The Messenger

Ascension Lutheran Church

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

Congregational Meeting Report of Ministry and Constitutional Revisions

February 2023

Volume 44, Number 2



On Sunday, February 12th at 11:30 a.m., we will meet for our annual meeting where the ministries have the opportunity to share what has been accomplished in 2022.

The constitution updates will be addressed also at this meeting. These are the changes that were made to congregational constitutions at the 2022 ELCA Churchwide Assembly in August.

The Annual Report is available at the church beginning **January 29th**. The report can also be sent to you via email, please contact the office for that request.



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STAFF

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

EXECUTIVE BOARD

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

MINISTRIES

Glen Mack, Congregational Care Linda Lentner, Finance/Resources Joyce Berg, Outreach Celina Gottlieb, Spiritual Health

CONTACT INFORMATION

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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

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. The church will be closed if Swan Valley Schools are closed due to inclement weather.

A Message From Pastor Julie



In May 2020, I shared an article in response to some who were wondering why the ELCA? I made and make no apology for the ELCA. We are not perfect, and we have never claimed to be! At a time when church is under scrutiny, it is important that in the midst of challenges we remember God expressed in Jesus Christ is a loving God, who came for the whole world, calling us all to be disciples. Church is not about bands, or charismatic pastors, or gimmicks—church is the people of God living out our lives together, encouraging each other and at times, holding each other accountable. I share with you the article originally printed in May 2020.

Why the ELCA?

I am not shy to tell you the things I love about the ELCA, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. I choose to be a member and feel called to serve as a pastor in this denomination. At the root of my commitment to faith and service to God through the lens of the ELCA, is the doctrine of justification by grace through faith—that there is nothing any one of us can do to bring ourselves into right relationship with God; it is only through the grace found in the death and resurrection of Jesus, no strings attached. In response we are called to live in thankfulness and joy, following the way of Jesus that I believe brings life, abundant life for all.

I believe that the ELCA's practice of an open table at communion—all are welcome, you don't need to be a member to receive. Christ offered himself to all, and in the open table, his own body and blood is offered for all. I also appreciate the welcome of all ages to the table—free grace, not conditional on what we know or understand—it is God who comes to us through these gifts. And I believe that this bread and wine is the true presence of Jesus; his body and blood given for us and the world.

I believe in the commitment to the Word of God; expressed primarily in Jesus but also in the scripture and proclaimed word. We believe the Word of God is living, inspired and intended to be shared over and over again. It is not a history or law book, though it contains history and law. It is a book of hope, inspiration and promise, and as John 20:30-31 reads: "Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name."

I believe in the priesthood of all believers, that every one of us is called to serve Christ and the world using our gifts and passions. Some are called to be pastors, and I am thankful to be one of them. However, everyone else has an important role to share in this kingdom of God on earth.

I believe that all are welcome, it is not just a slogan or title of a song. Paul writes there is no more male female, Jew or Greek, etc. And that welcome does not come with restrictions. I believe I am called by God to serve as a pastor in this Church, and it has nothing to do with my gender! I am proud to say I am part of a denomination that recognizes the call of women and men to serve as public leaders in the church.

I believe that the greatest commandment is to love God and love our neighbors. Again, a command, not a slogan. We don't define who our neighbors are. Love includes respect, care, understanding, and commitment. We love because God first loves us. In love, I believe that we are all called to put our faith into action: God's Work, Our Hands. James writes: Faith without works is dead. I believe that the ELCA has a living faith, lived out in our call together to serve near and far. I appreciate our local service as well as partnership with ELCA World Hunger and Lutheran World Relief.

I could go on and on. I don't "approve" or "agree" with every decision the ELCA makes—as with any organization that is made up of human beings, we will disagree, and sometimes get it wrong. Which brings me to another thing I believe and love about the ELCA—called together in Christ and united in Christ, we can disagree and still be united in the bonds of Christ. I appreciate that we talk about difficult subjects, real ones, not just the churchy ones, and that we are called to understand the opinions of others even when we don't agree.

