

OCTOBER TO
ADVENT
2015

ASCENSION TIDINGS

A touch of Fall is in the air! Football is in full swing, and Ascension is asking for your prayerful financial support during our upcoming stewardship campaign. Starting Oct 18th, we will be handing out stewardship packets in church for two Sundays. If you have not picked up your packet by then, we will mail it to you. We will save the details for your stewardship packet, but now we ask you prayerfully consider how you will pledge to the mission of Ascension.



Stewardship Kick Off: Oct 18th | Ingathering: Nov 15th |

Theme: Together in Faith

We will focus on how:

- Money is mission
- Mission is mission
- Service is mission
- Relationship is mission
- The Love of Christ is the mission

Parents' Night Out & Trunk or Treat, October 24th

We are combining Parents' Night Out with trunk or treat this year. There will be a carnival and costume contest. See Robi's article for more details. In order to offer this event, we need volunteers!

First Fruits Celebration with our Sudanese brothers and sisters, October 25th

We would like to highlight African cultural tradition of offering first fruits during the 10:30am service on October 25. During this service, the Sudanese congregation's band will play and Pastor David will preach. These Sudanese disciples use Ascension's sanctuary regularly on Sunday afternoons.

It will be a blended service between our two traditions. All disciples of Jesus can bring their first fruits gifts to the Altar.

Specifics:

Offering: Loose cash and designated "first fruits" offerings will go to support the work of this Sudanese church. Regular pledges and undesignated checks will not be going to the Sudanese church. There will be a time to walk/dance/shimmy up to the Altar to offer your "First Fruits" gifts. You may offer money or actual produce that will go to WHAM.

Preaching: Pastor David will be preaching. His native language is Arabic; he has a fluent translator who will be translating into English with him. The translator has American accented English.

continued on next page

LETTER FROM THE RECTOR...(CONT.)

Music: The Sudanese band will play roughly half of the music for worship, while Ascension's choir will lead the rest.

Scripture: Jeremiah 31: 7-9 will be read in both English and Arabic. The Gospel will be in English

Communion: We will have communion that day.

I am very excited to worship the Lord with you this day, please come with joy and a willingness to offer your heart to the Lord in this unique opportunity.

Pastor Todd

Peace,



Pastor Todd Bryant

REACH OUT

with Deacon Mary

Several years ago when I was in a contemplative mood, I was decided to spend some time reflecting on how I was going to budget or spend my "free" time for the next year. I had somehow decided this was a good thing to do...to set priorities so I was not too busy. In the midst of this process, I noted that I had not left any room for God in all of this. I assumed I was captain of my ship and knew what I needed to do. Just put it down on the schedule and say "no" to everything else. Therefore my response was going to just be "no" to a lot of things along the way.

After reflecting, I knew this was not what I needed to do. I needed to leave a huge hunk of space for God to fill in. My next decision was to reverse course and declare that the automatic reply to any church or God efforts was going to be "yes". When something came up in some way, I would stop and pray about it...and then if there was any way possible-I would just fit it in. I am not always perfect at this, but I will share it is a wonderful way for me to live. When I get those little nudges, I just go with it and God has shown me the way to ministry I would never have imagined. Those same ministries have brought me immeasurable joy.

When we were little children, we experienced our first personal power when we learned how to say "no". For the first time we felt we were a separate person with power over ourselves. This is an important stage



in becoming. On the opposite side is a period when we are adults and in our faith life follow the words of Jesus and give that same will and individuality back to God. That point is when we begin to give up our illusion of power to freely let God direct our lives. This is precisely when we find ourselves beyond our limited imagination and fueled with God's awesome power.

