



ALC Connections

June 2016

LCMS Ascension Lutheran Church 2780 Haslett Rd. East Lansing MI

-The Discipleship Chat

Father's Day

My Dad used to say, 'If you didn't learn something new today, the day was wasted.' Life is about learning and growth; so is the Christian life.

Learning doesn't stop in the summer. It can mean some special growth time in the Lord. Vacation and travel can mean visiting other churches and meeting new people. Down time and time off means we can spend a little more time with the Lord in Word and Prayer.

May your summer be a time of refreshing and growth – especially in the Lord. - Pastor Dave

Men's Venue in August will be going to a Friday night Lugnuts game on Aug 19. There will be a sign up sheet in July, so that we can order advance tickets.

Spiritual Gifts – Thank you for giving us your feedback as to planning classes in the Fall. We're planning to begin the sign up for classes in August.

LUTHERAN ADULT GATHERING - REGISTRATION ENDS AUGUST 15

October 14-16, 2016 | Mackinac Island, Mich.

Join brothers and sisters from throughout the Michigan District and around the country on Mackinac Island in October 2016 to see the beauty of God's creation in the fall colors and learn again of His marvelous handiwork and His ongoing care of that creation. Activities include a champagne reception, delicious dining in the Grand Hotel, and a wide array of sectionals. For more information, or to register, go to www.michigandistrict.org

Farewell....for a while....

One of our long time members, Chris Martin has just left to teach English in Viet Nam for a year. You can follow Chris on his blog below:

Blog: lifeinvietnamwithchris.blogspot.com

My email: chrismartin2744@gmail.com

We miss you, Judy!

A few weeks ago, we bade farewell to *Chris Martin* and *Josh Champine*. At the time, I didn't realize it, but it was also **Judy Danziger's** last Sunday with us as well. We bid farewell to Judy, who has been with Ascension for a long time. She has moved to Gross Point Shores. However, as many of you know, once a member of Ascension, always a part of the family! Judy's new address is: 70 Hampton Rd, Grosse Pte Shores MI 48236. 517-775-0284. She'd love to hear from you.

Education Department

Vacation Bible School is planned for June 20-24th. Start thinking of those children you can tell about this exciting event! More info to follow.

Discovering God's Vision for Your Life: You and Your Spiritual Gifts is the title of the 8 hour course that is being offered to all Ascension members and friends in September and October. More information will be coming. The time and length of each session will be determined based on a survey of members. For growing disciples of Jesus this is a great opportunity to learn how He has equipped you to be of service to Him. Ephesians 2:10.

Ascension Art Exhibition

May 20th and 21st we held an art show here at the



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church and it was a huge hit! Our guest artist, Jamie Treadwell, was able to come and show us a few of his paintings and a large assortment of his prints. We had five local artists show their work at the exhibition along side him. Judith Danziger, Anita Shoemaker, Sheri Greenhoe, Brittany Haubenstricker and Sydney Haubenstricker.

Friday night we had the pleasure of sitting down and hearing the stories behind each painting Jamie Treadwell had created. The underlying mission for each piece was to illuminate the true, every day, hope that is felt by all. Especially those currently still living in Lebanon. To further illustrate his point he shared with us a video he helped create to better show the hope of the Lebanese people. More than 30 people attended.

Saturday was equally successful with about the same number of people as the previous evening coming through Ascensions doors throughout the day.

Almost every person who visited the exhibition was ecstatic that Ascension Lutheran Church was bringing back an art show and are looking forward to many more in the future!

Bible Studies

The **Men's Bible Fellowship** meets every Saturday at 8am (around coffee and donuts). Enter through the side furnace room/kitchen door. You are invited to join us as we study the Gospel of Luke.

We welcome you to the **Thursday afternoon Bible Study**, 2pm in the classroom. We've been studying the great spiritual life lessons in I and II Samuel and I-11 Kings. Join Us!

CEF Corner - Field of Dreams

"If you build it, they will come..."

As we watch the Boys of Summer, cheering on our fa-

vorite baseball teams, I'm reminded of the movie Field of Dreams. You'll recall the main character builds a baseball diamond in the middle of his Iowa cornfield after hearing voices whisper the above quote. Simply creating the field wasn't the end of the story. He chases across the country to discover the answer to two important questions. "Why?" and "What happens now?" During the construction of the baseball field he is questioned, criticized and ridiculed. He comes close to losing the farm. But he perseveres, confident his efforts will result in something amazing. My favorite scene is after the old-timers finish the game and leave the field. One player remains, his father as a young man. They play catch and talk, as he relishes the opportunity to spend time with the man he rejected when he was a boy. We also have the chance to spend time with our Father. Do we make the best use of our opportunities? How much time do we spend in quiet contemplation reflecting on God's Word? Or do our busy schedules make it a challenge to carve out some time each day? But He is always there reaching out to us, ready to spend time and communicate with us. As parents we take on the task of influencing our children and grand-children. What we do and say is a living example for them. Praying, having devotions, going to church and just spending time with them, demonstrating our values can make a life time of difference. Proverbs 22:6 reminds us, "Train up a child in the way they should go and even when they are old, they will not turn from it." Training can continue while setting up your Estate Plan. Communicate your intent to leave a Legacy Gift to your favorite ministries. Explain to your family the reasons you are making this special gift. With a Donor Advised Fund you can bring them into the process. They will help decide which ministries receive a gift each year. After you are gone, they continue using the lessons you taught to make annual distribution gifts. Amazing blessings survive into the future!

