



The Messenger

Ascension Lutheran Church

Vol. 41, No. 7

July 2020

MISSION

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

STAFF

Julie Bailey, Pastor
Bob Aldrich, Education Coordinator
Jennifer Salowitz, Musician
Sara Gregor, Parish Nurse
Cheryl Huebner, Secretary
Dawn Dalton, Custodian
Ruth Schomaker, Custodian
Nicki Crump, Nursery Attendant

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WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sundays 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

(Beginning Sunday, July 12th)

Wednesdays 7:00 p.m.

(Beginning Wednesday, July 22nd)

Phone (989) 781-2170

ascensionlc@sbcglobal.net

Website - www.ascensionlc.org

A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR JULIE

Love God and love your neighbor as yourself—that is what Jesus says are the greatest commandments.

I am excited that in a few weeks we will again gather for in-person worship. I am also just a little hesitant. It will not be like it was before.

Remember when this all started, we said when we came back we would celebrate Easter with more gusto than we normally do. Well...Easter, Ascension and Pentecost have all passed. We would not be able to fit anywhere near the people in our worship space for Easter, and we would not be singing Alleluia at the top of our lungs. It will feel different because it will be different; at the same time we will be gathered once again in person to worship God who is seeing us through this pandemic and all the other complications of life.

As we return to in-person worship, we do so in love for God and in love for neighbor. The way we have always worshiped is not the only way God accepts our worship. And in gathering together, as community, we must pay attention to our love and care for each other.

I realize, and so does the congregation leadership, that there are many disputes out there about the effectiveness of masks, singing, distancing, and everything else. As soon as you find one study to show one thing, someone else brings a study to show the opposite. Therefore, we have opted to go on the more conservative side—meaning if we restrict a little more than needed, we can live with that. We do not want anyone to become sick because we were lax in our implementation.

So we will be wearing masks, everyone who enters the building—for worship, meetings, to come in and see the staff, etc. Staff may not be wearing masks if alone in their offices, but in any public space, masks are expected/required. This is not so much for your protection but to decrease the chance of exposure to others—therefore wearing a mask is an act of love for neighbor. Some in our congregation have made masks for us to have on hand if you forget one...so no excuses.

You will also note that seating in the Sanctuary must continue to maintain the six-foot distancing. Areas have been taped to indicate where to sit, and we recognize that families who live together don't have to distance and that may change the taping. I wish this were an exact science—but I trust we can figure it out. You will also be seated front to back, and dismissed back to front. We are avoiding as much movement in the Sanctuary and crossing of paths as possible. No one wants to be an enforcer—so we hope we don't need one.



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All people must register as being present. At this time, we are planning on the 8:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. worship services to be in the Sanctuary, and the 10:30 a.m. service outside, where you can worship in your cars or bring lawn chairs. We will be using an online registering system which will limit the number of people who can attend. We encourage everyone to use this system as it will avoid people arriving at church and then not having a seat. It will also aid in our plan for tracing in case there is an exposure and people will need to be notified.

Watch for more information in all our ways of communication: website, Facebook, the Messenger.

If you are not comfortable coming back to in-person worship yet, or you are feeling ill or have been exposed...PLEASE STAY HOME!!! Online worship will be continuing!!!!

We are church, and we are love!

WORSHIP AND EDUCATION

REGISTERING FOR WORSHIP

We are expecting people to register for worship due to the limitations of spacing and to help with tracing if needed. To register, go to <https://reopen.church/r/McxIm68k>. Once the worship service is full, no further registrations may be taken. If you do not have access to email, you may register by calling the Church Office no later than 1:00 p.m. on the Thursday prior to the service. Please leave a message if no one is available. Assigned worship leaders DO NOT need to sign up for the service.

worship
WITH US



WORSHIP LEADERS NEEDED

As we prepare for opening our worship services, worship leaders will be needed. The reading, prayer, and usher coordinators will be working on making sure we have someone scheduled who is comfortable returning to worship at this time. We are in need of some people who are interested in working the video screen and sound board for all services (video operators will not be needed at the 10:30 a.m. service at this time). Volunteers sign up each month to serve and more people are always welcome. This is a great time to learn. Please contact the Church Office or let Pastor Julie know if you are interested in serving in some way.

TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

We are continuing our Tuesday morning Bible study class on Zoom at 11:00 a.m. All are welcome to join!! Please let Pastor Julie know if you're interested so that she can email you the sign-on information.

