

Ascension on the Mountain Newsletter

January 1, 2016
Volume 2, Issue 1

The Reverend Stephen D. Hood, Rector



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Upcoming Events

- ◆ Annual Parish Meeting
- ◆ 2nd Sunday Series and Lunch
- ◆ AEK Registration
- ◆ First Light Outreach

The Right Reverend
John McKee Sloan,
Bishop of Alabama
The Right Reverend
Santosh K. Marray, Assistant
Bishop of Alabama
The Reverend Stephen D. Hood,
Rector



Rector's News

The Christmas services were beautiful this year. Thank you to all who helped to make it so, especially the members of our Altar Guild and Flower Guild, the Choir and Lay Eucharistic Ministers, the Acolytes and Ushers and all who donated to the flowers and wreaths and poinsettias.

Happy New Year!

In anticipation of The Epiphany of our Lord Jesus Christ (*always January 6th*) the 5 o'clock service on January 3rd will be an Epiphany service followed by Camp Fire (*burning of the greens, weather permitting*). Bring a piece of greenery from your Christmas decorations and join us in this time honored tradition of sending the Light into the world.

Our parish begins its work in the new year with the 62nd Annual Parish Meeting of the Church of the Ascension, January 10, 2016.

On the 10th we will meet to take counsel together. Along with reports, etc. we will also elect four new vestry persons to serve three-year terms of office, 2016-2018. The slate of nominees:

Michael Eike
Elaine Graham
Jeff Lees
David Snow

We want to thank Colleen Baird, Jim Busbin, Martha Oyston and Elizabeth Tanner for a

Dear Parishioners

Offering envelopes for 2016 are in Terrill Foyer. Any questions contact Laurie Tanner. Laurie's email is tanner1854@att.net or phone 902-0100.

Financial Reports may be found in the parish office in one of the Blue notebooks. If you

job well done as they complete their terms of office.

Those remaining on the vestry: Kathryn Bringman, Brice Johnston, Mary Beth Mann, John Wilson, Jeannie Duke, Eileen Epstein, Chris Lambert and John Thompson.

We encourage all to join us on January 10th. In addition to the Parish Meeting there will also be the 2nd Sunday series (*see Parish Life on page 2*), Holy Communion, and our 2nd Sunday Covered Dish Lunch.

If you attend either the 7:30 or 5 o'clock service please consider joining us on the 10th for the Series, the 10 o'clock service, the meeting and lunch.

Other events are coming up this month. You will find details on pages 2 and 3.

Again



*May God bless you with health,
happiness and the peace that passes all
understanding.*

did not get a chance to turn in a pledge for 2016 forms may still be found in the parish office. --Len Skelton, Treasurer.

And Vestry Minutes will be posted in the hall glassed-in case and also in one of the blue notebooks in the parish office.

—Lee Ann Fieselman, Clerk

ECW News



Ladies, mark your calendars for the General Meeting January 24th. The board will meet the week before (January 17th). Then make a note for the Episcopal Place Party tentatively set for February 7, the Silent Auction tentatively set for March 4 & 5 and the Fashion Show and Luncheon tentatively set for April 9th.

Confirmed dates and details will be published in upcoming newsletters and bulletins. Watch for emails via MailChimp as well. – *Mary Beth Mann*, President

Thank you all so much for making the bake sale a huge success!!! So far the sale made \$1104.50 !!! We could NOT have done this without your support -

and I truly appreciate such amazing help by bringing wonderful things to sell!! Also a big thank you to Grace, Leslie, Eileen, Jeannie and Sue for helping set up and collecting money!! Forgive me if I've left anyone's name out - Wishing everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy, Happy New Year!

🎄😊 *BA Chase*

Congratulations to Carolyn Eike, winner of the doll this year and to Weller and Spencer Bringman, winners of the Lego set. Thank you everyone for your great support of Knitwits. And thank you Knitwits for the gift of your time and talent for outreach.

Christian Formation News

- Classes for all youngsters Preschool-12th grade meet at 9:15. Preschool-5th grade meet until time to join parents for communion. Jr. & Sr. High meet until time for acolytes to vest for the service.

✦ A huge thank you to all of the Children who were able to participate in our Christmas Pageant this year. You were wonderful. And an extra huge thank you to the Moms, Mary Marshall Jones and all who helped with dressing before and storing away after.

Our schedule remains the same. Classes begin at 9:15. Preschoolers down the hall last room on the left past the church offices. 5's through 5th grade in the Merrie Player Room 2nd door past the church office. And the Jr. and Sr. High students in the loft in Ware Hall. The Jr. and Sr. young folks also meet on Wednesday evening at 5:30 for follow-up on Sunday lessons and discussions.

EYC/Youth News



"Outstand-
-ing!"

Thank you EYC'ers for the St. Nicholas Day. The children had such a good time. And thank you for the Wednesday evenings before Christmas. IT is always great to have someone to look after the children so Moms and Dads can get in the last minute shopping but to also get presents wrapped. Outstanding!

