



## 2025 ELCA Churchwide Assembly—July 28-Aug 2

Voting members from around the ELCA will gather in Phoenix, Arizona. The ELCA Churchwide Assembly is the primary decision making body of the ELCA. Voting members are elected from each synod and gather as one body to hear reports of what is going on in the church, consider proposals from synods including the North/West Lower Michigan Synod, elect officers and establish policies, adopt a budget, and this year the Assembly will elect a new presiding bishop, as Bishop Elizabeth Eaton will not be returning as Bishop.

The Assembly occurs every three years. This year the theme of the Assembly is "For the Life of the World." Dietrich Bonhoeffer said, "The church is the church only when it exists for others." In the Constitutions Statement of Purpose, we as church are "called and sent to bear witness to God's creative, redeeming and sanctifying activity in the world."

Pastor Julie will be watching the assembly online. I invite you to participate as you are able. Information can be found at <https://www.elca.org/about/leadership/churchwide-assembly>. You can also review documents prior to the assembly.

Remember we are the church—together!!



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### Special points of interest:

- *New Members Received July 6th*
- *Youth Nights, Sundays 6pm-9pm*
- *First Communion July 20th & 23rd*
- *MI Adventure 7/21*
- *WhoaZone 7/29*

# Message from Pastor Julie



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## Looking Backward to Move Forward

I press on toward the goal, toward the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.—Philippians 3:14

We continue to pray and discern where God is calling us for a time such as this. It is a challenge to rely on what worked before or on what we have always done. We seek preservation rather than moving forward in faith. There is less risk, less conflict, less work.

God calls us to move toward Jesus, to move forward in faith, to press on in mission.

It might seem strange but one way to move forward is to look to the past. What was the original vision that shaped those earlier years? What values did the leadership embrace? What ministries had the biggest impact? How has the congregation and our community changed through the years? What has happened within our congregation and denomination that had impact on our congregation?

Our goal is not to return to the past, but to identify key moments that shifted the direction of our ministry. What were the trends or the common themes?

This not only provides an opportunity to bring clarity and focus moving forward; we also have an opportunity to honor the people who shaped the history of our congregation. This honor helps us build trust, which will be necessary to implement change. This looking back also tells our story to some of the people who were not here to participate in our mission at that time.

The practice of looking back isn't to return to what the church used to be; it's to return to what God wants the church to be!

Over the course of the summer, we have the opportunity to work on our historical timeline together. You are invited to post what you remember from that time, as well as we will be looking through documents that record our history. We will continue to pray together, dream together, discern together, and celebrate together the ministries God places on our hearts.

*Pastor Julie*

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## NRSV vs NRSVue—What Bible do we use in worship?

This is not an uncommon question as there are many translations of the Bible. One of the fun things in Bible study is that each of us use our own translations and we can get a deeper sense into what God is saying to us in that scripture text.

Beginning in July, the congregational texts for worship will come from the New Revised Standard Version-Updated Edition (NRSVue). We have been using the NRSV until now. The NRSVue is the official Bible translation of the National Council of Churches that is commonly used by mainline Christians. It is the first revision since the fall of the Berlin Wall and contains about 20,000 edits reflecting new scholarship on the Dead Sea Scrolls as well as stylistic changes to keep up with the evolution of the English language.

The NRSV has been called the most accurate of English-language translations, based on the availability of ancient manuscripts, textual analysis, and the study of language. Hundreds of ancient manuscripts have been studied and this research informed the translation of the NRSVue. The NRSVue brings greater precision in interpreting Scripture. The goal was to translate the ancient texts as accurately as possible while reflecting the cultural difference through time and conditions. This permitted the Editorial Committee to present the text as literally as possible and as freely as necessary.

# Daily Bible Reading

Pastor is leading a Daily Bible Reading on YouTube to get into the habit of reading scripture. This discipline is important for those of us who follow Christ. Click [Here](#) or Scan the QR code.



## Sunday & Monday Bible Studies

The Sunday morning and Monday afternoon Bible Studies will not meet in the next few months. Watch for updates in the Messenger for their return.