Central to our faith is Jesus and the cross. With faith, the ELCA has developed Social Statements to address issues such as care of creation, just war, abortion, genetics, human sexuality, sexism and more. According to the ELCA these statements are "teaching and policy documents that provide broad frameworks to assist us in thinking about and discussing social issues in the context of faith and life. They are meant to help communities and individuals with moral formation, discernment and thoughtful engagement with current social issues as we participate in God's work in the world. Social statements also set policy for the ELCA and guide its advocacy and work as a publicly engaged church. They result from an extensive process of participation and deliberation and are adopted by a two-thirds vote of an ELCA churchwide assembly."

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A Message From Pastor Julie...continued from page 2

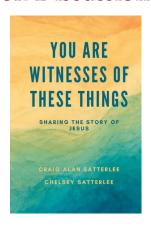
The question has arisen: to what extent do we know the actual positions of the ELCA? I am guessing that varies. Over the years, there has been discussion around some of these, and attendance and interest has varied.

These statements can be found at https://elca.org/Faith/Faith-and-Society/Social-Statements. I would love to consider in the future, those interested would gather to discuss and seek understanding. These are broad statements, frameworks to assist in thinking and discussing social issues. I believe faith impacts every aspect of our life, and we as people of faith are called to be informed and make faithful decisions; even when those decisions may be different from someone else, or in different situations.

I won't apologize for being part of the ELCA!



Sunday Morning Book Discussion



On Sunday mornings, we are reading together the book "You Are Witnesses of These Things" by Bishop Craig and Chelsey Satterlee. If you need a book, you can purchase on Amazon and there is also a Kindle version, if you would prefer. Join us for a good discussion as we learn and grow more confident in boldly making Christ known in our lives and in our community.

Class will meet in the Digging Dunes meeting room Sundays from 9:15-10:15 a.m.

No Class January 29th



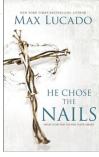
Monday Women's Bible Study

Every gift from God reveals his love, but no gift reveals his love more than the gifts of the cross. In this video Bible study, Max Lucado explores the many gifts that Christ provided to us at his crucifixion. The <u>He Chose the Nails</u> Study includes video discussion questions, Bible exploration, personal study and reflection materials.

Our author, Max Lucado, has served many churches in his 45 years of ministry. He currently serves as Senior Minister of Oak Hills Church in San Antonio, Texas. He is a bestselling author with more than 130 million books in print.

Our Mary to Martha Women's Bible Study is a five-week study that will begin on Monday, March 6, 2023 at 6:00 PM in the Digging Dunes room. Participant books are \$9.00 due the first day of class. This is a shorter class but, it is a good one! Come and join us!

Please let Joyce Richardson know if you are participating in the class so we may order enough books. Sign up by calling or texting Joyce at 989-274-6787. All women are welcome!



Tuesday Morning Bible Study

We meet via Zoom every Tuesday from 11 a.m. to noon to read and discuss scripture. All are welcome to join us as you are available. We are currently reading through the prophet Isaiah. Following is the code entry 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

No Class January 31st



Please Remember Those on Ascension's Care List



Leslee Arnst–5935 Shattuck Ave #3, Saginaw, MI 48603

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

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

Peggy Lockhart—6143 Longmeadow Blvd. North, Saginaw, MI 48603 Marie Myers—11145 Morningstar Dr., Saginaw, MI 48609

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

Mail a card, plan a visit, or say a prayer for these members of our church family Joyce Storm—181 Evelyn, Saginaw, MI 48609

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

Rusty Van Marter—Saginaw Senior Care & Rehab, 4322 Mackinaw Rd., Room 105, Saginaw, MI 48603

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

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.

February 5th

Immanuel Lutheran Church, Allegan, MI and Rev. Christopher Laughlin

Ascension Families: Dave, Barb, Madison Huston; Amy Inman & Greg,



Sarah Wortley; Ruth Jakes

February 12th

Grace Eangelical Lutheran Church, Alpena, MI and Rev. Tom Orth, UCC

Ascension Families: John Kaul; Susan Kelley; Kathleen Kelly

February 19th

St. Paul Lutheran Church, Alpena, MI and Rev. John Shipman Ascension Families: Wade, Andrea, Jaina, Colton, Liam, Ryann Kittle; Dave & Sue Knowlton; Russ, Amy, Abigail, Carlie, Elizabeth Kolb

PRAYING FOR YOU

February 26th

St. Paul Lutheran Church, Au Gres MI and Rev. Max Miller

Ascension Families: Collene Kolinski; Diane & Michael Kolinski; Nancy Kozak

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.

