

Aim True



HIS KINGDOM

HIS GLORY

HIS SERVICE



“Commit your work to
the Lord, and your plans
will be established.”

Proverbs 16:3



SCENSION
CADEMY

AIM TRUE
ISAIAH 49:2

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Isaiah 49:2

*“He made my mouth like a sharp sword;
in the shadow of his hand he hid me;
he made me a polished arrow;
in his quiver he hid me away.”*

Aim True



Our school began when several people in our community saw the need for a Christian school option. In 2020, these individuals began to pray for wisdom and direction in moving forward to start a school, God began to bring these people together to form a steering committee. As we begin 2024, I look back and see God’s faithfulness and guidance to us; He is so good!

Our curriculum is infused with biblical truth, and we teach everything from a biblical worldview. We want to develop leaders from within our school who will continue to have a heart to serve in the community as they grow. We are actively raising life-long critical thinkers. Through our newsletters, we provide weekly devotions that follow our Bible curriculum so parents and students can discuss together what they are learning.

In our first year and a half, we have grown to a school of over 50 students in 4K through 8th grade. A Christ-centered board of directors leads us, we have supportive and engaged parents, we are blessed with committed and loving volunteers, and we have a wonderful teaching staff. God has been so good!

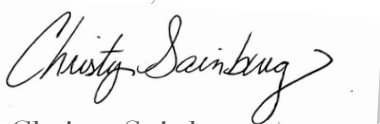
Our theme for this year is to honor God and others. This theme is based on Romans 12. The 2nd and 3rd grade class has memorized Romans 12:1-10! Romans 12:9-10 says, “Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor.”

We are in the pre-accreditation status with Christian Schools International, CSI. Our site visit to become fully accredited will occur in September of 2024. Christian Schools International’s accreditation provides a relevant, highly effective means for us to assess our school in light of our mission. Accreditation is a process that will guide us to continue to fulfill our God-given purpose with integrity and excellence.

We also anticipate participating in Wisconsin School Choice for the 2024-2025 school year. This will enable income-qualified families to receive funding that will cover tuition costs. The open enrollment period is February 1 to April 20. More information will be shared as it becomes available.

Thank you for partnering with us! I praise God for each of you. I will conclude with another verse from Romans 12. “Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.”

Aim True,



Christy Sainburg

Administrator



Robert Ruppel, Board President

Robert and his wife Angie grew up in Cumberland and moved back in 2006. Robert and his family attend St. Paul Lutheran Church. Robert felt so strongly that our young people are missing the spiritual side of life that he committed himself to Ascension Academy as a way to bring young people to Jesus.



Janelle Hagen, Board Vice-President



Janelle and her husband, Scott, have a seven-year-old son who attends Ascension Academy. After college, Janelle accepted a job with Ardisam and has been working there ever since, holding positions in the fields of supply chain management and product development. Janelle's career with Ardisam has included many interesting adventures, including a six-year stint living and working abroad as an expat in China, where she was able to foster a love for other cultures. Some of Janelle's favorite hobbies are golf, basketball, swimming, reading, singing, and traveling.

John Peterson, Board Treasurer

John and his wife of 25 years, Carie, have homeschooled/online-schooled their three boys and have seen the wonderful benefits of a rigorous, Christian education. John would like all Christian families to have the opportunity for Christian education for their children and was thrilled when he heard about Ascension Academy. John has worked in Finance/Accounting all his career and is currently the CFO for Schuman Cheese. When not working, you may find the Petersons working on their hobby farm, which includes a flock of sheep. Other activities they enjoy include spending time with friends, hockey, gardening, hunting, and fishing.



Peter Westendorf, Board Secretary



Peter and his wife Ruth live with four of their five children just outside Barron. Peter attended small private Christian schools, which his father helped found and served as an administrator and teacher. Peter and Ruth are firm believers that parents are called by God to be the primary influence in their children's lives and responsible for making sure their children are raised to know and love God. It is their prayer that God would use Ascension Academy to assist families in our community to instill a biblical worldview in the generations to come.

Bob Schauf, Board Member

Bob and his wife, Karyn, have four sons and eight grand-children. Retired dairy farmers, they continue to cash crop and work with son Zach in their wood shavings manufacturing business. Having started three of their sons in Christian education, Bob has a great passion to help expose youth to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. His desire is that Ascension Academy will be a successful model of a Christian education system that can be replicated in Northwest Wisconsin.



