

The Episcopal Church of the Ascension
Newsletter

February, 2012
Vestavia Hills, AL 35216-1799
(205) 822-3480 . www.ascensionepiscopal.org



E.C.W. NEWS

This coming Sunday, **February 5**, the E.C.W. along with our E.Y.C. will host the **Episcopal Place Birthday Party** at 2:00 P.M. We will carpool from the church at 1:30 P.M. We need volunteers to sign the list in the foyer to bring food and/or host. We welcome anyone who would like to participate.

The "**BLACK & WHITE AFFAIR**" will take place on **February 10** just in time for Valentine's Day featuring live music by the band 'Audio Sketch'. There will be a **Silent Auction and Table Scape Drawing**.

Come and enjoy an evening of music, wine, food, and friendship and an opportunity to take home some wonderful items. Tickets for the evening are \$8 in advance and \$10 at door and are available in the Church office, or from Paula Vance, or Carolyn Eike. Tickets for the table scape are available from Jan Ennis or Carolyn Woodson. Auction and drawing will close at 8:00 P.M.

We have received some very nice items for the Auction but we would love to have even more donations for what should be a great auction. See Holly Goettge, 970-6384.

Mark Your Calendars, Set aside the weekend and Join us for a

LENTEN CAMP MEETING STOUGH LODGE CAMP MCDOWELL FEBRUARY 25-26, 2012

Camp meetings were outdoor religious gatherings that became a prominent feature of the nineteenth century American frontier and helped start the Second Great Awakening. Held by various Protestant denominations to minister to the spiritual needs of largely un-churched rural settlements, they developed into major cultural events as well as religious revivals. The camp meeting tradition fostered a tradition of music and hymn singing.

Arrive on Saturday after lunch and leave on Sunday after lunch. You are welcome to stay on Sunday afternoon and enjoy the camp. There will be free time during the Camp Meeting for hiking, biking, reading, or napping. You are welcome to bring games or musical instruments or anything else you'd like to share. Focused times will include hymn singing, bible study, and spiritual renewal.



- Cost
- \$105 single
 - Couples \$125
 - Families \$150
 - Saturday Dinner and Sunday Breakfast and Lunch are included.
 - Bring a snack and beverage to share for Saturday evening.
 - Families and singles are encouraged to attend.

• Childcare provided for small children and activities for older children and youth.



\$50 Deposit Due to Church Office by February 1st (extended to 5th). Remaining fees will be due on arrival at Camp McDowell. Scholarships are available. Please email Barbara Hash at bhash@ascensionepiscopal.org or sign up in the Welcome Center @ Ascension.

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
faye.clyburn@ascensionepiscopal.org

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

The Rt. Rev. John McKee Sloan
Bishop of Alabama



Covered Dish Lunch— February 12, 2012

Make your plans to join us after the 10 o'clock service on the 12th for our 2nd Sunday Covered Dish Lunch. Entrée (*Lasagna this month*) and beverages provided. BE sure and sign the list in the Welcome Center if you can come. Bring a side dish—your choice.

Paula Stringfellow, our Covered Dish Lunch chairman could use some extra volunteers for the lunch. If you can help with any or all please sign the list in Terrill Foyer or call Paula, Her cell phone number is 937-5107.

For this 2nd Sunday lunch set up on Friday will have to be after the Silent Auction/Black White Affair. Saturday will be the usual time. Again, call Paula or sign the list if you can help.

Adult Christian Formation

♦ Sunday morning—it's not just for the Children!
The Adult Christian Ed class meets at 9:00am in the Sunshine Room.

♦ Spiritual Path-o-logy meets on Sundays at 5:00pm in the Sunshine Room, except holidays.

♦ Brown Bag **Bible Study**. Mondays at 11:00 A.M.
Ladies and gentlemen are invited — don't forget your lunch and your Bible. We "break bread together" at noon. Beverages and dessert provided.

♦ Thursday morning **Bible study** meets every Thursday (with the exception of Holidays) at 7:00 A.M. and is led by the Rector.

