



TRIVIA WINNERS



May 2026

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The Pink Door

While we were in Seattle this past month, we ate at a restaurant called The Pink Door. And it was fantastic! The food, the service and the ambiance were excellent. If you find yourself in Seattle, I recommend including a meal there in your itinerary.

However, finding the restaurant is not easy. You see, the restaurant is located in an alley, not a scary alley, more of a pedestrian side street that is lined with shops and restaurants. And there is no sign with the restaurant's name on the building. As the picture shows, there is simply a pink door, with a small hour of operation sign beside it.

We didn't stumble upon The Pink Door by accident. It would have been difficult to know what the building and the door was for, if you didn't already know. We had been told about The Pink Door by the woman at the front desk of our hotel, so we set out to find it. A lot of people have apparently heard about it, because when we arrived without a reservation at 5:15 on a Thursday night, we were given the last available table.

We sometimes lament about the location of our church, as not being visible enough. We are tucked in a neighborhood, rather than sitting on a busy street where we could be seen by all of the occupants of all of the cars that drive by. And we wonder if that is why we don't get more visitors.

But then I think about The Pink Door, a restaurant that has no parking, that is in an alley and doesn't even have a sign, yet every table was full by 5:15 on a Thursday night! How do people find out about The Pink Door? By word of mouth. By people telling other people about them and encouraging them to dine there. Their patrons take pictures of their food and post it on social media; their patrons follow them on social media and like and share their posts. They use their patrons, their customers, the people who go there to evangelize for them. As a result, people seek out their pink door to dine there.

I wonder what it would be like if we did the same thing as a church. If we told other people about Ascension and posted from worship, or Trivia, or making Blessing Bags, or youth group, or a Sacramento Valley Concert Choir Concert here on our social media platforms. I wonder if it would make a difference if we liked and shared the social media posts that Andrea creates every week, so that our social media friends would see and learn about the ministries of Ascension. I wonder what it would be like if we began inviting people we know to worship and other activities at Ascension and told them how to find our church that is tucked in a neighborhood.

I wonder.

Pastor Scott



Worship and Media

I've just returned from a week in Las Vegas at the NAB Show. Run by the National Association of Broadcasters, this annual trade show draws exhibitors and attendees from all aspects of the broadcast world, from content production to transmission to reception. Exhibitors showed off their newest and greatest products - everything from low power AM radio transmitters to shiny new audio processors to teleprompters and cameras and desktop mic stands. I had a great time checking out new microphones and cameras. I picked up some new tools for video productions - look out for words floating behind Pr. Scott's head during a future Hump Day video!



vMix

I met with the folks at vMix, the camera control and streaming software we use here at Ascension. I talked with Heath Barker, their senior systems engineer, about how we use vMix here at Ascension,

what features are available in newer versions of their software, and what we could do differently. It was refreshing to chat with a company that wasn't pushing for yet another sale! Heath assured me that we were on the right track and that his church in Australia is doing many of the same things we are in terms of video production.

For Shane and I, NAB isn't just about wandering the show floor and drooling over the latest and greatest eye candy. We spend just as much time reconnecting with old friends and colleagues. I had a lovely dinner with my dear friend and mentor, Mary Ann. As is typical when we get together, we didn't actually eat much; rather, we spent time just chatting about life, loss, and renewal. Shane and I visited with our old friends Alex, John, and Jeff. We went to a baseball game with our friends Scott and Lance. We had dinner with old colleagues and new. Shane talked with Frank, the CEO emeritus of one of his former employers, and found out that Frank used to work in radio in the Bay Area and even worked closely with Duane Kuiper, one of the Giants' TV announcers!



For years, I've dreamed about how the church could use technology and new media to expand its reach beyond the 4 walls of a building. There's so much that has been done, so much that we are doing, and so much more yet to come. Ascension - your vision and your willingness to try new things has set us in good stead! I look forward to seeing how we can continue to utilize media and technology to reach a world in desperate need of God's love.

Andres

President's Ponderings

Ironically, this recently came across on my Facebook feed.
It hits pretty darn close to home!

If we're honest...most of us wouldn't expect physical strength from working out once a week.

So why do we expect spiritual strength that way?

What you feed daily matters.

It shapes your thoughts.

Your reactions.

Your peace.

Your faith when things don't go as planned.

And the truth is...we make time for what we value.

Scrolling is easy.

Distraction is easy.

But growth in your walk - takes intention.

Even a few minutes in the Word each day can begin to change everything.

Not overnight - but over time.

"Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God." Matthew 4:4

You can't expect spiritual strength
from a once-a-week workout on Sunday.

Just like anything else -
what you feed daily is what grows.

Open your Bible
more than you open your apps.



Grace & Peace,
Terri Jellesed - Council President

It's a Durston Celebration!