Mission, Vision, Portrait

Our Mission

Ascension Academy, as an extension of the Christian home, seeks to provide biblically-based instruction and encouragement so that every student may reach their full potential to the glory of God.

Our Vision

To equip a generation of godly leaders who live a life of love and service to God and others.

Portrait of a Student

Aiming our Arrows

Our Portrait of a Student exemplifies our goal of equipping students spiritually, academically, and in accordance with their God-given potential, enabling them to handle the rigors of life with courage, aiming always for the glory of God.

Faith - Aiming to live in Christ's likeness

"I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me." Galatians 2:20

- Demonstrates a developing, personal relationship with Jesus Christ, and values the importance and benefit of belonging to and being involved in a local church body
- Commits to engage in God's Word in a way that trains their minds and transforms their hearts, studying with purpose, patience, prayer, and humility
- Able to articulate and apply a biblical worldview to daily life and decision making
- Participates in mission opportunities to share the knowledge and love of God with others

Character - Aiming to communicate Christ's message

"The wise of heart is called discerning, and sweetness of speech increases persuasiveness. The heart of the wise makes his speech judicious and adds persuasiveness to his lips."

Proverbs 16:21, 23

- Thinks critically and analytically from a faithful Biblical perspective
- Can explain what it means to be, and the significance of being, an image-bearer of God
- Listens first to understand and so is able to connect to others with empathy, thoughtfulness, and confidence
- Understands, respects, and values the different cultures represented by God's image-bearers around the world
- Able to articulate and stand firm in their Christian faith, applying their acquired knowledge wherever God leads them

Portrait of a Student (continued)

Knowledge - Aiming to grow in Godly wisdom

“But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere.”

James 3:17

- Recognizes their God-given gifts and abilities, and eagerly pursues their studies with growing excellence
- Takes initiative to analyze, evaluate, and interpret information using creative thought to form a response or solve a problem, even in the absence of explicit, external guidance or direction
- Employs technology effectively and responsibly to gain knowledge, solve problems, and communicate solutions
- Able to adapt to the ever-changing challenges of the times in which God has placed them

Community - Aiming to lead with a servant’s heart

“For even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.” Mark 10:45

- Loves and serves their families, friends, communities, and the world, living in accordance with biblical standards in family and personal relationships
- Gives generously of their time and talents, demonstrating a servant leader mindset and seeking to emulate Jesus Christ
- Exhibits grace and humility when relating to those who do not share the same worldview, knowing how to listen, confident in the grace they have received and eager to extend that grace to others
- Shows perseverance, tenacity, and resilience in the face of difficult tasks and adversity, aiming to faithfully accomplish the good works God has prepared for them to do
- Works together with others, valuing the diversity of gifts entrusted to members of the Body, seeking together to greater glorify God in the world



Strategic Plan

Communications and Community Engagement

- Build a thriving, growing community from a diverse Christian denominational background, centered on the basic truths of Scripture
- Maintain positive relationships within the larger community, focusing on adding educational opportunities for the benefit of all, including weekly student and quarterly parent chapels

Facilities and Operations

- Exemplify good stewardship of the time, treasures, and talents God has given us, especially in the area of financial stability, so that parents can trust that the school will continue to be able to provide the level of education they are willing to support

Teaching and Learning

- Teach students to think critically and analytically from a biblical perspective
- Provide students with opportunities to explore with hands-on learning, collaborative projects, and discovery opportunities to prepare them for life inside and outside the classroom

Technology

- Assist parents in keeping their children safe in both the physical and virtual worlds, teaching and applying appropriate use of the technological tools available today

Goals Met

- Achieved membership at Christian Schools International (CSI), June 2022
- Began first school year, September 1, 2022
- Achieved pre-accreditation status with CSI, September 2022
- Installed a playground, September 2023
- Expanded grades adding 4K and 7th/8th grade, September 2023
- Applied for Wisconsin School Choice, January 2024

