

The Messenger

Ascension Lutheran Church

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

Celebration of Graduates

We will celebrate our High School and Collegiate graduates during the **10:30 a.m. worship service on May 7, 2023**. Please

send Pastor Julie (pr_julie@sbcglobal.net) the following (or fill out the form on our website):

- Send pictures "through the years," including events like baptism, confirmation, senior pictures, and doing the things you are passionate about.
- Include information about where you are graduating from, what was your major, if appropriate, what is the next step in your journey (work, college, trade school, military; where; and planned major/program).
- What are you planning to do for fun after you graduate?

Please join us this day and let us celebrate together this important benchmark in your life. This information will also be posted in The Messenger



April 2023

Volume 44, Number 4

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He is Risen

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

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/ascensionsaginaw

(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.

A Message From Pastor Julie



Easter is nearly upon us. And the season of Easter is another intentional time for disciples to focus on faith. As we will read through the scriptures assigned for this season, we will find that growth is an obvious theme. The early church will wrestle to make sense of the suffering life of faith, and at the same time, the joy of living in the presence of God. This is the time of year when our first reading comes from the New Testament book of Acts, the account of the early church.

As we read through Acts in worship, we will be challenged. Peter will say that God shows no partiality. There will be the account of baptisms, people coming to believe, people wanting relationships with Jesus, and with the early church. The baptized will devote themselves to the breaking of bread and prayers.

This is another good time to recommit to your relationship with Jesus, and with the church. The relationship requires showing up. Jesus shows up all the time, but do we? My prayer as we enter into the season of Easter, having been reminded that we are a new creation through the death and resurrection of Jesus, is that we will commit ourselves as people of God to the growth that God offers all of us. I hope you all will show up!



Meeting Jesus at the Table

LENT

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 have focused on Meeting Jesus at the Table, exploring and meditating on the Bible stories that feature eating and food. The last service of this series is on:

Maundy Thursday, 4/6-A Meal of Memories: Not the Last Supper

Soup Supper and Youth Workers

The last soup supper will be **Thursday, April 6th at 6:00 p.m.**, before the 7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday worship service. A free will offering will be collected and split between the Youth accounts of those who volunteer. The Youth will set up, serve, and cleanup. They need to arrive by 5:30 p.m. and should be finished about 7:00 p.m. We will need an adult to oversee as well. Sign up on the kiosk in the gathering area or contact the church office.



Holy Week Worship



4/2/23—8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.—Palm Sunday

4/5/23—No Wednesday Night Worship

4/6/23—7:00 p.m.—Maundy Thursday (Soup Supper @ 6:00 p.m.)

4/7/23—7:00 p.m.—Good Friday

4/9/23—8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.—Easter Day (The service will also be the same on 4/12/23 at 7:00 p.m.)



Re-MEMBER-ing Sunday—April 30th



We will meet for one worship service on **Sunday, April 30th at 9:37 a.m.**, as this is the fifth Sunday of the month.

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

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 family.

**We will gather as
one congregation**

Prayer around the Cross for the Healing of Creation



On **Wednesday, May 3rd at 6:00 p.m.** we will hold a special service of prayer around the healing of creation. This will be a time of Thanksgiving for the beautiful creation God has made, a time of repentance for the ways we have failed to care for creation, and a time of recommitment. All are welcome.

Sunday Morning Bible Study

Our study of You Are Witnesses of These Things will conclude the end of March. Due to other opportunities in the month of April and Pastor's vacation, we will resume Bible study on **May 7th**.

We will begin a six-week study called "Spiritual Basics: Becoming a Christian."

All are welcome and each class can stand on it's own, so even if you can't commit for the whole six weeks, join us when you can.

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



Monday Women's Bible Study

Our culture tries to convince us there is a way to happiness: aspire, acquire, desire, retire. In this video Bible Study, bestselling author, Max Lucado, looks at several compelling passages in the Bible that reveal the happiest people on earth aren't those who have the most but those that are willing to give the most away.

