Ascension Lutheran congregation WELCOMES Carla Jo Brakhage as she comes aboard to serve in the position of Director of Children’s Ministry. Thank God for His goodness!

JOIN US FOR MARKET DAY THIS YEAR!

JULY 30, 2016

10:00 AM TO 3:00 PM

VENDORS, FOOD, PACK BACKS, ENTERTAINMENT AND MORE

Worship Services and Bible Study

Sunday 8:00 and 10:45 AM – Worship
Sunday Bible Study – 9:30 AM
Monday 6:00 PM – Worship

Phone (256) 536-9987  www.ascensionlutheranhuntsville.com
“For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.... For you were called to freedom, brothers.” Galatians 5

Paul wrote this inspired essay on freedom to the church in Galatia not many years after Christ’s resurrection and ascension. His words sound most appropriate for us as our nation prepares for the Fourth of July weekend and our celebration of the Declaration of Independence. Our national freedoms are certainly included in the “unalienable rights” that are enumerated in its Preamble: “life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.” But the freedom declared by the Apostle is far more than the freedom enjoyed by a citizen of the United States. It’s the freedom a Christian believer possesses. It is spiritual freedom that releases us from the oppressive burden of sin and the fear of dying that produces.

Our Lord Jesus came to us to bring us this freedom from sin, death and the power of the Devil. He promised the citizens of Judea, “If you continue in my Word, then you are my disciples, indeed, and you shall know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” But, they misunderstood Him. They thought Jesus was promising them civic freedoms, and they insisted that they were children of Abraham and not slaves to any earthly government. Then Jesus drops this bombshell. “Truly, I say to you: everyone who practices sin is a slave to sin. The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. So, if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.”

We often misunderstand Jesus, too. Not only do we fail fully to apprehend the deadly nature of what it means to be a slave to sin, we also fail to appreciate the two-fold nature of our freedom. Yes, the Gospel grants us freedom “from” the effects of our sinful life, but the Gospel also conveys another freedom to be children of God in every way - the freedom to bear the fruit of grace and mercy in our everyday lives - to be what our Creator has always intended for us. For Jesus not only stops Satan from ensnaring us with his continued slavery, He also promises His Spirit will dwell within us so that we may bear the spiritual fruits of heavenly joy and divine love in the here and now. This is the freedom that sustains us in our pursuit of the ministry.

Even though it’s the middle of our summertime break, God has not released us from His call to serve up the fruits of His spirit to whomever our outreach embraces. Therefore, let us who are in Christ use our freedom to serve each other with the love of God.

We rejoice that Carla Jo Brakhage has accepted our Call as director of children’s ministry and already is enthusiastically crafting her plans to serve Ascension and our various communities. Thanks be to our Call Committee for their patience as they worked diligently for more than two years to find Carla Jo and recommend that we call her.

Let us give praise and thanks to the Lord of the harvest for sending her into our field. She hopes to assume her duties here as of July 18. We will soon announce the date of her installation service.

Ascension’s Harold Lawson is the lay delegate from Circuit 8 (north Alabama) to this summer’s LCMS convention in Milwaukee from July 9-14. Harold is quickly becoming informed of the agenda, a chief item being the regulation of “licensed lay deacons” and their scope of ministry. The first order of convention business has already been enacted: the re-election of Synod president Matthew Harrison for another three year term. All Ascension members may contribute to the “convention offering” that each delegate will bring to the opening service of the convention. A brochure is available from the Ushers together with an offering envelope. Bring your offering no later than Sunday/Monday, July 3/4.
Thirteen youth and adults from Ascension are registered to attend the National Youth Gathering in New Orleans from July 16-20. NYG’s theme, “In Christ Alone,” will permeate the Bible studies, worship, and the superdome and servant events. Ascension’s group will be commissioned on Sunday, July 10, at the early service. Information will be provided for live-streaming selected activities from this triennial gathering that is expected to attract 22,000 attendees.

Circle July 30 with a thick red pencil from 10am-3pm. That’s the date of our Second Annual Market Day, a major outreach of Ascension to the parents and children of our Child Development Center and neighborhood. There will be barbecued pig with side dishes for all, cotton candy, popcorn, and shaved ice cones, plus entertainment with live music all day long. We will have several drawings for free back packs for school-age children. There will be face painting and bouncy houses and vendors of various goods and services, all on our well-shaded front lawn where we will set up tables and chairs to eat and visit. We are planning several other surprises that may involve our vicar, pastor, and selected other members.