**Sunday
May 3
after Modern Worship**

**Let's celebrate with them!
3 baptisms and a wedding!**

Sign up at the info center

Loving God One Another Community

Loving God, One Another, and the Community

Finance status through March 2026

Current Monthly Actual Income	Current Monthly Actual Expenses	YTD Actual Income	YTD Budget Income	YTD Actual Expenses	YTD Budget Expenses
\$32,537.42	\$38,328.99	\$118,712.85	\$123,750.00	\$115,833.42	\$128,083.49



Total Cash; All Accounts:	\$282,083.49
Obligated; Dedicated Accounts:	\$119,666.26

Message from the Treasurer

As we move into May, I want to thank everyone for your continued offerings this year and encourage you to continue to honor your pledges as the summer approaches. Offerings are historically lower at that time, and we're depending upon everyone's continued generous sharing of the Lord's blessings.

Having said that, offerings have declined in March compared to both January and February. (Many annual givers contribute in the first months of the year.)

While this is a typical trend each year it is a bit concerning that the total for the three months is behind last year's for the same time period, by \$20,085 or 16%.

Fortunately we're under budget for expenses, so the overall impact on our checking and savings accounts is still minor. All of us contributing consistently will help us to keep our ministries and operations in service of the Lord in solid ground.

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to ask me. I may not know the answer, but I will find the answer for you.

Greg Imlay, Treasurer, [213-880-2448](tel:213-880-2448), gregimlay44@gmail.com.

Properties

DOUBLE SCOOP OF THANKS!!

Spring Clean Up Day was very productive, and I thank you all who attended! It is always fun to join together with others in a setting that is different than sitting in the pews...so thank you for your participation. I look forward to doing this again! **THANKS!**

Also, thanks to those of you who stepped up while Justin was not able to take care of the facilities during his recovery! Justin does a great job keeping everything sparkling, so it was important that others "cover" for him in his absence!

DOUBLE THANK YOU!

"Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ." — Galatians 6:2

QUESTIONS?? Ask a Council member...we are here for you!



Mary Jo Edmondson,
Vice President

Loving God, One Another, and the Community

WELCA continues with Our mission to love God, One Another & the Community



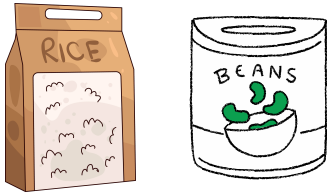
Remember, all women at our church are welcome to our meetings.

During the month of May, we will continue collecting items to give to the new owners of the homes that were built by Habitat for Humanity, including some of our members helping. They will be dedicating 4 duplexes on June 6th, and we have a list of items we would like to be able to include in a basket for them. You can purchase off the list or submit a check to WELCA for us to purchase items.

Kitchen Towels	Dish Soap	Measuring Spoons	Grater
Potholders	Laundry Soap	Spatulas	Flashlight
Mixing Bowls	Magic Erasers	Toilet Paper	Batteries
Mixing Spoons	Sponges	Dishwasher Soap	Bath Towels
Broom w/ Dustpan	Dishcloths	Hand Soap	
Measuring Cups	Rinse Aid for Dishwasher		

Rachels Day is observed on the first Sunday of May, by churchwide women of the ELCA. It is a time set aside to mourn the loss of children and renounce the forces of violence and fear. WELCA sends donations collected to a local organization that shelters women and children forced to flee violence.

Food Closet: This is our fourth month, to request the need of one food closet item. This month will be for **Rice or Beans**. So, in addition to your regular food donations, please add **Rice or Beans** to your list in May. We continue to hand out approximately 80 bags of food each month with approximately \$12.00 of food in each bag. Your contribution helps us help others.



Shoes for Mariposa Elementary School: Because of you, 23 pairs were delivered before the children went on their spring break.



Women and girls 16 and older, mark you calendar for **October 3rd**. We will be having a special event here at Ascension and you will not want to miss it. More information will follow as we get closer. We will be needing assistance by some of you, more information to come.

If you have **paper grocery bags**, please bring them to the food closet. As of now we have plenty of the plastic ones

Just a reminder: Food Pantry Sunday is the 2nd Sunday of the month. Please remember to pick up your bag on the 1st Sunday, fill it and return it on the 2nd Sunday. We are handing out over 80 bags of food each month and your contribution helps tremendously.

Loving God, One Another, and the Community

Ascension Cancer Support Ministry

I would like to take this opportunity to provide an update on the Cancer Support Ministry. We have distributed **36 care packages!** (**16 Cancer Care Packages**, **13 Chemo Care Packages** and **7 Caregiver Care Packages**).

