

## EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ASCENSION Announcements for July 25, 2021

**At 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II will be celebrated in person in the church.  
At 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II will be celebrated both in person in the church and online.**

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

<https://m.facebook.com/AscensionEpiscopalVA/>

Follow along with a copy of the bulletin

<https://files.constantcontact.com/837184a7201/2234c866-a072-4771-8576-4a5ff8def4c4.pdf>

Printed bulletins will be available for those attending in person.

**We welcome the Rev. Dr. Stan Sawyer** as celebrant at both services this morning.

### Updated COVID 19 Protocol

As COVID 19 numbers come down in Norfolk, Ascension is slowly but surely returning to more normal practices. Here is where we are:

- **We ask that all those who have not been vaccinated continue to wear masks**, that includes older children, but we leave these things to your discretion, asking you to be mindful of the risk to both others and yourself should you not wear a mask.
- **Mask are not required for those who are vaccinated in either worship services, UNLESS they are singing.** This means that you may remove your mask to have a conversation or while making said congregational responses if you feel comfortable doing so.
- **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 patience!

**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.**

### **Formation, Fellowship and Fun**

**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.

**The Bible Project every Wednesday. 7-8 p.m.** Join Stewart as we use the Bible Project to begin to understand what the Bible says about God and God's will for the world. The hour-long class will be on Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. (Updated Zoom link below.)

Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81899096247?pwd=RFVDdTVpV2ZMSFNlckdlakXNmOHRyZz09>

**Meeting ID: 818 9909 6247      Passcode: Bible**

**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. Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88588981289?pwd=Q2ZhQmR Jenhab0RqNVdpTE4wZE55Zz09>  
**Meeting ID: 885 8898 1289      Passcode: Bible**

### **Around the Diocese**

**Open Mic night at Good Shepherd on Hampton Boulevard.** Good Shepherd is hosting Food for Body and Soul, an Improv Open Mic night on August 19. There will be a food truck. Bring a blanket or chair to enjoy the evening. For more information on how to participate go to [goodshepherdnorfolk.org](http://goodshepherdnorfolk.org).

### **Info at a Glance**

**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. [office@ascension-norfolk.org](mailto:office@ascension-norfolk.org) or call 757.423.6715.

**Prayer**

**In Our Prayers:**

**Joe Beck, Mason Beers, Myrna Bruner, Lana Butler, Margaret Daly, George Davis, Linda Day, Jimmy Fields, Patti Glowatsky, Carlyle Gravely, Peggy Hackett, The Rt. Rev. Susan Haynes, John David Horn, Erin Johnson, Barbara Jones, Doug Knight, Pam Knight, Marilyn Meek, Don Miller, Beulah Mitchell, Cecelia Osteen, Marian Parsons, Shana Paul, Peggy Risser, Sydney Ruloph, Diane Shephard, Chuck Steinbruck, Louise Steinbruck, Pearl Windle, Nancy Whitman.**

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

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

**For those celebrating birthdays: Courtney Stallings (07/25), Jacob Kinnear (07/26), Ray Cross (07/27), Diane Forrest (07/28), Adam Kinnear (07/28), and Beth Staples (07/28).**

**For those celebrating anniversaries: Harry and Roni Porfert (07/26).**

<https://73961520.view-events.com/calendar/73961520/month/2021-07-01/2021-07-01>

**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	Senior Warden		
Anji Harris	2019-2022	Junior Warden		
Mitch Burton	2021-2023			
Debra Griggs	2019-2022			
Kris Huddle	2021-2023			
Cindy Jones	2021-2024			
Susan Meredith	2021-2024			
Olga Gonzalez Nichols	2021-2024			

Vestry minutes: <https://ascension-norfolk.org/vestry>

**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.