To make all this happen, we need a host of volunteers to assist with food, set-up, and operational details. We will circulate sign-up sheets beginning with services this weekend. We would like to form several Thrivent action teams to help secure Thrivent funds to support various aspects of Market Day. If you are a Thrivent member who is willing to head up an action team, please let Vicar Alex, Pastor Bernie, or Judy Burhans know immediately. Action teams must be formed and registered with Thrivent before July 9. We also need additional vendors to participate. They could be members, but that is not necessary. Right now, will you all please start praying for hospitable weather on July 30?

Love, Pastor Bernie
Hello and welcome to my ongoing series regarding pivotal figures and events that took place during the Reformation and the aftermath. Last month, I discussed the Peasants War and this month, I would like to look at some of the important figures of the Peasants War, a man by the name of Thomas Müntzer. He was one of many clergy that sided with the Peasants during this conflict and he held much resentment for the Catholic church, as well as Martin Luther, for his siding with the feudal lords that sought to put the rebellion down. Nevertheless, he was a pivotal figure in this conflict and as time has gone on, his contributions to the Reformation, mainly in the fields of liturgy and Biblical exegesis, have gone relatively undervalued given its importance and substance at the time of the Reformation.

Thomas Müntzer was a contemporary of Martin Luther, being born in Stolberg, Germany, in 1489. Legend has it that his father was executed in the course of his childhood by feudal authorities, possibly leading to his dissent later in his life. This has been proven to be untrue and it is evident that Müntzer actually had a rather comfortable background and upbringing given his extensive education.

Müntzer went to Zwickau in 1520 and found he was surrounded by reform that had been inspired by the Hussite Reformation of the 15th century. This reformation centered around a radical apocalyptic view, as well as a very strong pull towards spiritualism, such as revelation through dreams, which was somewhat common among the followers of this reformation.

As time went on, Müntzer found himself drifting farther and farther from the theology of the Wittenberg reformers and he was becoming increasingly involved in riots against the local Catholic priests. This worried the town council and in 1521, he was dismissed from his post and forced to leave. He then went to Prague, where he encountered similar problems and was run out of town by the Prague authorities. It was at his next post in Allstedt that things began to turn heavily towards conflict and a rise against the feudal authorities. In 1523, he penned a letter to the Catholic Count Ernst von Mansfeld, who was trying to prevent his subjects from attending reformed services, that stated,

It has also been shown that both of his parents were still alive in 1520 with his mother dying at that time. He enrolled at the university of Leipzig in 1506, but it is unknown whether he graduated from the university or not. He later enrolled in Viadriana University of Frankfurt an der Oder (which is in northern Germany on the border with Poland) but again, it is uncertain what degree he may have earned given that his academic records are either filled with holes or missing entirely. What is known is that in 1514, he found employment within the church as a teacher in Halle and Aschersleben where, according to his final confession, he formed a league against the Archbishop of Magdeburg.

In 1514, Müntzer also took up a post as a priest in the town of Braunschweig where he began to question the practices of the Catholic church, most significantly the sale of indulgences. By the fall of 1517, he was in Wittenberg and met with Martin Luther and became involved in the discussions that preceded and eventually led to Luther’s posting of the 95 Theses. It was also at this time where Müntzer started to study other aspects of the Reformation. By no means did Martin Luther hold a monopoly on the theology that was being developed at the time. Müntzer found himself studying the works of mystics, as well as being drawn towards humanists such as Andreas Bodenstein von Karlstadt, who would later become a radical opponent of Luther’s. In summer of 1519, Müntzer attended the disputation in Leipzig between the reformers of Wittenberg, Luther, Melanchthon, and Karlstadt, and the Roman Church represented by John Eck. It was also in 1519 that Luther himself recommended Müntzer for a post in the town of Zwickau; however, he did not take the post immediately and spent the winter studying the works of mystics, humanists, and church historians.

Müntzer went to Zwickau in 1520 and found he was surrounded by reform that had been inspired by the Hussite Reformation of the 15th century. This reformation

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“I am as much a Servant of God as you, so tread gently, for the whole world has to be exercised in patience. Don’t grab, or the old coat may tear. . . I will deal with you a thousand times more drastically than Luther with the Pope.”

