



The Messenger

Ascension Lutheran Church

Vol. 40, No. 8

August 2019

MINISTERS

"As a progressive and open church, we boldly make Christ's vision known."

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Julie Bailey, Pastor
 Bob Aldrich, Education Coordinator
 Jennifer Salowitz, Musician/Choir Director
 Sara Gregor, Parish Nurse
 Cheryl Huebner, Secretary
 Dawn Dalton, Custodian
 Lauren Huebner, Supplemental Custodian
 Ruth Schomaker, Supplemental Custodian
 Nicole Crump, Nursery Attendant
 Britt Aldrich, Supplemental Nursery Attendant

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WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sundays 8:00am & 10:30am
 Wednesdays 7:00pm

Phone (989) 781-2170
 ascensionlc@sbcglobal.net
 Website - www.ascensionlc.org

A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR JULIE

I can do some things you cannot. You can do some things I cannot. Together, we can do great things.—Mother Teresa



This statement is on the back of the t-shirt we received from participating in YES this year. It is a reminder that the mission of Christ is about community and for community. We can't rely on one or even two people to lead and execute the ministry of Ascension.

A few months ago, we put together a Time and Talent Sheet and as of mid-July, we have received less than twenty in return. I am sure it just slipped your mind among all the other end of school year and summer activities. But we really are looking for how you can be part of this community, which includes offering your gifts and talents in some way for the mission of the church.

This is also part of stewardship—we offer our time, talents and possessions. Often when we think of stewardship we only think about money. We need that too, but we need the hands of the people of God for the work of God (God's work, our hands).

So what can you do to help support the ministry of the church? Are there things you can do in worship—we still need ushers, altar preppers, video and sound board operators? Are you interested in education and maybe facilitating a small group of some sort? Could you help when the time comes to trim the bushes and mow the lawn?

When you fill out the Time and Talent Sheet, you aren't committing yourself. You are letting us know that you are interested and when we schedule these activities, we will let you know so you can help if available.

So what gifts do you have to offer? How will you be part of this community and serve our Lord Jesus Christ? It takes us all to do what God is calling!

YOUTH

SUNDAY NIGHT YOUTH GATHERING

Join us on August 11th and August 25th at 6:00 p.m. for our youth gathering. Of course, friends are welcome! If you can provide snacks to share and/or bring some games, that would be great. We also need some firewood for the bonfires.



***Parents—please sign up to help chaperone and lead, or this will be cancelled due to our Child Safety Policy.



RALLY DAY

Wow!! The summer just flew by and it's time to start thinking about Sunday School. We will be kicking off Sunday School on September 8th at 9:15 a.m. with Rally Day. Come and find out what we have planned for an exciting year as we begin an all new program. We will sing some songs, meet our opening team and spend some time with the teachers. I cannot wait to see everyone there! If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Bob at 781-4714.

SUNDAY SCHOOL REGISTRATION

Sunday School will begin on September 8th at 9:15 a.m. in the Sanctuary. We offer Sunday School classes for children in preschool through 5th grade. This year we will be starting Whirl Sunday School...come find out what it is all about. Please fill out the registration form below and return it to the Church Office to register your child for Sunday School. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Bob at 781-4714 or trammlou@sbcglobal.net.



Child's Name: _____ Grade (2019-2020): _____

First time in Sunday School at Ascension (circle 1) **Y** **N** Age: _____ Birthday: _____

Address: _____

Parent Name: _____ Phone #: _____

Parent Name: _____ Phone #: _____

Emergency Contact: _____ Phone #: _____

Allergies/concerns: _____



FIRST COMMUNION PREPARATION

First Communion preparation will be held on Saturday, September 21st, from 9:00 a.m. to noon. During this class, youth will learn the history of communion, the understanding of communion, make bread and paint a communion chalice. The practice at Ascension is that children baptized may begin to commune on a regular basis following their First Communion instruction. This is determined through mutual conversation with the pastor, child and parents. First Communion will be celebrated on Sunday, October 6th. Please contact Pastor Julie if you have questions or you believe your child is ready to receive this instruction.

Please complete the following form and return it to the Church Office.

Child's Name: _____ Parent Phone #: _____ Age: _____

YOUTH

ASCENSION SAYS YES

Five youth and three adult leaders from Ascension joined the Roman Catholic Diocese of Saginaw for a week of mission and faith formation for Youth Encounter Services. This is a program that the Catholic Diocese has offered for 25 years and this year joined with the ELCA, and specifically Ascension, to work as ecumenical partners in mission with our community. As a group, we scraped and painted two homes on the east side of Saginaw and updated one garage for the Mustard Seed Shelter, including replacing the garage door (thank you Tom Bailey for your leadership in this).

