

The Messenger

Ascension Lutheran Church

MISSION: - "As an open and progressive congregation, we boldly make Christ's vision known."



Open Mind, Open Heart, Open Table

September 22, 2024 10 a.m.

The ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) has an important voice and influence on faith in our community. Although the ELCA is the largest Lutheran denomination in our country, in Saginaw County, we are not. As faithful followers and proclaimers of Jesus, I believe we have something important to offer our community and world-especially at this time and place.

The ELCA congregations of Saginaw County have been gathering for discussion and we are providing an event on **Sunday, September 22nd at the Horizon's Conference Center**. This event will be shaped around the understanding of Open Minds, Open Hearts, and Open Table.

During our time together in worship, we will be encouraged by the gospel of Jesus who opens minds to the scripture, who opens hardened hearts, and who welcomes all to the table of grace. It is also an opportunity to gather with our sibling congregations and reminding us that we are church together.

Lunch will be served. It is a simple lunch buffet. Cost for event is to help pay for lunch and beverages. The bulk of the event is paid for through grants.

The cost is \$7.50/person. We understand that this may not be in your budget or financial picture. We want as many people there as can be. If you signed up earlier for this event, or even if you didn't but now plan on attending, please complete the small registration form that is on the kiosk and return to the office along with your payment. Please turn in your **registration and payment by September 13th**.

Please note, worship WILL NOT be held at the Ascension building—we are worshipping at the Horizon's center this day. The following Wednesday, September 25th, we will worship at Ascension at 7 p.m. with a healing service.

Volume 45, Issue 9

September 2024

Special points of interest:

- *ABC Breakfast 9/9*
- *Grief Support 9/9*
- *Blood Drive 9/12*
- *Noisy Offering 9/15 & 9/18*
- *1st Communion Class 9/21*
- *Food Pantry 9/25*
- *Pr. Julie Vacation 10/17*
- *Craft Fair/Rummage/Bake Sale/Luncheon 11/2*

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Message From Pastor Julie

Moving forward in Mission, Vision and Values

The congregation council has been prayerfully discerning our future and purpose as Church in our community. We explored what the scripture says about who we are called to be as church and have set forth a set of values we ask that the congregation review and pray upon.

Our mission statement is “As an open and progressive congregation, we boldly make Christ’s vision known.” We believe it is our call to introduce people to Jesus, to tell the story to all people. The hymn “I Love to Tell the Story” has two great lines: I love to tell the story for some have never heard and I love to tell the story to those who know it best.

Our next step is to prayerfully discern where we see God calling Ascension Lutheran Church toward as we move into the future, to discern God’s vision. A vision is something God is calling us toward, and therefore we recognize we can not do it on our own. We will trust that God will provide all we need moving forward if this is the direction God is leading.

Ascension Lutheran Church Values

Forgiveness: Be a Christ like example. Recognize your own sins and shortfalls. Listen to others’ experiences. Be quick to listen and slow to speak.

Inclusion and Unity: Seeking Jesus’ will, we invite people to meet Jesus. We are committed to one another. Let the spirit move outside our expectations while embracing differences.

Dignity & Compassion: Each person is created in God’s image. We are all children of God, whatever we do we do to Jesus. Lift up those in need through love and action.

Courage and Growth: Reach towards possibilities. Offer and welcome all to grow in their spiritual health no matter where they are in their faith journey.

Faithful Stewardship of Time, Talent and Treasures. Share what we have so no one is in need. Be accountable to God and each other and those served by our church.

Pastor Vacation

Pastor Julie will be out of the office for vacation

October 17th—November 3rd

Please call the church office (*or voicemail after hours*) for emergency contact numbers.



Sunday Adult Study



We will begin meeting **September 8th at 9:15 a.m.** and will be doing a study on the gospel of Luke.

The gospel of Luke invites the reader to explore the story of Jesus and his mission as the Messiah, God's chosen one. It is from Luke we hear the primary narrative of Jesus' birth to the stark images of his crucifixion. Luke describes how God has broken into the world by sending Jesus. We will not study all of the gospel of Luke in class, and yet this is a good time to commit yourself to reading the parts we don't study together.

We will begin Year C of our Lectionary cycle (the three year preaching cycle) in December as the new church year begins with Advent. Luke will be the central gospel in this year's lectionary.

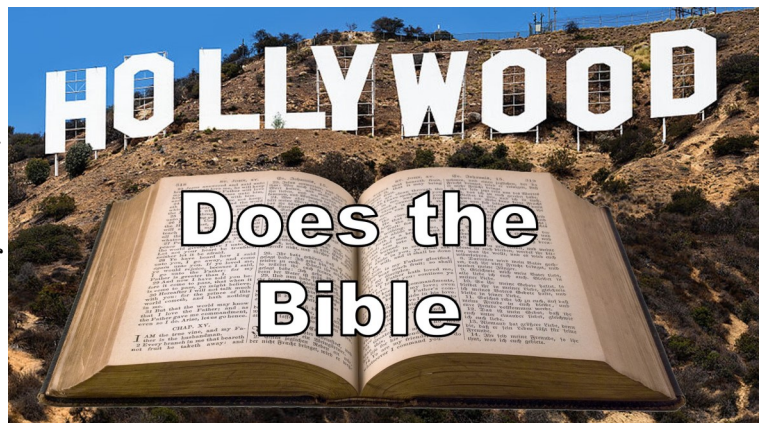
- September 8: Why Was Jesus Born? (Luke 2:1-20)
- September 15: What Will Become of This Child? (Luke 2:21-40)
- September 22: No class/ELCA Saginaw Event
- September 29: Let God Be God! (Luke 4:14-30)
- October 6: What Was Jesus Doing? (Luke 7:1-7)
- October 13: Why Must Jesus Die? (Luke 9:18-36)
- October 20: Pastor Soyster teaching
- October 27: Pastor Soyster teaching
- November 3: And Grace Will Lead Me Home (Luke 15:1-32)
- November 10: Pastor Soyster teaching
- November 17: Ah, Holy Jesus, How Hast Thou Offended? (Luke 23:26-49)
- November 24: How Did Jesus' Resurrection Change the World? (Luke 24:13-35)