Goals Not Met

- We were denied entrance to Wisconsin School Choice for the 2023-24 school year
 - We have reapplied and expect to gain acceptance for 2024-25
- Achieved enrollment growth but not as defined by our enrollment growth plan
 - We believe that a combination of School Choice funds and accreditation will increase our enrollment to a long-term sustainable number (10-14 per classroom)



Future Goals

- Prepare for the Accreditation Site visit (in progress)
- Start a prayer ministry with parents (began January 2024)
- Create an endowment fund
- Start a board and staffing expansion and succession plan
- Have transportation pick-up spots in a couple of communities
- Achieve full accreditation on or before June 2025
- Expand to high school through a homeschool co-op
- Demonstrate academic and spiritual growth in students with specific measurements
- Have Wisconsin School Choice fully implemented
- Achieve enrollment growth as defined by our enrollment growth plan

2024-2025 Target Growth Plan (Projections)

4K, 8

Kindergarten, 8

1st & 2nd Grade, 10

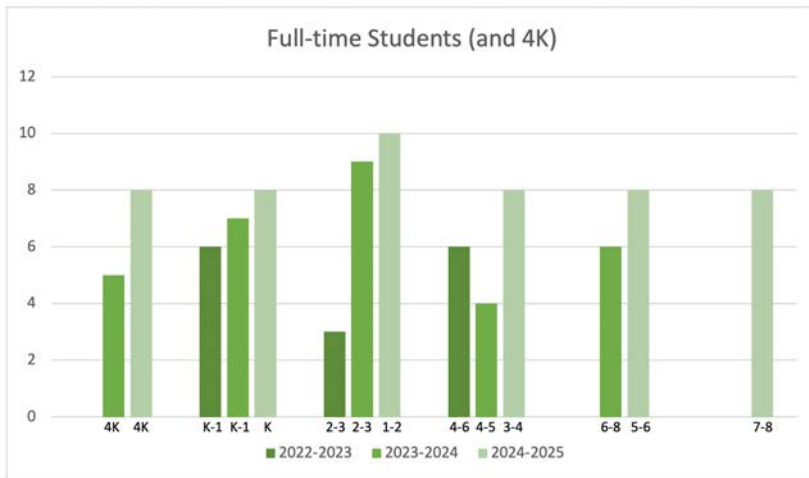
3rd & 4th Grade, 8

5th-6th Grade, 8

7th-8th Grade, 8

K-8th Grade PT Homeschool Students, 25

High School Homeschool Co-op, 8



2023-2024

4K 5

Full-time 27

Part-time 18

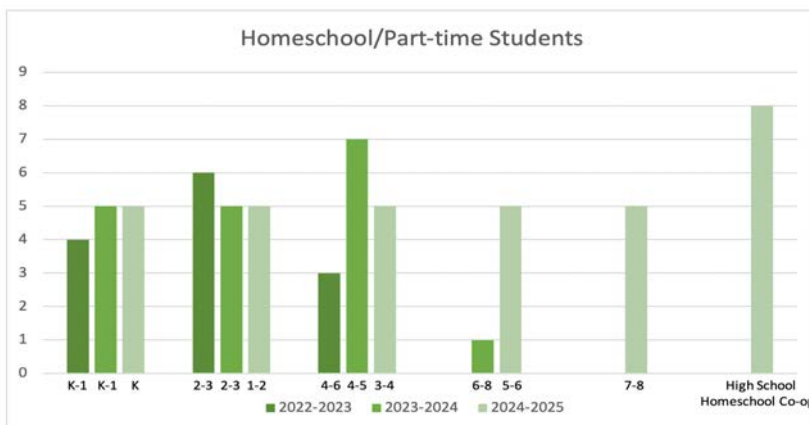
2024-2025 (Projections)

4K 8

Full-time 42

Part-time 25

High School 8



Academic Excellence

We strive for academic excellence in all that we do at Ascension Academy. This priority is seen in our teaching staff as well as the curriculum that we have chosen. As we grow, we will have more comparable data from student assessments to share.

We use BJU Press for Heritage Studies, science, and ELA.

Below is what BJU Press has to say about Standards and Academic Responsibility:

Standards and Academic Responsibility

BJU Press has a responsibility to ensure that educational products address the subject matter standards established by national and state authorities for three main reasons:

- 1 Standards reflect many best practices and much educational research.
- 2 Standards aid in college and career readiness.
- 3 Standards prepare students for high-stakes assessments (i.e., standardized tests and college entrance examinations).