January 13. Preparing meal for First Light Home for Abused Women and Children.

Contacts:

Mary Beth, mbhmann@gmail.com

Olivia, pres877@aol.com

Jane-Ellen, janesherrod86@hotmail.com

Too keep up with Diocesan events for EYC'ers

Parish Life News

Second Sunday Series Resumes January 10th

In the Sunshine Room at 9:15, Dr. Elizabeth Kvale will discuss the many aspects of Palliative Care. Palliative care is NOT hospice, which serves terminally-ill patients who no longer seek treatment. Rather, palliative care is a team approach to illness -- doctors, nurses, psychologists, social workers, chaplains, nutritionists -- customized to meet the individual needs of patients during treatment.

Dr. Kvale is Director of Supportive Care and Survivorship at the UAB Center for Palliative and Supportive Care.

At the same time, in the Merrie Player Room, Mary Beth Mann will present parents who are struggling

with picky eaters, menu options designed to make healthy eating easy and enjoyable for the whole family.

--A Little Senior Merrymaking.

Many thanks to all who helped make our Christmas gathering for our senior parishioners such an enjoyable afternoon, especially Carolyn and Mike Eike, Anne Epstein, John Thompson, Mary Beth Mann, Olivia Thompson and our EYC who created the cute and clever photo booth, and everyone who made such beautiful and delicious treats.

Outreach News

● First Light Mission for homeless women and their children works to create hospitality in a safe and nurturing community, to encourage the women and children to maintain dignity, to find hope, to seek opportunity, and to grow spiritually.

Ascension will be preparing meals for the residents of First Light over the next few months beginning with The EYC preparing dinner for the shelter on January 13. Please consider helping the EYC by preparing a dessert to serve the ladies. Cookies, cakes, brownies or anything of that

nature would be fine. You may bring your dessert to the church anytime between Sunday the 10th and Wednesday the 13th by 4PM. Thanks so much for your help. Contact Martha Oyston, 527-5195, for details &/or to volunteer to help.

● Food for the Shopping cart. Always needed!!
● 55th Place Episcopal Thrift Store donations are welcome. Your donations are double gifts. 1st the pricing is affordable for people on fixed and low incomes and at the end of the year after expenses the remaining income is divided equally among 4 outreach agencies in the Birmingham Area.



Ministries of the Parish

✦ Acolytes. ncaltrider@charter.net.

✦ Altar Guild. Thanks so much to the Altar Guild members who helped with the Christmas set up. Everything looked so nice—from the polished silver to the new candles, to the prayer books in the pews. Sue.

✦ Choir. A special thank you to all who sang Christmas Eve. Great job! We will be returning to service and rehearsals beginning Wednesday, January 6 at 7:00. We will have an Epiphany party at the home of Eileen Epstein on Sunday evening, January 10. All members, alumni, and prospects are welcome! We desperately need sopranos. Of the five who sang Christmas Eve three will be moving in the next several months. If you are a soprano and have thought about singing now is the time!. To contact Mike mike.sparks@ascensionepiscopal.org.

✦ Flower Guild. Many thank yous to the women of the Flower Guild that gave up precious time to help decorate the church for this Christmas. And we wish to thank those that donated greenery used in the “greening” of our church as well as the large amounts required for the floral decorations that make our church so beautiful at Christmas. —Paula. (Ladies of the Guild. We will take down Christmas on Monday, January 4 starting at 10 o'clock.)

✦ LEM's (Lay Eucharistic Ministers). For more information or to volunteer please contact the Rector fathersdhood@gmail.com and/or Ben Chastain, BBChastain@att.net

✦ Pastoral Care Team. Mary Anne Hornbuckle, chair may be reached at 529-2884 or mahornbu@charter.net.

✦ Ushers. David Snow chairs our Usher Ministry. Contact David at 970-4181 to volunteer for one or more Sundays.

✦ Welcoming Committee. Contact Mary Beth Mann for details. mbhmann@gmail.com

✦ 2nd Sunday Covered Dish Lunch, January 10th. Sign up in Terrill Foyer.

✦ Cursillo. If you would like to learn more about Cursillo there will be an information Dinner on January 22nd at the Oyston's. Everyone is invited just let Sharon slinton@otelco.net know or any Cursillo member. Reunion each Sunday at 9:00am except 2nd Sundays (then after covered dish lunch)

✦ Brown Bag Bible Study meets on Mondays at 11am. Bring a sandwich. Beverages and dessert provided.

✦ Thursday 8am Bible Study led by the Rector.

“...three are moving... now is the time...”

...”take down...”

AEK (Kindergarten)/MDO (Mother's Day Out) News

Registration for AEK's 2016-2017 school term will be taking place in the coming weeks. If you are interested in enrolling your children (ages 2-5K) please contact Laura Maddox at 979-8711 or laura.a.maddox@me.com. Please feel free to pass this information on to your friends and family. Thank you all so much for your generous support of AEK! We are grateful to you and feel blessed to be part of such a wonderful faith community! Happy New Year! —Laura Maddox, Director

4's annual Circus will be January 27 in Ware Hall. Everyone is invited.