Announcing a limited Bible study series: Hollywood Does the Bible October 20th, 27th & November 10th

Pastor John Soyster will lead this short series that compares the text of the Bible with the way some films and videos present familiar Scripture stories. Along the way we'll talk about what the Bible does and does not say and the relationship between the *letter* and the *spirit* of the text. All are welcome!!

**October 20th, 27th & November 10th
9:15 a.m.**

Digging Dunes Meeting Room



Monday Women's Bible Study

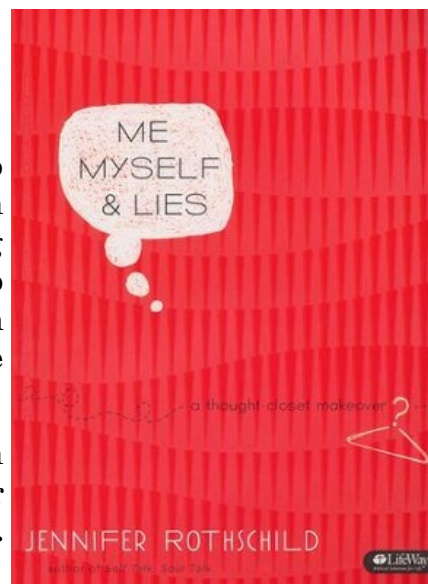
Words are powerful. Especially the words women speak to themselves. All too often, what they say to themselves when they lie in bed at night or look in the mirror in the morning is not even close to the words God wants them to speak to their souls. This 7-session study will encourage you to clean out the junk in your mind and replace hidden negative thoughts with positive truths from God's word.

The Mary to Martha Women's Bible Study will run **September 9—October 21, 2024** with Jennifer Rothschild's "Me, Myself, & Lies" at **6:00 p.m.—7:30 p.m.** every Monday.

Jennifer is a nationally known author and teacher known for her substance and a down-to-earth teaching style.

Participant books are \$10.00 per person. Please call or text Joyce Richardson at 989-274-6787 by August 28th to secure a book. Questions can also be directed to Joyce.

Our Mary to Martha Women's Bible Study is open to women of all ages, and stages of faith, members & non-members, as we seek a closer relationship with our Lord. We know that you'll be blessed by God's Word and fellowship with other women, and we'll be blessed by your presence.



Tuesday Morning Bible Study

Our Tuesday morning Bible study is reading through Ephesians, moving on to 1 & 2 Thessalonians, and then 1 & 2 Timothy.

All are welcome to join us. Enter the code for the zoom meeting or let Pastor Julie know and she can email or Facebook message you the invite.

www.zoom.com

Meeting ID: 871 0929 4561

Passcode: 099583

Baptism

Logan Michael Krzyzaniak received the Sacrament of Baptism on August 14th.

Logan's sponsors are AJ and Leslie Denman.

May God bless him with His gift of grace.

Bishop's Newsletter



The bishop's latest newsletter can be found here: <https://www.mittensynod.org/resources/publications/>

On page 6 of the August newsletter you will find a picture of the Ascension group in New Orleans with Bishop Satterlee.

STAFF

Julie Bailey, Pastor
 Lisa Whelton, Parish Administrator
 Jeff Whelton, Custodian
 Rita Hendrickson, Parish Nurse

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Kris Yackel-Friend, President
 Lori Schultz, Vice President
 Connie Dutcher, Treasurer
 Stephanie Becker, Secretary
 Susan Kelley, Financial Secretary

MINISTRIES

Glen Mack, Congregational Care
 Gus Hendrickson, Finance/Resources
 Joyce Berg, Outreach
 Celina Gottlieb, Spiritual Health

CONTACT INFORMATION

8695 Gratiot Road, Saginaw, MI 48609
Phone: (989) 781-2170
 Pastoral Emergency: (989) 574-5663
Email: ascensionlc@sbcglobal.net
Pastor Email: pr_julie@sbcglobal.net
Website: www.ascensionlc.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/ascensionsaginaw (Group Name: Ascension Lutheran Church of Saginaw (ELCA) Group)
YouTube: Ascension Lutheran Church
 ELCA Saginaw Website: elcasaginawcounty.weebly.com
 ELCA Saginaw Facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/elcasaginawcounty

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday's: 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.
 Wednesday's: 7:00 p.m.

OFFICE HOURS

Church office hours are Monday thru Thursday
 9a.m.-2p.m.