Quite often God speaks to us quietly, and if we are not open to it-we miss many opportunities. Sunday on the Feast Day of St Francis, Ascension had their Blessing of the Animals at the Ace Hardware store on Memorial Dr. As I spoke with the owner, she shared with me that she is very involved in dog rescue efforts in the area. She did not just get up one day and decide to do that by the way. She introduced me to the elderly dog who ended up on her doorstep in need of help to live. She opened her heart, helped that dog and quietly began a ministry that has rescued over 300 dogs from neglect, starvation and abuse in the last 5 years. I met several of the families that adopted one of those dogs and they love their dog. Her acts of kindness change the lives of the dogs from one of extreme pain to a new life with a loving family. Everyone wins. She saw a need and she said "yes".

This year as we begin the Stewardship efforts and move into preparing for the birth of our Savior, there is one thing I am going to ask you not to budget. Instead I am asking you to spend some quality time in prayer with the Lord searching for direction. Just think of clearing a little space in your life to listen to what he is asking you to do. It may be scary at first, but no one knows you better or loves you more than He does. You will be in the very best of hands.

On the scene at Ascension, we are beginning our work in Walnut Bend. There are still ways you can work with the children through Read Houston Read and there will be other opportunities too, even if you have not signed up yet. For those who attended the reVision presentation, you are beginning to understand the enormity of the challenges facing our youth. Even a small gift of your time can change a life. As a church we can have a real impact in our community if we work with our children in the community who need some help. One hour a week is what we are asking for....of course after you fall in love with the kids-we will consider more time. Ask our teachers in the parish what kind of impact you can have in a public school!

On October 17th, we will have a party at the Center for their residents where they will make Christmas cards they can send to family. We will need people to just go with us and chat with them. Many do not have anyone to just talk to. They need a part time friend. We will have other trips like that this year and next, where we need you and your smile instead of or in addition to a donation of items.



When we need God and call out to Him, He is there...always. This Stewardship season I ask you to consider giving of your time to some of the neediest of God's children. It will take some courage in many instances, but your joy will be beyond anything you can imagine now. You will not be asking yourself "why did I do this" but rather "why did I wait so long". Let us travel together, out into our community to carry our gift of companionship. I look forward to seeing you there!

NOTES FROM THE CHOIR LOFT



Dr. Nancy Taylor Ginsburg



Fall is our season of stewardship, thankfulness, and – if you're a musician – preparation for Advent and Christmas!

I have been taught that we come to God, to worship and to live our faith, through our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness. In choir, we often do all these things at once! Such is the power of our song!! Join us!

You are *always* invited to join the choir. Fall, with its preparation for all these very special worship services, is a really good time. Here's a Parish Choir secret: Many people in the choir can **not** read music...and we work together to learn our parts. It's always a joy!

CHILDCARE IS AVAILABLE ON WEDNESDAY EVENINGS!

Please bring your child/children with you to Ascension and join the choir! The Parish Choir wants to grow ... and we need *your* voice!

Every Sunday is special and the music planned for this fall has inspired many of us as we prepare it. Here are a few musical highlights for your calendar:

- Sunday, OCT 11 Ascension Worship at 10:30 Children's Choir sings
- Sunday, OCT 25 Ascension Worship at 10:30 First Fruits...and joint worship with the Sudanese congregation
- Sunday, OCT 25 Christ Church Cathedral at Diocesan Adult Choral Festival 6:00 p.m. (Parish Choir is participating)
- Sunday, NOV 1 ALL SAINTS
- Sunday, NOV 8 Ascension Worship at 10:30 AES Choir sings
- Sunday, NOV 15 Ascension Worship at 10:30 Music for choir and trumpet
- Sunday, NOV 22 Ascension Worship at 10:30 Children's Choir sings
- Sunday, NOV 29 ADVENT 1

Children's Choir: The children's choir is currently working on its musical offerings for October and November. Preparation of the Christmas program (to be presented at our early Christmas Eve service) will begin soon... and all choristers are welcome to rehearse with us! *Even if your child will not be available to be with us on Christmas Eve, please continue to come to children's choir! We have a good time, we learn about our faith, and the songs of Christmas are "forever" songs!*

Let's sing joyful songs to the Lord!