♦ Education for Ministry, affectionately known as EfM, The class meets Thursday afternoons at 5:00 . If interested contact Fr. Hood at fathershood@gmail.com.

Confirmation and Bishop's Visitation

April 1st, our Bishop, The Reverend "Kee" Sloan will be with us for the annual visitation and for confirmation.

IF you or someone in your family is interested in being confirmed into the Episcopal Church or interested in re-affirming your confirmation or in being received into the Episcopal Church please contact Fr. Stephen at fathershood@gmail.com or Fr. David, david.hall@ascensionepiscopal.org.

The Diocese of Alabama Altar Guild Board
Sponsors
Altar Guild Festival
Saturday February 4, 2012

St Mary's on the Highlands
1910 12th Avenue South
Birmingham, Alabama 35205

- 9:00 Registration
- 9:30 Opening Eucharist
The Reverend Huey Gardner
- 10:30 Floral Design Presentation
Benny Campbell
Attalla Florist
- 12:00 Lunch
- 12:45 Are You Prepared to Loose It All?
The importance of an Accurate Inventory
Dianne Walters
Episcopal Church of Epiphany Enterprise, AL

Registration Form
Deadline February 1, 2012

Name _____ Parish _____

Address _____

Email address _____

\$20 payable to: The Diocese of Alabama marked for Altar Guild Festival
Return registration to: Martha Noble 2905 Clydebank Circle Birmingham, AL 35242
Questions: martha.noble@att.net 205 995-1331

Floral Designer Benny Campbell

If you have not received your newsletter before the 1st and are interested contact Martha Noble. She may take late registrations.



February

Happy Birthday!

Katie Manak, 4th
Dot Duke, 5th
Lori Jones Manak, 9th
Parker Graham, 9th
Martha Oyston, 10th
Chuck Fieselman, 12th
Abraham Lincoln, 12th
Roger Etherington, 14th
Mary Anne Hornbuckle, 17th
Emily Schreiber, 17th
Keil Etherington, 19th
George Washington, 22nd
Margaret Sharbel, 24th
Sally Snoddy, 25th
Joy Higgenbotham, 27th
Michael Gregory, 27th
Mary Marshall Jones, 28th
Emma Lee, 28th

Happy Anniversary!

Randy & Mary Marshall Jones,
Feb. 19th
(40 yrs.)

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. BCP 830

We depend on you to add the name(s) to the calendar in the office.

Fat Tuesday

This year Mardi Gras culminates February 21st, Fat or Shrove Tuesday. That evening our EYC will host the annual Ascension Pancake Supper with the men folks of the parish serving as chefs. Serving will begin at 5:30 and end at 7:00.

Funds raised help defray the cost of the supplies for the supper, with any remaining funds applied toward an EYC Projects and Youth Ministry of the Ascension. Tickets are at the door:

Adults \$5 each. Youngsters 7-12 \$2 each.

Children 6 and under free.

Donations to the EYC Projects & Youth Ministry are welcomed as well.

Join us on February 21st — Sign up list in Terrill Foyer.

You will not find a better meal on Shrove Tuesday than right here at the Ascension.

If you are planning your own party during the month a Mardi Gras source is

<http://www.mardigrasday.com/>

Garage Sale in March

We are collecting items for the garage sale March 9th & 10th, 2012 and housing them in our garage. As you sort and begin your “Spring” cleaning over the next couple of months, please keep our sale in mind.

Harry and I will be happy to arrange pickup and storage for any items you want to clear out of your home sooner rather than later.

Please call 822-3621. —Thanks, Marguerite Handlin

Forward Day by Day Daily Devotionals.

Terrill Foyer. To defray cost \$1 donation welcome.



Scout Sunday is observed during the month of February to recognize the anniversary of the founding of the Boy Scouts in America. This year we will celebrate Scout Sunday at Ascension on Sunday, February 12, in recognition of the 102nd Anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America. We welcome all of the Scouts and Scout Leaders from Ascension, as well as the visiting members of Troop 96. All scouts are asked to remain after the service for a group photo.