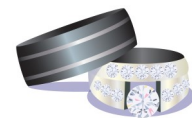
2nd Alex McClure
 3rd Brooklyn Becker
 Ella Wagner
 Jayme York
 5th Jennifer Dickie
 Jim Stuart
 6th Jenny Nielsen
 8th Hugh Carroll
 10th Marie Leonard
 13th Nancy Kozak
 Julie Meschke
 14th Annie Nielsen
 16th Kris Friend
 17th Nathan McClure
 Nathaniel Ryder
 Lori Schultz
 Timothy Trumble
 Brandon Wardlow
 18th Dorothy Becker

19th
 20th
 21st
 22nd
 23rd
 24th
 26th
 27th
 29th
 30th

Melissa Hostetler
 Wade Kittle
 Emily Hamilton-Gerard
 Diane Lobsiger-Braden
 Noah Ryder
 Samantha Wright
 Emily Edsall
 Donna Malburg
 23rd Jenny Maier
 24th Brock Vasquez
 26th Jessica Hoffmann
 27th Carl Boland
 Makenna Dawson
 Max Dawson
 Ethan Earnesty
 Celina Gottlieb
 Angela Saxton
 John Schroeder
 29th Grace Girardin
 Linda Lentner
 30th Amanda Doerr
 Alicia Spear



6th Andrew and Kristin Kazmierski
 10th Angelica and Jordan Dawkins
 18th Scott and Kim Anderson
 David and Dorothy Becker
 20th Ed and Lisa Espinoza
 Mike and Heidi McGrandy
 23rd Tom and Barb Mitchell
 24th Jonathan and Amanda Doerr
 25th Ashley and Chadd Harrington
 26th Jason and Rebecca Enright
 27th Russ and Melissa Morgan



United in Marriage

Congratulations to Susie Mackel & Danny Long who were married on July 27th.
 Congratulations to Karen Stamann & John McLellan who were married on August 10th

Please Remember Those on Ascension’s Care List

Mail a card, plan a visit, or say a prayer for these members of our church family

Rita Bolger—Edgewood Assisted Living, 4850 Gratiot Rd. #D7 Saginaw, MI 48638

Dick Chilton—17935 Roosevelt Rd, Rm #5, Hemlock, MI 48626

Pat Joyce—8044 Winchester Ct. Saginaw, MI 48609

Peggy Lockhart—6249 Wild Oak Dr., Saginaw, MI 48603

Esther Mack—285 S. Miller Rd., Saginaw, MI 48609

Marie Myers—11145 Morningstar Dr., Saginaw, MI 48609

Arlene Neuenfeldt—11819 Dice Rd., Freeland, MI 48623

Jackie O’Dell—108 Fulton Street, Apt 405, St. Charles, MI 48655

Joyce Storm—181 Evelyn, Saginaw, MI 48609

Lee Turner—6371 Birchview Dr., Saginaw, MI 48609

Dan Wenzel—9065 Bray Rd., Saginaw, MI 48609

Barry Wiggins—1202 Weiss St, Room 305, Saginaw, MI 48602

Ruth Williams—Brookdale Saginaw, 2485 McCarty Rd., Saginaw, MI 48603

Barb Yancer—8936 N. Brookshire Drive, Saginaw, MI 48609

PRAYING
FOR YOU

Prayers of the Week

Our partner prayers are included in The Messenger each month.

As Jesus calls us to be one even as he and the Father are one, please remember these congregations, leaders, and families in your prayers.

September 1st

Saron Lutheran Church, St. Joseph, MI and their Supply Pastors
Ascension Families: Jon List; Darcy & Diane Lobsiger-Braden; Peggy Lockhardt

September 8th

Immanuel Lutheran Church, Suttons Bay, MI and Rev. Jonathan Reid
Ascension Families: Susie & Danny Long; Paul, Kelee, Travis, Ezra Lopez; Josh, Malory, Joshua, Paisley Lopez

September 15th

St. John’s Lutheran Church, Three Rivers, MI and Rev. James Smith
Ascension Families: Linda Luplow; Karen Luplow; Josh; Braxten, Brayten, Breana Mack

September 22nd

Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Traverse City, MI and Rev. Paul Busekist
Ascension Families: Dietrich, Pam, Heidi, Anni Mackel; David & Jill Maeder; Jeff Maeder

September 29th

Augustana Lutheran Church, Tustin, MI and Rev. Sharon Van Dam, Supply Pastor
Ascension Families: Jenny, Lisa, Kenna, Normal Maier; Donna & Duane Malburg; Bob, Laura, Victor Mancini

Altar Flowers

Altar arrangements are placed in the Sanctuary each week to help decorate for worship. They can be given “To the Glory of God”, in memory of someone, or in honor of an event, such as birthday or anniversary. The arrangement may be picked up after the 10:30 a.m. service on Sunday morning. You can choose a specific date and 2 arrangements are permitted each week. **The cost is \$30.00. Payment envelopes are available on the Acolyte Room Door,** you can mail a check, or drop off payment when you are at church or during office hours (Monday-Thursdays 9am-2pm). The 2024 flower chart is posted on the door of the Acolyte room and dates are available.



