

## **“...And other duties as assigned...”**

### **Communications and Building Report**

Most days I think this should be my job title. So far I have “Office Manager,” “Director of Communications,” and now “Building Manager.” My days go from setting up Zoom (web) meetings for different synod leadership groups, to having a slight freak out when discovering water flowing from the ceiling in the “dungeon” (our heating, air and lawn mower storage room), to writing articles for the newsletter or Living Lutheran, to setting up and sitting in synod council meetings, to trying to keep our building partners up to their agreements with cleaning up or paying their rent. Every day is a new adventure. But we’ve finished our much needed year-long updates and repairs to the building. We could do more to help this building, but for now that’s all the money we’re able to spend. Many people that come to the LMC remark at how nice the building looks. Updates and repairs include: LED lighting, rekeying locks, new Wi-Fi throughout the building, repairs and painting to outside of building, new roof on Jordan Hall, a major tree trimming and removal of dead/dying trees, parking lot addition and repair, new furnace and 2 water heaters, and lots of cleaning and painting inside.

The Lutheran Ministry Center has become quite a lively place where we can easily hold synod meetings, where you can hear music lessons, where a group of folks come together to play mahjong each week, and where two ministries come each week for worship and faith formation.

The newest addition to the Lutheran Ministry Center is Cornerstone Church, a satellite congregation of the very large Asbury United Methodist Church here in Tulsa. One of their pastors has started this new congregation and fell in love with our building and location. After many months of prayer and planning, the congregation held its first worship in Ascension Chapel in January 2018 and has grown from 120 to around 400 people each week. They started with one, but now have two worship services on Sundays. They have replaced the carpet in the chapel, painted the upstairs classrooms, restored two bathrooms from closets back to working bathrooms, fixed and stained the steps into the chapel and had a work day around the property-cleaning up the yard, trimming bushes, etc. There was no cost to us for these updates.

We still have Iglesia de Amor, a Latino Freewill Methodist congregation, a Christian Counselor, music teacher, the Helping Hands Ministry from Ascension Lutheran members, and a mahjong group that use the building. Except for Helping Hands, all pay a monthly fee to offset costs of using the building. Bill McAllister continues to do the cleaning and yardwork for the building. He also does repairs if able.

At print time, we have 525 people that receive the synod weekly e-news. If you know of people in leadership positions in your congregation that do not receive the weekly news, please have them contact me to get signed up. We have our website - [aokelca.org](http://aokelca.org) and Facebook page for information and resources for congregations in our synod. We have started using Zoom for web meetings and between Bishop Mike, Pastor Liz and the rest of the synod leadership, groups are able to meet more frequently without all the travel.

I am always available to help with questions or concerns about your congregation’s communications needs: website, newsletter, social media or even just consultation. Hey, it’s my job, it’s “other duties as assigned” and I love talking about communication!

Respectfully submitted,

*Laura Bunch*