

Weekly Calendar

SUNDAYS
8am Worship & Holy Eucharist, with music
9am Rector’s Forum with Father Jim
10am Worship & Holy Eucharist, with choir. Little Lambs Nursery for infants thru age 5.
4:15pm Musician Rehearsal for evening service, in church
5pm Worship & Holy Eucharist with music.
5-7pm Youth Groups, grade 3 thru grade 12

TUESDAYS
9am-12pm Parents’ Morning Out
10am Bible Study with Father Leo
10:30am Yoga Faith, \$5. In the church.

WEDNESDAYS
10am Yoga Faith, \$5. In the church.
12 noon Healing Service with Eucharist

THURSDAYS
6:30am Men’s Bible Study
9am-12pm Parents’ Morning Out
9am-12pm The Shed Thrift Shop
10:30am Women’s Bible Study & Prayer Group
7pm Choir Rehearsal

FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS
9am-12pm The Shed Thrift Shop


Little Lambs Nursery & Sunday School

God put the wiggle in the wee ones! We welcome them in church; our church chapel is ready, with room for a stroller or two (ramp available next to the chapel). Also, our Little Lambs Nursery is provided for infants through 5 years. They'll enjoy videos, songs and a craft! *Available at the 10am service only.*

During Holy Communion


All baptized persons are welcome to receive the Holy Eucharist. If you are unable to come to the Altar rail, please notify an Usher, and clergy will come to you. During Communion, our Healing Ministers are available in the Chapel to pray for you, your loved ones, and for any other concerns on your heart.

Stewardship: Our Season of Gratitude



Your giving intention helps Church of the Ascension develop a strategic plan for the year ahead and informs our decisions on how to best direct our resources to achieve our vision for the future.

- Check your mail for the letter from Father Jim.
- Click on the QR code above to see members of



Testimonials

Episcopal Relief & Development

WILDFIRES, FLOODS, TORNADOES, HURRICANES, HEAT WAVES
Wondering how to help? Episcopal Relief & Development is mobilized with other agencies and partners to provide boots-on-the-ground disaster aid in the U.S. and overseas, through the networks of the Episcopal Church and the Anglican Church. ER&D has received a 4-star Give With Confidence rating from philanthropy watchdog Charity Navigator. Please see episcopalrelief.org.

Welcome to Ascension!

If you are visiting, we invite you to join us as we open our lives to the healing and transforming love of God. If you are looking for a church home, please speak to the clergy or one of our Welcomers.

- CORE VALUES**
- We follow our Christian beliefs to shape the way we live.
 - We are faithful to our Episcopal values as we worship together in traditional and in new ways.
 - We welcome and embrace you as you are.
 - We care for you as you live each stage of your life.
 - We compassionately serve the community to enrich lives.

EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION
The Rev. Dr. Jim Sorvillo, Rector
The Rev. Bill Burkett, Associate Rector
The Rev. Sandy Jamieson, Deacon

VESTRY		
Sharon Meek, Sr. Warden	Bennett Walling, Jr. Warden	
Gary Schlarbaum, Treasurer	Marte Toohill, Clerk	Peter Gibson '24
Elizabeth Dale '23	Danene Rice '24	Al Maiorano '25
Jeff Jennings '23	Hal Bodley '24	Susan Roberts '25
Carole Whittle '23	Tom Chaby '24	Sandy Meyers '25


STAFF
Beverley Cline, Financial Administrator
Dr. Matthew Estes, Music Director
Jeanne Ward-Estes, Liturgist
Chris Fairchild, Social Media/Worship Tech
Susan Katte, Youth/Outreach
Brian McCracken, Sexton/Property Manager
Pam Rilling, Day School Director
Maggie Talbot, Parish Administrator

CONTACT US
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727-447-3469

 Episcopal Church of the Ascension

 @churchofascension

Announcements



Our Mission
***To inspire hope
as we care for all
through the teachings
of Jesus Christ***

Oct. 1, 2023

Rector’s Forum

9AM SUNDAYS OCT. 1-15, Oct. 29, Nov. 12-26 & Dec. 10
Paul: His Letters and His Theology
As the most prolific writer in the New Testament, Paul’s name is attached to 14 pastoral letters. His conversion from being one of the most highly regarded Pharisees during the time of Jesus to being one of the most devoted Apostles gives us insight into the work of the Holy Spirit and the effect of the Gospel in ancient times. **Father Jim** will lead you on an adventure of the person, letters, and theology of Paul. Come see where the Holy Spirit will lead you! *Also live on Zoom, and archived on YouTube.com at Ascension Clearwater. Child care available.*

Attention Newcomers!

