

The Messenger

Ascension Lutheran Church

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

Volume 45, Issue 10

October 2024

Hidden Harvest Donation

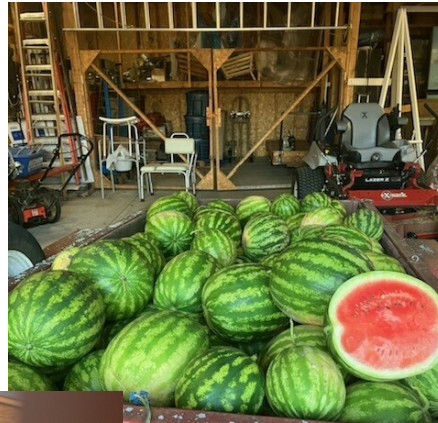
Thank you to Tom & Sue Bailey and to all others who put their hard work and sweat into our watermelon garden this year. We had 247 watermelons harvested!! Of course we had a contest guessing how many were in the patch and Edna Bell was the top "guesser" with 239. Runners up were Rita Hendrickson (158), Ethan Earnesty (147) and the lowest guess was Stephanie Wizner with 7.

Special points of interest:

- Sewing Group Oct 2 & 16
- Pet Blessing 10/5
- Food Pantry 10/9
- ABC Breakfast 10/14
- Pr. Julie Vacation 10/17
- Grief Support 10/21
- Stewardship Campaign (pages 2 & 10)
- Craft Fair/Rummage/Bake Sale/Luncheon 11/2

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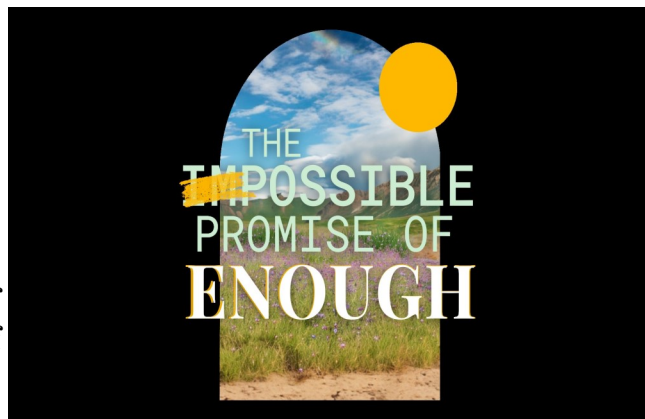


Message From Pastor Julie

God's ~~Im~~Possible Promise of Enough

God's promises are at the core of the witness of Scripture, but often we live in the in-between, liminal space between the anticipation of what might be possible and the inheritance of God's goodness.

As we intentionally engage in stewardship this fall, we will explore the ~~Im~~possible Promise of Enough. Even though we confess that Jesus will provide for all our needs, we struggle grasping that there will be enough. We lose trust, faith, and hope. During this time we will explore the Impossible promise of Generosity, the Impossible Promise of Abundance, the Impossible Promise of Safety, and the Impossible Promise of Kin-dom.



Ascension is moving forward with sets of values, one of which is the value of courage and growth: that we reach toward possibilities. This is in partnership with the value of Faithful Stewardship of Time, Talent and Treasures: Sharing all that we have so no one will be in need.

Stewardship begins with God and what God has done, it does not begin with us. Think of a story where you've experienced God's presence, love, grace, and/or mercy recently? This might be a walk in God's creation, a conversation with a friend, or even the words of a favorite hymn. Consider sharing that story in worship, with a friend, or on a social media platform as we share the abundance of God's grace in our lives.

Stewardship is a discipleship practice, it is part of what we do as we grow in faith. It seems impossible sometimes, especially when we buy into the false narrative that there isn't enough. I encourage you to engage in prayer, worship, and stewardship as we embrace the Possible Promise of Enough.

Let us pray: Gracious God, thank you for all the things you have entrusted to our care: family and friends, food and shelter, money and talents. Be with us as we reflect on the ways you are present with us through this congregation. Guide us as we decide how much money to give to the congregation and beyond so that we can help do your work in the world. Amen.

Check Out the Donation Card on Page 10

Pastor Vacation

Pastor Julie will be out of the office for vacation

October 17th—November 3rd

Please call the church office (*or voicemail after hours*) for emergency contact numbers.



Sunday Adult Study



We will begin meeting **September 8th at 9:15 a.m.** and will be doing a study on the gospel of Luke.

The gospel of Luke invites the reader to explore the story of Jesus and his mission as the Messiah, God's chosen one. It is from Luke we hear the primary narrative of Jesus' birth to the stark images of his crucifixion. Luke describes how God has broken into the world by sending Jesus. We will not study all of the gospel of Luke in class, and yet this is a good time to commit yourself to reading the parts we don't study together.

