



Budget and Election Meeting—December 14th

Our Congregational Budget and Election Meeting will be held on **Sunday, December 14th at 11:30 a.m.** (following our 10:30 a.m. worship service). We will vote on a budget for 2026, elect members to fill council vacancies, and vote on the Constitution changes that were made to congregational constitutions at the 2025 ELCA Churchwide Assembly in August.



BUDGET and ELECTION MEETING

Please prayerfully discern the nomination of members to serve on our Congregation Council. Positions currently available are:

- President
- Secretary
- Financial Secretary
- Minister of Spiritual Health
- Minister of Finance & Resources
- Voting Members for Synod Assembly (2 adults and 1 youth/young adult)

If you are interested, have questions, or would like to nominate someone please see a member of the nominating committee, including Gus Hendrickson or Tracy Aldrich.

***Voting Members as defined by the Ascension Lutheran Church Constitution: 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.*



Church Office Closures

The church office will be closed on the following dates:

- November 26th, 27th, 28th
- December 15th, 16th, 17th, 19th, 24th, 25th, 26th
(Lisa will be in the office on December 18th)

Inside this issue:

Pastor's Message	2
Bible Studies	3
Birthdays/Anniversaries	4
Prayers	5
Announcements	6-10
Youth News	11-12
Children's Activity	13
Serving This Month	14
Calendar	15

Special points of interest:

- Stewardship Campaign (pg 6)
- Christmas Program (pg 12)
- Thanksgiving Gifts & Poinsettias 11/16
- Thanksgiving Dinner 11/23
- College Care Packages 11/23
- Advent Decorating 11/29
- Personal Care Items Collection (pg 8)

Message from Pastor Julie

Giving Thanks

November is often thought of as the month we set aside for Thanksgiving. I love to gather for turkey, stuffing, potatoes, pumpkin pie, football ... The problem is when we only think about Thanksgiving in November!

Of course, I'm not talking about the food or football—though I would be happy with this meal every month. I mean being thankful. Living a grateful life. What if we lived every day in thanksgiving, living a life of gratitude.

I can get so caught up with all I have to do, or all that others think I need to do. I think of all the things I didn't get done today, deadlines looming, a to do list I won't be able to accomplish. Life becomes a chore. Each day just exists to get stuff done, and I miss out on really living.

That is where I believe thanksgiving comes into play. When we give thanks we condition ourselves to see what is beautiful around us, we see what God has planted in our lives, we respond in ways that are more fruitful. I often find I get more accomplished—but that isn't the point.

Paul often began his letters to the churches in the Bible with I give thanks for you always. There were reminders of the joy and purpose of life, not just getting so much done in a day or a lifetime. I wonder what our lives would be like if we committed to one another to begin each day in thanksgiving. We can give thanks daily for God's unconditional love and forgiveness, which in turn calls us to love and forgive. We give thanks for our community, our congregation who gather and pray for one another.

I give thanks for Ascension. As I write the article this month, the last couple days have been difficult with a lot of deadlines, things to do, responsibilities and constant reminders of how I should be doing more. And yet, in conversations of pastoral care or teaching, in times of worship and song I am drawn out of my selfishness into gratitude with and for the community. I give thanks that I have been called to serve with people that can use my gifts and who offer their gifts for the sake of our mission. I give thanks for the willingness to not always do the same thing over and over, to try new things, and to forgive when things don't go quite as we thought. When I am conscientious about giving thanks, I start to smile—and that feels good, it increases energy, and life doesn't feel so daunting.

I understand how hard it can be sometimes, but we have a savior who on the night before he was betrayed gave thanks, and in doing so gave us himself. He took bread and gave thanks—he took the cup and gave thanks—and reminded us to remember. Thanks be to God forever and ever.



Pastor Julie

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

Lutheran Trump Cards: Playing our Best Hand in the 21st Century



We continue study “Lutheran Trump Cards.” Each week we will study what a section of theology and discipleship and what it means to be Lutheran.

Sunday class will be in-person between services beginning at **9:15 a.m.**

Monday night will begin at **6:30 p.m.** via Zoom.

