



THE PARISH PAPER

Seasonal News, Events, and Inspiration from Church of the Ascension

November 2018

WHO YOU GONNA CALL?

Ken Bellau was a normal average citizen until Hurricane Katrina changed his life. The storm ripped through the state of Louisiana pummeling the city of New Orleans. When the levees collapsed, disaster struck with wide-spread flooding. Ken took hold of a fiberglass bass boat and trolled the waters looking for people in need. His efforts saved over 400 people. The state of Louisiana honored him and his boat by creating an exhibit memorializing the tragic events.

Ken's story is unique because he saved so many people. What's not unique are the efforts of ordinary citizens helping out neighbors. In fact, hundreds of people helped others during Katrina. It's a reminder that whenever a tragedy strikes a community, the first line of support rarely comes from civil authorities. It comes through neighbors. It comes through people on the ground with direct knowledge.

Ascension is no different. We are a caring faith community. We pray, we visit, we provide meals, we knit prayer shawls, we send grief books and sympathy cards. We also arrange for lay pastoral relationships through programs such as Stephen Ministry. We are there for one another whenever a need arises.

Several years ago, Church of the Ascension tapped four lay people to act as shepherds as part of the Ascension Cares pastoral care network. Each shepherd rotates responsibilities as they help the congregation attain the pastoral resources needed at any given moment. They are the first point of contact.

How does it work? If, for example, a member of the congregation suffers an illness, or has a specific need, contacting a shepherd is the most efficient method for communicating a pastoral care request. Shepherd 1 covers every member of the congregation with the last names from A-M. Shepherd 2 covers people with last names from N to Z. All four shepherds rotate responsibilities. You can email either shepherd 1 at shepherd1@knoxvilleascension.org, or shepherd 2 at shepherd2@knoxvilleascension.org depending on the last name. Once the email is sent, the clergy are notified, along with key staff members. The person will then receive a call from a shepherd.

As our congregation grows, and the pastoral needs increase, may we continue an upward trajectory of helping one another as needed. Shepherds are the first responders, the connectors, the communicators, and the organizers. They steer the boat and pull the resources together. So when a person needs to be added to the prayer list at the last minute, or when there is an unexpected death, or accident, who you gonna call? Call a shepherd.

Christopher Hogin

PARISH MEMBER ADAM BEAN BECOMES LICENSED LAY PREACHER

I have recently been approved by our diocese to be a "licensed lay preacher" at Ascension, and wanted to introduce myself a bit more to the parish before I appear in the pulpit. I will begin preaching occasionally at the Wednesday healing service in the coming weeks, and will preach during Sunday services for the first time on December 23. My wife Leslie and I began attending Ascension with our son Nathan in 2015 and became (cont'd on page 4)

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Thanksgiving Worship Service

Ascension offers two Thanksgiving services during Thanksgiving week: Thanksgiving in the Woods and the Thanksgiving Day services. We invite you, your loved ones, and friends to come celebrate all that they are thankful for.

Thanksgiving in the Woods

Wednesday, November 21, 4:00 pm

Thanksgiving in the Woods takes place in the Labyrinth Garden on the hill behind the church. Gather around the fire pit with family and friends as we give thanks for all that we are grateful for this past year.

Thanksgiving Day

Thursday, November 22, 10:00 am

The Thanksgiving Day service takes place in the chapel on Thanksgiving morning. Come celebrate all that your family is thankful for at this intimate service.



**Ascension Workday details
on pg. 2!**

On Thursday, November 8th, FOMA will present the Seraph Brass in concert at 7:30 pm. As is increasingly the case with both vocal and instrumental ensembles nowadays, the five women comprising this brass quintet are not resident at any one institution or together in one city. They instead convene several times a year to tour under the name Seraph Brass. Each performer is a university professor or symphony player in a different city around the country, and so the quality of the playing is assured. A programme for this concert had not been submitted by press time for this edition of the Parish Paper, but FOMA requested a mix of classics and more light-hearted fare. The performance is presented free of charge.

