



## Ascension Lutheran Church

# ANNOUNCER

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The season of Lent is upon us. A season of prayer. A season of penitential reflection. A season in which we make concerted effort to direct our attention to the holy sufferings and death of our Lord Jesus Christ. We make concerted effort for six weeks to ensure that Good Friday doesn't sneak up on us and become "just another day" in the history of the world. The first Good Friday was a day of punishment and wrath, of forgiveness and grace, of God reconciling mankind to Himself through His very own death. Can we know the depths of what Jesus endured that day? We can't know what Jesus endured that day unless we experience condemnation. And we never will experience it, thanks be to God in Christ Jesus! For the only Son of the Father "came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate" for our salvation.

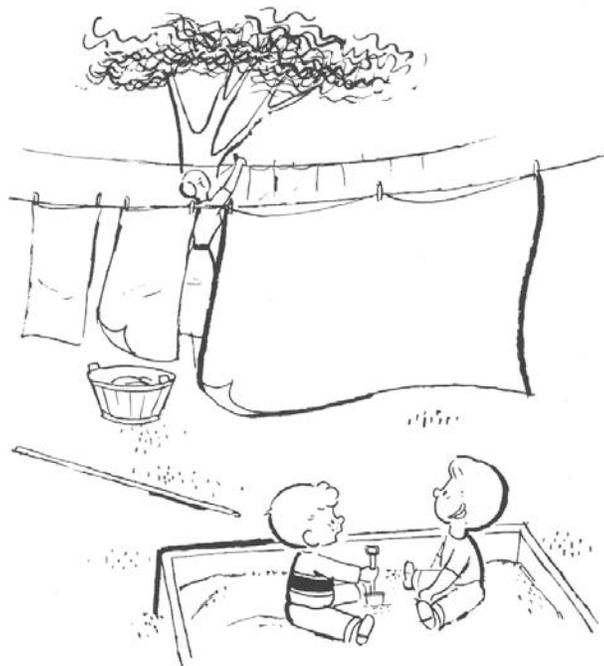
With this in mind I urge you to keep Lent as a time of special devotion, self-denial, and humble repentance. Many enact this through fasting. It doesn't need to be a traditional fast of food. It should be a fast of whatever might steal you away from contemplating the holy death of Christ. Maybe it's food. Maybe it's television. Maybe it's a cell phone. Maybe it's extended conversation. It's whatever possesses your life in a routine sense. Dispatch this "thing" and move your newfound energy toward Christ and His word.

You might ask, "If fasting is such a great thing to do, then why don't we do it year round instead of just during Lent?" Because history is not uniform. History ebbs and flows, just like your own life. And the history of Jesus' visible ministry is condensed into a single church year where we find a peak at the feast of Easter... and we prepare for this peak by being brought low in penitential reflection so that we might not miss the grandeur of Jesus' life lived for us— Jesus, "who was delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification" (Rom 4:25). Jesus didn't fast the whole year round either, but He did fast 40 days in the wilderness (Mt 4:2).

Certain times call for greater awareness, and the death and resurrection of our Lord and Savior is one of those times.

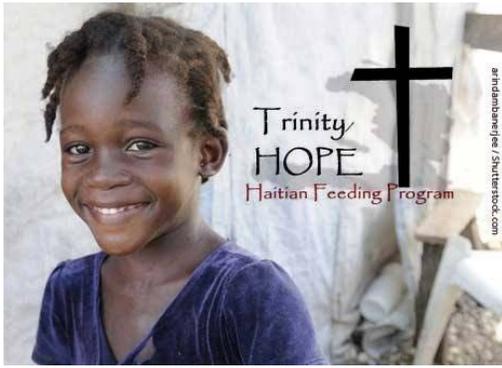
If you do choose to fast something this Lent, I give you one warning: do not fast to accomplish the fast. Yes, I realize that instruction might at first glance make a fast meaningless, but it doesn't. The point of a fast isn't to complete a self-mandated goal, but to free yourself from an everyday routine or habit so that you might focus more intentionally on the word of God. If you say to yourself, "I'm not going to eat for the next three days," and your joy is realized in not eating for three days, then the fast was a detriment. Because the joy in not eating for three days is the prayer you prayed when you saw a brownie on the counter; the joy in not eating for three days is the Scripture you pondered when your friends went out to dinner; the joy in not eating is finally receiving the heavenly food of Christ's body and blood that sustains you to eternal life. And you know what? If you fail and break the fast, it's okay... that just serves as a reminder of how beautifully and perfectly Christ did what we can't. He lived for us. He fasted for us. He died for us. He lives forever for us. Let us find greater awareness of His life during this Lenten season! God bless us all so that we may come to Easter with glad hearts and keep the feast in sincerity and truth.

