- No old business

Approval of Minutes -John Rarick

- February 25, 2026 Church Council Minutes

Consent Approval of Reports to Council – John Rarick

- Pastor Tim Delkeskamp's Report
- Pastor Chamie Delkeskamp's Report
- Pastor Steve Herder's Report
- Director of Operations – Kaylee Searway
- School Board Report
- Global Ministries Team Report
- Communications Report

Information Items

- **Reflections on empowering and equipping, affirming and celebrating as we lead the culture of abundance at Ascension.**
- **The next Church Council meeting will be on April 15, 2026 at 7:00 pm.**

Closing Prayer – Crystal Bryant

Adjournment

Here is the Treasurer's Report for the March CC meeting:

Treasurer's Report for February Results:

Offerings-As discussed previously, there was 1 large donation that occurred in January of 2025 last fiscal year, and did not happen in January 2026. It has since been received in February. February results in offerings were \$173.7k vs. a budget of \$139.3k, so 34k of the missing 40k from January was caught up. YTD, we are at 95.9% of budget, short by \$45.6k. Total revenues are only short by \$38.7k, because we earned higher interest income (ERTC funds, which will be lower going forward, see Thrivent Reserve Fund below) and good rental income making up some of the offering shortfall.

Expenses-Expenses are still tracking favorably by \$68.3k, primarily in payroll (netted with allocation) of \$33.3k. The audit expenses of 8k is still unbooked.

Bottom line-favorable by \$29.5k, or by \$21.5k if recognizing the Audit expense.

Cash Availability-Strong at \$451k available. The Thrivent Property Reserve Fund is in place, and as noted above, interest in that \$640k will no longer be in Church revenue, but will be recorded as re-investment back into the Reserve fund.

Please see the attached files for Church February results.

Respectfully Submitted,

Steve Smuck, ALC Treasurer

03b ALC-Feb26-Financials

Budgeted Financial Statement for Period 8 - February
 Company#: 1 Name: Ascension Lutheran Church
 Fiscal Year Beginning 7/1/2025
 Fund Name: 0 Church

<u>Account #/Description</u>	<u>Budget Annual</u>	<u>Budget YTD</u>	<u>Actual YTD</u>	<u>Var. Actual to YTD Budget Dollar</u>	<u>Var. Actual to YTD Budget %</u>	<u>Budget for Period</u>	<u>Actual for Period</u>
1 Surplus/(Deficit)							
2							
3 Total Annual Cash Over/(Short)	(\$1,517)	\$18,083	\$47,653	\$29,570	263.53%	\$19,243	\$63,158
4							
6 Department Name: 0 General							
7 Annual Cash Over/(Short)							
8 Net Income							
9 Net Operating Income							
10 REVENUE							
11 Net General Offering							
12 410111 Envelope Offering	\$1,546,674	\$1,077,243	\$1,020,050	(\$57,194)	94.69%	\$139,201	\$173,559
13 410112 Envelope Offering - 100% ALC	\$21,735	\$21,235	\$32,875	\$11,640	154.82%	\$125	\$125
14 Total Net General Offering	\$1,568,409	\$1,098,478	\$1,052,925	(\$45,554)	95.85%	\$139,326	\$173,684
15							
16 Other Revenue/Contributions							
17 410221 Interest Income	\$32,400	\$21,600	\$25,847	\$4,247	119.66%	\$2,700	\$2,112
18 410231 Other Revenue	\$8,380	\$5,600	\$5,502	(\$98)	98.25%	\$1,500	\$1,500
19 410234 Facility Usage Fees	\$6,500	\$4,982	\$7,667	\$2,685	153.89%	\$426	\$759
20 Total Other Revenue/Contributions	\$47,280	\$32,182	\$39,016	\$6,834	121.24%	\$4,626	\$4,371
21							
22 TOTAL REVENUE	\$1,615,689	\$1,130,660	\$1,091,941	(\$38,720)	96.58%	\$143,952	\$178,055

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23							
24 Benevolence							
25 Designated Benevolence							
26 Designated ALC Benevolences							
27 420205 Des Benev - Youth	\$0	\$0	\$500	\$500	0.00%	\$0	\$0
28 420206 Des Benev - Worship	\$0	\$0	\$13,490	\$13,490	0.00%	\$0	\$2,538
29 420207 Des Benev - Misc. ALC Ministr	\$0	\$0	\$38,557	\$38,557	0.00%	\$0	\$481
30 420208 Des Benev - Capital Campaign	\$0	\$0	\$55,370	\$55,370	0.00%	\$0	\$6,895
31 Total Designated ALC Benevolences	\$0	\$0	\$107,918	\$107,918	0.00%	\$0	\$9,914
32							
33 Des ALC Benevolence							
34 520205 Des Benev - Youth	\$0	\$0	\$500	\$500	0.00%	\$0	\$0
35 520206 Des Benev - Worship	\$0	\$0	\$13,490	\$13,490	0.00%	\$0	\$2,538
36 520207 Des Benev - Misc. ALC Ministr	\$0	\$0	\$38,557	\$38,557	0.00%	\$0	\$481
37 520208 Des Benev - Capital Campaign	\$0	\$0	\$55,370	\$55,370	0.00%	\$0	\$6,895
38 Total Des ALC Benevolence	\$0	\$0	\$107,918	\$107,918	0.00%	\$0	\$9,914
39							
40 Total Designated Benevolence	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%	\$0	\$0
41							
42 Total Benevolence	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%	\$0	\$0
43							
44							
45 Department Name: 1							
46 Benevolences							
47 605000 Benevolences Payable	\$54,068	\$36,045	\$36,045	\$0	100.00%	\$4,506	\$4,506
48 Total Benevolences	\$54,068	\$36,045	\$36,045	\$0	100.00%	\$4,506	\$4,506
49							
50							
51 Department Name: 5 Council							
52 Program Costs							
53 Council							
54 605111 Council	\$550	\$550	\$886	\$336	161.13%	\$0	\$0
55 Total Council	\$550	\$550	\$886	\$336	161.13%	\$0	\$0
56							
57							

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58 Department Name: 10 Family Life							
59 Family Life Ministry							
60 Children's Ministries							
61 610100 Children's Ministry (Preschool)	\$960	\$640	\$523	(\$117)	81.70%	\$80	\$0
62 610110 Sunday School	\$2,465	\$1,643	\$1,503	(\$140)	91.45%	\$205	\$168
63 610120 Milestone Ministry	\$1,200	\$800	\$236	(\$564)	29.54%	\$100	\$0
64 610130 Nursery/Childcare Supplies	\$350	\$233	\$0	(\$233)	0.00%	\$29	\$0
65 610222 Protect My Ministry	\$400	\$267	\$614	\$348	230.33%	\$33	\$0
66 Total Children's Ministries	\$5,375	\$3,583	\$2,876	(\$707)	80.27%	\$448	\$168
67							
68 Adult Ministries							
69 610310 Adult Ed	\$600	\$400	\$0	(\$400)	0.00%	\$50	\$0
70 610330 Prayer Ministry	\$1,506	\$1,004	\$1,142	\$138	113.76%	\$125	\$366
71 610340 Special Prayer Initiatives	\$200	\$133	\$162	\$29	121.71%	\$17	\$0
72 Total Adult Ministries	\$2,306	\$1,537	\$1,304	(\$233)	84.85%	\$192	\$366
73							
74 Total Family Life Ministry	\$7,681	\$5,120	\$4,180	(\$940)	81.64%	\$640	\$533
75							
76							
77 Department Name: 15 Fellowship							
78 Fellowship							
79 615121 Fellowship - Supplies	\$2,600	\$1,733	\$1,446	(\$287)	83.44%	\$217	\$100
80 615122 Fellowship - Events	\$4,200	\$2,800	\$1,418	(\$1,382)	50.63%	\$350	(\$11)
81 615123 Meet and Eat - Traditional	\$250	\$167	\$320	\$154	192.19%	\$21	\$0
82 615124 Meet and Eat - Contemporary	\$250	\$167	\$0	(\$167)	0.00%	\$21	\$0
83 Total Fellowship	\$7,300	\$4,867	\$3,184	(\$1,682)	65.43%	\$608	\$89
84							
85							
86 Department Name: 20 Joy of							
87 Joy of Giving/Stewardship							
88 620111 Joy of Giving - Offering Envel	\$1,500	\$1,125	\$716	(\$409)	63.67%	\$375	\$0
89 620211 Joy of Giving - Postage	\$400	\$400	\$448	\$48	112.08%	\$0	\$61
90 620311 Joy of Giving - Program	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$317	(\$683)	31.68%	\$0	\$0
91 Total Joy of Giving/Stewardship	\$2,900	\$2,525	\$1,481	(\$1,044)	58.67%	\$375	\$61
92							
93							
94 Department Name: 30 Sr. Adult							
95 Sr. Adult Ministry							

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96 630111 Sr. Adult Ministry	\$403	\$203	\$287	\$83	140.90%	\$0	\$96
97 Total Sr. Adult Ministry	\$403	\$203	\$287	\$83	140.90%	\$0	\$96
98							
99							
100 Department Name: 35 Library							
101 Library							
102 635311 Library	\$200	\$133	\$0	(\$133)	0.00%	\$17	\$0
103 Total Library	\$200	\$133	\$0	(\$133)	0.00%	\$17	\$0
104							
105							
106 Department Name: 40 Outreach							
107 Outreach							
108 640311 Outreach - New Members	\$900	\$600	\$1,010	\$410	168.32%	\$300	\$0
109 640511 Outreach - Program Developr	\$2,000	\$1,333	\$21	(\$1,312)	1.61%	\$167	\$0
110 Total Outreach	\$2,900	\$1,933	\$1,031	(\$902)	53.34%	\$467	\$0
111							
112							
113 Department Name: 55 Caring							
114 Caring Ministries							
115 655111 Grief Share	\$500	\$333	\$253	(\$80)	75.90%	\$42	\$0
116 655113 Card Ministry	\$500	\$333	\$81	(\$252)	24.45%	\$42	\$0
117 Total Caring Ministries	\$1,000	\$667	\$334	(\$332)	50.17%	\$83	\$0
118							
119							
120 Department Name: 58 Weddings,							
121 Weddings, Funerals and Events							
122 658112 Weddings	\$0	\$0	(\$177)	(\$177)	0.00%	\$0	\$0
123 658312 Events	(\$1,100)	(\$733)	(\$2,051)	(\$1,317)	279.62%	(\$92)	(\$1,172)
124 658512 Funerals	\$0	\$0	\$492	\$492	0.00%	\$0	\$591
125 Total Weddings, Funerals and Event	(\$1,100)	(\$733)	(\$1,736)	(\$1,002)	236.65%	(\$92)	(\$580)
126							
127							

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128 Department Name: 60							
129 Worship/Music							
130 Worship/Music							
131 660200 Traditional	\$15,750	\$10,500	\$10,075	(\$425)	95.95%	\$1,313	\$650
132 660211 Carillons	\$300	\$200	\$0	(\$200)	0.00%	\$25	\$0
133 660231 Chancel Choir	\$750	\$500	\$897	\$397	179.45%	\$63	\$158
134 660251 Children's Music Group (Presc	\$100	\$67	\$0	(\$67)	0.00%	\$8	\$0
135 660261 Praise Alive	\$330	\$220	\$270	\$50	122.73%	\$28	\$165
136 660271 Country Spirit	\$500	\$333	\$0	(\$333)	0.00%	\$42	\$0
137 Total Worship/Music	\$17,730	\$11,820	\$11,242	(\$578)	95.11%	\$1,478	\$973
138							
139 Altar Guild							
140 660311 Altar Candles, Bottle Lights	\$300	\$200	\$362	\$162	181.20%	\$25	\$0
141 660312 Altar Flowers	\$250	\$167	(\$400)	(\$567)	-240.04%	\$21	\$0
142 660321 Baptism Candles,Certs.,Hand	\$125	\$83	\$24	(\$60)	28.30%	\$10	\$0
143 660341 Communion	\$2,000	\$1,333	\$301	(\$1,033)	22.56%	\$167	\$45
144 Total Altar Guild	\$2,675	\$1,783	\$287	(\$1,497)	16.08%	\$223	\$45
145							
146 Easter							
147 660355 Lent/Easter Services	\$1,000	\$250	\$30	(\$220)	12.00%	\$250	\$30
148 660356 Easter Organists	\$1,350	\$350	\$0	(\$350)	0.00%	\$350	\$0
149 660366 Easter Lilies	\$250	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%	\$0	\$0
150 Total Easter	\$2,600	\$600	\$30	(\$570)	5.00%	\$600	\$30
151							
152 Christmas							
153 660367 Advent/Christmas Services	\$500	\$500	\$142	(\$358)	28.36%	\$0	\$0
154 660368 Christmas Organists	\$1,075	\$1,075	\$975	(\$100)	90.70%	\$0	\$0
155 660369 Poinsettias	\$340	\$340	\$379	\$39	111.56%	\$0	\$0
156 660370 Hanging of the Greens	\$250	\$250	\$37	(\$213)	14.72%	\$0	\$37
157 Total Christmas	\$2,165	\$2,165	\$1,533	(\$632)	70.80%	\$0	\$37
158							
159 Other							
160 660426 Bulletins	\$400	\$267	\$435	\$168	163.05%	\$33	\$194
161 660431 W/M - Copyrights/Subscriptic	\$2,000	\$928	\$1,694	\$766	182.54%	\$928	\$959
162 660441 Organ Maintenance	\$5,200	\$2,600	\$2,186	(\$414)	84.09%	\$0	\$0
163 660451 Piano Tuning	\$475	\$238	\$0	(\$238)	0.00%	\$0	\$0
164 660461 W/M - Miscellaneous	\$600	\$300	\$0	(\$300)	0.00%	\$0	\$0
165 Total Other	\$8,675	\$4,332	\$4,315	(\$17)	99.60%	\$961	\$1,153
166							

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167 Audio Visual							
168 660611 Audio/Visual	\$2,500	\$1,667	\$66	(\$1,601)	3.96%	\$208	\$12
169 Total Audio Visual	\$2,500	\$1,667	\$66	(\$1,601)	3.96%	\$208	\$12
170							
171 Total Worship/Music	\$36,345	\$22,367	\$17,473	(\$4,894)	78.12%	\$3,470	\$2,250
172							
173							
174 Department Name: 65 Youth							
175 Youth							
176 665211 Middle School (6th-8th Grade)	\$500	\$333	\$0	(\$333)	0.00%	\$42	\$0
177 665501 Youth Director	\$2,000	\$1,667	\$295	(\$1,371)	17.73%	\$1,083	\$13
178 665511 Senior Luther League	\$500	\$333	\$428	\$94	128.28%	\$42	\$0
179 Total Youth	\$3,000	\$2,333	\$723	(\$1,610)	30.99%	\$1,167	\$13
180							
181							
182 Department Name: 67 Global							
183 Global Ministries							
184 670211 Global Ministries - Mission Eni	\$1,200	\$800	\$181	(\$619)	22.68%	\$100	\$0
185 670311 Global Ministries - Gifts of Hc	\$1,700	\$1,700	\$1,590	(\$110)	93.53%	\$0	\$0
186 670411 Global Ministries - Fair Trade	\$100	\$75	\$0	(\$75)	0.00%	\$25	\$0
187 Total Global Ministries	\$3,000	\$2,575	\$1,771	(\$804)	68.79%	\$125	\$0
188							
189							

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190 Department Name: 100							
191 Operating Expense							
192 Administrative Expense							
193 Clergy Payroll							
194 810111 Clergy Salaries	\$174,135	\$120,555	\$120,258	(\$297)	99.75%	\$13,395	\$13,395
195 810112 Clergy Housing	\$91,200	\$63,138	\$63,138	(\$0)	100.00%	\$7,015	\$7,015
196 810113 Clergy Auto Allowance	\$17,100	\$11,838	\$11,838	(\$0)	100.00%	\$1,315	\$1,315
197 810114 Clergy Medical and Pension B	\$84,249	\$56,166	\$53,237	(\$2,929)	94.78%	\$7,021	\$6,831
198 Total Clergy Payroll	\$366,684	\$251,698	\$248,472	(\$3,226)	98.72%	\$28,747	\$28,557
199							
200 Admin Payroll							
201 810211 Staff Salaries	\$792,349	\$548,549	\$517,446	(\$31,103)	94.33%	\$60,950	\$56,044
202 810214 Medical and Pension Benefits	\$98,431	\$65,621	\$57,717	(\$7,904)	87.96%	\$8,203	\$7,267
203 810215 Employer Taxes	\$60,064	\$41,583	\$38,793	(\$2,790)	93.29%	\$4,620	\$4,146
204 810216 Workers' Comp Exp	\$9,000	\$6,000	\$9,138	\$3,138	152.30%	\$750	\$1,320
205 810311 Deductions for Medical Ins/Pt	(\$7,200)	(\$4,800)	(\$4,000)	\$800	83.33%	(\$600)	(\$500)
206 810319 Bonuses	\$6,250	\$6,250	\$6,000	(\$250)	96.00%	\$0	\$0
207 810321 Mileage Reimbursement	\$6,000	\$4,154	\$2,748	(\$1,406)	66.14%	\$462	\$259
208 810338 Personnel Search Fees	\$600	\$400	\$259	(\$141)	64.79%	\$50	\$208
209 Total Admin Payroll	\$965,494	\$667,757	\$628,100	(\$39,656)	94.06%	\$74,434	\$68,745
210							
211 Designated Payroll							
212 810411 Wages & Salaries - Designate	\$0	\$0	\$6,218	\$6,218	0.00%	\$0	\$1,161
213 810415 Payroll Taxes - Designated	\$0	\$0	\$622	\$622	0.00%	\$0	\$116
214 810420 Transfer to Designated Accou	\$0	\$0	(\$6,840)	(\$6,840)	0.00%	\$0	(\$1,278)
215 Total Designated Payroll	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%	\$0	\$0
216							
217 Shared/Allocated Staff Support							
218 820110 Shared/Allocated Staff Suppo	(\$253,453)	(\$175,467)	(\$165,891)	\$9,576	94.54%	(\$19,496)	(\$17,827)
219 Total Shared/Allocated Staff Suppor	(\$253,453)	(\$175,467)	(\$165,891)	\$9,576	94.54%	(\$19,496)	(\$17,827)
220							
221 Office Expense							
222 820111 Office-Supplies, Postage, and	\$6,500	\$4,700	\$3,886	(\$814)	82.68%	\$450	\$251
223 820211 Office-Equipment-Supplies	\$150	\$100	\$394	\$294	393.55%	\$13	\$0
224 820251 Newsletter-Paper and Postag	\$1,000	\$667	\$533	(\$133)	80.02%	\$83	\$39
225 820311 Office-Equipment- Lease and	\$7,100	\$4,733	\$4,047	(\$686)	85.51%	\$592	\$165
226 820511 Office-Equipment-Capital Exp	\$20,000	\$10,000	\$5,888	(\$4,112)	58.88%	\$0	\$0
227 820611 Technology Purchase and Sup	\$29,802	\$19,534	\$19,480	(\$54)	99.73%	\$2,567	\$2,628
228 820711 Professional Audit	\$7,931	\$7,931	\$299	(\$7,632)	3.77%	\$0	\$0