The first Sunday of Advent will be marked musically by two special events. First, at the 10:30 am service on December 2nd (the Sunday closest to St. Andrew's Day) we will celebrate the Kirkin' of the Tartan. Ascensionites with Scottish heritage are encouraged to bring your clan tartan to be blessed and recognized that morning. Bagpipers and a drum will be on hand to provide the iconic Scottish sounds we all enjoy.

And also on the 2nd at 5:30 pm, the Parish Choir and Boys and Girls' Choir will sing Lessons and Carols for the season of Advent. Six readings, each followed by an anthem or carol, will help usher in the four-week season of watchful waiting. A reception follows in the parish hall.

Jim Garvey



Ascension Workday a Great Success!

Thank you to everyone who came to the Fall Ascension Workday on Saturday. There was the planting of trees and grasses and mulching of the Agnes Road parking lot bank. Next year, this area will enjoy a spring renewal and become a beautiful part of our church landscape.

All of your hard work and time are appreciated all the way down to Walker McClanahan and John Michael Hogin, who brought smiles all day. We truly appreciate all of you who gave so generously to help this transformation take place. We want to thank Allen and Pam Douglass for planning this workday, preparing the area, and purchasing the plantings for us. You guys rock!

Thank you from your Building and Grounds Committee – See you at our next workday next spring!!

In Thanksgiving

Trish Avery	for Ascension
Pam & Jim Brock	for the love and fellowship of Ascension
Ann Lamb	
Genny and Dewey Ledford	for the support staff and clergy of Ascension
Ellen & David Lovett	for our mothers, Dorothy Kormis and Ruth Lovett
Leah and Ben McClanahan	for Walker and Beau McClanahan
Katie McHargue	in joyful thanksgiving for Rob Gieselmann
Ann & Greg O'Connor	for our nine grandchildren
Susan Pannell	
Mary Rayson	
Pat & Alan Rutenberg	for our marriage and family
Janet Slabbekorn	
Jean Vestal	
Donna & Terry Wertz	for new friends at Ascension
Ellen & Alan Wright	for the Rev. Rob Gieselmann
	for Ascension

In Memory

Nancy Bowman	in memory of my husband, Donald F. Bowman
Natalie Harris	in memory of Laurel Humphreys, one of God's gardeners
Lolita Kressin	in memory of Geoffrey D. Kressin
Carole Lundin	in memory of my mother, Margaret Bohler
Katie McHargue	in loving memory of Felder and Margaret Weeks
Katie McHargue	in memory of Reenie Gieselmann Ernest
Jane & Jim Phillips	in memory of Reenie Gieselmann and Leona Phelps
Suellen Roehl & Joe Cate	in memory of Lesie Crowson
Suzanne Seavey	in memory of Jerry Seavey

Tweens Bake Sale!!!!

Our annual Bake Sale will be November 18th during the morning services. Ascension is so generous in helping us raise money to buy Christmas gifts for the many Angel Tree children. According to their website, "The Angel Tree® provides much needed clothing items, special needs gifts and other wished-for toys to Knox County's (and surrounding metro areas) neediest children. These gifts in truth give poor children "food for the soul"-the hope of a brighter future and the reassurance that someone does indeed care about them" and it lets our tweens really give back to children their own age and make their Christmas special. We take the money raised and shop for gifts at the beginning of December.

Date Night will be November 2nd from 6:00-9:00pm.

Come bring your kids to us and enjoy a night out before the busy holiday times hit! Please bring a \$5.00/child donation for pizza. RSVP by November 1st to nursery16@knoxvilleascension.org And if your plans change and your children can not attend after you RSVP, please let us know.

Nativity Pageant Tryouts

Nov 28-5:30-7:30pm in the Garden Room for the main roles. Other roles will be available for children ages 4 to grade 5. The children's version of the retelling of Jesus's birth will take place during the 10:00am service on December 16th.

Planting Faith! Seeds needed!