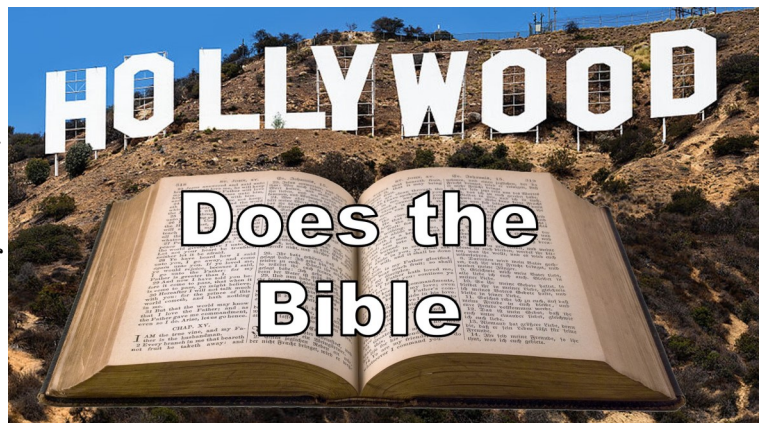
We will begin Year C of our Lectionary cycle (the three year preaching cycle) in December as the new church year begins with Advent. Luke will be the central gospel in this year's lectionary.

- September 29: Let God Be God! (Luke 4:14-30)
- October 6: What Was Jesus Doing? (Luke 7:1-7)
- October 13: Why Must Jesus Die? (Luke 9:18-36)
- October 20: Pastor Soyster teaching
- October 27: Pastor Soyster teaching
- November 3: And Grace Will Lead Me Home (Luke 15:1-32)
- November 10: Pastor Soyster teaching
- November 17: Ah, Holy Jesus, How Hast Thou Offended? (Luke 23:26-49)
- November 24: How Did Jesus' Resurrection Change the World? (Luke 24:13-35)

Announcing a limited Bible study series: Hollywood Does the Bible October 20th, 27th & November 10th

Pastor John Soyster will lead this short series that compares the text of the Bible with the way some films and videos present familiar Scripture stories. Along the way we'll talk about what the Bible does and does not say and the relationship between the *letter* and the *spirit* of the text. All are welcome!!

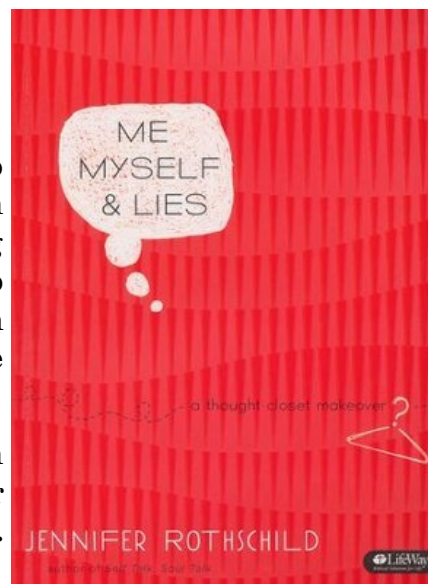
October 20th, 27th & November 10th
9:15 a.m.
Digging Dunes Meeting Room



Monday Women's Bible Study

Words are powerful. Especially the words women speak to themselves. All too often, what they say to themselves when they lie in bed at night or look in the mirror in the morning is not even close to the words God wants them to speak to their souls. This 7-session study will encourage you to clean out the junk in your mind and replace hidden negative thoughts with positive truths from God's word.

The Mary to Martha Women's Bible Study will run **September 9—October 21, 2024** with Jennifer Rothschild's "Me, Myself, & Lies" at **6:00 p.m.—7:30 p.m.** every Monday.



Jennifer is a nationally known author and teacher known for her substance and a down-to-earth teaching style.

Participant books are \$10.00 per person. Please call or text Joyce Richardson at 989-274-6787 by August 28th to secure a book. Questions can also be directed to Joyce.

Our Mary to Martha Women's Bible Study is open to women of all ages, and stages of faith, members & non-members, as we seek a closer relationship with our Lord. We know that you'll be blessed by God's Word and fellowship with other women, and we'll be blessed by your presence.

Tuesday Morning Bible Study

Our Tuesday morning Bible study is reading through Ephesians, moving on to 1 & 2 Thesalonians, and then 1 & 2 Timothy.

All are welcome to join us. Enter the code for the zoom meeting or let Pastor Julie know and she can email or Facebook message you the invite.

No Tuesday morning bible study
during Pastor Julie's vacation:

- October 22nd
- October 29th

www.zoom.com

Meeting ID: 871 0929 4561

Passcode: 099583



Bishop's Newsletter

The bishop's latest newsletter can be found here:

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

STAFF

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

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Kris Yackel-Friend, President
 Lori Schultz, Vice President
 Connie Dutcher, Treasurer
 Stephanie Becker, Secretary
 Susan Kelley, Financial Secretary

MINISTRIES

Glen Mack, Congregational Care
 Gus Hendrickson, 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

Pastor Email: pr_julie@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

ELCA Saginaw Website: elcasaginawcounty.weebly.com

ELCA Saginaw Facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/elcasaginawcounty

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.