The feedback has been very positive. I think what the care packages do, is let those dealing with this life-threatening disease know that we see and understand to some extent what they are going through and we offer them hope. For example, in the **Chemo Care Packages** there is ginger candy because it helps with nausea, one of the most common side effects of chemotherapy. In the **Caregiver Care Packages** there is stress relief tea and a mantra bracelet that says, "In the Fight for Someone I love."

How do we offer hope? There are devotionals that do just that. The daily devotions draw the reader into a closer walk with God. God offers them hope, strength and peace each and every day. There is also a prayer square in each package. Something tangible that they can hold onto and feel God's presence.

I invite you to checkout the different care packages at the Arts and Crafts Show. The heartfelt prayer squares are made by Cathy Kreutzer, Debbie Imlay and Marlene Tobia.

Cheri Hubbs - Coordinator



ARTS AND CRAFTS SHOW

Sunday, May 3
after each worship service

Sign up at the info center
See John Stolan for more information



Loving the Community

Loaves and Fishes

Beginning in June, volunteers from Ascension will have a second opportunity each month to serve meals to unhoused residents in Sacramento:

1st Wednesday of the month

2nd Friday of the month

We continue to meet at the church and carpool over to Loaves and Fishes. For scheduling purposes, please let me (Doreen Nichols) know ahead of time if you if you would like to volunteer.

Big Day of Service

Saturday, May 16th is the Big Day of Service 2026. A few of us from Ascension will be participating in a Loving our Seniors project here in Citrus Heights. There are many other projects that still need volunteers in Citrus Heights, Fair Oaks, and Orangevale.

Please visit the BDOS website for more information.

<https://www.bigdayofservice.us/>

National Night Out 2026

Mark your calendars for **Tuesday, August 4th**. That's the date for National Night Out 2026. We will be hosting again and working with the neighborhood association to make National Night Out what it is meant to be: a fun, safe opportunity for neighbors to meet one another and get acquainted with their city officials.

We will have our first NNO planning meeting on **Monday, May 18th at 6:00pm**.

Anyone interested is welcome to attend.

Doreen Nichols - Loving the Community

*Happy
Retirement
Cindy Erickson!*

Let's celebrate with Cindy!
Saturday, May 9 - 1-4 pm
Ascension Fellowship Hall



Loving God, One Another, and the Community

Opportunities to Serve in the Community



Ascension members volunteer at Sunrise Christian Food Ministry to pack bags of produce and delivered bags of food to client's cars.

The next time we will be at Sunrise is **Friday, May 15th**. Call Betty Alvord if you're interested in volunteering. (916) 926-2067 or bettyalvord7@gmail.com.



Ascension volunteers serve lunch in the dining room at Loaves and Fishes on the first **Wednesday** of each month. The next time we will be serving is on **May 6th**.

We need more volunteers for this community outreach to homeless people in the Sacramento area. Our group meets at the church at **10 am** for carpooling. Contact Doreen Nichols for more information.



Blessing Bags are assembled every month to distribute to the homeless in our area. Some bags are delivered to health workers, some to HART (Homeless Assistance Resource Team) and some are handed out by our own members. These bags provide some assistance to the less fortunate members of our neighborhood. We appreciate your willingness to help us help the community!



32 boxes of books and tapes were delivered to the Sacramento Book Den!

Next time to make Blessing Bags is May 31st

Text Talk

All are welcome to attend Text Talk at 10 am in C-1 to discuss the preaching text for the upcoming Sunday. In person or via Zoom.

Pub Theology

May 26th 6-8 pm
R Vida Cantina
7040 Sunrise Blvd
Citrus Heights, CA 95610

Contact Mark Chapman for details

2026 Church Council

Pastor - Scott Jones
President - Terri Jellesed
Vice President - Mary Jo Edmondson
Secretary - Cynthia Green
Treasurer - Greg Imlay

Loving:
God - Denise Lehr
One Another - John Stolan
The Community - Doreen Nichols



.....
Please celebrate Denise Lehr as a new council member of Loving God!!!
.....