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. A payment envelope can be mailed to you, you can send a check to the office, or drop off payment when you are at church or during office hours (Monday-Thursdays 9am-2pm). The flower chart is posted on the door of the Acolyte room and many dates are available.



February 5th Given in honor of Roger and Nancy's Anniversary, by Dori Dalton

February 12th Given in memory of Lorraine Balogh by Donna Malburg

February 19th Given in honor of their anniversary; John and Ginny Whelton

February 26th Given to the Glory of God, by Dori Dalton



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Re-MEMBER-ing Sunday—January 29th

We will meet for one worship service on Sunday, January 29th at 9:37 a.m., as this is the fifth Sunday of the month. Following worship, there will be some time of fellowship and snacks.

What does Re-MEMBER-ing mean? Some have wondered. It sounds like we are remembering people who may not be with us; and that could be part of it. But

mostly it is the intentional re-gathering, re-community-ing, re-assembling together Ascension Lutheran Church.

If you would be willing to bring some easy snack food for the fellowship time, please let the office know.

Some of us do not know people who are part of our church family because they do not worship at the same time we do. This is an intentional opportunity to get to know people and to see other people who are part of this Ascension

On Wednesday, February 1st, we will host a Lessons and Carols service for Epiphany at 7 p.m.

Meeting Iesus at the Table



family.

Stories of food and drink are all through the Bible. Jesus calls himself the bread of life. Jesus feeds the multitudes. Jesus eats with tax collectors and sinners. Jesus offers himself at the Last supper as bread and wine are shared.

Eating sustains our body and eating with others creates community.

During this season of Lent, we will focus on Meeting Jesus at the Table, exploring and meditating on the Bible stories that feature eating and food. You are invited to join us as we eat together with a simple soup supper before worship, share in the Lord's supper where we will use different kinds of bread each week, and hear the message of Jesus in new ways.

Ash Wednesday, 2/22- Dining Alfresco: The Feeding of the Multitude 3/1-The Welcome Table: He Eats with Tax Collectors and Sinners 3/8-Surprised by Grace: Dinner Interrupted 3/15-Relationship and Reciprocity: Making Room at the Table 3/22-Excuses and Invitations: Empty Chairs at the Empty Table 3/29- Hospitality and Discipleship: A Meal with Chosen Family Maundy Thursday, 4/6-A Meal of Memories: Not the Last Supper

Food Pantry

her a call at 989-798-3241

openers.

Ascension is providing workers for the

Center of Hope Food Pantry on

February 8th & April 12th. Volunteers

should arrive by 8:30 a.m. at the pantry

If you have questions about

volunteering, Amanda Doerr, is our

"in church" contact person. Please give

They are collecting clean plastic &

cloth grocery bags & manual can

at 723 Emerson, Saginaw, MI 48607.



Sewing Group



February 1st & 15th March 1st & 15th

Amazon Smile

We have been notified that the

Amazon Smile program will be

coming to an end February 23,

2023 to invest in other areas.

Thank you for all who used



Ascension's Sewing Group will meet in the Fellowship Hall on the Wednesdays 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.

Amazon Smile over the past years. We earned about \$300 over the course of time, which may not seem like much but every penny counts. Thank you for all the support to provide ministry in our community.

Generosity of Time and Talent

Their abundant joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part. ~ 2 Corinthians 8:2

Generosity–liberal in giving, marked by abundance.



Being a good steward of the abundance God has given us is not just about giving money. In many ways, money is easier to give; and yes, it is still needed for ministry. Carrying out the gospel with our time and talent can be just as challenging with the demands of everyday life. It is a challenge to be available or commit to something at the church when you don't have time, or you already feel overworked and overcommitted to everything else.