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229 820720 On-line Donation Fees	\$6,800	\$4,800	\$6,087	\$1,287	126.81%	\$500	\$625
230 820721 Bank Charges and Payroll Pro	\$7,016	\$4,924	\$4,195	(\$729)	85.19%	\$1,280	\$921
231 820752 Professional Fees	\$1,500	\$1,000	\$1,476	\$476	147.61%	\$125	\$786
232 Total Office Expense	\$87,799	\$58,389	\$46,286	(\$12,104)	79.27%	\$5,610	\$5,415
233							
234 Other							
235 Expense Accounts							
236 830111 Pastoral Expense-Visiting Pas	\$1,400	\$1,050	\$1,000	(\$50)	95.24%	\$0	\$0
237 830321 Pastoral Expense-Pastor Char	\$3,000	\$2,000	\$2,478	\$478	123.91%	\$250	\$1,817
238 830331 Pastoral Expense-Pastor Tim	\$3,300	\$2,200	\$1,553	(\$647)	70.60%	\$275	\$207
239 830341 Pastoral Expense-Pastor Steve	\$1,500	\$1,000	\$1,119	\$119	111.90%	\$125	\$84
240 830351 Dir of Operations Expense-Ka	\$0	\$0	\$732	\$732	0.00%	\$0	\$297
241 Total Expense Accounts	\$9,200	\$6,250	\$6,882	\$632	110.11%	\$650	\$2,405
242							
243 Seminars, Education, and Relations							
244 830411 ELCA Churchwide Convention	\$1,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%	\$0	\$0
245 830425 Staff Development/Conferen	\$250	\$250	\$256	\$6	102.30%	\$0	\$155
246 830427 Professional Development We	\$250	\$250	\$550	\$300	220.05%	\$0	\$0
247 830431 Sabbatical Funding	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0	100.00%	\$0	\$0
248 830481 Human Resources Office Func	\$3,000	\$2,100	\$1,929	(\$171)	91.87%	\$150	(\$273)
249 830491 Health & Safety (CPR, AED)	\$900	\$0	\$360	\$360	0.00%	\$0	\$360
250 Total Seminars, Education, and Rel	\$6,400	\$3,600	\$4,095	\$495	113.75%	\$150	\$242
251							
252 Other							
253 830511 Publicity & Marketing	\$8,500	\$4,900	\$3,444	(\$1,456)	70.29%	\$1,000	\$0
254 Total Other	\$8,500	\$4,900	\$3,444	(\$1,456)	70.29%	\$1,000	\$0
255							
256 Total Other	\$24,100	\$14,750	\$14,421	(\$329)	97.77%	\$1,800	\$2,647
257							
258 Total Administrative Expense	\$1,190,624	\$817,126	\$771,388	(\$45,738)	94.40%	\$91,094	\$87,536
259							

03b ALC-Feb26-Financials

Budgeted Financial Statement for Period 8 - February
 Company#: 1 Name: Ascension Lutheran Church
 Fiscal Year Beginning 7/1/2025
 Fund Name: 0 Church

<u>Account #/Description</u>	<u>Budget Annual</u>	<u>Budget YTD</u>	<u>Actual YTD</u>	<u>Var. Actual to YTD Budget Dollar</u>	<u>Var. Actual to YTD Budget %</u>	<u>Budget for Period</u>	<u>Actual for Period</u>
260 Property							
261 Property-Services							
262 840210 Pest Control Expense	\$1,146	\$764	\$820	\$56	107.26%	\$124	\$135
263 840221 Plant Services	\$1,500	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0	100.00%	\$125	\$125
264 840231 Custodial Services	\$33,800	\$22,533	\$22,528	(\$5)	99.98%	\$2,817	\$2,816
265 840240 Security System	\$0	\$0	\$112	\$112	0.00%	\$0	\$0
266 840251 Landscaping Services	\$7,796	\$5,863	\$3,867	(\$1,996)	65.96%	\$483	\$483
267 Total Property-Services	\$44,242	\$30,160	\$28,326	(\$1,834)	93.92%	\$3,549	\$3,559
268							
269 Property-Maintenance Supplies							
270 840300 Bus Compliance	\$1,000	\$0	\$545	\$545	0.00%	\$0	\$0
271 840316 Custodial and Paper Supplies	\$5,000	\$2,750	\$4,099	\$1,349	149.07%	\$125	\$0
272 840321 Building Maintenance and Rep	\$25,000	\$16,667	\$11,022	(\$5,645)	66.13%	\$2,083	\$1,115
273 Total Property-Maintenance Supplies	\$31,000	\$19,417	\$15,666	(\$3,751)	80.68%	\$2,208	\$1,115
274							
275 Property-Reserve Funding							
276 840511 Property-Reserve Funding	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$0	100.00%	\$0	\$0
277 Total Property-Reserve Funding	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$0	100.00%	\$0	\$0
278							
279 Total Property	\$100,242	\$74,577	\$68,992	(\$5,584)	92.51%	\$5,757	\$4,674
280							
281 Utilities, Insurance and Property Taxes							
282 Utilities							
283 850111 Gas - SoCal Gas	\$1,000	\$660	\$446	(\$214)	67.58%	\$250	\$165
284 850121 Electric - SoCal Edison	\$29,000	\$22,100	\$21,798	(\$302)	98.63%	\$1,600	\$1,800
285 850131 Refuse - Athens	\$4,427	\$2,951	\$2,974	\$23	100.77%	\$369	\$380
286 850141 Telephone - Advantage Telec	\$7,080	\$4,720	\$4,649	(\$71)	98.51%	\$590	\$580
287 850151 Water - City of Thousand Oak	\$6,400	\$4,267	\$4,874	\$607	114.24%	\$533	\$0
288 Total Utilities	\$47,907	\$34,698	\$34,741	\$43	100.12%	\$3,342	\$2,925
289							
290 Insurance and Property Tax							
291 850211 Insurance	\$58,111	\$38,741	\$35,846	(\$2,895)	92.53%	\$4,843	\$4,488
292 850311 Property Taxes and Misc. Tax	\$2,400	\$2,400	\$1,209	(\$1,191)	50.36%	\$0	\$0
293 Total Insurance and Property Tax	\$60,511	\$41,141	\$37,054	(\$4,086)	90.07%	\$4,843	\$4,488
294							
295 Total Utilities, Insurance and Property Taxes	\$108,418	\$75,839	\$71,796	(\$4,043)	94.67%	\$8,185	\$7,413
296							
297 Total Net Operating Income	\$98,158	\$84,533	\$114,103	\$29,570	134.98%	\$27,550	\$71,465
298							

03b ALC-Feb26-Financials

Budgeted Financial Statement for Period 8 - February
 Company#: 1 Name: Ascension Lutheran Church
 Fiscal Year Beginning 7/1/2025
 Fund Name: 0 Church

<u>Account #/Description</u>	<u>Budget Annual</u>	<u>Budget YTD</u>	<u>Actual YTD</u>	<u>Var. Actual to YTD Budget Dollar</u>	<u>Var. Actual to YTD Budget %</u>	<u>Budget for Period</u>	<u>Actual for Period</u>
299 Total Operating Expense	\$1,399,284	\$967,542	\$912,176	(\$55,366)	94.28%	\$105,036	\$99,623
300							
301 Interest Expense							
302 913311 Interest - Thrivent 2009 Loan	\$46,336	\$31,161	\$31,161	\$0	100.00%	\$3,836	\$3,836
303 913312 Interest - Foundation Note	\$831	\$554	\$554	\$0	100.00%	\$69	\$69
304 Total Interest Expense	\$47,168	\$31,715	\$31,715	\$0	100.00%	\$3,906	\$3,906
305							
306 Total Net Income	\$50,990	\$52,818	\$82,388	\$29,570	155.99%	\$23,644	\$67,559
307							
308 Debt Service-Principal Payments							
309 923311 Debt Service - Thrivent 2009	\$52,508	\$34,735	\$34,735	\$0	100.00%	\$4,401	\$4,401
310 Total Debt Service-Principal Payments	\$52,508	\$34,735	\$34,735	\$0	100.00%	\$4,401	\$4,401
311							
312 Total Annual Cash Over/(Short)	(\$1,517)	\$18,083	\$47,653	\$29,570	263.53%	\$19,243	\$63,158
313							
314 Net Congregational Benevolence							
315 Allocation							
316 933311 Debt Service - Contra - Thrivent	\$0	\$0	(\$34,735)	(\$34,735)	0.00%	\$0	(\$4,401)
317 933315 Debt Service - Contra - LT EC	\$0	\$0	\$40,161	\$40,161	0.00%	\$0	\$5,098
318 940001 Prior Year Surplus Spend	\$0	\$0	\$37,966	\$37,966	0.00%	\$0	\$0
319 940003 Reserve Plan Projects	\$0	\$0	\$102,185	\$102,185	0.00%	\$0	\$0
320 971117 Transfer from/(to) Property Fund	\$0	\$0	(\$470,000)	(\$470,000)	0.00%	\$0	(\$470,000)
321 971607 Employee Retention Tax Credit	\$0	\$0	\$603,879	\$603,879	0.00%	\$0	\$0
322							

03b ALC-Feb26-Financials

Budgeted Financial Statement for Period 8 - February
 Company#: 1 Name: Ascension Lutheran Church
 Fiscal Year Beginning 7/1/2025
 Fund Name: 0 Church

<u>Account #/Description</u>							
	<u>Budget Annual</u>	<u>Budget YTD</u>	<u>Actual YTD</u>	<u>Var. Actual to YTD Budget Dollar</u>	<u>Var. Actual to YTD Budget %</u>	<u>Budget for Period</u>	<u>Actual for Period</u>
323 Department Name: 200							
324 410122 Congregational Benevolence .	\$0	\$0	\$36,045	\$36,045	0.00%	\$0	\$4,506
325 Total Allocation	\$0	\$0	\$104,669	\$104,669	0.00%	\$0	(\$455,996)
326							
327 Des Benevolence							
328 Congreg Benev-Mission Support							
329 510111 Congreg Benev-ELCA	\$0	\$0	\$27,419	\$27,419	0.00%	\$0	\$3,917
330 510611 Congreg Benev-Global Missior	\$0	\$0	\$3,234	\$3,234	0.00%	\$0	\$462
331 510612 Congreg Benev-Global Missior	\$0	\$0	\$80	\$80	0.00%	\$0	\$10
332 Total Congreg Benev-Mission Suppo	\$0	\$0	\$30,733	\$30,733	0.00%	\$0	\$4,389
333							
334 Des Benev Income							
335 Total Net Congregational Benevoler	\$0	\$0	\$73,936	\$73,936	0.00%	\$0	(\$460,385)
336							
337							
338 Department Name: 210 Net							
339 Des Benev Income							
340 420100 Des Benev - Ascension School	\$0	\$0	\$100	\$100	0.00%	\$0	\$0
341 420101 Des Benev - Conejo Free Clin	\$0	\$0	\$200	\$200	0.00%	\$0	\$0
342 420102 Des Benev - Global Refuge	\$0	\$0	\$118	\$118	0.00%	\$0	\$0
343 420103 Des Benev - Canine Adoption	\$0	\$0	\$103	\$103	0.00%	\$0	\$0
344 420104 Des Benev - Jubilee USA Netv	\$0	\$0	\$403	\$403	0.00%	\$0	\$0
345 420105 Des Benev - AGAPE	\$0	\$0	\$5,162	\$5,162	0.00%	\$0	\$203
346 420122 Des Benev - ELCA Disaster Re	\$0	\$0	\$75	\$75	0.00%	\$0	\$0
347 420125 Des Benev - ELCA World Hung	\$0	\$0	\$900	\$900	0.00%	\$0	\$100
348 420130 Des Benev - Gideons Internat	\$0	\$0	\$128	\$128	0.00%	\$0	\$0
349 420131 Des Benev - Gifts of Hope	\$0	\$0	\$114,751	\$114,751	0.00%	\$0	\$603
350 420132 Des Benev - Habitat for Hum	\$0	\$0	\$183	\$183	0.00%	\$0	\$0
351 420138 Des Benev - Lutheran World F	\$0	\$0	\$130	\$130	0.00%	\$0	\$0
352 420139 Des Benev - Harbor House	\$0	\$0	\$3,025	\$3,025	0.00%	\$0	\$400
353 420154 Des Benev - Caring Ones	\$0	\$0	\$12,922	\$12,922	0.00%	\$0	\$954
354 420155 Des Benev - Ascension Food P	\$0	\$0	\$13,382	\$13,382	0.00%	\$0	\$126
355 420156 Des Benev - Thrivent Choice	\$0	\$0	\$7,994	\$7,994	0.00%	\$0	\$1,162
356 420181 Des Benev - Foundation	\$0	\$0	\$25,239	\$25,239	0.00%	\$0	\$152
357 420185 Des Benev - Outside Misc	\$0	\$0	\$36,845	\$36,845	0.00%	\$0	\$8,079
358 Total Des Benev Income	\$0	\$0	\$221,661	\$221,661	0.00%	\$0	\$11,779
359							
360 Total Des Benev Income	\$0	\$0	\$221,661	\$221,661	0.00%	\$0	\$11,779
361							

03b ALC-Feb26-Financials

Budgeted Financial Statement for Period 8 - February
 Company#: 1 Name: Ascension Lutheran Church
 Fiscal Year Beginning 7/1/2025
 Fund Name: 0 Church

<u>Account #/Description</u>	<u>Budget Annual</u>	<u>Budget YTD</u>	<u>Actual YTD</u>	<u>Var. Actual to YTD Budget Dollar</u>	<u>Var. Actual to YTD Budget %</u>	<u>Budget for Period</u>	<u>Actual for Period</u>
362 Des Benev Expense							
363 520100 Des Benev - Ascension School	\$0	\$0	\$100	\$100	0.00%	\$0	\$100
364 520101 Des Benev - Conejo Free Clin	\$0	\$0	\$200	\$200	0.00%	\$0	\$225
365 520102 Des Benev - Global Refuge	\$0	\$0	\$118	\$118	0.00%	\$0	\$0
366 520103 Des Benev - Canine Adoption	\$0	\$0	\$103	\$103	0.00%	\$0	\$0
367 520104 Des Benev - Jubilee USA Netv	\$0	\$0	\$403	\$403	0.00%	\$0	\$0
368 520105 Des Benev - AGAPE	\$0	\$0	\$4,959	\$4,959	0.00%	\$0	\$746
369 520122 Des Benev - ELCA Disaster Re	\$0	\$0	\$75	\$75	0.00%	\$0	\$0
370 520125 Des Benev - ELCA World Hung	\$0	\$0	\$800	\$800	0.00%	\$0	\$100
371 520130 Des Benev - Gideons Internat	\$0	\$0	\$128	\$128	0.00%	\$0	\$0
372 520131 Des Benev - Gifts of Hope	\$0	\$0	\$113,956	\$113,956	0.00%	\$0	\$68,699
373 520132 Des Benev - Habitat for Hum	\$0	\$0	\$158	\$158	0.00%	\$0	\$0
374 520138 Des Benev - Lutheran World F	\$0	\$0	\$130	\$130	0.00%	\$0	\$0
375 520139 Des Benev - Harbor House	\$0	\$0	\$2,625	\$2,625	0.00%	\$0	\$160
376 520154 Des Benev - Caring Ones	\$0	\$0	\$3,061	\$3,061	0.00%	\$0	\$1,400
377 520155 Des Benev - Ascension Food P	\$0	\$0	\$13,382	\$13,382	0.00%	\$0	\$126
378 520156 Des Benev - Thrivent Choice	\$0	\$0	(\$6,722)	(\$6,722)	0.00%	\$0	\$0
379 520181 Des Benev - Foundation	\$0	\$0	\$25,088	\$25,088	0.00%	\$0	\$102
380 520185 Des Benev - Outside Misc	\$0	\$0	\$36,845	\$36,845	0.00%	\$0	\$8,079
381 Total Des Benev Expense	\$0	\$0	\$195,409	\$195,409	0.00%	\$0	\$79,736
382							
383 Total Des Benevolence	\$0	\$0	\$4,482	\$4,482	0.00%	\$0	\$72,347
384							
385							
386 Department Name: 220 Net							
387 940100 Property Reserve Fund Intere	\$0	\$0	\$189	\$189	0.00%	\$0	\$189

03b ALC-Feb26-Financials

Statement of Financial Position for Period 8 - February

Company#: 1 Name: Ascension Lutheran Church

Fiscal Year Beginning 7/1/2025

Fund Name: 0 Church

<u>Account</u>	<u>YTD</u> <u>Current</u>
1 ASSETS	
2	
3 Current Assets	
4	
5 Cash	
6	
7 110144 Cash-Fidelity	\$1,499,418
8 110148 Cash-PacWest-Checking	\$63,588
9 110149 Cash-PacWest-Money Market	\$206,660
10 110150 Cash-PacWest-Payroll	\$14,502
11 110151 Cash-PacWest-AGAPE	\$8,664
12 110154 Petty Cash - Office	\$150
Total Cash	\$1,792,981
13	
14 Investments	
15	
16 110160 Thrivent - Property Reserve Fund	\$642,649
Total Investments	\$642,649
17	
18 Accounts Receivable	
19	
20 110312 Accounts Receivable - Facility Usage	(\$405)
21 110313 Accounts Receivable - ALS	\$26,825
22 110314 Accounts Receivable - ALECC	\$46,131
23 110315 Accounts Receivable - Foundation	(\$1,500)
24 110317 Inter-entity Investment Transfers	(\$746,043)
Total Accounts Receivable	(\$674,992)
25	
26 Other Current Assets	
27	
28 110511 Prepaid Expenses	\$44,280
29 110512 Property Sale Expenses	\$38,689
30 110513 Capital Campaign Expenses	\$5,322
31 110514 Garden Project Expenditures-CIP	\$78,719
32 110621 Suspense	\$2,877
Total Other Current Assets	\$169,888
33	
Total Current Assets	\$1,930,526
34	
35 Land, Bldgs & Equipment	
36	
37 116111 Unamortized Thrivent Finance Fee	\$5,496
38 117111 Cash Value Life Ins Contracts	\$68,106
39 120111 Land	\$1,874,447