Our Mary to Martha Women's Bible Study is a six-week study that will begin on **Monday, April 10, 2023 at 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM** in the Digging Dunes room. Please let Joyce know if you are participating in the class so we may order enough books. **Study books are \$9.00.** Sign up by calling or texting Joyce Richardson 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: April 18th & 25th

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.

April 2nd

Messiah Lutheran Church, Bay City, MI and Rev. Dan Stoneback

Ascension Families: Karen Luplow; Linda Luplow; Esther Mack

April 9th

Immanuel Lutheran Church, Big Rapids, MI and Rev. Daniel Ward & Rev. Bob Garrels

Ascension Families: Josh, Braxten, Brayten, Breana Mack; Glen Mack; Dietrich, Pam, Susie, Heidi, Anni, Mackel

April 16th

St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Bridgeport, MI and Supply Pastors

Ascension Families: David & Jill Maeder; Jenny, Lisa, Kenna, Norman Maier; Donna & Duane Malburg



April 23rd

Zion Lutheran Church, Cadillac, MI and Rev. Scott Torkko

Ascension Families: Bob, Laura, Victor Mancini; Pat & Dave Marceills; Dana, Nathan, Alex McClure

April 30th

Peace Lutheran Church, Charlotte, MI and Rev. Neil Brady; Bishop Craig Satterlee and the Synod Staff

Ascension Families: Kathy & Steve McNally; Jessica, Matt, Connor, Julia McRae; Julie Meschke



Please Remember Those on Ascension's Care List

PRAYING
FOR YOU

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

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

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

Jackie O'Dell—108 Fulton Street, Apt 405, 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

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. ***NEW** Payment envelopes are available on the Acolyte Room Door,*** you can mail a check, or drop off payment when you are at church or during office hours (Monday-Thursdays 9am-2pm). The flower chart is posted on the door of the Acolyte room and many dates are available.



April 2nd

Available to Sponsor

April 9th

In honor of Grey's birthday, by the Hendrickson Family

April 16th

Available to Sponsor

April 23rd

In memory of Courtney York Favazza's birthday, by Kathy York

April 30th

To the Glory of God, by the Blehm Family



April Birthdays

1st	Thomas Deaton	15th	Jayson Hoffmann
2nd	Rhys Awad	18th	Courtney Wardlow
8th	Katica Gottlieb	19th	Judy Carr
9th	Greyston Hendrickson		Pam Mackel
10th	Sean Girardin	20th	Ryann Kittle
	Chelsea Houthoofd	23rd	Steve Haupt
11th	Joel Richardson		Kathy McNally
12th	Dawn Dalton	24th	Jack Goschke
13th	Glen Mack		Sara Gregor
14th	Marie Catterfeld	25th	Breana Mack
	Brent Fleissner	28th	Susie Mackel
	Carlie Kolb		Harbor Weber
	Carrie Nielsen	29th	Bryan Carroll



April Anniversaries

3rd	John & Carol Schroeder
15th	Michael & Elizabeth Clark
17th	Ben & Chris Crump
29th	Larry & Maija Preston
30th	Matt & Stephanie Wizner

**Bishop Craig Satterlee's newsletters
can be found at:**

**[https://www.mittensynod.org/
resources/publications/](https://www.mittensynod.org/resources/publications/)**

Seeking Church Accompanist

As you know, we are seeking a musician/accompanist, please pass this along to anyone who may be interested.

Job Description—Musician/Accompanist

Purpose:

- Enhance the worship experience through music and complement its message.

Job Description:

- Play for all regularly scheduled worship services throughout the church year, including seasonal services. (As of 12/1/2022, worship is Sunday at 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. and Wednesday at 7 p.m.)

Qualities:

- Be willing to uphold the values and doctrines of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) and Ascension Lutheran Church.
- Familiarity with various genres of music or desire to learn liturgical and contemporary music
- Proficiency with digital keyboard.
- Effective planning, organization and leadership skills.
- Proficiency with music direction and assist potentially with selection of appropriate music.
- Love and respect for people, and ability to work with all people.
- Ability to coordinate with other musicians and technical team members (sound board, video operators).

