



We believe in sharing love and grace with God and one another.

## Ascension Highlights What's Happening This Week

- Ascensionaires Luncheon- Wednesday, June 25 @ 12:00 PM
- Cultivating Compassion - Wednesday, June 25 @ 5:30 PM
- Women's Bible Study - Thursday, June 26 @ 12:00 PM
- Being With - Sunday, June 29 @ 9:15 AM

From the Rector...

There has been much happening in our nation and across the world over the past two weeks. These events have stirred up a range of reactions—some in support, some in opposition. Wherever you find yourself on the political spectrum or whatever stance you may take, there are core truths we must hold onto as Christians. Chief among them is *trust*—trust in God and in God's ongoing work of justice.

### God's Justice Is Redemptive

God's justice is not about condemnation. It is always aimed toward redemption, and we are

invited to be part of that work. As the Catechism reminds us on page 855 of the Book of Common Prayer, “*The mission of the Church is to restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ.*” I often describe that mission as *partnering with one another and with God to build up the kingdom*. As followers of Jesus, we are called to the work of unity—not division. That doesn’t mean we’ll always agree, but it *does* mean we are called to disagree in love.

### **What Does It Mean to Disagree in Love?**

I don’t claim to have a perfect answer to that question, but I believe it begins with keeping our hearts, minds, and ears open—even when it’s hard. Instead of shutting down or shutting others out, we can choose to approach those we disagree with through *curiosity and compassion*.



To disagree in love means we listen more than we argue. We seek to understand before we seek to be understood. Something as simple as saying, “*I’m curious about...*” can shift the whole conversation. You may not change your views, but you may gain new insight—and that, too, is holy work.

When we lead with curiosity, we draw others in instead of pushing them away. And in this season of division and fatigue, connection is more important than ever. Our lives, and our witness, depend on how we choose to hold one another up.

### **Prayer as a Path Forward**

Engaging in curiosity and compassion doesn’t mean ignoring injustice. But it does mean grounding our response in faith and in the mission God has given us. That mission is not easy—but if we do not take it up, how can we call ourselves followers of Christ?

So today and in the weeks and months to come, I invite you to pray. I believe prayer is our most powerful act. It centers us in God and brings clarity and focus when the noise of the world overwhelms. Specifically, I am asking you to pray for *peace*. Peace in the world. Peace in our country. Peace in our homes. Peace in our hearts

This isn’t a one-time prayer. I invite you to pray it repeatedly throughout your day: in the shower, in traffic, during a quiet moment at work, in the grocery store—wherever you are. Let it become a kind of *mantra*. And once a day, set aside intentional time for prayer. Turn



off your phone. Sit in stillness. Light a candle if you wish. Envision peace. Write about it. Journal it. Offer it to God.

This is a time for prayer—not just lament, or division, or even anger (though all of these are ok to experience). But above all, *pray*.

**Pray for peace...**

...in the world.

...in our country.

...in our homes.

...and in our hearts. Amen.

Light and Life,

Candice Frazer+

[candice@coascension.org](mailto:candice@coascension.org)

## CONNECT

**Tomorrow!**



# Ascensionaires

Red, White, and Blue Luncheon  
Wednesday, June 25th  
12:00 PM  
Small Dining Room  
\$10 per person

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If you haven't turned in your pledge card please do so as soon as possible. Thanks! If you would like to fill your pledge card out online click [HERE!](#)

Financial Gifts Offered This Week	Financial Gifts Offered This Month	Financial Gift Target Monthly
\$2,796	\$40,864	\$85,500

Total Pledged Amount for 2025 - \$912,628  
Total Collected Amount for 2025 - \$467,108

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**Opt-In for Text Notifications!**







Tommy Holliman  
St. Peter's Roman  
Catholic Church



Wayne Barr  
Tuskegee University



Becky Taylor  
Episcopal Church of  
the Ascension

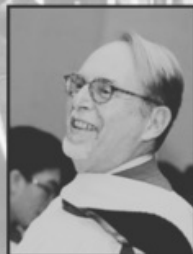


Jim Conely  
Huntingdon College

# BACH'S LUNCH

ORGAN CONCERTS &  
CATERED LUNCH  
WEDNESDAYS IN  
JUNE AND JULY  
AT 12:05 PM

Learn more and order lunches at  
[stjohnsmontgomery.org](http://stjohnsmontgomery.org)



Wallace Hornady  
Woodberry Forrest  
School



Shannon Mathai  
Trinity Presbyterian  
Church



Kelley Garrett  
Frazer Methodist  
Church



Jim Sadie  
Allen Organs

Announcing Bach's Lunch Summer Organ concerts at St John's.

25 minute Concerts **Wednesdays at 12:05pm** followed by lunch in the Parish Hall.

