

The MESSENGER

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Church office Hours are
Monday thru Thursday
9am—2pm

**Office Closed Dec 19th &
21st, Lisa will be out**

NOTE: The church office will
be closed this winter if Swan
Valley Schools are closed due to
inclement weather.

The MESSENGER is
published monthly by
Ascension Lutheran Church.

Deadline for the
January 2023 issue is:

**Monday, December 19th at
12:00 (noon).**

Articles may be emailed to:
ascensionlc@sbcglobal.net

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

Children's Christmas Program

We invite our Preschool and Elementary Youth to take part in the worship of the birth of our Savior. We have parts from singing and narration, to behind-the-scenes work. If you have any questions please contact Joscelyn Whelton at jruthwhelton@gmail.com or 989-392-5067.

The Christmas Program will take place on **Sunday, December 18th at the 10:30 a.m.** worship service.

Practices are during Children's Church, which takes place during the **10:30 a.m.** worship, on **December 4th and 11th**. The youth will be provided a song book with the words, speaking parts (if they have them), and CDs with the music for them to practice at home (we may have an electronic version as well).

Dress Rehearsal will be on **Saturday, December 17th**, at **10am**.

We look forward to having your youth join in this celebration.



CONGREGATIONAL
MEETING

Our Congregational Budget and Election Meeting will be held on **Sunday, December 11th at 11:30 a.m.** (following our 10:30 a.m. worship service). We will be voting on a budget for 2023 and electing members to fill council vacancies. Copies of the meeting materials can be picked up at the church beginning Sunday, November 27th, you may also contact the office to have them emailed to you.

Please prayerfully discern the nomination of members to serve on our Congregation Council. Positions currently available are: **Vice President, Treasurer, Minister of Congregational Care, and Minister of Outreach.** If you have questions, please contact a Council Member (listed on page 2) or the church office.

Nominations are:	Vice President	Tim Grueber
	Treasurer:	Connie Dutcher
	Minister of Congregational Care:	Glen Mack
	Minister of Outreach:	Joyce Berg

If he is elected, Tim will be vacating the Minister of Resources and Finance position
Nomination: Minister of Resources and Finance *volunteer needed*

****Voting Members** as defined by the Ascension Lutheran Church Constitution: Confirmed members, during the current or preceding calendar year, shall have communed in this congregation and shall have made a contribution of record to this congregation. Members of this congregation who have satisfied these basic standards shall have the privilege of voice and vote at every regular and special meeting of this congregation.

STAFF

Julie Bailey, Pastor
Jennifer Salowitz, Musician
Lisa Whelton, Parish Administrator
Jeff Whelton, Custodian

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Gus Hendrickson, President
Melissa Albosta, Vice President
Connie Dutcher, Treasurer
Susan Kelley, Secretary
Kris Yackel-Friend, Financial Secretary

MINISTRIES

Glen Mack, Congregational Care
Tim Grueber, Finance/Resources
Joyce Berg, Outreach
Celina Gottlieb, Spiritual Health
Rita Hendrickson, Parish Nurse

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday's: 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday's 7:00 p.m.
12/24/22: 4:30 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.
12/25/22: 10:30 a.m.(only 1 service)
12/28/22: No Worship
1/1/23: 10:30 a.m.(only 1 service)

CONTACT INFORMATION

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

Pastoral Emergency:(989) 574-5663

Email: ascensionlc@sbcglobal.net

Website: www.ascensionlc.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/220876594969678
(Group Name: Ascension Lutheran Church of Saginaw (ELCA) Group)

YouTube: Ascension Lutheran Church



Our
Facebook
Page

A Message From Pastor Julie

Stir up this Advent



I am anticipating that we will be doing quite a bit of “stirring up” in December—as the traditional Christmas cookies, candy and recipes are prepared.

Advent is a time of stirring up. As you worship this month, notice how the prayer of the day begins “stir up.”

- Stir up your power and come.
- Stir up our hearts to prepare the way for your Son.
- Stir up the wills of all who look to you.
- Stir up your power and come.

Advent is the time of preparation for stirring up, for preparing for something to happen—while at the same time preparing for something that has already happened. Jesus has already come to earth. Jesus has been born. We spend this time intentionally stirring up in us that trust and commitment to make room for Jesus in our hearts and in our lives.