Blessings & Joy! ... Nancy

DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Our new Sunday school year is off and running! Summer classes are usually smaller due to vacations and summer activities, so it was great to see so many of our kids back together again. Judging by the smiles and laughter, it seems that they were excited to be together again, as well! Our youngest learners from 3 years of age through 1st grade are learning many of the classic stories from the Bible, and have already discovered how God created a world of beauty for us to enjoy, the big and important jobs God has given us to do, and how He protects us by giving us rules to follow. This past week, Melinda Merwin taught a wonderful lesson on the Bible. The children had a hands-on



look at Bibles of all different shapes, sizes and colors, and learned that no matter how different they looked they each contained the word of God and would help us to know how He wants us to lead our lives. Our older learners in grades 2 and up are following a lectionary based curriculum and are enjoying art, games and activities to help them unlock the meaning of each week's Scriptures. There's so much more learning to be done, and just as importantly, so many friendships to build! Please allow your children to be part of the fun each Sunday at 9:30.

In this time of Stewardship, we are reminded that each of us is called to share of our time, treasure and talent. The Children's Sunday School Department has been blessed by a dedicated group of adults who will be sharing their time and talent each week with our kids. Our Sunday school staff

includes: Dave Maschek, Joy Dyer, Katie Kruszka, Marilyn Hanovich, Melinda Merwin, Allison Miles, Funmi Falayi, Terri Kelleher, Sharon Black, Sheri Harvin, Geraldine Liborio, Ngozi Adimora, Ann Paulus, Angela Morales, Margo Kaplan, Shelly Ryan, Lilian Care, Lee Nirider and Suzanne McMath. Please be sure to let them know just how appreciated and valued they are!

If you feel called to serve in Sunday School as a teacher or as an assistant, we would love for you to join us! Contact Robi Lasiter at robilasiter@gmail.com, and I'll be glad to talk to you about opportunities for working with the fabulous children of Ascension!

Decorate Your Car and Join us for Trunk or Treat – Saturday, October 24th!

Who says that kids are the only ones who can dress up for Halloween? Join us at our 2nd annual "Trunk or Treat" on Saturday, October 24th, and you AND your car can dress up, as well! Stretch your imagination to the limit! I've already seen some of the plans people have dreamed up, so the challenge is on! We'd like to have as many participants as possible. If interested, call the church office or email Robi at robilasiter@gmail.com

ASCENSION SCHOOL

Dear Parishioners,

October is a month of several celebrations. We invite all grandparents and special friends to attend chapel with their grandchild or special child on Tuesday, October 20th at 9 am. We have a reception in the Parish Hall and our fall Book Fair is ready for all to attend. The fall Book Fair will be open on Sunday, October 18th, for the parish to enjoy. On Thursday, October 22, we have our annual Spaghetti Dinner. Our second and third grade parents sponsor this event each year with great food and fellowship. We invite you all to attend the dinner; information and ticket order form can be found on the next page. We will celebrate All Saints Chapel on Friday, October 30th at 9 am in the church. We always have room for parishioners to join us.



The month of November is one of celebration and community service. We invite all Veteran's to join us on Wednesday, November 11th, 2015, at 9 am as we celebrate their service and sacrifice for our country. We start at the flag at 9 am and then have an assembly dedicated to Veteran's. Please join us for this important assembly.

In November we collect items for Seafarers, small toiletry items for Lord of the Streets, water and granola bars for Lord of the Streets, newspaper to be folded for CAPS, winter clothing for Mission of Yahweh (women's and children's sizes). If you would like to donate any of the above items, just drop them off in the school office, we are open each day from 7 am to 6 pm.

We will also be collecting presents for Salvation Army. In the school office is our Salvation Army Angel Tree. The tree contains tags for children who need Christmas gifts. Many of our families shop with their families to buy items for children who will not have Christmas without our help.

