



The Messenger

Volume 47, Issue 3

March 2026

Ascension Lutheran Church

MISSION:

“As an open and progressive congregation, we boldly make Christ’s vision known.”

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Special Points of Interest

- * Mid Michigan Adult & Teen Challenge 3/1
- * 3/4 ButterBraid Orders Due
- * Blood Drive 3/5, 2:30-7pm
- * Local Charity Recip. pg 7
- * Soup Suppers—Weds 6pm
- * 3/16 Dinner @ Gabby’s
- * Easter Flowers Due 3/22

Sabbatical Leave for Pastor Julie in 2027

The congregation approved a 3-month sabbatical leave for Pastor Julie during the year 2027, at the meeting on February 15, 2026. Sabbatical leaves are an important part of supporting our pastors, allowing them time for rest, renewal, and continued growth in their ministry. Per North/West Lower Michigan Synod Guidelines, a full-time rostered minister shall be eligible for a sabbatical once this leader has been in ordained ministry for 5 years and has completed 5 years in the current call, with continued eligibility for a sabbatical every 5 years after that (within the same call). Providing this opportunity for Pastor Julie will help her return refreshed and better equipped to lead and serve our faith community. Pastor Julie has been with Ascension since August 1, 2013.

Susan Kelley, Celina Gottlieb, and Waylon Earnesty have volunteered as congregational representatives to support the planning process for Pastor Julie’s sabbatical. These representatives will work together with church leadership and Pastor Julie to ensure a smooth and meaningful sabbatical period, as well as to help coordinate coverage for worship and pastoral care during her absence. If any others are interested in joining the team, please contact one of the team members.

Thank you for your prayerful consideration and support.

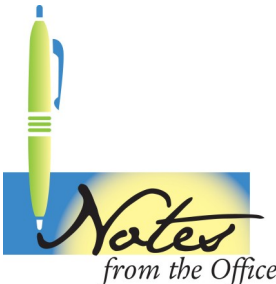
Office Information

Our Parish Administrator, Lisa Whelton will be on leave for several weeks following surgery. During this time we welcome and thank Eric Dunn who will serve in our office and Makena Whelton who is preparing the projection for worship each week. We thank you for your patience and understanding and thank Eric and Makena for stepping in during this time.

During this transition time, please note we may be using alternate communication (Messenger may not be published). Information will continue to be shared in worship, on

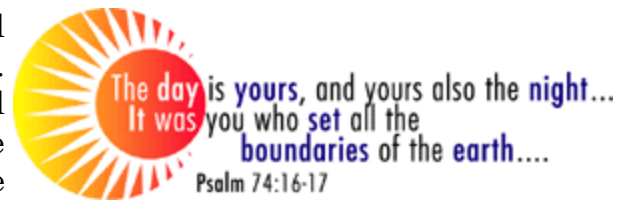
the screens, on YouTube, and Facebook. We thank you for your attentiveness to this.

And most of all, prayers for a quick and comfortable recovery for Lisa and her family.



A Message From Pastor Julie Boundaries

Boundaries are essential for a healthy sense of self and respect. They are guidelines for fostering relationships. Boundaries are set to help communicate needs and limits. Over time, if boundaries are ignored or people are unaware of boundaries, assumptions can be made that may harm relationships.



I think of boundaries sort of as the white lines between lanes going in the same direction on a road. Driving gets a little treacherous and stressful if we are driving all over the road.

I have not been good at keeping boundaries when it comes to social media. Because I share openly that I look at social media regularly, some people think I know things that I don't. My algorithms on my phone are different from yours. I also very rarely search for information unless it is in a group page I am part of and want information. I see individual posts if they show up in my feed. I know some people have posted things like they are in the hospital or having surgery and think I know because they posted—I may or may not. I have had some people get upset because I didn't respond to something, either online or call them. Again, I didn't know.

