



ALC Connections March 2015

LCMS Ascension Lutheran Church 2780 Haslett Rd. East Lansing MI

March 2015 Newsletter

The Discipleship Chat

Pictures of Christ in the old Testament

We normally think of the Messianic prophecies, those messages of the prophets of the Old Testament who spoke of the Messiah/Savior who was to come.

We think of Psalm 22:

(14) I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint. My heart has turned to wax; it has melted away within me.

(16) a band of evil men has encircled me, they have pierced my hands and my feet.

(17) I can count all my bones; people stare and gloat over me.

(18) They divide my garments among them and cast lots for my clothing.

(King David was describing the Calvary scene about a thousand years before it occurred).

Or perhaps Isaiah 53:

(3) He was despised and rejected by men ...

(4) Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him and afflicted.

(5) But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed.

(6) We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; and the lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

(10) Yet it was the Lord's will to crush him and cause him to suffer, and though the Lord makes his life a guilt offering ...

(11) After the suffering of his soul, he will see the light of life ...

(Isaiah was interpreting what the sacrifice of the Savior meant to us, around 700 years before Calvary)

Join on Wednesday evenings in Lent as we explore other ways in which God gave His OT children explicit pictures of the Christ (Messiah), what He would look like, and what He would do.

Pastor Dave

LENT

Lent continues through March. Mid-Week Lenten worship services are at 7 pm in the Chapel, with the Theme: Pictures of Christ in the Old Testament. We have already looked at how God portrayed the Messiah (the Christ) through Abraham and Joseph, giving His OT children a view of what the Savior would be like. We still will be poking at the Passover, the Manna (Bread of Life), the Burnt Offering and the Priesthood in the Old Testament. Join us.

The Parish Activities Com will be hosting the Soup Supper for all 6 Wednesdays and will be posting a sign-up sheet for volunteers to bring in their favorite soup.

(Hint: if you are coming to the Soup Supper, try not to arrive at 6:50 or 6:55. The workers are trying to clean up and get to the worship service themselves, and we want to help them.)

Theological Conference on Life in the Spirit

Sponsored by the Michigan District (LCMS)
March 21 Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Jenison

Event Description:

Laity, pastors, neighbors, family, and friends are invited to attend the 2015 Theological Conference, "*Life in the Spirit: Watered, Fed, and Armed.*" Three models of life in the Spirit will be presented by expert guest speakers to help you gain a more intimate relationship with God the Holy Spirit and understand how He works in your life.

<http://www.michigandistrict.org/events/theological-conference-life-in-the-spirit-grand-blanc> (cut 'n paste)

We've had Ascension people attend the two previous Conferences sponsored by the Michigan District. We have gone to Jenison, near Grand Rapids. We will car pool and the event time is from 9am to 5pm.



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Easter comes early this year, April 5 to be exact. If you would like to "sponsor" a lily at the altar in memory of, or in honor of someone, please sign the sheet on the kiosk by March 22. Each lily is \$8.50. Please make your check payable to *Women of Ascension*

and place it in the offering plate or mail it to the church. Your name and the person (s) you are honoring will be listed in the Easter Sunday bulletin. After Easter, you may take your lily home. It can be planted in your garden (when the ground thaws) for lasting enjoyment. Your support of lilies to adorn the altar is appreciated.

CAN YOU HELP?

We are looking for help on the **Outreach Committee**, which was combined with the **Assimilation Committee** a few years ago and currently is chaired by Sherry. Carolyn serves as a member and we work closely with Pastor , Deacon John and President Alan. The Committee focus is communication outside of Ascension (community awareness), and also within its membership (especially with new and/or potential members) about our church and its mission: *Building the Body of Christ – One by One, through grace, worship, fellowship, praise, spiritual growth and service to others.* The Ascension website falls within the responsibility of this group and is administered by Laura. Some potential ideas for the committees' work that were identified at Parish Planning included publicizing Ascension activities, participating in more charitable efforts, work with other area Lutheran churches to reach more people, practice personal recruitment, formalize a greeter program and a process for contacting visitors, hold musical/arts events and invite the public, provide training in evangelism, improve communication within the congregation, and more. If you would like to help with these projects, please join our **Outreach/Assimilation Committee**. Contact Sherry or just talk to Pastor or John.



Ladies, mark your MAY calendar for Saturday, May 2. The LWML [Lutheran Women's Missionary League] Spring Rally will be held at St. Matthew's church in Holt. The keynote speaker will talk on K-9 comfort dogs. This event is open to all women. Details to follow; save the date.

Social Services Committee is collecting the following items for the MSU student and her family whom we helped at Christmas. Please put toilet paper, paper towels, dish soap, bath soap, lotion, laundry detergent, and dryer sheets in the box by the coat racks. If you choose to make a monetary donation there is a basket on a table in the Narthex. Money will be used to purchase a Meijer gift card. Donations will be collected through March 22.

Women's Venue March 16th at Bravo's in the Eastwood Towne Center.

The Chapel is open for Prayer Saturday March 7th from 10:30 am until noon, staffed with a Church Elder. Feel free to drop in and spend some time in prayer, either by yourself, or someone will be glad to pray with you.