Duties:

- Play our instrument (Clavinova), maximizing its potential.
- Provide music accompaniment for worship services/choir(s).
- Report any issues with the musical equipment to the Parish Administrator and/or Pastor.
- Potentially collaborate on selection of music for worship.
- Communicate with the pastor and parish administrator and Church Council as needed, meeting all established deadlines.
- When planned absence, notifies appropriate staff members.
- Participate in the life and ministry of the church by developing relationships within the congregation.

As Needed:

- Play for weddings/funerals as able; congregation does not pay for these, responsibility of the family.

Upon hiring, there is a 90 day probationary period for both congregation and musician to determine compatibility. Pay is based on a fee-for service. Direct any questions to ascensionlc@sbcglobal.net Please submit Resume and Cover Letter to ascensionlc@sbcglobal.net



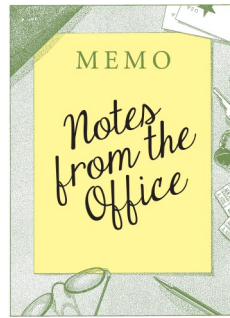
Office Closed

Lisa will be out of the office and the office will be closed on the following dates:

March 27th–30th

June 5th, 13th

June 19th–22nd



Pastor Vacation

Pastor Julie will be on vacation April 17th–29th



Earth Day-April 22nd

What are some simple activities that you can do to protect our Earth:

- ◆ Switch to re-usable bags instead of plastic grocery ones
- ◆ Shut off extra lights
- ◆ Carry a reusable water bottle
- ◆ Commit to a reusable coffee cup
- ◆ Participate in your local community's recycling program
- ◆ Take a walk and pick up garbage along your way

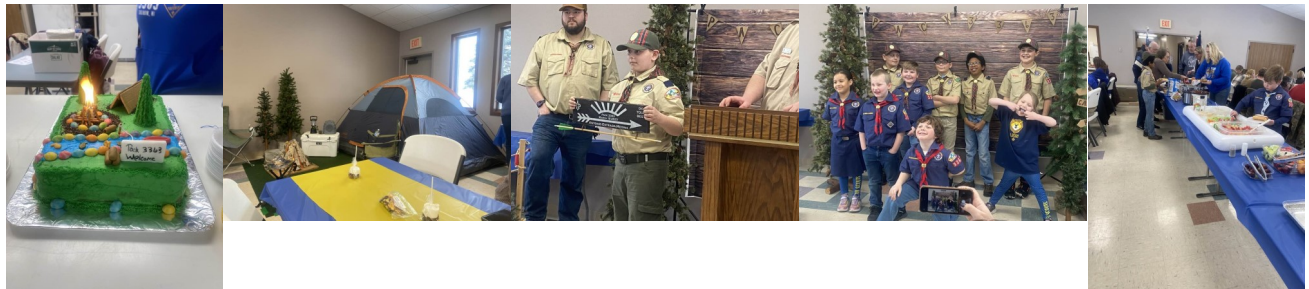


Living Lutheran Magazine

The Editor's Note from the March/April 2023 of the Living Lutheran, By Andrea Pohlmann Kulik "ELCA leadership has made the difficult decision to cease the print publication of Living Lutheran with the November/December 2023 issue." For more information you can find the article in your print version of the magazine or online at livinglutheran.org (click on "current issue" at the bottom of the page).

Scout News

The Scouts held their Blue & Gold Banquet at Ascension on Saturday, March 18th. Blue and Gold Banquets are a tradition in Cub Scout packs. They are a celebration of the anniversary of the founding of the BSA on February 8, 1910. Often, badges of rank are awarded. The Arrow of Light ceremony is included as the 5th graders cross over to a troop. A potluck meal was enjoyed.