03b ALC-Feb26-Financials

Statement of Financial Position for Period 8 - February

Company#: 1 Name: Ascension Lutheran Church

Fiscal Year Beginning 7/1/2025

Fund Name: 0 Church

<u>Account</u>	<u>YTD</u> <u>Current</u>
40 120113 Land Improvements	\$832,843
41 120114 A/D-Land Improvements	(\$564,102)
42 120211 Buildings	\$12,816,676
43 120212 A/D-Buildings	(\$5,074,409)
44 120421 Bus	\$149,471
45 120422 A/D-Bus	(\$149,471)
46 120511 Equipment and Furniture	\$324,387
47 120512 A/D-Equipment and Furniture	(\$287,098)
48 120521 Computers and Cabling	\$59,874
49 120522 A/D-Computers and Cabling	(\$57,219)
50 120531 Sanctuary Audio Equipment	\$641,187
51 120532 A/D-Sanctuary Audio Equipment	(\$442,561)
52 120541 Playground Equipment	\$86,170
53 120542 A/D-Playground Equipment	(\$43,576)
Total Land, Bldgs & Equipment	\$10,240,223
54	
TOTAL ASSETS	\$12,170,749
55	
56 LIAB & NET ASSETS	
57	
58 LIABILITIES	
59	
60 Current Liabilities	
61	
62 Current Liabilities	
63	
64 210213 Accounts Payable - Misc.	(\$10,950)
65 210411 Accrued Payroll & Vacation	\$94,696
66 210413 Accrued Use Tax	\$404
67 210451 Voluntary 403(b) Payable	\$74
68 210471 Flex Benefits Payable	\$0
Total Current Liabilities	\$84,224
69	
70 Current Portion - Long Term Debt	
71	
72 210612 Thrivent 2009 Loan - CP	\$52,508
73 210613 CP-Thrivent #14601 LT 2020 ECC Construct Loan	\$60,778
74 210614 CP-Thrivent #14602 ST 2020 ECC Construct Loan	\$1,219,968
Total Current Portion - Long Term Debt	\$1,333,254
75	
Total Current Liabilities	\$1,417,478
76	
77 Long Term Liabilities	
78	

03b ALC-Feb26-Financials

Statement of Financial Position for Period 8 - February
 Company#: 1 Name: Ascension Lutheran Church
 Fiscal Year Beginning 7/1/2025
 Fund Name: 0 Church

<u>Account</u>	<u>YTD</u>
	<u>Current</u>
79 220200 Notes Payable - Foundation	\$18,666
80 220601 2019 ECC Thrivent Loan #14601	\$1,863,670
81 220612 Thrivent 2009 Loan - LT	\$938,488
Total Long Term Liabilities	\$2,820,824
82	
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$4,238,301
83	
84 NET ASSETS	
85	
86 Net Assets, Unrestricted	
87	
88 311111 Net Assets, Unrestricted	\$6,311,756
89 Net Assets, Unrestricted-Current Year	\$116,277
Net Assets, Unrestricted-Current Year-Total	\$6,428,033
90	
91 311150 General Reserve	\$5,325
92 311151 PPP1 Reserve	\$200,000
93 311200 Net Allocated-Cong. Benevolence	\$11,332
94 Net Allocated-Cong. Benevolence-Current Year	\$5,312
Net Allocated-Cong. Benevolence-Current Year-Total	\$16,644
95	
Total Net Assets, Unrestricted	\$6,650,002
96	
97 Net Assets, Restricted	
98	
99 PROPERTY	
100	
101 323001 Capital Campaign	\$225,621
102 323004 Garden Oasis Project	\$125,550
103 323100 Website Development	\$39
104 323103 Property Reserve Fund	\$642,460
105 Property Reserve Fund-Current Year	\$189
Property Reserve Fund-Current Year-Total	\$642,649
106	
107 323104 Property Reserve Fund Curr. Yr. Contribution	\$25,000
108 323112 Property- Misc Reserve Fund	\$95
109 323200 Usher Radios Safety Program	\$77
110 323360 Bus Fund	(\$430)
111 323362 Narthex Door Fund	\$818
TOTAL PROPERTY	\$1,019,419
112	
113 PROGRAMS	
114	
115 PROGRAM GROWTH	

03b ALC-Feb26-Financials

Statement of Financial Position for Period 8 - February
 Company#: 1 Name: Ascension Lutheran Church
 Fiscal Year Beginning 7/1/2025
 Fund Name: 0 Church

<u>Account</u>	<u>YTD</u> <u>Current</u>
116	
117 325113 Sabbatical Fund - PT	\$4,315
118 325115 Sabbatical Fund - PC	\$1,525
119 325118 Director of Operations Funds Allocation	\$2,000
120 325119 Church Expenses during Sabbatical	\$10,150
121 325120 Gifts for Staff	\$7
122 326111 Program Growth	\$82
TOTAL PROGRAM GROWTH	\$18,079
123	
124 AGAPE	
125	
126 328111 AGAPE	\$7,992
TOTAL AGAPE	\$7,992
127	
128 COMMUNITY CONCERNS	
129	
130 328121 Be the Blessing Dedicated Fund	\$13,441
131 328123 Community Concerns - Angel Tree	\$73
132 328124 Community Concerns - Habitat Worldwide	\$1,185
133 328126 Community Concerns - Food Pantry	\$15,942
134 328127 Community Concerns - Jail Ministry	\$3,623
135 328129 Community Concerns - Fire Relief	\$3,134
TOTAL COMMUNITY CONCERNS	\$37,397
136	
137 FAMILY LIFE MINISTRY	
138	
139 328215 Adult Education	(\$54)
140 328216 Pastor-led Retreats	\$1,347
141 328217 Young Adult Ministry	\$612
142 328218 Life Groups (frmly ChristCare/Small Grps)	\$1,986
143 328224 Men's Ministry	\$4,038
144 328225 Meet and Eat 2025 Donation	\$1,000
145 328245 Children's Ministries - SS & Milestones	\$5,346
146 328247 VBS	\$7,117
147 328251 Women's Ministry	\$5,209
148 328252 Women's Ministry - Monday Morning Bible Study	\$3,483
149 328255 Women's Ministry - Quilting	\$2,558
150 328260 MOMCO	\$262
TOTAL FAMILY LIFE MINISTRY	\$32,905
151	
152 ALC ADULT MINISTRIES	
153	
154 328313 Fellowship	\$3,600
155 328315 Adult Luther League	\$41

03b ALC-Feb26-Financials

Statement of Financial Position for Period 8 - February

Company#: 1 Name: Ascension Lutheran Church

Fiscal Year Beginning 7/1/2025

Fund Name: 0 Church

<u>Account</u>	<u>YTD</u> <u>Current</u>
156 328411 Lay Ministry	\$214
157 328415 Senior Adult Ministry	\$86
158 328416 SAM - Lunch Bunch	\$2,697
159 328511 Library	\$270
160 328531 Global Ministries Team	\$686
161 328532 ELCA World Hunger	\$200
162 328533 Lenten Soup Supper	\$2,216
163 328534 Global Ministries - Trips	\$8,942
164 328535 Global Ministries - Fair Trade	\$3,246
165 328536 Global Ministries - GOH Gift Fair	\$1,725
166 328537 Global Ministries - Matthew 25:35	\$1,803
167 328538 Outreach Tutoring Program	\$200
168 328539 LWR Kits	\$5,988
169 328540 Ray of Life Kits - Ukraine	\$5,164
170 328555 Jubilee USA Network	\$3
171 328560 Outreach - Name Tags	\$137
172 328561 Outreach	\$5,548
173 328562 Outreach - Merchandise	\$500
174 328581 Stephen Ministry/Grief Share	\$1,633
TOTAL ALC ADULT MINISTRIES	\$44,900
175	
176 WORSHIP & MUSIC	
177	
178 328811 Carillons	\$6,176
179 328821 Chancel Choir	\$5,780
180 328836 W/M - Miscellaneous	\$13,802
181 328842 Organ Fund	\$5,208
182 328843 Great Music at Ascension	\$9,225
183 328852 Audio/Visual	\$2,279
184 328862 Country Spirit	\$225
185 328875 Hanging of the Green	(\$21)
TOTAL WORSHIP & MUSIC	\$42,675
186	
187 YOUTH	
188	
189 328931 Confirmation	\$4,139
190 328951 SLL Dedicated Account	\$26,403
191 328961 Youth Ministry Development Fund	\$20,763
192 328971 Youth Leadership Camp	\$1,522
TOTAL YOUTH	\$52,827
193	
TOTAL PROGRAMS	\$236,775
194	
195 Net Des Benevolence	

03b ALC-Feb26-Financials

Statement of Financial Position for Period 8 - February
 Company#: 1 Name: Ascension Lutheran Church
 Fiscal Year Beginning 7/1/2025
 Fund Name: 0 Church

<u>Account</u>	<u>YTD</u> <u>Current</u>
196	
197 330105 Net Des Benev - AGAPE	\$0
198 Net Des Benev - AGAPE-Current Year	\$203
Net Des Benev - AGAPE-Current Year-Total	\$203
199	
200 330125 Net Des Benev - ELCA World Hunger	\$0
201 Net Des Benev - ELCA World Hunger-Current Year	\$100
Net Des Benev - ELCA World Hunger-Current Year-Total	\$100
202	
203 330131 Net Des Benev - Gifts of Hope	\$0
204 Net Des Benev - Gifts of Hope-Current Year	\$795
Net Des Benev - Gifts of Hope-Current Year-Total	\$795
205	
206 330132 Net Des Benev - Habitat for Humanity	\$0
207 Net Des Benev - Habitat for Humanity-Current Year	\$25
Net Des Benev - Habitat for Humanity-Current Year-Total	\$25
208	
209 330139 Net Des Benev - Harbor House	\$0
210 Net Des Benev - Harbor House-Current Year	\$400
Net Des Benev - Harbor House-Current Year-Total	\$400
211	
212 330154 Net Des Benev - Caring Ones	\$0
213 Net Des Benev - Caring Ones-Current Year	\$9,861
Net Des Benev - Caring Ones-Current Year-Total	\$9,861
214	
215 330156 Net Des Benev - Thrivent Choice	\$0
216 Net Des Benev - Thrivent Choice-Current Year	\$14,716
Net Des Benev - Thrivent Choice-Current Year-Total	\$14,716
217	
218 330181 Net Des Benev - Foundation	\$0
219 Net Des Benev - Foundation-Current Year	\$152
Net Des Benev - Foundation-Current Year-Total	\$152
220	
Total Net Des Benevolence	\$26,251
221	
Total Net Assets, Restricted	\$1,282,445
222	
TOTAL NET ASSETS	\$7,932,448
223	
TOTAL LIAB & NET ASSETS	\$12,170,749
224	

Ascension Lutheran Church

Budget Summary

FYE26 YTD through February 28, 2026

	Church '25 - '26 Budget	Church '25 - '26 Budget YTD	Church '25 - '26 Actual YTD	Church '25 - '26 Variance	%
Revenues:					
Offerings (Church)	1,568,409	1,098,478	1,052,925	(45,553)	-4.1%
Other Revenues	47,280	32,182	39,016	6,834	21.2%
Total Revenues:	<u>1,615,689</u>	<u>1,130,660</u>	<u>1,091,941</u>	<u>(38,719)</u>	-3.4%
Expenditures:					
Salaries & Benefits	1,332,178	919,455	876,572	42,883	4.7%
Allocated Staff Expenses	(253,453)	(175,467)	(165,891)	(9,576)	5.5%
Benevolences	54,068	36,045	36,045	-	0.0%
Programs / Committees	64,179	42,541	29,616	12,925	30.4%
Administrative Expenses	111,899	73,139	60,707	12,432	17.0% 7.9k fav. Audit timing
Property Maintenance	100,242	74,577	68,992	5,585	7.5%
Utilities & Insurance	108,418	75,839	71,796	4,043	5.3%
Operating Expenditures	<u>1,517,531</u>	<u>1,046,129</u>	<u>977,837</u>	<u>68,292</u>	6.5%
Debt Service	99,675	66,450	66,450	-	0.0%
Total Expenditures	<u>1,617,206</u>	<u>1,112,579</u>	<u>1,044,287</u>	<u>68,292</u>	6.1%
Operating Surplus / (Deficit)	<u>(1,517)</u>	<u>18,081</u>	<u>47,654</u>	<u>29,573</u>	
Prior Year Surplus Spend *	-	-	37,966		
Reserve spend**	-	-	102,185		

*\$38k PPP for Sanctuary project overage (\$6.5k), replace other Sanctuary Air Units (\$31.5k)

**\$30k Sanctuary Air Project, \$35k Patio refurbishment

Ascension Lutheran Church

Cash & Debt Review

FYE26 YTD through February 28, 2026

Cash

	\$\$\$'s
Cash	2,435,629
Liquid Receivables (ALS/ECC/Foundation)	71,456
ALC-ECC Investment Cash	(746,043)
Total cash	1,761,042

Reserved Funds:

AGAPE	8,664
Mission Possible	225,621
Garden Fund	46,831
Be the Blessing	13,441
One Ascension Maintenance	642,649
ERTC	105,498
Benevolence and Programs Items	267,192
Total Restricted Funds	1,309,896
Available Cash related to PPP	178,135
All Other Available Cash	273,011
Total Available Cash	451,146

Debt

	Total	Annual Cost	Monthly Payments			Rate	End Date	Remaining
	\$\$\$'s	\$\$\$'s	Principal	Interest	Total			Term
Church Mortgage	990,996	98,844	4,401	3,836	8,237	4.625%	8/1/2039	13 Yr 7 Mo
ECC Mortgage	1,924,448	163,440	5,098	8,522	13,620	5.300%	8/1/2044	18 Yr 7 Mo
Construction Note	1,219,968	76,248	-	6,354	6,354	6.250%	8/1/2026	5 Mo
Foundation Note	18,666	831	-	69	69	4.450%	None	NA
Total Debt	4,154,078	339,363	9,499	18,781	28,280			

New Members & Baptisms Report

March 2026

Baptisms for February

Name	Date Baptized
Rosalea Valentina Hernandez	02/01/2026

New Members for February

No New Members

**Ascension Lutheran Church
Council Agenda
Wednesday, February 25, 2026 - 7:45pm
Bethlehem Room**

Welcome and Call to Order –

Called to order at 7:47 by Carrie Leonard, Past President (filling in for John Rarick).

Board Members Present: Al Baker, Crystal Bryant, Ethan East, Michael Feltner, Carrie Leonard, Creighton Van Horn, Anna Woodward, Steve Smuck via Zoom from Costa Rica

Board Member not Present: John Rarick

Others Present: Pastor Chamie, Pastor Tim, Kaylee Searway

Mission Statement: We are called to create opportunities for all people to become devoted followers of Christ.

Motto: Invite - Grow - Serve

Approval of Agenda – Carrie Leonard

It was moved (Michael) - with an amendment to add a Thrivent Choice Request added to New Business, and a Roof Update added to Information Items- and seconded (Ethan), then unanimously approved to accept the agenda.

Devotion – Alan Baker

Al discussed finding God in unusual places.

Treasurer's Report – Steve Smuck

Offerings continue to be slightly lower, but expenses are also lower. An large, annual offering will reflect in the February report and will bring the expenses to almost even.

It was moved (CVH) and seconded (Michael), then unanimously approved to accept the Treasurer's Report.

New Business

- Thrivent Choice Request (amended agenda)

Pastor Tim has requested \$1505 in funds from Thrivent Choice to support a Human Resources Training Program for Kaylee Searway. The training will cover Workplace Investigation.

It was moved (CVH) and seconded (Michael), then unanimously approved.

Recurring Business

- Affirm New Members, Confirmants, and Baptisms

Baptisms

Kelsie Tonette Grizard 01/18/2026

Willow Lee Weber 01/25/2026

Old Business

- No old business

Approval of Minutes -Carrie Leonard

- January 21, 2026 Church Council Minutes

It was moved (Ethan) and seconded (CVH), then unanimously approved to accept the minutes of the January 21, 2026 Church Council Meeting.

Consent Approval of Reports to Council – John Rarick

- Pastor Tim Delkeskamp's Report
- Pastor Chamie Delkeskamp's Report
- Pastor Steve Herder's Report
- Director of Operations Report
- School Board Report
- Foundation Report
- Global Ministries Team Report

It was moved (Al) and seconded (Michael), then unanimously passed to approve Reports to Council, with an Executive Session discussion regarding Pastor Tim's Report.

After an Executive Session, it was moved (Michael) and seconded (Ethan) then unanimously passed to approve Pastor Tim's Report to Council.

Information Items

- **Roof Report as amended in the agenda**

Kaylee optimistically reports that roof leaks can be repaired through flashing replacements in the Bell Tower. Continued prayers are requested that this simpler fix will be successful.

- **Reflections on empowering and equipping, affirming and celebrating as we lead the culture of abundance at Ascension.**

CVH celebrated the ECC and Wednesday Chapel.

Kaylee celebrates Pastor Chamie and the Youth Ministry Team, specifically referring to their time at Luther Glen.

Michael confirms the faith, purpose and joy of serving from Ben Sasse. "Not dead yet" podcast of former Nebraska senator. Ben's approach to death, and faith in life provide perspective on his current health and many topics in general.

Pastor Chamie affirms Paul Trent and his efforts in setting up for Fish in the Sand. She also appreciates him hosting women's bible study Word & Wine at The Sofa Guy. This is a good reminder how faith in our community can come from just asking.

Pastor Chamie affirms James Halvorson and Spencer Gottmer for their work with the youth and for providing mentorship, encouragement and spirit for one another.

• The next Church Council meeting will be a joint meeting with the Ascension School Board on Monday, March 23, 2026 at 5:30 pm in Founders Hall, followed by the Church Council meeting.

Closing Prayer – Steve Smuck

Executive Session – Pastor Tim Delkeskamp

Adjournment

It was moved (CVH) and seconded (Michael), then unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting.



Pastor Tim's Ministry Report- March 2026

Grace and peace my sisters and brothers in Christ, here, gratefully submitted, is my report for the Lent-immersed month of March:

We are journeying together through the season of Lent. It has been a good one. Our rhythm of Wednesday evening soup suppers, Holden Evening worship and then cookie fellowship continues. Special thanks to Shannon Lomeli who leads our soup supper efforts, our retired pastor community who are doing an excellent job of preaching through our "Pauses for Lent" book, our worship leaders who have done a wonderful job of leading us through the Holden service and for Dolores Ledbetter and Dan Lareva who are hosting the cookie fellowship. The Storytime for Children that Pastor Chamie and Jenelle have added has been well received.

We have two more of these Wednesdays to go and then we enter Holy Week. Plans are already being made for the Carillons (handbell choir) to lead us on Maundy Thursday, for the Choir to lead us into a "Stations of the Cross" style service for Good Friday, for a Saturday evening Easter worship that ends in the Garden, for a sunrise worship that will be lead by the youth (including a sermon by James Halvorson and Ella Festerling!) and then our festival services at 9am and 11am with a 10:30 butterfly release. It will be a lot of work for our team to make happen, but we are called to this lifegiving work and we give thanks because we love to empower and equip people to lead and participate in worship. It's what we do!

The work of the nominating committee is coming together. At this point, people are discerning and praying about the last two positions of need: School Board and Foundation Trustee. I continue to hope that I will have the slate of candidates ready for the church council to review for March's meeting.

I am excited that a couple that is new to Ascension, Sharon Langenbeck and Loren Lemmerman are interested in helping to restore the altar. The top of it has been damaged over the years by various wear and things like hand sanitizer that eats through the varnish.

It is a beautiful and sacred piece of furniture so we are taking a very careful approach, but I hope sometime after Easter we can take the time to restore it back to a place of beauty.

