

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

Making Christ Known by our Love for All

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost | August 24, 2025



# Sunday School Open House | TODAY

Youth, children, and adults are invited to a special open house during the Sunday School hour (9:30-10:15) to learn more about Sunday school offerings for all ages. This is also a great opportunity to meet Ashley Monachelli who is our new Director of Family Ministries as well as Sam Herman who is our new Youth Minister. Additionally, our volunteer teachers will also present. There will be breakfast pastries and other sweet treats.

## Godly Play Information Session | TODAY

Curious about what our 4K–2nd graders are doing during Godly Play? Join us for an informal info session on Saturday, August 24th from 2:00–3:30 PM in the Sunshine Room. We'll start there, then head over to the GP Room to explore the space and learn more. Please RSVP to Ashley Monachelli, <u>ashley.monachelli@ascensionepiscopal.org.</u> so we know how many to expect. We'd love to see you there!

## **EYC Kick-Off | TONIGHT**

We will have our EYC Kick-Off August 24 from 5:30 - 7:15 pm. Grades 6 - 12 are invited to have pizza, play games, and start our study of Luke. Grab your Bible and bring a friend! Contact Sam Herman for more information, <a href="mailto:sam.herman@ascensionepiscopal.org">sam.herman@ascensionepiscopal.org</a>. Mark your calendars for our fall EYC dates! Dinner will always be provided and we will meet from 5:30 - 7:15 pm. \*September 7, 14, 21, 28 | October 5 (Club 345 included) and 19 | November 2, 9, 30 | December 7, 14, 21 (Christmas Bash).

## Men's Breakfast | August 28

Join us for a time of good food and great fellowship at our next Men's Breakfast! We'll gather on Thursday, August 28 at 8:30 AM at First Watch in Vestavia. Please RSVP through Realm or by reaching out to Martin Hoerner at <a href="mailto:mhoerner@gmail.com">mhoerner@gmail.com</a>.

## Pier 45 Gathering | September 6

Join us for a fun evening at the Hottle's Home on Saturday, September 6 at 6:00 PM. We'll enjoy great food and fellowship together. Please sign up in Realm to bring one of the following: appetizer, vegetable side dish, starch side dish or dessert. We can't wait to see you there! Contact Caroline Hottle for more information caroline.hottle@vahoo.com.

# Kickoff Sunday | September 7

The program year officially kicks off on September 7th with the return of breakfast and Sunday school. The nursery will open at 9:15 a.m. and formation for all ages will run from 9:30 - 10:15 a.m. Following the 10:30 service, we will have a Tailgate Lunch in Ware Hall hosted by Pier 34. Bring a favorite tailgate food and wear your favorite team's colors!

## Bible Presentation | September 7

At the Episcopal Church of the Ascension, we believe engaging with Scripture is vital for spiritual growth. This year, we're excited to start a new tradition: presenting Bibles to our third-grade students, marking their faith development and readiness for independent Scripture study. We're also extending this new tradition to include our fourth and fifth-grade students in this year's presentation. This Bible presentation is a heartfelt gift from the congregation, symbolizing our support and encouragement. We pray these Bibles become treasured possessions and powerful starting points for each child to cultivate a deeper relationship with God through daily study of His word. We envision these Bibles as lifelong companions, guiding students on their faith journey. Please register your child for this memorable celebration via Realm. This will enable us to have Bibles for all of our children. For questions or more information, please reach out to Ashley Monachelli, ashley.monachelli@ascensionepiscopal.org. We are here to assist and look forward to sharing this joyous occasion with you.



### Men's Cookout | September 9

We are going to fire up the grill on Tuesday, September 9th at 6 pm. Join the Men of Ascension for an evening of food, fellowship, and fun! A suggested donation of \$10 helps cover dinner costs. RSVP in Realm or contact Martin Hoerner at <a href="mailto:mhoerner@gmail.com">mhoerner@gmail.com</a>.

# Newcomer Coffee | September 14

If you are new or visiting, we invite you to join us for the Newcomer Coffee in the Sunshine Room at 9:30 am. Please RSVP by emailing The Rev. Jack Alvey, <u>jack.alvey@ascensionepiscopal.org</u>.

## Women's Ministry Watercolor Class

Join us on Tuesday, September 16th, for a watercolor painting class led by Ann Carr. Ann will help us paint note cards and gift tags to take home, as well as give some lessons and tips for those just learning how to use watercolors. We will meet at Ascension from 6:00-8:00 p.m. We will have light snacks. The cost is \$15, and financial assistance is available. In order to make sure we have enough supplies, please RSVP to Emily Collette, <a href="mailto:emily.collette@ascensionepiscopal.org">emily.collette@ascensionepiscopal.org</a> or in Realm no later than September 11th.

### Club 345 | September 21

Club 345 will head out for some fun on Sunday, September 21! Following the 10:30 am service, we will walk to the City Center for lunch at Davenport's Pizza. Cost is \$5 per child, with pick-up back at the church at 1:30 p.m. Contact Ashley with any questions, ashley.monachelli@ascensionepiscopal.org.

## News & Notes

# Message from Kathy Lounsbury

It has been my pleasure to serve as Parish life Coordinator for the past 3 years. It gave me the opportunity to meet new friends, rekindle relationships with old friends and create opportunities for new ways to connect with each other. Your thoughtful gifts, cards and messages of kindness and love are much appreciated. I am grateful and blessed to be a part of the Ascension family. With my sincerest thanks, Kathy

#### Giving Hope | August

School will be starting soon and that means that the Ascension Backpack Program will be gearing up, as well. The goal of the Backpack Program is to alleviate child hunger in Vestavia Hills by providing nutritious, easy-to-prepare food on weekends when other resources are not available. Packs of food are distributed to participating schools and then discreetly given to children in need, at no cost to the participating schools or children. Volunteers from Ascension prepare the meal packs each week and deliver them to the designated elementary schools.

The goal of our Giving Hope outreach for August is to stock the shelves for this wonderful program. You can help by donating any of the following: individual microwave mac and cheese, individual microwave Chef Boyardee, peanut butter crackers, applesauce squeeze pouches, individual packs of trail mix, beef jerky sticks, protein bars, breakfast bars, and shelf-stable protein drinks.

### The Abbey Volunteers

Every Thursday morning, members of the congregation distribute sack lunches for those experiencing hunger in Avondale. Members of the congregation also gather on Wednesday to pack these sack lunches. To learn more and sign up, visit Sign-Up Central or contact Ross Parker at <a href="mailto:rossparker@att.net">rossparker@att.net</a>.

#### First Light Volunteers

Every month, members of the congregation serve a hot meal to the women and children at First Light Shelter. We also need teams to cook and/or serve the meal. To learn more and sign up, visit Sign-Up Central or contact Caralyn McDaniel at <a href="mailto:caralynmcdaniel@gmail.com">caralynmcdaniel@gmail.com</a>.

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