ELCA Saginaw

The ELCA congregations located in Saginaw County have begun to meet together in an effort to strengthen our presence in the community and to work together through some of the challenges our congregations are facing. We are in very early stages of the process. Gus, Kris, and Pastor have been attending the meetings. We are working on a digital strategy. We now have a joint Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/elcasaginawcounty>) and a YouTube page. These are places we can share what we are doing in the community, and a place we plan to teach about who we are as the ELCA presence in this community. We believe we have a unique and necessary message our community needs.

He is Risen

Baptism

Angela Lynn Saxton was baptized on Monday, March 6th. Angela's sponsor was Janet O'Dell.

May God bless Angela with His gift of grace.



St. John's Grants & Scholarships

Upon closing St. John ELCA in downtown Saginaw as a worship center in 11-01-2020, the process began to complete the transformation of the trust into a foundation. They strive to continue the programs that were established by the church and develop and offer support to programs and organizations that further the Gospel of Christ in the Saginaw Area. They are doing this in two ways:

- Scholarships for applicants age 16+, who are a confirmed member/employee of one of the ELCA churches in the Saginaw area and attending K-12, Jr College or University, or payment on their student loan.
- Grants for programs such as Christian education, community health and welfare, social welfare, feeding and supporting the needy, supporting and assisting troubled youth, and aiding the poor in the Saginaw Area.

The applications for both are posted on the Kiosk at church and available on our website.



100+ Women Who Care: Courtney Elisabeth (York) Favazza Memorial

In memory of Courtney, her mother, Kathy York, has begun a Memorial to provide donations to Saginaw, Hemlock, St. Charles, Merrill and Freeland charities or non-profits.

Any woman is welcome to join other women in making a difference in our community. Each member will commit to \$100/meeting. The group will meet quarterly to determine what charity/program/non-profit will receive the donations that quarter. Ascension is providing a location for the meetings. Ascension will not be handling any of the donations. The charity/program/non-profit that receives a donation must agree not to use the names of members for future solicitations or give information to the public. (*Ascension's Weekend Food Bag Program is an example of a program that could be considered*).

The next meeting will be **April 13th at 5:30 p.m.** in Ascension's Fellowship Hall. Additional information can be found at www.100womencourtelis.com

Ascension has a congregational goal of participating with at least six other organizations in our community. We welcome the 100+ Women Who Care with open hearts and hospitality.



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.



**Volunteer
Needed**

RaiseRight Orders



Orders Due April 16th

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.

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 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: **April 10, 2023**



**Join Us For
BREAKFAST**



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.

Sewing Group

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.

April 5th & 19th • May 3rd & 17th



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, April 16th.

Food Pantry

He is Risen

Ascension is providing workers for the Center of HOPE Food Pantry on **April 12th**. 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

They are continuing to collect clean plastic & cloth grocery bags & manual can openers.

Recycling At Church



When you are at church remember to put your 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!

Grief Support Group

Ascension has a new Grief Support Group. The group meets at the church on Mondays at 10a.m., except on the 2nd Monday of the month, they begin at 10:30 a.m.

It is very easy to feel like you're all alone. There is also no timeline on grief. A grief group surrounds you with other people going through the same thing you are. There are many types of grief, death, sickness, and divorce are just a few. All kinds of grief are supported in this group.



No Requirements.

No Pressure.

Relaxed & Informal

Come and just listen or you may share.

Everyone is Welcome!

Upcoming Meeting Dates:

♦ **March 27th—10am**

♦ **April 3rd, 17th, 24th—10am**

♦ **April 10th—10:30am**



Center of Hope Food Pantry Annual Fund Drive
March Against Hunger
March 1, 2023 – April 30, 2023
723 Emerson St.
Saginaw, MI 48607

Saginaw County continues to face challenges related to Food Insecurity:

Some Facts: (according to Stacker.com)

Food Insecurity rate: 14.4 % (27,570 total)

—32% higher than the national average!