I have shared this story with a few people recently. On internship, I asked the congregation before worship started if there were any prayer concerns. They gave me the normals and one woman asked to pray for Princess Diana and her sons. It seemed a bit odd, but it was on her heart so I did. So I prayed and said something like, we pray for Princess Diana, William and Harry as they struggle through difficult family times and all that entails. I got home after worship to discover that Princess Diana had been killed in a car accident early that morning. I probably would have responded differently had I known.

I am sharing this with you because I am working on setting better boundaries and need to communicate those with you. If you want me to know something, please call, email or text. I will not be using Facebook for information—the news and posts are too much for me to deal with and there is so much division and falsehood I don't find it worth my time. I will still be using the group page for information, but I won't be scrolling much. I do not watch much news—again I don't think there is much news and I can't tell what is true. I don't need to watch more editorials.

I am trying not to sound harsh, so please know I love you all, want to know what you are going through and want to walk with you through those things. If we communicate more directly, we have a better chance of not getting messages crossed.

Thank you for your help.

Pastor Julie

Bible Study—Revelation: God's Persistent Promise

Same Study Offered Both Days:

- Sunday Morning at **9:15 a.m.**
- Tuesday Morning at **11:00 a.m. on Zoom.**

Revelation is a wild and wooly text full of visions and beasts and dragons and fire and fear. But at its core, Revelation is a book of promise and hope. Don't let the angrier or louder voices in our culture take the book from us. We invite you into a conversation about how the last

book of the Bible might offer a beginning for us as people of faith.

With this video-based Bible study, you'll hear stories that invite you to see the promise of God calling from the pages of Revelation. You'll build skills to read Scripture from its original context and in ways that resonate with our daily lives. With beautifully filmed videos and a helpful discussion guide, you'll

have everything you need to hear a word of hope in a disorienting and chaotic world.

***Last classes:
March 8th & 10th***

Sunday Class: A new study begins again April 12th

Tuesday Class: A new study start date is TBD

Bible Study—Mary to Martha Women's Bible Study

Due to illness, our February study was delayed until March.

Mary to Martha is a group of women at different stages of our faith journey gathering together to learn more. You do not need to be a member of Ascension, all women are welcome. We'll be blessed by your presence and we'll have a meaningful time together.

We meet **Mondays at Ascension from 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.** We meet in the Digging Dunes room.

Study materials are **\$10 per person.**

We will study Joanna Weaver's "Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World".

Thoughtful and personal, practical and encouraging, this study looks at contrasting sisters of the Bible—Mary and Martha, the friends of Jesus—to gently show readers how they can deepen their devotion, strengthen their service, and experience less stress and greater joy.

Joanna Weaver is the bestselling and award-winning author. She and her pastor husband John, have three children and live in Montana.

Please call or text Joyce Richardson at 989-274-6787 to secure your study materials.

Our next study will begin on Monday March 2, 2026 at 1:00 p.m.

Daily Bible Reading

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



What is Faith?—Wednesday's during Lent

During the season of Lent, our worship will focus on what is faith. Hebrews 11:1 reads: "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen." As we

worship and reflect, we will walk with the Old Testament figures like Noah, Abraham, Moses and the Israelites; and then for the final week of our Lenten worship we will focus

on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith.

Reminder we worship at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday. A soup supper will begin at 6:00 p.m.

Lenten Soup Suppers—Wednesday's at 6:00 p.m.

Once again, our congregation will host simple soup suppers prior to our Lenten worship services. There is a sign up sheet on the kiosk asking for volunteers to bring soup, salads, and bread each week through **March 25th**. As it has in the past, this will be a fundraiser for our youth

ministry. We are looking for youth to sign up to help set up (5:30p.m.), serve (6:00p.m.) and clean up (6:45-7:15p.m.). Youth working the event will then split the free will offering each night to apply that to their account to use for upcoming youth activities.

(If there are weeks we do not have youth to serve, other ministries will be given the opportunity to work and have that money go to that ministry.)



