

## Announcements for April 14, 2019

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The Church of the Ascension is a Eucharistically-centered Christian community committed to sharing the knowledge and love of Jesus Christ through worship, teaching, fellowship, outreach, and personal example.

### Adult Formation

**Living the Questions:** Several years ago, the Alpha Course made an impact on Ascension as folks gathered to learn about their faith and grow closer in community. Its educational component provided a foundation of faith for the participants. Likewise, faith for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century is outlined in a 7-week DVD-based curriculum called "Living the Questions." Ascension will be hosting a **7-week series beginning on Thursday, May 2, at 5:30 PM** with the 90-minute course ending in a communal potluck meal. If you are interested, please talk with Nellwyn Beamon in the office for more info, or if you are ready to jump in, please register with her as well. [nbeamon@ascension-norfolk.org](mailto:nbeamon@ascension-norfolk.org)

### Holy Week

**Maundy Thursday:** This year on Maundy Thursday, we will start the Agape Meal AND Maundy Thursday Service at 5:30 PM in Rose Hall. As the service progresses, we will participate in the footwashing before processing quietly into the Nave for Holy Eucharist and the stripping of the altar. Families with small children may process with the elements out of the Nave if the silence would be difficult to maintain.

**Agape Meal:** This year's Maundy Thursday Agape Meal and Service will feature a sit-down meal of the same Mediterranean fare we have always enjoyed, and the first half of the service will be in Rose Hall beginning at 5:30 PM. Previously the Liturgy Commission members provided most of the food; however, our numbers are fewer on the commission and we need your help. There is a sign-up board in the Narthex, and we would appreciate your willingness to provide the items that are necessary to make this event as beautiful as it has always been. You can also email Katherine Lawrence with any questions or with your willingness to make contributions to the table.

**All Night Prayer Vigil:** At the end of the service on Maundy Thursday evening, the Reserved Sacrament will be taken in procession to the Chapel where an all-night Prayer Vigil will be held beginning after the stripping of the altar through to the morning. The Reserved Sacrament will then be given at the 7 AM Good Friday Service of Solemn Collects and Communion in the sanctuary. Please sign up here (<http://signup.com/go/TwZgnZK>) to provide a constant prayer in the chapel throughout the night with the Presence of the Reserved Sacrament.

**Good Friday:** Services for Good Friday will be the Solemn Collects and Communion from the Reserved Sacrament at 7:00 AM in the church, and Stations of the Cross at 6:30 PM in the church.

### Easter

**Easter Reception:** In the Ascension tradition, we will have a reception after the 11 a.m. service on Easter Sunday, April 21<sup>st</sup>. There is a signup sheet in the parish hall with suggestions. Please bring in something so we can all eat and celebrate, and closer to Easter, you may get a phone call soliciting a contribution. Thank you!

## Mission

**Help wanted:** The Red Cross would like us to hold a blood drive in August. In the past we have had two blood drives a year, but the people who were passionate about the project can no longer take this one. We need someone who is committed to this project to organize, recruit and set up for the Blood Drive. If this doesn't any one's imagination, we will turn our attention to other forms of mission. Please let Stewart know if you are interested.

**Mission of the Holy Spirit** will be holding a Paint Party fundraiser on May 4 from 3pm–7pm. It will be Cinco de Mayo themed and is for ages 21 and up. Tickets are \$35. Anyone interested please see Patti Glowatsky.

**Food Pantry:** Easter is around the corner and I would like to make it special for our guests. For the next few Sundays if you would like to bring some Easter candy or cookies we will include them in the food bags Easter week. Of course, we are always in need of the basics such as cereal, peanut butter, tuna, etc. as well. Thank you!

## EYC and Youth

**The EYC Spring Schedule** is Posted on the Bulletin board as you go down the ramp towards Rose Hall. If you are interested and wish to be added to the email group or just want more information on EYC (Episcopal Youth community) please contact Patti Glowatsky.

**May Weekend registration is open!** God's love is so many things. How would you define it? Join other teens from around the diocese for a weekend retreat that will fill you with God's love and help us finish the sentence "God's love is..." For grades 6–12, May 17–19. Fellowship, fun, games, music, and moving worship... AND it's at Chanco, so register now! <https://chanco.org/event/may-weekend-youth-retreat/>

## Info at a Glance

### **Vestry Highlights April 9:**

Building and Grounds is still looking at flooring solutions under the removed pews

Income is \$2900 behind budget but expenses are \$1000 under budget. Due to deficit budget adopted, we are \$13K in the red in actual expenses

Voted to support Chanco annual general budget with \$1000 gift

**Parish Annual Meeting:** The annual meeting will be on Sunday, May 5 at 9:30 AM for the election of new Vestry members and a review of the parish and how things are going. Robert Baird, Debra Griggs, and Anji Harris, have agreed to stand for election. Nominations are welcome from the floor for anyone who has their letter here and is known to our treasurer.

**Would you consider?** Have you ever wondered about what ministry looks like at other Episcopal Churches in the area, or about the many things we Episcopalians in the Diocese of Southern Virginia do together? One of the best ways to get a glimpse of that, including the leadership of the new bishop, is to be a lay delegate to Diocesan Council which generally happens in February in Williamsburg. (This year we will meet an additional time in September to elect a new bishop.) Each year the Vestry elects two people to represent Ascension. Those two people serve a two-year term: the first year as an alternate and the second as a primary delegate. It is a wonderful way to learn our life together as Episcopalians. Our current delegates are Anne Doyle and Rick Jones. Please let Stewart know if you are interested and need more details.

**Dayschool news:** The Easter egg hunt and reception for the Dayschool will be this Tuesday, April 16 at 4:00. Parishioners are always welcome to join in the fun. Also, the Dayschool will be closed for Easter on Thursday, Friday, and Monday

### **For Fun and Fellowship**

**JULIET's** (Just Us Ladies Interested in Eating Together) will meet on Friday, May 3, at 11:30 at Captain Groovy's. For more info, get in touch with Donna Killmon or Suzi Montagna. PLEASE NOTE DATE CHANGE!!!!

### **Around the Diocese and Elsewhere**

**JUST FAITH** is a small group experience of reflection and prayer about issues of justice we confront as Christians *i.e.* racism, immigration and violence. The Tidewater Sowers of Justice is sponsoring an evening with the founder of Just Faith Ministries, Jack Jezreel. He is an excellent and inspiring speaker. I invite you to join me May 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:30–9:00 at Virginia Wesleyan University. Sally Miller