1st Felicity Potter
 Larry Preston
 2nd Paul Lopez
 4th Sawyer Gottlieb
 5th Abigail Kolb
 Peggy Lockhart
 Sue Wiggins
 6th Tammy Haupt
 Laura Mancini
 7th Joshua Lopez
 8th Shelly Dawson
 11th Mike Faerber
 12th Stephanie Becker
 Lori Latty
 Dietrich Mackel
 Susie Nielsen
 Olivia Wagner
 13th Bonnie Cavendish
 Emma Frollo
 Tom Page
 Debi Pretzer
 Lee Turner
 Jeff Wenzel

15th Brian Denman
 Norm Hamilton, Jr.
 16th Darcy Lobsiger-Braden
 17th Travis Lopez
 Will Salowitz
 18th Seraphim Darabos
 Mary Ecker
 Hunter Stoddard
 Halie Turner
 20th Sue Bailey
 Ella Bostwick
 Benny Houthoofd
 Madison Morgan
 21st Tom Bailey
 Raylee Darabos
 Dwayne Hostetler
 24th Patricia Joyce
 25th Lucas Dreyfus
 Amy Fahrenbruch
 Laraine Paquette
 26th Mackenzie Dalton
 28th Michael Clark
 29th Mitchell Andrus
 Rylan Awad
 30th Traci Collier
 31st Renae Dickie
 Jaina Kittle
 Noel Wagner
 Debbie Weadock



8th Jenny and Lisa Maier
 10th Andy and Kris Friend
 Leonard and Ruth Howell
 Tom and Lori Page
 11th Dwayne and Melissa Hostetler
 13th Bryan and Sarah Carroll
 15th Logan and Samantha Dalton
 19th Joe and Melissa Albosta
 20th John and Barb Robishaw
 Mike and Debbie Weadock
 22nd Bob and Peggy Darling
 24th Brett and Haley Phillion
 29th

Nich-



Please Remember Those on Ascension’s Care List

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

- Rita Bolger—Edgewood Assisted Living, 4850 Gratiot Rd. #D7
Saginaw, MI 48638

Dick Chilton—17935 Roosevelt Rd, Rm #5, Hemlock, MI 48626

Pat Joyce—8044 Winchester Ct. Saginaw, MI 48609

Peggy Lockhart—6249 Wild Oak Dr., Saginaw, MI 48603

Esther Mack—285 S. Miller Rd., Saginaw, MI 48609
- Marie Myers—11145 Morningstar Dr., Saginaw, MI 48609

Arlene Neuenfeldt—11819 Dice Rd., Freeland, MI 48623

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

Joyce Storm—1202 Weiss St., Room 404, Saginaw, MI 48602

Lee Turner—6371 Birchview Dr., Saginaw, MI 48609
- Dan Wenzel—9065 Bray Rd., Saginaw, MI 48609

Barry Wiggins—1202 Weiss St, Room 507, Saginaw, MI 48602

Ruth Williams—Brookdale Saginaw, 2485 McCarty Rd., Saginaw, MI 48603

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

PRAYING
FOR YOU

Prayers of the Week

Our 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.

October 6th
St. Peter Lutheran Church, Unionville, MI and Rev. Jeffrey Bonn
Ascension Families: Pat & Dave Marceills; Wayne & Dorothy Mayou; Dana, Nathan, Alex McClure

October 13th
Grace Lutheran Church, Vassar, MI and their supply pastors
Ascension Families: Heidi & Mike McGrandy; Kathy & Steve McNally; Jessica, Matt, Connor, Julie McRae

October 20th
Lebanon Lutheran Church, Whitehall, MI and Rev. Douglas Ogden
Ascension Families: Julie Meschke; TJ & Michelle Midcalf; Judi Minster

October 27th
Zion Lutheran Church, Woodland, MI and their supply pastors
Ascension Families: Tom & Barb Mitchell; Russ, Melissa, Madison, Mackenzie Morgan; Don Mossner



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 2024 flower chart is posted on the door of the Acolyte room and **remaining dates for 2024 are Oct 27th, Dec 1st, 8th, 22nd.**



- October 6th

October 13th

October 20th

October 27th
- In honor of their 53rd anniversary, by Tom and Barb Mitchell

In honor of their anniversary, by Kris and Andy Friend

To the Glory of God, by Tom and Sue Bailey

Available to Sponsor

Words Matter



“²For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. ³If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. ⁴Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. ⁵So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits.” --James 3:2-5a

Words matter. This is nothing new. All of us have been hurt, exploited, mischaracterized by words of others.

We are moving into a very difficult time in our country. As the political climate ramps up toward the election, there will be words spoken that are intended to sway and harm. Disagreeing on policies is one thing, and those issues need to be shared. However, name-calling, mischaracterizing and making fun of someone else is NOT! James writes in 3:10: “From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so.”

We are called to be a public church. Voting is one of the ways we are involved in civil engagement. Scripture reveals that God is present in all realms of life, including political life. The church understands that the government is a means through which God works to preserve creation and build a more peaceful and just social order in a sinful world. Our baptismal promises include to strive for justice and peace in all the world. As each of us engage in our civil responsibilities, we do so with our theological understanding of God at work in our world. We participate in the electoral process as people of faith, and as a church we must be strictly nonpartisan.

Being nonpartisan does not mean saying nothing, especially when the actions of candidates or supporters behave and say things that are not of value. As people of faith, it is our responsibility to speak up when actions and words are unkind or hurtful. Again, disagreements are part of the discernment and this can and must be done with using our words carefully. We must also speak out against those who use hateful speech.

It seems like we have come to a time in society where hateful rhetoric and even physical violence is our go-to when we disagree. As people of faith, we can set an example. We can't remain quiet, for some will see that as agreement. We must speak out, we must be anti-violent, not non-violent; anti-racist, not non-racist, active, not passive.

Together, we can pray for our country without a partisan slant. I trust we all want what we see as best for our country, even though we disagree on what that may be. In Matthew 5:24, Jesus tells us to love our enemies and pray for those who hurt us.

