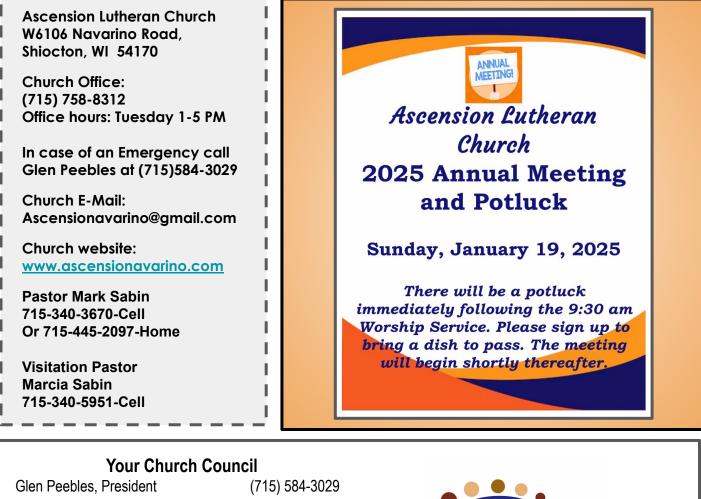
# Ascension Lutheran Church of Navarino

# "The Visitor"



*"Joyfully, we invite and equip all people to share Christ's love"* The Mission Statement of Ascension Lutheran Church.



Glen Peebles, President Lisa Wollenberg, Treasurer Cathy Thomas, Secretary Brad Schuelke, Vice President Greg Schoettler Mike Homan (715) 584-3029
(920) 525-2024
(920) 858-3835
(920) 659-2402
(920) 984-3057
(715) 853-2996



The council usually meets the third Wednesday of each month. You are welcome to attend. The next council meeting will be Wednesday, January 15, 2025 at 5:30 pm.

## Message from the Pastor ~ Bible Study Information



Happy New Year! Where did the time go? Time seems to pass me by faster each year but that may be because of my maturity. We made many memories in 2024, some good and some not so good; but that is how life works. We will not know what the next day brings or even minutes from now. So enjoy the day and don't worry about tomorrow. This is the reason we remember *"This is the day the LORD has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it"* Take one day at a time.

Did you make a New Year's' Day resolution in 2024? How did that work for you? It can be fun if you want to make a resolution like, "I'm giving up chocolate for 2025," knowing it wouldn't last a week.

I don't know if people even do that anymore; but in 2025 we can make an effort to make our country a more kind and civil society. That would make a great resolution. Kindness begins with us and that isn't easy because we are part of the problem. Grace which comes from God, changes hearts. This is a noble resolution and God is the only source of power that could accomplish this through us.

A new year can reset our lives. How? By focusing on the reason we come to worship. A friend once said "in America we have the freedom to go to worship openly. Our mindset is towards I GOT to go church instead of I GET to go to church! The right to worship our faith openly is taken for granted.

Mark and I went on a missionary trip to Turkey which is an Islamic state. We had a six-month orientation to know some of their culture.

One day we were walking down a street when I mentioned to the missionary how they kept the street gutters clean and they did it with a broom. He told me they do this is so a small bomb or explosive could not be easily planted. I was going to take a picture until he said that to me. On the other side of the of the street, there was a Deutsche Bank where explosives went off a couple of years earlier.

We couldn't worship openly. The name of the place we worshiped was called St. Paul's Café. We knew the authorities were aware of what we were doing. As long as we were discreet, they didn't bother us.

In 2025, may we all take inventory of our relationship with God and ask him for guidance to make this world a better place. This would be a great resolution.

May you all have a blessed New Year. Pastors Marcia and Mark  $\frac{1}{11}$ 

#### **Adult Bible Study**

Sunday Mornings at 8:30 am Monday Evenings at 6:30 pm Tuesdays Mornings at 9:00 am



#### **Children's Sunday School**

January 12 & 26 at 8:30 (See Rita for more information) Wednesday Evenings at 6:30

Come join us! All are welcome.

