

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



Ascension Highlights What's Happening This Week

- Wednesday Night Live! Wednesday, Oct 22 @ 5:15 PM
- Women's Bible Study Thursday, Oct 23 @ 12:00 PM
- Food Box Distribution Saturday, Oct 25 @ 8:30 AM
- All Hallows Fest Sunday, Oct 26 @ 4:00 PM



Cake Walk Donations!

Please drop off goods to Ascension Hall on Sunday morning October, 26. Please provide wrapped baked goods in batches of : Single, Half-Dozen, or Dozen. Quarter Cakes, Half Cakes, and Whole Cakes!

Email Questions to Laura@coascension.org

From the Rector...

Death is never fun. That may seem like an obvious statement, but it is also a true one. My cousin died this morning after ten months of

battling pain and pulmonary issues. Even though she had been fighting this battle for so long, it still came as a shock.

Tressa, my cousin, lived in Maryland. We didn't often see each other—partly because we hadn't made the time over the years.

Occasionally we would get together, and we kept in touch through texts and phone calls.

She would "come" to church at Ascension by worshiping with us online on Sunday mornings.

Sometimes she or her husband would call to talk about a sermon.

Three years ago, when I was in Baltimore, we went to see the Orioles play at Camden Yards. We spent a wonderful afternoon cheering for



the team and later sat together in a nearby bar, catching up and laughing. We bemoaned the fact that we didn't get together more often and promised each other we would do better. We didn't.

When she was hospitalized last January, I called and sent a card. We texted for a while, but as she grew sicker, she stopped responding. I kept sending messages, hoping her husband or mother might read them to her—hoping she would take comfort in knowing others were thinking about her and praying for her.

Recently, she was moved to a step-down unit. I thought that meant she was getting better. I got her new address from her mother and planned to send flowers. Obviously, now I won't.

Death is hard. So is life. Tressa isn't suffering anymore, but the rest of us are. We have to go on living. Her parents have already lost their other daughter. Aren't parents supposed to die before their children? Now they've lost both. Her husband put his entire life on hold these past ten months to care for her. What does he go back to now? How does he return to work, to home, after all this time and all that wasted hope? Life is not easy.

In grief, we often put on a brave face, trying to stay strong for those around us. But the pain and sorrow are never far below the surface. When grief is bound up with deep love, it lingers—showing up at the most unexpected times and reminding us of loss and unfinished relationships.

I will miss Tressa—her bright smile, blond hair, and vivacious personality. There were five

of us "Burk girls," and now there are only three. That, too, feels like a loss to grieve. Our family seems to get smaller and smaller, and one day the Burk name will disappear entirely. That thought makes me sad. Tressa's death reminds me of how final endings really are—again, an obvious but true statement.

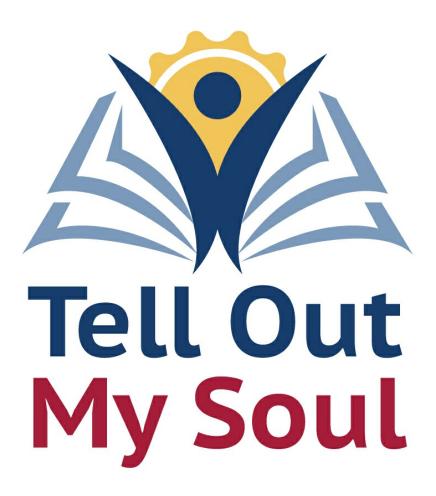
The joy is that, as Christians, we believe in the resurrection and that in no way diminishes our deep sorrow when we are parted from our loved ones by death. Jesus, himself, wept at the grave of his friend Lazarus. As the Book of Common Prayer says, "So, while we rejoice that one we love has entered into the nearer presence of our Lord, we sorrow in sympathy with those who mourn."

May Tressa, and the souls of all the departed, rest in peace.

Light and Life and and a little Lament, Candice+

candice@coascension.org

SERVE



Click **HERE** to see the first installment of our Tell Out My Soul video series!



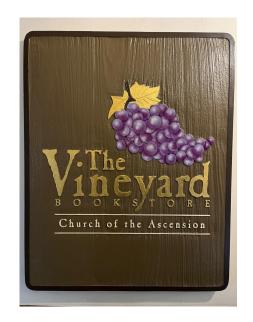
Aid to Inmate Mothers helps women transition from incarceration as they work to rebuild their lives and reunite with their families. We are collecting donations to support them in these efforts: toiletry items, new undergarments, gift cards (Walmart, Target, CVS, Walgreens), make-up, pajamas, and monetary donations by check or money order payable to Aid to Inmate Mothers are greatly appreciated. Help us kick off our stewardship campaign and bring these items in starting October 19th and ending November 16!



Join Us for a one day
Staff Training. This
session is open to
anyone who has
completed a three
day Cursillo Weekend
and is interested in
serving on a Cursillo
Staff.

Saturday, November 8th 9:00A.M.-3:00P.M. St. Michael & All Angels Millbrook, AL





Saturday Sidewalk Volunteers Needed!



NEW!
Click HERE to Order!



Graphic Novels for New Beginnings



New Beginnings would like to create a library of graphic novels to circulate among our young friends who come for tutoring on Wednesday nights. If your family has graphic novels that need a new home, please leave them in the donation box outside the children's library on the third floor!