We may wonder how much time is going to be needed. What can I offer? Will I be stuck doing this forever? The reality is when each one of us pitches in, the work is not that difficult. And the time it takes depends on what it is you want to do. Some teams are short lived, sometimes it is just performing a service when needed, some leadership roles are necessary to commit to for a period.

We can't be the church we believe God is calling us to without resources. Even if we had all the money in the world, it would probably not be faithful stewardship to hire someone to do all our ministry. Some people are serving in ways that save us money so it can be used in other ways. Imagine if we paid people to do the lawn care? Imagine if only two people said they would mow? Instead, we have had 10 people who rotate and only mow every 5 weeks and do a great job because they take pride in maintaining our grounds for the community. We have teachers for children's church because they feel it is an important ministry. We can offer three services for worship because people use their time and learn the talent of using the sound board or video operation. When we choose not to give of our time and talent, we can't offer what we already do, and we are stuck not being able to offer new ministries.



For instance, we want to do a directory. Are you able to do some photography, with a phone?

Will you serve in one of the many ways we need worship leaders? Children's church? Counting money? Serve on a leadership or financial team? Work with youth? Offer special music? Visit people in their homes? What special skills do you have to offer?

We have developed a new time and talent sheet. Each of us are requested to complete—not with just what we are already doing but with those things we might be interested in doing. This information will be

available on our website for you to complete and return.

Those who complete Time and Talent Forms prior to March 31st, will be entered into a drawing for a \$25 gift card.

in a special way.

Time and Talent Sheets will be printed for you to complete at worship, they are also

inputted into our database for leaders to use when we are looking for someone to serve

Financial Secretary Announcement

Important announcements from the Financial Secretary

2022 Year End Giving statements are available for pick up in the Narthex. 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 with the 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 were 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

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2023 Giving Envelopes



2023 envelopes have arrived, please pick up your envelopes at the church. Contact the church if other arrangements need to

be made. **THANK YOU** for your patience and continuing to give while we awaited their arrival!



Thrivent Choice Dollars

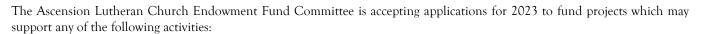
Thrivent Members—Direct your Thrivent Choice Dollars before March 31st.

If you are a partner with Thrivent (a fraternal organization that helps with financial management), you may have what they call Thrivent Choice Dollars you can direct to help the ministry of Ascension and other worthwhile ministries. It doesn't cost you any money or affect any of your investments. If you don't direct your money, nothing happens to it. Please consider directing your choice dollars. If you need help signing into your account don't hesitate to ask for help. Pastor Julie or your Thrivent representative would be happy to help you. The deadline to direct your Choice dollars is March 31, 2022.

Music Ministry

Family Outreach

Endowment



Christian Education Youth Programs
Mission Opportunities Scholarships
Evangelism Technology

Because of the limited amount of money the Endowment Fund Committee makes on its investments each year, the committee reviews each application and awards monies on how the request fits the mission and purpose of the church. The maximum amount that can be funded for any activity is \$1,000. The applications are available on our website and in the Church Office and must be submitted by March 31, 2023. If there are any questions, please contact the Endowment Committee chair Tracy Aldrich.

Scholarship

Attention all high school students and parents. There is a scholarship grant available for graduating seniors that are members of Ascension Lutheran Church. The scholarship packets, which include the guidelines and application form, are available in the Church Office and on our website. Application deadline is **March 31, 2023.** If you have any questions, please contact the Church Office at 989-781-2170 or via email at ascensionlc@sbcglobal.net.

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!



Bishop's Newsletter

Special Capital Improvement Opportunities

Bishop Craig Satterlee's newsletters can be found at:

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



RaiseRight Orders

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.