Child Food Insecurity rate: 17.9% (7,410 total)

—22.6% higher than the national average



The Center of Hope Food Pantry currently serves about 140 families/month, serving on the second and fourth Wednesday of the month.

You can help with your Financial Support! We need help all year!—

HOWEVER

The Food Bank of Eastern Michigan is sponsoring a fund drive, March Against Hunger.

During this Drive, all donations will be matched at 10%. Mail donations to:

FBEM

2300 Lapeer Road

Flint, MI 48503

Checks must be dated/received by April 30, 2023

March Against Hunger-2023

March 1st- April 30th

Date: _____ Donation Amt: _____ ☐ Check enclosed

Please accept this donation on behalf of

Agency: Center of Hope Food Pantry/Saginaw Agency Account #: P-981

Complete a separate deposit form for each individual in need of a personal acknowledgement letter.

Donor Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Checks must be made payable to FBEM and dated between March 1, 2023 and April 30, 2023.

Please note Center of Hope Food Pantry/Saginaw and P-981 in the memo line.

All donations must include this March Against Hunger Donation Form and be received by the Food Bank no later than Monday, April 30, 2023

Only agencies in good standing & current on reporting are eligible for the 10% account match

WALK TO JERUSALEM



Wellness Warriors invites everyone in the congregation to get moving during Lent. Join us on our *Walk to Jerusalem*. We need to collect a total of 3,177 miles to make our imagined trek from Ascension Lutheran Church to Jerusalem.

Did you know walking is mentioned 366 times in the Bible? Our bodies were created for walking. Regular walking can help prevent depression, lengthen our lifespan, lower our stress levels, improve range of motion in our joints, relieve arthritis and back pain, strengthen our muscles and bones, and improve our sleep. This *Walk to Jerusalem* is a great way not only to improve our physical health through exercise but also improve our spiritual health through prayer, fellowship, and studying of God's Word during this journey together.

What counts? **It's not just about walking.** There are other opportunities to accumulate mileage towards our journey.

One Mile is equivalent to:

- ✓ **20 minutes of active household chores**
Examples: vacuuming, yard work, washing dishes, laundry, preparing meals, cleaning bathrooms, etc. You can combine 5- or 10-minute segments of these activities to contribute to the total.
- ✓ **15 minutes of devotion, prayer and Bible reading**
- ✓ **20 minutes of any physical indoor or outdoor activity**
Examples: swimming, playing soccer, playing basketball, exercise class, etc.
- ✓ **Attendance of Sunday Services or a mid-week Lenten service**
- ✓ **20 minutes of community service with a recognized non-profit group**
- ✓ **Attendance at a meeting at church**
Examples: bible study, council meeting, ministry team meeting, etc.

Two Miles is equivalent to:

- ✓ **Attendance at Ash Wednesday service on February 22, 2023**
- ✓ **Serving as a Children's Church teacher**
- ✓ **Helping clean-up after Wednesday's Lenten supper or Sunday coffee**

Three Miles is equivalent to:

- ✓ **Preparing and/or serving Wednesday's Lenten supper**

Walk to Jerusalem packets will be available for pickup starting Sunday, February 19, 2023. **What's in this packet?**

- A personal calendar for you and your family to track daily activities Ash Wednesday thru Palm Sunday.
- Mileage slips to complete weekly.
Please clip and stuff in the "mileage envelope" located on the Parish Health office door. Alternatively, you may submit your name and weekly miles by Sunday of each participating week to the parish health committee email at ALCParishHealth@gmail.com.

The Parish Health Committee will tally these miles and mark our progress as a congregation on a world map located within the narthex. Our projected route begins here at Ascension Lutheran Church across Ohio, Pennsylvania and New York to JFK Airport where we "board a plane" to cross the Atlantic Ocean to Amsterdam. From there we journey across the European continent to the Middle East until reaching Jerusalem. This journey as planned is approximately **3,177 miles** (not counting our flying miles and a ferry ride). Don't be intimidated by the total mileage. Remember, we are traveling as a congregation and all participant miles are accumulated and tracked weekly to help us reach our destination by Palm Sunday.