Assisting Ministers – Birthdays & Anniversaries

# **Assisting Ministers**

January 2025 (9:30 services)	Communion Server	Reader	Money Counter	
January 5	Pastor Marcia	Denise Klemp	Ruthann Meiers	
January 12	Carrie Daoust	Darrel Klemp	Glen Peebles	
January 19	Patty Lorenz	Chris Schley	Phyllis Peebles	
January 26	Linda Bubolz	Denelle Daniels	Rita Olson	

If you would like to help out with any of the above tasks, please call the church office (715-758-8312) and we will add your name to the list. If you are unable to be here on the date you are assigned, please find a replacement. Thank you.

# Birthdays & Anniversaries

## Happy Anniversary

01/13 Francis & Ioline Nitzske (Married 63 years)



# Happy Birthday

01/04	Everly Homan
01/06	Steve Thomas
01/11	Sarah Wilber
01/15	Helga Kuhnke
01/15	Xander Pues
01/17	Dean Hillsberg
01/17	Mandy Hartlaben
01/17	David Richter
01/19	Lon Hilliker
01/20	Hayden Ehrle
01/21	Jack Johnson
01/22	Lois Rohrer
01/24	Merle Olson
01/25	Beck Pues
01/27	Gregg Christianson
01/29	Denise Klemp
01/29	Jodi Hoberg

#### Upcoming Events ~ Sunday Fellowship Mark Your Dates to Calendar Remember January 12, 2025 - Tree Un-Trimming January 19, 2025 - Annual Meeting and Potluck February 1, 2025 - Annual Pizza Making & Sale March 14, 2025 - 5th Annual Fish Fry Ascension's New Website News Cheryl's Old Fashioned **Fish Fry** Have you checked out Ascension's Annual Friday, March 14, 2025 new website? I have been working hard on keeping it updated each 11:00 AM - 7:00 PM week. Some features include: Ascension Lutheran Church W6106 Navarino Rd., Shiocton A link that takes you right to Corner of 156 & McDonald Rd Menu: our Facebook page where you Deep-fried fish (Pollock) **Dine-In or Take-Out** Baked Potato or Potato Salad can watch our services online **Pre-orders Preferred** Coleslaw A link to the current week's Call to order by 3/3/25 Fresh Baked Rye Bread bulletin Dessert Call in or Email (IN ADVANCE) your order: A link to the current month's 715-758-8312 / ascensionavarino@gmail.com A Thrivent Team Action Fundraiser "Day of" call-in orders accepted while supplies last Visitor Upcoming Events are listed on the home page A link to Ascension's online BLESSI calendar NGS! I'm still working on getting a photo gallery started. Stay tuned! ~Denise

## Sunday Fellowship

Everyone is invited and welcome to stay for food and fellowship after worship every Sunday. A free will donation is accepted.

January 5 - Scalloped Potatoes & Ham

January 12 - Pizza

January 19 - Hot Pork Sandwiches & Potluck

January 22 - Birthday Cake and Ice Cream



## Church News ~ Thank You's

### Ascension Budget



Council would like the membership to be aware of our financial status on a month to month basis.

Income received YTD: \$76,890.33 Expenses paid out YTD: \$74,249.66 Income exceeding Expenses \$2,640.67



Church 2025 Annual Meeting and Potluck

Sunday, January 19, 2025

There will be a potluck immediately following the 9:30 am Worship Service. Please sign up to bring a dish to pass. The meeting will begin shortly thereafter.

Loaves & Fishes Focus Item for January 2025: Saltine Crackers

Stock the Pantry Shelves – help us stock the shelves with items that help provide for families in need in our communities.

\*\*The Food Pantry is in need of plastic and paper grocery bags.\*\*

# 

Dear Ascension Lutheran Church -Thank you so much for the scholarship and all your support and encouragement throughout my schooling. Hard to believe it's almost over! Again, I greatly appreciate everyone and all you've done for me. Thanks, Maddie Daniels

Dear Ascension Lutheran, On behalf of Shawano Area Matthew 25, Inc. (SAM25), thank you for your recent donation in the amount of \$400, received November 19, 2024. Your gift will directly benefit those in the Shawano area who are struggling with poverty and homelessness. This donation is helping fund SAM25 programs which include SAM's House Emergency Homeless Shelter, SAM25 Resource Center, SAM25 Thrift Store and Professional Clothes Closet, and SAM25 Free Community Health Clinic. This work would not be possible without your support. Thank you for your kindness and generosity. Please know that your continued support is very much needed and appreciated. We are grateful. With thanks,

Kendra Bresewitz, Executive Director

Thank you for opening the church for the celebration of life for Leo Bahr. I appreciate your willingness to support us as the weather got so cold. Signora Bahr Connie & Jeff Boerst Sue & Alex Stepp

## Fundraising Information - Scrip News



Give a little, give a lot, Give for our new parking lot!