Holy Week Worship



Thursday, April 2nd at 7 p.m. – Maundy Thursday

Friday, April 3rd at 7 p.m. –Good Friday

Sunday, April 5th at 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.—Easter

Please note these three services are actually one continual service as we remember Jesus sharing the Last Supper with the disciples (Maundy Thursday), Jesus' suffering and death (Good Friday), and the joyous resurrection of our Lord (Easter.)

Please note there will not be worship on Wednesday, April 1st.

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—Edgewood Assisted Living Center, 4850 Gratiot Rd, Room A-5, Saginaw, MI 48638

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

Barb Yancer—Edgewood Assisted Living Center, 4850 Gratiot Rd, Room D-1, Saginaw, MI 48638

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.

March 1st

Hope Evangelical Church, in Plainwell and Rev. Nicole Smith
Ascension Families: Amy, Russ, Abigail, Carlie, Elizabeth Kolb; Collene Kolinski; Diane Kolinski

March 8th

Lord of Life Lutheran Church in Portage and Rev. Martha Porter-Reid

Ascension Families: Michael Kolinski; Nancy Kozak; Ali, Mike, Logan Krzyzaniak

March 15th

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Portage and Rev. Rachel Laughlin

Ascension Families: Carol Lange; Alicia, Jon, Samantha Leffler; Linda Lentner

March 22nd

Leer Lutheran Church in Posen and their supply pastors
Ascension Families: Marv Lentner; Ronald & Marie Leonard; Dorothy Leppert

March 29th

St. Paul Lutheran Church in Reed City and Rev. Marcy Miller

Ascension Families: Jon List; Darcy & Diane Lobsiger-Braden; Susie & Danny Long

ELCA Congregations of Saginaw County

For the last few years, Ascension has participated with other ELCA congregations in Saginaw County to promote the ELCA in our community, strengthen bonds, and promote our ministries together. Kris Yackel-Friend and Pastor Julie have been

serving with this team. More people are welcome to participate. This team will be hosting a joint worship service in September for all ELCA congregations in Saginaw County at St. Matthews Lutheran Church in Bridgeport and Bishop Julie

Schneider-Thomas will be our guest presenter. If you have questions or just want to check things out, our next meeting is **April 20th at 6:30 p.m.** at St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, 6065 King Rd., Bridgeport, MI 48722

March Birthdays

1st Edna Bell
Rae Stoddard
Heidi Trepkowski
Chris Trier
John G. Whelton
2nd Erika Collier
3rd Nikki Herren
Steve Salowitz
6th Barbara Mitchell
7th Debra Beyerlein
Alayna Dalton
Dana McClure
Connor McRae
Joyce Richardson
11th Brooks Druelle
12th Ella Frolo
14th Linda Chilton
15th Alexandra Becker
Diane Kolinski

16th Bob Mancini
18th Cole Stadler
19th Daxton Briggs
Rebecca Enright
Gregory Wortley
20th Darren Dancer
Jacob Faerber
21st Dave Marceills
22nd Jeff Maeder
23rd Cody Briggs
Andy Friend
Heidi Mackel
24th Jacob Crook
27th Lillian Hendrick
Amy Kolb
Mitchell Turner
29th Tracy Aldrich

March Anniversaries

9th Karen & Rick Hart
29th Andrew & Stephanie Dunn



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 2026 flower chart is

posted on the door of the Acolyte room.