We will once again be selling Poinsettias from Brookwood Community. We hope that you will support the School and the Brookwood Community, by tearing out the order form on page 8 and submitting it to the school office.

We will have an exciting month of outreach and ministry and hope you can join us for some of our events; it is a blessing to be at Ascension Episcopal School. We appreciate your help with our projects and thank you for your support in all we do.

Faithfully,

Nancy Clausey

Book Fair



Ascension Episcopal School is hosting a Fall Book Fair for all of our avid young readers. Whether you are young or young at heart, be sure to stop by on Sunday, October 18th, in the Parish Hall from 9:00 AM to Noon. The book fair will remain open all week from Monday Oct. 19 through Thursday Oct. 22, from 8:15 AM to 3:00 PM, or during the Spaghetti Supper. Come support our school, and get



Ascension Episcopal School's Annual Open House/ Spaghetti Dinner And Book Fair

Thursday, October 22nd

Dinner Buffet 1 st Seating	5:30 - 6:00
Dinner Buffet 2 nd Seating	6:15 - 6:45
Open House Classroom Visit	6:45 - 7:30
(Pre-K 3 – 5 th Grade only)	
Book Sales	5:30 - 7:30

Begin your evening with a wonderful spaghetti dinner, browse the Book Fair and follow with a visit to your child's classroom.

*The event is hosted by our Second and Third Grade Classes.

Advanced Ticket Sales

Please return by Thursday, OCTOBER 15th!

_____ x \$6.00 for adult plate = \$ _____
_____ x \$4.00 for child plate = \$ _____

Please Circle Seating: **1st** or **2nd**

Student Name: _____

Teacher Name: _____

Please send a check made out to AES for Advanced Tickets Sales
Write the number of tickets to be purchased in the memo line of your check

Tickets are available at the door beginning at 6:30pm:

(Walk-in tickets will not be sold during the 1st seating)

Adult plate = \$8.00

Child plate = \$5.00



Poinsettia Sale

*An AES fundraiser that benefits the school and supports
The Brookwood Community*

Poinsettia sales will begin on November 2.

*Each red poinsettia is grown in a 6" pot, averages 16" in height
with 5-7 blooms and come with pot covers.*

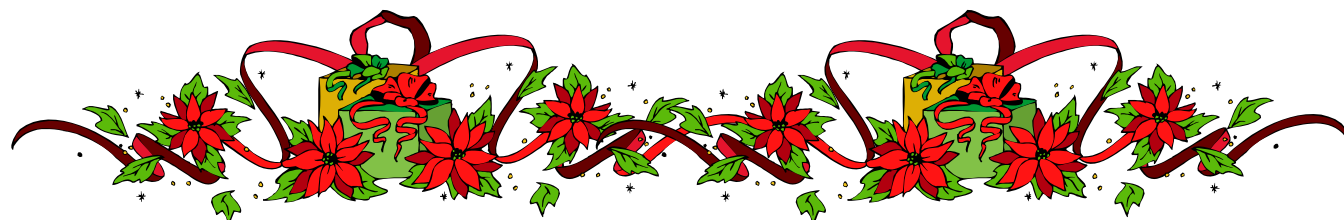
\$12.50 each

*Please return this order form and payment
by Friday, November 13, 2015*

Name: _____ Qty. _____

Make checks payable to: AES Total: _____

Delivery date will be Thursday, December 10th.



TIME IS RUNNING OUT!! DON'T FORGET YOUR DONATIONS FOR THE

SEAFARER'S MINISTRY

Seafarers' Ministry Christmas Gift Box Program Starts **Sunday September 20th thru Sunday October 18th**

Ascension Episcopal Church and Ascension Episcopal School are sponsoring the Seafarers' Ministry Christmas Box Program starting September 20th and running a full month. The church participates in this program every year and with the help of our school we will continue to build this wonderful outreach effort. There will be a collection area in the Narthex of the Sanctuary for the church or items may be taken to the school office.