Lunches may be pre-ordered for \$15. *(Information available on the church web page - link below)*

Music lists, lunch menu, and ordering information available [here](#)

## GROW

### Being With

June 1 – August 24  
Sundays @ 9:15 AM  
Upper Room



Men's Prayer Breakfast

7:00 AM

Ascension Hall

*Lectio Divina*



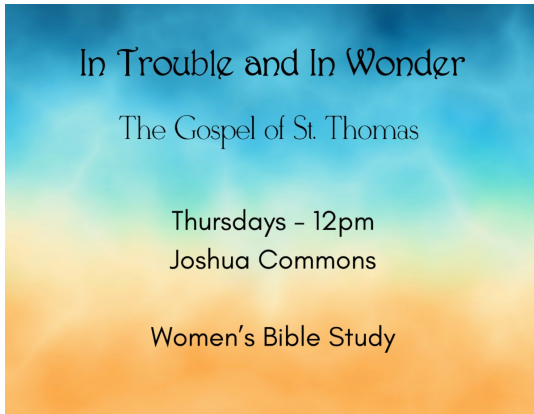
In Trouble and In Wonder

The Gospel of St. Thomas

Thursdays - 12pm

Joshua Commons

Women's Bible Study



Cultivating Compassion  
Wednesdays, June 18-July 23  
5:30 PM in the Library  
Limited Space Available  
Candice@coascension.org



THE  
GOOD BOOK  
CLUB

The Good Book Club - an offering of [Forward Movement](#) - is simple and free. You can follow the [reading list](#) online for no charge, or follow along with your own Bible at home. Read one psalm a day on Track 1, or read through all 150 psalms on Track 2.

Download bulletin inserts from the Good Book Club's [Resources page](#) or right here: [Track 1](#) | [Track 2](#)

SERVE

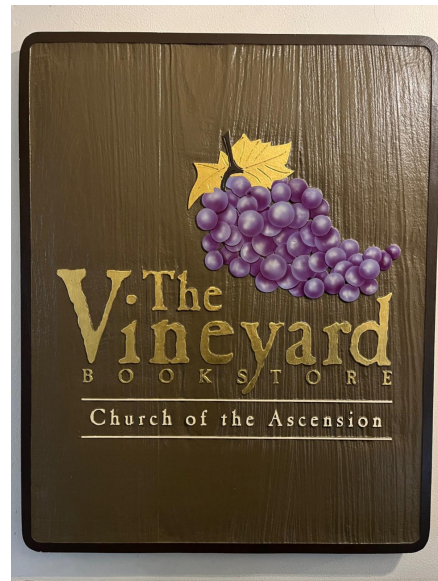
**Holy Smokes! This Saturday at 6:00 PM! Click the Icon for Tickets!**

To Volunteer Click [HERE!](#)





Saturday, June 28  
6:00pm - 9:00pm



## WORSHIP

### Sunday Morning Schedule

Rite I Service: 8:00 AM - Nave

Coffee Hour: 9:15 AM - Ascension Hall

Clergy Forum - 9:15 AM - Upper Room

Rite II Service: 10:30 AM - Nave



# MORNING PRAYER

8:00 AM MONDAY - FRIDAY

LIVE ON



# Tell Out My Soul

## A Special Note from Your Stewardship Committee

Your Stewardship Committee is excited to announce our theme for the 2025-2026 campaign: "Tell Out My Soul" – a call to consider all God has done for us, and to respond with joyful generosity. "Tell Out My Soul" reflects the giving heart of Mary and her willingness and eagerness to serve and remain faithful, even through the unknown.

We invite you to help us jumpstart our stewardship campaign as we head into summer. As this season arrives and we find time for rest, travel, and renewal, it's important to remember that the life of our church continues – in worship, outreach, and care for our community.

Like many churches, we often see a dip in giving during the summer months, even as our ministries and expenses remain steady. If you are able to continue your current giving or make a gift during this season, it makes a meaningful difference and helps us stay strong and consistent in our work.

Summer gives us many opportunities to “tell out” to friends, family, and the community about the good work of Church of the Ascension. Your support helps ensure that our parish continues to be a place where that story is told boldly – in word, in service, and in love.

Thank you for being part of that witness.

Your Stewardship Committee

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As electronic payments become more widely used we ask that anyone who uses Venmo to **please add a short summary of what the payment is for in the description field**. We now accept Venmo for Wednesday night dinner, Sunday morning breakfast, purchases in The Vineyard Bookstore, as well as for giving. This description will help us allocate the resources appropriately. Thanks!

#### Staff Directory

The Rev. Candice B. Frazer, Rector [candice@coascension.org](mailto:candice@coascension.org)  
The Rev. Drew Brislin, Associate Rector [drew@coascension.org](mailto:drew@coascension.org)  
Becky Taylor, Music Ministry [beckytaylor@coascension.org](mailto:beckytaylor@coascension.org)



Will McQueen, Facilities Manager [will@coascension.org](mailto:will@coascension.org)  
Tracy Hinton, Parish Administrator [thinton@coascension.org](mailto:thinton@coascension.org)  
Jason Pate, Director of Communications [jason@coascension.org](mailto:jason@coascension.org)  
Laura Mielke, Children Family & Faith Formation Minister [laura@coascension.org](mailto:laura@coascension.org)  
Nick Mielke, Youth Family & Faith Formation Minister [nick@coascension.org](mailto:nick@coascension.org)  
Fay WorriLOW, Administrative Assistant [fay@coascension.org](mailto:fay@coascension.org)

## PRAYER FOR THE ASCENSION

Almighty and everlasting Father, we stand in your presence, awed and silenced by your goodness and wisdom. We rejoice in the outpouring of your Spirit on the Ascension and our ministries. Help each of us to remember that we are walking in your sight, and that you are present with us at every moment. Through your Holy Spirit, guide us in our prayers and enable us to focus our thoughts on you, so that we may be filled with the knowledge of your will. Grant us the wisdom to ask what you would have us do; the strength and courage to carry out your work; and the grace to show our gratitude through good stewardship of your gracious gifts. We ask all things in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

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[Visit Our Website](#)

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