



# announcements

## EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 19, 2021

**Please note that the 10am service has been moved to 11am to reflect our fall hours!**

*At 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II will be celebrated in person in the church.  
At 11:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II will be celebrated both in person and online.*

**Please join us on Facebook. Having a Facebook account is not required.**

[CLICK HERE TO JOIN US ON FACEBOOK!](#)

[CLICK HERE TO FOLLOW ALONG WITH  
THIS WEEK'S BULLETIN!](#)

Printed bulletins will be available for those attending in person.

# UPDATED COVID-19 PROTOCOL

Numbers for COVID-19 numbers are increasing in Norfolk. Breakthrough infections, some of them deadly, have been reported by churches around the diocese.

- **In response to the upsurge in the Delta variant of the COVID-19 virus, the Bishop has asked congregations to shorten their services.** Accordingly, we are reducing the number of readings and shortening the prayers of the people. Not only are we omitting the litany for the prayers, but we will be praying for people by first name only. You will find the entire prayer list in the announcements section. Thank you for your pandemic patience!
- **As per new CDC guidelines, we ask that everyone wear masks when attending in person services.**
- **Children are welcome at both services and encouraged to participate as acolytes.** The “Prayground” and activity bags will both be available.
- **We ask that you continue observing social distance.** Pews are marked with green tape to indicate an appropriate distance in seating, and for now, we will continue to have a standing communion with individual cups of wine passed to those who wish to partake.
- **Look forward to the nursery being staffed in the near future.**
- **Look forward to coffee hour in Rose Hall, as soon as we can get hosts lined up.** This will require some special cleaning with soap and water of the tables we use.
- **Finally, and this is IMPORTANT: The Day School is still operating under state mandates that require masks during Day School operations.** That means that anyone in the hallways or in the education wing is **REQUIRED** to wear a mask. Failure to do so could result in the revocation of tens of thousands of dollars in grants given to support our continued operation in this difficult time.

We give thanks to God that strides have been made in reducing infection rates that allow us to make these changes. We will continue to monitor the situation and respond as things change. We appreciate your compliance and your patience!

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Difference Course:** a course designed to help us develop habits of faith that build community will begin next Sunday, September 18, at 9:00am. We will be meeting in Rose Hall. The online version of the Difference course is scheduled for Wednesdays, beginning October 6 and continuing through November 3. Please let Stewart know if you plan to attend so that she can email you the participant materials.

Click [here](#) to access the Zoom meeting link!

**Meeting ID:** 826 6406 0754; **Passcode:** healing

One tap mobile

+13017158592,,82664060754# US (Washington DC) 13126266799,,82664060754#

+US (Chicago)

**Tuesday Centering Prayer** meets at 6:45 Tuesday mornings on Zoom for one hour. The group is reading, New Seeds of Contemplation by Thomas Merton. We have 20 minutes of silent prayer followed by a discussion of the reading. You are invited to join us at any time. Please call Sally Miller.

**Thursday Mid-Morning Women's Bible Study:** We will watch a video, read scripture passages and discuss the questions together. I recommend joining the meeting early in case you have any issues connecting. I hope to see everyone Thursday at 10:00 AM! If you are not on the email group, please email Susan Meredith.

Click [here](#) to access the Zoom meeting link!

**Meeting ID:** 885 8898 1289 **Passcode:** Bible

**Forward Day by Day** is available in the Narthex for those who want a copy.

**Important reminder:** No nuts are allowed in Rose Hall or anywhere in the education wing. There are children in the Day School whose allergies to nuts are life threatening. Also, because Virginia has not changed the requirements for masks in schools, should you be in the areas of the Church that are shared with the Day School, **you are required to wear a mask.**

**Automated giving:** Please keep us in mind during this time. We are still paying our staff, and our expenses are ongoing. Now is a great time to set up bill pay with your bank. For many banks, this is a free service, and it helps the church with steady cash flow when things like vacations, holidays, or pandemics hit. You don't have to do anything after the initial setup; you even save a stamp every month. This automates your giving and gives us an idea what to expect each week.

**Prayer Ministry:** Thank you to the group of people we call our prayer chain, or prayer ministry, who respond with faithful prayer to requests for prayer. If you would like to become a member of the Prayer Ministry or if you would like to request prayer, please contact the office at [office@ascension-norfolk.org](mailto:office@ascension-norfolk.org) or call 757.423.6715.

[CLICK HERE TO ACCESS THE CHURCH CALENDAR!](#)

## IN OUR PRAYERS

Joe, Mason, Myrna, Margaret, George, Jimmy, Patti, Peggy, Erin, Barbara, Don, Beulah, Cecelia, Shana, Sydney, Diane, Chuck, Louise, Doug, Nancy.

We pray for those who are deployed and their families including Jacob.

For those celebrating birthdays: Chanel, Mark, Barbara, and Caleb

We give thanks for thanks for our lawn team.

*Note: Names of those not directly connected to the church will be in the bulletin for three weeks.*

# OUR VISION IS

Honoring the Past  
Looking Forward in Hope  
Be the Face of Healing  
Healing is the Core Value

**Your Vestry is here to serve you:**

Doug Thompson	2019-2022
Anji Harris*	2019-2022
Mitch Burton	2021-2023
Debra Griggs	2019-2022
Kris Huddle	2021-2024
Cindy Jones	2021-2024
Susan Meredith	2021-2024
Olga Gonzalez Nichols+	2021-2024

\*Senior Warden Pro Tempore;      +Junior Warden Pro Tempore

## **Vestry norms: With God's help we will...**

- Be rooted in God's love for each of us and the world.
- Be clear about our mission, have an action plan, and identify milestones by which we move toward it.
- Be transparent about results and share results and information with the church.
- Clarity of communications to the Parish.
- Be accountable and responsible to each other and as a whole for our work together.
- Ask "What went well; what can we do better?"
- Be respectful.
- Agree to disagree, but work toward consensus and broad buy-in.
- The Vestry works together to make decisions on behalf of the whole church. When a decision is made, that is the decision of the Vestry as a whole. We will not take disagreements to the congregation.
- Listen with our hearts as well as our heads.
- Be curious, asking probing questions to better understand situations and each other's perspectives.
- Think big and outside the box.
- Participate, each and every one of us.
- When communicating especially by email, make sure that the whole Vestry is included.

*Vestry Minutes are available online at [ascension-norfolk.org/vestry](http://ascension-norfolk.org/vestry)*