March 1st

In Honor of her birthday, by Edna Bell

March 8th

In Memory of Bill Gottlieb, by Celina Gottlieb

March 15th

available to sponsor

March 22nd

In Honor of his birthday, Andy Friend, by Kris Friend

March 29th

available to sponsor

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



**GREAT NEWS
FROM OUR
TREASURER**

Our Monthly Mortgage
Payment is now at:
**85% Principal
15% Interest**

Balance as of 1/31/26
\$239,594.54

Sunday, March 1, 2026 -Mid-Michigan Adult and Teen Challenge

During our worship services on **Sunday, March 1st**, we will welcome people from Mid-Michigan Adult and Teen Challenge. This ministry offers a 12-month residential program for men and women overcoming

life controlling issues such as drugs, alcoholism, self-harm, eating disorders, pornography, and anything else someone is struggling with and that controls their lives. Through intentional work and the power of Jesus

Christ, people are given an opportunity to move forward in life making quality decisions for a hopeful future.

We will be receiving a noisy/special offering for this ministry, please join us.

First Quarter Local Charity Recipient



When we adopted our 2026 annual budget the congregation voted to give 1% of our general giving to a local ministry in addition to the 10% we give to the North/West Lower Michigan Synod.

In the first quarter of 2026, Mid-Michigan Adult and Teen Challenge will be the recipient. This is in addition to the noisy offering we will have when that ministry is here to present their testimony in worship.

If you have suggestions or ideas for other local ministries, please share that with a council member for consideration.

2026 Giving Envelopes

If you did not pick up your 2026 giving envelopes, please contact the church office to make arrangements.

Easter Flowers

If you desire to purchase flowers to decorate our chancel on Easter Sunday, please fill out an envelope from the kiosk (*complete with name and flower choice*) and place with payment in the basket in the church office.



Order Deadline: March 22nd



Prices are \$10.50 for Tulips & Daffodils and \$12.50 for Lilies. Payment must be made before orders are placed; make checks payable to **Ascension Lutheran Church.**



Celebrate St. Patrick's Day with Ascension and Friends

Mark your calendars for **Monday, March 16, 2026 at 5:15 p.m.** (or when you can get there after work). We are going to meet at Gabby's (3002 S. Graham Road) to celebrate together. Wear your

green (or orange) and let's party together.

Orange you say? Pastor just learned this a couple year ago. Apparently, the history is protestants generally are to

wear orange for St. Patrick's Day, leaving the green for our Roman Catholic siblings. Wear green or orange—we are church together!!



Library—Volunteers Needed—We have 1—Any more??

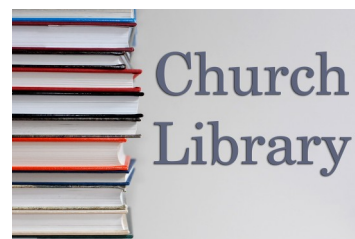
The library is looking for a few helpers!

The time commitment is an hour or two (*if special events*) per month and a few team meetings per year. The time commitment is flexible.

The duties include: Shelving return books/materials and straightening shelves.

Special Duties might include the team working together to move books or to decorate for a holiday or season.

Contact Marty Debozy 989-642-8135 or the church office if you have any questions.



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.



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, March 15th**



Wellness Warriors Tuesdays 6:15pm

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.



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 to the right. 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.



March 4th & 18th
April 1st & 15th
May 6th & 20th

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.

Office Door Closed During Office Hours

Please note that during the colder months of the year, the office door may be closed when Lisa is in the office. Please feel free to enter the office, knocking is not necessary. The door is closed simply to retain warmth, **Come On In!!**



Church Office Closures

The church Office **IS CLOSED** if
 Swan Valley
 Schools are Closed
 due to inclement
 weather



Blood Drive

Ascension has the unique opportunity to come together as a family of faith and offer hope through blood donation. Our first blood drive in 2026 is scheduled for **March 5th, 2:30-7:00p.m.** You're invited to be part of this lifesaving mission. Not only can your donation strengthen our community, it will bring healing and hope to neighbors who may be facing some of the toughest moments of their lives. Every unit of blood donated stays right here in our community - helping local

patients, including our own families, church members, neighbors, coworkers, and friends.

Did you know...