In 1525, Müntzer found himself making contact with many of the leaders of the Peasant Uprising and he soon found himself in command of his own troops. This solidified his position against Luther, since Luther sided with the princes. In May of 1525, Müntzer took his troops to the town of Frankenhausen and no sooner had they arrived when the army of the princes arrived. The battle lasted but a few minutes, leaving an estimated 6,000 rebels dead with many more sent running for the hills, to be tracked down and executed in the following days. Müntzer attempted to flee, but was found hiding in a house in Frankenhausen. After being tortured and confessing to his crimes, he was executed on the 27th of May, 1525, and his head was placed on display outside of Mühlhausen for several years as a warning to others.

On top of his role in the Peasants War, Müntzer was also a reformer whose writings, while not entirely significant, should not be overlooked. He believed that faith came from spiritual experience rather than written testimony. In this belief, he claimed that the Bible was only evidence of spiritual experiences that had taken place in the past and that the words of the Bible still had to be validated by the working of the Spirit in the believer’s heart. He also believed that spiritual revelation came through dreams and visions, but mostly that it came from pain and suffering.

According to Müntzer, pain and suffering were the only means to attain true faith writing, “What you must do is endure patiently, and learn how God himself will root out your weeds, thistles and thorns from the rich soil which is your heart. Otherwise, nothing good will grow there, only the raging devil... Even if you have already devoured all the books of the Bible, you must still suffer the sharp edge of the plough-share.”

It is also clear that he and Martin Luther disagreed about many things. This did not stop them from having an ongoing correspondence between them. Luther, however, feared that Müntzer was moving against the establishment of the church too quickly and in their correspondence Luther heavily criticized him for his activities, to which he replied in a letter to Melanchthon, “our most beloved Martin acts ignorantly because he does not want to offend the little ones... Dear brothers, leave your dallying, the time has come! Do not delay, summer is at the door. ... Do not flatter your princes, otherwise you will live to see your undoing.” However, in 1523, while in Allstedt, he sought reconciliation with Luther in a letter that went without reply. Later Luther published a pamphlet titled, A Letter to the Princes of Saxony concerning the Rebellious Spirit, in which he referred to Müntzer as the “rebellious spirit of Allstedt” and “bloodthirsty Satan” to which Müntzer replied, calling Luther “Brother Fatted Pig and Brother Soft Life” in his sermons. After the summer of 1524, their correspondence became hostile, culminating in Müntzer’s pamphlet titled, “A Highly-Provoked Vindication and Refutation of the Unspiritual and Soft-Living Flesh in Wittenberg” to which Luther responded by publishing “A Terrible History and Judgment of God on Thomas Müntzer” in which he was described as “a murderous and bloodthirsty prophet.” However, this pamphlet from Luther came after Müntzer’s death in 1525.

I hope you enjoyed this article and be sure to check in next month as I will to discuss The Sack of Room in 1527.

Blessings, Vicar Alex
Stewardship

Glen Huling

In our Lord’s parable of the vineyard workers, the vineyard owner says to those who worked the longest, “Or do you begrudge my generosity?” (Matthew 20:15) It’s an unfortunate translation. It’s not wrong, but it doesn’t give us the full picture. What the vineyard owner actually says is this: “Or is your eye evil because I am good?” Earlier in Matthew’s Gospel, Jesus said, “The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is healthy, your whole body will be full of light, but if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness.” (Matthew 6:21–23)

This statement comes right in the middle of our Lord’s teaching about giving. He said, “Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is healthy, your whole body will be full of light, but if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness! No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.” (Matthew 6:19–24)

Having an evil eye does not let in the light. Having an evil eye means that we are so focused on what we don’t have, that we are unable to rejoice in what God has given. An evil eye makes us distressed when we see others prosper. It makes us rejoice when others suffer. An evil eye makes us so love ourselves and our money, that we don’t want to share with others; we don’t want to give of what we have because we are so focused on keeping what we have and getting what we don’t.

A good eye is an eye that lets the light in so that our lives are filled with it. This light shines upon all that we have and reveals that it comes from our Father’s divine goodness and mercy. A good eye lets in the light, unencumbered by the darkness, so that we have a good will, a benevolent disposition, and a genuine happiness to see others prosper and the desire to be part of it.