Orders Due February 19th



February Birthdays

1st	Esther Mack	16th	Jacob DeLaRosa
	Josh Whelton	18th	Anni Mackel
2nd	Sheila Dambro	20th	Aaron Gottlieb
	Brad Phillion		Harrison Salowitz
4th	Nelson Staples	21st	Rhys Carroll
	Alexis Turner	22nd	Zachary Maddox
5th	Jeannie Hamilton		Scarlett Naples
	Maliyah Johnson	24th	Roland Denman
10th	Todd Albrecht	25th	Max Dreyfus
	Pat Marceills		Paul Nielsen
	David Maeder	26th	Dori Dalton
11th	Holly Bostwick	27th	Natalie Fleissner
12th	Chuck Latty		Ken Schian
13th	Patrick Dalton		Layne Wakeman
	Carol Schroeder	28th	Chase Hamilton

February Anniversaries

5th	Bruce and Traci Collier
12th	Revs. John and Leslie Soyster
14th	Mike and Elaine Clifford
	Amy and Russell Kolb
15th	Ronald and Marie Leonard
	Rusty and Barb Van Marter
18th	John and Julie Stroebel
19th	John and Ginny Whelton
23rd	Don and Lorna Arndt
24th	Dick and Ruth Schomaker
25th	Todd and Alisha Albrecht
	Iim and Marie Stuart



14th

Congratulations to Casey Stadler and Emma Bierlein who were married on January 21, 2023



Recycling At Church



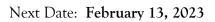
When you are at church remember to put your RECYCLE cardboard, plastic, rinsed clean glass, rinsed clean cans, and

paper in the Recycle Bin near the drinking fountain in the Education Hallway. There are also signs posted above the bin that state which items can be recycled. Thank you for your support in this initiative!

Ascension Breakfast Club (ABC)

All who are available breakfast are invited to join others from Ascension for a time of fellowship and food. We 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!

Olivia Bostwick





Join Us For BREAKFAST



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, February 19th.



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Second Year Confirmation



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.

<u>Schedule</u>

Holy Conversations
February 5—Communion
February 19—Confession
March 5—Forgiveness
March 19—Worship

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.



Pop Can Fundraiser

The <u>youth of all ages</u> continue to collect bottles and cans as a fundraising event. Cans and bottles are dropped off at the vestibule near the fellowship hall. Youth sign up for a week at a time to return the cans, and return the money to the



church.

Half of what is returned goes into their own

personal account to be used for youth events. The other half goes into the Youth Savings account to be used for overhead and help pay for events as well.

The money raised can be used to help subsidize camp fees, youth events like Charge, or the ELCA Gathering in 2024. It is never too early to start saving for these events.

Youth Instructions:

- 1. Sign up on the kiosk to return cans for an open week
- 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.

Youth Accomplishments

We want to show our appreciation for your youth of all ages. Has your youth excelled at their sport, did they make the Honor or Merit roll, did they get "in the news" for an event they participated in such as an art show, robotics, or a play, did they run a 5k or raise money for a family in need?

Please send the church office your child's accomplishments. We'd like to post them on our bulletin board.



Welcome Scout Pack 3363

Beginning in January, Scout Pack 3363 was chartered by Ascension Lutheran Church. They have been meeting in our



fellowship hall on Wednesday evenings since school started.

They will hold their Pinewood Derby on February 18th 9am. All are welcome!!

Summer Camp—2023





Uelcome to All Pricing

Come as you are. Pay what you will.

Full Price | Half Price | No Price

information.

Camp returns this summer at Stony Lake Camp in New Era, Michigan. We plan to attend as a group the week of **July 9th**. Camps available are:

Explorers: This camp is for youth grades 1-3. This camp gives the young campers a "test-drive" to the camp experience. They return home on Wednesday.

Discoverers: This camp is for youth grades 3-5. This camp is designed primarily for elementary youth.

Challengers: This camp is for confirmation students and Middle School students. It provides an opportunity to bond as a group as well as experience the camp.

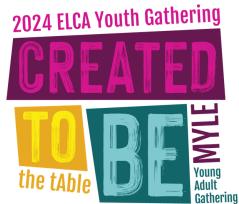
Servant Hearts: This camp is for grades 8-12 and is for High School Students.

Camp is offering a three tiered payment of full price, half price, and free. Families are welcome and encouraged to pay at what level they are able to pay for.