- 1 blood donation can save up to 3 lives!
- Every 2 seconds, someone in America needs a blood transfusion.
- 1 in 7 patients entering a hospital require blood.
- 1 in 83 newborn deliveries require blood.
- A single car accident victim can require as many as 100 pints of



BLOOD DRIVE

blood to survive.

- Your blood could save the life of a cancer survivor, sickle cell warrior, trauma victim, premature baby or other patient in need. The list goes on!

Please consider donating if you are able.

https://donateblood.versiti.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/11630003

Ascension's Women's Support Group

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 free to call the office.

If you would like to help with the setup or snacks for the March meeting at Ascension, please contact the church office or one of the members above.



ELCA Women of Saginaw County

The Meeting Dates for 2026 are:

All Meetings are at 1:00 p.m.

March 30, 2026 - Ascension

April 27, 2026 - Faith

May 18, 2026 - Our Saviour

(week early due to Memorial Day)

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



2026 North/West Lower Michigan Synod Assembly

Date: May 15-16, 2026

Location: Prince of Peace Lutheran Church/Portage, MI

Early Bird Registration: February 17, 2026-March 20, 2026

Day One will include workshops, keynote speaker, dinner with celebrations of anniversaries, and Evening Prayer. (1 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.)

Day Two will serve as the official Synod Assembly with the business meeting to address required business, elections, memorials and resolutions. (9 a.m. to 3 p.m.)

ABC Breakfast



Join Us For
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 **9:00a.m. at Riverside, 8295 Midland Rd. in Freeland on March 9th.** Each person is responsible for the cost of their own breakfast. You don't need to prepare anything or clean up, just show up.

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

Deadline for the April 2026 issue is:

Monday, March 16th at 12:00 p.m. (noon).

Articles may be hand delivered or emailed to: ascensionlc@sbcglobal.net

Children's Church/Sunday School

This year in Children's Church we are continuing to focus on learning Bible Stories. Please contact Dawn Earnesty (989) 506-2962 or wilcox4@msu.edu if you have questions.

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

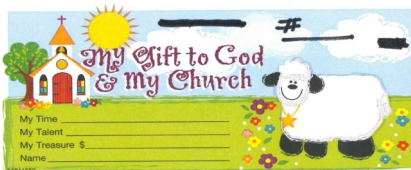


service with their families, and after the Children's Message, be dismissed with their teachers to experience the Word, or message of worship, in a more age appropriate way. The youth &

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.

Confirmation Classes

Upcoming Lessons take place on **Mar 8th & 22nd April 12th**

Refer to the full schedule with events on ascensionlc.org.



Celebration of Graduates –Send pictures by April 27, 2026



Our Church's Graduates

We will celebrate our High School and Collegiate graduates during the **10:30 a.m. worship service on May 17, 2025**. Please send Pastor Julie (pr_julie@sbcglobal.net) the following information:

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

There is a form on our website, ascensionlc.org, under Forms.

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

Butter Braids—Youth Fundraiser

The youth will be selling Butter Braids **until March 4th**, a delicious pastry that is good anytime, and especially at the holidays. You can store them in your freezer, take them out the night before and bake them in the morning for a perfect pastry with your milk or coffee.

Delivery will be **March 25** to the church. Orders can be taken from one of the youth directly or online. Youth will earn approximately \$7.50 per Butter Braid for their individual youth accounts.

Thank you for your support!



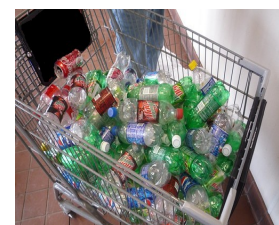
Youth Fundraising—Pop Can Returns

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.





Bible Quiz

In Bible times, shepherds spent most of their days with their sheep—guiding them to food and water and guarding them from danger. When a sheep was injured, the shepherd treated the wound with a special liquid. What was it?

