



ALC Connections July 2015

LCMS Ascension Lutheran Church 2780 Haslett Rd. East Lansing MI

Michigan District Convention

Imagine – Living as God's
Loved and Compassionate Community

This past Sunday afternoon through Tues evening, ALC Pres Alan Durkee and myself represented Ascension (ALC) at the Michigan District Convention. Meeting every three years, the Convention conducts the business of our Michigan District of the Missouri Synod. There were elections for those who serve us; President David Maier was re-elected as President. Pastor Dave Davis of Haslett was elected 3rd Vice-President. There were special presentations, including by the LCMS President Matthew Harrison. The Convention was held on the campus of Concordia University, Ann Arbor, our own LCMS college in Michigan. Special worship services were held in the Concordia Chapel (more of a cathedral!), the sessions were held in the Gym (Convention Hall!); we even stayed overnight in the dorms (Alan and I were college roomies!! No, we didn't party.)

Plans are already going forward to 2017 and the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, with a special District-wide Reformation service at the Breslin Center, here at our own MSU (what a great opportunity for us all!)

We are also planning ahead to conducting a special congregational self-evaluation, with the help of our Michigan District facilitator. President Alan will tell us more about that in this Newsletter.

May God bless us and keep us safe and close to Himself during this summer holiday season, and may you all have a blessed and safe 4th of July holiday weekend.

Pastor Dave

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

WE CAN DO IT!!

Prayerfully, as members of Ascension Lutheran Church, East Lansing, we will take a look at ourselves and see where we are and then plan where, with God's help and direction, we want to go. To assist us, we will use a Self-Study process that has successfully been used by over one-third of our fellow Michigan District Lutheran churches. Rev. Galen W. of the Michigan District office will facilitate the Self-Study.

The process has begun, with major milestones on October 10, 2016 when Rev. W. will meet with the leaders of the congregation, Sunday October 25 when Rev. W. will be our guest preacher followed by a report to the congregation after the service, and next January 23, 2016 when Rev. W. will facilitate a congregational meeting where we take all we have learned and put it into a plan for 2016 and beyond.

We will complete surveys in July and August. All members of the congregation will complete one survey. ..continued...



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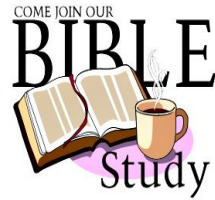
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Your involvement in this process is appreciated. You will receive a survey, with instructions for completion during July. If you don't receive a survey, please notify the church office. Additional surveys will be completed by church leaders.

All surveys are confidential and will not be reviewed by anyone at Ascension. They will be submitted to Pastor W. and his staff for tabulation. The results will provide the basis of a report and analysis by Rev. W.. The report and analysis will be used for our assessment of where we are, help us think about where we want to go, and help us begin to plan how we do that.

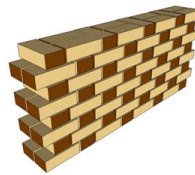
Our office secretary, Debby, will track returned forms by the name on the outside envelope. However, surveys themselves can be submitted with no indication of who completed them.

May God bless our efforts as we prayerfully seek His will for Ascension. Thank you for being a part of God's plan. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Alan D. or another Church Council member.



Men's Bible Breakfast every Saturday.

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.



Tower/Sign Wall and/or Parking Lot

maintenance/improvements approved by the April Voters' Assembly. The Church Council will get, review, and approve bids, estimated to total approximately \$22,000. The Bell Tower and Wall work is maintenance to halt deterioration and preserve the beauty of these structures.

The parking lot project includes repairs, coating (not repaving), striping, removal of the small grass only area, and replacement of light fixtures/bulbs on existing poles.

If needed, current undesignated funds will be used to initiate the projects and cover costs not met by donations. By using reserves as a back up, we are not borrowing money or using special fund raising activities as we did for the roof/furnace project. With sufficient donations these projects can be completed before winter. Look for updates in Newsletters and bulletins.



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Men's Venue will be Tuesday, July 21 at R Club. The address is 6409 Centurion Drive. If you take I-496 it is the Creyts Road exit and then about one block or so north on Creyts to Century Blvd, turn left and then the first left is Centurion Drive.

The Women's Venue will be on July 16 at the Tavern 109 in Williamston at 6 pm. Hope to see you there.

The **Saturday morning Prayer** time in The Chapel for July will be on the 2nd Saturday, July 11th 10:30am.

Thank you to those who contributed to our July 5th special insert. Your words are uplifting and strengthening.

Parish Activities is planning a tour of the FRIB facility at MSU with Nathan Bultman. If time allows we will also tour the new athletic training facility.

We have two dates open depending on the availability of each facility. If you are interested please sign up on the sheet on the kiosk and you will be updated as the dates firm up. It will be a Wednesday in July and we will leave from the church in order to car pool.

Any questions can be directed to Linda Putz, lin-dap1015@gmail.com or 3499240.



Ascension's treasurer, Garret, and his family have moved to Cass City and transferred their membership to Our Savior, Bad Axe, their home congregation. Is God leading you to serve as Treasurer until the end of the year and/or be nominated for a full two year term beginning in 2016? If the answer is, "yes", please contact Alan D..

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.

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