November 2/3: Faith forms the church

November 9/10: We have an ecumenical heart

November 16/17-*NO CLASS*

November 23/24: We are always watching for change

Click on: [Monday Class Zoom Invite](#)

Or go to: www.zoom.com

Meeting ID: 869 6959 9117

Passcode: 879998

Mary to Martha Women’s Bible Study—Mondays at 1:00 p.m.

Mary to Martha is a group of women at different stages of our faith journey. You do not need to be a member of Ascension to participate. All women are welcome. We’ll be blessed by your presence and have a meaningful time together. We meet on **Mondays** at Ascension from **1:00 p.m. until 2:30 p.m.** We will meet in the Digging Dunes room.

Our next study is **The Marvel and Miracle of Advent** by Christine Caine & Lisa Harper. Join in this four-week Bible study and marvel together at the truth: the supernatural scaffolding of our belief system isn't a human construct but is instead a divine love story wherein the King of all kings willingly sets aside His scepter in Glory, takes on our like form, and condescends to be born in a trough in order to capture our distracted human hearts.

The Marvel and Miracle of Advent is a wake-up call to wonder and to a fresh experience of the gospel and the miracle of Immanuel-God with us. **Participant books are \$10.00.** Please call or text Joyce Richardson at 989-274-6787 to secure a book for the study.

Schedule:

- Nov 10th • Nov 17th • Dec 1st • Dec 8th •

(No class on Nov 24th due to the ELCA Women of Saginaw County meeting)



Tuesday Morning Bible Study



Our **Tuesday** morning Bible Study is studying The Parables of Jesus. 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
- **Meeting ID: 871 0929 4561**
- **Passcode: 099583**

November Birthdays

1st	Kristin Kazmierski	19th	John H. Whelton
2nd	John Robishaw	20th	Barb Yancer
4th	Jan Faerber	21st	Mason Friend
	Samantha Leffler	23rd	Madison Huston
	Micaela Richardson	24th	Julia McRae
5th	Rick Hamilton, Jr.	25th	Charlotte Andrus
6th	Kathy York		Richard Borm
7th	Shanna Burns		Makenzie Collier
	Jason Enright		Peggy Darling
	Matt Weber	26th	Nathan Gottlieb
	Johnny Whelton		Emerson Hendrick
10th	Connie Dutcher	28th	Lindsay Vanthof
11th	Lynda Goward		Erin Peters
	Jayde Wakeman	29th	Bonnie Dalton
12th	Bob Watz		Nick Espinoza
13th	Brenda Crook		Ruth Jakes
15th	Bryan Joslyn		Paisley Lopez
	Russell Morgan	30th	Andrew Dunn
17th	Dylan Gottlieb		
18th	Kayla Berg		
	Waylon Earnesty		
	Donna Fries		

November Anniversaries

1st	Mike and Jan Faerber
	Chris and Ashley Howe
5th	Paul and Kelee Lopez
	Janet O'Dell and Angela Saxton
6th	Wayne and Dorothy Mayou
8th	Bryce and Megan Wakeman
12th	Bob and Tracy Aldrich
19th	John G. and Nancy Whelton
24th	Brad and Kelly Phillion
25th	Matt and Tera Weber



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.

November 2nd

In memory of Wilma Mitchell
by Susan Kelley

November 9th

In memory of Eric Lentner,
by Linda Lentner

November 16th

In memory of Gilbert Bell,
by Edna Bell

November 23rd

To the Glory of God,
by Tom & Sue Bailey

November 30th

In memory of Kay Ballien,
by Phil Ballien

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

You Can Help Us Out

If you are bringing something into the church building to share with someone specific, such as a note, a mailing, or a physical item that is to be given to an individual, please include your name and the name of the receiver. Then, if there are questions, we know who we can check with.

This will save Pastor and the office time in trying to figure out what we are to do with the items.

~Thank you



Please Remember Those on Ascension's Care List

Nancy Armstrong—868 S Miller Rd,
Saginaw, MI 48609

Leonard and Ruth Howell—1410 Hess
Avenue, Saginaw, MI 48601

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

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

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

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.