In addition to the mission work at the homes, youth and adults participated in events that brought awareness to hunger and the daily lives of people in our larger community. We also spent time in small groups and in fellowship.

Thank you to Shelly Dawson and Steve Salowitz in their leadership during the week, and to Makenna Dawson, Max Dawson, Anni Mackel, Savannah Maddox and Ben Salowitz who made this year a great experience. Even Bishop Satterlee joined us for dinner one night and to celebrate. Til next year!!!

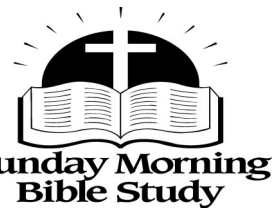


CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

THE STORY OF JESUS—INTERGENERATIONAL BIBLE STUDY

The Story of Jesus is at the core of our faith. This year during the Sunday School time, youth 5th grade through adults will join together to learn and discuss the story of God.

As a guide we will use the book, *The Story: A Continuing Story of God and His People*, by Max Lucado and Randy Frazer.



During the programmatic year, we will gather together as people of faith of varying ages to learn, discuss, and remember the wonderful story of God's activity from the beginning of time.

Those who are considering confirmation, this will meet the requirements for the Bible portion of your coursework. If you are unable to attend, makeup work will be available. Parents of confirmation students are encouraged to attend also.

If you wish to purchase the book through the church, please fill out the book request form and submit it to the Church Office by August 15th with \$14 (checks payable to Ascension). You may also purchase the book on your own, which is also available on Kindle and as an Audible book.

OTHER

THANK YOU

I thank you for the wonderful celebration of my 20th anniversary of ordination. I am blessed that Ascension calls me to be pastor with you all. Thank you for the beautiful Pandora bead I received for my bracelet. I only have beads that mean something to me on this bracelet, and so this is a great addition. Thank you for the kind thoughts and words. I appreciate the encouragement as I continue ministry.

Pastor Julie



LAST CHANCE TO DONATE NEW SOCKS AND UNDERWEAR

Printed tags that list specific gender and sizes of socks and underwear for the Back to School Fair are available in the Gathering Area. This is to ensure that we have the sizes most needed for the event. Please take a tag (or more) and return the socks and underwear to the bin by Sunday, August 4th. If you have any questions, please contact Chris Crump at 284-0370 or Nicki Crump at 751-8633.

BACK TO SCHOOL FAIR

The Back to School Fair will be held on Thursday, August 8th, at 6:00 p.m. If you want to volunteer and don't have an assignment, let Pastor Julie know and she will find a job for you!!

The schedule for the day is as follows:

11:00 a.m.	Set up chairs and tables
1:00 p.m.	Move school supplies, clothes, socks, underwear to stations
4:00 p.m.	Blood Drive begins in Fellowship Hall
4:30 p.m.	Parking lot attendees start work.
5:00 p.m.	Gather in the church for dinner and instructions (or as soon as you can after work)
5:30 p.m.	Bicycle helmet giveaway begins
6:00 p.m.	Doors open
7:30 p.m.	Close down and clean up to begin once everyone is served



MICHIGAN BLOOD DRIVE

Support the Back to School Fair with a blood donation. MI Blood will again be part of the Back to School Fair on Thursday, August 8th. Donation times are 4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. MI Blood will give us grant funds (\$5 for each person attempting to donate) IF we meet our goal drive of 22! A sign-up sheet is available in the Gathering Area, or you can contact the Church Office. Walk-ins are also welcome. Let's make this a success!!

NOT YOUR NORMAL WORSHIP

Join us on August 11th and August 25th at 5:00 p.m. for our "Not Your Normal Worship". The worship service will consist of singing, discussing faith, prayer and communion. This is for all—those who are wondering who Jesus is and about what a community of faith is, as well as those who are "all in". Bring your friends!!!



OTHER

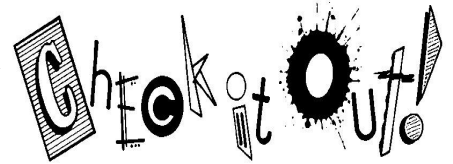


RAISE THE ROOF FUNDRAISER

We are asking for your help to raise money to re-shingle our roof. The cost is approximately \$20,000 and the project will take place during the summer of 2020. ***So far we have a total of \$10,458.*** You can support the campaign by buying a “square of shingles” at \$100, or you can give any amount you like. No donation is too small!! There is a display table in the Gathering Area with envelopes designated for this fundraiser. Envelopes are also available in the pews. Donations may be placed in the offering plate. If you have any questions, please contact Ron Fries or Tom Bailey.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY ANALYSIS

All people of faith are called to care for God’s Creation. Because Michigan still generates more than 1/3 of its electricity by burning coal, conserving energy is one way Ascension can help repair the world. Learn how to save money; take advantage of a free home energy analysis program, and earn a gift of up to \$2,000 cash for Ascension. ***Please tell your friends, family, and neighbors about this great opportunity as well!!*** Contact Tom Bailey at 239-3928 if you are interested in signing up for this free analysis program.