The couple's retreat went wonderfully well. The curriculum that we used was a very helpful tool that Pastor Chamie and I used to lead the 9 couples that were in attendance is called "Relate Strong." Since it was the first time that we used it, it was an opportunity for Pastor Chamie and I to grow into our teaching it. We plan to use it again and have future retreats. There were many other couples who expressed their regrets for not being able to make it and asked that we have future events.

We just concluded a new member class. While there were some great people who took part in it, it was rather small in attendance. We need to become more invitational as a church. Our Outreach team is working on a plan to have more "Invite a friend" to church weekends. We also want to do more to decorate the outside of the church for Christmas. The logic here is that our church is beautiful inside at Christmas time, but how do we look more inviting from the outside?

We continue to meet as a Generosity team. I am very appreciative of Ed Klodt's leadership. Our goal is to focus on increasing people understanding of the abundance that God gives us. This year we want to focus on financial generosity. This dovetails with my vision of leadership development. I would like to continue to focus on staff retention and I know that pay is a part of it. I would also like to have money to continue to pay interns with the possibility of having an intern pastor join us in future years.

Finally, it is hard to believe that I won't be writing council reports for the next 3 months. My sabbatical is almost here. In some ways I can't believe it has come so quickly. In other ways it feels like I have been packing (I hate packing!) for about 2 months now and finally in others ways, it feels like it can't come soon enough. I am operating from a place of fatigue these days. The pace has been a bit relentless, and it's been hard to generate energy to do things like writing council reports, preparing sermons, attending evening meetings, etc. Now it is time to renew and refresh. It's funny how God's timing is always perfect. I am grateful to serve at a place that genuinely cares about helping to sustain my work as a pastor.

In his service,

Pastor Tim

Pastor Chamie's February 2026 Council Report

(Feb 18-March 15)

Children, Youth, & Family

Children



Our Sunday school children holding up the 6 Lent challenges: pray, read, serve, give, share, and praise.

We are in the midst of our Lent Sunday school series which is called “40-Day Challenge.” Each week of Lent, students get a new challenge to help them grow in their love and connection and formation to Jesus. The challenges are: pray, read, serve, give, share, and praise. On the Sunday that the children focused on “serve” they decorated paper bags and packed 40 lunches for Harbor House.

At the time of this writing, we have had three Fireside Story Times during Holden Evening Prayer. The first week, we had 4 children. Then next week we had 7 children. The week after that we had 10 children. Jenelle

and I have absolutely loved these nights with the children. Jenelle has organized different story readers which I think is a great way to get others involved and build community. The nights begin with the burning of incense as the children are in Holden until right after the song “Let Our Prayers Rise Up Like Incense.” Then a story is read by the fire as the children gather on quilts. Next they do an activity related to the book. For example, one week we read *View from Under the Pew* which is the true story of a blind pastor who has a guide dog with her at church. After reading the story, church member Aimee Semeleng shared how she and her family have raised guide dogs. The children got to meet and pet Emmett, the family’s most recent trainee. We have closed the nights with the children making prayer forts where each of them gets a battery-operated candle. We have a night-time prayer block that they roll and then read whatever prayer is facing up. One of the best things said by one of the children was Astrid, holding her candle in the prayer fort, and exclaiming, “This is delightful!”



Fireside Story Time during Holden Evening Prayer.

We have also been at work preparing for Holy Week which includes organizing the children to sing and process with palms on Palm Sunday and the “Butterfly Celebration” on Easter Sunday. This year we will be doing a butterfly release instead of the Easter egg hunt. For many years,

Ascension had a tradition of doing a butterfly release on Easter and we thought we would try it again. Why a butterfly release?

- The Christian symbolism of new life in Christ is beautiful.
- We know that children will most likely be doing egg hunts at home and in other places, but being a part of releasing 100 butterflies is special and unique.
- We are a Nature Explore campus and certified as a National Wildlife Sanctuary campus, so it's a great environment for butterflies.

Before and after the butterfly release, there will be music playing and a "butterfly activity station" with butterfly bookmarks with Bible verses, butterfly stickers, butterfly tattoos, a butterfly mural to color, and other Easter activities and games that celebrate that Jesus is risen - He is risen, indeed!

We have also begun preparations for this summer's Vacation Bible School - "Adventures in Rome" - which in June 29 through July 2. After Easter, we will really be diving into VBS plans. But for now, registration is open and the initial material is ordered.

Youth



Ascension Church @ Youth Winter Camp 2026!

The highlight in youth ministry this past month was taking 30 middle schoolers and high schooler to winter camp with our whole youth staff of Mr. Gottmer, James, Kaya, and me. We were also blessed to have Jeff Hengst as our bus driver as well as a chaperone. High school mentor Tim Hillman was also at camp. Ascension made up half of the camp participants! I know Jeff loved seeing so many kids on the bus! We are also very proud of them for doing so well going "old school" on the bus and playing games and talking to each other as we took their phones.

We went to the Luther Glen camp site and were blessed with SNOW! The youth got to sled, build snowmen, and have snowball fights. Camp staff led several worship services that ranged from

upbeat music to contemplative moments and a time to have Holy Communion together. I think some beautiful relationship building happened at camp. One of the most powerful moments was when we broke up into age groups, with just the kids from our church, and gathered under the stars to share highs and lows and prayers with each other. James and Kaya met with the 6th & 7th graders. Jeff and I met with the 8th graders. Mr. Gottmer and Tim Hillman met with the high schoolers. I really treasured our time together.

Though we had a large group of students go to winter camp, confirmation and high school Bible study attendance has been down this last month. We are finding that spring sports, spring events, and different spring breaks are a challenge. We will be talking more about how to reach youth and families with so many competing schedules.



High schoolers watch the sunset during their Bible study.

I want to share one moment from high school Bible study that I am happy that I stumbled upon. After wrapping up confirmation, I go say “hi” to the high schoolers before heading home to a Sunday night dinner cooked by my husband (this is always a treat as my Sundays typically begin at 7:00 AM and go straight through confirmation and I don’t get home until about 6:30 PM). On one particular Sunday, the lights were on in the dug out, but the room was empty. Mr. Gottmer had taken the high schoolers out to the playground where they had climbed up on the equipment to watch the

absolutely stunning sunset. I found them and climbed up onto the equipment as well. I got to hear their highs and lows from the week followed by a beautiful prayer said by Mr. Gottmer.

One Ascension

Ms. Charlotte and I led another One Ascension Family Hike & Park Play Day on March 7 at the Chumash Museum Trail. Church member and high school mentor Tim Hillman met us on the trail as he is also a park ranger. It was a complete joy to see him in action explaining nature to the inquisitive, little children!

The work of tending tomato seedlings continues. The high heat is making the endeavor quite challenging!

I am thankful for Rich Gregory preaching on Lutheran Schools Weekend. I also feel like the executive team has done important work in the last month on keeping us moving forward as “One Ascension,” including the beginning of important calendar work and strategic



Tim Hillman shares his expertise as a park ranger with children on the hike.

vision conversations.

Interfacing with the Schools

Worship Arts has been going great. In the last month, I have led lessons on sanctuary candles, stained glass, pulpits versus lecterns, and narthexes. Perhaps this sounds boring to some, but I think it has been really fun and the 6th graders have been locked in and fully engaged. It has been a delight teaching them this trimester which is almost over. Next up is 8th grade for Worship Arts.

Jenelle and I continue to love ECC story time on Mondays. She is the most popular one! We also loved that we got to attend the ECC Art Show and see so many of the students and families we have come to know this year.

Worship



Ash Wednesday Chapel

I thought we had such a deep and meaningful start to the Lent journey on Ash Wednesday. And things went smoothly! Unbeknownst to probably most people, we had a series of glitches last year on Ash Wednesday. At the end of Ash Wednesday last year, Jenelle, Tim, and I were joking that we were thankful we survived the bumpy day. We also took notes on lessons learned. This year everything went so smoothly. This made me happy as my prayer is that people will have the opportunity to deeply connect with the living Christ through the holy moments of ashes and communion and music and prayer and scripture and message and the gathered community. We work hard to make worship beautiful and reverent and warm and connective.

One of worship planning highlights this month was meeting with Youth Council President Ella Festerling and our Youth Ministry Intern James Halvorson. We met at the coffee shop to plan the Easter sunrise service. They are team-preaching at the sunrise service (PT and I are preaching the 9:00 and 11:00 Easter services). Sunrise service will be youth-led. Pastor Tim's and my role is to encourage and equip them and do the words of institution over Holy Communion; that's it. I shared with Ella and James how I prepare for a sermon. First, I pray. Then I read the scripture passages, highlighting words and phrases that stand out to me, all the while making little notes and sometimes asking questions. I do some research. Then I begin to formulate which direction to go. So Ella and James and I read the passages together and I was so inspired by their thoughts and ideas. I could see the Spirit alive in them. They are both phenomenal young people and I am excited to be led by them on Easter Sunday!



Children & Youth Ministries kicked off Soup Suppers by being the first group to serve.

I have loved Soup Suppers and Holden Evening Prayer and am thankful to be a part of this beloved Ascension tradition. I give thanks to Shannon Lomeli for organizing Soup Suppers and all of those who have helped serve. I am also thankful for all of our guest Lent preachers, including Pastor Paul, Pastor Ken, Pastor Ron, Pastor Jen, and Pastor Rick. I add thanks for all of our Wednesday musicians and want to say a special word of gratitude for our Youth Ministry Intern Kaya Anderson who led the Holden music alongside Heather Harner on March 11. Kaya has a beautiful voice. She attends the 9:00 AM service every Sunday and always brings friends from CLU with her. This month, she also brought her parents one Sunday as they were visiting from Minnesota.

Other



Couples' Retreat. Tim and I feel very blessed to have grown closer together personally as a couple as we prepared for the Couples' Retreat and then to have led the retreat together. Everything seemed to click. We led 15 couples through "Relate Strong." The couples ranged from engaged to married for years, various ages from twenties to retirees. We loved the location and give thanks to Pastor Mark Marius for being such a gracious and amazing host at Trinity Lutheran Church in Santa Barbara. We are also thankful that we could provide childcare there which allowed two couples to attend who otherwise would not have been able to do so. We plan on doing another "Relate Strong" Couples' Retreat in the fall as this first one went so well and many people - at both the church and school - have asked us to do another one.



Living the Joys and Concerns. I love our Ascension community. It comes with a lot of joy as well as heartache. This past month, I have sat with two moms of children and youth who are battling cancer. We will continue to pray for and support them on the long journey ahead. On the joy side, I got to attend the baby shower of one of our pregnant mamas as well as rejoice at the birth of Ava Grace whose mom Christina teaches Sunday school and whose grandma Di keeps all of us church staff and volunteers up-to-date on CPR and First Aid. I have been in conversation with two couples whose weddings I will be officiating this spring and summer. I got to attend the surprise 75th birthday party of Chris Daleidan who leads our food pantry. I teared up when she started to cry at the joy of seeing bags and bags of food that was brought as gifts for the food pantry. We have such an amazing church family!

Grace & Peace, *Pastor Chamie*

Church Council Report – Pastor Steve Herder – March 3, 2026

Our “365 in ‘26” calendars have a daily brief intercessory prayer and a Bible reading that either goes with that prayer or is a reading in prep for our weekend worship services. The readings for Thursday through Sunday are the readings for our worship services. Now you all have the March-April prayer calendars. This “Prayer for Time of War” is from a little ELCA book titled “Prayer Book for Armed Services.” If you’d like a copy of this book, I can help you get one. Stop by my office to see one.

February was a good month for me to visit some of our senior members. I enjoy visiting Pastor Larry and bringing him Holy Communion. If you’d

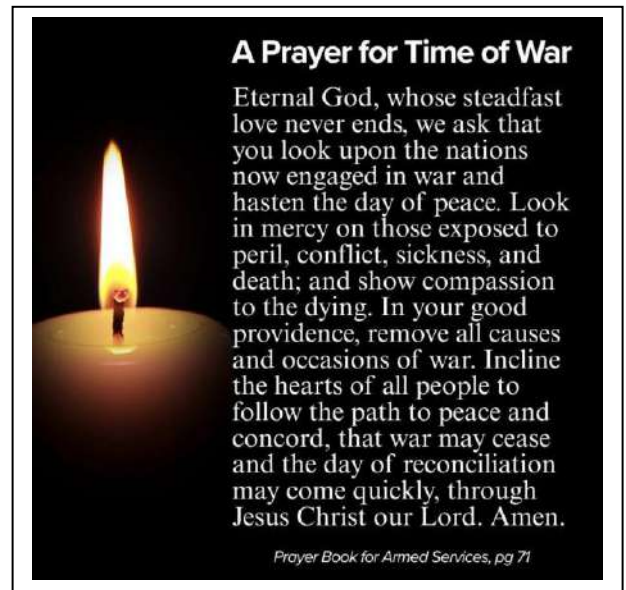


like to visit him,

mornings between 10 and 11 are good times. Here’s a photo of my last visit with Chuck Heinrich. He has a Stephen Minister who is very faithful in visiting, and we thank him and each of our Stephen Ministers, led by Norm Guestschoff.

We thank our team of Eucharistic Ministers, led by Pastor Ron Cox who does the scheduling. If you’d like a home visit from them or from one of your pastors, please let us know. We love seeing you at your home. Barbara Krum is so faithful doing many visits too. Thanks to Val Krum for her excellent card ministry.

Our Lunch Bunch in February was prepared by Chris’ friends from Colorado, seen here in the photo. It was another delicious meal and great fellowship. Dave and Sue Festerling will prepare the March lunch, and then we’ll take the month of April off. We gather on the second Wednesday of the month at noon in Founders. Sign up by the first



A Prayer for Time of War

Eternal God, whose steadfast love never ends, we ask that you look upon the nations now engaged in war and hasten the day of peace. Look in mercy on those exposed to peril, conflict, sickness, and death; and show compassion to the dying. In your good providence, remove all causes and occasions of war. Incline the hearts of all people to follow the path to peace and concord, that war may cease and the day of reconciliation may come quickly, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayer Book for Armed Services, pg 71

Wednesday of each month for the next week's meal. All are welcome. Church and school staff are also welcome to sign up.

Our adult education classes (Sundays at 10:30), organized by Carol Bartell, had a great lineup of topics: Feb. 1, Dave Nonnemacher on our Ukraine partnership; Feb. 15, Dr. Felecia Russell, CLU Regent and expert on immigration; Feb. 22 Dr. Max Fuhrmann spoke to a packed room of people eager to learn about dementia.

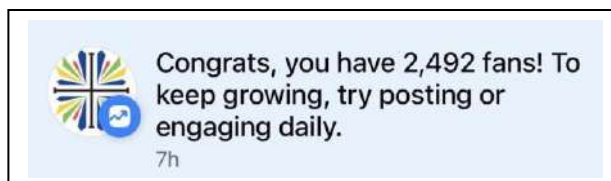
We've had some amazing support for our Friday Food Pantry from some of our small groups using their Thrivent Action \$250 cards to buy food. Thanks to all of you who support our very well-used food pantry. Thanks to our leader Chris Daleiden and all our volunteers, including Bob and Karen Tokin who often buy groceries with the financial donations we also receive. Whenever you are buying groceries, think of our pantry and buy a few items for it. We have large containers around campus to receive those gifts. Thank you for remembering those in need in our community and helping to provide the 40-60 bags of groceries that we give away each Friday.



Our February monthly benevolence was to support the humanitarian work of our friend Dave Nonnemacher (from MN) who often travels to Ukraine. We just sadly observed the fourth anniversary of the war there. See the updates from Louise Evenson in our newsletters about the amazing generosity of our congregation, school, and foundation. Pray for a just peace in Ukraine. Pray for resistance and resilience of the Ukrainian people. Pray for Dave, our minister of presence, who goes there as our ambassador of hope and light. The photo here is from the Wednesday Lenten soup supper when we focused on our friends in Ukraine. You see the blue and yellow solar lights, and the placemats had Pastor Chamie's beautiful prayer for peace in Ukraine.



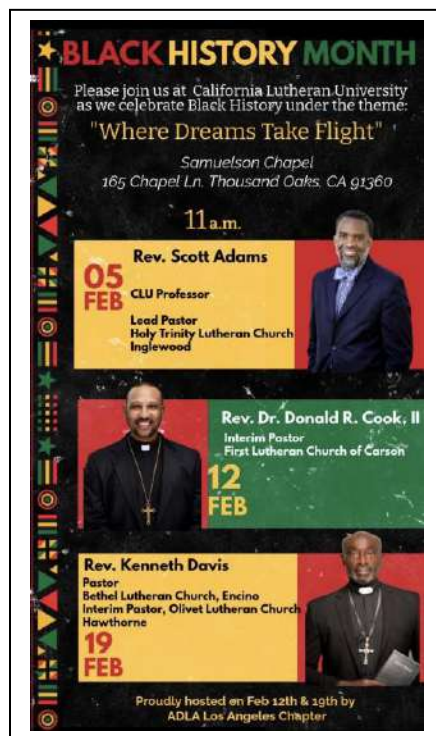
Social media update: Each Monday we choose a photo to go with Susanne Hopkin's wonderful devotions. Stacy is including these in the [weekly newsletter](#) so that more people can be blessed by them, as well as our daily Lenten themes/words. The photo on the right shows a milestone from Facebook that was accomplished by [our Ascension page](#) this month! We are close to 2,5000 people that are connected to our page.



Two Saturday afternoons in February, Dolores Ledbetter, Dan Lareva, and I spent some hours working in our library, letting go of some of the older, unused books, to make room for some new ones. Dan made a special shelf for our books on Martin Luther. We also have the complete set of Luther's Works, 50+ volumes that I donated.

In my half-time work, I have Mondays and Thursdays that I don't come into the office. In February I enjoyed going to Cal Lutheran's Thursday chapel service, these weeks for Black History Month, and heard some amazing preachers, as listed here in this flyer, as well as the last Thursday, with Ms. Mo Nunes preaching and singing. We so greatly appreciated her special music recently at our 9:00am service with Rev. Dr. John Nunes playing the piano.

Finally, I will share a special ministry moment from Tuesday, March 3rd. I led a memorial service



for Ritchie Cantwell who had been unhoused for many years. Many of you probably saw him on the corner of Hillcrest and Moorpark Road. Since last June, Ritchie was thankfully housed at the new place in Newbury Park, called Thrive Grove. It's a place that houses 30 people who have been previously unhoused. We give thanks to Denise and the staff at Harbor House for the many years of helping Ritchie. It was an honor to preside at his memorial service. As Denise will tell you, "Ritchie was one of our favorites." Rest eternal grant him, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon him. And God, give your comfort to his family and friends.

Many of our Ascension friends are hurting these day with cancer diagnoses and other pains. Thank you for your prayers.

We remember in prayer the bishops of our church as they gather for the spring Conference of Bishops meeting. Give thanks for their faith, gifts, wisdom and careful deliberation, which God uses to benefit and guide the church and its leaders.