A. Water
B. Honey
C. A Salt Solution
D. Olive oil

Answer: D (See Psalm 23:5, ESV)

**Pull Out Your Bibles
for this Quiz and Go
To:
Psalm 23:5**



These cheerful “palm trees” make a bright reminder of the celebration that greeted Jesus as he entered Jerusalem.

What you need:

- Bananas (for the tree trunks)
- Kiwis or green grapes (for the palm leaves)
- Mandarin oranges (for the ground)



What you do:

1. Slice bananas in half lengthwise and place vertically on a plate.
2. Arrange kiwi slices or grapes at the top to form palm fronds.
3. Add oranges at the base.
4. Serve immediately or chill until ready to serve.

Scripture Tie-In:
“Blessed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord!”
—Matthew 21:9 (NIV)



Puzzle!

HOW'S THE WEATHER?

Use the code below to fill in these forecasts in places where Jesus traveled:

CODE:

A=☺	D=☼	H=❄	M=☆	P=◆	T=■	W=☒
B=♠	E=+	I=*	N=↑	R=●	U=□	Y=☞
C=☼	G=☼	L=★	O=↓	S=○	V=☒	Z=☞

Mt. Hermon ○ ↑ ↓ ☒

Jericho ❄ ↓ ■

Jerusalem ☆ * ★ ❄

Dead Sea Area ■ ● ↓ ◆ * ☼ ☺ ★ ❄ + ☺ ■

Sea of Galilee * □ ○ ■ ☞ ☒ * ↑ ❄ ○

Mediterranean Coast ● + + ☞ ☞



Answers: snow, hot, mild, tropical heat, gusty winds, breezy

Serving in March

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

1	No Reader Needed
8	Tom Erskine
15	Joan Ford
22	Kris Friend
29	Tom Page

10:30am

No Reader Needed
Dawn Dalton
Amy Fahrenbruch
Marissa Fahrenbruch
Donna Frollo

Prayers 8am

1	Lynn Schomaker
8	Susan Kelley
15	Tom Page
22	Tom Page
29	Susan Kelley

10:30am

Chris Crump
Dawn Dalton
Heidi Trepkowski
Amy Fahrenbruch
Lisa Espinoza

Sound Board Operators

1	Kris Friend	Makena Whelton
8	†	†
15	Kris Friend	Makena Whelton
22	Jeff Whelton	Makena Whelton
29	Kris Friend	Makena Whelton

Video Screen Operators

1	Kris Friend	Ginny Whelton
8	Susan Kelley	†
15	Susan Kelley	Ginny Whelton
22	Charleen Boland	†
29	Charleen Boland	†

Head Ushers

1	Schomaker	Dalton/Whelton
8	Roth	Earnesty/Wizner
15	Schomaker	Dawson/Mossner
22	Kelley	Friend/Beyerlein
29	Schomaker	Whelton/Whelton

Acolyte 10:30 a.m.

1	Hannah Wizner
8	Nathan Earnesty
15	Hugh Carroll
22	Ethan Earnesty
29	†



Altar Guild

1	†
8	†
15	†
22	†
29	†



Children's Church

1	Stephanie & Hannah Wizner
8	Dave & Stephanie Becker
15	†
22	Dawn & Ethan Earnesty
29	Spring Break-No Class

March Librarian: Marty Debozy

WEDNESDAYS 7pm

	Head Usher	Readers	Sound Board	Video Screen	Prayers
4	Mike Clifford	Mike Clifford	†	Kelly Phillion	Mike Clifford
11	John Schroeder	Connie Dutcher	†	Connie Dutcher	Connie Dutcher
18	Glen Mack	Kristin Kazmierski	†	Celina Gottlieb	Celina Gottlieb
25	Mike Clifford	Glen Mack	†	Connie Dutcher	Donna Malburg






