



ALC Connections April 2016

LCMS Ascension Lutheran Church 2780 Haslett Rd. East Lansing MI

-The Discipleship Chat

Try It Again

In the Gospel lesson for this Sunday (John 21), Jesus (after the resurrection) comes upon the disciples, who have been fishing all night to no avail. He calls out to them, to try the other side of the boat.

What is this – divine humor? Down under the water, it shouldn't make much of a difference, unless, of course, you're parked over a nest.

Well, they did it. They put their nets in from the other side of the boat – at Jesus' direction – and we read about the great catch of fish – large fish!

Do it again! We often hear, *if you fail, try try again*. But we also hear, that *the definition of foolishness is doing the same thing all over again and expecting different results*. And yet, in (many) sports, we do that all the time. We keep running the same play, hoping for different results, because of all the variables.

The variable to the disciples was Jesus. He told them to do it. They were obeying Him. They were following His direction.

I wonder about all the times in the church we give up because we have tried something once. But is it something that God has asked us to do, ie make disciples, demonstrate compassion, help the misfortunate, etc? Then how about this; Pray, and try it again. Pray again, get in His Word, and keep trying.

Too often, we decide what we want to do, and then ask God to bless us. Maybe we should try the other way. Ask God what it is that He

wants us to do (and don't forget to check Scripture - in there, He has already asked us plenty). Find out what God wants us to do, what He has promised to bless. Pray over it. Then do it.

The fish are down there. May God lead us follow in our lives, and in our church, in the things that He blesses.

Pastor Dave

The April 9th work day at Christ Lutheran Soup Kitchen is tomorrow. Time commitment is from 9:00am to 2:00pm. Be sure to bring a hat. Call Kenda with questions.

Quilt Group meets Monday, Monday the 11th at 1pm. Come join us!



Want to Get Involved? The Properties Committee needs two additional members. Interested? Contact Carolyn Boger.





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Ascension Celebrates 60th Anniversary

Looking back 60 years ago, Ascension Lutheran Church held its first worship service on April 15, 1956. It was a humble beginning in the gymnasium of Bailey Elementary School in East Lansing (corner of Bailey and Ann Streets). The altar, candlesticks, and linens were borrowed from Bethlehem Lutheran in Lansing, the lectern was built by Alton Powell (grandfather of Katie Abraham).



Easter Sunday worship at Bailey School. On left, Ruthmary Coohon, seated with daughter Katie, daughter Carolyn, son Bill standing behind; husband Don Coohon standing on far right.

This was the fruition of the groundwork of four men who met at the home of Walter Patenge (near the intersection of Park Lake Road and Burcham Road) in December 1955. They shared a deep desire to reach out to those in the East Lansing/Meridian Township area with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

After an extensive and successful canvas of 375 homes in the area, plus 200 trailer homes (at that time located in the Brookfield area) canvassed by MSU students from Martin Luther Chapel, the founding group, which had grown from 4 to 18 families, many with small children, realized they could support a mission church.

With the blessings of Rev. Philip Schroeder of Trinity Lutheran in Lansing and the Mission Board of the Michigan District, 91 worshippers were in attendance that auspicious Easter day in April. The Rev. Calvin Fiege of St. Johns conducted the service. The message of the day was "Forward with Christ!" based on Jeremiah 3:15: "And I will give you shepherds after my own heart, who will feed you with knowledge and understanding." A choir was quickly organized.

To be continued next month....

Men's Venue Tuesday, April 19th at Hibachi Grill, across street from Lansing Mall. 5837 W. Saginaw Hwy. 886-9999. Join us at 6pm.

Women's Venue Thursday, April 21st at Jimmy's Pub, 1068 Chandler Road, East Lansing @ 6pm.

The Women of Ascension are undertaking the project, **Helping Women Period**. The need for feminine hygiene products is expensive. Sadly, these products cannot be purchased using the primary assistance programs SNAP or WIC. Homeless women and girls are experiencing their periods without the dignity of feminine hygiene products. Helping Women Period supplies shelters, food banks, and homeless organizations with pads, tampons and personal wipes. Please bring your donation of a feminine hygiene product to church and put it in the collection bin by the coat racks in the hall. This drive will end May 3.

April Council meeting April 17

Voter's meeting April 24th



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'Let's Talk Life' Theological Conference for all church members. Topic-Life issues (infertility, miscarriage, terminal illness or life support issues, damage of abortion) from a Biblical perspective. Only \$25 registration (includes materials, program and lunch), 8:30 to 3pm, Saturday, April 16th at Our Savior Lutheran, West side Lansing. For more information: www.michigandistrict.org

The Lansing chapter of the American Guild of Organists invites you to an afternoon concert of music on April 24, 2016 @ 3:00 PM. The program, "Music through the Year", will include music by Bach, Cherwien, Handel, Manz, Mulet, Walther and others. Performers this year are Meredith Hines, Timothy Nechuta, John Horak, Hae Wan Jang, Susanne Hoekzema, Ben Foster, Barbara Hiranpradist, Mary Black Junttonen, Stephanie Gewirtz, and Darlene Greenman-Ross.

This is a free event, but a free will offering will be collected for the benefit of Guild education and programming.

Location: Trinity Lutheran Church
501 W. Saginaw, Lansing, MI 48933
Date: Sunday, April 24, 2016
Time: 3:00PM

Trinity Lutheran is handicap accessible via the parking lot on the west side of the building, entrance to this lot is on West Saginaw. All others are asked to park in the lot shared with LCC, east of the church-entrance is on Chestnut St.

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.

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



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. We're currently at Nehemiah. Join us!

All are invited for a game night on Friday, April 22nd from 5-7. Pizza and pop will be served. Feel free to bring your favorite game and friend. Any questions can be directed to Evelynne Pyne. See you there!

