

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

May 2023

Volume 44, Number 5

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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

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



Alleluia! Christ is Risen! This is what we proclaim when we gather for worship as we continue this Easter Season. There is new life all around us, and May is a great month to see all the happenings of spring awakenings and new life.

During the month of May, we will experience the celebration of those who are graduating—they are off on new adventures of work, school, and adulting! We are planning some baptisms, when we celebrate how Christ has come to us to claim us and bring us new life. We will celebrate confirmation where we plan on five of our young people affirming their baptismal promises and claiming their own faith in Jesus. And we will round out our May with the celebration of Pentecost on May 28th.

May is an exciting month. Some say busy—and that may be true. Yet, I believe that May signifies how our church is being made new every day. We see new people, we see some of the people we haven't seen in a while, new activities are beginning, new people are stepping forward in leadership and discipleship. I love the laughter, and the excitement as new things begin.

As we step forward in faith, let us hear the words we will hear on Pentecost (May 28th) from the book of Act 2.

- ¹⁷“In the last days it will be, God declares,
that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh,
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,
and your young men shall see visions,
and your old men shall dream dreams.
¹⁸Even upon my slaves, both men and women,
in those days I will pour out my Spirit;
and they shall prophesy.



Let us all dream, vision, imagine, and act—as the Holy Spirit moves us forward in mission.

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 7:00 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

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

May 7-Who is Christ?

May 14-How do I respond?

May 21-What about my sins?

May 28--no class

June 4-How can I be sure?

June 11-What should I do now?

June 18-What does it cost?

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. beginning May 7th.**

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.

May 7th

St. Thomas Lutheran Church, Cheboygan, MI and Rev. David Hueter; Synod Assembly 2023 and Bishop Criag Satterlee and Ms. Sandy Schlesinger, Vice President

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 six-week study began on **Monday, April 17, 2023 and meets at 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM** in the Digging Dunes room. Contact Joyce Richardson at 989-274-6787 by calling or texting.

All women are welcome!



Ascension Families: Michelle and TJ Midcalf; Judith Minster; Melissa, Russ, Madison, Mackenzie Morgan

May 14th

Zion Lutheran Church, Comstock Park, MI and Rev. Julie Schneider-Thomas

Ascension Families: Don Mossner; Marie Myers; Anthony, Kate, Angelo, Aspen, Elliot, Scarlett Naples

May 21st

Messiah Lutheran Church, Constantine, MI and Rev. Thomas Pederson

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: May 9th & 30th

Ascension Families: Arlene Neuenfeldt; Paul & Susan Nielsen; Jackie O'Dell

May 28th

Christ United Church, DeWitt, MI and Rev. Alex Aivars

Ascension Families: Janet O'Dell & Angela Saxton; Tom & Lori Page; Laraine Paquette



Please Remember Those on Ascension's Care List

PRAYING
FOR YOU

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

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

Joyce Storm—181 Evelyn, Saginaw, MI
48609

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

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

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

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

Jackie O'Dell—108 Fulton Street, Apt
405, St. Charles, MI 48655

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

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

**Mail a card, plan a visit, or say a
prayer for these members of our
church family**

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. 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.



May 7th	Available to Sponsor
May 14th	In honor of the anniversary of Steve and Kathy McNally
May 21st	To the Glory of God, by the Blehm Family
May 28th	To the Glory of God, by Susan Kelley



Food Pantry

Ascension is providing workers for the Center of HOPE Food Pantry on **June 14th**. Volunteers should arrive by **8:30 a.m.** at the pantry at 723 Emerson, Saginaw, MI 48607.

There is a Truck Unload and Shelf Stocking the first Wednesday of each month. Volunteers are always welcome, the next date is **May 3rd at 7:30 a.m.** 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.

Sewing Group

Check out their flyer on the Kiosk!

Ascension's Sewing Group will meet in the Fellowship Hall on **May 3rd and 17th** 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.

- They will take a break from June-August and return September 6th •



Office Closed

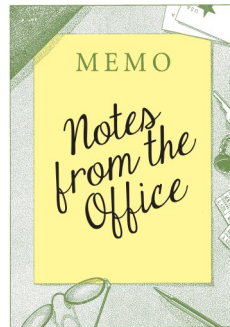


Lisa will be out of the office and the office will be closed on the following dates:

May 29th

June 5th, 13th

June 19th–22nd



Pastor Surgery

Pastor Julie will be out of the office the week of May 28th for minor surgery, please keep her in your prayers. Pastor David Spring, Assistant to the Bishop and Director for Evangelical Mission from our Synod office will lead us in worship on Sunday, May 28th and Wednesday May 31st.