September 1st
September 8th
September 15th
September 22nd
September 29th

In honor of Ron, Lori, Jarred’s birthdays, by Lori Schultz
Available to Sponsor
In memory of Susan Lentner, by Marv Lentner
No Worship at Ascension this day
In honor of our 48th anniversary, Dave and Dot Becker

The Unstuck Church: Equipping Churches to Experience Sustained Health

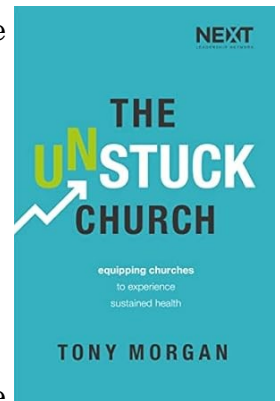
I have been reading this book and find that this might lead to good conversation as a congregation as we move forward in our mission from God.

I will be setting up a time for some book discussions—online and/or in-person to talk about this book. I have sent some of you notes from the introduction of the book and I know some have already purchased it.

Here are some places you can get a copy for yourself.

- Amazon: Available in paperback, kindle, and audible.
- Thriftbooks.com
- EBay
- Christianbook.com
- Barnes and Noble: Available in paperback and e-book

I am willing to place an order for those who wish me to. Cost looks to be \$10. Let me know by September 20, 2024 if you want a book .



-Pastor Julie

Phone Number Changes

Have you cancelled your landline in the last few years? Did you update the church with your current phone numbers? The church database has many landline numbers and we suspect some of them have gone to cell phone service only. You can call or email updates to the church office at 989-781-2170 or ascensionlc@sbcglobal.net. Thank you!

Looking for Reliable Resources?

Have you ever needed to find someone to help with a problem (*plumber, electrician, housekeeper, roofer, etc.*) and didn't know how to find someone reliable? The solution may be found in a list of reliable businesses recommended by people you know.

There is a notebook of reliable business recommendations now in the library on the shelf below the book return box.

A few recommendations have already been put in the book. Please feel free to add as many as you have. The recommendation forms are in the pocket on the inside front cover of the notebook. It would be nice to have a number of entries in each category—either your own business or ones you have successfully used. Feel free to add notes or endorse entries already included.

If you have any questions, contact Marty Debozy (989-642-8135) or Lori Schultz (989-239-3076)

Grief Support Group—Mondays at 10:30 a.m.

New 13 Week Session beginning September 9th



Ascension's Grief Support Group will begin a new session on **Monday, September 9th at 10:30 a.m.** The program they follow is called GriefShare.

A GriefShare support group is a safe, welcoming place where people understand the difficult emotions of grief. Through this 13-week group, you'll discover what to expect in the days ahead and what's "normal" in grief. Since there are no neat, orderly stages of grief, you'll learn helpful ways of coping with grief, in all its unpredictability—and gain solid support each step of the way. **Participant books are \$20.**

If you have book from a previous session, you may use that book again for future sessions. We do have several people who have attended the sessions multiple times and have found them beneficial as each time they are in a different place with their grief.

There are no requirements to share, no pressure, and everyone is welcome! This is not just a group of people from Ascension, it is open to the community, so feel free to share with anyone you know struggling with grief.

If you have any questions about the Grief Support Group, do not hesitate to contact Linda Lentner at 989-274-7418 or linda.lentner@gmail.com.

Blood Drive

Our next blood drive of 2024 will be held on **Thursday, September 12th from 2:30 - 7:00 PM** in the fellowship hall. Every unit counts! Choose your appointment [online](#) or contact Lisa in the church office. Walk-ins Welcome!



Blood Pressure

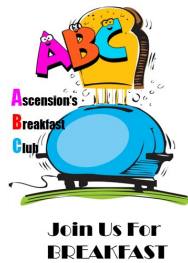
Mark your calendar for blood pressure screenings by the Parish Health Committee on the 3rd Sunday each month. The next one will be held on **Sunday, September 15th.**

Wellness Warriors—Tuesdays 6:15 p.m.

We will continue to meet every **Tuesday at 6:15 p.m.** We are flexible with the exercise based on the abilities of those who attend each week. The goal is to move, and support each other! Questions? Contact Kris Friend (989) 245-6446 or Rita Hendrickson (989) 482-0271.



Ascension Breakfast Club (ABC)—September 9th



All who are available for breakfast are invited to join others from Ascension for a time of fellowship and food on the second Monday of each month. We will meet at **9 a.m. at Riverside Family Restaurant at 8295 Midland Rd., in Freeland** in September. Each person is responsible for the cost of their own breakfast. You don't need to prepare anything or clean up, just show up.

Sewing Group

Do you like to sew or quilt? Ascension's Sewing Group meets in the Fellowship Hall from 9:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m. on the dates below. Bring your sewing supplies and machine (not required) and join us for fun and fellowship. Contact Sandy Graham with any questions at 989-781-1619.

September 4th & 18th
October 2nd & 16th
November 6th & 20th
December 4th & 18th



RaiseRight Orders Due September 15th

How Does It Work? Buy a gift card from the church and the church earns a percentage of the value. Order forms are on the kiosk and the church's website. Payment to Ascension Lutheran Church is due with the order.

Trunk or Treat



Pastor Julie will be on vacation on October 31st and will not be here to plan and participate in Trunk or Treat. If you are interested in volunteering to run this event, please contact her directly. This is a "light work" event.