Jesus came to give you a good eye and to take away the darkness that fills your life. Christ our Lord, through His death and resurrection, has forgiven your sin, removed your evil eye and given you new eyes that let in His light and truth. “For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich.” (2 Corinthians 8:9)

The reality is that you have all that you need and more. You have the love of God in Christ Jesus. You have the forgiveness of sins and life everlasting. You have house and home, all that you need for this body and life. So, lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy. And you will see that your hearts will follow, just as Jesus promised.
LIFE, DEATH AND ETERNITY – PART 1
A good friend of mine is dying. Steve was diagnosed with brain cancer four years ago. After surgery, radiation and chemotherapy, the cancer went into remission. Three months ago, it came back with a vengeance. Steve is now confined to a wheelchair and needs help doing everything. Every week he is getting weaker. I have been witnessing to Steve since before he was diagnosed with cancer and have continued to do so since. Before the cancer returned, he was attending church (First Baptist) regularly, reading the Bible and praying. Since the cancer recurrence, he has asked me to lead him in a Bible study and I have gladly agreed to do so. I don’t know how much time Steve has left. However, I feel an urgency to share the Gospel with him. I don’t know how you can know if another person has saving faith, but I pray regularly for Steve. I pray for his soul, for his faith, for God to strengthen him during this time. I feel inadequate to be God’s representative to Steve. With his health as bad as it is and getting worse, I don’t know how much personal witnessing he will get from anyone else. Therefore, I feel responsible for Steve, for feeding him with the spiritual food he needs in his last days. When faced with a situation like this you realize how helpless you really are. There is nothing I can say or do that will help Steve’s spiritual or physical health. All I can do is share God’s Word and my faith in God with him. Everything else is up to the Holy Spirit.

FROM THE ELDER
Rick Hilst

However, there is one weapon I have that can make a difference: prayer. With prayer, I have a direct line of communication with God. With prayer, I can convey my concerns for Steve to my Father in heaven, who has promised to hear my prayer. With prayer, I can tap into the power of the almighty God. Since I believe, and the Bible states, that it is God’s will - that all people come to saving faith - then I believe my prayers for Steve’s faith will be heard and answered. I don’t know if Steve will still be alive by the time this article appears in Reflections. If he is, please include in your prayers a petition for Steve, for his soul.

INSPIRING READING
For an inspiring story of the transforming power of Jesus Christ, read the story of Rusty Woomer from Chuck Colson’s book, The Body. While this piece is fairly long, it is definitely worth reading.

LIFE, DEATH AND ETERNITY – PART 2
On June 12, Omar Mateen shot and killed 49 people and wounded another 53 at the Pulse gay bar in Orlando, Florida. This story is tragic in several ways, in 49 lives prematurely ended, in many more lives altered in ways from which the individuals involved may never fully recover. However, the real tragedy is that the majority, if not all, of the young victims in this massacre died in their sins, died not knowing their Lord and Savior, died only to suffer an even worse eternal fate. While sad for the survivors here on earth, death itself is not really a sad event. If the person who dies is a Christian, who has placed his trust in his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, then death for that individual is a joyful event, a triumphant transition from this world of sin and suffering into the wonderful presence of God and the heavenly host. On the other hand, if a person dies without faith in Jesus Christ, it is a terrible event. That individual is headed for an eternity of suffering and there is nothing anyone can do for him. His opportunity for conversion, his opportunity to hear and believe the Word of God, his shot at an eternity of heavenly bliss is gone. This is the true tragedy of death.

THIS MONTH’S PUZZLE
Unscramble the following words and put the unscrambled word in the squares below. When you have unscrambled all the words, take those letters that are inside the circles and unscramble them to finish the sentence below:

S M A H C C E A E P P I T I R S

V I R G E

As Johnny put a penny into the collection plate, he looked at his dad and said “It’s enough. I just heard Pastor talking about ______ ____."

LAST MONTH’S PUZZLE ANSWER
The answer to last month’s puzzle is “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life” - Peter
We are halfway through the summer camp experience. What a summer!

Take note of the pictures along the hallway of the church, and you’ll see some of the fun things that have been happening!

You are always welcome to join our chapel sessions every Monday and Friday at 9:15 AM, Wednesday at 8:00 AM.