In Christ,  
*Pastor Greg*



"That's what they wore in Bible times . . . sheets."

## Hurricane Matthew Update



Pastor Isaac Jacquet, the church leader Trinity/HOPE works with in the Grand Anse (Jeremie) district, recently sent an email describing the difficult conditions in Jeremie after the hurricane and political unrest. He then tells how the Trinity/HOPE schools are different. He says: "Life becomes more expensive from day to day. At this moment a lot of school in the department have closed their doors because children are really hungry and cannot stay on the school benches with nothing to eat, parents can not pay schooling of children and directors Schools cannot rebuild their schools. It is really hard

and lamentable. On this, we ask for your prayer. It is thanks to the Trinity Hope for food that allows our schools to continue to subsist and continue to work even in tents. That is why we in Jeremie will never cease praying for the blessing of Trinity Hope. We hope that God will continue to open doors of blessing for Trinity Hope and bless the staff and provide you with perfect health." The impact you make by supporting Trinity/HOPE is clear. Please share with others how they can make a difference as well. God be with those in Grand Anse, Jeremie.



All ladies of Ascension are invited to attend the March LWML Meeting

Date: Saturday, March 11

Time: 10am-2pm

Following our business meeting we will have a light lunch and fleece quilt tie workshop. We are starting on new projects to benefit Lutheran World Relief.

Please join us for this servant and fellowship opportunity.

Golfers – Save the Date! Plan to participate in the Lutheran Services in Tennessee Golf Fore Hope event on Monday, October 9 at Hiway at Arrington. For sponsorship and pre-registration info, contact Nick at NDHAFNER@gmail.com.



Email Pastor Greg for more information

## *Fellowship Opportunity*

### **CCM - CHRISTIAN COOPERATIVE MINISTRY**

As you know we were able to help CCM with boxes of food for Thanksgiving. For Easter, CCM gives Easter Baskets to any child when their family comes to pick up their food box. Last year we were able to put together 40+ Easter Baskets for CCM.

*As a Fellowship and Outreach Opportunity, Ascension is going to collect, put together and deliver Easter baskets to CCM children.*

Starting immediately, we are collecting Easter basket materials.

On **Sunday, March 26, 2017 at 2:00 p.m.** we will meet in the Fellowship Hall to put the baskets together with light snacks to keep us hopping with energy!

### **EASTER BASKET NEEDS**

When speaking to Rose at CCM she indicated that the Easter baskets could have candy, but not a lot of candy and suggested the following:

Sealed eggs with candy in them  
Individually wrapped candies  
Chocolate Bunny/Cross  
Easter toys  
Easter Booklets  
Easter pencils  
Easter stampers  
Easter Basket plastic wrapper  
Grass

Examples of what is going into the baskets are in the hall outside of the Fellowship Hall. Please place any donations at this table as well. Any questions please contact Susan at [susan@walwynlaw.com](mailto:susan@walwynlaw.com) or 500-3259