FIFTH FRIDAY FELLOWSHIP

CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT

BINGO

DRINKS & SNACKS

Friday, May 29 - 7 pm

Sign up at the info center
Questions? Contact John Stolan



FELLOWSHIP

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>3</p> <p>8:30am - Classic Worship @</p> <p>9:30am - Arts and Crafts</p> <p>9:30am - Coffee Hour @</p> <p>9:30am - Screwtape</p> <p>9:30am - Women</p>	<p>26</p> <p>2pm - Craig Brewick</p> <p>6pm - Sacramental Practice</p>	<p>27</p> <p>2pm - Craig Brewick</p> <p>6pm - NNO Planning meeting</p> <p>6pm - Sacramental Practice</p>	<p>28</p> <p>10am - Loaves & Fishes</p> <p>6:30pm - Band Rehearsal @</p> <p>7:30pm - AA Meeting @</p>	<p>29</p> <p>2pm - Craig Brewick</p> <p>7pm - SLAA Meeting @ C-1</p> <p>7:30pm - Sacramento Valley</p>	<p>1</p> <p>8pm - Romanian SDA Church</p>	<p>2</p> <p>9:30am - Romanian SDA</p> <p>6pm - NA Meeting @</p> <p>6pm - Romanian SDA Church</p>
<p>4</p> <p>8:30am - Classic Worship @</p> <p>9:30am - Coffee Hour @</p> <p>9:30am - Screwtape</p> <p>9:30am - Women</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Cinco de Mayo</p> <p>10am - Text Talk @ C-1</p> <p>2pm - Craig Counseling</p> <p>7pm - Finance Committee</p>	<p>6</p> <p>10am - Text Talk @ C-1</p> <p>2pm - Craig Counseling</p> <p>6:15pm - Antelope Quilters @</p> <p>6:30pm - Council @ C-1</p>	<p>7</p> <p>2pm - Craig Brewick</p> <p>7pm - SLAA Meeting @ C-1</p>	<p>8</p> <p>8pm - Romanian SDA Church</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Synod Assembly - Part 1 @</p> <p>9:30am - Romanian SDA</p> <p>6pm - NA Meeting @</p> <p>6pm - Romanian SDA Church</p>	
<p>10</p> <p>Food Pantry Sunday</p> <p>Mother's Day</p> <p>8:30am - Classic Worship @</p> <p>9:30am - Coffee Hour @</p> <p>9:30am - Screwtape</p> <p>9:30am - Women</p>	<p>11</p> <p>2pm - Craig Brewick</p> <p>6pm - Sacramental Practice</p>	<p>12</p> <p>10am - Text Talk @ C-1</p> <p>2pm - Craig Counseling</p> <p>6:30pm - AA Meeting @</p>	<p>13</p> <p>6:30pm - Band Rehearsal @</p> <p>7:30pm - AA Meeting @</p>	<p>14</p> <p>2pm - Craig Brewick</p> <p>7pm - SLAA Meeting @ C-1</p>	<p>15</p> <p>9am - Sunrise Christian Food</p> <p>8pm - Romanian SDA Church</p>	<p>16</p> <p>9:30am - Romanian SDA</p> <p>6pm - NA Meeting @</p> <p>6pm - Romanian SDA Church</p>
<p>17</p> <p>8:30am - Classic Worship @</p> <p>9:30am - Coffee Hour @</p> <p>9:30am - Screwtape</p> <p>9:30am - Women</p> <p>9:45am - Band Rehearsal @</p> <p>9:45am - Confirmation</p>	<p>18</p> <p>2pm - Craig Brewick</p> <p>6pm - NNO Planning meeting</p> <p>6pm - Sacramental Practice</p>	<p>19</p> <p>10am - Text Talk @ C-1</p> <p>2pm - Craig Counseling</p>	<p>20</p> <p>9am - Women's Breakfast @</p> <p>6:30pm - Band Rehearsal @</p> <p>7:30pm - AA Meeting @</p>	<p>21</p> <p>2pm - Craig Brewick</p> <p>7pm - SLAA Meeting @ C-1</p>	<p>22</p> <p>8pm - Romanian SDA Church</p>	<p>23</p> <p>9:30am - Romanian SDA</p> <p>10am - Gold Country</p> <p>6pm - NA Meeting @</p> <p>6pm - Romanian SDA Church</p>
<p>24</p> <p>Confirmation Sunday</p> <p>Healing Sunday</p> <p>8:30am - Classic Worship @</p> <p>9:30am - Coffee Hour @</p> <p>9:30am - Screwtape</p> <p>9:30am - Women</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Memorial Day</p> <p>Office Closed</p> <p>2pm - Craig Brewick</p> <p>6pm - Sacramental Practice</p>	<p>26</p> <p>2pm - Craig Counseling</p> <p>6pm - Pub Theology @ R Vida</p>	<p>27</p> <p>6:30pm - Band Rehearsal @</p> <p>7:30pm - AA Meeting @</p>	<p>28</p> <p>2pm - Craig Brewick</p> <p>7pm - SLAA Meeting @ C-1</p>	<p>29</p> <p>7pm - 5th Friday Fellowship</p> <p>8pm - Romanian SDA Church</p>	<p>30</p> <p>9:30am - Romanian SDA</p> <p>6pm - NA Meeting @</p> <p>6pm - Romanian SDA Church</p>
<p>31</p> <p>Blessing Bags</p> <p>8:30am - Classic Worship @</p> <p>9:30am - Coffee Hour @</p> <p>9:30am - Screwtape</p> <p>9:30am - Women</p> <p>9:45am - Band Rehearsal @</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>