Supper Clubs and Foyer Groups

Supper Clubs try to meet at least every month or every other month.

Davidson-Goettge Supper Club. Cheryl/Rod Davidson, 981-1589 or Holly/Tom Goettge, 970-6384.

Woodson/Handlin Club: Carolyn and Jim Woodson, 979-6879 or Marguerite and Harry Handlin, 822-3621.

Early Bird Club: Nancy Gennari, 988-3484 and Joy Higgenbotham, 979-2616

Late Night Club: For information about this group or to join contact Ann Nelson @ 822-9613 or Emily Hood @ 902-1529.

For Foyer groups contact David Snow @ 970-4181. for Foyer Group schedules.

If you are interested in joining one of the clubs or in visiting the clubs, please contact the captains to let them know or the parish office, 822-3480.

CHILDREN'S

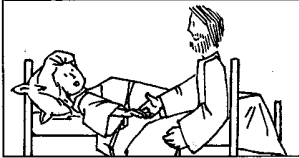
Mark 1:29-39

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Jesus Heals Many and Prays

Simon's mother-in-law had a fever. Jesus took her hand. She was healed.

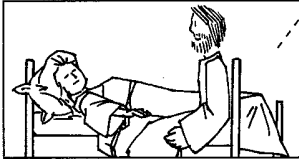
Put the pictures in the correct order.



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Congratulations to our newly elected officers

- Sam Sorrell - President
- Parker Graham - VP
- Eva Byrum - Secretary
- Brittain Poehler - Treasurer
- Ella Smitherman- Chaplain

Schedule for the February

- Episcopal Place - 5 Feb. Carpool at 1:30.
- I Jump - 12 Feb
- Soup Kitchen - 19 Feb
- Shrove Tuesday—21 Feb

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

- ✘Preschool through 5th grade begins to gather at 9:30 with Chapel at 10:00am in the Merrie Player Room, Bible story, crafts, Chapel, and then the children join their parents for communion.
- ✘High school and middle school Sunday school classes need to check with Loring Jones, IV or Amanda, Or check out the EYC CORNER above top right
- ✘Adult Class meets from 9:00 until 9:50 in the Sunshine Room—see page 2 Adult Formation for details.

CHILDREN'S CHAPEL

Children's Chapel is offered in the Merrie Player Room during the 10:00 A.M. worship service. At the conclusion of chapel the children join their parents in church for The Holy Communion.

KNITWITS GATHER

Friday afternoons at 1:00 to work on the vests and sweaters for our Teddy Bear Christmas Outreach and crochet lap afghans for wheel chair patients. If you enjoy knitting or crocheting join the group on Fridays.



If interested contact Marguerite Handlin, 822-3621 or Mary Gillespie, 822-3474.

NURSERY MINISTRY

The nursery is for infants to three years of age staffed by adults.

The nursery is open at 8:45 A.M. and ends immediately following the family service.

CHOIR MINISTRY

We've resumed the Wednesday rehearsals for the Ascension Choir. Join us at 7:00 pm on Wednesday in the choir room. We are always out by 8:30. Everyone is welcome!

Warm-up rehearsals on Sunday mornings at 9:30 in the chancel.

USHER MINISTRY

Are you interested in serving the church as an Usher for the Family service and/or other services of the church? Ladies, gentlemen and young people are welcome. Please contact David Snow, 970-4181 or dmsnow1@charter.net.

ACOLYTE MINISTRY

People, youngsters grades 3 thru 12 and adults, who are interested in serving the Lord through the ministry of Acolytes please contact our Rector at 822-8688 or fathershood@gmail.com or contact Nancy Caltrider at 823-5345.

THE 4th SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

January 29, 2012—5th Sunday

Holy Communion 7:30am & 10:00 A.M.

Jesus, show us what we must leave behind to follow you; show us what talents and tools to use in sharing your good news with others.

