

## Announcements for September 8, 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.

### Today

**Fall Sunday schedule:** The second service moves back to 11:00 AM.

**Sunday School kick-off.** Today is the beginning of the new program year. Join us in Rose Hall at 9:30 AM as everyone gathers for a joint Sunday School experience for all ages.

**Formation:** The theme for Christian Formation this Fall for children, youth and adults is "Who are our neighbors?" We will be creating a collage on the bulletin board across from the Cox Garden to signify our response to this question. Please consider bringing in photos of you with your "neighbors" to help with this project. Thank you for helping!

**A New Year for Music:** Our adult choir meets on Thursday evenings at 7:00 PM. All are welcome to join the choir, and new members are welcome at any time during the year. We have a colorful array of beautiful music (ancient, modern, and everything in between!) planned for the fall and winter months, including a few of my own compositions based on biblical texts and the poetry of George Herbert.

In addition to choral music, I am passionate about working with soloists (instrumentalists and particularly singers) as a collaborative keyboardist, voice teacher, and vocal coach, and I hope these skills can be of use to Ascension. I would love to work with our parishioners, neighbors, and friends in developing musical skills and bringing unique music to our liturgies. If you are interested in joining the choir or offering your musical talents in another way, please email me at [cody.mead.552@gmail.com](mailto:cody.mead.552@gmail.com). I look forward to making music with you all! Cody Mead, Director of Music

**Liturgy notes:** The liturgy commission discussed the chanting of the *sursum corda* at their last meeting on August 10. Chanting the *sursum corda* (lift up your hearts) can be traced back to the ninth and tenth centuries. Although it is a common practice in Anglican, Roman Catholic, Lutheran, and other liturgical churches, it has not been a consistent part of Ascension's recent history. There are those here who love singing the responses; others, no. The commission decided that we will chant on the second and fourth Sundays each month, and on holidays. If you are interested in learning more about chant and its traditions in the church, go to [https://www.nku.edu/~gartigw/liturgical\\_chant.htm](https://www.nku.edu/~gartigw/liturgical_chant.htm).

### Formation

**Next Sunday (15<sup>th</sup>) Adults:** What would happen if we stopped worrying about a challenging world filled with difficult people, and instead decided to love everybody? Bob Goff shares simple and practical steps to love everybody, always, the way Jesus did - including the "creepy people" who are difficult to love. Each session includes a short video, some reflection, an exercise, and a takeaway practice for the week.

1. Love People Where You Are
2. Catch People on the Bounce
3. Don't Play it Safe
4. Look at What's in Your Bucket
5. Love Even the Difficult People

**Labyrinth workshop:** Jean Kirkland from Grace Church, Yorktown, will share her many years of experience with the labyrinth. The workshop will take place on Saturday, September 14 from 10:00 AM to noon. RSVP is helpful but not necessary.

**JustFaith** is coming! JustFaith is a weekly ecumenical gathering, exploring the intersection between faith and justice. Participants engage in reading, prayer, and thought-provoking dialogue. They encounter the world, each other, the Gospel, and they build lasting relationships. Advance registration is required. The first session is from October 8-November 20, from 6:00-8:30 PM. For questions or registration, contact either of the two facilitators: Kathy Early [kearly314@gmail.com](mailto:kearly314@gmail.com) / 757-270-6342 or Mark Hoggard [mhoggard@piusxparish.org](mailto:mhoggard@piusxparish.org) / 757-334-0129.

**Book Club to start again:** The Neighborhood Churches book group will resume Wednesday, September 18. We will be reading Keep Christianity Weird by Michael Frost.

The Group meets at Talbot Park Baptist at 10:00 AM. The book blurb says this: "Jesus is different. Go and do likewise. Many Christians have become comfortable letting the world mold them instead of being set apart by God. And many churches have traded in their biblical roots for complacent conventionality. But Jesus and the church are anything but conventional. The hallmark of our faith is that it sees the world differently than the world sees itself.

We are called to be eccentric—off center, unique, different; not conformed to the patterns of the world but transformed by the renewing of our minds. By the grace of God we are not only dissatisfied by sin but increasingly uncompelled by conventionality.

So resist the allure of acceptability. Get back to the unsafe roots of our faith. Be equipped to surprise the world with the Good News it didn't even know it was waiting for. Challenge the way things are by living a life that has been truly set free by Christ."

### **Mission**

**Prayer Chain:** The church has an electronic prayer chain administered by Nellwyn in the office. If you have a prayer need, get in touch with either her or Stewart. She will send it out to those in the Parish who have asked to be part of this ministry. If you are not currently receiving the prayer requests, let the office know and she will add you to the list. Prayer is an essential part of our life in Christ, and this ministry is quiet but vital.

### **Info at a glance**

**The National Acolyte Festival:** Saturday, October 12 at the National Cathedral in Washington. We are considering taking those who are interested. It has been several years since we have attended the festival. Acolytes from all over the US gather to meet other acolytes and to participate in the service at the Cathedral. If you are interested, please get in touch with Ann McMellin.

**Special Council:** The election of a new Bishop will take place on September 21. Our voting delegates at this council will be Rick Jones and Courtney Wheeler. Sam Webster votes as a member of the Executive Board. Of course, Stewart also votes with the clergy. Information about the candidates is on the Diocesan website <http://svabishopsearch.org/bishop-candidates/>. If you would like to talk to any of our representatives about the election, please do. They would like to hear your perspectives. There are some flyers in Narthex.

**Citing documents:** The Prayers of the People are from Gail Ramshaw's Intercessions for the Christian People, Liturgical Press, 1990.

### **Just for Fun and Fellowship**

**Roy's ROMEO's** (Retired Old Men Eating Out Together) This month Roy's ROMEOs will meet for lunch on Monday September 9<sup>th</sup> at 11:30AM at The Royal Garden Chinese Restaurant, located at 155 W Ocean View Avenue in the Ocean View Shopping Center, which is right across from OV Park. Please come and join us for good food, fun, and fellowship.

**JULIET's** (Just Us Ladies Interested in Eating Together) will meet for lunch at Stoney's on Shore Drive on Friday, September 27, at 11:30 AM. Please RSVP to Donna Killmon or Suzi Montagna.