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**SUMMER CAMP**

**JUDY BURHANS, SUMMER CAMP**

**News From Camp**

**IF YOU WOULD BE WILLING TO DRIVE** for some field trips for our summer camp, do I have an offer for you! We need (desperately) additional drivers to help transport our children (CDC and Summer Campers) on special trips that we’re going on together. If you would like to help drive and get in free (I think I can make that happen), here are some opportunities for you!

- **July 5** – Bowling; leave here 9:30 AM, get back around noon
- **July 12** – Space and Rocket Center, leave here at 9:30 AM, get back 12:30 PM
- **July 13** – Movie at Bridgestreet, leave here 9:30 AM, get back around noon.
- **July 19** – Bowling; leave here at 9:30 AM, get back around noon.
- **July 20** – Movie at Bridgestreet, leave here 9:30 AM, get back around noon.
- **July 21** – Fishing and Cook-out, leave here at 9:30 AM, get back around 12:30 PM
- **July 26** – Roller Skating (some may go ice skating) – Call for time to leave and return
- **July 29** – Special trip to Lake City in Scottsboro. This is an amusement park that is newly opened and we are opening the trip to everyone in the congregation! More information is elsewhere in this newsletter.

If you would care to help transport campers and counselors to some of the above events, just call the office or send an email. Let us know for which event(s) you’d like to drive, along with the number of people who can ride with you and we will go from there! Your help in this area of our camping needs is greatly appreciated!

Thanks to those who have been driving our campers this first half of our camp. You are amazing!

**JUDY BURHANS, SUMMER CAMP**
Kids were asked questions about the Old and New Testaments during a test in a Catholic elementary school. These were their responses – unedited and not corrected for spelling.

1. **IN THE FIRST BOOK OF THE BIBLE, GUINESSIS.** GOD GOT TIRED OF CREATING THE WORLD SO HE TOOK THE SABBATH OFF.

2. **ADAM AND EVE WERE CREATED FROM AN APPLE TREE.** NOAH'S WIFE WAS JOAN OF ARK. NOAH BUILT AND ARK AND THE ANIMALS CAME ON IN PEARS.

3. **LOTS WIFE WAS A PILLAR OF SALT DURING THE DAY, BUT A BALL OF FIRE DURING THE NIGHT.**

4. **THE JEWS WERE A PROUD PEOPLE AND THROUGHOUT HISTORY THEY HAD TROUBLE WITH UNSYMPATHETIC GENITALS.**

5. **SAMPSON WAS A STRONGMAN WHO LET HIMSELF BE LED ASTRAY BY A JEZEBEL LIKE DELILAH.**

6. **SAMSON SLAYED THE PHILISTINES WITH THE AXE OF THE APOSTLES.**

7. **MOSES LED THE JEWS TO THE RED SEA WHERE THEY MADE UNLEAVENED BREAD, WHICH IS BREAD WITHOUT ANY INGREDIENTS.**

8. **THE EGYPTIANS WERE ALL DROWNED IN THE DESSERT. AFTERWARDS, MOSES WENT UP TO MOUNT CYANIDE TO GET THE TEN COMMANDMENTS.**

9. **THE FIRST COMMANDMENTS WAS WHEN EVE TOLD ADAM TO EAT THE APPLE.**

10. **THE SEVENTH COMMANDMENT IS THOU SHALT NOT ADMIT ADULTERY.**

11. **MOSES DIED BEFORE HE EVER REACHED CANADA THEN JOSHUA LED THE HEBREWS IN THE BATTLE OF GERITOL.**

12. **THE GREATEST MIRACLE IN THE BIBLE IS WHEN JOSHUA TOLD HIS SON TO STAND STILL AND HE OBEYED HIM.**

13. **DAVID WAS A HEBREW KING WHO WAS SKILLED AT PLAYING THE LIAR. HE FOUGHT THE FINKELSTEINS, A RACE OF PEOPLE WHO LIVED IN BIBLICAL TIMES.**