January Question: What is the total of your birth year numbers added up? (If I was born in 1971, I would add up the numbers - - 1+9+7+1=18. Therefore I would give \$18.)



Martin Lutheran Congregation of Saldus, Latvia

#### NOVEMBER SCRIP RECAP

- Cards Sold 33
- Sales Total \$1,725.00
- Profit \$154.50
- YTD Profit \$1,819.00
- Inventory 55 cards \$2,100.00





There are VandeWalle's candy bars on the table by the library for sale. The

candy bars are now \$1.50 each. Please put your money in the envelope in the box.

If you'd like to sell a box at your place of employment or another business, please see Toni Klemp. All profits will go to the Special Projects Fund.

#### **Looking for Thrivent Members**

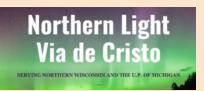
Any Thrivent member is eligible to apply for two \$250 Thrivent action cards per year which can be used as seed money for our fundraisers or for community service projects. We will help you with the application process and completing your final report for any project you may be involved with.



There are sheets on the table in back of church listing the gift cards available. Current stock is based on the top selling cards, however, anything on the sheet can be obtained in two weeks or less. Just fill out the sheet and let Carrie Daoust or Denise in the office know what you would like and an order will be placed. Cards can be purchased Sundays after church or anytime during office hours.

## VDC ~ Prayer List ~ Online Worship Service Info

## Via de Cristo News



Northern Light Spring Camp March 6-9, 2025 Camp Forest Springs N8890 Forest Ln, Westboro, WI 54490



Sonrise Spring Camp April 24-27, 2025 Camp Fairwood W7905 S Pleasant Rd, Westfield, WI 53964

### Prayers for those ill, injured or hospitalized:

Alice Mueller, Dave & Sally Richter, Pat Zuiches, Arnie Kloes, Russell Kloes, Beck & Rosie Pues, Carl Schoettler, Linda Ogi, Kevin Conradt



### **Online Worship Services**



The weekly services are broadcast live through Facebook Live and then published to Ascension's Facebook page for later viewing.

#### \*\*\*\*GOOD NEWS\*\*\*\*

YOU **DO NOT** NEED A FACEBOOK ACCOUNT TO VIEW THE LIVE STREAM SERVICES ON THE CHURCH FACEBOOK PAGE. Ascension's Facebook page is public, so anyone with internet or Wi-Fi capabilities may view it. It will appear that you will have to log in once you get to Ascension's Facebook page, but all you have to do is click the "x" on the top of the page and then you can view any service.

Ascension's website for online services: https://www.facebook.com/AscensionNavarino

The services are also audio-recorded onto CD's when possible and delivered to the homes of those without internet who are unable to attend worship.

If you have something you would like to be included in the "Visitor", please have the information to the church office by the third Sunday of the month. Thank you!

# Trimming the Tree

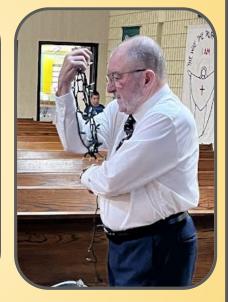


















# Scuba Christmas Program



# Scuba Christmas Program



Scuba Christmas Program on December 15, 2024





## 150th Anniversary Recap

#### 1874Ascension Anniversary Calendar of Events2024

January 20 - Lefse making and sale

**February -** A set of 4 Commemorative Coasters were and still are available for purchase for \$20. There are many sets of coasters still available. Purchase a set for yourself or to give as a gift.

April 21 after fellowship - Sing to the shut-ins.

