



ALC Connections September 2016

LCMS Ascension Lutheran Church 2780 Haslett Rd. East Lansing MI

The Discipleship Chat

The Body of Christ

You have been hearing about the Spiritual Gifts classes that we are offering in September. In 1 Corinthians 12-14 and Romans 12 the Bible talks about the special “gifts” that the Holy Spirit gives to each of us – different gifts, not all the same. The purpose of these gifts is to use them in His service, “*for the common good.*” Then St Paul makes the comparison of the church/body of believers to a human body. He talks about how a body is made up of many different parts, and each of these parts is integral to the healthy operation of the body.

And 1 Cor 12:27: *Now **you are** the body of Christ, and **each one of you** is a part of it.*

If you haven't registered already, I invite you to join us as we study and discover our Spiritual gifts, and better understand them. I think this is going to be an exciting class, filled with discovery and fellowship.

May God continue to knit us together into His family, and our special branch of the body of Christ.

Pastor Dave

Spiritual Gifts – There is still time to sign up for classes. At this point, the classes will be held on Wednesdays, both in the morning (9:30 am) and evening (6:30 pm). Call the church office (337-9703) or turn in the registration form. They can be found in the Narthex of the church. Or, show up on Wednesday.

Sunday morning Adult Bible Class – We will be studying the Lutheran Hour Ministries DVD-based study on Islam. Join us at 9 am in the classroom beginning this Sunday.

Ascension – We are celebrating our 60th Anniversary as a congregation this Fall. Watch for events. And thanks to Carolyn Boger for her monthly installments on the interesting historical background of Ascension.

Sunday School resumes Sept 11.

Children in the 7th and 8th grades (or older) are eligible for the weekly Youth Confirmation classes. Contact Pastor Dave or the church office.

Quilt Group meets at 1:00pm on Monday, September 8th.

Women of Ascension – Meeting September 15, 4pm at the church. After what I hope was a good summer it is time to gather again for fellowship, service and fun. Our first order of business will be to form the event committee for the upcoming Lutheran **Women's Missionary League (LWML)** Fall Rally to be held at Ascension. The date is Saturday, October 22. A short report on the LWML Michigan District Convention held at Boyne Mountain in July will also be presented. Be thinking about what our fall service project should be.



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Ascension Celebrates 60th Anniversary

Part Six: The late 1970s into early 1980s

In 1978, the *Lutheran Book of Worship*, quickly called the “green hymnal”, was published. Ascension accepted the new worship version and Dr. Schroeder encouraged other LCMS churches in Michigan to do so also.

Leone and Walter F. Patenge donated money for the Gloria Christi Chapel after Walter sold his business, The Wohlert Corp, in 1977. The Building Committee members included Emil Ellis, Mr. and Mrs. Patenge, Richard Boos, John Haubenstricker, and Geri Laetz.



Leone and Walter Patenge

The Rev. Reinhardt returned for the laying of the cornerstone in the summer of 1978. The chapel was dedicated Oct. 15, 1978. Pastor Clabusch returned to preach the sermon.

The unique cross over the altar is a metal sculpture designed and executed by local artist Marty Eichinger. The original organ was a gift from Henrietta Wolfanger.

On Valentine’s Day, 1979, a “carnival” was held to raise funds for the Snyders who were serving as Wycliffe Bible Translators in Papua New Guinea.

In anticipation of the 25th anniversary of Ascension in 1981, Voters Assembly authorized a thank offering of \$25,000 toward a new organ and \$5,000 for the work of the Snyders.

John Haubenstricker directed a new landscaping plan in 1979. Jack Drew, a nationally known landscape artist, designed the whole area. Part of the plan included members buying each plant.

On June 14, 1979, Timothy P. Kieschnick was installed as Director of Christian Education and Youth.

May 17, 1981, the congregation celebrated its 25th anniversary. Membership stood at 807 baptized and 618 confirmed. There were two Sunday services, 8:00 and 10:30, with Sunday School and Adult Bible Study at 9:15. Some of the celebratory events were a September pig roast, a progressive dinner in February, and a congregational pot luck in May of 1982.