We remember daily and prayerfully the joy and responsibility we have in supporting administrators, teachers, and parents in the work of Christian education.

For these reasons, BJU Press maintains a strong awareness of state and national educational standards that apply to our subject areas.

Standards and a Biblical Worldview

Occasionally, some particular academic standards present a challenge to a Biblical worldview. However, with care, it is possible to produce academically rigorous educational materials that address philosophically problematic standards while forming a biblical worldview in students and accomplish legitimate academic outcomes. BJU Press produces uniquely crafted educational resources that assist as many schools and families as possible to meet their varying educational goals, while remaining consistent with the BJU Press philosophy of education and committed to effective biblical worldview shaping.

Standards and Academic Rigor

Students' thinking must be shaped by a biblical worldview in a way that is academically rigorous. Academic rigor is the educational experience that engages students in content appropriate to their academic level and helps them learn to analyze, evaluate, and ultimately create. We consult state and national standards and current educational research to help BJU Press products incorporate educational best practices.

Academic Excellence

HMH Math in Focus

Built on Research Emphasizing Problem-Solving

The Singapore math curriculum framework recognizes problem-solving skills as central to learning.

Visual Models Promote Understanding

The program's concrete-pictorial-abstract approach builds math conceptual understanding through manipulatives, diagrams, models, and abstract symbols.

Interactive Resources Ensure Growth

Visual models help students develop the ability to visualize mathematical situations, which is key to becoming a successful problem solver.

Hands-On Learning Engages Students

Hands-on math activities and mathematical manipulatives let learners experience concepts in a concrete way.

Waggle® goes beyond adaptive learning to personalize practice and instruction by complementing *Math in Focus: Singapore Math* to support students at all levels.

(Description from HMH)

We use **Bible RoadTrip** for Bible class.

Bible Road Trip™ is an engaging, fun, three-year Bible survey curriculum for preschool through high school.

In 480 pages, Bible Road Trip™ Year One covers the books of law and history (Genesis to Esther) in 32 weeks, at five levels, for preschool to high school. Bible Road Trip™ Year Two covers the books of poetry and prophecy (Job to Malachi) in 32 weeks, at five levels, for preschool to high school. Bible Road Trip™ Year Three covers the books of the New Testament (Matthew to Revelation) in 32 weeks, at five levels, for preschool to high school.

If a child starts in preschool, the child will go **all the way through the Bible five times** by the time he or she graduates from high school.

In just three years, students will **learn the whole Bible**, focusing on the **overarching themes of Scripture**: Who God is, our fallen nature, God's sovereignty, God's plan for salvation through Christ, and our relationship with God (Description from Bible RoadTrip)

Academic Excellence

In addition to the core classes, we offer PhyEd, music, art, health, Spanish, and STEAM classes. Each of these classes combines teacher-written and purchased curricula, ensuring that students receive an excellent and well-rounded education.

2nd/3rd Grade Sample Art Lesson

- 1 What language do people in Brazil speak?
- 2 What country is the largest in South America?
- 3 What is the longest mountain range in the world?
- 4 What is the name of the largest rainforest in the world?
- 5 What is the statue of in Brazil called?

Look at Iguazu Falls, Brazil

Create Sponge and fork waterfalls

Materials Needed

- 1 Thick paint paper
- 2 Pencils
- 3 Acrylic paints
- 4 Water
- 5 Brushes
- 6 Sponges
- 7 Plastic forks
- 8 Paper towels

Memory Verse:

“Then God said, “Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.”