TIME AND TALENT

Christian Stewardship is about faithful use of all God has given us: time, talent, possessions and money. A Time and Talent Sheet provides the opportunity for every person in the congregation to share his/her gifts and ways in which they may serve as disciples together with the congregation. Our goal is that every person will complete one, no matter how old or young we are! Every person has something they can do.

Time and Talent Sheets are available at the church and on Facebook. You can also download and complete it on the church website or sign into your Breeze account and complete it under the Time and Talent section. We are the church together!!!

ALTAR FLOWERS FOR AUGUST

August 4th	Given in Memory of John’s Birthday by Bonnie Cavendish
August 11th	<i>Flowers Needed</i>
August 18th	<i>Flowers Needed</i>
August 25th	Given in Memory of Janet Bain by Kay and Phil Ballien



The Flower Chart is posted in the Gathering Area on the Usher/Acolyte Room door. The cost is \$25.00. A payment envelope will be mailed to you. These arrangements are placed in the Sanctuary each week for worship and may be picked up after the late service on Sunday morning.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Fellow Members in Christ,

Here are some quick but important updates about the happenings here at Ascension.

Spiritual Health: Recently Pastor hosted a “table” represented by those groups of individuals that it takes to make worship happen. A table, meaning everyone is welcome and no seat at the table is more important than the other; if one person doesn’t show up there is an “empty” seat. A couple months ago I asked and you answered how many hours and people it took to put on a worship service. This month I am asking, “Do you know how far in advance planning begins?”. The answer is more than three months, with several steps between selection of readings from the lectionary to actual day of service, with many cogs in the wheel. Just like the seats at the table, if one of those cogs is missing or not functioning properly, worship doesn’t run smoothly. This group will be examining every “seat” at the table to make sure we can celebrate worship together with our best efforts.

Finance & Resource Management: Keep up the good work everyone! Our “Raise the Roof” campaign as of 07/22/19 has brought in \$10,458. We are contributing 5.5% to mission support as of 07/01/19.

Outreach: It takes about \$5.50 to feed a child for the weekend. Our outreach team, under the leadership of Kathy York, has continued to secure grant monies to support this ever-growing area of need. She has also made partnerships with others in the community who are helping support this ever-growing program. One such example is Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, who is collecting food for the weekend bags every Sunday in August and will help fill the bags in September. Back to School Fair is scheduled for Thursday, August 8th. If you don’t have an assigned role, please contact the church and we will find a way for you to take part. This is our 6th year, but it continues to require all hands on deck.

Congregational Care: If you haven’t done so already, please take the time to fill out a Time and Talent Sheet. Whether you do this electronically, or via paper and pencil, it is important to the mission of the church.

In Christ’s Service,

Kris Yackel-Friend

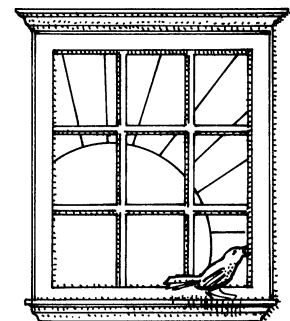


MEMBER NEWS

PLEASE REMEMBER THOSE ON ASCENSION'S CARE LIST

These are members who are unable to worship with us on a regular basis, who need to be remembered by their family at Ascension. Mail a card, plan a visit, or say a prayer for these members of our church family.

Ron Schultz - 10400 Swan Creek Rd., Saginaw, MI 48609
Bob Foley - Great Lakes Rehab, 4181 Tittabawassee Rd., Saginaw, MI 48604
Frances Edie - 4850 Gratiot Rd., Apt. D2, Saginaw, MI 48638
Peggy Lockhart - 6143 Longmeadow Blvd. North, Saginaw, MI 48603
Gene Burchfield - 4354 Mt. Hope Road, Apt. 106, Williamsburg, MI 49690
Helen Nothelfer - 302 Fulton Street, Room 108, St. Charles, MI 48655
Heidi Osterloh - 9345 Geddes Road, Saginaw, MI 48609
Ray Sundek - 770 Cheryl Street, Saginaw, MI 48609
Marcy Schafer - 8049 Area Drive, Saginaw, MI 48609
Marv Yancer - 8936 N. Brookshire Drive, Saginaw, MI 48609
Delila Colpean - 302 Fulton Street, Room 103, St. Charles, MI 48655