 Children's Ministries require a large number of volunteers each week throughout the year. Almost more than any other ministry! It can be thought of like a garden. To be able to offer programs, we rely on volunteers in big ways! Many seeds must be planted to grow a strong ministry. And we use many different types of seeds! So you can be assured you will fit in nicely in our garden. If one area doesn't suit you, we can fit you in another area. Several areas exist such as: Sunday school, Children's Church, Junior Children's Church, special events! We assist by watering and giving you sunlight to grow in the programs. We help you produce wonderful fruits and vegetables! Currently, we are in need of a few new seeds in all of our programs, especially on Sunday mornings. Our vision is to have a large, beautiful growing garden of children and volunteers and to watch God take root in their lives everyday! Won't you join us! It is a true honor to serve in this garden. Interested seeds, please contact Megan@knoxvilleascension.org

**Adult Parish-Wide Sunday School
9:15am in the Parish Hall**

We as a parish, and as the Body of Christ, have suffered loss, hurt and brokenness due to circumstances of the past year. In an effort to bring us back together and help us heal, we have spent the last 5 weeks examining and discussing multiple layers of history from the history of Christianity and The Episcopal Church, to the history of The Church of The Ascension.

November 4

There will be discussion of Fr. Pat Wingo's previous two presentations.

November 11 – No Adult Sunday School

Parish-wide: we will hear from the candidates for Vestry.

November 18 – No Adult Sunday School

Parish-wide: we will gather for Ascension's Annual Parish Meeting.

November 25 – Popcorn Theology

This popular exercise consists of participants' submission of theological questions into our popcorn bucket. One or more questions will be picked randomly from the bucket and discussed by not one, not two, but all three of our priests: Pat Wingo, Christopher Hogen and Sara-Scott Wingo. A gold mine of knowledge!

The Forum Class – Remainder of Fall Semester

The Forum Class will continue to meet in Room 101 with their discussion and exploration of contemporary feminist perspectives of the bible. They will break on Sunday November 11 and 18 for participation in the vestry candidate presentations and for the annual parish meeting.

Wednesday Evenings "Food for Body and Soul"

The parish supper begins at 6:00 pm. Pricing is \$10/adult and \$5/child with a \$25/family maximum. Please sign up before the end of Tuesday on the sign-up sheet in the parish office, by email to announcements@knoxvilleascension.org, or by calling 865-588-0589. Wednesday evening programs begin at 6:45 pm, free of charge.

Discussions on Genesis – November 7 and 14

The Rev. Sara-Scott Wingo will spend two evenings discussing Genesis, a beautiful book overflowing with one rich story after another. She will approach these stories in a way that invites them to speak their ancient wisdom to us today.

November 2018**Regular Meeting times:**

Sundays 9:15-10:15 am Teen Sunday School
(Grades 6-12, Room 104)

Sundays 6:00-8:00 pm High School Youth
(Grades 9-12, Youth Room)

Wednesdays 6:30-8:00 pm Middle School Youth
(Grades 6-8, Youth Room)

Thanksgiving

In observation of Thanksgiving, there will be no Ascension Youth Group meetings on Wednesday, November 21 (Middle School) and Sunday, November 25 (High School).

Dinner Angels

We need Dinner angels for Fall! Dinner Angels is a program in which parents and other parishioners are invited to sign up and share in this service and fellowship opportunity to serve dinners to our youth. Want to try out a new recipe? Have a flair in the kitchen? Just willing to feed a small crowd? We welcome home-cooked meals and catered meals and we welcome and encourage our dinner angels to attend youth with us after serving. Our sign-ups, details, and schedule are available online:

Middle School Dinners (Especially 11/28 and December):
<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/60boe4dada922a5ff2-middle>

High School Dinners (Especially 11/4 and 12/9): <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/60BoE4DADA922A5FF2-high>

AYG High School Mission Trip 2019

Our Mission Trip for 2019 will be the week of June 8-14, 2019 and we will be serving the community of New Orleans, Louisiana through YouthWorks. Details are still in the works. Cost to our teens will be \$300 per person. To secure your spot, a \$100 deposit and your AYG release forms will need to be turned in no later than Sunday, December 16, 2018. This trip is open to our teens currently in grades 8-12.

Youth Confirmation

It's not too early to start thinking about Youth Confirmation class! Starting in January we will have a youth confirmation class for those youth wishing to learn more about their faith in pursuit of becoming confirmed members of the Episcopal Church when Bishop Cole comes for his visitation in June. Plans are still firming up, but if you are a teenager who would like to be a part of this journey, please email GiGi at gigi@knoxvilleascension.org.