Confirmation Youth—the congregation commits to paying ½ of your payment for one year of camp. Please check out elcalivingwater.com for more

Registration began **January 15th** and is only open until the camp week is full! Parents <u>must</u> register their children, so please do so ASAP!

Contact Pastor Julie with any questions.



2024 ELCA Youth Gathering

High School ELCA Youth Gathering **July 16-20, 2024**New Orleans
CREATED TO BE



We have been created to be ourselves. Created by the Holy One. Since the last time the ELCA came together for an ELCA Youth Gathering, our young people have experienced several major life events. Still today, we are experiencing an ongoing public health crisis mixed with an economic and political crisis. However, we can rest assured that we are created to be in relationship with one another.

Youth that will be entering high school in the fall of 2024 are welcome to join us for this trip. We need to start fundraising (get to those pop cans to start) and think of other ways we can begin to raise the money needed to attend. Check out elca.org/gathering for updates and information.

Check out the YouTube video: Created to Be | 2024 ELCA Youth Gathering

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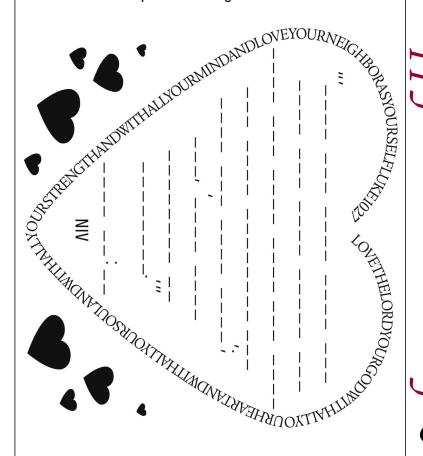


For This Puzzle
Go To Luke 10:27



Puzzle!

Draw lines to separate the words in the heart outline. Then, starting with "Love," write the words in order inside the heart to complete the two greatest commandments.



Answer: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your strength and with all your mind; and, 'Love your neighbor as yourself." Luke 10:27, MIV

Pull Out Your Bibles and Go To: 1 Corinthians 13:4-5



Fill in the blanks for three qualities Paul, in 1 Corinthians 13, attributes to love: "Love is _____; love is _____.... it keeps no record of _."

A. challenging, important, the past

B. childlike, innocent, injustice

C. self-sacrificing,
generous, finances

D. patient, kind, wrongs



Children Opthe LIGHT

This craft celebrates that now we are light in the Lord (see Ephesians 5:8).

What you need:

- A gallon zip-top plastic bag
- Permanent markers (dark colors)
- Black construction paper
- White cardstock
- Scissors

What you do:

- Draw a self-portrait on the outside of the bag. Add details.
- 2. Insert the black paper and set the bag flat on a table. It should be tough to see your picture now.
- 3. On the white cardstock, draw a picture of a flashlight with a long beam of light coming out. Color the flashlight but leave the beam white.
- 4. Cut out the flashlight and light beam. Place them in the bag, over the black paper. When the white beam covers the black background under your picture, you can see your self-portrait clearly.

































February Librarian—Tracy Aldrich

Serving in February



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	
5	Tom Erskine	Linda Luplow	5	Charleen Boland	Chris Crump	
12	Joan Ford	Barb VanMarter	12	Susan Kelley	Tim Grueber	
19	Dick Schomaker	John Whelton	19	Lynn Schomaker	Dawn Dalton	
26	Susan Kelley	Lisa Whelton	26	Ruth Schomaker	Lisa Whelton	
Sound Board Operators			Video Screen Operators			
5	Kris Friend	Makena Whelton	5	Kris Friend	Tim Grueber	
12	Madison Morgan	Makena Whelton	12	Mackenzie Morgan	Tim Grueber	
19	Kris Friend	Makena Whelton	19	Kris Friend	Jeff Whelton	
26	†	Makena Whelton	26	Melissa Albosta	Gus Hendrickson	
Head Ushers		Acolyte 10:30 a.m.				
5	Schomaker	Dalton/Whelton	5	Ella Frollo		
12	Roth	Earnesty/Wizner	12	Hannah Wizner		
19	Wilson	Dawson/Hendrickson	19	Greyston Hendrickso	on	
26	Kelley	Friend/Beyerlein	26	Harrison Salowitz		
Altar Gui	ild		Children	's Church		
5	Ruth Schomaker		5	Madison & Mackenz	rie Morgan	
12 Sue Bailey		12	Dave & Shelly Dawson			
19 Kris Friend/Susan Kelley		19	Dawn Earnesty / Stephanie Wizner			
26	Susan Kelley		26	Dawn Earnesty / Step	phanie Wizner	
0	Susuii iteliey		-0	Bawn Earnesty / Ste	primite Wizner	