# Serving Ascension in March

	Mar 5	Mar 12	Mar 19	Mar 26
<b>Lector</b>	Rick Speitel	Robert Conner	Tim Hanusa	Trisha LaLumondier
<b>Greeters</b>	Tim Hanusa	Dennis & Linda Fritz	Cecil & Carolyne Willis	Cherri Walker
<b>Acolyte</b>	Randy Summers	Caleb Oehlkers	Zachary LaLumondier	Randy Summers
<b>Elder</b>	Tim Hanusa	Tim Hanusa	Tim Hanusa	Tim Hanusa
<b>Ushers</b>	Jeff Meyers & Nathaniel Oehlkers	Jeff Meyers & Nathaniel Oehlkers	Jeff Meyers & Nathaniel Oehlkers	Jeff Meyers & Nathaniel Oehlkers
<b>Cantor</b>	Tim Hanusa	Tim Hanusa	Mark LaLumondier	Tim Hanusa
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Joan Johnson & Pam Oehlkers & Brittaney Summers	Joan Johnson & Pam Oehlkers	Joan Johnson & Pam Oehlkers	Joan Johnson & Pam Oehlkers

*If you're unable to serve, please find a replacement.*



March 5: Linda Fritz  
 March 12: Ora Mae Golter  
 March 19: Trisha LaLumondier  
 March 26: Susan Hanley

## The Organist

Mar 5: Minae Hayashi  
 Mar 12: Cindy Dougherty  
 Mar 19: Minae Hayashi  
 Mar 26: Cindy Dougherty



## Birthdays

Mar 3: Hekmat Elradi  
Mar 4: Tiffany Dougherty  
Mar 5: Dustin Anderson  
Mar 5: Fred Lehmann  
Mar 6: Bill Speitel  
Mar 7: Susan Hanley  
Mar 8: Cindy Dougherty  
Mar 10: Trisha LaLumonder  
Mar 10: Dana Summers  
Mar 14: Grace Lehmann  
Mar 17: Jeff Oehlkers  
Mar 20: Nathaniel Hancock  
Mar 21: Chris Moss Jr.  
Mar 25: Sara Blittle  
Mar 28: Gesma Murran  
Mar 30: Nathaniel Oehlkers



## ANNIVERSARIES

Mar 6: Deb & Pat Hackett



## Baptismal Birthdays

Mar 4: Billy Etter  
Mar 10: Diane Gupton  
Mar 10: Fred Lehmann  
Mar 13: Sara Underwood  
Mar 19: John Boggs  
Mar 21: Joshua Hancock  
Mar 27: Grace Lehmann  
Mar 29: Patrick Boggs



*If a celebration is incorrect or missing, please call (615-868-2346) or email (office@ascensionmadison.com) the church office so our records can be updated. Thanks!*

# Church Calendar

March						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<b>1</b> 6:00 Dinner 7:30 Ash Wednesday worship	<b>2</b> 10:30 Bible study 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b> 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship w/ Lord's Supper	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 6:00 Dinner 7:30 Worship	<b>9</b> 10:30 Bible study 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 10:00 LWML (quilt workshop to follow meeting)
<b>12</b> 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 6:00 Dinner 7:30 Worship	<b>16</b> 10:30 Bible study 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship w/ Lord's Supper	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> 6:00 Dinner 7:30 Worship	<b>23</b> 10:30 Bible study 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 2:00 Easter baskets for CCM	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 8:30 Retired ROMEO breakfast (IHOP on Gallatin Pike)	<b>29</b> 6:00 Dinner 7:30 Worship	<b>30</b> 10:30 Bible study 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	<b>31</b>	



The mission of Ascension Evangelical Lutheran Church is to connect people to the one true God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—so that they may come to know and believe they are saved for eternal life by grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone.

Rev. Greg Bauch, Pastor  
610 W Old Hickory Blvd, Madison TN 37115

Church Office: (615) 868-2346  
Office email: [office@ascensionmadison.com](mailto:office@ascensionmadison.com)  
Pastor Greg: (904) 553-7066  
Pastor's email: [pastorgregbauch@gmail.com](mailto:pastorgregbauch@gmail.com)  
website: [www.ascensionmadison.com](http://www.ascensionmadison.com)

**Sunday School & Bible Study at 9:00am**  
**Coffee Half-hour at 10:00am**  
**Worship at 10:30am**

*Please email newsletter submissions to [office@ascensionmadison.com](mailto:office@ascensionmadison.com) one week before the 1st of the month.*

*Please email all weekly bulletin announcements for the upcoming Sunday to [office@ascensionmadison.com](mailto:office@ascensionmadison.com) by Wednesday.*