August 10, 2026

Dear Parish Family,

I hope my letter finds you well and enjoying your summer. No doubt, you have noticed the many new faces in our congregation as we continue to grow, as we experience the expansion and addition of our many ministries and programs, and as we see the need to increase in our staffing functions to accommodate this exciting growth. We are also beginning to see signs of, and even presently experiencing, limitations to the ministries and programs we can offer due to the constraints of our physical plant. With those constraints in mind, our Vestry has formed a Master Planning Committee to study our physical plant possibilities and plan for the future physical growth of Ascension. To help guide us in this planning effort, we have also engaged the services of an architectural firm, Williams Blackstock Architects (WBA), to "… create a vision for the future of the church facility to accommodate and serve as a guide for the parish's growth for the next 5-15 years, prioritized to implement over time" – a future master plan for Ascension.

As part of the development of this master plan for Ascension, we need, and invite, your input and ideas into the plan's development process. You are invited to submit your responses to a future planning questionnaire that is being distributed parish wide. Here is the link to that online questionnaire:

EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION - PARISH QUESTIONNAIRE – Fill out form

The **deadline** for submitting your responses is **September 11**, so there is ample time to consider, and prayerfully reflect upon, the feedback, ideas, and visioning you would like to offer to this planning effort. For your convenience, I have also attached to this letter a draft copy of the questionnaire that can be downloaded and used as a worksheet for drafting your responses. Please note that we would like to have all final responses submitted online; however, if responding online is not your "cup of tea," physical copies of the Parish Wide Questionnaire are available in the church office. Please contact Olivia Sheffield, Parish Office Manager, at 205-822-3480 and she can have a copy available for you to pickup. I have also included a QR code for those who may find it more convenient to use in accessing the questionnaire. Should you have questions, comments, or need further clarification of any of the above; please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you in advance for your consideration of this effort.

Faithfully,



Jim Busbin
Chair,
Master Planning Committee

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