Are you new to Ascension (n the past few years)? Do you want to learn more about the Episcopal faith? Would you like to get to know other parishioners? Ascension would also like to get to know you!

ASCENSION 101 11:15AM SUNDAYS OCT. 1, OCT. 8, OCT. 15
This 3-week lunch/teaching series welcomes and educates newcomers about what we believe and who we are at Church of Ascension. Participants not only learn more about our faith and our church, but also meet and get to know other newcomers over lunch. Please pre-register (so we know how many lunches to prepare) at office@churchofascension.org or call (727) 447-3469.

Outreach

FEED THEM ON THE FIRST — CHECK THE BOX TODAY!
Look for the little wooden church in the narthex
Ascension’s Check the Box campaign helps meet the increasing need of hungry families as we “check the box” by writing a check on the first of the month for Hope Villages of America. Please make checks payable Church of Ascension (memo line: HOVA). Cash also gratefully accepted! A suggested amount of \$35 can fill a box with enough food to feed a small family for 2-3 days. Please deposit your check in the little wooden church (modeled on the original wooden Ascension church of 100 years ago!)

Dinner & a Movie: The Way

6PM WEDNESDAYS SEPT. 20-NOV. 8

The story involves a California doctor (Martin Sheen), whose son (Emilio Estavez) dies while attempting to complete the Camino de Santiago (The Way of St. James), a centuries-old pilgrimage over Spanish mountain country to the Cathedral de Santiago. The son was religious. The father definitely not. He flies to Spain to identify his son's body, oversees its cremation and decides to scatter the ashes along The Way that his son planned to trek, walking the journey in the company of other pilgrims. *One reviewer says: “It does what the best of cinema can: It moves us, and reminds us that life is a journey full of chance encounters and that it’s not all serendipity, but we can walk on too.”*
RSVP on your phone’s Ascension App! Go to the Events tab at the bottom of the screen, select Calendar, and scroll down to the date(s). You can register at one time for as many dates as you like! Or call 727-447-3469, or email office@churchofascension.org.

St. Teresa’s Guild

1PM TUESDAY OCT. 3

St. Teresa’s Guild ministers to the homebound members of Ascension in various ways: phone calls, greeting cards, flowers, vis-itation, healing prayer, and holy eucharist. For those who can no longer come to church, St. Teresa’s keeps them connected to their church family! Text **Anne Jones** with questions at 727-412-5505.

Ascension Book Club

1PM TUESDAY OCT.10

Love to read? Join fellow book lovers for lively and interesting discussions! Classics and currents are of modest length and available online or at the library. Check the narthex, the office, or the weekly parish email for a list. October’s book is *This Isn’t Going to End Well* by Daniel Wallace, moderated by **Charlotte Dillon**. Register with **Susan Simoneau** at spsimoneau@gmail.com.

Bible Study: The Book of Revelation

10AM TUESDAYS NO CLASS OCT. 3 & OCT. 10

Father Leo continues his Tuesday morning Bible teaching in the Lambert Room and also on Zoom. These prophetic visions, from of a man named John in 95 AD, speak of God's sovereignty over human history. A letter of encouragement written to 7 churches facing Roman persecution, it’s an example of "apocalyptic" writing, using visions and symbolic imagery to offer a glimpse of God's plan for a renewed earth and a peace-filled creation.

Christian Yoga

10:30AM TUESDAYS IN THE CHURCH

10AM WEDNESDAYS IN THE CHURCH

Sabrina Amaro leads Yoga Faith, a Christ-centered program using Scripture and prayer. \$5 per class. Contact samaro0401@gmail.com.

Assistance with Church Technology

When it doesn't seem to work, or you can't figure it out, our helpdesk is ready at techhelp@churchofascension.org to solve Website errors/omissions, phone App confusion, social media woes, and technical troubles in church or on campus.

Outreach Ministries

PACK A SNACK FOR LITTLE ONES

PACKING NOV. 19, JAN.17

Weekly deliveries are made to the Isay Gulley Center Head Start program for 1- and 2-year-olds, supplying snacks to families where there is food insecurity. A group meets monthly in the parish hall after the 10am service to fill 100 bags with milk/juice/snacks. Text at **Terrie Byrne** 727-638-3084.

