

E-News for the Week of Sunday, November 22

The Last Sunday after Pentecost: Christ the King

Readings

Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14

Psalm 93

Revelation 1:4b-8

John 18:33-38

Worship Participants

Celebrant: Pr. Nancy Wright

Altar Guild: Kris and Mousa Ishaq

Communion Assistant: Bob Furst

Organist: Ann Gnagey

Lector: Anneliese Koenig

Liturgical Assistant: TBD

Ushers: Charlie Cutting and Jake Hansen

Greeters: Kris and Mousa Ishaq

Coffee Hour: Johanna White

Upcoming Week

Wednesday, 11/18

6:15 p.m. Choir

7:15 p.m. Contemporary

Thursday, 11/19

10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Quilting Group

5:00-7:00 p.m. Mindful Breath Tai Chi (rental)

7:15 p.m. Care for Creation

Saturday, 11/21

8:30-10:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast

Sunday, 11/22

9:00 a.m. Intergenerational Advent Wreath making (see announcement)

10:00 a.m. Worship Service

Click [HERE](#) for a long-range calendar.

Upcoming Birthdays

11/20 Eranthie Yeshwant
11/27 Charlie Cutting (90 years!!!)
12/1 Jameson Keene (Wilhite)
12/2 Kristy Heppner

Pastor's Message

Dear Ascension parishioners,

2017 will mark observances of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. To mark that occasion, Bishop Jim Hazelwood and Cardinal Sean O' Malley, Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Boston, made a joint declaration to build on common ground in the life-giving Trinity: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. They commend the joint study of Pope Francis' encyclical On Care for Our Common Home. Their joint declaration can be viewed [HERE](#) and will be printed in this Sunday's bulletin. I have asked the church council to read the pope's encyclical and have given them copies. You may download a copy of the pope's encyclical or purchase it. It makes a wonderful Advent study. In this time of challenge and hope with so many issues facing humanity, it is a wonderful invitation from the bishop to study the encyclical ecumenically. More on this opportunity to come...

Blessings, Pr. Nancy

HARK! IMPORTANT UPCOMING NEWS AND EVENTS

Congregational Meeting

Please hold Sunday, December 6, for a congregational meeting immediately following worship. We will consider and vote on the Constitution and the Long-Range Plan, 2016-2018.

Men's Breakfast

Men of Ascension! Join us for good food and great conversation **THIS SATURDAY, November 21, 8:30-10:00 a.m.!**

Good News from the Stewardship Committee

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, you have responded generously to the annual pledge drive, committing not only your financial support but also your time and talents to this congregation and its exciting and far-reaching ministries: Our financial secretary, Gene Heyerdahl, reports that 41 pledges have been received so far and the total anticipated giving by all giving units in 2016 is now estimated at \$155,868, compared to \$148,873 at the beginning of 2015. Many of you, appreciating that God has richly blessed you, increased your pledge from last year.

There still is time (soon, please, for the sake of shaping the church's 2016 budget) to fill out and or return your pledge card and Time and Talents form. If you need a card or form, extra copies are in the narthex. You may place the card and form in an envelope marked "Attn: Gene Heyerdahl" in the

offering plate or mail your response to Ascension Lutheran Church/95 Allen Road/So. Burlington, VT 05403. Again, mark the envelope to Gene's attention.

Thanks to all of you for responding to God's blessings. And may God continue to richly bless you. *Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work. ...2 Corinthians 9: 7-8*

Sunday School Update

- The Children have been collecting canned goods and cash gifts for the Abenaki Food Shelf. **November 22** is the last Sunday to contribute.
- **Sunday, November 22** is Advent Wreath making and breakfast for all ages. Each family will work together to create an advent wreath on metal frame with natural greens. It will be helpful to bring small pruning clippers, and garden gloves if you have them. The frames, greens, and twine will be provided for Sunday School families. Advent candles will also be available, as well as the story for each candle (there are many versions, but we have one). In addition, we will provide an Advent calendar for each family to begin to mark off every day as we await the celebration of the birth of Christ. Please plan to be present for this special event. Please email Lydia to confirm your participation (see below).
- There is **NO SUNDAY SCHOOL on November 29**.
- **December 20** will be our Sunday School Christmas tableau presentation, in church. We will rehearse on **December 13 and December 20 at 9:00 a.m.** The theme this year will be the Little Drummer Boy, as a vehicle for the tableau. Volunteers with special talents are welcomed!
- There will again be **NO SUNDAY SCHOOL on December 27**.

