



Christ Ascension Lutheran Church

THE DOVE

Sharing the Good News at CALC

October 2011

From Your Council President

Dear Members & Friends of Christ Ascension:

Our dear congregation, so important to all of us, needs your help.

Your Church Council has pared expenses down to a responsible low amount, which still provides enough to care for our mission and maintain our buildings. We have also forecast expenses for the rest of this budget year, imagining what our income will be if our giving stays the same. We foresee being about \$12,000 short in the coming months. In the past, we have covered these shortfalls by our savings. And we do have savings now, too. What remains is from the 150th Anniversary Fund — half of

which, you will remember, we designated for property projects and half for savings to help us cover budget shortfalls.

Wonderfully, \$45,000 was raised in that Anniversary Fund. Thus \$22,500 has been set as savings for future budget needs. The problem is that we have already had to draw out \$6,150 of that amount in order to meet late summer and early fall expenses, and we may have to draw yet more. When those savings are gone, we have no others.

Would you please help? It is wonderful that you give to fund our church's mission. It would be even more wonderful if you would consider increasing what you give.

Many of us find it helpful to plan to give away a percentage of our annual income. There is deep joy in doing this, in understanding that what we have is to be shared. Below you will find a chart that might help you as you make such plans. Our congregation has a wonderfully diverse range of incomes; Jesus blesses even the widow's two pennies! (Luke 21). All of your gifts are appreciated and valued.

With deep thanks for your partnership in this congregation,

Gordon Lathrop,
Congregation President

October looks to be a wonderful month at

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Ways to Celebrate the 150th Anniversary

- Read the church history and faith stories
- Come to the Spaghetti Dinner and bring a friend
- Find a ministry to support on Sundays or other times
- Worship together!

Annual Income	Pledging 10%	Pledging 5%	Pledging 3%	*Weekly \$10%	*Weekly \$5%	*Weekly \$3%
\$25,000	\$2,500	\$1,250	\$750	\$50	\$25	\$15
\$50,000	\$5,000	\$2,500	\$1,500	\$100	\$50	\$30
\$75,000	\$7,500	\$3,750	\$2,250	\$150	\$75	\$45
\$100,000	\$10,000	\$5,000	\$3,000	\$200	\$100	\$60
\$150,000	\$15,000	\$7,500	\$4,500	\$300	\$150	\$90
\$200,000	\$20,000	\$10,000	\$6,000	\$400	\$200	\$120

* Rounded to 50 weeks
NOTE: If giving averaged 4%, we would meet our current budget. This is based on an estimated median household income in Mt. Airy & Chestnut Hill of \$70,000 per year (www.city-data.com).

FROM PASTOR LOHRMANN...



Christ Ascension. October 9 is the Chestnut Hill Fall for the Arts Festival and we will again have a booth on the Avenue. The following Saturday, Oct. 15 should be an excellent night with our Spaghetti Dinner: jazz, food and fun! The next day we

will welcome Gabriella Camarata into the promises of God through baptism. Then on Sunday, Oct. 23, we mix things up by worshiping “in the round” inside Kimes Hall. Oct. 30 is Reformation Day and will include the welcome of a couple more great new members to get to know.

I recommend re-reading that paragraph so that you don't miss anything! The Holy Spirit keeps doing great things with us. I warmly invite you to come to any or all of these events and services. Why not bring a friend, too? When two or three (or 20, 30,

50 or 100!) are gathered in Christ's name, he promises to be here among us.

Finally, I thank you for two great years, and counting. I was called to be pastor here on October 4, 2009 and have been richly blessed by and through this congregation. Thank you!

Anniversary Book

The Anniversary Book is finished and available for purchase. The history is a wonderful record of faith and action in Philadelphia over 150 years, including the years since the 1993 merger. The book is also incredibly attractive, with great photographs and graphics. Best of all, there are about 60 “faith stories,” describing the many various ways that God has led us and walked with us as individuals and as a community.

The book costs \$35 per copy (3 for \$100). We can also arrange to mail copies. Nearly half of the copies we ordered have already been sold!