-Genesis 1:26



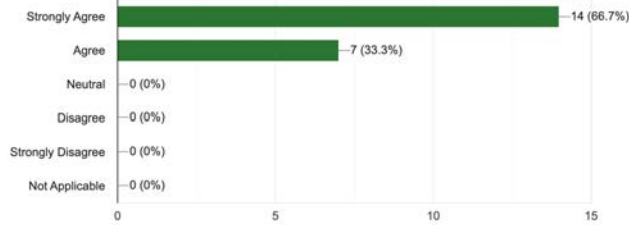
Spiritual Growth

- Our students attend weekly chapels. Area pastors and Christian leaders come and speak at our chapels. A summary of what was shared is described in our weekly newsletter.
- Students have Bible class daily, working through the second half of the Old Testament this year. In addition, students memorize key verses weekly.
- All subject matter is taught from a biblical worldview.
- Board Vice-Chair, Mrs. Hagen, comes to school every Friday for a Lunch and Learn with the 4th-8th grade students. This study is related to defending our faith or apologetics.
- All our students have pen pals at another Christian school in Pakistan. We pray for these students.
- Students collected items to donate to the Pregnancy Help Center in Rice Lake.
- A number of students visited a nursing home and several residential homes to sing Christmas carols to our neighbors.
- Our theme this year is to honor God and honor others based on Romans 12.
- The K/1 classroom has focused on filling a “kindness bucket.”
- The 4/5 classroom has focused on using words of affirmation to others.
- Each classroom is working on instilling godly character.

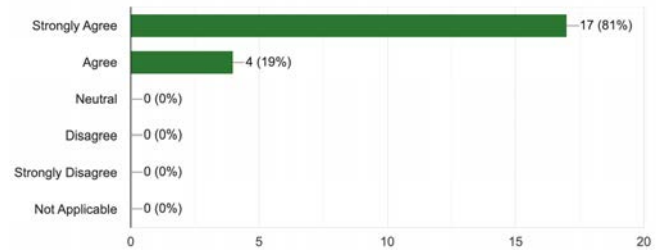


Parent Survey Results

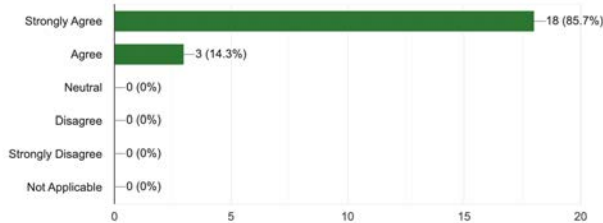
Ascension Academy has clear goals for what it wants to accomplish for the children who attend here.



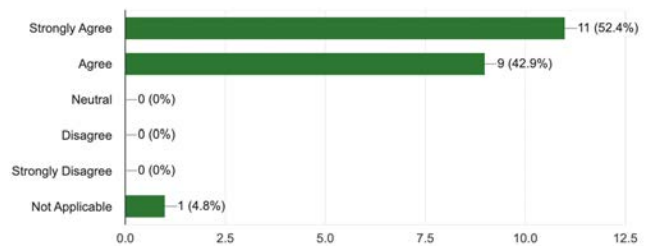
I trust that Ascension Academy's administrator is leading the staff to provide our children with a high-quality, Christ-centered education.



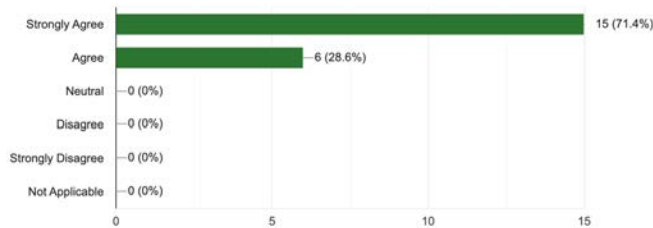
Ascension Academy's vision is definitely Christian.



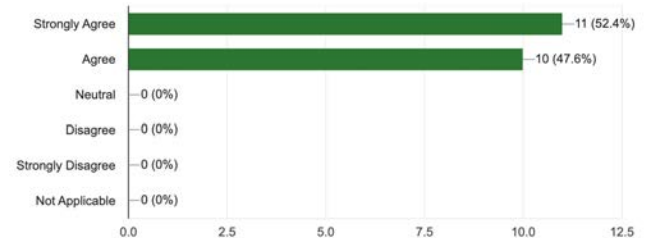
Ascension Academy's curriculum is clearly of high quality.



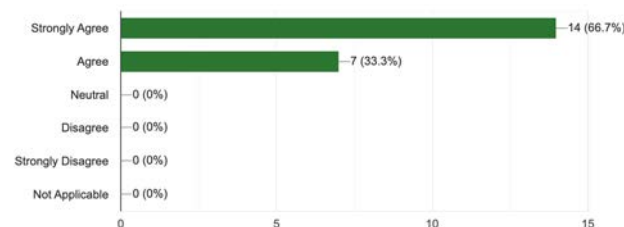
The Ascension Academy Board of Education knows where it is leading us and functions well.