As people of the Word, Jesus Christ himself, let us be mindful of the language we use, the language we agree to listen to, and the Word that we confess, Jesus. Let this be our witness and bold proclamation in the midst of struggle, disagreement, disappointment and concern. Hint—God still wins in the end. Let's not lose all hope.

—Pastor Julie Bailey

Pet Blessing—Saturday, October 5, 2024



Pastor Julie and Bailey will be available at the Pavilion for a pet blessing from **10:30 a.m. – noon on Saturday, October 5th**. All pets are welcome and will be blessed, though Pastor Julie reserves the right on whether she will hold the pet or not (i.e. snakes). Friends are welcome.

If raining, snowing, or too cold, Pastor Julie will greet and bless pets under the portico (awning over front door).

Attention College Students

Please update the church with your current college address, so that we may keep in touch with you. This includes your physical address, as well as any update in an email or online contact. Thank you!



Phone Number Changes

Have you cancelled your landline in the last few years? Did you update the church with your current phone numbers? The church database has many landline numbers and we suspect some of them have gone to cell phone service only. You can call or email updates to the church office at 989-781-2170 or ascensionlc@sbcglobal.net. Thank you!

Looking for Reliable Resources?

Have you ever needed to find someone to help with a problem (*plumber, electrician, housekeeper, roofer, etc.*) and didn't know how to find someone reliable? The solution may be found in a list of reliable businesses recommended by people you know.

There is a notebook of reliable business recommendations now in the library on the shelf below the book return box.

A few recommendations have already been put in the book. Please feel free to add as many as you have. The recommendation forms are in the pocket on the inside front cover of the notebook. It would be nice to have a number of entries in each category—either your own business or ones you have successfully used. Feel free to add notes or endorse entries already included.

If you have any questions, contact Marty Debozy (989-642-8135) or Lori Schultz (989-239-3076)

Grief Support Group—3rd Monday at 10:30 a.m.

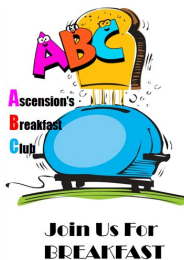
The new 13 week session of Grief Share did not produce the turnout as hoped, so the Grief Support Group will continue meeting informally on the 3rd Monday of the month at 10:30 a.m. There are no requirements to share, no pressure, and everyone is welcome! This is not just a group of people from Ascension, it is open to the community, so feel free to share with anyone you know struggling with grief and may want to talk or just listen. If you have any questions about the Grief Support Group, do not hesitate to contact Linda Lentner at 989-274-7418 or linda.lentner@gmail.com.

Wellness Warriors—Tuesdays 6:15 p.m.

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



Ascension Breakfast Club (ABC)—October 14th



All who are available for breakfast are invited to join others from Ascension for a time of fellowship and food on the second Monday of each month. We will meet at **9 a.m. at Sullivan's at 5235 Gratiot Rd., in Saginaw**. Each person is responsible for the cost of their own breakfast. You don't need to prepare anything or clean up, just show up.

Sewing Group

Do you like to sew or quilt? Ascension's Sewing Group meets in the Fellowship Hall from 9:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m. on the dates below. Bring your sewing supplies and machine (not required) and join us for fun and fellowship. Contact Sandy Graham with any questions at 989-781-1619.



October 2nd & 16th • November 6th & 20th • December 4th & 18th

RaiseRight Orders Due October 13th

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 are due a week early due to Pastor's vacation)*

Homebound Outreach

Are you available and willing to visit someone in our congregation who is no longer able to attend? If you might be willing to share some time with one of our homebound members, please see Pastor Julie.



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, October 20th.**

Blood Drive



Thank you to all who donated, or attempted to donate at our blood drive in September. A total of 15 units were collected. Our final drive of the year is scheduled for **December 19th, 2:30pm—7:00 p.m.** If you haven't signed up, and are interested, please sign up [online](#) or contact the church office for available donation times.

Ascension Lutheran Church 2024 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

THE
IMPOSSIBLE
PROMISE OF
ENOUGH

Yes, I want to Support our Ministry!

- Bring this card with you to worship on or before November 24, 2024
- Mail it to the church office (8695 Gratiot Rd., Saginaw, MI 48609)

Name: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

General Fund Giving Gift Amount: \$ _____
Frequency: ☐ One-Time ☐ Yearly ☐ Monthly ☐ Weekly ☐ Other: _____

Building/Mortgage Giving Gift Amount: \$ _____
Frequency: ☐ One-Time ☐ Yearly ☐ Monthly ☐ Weekly ☐ Other: _____

Other (ministry): _____ Giving Gift Amount: \$ _____
Frequency: ☐ One-Time ☐ Yearly ☐ Monthly ☐ Weekly ☐ Other: _____

Ascension Lutheran Church Endowment Fund

Did you know that Ascension has an Endowment Fund that is separate from the general fund or mortgage. It is the congregation's investment created in 2006 "to provide for mission work beyond the operational budget". This is not new!