Advent Wreath Making

Advent Wreaths have long been a tradition in the Lutheran church. On **Sunday, November 22**, intergenerational Advent Wreath making will begin at 9am. The Sunday School invites families to join in a light breakfast, after which parents/grandparents and children in family groups will create Advent Wreaths, as we begin the season of Advent. Materials for the children will be provided by Sunday School. Adults who wish to make Advent Wreaths with natural greens will need to provide their own wire wreath frame (available at Michaels or AC Moore craft stores). So we have adequate supplies and greens please contact the following people: Sunday School- Lydia Wisloski (lwisloski@aol.com or text/call 238-5206). Adults who wish to make a natural wreath, or to help Jo create the church Advent Wreath, please contact Jo White (jowhite@gmavt.net or 482-3018). Sets of 4 Advent candles will be available to purchase at cost for \$5.00.

Quilt top kits available

If you would like to help make mission quilts for Lutheran World Relief but cannot join us on the first and/or third Thursday or the month at church, you can assemble quilt tops at home. There are kits that consist of cut fabric squares (11" x 11") along with directions. Let Karen Martin know if you are interested.

Next Quilter's Group Meeting is **Thursday, November 19**.

The Holiday Giving Tree is coming!

We will be sponsoring families through Howard Center again this year. I hope to have the tree up by November 22nd. Gifts should be returned to church unwrapped by **December 13**. We will also have a cookie bake sale on December 13th with donations going to the giving tree families. If you have any questions, please contact Cheryl Couillard at checouillard@yahoo.com or 999-5512.

Women's Holiday Event

What: Cookie Baking and Holiday Movie Night

When: **Friday, December 11th at 6:30 p.m.**

Where: Leah Burke's House (see directory)

We will enjoy baking cookies and watching one or two holiday favorites. Cookies will be donated to the cookie sale for giving tree families. Questions? Contact Cheryl Couillard at checouillard@yahoo.com or 999-5512. Please join us!

Interfaith Prayer and Remembrance Vigil

"A Moral Call: People of Faith Confronting the Tragedy of Gun Violence," an interfaith prayer and reembrace vigil, is scheduled for Sunday, **December 13, 3:00 p.m.** at the Unitarian Universalist Society in Burlington. Lutherans will be represented with Hal Colston reading a prayer, prelude and postlude music being provided by Good Shepherd musicians, and four ushers coming from Ascension. Co-sponsors of the vigil include several Christian denominations as well as Jewish, Islamic, Buddhist, and Baha'i faith communities. Please plan to attend. An article from the Journal of Lutheran ethics is helpful in thinking about this issue from a Christian perspective: <https://www.elca.org/JLE/Articles/65>. For more information, contact Marcia Gustafson at marciagus@earthlink.net, or call 864-5908.

Church Mouse!

Here is the latest Church Mouse issue for your enjoyment!

[Church Mouse Fall 2015](#)

Keep an eye out in the coming weeks for something special for Advent as well!

New Website Feature

At the request of a few parishioners in very recent history, past e-news archive files will now be posted on the website in case you would like to go back and look at things. The first date you'll see available is 11/8/2015, and issues will be available going forward—posted as I remove the prior week and post the new one! You'll find this on the main web site, www.alcvt.org, (no logging in required) under News > Weekly E-News > Archives. If you have any questions, contact Kelli Tylenda.

Adult Class

All are welcome to join the 9 am adult class, regularly on even for one Sunday. The class is led by Pr. Nancy and the whole group. The class will study the Beatitudes (Matt. 5:1-11) through October. In November the class will study Pope Francis I's Encyclical on Climate Change and Inequality: On Care for Our Common Home.

COFFEE HOUR NEEDS YOU!!!

Thank you for the great response to the new Coffee Hour sign-up sheet. If you were unable to sign up for a week or two, please check out the list hanging on the bulletin board in the fellowship room. There are several empty dates to be filled in yet. Coffee Hour is fun for members but also a very important time for us to greet visitors and new members. We often joke about coffee, food and Lutherans going together as a natural....and they do....so please sign up for Coffee Hour and let's

continue this wonderful tradition. Also, the Coffee Can (to defray costs) is on the table to help pay for the coffee. Thanks.

See Beth Dreibelbis with questions.