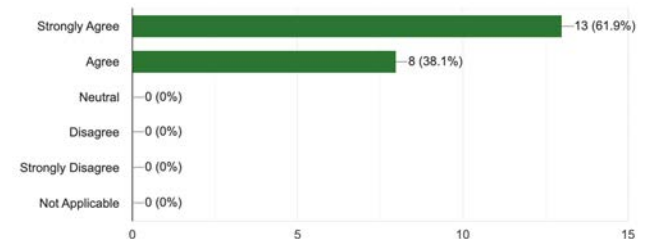
Ascension Academy's teachers have a good knowledge of their subject areas and how to teach well.



The Board of Education and administrator work well together for the benefit of Ascension Academy.



Ascension Academy's teachers model Christlike behavior to our children.



Would you like to see Ascension Academy extend our educational training to include high school? Fifteen said "yes" or "absolutely," six said "I don't know" or "I'm not sure," and zero said "no."

Survey comments

Hear from our teachers:

"On almost a daily basis, opportunities arise to make connections with biblical examples or principles and address ethical issues in content areas under study from a biblical worldview perspective. I've frequently addressed cultural and societal views and challenges (current or historical) and used questions to get students to think about contrasting what may be a common/popular perspective with a perspective that uses Scripture teachings as its lens. These instances have led to some of the times when the students are most engaged, attentive, and thoughtful."

"This is God's work and not our own. We have the ability to be used by God to make a difference for the Kingdom in the lives of our students and their families."

"Going from a public school to a Christian private school has led me to so much growth at Ascension. I finally get to be open about my faith and share it with kids. I am always ready to go back to Ascension! I leave work and I'm so satisfied after the day is done, and I have never felt that before. With all my responsibilities at Ascension, I am thankful for each one."

"We frequently talk about prayer and how we can pray for others. We also are focusing this year on words of encouragement and how to use the words God has given us to glorify him."

Hear from our parents:

"We highly value the expertise, patience, and commitment of our Ascension volunteers and board members. We do not take that for granted."

"Our children are being educated in biblical truth and learning to problem solve from a Christian worldview."

"My child prays confidently by herself now."

"My child was extremely behind and has surpassed her current grade level!"

"I love having a school with Christian staff, biblically focused curriculum, and a community of believers with a heart for Christ."



Hear from our students:

"I have grown from Bible time in my class."

"I know a lot more about God and the Bible."

"Ascension Academy is Christian-based and fun."

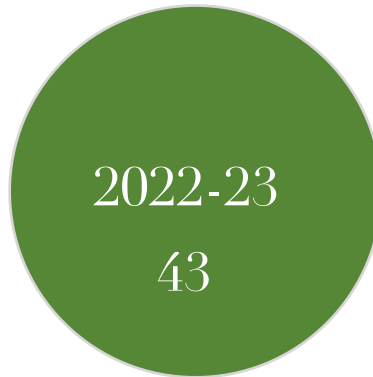
"The teachers are super duper nice."

"I like being able to talk about God."

"I like my teachers."

Giving

Total Donors:



Total Received:

2021-2022	\$89,366.61
2022-2023	\$297,596
2023-Dec 23	\$208,842 (half a fiscal year)

Our fiscal year is from July 1 to June 30

Thank you for your generosity:

Advanced Dairy Diagnostics
Nicole, Randall, Jane Adolph
Bev Becker (the late Harvey)
Gerald and Janelle Becker
James and Frances Braun
Bryan and Leann Bruley
John and Kathy Epple
Travis and Rebecca Erickson
Lynn Friess
Gayle Gilbertson
Craig and Carolyn Greener
Gene and Amy Griffin
James and Janna Haack
Paul and Corrin Hagen
Scott and Janelle Hagen
John and Lori Heffernan
Carol Heideman

Andreas and Sue Herr
Jon and Nicole Hile
Daniel and Georgene Hughes
Jacobson Advanced Eyecare
Kim Lapp
Paul and Sue Millerman
Kevin and Julie Monson
Jane Norell
Norswiss Farms
Northern Lakes Church
Chad and Stacy Owens
Glenn Pearson
Sue (Hagen) and Jim Perry
Don and Sandi Peterson
John and Carie Peterson
Terry and Arlene Poulter