LAUNDRY LOVE

WEDNESDAY OCT. 18

This program offers homeless/displaced people a chance to wash their clothes for free at Happy Bubbles Laundromat, 412 South Missouri Avenue , Clearwater, 3:30–7pm, on the **3rd Wednesday** of each month. Text **Talma Pilato** 727-515-8388 to sign up.

FEEDING THE HOMELESS

THURSDAY SEPT. 28 & OCT. 26

As a community of faith, we are serving our homeless brothers and sisters in partnership with 3 Clearwater churches that organize regular weekly meals (1st Methodist, Mt. Zion Methodist and Peace Presbyterian). On **4th Thursdays**, Ascension provides the fresh fruit and dessert. Would you like to help serve? Contact **Ruthanne Schlarbaum** at ruthanne718@gmail.com (May-Oct.)

BROWN BAG IT FOR THE FOOD BANK

Hope Villages Food Bank provides 6 million pounds of nutritious groceries each year to households in Pinellas, at its warehouse on Druid Rd. and thru 87 smaller food pantries. Please leave donations of non-perishables in the narthex or in the crates by the church office door. Brown bags are available in the narthex. Text **Talma Pilato** 727-515-8388 or **Terrie Byrne** 727-638-3084.

NURSING HOME VISITS

Highland Pines Rehabilitation Center, at 1111 S. Highland Ave., Clearwater. Visit with residents who do not receive visitors, **any day 9-11am**. Participate in a Devotions Service led by a layperson; read Scripture, and perhaps play or perform relevant musical pieces, **Thursdays 3-4pm**. Text **Talma Pilato** 727-515-8388 .

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Mike	Kathryn	Andy	Paul	Chris	Bill
Rachel	Barbara	Ruth	Bill	Bob	Ann
Katie	Phee				

*In need of prayer? Please fill out the Prayer Request Form located on the Chapel Altar. **Healing Ministers are available to pray with you in the Chapel during Communion.***

BIRTHDAYS Andrew Hupp, Marion Helm, Makena Webb, Susan Katte, Mike Hauser, Alexa Bouchard, Rick Tetrick, Johanna Pruitt, Chuck Strong, Jackie Williams, David Kilgore, Jim Sibson, Abigail Talbot, Gil McArthur, John Thomas, Doug Welpton, Kay Payne, Emerson Marcum, Dale Smith, Mary Margaret Florie, Jason Wortham, Eleanor Cooke, Martha Passel, Bob Kohler, Greg Santa, Jeannette Hildebrandt, Bob Wittenberg

ANNIVERSARIES Winston & Anne Haydon, Molly & Clark Lea, Michael & Rebecca Cantonis, Eddie & Betty Jane Mackay, Danny & Denise Cochran, Richard & Marta Howell, Trevor & Molly Schaffer, Bobby & Jill Metz

Altar Flowers

Altar Flowers are a meaningful way to beautify God’s house and honor loved ones. Gifts may be made in Memory Of, in Celebration Of or in Thanksgiving For. Envelopes are available in the narthex (church vestibule) or in the church office. A suggested minimum donation is \$50. *Today’s flowers are given in Thanksgiving by Music Director Matt Estes as he marks his 5th anniversary at Ascension.*

Parish Pictorial Directory

SEND IN YOUR PHOTO

A new parish directory will be published in January and we’re starting to collect pictures now. Please mail your favorite (recent!) portrait to the office or email it to maggiet@churchofascension.org. Don’t have one? During the coming months, there will be numerous opportunities for you to have a photo taken at church.

Ascension Women’s Prayer Group

10:30AM THURSDAYS

Each week, our women’s prayer group meets to study the Bible and to offer intercessory prayers for family members, friends, neighbors, for our community, our country and the world. If God has given you a prayerful heart, and you wish to be part of this ministry, please contact Ginger Phillips at gingerfphillips@gmail.com

Ascension Men’s Prayer Group

6:30AM THURSDAYS IN THE PARISH HALL

An ecumenical men’s group has met for decades for breakfast, Bible study and prayer, supporting each other and the larger community in service to Christ. Their motto is “We meet every Thursday until Jesus returns!”