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.



May Birthdays

			John Grolle
			Georgia Hickner
1st	Lytic Haupt	16th	Cathy Watz
	Josh Wardlow	17th	Craig Ford
2nd	Mikey Falkenberg		Leslie Soyster
	Breanna Kocsis	18th	Katelyn Arndt
	Maija Preston	19th	Jennifer Salowitz
	Lisa Stadler		Beau Turner
3rd	Rick Herren	21st	Elizabeth Kolb
	Lauren Huebner		John Robishaw
	Amy Zeitler	23rd	Mackenzie Morgan
4th	Nicki Crump	26th	Samantha Dalton
	Marie Myers		Victor Mancini
5th	Joshua Lopez		Carole Soule
7th	Brian Awad	27th	Allison Faerber
	Emily Dreyfus		Marv Lentner
8th	Dorothy Mayou	28th	Ashley Blehm
9th	Mary Collison		Sharon Boyd
11th	Lynn Staples		Eric Dunn
13th	Kathy Fleming	29th	Tanya Blehm

	Heather Darabos
	Susan Kelley
	Heidi McGrandy
	Don Mossner
30th	Cheryl Huebner
	Matt Wizner



May Anniversaries

1st	Scott and Tanya Blehm
2nd	Patrick and Bonnie Dalton
3rd	Michael and Lisa Randall
5th	Robert and Heath Darabos
	Donna and Duane Malburg
7th	Brent and Natalie Fleissner
11th	Terry and Jamie Waters
16th	Brian and Lisa Stadler
17th	Steve and Kathy McNally
25th	Bob and Debbie Beyerlein
	Josh and Malory Lopez
28th	Mark and Georgia Hickner
30th	Adam and Chelsea Houthoofd



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).

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.

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

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

Grief Support Group



Ascension has a new Grief Support Group. The group meets at the church on **Mondays 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!

RaiseRight Orders

Orders Due May 21st



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 Levi's Restaurant** at 5800 Brockway, 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: May 8, 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.

Thrivent Choice Dollars



Thank You!

We received \$467 over the last 12 months through Thrivent Financial for Lutherans' Thrivent Choice program. This program allows eligible members to designate Thrivent Financial's charitable dollars to organizations of their own choosing including their local congregation. Thank you Pr. Julie Bailey, Charleen Boland, Linda Lentner, Carol Schroeder, Judy Minster, Marilynn Christensen, and John Schroeder for your donations in the last 12 months. If you are a Thrivent Financial member and have not yet designated your dollars, consider Ascension. For more information about this program, contact your Thrivent Financial representative.

thank you

Thank you to the 100+ Women Who Care: Courtney Elisabeth (York) Favazza Memorial for the donation to Ascension's Weekend Food Bags Program. The program provides 65 bags weekly to elementary aged children in Swan Valley, Hemlock and St. Charles school districts with breakfast, lunch, dinner and snacks for the weekend when school is not providing food. The 100+ Women

Who Care: Courtney Elisabeth (York) Favazza Memorial was created by Kathy York and the website says the following: "I've created this giving circle as a vehicle to continue giving back to the mid-Michigan community in honor of my daughter. To get to know my amazingly spirited daughter, please read the story on the [About Courtney](#) page of this website. To join us in our quest to make the world a better place". Check out the website (and the group) at www.100womencourtelis.com.



Thank you to all who helped prepare the space to welcome the Risen Christ on Easter. It was a beautiful space to celebrate new life!



Time and Talent

Thank you to the 50 people who completed the Time and Talent forms. The forms help us identify how members would like to participate in the church. A perfect example being we had 5 new people interested in lawn mowing and they are now part of the mowing team. If you didn't fill out a form and still wish to do so, they can be filled out anytime. The form is located on our website or ask for one in the office.



to Ruth Schomaker and John Whelton, they each won a \$25 gift card for filling out their forms by March 31st.



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!