MEMBER NEWS

August Birthdays

1st	Brittany Aldrich	19th	Meredith Friend
	Michelle Midcalf		Sandy Graham
2nd	Kristen Huebner	21st	Marie Stuart
5th	Karen Luplow		Lisa Whelton
6th	Jennifer Deaton	24th	Leonard Cliff
	John Kaul		Henry Salowitz
8th	Jeff Crook	25th	Renae Goschke
	Marcy Schafer		Michael Randall
10th	Kim Anderson		Trudy Ryder
	Allison Hamilton	26th	Bob Dillenbeck
	Dorothy Leppert	27th	Pierce Doerr
	Linda Luplow		Ron Leonard
11th	Adam Clauss	28th	Marilynn Christensen
13th	Liam Kittle		Tony Dancer
14th	Arlington Enright		Marissa Toupin
16th	Kay Ballien	29th	Collin Edsall
17th	Samantha Hamilton	30th	Cathy Wight
	Julie Stroebe	31st	Nancy Burchfield
18th	Hadley Enright		
	Angelo Naples		
	Tim Wilson		

Anniversaries this Month



2nd	Dave and Shelly Dawson
	Tom and Jennifer Deaton
6th	Bill and Sara Gregor
8th	Ron and Donna Fries
	Barry and Sue Wiggins
15th	Rob and Jean Joslyn
	Nelson and Lynn Ann Staples
22nd	Waylon and Dawn Earnesty
23rd	Cody and Melissa Briggs
26th	Brian and Wendy Awad
	Hugh and Jennifer Dickie
	Jeff and Vicki Wenzel
27th	Matt and Jessica McRae
28th	Jack and Renae Goschke
31st	Dave and Barb Huston

HEALTH HIGHLIGHTS

Health Highlights by Traci Collier

WATER SAFETY

Swimming is a great activity. Not only are there lots of physical benefits; it's also something the whole family can enjoy. But like a lot of things in life, it also comes with risk. Learning to be safe around water is imperative, and starting children younger is better.



- Enrolling children in swimming lessons at an early age can decrease the risk of drowning by as much as 88% when children aged 1-4 years take swimming lessons.
- Adults can also benefit from refresher courses. It is a good idea that every member of your family learns to swim so that they at least have water competency. This includes: being able to safely enter the water, get a breath, stay afloat, change positions in the water and swim a distance that would allow them to exit the water safely.
- Children should always be supervised. Whether you're in the backyard, a public pool, or at the beach, make sure there is a responsible, designated person to watch the water when children are swimming. Swim with a buddy. It's a best practice for swimmers of all ages, including adults.
- Avoid alcohol. It impairs your judgment, balance, coordination, and your body's ability to stay warm. Avoid it when swimming and supervising children.
- Enter the water feet-first. Serious injuries—including paralysis—can occur from diving head first into unknown water and hitting the bottom. Enter head-first only when the area is clearly marked for diving and has no obstructions.
- Have a phone handy. No matter where you are swimming, the ability to call 911 in an emergency could be a lifesaver.
- Use only U.S. Coast Guard approved life jackets. Young and inexperienced swimmers may want to use a life jacket. Do not use any sort of air-filled or foam toys. They are not designed to keep swimmers safe.
- Stay away from pool drains. Limbs, hair, or clothing can become entangled if a drain is faulty. If you suspect they may not be functioning properly, ask your pool service provider to inspect them.
- Learn Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR). It can mean the difference between life and death. Check with the Red Cross about registering for a CPR class in your area.

<https://gwymca.org/blog/water-safety-tips>
<https://www.statefarm.com/simple-insights/family/swimming-and-water-safety-tips>

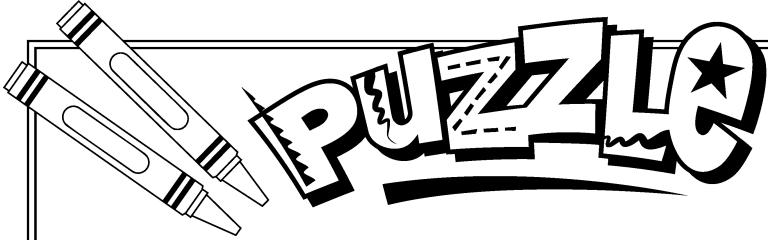
“When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.” —Isaiah 43:2



BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING

Mark your calendar for blood pressure screenings by the Parish Health Committee. The next one will be held on Sunday, August 11th after each worship service.

