

# Ascension Messenger

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER  
ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH  
JUNE 2018 – VOLUME 20

## Exercising Faith in Our Father's Love

*"How Deep the Father's love for us, How vast beyond all measure;  
That He would give His only Son, to make a wretch His treasure..."*

*- From the hymn, "How Deep the Father's Love for Us" by Stuart Townend*

By Pastor Michael Abram

Is it all just words? Does God truly care for us, or has He just plopped us on this planet and left us to do our best? My guess is that you answer this question with, "Of course He loves us and cares for us!" But let me now ask this: Does your life reflect the fact that you have a Heavenly Father who loves you?

We give so much lip service to how much our Heavenly Father loves and cares for us, but when tribulation comes our way, we

grumble and doubt. Could it be that He allows tribulation precisely so that we might exercise our faith?

The fact is that God does love and care for us very deeply. He has shown us this through the giving of His Son. But His love for us does not end there; in fact, it is endless! So you can count on His love no matter what your situation! God has given you faith! Let it get some exercise!

***Make plans to join your Ascension family for services on Father's Day, Sunday, June 17th, with a special Father's Day brunch served at 9:45 a.m. between services.***

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**June 10th - 12:30 p.m.**  
All-Church Spring BBQ

**June 15th -**  
**6 a.m.** - Men's Breakfast  
**7 p.m.** - Ascension Lutheran School 8th Grade Graduation

**June 16th - 9 a.m.**  
Hour of Prayer

**June 17th - 9:30 a.m. (between services)** Father's Day Brunch

**June 19th**  
6:30 p.m. Fellowship Board  
7:45 p.m. Board of Lay Ministry

**June 21st - 5:30 p.m.**  
Board of School Administration Meeting

# Six Young People Confirmed in the Faith at Ascension



Photo by Mike Davis

After months of studying the Catechism, the Ten Commandments, the Lord's Prayer and the chief parts of the Lutheran faith, six young people were confirmed in the faith at Ascension in June. Those in the 2018 Confirmation class (pictured left) were Reese Corley, Ryan Corley, Nathan Michaels, Alina Eng, Allie Diecedue and Paul Yost (not pictured).

## Ascension Gears Up for a "Time Lab" Vacation Bible School Adventure

*Members, Families are Encouraged to Get Involved in One of Ascension's Most Exciting and Impactful Outreach Ministries of the Year*

By Kathy Davis, VBS Director

Calling all volunteers and kids! Are you ready to launch into hyperdrive this summer?

You won't want to miss a minute of the fun at Ascension's 2018 VBS, *Time Lab*, the most welcoming place around!

At *Time Lab*, kids will discover Jesus from eternity past to eternity future as they enjoy songs, crafts, games, goodies, and more.

Travel through time and learn the five C's of the week: Creation, Christophany, Cross, Clouds and Crown.



Vacation Bible School at *Time Lab* will be a quantum leap of fun and excitement, so kids and volunteers are encouraged to register online today by visiting [www.ascensiontorrance.org](http://www.ascensiontorrance.org)

We're calling all time travelers to join us for this amazing adventure!

If you have any questions please call Kathy Davis at the church office 310-793-0071, Tuesday – Friday.

# Pastor's Pen

by Pastor Michael

With June comes Father's Day. It is a day set apart for you to appreciate your earthly father. And just like Mother's Day, it can be a hard day for just as many as it is a joyous one. Father's Day can be difficult for a number of reasons: maybe you've lost the father that loved you very much; maybe you never knew your father; or perhaps your father caused you great pain. Regardless of the reason, if Father's Day is painful for you, the last thing you want to do is be reminded of it.

But I want to challenge everyone with this: No matter what your experience with your father, I want you to thank God for the man who gave you life! And if he is alive, I want you to pray for him—regardless of how good of a father he is. Because, if you are reading this, it means that you have been exposed to God's saving Word. And that means that God is in the process of saving you from sin, death, and the devil and preparing you for the resurrection life in the World to Come!

Jesus is very clear that we should use this life to prepare for the next, more important one. And if God has exposed you to His Word and brought you to faith, it is clear that He has a destination in mind for you. When Jesus was told that His mother and brother and sisters were outside, He said, "Whoever does the will of my Father is my mother, sister, and brother." He was, in effect, saying that the most important family we have is the heavenly one!