Deuteronomy 18:15-20 ; Psalm 111
1 Corinthians 8:1-13 ; Mark 1:21-28

ACOLYTES:

USHERS: 10:00-Contact David Snow to volunteer @ 970-4181

LAY EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

7:30 Chastain 10:00. Duke, Busbin

ALTAR GUILD: Elizabeth Smith-Cindy Gravlee-Cheryl Davidson-Nancy Sharp-Paula Stringfellow- Daphne Marcum

FLOWER GUILD: Paula Vance—Marie Graves

The Altar Flowers will be given to the Glory of God by David and Phyllis Hall in grateful thanksgiving for Stephanie Lopez and in loving memory of John Turnham, Phyllis' father.

THE FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

February 5, 2012

Holy Communion 7:30 A.M. And 10:00 A.M.

Isaiah 40:21-31; Psalm 147:1-12, 21c
1 Corinthians 9:16-23 ; Mark 1:29-39

Lord, may our hearts turn to you, and may we rejoice in fellowship with you today and always.

ACOLYTES:

USHERS: 10:00-Contact David Snow to volunteer @ 970-4181

LAY EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

7:30 Bill Oyston 10:00 Rod Davidson-Michael Gregory

ALTAR GUILD: Elizabeth Smith-Cindy Gravlee-Cheryl Davidson-Nancy Sharp-Paula Stringfellow- Daphne Marcum

FLOWER GUILD: Billye Ann Chase-Holly Goettge

The Altar Flowers will be given to the Glory of God by...

THE SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

February 12, 2012

Holy Communion 7:30 A.M. & 10:00 A.M.

2 Kings 5:1-14 ; 1 Corinthians 9:24-27
Mark 1:40-45 ; Psalm 30

O God, open our hearts to your healing touch as we worship. May we hear your word and obey it with gladness.

ACOLYTES:

USHERS: 10:00- Contact David Snow to volunteer @ 970-4181

LAY EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

7:30 Nancy Sharp 10:00 Dee Anne Poehler-Will Sparks

ALTAR GUILD: Lynn McGuffey-Kitty Haberstroh-Marcia Poarch-Sissie Stamps-Paula Vance-Lorraine Hartley

FLOWER GUILD: Sharon Stratton-Leslie Sharbel

The Altar Flowers will be given to the Glory of God by ...

THE LAST SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

February 19, 2012

Holy Communion 7:30am & 10:00am

2 Kings 2:1-12 ; Psalm 50:1-6
2 Corinthians 4:3-6 ; Mark 9:2-9

Continued in next column

Lord God, you have invited us here to listen to your Son, the Beloved. Clear our minds of distractions and help us turn our eyes on Jesus.

ACOLYTES:

USHERS: 10:00- Contact David Snow to volunteer @ 970-4181

LAY EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

7:30 Jim Busbin 10:00 John Wilson-Dick Lounsbury

ALTAR GUILD: Sue Busbin-Billye Ann Chase-Martha Oyston-Holly Goettge-Kelly Smitherman

FLOWER GUILD: Chris Lambert-Jan Ennis

The Altar Flowers will be given to the Glory of God by Bill and Peggy Reid In Loving Memory of our son William T. Reid, Jr.

ASH WEDNESDAY

Holy Communion 7:30am—Noon—6:00pm
With Imposition of Ashes

Joel 2:1-2,12-17 or Isaiah 58:1-12
2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10 ; Matthew 6:1-6,16-21
Psalm 103 or 103:8-14

Thank you, Lord, for drawing us here with such gentle words: "Return to the LORD, your God, for he is gracious and merciful ... and abounding in steadfast love" (Joel 2:13, NRSV).

THE FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

February 26, 2012

Lenten Parish Camp Mtg, Camp McDowell—Holy Communion
TBA

Ascension, Birmingham—Holy Communion 7:30 and 10:00am

Genesis 9:8-17 ; Psalm 25:1-9
1 Peter 3:18-22 ; Mark 1:9-15

"Unto thee, O LORD, do I lift up my soul" (Psalm 25:1, KJV). On this first Sunday in Lent, may our time in God's presence empower us to trust him throughout the coming days.