Ascension Lutheran Church - March 2026

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.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><i>1 Mid-Michigan Adult & Teen Challenge</i> 8am-Worship/Communion 9:15am-Adult SS/Bible Study 10:30am-Worship/Communion/ Children's Church</p>	<p><i>2</i> 1pm-Women's Bible St</p>	<p><i>3</i> 10am-Staff Mtg 11am-Bible Study-Zoom 1pm-Pastor-Zoom 6:15pm-Wellness Warriors</p>	<p><i>4</i> 9am-Sewing Group 11am-Weekend Food Bags 6pm-Soup Supper 6:30pm-Scouts 7pm-Worship/Communion</p>	<p><i>5</i> 6:30pm-Trustee Mtg 2:30pm-7pm-Blood Drive (FH)</p>	<p><i>6</i> Office Closed 11am-Funeral 12pm-FH Use</p>	<p><i>7 Dallylight Saving Time</i> 12pm-FH Rental  <i>Spring Forward</i></p>
<p><i>8</i> 8am-Worship/Communion 9:15am-Adult SS/Bible Study 10:30am-Worship/Communion/ Children's Church 12pm-Confirmation</p>	<p><i>9</i> 9am-ABC Breakfast (@ Riverside) 1pm-Women's Bible St</p>	<p><i>10</i> 10am-Staff Mtg 11am-Bible Study-Zoom 1pm-Pastor-Zoom 5:30pm-FH Rental 6:15pm-Wellness Warriors</p>	<p><i>11</i> 11am-Weekend Food Bags 12pm-Council Reports Due 6pm-Soup Supper 6:30pm-Scouts 7pm-Worship/Communion</p>	<p><i>12</i> Pastor @ Okemos (Synod Youth Team)</p>	<p><i>13</i> Office Closed</p>	<p><i>14</i> 12pm-FH Rental</p>
<p><i>15 BP Screening</i> 8am-Worship/Communion 10:30am-Worship/Communion/ Children's Church</p>	<p><i>16</i> 10:30am-Grief Support 1pm-Women's Bible St 5:30pm-Dinner @ Gabby's (for St. Patrick's Day) </p>	<p><i>17 St. Patrick's Day</i> 10am-Staff Mtg 10:30am-Pr @ Bay Area Conf. in Mt. Pleasant 1pm-Pastor-Zoom 6:15pm-Wellness Warriors 6:30pm-Council Mtg</p>	<p><i>18</i> 9am-Sewing Group 11am-Weekend Food Bags 6pm-Soup Supper 6:30pm-Scouts 7pm-Worship/Communion</p>	<p><i>19</i></p>	<p><i>20 Spring</i> Office Closed </p>	<p><i>21</i> 12pm-FH Rental</p>
<p><i>22 RaiseRight Due</i> 8am-Worship/Communion 10:30am-Worship/Communion/ Children's Church 12pm-Confirmation</p>	<p><i>23</i> 1pm-Women's Bible St</p>	<p><i>24</i> 10am-Staff Mtg 11am-Bible Study-Zoom 1pm-Pastor-Zoom 6:15pm-Wellness Warriors</p>	<p><i>25</i> 11am-Weekend Food Bags 6pm-Soup Supper 6:30pm-Scouts 7pm-Worship/Communion</p>	<p><i>26</i> 11am-Pr-Zoom</p>	<p><i>27</i> Office Closed</p>	<p><i>28</i> 12pm-FH Rental</p>
<p><i>29 Palm Sunday</i> 8am-Worship/Communion 10:30am-Worship/Communion  HOLY WEEK</p>	<p><i>30</i> 1pm-ELCA Women of Saginaw (@Ascension)</p>	<p><i>31</i> 10am-Staff Mtg 11am-Bible Study-Zoom 1pm-Pastor-Zoom 6:15pm-Wellness Warriors</p>				

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
Susan Kelley, Secretary
Amy Fahrenbruch, Financial Secretary

MINISTRIES

Kristin Kazmierski, Congregational Care
Gus Hendrickson, Finance/Resources
Joyce Berg, Outreach
Stephanie Becker, 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.