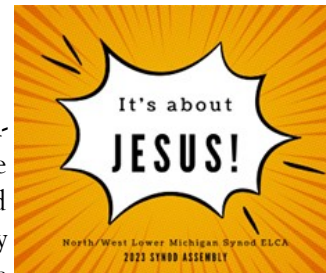
Mark your calendar for blood pressure screenings by the Parish Health Committee on the 3rd Sunday each month. The next one will be held on:

Sunday, May 21st.



North/West Lower Michigan Synod Assembly

The Synod Assembly of the North/West Lower Michigan Synod will be held on **May 5th-7th** in Mount Pleasant. The theme is "It's all about Jesus." Please keep all those who are attending in your prayers. May the Holy Spirit move within us as we dream, plan and gather to do the work of Jesus in our community. We collected **\$207.47** during the Noisy Offering, this offering will be received at the Synod Assembly for the following ministries equally; an ELCA ministry focus (Lutheran World Relief - Crisis in Ukraine Fund) and a Synod level ministry focus (Living Water Ministries Bridge Builder Fund).



Annual Spring Cleanup



The **Annual Church Spring Cleanup** will be held on **Saturday, May 13th at 9:00 a.m.** Please consider helping as there are many tasks to be completed. A sign-up sheet is posted on the Kiosk in the Gathering Area. Contact Tom Bailey, 989-239-3928 with any questions.

(Rain Date: Saturday, May 20th)

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



Budgeting: A Faith Practice



Have you ever considered that preparing and executing a budget is a faith practice? Creating a budget is a good first step in faithful financial stewardship. Many are unaware of how much money we spend in various aspects of our life.

One of the first steps in preparing a budget is looking at what you have been spending. When we begin with this step, we can be surprised at how much we spend on fast food, or coffee, or those little expenses many of us don't think about. This can be eye-opening when we come to see in print why we are just making ends meet or not saving as much as we think we could. This would also be the time to determine what debt you have, for mortgage, school loans, car loans, credit cards, etc.

Once you figure that out, then it is time to start preparing a budget. There are many online options for you to use, but the overall goal is not to spend more money than you bring in—and then even more so, begin to start working toward financial goals you have for the future. This may require cutting back on some things that aren't necessary or putting more money toward paying down debt.

One way to chip away at debt or to be intentional at saving is to make a “zero-balance” budget—meaning you spend what you plan to bring in.... no more, no less. You allocate money to giving, saving, retirement right from the start. Too often we give, save or put away what is left over, and without intentionality we discover there isn't anything left over.

Remember that all you have is first God's, so as a practice, don't forget to put aside some money to give away, including to the church. We call this first fruits giving. This is a practice of faith, giving to God as God first has given to us. When you can give joyfully in this way, you trust that God will provide just as God said.

It is never too early to teach the art of budgeting to children. Help them set some financial goals, and to begin the practice of giving as they plan.



Walk to Jerusalem



We did it! This Lent I challenged our congregation to participate in a 3,177-mile virtual journey to Jerusalem. Many accepted that challenge, traveling a total of 4,077 miles. This journey was not only meant to get us more physically active, but also intended to reconnect and nourish our relationships as ONE congregation. It wasn't so much about the destination, but about our walk TOGETHER. On Palm Sunday we were able to celebrate our arrival with breakfast - allowing for more fellowship and the building of relationships. A special thank you to all who participated. As we look into the future, I pray that we continue developing these bonds through more group activities.

On a side note, the bulletin board located on the outside of the sanctuary doors which housed our “Walk to Jerusalem” map has been swapped out. “We are the Church” will now be displayed. The intension of this bulletin board is to share our favorite congregational pictures. Please feel free to bring in and exhibit past or present pictures for all of us to share. What better way to build on our foundation than through our memories.

—Rita Hendrickson



Blood Drive

Our first blood drive of 2023 was a success! Given a goal of 15 pints by Versiti Blood Center of Michigan, Ascension's blood drive came in just under with a total of 13 donor attempts and 12 pints given. Because of your kindness and generosity, many people may receive the gift of a lifetime. To these people, you are heroes.

A special thank you to Pastor Julie and Gus Hendrickson who donated a \$100 Meijer gift card to be given to one participant. Congratulations to Ginny Whelton who was presented with this gift card after her name was drawn at the 10:30 a.m. service on March 26th.