September 15 - Remembrance Sunday - videos of past years were shown after the worship service. Members made dishes from recipes collected from old church cookbooks. The church bell was rung for the first time in years. During the service we sang "Lead On, O King Eternal" with the recording made in 1974 for the 100th Anniversary. We also listened to a recording of Mabel Prestrud reciting "The Lord's Prayer" in Norwegian.

October 13 - Polka Service

November 3 - Special Worship Service. Our church was officially organized on November 26, 1874. We invited former pastors to join us. A chicken dinner was catered in.

Other projects that happened during the year:

- We had several speakers from the Benevolences we support throughout the year tell us how our financial support benefits them.
- We put some "Way Back When" articles in the Visitor each month.
- The bulletin boards were changed every month with different pictures and articles from the past.
- We put 2 articles in the local papers.

The Committee: Bommie, Kris, Denelle, Jean, Everett, Glen and Phyllis

#### **Benevolence Speakers:**

YEARS ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

It was an amazing year-long celebration! Hours and hours went into planning and implementing those plans and we extend many, many thanks to the anniversary committee. We look forward to the next 25, 50, 100+ years as a congregation dedicated to serving our community as well as worshiping our most omnipotent God!

Council Minutes								
ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH OF NAVARINO Tuesday, December 17, 2024 5:30 pm Council Meeting								
	eebles, Lis Mike Hom	0	eg Schoettle	r, Brad Schuelke, Ca	athy Thomas, Denise Klemp			
President Glen	Peebles ca	alled the meeting	to order at 5	:30				
Prayer and Deve	otion:							
Old Business: D	Discussion	on wage increase	e for staff.					
Pa	arking lot u	pdate (Olson Ele	ctric) Brad re	eports Lightning in pr	ogress			
Approval of last	month mi	nutes:						
1st by: Lisa, 2nd	Greg, Voic	e vote passed						
Pastor's Report	:							
Treasurer's Rep	ort: Incom	e received:	\$76,8	90.33				
	Expens	es paid out:	\$74,24	9.66				
		Exceeding Expe	nses \$2,640	.67				
Project Fund Re	eceived for	the Month:						
Loud Offering		\$105.79						
CD Interest		\$303.56		A coursulative Tet				
	Candy Bar Sales (Yearly) \$1,348.00			Accumulative Totals				
Plant Sale		\$11.00		Loud Offering	\$10,307.61 \$12,652.00			
Thrivent Choice		\$271.00		Thrivent Choice	\$12,653.00 \$5,709,70			
Fellowship		\$311.00		Candy Bars	\$5,798.70 \$4,425.22			
Scrip Program C	ard Sales	\$1800.00		CD Interest	\$4,125.23			
Misc. Donations		\$150.00						
Total Income for	the Month:	<u>\$4,300.35</u>						
Scrip Card Expense \$5,467.23 Scrip cards and candy bars								
Total available fo	•	-						
	ot Treasure	e <b>r's Report</b> 1st by	y Cathy 2nd	by Brad Voice vote F	Passed			
New Business								
	•	ction Glen and G	Freg. Brad is	running for 3rd term				
Committee Upd								
WorshipChristmas Eve Service - one service Dec. 24th at 4pm								
	Youth Confirmation and Sunday School after the 1st of the year							
	Finance         Next Finance Meeting Jan.8th 6pm							
•	Fundraising         Pizza Sale Feb. 1st (youth)							
Miscellaneous	Miscellaneous December 29th Birthday Sunday and Xmas Carol Service							
	•	19th Annual Mee	•					
January 26th Birthday Sunday								
Next Meeting Date January 15th at 5:30								
Adjournment 1s	t by Greg 2	2nd by Lisa Voice	e vote Passe	d				

Respectfully submitted by: Cathy Thomas (Secretary)

## Parking Lot Update ~ My Thoughts in Words

#### PARKING LOT UPDATE 12/24

On Mon, 12/16, the (2) new light poles were set on the concrete footings, and the existing light pole was taken down. After a couple very dark nights, I asked the Olson's foreman on site if he could get the new parking lot lights operating by the Christmas Eve service. He said there would be light, and by Wednesday 12/18, there was light!

The foreman from Olson's also said the balance of their electrical work will be finished soon.

If anyone from the church would like to purchase the old 25' pole, please let me know by our annual meeting in January.