Questions? Please contact Rita Hendrickson

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.

Schedule—Holy Conversations

April 2—No Class Spring Break

April 16—Vocation

April 30—Exams Due

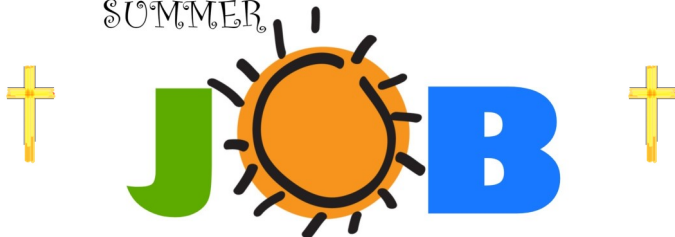
Confirmation is May 21st

First Communion

A group of our young people will receive their First Communion during worship on **March 29th** and **April 2nd**. Their preparation class will be on Saturday, **March 25th**, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Our next First Communion group will receive in October 2023.



SUMMER



“Potential” Summer Job Opening

We are currently seeking funding for a summer youth coordinator. This person will help plan and implement our summer program for youth. This will include our STERM camp (STEM with religion included), and at least a monthly opportunity for youth to gather. Will work with pastor on the weekly youth nights.

Once we know if we have secured the funding, we will let you know. Most of work will be in June, July, and August when youth are out of school, but will require some planning in the month of May.

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.



Children's Church Offering

The Children's Church/Sunday School will continue to take an offering each week. The kids have their own giving envelopes that 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 will be deposited into a savings account and the children will choose what outreach to give the money to-

ward later in the spring—possibly through ELCA Good Gifts (check them out at goodgifts.elca.org) or a program associated with our church.

This is a way to teach stewardship, and to show how together we can do more. Many kids receive payment for individual chores or an allowance for a week of chores. This is a great opportunity to talk with your kids about giving 10% to the church. If they earn a \$1 for chore, have them put 10 cents in an envelope they can bring to church on Sunday. If they earned \$5 this week, put in 50 cents. You might even hear “that’s not very much”, but the goal is to show them how they can come together and do more.

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

Summer Camp—2023




Welcome to All Pricing
Come as you are. Pay what you will.
Summer 2023

Full Price | Half Price | No Price

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 information.

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

Contact Pastor Julie with any questions.

2024 ELCA Youth Gathering



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](#)

He is Risen

**For This Puzzle
Go To John 20:29**

?? ? Bible Quiz ? ??

The night before Jesus' crucifixion, he demonstrates humble service by washing his disciples' _____.

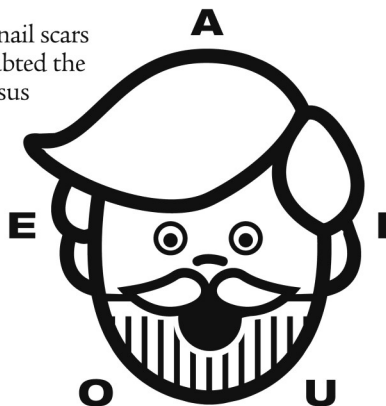
- A. hands
- B. feet
- C. hair
- D. supper dishes



SEEING AND BELIEVING

Until Thomas saw Jesus' nail scars with his own eyes, he doubted the resurrection. What did Jesus tell Thomas?

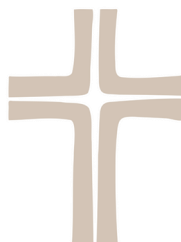
Directions:
Use the code to fill in the vowels and complete John 20:29, NIV.



"B _ c _ _ s _ y _ _ h _ v _ s _ _ n m _ ,
y _ _ h _ v _ b _ l _ _ v _ d ;
bl _ ss _ d _ r _ th _ s _ wh _ h _ v _ n _ t
s _ _ n _ nd y _ t h _ v _ b _ l _ _ v _ d ."