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Sunday School News:

We have begun an exciting year of Sunday school! This year we are learning about “people of faith”, and in October we will focus on King David. Joe and Tracey Schultz will be leading the children in stories and activities about the great King David. On October 30, Field Ed Student Amanda Joy Bernecker begins four weeks teaching about the Widow's Offering (Luke

21 again!) and stewardship. Children ages 4-12 are invited to join us to learn about the Bible in fun and exciting ways! We hope to see you there!

Youth Group and Adult Forum:

On October 2, the youth and adults will meet together to talk about how we deal with the inevitable stresses and hardships that come up in our lives. The following three weeks

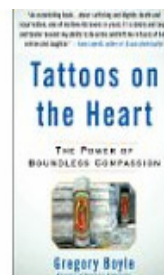
will address key themes in Lutheran theology: faith, the theology of the cross, and good works. October 30 will continue our “Book of the Bible of the Month” series with Second Corinthians. Read it beforehand, or just come and learn more about this great letter from St. Paul to early Christians in Corinth.

Reminder: *all youth—confirmed and not-yet-confirmed—are invited to join the Youth Group.*

PICK UP AND READ: BOOK DISCUSSION

The next book discussion will be about *Tattoos on the Heart: The Power of Boundless Compassion* by Gregory Boyle on Thursday, October 13 at 7:30 PM. It will be hosted by Martha Reumann, at her home at Hill at Whitemarsh, 311 Fox Hound Drive, Lafayette Hill.

Tattoos on the Heart is the true story of a Jesuit priest who has organized gang intervention programs in Los Angeles. Feel free to come and join in the discussion for the first time!



Thanks to Susan and Douglas Marshall for hosting the August discussion of the book *Gilead* by Marilynne Robinson.

GERMANTOWN AVENUE CLEAN UP DAY OCTOBER 29TH

GALP (Germantown Avenue Lutheran Parish) will lead a clean-up of the Avenue on Saturday, October 29th. We will begin our morning here at Christ Ascension, walking to St. Michael's in time to join in their free community meal. We will then continue our walk to Trinity. We will pick up trash in our community along the refreshing 3 mile walk. Contact Jessica Hahn for more details. Exact times are still to be announced.

Germantown Avenue Lutheran Parish (GALP) —God's Work, Our Avenue—

GALP Calendar:

Free Community Meal (St. Michael's)	Every Saturday 11-1
Rejoicing Spirits (Trinity)	Every 2 nd Sat., 4pm
150 th Anniversary Dinner (Christ Ascension)	October 15 th , 5-8pm
Youth event (3pm) and concert (7pm) (Trinity, Lansdale)	October 23 rd , 3-8pm*
Monthly Meeting (St. Michael's)	October 25 th , 7pm
Halloween Party (St. Michael's)	October 28 th , time TBA
175 th Anniversary (Trinity)	November 13 th , worship 11am

YOUTH NEWS

With the 2012 Youth Gathering coming up next summer in New Orleans, please contact Pastor Lohrmann to start planning. If we don't get started soon, we will not be able to attend this enriching and inspiring event.

A concert featuring musicians who will be at the 2012 youth gathering will take place in Lansdale on October 23 at 7 PM. Please RSVP to Pastor if you'd like to attend.

Closer to home, the Germantown Avenue Clean-Up on Saturday, Oct. 29 (see above) is open to everyone, but will be especially fun for our youth. We will start at Christ Ascension, go down to St. Michael's to share in their free lunch meal, and continue on to Trinity. Altogether, it will be 3 miles of walking, picking up trash (in appropriate attire and gear), and enjoying each other's company. It's a great way to combine fun and service.

CALC CONCERT SERIES: WILBY!

Wilby is a band led by our own Kate and Bina Maurer. They will be performing here on **Sunday, November 6 at 3 PM**. They play great original alternative rock. The \$5 admission will be going to the church, to help us maintain our buildings. Come and hear some great music, support the band and help the church! Tell your friends!



NURSERY CARE

We are offering nursery care in the parish hall for young children on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month. Emily Brown is our regular caregiver. We also need an adult volunteer to help Emily out. Please contact Carrie Lohrmann for more information. As always, children are always welcome to full participation in worship every Sunday. Parents may also want to bring the children back to worship for communion, even when using nursery care.

WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS!

With a service of Affirmation for Baptism, we welcomed Beth Cammarata, Ken Kunz, and Jim and Karen Rowley into membership at Christ Ascension on September 25. Beth's daughter Gabriella will be baptized on October 16.

