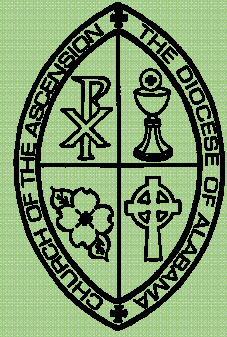


The Episcopal Church of the Ascension Webletter

Mid January 2016

Vestavia Hills, AL 35216-1799

(205) 822-3480 . www.ascensionepiscopal.org
902-1535 Pastoral Care



Sixty-second Annual Parish Meeting The Episcopal Church of the Ascension

During the meeting on January 10th the slate of nominees to the 2016 vestry was approved by the congregation. Congratulations to Michael Eike, Elaine Graham, Jeff Lees and David Snow. They will be serving with Kathryn Bringman, Brice Johnston, Mary Beth Mann, Jeannie Duke, Eileen Epstein, Chris Lambert and John Wilson. We want to thank Colleen Baird, Jim Busbin, Martha Oyston and Elizabeth Tanner, who completed their terms office, for a job well done.

The Episcopal Place Birthday

The ECW's annual party for the residents of Episcopal Place who are celebrating February birthdays will be Sunday, February 7th from 2-4PM.

We need volunteers to join in the festivities, both to serve and to bring goodies for the party (finger foods, please).

We will once again have a Valentine theme; Nancy Caltrider will perform her vast repertoire of piano showtunes and classics; and, yes, there will be cake!

For more info, contact Eileen Epstein 223-4731 or eileen1616@gmail.com

Youth of the Parish

Applications for summer staff at Sawyerville Camp are now available. Staff applicants must be 16 by September 1, 2016. Apply at: <http://www.sawyervilledaycamp.org/>

Diocesan Convention retreat at Camp McDowell on February 5-7 for high school youth! During the retreat, the youth will lead compline on the first evening, lead an energizer and present our video report after lunch on the second day, participate in the closing liturgy on the last morning. The youth have two delegates with seat, voice, and vote representing them for convention. During other times when we are not participating in convention, the youth will be learning more about what is involved in serving on Youth Department and playing games and other activities at camp. High school youth in 9th-12th grades can participate in this retreat. Registration is open now through February 1 and more details are available at: <http://www.dioala.org/ministries/senior-high-events.html>

Happening is going to be hosted at Holy Trinity in Auburn on March 4-6. Online registration for Happening #68 is open now through February 19: <http://www.dioala.org/ministries/senior-high-events.html>. For more information contact Mary Beth Mann, mbhmann@gmail.com; Olivia Thompson, pres877@aol.com; or Jane-Ellen Shumate, janesherrod86@hotmail.com.

Episcopal Church of the Ascension
Established 1953
Vestavia Hills, Alabama
(205) 822-3480
www.ascensionepiscopal.org

The Reverend Stephen D. Hood
Rector (205) 822-8688
The Reverend David A. Hall
Associate Rector(205) 822-3480
Email
ascenbham@ascensionepiscopal.org

Ascension Episcopal Kindergarten
(205) 979-8711
Laura A. Maddox, Director
laura.a.maddox@me.com

Episcopal Diocese of Alabama
Chartered 1830
Diocesan Office ♦ (205) 715-2060
www.dioala.org

The Rt. Rev. John McKee Sloan
Bishop of Alabama
The Rt. Rev. Santosh K. Marray
Assistant Bishop of Alabama

Join the Choir



Need a reason? Consider this: Neuroscientists in Sweden discovered that singers' heartbeats tend to synchronize, which leads to a sense of emotional calm and bonding.

“Joint action leads to joint perspectives,” write the researchers. “In other words, singers may change their egocentric perspective of the world to a ‘we-perspective,’ which causes them to perceive the world from the same point of view.”

So start singing — and enjoy the many benefits and blessings of being part of a choir!

Contact Michael Sparks, Organist/Choir Director
Mike.sparks@wallacestate.edu
Rehearsal on Wednesdays at 7:00pm
Warm-up on Sunday mornings at 9 :30.



Be sure to mark

the date of Shrove Tuesday, February 10th, down on your calendar and plan to join us for our annual EYC hosted Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper with our

men folks serving as Chefs.

The best bacon and pancakes you'll find on Fat Tuesday. Proceeds after expenses go to the EYC to help fund their projects this year.

\$7 for ages 12 and up

\$4 for 11 and under.

(Donations will also be gratefully accepted)

Cursillo: is a movement within the Episcopal Church that enables the essential qualities of Christians to come to life in the uniqueness, originality, and creativity of each person. Communicated by fun, surprises, friendship, study, worship and service, Cursillo proclaims that God, in Christ, loves us.