Thank you, Brad Schuelke (Council VP)





My Thoughts in Words By The Church Lady

It's hard to believe that the Y2K scare was already 25 years ago. I remember not being overly concerned. We had and continue to hear over and over again the predictions of when the world is going to end. Obviously, none of the predictions have come true – yet. We all know, as stated in the book of Revelations, that the world as we know it will end. How and when it will end is up for debate and will continue to be until the end is upon us. Fortunately, those us of who know where we are going when we leave this world don't have to worry about the end times. Just like 25 years ago, when the clock turned to 12:00 am on January 1, 2000 and the world didn't implode, we can continue our lives now as we did back then. I know for me, 2025 will be another year filled with good times and bad. I will continue to try to improve on my last 53 years on this earth all the while looking up to my God and Savior who's been with me through all my ups and downs. I can hold on, always trusting in where He's leading me all the while enjoying the ride. This year, may you also feel the gentle touch of your Lord and Savior. May you remember to trust His lead so you have the freedom to live the best life you can!

Happy New Year & God Bless, Denise

## Dartball Schedule ~ Community Events



## This & That

MIDNIGHT

GLASS

PARTY

NEW

## New Year's Crossword Puzzle

YNEAHXWKTIYNJ BIWLOJ S 7 0 S Т 7 D Τ. C Х W 0 N 0 G н С Κ 0 Т G R G 7 R Δ B Ε W Y Δ R Y Δ D N Е L Δ C Ζ V B V 1 R Т ZQZP Y Ν Т BABY NEW YEAR MIRROR BALL CELEBRATION RESOLUTIONS FIREWORKS CHAMPAGNE BEGINNING HOURGLASS

CONFETTI

CHEERS

FIRST

YEAR

NEW YEAR PRAYER:

Thank You Lord for giving me The brand new year ahead. Help me live the way I should As each new day I tread. Give me gentle wisdom That I might help a friend, Give me strength and courage So a shoulder I might lend. The year ahead is empty, Help me fill it with good things Each new day filled with joy And happiness it brings. Amen.



Word for the day: **Hurkle-durkle** a 200 year-old Scottish term meaning to lounge in bed long after it's time to get up. Happiness is **hurkle-durkling**.

BALLOONS

JANUARY

GOALS

TIME

COUNTDOWN

CALENDAR

HAPPY

CLOCK

TerryHershey.com





January 2025



Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
		Happy New 3 year	<b>1</b> 6:30pm NO Confirmation or Church School	2	3	4
<b>5</b> Epiphany <b>8:30am</b> Bible Study <b>9:30am</b> Worship <b>Fellowship meal -</b> Scalloped Potatoes & Ham	<b>6</b> <b>6:30pm</b> Bible Study <b>7:30pm</b> Dartball at Ascension	<b>7</b> 9:00am Bible Study	<b>8</b> 6:30pm Confirmation and Church School	9	10	11
<b>12</b> Baptism of the Lord <b>8:30am</b> Sunday School <b>8:30am</b> Bible Study <b>9:30am</b> Worship <b>Fellowship meal -</b> Pizza	<b>13</b> <b>6:30pm</b> Bible Study <b>7:30pm</b> Dartball at Seymour Methodist	14 9:00am Bible Study	<b>15</b> <b>4-6pm</b> Loaves and Fishes Distribution <b>5:30pm</b> Council Meeting <b>6:30pm</b> Confirmation and Church School	16 Loaves FOOD P		18 9-11 am Loaves and Fishes
<b>19</b> 2nd Sunday after Epiphany 8:30am Bible Study 9:30am Worship After worship - Annual Meeting and Potluck (Hot Pork Sandwiches will be provided)	20 6:30pm Bible Study 7:30pm Dartball at Ascension	<b>21</b> 9:00am Bible Study	22 6:30pm Confirmation and Church School	23	24	25
<b>26</b> 3rd Sunday after Epiphany 8:30am Bible Study 8:30am Sunday School 9:30am Worship Birthday Sunday	<b>27</b> <b>6:30pm</b> Bible Study <b>7:30pm</b> Dartball at Cicero Lutheran	<b>28</b> 9:00am Bible Study	<b>29</b> <b>6:30pm</b> Confirmation and Church School	30	31	