Ascension Gear Fundraiser!

Thank you all for your kind support of our youth programs through our Ascension Gear fundraiser! We have placed our big order is HERE! Pick-up for purchased items will be available thru GiGi during office hours and after the 8:00 and 10:30 worship services. If you forgot to place your Ascension Gear order and would still like a vest, jacket or pullover, contact GiGi at gigi@knoxvilleascension.org. We have a few extra items available for sale or can order before Christmas!



What are FISH Christmas Gift Cards? They're one of the largest fund raising opportunities for FISH Hospitality Pantries. Soon you will see a table in the church office with a volunteer ready to assist you in purchasing FISH Christmas Cards. Two options are available. One option permits a note of how many families were fed with the donation. The other keeps the donation amount undisclosed. You can go to www.fishgiftcards.org to purchase cards online (see Andrew Morehead for more information if you encounter issues). But Christmas Cards can only do so much. For more ways to assist, see the details below!

Community Chest drop-off is the first Saturday of the month at 10:00 am in the side parking lot (**November 3 for this coming month**). However, did you know that you can always drop off goods at Ascension throughout the month? You can bring clothes and smaller items to the FISH office in the education wing and drop them in the bins in the office. If you need assistance, stop by the parish office (we're right around the corner) and find someone to help with your donation.

Where do those funds go? Excess funds go to the operation of FISH Hospitality Pantries to feed families in need. **However, FISH Hospitality Pantries needs your help!** Lately, Ascension's FISH Pantry days, the third and fourth Thursdays of the month, have been struggling due to a lack of volunteers. We need volunteers to take a few hours out of their day and drop off food bags to those in need. For every two volunteers, four families can be fed. If you can spare some time to help those in need, email info@knoxvilleascension.org and we'll put you in touch with the volunteer coordinator.

**LICENSED LAY PREACHER,
CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE**

members of the parish in 2016. We have since been joined by a daughter, Ada, and were confirmed in the Episcopal Church by Bishop Brian at Ascension this past June. I am currently finishing a Ph.D. in Hebrew Bible/Old Testament, and also have a Master of Divinity degree and substantial teaching experience in seminary and theological education. Prior to joining the Episcopal Church, I served in various lay ministry roles over the years and preached on numerous occasions. The last two and half years at Ascension I have greatly enjoyed co-leading the Forum Class during the Sunday School hour with Sarah Ringer. I have always strived to apply my education and vocation to both academic and church contexts, and have been meeting with our clergy and diocesan leadership this year about what the latter might mean here, leading to this next step. I am grateful for this opportunity to share my appreciation for the witnesses of faith found in our sacred scriptures with you, my church family.

PARISH CALENDAR

November 2018

WEEKDAYS

7:00 am Morning Prayer (Chapel)
5:45 pm Evening Prayer (Chapel)

SUNDAYS

8:00 am Holy Eucharist Rite I (Nave)
9:15 am Combined Adult Sunday School Class (Parish Hall)
9:15 am Godly Play I: PreK (Room 202)
9:15 am Godly Play II: Grades K-2 (Room 204)
9:15 am Connect: Grades 3-5 (Room 105)
9:15 am AYG: Middle School and High School (Room 104)
9:15 am The Forum Class (Room 101)
10:30 am Holy Eucharist Rite II (Nave)
10:30 am Junior Children's Church: Age 4 to Grade K (Room 213)
10:30 am Children's Church: Grades 1-5 (Room 210)
6:00 pm AYG: High School Youth Group (Room 107)

MONDAYS

1:00 pm Play Bridge! (New Transept-Parish Hall)
5:15 pm Centering Prayer (Chapel)
6:45 pm Handbell Rehearsal (Choir Room)

TUESDAYS

7:00 am Men's Bible Study (Parlor)
4:30 pm Guinnessis (Pero's on Rocky Hill)
10:00 am Kindermusik (Room 210)

WEDNESDAYS

10:45 am Lectionary Study (Library)
12:00 pm Healing Service (Chapel)
4:45 pm Boys and Girls' Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
5:00 pm Hurting Parents (Library)
6:00 pm Parish Supper (Parish Hall)
6:30 pm Middle School Youth Group (Room 107)
6:45 pm Wednesday Evening Program (Parish Hall)
7:00 pm Parish Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