JOHN 20:29, NIV

Answer: "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." John 20:29, NIV



Good news flags

Use batik, a unique fabric-dyeing method, to create flags celebrating the good news of Christ's resurrection.

What you need:

- Colored chalk
- White linen fabric
- Washable gel glue
- Acrylic craft paint
- Textile medium
- Paintbrushes

What you do:

1. Cut fabric to the desired size and shape. Set it on a flat, protected surface. With chalk, lightly sketch an Easter design or message.
2. Completely cover the chalk lines with gel glue. Let dry.
3. Mix equal parts paint and textile medium. Paint the flag with that mixture, which makes paint permanent. Let dry.
4. Soak the dried fabric in warm water a few minutes. Then gently peel away the glue to reveal the unpainted areas. Lay flat to dry.
5. Hang the flags and celebrate!

Serving in April

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
2	Joan Ford	Barb Van Marter	2	Charleen Boland	Lisa Espinoza
9	Kris Friend	Linda Luplow	9	Susan Kelley	Chris Crump
16	Susan Kelley	Linda Lentner	16	Lynn Schomaker	Dawn Dalton
23	Dick Schomaker	John Whelton	23	Ruth Schomaker	Lisa Whelton
30	9:37am—One Service—Lisa Whelton		30	9:37am—One Service—Tim Grueber	

Sound Board Operators

2	Kris Friend	Makena Whelton
9	†	Makena Whelton
16	Madison Morgan	Makena Whelton
23	†	Makena Whelton
30	9:37am—One Service—Makena Whelton	

Video Screen Operators

2	Kris Friend	Tim Grueber
9	Charleen Boland	Tim Grueber
16	Mackenzie Morgan	Jeff Whelton
23	†	Tim Grueber
30	9:37am—One Service—Tim Grueber	

Head Ushers

2	Schomaker	Dalton/Whelton
9	Roth	Earnesty/Wizner
16	Wilson	Dawson/Hendrickson
23	Kelley	Friend/Beyerlein
30	9:37am—One Service—Dalton/Whelton	

Acolyte 10:30 a.m.

2	Ella Frollo
9	Hannah Wizner
16	Greyston Hendrickson
23	Harrison Salowitz
30	9:37am—One Service—Gabby Dalton



Altar Guild

2	†
9	All
16	†
23	Susan Kelley
30	Sue Bailey



April Librarian—Joyce Berg

Children's Church

2	Dave and Shelly Dawson
9	No Class—Easter
16	Dawn Earnesty & Stephanie Wizner
23	Rita Hendrickson & Tony Dancer
30	Joscelyn Whelton & Louise Roby

4/6 7pm—Maundy Thursday

Reader	Joyce Richardson
Prayers	Celina Gottlieb
Sound	†
Video	Kelly Phillion
Ushers	Glen Mack

4/7 7pm—Good Friday

Reader	John Schroeder
Prayers	No prayers
Sound	†
Video	Gus Hendrickson
Ushers	†



WEDNESDAYS 7pm

Head Usher	Readers	Sound Board	Video Screen	Prayers
5 No Service	No Service	No Service	No Service	No Service
12 Mike Clifford	Mike Clifford	†	Glen Mack	Mike Clifford
19 John Schroeder	Connie Dutcher	†	Connie Dutcher	Connie Dutcher
26 Mike Clifford	Glen Mack	†	Kelly Phillion	Donna Malburg