**fall
EVENT SALES**

**NOVEMBER 2, 2024
10am – 3pm**

CRAFT FAIR
25+ vendors!
Support local talent and families to find a wide variety of unique gifts and crafts.

BAKE SALE
Enjoy a selection of cookies, bars, breads and snacks available for purchase.

NO CLOTHES RUMMAGE
A NO CLOTHES Rummage sale will take place during the event. Enjoy this INDOOR option with clean and gently used items.

LUNCH AVAILABLE
A light lunch will be available for purchase, includes a drink.

DIRECT QUESTIONS ON CRAFT FAIR TO:
LISA 989-529-4400

DIRECT QUESTIONS ON BAKE SALE & RUMMAGE TO:
LORI 989-239-3076 OR SUSAN 989-239-4783

Ascension Lutheran Church
8695 Gratiot, Saginaw 48609
(across from Home Depot)
989-781-2170

Sound System—Capital Expenditures Fundraisers

Can You Hear Me Now??!—The envelope fundraiser on the table outside of the library to raise funds for the new sound system* is wrapping up. To participate, take an envelope, fill in the blanks, place envelope in the offering plate or the church office. Thank you to everyone who has already turned in their donation!

Craft Fair, Bake Sale, No Clothes Rummage Sale, & Luncheon What do we need?

Craft Fair vendors—The cost is \$30 per table and includes 1 lunch ticket. Registration forms are on the kiosk and at ascension.org under Forms. Contact Lisa with questions.

Baked Goods Donations—please sign up on the kiosk, to ensure we have enough items please let us know your baked good & approximate quantity.

Rummage Sale Items—This is an “inside” No Clothes Rummage Sale, so please bring your clean, gently used items to church August 18th-September 20th. Items will be collected in the Education Hallway room labeled “Rainbow Reef”. Contact Lori Schultz or Susan Kelley with questions.

Workers—We are hoping to have 2 shifts; 9am—12:30pm includes set up and 12:30pm—4pm includes cleanup. We would like 2 volunteers at each shift to be at each the cashier, the bake sale table, and the rummage tables. Sign up on the kiosk if you can volunteer to help.

Luncheon—Celina Gottlieb , Kris Friend and Glen Mack are heading up the “for purchase lunch” held in our kitchen. Please contact one of them directly with any questions or to help.

*Any funds raised in excess of the sound system will be applied to future capital expenditures (such as video projector, furnace, parking lot, flooring, musical equipment, etc.).

Lutheran World Relief—School Kit Bags

School Kit Bags must be returned by **Sunday, September 8th** so they can be sent out. Thank you for your support!!

Lutheran World Relief School Kits contain essential supplies to help children — and in some cases, adults — continue learning in the face of serious obstacles. That learning leads to a better life for them, their families and their communities.

Lutheran World Relief—Noisy Offering September 15th & 18th



“At Lutheran World Relief, we envision a future where all people, in every corner of the world can live full, dignified lives.”

LWR was founded following World War II. The goal is to tackle global poverty by helping people adapt to the challenges that threaten their livelihoods and well-being. Ascension has partnered with LWR for several years, including providing quilts and school kits that many of you have helped assemble.

During the week of September 15th, we will dedicate those quilts and school bags, as well as collect a noisy offering at all services.

We also gladly accept flutters and checks payable to Ascension Lutheran Church.

Eyeglass Recycling—Partnership with the Shields Lions Club

Since 1925, Lions International has been a champion in helping combat vision impairment and blindness.

Ascension now has a box where you can donate your older prescription eye glasses to help those who could benefit. This is one way to express your love and care for the other in need. The box is located in the gathering area, near the library. Thank you in advance for your donations.



Giving Envelope Accuracy

To help ensure you are accurately credited for your giving **please fill out your envelopes clearly with the amount, breakdown, and name.** If you forget your envelope, no problem, we have extras near the sanctuary entrance for you to use, but please remember to put your name on them. We have had some instances where people think they know their envelope number and they are close but not correct. Your name is a good idea to ensure accuracy.

Online Giving through VANCO

Ascension utilizes VANCO. Members can use VANCO to give on a regular schedule or for single donations. If you have any questions or trouble with logging in, please contact Lisa at the office for assistance.

VANCO's website: <https://secure.myvanco.com/YN7D/home>



Food Pantry

There is a Truck Unload and Shelf Stocking the first Wednesday of each month. Volunteers are always welcome, the next date is **September 4th at 8:30 a.m.** at 723 Emerson, Saginaw, MI 48607.

Ascension is providing

workers for the Center of HOPE Food Pantry on **September 25th.** Volunteers should arrive by **8:30 a.m.** at the pantry at 723 Emerson, Saginaw, MI 48607.

If you have questions about volunteering, Amanda Doerr, is our "in church" contact person. Please give her a call at 989-798-3241.

The Food Pantry continues to collect clean plastic & cloth grocery bags & manual can openers.

If you would like to donate to the Food Pantry to purchase food through the Food Bank of Eastern Michigan, donations can be sent directly to: FBEM, 2300 Lapeer Rd, Flint, MI 48503. Checks must include in the memo line: Center of Hope Food Pantry/Saginaw P-981.