November 2nd

Grace Lutheran Church, in Lansing and Rev. Bryan Schneider-Thomas
Ascension Families: Amy, Marissa Fahrenbruch; Mikey Falkenberg; Amaya Favazza

November 9th

Redeemer Lutheran in Lansing and Rev. Janice Hite
Ascension Families: Brent, Natalie, Jack Fleissner; Kathy, Alana, Liam Fleming; Ellen Foley

November 16th

Emanuel Lutheran Church in Ludington and Rev. Domingo Shriver
Ascension Families: Craig & Joan Ford; Andy & Kris Friend; Mason Friend

November 23rd

Victory Lutheran Church in Ludington and Rev. Ron Iris
Ascension Families: Meredith Friend; Ron & Donna Fries; John, Donna, Ella, Emma Frollo

November 30th

Trinity Lutheran Church in Manton and Rev. Rosanne Anderson
Ascension Families: Mark, Grace, Sean, Miles Girardin; Jack & Renae Goschke; Judy Goschke



GriefShare Support Group—Mondays at 6:30 p.m.

Ascension's Grief Support Group meets on **Mondays at 6:30 p.m., through December 1st.** The program they utilize is called GriefShare.

A GriefShare support group is a safe, welcoming place where people understand the difficult emotions of grief. Through this 13-week group, you'll discover what to expect in the days ahead and what's "normal" in grief. Since there are no neat, orderly stages of grief, you'll learn helpful ways of coping with grief, in all its unpredictability—and gain solid support each step of the way. **Participant books are free.**

If you have book from a previous session, you may use that book again for future sessions. We do have several people who have attended the sessions multiple times and have found them beneficial as each time they are in a different stage with their grief.

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.

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.

GriefShare®

ABC Breakfast

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 November 10th**. Each person is responsible for the cost of their own breakfast. You don't need to prepare anything or clean up, just show up.



Stewardship Focus for 2025: What Can We Do—Respond to God's Generosity

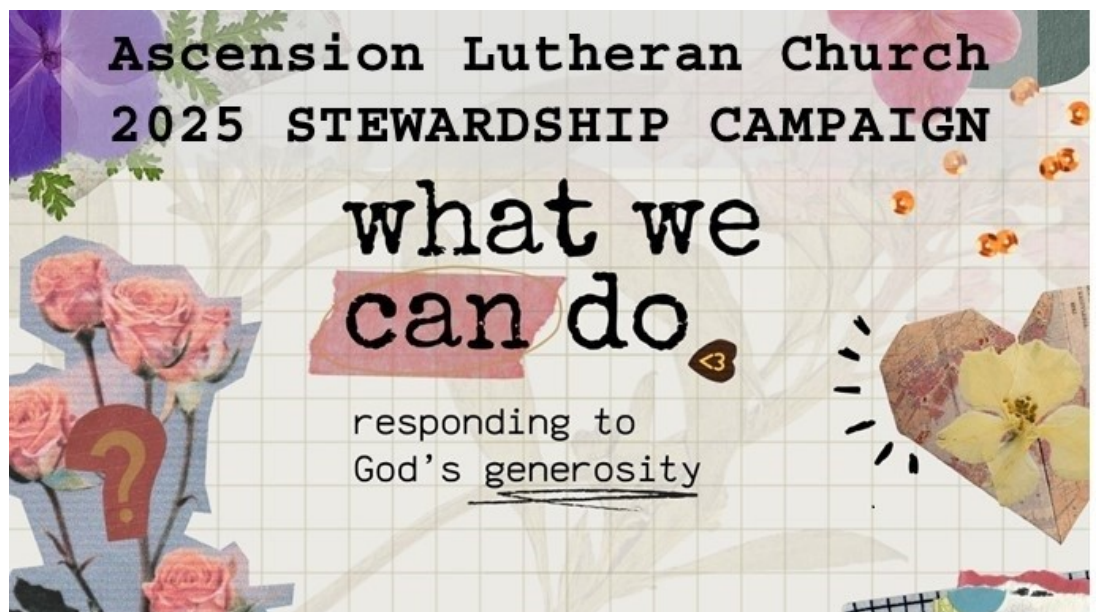
What is possible for us to do in response to God's lavish generosity? God's gifts come to particular people, in particular places, in particular times. Because we are made in God's image, we, too, uniquely embody God's steadfast abundance, love, and mercy. We are equipped to be generous where we are. Drawn more deeply into the body of Christ, we are reminded of our belovedness, and we can respond with generosity, love, and service on behalf of our neighbors.

