

Proposal for Ascension Lutheran Church to Open a Grade School for Kindergarten through 5th Grade

August 2026 Launch with Kindergarten through 2nd Grade

Introduction

Ascension Lutheran Church has long history of faith development and education within our local community. In keeping with our commitment to serving our congregation and the broader community, we propose the establishment of Ascension Grade School, offering comprehensive education from Kindergarten through 5th grade. This initiative is set to launch in August 2026, with the opening of Kindergarten through 2nd grade where Ascension will provide a nurturing and academically rigorous environment for young children.

Rationale for Establishing the Ascension Grade School

Community Needs

The local community has expressed a growing need for high-quality primary education that aligns with Christian values. Establishing a grade school at Ascension Lutheran Church will meet this demand by providing a faith-based education that emphasizes academic excellence, moral development, and community service.

Educational Excellence

Our school will follow a robust curriculum designed to foster intellectual growth, creativity, and curiosity. With a focus on foundational subjects such as mathematics, science, language arts, and social studies, our students will be well-prepared for their future educational endeavors.

Spiritual Growth

In addition to academic instruction, our grade school will prioritize spiritual development. Students will participate in daily prayers, weekly chapel services, and religious education classes that reinforce the teachings of the Lutheran Church.

Holistic Development

We believe in educating the whole child. Our programs will include physical education, art, music, and extracurricular activities designed to promote physical health, artistic expression, and social skills.

Implementation Plan

Phase 1: Planning and Preparations

From now until August 2026, we will undertake the following steps to ensure a successful launch:

- Form a dedicated planning committee composed of church leaders, educators, and community members.
- Develop a detailed project timeline and budget.
- Secure necessary permits and accreditations.
- Design and renovate classroom spaces to create a conducive learning environment.
- Recruit qualified teaching staff who are committed to our mission and values.
- Engage with the community through informational sessions and outreach programs.

Phase 2: Curriculum Development

Our curriculum will be designed to align with state educational standards while incorporating Lutheran teachings. Key components include:

- Core subjects: Mathematics, Science, Language Arts, Social Studies
- Religious education: Biblical studies, Lutheran doctrines, ethical teachings
- Enrichment programs: Art, Music, Physical Education, Technology
- Extracurricular activities: Clubs, Sports, Community Service Projects

Phase 3: Enrollment and Marketing

To attract students and families, we will:

- Launch a comprehensive marketing campaign utilizing social media, local media, and community events.
- Host open house events to showcase our facilities and programs.
- Provide informational materials and enrollment packets to interested families.
- Offer early enrollment incentives and scholarship opportunities.

Financial Relationship Between Church and School

Church Responsibilities

- Startup costs
- Heat & cool, water
- Provide use of the facilities as part of the ministry of Ascension.
- Internet & phone service
- Unforeseen shortfalls

School Responsibilities

- Teacher salaries & benefits
- Classroom maintenance
- Support cleaning staff
- School supplies
- Marketing & promotion
- Normal operational expenses
- Classroom repairs

Governance of the School

- Ascension Grade School is a ministry of Ascension Lutheran Church and falls under the governance of the congregation, Board of Directors and its school board.
- A School Board will be established to oversee the operation of the school and maintain compliance with the school handbook. The School Board will work with the principal, teachers, congregational leaders and pastors to fulfill the vision of the school mission of spiritual formation of students and academic excellence.

Financial Snapshot

Yearly Income: \$295,150

School Tuition \$6,200 (45 students)

Registration fees \$13,000 year

Book Fees \$3,150

School Auction: ?

Donations: ?

Memorials: ?

Grants: ?

Start Up Costs \$255,400 - \$300,000

Playground & Fence \$112,000

Door upgrades \$ 50,000??

Classrooms Outfitting \$60,000

Curriculum \$34,000

Frist Year Operational Costs: \$275,263