



# ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH

95 Allen Road, South Burlington, VT 05403  
(802) 862-8866

[www.alcvt.org](http://www.alcvt.org) / <https://www.facebook.com/AscensionLutheranChurchVt/>

## E-News for Sunday, July 15, 2018

*8th Sunday after Pentecost*

### Service This Week

#### Worship Participants

**Pastor:** Pr. Nancy Wright  
**Liturgical Asst:** Leah Burke  
**Altar Guild:** Johanna White  
**Communion Asst:** Marcia Gustafson  
**Lector:** Beth Dreibelbis  
**Organist:** Ann Gnagey  
**Greeters:** Karen & Red Martin  
**Ushers:** Sharon Sturm & Richard Butz  
**Coffee Hour:** Hondal Family

#### Readings

Amos 7:7-15  
Psalm 85:8-13  
Ephesians 1:3-14  
Matthew 25:14-30

### Upcoming Week

<b>Sunday, 7/15</b>	10:00 a.m. Worship Service & KidzKamp 3:30-7:30 p.m. St. Timothy Worship Service (Rental)
<b>Tuesday, 7/17</b>	6:00 p.m. Nunn's Men's Group (Rental)
<b>Sunday, 7/22</b>	10:00 a.m. Worship Service & KidzKamp 3:30-7:30 p.m. St. Timothy Worship Service (Rental)
<b>Thursday, 7/26</b>	10:00 a.m. Mutual Ministry Meeting 5:00 p.m. Social Action Meeting 7:00 p.m. Care for Creation Meeting

View long-range calendar here: <http://alcvt.org/calendar.html>  
Need to add something?  
Call or email: 862-8866 or church.office@alcvt.org.

### Pastor's Message

Dear Ascension brothers and sisters,

Why did Jesus teach in parables? What are parables? Why do some of them seem strange and off-putting? What did Jesus mean to say about God and living in relationship with God?

Over the next several Sundays I will preach on parables. This Sunday, we focus on the parable of the Talents (Matt. 25:14-30). If you take time before Sunday worship to read the parable and think about it, questions may come, which we can talk about on Sunday.

Also, this Sunday, Stephanie and Heather Lehtonen will join Ascension. Welcoming new parishioners into full membership always brings us happiness. Below are brief descriptions of their backgrounds. We will joyfully welcome them this Sunday.

### Upcoming Birthdays

**7/22** Linda McLemore

**7/23** Margit Sirgo

**7/27** Isaac Sponem, John Qubrosi

**7/30** Jonathan Fry

Stephanie Lehtonen grew up attending a Lutheran church on her native Cape Cod. She is a Speech Language Pathologist who enjoys genealogy and studying languages in her spare time.

Heather Lehtonen converted to Lutheranism and was baptized as an adult. She recently received her Master of Arts in teaching and plans to continue teaching high school English. Currently she is an at-home parent who enjoys art, reading, and photographing birds.

Heather and Stephanie met in college in 2006 and have been married since 2010. Together they have two daughters: 18-month-old Ilona Marie and 2-month-old Veera Josephine.

Blessings,

Pr. Nancy

PS Thanks so much for the wonderful birthday celebration last Sunday!!!

## Sunday School News

### Children's Classes

We'll begin the morning together for church at 10:00 a.m. Jess will lead us through a short children's message as an introduction to our theme following the welcome hymn, and then we'll go to the Sunday school room after that for a lesson and activity before ending with a frozen treat!

As a reminder, if your child has a food allergy and you have not already talked to me about it, please let me know so I can make sure we have frozen treats that are safe for your child. You can contact me by email at [jessica.l.summer@gmail.com](mailto:jessica.l.summer@gmail.com) or by cell at 828-612-3899.

We hope to see you there!

## HARK! Important News and Upcoming Events

### Vacation/Retreat Time

Pastor Nancy will take two weeks' vacation in August, with Sundays covered by Pr. Ann Larson. These weeks are August 11 to 25.

She will be on a retreat/conference this coming week, from Sunday evening to Friday afternoon, July 15 to 20. She returns for the July 21 Lake Cruise and July 22 Sunday worship.

Elizabeth Wirls will cover the office in the afternoons next week, except Monday, a vacation day.

### JUMP Food Bag Drive

Once again July is JUMP Food Bag Month here at Ascension! Items most needed are Tomatoes (whole, crushed, stewed or diced), Spaghetti Sauce, Pasta (Spaghetti and Macaroni), Rice (Brown and White), Cheerios, Peanut Butter, Tuna Fish, Canned or Dried Beans (Kidney, Lentil, Split Peas, Black, Northern, and Pinto). Please collect only the items on our list. JUMP thanks you for your support of our low-income neighbors! Questions? Contact Beth Dreibelbis.

### Lake Champlain Cruise 2018

Flash! Senator Christopher Bray, Chair of the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Energy will keynote our July 21, Lake Champlain Action Cruise and Tutorial. Spend a delightful day on the water and at the Lake Champlain Maritime Museum while you hear faith leaders and Chris discuss Vermont's water issues and solutions and our role, as people of faith, in addressing them. Click [HERE](#) for the flyer.