## Tuesday Morning Bible Study

Our **Tuesday** morning Bible study is reading the book of **Jeremiah**. All are welcome to join us at **11am**. Enter the code for the zoom meeting or let Pastor Julie know and she can email or Facebook message you the invite.

- [www.zoom.com](http://www.zoom.com) • Meeting ID: 871 0929 4561 • Passcode: 099583 •

*No class July 8th & 29th*

## Please Remember Those on Ascension's Care List

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

Pat Joyce—8044 Winchester Ct.  
Saginaw, MI 48609

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

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

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

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

Dan Wenzel—9065 Bray Rd., Saginaw,  
MI 48609

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.*

### July 6th

Trinity Lutheran Church, Grand Rapids, MI and Rev. Jonathan Niketh, Rev. Daniel Schewe, and Rev. Kari Fast

*Ascension Families: Charleen & Carl Boland; Richard Borm; Holly, Olivia, Ella Bostwick*

### July 13th

St. John Lutheran Church, Grayling, MI and their supply pastors

*Ascension Families: Sharon Boyd; Cody, Melissa, Dalton, Daxton, Devon Briggs; Bryan, Sarah, Hugh, Bryn, Rhys Carroll.*

### July 20th

St. Paul Lutheran Church, Greenville, MI and Rev. Nan Dehnke

*Ascension Families: Marie Catterfeld; Bonnie Cavendish; Linda & Dick Chilton*

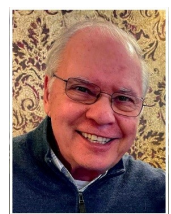
### July 27th

Grace Lutheran Church, Hastings, MI and Rev. Kenneth Scheck

*Ascension Families: Marilyn Christensen; Beth & Mike Clark; Adam Clauss*

*In Loving  
Memory*

*The Prayers and Sympathy of our congregation along with the hope and promise through the resurrection of Jesus are extended to the families of  
William "Rick" Herren, who passed on March 28th  
Barry Wiggins, who passed on May 26th*



## July Birthdays

2nd MJ Burns  
Emma Hoffmann  
Marisa Richardson  
Olivia Trepkowski  
Makena Whelton  
Donald Wight

3rd Barb Robishaw  
Michael Weadock  
Tammy Webb

4th Leslie Denman  
Hugh Dickie  
Michael Kolinski  
Matthew Trumble

5th Ahren Awad  
Emily Dunn  
Skylar Haupt  
Arlene Neuenfeldt

6th Miles Girardin

7th Amy Inman

8th Dave Dawson  
Andrew Kazmierski  
Logan Krzyzaniak  
Dan Wenzel

10th Rita Hendrickson  
John Soyster  
Morgan Stadler

12th Julia Hamilton

13th Lija Preston  
Danielle Wenzel

14th Ellen Foley  
Jack Herren

15th Sally Schultz

16th Nancy Armstrong  
Hannah Wizner

17th Carolyn Ballien  
Richard Chilton

18th Gabby Dalton  
Elias Dawkins  
Ron Fries  
Kenna Maier  
Norman Maier  
Angelo Naples  
Elliot Naples

19th Cayleigh Bieszk

20th Aspen Naples  
Casey Stadler

21st Barb Van Marter

25th Jonathan Doerr  
Molly McGrandy  
Charlene Potter

26th Norm Hamilton, Sr.  
Dick Schomaker

28th Gus Hendrickson  
Anthony Naples  
Craig Tilley

29th Adalynn Hendrick  
Ben Salowitz

## July Anniversaries

1st Ira & Charlene Potter  
Alicia & Ryan Spear

2nd Bob & Mary Ecker

6th Bob & Laura Mancini

7th Grace & Mark Girardin  
Luke & Danielle Hendrick

8th Pam & Dietrich Mackel

11th Jim & Wanda Dankert

16th Matthew & Susan Trumble

18th Bob & Gina Dillenbeck

20th Ken & Laura Schian

21st Cole & Ashley Stadler

22nd Tony & Melanie Dancer  
Gus & Rita Hendrickson

23rd Rick & Allison Hamilton

27th Susie & Daniel Long

28th Brian & Sue Denman  
Darcy & Diane Lobsiger-Braden

29th Jeff & Lisa Whelton

30th Samantha & Jacob Wright

31st Steve & Jennifer Salowitz



## 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 2025 flower chart is posted on the door of the Acolyte room and many dates are available.