Crew sizes vary between 8 and 30, with an average number of 22 seafarers to gift per ship. In 2013, we placed 10,378 gifts on board 432 ships which had seafarers from 69 different countries! These gifts had been donated to the seafarers by 228 churches and organizations! The Christmas boxes are personally carried to each ship by your staff of Port Chaplains. We begin shortly after Thanksgiving and continue gifting seafarers until all the gifts have been distributed!

Please bring items such as:

BAND-AIDS	COMB	DENTAL FLOSS
DEODORANT	DISPOSABLE RAZORS	FLASHLIGHT
KLEENEX & Q-TIPS	LOTION & LIP BALM	NAIL CLIPPERS
NEEDLE & THREAD	SHAVING CREAM	SOAP & SHAMPOO
TOOTHBRUSH TOOTHPASTE	ADDRESS BOOK	CALENDAR
DISPOSABLE CAMERA	GUM & HARD CANDY	KEY CHAINS
PAPER & ENVELOPES	PENCILS & PENS	PLAYING CARDS
PUZZLES & GAMES	POSTCARDS	SOCKS
STAMPS	TEXAS SOUVENIRS	T-SHIRTS
BASEBALL CAPS		

The seafarers appreciate these items tremendously. As there are very few women and children onboard the ships these days, we would request that the gift be primarily for **male** seafarers. Year around donations of magazines (especially National Geographic, Reader's Digest, news, entertainment, sports, and science and nature magazines), paperback books, jigsaw puzzles and other games, PlayStation 2 games, videos and DVD's are appreciated.

Look for the "drop off" boxes in the Narthex and Parish Hall. Your gifts will be collected, sorted, and packed by students from Ascension Episcopal School on Community Service day which is November 24 and delivered to the Episcopal Ministry at the Port of Houston.



We need Shoe boxes!!

In addition to the items collected in the Seafarer's Christmas Box Program, please give shoeboxes. It is these boxes that the children use to package the items. They may be dropped off in the narthex, school, or office with your donated goods.

Parents' Night Out with Trunk or Treat

Our October Parents' Night Out will be on Saturday, October 24th. Our kids will be treated to "Trunk or Treating", a costume contest and lots of Halloween fun. To make this happen, we'll need lots of adult volunteers. If you would like to join us and help make this a Spook-tacular event for our kids, please call the church office or email Robi at robilasiter@gmail.com. Watch for more information.



HAPPY HALLOWEEN

Decorate your "trunk" and join us for Trunk or Treat!!

Saturday, October 24, 2015, 6:00 - 8:00 pm

(Decorate beginning at 5:00)

Who says Halloween fun is only for the kids?? Join in the Halloween fun by decorating yourself and your vehicle, and help us "treat" the kids from our church, school and community! Grab the twinkling lights, the dry ice "witches brew", the spooky sounds CD, the wiggly jello.....pull out all the stops and make your car the spookiest! We need as many participants as possible, as it's also a "Parent's Night Out" and we'll be bringing all of our PNO kids out to Trick or Treat.

Parents of children 6 mos. to 5th grade - We'd love for you to participate, too! Sign your kids up for PNO, drop them off with us at 5:00, and then go to the parking lot to decorate your car!

For more information or to sign up, call the church office at 713-781-1330 or email Robi Lasiter at robilasiter@gmail.com

STEWARDSHIP

Your 2015 Stewardship Team looks forward to seeing you in church this Stewardship Season. Come hear them speak each Sunday on how money, mission, service, and relationships come together and show the Love of Christ is the mission.

John Searle

Miranda Greisbaum

Dipo Ogunmesa

Thomas Fenner

Tom Sutton

Matt Murphy



Picking up your Stewardship Packets!