THURSDAYS

7:00 am Brotherhood of Saint Andrew (Old Transept-Parish Hall)
4:30 pm Centering Prayer (Library)
4:45 pm Boys and Girls' Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
7:00 pm Ascension Schola (Choir Room)

FRIDAY

9:00 am EfM: Education for Ministry (Library)

Daily Calendar

1 - Thursday

5:30 pm Endowment Committee Meeting (Room 209)

2 - Friday

10:00 am Stitch in Time (Parlor)
6:00 pm Date Night

6:00 pm TWEENS

3 - Saturday

10:00 am Community Chest Drop-Off (Parking Lot)

4 - All Saints Sunday

5 - Monday

5:30 pm Ascension Cares Meeting (New Transept-Parish Hall)

6 - Tuesday

Note: Steps to Chapel will be painted today.

4:00 pm ECW Board Meeting (Parlor)
5:30 pm Finance Committee (Room 209)
6:30 pm Stephen Ministry Training (Various Rooms)

7 - Wednesday

8:30 am Ascension Trekkers: Ramsey's Cascades
5:00 pm Building and Grounds (Room 209)

9 - Friday

Happening #76 Begins

11 - Stewardship Ingathering Sunday

9:15 am Meet the Vestry Candidates (Parish Hall)
5:00 pm Pig Roast (Outside, weathering permitting)

12 - Monday

11:00 am Icon Guild (Room 101 and 102)

13 - Tuesday

11:00 am ECW Meeting (Chapel and New Transept-Parish Hall)
1:30 pm Stephen Ministry Leaders (Library)
6:30 pm Stephen Ministry (New Transept-Parish Hall)
6:30 pm Vestry Meeting (Room 101)

14 - Wednesday

10:00 am Wilderness Weavers (Room 209)

15 - Thursday

9:00 am FISH Pantry Day

17 - Saturday

9:00 am Ascension Trekkers: Road Prong Trail

18 - Sunday

Voting for Vestry Members will take place in the office area outside of the library.

9:15 am Annual Meeting (Parish Hall)

10:00 am TWEENS Bake Sale (Foyer)

11:30 am Junior Acolyte Training (Nave)

11:45 am Daughters of the King (Room 209)

11:45 am GCC Meeting (Parlor)

19 - Monday

1:00 pm Ascension Trekkers: Alcoa-Maryville Greenway

5:30 pm LAMBS Ministry Meeting (Library)

20 - Tuesday

No Lunch Bunch for the Month of November

21 - Wednesday

Church office closes at Noon.

4:00 pm Thanksgiving in the Woods (Labyrinth Garden)

22 - Thanksgiving Thursday

10:00 am Thanksgiving Day Service (Chapel)

25 - Sunday

26 - Monday

11:00 am Icon Guild (Room 101 and 102)

28 - Tuesday

5:30 pm Nativity Pageant Tryouts

This page is intentionally left blank for you to use on your fridge, cubicle, or bulletin board.

The Ascension Trekkers will take on two strenuous hikes in November in addition to the usual "easy Monday" outing. The first hike will be on Wednesday, November 7 in the Greenbrier area of the Smokies to Ramsey Cascades which is an 8 mile round trip. For seasoned strong hikers, this is considered moderate through beautiful old forest and involves some boulder climbing as one nears the Cascades. For others, it is a slow difficult climb after the first two miles although it still is beautiful and well worth the effort to experience one of the most beautiful falls in the park. The pace for this hike will be slow and will be an all day excursion. The next hike will be on Saturday, November 17 on Road Prong Trail, a shuttle hike from Clingmans Dome downhill to the Chimney's trailhead for a moderate 3.3 miles (rocky and eroded in some areas) which offers two waterfalls/cascades. Another option for this trail is to go up/down from Chimney's trailhead for about 2 miles only to see the Road Prong Cascade. Both of these hikes will start from the church at 9 am. The third outing will be on the Alcoa-Maryville Greenway on Monday afternoon at 1pm, November 19 for an easy 3-5 miles on a paved trail which is shared by cyclists and dog walkers. Contact Emily Vreeland at emilyvree@aol.com for questions and to RSVP for each of these at least two days before the date so transportation can be determined.