Advent begins the new church year. It is an opportunity for a new start. I wonder how often this important aspect gets lost as we are preparing for everything else?

As we approach this advent season, my prayer is that each of us will stir up and be stirred up. We believe Christ has come, Christ is come, and Christ will come again.

(By the way, you might be interested in knowing that there is something known as “Stir Up Sunday,” celebrated either the Sunday before the first of Advent, or on the First Sunday in Advent.)

Pastor Julie

Pastor Julie Bailey



Re-Member-ing Service January 29th

Save-the Date! On the fifth Sunday of January, the 29th, Ascension will again host **one service at 9:37 a.m.** to re-member the congregation of Ascension into one service. Please mark this on your calendar. For now, we plan to hold this one service anytime there is a 5th Sunday in the month.





Advent Worship

On Wednesdays during Advent (Nov 30th, Dec 7th, 14th) at 7:00 p.m. we will hold an Advent service that is different than our Sunday service. Our theme will be "The Arrival of a King". We hope that you will make these services part of your Christmas preparation.



Blue Christmas Worship

Wednesday December 21st 7:00 p.m.

Some Christmases are full of wonder. You look forward to the Christmas season with joy and anticipation, and you wish Christmas could last forever.



But not every Christmas. Some Christmases are full of heartache. You dread holidays and struggle on, just wanting it to be over and done. Though you try to keep your feelings to yourself and not ruin Christmas for others, it just doesn't help. While we need Christmas, Christmas can be hard to celebrate in such times.

On Wednesday, December 21st, Ascension will offer a Blue Christmas Service to help us, the sad and the compassionate, share the hope of Christmas. This special service is for everyone in the community, and its focus is to acknowledge the sadness and struggles that don't go away for Christmas in the presence of God and surround them with friends who care.

Please come for yourself or bring someone who needs comfort and make this the Advent Service you wouldn't want to miss.



Christmas Eve Worship

Join us on Christmas Eve for worship at 4:30 p.m. or 7:30 p.m. Hear the story of Jesus' birth and sing Christmas Hymns.

Christmas Worship December 25, 2022

We will host a worship service at 10:30 a.m. During our worship we will read scripture and sing Christmas carols as we celebrate the birth of our Lord, Jesus. This is a casual worship service and we welcome and encourage people to wear "appropriate" holiday (or regular) pajamas, comfy sweats, or the relaxing clothes you may wear gathered around the Christmas tree.

New Year's Day Worship-Jan 1, 2023

We will have one service on January 1st at 10:30 a.m. Let's bring in a new year focused on Jesus.



2nd	Josh Crump Sarah Wagner Ginny Whelton Melissa Albosta
3rd	Bari Clauss
4th	Emmett Dalton Jacob Dawson Adam Robishaw Stephanie Wizner
5th	Charleen Boland Chris Crump Carol Lange
6th	Brayten Mack
7th	Bruce Collier Steve Elvin Donna Hayes Jon Leffler Don Arndt
8th	Elaine Clifford
10th	Sarah Carroll
12th	Scott Blehm
13th	Wayne Mayou Dan Roth Brynn Wakeman Michelle Wardlow
14th	Lynn Schomaker
15th	Barry Wiggins
16th	Braxten Mack Genevieve Potter Penelope Potter
18th	Sue Denman Bryce Druelle Jacob Moore
19th	Hannah Webb Joscelyn Whelton
20th	Megan Wakeman
22nd	Judi Minster
23rd	Melissa Briggs Amora Dreyfus Nicholas Hoffmann
24th	Pastor Julie Bailey
25th	Alexandria Randall
26th	Jacob Hostetler
27th	Rita Bolger Melanie Dancer Colton Kittle Lisa Randall
28th	Robert Beyerlein Joan Ford Lori Page
30th	Madilyn Dalton
31st	Jack Richardson Louise Roby Melissa Turner



9th	Bob & Cathy Watz
12th	Tom & Mary Erskine
13th	William & Emily Edsall Dave & Pat Marceills
28th	Paul & Susie Nielsen Jack & Joyce Richardson

Thank you Jennifer Salowitz



It is with regret that the Congregation Council accepted the resignation of our beloved musician for the past few years, Jennifer Salowitz. She has been with us through transitions not only in our congregation, but her life as well. Jen graduated from SVSU with her Masters in Social Work and has been working with four elementary schools in the Midland Public School District. Jen made the decision to focus on this vocation, along with her ongoing vocations. We thank her for the many things you saw her do, and the many things a church musician does that no one sees!

thank you

Celebration— December 18th

Between services on December 18th, we will have the opportunity to say thank you and celebrate the ministry of Jennifer Salowitz as our musician, and Dawn Dalton and Ruth Schomaker who served as our custodians. There will be time for fellowship and a time to say thank you.