ACOLYTES:

USHERS: 10:00- Contact David Snow to volunteer @ 970-4181

LAY EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

Camp McDowell Parish Camp Meeting TBA

Ascension 7:30 TBA 10:00. TBA

ALTAR GUILD: : Jackie Clark-Carolyn Eike-Susan Higgins-Joy Higgenbotham-Melanie Fay Johnson-Kellet May

FLOWER GUILD:



PREPARING FOR WORSHIP. Please observe quiet in the Nave and Narthex preceding the service so as not to disturb prayer and quiet reflection in preparation for worship.



Traditionally at the Ascension floral arrangements have not been placed on the re shelf or elsewhere in the church during Lent.

If you wish to donate altar flowers for the Sunday services during the remainder of the year please sign the list in the parish office.

Evensong and Concert
 Sunday, February 19
 4:00 PM



Service:

Collegium Regal ..Herbert Howells



Requiem.....Maurice Duruflé



Join us for an evensong and performance of Maurice Duruflé's powerful Requiem on Sunday, February 19 at 4:00 pm. Filled with lush harmonies and the free flowing melodies of chant make this arguably the finest setting of the requiem of the 20th century. The Requiem will be a fitting "lead in" to Lent which starts the next week. Also featured will be the Collegium Regal service (Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis) by Herbert Howells.



The **Newsletter** Newsletter®



FOLLOW GOD'S EXAMPLE

In a letter to the church in Colossae, the apostle Paul wrote about the importance of forgiveness.

• • • • **DIRECTIONS** • • • •

To complete Colossians 3:13 (NIV), use the smaller words to fill in the larger words.



gain as or ear van an for give
 gave her on it one other he an a

B _____ w _____ h each
 ot _____ d _____ give
 _____ e an _____ if _____ y
 of you h _____ grie _____ ce
 a _____ st some _____ .
 For _____ as t _____ L _____ d
 for _____ you.”

COLOSSIANS 3:13, NIV

Answers: "Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you."

Presidents' Day, February 22nd

- It is the duty of all Nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God, to obey his will, to be grateful for his benefits, and humbly to implore his protection and favor. —George Washington
- "I have been driven many times to my knees by the overwhelming conviction that I had nowhere else to go. My own wisdom, and that of all about me, seemed insufficient for the day." —Abraham Lincoln



WELCOME

To Our Parish Family By Transfer of Letters of Membership

Charles and Sandra Bernhard. 1810 Wellington Road 35209.
871-4067

Brian, Monica, Brian and Blayne. 1583 James Hill Drive 35226.
(601) 383-3573

Randall Chase Abston-McGriff. 316 Shadeswood Road. 35226
240-6464

If you have not had your letter of membership transferred to the Ascension and would like to the church office would be glad to help, 822-3480. This would also let your former parish/church know you are active in a church family, and it would help them adjust their records accordingly. If you would like to become a member of the Ascension by confirmation or reception please see page 2.

Bits and Pieces

CHAIR EXERCISE CLASS 2012. For details, call Barbara 822-3480 or Jane @514-3535

PARISH EMAIL LIST: If you would like to be notified via email when there is a death or birth in our parish family, or a request for prayer, please contact the parish office so your email address may be added to the Christian Service List. The church's address is: ascenbham@ascensionepiscopal.org.

CHANGES IN YOUR ADDRESS, IN YOUR PHONE NUMBER, please contact the parish office, 822-3480.


DO NOT BLOCK THE CIRCLE in front of the church or the entrance to Terrill Foyer for more than 10 to 15 minutes at a time., PLEASE. If you are going to be longer please park in the parking lot.

ANYONE INTERESTED in gardening at church early some morning before the day get too hot, please email me at tgoettge@charter.net or call 970-6384 so that we can work out a day and time. *Holly Goettge*

THE PARISH OFFICE has copies of guides for planning weddings and funerals. Each has contact information for persons in the parish that will be helping you through the process, Both are available electronically and in paper form. If you would like a copy of one or both please call 833-2480 or email ascenbham@ascensionepiscopal.org.