New Piano

We now have an upright piano in the Fellowship Hall. It was donated to us by a family in Montpelier thanks to the efforts of Damon Ferrante. Damon is a gifted musician and composer, and has begun teaching piano and guitar lessons at Ascension on Monday afternoon. He also has some exciting ideas for musical offerings in the early afternoon, Monday and/or Tuesday. They would be free and open to the community. At this point, he's just waiting for responses and feedback to set a date and time to begin.

The Classical Music Listening and Discussion Group

You are invited to our exciting weekly tour of the great works of Classical music. Part conversational and part educational, this lively listening and discussion group, led by music professor and composer Damon Ferrante, provides us all with opportunities to explore the wonderful music of these great composers and to socialize along the way. Each week we will have fun learning about the music of Beethoven, Mozart, Ravel, and Verdi! Our group is free and open to anyone who enjoys (or is curious about) Classical music.

Making Music and Socializing

Do you play an instrument or sing? Have you ever wanted to learn? You are in luck! We would like to invite you to our group. Led by music professor Damon Ferrante, each week we will get together to play music and socialize. Whether you like jazz, Broadway tunes, bluegrass, or Rock and Roll, everyone is welcome. Even if you don't play an instrument, we will help you learn and get you started. Our group is free and open to all music enthusiasts.

If you are interested in taking advantage of these great opportunities, please contact the office (church.office@alcvt.org) and we will relay your interest to Damon.

Additional News and Volunteer Opportunities

Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Service THIS SUNDAY

Sunday, November 22, 7:00 p.m., Ohavi Zedek Synagogue, 188 North Prospect Street, Burlington, VT
Gratitude recognizes the many gifts that we receive while acknowledging them as a source of Healing and Inspiration transforming our Hearts, Lives and Community!

Join our Gathering of Thanks with Faith, Spiritual Leaders and Representatives of many Traditions as we Celebrate our Diversity as well as our Care for each other as a Community! Bring your Family and Friends to Share in Song, Prayer and Celebration!

Donations welcome to support the Joint Urban Ministry Project (www.jumpvt.org)!

Light refreshments to follow the Service.

Gifts that Give

Sunday, November 29, 29 Church Street (formerly Borders and City Sports, corner of Cherry St.)

Gifts that Give offers an opportunity to buy "presents" that give twice, to the recipient of your gift and to the neighbors in need served by the local non-profit organizations.

Participating Non-Profits include:

- JUMP
- Habitat for Humanity
- COTS
- Women Helping Battered Women
- Northern Friends for Haiti
- Spectrum Youth and Family Services
- Camp Agape Vermont
- Kids for Peace
- ANEW Place
- Dismas House
- Peace and Justice Center
- Ghar Sita Mutu
- Meals on Wheels
- Vermont Interfaith Action

******* Urgent Family in Need *******

Karen Grant has received a message from Jenni Davis at the Burlington Housing Authority regarding a family in need. This family is from Florida and the dad was in Burlington on a trip when he had a massive stroke. The family has had to relocate up here to care for him in the hospital and they left everything they own in Florida. The Burlington Housing Authority has been able to house them here when the dad gets out of the hospital next week, but they have been staying with friends. They have no furniture, bedding, pillows, kitchen utensils, pots/pans, etc. for the house. The kids, a 12 year old girl and 13 year old boy, also desperately need winter coats, boots, hats, etc. The girl wears a women's medium or 7/8 pants and size 8 shoes/boots. The boy wears a men's medium or 32 waist pants and size 11 shoes/boots.

Karen will be in church on Sunday and can pick up anything people have to donate. If anyone has any questions, please let her know (contact information is in the directory). Thank you!!!

Tai Chi at Ascension!

Tai Chi for All Generations

Wednesdays, 4:30-5:30 p.m. with Elizabeth Wirls

Classes are ongoing and everyone is welcome to come as you are, whenever you wish. All generations are welcome! Please note that we have decided to offer these classes on a "pay as you can" basis. That way everyone who is interested will be able to join us! For more information, see the attached brochure and feel free to contact Elizabeth in the church office, 862-8866

[CLICK HERE](#) for full brochure.

Mindful Breath Tai Chi

Thursdays, 5:30-7:00 p.m. and Saturdays, 10:30 a.m. – Noon with Janet Makaris

Yang Style, for more information please visit her website:

<http://mindfulbreathtaichi.com/about.html>