Our stewardship focus began **September 21, 2025**. As we engage and reflect upon the generosity of God, please explore your heart, dream dreams and see the vision God is making possible with Ascension and this community.



Fill out this card and bring it to worship prior to November 23rd to let Ascension know what your giving plans for 2026 are.

Cards are also on the table near the Sanctuary entrance.



Yes, I want to Support our Ministry!

- Bring this card with you to worship on or before **November 23, 2025**
- 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: _____

Celebrate Thanksgiving—Sunday, November 23rd, 11:30 a.m. (after Worship)



Join in as we celebrate Thanksgiving together with our church family. The Youth of Ascension are hosting a Thanksgiving meal to thank the congregation for the support of the youth ministry and would like to bring the congregation together to have a good time. Turkey will be provided and each family is asked to bring a dish-to-share. We are not coordinating the dishes, bring your favorite side dish or dessert. **All are invited.** There is a sign-up sheet on the kiosk to plan for the number of attendees.



Thanksgiving Gifts— November 16th & 19th



Help fill the sacristy with donations of **Mogen David Concord wine** or monetary donations, to defray the costs of wafers and bread throughout the year. Your generosity allows us to use our budgeted funds to upgrade banners, purchase oil for the altar candles, and baptismal candles to name a few. This year we need to replace our chalice as it is showing wear.

Bring monetary donations and Mogen David Concord wine to worship on:

**Sunday, November 16th
Wednesday, November 19th.**

You may also drop off donations to the church office anytime before November 16th & 19th. A basket for the monetary donations is on the desk by the door. Checks are payable to Ascension Lutheran Church.

Poinsettias—Order Due Date: November 16th

It is time to sign up to purchase poinsettias for the altar. By purchasing a plant or two you help make the sanctuary beautiful for Advent. The plants will remain on the altar through Advent and then can be picked up after Christmas Eve to brighten your home. Please see the sign up sheet on the kiosk for an envelope and place it in the basket in the church office. This year they will be **\$10 per plant** and must be paid before the plant is ordered.

ORDER DEADLINE is Sunday, November 16th!



Advent Decorating

Please lend a hand or two to decorate for the season of Advent. The Trustees and Altar Guild could use your help. There are several preparations that need to be completed before baby Jesus arrives! We have jobs for everyone- sit down tasks, climbing tasks, delicate tasks, and those that require a little muscle.

The Fun begins at **9:00 am on November 29th**. Coffee, juice, donuts & snacks provided. Please sign-up on the kiosk, if possible, so we can plan for snacks.

Save-the-Date: the decoration "take-down" is January 10th



Household & Personal Care Items Collection

We will once again collect household and personal care items for Christmas. This year the items will be shared with those who are served with the **East Side Soup Kitchen**. Items needed are shampoo, conditioner, soap, laundry soap, dish soap, dryer sheets, fabric softener, tissues, toilet paper, paper towels, cleaning supplies, lotion, body wash, shaving cream, razors, feminine products, deodorant, etc. Items must be received **by December 18, 2025**. You may begin bringing items in at any time and place them in the Holiday decorated boxes with the "Personal Needs Donations" sign.

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.



November 5th & 19th • December 3rd & 17th • January 7th & 21st

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.

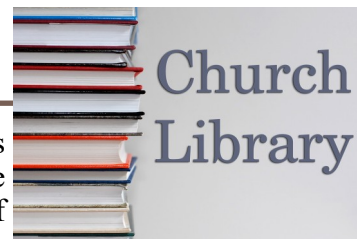


Blood Pressure Screening

Mark your calendar for blood pressure screenings by the Parish Health Committee on the 3rd Sunday each month. The next date is **Sunday, November 16th**

The MESSENGER is published monthly by Ascension Lutheran Church.
Deadline for the December 2025 issue is: **Monday, November 17th at 12:00 (noon)**.
Articles may be hand delivered or emailed to: ascensionlc@sbcglobal.net

Library Update



This is just a reminder that there are a number of rather unique materials available in our church library. To help you find materials, there are letters in the upper left hand corner of each section of shelves. There are a number of specialized areas for your use:

- Section D has children's Bibles on the bottom shelf
- Sections E & F have puzzles
- Section G (Round rotating unit) has unmarked paperback fiction for all ages
- Section J has magazines in the box on the bottom shelf
- Section J also has emotional support materials just above the magazines
- Section L has a large print Bible in many volumes on the top shelf

Take out any materials you wish to use and return them when you are finished with them. Enjoy!