Our next blood drive is scheduled for **June 1st from 2:30 PM to 7:00 p.m.** in the Fellowship Hall. Our goal for this drive is 15 pints. Currently there are a total of 8 donors who are signed up with 15 more appointment slots available. If you would like to donate, please visit https://donate.michigan.versiti.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/151970 or call Lisa during regular church business hours to get your name on the list. As always, walk-ins are welcomed!

"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.

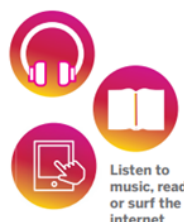
Tips For a Successful Blood Donation

It's normal to be a little nervous if you haven't donated before. Here are some tips to make your experience a positive one.

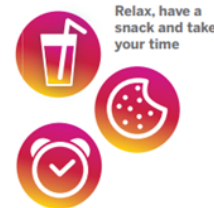
Before



During



After



Most deferrals are not for a lifetime. Below are a few reasons you may not be able to donate.

MEDICATION You can donate three days after finishing antibiotics for an infection. You can donate if you are taking antibiotics to prevent an infection, for example, following dental procedures. If you are taking antibiotics for acne, please check with staff to see if you're able to donate.

PREGNANCY Women who are pregnant should not donate. Please wait to donate until 6 weeks after giving birth. Women who are breast-feeding are eligible to donate.

TATTOOS If applied by a state licensed facility and fully healed, you can donate blood. If not, a 3-month waiting period is required from the time the tattoo was applied.

TRAVEL If you have traveled to an area impacted by malaria in the past year, we ask that you wait 3 months before donating after returning from that area. If you have ever had malaria, you must be symptom-free for three years. For more information, please visit [Versiti.org](https://www.versiti.org).

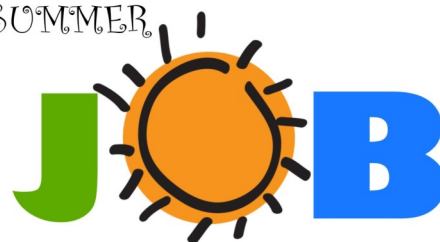
WHEN YOU DONATE

- Plan for the donation to take about an hour
- Bring photo ID with listed date of birth (e.g. driver's license or state ID)
- Know the name and dosage of any medications you take
- Know the dates of any out-of-country travel in past 3 years

For more facts on giving blood
please visit

<https://versiti.org/ways-to-give/about-blood-donation/blood-donation-faqs>

SUMMER



First Communion

Blessings to the following youth who received their **First Communion** on **April 2, 2023**

Brooklyn Becker • Olivia Trepkowski • Eliza Trepkowski • Harbor Weber

Welcome to the Lord's Table



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**

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.



Confirmation is
Sunday, May 21, 2023
at 10:30 a.m.



Michigan's Adventure—June 27, 2023



We are planning our annual trip to Michigan's Adventure on **Tuesday, June 27th**. We will meet at the church at **7:45 a.m.** with a planned departure at 8 a.m. This event is open to all members of the congregation. Elementary aged children must have an adult accompany them. Permission slips are necessary for all Middle and High School Youth attending. **Cost is \$70.** Checks should be made payable to Ascension Lutheran Church. Friends are welcome. Bring sunscreen and snacks for the bus. The park is "cashless" so you will need a credit/debit card or prepaid card for purchases including food in the park. There are kiosks to convert cash into the prepaid card if necessary. Sign up on the Kiosk in the gathering area and grab a permission slip. They are also on our website. **Payment must be received by June 12, 2023.**



Children's Church Offering



On **May 7th**, the Children's Church/Sunday School students will choose what outreach projects and programs to give the offering they've collected all school year. They will learn that when they come together and give a little bit each week, they can do big things.

Although Children's Church will end on May 14th until September, they can continue to give each time they are in church. They can put their offering in the plate that is passed and if they designate it with as children's church on the envelope OR with their name and #, it will be included in the next program year's total. If you need their number, ask Lisa in the office or check the sheet next to the door in the Sunday School classroom.

Children's Church—End of Year Celebration



The Children's Church program year will come to end on May 14th at the 10:30 a.m. worship service. There will be a small celebration during their class time to celebrate the year. If you attended any of the year's classes or were a teacher, please feel free to join the class that day.

Pop Can Fundraiser



The youth of all ages 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 Michigan's Adventure, 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 **no later than the next week.**



THANK YOU to everyone who donates! In the last 12 months \$800 in cans has been donated

Pull Out Your Bibles for this Quiz and Go To: Acts 2:15

?? ?