### July 6th

In honor of Morgan's birthday by  
The Stadler Family

### July 13

In honor of Casey's birthday by  
The Stadler Family

### July 20th

*available to sponsor*

### July 27th

In memory of Tim Grueber, by  
Pam Grueber

***NOTE: Please bring the plastic cup that the flowers are in, back to church within 2 weeks. Our florist re-uses the cups weekly.***



# Updating Membership

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The congregation council has approved a plan to address to review our current “membership” rolls and to update them as needed. Currently, our records show that we have 536 members, 90 of which are children (baptized, not confirmed).

The last time we intentionally reviewed membership was in 2018. Because of COVID and the hesitation of people returning to public worship, we postponed reviews. Our plan is to address membership annually, as defined in our constitution:



**C12.07.** The Congregation Council shall provide for an annual review of the membership roster.

Per our constitution:

**\*C8.02.** Members shall be classified as follows:

- a. **Baptized** members are those persons who have been received by the Sacrament of Holy Baptism in this congregation, or, having been previously baptized in the name of the Triune God, have been received by certificate of transfer from other Lutheran congregations or by affirmation of faith.
- b. **Confirmed** members are baptized persons who have been confirmed in this congregation, those who have been received by adult baptism or by transfer as confirmed members from other Lutheran congregations, or baptized persons received by affirmation of faith.
- c. **Voting** members are confirmed members. Such confirmed members, during the current or preceding calendar year, shall have communed in this congregation and shall have made a contribution of record to this congregation. Members of this congregation who have satisfied these basic standards shall have the privilege of voice and vote at every regular and special meeting of this congregation as well as the other rights and privileges ascribed to voting members by the provisions of this constitution and its bylaws. They shall not have voted as a seasonal member of another congregation of this church in the previous two calendar months.

If our records show that you have not satisfied the basic standards of voting membership, communed and have a contribution on record in the current or preceding calendar year, you will likely receive a letter from the congregation to clarify your membership. We will be requesting a response of whether you wish to remain a member and plan to participate more actively in the congregation, whether you are worshipping elsewhere or wish to have your membership removed for other reasons. We understand that we may be unaware of health or other issues that may prevent you from attending. If so, we want to be aware of needs and you can make us aware of those needs. And it is possible, our information may not be correct.

Please make note of the following information about membership as well:

**\*C8.04.** It shall be the privilege and duty of members of this congregation to:

- a. make regular use of the means of grace, both Word and sacraments;
- b. live a Christian life in accordance with the Word of God and the teachings of the Lutheran church; and
- c. support the work of this congregation, the synod, and the churchwide organization of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America through contributions of their time, abilities, and financial support as biblical stewards.

**\*C8.05.** Membership in this congregation shall be terminated by any of the following:

- a. death;
  - b. resignation;
  - c. transfer or release;
  - d. disciplinary action in accordance with Chapter 20 of the constitution and bylaws of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America; or
  - e. removal from the roll due to inactivity in accordance with the provisions of this constitution and its bylaws.
- Such persons who have been removed from the roll of members shall remain persons for whom the Church has a continuing pastoral concern.

## Desiring Membership with Ascension

Have you been worshipping with Ascension and desire to intentionally join our ministry together? We are receiving information on people who wish to join Ascension Lutheran Church. To join one needs to be baptized, and we can discuss and arrange that if desired. Forms to complete may be found on our website ([www.ascensionlc.org](http://www.ascensionlc.org)) under forms. We also ask that you complete a Time and Talent form for each family member to help us involve you in our ministry. Together we encourage one another to become the disciples God calls us to be in our world and community.



**Voting members** are confirmed members who have during the current or preceding calendar year communed in this congregation and made a contribution of record to this congregation. New members join by Affirmation of Faith, which is "Confirmation."