The library is also looking for a few helpers, more to come next month!



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.

VANCO-Online Giving

Ascension utilizes VANCO for online giving. They offer a mobile app that can be found in the App or Play store. You can also sign up online at <https://secure.myyvanco.com/YN7D/home>

If you have any questions about online giving, please contact Lisa in the office.



Getting Ready for Christmas Shopping? Order Your Gift Cards Through Ascension



Consider using Raise Right gift cards for your shopping this year. Raise Right is a fundraising program that Ascension participates with. All you do is purchase the gifts cards through Ascension (*order form on the Kiosk*) and we will order the cards for you—at no extra cost. You can use these cards to give as gifts or use them to purchase whatever it is you wish to buy. November orders must be received by **Sunday, November 16th** and December orders by **Sunday, December 14th**. (*orders on Monday “usually” come in Thursday*)

How does it work?—If you order a \$50 gift card from one of the stores you pay \$50, and the church receives \$1.25—at 2.5% interest. Some have much higher return. That may not seem like much, but every little bit helps. If you have questions see Pastor Julie or Lisa in the office.

ELCA Women of Saginaw County

The ELCA Women of Saginaw County are collection the following items for NEST; **pot holders, small dish soap, colander, and cheese graters**. Please place items in the 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 Meeting Dates for 2025/2026 are:

November 24, 2025	1:00 pm	- Our Saviour
NO MEETING IN DECEMBER		
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)

Ascension's church contact is Gina Dillenbeck. Feel free to reach out to her with any questions!

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



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 March meeting, please contact one of the team members listed above.

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](#).

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.

Center of HOPE Food Pantry

Ascension will serve at the Center of HOPE Food Pantry, 723 Emerson, Saginaw, MI 48607 on **November 12th**. Arrive at **8:30 a.m.** and 8-10 volunteers are needed. The next Truck Unload & Pantry Shelf Stocking is **November 5th at 8:30 a.m.**

Beginning in 2026, Ascension will no longer have a scheduled day and an organized group serving at the food pantry. If you want to volunteer, please contact Dewey Burke directly at dewburke@hotmail.com for the 2026 dates.

Confirmation Classes

Confirmation Class Confirmation is a time to learn more about our faith and make it our own.



This year, all classes will join into one class and we will learn about the Lord's Prayer and many aspects of discipleship like worship, vocation, stewardship, and what it means to be a member of the church.

Classes will be held after worship on Sunday's along with planned retreats/lock-in's. We will provide a brief lunch and then class runs from **12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.** Upcoming Lessons take place on **11/9, 12/7, 1/11/26**. Refer to the full schedule with events on ascensionlc.org.

Charge

Please pray for our youth, adult leaders, and Pastor Julie who will be attending the Middle and High School Youth Charge event at Great Wolf Lodge in Traverse City November 14th-16th.



Filling College Care Packages

Middle & High School Youth will be filling college care packages on **November 23rd** after our Thanksgiving dinner. If you are a college student or have a college student as a child, we need your current address.

We invite congregational members to help us provide items for 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 20 college packages will be assembled.



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.



Christmas Program—Practices Begins November 23rd!

Our young people will share the story of Christmas on **Sunday, December 21st**. All elementary youth are invited to participate. Middle school youth who would like to play a part are also invited. Please contact Makena ASAP if your middle school youth has interest in being in the program. You can reach her phone at 989-980-7029 or email makleighwhelton72@gmail.com. Thumb drives of music are available, as well as the script with the words to the songs. These will be distributed in Children's Church.



Practices will be held: **9:15 a.m.-10:15 a.m. 11/23, 11/30, 12/7, 12/14**
During Children's Church at 10:30 a.m. service: 11/23, 11/30, 12/7, 12/14

I am super excited to be doing the program this year! Sophia Burns will be my assistant director, and I think this will be a fun program. This year's program is called *The Mystery of the Missing Manger*.