Betty Ritchie
Jennifer Ruh
Allen and Judi Ruppel
Mark and Terri Ruppel
Robert and Angie Ruppel
Ron Ruppel (the late Nancy)
Michael and Christy Sainburg
Bob and Karyn Schauf
Jacob Schauf
Zach and Brooke Schauf
St. John's Lutheran Church
Stella Vis Health Team, LLC
Craig and Jennifer Turcott
Turcott Construction
Peter and Ruth Westendorf
Christy Wickhorse

Giving Your Time

Many have given of their time, talent, and treasures!

Thank you to our faithful volunteers:

Megan Bartlett
Mary Becker
Dani Bigner
Sarah Brant
Bill Broten
Reanna Chaplin
Chris Cook
Jaime Cook
Janice Degerman
Ashley den Hoed
Jayce den Hoed
Craig Derousseau
Roger Dutilly
Pastor Matthew Earls
John Epple
Mark Erickson
Rebecca Erickson
Travis Erickson
Heidi Fauske
Larry Froelich
Linette Furseth
Pastor Paul Green
Janelle Hagen

Lynne Hagley
Derrick Haley
Caleb Hile
Noah Hile
Jon Hile
Brandon Johnson
Anna Kauffman
Nancy Keeler
John Kidder
Jackie Kurkowski
Leilani Lott
Beth McClain
Pastor John Meils
Brent Metheny
Julie Monson
Pastor Chris Motes
Amanda Musil
Angela Nelli
Cindy Nilssen
Karin Olson
Chad Owens
John Peterson
Justin Peterson

Carrie Peterson
Jack Richter
Simon Rodriguez
Kyle Roth
Angie Ruppel
Aric Ruppel
Harrison Ruppel
Nautica Ruppel
Robert Ruppel
Michael Sainburg
Bob Schauf
Kelly Sellers
Rita Sellers
Josh Thornwall
Eliana Westendorf
Josiah Westendorf
Peter Westendorf
Naomi Westendorf
Sam Westendorf
RayeAnne White
Colten Wilson
Courtney Wilson
Chad Yoder
Kasey Yoder