**New Members will be received in worship at 8a.m. or 10:30a.m. on July 6th**



## Ascension Lutheran Church's Endowment Fund Awards

Ascension Lutheran Church's Endowment Fund committee decides, through an application process, projects which may support any of the following activities:

Christian Education  
Mission Opportunities  
Evangelism

Youth Programs  
Scholarships  
Technology

Music Ministry  
Family Outreach  
Special Capital Improvement Opportunities

The committee can distribute 5% of the account balance annually and have awarded the following for 2025:

### Scholarships:

\$1,000 Emily Dunn  
\$2,000 Marissa Fahrenbruch

### Grants:

\$1,000 Honduras Mission  
\$2,000 Weekend Food Bags  
\$1,000 Sewing Group  
\$1,000 Youth Ministries  
\$ 500 Women's Bible Study  
\$1,000 Projector Replacement



Ascension's Endowment Fund investments were created in 2006. 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? Contact any of the Endowment Committee members: Dave Becker, Jr. (chair), Joyce Berg, Tony Dancer, Dawn Earnesty, or Craig Ford.

## Interest in Restarting Funeral Dinners

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In response to interest for Funeral Luncheons to restart, Info-Gathering meetings are being held for members of Ascension to give input that could shape the policy for future funeral events, if enough interest is shown.

### Who should attend?

- Anyone who previously served and can share history of what worked well, and what did not;
- Anyone who wants to give their “two cents”;
- Anyone who wants to volunteer to be on the committee;
- Anyone who has an interest in what ideas are being shared;
- Anyone at all!

Three Info-Gathering Meetings will be in Digging Dunes/Meeting Room on:  
**June 29th, 9a.m. & 11:30a.m.** (after Sunday services, respectively)  
**July 2nd, 7:45p.m.** (after Wednesday service)

If you cannot attend a meeting, you may contact me via Text, Call, or Email:  
Lori Schultz, VP Congregational Council  
989-239-3076  
lorron\_s@yahoo.com



### *Funeral Meals*

## ABC Breakfast

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Ascension's Breakfast Club—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 Riverside, 8295 Midland Rd. in Freeland on July 14th**. Each person is responsible for the cost of their own breakfast. You don't need to prepare anything or clean up, just show up.



## Grief Support Group—July 21st

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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.

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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.

## ELCA Women of Saginaw County

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The ELCA Women of Saginaw County will not meet during the summer months. We are collecting **Can Openers and Standard Size Pillow Protectors** for the NEST through the summer. There is a collection box in the gathering area. If you would like to learn more about the NEST program go to: <https://saginawpartnershipcenter.org/the-nest-program>

The May 19, 2025 meeting was at Zion Lutheran Church @ 12:00 noon for a potluck lunch. There were 13 in attendance. Great variety of salads and desserts.

The leaders for this group are: Gina Dillenbeck, Chair & Betty Nagel-Cribbens as Co-Chair. There is still an open position for a Secretary. Hopefully someone will come forward when we meet up in September.

The Meeting Dates for 2025/2026 are:

September 22, 2025	1:00 pm	- Ascension
October 27, 2025	1:00 pm	- Faith
November 24, 2025	1:00 pm	- Our Saviour
<b>NO MEETING IN DECEMBER</b>		
January 26, 2026	1:00 pm	- Resurrection
February 23, 2026	1:00 pm	- Zion
March 30, 2026	1:00 pm	- Ascension
April 27, 2026	1:00 pm	- Faith
May 18, 2026	1:00 pm	- Our Saviour (week early due to Memorial Day)

Thank you  
Gina Dillenbeck

Please make sure to Like or Join both the [ELCA Women of Saginaw County](#) and the [ELCA Saginaw County](#) Facebook pages for updates.

## Ascension's Women's Support Group

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free to call the office.

Ascension is participating with the ELCA Women of Saginaw County group. To effectively share information with our congregation and participate in their goals and programs, Ascension has established a women's support group. This group is not the Women's Group of Ascension's past, however a group of women who would like to grow in faith, support one another in endeavors, engage in ministering to those in need, and to promote fellowship within our group, our churches, and our community. The contacts for Ascension's Women's Support Group are Gina Dillenbeck (chair), Wanda Dankert, Edna Bell, and Ginny Whelton. If you need their contact information, feel

**If you would like to help with the September or March meetings, please contact one of the team members listed above.**

## Sewing Group

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Ascension's Sewing Group does not meet June—August. Watch the Messenger for the new meeting dates for the fall. Contact Sandy Graham with any questions at 989-781-1619.