Bible Quiz

? ??

According to Peter, at what time of day did the Holy Spirit come upon the disciples on Pentecost?

- A. 9 a.m.
- B. Noon
- C. 3:30 p.m.
- D. 9 p.m.



Spirit SPINNER

For Pentecost, make a thaumatrope, a spinning toy that creates an optical illusion of motion.

What you need:

- White paper
- Cup
- Scissors
- Pencil and markers
- Plastic drinking straw
- Glue



What you do:

1. Using the cup's circular shape, trace two identical circles on the paper. Carefully cut them out.
2. In pencil, draw a person's head on one circle. Then place the blank circle on top and use the image beneath to guide you in drawing a flame above the head.
3. Color the two images with markers.
4. Apply glue to the backs of the circles and sandwich the top of the straw between them so it looks like a lollipop. Let dry.
5. Roll the straw quickly between your hands to view a mini motion picture.

Remember to celebrate your mom on Mother's Day

For This Puzzle

Go To Acts 2:1-4



Wind, fire & spirit

Acts 2 describes the amazing events of Pentecost, when the apostles received the Holy Spirit.

Directions: The last letter(s) of each word is the beginning letter of the next. Fill in the missing words to complete Acts 2:1-4, NIV.

- | | |
|-------------------|-----------|
| 1. HEAV | 6. OGETHE |
| 2. ABLE | 7. ES |
| 3. AY OF PENTECOS | 8. ONGUE |
| 4. ONGUE | 9. A |
| 5. PIRI | 10. IND |



"When the ³ came, they were all ⁶ in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent ¹⁰ came from ¹ and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They ⁹ what seemed to be ⁴ of fire that separated and came to ⁷ on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy ⁵ and began to speak in other ⁸ as the Spirit ² them."

ACTS 2:1-4, NIV

Serving in May

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
7	Marty Debozy	Joscelyn Whelton	7	Susan Kelley	Lisa Espinoza
14	Edna Bell	Chris Crump	14	Lynn Schomaker	Chris Crump
21	Tom Erskine	Dawn Dalton	21	Ruth Schomaker	Dawn Dalton
28	Joan Ford	Shelly Dawson	28	Charleen Boland	Lisa Whelton

Sound Board Operators

7	Kris Friend	Makena Whelton
14	†	Makena Whelton
21	†	†
28	†	Makena Whelton

Video Screen Operators

7	Kris Friend	†
14	†	Tim Grueber
21	†	†
28	Melissa Albosta	Tim Grueber

Head Ushers

7	Roth	Earnesty/Wizner
14	Wilson	Dawson/Hendrickson
21	Kelley	Friend/Beyerlein
28	Schomaker	Dalton/Whelton

Acolyte 10:30 a.m./7p.m.

7	Hannah Wizner/Harrison Salowitz
14	Greyston Hendrickson
21	Ella Frolo
28	Gabby Dalton

Altar Guild

7	Sue Bailey
14	†
21	Susan Kelley
28	†

Lawn Mowers

Crump/Wilson
Roth/Whelton
Whelton/Whelton
Dalton/Aldrich

Children's Church

7	Rita Hendrickson
14	Rita Hendrickson-End of Yr Celebration
21	<i>Summer Break—Classes</i>
28	<i>Return in September</i>

May Librarian—Marty Debozy

WEDNESDAYS 7pm

	Head Usher	Readers	Sound Board	Video Screen	Prayers
3	John Schroeder	Joyce Richardson	†	Glen Mack	None
10	Glen Mack	John Schroeder	†	Kelly Phillion	Donna Malburg
17	Mike Clifford	Mike Clifford	†	Connie Dutcher	Mike Clifford
24	John Schroeder	Connie Dutcher	†	Connie Dutcher	Connie Dutcher
31	Mike Clifford	Glen Mack	†	Glen Mack	Celina Gottlieb