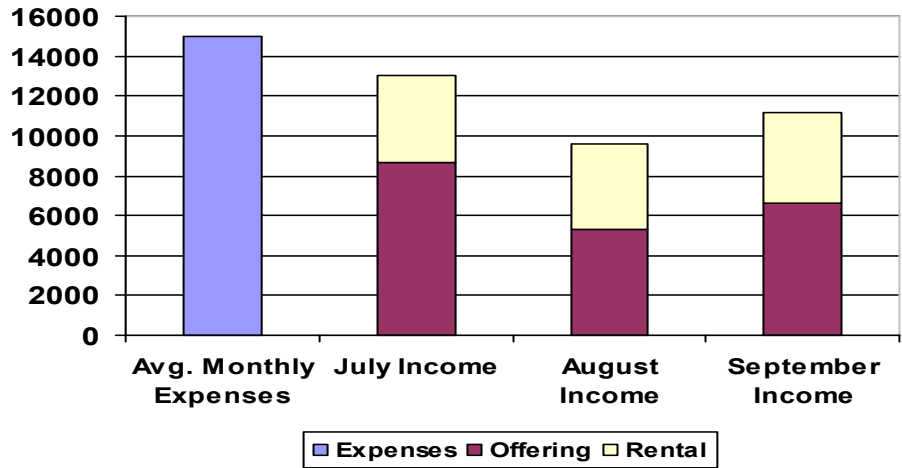
Katherine Reier and John Wicks will be welcomed on October 30. If you know anyone else interested in joining or learning more about this growing congregation, please contact Pastor.

A SIMPLE AND CONVENIENT WAY TO GIVE....

This fall, consider signing up for electronic giving. Christ Ascension relies on weekly offerings from the congregation. Electronic giving offers an easy way to give on a recurring basis. Please contact the church office for details and an enrollment form. Thank you!

“The one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully” (2 Cor. 9:6)

Note: \$1,600 was transferred from savings to pay expenses last month.



	July	Aug	Sept
Avg. Monthly Expenses: \$15,000			
Offering:	\$8,663	\$5,293	\$6,623
Rental Income:	\$4,410	\$4,281	\$4,550

CHESTNUT HILL FALL ARTS FESTIVAL-OCT 9



This is always a wonderful time with our community on the Avenue. Like last year, we will be hosting a booth during the Festival. Contact Joe Schultz to help out. The more, the merrier!

If you drive to church, watch for information and announcements about where best to park. Because we had some troubles with parking in the spring, the Chestnut Hill

Community Association is making an extra effort to be helpful this time around.

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS!

- 5—Jill Shaffer
- 10—Erik Heen
- 15—Laura Rivera
- 17—Dianne McCloud
- 19—Tyler Wellington
- 24—Lauren Smith
- 26—Drew Brown
- 28—Kristin Gray, Jill Russell, Madeline Smith
- 29—Tracy Hall
- 30—Larry Smith

If we don't have your birthday information and you would like it listed, please contact the office.

INSTALLATION

The Rev. George Dietrich (our former vicar) will be installed as pastor at Ascension Lutheran Church in Haddon Heights, NJ on the afternoon of Sunday, October 30. Pastor Lohrmann will preach. More details will be on our website when they are made available.

CHOIR PRACTICE

Choir Practice is now on Sunday mornings at 9 AM. All singers are invited! Come make a joyful noise!

Just send Linda an e-mail (lfuria@verizon.net or speak with her, or any choir member, on Sundays.

2011 SEPA CONFERENCE GATHERINGS!

You're invited to the 2011 SEPA Conference Gatherings!

Join your fellow Lutherans from across our synod for fun, fellowship and learning. Our time together this fall will focus on the Prophet Isaiah's promise that God is doing a new thing in our midst, turning despair into hope and scarcity to abundance.

Our purpose is to equip you and your congregation to look for what God is doing in and around you.

Bishop Burkat will lead us in an entertaining exploration of the meaning of Isaiah's ancient prophecy for our times. We'll have prayer and worship, and time for you to consider God's activity in your community and share your insights with your fellow Lutherans.

Our gathering is on Sunday, October 30 at the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia from 2:30 to 5 p.m. All SEPA Lutherans are invited!