Dec. 20, 1981, Kendall Schaeffer was installed as Director of Christian Education and Youth. A reception for the Schaeffer family followed the Children’s Christmas program that evening.

July 31, 1982, Mimsey and Bill Celio were married at Ascension by Pastor Schroeder and Father Cecil O’Donnell.

Jim Goodheart and Sharon Perkins were married Sept. 11, 1982, by Pastor Schroeder. The newlyweds then experienced a job transfer to Pontiac and subsequently to Davison, where they joined Trinity Lutheran and Jim served on the Board of Elders. [We rejoice their jobs brought them back to Ascension!]



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Chapel Update

by Carolyn Boger

Properties Chair

No words are adequate to express gratitude to those who have been working diligently on restoring the chapel. John Hospodar is the lead carpenter and has done a wonderful job with arranging all of the repairs. Many others have worked in various capacities and we wish to thank everyone involved in the cleanup and restoration.



Carpeting selection is under way; replacement cost is being kept down by vol-



unteers working to remove and re-install the pews and organ. It is anticipated the chapel will be functional in a few more weeks.

60th Anniversary: In celebration of Ascension's 60th anniversary year (and to defray costs associated with the storm damage), it is suggested that contributions of an extra \$6 or \$60 or even \$600 be made. Please mark your envelope "Anniversary" and the funds will be dedicated toward offsetting storm damage and parking lot improvements.

Helping Women Period.

Thank you for your ongoing support of this worthwhile program. Two big boxes filled with feminine hygiene products were picked up late August and Amy Stephenson, the co-founder, had tears in her eyes when she saw how generous the congregation was. She was especially pleased with the Clinique bags which allow discreet distribution of the products. The organization plans to distribute the items to schools before Labor Day. Amy took a photo of church secretary Debby and the full boxes to put on Facebook, giving Ascension Lutheran credit. Check out helpingwomenperiod.org or Facebook.

This is an on-going project of Women of Ascension. Feel free to engage you family and neighbors in collecting items. Small drawstring bags are also acceptable and might be a good mother-daughter or quilting group sewing project. [see the website] There will be another pick-up date in early November, so let's get those boxes filled again. Thank you!

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!



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Is God leading you to become more involved in the life of our congregation? In October Ascension will be electing several leaders, including a Vice President, Financial Secretary, Recording Secretary, Chairpersons of Outreach/Assimilation and Social Services Committees, Properties Committee members, and Elders. Is God leading you to step out in faith and tackle one of these?

Vice President: VP in 2017 and President in 2018. Chairs the Finance Committee and is available to assist the President who establishes the agenda and presides at all Voters Assembly and Church Council meetings and is responsible for implementation of the directives and resolutions of the congregation.

Financial Secretary: This person is a member of the Finance Committee and the Church Council and responsible for the contribution records and coordinating the Offering Counters.

Recording Secretary: This person keeps the official records of the Church Council and Voters Assembly.

Outreach/Assimilation Committee Chair: This person provides leadership for the congregation's mission outreach, maintains the website, greets and follows up with visitors, promotes interaction between members and with other Church Council members helps provide coffee and snacks after worship services.

Social Services Committee Chair: This person helps to meet the physical needs of members and people in the community, solicits support for programs of world relief, and with other Church Council members helps provide coffee and snacks after worship services.

Elders: These men meet monthly and assist the Pastor in all matters pertaining to the spiritual welfare of the congregation.

Properties Committee: Members of this committee are responsible for the upkeep, maintenance, and improvement of the congregation's property.

Is God leading you to step out in faith and tackle one of these?



The Women's Venue will be on Thursday, September 15, at the **Outback**, 4880 Marsh Rd. Okemos, at 6 pm.

Men's Venue is Tuesday, September 20th at **Boston's** in the Eastwood Towne Center at 6pm. The address is 3301 Towne Center Blvd.

Discovering God's Gifts for Your Life classes begin September 7. Morning classes begin at 9:30am, evening classes at 6:30pm in the classroom by the Chapel. Hope to see you there.

Sunday School classes for the children will begin September 11th. Watch for details.