Ascension Lutheran Church - May 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
 <p>A DAILY PRAYER Since God will be my end Let him be my beginning. So that I may fully live Instead of falling, straying, sinning. -Angelus Silesius</p>	<p>1 10:30am-Grief Group 6:00pm-Women's Bible Study</p>	<p>2 11am-Bible Study-Zoom 6:15pm-Wellness Warriors 6:30pm-Endowment Mtg</p>	<p>3 7:30am-Food Pantry Truck Unload 9am-Sewing Group 11am-Weekend Food Bags 6:30pm-Scouts 7pm-Worship/Communion</p>	<p>4 National Day of Prayer 5:30pm-FH Use 6:30pm-Trustee Meeting 6:30pm-ELCA Saginaw @ Ressurrection</p>	<p>5 Office Closed</p>	<p>6 11am-FH Rental</p>
<p>7 Graduation Sunday 8am-Worship/Communion 9:15am-Adult SS 10:30am-Worship/Communion/Children's Church</p> <p>Pastor at Synod Assembly, May 7th-9th →</p>	<p>8 9am-Ascension Breakfast Club @ Levi's 10:30am-Grief Group 6:00pm-Women's Bible Study</p>	<p>9 11am-NO BIBLE STUDY 5:45pm-Kitchen Rental 6:15pm-Wellness Warriors</p>	<p>10 11am-Weekend Food Bags 12pm-Council Reports Due 6:30pm-Scouts 7pm-Worship/Communion</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12 Office Closed</p>	<p>13 9am-Spring Cleanup</p>
<p>14 Mother's Day 8am-Worship/Communion 9:15am-Adult SS 10:30am-Worship/Communion/Baptisms Children's Church 12pm-FH Rental</p> 	<p>15 10:30am-Grief Group 6:00pm-Women's Bible Study</p>	<p>16 11am-Bible Study-Zoom 5:45pm-Kitchen Rental 6:15pm-Wellness Warriors 6:30pm-Council Mtg</p>	<p>17 9am-Sewing Group 11am-Weekend Food Bags 6:30pm-Scouts 7pm-Worship/Communion</p>	<p>18 Ascension Day</p> 	<p>19 Office Closed</p>	<p>20 9am-Spring Cleanup (Rain Date)</p>
<p>21 RaiseRight Due BP Screening 8am-Worship/Communion 9:15am-Adult SS 10:30am-Worship/Communion/Confirmation</p>	<p>22 10:30am-Grief Group 6:00pm-Women's Bible Study</p>	<p>23 11am-Bible Study-Zoom 6:15pm-Wellness Warriors</p>	<p>24 11am-Weekend Food Bags 6:30pm-Scouts 7pm-Worship/Communion</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26 Office Closed</p>	<p>27</p>
<p>28 Pentecost 8am-Worship/Communion 10:30am-Worship/Communion</p>  <p>Pastor Out of Office →</p>	<p>29 Memorial Day Office Closed</p> 	<p>30 11am-NO BIBLE STUDY 6:15pm-Wellness Warriors</p>	<p>31 11am-Weekend Food Bags 6:30pm-Scouts 7pm-Worship/Communion Messenger Mailed</p>			

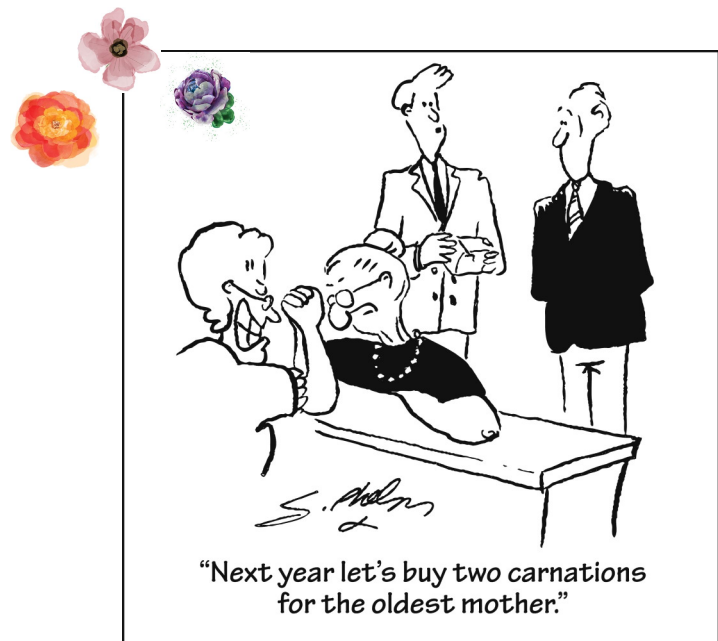
Prayer Chain requests should be called to Barb Van Marter at 989-781-7803

Ascension Lutheran Church

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