Children's Church/Sunday School



As we begin this new year of Children's Church, we are going to focus again 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. Many of us learned a lot about the Bible stories when we were in Sunday School. It's a great opportunity to learn and to share God's story with the next generations. Please contact Dawn Earnesty (989) 506-2962 or wilcoxd4@msu.edu if you are able to teach or have questions. There is a rotating schedule, so this does provide the opportunity to worship most Sundays with the congregation in the Sanctuary.

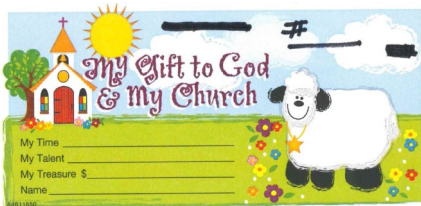
What is Children's Church?

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. The youth & teachers will then return to worship as an entire congregation during the peace

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.

Elementary Youth Giving Envelopes

We thank you greatly for teaching



your children about giving and using their giving envelopes. Envelopes can be picked up in the Children's Church classroom. Each youth has their own giving number. It is **VERY** helpful to ensure that their giving is recorded properly to put their **name and their giving #** on

the envelope each week. 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.



James 1:17 reminds us about the source of every blessing. According to this verse, how is God described?

- A. The one who changes like shifting shadows
B. The giver of wisdom to the faithful
C. The Father of heavenly lights who does not change
D. The one who rewards those who are generous



Answer: C (See James 1:17)

James 1:17

Thankful
garland

What you need:

- Construction paper in a variety of fall colors
 - Pencil, marker, or crayons
 - Yarn, ribbon, or raffia
 - Scissors
 - Hole punch
 - Spray bottle filled with water
 - Real leaves (Optional)
 - Wooden or plastic beads, cereal with holes (Cheerios, Froot Loops, etc.), or any dried pasta with a hole (Optional)
- 

What you do:

1. Draw or trace leaf shapes onto construction paper.
2. Lay the paper flat and spray with water until the paper is completely wet.
3. Crumple the wet paper into balls.
4. Open the paper and let the sheets dry flat.
5. When dry, cut out each leaf.
6. On each leaf, write the name of one person or thing you're thankful for.
7. Punch a hole in each leaf.
8. Lace the leaves, beads, cereal, and pasta onto the yarn, ribbon, or raffia.
9. Tie the ends and hang your garland.

Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

1 Thessalonians 5:18 (NIV)

Puzzle!

Write the words below in alphabetical order inside the squares. Then read down the second column of letters to complete the hidden phrase below.

FEAST, KHAKI, MOUTH,
ESSAY, LLAMA, ORBIT, CARRY,
UDDER, BRUSH, ITEMS,
~~APPLE~~, LEARN, CIDER



P

!

Answer: Praise the Lord!

Serving in November

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

2	Susan Kelley
9	Kris Friend
16	Dan Roth
23	Tom Page
30	Edna Bell



10:30am

Barb Van Marter
Dawn Dalton
Chris Crump
Amy Fahrenbruch
Marissa Fahrenbruch

Prayers 8am

2	Susan Kelley
9	Lynn Schomaker
16	Ruth Schomaker
23	Tom Page
30	Charleen Boland

10:30am

Heidi Treipkowski
Dawn Dalton
Chris Crump
Amy Fahrenbruch
Lisa Espinoza

Sound Board Operators

2	Jeff Whelton	Makena Whelton
9	Kris Friend	Makena Whelton
16	†	Lisa Whelton
23	Kris Friend	Makena Whelton
30	Jeff Whelton	Makena Whelton

Video Screen Operators

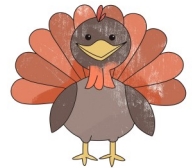
2	Laura Schian	Lisa Whelton
9	Charleen Boland	Ginny Whelton
16	Susan Kelley	Ginny Whelton
23	Kris Friend	†
30	Charleen Boland	†

Head Ushers

2	Kelley	Friend/Beyerlein
9	Schomaker	Dalton/Whelton
16	Roth	Earnesty/Wizner
23	Schomaker	Dawson/Mossner
30	Kelley	Friend/Beyerlein

Acolyte 10:30 a.m.