Each year the Endowment Committee meets with Tri-Star Trust advisors to review the invested funds and to determine the interest amount available to award educational scholarships and to support outreach ministries of Ascension which all support our mission to "...boldly make Christ's vision known". This year Ascension was blessed and able to support the following as Christ has instructed:

- Mackenzie Morgan – educational scholarship (gain knowledge): \$1,700
- ELCA Youth Gathering (make disciples): \$2,000
- Weekend Food Bags (feed the hungry): \$2,000
- Youth Worship Programs (know the Lord): \$926
- Sewing Group (give to the needy): \$2,000
- Women's Bible Study (grow in faith): \$500
- College Student Outreach/Care Packages (love others): \$500

So how did this Endowment Fund come about? Gifts celebrating special occasions and memorials were specifically donated for endowment. We would like to see this fund grow so that more ministries could be blessed. When remembering the loss of a loved one or celebrating a birthday, wedding, or anniversary you could give honoring the person(s) or event. Larger gifts can be given through bequests, retirement or estate assets, life insurance, etc. Gifts to the Endowment Fund are tax deductible.

Endowment money is not to replace your regular giving. Please continue to provide Ascension with your regular offering as money for the general fund and mortgage are vital. Gifts to the Endowment Fund are over and above your regular giving.

Want more information or perhaps to join the committee? Contact any of the Endowment Committee members: Tracy Aldrich; Dave Becker, Jr.; Joyce Berg; Tony Dancer; or Sara Gregor. Tracy and Sara's 3-year terms are ending on 12/31, we are looking for 2 more members.

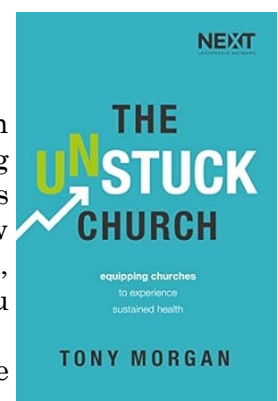
---Submitted by Sara Gregor

"Let us not grow weary in doing good..." Galatians 6:9

The Unstuck Church: Equipping Churches to Experience Sustained Health

I have been reading this book and find that this might lead to good conversation as a congregation as we move forward in our mission from God. I will be setting up a time for some book discussions—online and/or in-person to talk about this book. I have sent some of you notes from the introduction of the book and I know some have already purchased it. You can purchase the book through Amazon, thriftbooks.com, eBay, christianbook.com, & Barnes & Noble. I will keep you posted about upcoming discussion dates.

-Pastor Julie





**fall
EVENT SALES**

**NOVEMBER 2, 2024
10am – 3pm**

CRAFT FAIR
25+ vendors!
Support local talent and families to find a wide variety of unique gifts and crafts.

BAKE SALE
Enjoy a selection of cookies, bars, breads and snacks available for purchase.

NO CLOTHES RUMMAGE
A NO CLOTHES Rummage sale will take place during the event. Enjoy this INDOOR option with clean and gently used items.

LUNCH AVAILABLE
A light lunch will be available for purchase, includes a drink.

DIRECT QUESTIONS ON CRAFT FAIR TO:
LISA 989-529-4400

DIRECT QUESTIONS ON BAKE SALE & RUMMAGE TO:
LORI 989-239-3076 OR SUSAN 989-239-4783

Ascension Lutheran Church
8695 Gratiot, Saginaw 48609
(across from Home Depot)
989-781-2170

Sound System / Capital Improvement Fundraisers

Can You Hear Me Now??!—By the time you read this, the short answer will be yes. The congregation has generously given \$23,390 (*as of September 17th*). The sound system cost was \$16,879. **Thank you to everyone who has donated!** This has given us a great start on the capital improvement fund to cover expenditures the church may need, such as video projector, furnace, parking lot, flooring, musical equipment, etc.

Craft Fair, Bake Sale, No Clothes Rummage Sale, & Luncheon What do we need?

Craft Fair vendors—The cost is \$30 per table and includes 1 lunch ticket. Registration forms are on the kiosk and at ascension.org under Forms. Contact Lisa with questions.

Baked Goods Donations—please sign up on the kiosk, to ensure we have enough items please let us know your baked good & approximate quantity.

Workers—We are hoping to have 2 shifts; 9am—12:30pm includes set up and 12:30pm—4pm includes cleanup. We would like 2 volunteers at each shift to be at each the cashier, the bake sale table, and the rummage tables. Sign up on the kiosk if you can volunteer to help.

Luncheon—Celina Gottlieb, Kris Friend and Glen Mack are heading up the “for purchase lunch” held in our kitchen. Please contact one of them directly with any questions or to help.

Rummage Sale (*we are ready*)—This is an “inside” No Clothes Rummage Sale. The items have been collected, priced and sorted. Contact Lori Schultz or Susan Kelley with questions.

Lutheran World Relief—Noisy Offering

The Noisy offering collected the week of September 15th was \$370.15. This will be sent to LWR cover postage/shipping of the quilts and school bags. THANK YOU!!



THANK YOU—Lawn Care Team



Thank you to all those who have taken care of our grounds over the last 7 months including spring cleaning, lawn mowing, weed control, ditch cleaning, tree and shrub trimming, and equipment maintenance. We have a beautiful facility because of the volunteer hours you put in. THANK YOU!!



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

The 100+ WoMen Who Care: Courtney Elisabeth (York) Favazza Memorial welcomes you to our next meeting, October 10, 2024 at 5:30 p.m. at Ascension Lutheran Church. Our organization is an opportunity for you to nominate and support local non-profit organizations to receive financial support. We have tweaked our name from 100+ Women to 100+ WoMen as we now welcome men to participate. This is a great way to support our community and honor the life of my daughter Courtney. Please join us as a guest or a new member. —Kathy York

St. John's Grants & Scholarships

The St. John's committee will meet again in November, so please complete applications as soon as possible.