The Sewing Group continues to need ALL COTTON sheets. They can use FLAT Queen and King sizes only. They are used for quilt backings. The sheets do not have to be new, however, we ask that they are clean of stains and do not have holes or rips. All donations are appreciated.



## Blood Pressure Screening

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Mark your calendar for blood pressure screenings by the Parish Health Committee on the 3rd Sunday each month. The next date is **Sunday, July 20th**



## Please Remember Your Congregation Over the Summer

Many of us are blessed to go north or travel during the summer. Statistics show giving goes down when people aren't in church. Please remember our ministry continues during the summer. Please consider mailing your offering or you can give through our online giving program, [VANCO](#).



## Blood Drive



Our next drive of the year is scheduled for **June 26th, 2:30 p.m.-7:00 p.m.** If you would like to reserve your donation spot now, please sign up at [https://donateblood.versiti.org/donor/schedules/drive\\_schedule/11609231](https://donateblood.versiti.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/11609231). Save the date for the next date: September 4, 2025!

*The MESSENGER* is published monthly by Ascension Lutheran Church.

Deadline for the August 2025 issue is: **Monday, July 21st at 12:00 (noon)**. Articles may be hand delivered or emailed to: [ascensionlc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ascensionlc@sbcglobal.net)

## Out of Office

Pastor Julie Bailey will be out of the office on the following dates:

- July 6th-11th—Attending Camp with Youth
- July 21st—MI Adventure Trip
- July 29th—WhoaZone Trip
- August 22nd-September 5th—Vacation



Lisa will be out of the office on the following dates

- June 20th-29th—Vacation
- July 17th—Single day off



"How come there's a forbidden fruit, but not a forbidden vegetable?"



The bishop's latest newsletter can be found here:  
<https://www.mittensynod.org/resources/publications/>

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## Center of HOPE Food Pantry

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Ascension will serve at the Center of HOPE Food Pantry, 723 Emerson, Saginaw, MI 48607 on the following **\*\*updated\*\*** dates. Arrive at **8:30 a.m.** and 8-10 volunteers are needed. **July 23rd • September 10th • November 12th.** The next Truck Unload & Pantry Shelf Stocking is **July 2nd at 8:30 a.m.**

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## St. John's Grants & Scholarships

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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](#).

**Deadlines** for both opportunities are the **1st of February, May, August and November**, considered quarterly as funds remain available, apply early.

**Note:** Applications first have to be provided to the Ascension's office, where Council and/or Pastor need to sign. Ascension will then forward all documents to the committee for review.



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## Youth Fundraising—Pop Can Returns

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**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.

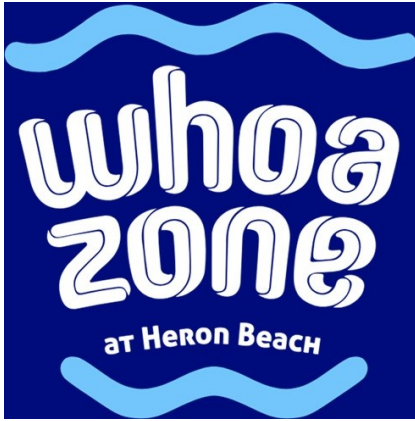
Sign up sheet and instructions are located on the kiosk at church. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask.

## Michigan's Adventure—Monday, July 21st

We are planning our annual trip to Michigan's Adventure on **Monday, July 21st**. 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. Bring sunscreen, swimsuit, towel, 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. **If you have not paid, your money it is past due and is needed ASAP. Cost is \$70.** Checks should be made payable to Ascension Lutheran Church.