By Request I am now making copies of the service CDs by request. So, instead of all those CDs on the shelves, whoever is interested in having a service can simply contact the office or me directly and I can easily do that and get it to you. *Elizabeth Tanner*, eliztanner@bellsouth.net

Facebook Users

If you are on Facebook check out our church page The Episcopal Church of the Ascension. It would help us if you would  "the page." This will allow us to secure a favorable domain.

Senior Warden
Chris Lambert
212-0585

Junior Warden
Jim Loop
510-2629

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

Christian Formation for Children
Director
Ann H. Nelson 822-9613

Youth Ministries
Amanda Austin 205-802-4769

Nursery
822-3480

Treasurer
Bill Oyston ... 933-2468

Assistant Treasurer
Laurie Tanner ... 982-1116

Members of Vestry
Jud Bringman, Chris Lambert,
Cheryl Davidson, Sam Linton,
Carolyn Eike, Mike Gregory, Jim
Loop, Kelly Smitherman,
Meredith Lees, Len Skelton,
David Snow, Walker Sorrell
Clerk of the Vestry
Lee Ann Fieselman



The Episcopal Diocese of
Alabama

Click on the Shield for more information
about these & other events in our Diocese.

Investiture of The Rt. Rev. Sloan
Photos-Videos-Audio

Music Conference for Children
January 28, 2012, St. Thomas, Huntsville

2012 Outreach Summit
January 28, 2012-St. Stephen's, B'ham

Altar Guild Festival
February 4, 2012-St. Mary's, B'ham

Parish Leadership Training
Mar. 24, 2012-St. Luke's, B'ham

Sample the Arts
Mar. 23, 2012-Camp McDowell



EPISCOPAL
Church of the Ascension
 1912 Canyon Road
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 (205) 8223480

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Snail Mail, Email or Both?
Contact the Parish office to let us know
your preference.

SPECIAL DATES: 2012

Deadline for Sunday Bulletins:

Wednesdays, 10:00am

Deadline-Newsletters: 25th of each Month

Re-occurring events:

Sunday School & Chapel for 3years-5th grade. 10:00am
 Sunday Adult Class. 9:00am
 Sunday Spirituality Pathology. 5:00pm
 Brown Bag Bible Study, Mondays, 11:00am
 Ascension Choir Wednesday rehearsal. 7:00pm
 Weekday Holy Communion, Wednesdays at noon
 Thursday Bible Study. 7:00am

National -

- African-American History Month
- Boy Scout Sunday, February 5, 2012
- Valentine's Day, February 14, 2012
- Transfiguration of Our Lord, February 19, 2012
- Presidents Day, February 20, 2012
- Ash Wednesday, February 22, 2012
- First Sunday in Lent, February 26, 2012

Ascension-

- AEK Circus Practice. Ware Hall Jan 31st. 10:00am
- AEK Circus. Ware Hall Feb. 1st. 10:00am
- Episcopal Place Party. Feb. 5th. Party 2:00pm. (carpool from church at 1:30)
- Black & White Affair, Silent Auction, Tablescape drawing. Ware Hall. Feb. 10th. 6pm-8pm
- Covered Dish Lunch. Feb 12th. 11:15am
- Evensong and Performance of Durefle's *Requiem*. Nave. Feb. 19th. 4:00pm
- Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper. Feb 21.
- Ash Wednesday. Holy Comm. And Imposition of Ashes. 7:30am, Noon and 6:00pm
- Vestry Retreat. McDowell. Feb. 24 & 25.
- Parish Lenten Camp Meeting. McDowell. Feb. 25 & 26
 Deadline to sign up extended to February 5th.

February 2012

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5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29			



Also Concert



Food for Urban

Thank you to everyone for your donations of canned food for Urban Ministry every month. Please keep up this good work.
"And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me." Matthew 25:40 KJV

Collect for The Ascension

Almighty and Eternal God, you call us together as the Ascension family and bind us in Christian love and witness. So focus our hearts and minds upon Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and guide us to know your Holy Spirit in the life of our parish, that we may realize that our similarities are greater than our differences. Help us to recognize your image in all people as we work together as one body in Christ to the glory of your Kingdom now and forever. *Amen.*