I hope with all my heart that you have had a wonderful earthly father, and that this year, you have a wonderful Father's Day! But even if that is not the case, I want you to know that at the very least, God used a man on this earth to give you life so that you could have a relationship with your Father in Heaven!

Good father; bad father; great father; absent father — God is getting His work done in your life through the power of His Word. And I pray for you that this Father's Day, you have a grateful heart. But even more fervently, I give thanks for God's Word which has given you New Life in Christ Jesus, that you now have the right to be called children of our Heavenly Father!

## Member Spotlight: Getting to Know Renae Falldorf

My name is Renae Falldorf. I was born in Grand Island, Neb. My family moved to California when I was four years old. I have one younger sister, Denise Spartalis. We grew up in the Torrance area. I graduated from North Torrance High School in 1982. I've lived in



Utah, the Lake Elsinore area, and more recently in Missouri, but always seem to come back to Torrance.

My husband, Larry, who passed away six years ago, and I have two beautiful daughters – Emma, who is 19 years old and is just finishing her first year at El Camino College, and Molly, who is 16 years old and is getting ready to start her senior year at Pacific Lutheran High School.

Over the years I've had many different jobs. I was a district secretary for the Southland Corp.; I worked in Accounts Receivable at Technical Marketing; a Daycare Director at Ascension; a Store Clerk at 7-Stop; a Stocker at Target, just to name a few.

For fun, I enjoy woodworking and crocheting. I even once had one of my crochet patterns printed on a yarn label.

I have been attending Ascension on and off for about 20 years. I'm happy to say, both of my daughters were baptized as babies here and started their educations here at the school. I came to be at Ascension with my mom, Dixie Falldorf and my sister and her family. I stay here because I love it and recently have attended Bible studies and Sunday School, where I feel I've learned a lot. I am looking forward to learning more!

I have recently joined the altar guild and I really look forward to and helping with VBS this summer.

I am so grateful to God for giving me everything I need and the comfort of knowing He is always there.

# WE CELEBRATE JUNE BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

## BIRTHDAYS

June 1 Diane Hall  
June 4 Margaret Kingman  
June 6 Karl Hoenecke  
Nick Mardesich  
Robby Myers  
Don Rohweller  
June 7 Barbara Schultz  
June 9 Jeff Marrow  
June 10 John O'Malley  
June 12 Samantha Redmond  
June 14 Emily Nelson  
June 16 Katie Huber  
June 17 Carolyn Miller  
June 20 Richard Lewis  
June 21 Ryan Lee  
Jacob O'Malley  
Joshua O'Malley  
Sandi Zurawski

June 23 Glenn Diecedue  
June 24 Philip James LaPointe  
June 25 Hy Shishino  
June 26 Ayanna Lopa  
June 27 Shelly Madrigal  
June 28 Molly Falldorf  
June 29 Westley Lin  
June 30 Ryan Recker

## ANNIVERSARIES

June 6 Michael & Kimberly Abram  
June 11 Steven & Martha Petredis  
June 14 Adam & Lyndi Honegger  
June 18 Tim & Kristina Koehler  
June 21 Chris & Phyllis Melvin  
Ron & Carol Woods  
June 23 Charles & Faith Cataldo  
June 27 Albert & Connie Calderon  
June 28 Jim & Emily Nelson

## Ascension Lutheran School Honors 13 Graduates in June

The Ascension family is invited to attend the graduation of thirteen eighth-grade students who have completed their education at Ascension and will be moving on to high school. The graduation will be held at Ascension on Fri., June 15th at 7 p.m. and former teacher Dale Benke is the speaker. Graduates being honored in the 2018 class are Sydni Nicole Carter, Annel Chinweotuto Charles, Kristin Yi-Huei Chiu, Kevin Seokwon Choi, Sabree Krista Yvonne Johnson, Jade Donggyu Lee, Rose Hannah Lee, Adaugo Uchechukwu Madu, Justin Lee Pyun, Amelia Ku'u lei Thorp, Lea Tsui, David Jeongyun Won and Paul Donald Yost.