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. The committee meets quarterly. Completed applications should be turned into Ascension's church office.

Giving Envelope Accuracy

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 near the sanctuary entrance for you to use, but please remember to put your name on them. We have had some instances where people think they know their envelope number and they are close but not correct. Your name is a good idea to ensure accuracy.

Online Giving through VANCO

Ascension utilizes VANCO. Members can use VANCO to give on a regular schedule or for single donations. If you have any questions or trouble with logging in, please contact Lisa at the office for assistance.

VANCO's website: <https://secure.myvanco.com/YN7D/home>



Food Pantry

There is a Truck Unload and Shelf Stocking the first Wednesday of each month. Volunteers are always welcome, the next date is **October 2nd at 8:30 a.m.** at 723 Emerson, Saginaw, MI 48607.

Ascension is providing

workers for the Center of HOPE Food Pantry on **October 9th** (*rescheduled from 9/25*). 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.

The Food Pantry continues to collect clean plastic & cloth grocery bags & manual can openers.

If you would like to donate to the Food Pantry to purchase food through the Food Bank of Eastern Michigan, donations can be sent directly to: FBEM, 2300 Lapeer Rd, Flint, MI 48503. Checks must include in the memo line: Center of Hope Food Pantry/Saginaw P-981.



ELCA Women of Saginaw County

The ELCA Women of Saginaw County are welcome and invited to gather monthly on the 4th Monday at 1pm between September and May for about an hour meeting and some stay for fellowship afterward. Hosting locations will rotate. Next Meeting, **Monday October 28th, 1:00 pm** at Resurrection, 2110 Brockway St., Saginaw, MI 48602. Please make sure to Like or Join both the [ELCA Women of Saginaw County](#) and the [ELCA Saginaw County](#) Facebook pages for updates.



Harvest Bazaar At Zion Freeland

Zion Freeland, 545 S. 7th St, (at Powley Dr, next to Pat's Food Center) is having a Harvest Bazaar, **Saturday, October 19th 9am-3pm**. Come enjoy the many crafts and vendors.



Saginaw-Shiawassee
Habitat for Humanity®

22nd Annual Quilt Show & Silent Auction

Featuring a *Buy-it-Now!* Booth

Friday, October 11 - 10:00 am to 6:00 pm
Saturday, October 12 - 10:00 am to 6:00 pm
Sunday, October 13 - 11:00 am to 2:00 pm

Admission is **FREE**

Quilts will be displayed throughout the whole Church building and Fellowship Hall again this year.

Join us at
Our Saviour Lutheran Church
2525 Hemmeter Rd.
Corner of Hemmeter Rd. and Weiss St.
Saginaw, Michigan

*Masks are not required,
but will be made available for your use.*

All Quilt Show & Auction proceeds benefit
Saginaw-Shiawassee Habitat for Humanity
Support by Thrivent Financial

Coat/Outer Garments/Household Linens—At Resurrection

Coat/Outer Garments/Household Linens are being collected for a coat/linen distribution on **October 25th-26th** by Resurrection Lutheran Church. If you have clean outer garments/linens in your home, please bring to Resurrection, 2110 Brockway St, Saginaw, MI 48602 for distribution in the fall. Questions directed to Resurrection, 989-792-7135.



Conversations in Caregiving—At Our Saviour

If you are, have been, or going to be a caregiver, come join the discussion at 1:00 p.m. on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month at Our Saviour Lutheran Church (2525 Hemmeter Rd., Saginaw, MI 48603). Next meetings, **Tuesdays, October 1st and 15th**. Questions can be directed to Linda Grindahl or Arletta French. Contact Our Saviour (989) 799-5470 for their phone numbers.



Children's Church/Sunday School

As we begin this new year of Children's Church, we are going to focus on learning Bible Stories.



We are looking for parents and other adults who are willing to lead and facilitate these lessons. All are prepared for you, and require minimal preparation. Pastor Julie learned a lot about the Bible stories when she was teaching Sunday School in her early years. It's a great opportunity to learn and to share God's story with the next generations. Please see Dawn Earnesty if you are able to teach or have questions.

Lessons for the fall are:

- September 29th: Jacob and Esau
- October 6th: First Communion-children in worship
- October 13th: Joseph and his brothers
- October 20th: Joseph in Egypt
- October 27th: Joseph forgives
- November 3rd: Jonah
- November 10th: Daniel and the Lions
- November 17th: Jesus is born
- November 24th: Christmas story continued

What is Children's Church?

With our commitment to assist parents in their baptismal covenant to teach their children, the "Children's Church" model will continue this year. The **youth, 4 years old through 5th grade**, will begin the 10:30 a.m. worship service with their families, and after the Children's Message, be dismissed with their teachers to experience the Word, or message of worship in a more age appropriate way. We will then return to worship as an entire congregation during the peace, so that our youth will still receive Communion/Prayers. If you are interested in teaching, please note that there is a rotating schedule, so this does provide the opportunity to worship most Sundays with the congregation in the Sanctuary.

Please complete the **Registration Form** on the kiosk or at ascensionlc.org and return to the church office. If you have any questions, please contact Dawn Earnesty or Pastor Julie.



First Communion

First communion will take place the week of October 6th. If you were unable to attend the recent class, please let Pastor Julie know you are interested in the next one. We commune when the child, parent, and pastor feel they are ready. This is a meal that brings us together, and how it all works is a mystery. It isn't just about understanding all the details, but a reminder that they are part of this great community bound by Jesus.