### [Church Mouse](#)

Another issue of the *Church Mouse* will be coming out soon. We haven't set a deadline just yet, but if you have any photos or other article submissions you would like included, please send them in ASAP. Church.office@alcvt.org. Thanks!

### [Job Opening!](#)

I'm retiring after many years of assigning lectors at Ascension. Lectors volunteer to read the Scripture Lessons at services. I will continue assigning lectors thru September at which time someone else will need to assume this job. I will provide a list of members willing to read the Lessons. This "job" requires a commitment of 1-2 hours each month. Duties: 1. Assign Lectors 2. Give list of Lectors to Church office for inclusion in E-News, weekly bulletin, etc. 3. Give/send copies of Scripture readings to Lectors. (Church office supplies copies of readings) Please contact me or Pastor Nancy if you are willing to assume this opportunity to serve Ascension. Suzanne Furst Phone – 658-3706  
suzannefurst@comcast.net

### [Coffee Hour](#)

A new summer sign-up sheet has been posted in the fellowship hall for coffee hour! Please check it out and sign up for a Sunday or two. There is one more spot open in July and 3 more in September. If you have any questions, please contact Beth Dreibelbis.

### [Mowing at Ascension](#)

Can you help mow at Ascension? We need folks to mow our lawns weekly through the fall using our new riding lawn mower. The sign-up sheet is on the Property Committee bulletin board in the Fellowship Room. Questions? Contact Roger Watters or any other Property Committee member.

### [Barbara and Jay Fritsche's Blog](#)

The Fritches would like to invite anyone interested to join them in spirit as they walk the Portuguese Camino beginning May 30th. You can follow along here: <https://bfinportugal.wordpress.com/>

### [Wish List](#)

Please check out the wish list "Angel Board" for progress on donations toward heating system upgrades for the education wing and select AV equipment. If you are moved to donate, please indicate on the notation line on your check.

### [Rain Barrels are Back!](#)

**Been thinking about a Rain Barrel?** You can order them at Ascension for delivery in about a week. The order form is posted on the Social Action bulletin board in the fellowship hall. Cost is \$55.

## [Additional News and Opportunities](#)

### [Brain Freezer 5K](#)

People Helping People Global is hosting the 8th Annual Brain Freezer 5K in Downtown Burlington on **July 14th**. In case you haven't heard of it, the idea is that runners have to run 1.5 miles, stop to eat a pint of ice cream, then finish the final 1.5 with bellies full of delicious ice cream!

*The Smoky Newfield Project, featuring our own Bill Valliere and Cathy Cameron-Muscente, will be performing and singing the National Anthem race day!*

Do you love Ice Cream and/or want to sign up? Follow this link to join the fun; <https://phpg.webconnex.com/bf5k2018>

We expect over 300 racers again this year, which mean we are great need of volunteers. Most volunteers should plan on being there on race day at 8:30am (some activities require you get there a bit earlier).

If you are interested, please use this link to sign up to volunteer: <http://brainfreezer5k.com/home/volunteer/>. If you have any questions, please email Isabel Tuck ([isabel@phpgmicrolending.org](mailto:isabel@phpgmicrolending.org)) or call 802-318-4488.

### **[Check out and SHARE ELCAvotes Resources!](#)**

There already are many voting resources for congregations online, with more on the way! From [Bible Studies](#), [Voting Rights History](#), [Church IRS Guidelines](#) and more, check out some of the resources available now at [ELCA.org/votes](http://ELCA.org/votes). Don't forget to sign up for [ELCAvotes email alerts](#) to be the first to receive upcoming resources including future webinars, voter pledge cards, and more!

For a full guide on faith-based voting activities, visit the updated [ELCA Civic Participation Guide](#).

### **[Host Families Needed!](#)**

The Vermont Council on World Affairs (VCWA), a local non-profit which, in cooperation with public and private sectors seeks to promote awareness, educate and engage the community with the world and its people, places, and cultures. In August, VCWA is hosting two different high school leadership programs: the Pan-African Youth Leadership Program (August 8-21) and the Iraqi Young Leaders Exchange Program (August 17-31). VCWA is looking for families who might be interested in hosting some of the participants during their stay.

The Pan-African Youth Leadership Program (PAYLP), hosts 24 students and adult mentors from Angola, the DRC, Ghana, Liberia, and Swaziland. For the Iraqi Young Leaders Exchange Program (IYLEP), VCWA will host 13 students and adult mentors. Both programs seek to strengthen students' understanding of civic rights and responsibilities, respect for diversity, and the importance of community engagement. Students don't require their own room but should have their own bed. Hosts should be able to drop their guests off at the VCWA office in downtown Burlington on weekday mornings and pick them up in the evenings after their daily activities are completed (most likely 9am-5pm). Weekends would be reserved for hosts to get to know their guests. If you, or any of your neighbors, friends, or colleagues might be interested in learning more, please contact Vinson Pierce at VCWA ([vinson@vermon.org](mailto:vinson@vermon.org)). VCWA is happy to work with interested families and their schedules. For example, students could be split between two different families for one week each if necessary.