WEDNESDAYS 7pm

	Head Usher	Readers	Sound Board	Video Screen	Prayers
1	Glen Mack	John/Mike/Connie/Glen	†	Connie Dutcher	Celina Gottlieb
8	Glen Mack	Mike Clifford	†	Connie Dutcher	Mike Clifford
15	Mike Clifford	Connie Dutcher	†	Glen Mack	Connie Dutcher
22	Mike Clifford	Glen Mack	†	Kelly Phillion	Donna Malburg

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Ascension Lutheran Church - February 2023

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.



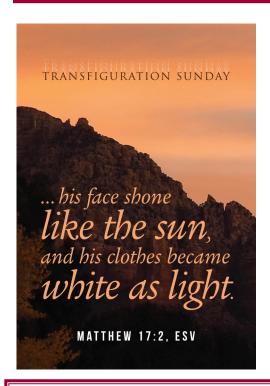
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
AMORE & TOU ONE LOV	LOVE YOU THUR SURE LOVE ONE HUGS	OWLY MINE	1 9am-Sewing Group 11am-Weekend Food Bags 6:30pm-Scouts-FH 7pm-Worship/Communion	2 6:30pmTrustee Mtg Groundhog	3 Office Closed	4 FH Rental
5 8am-Worship/Communion 9:15am-Adult SS/Book Study 10:30am-Worship/Communion/ Children's Church 5pm-Confirmation-2nd yr	6	7 11am-Bible Study-Zoom 6:15pm-Wellness Warriors	8 11am-Weekend Food Bags 6:30pm-Scouts-FH 7pm-Worship/Communion Recognizing	9	10 Office Closed	11
8am-Worship/Communion 9:15am-Adult SS/Book Study 10:30am-Worship/Communion/ Children's Church 11:30am-Congregational Meeting	13 9am-Ascension Breakfast Club @ Sullivan's 12pm-Messenger Articles Due	14 11am-Bible Study-Zoom 6:15pm-Wellness Warriors	15 9am-Sewing Group 11am-Weekend Food Bags 6:30pm-Scouts-FH 7pm-Worship/Communion	16	17 Office Closed FH Rental	9am-Pinewood Derby
19 Transfiguration Sunday RaiseRight Due BP Screening 8am-Worship/Communion 9:15am-Adult SS/Book Study 10:30am-Worship/Communion/ Children's Church 5pm-Confirmation-2nd yr	20 Presidenta Day	21 11am-Bible Study-Zoom 6:15pm-Wellness Warriors 6:30pm-Council Mtg 6:30pm-Kitchen Rental	22 11am-Weekend Food Bags 6:30pm-Scouts-FH 7pm-Worship/Communion Messenger Mailed Wednesday	23 6:30pm-Kitchen Rental	24 Office Closed	25
26 8am-Worship/Communion 9:15am-Adult SS/Book Study 10:30am-Worship/Communion/ Children's Church	27	28 11am-Bible Study-Zoom 6:15pm-Wellness Warriors 6:00pm-Kitchen Rental				

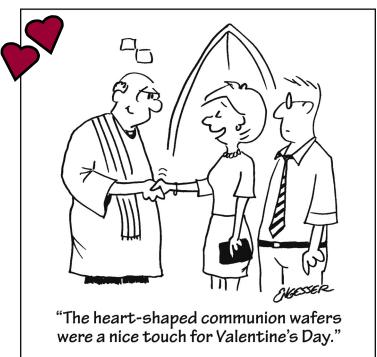
Ascension Lutheran Church

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