## WhoaZone—Tuesday, July 29th—12p.m.—5p.m.

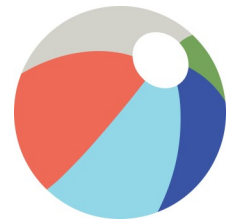


We're organizing a group outing for both youth and adults to enjoy a day filled with thrilling water activities, inflatable obstacle courses, and endless fun. Whether you're looking to challenge yourself on the water park or simply relax and soak up the sun, there's something for everyone. Don't miss out on this fantastic opportunity to bond with friends, family, and church members while making unforgettable memories. Permission Slips and Payments need to be complete by **July 15th** to allow for group ticket purchasing. **Cost is \$20 & covers ticket and fee.** Checks payable to Ascension Lutheran Church. Sign up on the Kiosk. Middle & High School Youth can attend with a signed Permission Slip & Waiver, Elementary Youth must have an adult accompany them (Permission Slip & Waiver is still required). Waivers are required for all attendees (Adults too).

**Drivers & Chaperones needed.** A Michigan State Recreational Passport is necessary to park. Adults (18+) attending will need to have a background check on record with Ascension.

### Schedule for the day:

- |                        |   |
|------------------------|---|
| • Arrive at Ascension  | 11:45 a.m. (Leaving promptly at 12p.m.) |
| • Arrive @ WhoaZone    | 1p.m.                                   |
| • Setup and Beach-time | 1p.m. – 2p.m.                           |
| • WitBit Aqua Park     | 2p.m. – 3p.m.                           |
| • Picnic & Beach-time  | 3pm – 4p.m.                             |
| • Arrive at Ascension  | 5p.m.                                   |



WhoaZone at Heron Beach, located in Holly, MI, offers a full day of family fun. Featuring an action-packed floating obstacle course, watercraft & shaded seating rentals, SnackZone concessions, and beach store. They offer a full day of active entertainment for the whole family.

- WitBit Aqua Park offers a floating obstacle course of high-energy fun for swimmers age 7+ **and** at least 45" tall.
- The WitBit KidsZone is designed for guests ages 4-7 and under 45".

Bring sunscreen, swimsuit, towel, hat, dry clothes to wear home, bag for wet suit/towel, snacks & drinks for beach-time fun! Bottled water in cooler provided.

## Middle & High School Youth Nights

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Youth Nights for our Middle and High School youth have resumed. We will meet on Sunday's at the pavilion from **6p.m. — 9p.m.** Join other youth (6th-12th grade) to play games, chat, eat s'mores, do crafts, or anything else we decide to do. Bring friends! Ascension requires 2 adults be present at youth events, please contact Pastor Julie if you can be a parent volunteer on any of the nights.



**Youth Night 7/6 is cancelled if we don't have 2 adult chaperones volunteer by July 1st (must have background check on file). Pastor is at camp.**



## Camp is Around the Corner

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Our congregation is attending Stony Lake Camp on July 6th – 11th. Adults attending will be Pastor Julie, Stephanie Becker, and Tony Dancer. Kathy York will be joining us for part of the week.

Attending camp this year are:

Full week: • 3 adults • 3 elementary youth • 10 confirmation youth • 1 High School youth

Partial week: • 1 adult • 1 discoverer

One high school youth is registered for Bridgebuilders camp July 13-18, 2025

Please let Pastor Julie know if you would be available to drive a group to or from camp and how many youths you can take with you. Also, if you plan to drop your children off or pick them up as not part of our group, let me know so I have the number of drivers to determine correct. Background checks are required for drivers.

## First Communion—July 20th & 23rd

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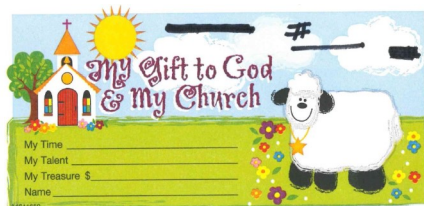
We will be celebrating First Communion on **Sunday, July 20th** at both the **8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.** worship services and on **Wednesday, July 23rd at 7 p.m.** First Communion class will be held **Monday, July 14th at 6 p.m.** for those youth who wish to receive their First Communion and a parent/guardian.

At Ascension, First Communion is offered when the child, parent, and pastor believe the child is ready. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Julie.



## Elementary Youth Giving Envelopes

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You can continue to use the Youth Giving envelopes during the summer months. Envelopes can be picked up in the Children's Church classroom. Each youth has their own giving number. There is a sign posted just inside the door of the

classroom with all the giving envelopes numbers listed. You may also use any envelope you have at home, as long as their name and number is written on it.