☺ MDO will follow the AEK schedule this year. For more information about MDO or for an application contact Faye Clyburn, akamrsfaye@gmail.com or 987-9089.



Links

<http://dioala.org>

<http://www.campmcdowell.com>

<http://satucket.com/lectionary/>

<http://bible.oremus.org>

www.ascensionkindergarten.com

www.cursillo.dioala.org/

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Visit our website <http://www.ascensionepiscopal.org>

Contact us ascensiondioala@gmail.com

Phone us 205-822-3480

Fax us 205-822-9866

Worship with us on Sundays — 7:30am, 10:00am or 5:00pm
Christian Formation, 9:15am • Cursillo Reunion, 9:15am

Happy Birthday & Anniversary

Meredith Graham, 3
Paul Eike, 4
Spencer Bringman, 5
Missy Hash, 6
Ann Nelson, 7
Jeanne Duell, 8
John Clark, 10

Eva Byrum, 10
Caroline Eike, 12
Laurie Tanner, 12
Sally MacDonald, 13
Matthew McCain, 14
Stephen Williams, 15
Gracie Fernandes, 16

Elizabeth Austin, 19
Dawn Hoover, 20
Amelia Williams, 23
Dick Lounsbury, 23
Nancy Caltrider, 26
John Sharbel, 27
Walter Graham, 28

Ella Smitherman, 29
Bryan McGuffey, 30
Lilly Poehler, 30
Brittain Poehler, 31

We depend on you to add the names of those you wish remembered on their birthday &/or anniversary to the calendar in the church office. And/or to check to be sure the name(s) were transferred each year.

Special Dates 2016

- New Year's Day, *January 1*
- ✦ Burning of the Greens, *January 3*
- Epiphany, *January 6*
- ✦ AEK Registration. *January 6-15*
- ✦ Annual Parish Mtg, 2nd Series, Covered Dish. *January 10*
- Baptism of the Lord, *January 10*
- ✦ First Light Meal. *January 13*
- ✦ ECW General Mtg. *January 24.*
- Martin L. King Jr. Birthday Observance, *January 18*
- Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, *January 18-25*



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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

If you currently receive both the email and USPS copies of the newsletter and wish to receive only the emailed copies of the newsletters please notify the office.

822-3480 or

ascensiondioala@gmail.com

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January 2016						
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31						

AEK Registration Jan. 6 through Jan. 15.

Collect for The Ascension

Almighty and Eternal God, you call us together as the Ascension family and bind us in Christian love and witness. So focus our hearts and minds upon Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and guide us to know your Holy Spirit in the life of our parish, that we may realize that our similarities are greater than our differences. Help us to recognize your image in all people as we work together as one body in Christ to the glory of your Kingdom now and forever.
Amen.

Lectionary for Sundays in January

2nd Sunday after Christmas Day
[Jeremiah 31:7-14](#); [Ephesians 1:3-6,15-19a](#)
[Matthew 2:1-23](#); [Psalm 84 or 84:1-8](#)

1st Sunday after The Epiphany
[Isaiah 43:1-7](#); [Acts 8:14-17](#);
[Luke 3:15-17, 21-22](#); [Psalm 29](#)

2nd Sunday after the Epiphany
[Isaiah 62:1-5](#); [1 Corinthians 12:1-11](#)
[John 2:1-11](#); [Psalm 36:5-10](#)

3rd Sunday after the Epiphany
[Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10](#); [1 Corinthians 12:12-31a](#)
[Luke 4:14-21](#); [Psalm 19](#)
4th Sunday after The Epiphany
[Jeremiah 1:4-10](#); [1 Corinthians 13:1-13](#)
[Luke 4:21-30](#); [Psalm 71:1-6](#)

The 2016 Chart is in the office. If you wish to give flowers for one or more Sundays please add your name and message to the list.

Sunday Service Personnel

January 3, 2016.

LEMs: Lounsbury. Byrum-Lambert
Altar: Epstein-E. Smith- Sharp-Stringfellow-Snoddy- Skelton.
Flowers: Haberstroh-Smith-Quattlebaum

January 10, 2016

LEMs: Vance LaGrone-Loop
Altar: McGuffey/Haberstroh/Poarch/Vance/Hartley
Flowers: Womble-Graves

January 17, 2016

LEMs: Epstein Poehler-Poehler

Altar: Busbin-Chase-Oyston-Goettge

Flowers: Linton-Davidson

January 24, 2016

LEMs: Gregory Wilson-Duke

Altar: Altar Guild Members

Flowers: Higgenbotham-Holt

January 31, 2016

LEMs: Busbin Wilson-Duke

Altar: Eike/Higgenbotham/Johnson/Thompson/Everett

Flowers: Vance