



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



Ascension

Highlights What's Happening This Week

- Cultivating Compassion - Wednesday, July 9 @ 5:30 PM
- Men's Prayer Breakfast - Thursday, July 10 @ 7:00 AM
- Women's Bible Study - Thursday, July 10 @ 12:00 PM
- Being With - Sunday, July 13 @ 9:15 AM

From the Rector...

The sand was so hot this weekend that Sweet Petunia kept hopping from one back paw to the other as she sniffed a fish carcass—thankfully, she didn't roll in it! The whole neighborhood felt the heat. It wasn't just the sun warming things up—there was tension in the skies too.

On either side of the Frazer beach house are Osprey nests. These majestic birds have ruled the skies over Bear Point for years. After the BP oil spill, my father-in-law saw one of the birds emerge from the water with oil on its feathers. He called the hotline, and within an hour, wildlife teams arrived to rescue, clean the birds, and relocate them to Tampa Bay. Two years later, the Osprey found their way back home.

Hurricane Sally brought new challenges. Every pier was wiped out, along with the nesting platform. The Osprey survived, nesting temporarily in trees until the platform was rebuilt. The second platform was later added, and now more Osprey than ever soar above the bay.

Each summer, fledglings are born. If you're lucky, you can catch a glimpse of them nestled in the safety of the nest. The parents guard them fiercely—one always watching the nest



while the other fishes. Osprey mate for life, and their partnership is marked by mutual care and constant communication.

Our pine tree, situated between the two nests, often hosts the Osprey at mealtime—which explains the fish remnants on our beach. It's also a favorite perch of Fred, a well-known heron around Orange Beach. Normally, Fred and the Osprey maintain a sort of tentative truce. But this weekend, the peace was broken.

Cutty and I were swimming at the pier when we heard loud, angry squawks overhead. At first, I figured Mom and Dad Osprey were bickering over whose turn it was the kids. Then I noticed that the Osprey weren't gliding as usual; one was diving with purpose into the tree line, flapping his wings in an aggressive manner and squawking loudly. That's when I spotted Fred, perched high in a nearby oak, perfectly positioned with a direct line of sight to the nest. The Osprey weren't squabbling—they were defending their young, still too small to fly and completely dependent. The fledglings were vulnerable, and Fred's presence was a threat.

The standoff lasted longer than I expected. Fred, stubborn as ever, refused to budge. No matter how many times the Osprey flew at him—wings flapping in his face, screeching their warning—he wouldn't leave. Then something remarkable happened. The young Osprey, a new parent, cried out more urgently—and was joined by an older bird from the original nest who swooped in to help. Two generations, united in purpose. At last, faced with the determined pair, Fred squawked and gave up his perch. The Osprey had prevailed.

As I watched, I was struck by the beauty of loyalty. These birds didn't attack out of habit or pride, but out of love—for their vulnerable young. When the least among them were threatened, they rose together.

There's something sacred about loyalty, especially when it's rooted in care for the vulnerable. As I watched the "Battle of Bear Point" unfold, I was struck by this truth: when we stand together for those who cannot stand for themselves, there is strength. I've never seen the Osprey pick a fight with Fred before. They've shared trees and fished the same waters in peace. But when Fred became a threat to the least of these—their helpless young—they rose together in defense.

In a world where so many are voiceless and vulnerable, I hope we too find the courage to stand together—to protect, to defend, and to love.

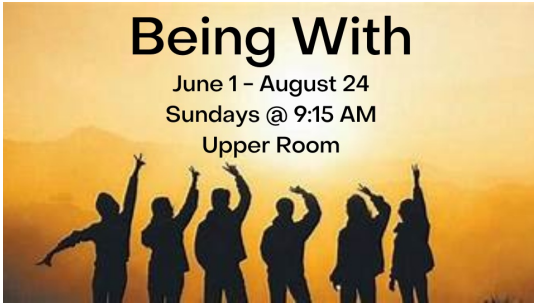
Light and Life,
Candice Frazer+

candice@coascension.org

GROW

Being With

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



Men's Prayer Breakfast

7:00 AM

Ascension Hall

Lectio Divina

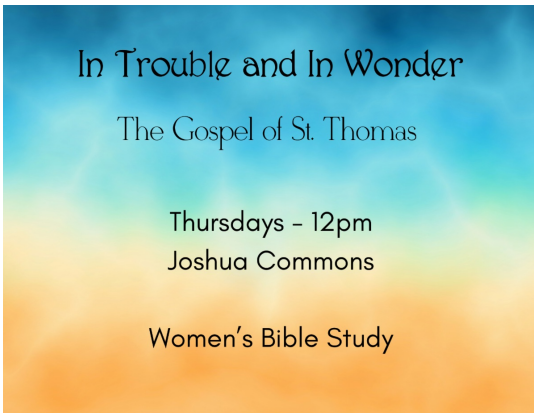


In Trouble and In Wonder

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



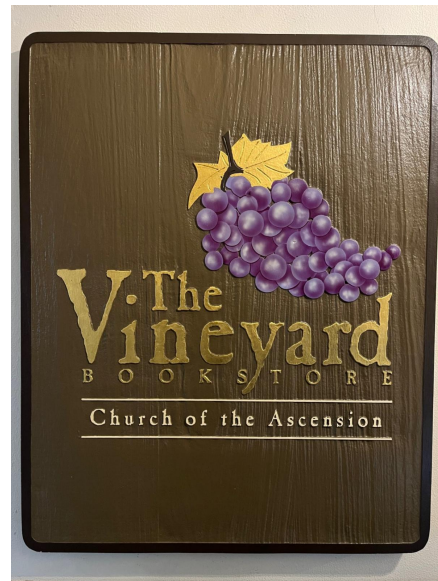
THE
GOOD BOOK
CLUB

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

To Volunteer Click [HERE!](#)



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



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!

CONNECT



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

Opt-In for Text Notifications!





Tommy Holliman
St. Peter's Roman
Catholic Church



Wayne Barr
Tuskegee University



Becky Taylor
Episcopal Church of
the Ascension

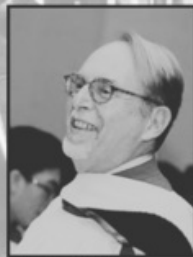


Jim Conely
Huntingdon College

BACH'S LUNCH

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

Learn more and order lunches at
stjohnsmontgomery.org



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](#)

Staff Directory

The Rev. Candice B. Frazer, Rector candice@coascension.org

The Rev. Drew Brislin, Associate Rector drew@coascension.org

Becky Taylor, Music Ministry beckytaylor@coascension.org

Will McQueen, Facilities Manager will@coascension.org

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Jason Pate, Director of Communications jason@coascension.org

Laura Mielke, Children Family & Faith Formation Minister laura@coascension.org

Nick Mielke, Youth Family & Faith Formation Minister nick@coascension.org
Fay Worriow, Administrative Assistant 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.

Church of the Ascension | 334-263-5529 | staff@coascension.org | www.coascension.org

[Visit Our Website](#)

Church of the Ascension | 315 Clanton Avenue | Montgomery, AL 36104 US

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