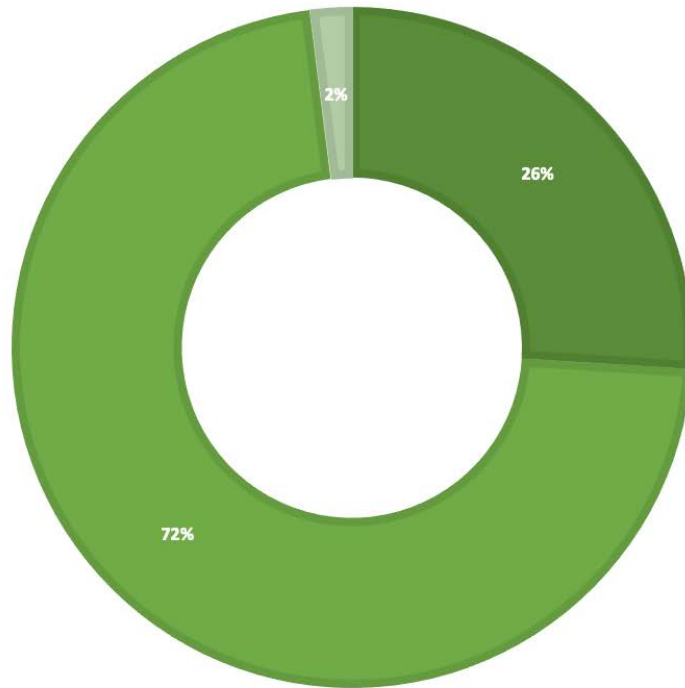
Bold = Daily or Weekly
Volunteer



Financial Information

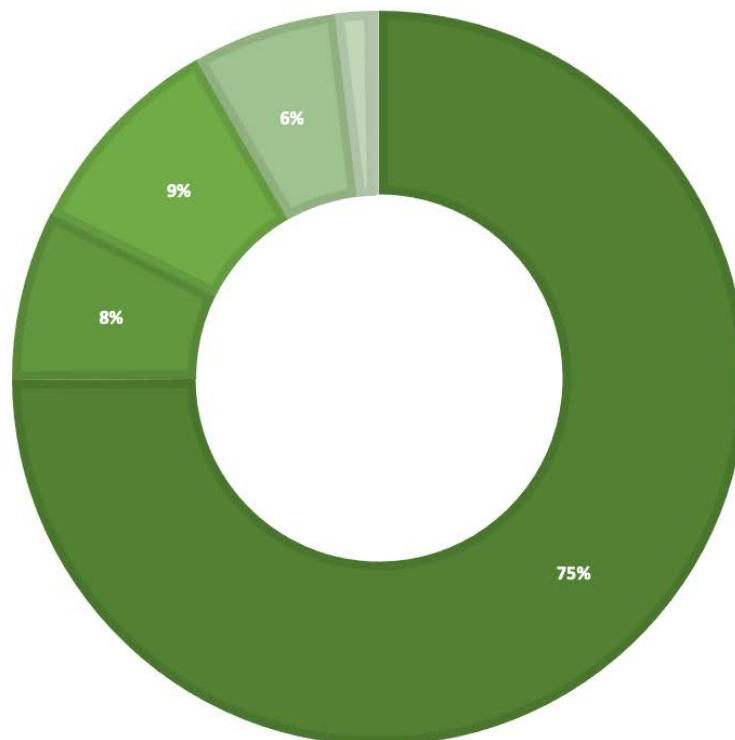
OPERATING REVENUE

■ Tuition and Fees 26% ■ Donations 72% ■ Fundraising 2%



OPERATING EXPENSES

■ Employee Wages/Benefits 75% ■ Administrative Expenses 8% ■ Curriculum/Classroom Supplies 9% ■ Facility 6% ■ Development 1.7% ■ Other 0.3%



Financial Information

Ascension Academy, Inc.
Financial Statement for the Period of 7/1/2022 to 6/30/2023

	7/1/22 to 6/30/23	as of 6/30/2023
INCOME		
Donations	297,596	90,214
School Tuition and Fees	78,275	9,981
Other Income	1,142	-
Total Income	377,013	100,195
EXPENSE		
Salary and Benefits	235,552	-
Administrative Expenses	17,187	-
Development	5,556	-
Admission and Family Ministry	-	-
Classroom Expenses	15,024	-
Information Technology	3,271	-
Athletics/Extracurricular	703	-
Facility	24,045	-
Total Expense	301,338	100,195
School Capital Expenditures	-	-
Operational Reserves	75,675	-
	75,675	100,195
ASSETS		
Current Assets		90,214
Fixed Assets		9,981
Other Assets		-
Total Assets		100,195
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY		
Total Payables and other Current Liabilities		-
Total Long Term Liabilities		-
Total Equity		100,195
Total Liabilities and Equity		100,195

Financial Information

Ascension Academy, Inc.
Interim Financial Statement for the Period of 7/1/2023 to 12/31/2023 and for the Month ended 12/31/2023

	7/1/23 to 12/31/23	as of 12/31/202
INCOME		
Donations	208,842	148,205
School Tuition and Fees	75,381	9,981
Other Income	5,793	-
Total Income	<u>290,016</u>	<u>158,186</u>
EXPENSE		
Salary and Benefits	167,192	-
Administrative Expenses	16,650	-
Development	3,664	-
Admission and Family Ministry	-	-
Classroom Expenses	20,824	-
Information Technology	8,837	-
Athletics/Extracurricular	636	-
Facility	14,223	-
Total Expense	<u>232,025</u>	<u>158,186</u>
School Capital Expenditures	-	-
Operational Reserves	<u>57,991</u>	<u>158,186</u>
ASSETS		
Current Assets		148,205
Fixed Assets		9,981
Other Assets		-
Total Assets		<u>158,186</u>
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY		
Total Payables and other Current Liabilities		-
Total Long Term Liabilities		-
Total Equity		<u>158,186</u>
Total Liabilities and Equity		<u>158,186</u>



Ascension Academy
825 8th Avenue
PO Box 968
Cumberland, WI 54829
phone: 715-671-0022
email: office@ascensionarrows.org

AIM TRUE