# PUZZLE



## TINY TEAMWORK

The focused teamwork of ants is astounding! How can we learn from them?

*Directions: Answer the clues. Then write the words in order below to complete Proverbs 6:6-8, NIV.*

- This 6-legged arthropod can carry 20 times its own weight. \_\_\_\_\_
- A sleepy, sloth-like and slow-moving person. \_\_\_\_\_
- Having deep understanding and sound judgment. \_\_\_\_\_
- A person in charge of military troops. \_\_\_\_\_
- A person in authority. \_\_\_\_\_
- The season when daylight hours are longest. \_\_\_\_\_
- A substance you eat for nutrition. \_\_\_\_\_
- When farmers reap the rewards of hard work. \_\_\_\_\_



Go to the \_\_\_\_\_, you \_\_\_\_\_;

consider its ways and be \_\_\_\_\_!

It has no \_\_\_\_\_, no overseer or \_\_\_\_\_,

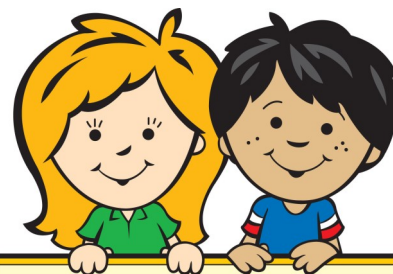
yet it stores its provisions in \_\_\_\_\_

and gathers its \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_.



**Proverbs 6:6-8, NIV**

Answers: ant, slugard, wise, commander, ruler, summer, food, harvest; Go to the ant, you slugard; consider its ways and be wise! It has no commander, no overseer or ruler, yet it stores its provisions in summer and gathers its food at harvest.



## KIDS PAGE

SHOO  
fly!



Make this candle to keep uninvited insects from your outdoor summer meals.

### What you need:

- Lime
- 10-20 whole cloves
- Birthday candle
- 4 toothpicks
- Adult help



### What you do:

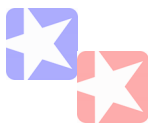
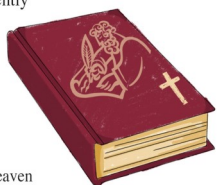
1. Have an adult slice the lime in half. Cut off the rounded end of one half so it can stand without rolling.
2. Insert 10 cloves into the cut sides of each half.
3. Stand the bottom half on a plate. Insert the candle in the center.
4. Insert the 4 toothpicks in the cut side of the bottom half. Then place the other half atop the toothpicks.
5. Before dinner, have an adult light the candle that's between the two lime halves. The flame's heat will warm the lime and create a smell that insects don't like.
6. Supervise the flame. Blow it out when it reaches the bottom lime.



### Bible Quiz

In a parable of Jesus in the Gospel of Luke, someone named Lazarus features prominently while other characters go unnamed. Who is Lazarus in this story?

- A. a friend Jesus raised from the dead
- B. a rich man dressed in fine linen
- C. a poor beggar at the rich man's gate
- D. the brother of the poor man
- E. an angel who carried the poor man to heaven



**Pull Out Your Bibles for this Quiz and Go To:**  
**Luke 16:19-31**



# Serving in July

*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

6	Dan Roth
13	Dick Schomaker
20	Edna Bell
27	Charleen Boland

## 10:30am

Lori Schultz
Olivia Trepkowski
Barb Van Marter
John Whelton



## Prayers 8am

6	Ruth Schomaker
13	Charleen Boland
20	Tom Page
27	Lynn Schomaker

## 10:30am

Chris Crump
Dawn Dalton
Lisa Espinoza
Amy Fahrenbruch

## Sound Board Operators

6	Kris Friend	Makena Whelton
13	Jeff Whelton	Makena Whelton
20	†	Makena Whelton
27	Jeff Whelton	Makena Whelton

## Video Screen Operators

6	Tom Page	†
13	Laura Schian	†
20	Susan Kelley	†
27	Kris Friend	†

## Head Ushers

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

## Acolyte 10:30 a.m.

6	<i>Volunteers welcome, no</i>
13	<i>assignments May-August!</i>
20	
27	

## Altar Guild

6	†
13	Kris Friend
20	Kris Friend
27	†

## Lawn Mowers

Dan Roth
Dalton/Aldrich
Howe/Blehm
Hendrickson/Ecker

## Children's Church

6	<i>Summer Break!-Join us for the Children's</i>
13	<i>Message at 10:30 a.m. and pick up a</i>
20	<i>children's bulletin as you enter the sanctuary.</i>
27	