You'll leave the conference gathering prepared to perceive the new things God is doing around you and equipped to respond in your congregation and community.

HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE

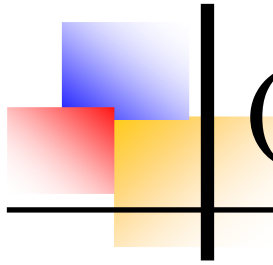
Come meet together with familiar and new faces. There is a place for everyone. If you like to help share this message of welcome, please consider joining or visiting the Hospitality Committee as we meet one Tuesday evening each month at 8 PM in Kimes Hall. Please see the church newsletter, calendar, and website for meeting dates.

We talk, share, work, and often times try to make little inviting changes around the church buildings every time we meet too.

We are a church that is faithfully proclaiming God's Love. What is important to you in this ministry? What does "Welcome" or "Hospitality" mean to you? We'd like to know and respond with encouragement, support, conversation, and action.

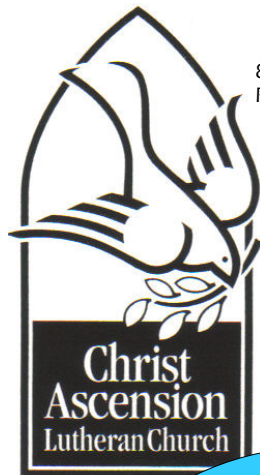
Please join us anytime or contact Carrie Lohrmann at carriehohrmann@gmail.com or 215-510-5649.

*What does
"Welcome" or "Hospitality"
mean to you?*



OCTOBER 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 9:00 Choir Practice 9:15 Christian Ed. 10:30 a.m. Worship <i>Spaghetti Dinner</i> <i>Volunteer(s) Meeting</i>	3	4 8:00 p.m. Hospitality Committee	5	6 7:00 p.m. AA Meeting	7	8
9 9:00 Choir Practice 9:15 Christian Ed. 10:30 a.m. Worship <i>CH Fall for the Arts</i>	10	11 6:00 p.m. Child Care Comm	12	13 7:00 p.m. AA Meeting	14	15 5 – 8 p.m. <i>Spaghetti Dinner</i>
16 9:00 Choir Practice 9:15 Christian Ed. 10:30 a.m. Worship	17 7:00 p.m. Church Council	18	19	20 7:00 p.m. AA Meeting	21	22
23 9:00 Choir Practice 9:15 Christian Ed. 10:30 a.m. Worship	24	25 7:00 p.m. GALP Meeting @ St. Mi- chael's	26	27 7:00 p.m. AA Meeting	28	29 <i>GALP— Avenue Clean Up</i>
30 9:00 Choir Practice 9:15 Christian Ed. 10:30 a.m. Worship	31					



CHRIST ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH

8300 Germantown Avenue
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E-mail: office@christascension.org
www.christascension.org

A congregation of the ELCA

Make ChristAscension.org Your Home

The congregation has a new website. By making it your homepage, you can see updated events and info. Visit us online at www.christascension.org and on facebook: Christ Ascension Lutheran Church – Chestnut Hill

*Christ Ascension:
A Church United in Faith, Hope and Love*
Sunday Schedule:

Christian Education: 9:15 a.m.

Holy Communion: 10:30 a.m.

*Nursery care is available in the parish hall
on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month*

SPAGHETTI DINNER—OCT. 15

With other volunteers, Myron and Jane Hallock are organizing the congregation's spaghetti dinner on Saturday, October 15, 5 to 8 PM. This dinner will help us wrap up our 150th anniversary year. We hope it will also be a significant fundraiser. Ralph Wellington's band, Standard Time, a jazz sextet that mixes the classics—Miles, Monk, Dizzy, Ella, Brubeck, Evans and others from the era of classic jazz—with edgy originals, will perform.

You can volunteer to help by calling or e-mailing the Hallocks (215-836-0303; myronhallock@aol.com).

Tickets are available now for advance purchase! \$10 Adults, \$5 children 12 and under. Tickets will also be available at the door.

Please spread the word (and sell some tickets) to your neighbors, friends, and colleagues!

A Spaghetti Dinner flier is included with this newsletter. Please feel free to print, post, or e-mail to your heart's desire!

Buon appetito!