Health Highlights are brought to you by the Parish Health Committee whose members are Sara Gregor, Parish Nurse, Sharon Boyd, Jennifer Deaton, Dr. Steve Haupt, Marie Stuart, Joan Ford, Kris Friend and Traci Collier, DC.



GOD'S MORNING ROUTINE

Every new day, we wake up to blessings from God.

Directions: Use the clues to fill in the words. Then write the boxed letters in order below to complete Lamentations 3:22-23, NIV.

Brush these daily

Do this to your shoes

This rises in the east

Cold breakfast food

Hot breakfast food

Talk to God

Morning meal

Extend your limbs

Fruit drink

Waffle machine

Eat these scrambled or fried

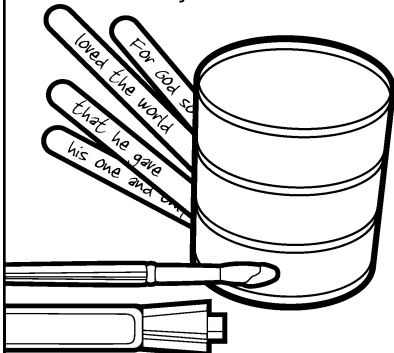
Because of the LORD's great love... never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.

LAMENTATIONS 3:22-23, NIV

Answer: teeth, tie, sun, cereal, oatmeal, pray, breakfast, stretch, juice, iron, eggs; his compassions

WAKE-UP WORDS

Play this memory game to start each day in God's Word.



What you need:

- Paint and paint brushes
- Stickers
- An empty, clean tin can
- Permanent marker
- Bible
- Wooden craft sticks

What you do:

1. Paint and decorate the outside of the can.
2. With marker, write a Bible verse on several sticks (only two or three words per stick).
3. Put the sticks in the can, and set it in a spot you'll see daily. As you eat or brush your teeth, practice unscrambling the verse and placing sticks in the correct order.
4. When you've memorized the verse, repeat with a new one.

SERVING IN AUGUST

Head Ushers--8:00 a.m./10:30 a.m.

4 David Witker/Jim Stuart & Gus Hendrickson
11 Tim Wilson/Dave Dawson & Dave Huston
18 *Volunteer Needed*/Andy Friend & Bob Beyerlein
25 Edna Bell/Dawn Dalton & Jeff Whelton

Readers--8:00 a.m./10:30 a.m.

4 David Witker/Barb Van Marter
11 Marty Debozy/John Whelton
18 Susan Kelley/Lisa Whelton
25 Edna Bell/Dawn Dalton

Acolytes--8:00 a.m./10:30 a.m.

4 *No Acolyte*/Sophia Milbrandt
11 *No Acolyte*/Brooke Richardson
18 *No Acolyte*/Sabrina & Olivia Wagner
25 *No Acolyte*/Diedre Haupt

Video Screen Operators--8:00 a.m./10:30 a.m.

4 Larry Nuechterlein/Bob Aldrich
11 Melissa Czubaj/Steve Salowitz
18 Kris Friend/Bob Aldrich
25 Melissa Czubaj/Steve Salowitz

Prayers of the Church--8:00 a.m./10:30 a.m.

4 David Witker/Shelly Dawson
11 Charleen Boland/Lisa Espinoza
18 Ruth Schomaker/Chris Crump
25 Charleen Boland/Shelly Dawson

Sound Board Operators--8:00 a.m./10:30 a.m.

4 Tom Bailey/Rusty Van Marter
11 Will Salowitz/Josh Crump
18 Marty Debozy/Rusty Van Marter
25 Marty Debozy/Will Salowitz

Friendly Callers

4 Bonnie Cavendish
11 David Witker
18 Sue Bailey
25 Bonnie Cavendish



WEDNESDAYS

Head Ushers

7 Mike Clifford
14 Glen Mack
21 Mike Clifford
28 Bill Gottlieb

Readers

7 Larry Nuechterlein
14 John Schroeder
21 Mike Clifford
28 Steve Salowitz

Sound Board/Video Screen

7 John Schroeder/Ben Salowitz
14 Rusty Van Marter/Connie Dutcher
21 John Schroeder/Glen Mack
28 Rusty Van Marter/Connie Dutcher

Prayers

7 Mike Clifford
14 Connie Dutcher
21 Mike Clifford
28 Connie Dutcher

*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.*

*The MESSENGER is published monthly by
Ascension Lutheran Church.*

*Deadline for the September 2019 issue is
Monday, August 19th at 12:00 noon.*

Articles may be emailed to ascensionmessenger@yahoo.com.