ELCA Prayer Ventures for March 3, 2026



HERE COMES THE SUN

JOIN LUTHERANS FOR A WEBINAR AND Q&A WITH **BILL MCKIBBEN**

ABOUT HIS NEW BOOK, **HERE COMES THE SUN**

FEB 24TH
4:30 PST/7:30 EST

Zoom registration:
bit.ly/mckibben-call

ECO-FAITH ACTION NETWORK & **Lutherans Restoring Creation**
OF THE NW INTERMOUNTAIN SYNOD Restoring Creation
Callousing Hope & Healing for All



"The Jubilee tradition, rooted in several religions, including those of Judaism and Christianity, symbolizes **renewal, liberation and restoration**. It carries the promise of **forgiving debts and freeing the oppressed**, to provide families with the opportunity for a fresh start."

**TURN
DEBT
INTO
Hope**



We are a Jubilee congregation and a Jubilee ELCA synod. Thanks for your prayers and support of [Jubilee USA Network](https://www.jubileeusa.org).

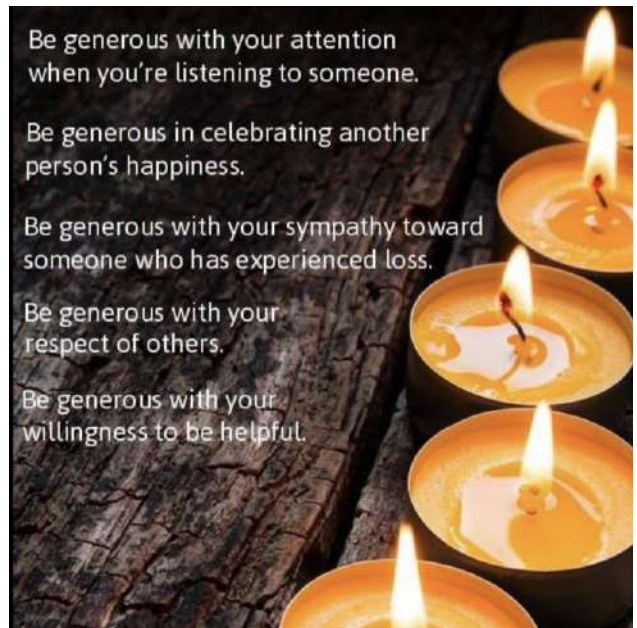
Be generous with your attention when you're listening to someone.

Be generous in celebrating another person's happiness.

Be generous with your sympathy toward someone who has experienced loss.

Be generous with your respect of others.

Be generous with your willingness to be helpful.



March 2026

365 Days of Prayer in 2026



Every day I will bless You, and praise Your name forever and ever.
(Psalm 145:2)

Devote yourselves to prayer with an alert mind and a thankful heart.
(Colossians 4:2)

Ascension Lutheran Church, School and Foundation
Thousand Oaks, CA

Wednesdays in Lent
8:45 am School Chapel
7:00-7:45 pm Holden Evening Prayer
For children: "Fireside Story Time" in the library

From Luke 11:1

"He was praying in a certain place,
one of his disciples said to him,
'Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples.'"

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 10:30 Adult Education class from our Foundation <i>John 3:1-17</i>	2 Lutheran Schools Week, our school & ECC <i>Mark 14:36</i>	3 10 am Memorial service for Richie - Harbor House 7 pm Men's group at The Sofa Guy store <i>Matthew 6:11</i>	4 Soup Suppers each Wednesday this month at 6 pm 7 pm Worship <i>John 4:13-14</i>	5 Prayers for all our support groups that meet on our campus <i>Mark 1:15</i>	6 Pray for a just peace in Ukraine <i>Matthew 5:9</i>	7 9:30 am - Family Hike 3290 Lang Ranch Pkwy 6 pm St. Patrick's Day special service, followed by Irish stew <i>John 3:16</i>
8 <i>Daylight Saving Time</i> Happy Birthday Jeff Hengst! Lutheran Schools Sunday <i>John 4:5-42</i>	9 Happy Birthday Carolyn Bahr! <i>Matthew 6:21</i>	10 Prayers for our Eucharistic Ministers and all who receive <i>James 1:19</i>	11 Happy Birthday Kaylee Searway! 7 pm - Worship <i>Luke 4:18-19</i>	12 ECC Art Show 5 pm Founders Hall <i>Luke 5:20</i>	13 Happy 3 rd work anniversary Camryn Lomeli! <i>John 14:27</i>	14 Prayers for all who are exhausted in work or caregiving <i>Matthew 11:28</i>
15 Prayers for Sunday School, Cofirmation, Sr. Luther League <i>John 9:1-41</i>	16 Prayers for our GriefShare group each Thursday at 1 pm, led by Norm Guetschoff <i>John 11:35</i>	17 <i>St. Patrick's Day</i> Feeding those at Harbor House today <i>John 3:16-17</i>	18 Pray for all who walk in the way of Jesus 7 pm - Worship <i>John 14:6</i>	19 Fair Trade Lane open 2:30 pm - 4:00 pm & March 28-29 <i>John 8:31-32</i>	20 Pray for Monday's joint Church Council & School Board meeting <i>1 John 1:8</i>	21 Pray for all places where there is war and conflict <i>Matthew 5:44-45</i>
22 World Water Day Regina Banks teaches at 10:30 am <i>John 11:1-45</i>	23 Monday Morning Women's Bible Study Lenten gathering <i>Matthew 20:28</i>	24 7 pm - Women's group at The Sofa Guy store <i>Matthew 6:24</i>	25 Pray for our physical health 7 pm - Worship <i>1 Corinthians 6:19</i>	26 Pray for Jesus' strength in time of testing <i>Hebrews 4:15</i>	27 Today is ECC Director Jenni's last day of work. Let us thank her !!!! <i>Philippians 1:3-6</i>	28 Prayers for all our music ministries! Tomato sales this weekend <i>Matthew 26:39</i>
29 <i>Palm Sunday</i> Prayers for our ELCA Missionaries in Tanzania, Daudi & Kellen <i>Matthew 27:11-54</i>	30 Today is Brooke Costi's first day as our new ECC Director!! Welcome!! <i>Mark 10:13-16</i>	31 Pray for our ministry partner, Global Refuge <i>Matthew 25:35</i>	www.alcto.org	alecc.org alschool.org	ascensionfoundation.org	elca.org lutheranworld.org

Attendance

Our six week attendance is continuing to drop slightly, now 422 vs the 427 I reported in February. One number that has increased is the Saturday night service for the last two weeks: 94 on March 7th and 87 on March 14th. For comparison, the average of Country Spirit service was about 55 in the weeks leading up to March 8th. On March 8th there was an amazing bagpiper group, and homemade stew, biscuits, and ice cream after the service.

Directory

Please congratulate Carolyn and Diane on a job very well done when you seen them. Diane, and several others like Pastor Steve and Susanne Hopkins, did an amazing job editing and making sure the information was as up to date as possible. Carolyn worked extremely hard editing and formatting the document and mastering the complicated print settings required to have it turn out. Pastor Chamie coordinated our wonderful youth to have directories available between church services on March 15th and March 22nd. With only 15 copies remaining of the initial 140 printed, we'll be printing more heading into the weekend of March 22nd. I pray the directories will become well used and foster a sense of community within our congregation.

Maintenance

Jeff, Camden, and Jude have been working hard to complete some larger projects as they carry on with the day to items we are so used to them completing. All seven of our older parking lights have been replaced with more efficient LED lighting, which should result in significant energy savings in addition to brightening up the campus in evening hours. The ducting around the newer HVAC vents in the sanctuary balcony have been drywalled and painted. Our iron works vendor added mesh to the west narthex gate and completed the locker covers downstairs. Jeff and I have been coordinating with contractors for the exterior restroom renovation we'll start in mid June. We're also starting to talk about what other projects we'll be able to complete in the summer months. One focus of the summer will be on some decluttering and clearing out of storage spaces and cabinets. Storage is always at premium, and we are trying to look at it critically and objectively so we are using it well.

Finance

The February close was very efficient with Camryn and Mike wrapping up the results by the first Friday in March. That has given us some time to focus on 2026-2027 budgets. The team is extremely excited about the way we are approaching the staffing planners for the ECC and the TK-8. While the church's salary budget has largely stayed to plan, the ECC and TK-8 variances have experienced large variances for the last couple of years. Even with positive variances, we wonder what false assumptions we made in our thinking. We've discovered that "full time" ECC teachers work an average of 7.3 hours per day instead of 8. Being 0.9 of a FTE equates to a significant variance in a \$1.6 million dollar payroll budget. We have been fairly accurate on planning for holidays, but 2.5 days of closures on the calendar created a significant variance related to TK-8 hourly paid staff. If you have ever talked to Mike about budgeting for staffing you will likely hear him say that we budget "fully loaded," meaning we assume all roles are filled for the entirety of the year. While we have been easily able to see and track how open positions affect the overall staffing at the church, many variables have made the TK-8 more complicated. While the fiscal year begins July 1, many of their hourly positions are not staffed until the second Monday in August, when we begin Professional Development Week and prepare for the start of the new academic year. It's lovely to think that we would have all roles filled and ready to begin August 10th or 11th, but last year's reality was hiring 16 new employees in the last two weeks of August. (Camryn managed this time period graciously with the help of God, her very smart brain, and the great payroll software we adopted in

spring of 2025.) This year's staffing model will vary by month and allow us to better forecast for closures and other staffing anomalies.

SHRM Credential on Workplace Investigations

I have taken one of the two courses required for my SHRM credential in anticipation of the live sessions I will attend March 16-20. When I have completed the live sessions and the second e-learning course I will be able to take the exam.

Retreat Days

After attending our joint Council and School Board meetings for March and driving toward initial budget projections for next year I am going to take a couple of days away to focus and prepare myself for Pasto Tim's sabbatical. I'm praying that sabbatical will be a refreshing time of renewal for Pastor Tim, but also an opportunity for Pastor Chamie and me to lead in some fun and different ways. She and I have been talking about Working Genius and what staff meetings led from other geniuses might look like. I am going to spend two days at Serra Retreat Center and familiarize myself with the peace cycles and conflict cycles that the pastors taught about during the recent couples retreat.

Thank you,

Kaylee Searway

Director of Operations



**Ascension Lutheran School Board Meeting Minutes
January 26, 2025**

Remembering Our Mission:

Church: We are called to create opportunities for all people to become devoted followers of Christ.

ECC: To nurture the whole child, establishing a lifelong learner and a foundation of faith.

Day School: Ascension Lutheran School is dedicated to nurturing each student, providing academic excellence and creating bold, compassionate leaders who inspire and serve others in their walk with Jesus Christ.

ONE ASCENSION Motto: COMMUNICATION, COLLABORATION & COMMUNITY

Attendees:

Ashley Steere, Jenni McCoy, Anna Woodward, Kathy Roshanai, Chris Poveromo, Kyle Jones, Jeanette McNulty, Rich Gregory, Nelly Trumbo, Matt Hurdle, Pastor Chamie, Scott Bean

Guests: Brooke Costi, Kaylee Searway, Cameron Lomeli, John Rarick, Creighton Van Horn, Ashley Babich, Brittney Childers

Call to Order:

Kyle Jones (President Elect) called the meeting to order at 6:34pm.

The board recited together the mission statements of the church, ECC and elementary school.

Devotion:

Jeannette shared a devotion focused on being present and God's command to not worry about tomorrow, but be focused on today from Matthew.

Approval of Agenda and Consent Agenda:

Motion to approve the agenda initiated by Scott Nelly seconded. Motion passes.

Approval of consent agenda items initiated by Scott. Cathy seconded. Motion passes.

Old Business:

- Modular update
- ECC Tuition Discount Final Wording -
 - Anna moves to approve the ECC Employee Handbook section detailing tuition discounts, as detailed by Kaylee Searway. Cathy seconds, motion passes unanimously.

New Business:

- Tech Update from Kaylee Searway and Ashley Babich -
 - There was a motion Scott moved to approve the proposed change to a cloud based system Nelly seconded. Motion passed 6-1.
- Ascension Lutheran School Teacher Compensation Package Review - Camryn Lomeli provided a comparison of Teacher Compensation, including an in-depth analysis of the intangibles outside of salary.
- Welcome to Brooke - Our new ECC Director
- Kyle provided an update on the Financial Aid subcommittee.
- Rich provided an update on recommendations for the physical security of a section of campus fencing. Rich informed the board that he will be spending \$2,200 on security fencing upgrades.
- Rich provided an update on some signage upgrades to the campus.

Closing Prayer:

Pastor Chamie closed the meeting with prayer.

Adjournment:

SCott to adjourn the meeting and reconvene for executive session. Cathy seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 8:12pm.

Respectfully submitted by Chris Poveromo

**Ascension Lutheran School Board Meeting Minutes
February 23, 2026**

Remembering Our Mission:

***Church:** We are called to create opportunities for all people to become devoted followers of Christ.*

***ECC:** To nurture the whole child, establishing a lifelong learner and a foundation of faith.*

***Day School:** Ascension Lutheran School is dedicated to nurturing each student, providing academic excellence, and creating bold, compassionate leaders who inspire and serve others in their walk with Jesus Christ.*

ONE ASCENSION Motto: COMMUNICATION, COLLABORATION & COMMUNITY

Attendees:

Ashley Steere, Jenni McCoy, Brooke Costi, Anna Woodward, Kathy Roshanai, Chris Poveromo, Kyle Jones, Jeanette McNulty (via Zoom), Rich Gregory, Nelly Trumbo, Matt Hurdle, Pastor Chamie, Scott Bean

Guests:

Mike Marvin

Call to Order:

Ashley Steere called the meeting to order at 6:41 pm.

The board recited together the mission statements of the church, ECC, and the elementary school.

Devotion:

Kathy shared a devotion focused on February being the month of love and heart-centered. The scripture Corinthians 13, and the divisions of the church, and how bringing love would bridge divisions.

Approval of Agenda and Consent Agenda:

Motion to approve the agenda initiated by Scott, Kathy seconded. Motion passes.

Approval of consent agenda items initiated by Nelly. Matt seconded. Motion passes.

Old Business:

- **Sign Update** - Rich provided an update on some proposed digital signage on Hillcrest.
- **Play Structure Update** - Rich provided an update on the potential redevelopment of our play structure. It included some early art renderings.
- **Financial Aid Committee Update:** The committee will meet in early March.

New Business:

- **Joint School Board/Church Council 3/23 5:30 in Founder's Hall.**
- **School Board Retreat scheduled for 3/26 on campus.**
- **Church discount clarification - Ashley researched the church discount and noted an opportunity to clarify it for the day school.**
 - **Matt Hurdle moved to set Church Member Discount and Sibling Discount at a flat rate of 10% for the ECC and Day school. Each student is eligible for only one discount. Scott seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

Closing Prayer:

Pastor Chamie closed the meeting with prayer.

Adjournment:

Nelly to adjourn the meeting and reconvene for executive session. Kyle seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 8:46 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Chris Poveromo



Wed., March 4, 2026

4:00-5:30pm Bethlehem Room

1. Opening Prayer – Pastor Chamie;
meeting led by Pastor Steve

2. Ukraine

Follow up on our February monthly benevolence with humanitarian help for Ukraine through our friend Dave Nonnemacher. We welcome our friend Olha Isaieva to this meeting!
What does it take to send 12-13,000 watt dual fuel generators to Ukraine?
Let's find out!

3. Gifts of Hope 2025 checks given/sent

\$16,531.70 ELCA – South Sudan
(Reconciliation Church)

\$2,000 ELCA, Juba Medical Center

\$17,912 Lutheran World Relief – South Sudan

\$31,755.30 ELCA World Hunger (God's Global Barnyard) - \$31,755.30

Thanks to our School gift of \$1,600.

\$22,927, Friends of Fieldworkers

\$22,924.68 Harbor House

Giving thanks to God for each of these generous gifts, from church, school, and foundation. Now, keep in prayer GOH 2026. We are in conversation with Pastor Carmen Retzlaff (ELCA Mission Funding Director, Region 2) and our ELCA missionary, Pastor Kristin Engstrom, about our Africa focus. Prayers for our local partner focus as well.

4. Fair Trade

See attached our monthly Fair Trade Ministry report, as this year we celebrate our 25th anniversary of ministry here! Fair Trade Lane will be open March 11, 19, 28, 29.



5. ELCA Region 2, the 40-40-40 Lenten Challenge

- There are lots of choices for accessing daily devotions, both in print and by email. For 2026, ELCA Region 2 (including our Southwest CA Synod) Hunger Leaders have collaborated to write daily devotions from a wide range of voices, focused on Matthew 25:37–40, “*Lord, When Did We See You?*”, to arrive in your email inbox each Lenten morning.
- Each week of Lent focuses on seeing our neighbors in need—the hungry, the thirsty, the stranger, the naked, the sick, and the imprisoned—and offers ideas for daily learning and/or daily action. There is a wonderful array of suggestions for persons of all ages!
- We also have the opportunity to donate (suggested \$1 per day of Lent) to ELCA World Hunger to support the many neighbors near and far who struggle to access sufficient food.
- Go to www.lentenchallenge.org to take a look! We invite each GMT member to sign up!



6. GMT Trip Fund

Thanks to our ALC Foundation for the grant of \$4,000 to our trip fund to help Angela’s and Nina’s family to come to their CLU graduation in May. We are also working on possible flights for their trip to NYC for a United Nations event.

7. **AIQ Advocacy, Info, & Questions.** This is a 25-minute zoom call every Wednesday noon with our ELCA Lutheran Office of Public Policy (LOPP) – California, with director Regina Banks (who is a member of Ascension!). This zoom call gives an update on state and federal legislative priorities and direct a quick advocacy activity. Pastor Steve joins most of these. To sign up, email Edie at thelotts@gmail.com. Any questions, you could ask Dixie Hanson too. <https://lutheranpublicpolicyca.org/advocacy-info-questions>

Lutheran Lobby Day will be Wed., May 20 from 8:30 to 4:00 at St. John's in Sacramento. Who would like to go? <https://lutheranpublicpolicyca.org/lutheran-lobby-day-2026>

Registration is now open until Tuesday, May 12th. You can access the form here: <https://forms.gle/9XcJbnZ1myF2VaoM8>

8. Creation Care

On World Water Day, Sunday, March 22, Regina Banks will be speaking in our adult education class on her experience at COP30 in Brazil and on other environmental issues for our state, country, and world. We hope that each of you are able to come to this class! <https://cop30.br/en> <https://unfccc.int/cop30>

9. Jubilee Zoom mts, also the 2025 End of Year Report will be handed out

Congregational calls, the first Tuesday of each month at 8:30am our time. Note: the time may change in future meetings. To register: email Brigid at brigid@jubileeusa.org

Partners of Jubilee, the third Thursday of the month, at 8:30am our time. Pastor Steve led the prayer on Feb. 19. To register: email Brigid at brigid@jubileeusa.org

Upcoming meetings:

No GMT meeting in April, during Holy Week. April 1, no fooling!

Wednesday, May 6, Focus on Bread for the World letter writing

Wednesday, June 3, Focus on Gifts of Hope 2026, and LWR

All year we will focus on our 25th Anniversary of Ascension's Fair Trade Ministries.