2	Ethan Earnesty
9	Matti Wizner
16	Eliza Trepkowski
23	Alex Becker
30	Hannah Wizner



Altar Guild

2	†
9	†
16	†
23	†
30	†

Children's Church

2	Dave & Stephanie Becker
9	Amy & Marissa Fahrenbruch
16	Dawn Earnesty & Stephanie Wizner
23	Christmas Program Practice
30	Christmas Program Practice

November Librarian: Marty Debozy



WEDNESDAYS 7pm

Head Usher	Readers	Sound Board	Video Screen	Prayers
5 Glen Mack	Joyce Richardson	†	Celina Gottlieb	Celina Gottlieb
12 Mike Clifford	Mike Clifford	†	Connie Dutcher	Mike Clifford
19 John Schroeder	John Schroeder	†	Connie Dutcher	Connie Dutcher
26 NO WORSHIP	NO WORSHIP	NO WORSHIP	NO WORSHIP	NO WORSHIP

Ascension Lutheran Church - November 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
	Bring Stewardship Cards to church by November 23rd					1 10am-3pm Craft Fair
2 All Saints' worship 8am-Worship/Communion 9:15am-Adult SS/Bible Study 10:30am-Worship/Communion/ Children's Church	3 6:30pm-ELCA Saginaw Mtg (@Resurrection) 6:30pm-GriefShare Grief Support	4 11am-Bible Study-Zoom 6:15pm-Wellness Warriors	5 All Saints' worship 8:30am-Food Pantry Truck Unload 9am-Sewing Group 11am-Weekend Food Bags 6:30pm-Scouts 7pm-Worship/Communion	6 6:30pm-Trustee Mtg	7 Office Closed	8
9 8am-Worship/Communion 9:15am-Adult SS/Bible Study 10:30am-Worship/Communion/ Children's Church 12pm-Confirmation	10 9am-ABC Breakfast @ Riverside 1pm-Women's Bible St 5:30pm-FH use 6:30pm-Bible Study-Zoom 6:30pm-GriefShare Grief Support 6:30pm-St. John's Mtg (Our Saviour)	11 11am-Bible Study-Zoom 6:15pm-Wellness Warriors 6:30pm-Council Mtg 	12 8:30am-Serve @ Food Pantry 11am-Weekend Food Bags 12pm-Council Reports Due 7pm-Worship/Communion	13	14 Office Closed Pr. Julie & Youth @ Charge 11/14-11/16	15
16 Poinsettia Orders Due Thanksgiving Gifts Due Blood Pressure Screening RaiseRight Orders Due 8am-Worship 10:30am-Worship/Children's Church Pr. Julie & Youth Return from Charge	17 9am-Congregational Mtg Materials Due to Office 9am-Church Carpet Cleaning 1pm-Women's Bible St 12pm-Messenger Deadline 6:30pm-GriefShare Grief Support	18 9am-Pastor: Bay Area Conference Mtg 11am-Bible Study-Zoom 6:15pm-Wellness Warriors	19 Thanksgiving Gifts Due 9am-Sewing Group 11am-Weekend Food Bags 6:30pm-Scouts 7pm-Worship/Communion	20 11am-Pastor: Conf. of Deans Mtg	21 Office Closed	22 11am-Funeral @ church
23 Christ the King Sunday 8am-Worship/Communion 9:15am-Adult SS/Bible Study 9:15am-Christmas Program Practice 10:30am-Worship/Communion/ Children's Church 11:30am-Thanksgiving Dinner 12:30pm-Youth-College Boxes	24 1pm-ELCA Women of Saginaw (@Our Saviour) 6:30pm-Bible Study-Zoom 6:30pm-GriefShare Grief Support	25 11am-Bible Study-Zoom 6:15pm-Wellness Warriors Messenger Mailed	26 Office Closed NO WORSHIP	27 Office Closed 	28 Office Closed	29 9am-Advent Decorating
30 Advent: Week 1 Pick Up Congregational Mtg Materials 8am-Worship/Communion 9:15am-Adult SS/Bible Study 9:15am-Christmas Program Practice 10:30am-Worship/Communion/ Children's Church						

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

ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH

8695 Gratiot Road
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Phone: 989-781-2170
www.ascensionlc.org

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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

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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.