Bill Burmeister

Church Extension Fund – Michigan District

800-242-3944 t bill.burmeister@mi-cef.org

This document is provided to assist you in your estate planning process and is not meant to offer financial or legal advice. Please contact your Attorney or Financial Advisor to obtain appropriate professional advice relevant to your particular circumstances.

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Activities ...Meetings.... and Opportunities

Quilt Group meets Monday, June 13th at 9:30am..

Business of the Church

Voters' Assembly adopted **Growing Disciples of Jesus** as Ascension's Vision Statement and voted to fund the parking lot surface and lighting changes by special member contributions and the 2016 payments from the driving school.

Properties Committee News

Lawn mowing slots are going fast! Sign up now to have your turn on the riding lawn mower. Sign up sheet is on the kiosk.

Gardening opportunities abound. See the sign up sheet on the kiosk. Let's control our grounds and eliminate weeds. Pick a plot you'll oversee. Team up with someone to share the pleasure. You may add flowers or plants (please remember to water them when you come to church).

Parking lot resurfacing: The work will take about three days and will be done sometime between July 6-21 when the weather is optimum. To indicate your financial contribution to this project, please write "parking lot" on the envelope or memo line of your check.

Want to Get Involved? The Properties Committee needs two additional members. Interested? Con-

tact Carolyn Boger.

Flower chart for 2016 is on the kiosk in the Narthex. Be sure to sign up for your special date.

Women of Ascension News

Update on Helping Women Period. The Women of Ascension organization is thankful for the congregation's strong support of this worthwhile project. When the products were picked up Monday, May 9, the co-founder, Amy Stephenson, was most grateful. She was even more grateful when told the Women of Ascension decided to keep this as an on-going project. Amy said the plan of Helping Women Period is to extend the distribution of personal hygiene products to schools in the fall. For Ascension, the Helping Women project can be used as an outreach. Perhaps you have a neighborhood association or wish to share the news of this project with co-workers. Spread the word about Ascension's involvement with this worthwhile endeavor. Bring what is collected to church. Cosmetic bags, such as Clinique, are also welcome items as they offer a discreet form for distribution. Partially used boxes are also acceptable. Thanks to all for your support!

Miscellaneous Information and News

Please visit Ascension's website (www.ascensioneastlansing.org) for all the latest news, activities, and schedules for the church! If you are a Facebook user then you will be pleased to know we have a Facebook page as well. Just type in Ascension Lutheran Church and "like us" to receive updates. Please see Laura Osminski, or contact the church office, if you would like to see something added to either the website or the Facebook page.

Ascension Celebrates 60th Anniversary
Part Three: The 1960s



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The young church too soon faced the challenge of calling a pastor due to the ill health of Pastor Nicklesburg. He resigned February 1, 1962. A money tree was grown to give him financial gifts from the congregation. The Rev. Carl Clabusch, chaplain for area hospitals, agreed to serve also as interim pastor, which position he held until Rev. Robert Reinhardt accepted the call as pastor. He moved his young family from the Detroit area into the Park Lake Road parsonage. Pastor Reinhardt's installation was June 30, 1963.

In December, the children's Christmas Program was "Light from the Manger". Under Pastor Reinhardt's ministry, the church began a number of new activities. The Women's Guild (now Women of Ascension) began a nursery during the worship service on Sunday. Under the leadership of Doris Ellis (mother of Melody Glick), women from the Guild visited the Extended Care Facility on Dobbie Road to assist in bingo the first Monday of the month. Fruit was the prize, with small gifts donated by the congregation to add to the prize selection during the December games.

1965 was the year of the formation of the Couples Club. One of the events was a bowling party. Another was a "mystery trip, ending somewhere no one anticipated [church].

May 1, 1966 was the tenth anniversary festival worship service. The 8:00 service speaker was Pastor Reinhardt; Rev. Calvin Fiege returned as guest speaker at the 10:30 AM service. The Detroit Lutheran High School West Choir sang. Worship average at this time was about 200.

Photos from a 1966 summer wedding show the interior of the church, now the fellowship hall:



The cubes on the back brick wall were colored glass blocks, still there. They were selected by the architect and approved by the building committee instead of a stained or faceted glass window as a cost-savings. The banner was made for the wedding. The cross is made from lemon leaves and was created by Joy Cote'. Note the acolyte on the right. The photo on the right shows the bride after the wedding tossing her bouquet from the balcony which is now the youth room. The organ is on the left; the choir sang from the balcony on Sundays. Note the folding chairs instead of pews. The folding chairs are still in use. The glass partitions separating the nave from the foyer were replaced with wood to enclose the room. Folding accordion doors separated the classrooms. This style of door provided flexibility in space arrangement for large weddings and overflow services. After this wedding, the doors were opened and the Women's Guild served the wedding cake and refreshments.