Sunday Morning December Adult Study

We are going to take a “Sunday Break” from our Bible study in December, using this time to fellowship between the 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. services.



Tuesday Morning Bible Study

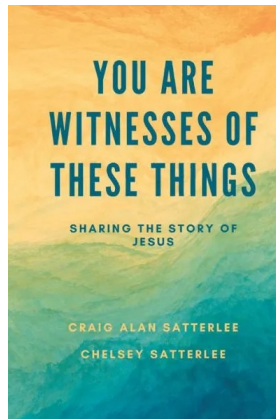
This Bible Study meets via Zoom on **Tuesdays at 11:00 a.m.**

We are reading through the book of Isaiah. All are welcome, even if you cannot attend every week. Contact Pastor Julie for the Zoom link.

Class is not meeting on December 20th and 27th.



Sunday Morning January Adult Study



During our Sunday Morning Class at **9:15 a.m.**, we will begin reading and discussing the book “You Are Witnesses of These Things-Sharing the Story of Jesus”. This was written by Bishop Craig Satterlee and his daughter Chelsey Satterlee. Our reading and discussion will equip and empower us as Christians, to share the story of Jesus with people for whom it is new, for no other reason than because Jesus is such life-changing, world-shaping good news. This book brings the good news to people who do not yet know Jesus and helps people who know Jesus to be comfortable and confident sharing this good news with others. Books can be ordered by December 18th through the church—cost is \$13, or you may purchase on your own.

There is a kindle version as well. Class will **begin January 8th** and meet in the Digging Dunes Room.

Mary To Martha Womens' Bible Study

The Monday night bible study will resume in January. Please call/text Joyce Richardson at 989-274-6787 with any questions.

Mary to Martha 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.

Welcome New Members

Welcome to our newest Ascension members:

- ◆ Bryan, Sarah, Hugh, Bryn and Rhys Carroll
- ◆ Julie Meschke



2023 Giving Envelopes



As we prepare for the new year, please be sure to pick up your envelopes for 2023. Due to staff shortages, we have been informed that there is a delay in mailing our envelopes so they will be delivered to the church later than as usual. We will let you know when they are ready to be picked up.

Financial Secretary Announcement

Important announcements from the Financial Secretary

- 2022 Year End Giving statements will be available for pick up in the Narthex by January 23, 2023. If not picked up by February 23, 2023 they will be mailed to you.
- To help ensure you are accurately credited for your giving please fill out your envelopes clearly - amount, breakdown, and name.
- If you forget your envelope, no problem, we have extras in the Narthex for you to use, but please remember to put your name on them. We have had some instances lately where people think they know their envelope number and they are close but ... Your name is a good idea to ensure accuracy.
- Children's Church. Love, LoVe, LOVE that you are teaching your youth the act of giving at such a young age. Although we support their autonomy, if accuracy is of concern, please "help them" fill out their name, envelope number, and amount - even if on the back of the envelope or in a corner.
- Non-traditional giving - once a year, lump sum, automatic deposit (non-VANCO). VANCO deposits allow you to clearly state your intent. We understand and support your decision to contribute the way that is easiest for you, but please clearly make your intentions known prior to the deposit for accurate break out of your giving.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact the Financial Secretary.

Kris Yackel-Friend



ELCA Grant Awarded

The Publicly Engaged Church Table of the North/West Lower Michigan Synod of the ELCA makes available grant funds to encourage and support ministries serving local communities. This year, Ascension Lutheran Church applied for and was awarded \$1,000 for the Weekend Food Bags program.

Vanco Online Giving



Our YouTube Channel



Don't Miss the

DEADLINE!

Year-end Deadlines

December 26th will be the last deposit of 2022, please make sure your giving is in the office by 9:00 a.m. this day if you would like it to be recorded for 2022.

December 26th is also the last day to submit expense receipts that need reimbursement. After this date, receipts for 2022 will not be reimbursed.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Connie Dutcher.