Note: GMT is serving at our Lenten Soup Supper on Wednesday, Feb. 25 in Pederson Hall. Please be here by 5:45pm. Thank you!

Mission Statement: With our congregation, we are "called to create opportunities for all people to become devoted followers of Christ." Together we "invite, grow, serve."

The Global Ministries Team will do this as we pray, work, partner and participate in God's mission around the world, using our ELCA global mission model of accompaniment. ("God's work. Our hands.") The scope of current ministries as well as those ministries we would like to better serve and support is reflected in our name. Inspired by the Biblical mandates to preach the Gospel and remember the poor, the Global Ministries Team will respond to God's love by sharing the good news of God's saving grace in Christ; preserving and restoring creation; and serving others through care, advocacy, education, reconciliation, solidarity with those in need, and interfaith work.

Mission Statement: With our congregation, we are "called to create opportunities for all people to become devoted followers of Christ." Together we "invite, grow, serve."

The Global Ministries Team will do this as **we pray, work, partner and participate in God's mission around the world**, using our ELCA global mission model of accompaniment. ("God's work. Our hands.") The scope of current ministries as well as those ministries we would like to better serve and support is reflected in our name. Inspired by the Biblical mandates to preach the Gospel and remember the poor, the Global Ministries Team will respond to God's love by sharing the good news of God's saving grace in Christ; preserving and restoring creation; and serving others through care, advocacy, education, reconciliation, solidarity with those in need, and interfaith work.

MEETING NOTES

WELCOME

Pastor Steve welcomed all present: Andy Binsley, Bruce Thomas, Carol Bjellend, Debra Papageorge, Ethel Jordan, Kim Overton, Louise Evenson, Marcia Koenig, Mary Wennes, Paul Evenson, Pastor Chamie Delkeskamp, and Ohla Isaieva, guest.

OPENING PRAYER – Pastor Chamie shared the core themes of the book War Gardens by Lalage Snow, a work of narrative journalism that explores how ordinary people grow food in the midst of armed conflict. Together, the GMT members read "Prayer in a Time of War", written by Pastor Chamie.

UKRAINE

- Ohla Isaieva, CLU graduate and friend of Ascension, was warmly welcomed by the GMT. Ohla shared about her journey since coming to the US from Ukraine 5 years ago. She is currently working with international students at a community college in Washington.
- Louise Evenson reviewed highlights from "Review of LIGHT CHANGES EVERYTHING", a document she prepared summarizing Ascension's February emphasis on a humanitarian response for Ukraine. Dave Nonnemacher's visit Jan. 30-Feb. 2, a candlelight vigil at Ukrainian Christian Church in Agoura Hills on Feb. 22, the GMT hosting the Lenten soup supper on Feb. 25, a report of the February benevolence offering for Ukraine, and other related activities were included.
- Eight generators have been sent to Ukraine. Pastor Steve will arrange for a \$5000 check for Dave Nonnemacher to use to benefit Ukraine. Dave's next trip to Ukraine is March 18-April 6.
- Louise recommended that the GMT advocate for the passage of the Ukrainian Adjustment Act. This act addresses the legal status of Ukrainians living in the US on humanitarian parole. Kim, Louise, and Paul will work on a plan of action.

GIFTS OF HOPE – Pastor Steve presented the list of Gifts of Hope 2025 recipients and donation amounts. Thanks be to God for all the gifts. Planning has begun for GOH 2026. Volunteers are needed for the committee. Suggestions for local concerns to be considered for GOH are requested. Bev has volunteered to be on the GOH 2026 team.

FAIR TRADE – Carol Bjellend announced that Ascension's Fair Trade Ministry is celebrating 25 years in 2026. See Carol's Fair Trade Report for February 2025 for the history of the Fair Trade Ministry and ideas for ways to celebrate this milestone.

ELCA REGION 2 – THE 40-40-40 LENTEN CHALLENGE – The ELCA Region 2 40-40-40 Lenten Challenge includes daily devotions and an invitation to donate to ELCA World Hunger. All were invited to sign up. See www.lentenchallenge.org for details.

GMT TRIP FUND – Nina and Angela’s parents were denied visas and will not be attending their CLU graduation on May 15. The GMT agreed to recognize their graduation in some way. Nina and Angela will be attending a United Nations event in New York City. We will help them with flights for that event.

ADVOCACY, INFO & QUESTIONS

There is a 25-minute zoom call every Wednesday noon with Regina Banks, Director of the ELCA Lutheran Office of Public Policy - California, which Pastor Steve usually attends. Updates on state and federal legislative priorities and advocacy activity are covered. Sign up with Edie at thelotts@gmail.com or contact Dixie Hanson at <https://lutheranpublicpolicyca.org/advocacy-info-questions> if you have questions.

Lutheran Lobby Day is Wed, May 20 from 8:30-4 at St. John’s, Sacramento:
<https://lutheranpublicpolicyca.org/lutheran-lobby-day-2026> . Registration is open until Tuesday, May 12:
<https://forms.gle/9XcJbnZ1myF2VaoM8>

CREATION CARE - Regina Banks will be speaking at the adult education class on World Water Day, March 22. Her experience at COP30 in Brazil and other environmental issues in our state, country, and world will be the topic.

JUBILEE ZOOM MEETINGS

- Congregational calls are on the first Tuesday of the month, currently at 8:30AM. To register, email Liam at liam@jubileeusa.org (Check the time; it may change to 10AM.)
- Partners of Jubilee calls are on the third Thursday of the month at 8:30 AM. Pastor Steve led the prayer on Feb. 19. To register, email Liam at liam@jubileeusa.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The ELCA Southwest California Synod assembly is May 29-30 at the Hilton in Pasadena. Pastor Steve is arranging the workshops for the assembly. A Global Refuge fundraiser is on May 31 in Beverly Hills. The goal is to raise \$100,000. www.globalrefuge.org

Bruce shared about our partnerships in El Salvador. There is a synod trip in August again if anyone would like to go. Pastor Steve reported about our prayers and support for Pastor David in Peru.

UPCOMING 2026 GMT MEETINGS

No meeting on April 1, 2026 (Holy Week)

Wednesday May 6, 2026 4-5:30	Focus on Bread for the World letter writing
Wednesday June 3, 2026 4-5:30	Focus on Gifts of Hope 2026 and LWR

All year we will focus on our 25th Anniversary of Ascension’s Fair Trade Ministries.

Submitted by Ethel Jordan

Fair Trade Report – February 2026

Fair Trade Lane (FTL) Schedule February - June 2026

Fair Trade Lane is open 4 times monthly; a Lunch Bunch Wednesday, a Thursday afternoon, and before & after Sat/Sunday worship. We share a monthly Fair Trade message at Wednesday Morning Chapel. We generally have 3-4 volunteers for Thursdays & weekends. Everyone is invited to volunteer. We are very happy to be able to greet those new to FTL and a growing number of regular visitors every time FTL is open. We love the “beautiful noise” – all of the great conversations happening on FTL.

FTL: Feb 7, 8, 11 & 12, March 11, 19, 28 & 29, April 8, 16, 18 & 19, May 13, 14, 16 & 17, and June 4, 10, 20 & 21

This is the 25th Anniversary Year for Ascension's Fair Trade Ministry – Let's Celebrate!

Pastor Howie & Mary Wennes planted the seed of Ascension's Fair Trade Ministry in September 2001, sharing the idea at a meeting of Ascension's Missions Committee (n/k/a Global Ministries Team). Ascension became a Fair Trade Congregation (via Fair Trade USA) in 2017. The ministry is multi-faceted – justice, service, environment & stewardship. The ministry connects with Ascension's School and Early Childhood Center. FT Leaders have been Arlene Eiler, Lori & Mark von Kronemann, Marcia Koenig, & Carol Bjelland. The ministry has sustained and grown in its 25 years. The ministry has helped another congregation launch their own Fair Trade ministry. The ministry is a means of sharing Ascension's hospitality, as well as a means of engaging people of all ages in ministry, service and fellowship.



A wooden signpost with a crossbar and an arrow pointing right. The arrow has the text "Fair Trade Lane" written on it. The sign is set against a background of a blue sky with a yellow sun and green hills. Below the sign, there is a small text box that says "A Fair Path to Justice for People and Planet".

FAIR TRADE LANE
WILL BE OPEN

Wednesday, March 11th
12:45 – 1 PM

Thursday, March 19th
2:30 – 4 PM

Saturday, March 28th
5:45 – 6 PM & 7-7:15 PM

Sunday, March 29th
8:30 - 9 AM, 10 - 10:30 AM & 11:30 - 11:45 AM

EVERYONE'S INVITED!
The double doors to Founders Hall will be open

How Might We Want To Celebrate the 25th Anniversary of Ascension's Fair Trade Ministry? Some ideas to get things started...

1. Create a comprehensive timeline of Ascension's Fair Trade Ministry from inception to current. How to creatively present & preserve?
2. A Blessing of the Fair Trade Art in FH (explanatory "plaque" completed, 2/26)
3. A video &/or a series of short video clips (who, what does FT mean to them, what makes them smile about FT, etc.). Involve youth of church & school. Involve others from church w/experience. Maybe show short clips in months leading up to Oct 2026? Maybe edit into one longer video? A team of students & adults is needed to organize, provide leadership, take it forward.
4. Connection & Fellowship Opportunities – Adults & Youth & Children
Ideas include FT wine tasting event (s) in the ECC garden, bonfire/S'mores, etc. Open to ideas etc. from Church, Ministry & School leaders. Something special each month would be great.
5. Adult Ed Class - Possibilities incl. Red Barn Farms (Zoom), The Tote Project (maybe in-person), Cypress Pond Farms (Zoom), Burroughs Farms (Zoom), Mt Meru Coffee Project (Zoom).
6. Inviting vendors to let us promote/make their FT & ethically-produced non-perishable items available for purchase on FT Lane with special monthly focus (an alternative to a gift fair). February was 10K Village & Downtown Women's Center (very well received). March/April, The Tote Project. Looking for ideas for the remaining months of the year.

7. Ascension Fair Trade has been invited to share Fair Trade S'Mores at bonfire events; already scheduled events incl May 8th (Youth) & August 8th (Family Weekend).
8. Ascension Fair Trade has been invited to share a presentation about Fair Trade at the 2026 Synod Assembly workshop, May 29 & 30, 2026, in Pasadena.
9. Ascension has been invited to conduct a workshop at the Equal Exchange Annual Summit June 12th/Wheaton College, Norton, MA. The workshop will be for the Interfaith segment of the Summit. Help requested to create a new presentation (content & format). (EE is the largest FT product vendor (coffee, tea, choc, olive oil, nuts, dried fruit) & one of the oldest in the US).
10. Special monthly communication focus on an aspect of Fair Trade and/or as aspect of the history of Fair Trade at Ascension
11. Grow the Ascension Fair Trade email group.
12. Update Ascension's Fair Trade webpage with high quality photos (also videos) of Fair Trade Lane (doors open) and the Fair Trade art along with updated information.
13. Hospitality Celebration on the patio – October (Fair Trade Month). Coffee, tea, iced tea (& other FT beverages if available) along with FT treats and/or treats made with FT products.
14. A celebration with the students of Ascension's School
15. Ordering specially-branded coffee mugs (Daneen Pottery/St Paul, MN) or custom candles (brand & scent) from Downtown Women's Center, or chocolate bars (Tony's Chocolonely) Material factors to consider – quantity, cost, timing.

Resources Needed: People of all ages from church and school sharing time and talents, including a cross-functional leadership team. If an idea, or ideas, speak to you, let us know. To the extent possible, events such as wine tastings will self-fund with participation fees to cover costs. We will look to ministry groups to contribute to funding events (e.g. May 8th & Aug 8th bonfire s'mores). Funds will be needed for some activities such as hospitality or group receptions. Ascension Fair Trade is a dedicated-fund ministry.

Ascension Fair Trade Ministry Goals:

1. Grow in numbers across church, school & community and across all ages
2. Grow education – dig deeper
3. Grow in connections with Church & School – Youth, Staff, Families, Ministries (maybe "internship" or self-study research opportunities)
4. Help other congregations /faith groups start or grow their Fair Trade ministries
5. Might Ascension Lutheran School consider becoming a Fair Trade School?
6. Help to re-establish, support & grow a Fair Trade program at CLU

Thank You.

Let's Be The Change We Wish To See!

For Additional Information, Please Contact: Pastor Steve Herder or Carol Bjelland for Ascension Fair Trade Ministry; fairtrade@alcto.org



Hands & Hearts & Fair Trade

A Faith Path to Justice For People & Planet

Ten colorful blocks of Fair Trade principles form the foundation. Colorful hands and hearts embracing these values were added by students and staff of Ascension's School. All securely in Jesus' hands.

Placed on the image of Ascension's Fair Trade Lane, colorful hands and hearts from the children of Ascension's Early Childhood Center and children, youth and adults of Ascension's Congregation, guide and welcome all.

Abundantly blessed by the Holy Spirit and our Ascension Community of Church, School and Foundation, we give thanks for inspiring, supporting, promoting and celebrating Fair Trade, a faith path to justice for people and planet

Ascension's Fair Trade Ministry



October 2025



ELCA members in more than 9,300 congregations in the United States and Caribbean give approximately \$1.75 billion in regular offering to support ELCA ministries in their local communities and worldwide. When members give through their **congregations**, a percentage of that money is then shared with the local **synod** and the national **churchwide organization**.

This unrestricted giving, called Mission Support, gives us both the foundation and the fuel to do God's work in the world and a portion of the gifts circle back to support ministries in synods and local congregations. Of these unrestricted gifts, the churchwide organization receives around 2.6 percent. This represents the largest portion of the ELCA churchwide organization's operating budget.

Your Mission Support helps fund the following churchwide ministries:

Grow the ELCA in the United States



Plant and support
357 new congregations.

- **Enable congregations to renew their ministries** and reach out to their surrounding communities.
- **Work together** with our African Descent, American Indian and Alaska Native, Arab and Middle Eastern, Asian and Pacific Islander, and Latino/Latina members to develop networks and resources for ministry.
- **Develop and share resources** for faith, discipleship, prayer and worship.

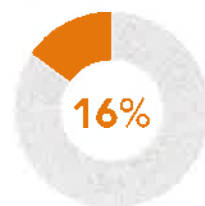
Grow the Lutheran church around the world



Send 230 missionaries
in more than 48 countries, and more than 84 Young Adults in Global Mission in 11 country programs.

- **As a member of The Lutheran World Federation, we're in communion with 145 member churches** and directly connected to 85 companion churches in other countries.
- **Accompany new Lutheran churches**, expand ministries, and train leaders and evangelists.

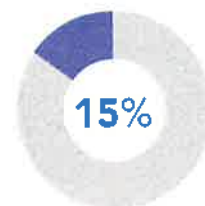
Provide coordination and support for churchwide ministries



1.1 million
Maintain constituent database, including 1.1 million records of rostered and lay leaders, members, donors and congregations.

- **Preserve and maintain archives and historic records** of the ELCA and its predecessor bodies.
- **Provide office space, equipment and human resources** for staff and operations.
- **Process 150,000 gifts** to ELCA ministries.
- **Equip congregations and synods** with resources to assist in risk management and legal matters.

Support and develop current and future leaders in the ELCA



9,900
Recruit, prepare and implement a system for the assignment of 9,900 rostered ministers.

- **Support the work** of seven ELCA seminaries and 26 colleges and universities.
- **Identify, connect and provide** ministry resources and opportunities for networking for lay leaders.
- **Offer events and leadership opportunities** for youth and young adults.

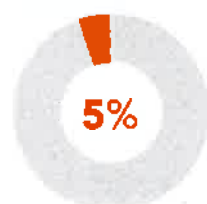
Invest in **technology** and **communications**



Design and maintain communications tools to strengthen our Lutheran identity and grow awareness of our church and its mission and ministries.

- **Connect members with one another** through new technology and systems.

Provide **governance** and **leadership**



65
Coordinate meetings and support for 65 synodical bishops.

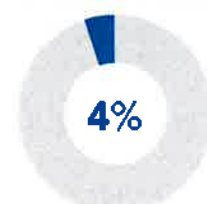
- **Organize lay and clergy leaders from across the church to serve** on the governance boards and committees that provide guidance and oversight for ELCA ministries.

Grow and sustain financial resources



Develop and promote efforts related to stewardship education, financial literacy, mission interpretation and growth in giving to all church ministries.

Address social issues and **work for justice**



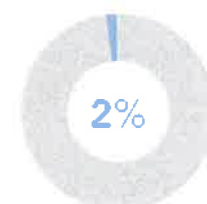
1 in 50

Support social ministry organizations, such as Lutheran Services in America, to impact the lives of **1 in 50** Americans.

- **Engage** in churchwide study and deliberation to create social statements and resources that address social, political, environmental and other public issues.
- **Equip** members and leaders to advocate with lawmakers in order to support policies that promote justice and peace.

Your designated gifts to ELCA World Hunger and Lutheran Disaster Response provide additional funds annually to address hunger, poverty and suffering around the world.

Engage in **research** and **strategic planning**



Research and analyze trends that impact the ELCA and develop innovative strategies to improve mission and ministry in the 21st century.

Sustain **ecumenical** and **interfaith relationships**



Facilitate dialogue and common action among communities of other faiths, including the development of resources and communications for ELCA congregations.

- **Seek unity in faith and life** with all Lutherans and six full communion partners.



UKRAINE HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE: 2022-2024 IMPACT REPORT

**DOCUMENTING THREE YEARS OF LOCALLY LED HUMANITARIAN AID,
RECOVERY AND RESILIENCE IN CONFLICT-AFFECTED COMMUNITIES.**

DATES COVERED: FEBRUARY 24, 2022 – DECEMBER 31, 2024



Three weeks after the war began in 2022, in a converted school gymnasium in the small town of Przemyśl in Poland near the border with Ukraine, Ukrainian refugees are given food, clothing and a place to sleep temporarily while they plan their journey to more stable lodgings.

Executive Summary

Since the onset of the war in Ukraine in 2022, Corus International has delivered life-saving humanitarian aid and recovery support to communities affected by the crisis. This marks the organization's first operational response in Europe, drawing on the expertise of our subsidiaries Lutheran World Relief, IMA World Health, and CGA Technologies to provide an integrated, multi-sectoral approach.

Over the past three years, we have scaled and adapted our programming to meet the evolving needs of conflict-affected populations, with a strong focus on supporting internally displaced persons (IDPs), restoring livelihoods, providing essential health care, preventing violence against women and girls and empowering local partners to lead sustainable solutions.

Key Results (2022–2024):

- **164,298 individuals** reached with humanitarian services, including essential non-food items (NFIs) or services, woodstoves, quilts and hygiene supplies across ten regions: Zakarpattia, Lviv, Rivne, Poltava, Kharkiv, Vinnytsia, Chernihiv, Sumy, Dnipro and Kyiv.
- **21,936 individuals** supported with health and mental health services.
- **9,602 individuals** reached with survivor-centered support and protection services related to violence against women and girls.
- **6,950 individuals** supported through food security and agricultural livelihoods recovery activities.
- **4,030 individuals** provided with emergency shelter through Federation of Trade Unions of Ukraine (FPU) housing centers.
- **315 individuals** received grants to restore their farming livelihoods.
- Developed and implemented the e-Dopomoga digital platform to support the Ministry of Social Policy's humanitarian cash transfer program

Despite extraordinary operational challenges, including repeated attacks on civilian infrastructure, displacement of populations and complex security environments, Corus has maintained critical services in some of the hardest-hit areas of Ukraine.