CHANCEL FLOWER DATES OPEN

If you would be interested in donating the chancel flowers on Sunday, December 2, December 9, or December 16, please contact Linda Hawley in the church office or by email at Linda@knoxvilleascension.org.

Flowers may be given in thanksgiving, in honor, or in memory of loved ones. For one arrangement we ask for a donation of \$75.00 and for two arrangements \$150.00. These donations help us to provide flowers year round for all of our services. Thank you for your support of our Flower Guild and providing beautiful flowers for our worship services.



STEPHEN MINISTRY AT ASCENSION

We all experience challenges in life—times when we could benefit from the support of a caring Christian friend. Stephen Ministers are ready to provide the emotional and spiritual care we need when faced with a crisis or difficulty.

Stephen Ministry provides a biblical solution—equipping God's people for ministry. Gifted lay people are trained to support and extend the care that pastors continue to provide. Stephen Ministers reach out with God's love to people who are hurting—both congregation members and nonmembers alike.

If you feel that you need support or need to talk, contact one of the clergy in the parish office, in person, by phone, or by email.

The ECW (Episcopal Church Women) will meet Tuesday, November 13, at 11:30 am. We will begin in the chapel with a special Eucharist service led by The Rev. Sara-Scott Wingo. It will follow the form of our prayer book service. However, this Eucharist will draw on sources from both *Enriching Our Worship II*, as well as from the Iona Community to create a whole new and meaningful worship experience.

We will eat our "brown-bag" lunches and conduct our meeting after the service in the parish hall. Drinks will be provided. Please RSVP to Karen McKinney at 548-7429 or karen.mckinney7@icloud.com.

Make sure to put our special December 11th meeting on your calendars. We will hold a Christmas Luncheon at Sylvia Peters' home. More info to come in the bulletins.

ECW PARTNERS WITH KNOX COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY AND STOCKING FUND

ECW is partnering with Friends of the Knox County Public Library and the Knoxville News Sentinel's Empty Stocking Fund to provide two books for each child and teen during the December holiday basket distribution. We hope our Ascension family will help this worthy endeavor by donating new or like-new books. A collection bin is located in the foyer. If you prefer to make a monetary donation, make checks payable to; Friends of the KCPL for ESF 500 W. Church Avenue, 37902.

PUBLICATION NEWS DEADLINES AND DATES

There are a number of publications and communications produced at Ascension. Announcements for the weekly bulletin and email newsletter, *The Heavenly Post*, are due on Mondays by 5:00 pm. Information for the monthly *Parish Paper* is due on the 15th of the month. Please submit announcements and information for these publications to announcements@knoxvilleascension.org. This allows multiple staff members to see the information and process it (rather than getting lost in one email account).

Our website is continuously worked on by Andrew Morehead. If you see something that maybe doesn't behave properly, has the incorrect information, or if you would like to suggest an addition or edit, email Andrew at andrew@knoxvilleascension.org. The more eyes the better.

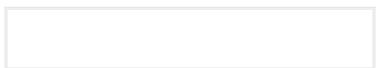
Ascension also publishes podcasts of the weekly sermon and the TEA with GiGi and Andrew on our website iTunes, GooglePlay, and RadioPublic. Ascension can also be found on Facebook, Twitter, Google+, and Instagram (but Facebook seems to be the most popular!).



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Brotherhood of St. Andrew Pig Roast

Sunday, November 11

5:00 pm

The Pig Roast BBQ Dinner, a fundraising event for the ministry work of The Brotherhood of Saint Andrew, will include BBQ Pork, hot dogs for kids, beans, slaw, wine, and beer. The price is \$10/adult and \$5/child, with a \$25 max per family. See one of the brothers in the foyer on the coming Sundays to RSVP. Your purchase goes towards the ministry of the Brotherhood, which includes the Circle of Friends, Tyson House meals, scholarships for retreat participants, and more. Visit www.knoxvilleascension.org/bosa/ for more information on the Brotherhood.