Prayer Chain

A prayer chain is a list of people who agree to pray for others during a troubled time. Our prayer chain is led by Barb Van Marter. If you would be interested in being a part of the prayer chain or if you have a prayer request, please contact Barb directly at 989-781-7803.



Blood Drive

**Thursday,
December 8, 2022
3:00p.m.—7:00 p.m.**

In the Fellowship Hall

Appointments Preferred,
Walk-ins Welcome!

Schedule An Appointment:
(3 options)

- Scan the QR Code (to the right)
- Go to the website: https://donate.michigan.versiti.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/146553
- Call the church office—Lisa will sign you up



Prayers of the Week



Our prayer partner prayers are included in The Messenger each month.

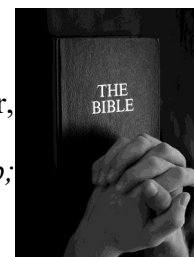
As Jesus calls us to be one even as he and the Father are one, please remember these congregations, leaders and families in your prayers.

December 4th

Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Traverse City, MI and Rev. Paul Busekist
Ascension Families: Jack and Renae Goschke; Judy Goschke; Aaron, Dylan, Sawyer Gottlieb

December 11th

Augustana Lutheran Church, Tustin, MI and Supply Pastor, Rev. Sharon Van Dam
Ascension Families: Celina Gottlieb; Michael Gottlieb; Nathan and Katica Gottlieb



December 18th

St. Peter Lutheran Church, Unionville, MI and Rev. Jeffrey Bonn
Ascension Families: Lynda Goward; Sandy Graham; Sara Gregor

December 25th

Grace Lutheran Church, Vassar, MI and Rev. Paulette Cummings
Ascension Families: Tim Grueber; Rick Jr., Allison, Chase, Julie Hamilton; Jeannie and Emily Hamilton



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.

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

Jackie O'Dell—302 Fulton Street, Room
108, St. Charles, MI 48655

Bob Bolger—Edgewood Assisted Living,
4850 Gratiot Rd., Room B12, Saginaw, MI
48638

Joyce Storm—181 Evelyn, Saginaw, MI
48609

John Kaul—5935 Shattuck Apt #13,
Saginaw, MI 48603

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

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

Rusty Van Marter—9855 Schomaker Rd.,
Saginaw, MI 48609

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

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



thinking of you

IN LOVING
Memory

*The Prayers and Sympathy
of our congregation are
extended to the family of
Gilbert Bell, who passed on
November 23rd.*

Altar Flowers



These Altar arrangements are placed in the Sanctuary each week for worship and may be picked up after the 10:30 a.m. service on Sunday morning. **The cost is \$30.00, if you are unsure if you've paid for your flowers in 2022, please contact Ruth Schomaker.** Payments can be mailed to the office, dropped off when you are at church, or during office hours (Monday-Thursdays 9am-2pm). The 2023 chart has been posted and you can begin reserving dates.

THANK YOU! to all those who have purchased flowers in 2022 and helped offset the cost the church incurs.



December 4th	Given in memory of Stena, by the Blehm Family
December 11th	Given in memory of John Cavendish, by Bonnie Cavendish
December 18th	Given in honor of Joscelyn's 18th birthday, by the Whelton Family
December 25th	Given in honor of the birth of Jesus, by the Friend Family



Thanksgiving Gifts

Thank you to all those who donated wine and money during the Thanksgiving Offerings. Your contributions become a part of preparation for each worship service and help defray the cost the church incurs.



Ascension's Sewing Group will meet in the Fellowship Hall on the **Wednesday** noted below from **9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.** Bring your sewing machine, and join us for fun and fellowship. Contact Sandy Graham with any questions, 989-781-1619.

December 7th



RaiseRight Orders

Christmas Shopping with RaiseRight

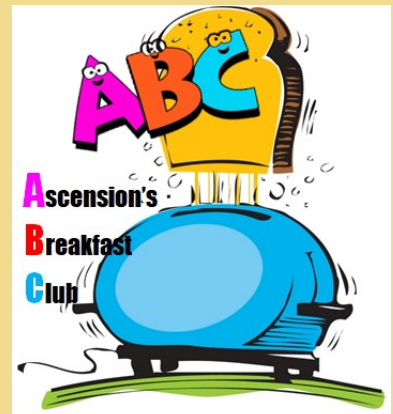
Do you have gift cards to purchase as Christmas Gifts? Remember if you purchase your gifts cards through the church, we earn a percentage with no additional cost to you:



Orders Are Due Early This Month!
December 11th



Order forms are on the kiosk and the church's website. Payment to Ascension Lutheran Church is due with the order.