Corus International is a humanitarian organization that unites an array of nonprofit organizations and businesses, each with specialized expertise — from health to technology to economic development to emergency response. Alongside communities and local partners in fragile settings, our expert teams integrate disciplines, approaches and resources to overcome poverty and suffering for those living in the world's toughest and most difficult circumstances. Our traditional and nontraditional approaches bring together the multi-dimensional, holistic solutions needed to truly achieve lasting change.

Background

The war in Ukraine, which began on February 24, 2022, triggered one of the most severe humanitarian crises in Europe in recent history. More than three years of active conflict have resulted in widespread displacement, destruction of infrastructure, and immense strain on health, social and economic systems.



Anna and another resident walk by destroyed buildings in Tsyrukun, Ukraine after attending a quilt and kit distribution led by Corus organization Lutheran World Relief.

At the height of the crisis in 2022:

- **17.7 million people** were in need of humanitarian assistance.
- **Over 7 million people** had fled across borders as refugees.
- **6.9 million** were internally displaced within Ukraine.

By 2025, needs were most acute in frontline and newly accessible areas. Across Ukraine, 12.7 million people remained in need of humanitarian assistance, including 2.8 million IDPs.

Kharkiv Oblast, one of the regions most affected by the conflict, has sustained up to 18% of all war-related damage in Ukraine. Once a hub for smallholder agriculture and food production, the region has faced significant infrastructure damage, recurrent power outages and prolonged service disruptions.

In the early phase of the war, immediate priorities focused on lifesaving needs, including emergency shelter, food assistance, health care and protection services. By 2023 and 2024, as the crisis evolved, additional challenges emerged in response to protracted displacement, ongoing destruction and continued attacks—particularly in hard-hit and recently de-occupied areas. These included:

- Disrupted livelihoods and increasing food insecurity
- Limited access to health care and mental health services
- Ongoing needs for winterization support and energy system resilience
- Rising risks of violence against women and girls, and the need for protection of vulnerable groups
- Complex pathways for recovery and reintegration of displaced families and returnees

Corus International's response has evolved in parallel, reflecting the growing complexity of the crisis and the urgent need for both immediate relief and sustainable, community-driven recovery solutions.

Corus International's Response Strategy (2022 – 2024)

From the onset of the war, Corus implemented a phased, adaptive response to address urgent humanitarian needs and support recovery efforts in Ukraine and among displaced populations in neighboring countries.

2022: Emergency Relief

- Partnered with the Federation of Trade Unions of Ukraine (FPU), which hosted large numbers of IDPs, providing shelter, food, hygiene kits and essential supplies to more than **4,000 people** in western and central Ukraine
- Delivered medical supplies, including surgical kits, medicines and oxygen equipment, to hospitals across Ukraine
- Provided early mental health and psychosocial support services to **3,743 individuals**
- Deployed mobile medical teams to address critical health care shortages
- Provided cash and voucher assistance to Ukrainian refugees in Poland, integrating protection services for women and children
- Distributed essential non-food items (NFIs), including hygiene kits, quilts and woodstoves, to **4,313 people**

2023: Expansion and Frontline Response

- Strengthened local partnerships in eastern Ukraine, expanding operations into frontline and hard-to-reach areas, especially Kharkiv Oblast
- Provided shelter and meals for **295,117 bed-days** to **1,624 vulnerable families** across six wellness resorts

- Delivered food security and winterization support to more than **5,500 families** in Kharkiv, including packages of seeds to grow the vegetables needed for borscht in household garden
- Supported **500 farmers** with poultry, tools and training to restore agricultural livelihoods
- Delivered **43,443 medical services** and more than **12,000 psychological support sessions** via mobile medical units
- Launched violence prevention programs, awareness sessions and a Women and Girls Safe Space in the Lozova community

2024: Scaling Health, Livelihoods and Protection Response

- Expanded mobile medical units to deliver integrated primary health care, diagnostics and mental health services in Kharkiv, Chernihiv, Sumy and Dnipropetrovsk, reaching nearly **9,000 patients**
- Delivered **32,180 medical procedures**, including cardiology and ophthalmology services
- Provided mental health services to **4,978 individuals** and mental health support related to violence against women and girls to an additional **2,268 individuals**
- Supported **2,900 farmers** with tailored agriculture packages and awarded **\$1,000 microgrants** to 160 farmers
- Conducted more than **90 technical training** sessions in partnership with Ukrainian research institutes
- Distributed essential supplies, including hygiene kits, blankets and winterization items, to more than **95,301 people**
- Convened the national “Unite Against Violence” forum, securing high-level commitments to address violence against women and girls in Ukraine

Throughout all phases, Corus emphasized a **localization-first approach**—working in close collaboration with Ukrainian non-governmental organizations (NGOs), local government bodies and academic institutions. Programs were designed to reflect community priorities, withstand operational and security challenges and align with national response strategies. Focusing on resilience and long-term recovery, Corus invested in strengthening the capacity of local actors in financial management, compliance, reporting and program monitoring and evaluation.



In war-affected Chernihiv, medical staff and volunteers unload trauma and surgical supplies at a hospital treating the injured. Provided by Corus International and delivered in partnership with the Order of Malta, these critical materials were transported from Poland to support thousands of patients in need.



Alina Kotlyarova and her mother Oksana stand in the barn that shelters their dairy cows—just meters from the frontline during the early days of the war. With support from Corus, Alina received technical training and equipment that will allow their small family-run cheese operation in Kharkiv to scale up production and restore their livelihood after months of occupation and hardship.

Impact by Sector

Health

Corus prioritizes access to essential health care in conflict-affected areas, with a focus on rural and frontline regions where health systems have been severely disrupted. The centerpiece of this response has been the **Mobile Medical Unit (MMU)** model — launched in 2023 and expanded in 2024 — which delivers integrated medical and mental health services directly to vulnerable and remote communities.

In response to disruptions in primary and secondary care in eastern Ukraine, Corus and our partners adapted the MMU staffing model to include medical specialists tailored to local needs. Each MMU is staffed by a skilled team, including an ophthalmologist, cardiologist, gynecologist, psychologist, family doctor and laboratory technician. Services include diagnostic testing, primary care consultations, psychosocial care and specialized services such as cardiology and ophthalmology.

In 2024, Corus expanded MMU services to include survivor-centered care for individuals affected by violence against women and girls, offering confidential, trauma-informed support at each deployment site.

Key Health Results (2022–2024):

- Covered the regions of Kharkiv, Chernihiv, Sumy, and Dnipropetrovsk
- Reached a total of **8,943 patients**
- Delivered **32,180 medical services**, including cardiology and ophthalmology services
- Supported **4,978 people** through psychotherapy, psychological first aid and specialized mental health referrals
- Strengthened the capacity of **41 health professionals** through trainings in modern clinical protocols, e-health systems and case management for violence prevention

The MMUs have ensured continuity of care amid ongoing disruptions and have built trust in communities historically underserved by formal health systems. In many areas, they remain the only consistent source of primary and mental health care available since the escalation of the war.



Dr. Oksana Rudenko, an ophthalmologist with the Corus Mobile Medical Unit in Balakliia, examines Tetiana as part of an outreach effort bringing critical health care to people.

Livelihoods and Economic Recovery

Recognizing the devastating impact of the war on Ukraine's agricultural sector and household incomes, Corus launched targeted **livelihoods and food security programs** to help communities restore production, rebuild self-reliance and improve food access. These efforts were especially focused in Kharkiv Oblast, one of the first regions targeted by Russian forces and home to thousands of smallholder farmers.

More than **6,000 farmers** received tools, inputs, poultry, training and other services designed to support both immediate needs and long-term recovery. Corus partnered with local institutions — including the Kharkiv Regional Center of Advice (KRCA), Organic



A New Chance at Life in Balakliia

Liubov, 42, lives in Volokhiv Yar, a village near Balakliia in Kharkiv Oblast. She and her family survived a six-month occupation without water or electricity, with their home damaged and windows shattered. During that time, Liubov suffered fractures to her arm and leg but was unable to seek medical care due to insecurity and restricted movement.

Months later, she learned that a Mobile Medical Unit — operated by Corus and Infection Control in Ukraine with support from the Ukraine Humanitarian Fund — was providing services nearby. Though her fractures had healed, Liubov had since lost all her hair and feared the ongoing stress might be to blame. Dr. Tetiana Kolesnyk, a general practitioner and endocrinologist with the MMU, suspected a more serious underlying cause. Tests revealed a rare but life-threatening condition: bilateral parathyroid gland adenomas.

Liubov was immediately referred to the National Endocrinology Institute in Kyiv, where she underwent treatment. Her lab results now show normalized levels, signaling a full recovery and eliminating the risk of further fractures or kidney complications. Reflecting on her journey, she asked with cautious optimism, “Maybe I can get my hair back?” Whether or not that happens, Liubov now has a renewed chance at life — one where she can rebuild her home, nurture her family and look to the future with hope.

Ukraine and national research institutes — to deliver technical support, inputs and funding to both experienced and first-time farmers. Programs promoted locally adapted agriculture while increasing resilience in frontline communities.

Key Livelihood Results (2022–2024):

- Distributed **2,900 customized agriculture packages**, including seeds, fertilizer, tools, canning kits, chicks, coops and fodder
- Provided **315 farmers** each with \$1,000 microgrants to restore farming operations, transition to organic production, or expand market access and complete business trainings
- Conducted **47 planting sessions** and **50 poultry trainings** in partnership with national institutes
- Delivered **90 individual** consultations through online platforms, including Telegram-based support channels
- **92%** of participants reported satisfaction, citing improved food security and productive capacity
- **87%** reported improved winter food availability through canning, jam-making, poultry stew preparation and seed preservation
- Farmers consumed on average **70%** of their own produce, leading to improved dietary diversity and reduced dependence on markets

Corus partnered with the **Kharkiv Regional Center of Advice (KRCA)** to restore livelihoods in one of Ukraine’s most severely affected agricultural regions. Programming focused on strengthening KRCA’s operational capacity through our Local Capacity Strengthening approach (see “Localization in Action”



After war ravaged her farm in Kharkiv, Valentina Starikova revived her land and livelihood with the support of Corus International’s agricultural training and technical support.

section). This included support for financial management, procurement, partnership development and digital service delivery. By early 2024, KRCA had launched a nonprofit arm and joined coordination platforms to expand its humanitarian programming. The organization is now recognized as one of the most effective local implementers in Kharkiv.

Farmers reported increases in both vegetable and poultry production, with 60% of vegetable producers and 75% of poultry farmers citing improved yields. New market linkages were formed, including sales of fresh produce, baked goods, and preserved items to nearby towns and returning customers from Kharkiv city. Organic farming trainings and product diversification helped expand income streams and build financial independence.

In addition to economic gains, many farmers cited emotional and psychosocial benefits from participating in the program. More than half reported increased pride and satisfaction in their work, while others cited reduced stress, restored routines and a renewed sense of purpose amid the uncertainty of war.

Protection

The war in Ukraine has significantly increased the risks of **violence against women and girls**, particularly in frontline and newly accessible areas where displacement, economic instability and trauma intersect. In response, Corus implemented survivor-centered programming that prioritizes dignity, safety and access to care.

In 2023, Corus launched our first Women and Girls Safe Space (WGSS) in Lozova, Kharkiv Oblast—one of the country’s most heavily impacted regions. Following the repair of local facilities, five additional WGSS centers were opened in Chernihiv and Sumy in 2024. These spaces offered confidential support and were staffed by 12 social workers and six psychologists trained in trauma response.

Our protection model combines **psychosocial services, legal support, medical referrals and community engagement** to address both individual needs and broader prevention goals. In Chernihiv and Sumy, nearly 10,000 individuals were reached with psychosocial services, including women, girls, men and boys affected by violence. Legal consultations were provided through local aid centers, and survivors were referred to trusted health facilities for care.

Protection services were also integrated into mobile medical programming. Seven medical personnel in Dnipropetrovsk received specialized training in trauma-informed care, and a new referral card was introduced to streamline survivor access to appropriate services.



Food for the Winter in Derhachi

Nadia, 63, has spent her life farming in Derhachi, Kharkiv Oblast, where she lives with her two grandchildren and two cats. When the war reached her village, Derhachi became a frontline, forcing most residents to flee. “I was one of only four households who remained,” she said. With daily shelling and insecurity, she could no longer tend to her crops.

Through Corus International’s partnership with the Center for Disaster Philanthropy, Nadia received a “Borscht Seeds” kit — complete with tomato, cabbage, onion, carrot, beet and dill seeds — along with essential tools like a grass cutter, chainsaw, electric water sprayer and canning lids. “Your support has helped me so much, it has lifted my life,” she said through tears.

Now, Nadia’s shelves are lined with preserved vegetables to sustain her family through the winter. “I cooked and ate the vegetables, made borscht, and the rest have been stored in the cellar,” she explained, adding that the tomato seeds were of such high quality that she shared them with neighbors. The new equipment also enabled her to better care for her dairy cow, a critical source of food and income. She attended several training sessions through the program and learned pest control techniques and improved farming methods. “I am so grateful for this project, this support — thank you.”



Protection specialist, Tetyana Medvid, stands in front of a Corus Mobile Medical Unit.

Key Protection Results (2023–2024):

- Reached **9,602 individuals** through violence prevention and survivor support services
- Provided **2,268 individuals** with dedicated mental health support related to violence, trauma or addiction
- Conducted **100 group** counseling sessions and **1,700 individual** therapy sessions through safe spaces
- Provided **51 survivors** with legal consultations on divorce, custody, labor rights and state benefits
- Supported **86 women** with psychosocial art therapy and community events
- **58% of participants** reported a decrease in psychological distress and an increased sense of safety

To strengthen prevention at the community level, Corus led a series of specialized trainings and public engagement efforts across Ukraine. Medical staff, humanitarian actors, school personnel, youth, community leaders and social protection workers received targeted lectures and tools to improve identification and response to violence. These efforts helped **shift attitudes, improve response systems and build trust** at the local level.

In December 2024, Corus and our partners convened more than 100 decision-makers at the “Unite Against Violence” national forum in Kyiv. Participants included government representatives, civil society leaders and the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights (Ombudsman). The forum led to a public declaration with key recommendations and strengthened national coordination on survivor-centered care.

Essential Non-Food Supplies and Winterization

With Ukraine’s harsh winters and widespread damage to heating and energy infrastructure, Corus prioritized **non-food item (NFI) distributions and winterization support** to ensure families could stay warm, safe and healthy. Efforts began in early 2022, initially

focusing on displaced families housed in temporary shelters, and subsequently expanding to rural households, frontline communities and collective centers across multiple regions.

Corus distributed essential NFIs, including woodstoves, quilts, bedding kits and hygiene supplies, to support household resilience and reduce health risks during the winter months. These items were complemented by guidance on safe heating practices and hygiene promotion in temporary accommodation facilities.

Key NFI and Winterization Results (2022–2024):

- Provided **99,614 individuals** with essential NFIs, including stoves, blankets and hygiene kits
- Emergency winter support included fuel, blankets, thermal clothing and heaters to improve household resilience during power cuts and freezing temperatures
- Partnerships with local suppliers and humanitarian actors streamlined procurement and delivery, ensuring a timely response to seasonal needs



In Lyptsi, a frontline community in Kharkiv Oblast, Yuriy Butrin and his wife endured a winter without gas or electricity. Corus provided a wood-burning stove to support off-grid heating and cooking needs, which Yuriy said “helped us survive the winter.”

Corus also supported household-level **preparedness** through our livelihoods program. Farmers received canning kits, poultry feed and training in food preservation. According to the agricultural endline evaluation, 87% of participants reported improved winter food storage and availability as a result of these efforts.

At the shelter level, Corus provided winterization upgrades for collective centers, including insulation, minor repairs and heating equipment installation to improve safety and comfort for displaced families.

Cash Assistance and Temporary Shelter

In the early stages of the response, Corus provided **emergency shelter and cash support** to meet the immediate needs of IDPs.

These services were critical for families who had fled active conflict zones and arrived in western and central Ukraine with limited resources and few safe housing options.

Through a partnership with the Federation of Trade Unions of Ukraine in 2022, Corus supported wellness centers offering free accommodation, meals, and access to basic services. These centers operated in Lviv, Zakarpattia, Rivne, Kharkiv, Vinnytsia, and Khmelnytskyi, providing a temporary safety net for displaced families.

Key Shelter and Cash Assistance Results (2022):

- Supported **4,030 individuals** with emergency shelter and meals through the FPU initiative
- Provided **295,117 bed-days** across six wellness centers, including food and essential services
- Supported over **50,000 caseloads** of the Ukrainian refugees in Poland, accompanied by the secondment of technical staff
- Provided direct cash assistance to more than **1,300 Ukrainian refugees** in Poland for essentials such as food, clothing and hygiene items

Corus prioritized flexibility in our cash assistance model to allow households to meet their most urgent needs. Individuals noted the speed and dignity of the process, particularly during a time when displacement, uncertainty and bureaucratic delays limited access to public services.

Although cash and shelter interventions were most active in 2022, they laid the foundation for long-term trust and local partnership. Lessons from this early phase informed the broader localization and recovery strategies Corus deployed in subsequent years.



Kristina, a refugee from Kyiv now living in Gdańsk with her three children and family, registers for emergency cash assistance at a distribution center supported by Corus International and partners.

Localization in Action

From the onset of the Ukraine crisis, Corus grounded our response in a firm commitment to local leadership. Guided by our **Local Capacity Strengthening (LCS) approach**, Corus worked alongside Ukrainian organizations, institutions and authorities to co-design, deliver and scale humanitarian solutions that are community-led, sustainable and responsive to evolving conditions.

Across all sectors — agriculture, health, protection, shelter and winterization — Corus forged direct partnerships with community-based organizations, academic institutions and local governments. This localization-first approach ensured contextually relevant programming while helping to sustain critical systems under prolonged stress.

Empowering Frontline Service Delivery

Corus has partnered with more than a dozen Ukrainian organizations to deliver life-saving assistance in high-risk and newly accessible areas. These local actors led the implementation of emergency shelter, mobile health care, violence prevention and agricultural recovery—often using local infrastructure, referral networks, and staff trained through Corus-supported systems, including:

- In 2022, Corus worked with the **Federation of Trade Unions of Ukraine (FTU)** to provide shelter, meals and basic supplies to more than 4,000 IDPs across six oblasts.
- The **Evangelical-Augsburg Church of St. Martin in Krakow** provided cross-border shelter and emergency assistance for Ukrainian refugees in Poland.
- In **Kharkiv, Sumy and Chernihiv**, Ukrainian civil society partners led protection services, psychosocial programming and mobile health delivery.
- The **State Emergency Services of Kharkiv and Luhansk** facilitated non-food item distributions and supported disaster response following the Kakhovka dam collapse in 2023.