**July Librarian:** Marty Debozy



## WEDNESDAYS 7pm

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

# Ascension Lutheran Church - July 2025

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 are having a meeting in the church, please let the church office know.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<b>1</b> 11am-Bible Study-Zoom 6:15pm-Wellness Warriors 	<b>2</b> 8:30am-Food Pantry Truck Unload 6:30pm-Scouts 7pm-Worship/Communion 7:45pm-Info Mtg-Funeral Dinners	<b>3</b> 6:30pm-Trustee Mtg	<b>4</b> Office Closed 	<b>5</b>
<b>6 New Members Rec'd</b> 8am-Worship/Communion 10:30am-Worship/Communion/Baptism 12pm-Leave for Camp 6pm-Youth Night  Pastor Julie and Youth at Stony Lake Camp 7/6-7/11	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 6:15pm-Wellness Warriors	<b>9</b> 12pm-Council Reports Due 6:30pm-Scouts 7pm-Worship/Communion	<b>10</b> 5:30pm-100+Women Mtg (FH)	<b>11</b> Office Closed	<b>12</b> Pavilion Rental
<b>13</b> 8am-Worship/Communion 10:30am-Worship/Communion 6pm-Youth Night	<b>14</b> 9am-ABC Breakfast @ Riverside (Freeland) 6pm-1st Communion Class	<b>15</b> 11am-Bible Study-Zoom 6:15pm-Wellness Warriors 6:30pm-Council Mtg	<b>16</b> 6:30pm-Scouts 7pm-Worship/Communion	<b>17</b> Office Closed	<b>18</b> Office Closed	<b>19</b>
<b>20 BP Screening</b> <b>RaiseRight Due</b> <b>1st Communion Sunday</b> 8am-Worship/Communion 9am-FH Rental 10:30am-Worship/Communion/Baptism 6pm-Youth Night	<b>21</b> 7:45am-MI Adventure Trip 10:30am-Grief Group 12pm-Messenger Deadline	<b>22</b> 11am-Bible Study-Zoom 6:15pm-Wellness Warriors	<b>23</b> 8:30am-Serve @ Food Pantry 6:30pm-Scouts 7pm-Worship/Communion/1st Communion	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> Office Closed	<b>26</b> FH Rental
<b>27</b> 8am-Worship/Communion 10:30am-Worship/Communion 6pm-Youth Night	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 11:45am-WhoaZone Trip 6:15pm-Wellness Warriors	<b>30</b> 6:30pm-Scouts 7pm-Worship/Communion Messenger Mailed	<b>31</b>		

Prayer Chain requests should be called to Barb Van Marter at 989-525-4603

## ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH

8695 Gratiot Road  
Saginaw, MI 48609  
Phone: 989-781-2170  
[www.ascensionlc.org](http://www.ascensionlc.org)

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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PERMIT NO. 59



## Ascension Lutheran Church

### 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  
Charleen Boland, Treasurer  
Stephanie Becker, Secretary  
Susan Kelley, Financial Secretary

### MINISTRIES

Kristin Kazmierski, 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](mailto:ascensionlc@sbcglobal.net)

**Pastor Email:** [pr\\_julie@sbcglobal.net](mailto:pr_julie@sbcglobal.net)

**Website:** [www.ascensionlc.org](http://www.ascensionlc.org)

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/groups/ascensionsaginaw](https://www.facebook.com/groups/ascensionsaginaw)

*(Group Name: Ascension Lutheran Church of Saginaw (ELCA) Group)*

**YouTube:** Ascension Lutheran Church

**ELCA Saginaw Website:** [elcasaginawcounty.weebly.com](http://elcasaginawcounty.weebly.com)

**ELCA Saginaw Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/groups/elcasaginawcounty](https://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.