Ascension Lutheran Church - April 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
 <i>Palm Sunday</i>	 <i>Maundy Thursday</i>	 <i>Good Friday</i>	 <i>Easter Sunday</i>	**March Against Hunger—Donations in April matched at 10%** **Remember to submit your Walk To Jerusalem miles, last day 4/2**		<i>1 April Fools' Day</i> APRIL FOOLS' DAY
2 Palm Sunday 1st Communion 8am-Worship/Communion Pot Luck Between Services 10:30am-Worship/Communion/ Children's Church	3 10am-Grief Group 6:00pm-Women's Bible Study	4 11am-Bible Study-Zoom 6:15pm-Wellness Warriors	5 No Worship Today 7:30am-Food Pantry Truck Unload 9am-Sewing Group 11am-Weekend Food Bags 6:30pm-Scouts	6 Maundy Thursday 6pm-Soup Supper 7pm-Worship/Communion	7 Good Friday Office Closed 7pm-Worship	8
9 Easter 8am-Worship/Communion 10:30am-Worship/Communion/ Children's Church <i>He is Risen</i>	10 9am-Ascension Breakfast Club @ Sullivan's 10:30am-Grief Group 6:00pm-Women's Bible Study	11 11am-Bible Study-Zoom 6:15pm-Wellness Warriors	12 8am-Serve @ Food Pantry 11am-Weekend Food Bags 12pm-Council Reports Due 6:30pm-Scouts 7pm-Worship/Communion	13 5:30pm-100+ Women Who Care (FH) 6:30pm-Trustee Meeting	14 Office Closed	15
16 RaiseRight Due BP Screening Noisy Offering 8am-Worship/Communion 10:30am-Worship/Communion/ Children's Church 5pm-Confirmation-2nd yr	17 10am-Grief Group 12pm-Messenger Articles Due 6:00pm-Women's Bible Study 	18 Tax Day 6:15pm-Wellness Warriors 6:30pm-Council Mtg	19 Noisy Offering 9am-Sewing Group 11am-Weekend Food Bags 6:30pm-Scouts 7pm-Worship/Communion	20	21 Office Closed	22 Earth Day Earth DAY
23 8am-Worship/Communion 10:30am-Worship/Communion/ Children's Church	24 10am-Grief Group 6:00pm-Women's Bible Study Pastor Julie Vacation 4/17-4/29	25 6:15pm-Wellness Warriors	26 Administrative Professionals Day 11am-Weekend Food Bags 6:30pm-Scouts 7pm-Worship/Communion Messenger Mailed	27	28 Office Closed	29
30 Re-MEMBER-ing 9:37am-Worship/Communion/ Children's Church Confirmation-EXAMS DUE						 HE IS RISEN!

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

Ascension Lutheran Church

8695 Gratiot Road
Saginaw, MI 48609
Phone: 989-781-2170
www.ascensionlc.org

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Celebrate our Journey to Jerusalem



Palm Sunday Potluck

April 2, 2023

(in between services)

Bring your favorite
breakfast/brunch dish to pass.



Noisy Offering

We will receive a noisy offering on **April 16th and April 19th**. This offering will be received at the Synod Assembly for the following ministries. One area is an ELCA ministry focus and one is a Synod level ministry focus. 50% of the Synod Assembly offerings will be designated toward each area.

Synod Focus: Living Water Ministries Bridge Builder Fund

Bridge Builders brings high school age students from all over the country together at Stony Lake in New Era, MI for a week of faith formation, leadership development, and anti-racism training. Bridge Builders extends the ministry of Jesus by creating sacred space for diverse groups of young people to explore more fully Christ's call for us to love God and our neighbors while specifically exploring our responsibility to work for racial justice in response to that call.

ELCA Focus: Lutheran World Relief – Crisis in Ukraine Fund

Lutheran World Relief (LWR) affirms God's love for all people and continues Jesus's work of helping those in need by working to end poverty, injustice, and human suffering. Their Crisis in Ukraine Fund provides humanitarian aid for refugees and families in Poland and Ukraine including medical supplies and equipment, shelter and emergency cash, protection from exploitation and abuse, support to the Evangelical-Augsburg Church of St. Martin in Krakow, Poland, which established a hostel for Ukrainian women and children, and the shipping and distribution of LWR quilts and kits.



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Deadline for the May 2023 issue is: **Monday, April 17th at 12:00 (noon).**

Articles may be emailed to: ascensionlc@sbcglobal.net