



ALC Connections

August 2015

LCMS Ascension Lutheran Church 2780 Haslett Rd. East Lansing MI

The Discipleship Chat

Summer Doldrums

Summer seems to be the season when things slow down in a lot of areas. We're pushing ahead in one area, however.

(1) It's been at least ten years since we did a self-evaluation at Ascension (under Interim Pastor Bob Schultz). With the aid of the Michigan District, we're embarking on another, and we hope you can help us.

This first stage is the every member evaluation. If you haven't already picked up yours, you can pick up your evaluation at the round table in the Narthex. After it is turned back in (to the box on the round table, or to the church office), it becomes anonymous, and the evaluations will be collated. What we are really looking for are strengths and weaknesses of the congregation, special areas of ministry, and directions for us to take our congregation. Really, it's the direction where our God wants us to go. We seek His direction behind all of this. We are trying to answer the question: how can we better be the Body of Christ here where He has placed us?

For those of you who have already filled out your evaluations, I think you. You will be hearing more about the steps in this self-evaluation in the coming months.

(2) Many of us have opportunities to travel. I enjoy visiting other churches wherever I am. Things are always very similar, yet just a little bit different. It's also an opportunity to meet people. I hope you are taking advantage of your travels to do this, too. If you are wondering about a LCMS church in the area of your travels, we have resources in the office that can assist you. You can also go to lcms.org for assistance.

God bless the rest of your summer.
Pastor Dave

The Bible doesn't need to be re-written – it needs to be reread! (anonymous)

Psalm 33:12 Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord.

Bible Studies that are running throughout the summer:

Sum morn 9 am, Mon night 7 pm at Phillips' house, Thurs afternoon 2 pm in Classroom, Sat morn 8 am in Conference Room.

Join us for a tour of the new *MSU Football Training Facility* on August 23rd. We will have a light lunch here at the church after the service, then go on the tour. We will be done with everything about 1:30pm. Sign up on the sheet on the kiosk. See Linda Putz with questions.

Your Church Needs You!

We are blessed to be part of a group of people who are redeemed by the blood of Jesus and have chosen to be a member of Ascension Lutheran Church. You are needed to serve with fellow believers. We have God's blessings of time, talent, and resources that He wants to use to further His Kingdom in Mid-Michigan and around the world. How can you serve? Here are a few ways: complete and return your every member survey as part of our Self-Study, give as God leads you to the Operating Budget and special needs of Ascension, volunteer to serve in a leadership position (we especially need a Treasurer and a Vice President for 2016), share your love of Christ with those God has placed in your life, and attend worship services whenever possible.





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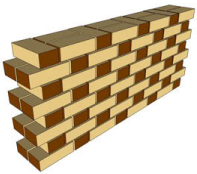
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Self-Study Update

Thank you for completing your survey as part of Ascension's Self-Study. If you haven't received your survey, need help in completing it, or need someone to bring it to church for you, please call the church office.

The leaders of the congregation have completed two additional surveys and are preparing a comprehensive congregational survey. Rev. Walther will use all of this information during September to prepare a report for Ascension to be shared in October. God's plan of salvation never changes but His plans for His church on earth do change over time. This Self-Study and reflections will help us discern His current plan for Ascension.

Facilities Projects' Update



A bid of \$4,200 has been accepted to repair the masonry on the bell tower and sign wall. Due to your generosity less than \$200 is needed to cover this cost. We expect it to be completed in the near future.

Work is continuing to develop specifications and obtain needed permits for repair and striping of the parking lot. We are estimating the total cost of our April plans to be \$15,000-20,000. Prayerfully consider a special contribution toward this cost.

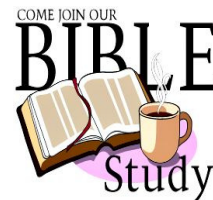
Please sign up for **Lawn Mowing**. Sign up sheet is on the kiosk (near the Altar Flower sign up)



District is praying for us so lets return the "favor" and pray for them including President Maier and Pastor Walther who is working with us in our Self-Study.

WE LIFT UP IN PRAYER

This Week's congregations, schools, and ministries: Trinity, Onkama; Living Word, Lansing; Ascension, East Lansing; Hope, Stanton; St. Stephens, Shelby.



Men's Bible Study every Saturday at 8:00am.

We are starting with Matthew, a story of a Jewish man. Come and have donuts and coffee with us and feel free to bring a friend. Great fellowship with other Christian men.

First Saturday Chapel on August 1 from 10:30 until noon.

Women's Venue Dublin Square August 20th at 6pm

Men's Venue @ Buddy's August 18th @ 6pm