The stewardship team will be distributing your packets in the narthex at both services on Sunday October 18 and 25th. Please be sure to pick up your packet. Those packets not picked up will be mailed the on Nov 2nd. Please look forward to guest speakers during the Stewardship Season as they express to us what giving means to them and how mission drives the church.

Stewardship Ingathering Celebration

In thankfulness for the generosity of all our Ascension members and their gifts during our stewardship drive, we invite you to join us November 15th for an celebration following the 10:30 service. Please watch future bulletins and online publications for updates.

Upcoming Bus Trips

If you are at least 50 years young please join us on these scheduled outings:



•Saturday, October 24 -- The **32nd annual Texian Market Days Festival at George Ranch Historical Park** will bring more than 150 years of Texas history alive in one thrilling day of festivities. Spend the day living and playing the way of your ancestors through interactive displays, games, historic home tours, culinary delights, livestock, cowboys, vintage vehicles, battle re-enactments, plus much more from craft vendors and first-person costumed interpreters. We will leave at 8:30 and return in the middle of the afternoon. Admission is \$15.00 at the door.



•On Thursday, November 12, take a trip to Wharton and go down memory lane to the technology of not-so-long-ago days at the 20th Century Technology Museum. Also planned is a guided tour of historic horse-drawn carriages at the Morris Ranch that have transported past and present presidents and dignitaries in high style!

Please contact Cheryl Coppock ([281-293-0888](tel:281-293-0888)) as soon as possible to reserve your spot on the bus for either of these trips.

Pledges and Statements

Dear Members of Ascension:

Thank you for every penny of donation to Ascension Episcopal Church and its ministries. Your contributions have enabled us to make a difference in our community. Through your generosity we extended our community to DuLac, Louisiana. Those who were able to go on the mission trip grew through service to others and in relationships built in the process. Let us continue to reflect the salvation the Lord has given us by sharing all things he has given us; our gifts of the spirit, our wealth, and our time.

Your third quarter contribution statement will arrive in the mail during October. Review your pledge activity through September 2015. If you have questions call Leslie at 713-181-1330 or email at Membership@ascensionepiscopalchurch.org. The document is offered as part of stewardship; as a tool for you to consider as you decide how you are called to direct your support in the year to come.

Faithfully,

Leslie Nirider, Membership



Baptisms

If you or someone you know is interested in learning about baptism and what it means liturgically, you may find an explanation online at <http://www.ascensionepiscopalchurch.org/baptisms.html>. If you have questions that are not answered by the online information, Pastor Todd is eager to answer any questions for your baptism or that of your child. If you are ready to be baptized, there is an online application that maybe downloaded and printed. Just go to the church website at the above address and click on the pdf at the bottom of the article, print out and complete the Application for Baptism. You may send it snail mail, scan and email it to membership@ascensionepiscopalchurch.org , or simply drop it in the plate on Sunday morning. We wish to welcome you to a life of grace through Christ our Lord.

Altar Flowers

Please consider making a dedication and donation to the altar flowers. Just sign the flower chart posted in the narthex. The cost is \$100.00, but any amount is acceptable and goes toward the cost of the flowers. There may be more than one dedication per Sunday. Flowers are on the Altar every Sunday except during Lent. If you have any questions call Ann Burton. 713-782-6572



Looking Ahead:

- Oct 12 - No School for AES
- Oct 18 - Stewardship Kick off
- - Seafarer's Ingathering
- - Book Fair Sunday -
runs to Friday, October 23.
- Oct 20 - School Chapel with Grandparents and Special Friends
- Oct 22 - School hosted Spaghetti Supper (order form found on page 7)
- Oct 24 - Trunk or Treat. Come decorate a trunk
- Parents' Night Out. Please Volunteer
- Senior Bus Trip, leaves at 8:30am