College Care Packages—November 3, 2024

On **November 3rd**, at **6:15 p.m.**, all Middle and High School Youth are invited to gather for fun and fellowship, as well as assemble College Care Packages for our young people in college. These will be mailed to our college students to show our love, care and support of them through the holidays and preparing for finals.

Youth and congregational members are invited to provide items to be placed in the care packages. Items may include individually wrapped food for snacks, inspirational cards, self-care and personal care items or anything small you think college students need and would appreciate. We anticipate approximately 25 college packages will be assembled.

A simple meal will be provided at our gathering.



CHARGE—Middle & High School Youth Event



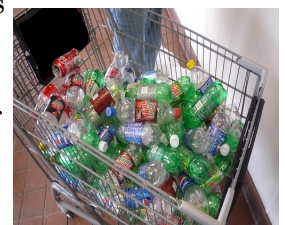
Registration for CHARGE is complete. If you paid a deposit of \$100, the balance of \$95 is due by **October 31st**. Checks are payable to Ascension Lutheran Church.

Youth Fundraising—Pop Can Returns

Thank you for bringing cans and bottles in to help support Youth Ministry in our congregation.

Individual youth (elementary, middle, and high school) are encouraged to sign up to return cans each week. The next week, youth return the MONEY from that return to the church office or Pastor Julie. One-half of the money returned goes into that youth's individual account to help pay for camp, retreats, or other events that require a financial fee. The other 50% supports the youth ministry as a whole. We use this money to help offset costs of events and provide events at a lower cost.

Sign up sheet and instructions are located on the kiosk at church. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask.



Confirmation Classes

Confirmation classes for grades 6 and up will have resumed. The Second year students will resume with Pastor Julie as we discuss the Lord's Prayer, Sacraments, Worship, Stewardship, Vocation and other important aspects of discipleship.

First year students will explore the Ten Commandments and the Apostle's Creed. They will be taught by Stephanie Becker.



Confirmation is a time when young people explore their own faith, the faith in which they were baptized. It is a time for questions and digging deeper into the teaching of our church. This is an opportunity the congregation offers as our commitment to teach the faith to God's children. After a two-year exploration, which includes classes and other activities, the young person will affirm their baptism, hearing again the promises that God makes and committing to their own baptismal responsibilities.

Classes generally begin in the 6th grade, but if older young people wish to join, they are welcome.

Please let Pastor Julie know immediately if you would like your youth to join us for confirmation (there is still time to "catch up"). It is a commitment on both the part of the youth and parents.

Class Schedule—all classes are 4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

	<u>Year 1 Lesson</u>	<u>Year 2 Lesson</u>
10/6	First Commandment	Lord's Prayer—Petition 1
10/13	Second Commandment	Lord's Prayer—Petition 2 & 3
11/3	Third Commandment	Lord's Prayer—Petition 4
11/17	Fourth Commandment	Lord's Prayer—Petition 5 & 6
12/8	Fifth Commandment	Doxology and Amen

Confirmation and the Congregational Members

People of God, do you promise to support these baptized and pray for *them* in *their* new life in Christ? The congregation answers: **We do.**

Confirmation is a ministry of the church offered by Ascension Lutheran Church. During this time of their intentional discovery of faith, you may at times be asked some questions by a young person. Please introduce yourself to our students, answer any questions from your perspective and be honest.

Please hold them in prayer and encourage them as best you can, as well as their parents.

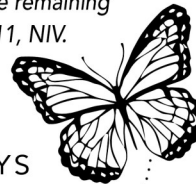


SAVED BY GRACE

Leaders of the early church discussed whether newly converted Gentiles must keep the Law of Moses. How did Peter answer?

Directions: Cross out every third letter. Then write the remaining letters in the blanks below to complete Acts 15:11, NIV.

NO~~F~~WEGBEKLIBEVG~~E~~ITIYS
 TUHRCOUJGHRTHOEGPRAH
 CEIOFXOUKRLHORCDJSESP
 USGTHWATYWEOARBESPAVLED
 RJUCSTQASHTHBEYFAROE



" ____ ! ____



____. " Acts 15:11, NIV

Answer: "No! We believe it is through the grace of our Lord Jesus that we are saved, just as they are." Acts 15:11, NIV

**Pull Out Your
Bibles for this
Quiz
and Go To:
John 4:6**

?? Bible Quiz ? ?

When Jesus asks a Samaritan woman for a drink, at which site related to the ancient Israelites is he resting?

- A. the edge of the Jordan River
- B. beside the Red Sea
- C. Jacob's well
- D. the Pool of Bethesda

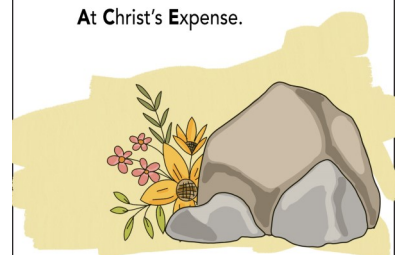


Make this craft as a helpful reminder of Jesus' free gift of grace.



What you do:

1. Fill the box with small stones to weigh it down. Tape the box securely closed.
 2. Wrap the box and add a bow on top.
 3. With marker, write a capital letter on each side of the box and the bottom to spell GRACE.
 4. Use this as a decoration or paperweight, or give as a gift.
 5. Explain GRACE to someone.
- For help, use Ephesians 2:8-9 and the acrostic **God's Riches At Christ's Expense**.