Faith Funfest

Faith Lutheran (4432 Mackinaw Rd., Saginaw) has planned a fun family event for **Saturday, September 7th, from 11:00 am to 2:00pm.** The community and area ELCA churches are invited! This event will have many fun activities; food, car show, firetruck, face painting, balloons, mechanical bull, just to name a few; so bring your family, grandkids, neighbor kids and friends. The goal this year is to have so many people we need to expand it next year. So put September 7th on your calendar. Any questions, call Paul Hudson (989) 860-3237.



Harvest Bazaar At Zion Freeland



Zion Freeland, 545 S. 7th St, (at Powley Dr, next to Pat's Food Center) is having a Harvest Bazaar, **Saturday, October 19th 9am-3pm**. Come enjoy the many crafts and vendors.

Coat/Outer Garments/Household Linens—At Resurrection

Coat/Outer Garments/Household Linens are being collected for a coat/linen distribution on **October 25th-26th** by Resurrection Lutheran Church. If you have clean outer garments/linens in your home, please bring to Resurrection, 2110 Brockway St, Saginaw, MI 48602 for distribution in the fall. Questions directed to Resurrection, 989-792-7135.



Conversations in Caregiving—At Our Saviour



If you are, have been, or going to be a caregiver, come join the discussion at 1:00 p.m. on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month at Our Saviour Lutheran Church (2525 Hemmeter Rd., Saginaw, MI 48603). Next meetings, **Tuesdays, September 3rd & 17th**. Questions can be directed to Linda Grindahl or Arletta French. Contact Our Saviour (989) 799-5470 for their phone numbers.

ELCA Women of Saginaw County

The ELCA Women of Saginaw County are welcome and invited to gather monthly on the 4th Monday at 1pm between September and May for about an hour meeting and some stay for fellowship afterward. Hosting locations may rotate. Next Meeting, **Monday September 23rd, 1:00 pm** at Our Saviour, 2525 Hemmeter Rd, Saginaw, MI 48603. Please make sure to Like or Join both the [ELCA Women of Saginaw County](#) and the [ELCA Saginaw County](#) Facebook pages for updates.

Children's Church/Sunday School

As we begin this new year of Children's Church, we are going to focus on learning Bible Stories.



We are looking for parents and other adults who are willing to lead and facilitate these lessons. All are prepared for you, and require minimal preparation. Pastor Julie learned a lot about the Bible stories when she was teaching Sunday School in her early years. It's a great opportunity to learn and to share God's story with the next generations. Please see Dawn Earnesty if you are able to teach or have questions.

Lessons for the fall are:

- September 8th: Children in worship to share and listen to camp experiences
- September 15th: Abraham and Sarah
- September 22nd: No class/ELCA Saginaw Event
- September 29th: Jacob and Esau
- October 6th: First Communion-children in worship
- October 13th: Joseph and his brothers
- October 20th: Joseph in Egypt
- October 27th: Joseph forgives
- November 3rd: Jonah
- November 10th: Daniel and the Lions
- November 17th: Jesus is born
- November 24th: Christmas story continued

What is Children's Church?

With our commitment to assist parents in their baptismal covenant to teach their children, the "Children's Church" model will continue this year. The **youth, 4 years old through 5th grade**, will begin the 10:30 a.m. worship service with their families, and after the Children's Message, be dismissed with their teachers to experience the Word, or message of worship in a more age appropriate way. We will then return to worship as an entire congregation during the peace, so that our youth will still receive Communion/Prayers. If you are interested in teaching, please note that there is a rotating schedule, so this does provide the opportunity to worship most Sundays with the congregation in the Sanctuary.

Please complete the **Registration Form** on the kiosk or at ascensionlc.org and return to the church office. If you have any questions, please contact Dawn Earnesty or Pastor Julie.

Youth Fundraising—Pop Can Returns

THANK YOU for continuing to bring in your returnable cans and bottles to support the Youth Ministry in our congregation!



First Communion

Remember, there is not an age that a child must be to take first communion at Ascension. We commune when the child, parent, and pastor feel they are ready. This is a meal that brings us together, and how it all works is a mystery. It isn't just about understanding all the details, but a reminder that they are part of this great community bound by Jesus. It is also a meal that strengthens us as we continue to grow in our faith. If you have questions or you feel your child is ready please contact Pastor Julie.



We will plan on our young people receiving their First Communion on **Sunday, October 6th** or **Wednesday, October 9th**.

In preparation for this day, I will be holding a First Communion class on **Saturday, September 21st from 9:30 a.m.-12 noon**. Please mark these dates on your calendar.

CHARGE—Middle & High School Youth Event



Once again we will be attending CHARGE, a youth event offered for Middle and High School Youth. The registration fee for weekend event will be \$195, which includes the cost of the event and for the hotel room. Scholarship money may be available. Food costs will be covered by the youth

account.

Youth may participate in fundraising activities, including returning pop cans where $\frac{1}{2}$ of the money will be deposited into the youth account to be used for events like this, and the other $\frac{1}{2}$ will help cover scholarship and other costs of events beyond the registration fee.

Registration forms will be available on the kiosk or online. Registrations fill up quickly so please don't delay! Please pay deposit of \$100 by September 30th, with balance by October 31st.

Adults, if you are willing to attend please let me know. I need to place one adult in each room so gender balance is important as well.

Confirmation Classes Begin Sunday, September 8th 4:30 p.m.—6:00 p.m.