July 7th: Titus
July 21st: TBD

July 14th: No class—Pastor on vacation
July 28th: TBD



JOIN OUR
STUDY



MIDDLE SCHOOL AND HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH

All middle and high school youth are invited to join us on Wednesdays at 2:00 p.m. on Zoom to talk, play some games, develop relationships and have fun. Information is posted on the Confirmation and High School Facebook pages, and I am happy to email you directly if interested.—Pastor Julie

OTHER



GRACE LUTHERAN MISSION ENDOWMENT FUND

The Grace Lutheran Mission Endowment Fund (GLMEF) supports local mission outreach in the Saginaw Metropolitan area and within the County of Saginaw. It is administered under the N/W Lower Michigan Synod of the ELCA. Only the investment earned income derived from this fund is used. Applications are available on our website and in the Church Office. Applications must be postmarked by Friday, July 17th. Grant awards will be mailed by September 18th.

BACK TO SCHOOL FAIR 2020

The Back to School Fair will be held on Thursday, August 6th from 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Due to the current restrictions we will only be distributing school supplies and new socks/underwear. Volunteers will be needed and a sign-up sheet will be available soon. We will need some help with directing traffic, distribution and set up. In addition to the new socks and underwear, monetary donations are welcome.



NEW SOCKS AND UNDERWEAR NEEDED

We are stocking up on socks and underwear for the Annual Back to School Fair. In light of the recent hardships our community has been dealt, we are preparing for more people than ever this year, so we need a lot of everything (all sizes for ages 4-18)! Unfortunately, we are starting later than usual with our collection due to the Covid-19 pandemic, so we are in a bit of a time crunch. We are hoping to have everything in by August 1st. We don't have much leftover from last year, so we need as much help as possible this year. Nicki and Chris Crump are once again leading the socks and underwear team, and are willing to do porch pickups if you are unable to drop donations off at the church. If you have any questions or would like a porch pickup, please call or text (989)751-8633 or (989)284-0370 to set up a date and time. Thanks!!

NEW CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

The Church Office is reopening on Monday, July 13th. The Church Office will now be open on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. Please remember to wear a face mask and physical distance when entering the church. Thanks!!



PASTOR JULIE ON VACATION

Pastor Julie will be on vacation from July 12th after worship until worship on July 19th. If you are in need of something during this time, please contact Cheryl in the Church Office, or Gus Hendrickson, Council President, at 233-8386.

The MESSENGER is published monthly by
Ascension Lutheran Church.

Deadline for the August 2020 issue is
Monday, July 20th at 12:00 noon.

Articles may be emailed to ascensionlc@sbcglobal.net.

MEMBER NEWS

July Birthdays

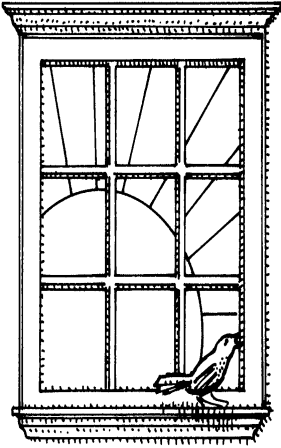
1st	Dorothy Mahl	14th	Ellen Foley
2nd	Marisa Richardson		Jack Herren
	Makena Whelton	15th	Sally Schultz
	Don Wight	16th	Nancy Armstrong
3rd	Barb Robishaw	17th	Carolyn Ballien
	Tammy Webb		Barb Huston
4th	Leslie Denman	18th	Gabby Dalton
	Hugh Dickie		Ron Fries
	Michael Kolinski		Angelo Naples
5th	Ahren Awad		Elliot Naples
	Emily Dunn	20th	Casey Stadler
	Diedre Haupt	21st	Barb Van Marter
	Arlene Neuenfeldt	25th	Bev Daubert
7th	Amy Inman		Molly McGrandy
8th	Dave Dawson	26th	Norm Hamilton, Sr.
	Dan Wenzel		Dick Schomaker
10th	Morgan Stadler	28th	Gus Hendrickson
12th	Julia Hamilton		Anthony Naples
13th	Lija Preston	29th	Adalynn Hendrick
	Danielle Wenzel		Ben Salowitz

Anniversaries this Month



2nd	Bob and Mary Ecker
6th	Bob and Laura Mancini
7th	Luke and Danielle Hendrick
8th	Pam and Dietrich Mackel
11th	Jim and Wanda Dankert
18th	Bob and Gina Dillenbeck
20th	Ken and Laura Schian
	Everette and Sally Schultz
22nd	Tony and Melanie Dancer
23rd	Rick and Allison Hamilton
28th	Brian and Sue Denman
	Darcy and Diane Lobsiger-Braden
29th	Jeff and Lisa Whelton
31st	Steve and Jennifer Salowitz

MEMBER NEWS



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.