Serving in October

*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
6	Edna Bell	Linda Luplow	6	Tom Page	Chris Crump
13	Marty Debozy	Heidi Trepkowski	13	Lynn Schomaker	Heidi Trepkowski
20	Tom Erskine	Olivia Trepkowski	20	Ruth Schomaker	Dawn Dalton
27	Joan Ford	Barb Van Marter	27	Susan Kelley	Amy Fahrenbruch

Sound Board Operators

6	†	Makena Whelton
13	†	Makena Whelton
20	†	Makena Whelton
27	†	Makena Whelton

Video Screen Operators

6	Kris Friend	Ginny Whelton
13	Susan Kelley	†
20	Susan Kelley	†
27	Kris Friend	Ginny Whelton

Head Ushers

6	Kelley	Friend/Beyerlein
13	Schomaker	Dalton/Whelton
20	Roth	Earnesty/Wizner
27	Wilson	Dawson/Mossner

Acolyte 10:30 a.m.

6	Eliza Trepkowski
13	Brooklyn Becker
20	Nathan Earnesty
27	Hannah Wizner

Altar Guild

6	Ruth S/Pat M
13	Ruth S/Pat M
20	Ruth S/Pat M
27	All

Lawn Mowers

Crump/Wilson
Roth/Tilley
Dalton/Aldrich
<i>Done for the Season!</i>

Children's Church

6	<i>No Class—First Communion</i>
13	Dave & Stephanie Becker
20	Dawn Earnesty/Stephanie Wizner
27	Louise Roby

October Librarian: Carole Soule

WEDNESDAYS 7pm

	Head Usher	Readers	Sound Board	Video Screen	Prayers
2	Glen Mack	Kristin Kazmierski	Mike Romosier	Connie Dutcher	Connie Dutcher
9	John Schroeder	Glen Mack	†	Kelly Phillion	Donna Malburg
16	Mike Clifford	Melissa Pretzer	†	Glen Mack	Celina Gottlieb
23	Glen Mack	John Schroeder	†	Celina Gottlieb	Connie Dutcher
30	Mike Clifford	Mike Clifford	Mike Romosier	Connie Dutcher	Mike Clifford

Ascension Lutheran Church - October 2024




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

Email: ascensionlc@sbcglobal.net Website: ascensionlc.org

Church Office hours: Mondays—Thursdays from 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

If you plan to meet
for one of our
Ministries in the
church, please let the
church office know.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 11am-Bible Study-Zoom 6:15pm-Wellness Warriors	2 8:30am-Food Pantry Truck Unload 9am-Sewing Group 11am-Weekend Food Bags 6:30pm-Scouts 7pm-Worship/Communion	3 6:30pm-Trustee Mtg	4 <i>Office Closed</i>	5 10:30a-12p Pet Blessing (Pavilion) FH Rental
6 First Communion 8am-Worship/Communion 9:15am-Adult SS/Bible Study 10:30am-Worship/Communion 4:30pm-Confirmation	7 6:00pm-Women's Bible St	8 11am-Bible Study-Zoom 6:15pm-Wellness Warriors	9 First Communion 8:30am-Serve @ Food Pantry 11am-Weekend Food Bags 12pm-Council Reports Due 6:30pm-Scouts 7pm-Worship/Communion	10 5:30pm-100+ WoMen Who Care (FH)	11 <i>Office Closed</i>	12
13  RaiseRight Due 8am-Worship/Communion 9:15am-Adult SS/Bible Study 10:30am-Worship/Communion/ Children's Church 4:30pm-Confirmation	14 9am-ABC Breakfast @ Sullivan's 6:00pm-Women's Bible St 	15 11am-Bible Study-Zoom 6:15pm-Wellness Warriors 6:30pm-Council Mtg	16 9am-Sewing Group 11am-Weekend Food Bags 6:30pm-Scouts 7pm-Worship/Communion	17 Pastor vacation 10/17—11/3 	18 <i>Office Closed</i>	19
20 BP Screening 8am-Worship/Communion 9:15am-Adult SS/Bible Study 10:30am-Worship/Communion/ Children's Church	21 10:30am-Grief Group 12pm-Messenger Deadline 6:00pm-Women's Bible St	22 6:15pm-Wellness Warriors	23 11am-Weekend Food Bags 6:30pm-Scouts 7pm-Worship/Communion	24	25 <i>Office Closed</i>	26
27 8am-Worship/Communion 9:15am-Adult SS/Bible Study 10:30am-Worship/Communion/ Children's Church	28 1pm-ELCA Women of Saginaw Cnty @ Resurrection 6:00pm-Women's Bible St	29 6:15pm-Wellness Warriors	30 11am-Weekend Food Bags 6:30pm-Scouts 7pm-Worship/Communion Messenger Mailed	31  REFORMATION Day Happy Halloween		

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

Ascension Lutheran Church

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Saginaw, MI 48609

Phone: 989-781-2170
www.ascensionlc.org

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**DEADLINE FOR
NEWSLETTER ARTICLES**

The MESSENGER is published monthly by Ascension Lutheran Church.
Deadline for the November 2024 issue is: **Monday, October 21st at 12:00 (noon)**. Articles may be emailed to: ascensionlc@sbcglobal.net