Confirmation classes for grades 6 and up will resume September 8th. The Second year students will resume with Pastor Julie as we discuss the Lord's Prayer, Sacraments, Worship, Stewardship, Vocation and other important aspects of discipleship.

First year students will explore the Ten Commandments and the Apostle's Creed. They will be taught by Stephanie Becker.

Our first class will include orientation for all students along with a Bible Basics review. First year students will be given a Bible on September 8th, as well as Luther's Small Catechism.

Confirmation is a time when young people explore their own faith, the faith in which they were baptized. It is a time for questions and digging deeper into the teaching of our church. This is an opportunity the congregation offers as our commitment to teach the faith to God's children. After a two-year exploration, which includes classes and other activities, the young person will affirm their baptism, hearing again the promises that God makes and committing to their own baptismal responsibilities.

Classes generally begin in the 6th grade, but if older young people wish to join, they are welcome.

Please let Pastor Julie know if you are planning on having your youth join us for confirmation. It is a commitment on both the part of the youth and parents.

Confirmation and the Congregational Members

People of God, do you promise to support these baptized and pray for *them* in *their* new life in Christ? The congregation answers: **We do.**

Confirmation is a ministry of the church offered by Ascension Lutheran Church. During this time of their intentional discovery of faith, you may at times be asked some questions by a young person. Please introduce yourself to our students, answer any questions from your perspective and be honest.

Please hold them in prayer and encourage them as best you can, as well as their parents.



Puzzle!

Find and circle all the words horizontally. Then, starting on the top line and moving across from left to right, read John 6:35 (NIV). Put the words in order on the spaces below to complete the Bible verse.

JOHN 6:35

.....

WORD LIST

am and be believes bread comes in whoever
hungry go life me me never to never the the of will
will thirsty whoever

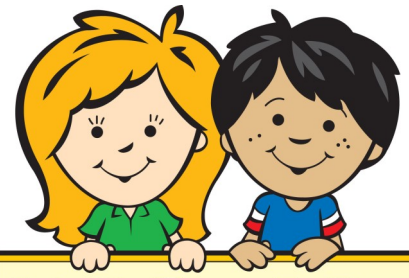
T	E	(I)	R	S	U	V	W	A	M	X	Y	Z	A	B	T	H	E	I	
J	K	L	M	B	R	E	A	D	N	P	O	F	Q	R	L	I	F	E	
D	W	H	O	E	E	V	E	R	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O
B	C	D	F	C	O	M	E	S	G	H	I	J	T	O	K	L	M	E	
N	W	I	L	L	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	N	E	V	E	R	V	W	
Z	Y	Z	B	C	A	G	O	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	
M	H	U	N	G	R	Y	N	A	N	D	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	
W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	W	H	O	E	E	V	E	R
M	N	O	B	E	L	I	E	V	E	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	
V	W	X	Y	Z	I	N	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	
M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	M	E	U	V	W	X	Y	A	B	C	D	
D	E	F	W	I	L	L	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	
S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	N	E	V	E	R	A	B	C	D	B	E	D	
F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	T	H	I	R	S	T	Y	O	P	Q	

"I _____

_____"

-John 6:35, NIV

Answer: "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty." John 6:35, NIV



KIDS PAGE

a Brainy breakfast

Add a smart start to your school day with



superfoods

that promote a healthy body and mind.

What you need:

- Large bowl
- 1 medium avocado
- 3 hard-boiled eggs
- Salt
- Whole wheat toast
- Pumpkin seeds, chopped
- Adult help



What you do:

1. Mash the avocado in the bowl.
2. Chop the eggs into cubes and add to the bowl.
3. Add salt to taste. Mix well.
4. Spread over two pieces of toast. Top with chopped pumpkin seeds.
5. Adjust this recipe with your favorite flavors. Add herbs, "everything bagel" seasoning or hot sauce.
6. Refrigerate leftovers in an airtight container.

Pull Out Your Bibles for this Quiz and Go To: 1 Samuel 3:1-10

Bible Quiz

Who helped Samuel understand that it was the Lord calling him in the night?

- A. his mother, Hannah
- B. Moses
- C. his father, Elkanah
- D. Eli



Serving in September

Thank you to everyone who participates in these important ministries. If you are unable to serve on your assigned day, please let the Church Office know who will be filling in for you. † indicates a volunteer is needed

Readers	8am	10:30am	Prayers	8am	10:30am
1	Tom Page	Chris Crump	1	Tom Page	Chris Crump
8	Susan Kelley	Linda Lentner	8	Susan Kelley	Dawn Dalton
15	Dan Roth	Amy Fahrenbruch	15	Lynn Schomaker	Amy Fahrenbruch
22	<i>No Worship @ Ascension</i>		22	<i>No Worship @ Ascension</i>	
29	Edna Bell	Dawn Dalton	29	Susan Kelley	Lisa Whelton

Sound Board Operators

1	†	†
8	†	Makena Whelton
15	†	Makena Whelton
22	<i>No Worship @ Ascension</i>	
29	†	Makena Whelton

Video Screen Operators

1	Kris Friend	†
8	†	†
15	Susan Kelley	Ginny Whelton
22	<i>No Worship @ Ascension</i>	
29	Kris Friend	Ginny Whelton

Head Ushers

1	Wilson	Dawson/Mossner
8	Kelley	Friend/Beyerlein
15	Schomaker	Dalton/Whelton
22	<i>No Worship @ Ascension</i>	
29	Wilson	Dawson/Mossner

Acolyte 10:30 a.m.