You are cordially invited to dinner on
Friday, January 22nd at 6:30 pm for food, fellowship
and to learn more about Cursillo

Hosted by: Church of the Ascension Cursillo participants

Location: Martha and Bill Oyston's Home
825 29th Street South, Birmingham, AL 35205

Please rsvp by January 18th to: Oyston@aol.com or slinton@atelco.net

DIRECTIONS TO THE OYSTON'S HOUSE

825 29th Street, S
Home phone 933-2468

1. Coming off the Red Mountain expressway turn LEFT on to University.
2. Pass St Vincent's and McDonald's on your right.
3. Go one more block and turn RIGHT on 29th Street. (Chevron gas station on corner.)
4. Third house on the LEFT. Green house with front porch. Iron and rock fence across the front.

Confirmation



Bishop Key Sloan will be with us for the Diocesan annual visitation to our parish. And

to confirm and/or receive adults as well as youth who wish to make a mature affirmation of their faith. Classes that can lead to confirmation or reception will be held beginning the First Sunday in Lent, February 14th. If you or someone in your family is interested in attending the classes that can lead to confirmation/reception please contact the parish office, ascenbham@ascensionepiscopal.org or Fr. Stephen, fathershood@gmail.com

LENTEN LAGNIAPPE!!

What is it!
Where is it?
When is it?

Details in the February newsletter and bulletins

Church of the Ascension

Ascension Welcomes You!



To the Ascension
Website
Ctrl [Click Here](#)

Reminders

- Deadline for FEBRUARY newsletter will be Sunday, January 24.
- Please observe quiet in the Nave and narthex preceding the service so as not to disturb prayer and quiet reflection in preparation for worship. Also, please silence cell phones before and during the service.
- Would you like your **membership** letter transferred **to the Ascension**? Please contact the parish office, 822-3480. We will be happy to send you a form to fill in with the information we will need to contact your former church home.
- Before booking any event for the church or parish house please check the master calendar in the church office.

EYC

Sunday school at 9:15 in the EYC Loft in Ware Hall. On Wednesdays we meet in the loft at 5:30 pm for follow-up on Sunday discussions, and projects for the parish.

See the front page for upcoming Diocesan EYC events.

SUNDAY CHRISTIAN FORMATION AT ASCENSION

Sunday School :9:15 am Preschool (3 yrs old)—5th Gr. Preschoolers meet in the last classroom on the left past the church office. K-5th meet in the Merrie Player Room. After stories and crafts all meet together for Children's Chapel and then join their parents at Communion.

EYC/Youth (grades 6-12) meet in the EYC loft in Ware Hall until time for acolytes to vest.

WEEKLY ADULT CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Mondays-Brown Bag Bible Study, 11:00am; Bring your Bible and a sandwich for lunch at noon. Beverages and dessert provided.

Wednesday. Noon Day Holy Communion service.

Wednesday. 5:30pm. EYC/Youth

Wednesday. Calling all singers! Ascension Choir Wednesday rehearsals at 7:00pm. Volunteers are needed! Contact Mike Sparks for more information and/or to volunteer. mike.sparks@ascensionepiscopal.org or call 999-6714 after 3:00 on weekdays.

Thursdays- **EfM**. If you are interested in knowing more about this class please contact: Fr. Stephen at fathersdhood@gmail.com or Dick Lounsbury rlounsbury6506@bellsouth.net.

Daily Prayer
http://dioala.org/digital_faith/

Senior Warden
David Snow
970-4181

Junior Warden
Brice Johnston
470-0742

Organist-Choir Director
Michael G. Sparks ... 870-8103

Christian Formation Director
Amanda Austin 822-3480

Youth Ministries 822-3480
Olivia Thompson, Jane-Ellen Shumate and Mary Beth Mann.

Nursery 822-3480
Samantha Baldwin
Givonni Symonette

Treasurer
Len Skelton ... 541-0741

Assistant Treasurers
Laurie Tanner ... 982-1116
Jeff Lees. 410-6212

Members of Vestry
Kathryn Bringman, Mary Beth Mann, Brice Johnston, John Wilson, Jeannie Duke, Eileen Epstein, Chris Lambert, John Thompson, Michael Eike, Elaine Graham, Jeff Lees, David Snow
Clerk of the Vestry
Lee Ann Fieselman

"if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us" (1 John 4:12).



Ctrl Click Heading to keep up with current and upcoming events in our Diocese

WORSHIP SERVICE CD . Copies of our worship services are provided by request. The Sunday 10:00 service and other special services during the year are usually recorded. Please contact Elizabeth Tanner, 982-1831 or the church office 822-3480.