14. **SOLOMON, ONE OF DAVID'S SONS, HAD 300 WIVES AND 700 PORCUPINES.**

15. **WHEN MARY HEARD SHE WAS THE MOTHER OF JESUS, SHE SANG THE MAGNA CARTA.**

16. **WHEN THE THREE WISE GUYS FROM THE EAST SIDE ARRIVED THEY FOUND JESUS IN THE MANAGER.**

17. **JESUS WAS BORN BECAUSE MARY HAD AN IMMACULATE CONTRAPTION.**

18. **ST. JOHN THE BLACKSMITH DUMPED WATER ON HIS HEAD.**

19. **JESUS ENUNCIATED THE GOLDEN RULE, WHICH SAYS TO DO UNTO OTHERS BEFORE THEY DO ONE TO YOU. HE ALSO EXPLAINED A MAN DOOTH NOT LIVE BY SWEAT ALONE.**

20. **IT WAS A MIRACLE WHEN JESUS ROSE FROM THE DEAD AND MANAGED TO GET THE TOMBSTONE OFF THE ENTRANCE.**

21. **THE PEOPLE WHO FOLLOWED THE LORD WERE CALLED THE 12 DECIBELS.**

22. **THE EPISTELS WERE THE WIVES OF THE APOSTLES.**

23. **ONE OF THE OPPossums WAS ST. MATTHEW WHO WAS ALSO A TAXIMAN.**

24. **ST. PAUL CAVORTED TO CHRISTIANITY, HE PREACHED HOLY ACRIMONY, WHICH IS ANOTHER NAME FOR MARRAIGE.**

25. **CHRISTIANS HAVE ONLY ONE SPOUSE. THIS IS CALLED MONOTONY.**

Is there anything else you’d like to know
Or
Anything you’d like to add? 😊
“How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching?”
Romans 10:14

Great news from the national LWML! The grant of $100,000 to the LCMS Global Seminary Initiative—International Student Scholarships has been paid in full!

The Global Seminary Initiative is a program that provides Lutheran theological education by bringing the best students worldwide to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) seminaries to study at the graduate level so that they can return to their home countries and provide advanced theological leadership. Also provided is support for local regional seminaries—both infrastructure and scholarships for students to attend regional seminaries. Another offering of the program is continuing education—seminars, conferences and visits by qualified LCMS pastors and professors to teach in the local region. LWML grant money will provide scholarships for the international students.

Gulf States District LWML has adopted eight (8) grants for the next biennium. One of those grants is $3,000 for the Gulf States District Scholarship Fund. Details about the scholarship fund and applications can be found on the Gulf States District LWML website.

Many thanks to Sheila Reese and Annette Duckworth for providing refreshments to the “English as a Second Language” class which meets here at Ascension on Monday and Wednesday nights.

Did you know that the creation of a national women’s organization was approved at LCMS convention in June, 1941? LWML was founded in Chicago on July 7-8, 1942—almost 75 years ago! Although the U.S. was at war and travel was difficult, the founding convention was attended by over 100 women from 15 districts. The 28 delegates adopted a constitution, approved a name, chose two projects, and established a Literature Committee to publish books, a national magazine, tracts and programs. They also determined that ¼ of the mission gifts collected in local societies would be given to the national organization and ¾ used for district projects. Even though activities had been ongoing since 1920 to form a national organization, that was undoubtedly a very busy two days!

Don’t forget that the next LWML meeting is August 13 at 10:00 AM. Come and join us as we start our new year! We hope everyone is having a wonderful summer!

“Serve the Lord with gladness.” Psalm 100:2
Ascension Lutheran Church

2nd Annual Market Day Celebration and **Back-Pack** Giveaway Saturday, July 30th 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Music ~ BBQ ~ Vendors ~ Inflatables ~ Games ~ Shaved Ice ~ More!

3801 Oakwood Avenue ~ Huntsville, AL 256-536-9987
REFLECTIONS

FROM THE LOFT

Ginger Casteel

I hope everyone is enjoying their summer.

It’s not too early to consider joining the choir or bell choir for the fall.

The signup sheets are still on the piano in the balcony for summer service music.

Keep Singing!