- Oct 25 - First Fruits offering with Pastor David of the Sudanese church preaching
- Nov 1 - All Saints Day with Baptism
- Nov 5 - Life Line Meets 7:30pm in the Parish Hall
- Nov 11 - School Hosted Veterans Day Program
All are welcome to attend!
- Nov 12 - Senior Bus Trip to the Technology Museum
- Nov 14 - Daughters of the King meet 9:30
- Nov 15 - Stewardship Ingathering - Bring your pledges to the altar for blessing
- Stewardship Luncheon, come celebrate
- Nov 22 - Forgotten Seniors Kick-Off
Begin Vestry Nominations

LOOKING FORWARD IN NOVEMBER



The Daughters of the King will hold their regular monthly meeting on Saturday, November 12th in the parish library, with fellowship at 9:30 AM and the meeting at 10:00. The teaching is followed by a time of prayer. All ladies of the parish and their friends are cordially invited to attend.

The Salvation Army Angel Tree “Forgotten Senior” Program



On Sunday **November 22nd** we will begin distributing the bags for the Christmas Angel Tree “Forgotten Senior” program. All Angel Tree gift bags must be returned by Sunday, **December 6th**. They can be placed around the altar and be “blessed” by Father Todd.

The Salvation Army has a very well organized procedure for this wonderful program. From the request received, individuals and families are screened. They must meet the federal minimum poverty guidelines to qualify and most are in nursing homes with no family support. As in the past, we will distribute 25 bags for females and 25 bags for males.

Distribution of the bags will start after both services on Sunday, **November 22nd**. The tags have gift suggestions but good common sense comes in handy. There are no limits of how many or how few gifts you place in the bags. After the Angel “tags” are picked up, the gifts purchased and returned to Ascension, they will be picked up by the Salvation Army and distributed to the neediest of “**Forgotten Seniors**”.

The Angel Tree “**Forgotten Senior Program**” focus is on seniors, age 62 and older, as they seem to be a “**forgotten**” group. The most important aspect of the program is to make sure all bags are returned

Please give this wonderful program your support to help others who have not been as blessed

Alan and Ann Burton-Co-Chairs

Safeguarding God’s Children

All adults over the age of 18 who minister to children or youth in any capacity, be it church or school, are required to obtain certification in the Safeguarding God’s Children program. “[This] is a training program for the prevention of sexual abuse of children and youth. The training informs participants of the ways predators gain access to and groom children for abuse and it outlines the safeguards the Church has put in place to protect children and youth in our churches, schools and diocesan institutions.” Certification is good for 5 years. If you are in need of training or recertification, please contact Robi Lasiter, robilasiter@gmail.com or Leslie, membership@ascensionepiscopalchurch.org. We will be glad to work with your schedule to help you complete the process.



Vestry Nominations

Do you know a person who demonstrates a passion for Ascension and shown themselves to be a leader? We would like the congregation to submit the names of people they think would be good vestry members, no later than December 13th by dropping the nominees' information into the offering plate with the title "vestry nomination".

Each nomination should include: the nominee's name, contact information and what you think qualifies them for this leadership position. If you do not have their contact info, don't worry, we will get a hold of them. The Nominating Committee asks that you **DO NOT** speak to the person you are nominating before submitting his or her name. The vestry will confirm each person's willingness to serve before their name goes on the ballot. Thank you for your help in this process which is vital to the ongoing life of Ascension.

Photo Directory -

Send us your selfies! Only a few photos have been added to our directory recently; we need add more. The directory program works well with cell phone snapshots or scanned photos and it's a great tool to learning who is who. Please send a favorite to membership@ascensionepiscopalchurh.org. You can always send an update later if you tire of the one you send us. Help us in our fellowship. The Directory is password protected on our website or you can ask us for a printed document.



Christmas Brass Underwriters



November is the time to start thinking Christmas!! Please make an offering to help underwrite the Christmas Brass Ensemble expense. This wonderful experience adds so much to the Christmas Eve services. Checks may be mailed to the church, placed in the offering plate, or brought to the church office. Be sure that your check is made out to the church and indicate "for Choir Fund/Christmas Brass".