1	<i>Summer Break—Volunteer welcome</i>
8	Ethan Earnesty / Hugh Carroll
15	Matti Wizner
22	<i>No Worship @ Ascension</i>
29	Hugh Carroll

Altar Guild

1	Kris Friend
8	Kris Friend
15	Ruth S/Pat M
22	Susan Kelley
29	Susan Kelley

Lawn Mowers

Roth/Tilley
Dalton/Aldrich
Howe/Blehm
Hendrickson/Ecker
Becker/Becker

Children's Church

1	<i>No Class—Labor Day Weekend</i>
8	<i>No Class—Summer Camp Sharing</i>
15	Dawn Earnesty/Stephanie Wizner
22	<i>No Worship @ Ascension</i>
29	Tony Dancer

September Librarian: Carole Soule

WEDNESDAYS 7pm

	Head Usher	Readers	Sound Board	Video Screen	Prayers
4	Glen Mack	Joyce Richardson	Mike Romosier	Connie Dutcher	Connie Dutcher
11	John Schroeder	John Schroeder	†	Kelly Phillion	Donna Malburg
18	Mike Clifford	Mike Clifford	†	Glen Mack	Mike Clifford
25	Glen Mack	Connie Dutcher	†	Celina Gottlieb	<i>No Prayers today</i>

Ascension Lutheran Church - September 2024

8695 Gratiot Road, Saginaw, MI 48609 (989) 781-2170

Email: ascensionlc@sbcglobal.net Website: ascensionlc.org

Church Office hours: Mondays—Thursdays from 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.



If you plan to meet for one of our **Ministries in the church**, please let the church office know.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
<p>1 8am-Worship/Communion 10:30am-Worship/Communion</p>	<p>2 Office Closed</p>	<p>3 11am-Bible Study-Zoom 6:15pm-Wellness Warriors</p>	<p>4 8:30am-Food Pantry Truck Unload 9am-Sewing Group 6:30pm-Scouts 7pm-Worship/Communion</p>	<p>5 6:30pm-ELCA Saginaw Mtg (Our Saviour) 6:30pm-Trustee Mtg</p>	<p>6 Office Closed 10am-ELCA Saginaw Décor (Choir Rm)</p>	<p>7 Pr @ Synod Council Mtg</p>	
<p>8 8am-Worship/Communion 9:15am-Adult SS/Bible Study 10:30am-Worship/Communion 4:30pm-Confirmation</p>	<p>9 9am-ABC Breakfast @ Riverside-Freeland 10:30am-Grief Group 6:00pm-Women's Bible St</p>	<p>10 8:30am-4pm-Pr @ Conference (Midland) 6:15pm-Wellness Warriors</p>	<p>11 11am-Weekend Food Bags 12pm-Council Reports Due 6:30pm-Scouts 7pm-Worship/Communion</p>	<p>12 2:30pm-7pm Blood Drive (FH)</p>	<p>13 Office Closed</p>	<p>14</p>	
<p>15 <i>BP Screening</i> <i>RaiseRight Due</i> <i>Noisy Offering-LWR</i> 8am-Worship/Communion 9:15am-Adult SS/Bible Study 10:30am-Worship/Communion/Children's Church</p>	<p>16 10:30am-Grief Group 12pm-Messenger Deadline 6:00pm-Women's Bible St</p>	<p>17 11am-Bible Study-Zoom 6:15pm-Wellness Warriors 6:30pm-Council Mtg</p>	<p>18 <i>Noisy Offering-LWR</i> 9am-Sewing Group 11am-Weekend Food Bags 6:30pm-Scouts 7pm-Worship/Communion</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20 Office Closed</p>	<p>21 9:30am-1st communion class</p>	
<p>22 10am-ELCA Saginaw Event—Worship at Horizon's 4:30pm-Confirmation</p>	<p>23 10:30am-Grief Group 1pm-ELCA Women of Saginaw Cnty(Our Saviour) 6:00pm-Women's Bible St</p>	<p>24 11am-Bible Study-Zoom 6:15pm-Wellness Warriors</p>	<p>25 8:30am-Serve @ Food Pantry 11am-Weekend Food Bags 6:30pm-Scouts 7pm-Worship/Communion Messenger Mailed</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27 Office Closed</p>	<p>28</p>	
<p>29 8am-Worship/Communion 9:15am-Adult SS/Bible Study 10:30am-Worship/Communion/Children's Church 12pm-FH Rental</p>	<p>30 10:30am-Grief Group 6:00pm-Women's Bible St</p>	<p>Bring in your "no clothes" rummage items by September 20th!</p>					

Prayer Chain requests should be called to Barb Van Marter at 989-525-4603 *NEW NUMBER*****

Ascension Lutheran Church

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www.ascensionlc.org

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**DEADLINE FOR
NEWSLETTER ARTICLES**

The MESSENGER is published monthly by Ascension Lutheran Church.
Deadline for the October 2024 issue is: **Monday, September 16th at 12:00 (noon)**. Articles may be emailed to: ascensionlc@sbcglobal.net