

EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ASCENSION **Announcements for November 22, 2020**

The Reverend Stewart Mason Tabb—stabb@ascension-norfolk.org; (757) 423-6715

The Church of the Ascension is a Eucharistically-centered Christian community committed to sharing the knowledge and love of Jesus Christ through worship, teaching, fellowship, outreach, and personal example.

Today

8:30 a.m. streamed service

Here is link to bulletin

<https://files.constantcontact.com/837184a7201/55504777-656f-43d2-bb51-351a68888d89.pdf>

No 10:00 a.m. in-Person In-Church Service

11:00 a.m. Joint Service at Talbot Park Baptist

SUSPENSION OF IN-PERSON SERVICES: Due to the current rise in Covid-19 cases and testing positivity rate, and after careful deliberation by your Vestry, in-person services are suspended. This was a difficult decision recognizing how important in-person worship is to our congregation. We will continue to monitor the rates that we might return to in-person worship when the risks are lower. Here is a link to the complete notice from the Rector. <https://files.constantcontact.com/837184a7201/58335a08-a418-45f9-a029-9944b851995b.png>

CONTINUATION OF STREAMED SERVICE: We will continue to stream the worship service on Sunday mornings at 8:30 a.m. Please join us on Facebook.

We welcome Bill McCoy as organist for our streamed service.

JOINT SERVICE! We will join our friends, Talbot Park Baptist and Royster Memorial Presbyterian for our traditional joint Thanksgiving service – made non-traditional by virtue of the pandemic. The service is on Sunday, **November 22 at 11 a.m.** It will be a drive-up service with cars parking in the front parking lot of Talbot Park Baptist where you can tune in on your FM radio to the service. If the weather is nice there will be some space available for you to set out a chair. This service will replace the in-person service at Ascension that morning.

Around the Diocese

WOMEN'S ADVENT RETREAT with Bishop Susan Haynes—December 4-5, 2020 at Chanco: To register or for more information visit www.Chanco.org You may also call 888-7CHANCO or email hospitality@chanco.org with any questions.

Formation, Fellowship and Fun

POINSETTIAS: We will once again be decorating the church with Poinsettias. To order, send a check for \$12.50 per poinsettia and let us know for whom the plant is in honor, thanksgiving or memory. Use the form <https://files.constantcontact.com/837184a7201/fe105636-5719-4cd2-9af0-f765bae762b4.pdf> or email the office. Orders must be received by December 16.

Centering Prayer: We meet at 6:45 Tuesday mornings on Zoom for one hour. Our meeting involves reading a book a chapter at a time. We are currently reading "Interior Castle" by St. Teresa of Avila, a 16th Century mystic. 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/write Sally Miller.

Women's Bible Study: We will watch a video, read the 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.

Mission

Salvation Army Stockings: We are participating in the Salvation Army Christmas Stocking project. If you would like to receive a stocking to fill, or if you have already filled a stocking, you may drop off or pick up from Ann McMellin at the Talbot Park Thanksgiving Service on November 22. She will also be available for drop off and/or pick up on Monday, November 23 between 9-11 a.m. at the church.

Outreach: The Catholic Worker has requested help with their Homeless Outreach. They serve Breakfast on the Street at 7:00 AM every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. They can use the following: Ground Coffee, Family Size Tea Bags, Iced Tea Mix, Peanut butter, Jam or Preserves, Rice, Pasta, Beans, Quinoa, Spaghetti & Sauce, Chunky soups, Mac & Cheese, Liquid Dish Soap, Laundry Detergent Pods, Socks, Washcloths, Adult Size Rain Ponchos. There will be a bin at the service to collect items. If you want to make a financial contribution, you may send it to The Catholic Worker 1321 West 38th Street, Norfolk 23508 or for more info call 757-423-5420.

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 CHAIN: if you would like to be added to the prayer chain emails, please contact the office Office@ascension-norfolk.org

Prayer

We pray for our Bishop Susan Haynes and the Diocese of Southern Virginia as we embark on ministry together during this very challenging time.

In Our Prayers: Sasha Beamon, Mason Beers, Margaret Daly, Jimmy Fields, Peggy Hackett, Daniella Jackmon, Erin Johnson, Barbara Jones, Doug Knight, Connie Landon, Don Miller, Megan Miller, Cecelia Osteen, Marian Parsons, Shana Paul, Sydney Ruloph, Diane Sheppard, Chuck Steinbruck, Marylou and Bernell Vincent, Nancy Whitman and Judy Wirt.

Note: For folks not directly connected to the church, names will be in the bulletin for three weeks.

For those celebrating birthdays: 25 Beatriz Ferrario; 26 Susan Meredith; 27 Margaret Hackett

For those celebrating anniversaries: Chuck and Susan Beers, Chuck and Elaine Spence.

Pastoral Care: November 22-28; Chuck Spence

Lay reader & Intercessor:

Altar Guild: November 23-29; Deborah Griggs; Courtney Wheeler

The church's calendar is available at <https://73961520.view-events.com/calendar/73961520>

Your Vestry is here to serve you:

Debra Griggs jasper550@cox.net; 725-1705, Senior Warden

Anji Harris anjiharris54@gmail.com; ronandanji2@cox.net; 831-3474, Junior Warden

Chuck Beers chsubeers@gmail.com; 605-8179 Stewardship/Finance

Chester Long cbl1966nrl@gmail.com; 424-5392; 685-6255

Ann McMellin amcmellin@aol.com; 771-3663 Outreach

Melvin Phillips christiansgdaddy@cox.net; 416-8761 Liturgy/Worship

Harry Porfert porfert@cox.net; 853-2643 (unlisted) Fellowship

Phillip Todd ptodd@financialguide.com; 735-4915 Pastoral Care liaison

Doug Thompson vabeacht@gmail.com; 418-2345

Vestry minutes: <http://ascension-norfolk.org/vestry-minutes-2/>

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.
- -Our consultant is Beverley Buston and her email is bgbuston@gmail.com