**Join Us For
BREAKFAST**

Ascension Breakfast Club (ABC)

All who are available for breakfast are invited to join others from Ascension for a time of fellowship and food. We will plan to meet at **9 a.m. at Sullivan's Restaurant** on Gratiot, on the second Monday of each month. Each person is responsible for the cost of their own breakfast. You don't need to prepare anything or clean up. Just show up!

Next Date: December 12, 2022



Blood Pressure Screening



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, December 18th.**

Wellness Warriors

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! Come check us out!

Questions? Contact Kris Friend (989) 245-6446 or Rita Hendrickson (989) 482-0271.

Food Pantry

The Center of Hope Food Pantry operates on Wednesdays. Ascension is providing workers on the following dates. 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

December 14th
February 8th (2023) • April 12th (2023)

A truck unload to carry in food and stock shelves will take place on **December 7th at 7:30 a.m.**

The food pantry is regularly serving 70 families (their max) per give away.

They are still collecting clean plastic and cloth grocery bags and manual can openers.

The pantry, the MSU Extension, and Ascension St. Mary's Center of Hope are working with the MyPlate program to provide healthy food and teach people how to eat healthy due to their underlying medical conditions.

Household/Personal Care Items For Christmas Packages



GIVING TREE

We are participating with Swan Valley High School to collect household and personal care products for Christmas packages for families in need.

Items needed are shampoo, conditioner, soap, laundry soap, dish soap, dryer sheets, fabric softener, tissues, toilet paper, paper towels, cleaning supplies, lotion, body wash, shaving cream, razors, feminine products, deodorant, etc.

Items may be placed in the Gathering Area beginning **Sunday, November 27th.** All items should be delivered to the church no later than **Sunday, December 11th.** Thank you for your support!!

Bishop's Newsletter



Bishop Craig Satterlee's newsletters can be found at:

<https://www.mittensynod.org/resources/publications/>



Recycling At Church



You may or may not know, but Ascension Lutheran Church cannot participate in the Thomas Township recycling program, due to not paying for those services through taxes. That ends today! We have a member who has volunteered to take the recycling home weekly. We have begun recycling cardboard, plastic, glass, cans, and paper. At this time, we cannot accept recycling from your home. However, if you are at church and you have any of these waste products place them in the bin near the drinking fountain in the Education Hallway. There are also signs posted above the bin that state which items can be recycled. Please note, we do ask that if you put glass or cans in the bin that they are rinsed clean.

"More than **52 million tons of paper** products were recycled in 2018. That's roughly the same weight as almost **350,000 blue whales**. Recycling helps save energy. If you **recycle one glass bottle**, it saves enough energy to **light a 100-watt bulb for four hours, power a computer for 30 minutes, or a television for 20 minutes.**"

Communities for recycling, "16 Fun Recycling Facts for Kids", <https://recyclingpartnership.org/communitiesforrecycling/16-fun-recycling-facts-for-kids>, February 19, 2021.



Second Year Confirmation Class

The Second Year Confirmation classes are held on Sunday's from 5 p.m. - 6 p.m. The focus this year will be on the Lord's Prayer and Holy Conversations.



Schedule

Lord's Prayer

- December 4—Petition 6
- December 18—Petition 7

Holy Conversations

- January 8—Doxology & Amen
- January 22—Sacrament



Children's Church Offering

The Children's Church/Sunday School will continue to take an offering. The kids will have their own giving envelopes that will look different from the adult giving envelopes. Kids can take a few home with them or bring their offering to put in the envelope when they come to class. They will put their name and offering number on the envelope (the teachers can help with this) and they will even get their own giving statement.



This money is deposited into a savings account and the children will choose what outreach to give the money toward later in the spring--possibly through ELCA Good Gifts (check them out at goodgifts.elca.org).

If you have any questions, please feel free to follow up with Dawn Earnesty, Rita Hendrickson or Pastor Julie.