You may dedicate your the gift in memory of, in honor of, in thanksgiving for, etc., and the contribution will be acknowledged in the Christmas orders of service. Please call the office at 713-781-1330 or email Samantha at office@ascensionepiscopalchurch.org to confirm the dedication for your contribution. Thank you for your support of the Music Department. As with the poinsettias, the ***deadline for dedications and donations will be December 16th.***

Christmas Poinsettia Offerings

It will soon be time to sign-up to donate and dedicate a poinsettia. We ask that you sign the flower chart in the narthex and write your dedication in the book below the chart. The dedecatins may be made in honor of someone, in memory of someone or in thansgivings for all the wonderful things that God has put in your life. The cost is \$25, but any donation amount is welcome. Any questions can be directed to the office or to Mrs. Ann Burton. ***The last day to accept any donations or dedications will be December 18th.***



Remember Ascension Episcopal Church and School in your will.



Contact: Leslie Nirider at
membership@ascensionepiscopalchurch.org

Lifeline is a nondenominational social and support group for widows and widowers. Meetings are the first Thursday of each month in the Parish Hall at 7:30 PM.

For more information please contact

Jackie Clift

281.497.2663 or email jackieclift5@hotmail.com

Hurricane Season Is Here

The Disaster Response Committee wishes to remind all parishioners of the forms now available on the church website:

<http://www.ascensionepiscopalchurch.org/disaster-ministry.html>

On that page are two downloadable forms:

1. An Equipment/Service sign-up sheet – these volunteers only to be called upon during a disaster response situation.
2. A Member Assistance form for those who may have special needs – due to physical handicaps, living alone, or lack of proximity to friends and/or family. If you do not have computer access, please contact the church office and these forms will be provided.

Ascension Disaster Response Committee

Lee Nirider	713-464-8544
Jim Jackson	713-785-6909
Faye Armstrong	281-558-6817
Suzanne McMath	832-687-0864

WHAM Food Drive...

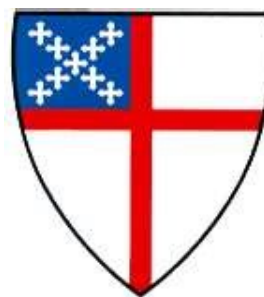
We now receive nonperishable food items for distribution to those in need in our community every Sunday. These items are moved to the West Houston Assistance Ministry facility for distribution by volunteers. Look for the wooden box in the Narthex! Contact: office@ascensionepiscopalchurch.org

Staff

The Rev. Todd Bryant, Rector;
The Rev. Mary Reddick, Deacon;
Robi Lasiter, Director of Religious Education
Dr. Nancy Ginsburg, Choir Director;
Leslie Nirider, Membership;
Suzanne Anderson, Organist;
Samantha King, Secretary;
Ann Seitz, Bookkeeper

The Vestry

Mike Black (Sr. Warden), John Searle (Jr. Warden), Jeri Platt (Clerk), Thom Fenner, John Edel, James Berrie, Matt Murphy, Carol Goulet, Michael Fox, Clement Falayi, Cindy Breton, Cheryl Coppock, and The Rector.



The School Board

The Rector, Dana Murphy (President), Todd Breton (Vice President), Amy Criswell (Treasurer), Ann Seitz (Secretary), Cindy Cadle, Patrick Gallagher, Shay James, Tom Konitzer, Beatrice Menendez, Marike Owen, and Ex-officio members: The Sr. Warden-Mike Black, The Jr. Warden - John Searle, and The Head of School -Nancy Clausey

The Mission of Ascension Episcopal Church

Our Mission as faithful followers of **Jesus Christ** is to love the **Lord** and one another unconditionally. We proclaim **God's** truth found in Holy Scripture and make disciples through Evangelism and Christian Education, while ministering joyfully to all **God's** people.