This community-based delivery model was strengthened through partnerships with government-run legal aid clinics, referral systems for survivors of violence, and targeted training for health professionals and social workers.

Strengthening Agricultural Systems in Kharkiv

In Kharkiv Oblast, Corus partnered with the **Kharkiv Regional Center of Advice (KRCA)** to restore livelihoods in one of Ukraine's most severely affected agricultural regions. KRCA, a locally run institution led by agricultural scientists, had experienced major disruptions due to displacement and infrastructure loss.

Through an intensive LCS process grounded in accompaniment and mutual learning, Corus supported KRCA to:

- Rebuild its expert advisory network
- Launch services for first-time and displaced farmers
- Strengthen its financial, procurement and reporting systems
- Leverage digital tools like Telegram-based support groups and an open-access knowledge-sharing platform
- Build partnerships with research centers and public agencies, including the **Institute of Vegetable and Melon Growing, Organic Ukraine** and the **State Experimental Station of Poultry Farming**

By early 2024, KRCA had formally established a new nonprofit arm, joined subnational coordination platforms and reached more than 5,500 farmers. With support from Corus and donors such as the Center for Disaster Philanthropy and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, KRCA is now positioned to replicate its advisory model in other conflict-affected regions of Ukraine.

Elevating Local Leadership in Health and Protection

Corus also strengthened the capacity and visibility of Ukrainian NGOs delivering critical health and protection services. For example:

- The **International Charitable Foundation (ICU)** led mobile medical units staffed entirely by Ukrainian providers, delivering integrated health and mental health services across Kharkiv, Sumy and Chernihiv.
- The **Ukrainian Foundation for Public Health (UFPH)** and the **League of Modern Women** operated women and girls safe spaces offering trauma-informed psychosocial care, legal referrals and protection services.

In 2024, Corus facilitated the participation of ICU and UFPH in the **European Forum for Primary Care** in Ljubljana. Their panel presentation, “Navigating Healthcare During Ukraine’s War,” amplified local models and provided a platform for Ukrainian expertise in international humanitarian discourse. The event also demonstrated the role of Corus in bridging global coordination platforms and grassroots implementers.

Policy Alignment and Coordination

Corus actively contributed to humanitarian coordination efforts at both national and global levels. This included support for data harmonization, localized policy development and alignment with government and UN strategies.



Corus International’s Tamara Demuria and Daniel Brown during a visit to the Luybyn Velykyj wellness center in Lviv Oblast.

Key coordination bodies included:

- The **Health Cluster** and the **NGO Platform Advisory Group**
- The **Subnational Food Security and Livelihoods Cluster** in Kharkiv
- Ongoing engagement with the **Ministry of Health, Ministry of Agriculture, National Center for Public Health, Ombudsman’s Office** and **local hromadas**

By embedding capacity development, accompaniment and shared leadership across every partnership, Corus advances a localization strategy that is both principled and practical. Our model centers the strengths of local actors, ensures services meet evolving community needs and builds long-term systems for resilience and recovery.

Challenges, Risks, and Adaptive Measures

Operating in Ukraine over the past three years has required constant adaptation to an exceptionally volatile security and operational environment. Corus and our partners have navigated repeated attacks, infrastructure disruptions and staffing challenges to maintain continuity of care and support for conflict-affected populations. These challenges have demanded **flexible strategies, robust risk mitigation and close coordination** with local and international actors.

Navigating Insecurity and Threats to Staff

Corus operations in eastern Ukraine have been repeatedly disrupted by their proximity to active combat. The field office in Kharkiv sustained the impact of nearby missile and drone strikes on three separate occasions, with some projectiles landing just 300 to 400 meters from staff facilities. In November 2023, a drone attack on a residential building—home to one of our drivers—highlighted the persistent threats to staff safety both on and off duty. In addition, three hotels previously used to house field staff during missions were destroyed by shelling, further reducing available safe accommodations in the region.

To ensure appropriate protection for staff, Corus continually conducted safety evaluations and strengthened operational security protocols when needed. All personnel were equipped with individual protective gear, including helmets, first aid kits and bulletproof vests. Offices in Kyiv and Kharkiv were retrofitted with blast-resistant film, stocked with emergency supplies and included in regular evacuation drills. Vehicles were visibly marked with Corus logos on the roofs to improve aerial identification and reduce risk during transport.

Mitigating Infrastructure Disruptions

Widespread and repeated attacks on Ukraine's energy infrastructure in 2023 and 2024 resulted in extended power outages across program areas, directly impacting operations. To maintain functionality during blackouts, Corus procured and installed backup charging stations for both field offices. These investments enabled staff to continue critical service delivery, data management and communications even in the absence of grid power.

Staffing Challenges from Military Conscription

The national military conscription presented an unanticipated human resource challenge when two Corus team members were conscripted into the Ukrainian armed forces. Their sudden departure necessitated the swift redistribution of responsibilities across existing team members. Through flexible staffing plans and internal cross-training, Corus was able to maintain service continuity and minimize disruption to field activities.

Ensuring Access and Operational Continuity

Access to program locations — especially those near the Russian border — remained a significant constraint. Corus overcame these challenges by formally integrating into the Ukrainian Humanitarian Notification System and the U.N. Department of Safety and Security information network. These systems provided real-time updates on military activity, security incidents and route access, enabling informed field movement decisions.

To operate within five kilometers of Ukraine's national borders, Corus obtained special permissions from the State Border Guard Service and maintained active coordination with civil-military cooperation units. Staff working in high-risk areas received hostile environment awareness training and first aid certification, while those in lower-risk zones participated in internal security briefings.

Real-Time Communications and Risk Monitoring

To ensure timely and transparent information flow, Corus implemented a flash report system that circulated regular updates on security conditions, regional threats and travel routes to

internal leadership and key partners. These reports became a critical tool for decision-making and accountability, reinforcing the organization's commitment to staff safety and operational agility.

Looking Ahead

As Ukraine continues to grapple with the consequences of ongoing conflict, the **needs on the ground remain immense**. Widespread displacement, damaged infrastructure, disrupted services and the enduring toll on physical and mental health have made recovery both urgent and complex. Yet amid these challenges, Corus has witnessed extraordinary resilience — from families rebuilding their farms, to local partners restoring health care access in devastated towns.

Corus International's approach from the outset has been grounded in **local leadership**. By working hand-in-hand with Ukrainian organizations, civil society actors and technical institutions, we have prioritized programs that are responsive to community needs, adaptable to changing conditions and sustainable in the long term.

Looking ahead, Corus will continue to deepen and expand this commitment. Building on trusted partnerships, coordinated engagement and field-tested models, our focus will remain on investing in systems that strengthen recovery, uphold dignity and equip communities to lead their own futures.

Building on the lessons, partnerships, and systems strengthened through this response, Corus will continue to:

- Deepen support for frontline organizations delivering essential health, protection and livelihood services
- Scale tested models—such as mobile medical units and localized agricultural advisory systems—in additional high-need areas
- Expand collaboration with clusters and civil society to align recovery efforts with national priorities
- Advocate for flexible, long-term funding that enables communities to lead their own recovery

Recovery in Ukraine will not be swift. But it will be shaped by the people and institutions closest to the challenges—and closest to the solutions. Corus is committed to walking alongside them, ensuring that humanitarian response paves the way for locally led, community-driven development.



CORUS

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Annex:

Project and Funding Overview (2022–2024)

The following table provides an overview of Corus International’s humanitarian and development projects implemented in Ukraine between 2022 and 2024.

#	Project Title	Partner(s)	Sector(s)	Donor(s)	Budget	Start Date	End Date	Geographic Location
1	Emergency Strengthening of Essential Health Care for Conflict-Affected Communities	NGO Infection Control in Ukraine	Health	Appeals Funds	\$1,642,207	8/1/22	10/9/24	Kharkiv, Poltava oblasts
2	Emergency Response to Ukrainian Internally Displaced Persons – FPU	Federation of Trade Unions of Ukraine (FPU)	Shelter, MHPSS, NFIs, Food	Appeals Funds	\$3,453,444	4/13/22	7/31/23	Lviv, Zakarpattia, Rivne, Kharkiv, Vinnytsia, Khmelnytskyi oblasts
3	Winterization Support for Internally Displaced and Vulnerable Ukrainians	Direct Implementation	Shelter/NFIs	Circle of Service Foundation (CoS)	\$100,000	2/21/23	2/20/24	Kharkiv, Sumy oblasts
4	Agricultural Livelihoods Recovery for Food Security in Ukraine	Charity Fund Kharkiv Oblast Center for Counseling	Food Security and Livelihoods: Agriculture	Center for Disaster Philanthropy (CDP)	\$1,000,000	5/1/23	7/31/24	Kharkiv oblast
5	Supporting Farmers to Restore Resilient Livelihoods in Kharkiv	Charity Fund Kharkiv Oblast Center for Counseling, Volonterska	Food Security and Livelihoods, Agriculture, Health, Shelter/NFIs	Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)	\$1,000,000	7/1/23	11/30/24	Kharkiv oblast
6	SsWIFT: Strengthening Services to War-Affected Populations Through Integrated Healthcare and Protection Teams	NGO Infection Control in Ukraine	Health, Protection, Violence Against Women and Girls	Ukraine Humanitarian Fund (UHF)	\$1,000,000	10/10/23	10/9/24	Kharkiv, Sumy, Chernihiv oblasts
7	Lozova Safe Space (Corus Pilot)	Direct Implementation through MoU with Lozova Social Center	Protection, Violence Against Women and Girls	Appeals Funds	\$12,000	11/21/23	4/14/24	Kharkiv oblast
8	FARMHELP: Farmers Assistance and Restoration Mechanism for Humanitarian Livelihoods and Production	Charity Fund Kharkiv Oblast Center for Counseling	Food Security and Livelihoods, Agriculture, WASH	The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints	\$300,000	4/1/24	8/31/24	Kharkiv oblast
9	PROTECT Her: Promoting Resilience, Opportunities and Thriving Environments	League of Modern Women (LOMW), International Charitable Foundation “Ukrainian Foundation for Public Health”	Protection, Violence Against Women and Girls	Ukraine Humanitarian Fund (UHF)	\$1,231,502	4/15/24	4/14/25	Kharkiv, Sumy, Chernihiv oblasts
10	MOBILE: Medical Outreach Bridging Integrated Life-Saving Efforts	Medical Association of Luhansk Region (MALR)	Health	LDS Charities Australia	\$300,000	6/1/24	9/30/24	Dnipro oblast

REVIEW of **LIGHT CHANGES EVERYTHING**

February 2026

Humanitarian Response for Ukraine



1) **Dave Nonnemacher's** visit to SOCA-Jan 30-Feb 2,2026

a. **PRESENTATIONS AT ASCENSION** 1/31-2/1

1. Dave attended three worship services at Ascension, 1/31 and 2/1. He spoke during the announcements at each service about Ascension's presence with him in Ukraine. (average attendance for weekend worship services: 427)
2. At the Adult Education class on February 1st, two videos were shared prior to having Dave's presentation of slides and narration of his past trips and most recent humanitarian trip to Ukraine, November, 2025. The Library was a very crowded room, with some people standing. Several attendees from the community came to this presentation having read about his presentations in the ACORN and Conejo Valley Guide. (attendance: 55)

3. Dave spoke with the Confirmation Class and Senior Luther League on Sunday night, February 1st. (attendance: 50) Each student/sponsor received a SoLight Designs origami solar light. They read the Prayer for Ukraine written by Pr Chamie using only these solar lights to sense what it is to live without power or light.



b. PRESENTATIONS IN the LOCAL COMMUNITY

1. Dave spoke and shared slides of his past trips and most recent humanitarian trip to Ukraine, November, 2025 at NEW HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH on Saturday, January 31st (attendance: 25) NHLC is collecting donations for Dave throughout 2026 and will send money with Dave for his March trip.
2. Dave was the featured presenter at the UKRAINIAN CHRISTIAN CHURCH, Agoura Hills, using different slides and emphasis for a worship service. (approximate attendance: 50) Donations from the church were given to Dave after the service.



Dave Nonnemacher with Alexander Pashchenko, Micah 6:8

LENTEN SERVICE Emphasis on **LIGHT**, February 25

- c. At the invitation of Pr Chamie, the Global Ministries Team was invited to serve the Lenten soup supper on Wednesday February 25th.
- d. The table décor included sunflowers and placemats with the Prayer for Ukraine by Pr Chamie. Using the origami solar lights that were on each table, the people read together the Prayer for Ukraine.



CANDLELIGHT VIGIL-February 22, 2026 at Ukrainian Christian Church to remember the end of the fourth year since Ukraine was invaded by Russia. Friends from New Hope LC, United Church of Christ in Simi Valley, and Ascension attended and were welcomed by the community. Here's a link to a 4 minute video that was shown at the service.

Google Диск: [вход в систему](https://drive.google.com)
drive.google.com



COMMUNICATIONS

- 1) Working with Stacy Smith (our expert of all things graphic and informative), the invitation “LIGHT CHANGES EVERYTHING” to hear Dave Nonnemacher, slides for worship services, updates in the TWAA throughout February, and the placemats for the soup supper were designed by Stacy, with our gratitude. Stacy also prepared a press release that was sent to the ACORN and Conejo Valley Guide which resulted in publication in both community resources. Pr Steve and Stacy, along with Pr Chamie, promoted and shared through their social media contacts the events with Dave along with photos and reels of the gatherings. The invitation, Light Changes Everything, was also sent to New Hope LC, the Ukrainian Christian Church, Holy Trinity LC, United Church of Christ in Simi Valley and Shepherd of the Valley LC, Simi Valley and all Ascension donors to Humanitarian Response to Ukraine in 2025.
- 2) Over 600 people heard Dave Nonnemacher’s presentations in our area. Hundreds more saw social media posts and TWAA articles, photos and videos.

February **BENEVOLENCE OFFERING** for Humanitarian Response in Ukraine

- 1) Pew benevolence offering envelopes with HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE FOR UKRAINE noted, were in pew racks from 1/31-2/25. Most donations are made online; however, some prefer writing a check or putting cash in an offering envelope. Thank you notes have been sent to donors who have given gifts through 2/27/26. Gifts of \$8,377 (which does not include the Ascension foundation grant of \$5,000) have been recorded by Diane Kusnierek for the benevolence offering as of 2/27, with more gifts anticipated. Individual gifts range from \$5 to \$1,750.
- 2) The Ascension Lutheran Foundation grant request for \$5,000 for generators for Ukraine was approved February 7, 2026.
- 3) Due to an additional delivery of twelve (12)-13,000 watt dual fuel generators to Hand in Hand Logistics, Isanti MN, Ascension was asked on February 11th if we could forward funds (\$8,748 or \$729 each) so these larger capacity generators could be on a container ship on their way to Ukraine in February. With the \$5,000 grant from the foundation as well as donations at that time of \$3,843, we had \$95 to spare! With the extraordinary efforts of the Ascension staff, a check was prepared and sent to Hand in Hand and received by Pr Lee Scheumann on February 14th.

Eight of the twelve generators will be shipped to the LOGOS center where Fr Nikolai provides food, shelter and support for 200 Internally Displaced People and soldiers recovering from injuries. Fr Nikolai should be receiving these generators in April.

- 4) One hundred per cent (100%) of the offerings given by Ascension will go directly for humanitarian items in Ukraine through the networks Dave Nonnemacher has established there since 2022.

RELATED OUTCOME

- 1) “Jim” attended two presentations by Dave after reading about the opportunities in the ACORN. He particularly wanted to connect with a Ukrainian community since he and his wife are hosting a Ukrainian woman in their home. He also came to the Candlelight Vigil. Jim is trying to help connect their guest to potential job networks.

Since we met Jim on 2/1, members of the Conejo Interfaith Refugee Team have met with their guest. They have reviewed her visa and work status, received her art portfolio (she is a professional 3D graphic artist), and are tapping into their networks to assist her in finding work in her field. There are additional concerns about the renewing of visas for Ukrainians who are here on humanitarian parole. See Global Refuge’s recent document SHAKEN STABILITY, released in February, 2026 and their press release: Thousands of Ukrainians Risk Losing Legal Status as War Enters Fifth Year.

PRESS RELEASE from Global Refuge:

[Report: Thousands of Ukrainians at Risk of Losing Legal Status](#)

(SHAKEN STABILITY document is included in the press release.)

- 2) Dave leaves for his 9th humanitarian trip to Ukraine on March 18, returning after Easter on April 6. Dave will determine where our offerings are needed most to support the humanitarian efforts in Ukraine.

Submitted by Louise Evenson, February, 2026

COMMUNICATION UPDATE FOR MARCH 2026

What a blessed Lenten season, with long-time favorites -- soup suppers and Holden Evening Prayer services -- augmented by the new Fireside Story Time. Plus terrific Adult Ed classes, plus hikes, men's and women's groups, amazing sermons and so much more good food for the soul. From a communication point of view, this brings to mind Marketing 101 wisdom: If you have a product or service people want, then it's just a matter of showing them where to find it.

Toward the end of making sure newcomers find Ascension, I've been increasing and fine tuning our Google Search ads, including interfacing our Google ads and website analytics to help see which Easter ads work best. (Thanks to Dominick Bosco for help on the tech side of that.) I used Claude AI for a list of dozens of search terms and words. Setting everything up at least a month early gives the algorithm time to learn our audience -- at least, so says a church Easter marketing webinar on Church Staff Huddle.

Reels are now central to our promotion, not only on Facebook and Instagram, but hyper-local YouTube/Google Ads. And there will be other Holy Week and Easter promotion. I hope to be back with some interesting analytics next month.

Meanwhile, here is a current snapshot of our regular outlets:

For the period mid-February to mid-March, our Facebook page had 74, 300 views, 2,497 followers, 2,400 content interactions. The top reel was "for Children this Lent" with 6,900 views (boosted), and the top post was Pastor Larry's Birthday with 3,200.

In the same period, our primary Instagram had 11, 500 views, 600 followers, and 366 content interactions.

For the period from mid-February to mid-March, our ALCTO.org website had 5,112 views.

The top 15 most viewed pages were: Livestream, Calendar, Great Music at Ascension (*This page was linked in online advertising for the Jens Lindemann & UCLA Brass concert*), Staff Directory, About Our Worship, Seasonal Worship (*this page was linked from the newsletter and front page of the website because it has the Lent/Holy Week/Easter schedule*), Meet the Pastors, Map/Directions, Signups & Announcements, 365 in 26 Prayer, Contact Us, Career Opportunities, Member Docs, GriefShare, Find Help.

Directing traffic from the newsletter and website has an impact. Looking at the month prior (Jan.- Feb.) I see that the Ukraine Humanitarian Response page was in the top 15.

TWAA weekly emails continue to be fairly consistent with a 56.53 open rate and 1191 contacts in this same time frame.

Holy Week and Easter Blessings to All,

Stacy Smith Bosco

Communication Coordinator