Baptismal Banner Volunteer



We are looking for a Youth Volunteer who would be interested in earning volunteer hours making baptismal banners. This is an option to volunteer "at church" without actually being present "in church", which with school activities can sometimes pose a challenge. We are looking for someone who can step in now. Ideal age is 13-18. Contact Lisa at the office either by phone or email (ascensionlc@sbcglobal.net) if you are interested and additional information will be provided.



ALL Youth Pop Can Fundraiser



We are continuing to collect returnable pop cans and bottles. Our Youth are returning the cans for a fundraising activity. Half will go to the Youth returning the cans, half will go to the Youth general fund. You can drop your cans off in the vestibule near the Fellowship Hall, during office hours or when you are at the church. This is a great way for **Youth of all ages** to begin earning for future trips and events as they grow.

Thank you for your support!!

Elementary—High School Youth Instructions:

1. Sign up on the kiosk to return cans
2. Grab the cans when you are at church that week
3. Return the cans at a local store
4. Put the cash in an envelope marked "Youth Pop Cans" with your name on it and give to Pastor Julie or leave in the church office*

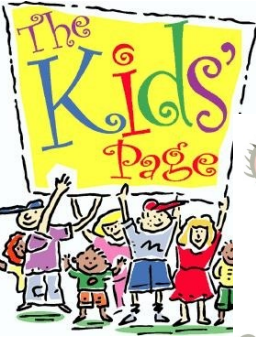
***Please provide the cash to the church no later than the next week**





1 Luke 1:1-4	2 John 1:1-5, 18	3 John 1:1-5, 18	4 Isaiah 9:6-7 & 11:1-5	5 Micah 5:2-4
6 Matthew 1:1-17	7 Luke 1:5-25	8 Luke 1:26-38	9 Luke 1:39-45	10 Luke 1:46-56
11 Luke 1:57-66	12 Luke 1:67-80	13 Luke 2:1-7	14 Matthew 1:18-25	15 Luke 2:8-21
16 Matthew 2:1-12	17 Luke 2:22-40	18 Matthew 2:13-15	19 Matthew 2:16-18	20 Matthew 2:19-23
21 John 1:6-8, 15	22 John 1:9-14	23 John 1:16-17	24 Isaiah 52:13- 53:12	25 Revelation 21:1-8





Bible Quiz

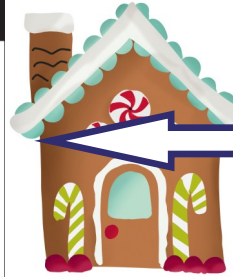
Complete this Bible verse: "The (1) _____ (2) _____ in the (3) _____, and the (3) _____ has not overcome it."

- A. (1) Word; (2) speaks; (3) silence
- B. (1) light; (2) shines; (3) darkness
- C. (1) kingdom of God; (2) reigns; (3) world
- D. (1) Spirit of God; (2) shines; (3) world
- E. None of the above



Pull Out Your Bibles and Go To:

**John 1:5
For This Quiz**



PUZZLE



Seeking the story

Angels joyfully announced a special arrival in Bethlehem at Christmas.

Directions: Find the words listed below. Then unscramble the intersecting letters to complete Luke 2:11, NIV.



WORD BANK

Shepherds
Child
Nazareth
Census
Baby
David
Mary
Travel
Town
Register
Born
Night

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

"Today in the town of David a _____
has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord."

LUKE 2:11, NIV

Answer: Savior

Story stones

Share the good news of Jesus' birth in a creative way.



What you need:

- Newspaper
- Bible
- Smooth, clean stones
- Pencil
- Oil paint pens
- Adult help

What you do:

1. In a well-ventilated area, cover a work surface with newspaper.
2. Read Luke 2:1-20 and choose key people and places to draw.
3. In pencil, sketch one drawing on each stone.
4. Follow directions on paint pens to fill drawings with color. Let dry.
5. Hide stones for younger siblings to find, set out a new stone each day or order them in a row and tell the Nativity story.



Serving in December

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.