HHR Missional Outreach

Bob Smith

Introduction (Ascension & Purpose of Visit) – Pastor

1st Song

2nd Song

First Reading – Old Testament

3rd Song

4th Song

Second Reading – New Testament

5th Song

6th Song

Third Reading – Gospel

7th Song

Benediction Song

One-on-One Visits (30 to 60 minutes)

July dates for visits are July 13 and 27. Everyone is invited to join the HHR team to sing and read scripture to the residents at Huntsville Health and Rehab. Starting time is 10:00 AM and lasts about an hour.
REMEMBER THAT THIS SUNDAY, JULY 3, and MONDAY, JULY 4, are the last dates you can donate any funds to send with Harold Lawson to the Synodical Convention. He will be leaving at the end of that week, so grab a special offering envelope (postage paid!), located on the credenza in the Narthex, or just put a check in the offering plate on Sunday or Monday and designate it as “LCMS National Offering.” All monies will be taken to the Convention and offered during the worship service on July 9.

LAKE CITY – HERE WERE COME! As noted on the Summer Camp page (8, if it hasn’t moved), our Summer Camp is ending the season with a trip to Lake City in Scottsboro. We would love to have enough people to caravan out of Ascension’s parking lot around 9:30 AM and arrive back around 5:00 PM (or as works best for our group). We have been given special rates of $19.95 per person (plus tax); children under 2 are free and children over 60 are $11.95 (plus tax). Military are free (although not the dependents).

As stated earlier, this is being offered to anyone who would like to make a day of this with us, whether your family was in Summer Camp or not. If we have to take a bus instead of caravanning, we will charge $25/person to help cover the cost of the bus, which does not include the price of admission.

NOTE: Since we have written this article, it has been brought to our attention that the park is unable to remain open due to funding. Back to square one!

KUDOS TO MARY LEVENHAGEN AND HEATHER BURHANS, who have been working nonstop to get the Nursery looking new and welcoming! It’s just about finished, so make sure to see the difference now – and then see it when it’s completely done. Thank you, ladies!
## July Birthdays

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<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Hannah Henry</td>
<td>07/01</td>
<td>Lydia Todd</td>
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<td>Linwood Maas</td>
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<td>Jim Sims</td>
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<td>Talitha Glenn</td>
<td>07/09</td>
<td>Todd Orf</td>
<td>07/20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brenda Booze</td>
<td>07/09</td>
<td>Herbert Wilson</td>
<td>07/20</td>
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<td>Todd Ballentine</td>
<td>07/09</td>
<td>Jimmy Damron</td>
<td>07/21</td>
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<td>Brandon Strain</td>
<td>07/10</td>
<td>Andrea Charnock</td>
<td>07/26</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ilse Crevoiserat</td>
<td>07/11</td>
<td>David Cowart</td>
<td>07/28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary Levenhagen</td>
<td>07/12</td>
<td>Brian Levenhagen</td>
<td>07/31</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

## Flowers Given to the Glory of God

**July 3 — Arranged in Memory of Grace Ansorge**

**July 10 —**

**July 17 — for Amber Burhans’ birthday**

**July 24 —**

**July 31 —**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00 &amp; 10:45 AM – Worship</td>
<td>6:00 PM – Worship (Every Monday)</td>
<td>12:00 PM – Board of Directors</td>
<td>13-10:00 AM – Missional Outreach at HHR Youth leave for Gathering</td>
<td>14</td>
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<td>Youth Gathering begins</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13-10:00 AM – Missional Outreach at HHR Youth leave for Gathering</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>16 Youth Gathering begins</td>
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<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>20 Youth Return from Gathering</td>
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<td>Youth Gathering begins</td>
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<td>24</td>
<td>25 Reflections Articles Due</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>27 10:00 AM – Missional Outreach at HHR</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>30 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM – Market Day</td>
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<td>Youth Gathering begins</td>
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<td>Youth Gathering begins</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Phone (256) 536-9987 www.ascensionlutheran huntsville.com
2016 Market Day

If you would love to provide any of the following items for the meal on July 30, or do any of the activities listed below, please let the office know (or print out this page, fill it in and bring it to church any time). Thank you!

Baked Beans
Bags of Chips
Coleslaw
Potato Salad/Salad
Buns for burgers/dogs
Lemonade Mix
Bottled Water
Fruit Salad
Direct Cars in Parking Lot
Set up chairs and tables
Take down chairs and tables
Man the Serving line for Lunch
Man the inflatables
Distribute back packs
Hand out Ascension information

Register children for drawing
Empty garbage cans as they fill
Pray for a beautiful day
Be a vendor
Contact people you know who might want to be vendors ($15/table) registration
Invite friends, family and neighbors
Come and have a great time