Frances Edie - 4850 Gratiot Rd., Apt. D2, Saginaw, MI 48638

Peggy Lockhart - 6143 Longmeadow Blvd. North, Saginaw, MI 48603

Helen Nothelfer - 302 Fulton Street, Room 108, St. Charles, MI 48655

Heidi Osterloh - 9345 Geddes Road, Saginaw, MI 48609

Marcy Schafer - 3400 Hardwood Heights, Prescott, MI 48756

Marv Yancer - 8936 N. Brookshire Drive, Saginaw, MI 48609

Delila Colpean - 302 Fulton Street, Room 103, St. Charles, MI 48655

Leslee Arnst - 2815 N. Orr Rd., Hemlock, MI 48626

Bev Daubert - Candlestone Assisted Living, 4124 Waldo, Midland MI 48642

Julia Attridge - 302 Fulton Street, Room 101, St. Charles, MI 48655

Kay Ballien - Healthsource, 3340 Hospital Road, Room 371, Saginaw, MI 48603

HEALTH HIGHLIGHTS

Health Highlights by Traci Collier, DC

SAFE FOOD HANDLING FOR OUTDOOR PICNICS

Summer is here and it's picnic season, a time to enjoy relaxing with family. The picnic and barbecue season offers a lot of opportunities for outdoor fun with family, but these warm weather events also present opportunities for foodborne bacteria to thrive. As food heats up in summer temperatures, dangerous bacteria multiply rapidly. One in six Americans gets sick every year from foodborne pathogens. To protect yourself and your family from foodborne illness during warm-weather months, safe food handling when eating outdoors is critical. Here are some simple food safety guidelines for your picnic.



- Keep cold food cold—place cold food in a cooler with ice or frozen gel packs. Cold food should be stored at 40°F or below to prevent bacterial growth.
- Organize cooler contents—consider packing beverages in one cooler and perishable foods in another. That way, as picnickers open the beverage cooler to replenish their drinks, the perishable foods won't be exposed to warm outdoor air temperatures.
- Clean your produce—rinse fresh fruits and vegetables under running tap water before packing them in the cooler.
- Cold foods—once you've served it, it should not sit out for longer than two hours, or one hour if the outdoor temperature is above 90°F. If it is left out longer, discard it.
- Foods like chicken salad and desserts in individual serving dishes can be placed directly on ice, or in a shallow container set in a deep pan filled with ice. Drain off the water as ice melts and replace the ice frequently.
- Hot foods should not sit out for more than two hours, or one hour in temperatures above 90°F. If food is left out longer, throw it away to be safe.

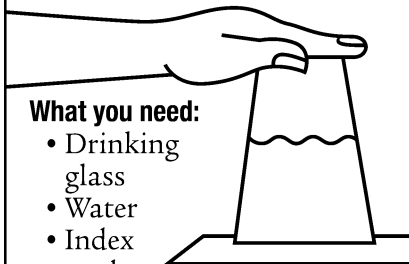
Keeping food at proper temperatures is critical in preventing the growth of foodborne bacteria. The key is to never let your picnic food remain in the "Danger Zone" — between 40°F and 140°F — for more than two hours, or one hour if outdoor temperatures are above 90°F. This is when bacteria in food can multiply rapidly, and lead to foodborne illness.

<https://www.fda.gov/food/buy-store-serve-safe-food/handling-food-safely-while-eating-outdoors>

"For he satisfies the thirsty and fills the hungry with good things." ~Psalm 107:9

UNSEEN BUT *active*

This experiment illustrates that although God is invisible, we can see his work all around us.



What you need:

- Drinking glass
- Water
- Index card

What you do:

1. Practicing over a sink, fill the glass halfway with water. Then press the index card snugly atop the glass with one hand.
2. With the other hand, hold the base of the glass and carefully flip it over.
3. Remove your hand from the card. It should stay on the glass, without spilling the water! The invisible air in the glass creates a suction with the card, preventing the water from spilling out. Research air pressure to learn more.
4. After perfecting the trick, amaze others with it. Then talk about how God, like the air in the glass, is unseen but active.

PUZZLE WATER WORKS!

The gospels record Jesus' miracles, many of which involve water.

Directions: Using the illustrated equations, fill in the blanks to describe each miracle. Use the Bible references for help.



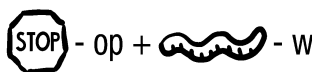
Water changes to

JOHN 2:1-11



Heals a man born

JOHN 9



Calms a

MATTHEW 8:23-27



Catch of

LUKE 5:1-11



Walks on

MATTHEW 14:22-33

Answer: wine, blind, storm, fish, water