Readers	8am	10:30am	Prayers	8am	10:30am
4	Marty Debozy	Barb Van Marter	4	Charleen Boland	Chris Crump
11	Tom Erskine	John Whelton	11	Susan Kelley	Tim Grueber
18	Joan Ford	Children's Program	18	Ruth Schomaker	Children's Program
25	No Worship	7 Readers	25	No Worship	Lisa Whelton

Sound Board Operators

4	Kris Friend	Makena Whelton
11	†	Makena Whelton
18	Kris Friend	Makena Whelton
25	No Worship	Makena Whelton

Video Screen Operators

4	Charleen Boland	Will Salowitz
11	†	Tim Grueber
18	Kris Friend	†
25	No Worship	Jeff Whelton

Head Ushers

4	Kelley	Friend/Beyerlein
11	Schomaker	Dalton/Whelton
18	Roth	Earnesty/Wizner
25	No Worship	†

Acolyte 10:30 a.m.

4	Ethan Earnesty
11	Gabby Dalton
18	Ethan Earnesty
25	†

Altar Guild

4	Kris Friend
11	Susan Kelley
18	Donna Fries
25	Carol Wilson

Children's Church 10:30 a.m.

4	Christmas Program Practice
11	Christmas Program Practice
18	Christmas Program
25	No Class – class returns 1/8/23

December Librarian—Marty Debozy

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP

4:30 p.m.

Reader	Dick Schomaker
Prayers	Ruth Schomaker
Sound	Makena Whelton
Video	†
Ushers	Hendrickson/Whelton/Whelton/Earnesty/Wizner
Acolytes:	Ethan Earnesty/Hannah Wizner

7:30 p.m.

Reader	Susan Kelley
Prayers	Susan Kelley
Sound	†
Video	†
Ushers	Schultz/Need 4 volunteers (see Kiosk)
Acolytes:	†

WEDNESDAYS 7pm

Head Usher	Readers	Sound Board	Video Screen	Prayers
7 Glen Mack	Glen Mack	†	Connie Dutcher	Donna Malburg
14 Mike Clifford	Joyce Richardson	†	Glen Mack	Mike Clifford
21 Glen Mack	John Schroeder	†	Kelly Phillion	Not Needed

No Worship on 12/28/22

† indicates a volunteer is needed

Ascension Lutheran Church - December 2022

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
				1	2 <i>Office Closed</i>	3
4 8am-Worship/Communion 9:15am-Fellowship Time 10:30am-Worship/Communion/ Children's Christmas Practice 5pm-Confirmation2	5 6pm-M2M Bible Study 	6 11am-Bible Study-Zoom 6:15pm-Wellness Warriors	7 7:30am-Food Pantry Truck Unload 9am-Sewing Group 11am-Weekend Food Bags 12pm-Council Reports Due 6:30pm-FH Rental 7pm-Worship/Communion	8 3pm-7pm Blood Drive (FH)	9 <i>Office Closed</i>	10
11 RaiseRight Due 8am-Worship/Communion 9:15am-Fellowship Time 10:30am-Worship/Communion/ Children's Christmas Practice 11:30am-Congregational Budget/ Election Mtg	12 9am-Ascension Breakfast Club @ Sullivan's	13 11am-Bible Study-Zoom 6:15pm-Wellness Warriors 6:30pm-Council Mtg 6:30pm-Kitchen Rental	14 8:30am-Serve at Food Pantry 11am-Weekend Food Bags 6:30pm-FH Rental 7pm-Worship/Communion	15 6:30pm-Kitchen Rental 	16 <i>Office Closed</i>	17 10am-Children's Program Rehearsal 12:30-4pm-Wedding
18 BP Screening 8am-Worship/Communion 9:15am-Celebration Fellowship 10:30am-Worship/Communion/ Children's Christmas Program 5pm-Confirmation2	19 <i>Office Closed</i> 12pm-Messenger Articles Due	20 9am-12pm Bay Area Conference Gathering 6:15pm-Wellness Warriors 	21 <i>Office Closed</i> Winter Solstice 11am-Weekend Food Bags 6:30pm-FH Rental 7pm-Blue Christmas Worship/ Communion 	22	23 <i>Office Closed</i>	24 Christmas Eve 4:30pm-Worship/Communion 7:30pm-Worship/Communion
25 Christmas Day 10:30am-Worship/Communion 	26 9am-2022 Offering Deadline 9am-2022 Reimbursement Deadline	27 6:15pm-Wellness Warriors	28 6:30pm-FH Rental 7pm- NO WORSHIP Messenger Mailed 	29	30 <i>Office Closed</i>	31

Prayer Chain requests should be called to Barb Van Marter at 989-781-7803

www.ascensionlc.org

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