Click **HERE** to sign up!

WORSHIP



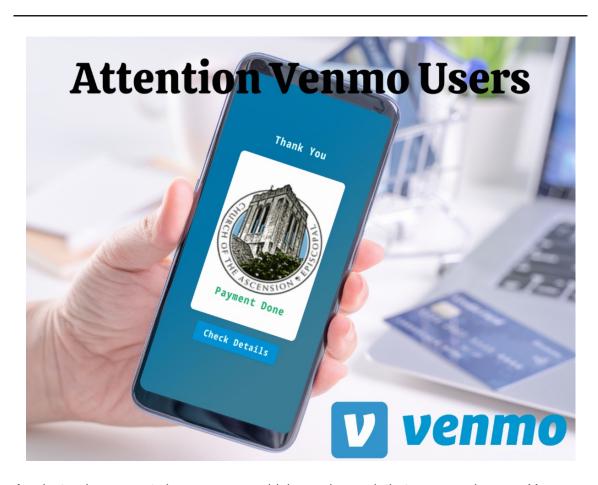
Roll of Remeberance

All Saints Sunday is November 2nd. If you would like to remember a family member or friend who has passed away in the last year, please contact Fay (fay@coascension.org or 334-263-5529) at the church office by Tuesday, October 30th.





Children's Compline! Wednesday Nights!



As electronic payments become more widely used we ask that anyone who uses Venmo to <u>please add a short summary of what the payment is for in the description field</u>. 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

This Sunday!





The Recreators will be rehearsing Christmas music in Joshua Commons on Tuesday, October 28 from 7:09 pm until 9:09 pm. All are welcome to come listen. Feel free to bring snacks and beverages!



You are cordially invited to the Celebration of New Ministry for

The Reverend Andrew Scott Brislin Rector of St. Joseph's On-the-Mountain, Mentone, Alabama

Wednesday, November 12, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.

Clergy: Red stoles Reception to follow



STAY CONNECTED AND JOIN US ON WEDNESDAY NIGHTS!

THE WORD
SMALL DINING ROOM

6:00
YOUTH ACTIVITIES
3RD FLOOR YOUTH ROOM
6:00
CHILDREN'S CHOIR
4TH FLOOR CHOIR LOFT

6:00 EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY LIBRARY

Dinner Menu:

Breakfast for Dinner!

\$8 per person or \$20 per family!

Opt-In for Text Notifications!



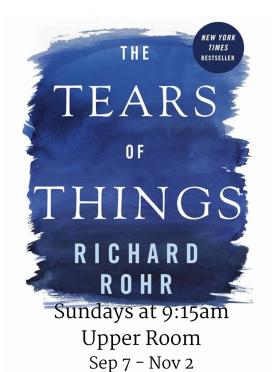
GROW

In Trouble and In Wonder
The Gospel of St. Thomas
Thursdays - 12pm
Joshua Commons
Women's Bible Study

CHERISHED BELONGING

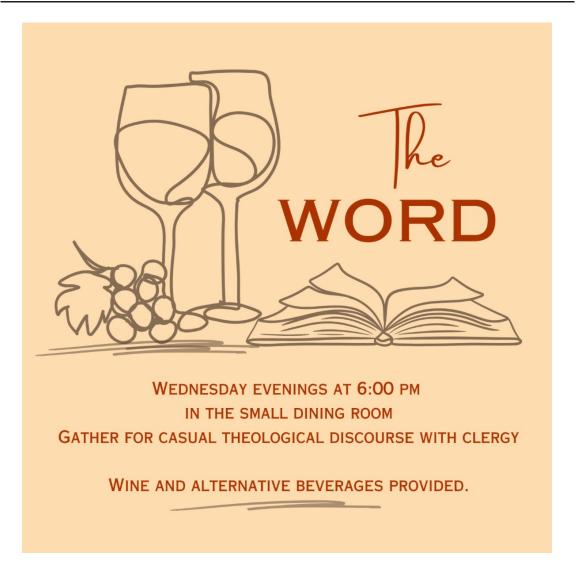
Men's Prayer Breakfast

Thursdays at 7:00 AM
Ascension Hall
September 18 - November 20



PROPHETIC CONVERSATIONS
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Wednesdays at 5:45pm Small Dining Room Oct 1 - Oct 29



Join Candice+ and Rabbi Scott Looper of Temple Beth Or to deepen our understanding of the voices of the prophets. Through dialogue and shared perspectives, they will open up the wisdom, challenges, and enduring relevance of these ancient texts. Come ready to listen, learn, and discover how the prophets still speak to us today.









THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

ART AND Spirituality WORKSHOP

CROSS AND CURRENTS

Like boats upon the sea, we navigate the currents of life, journeying toward a deeper connection with the divine and each other. As Jesus taught his disciples about the challenging life of love, this workshop invites us to reflect on our own journeys as we travel through still and stormy waters.

MORE INFORMATION



9:30 A.M. - 3:30 P.M.
FOLLOWED BY
EVENSONG AT 4:00 P.M.
VISIT WWW.COASCENSION.ORG

REGISTER HERE



Staff Directory

The Rev. Candice B. Frazer, Rector candice@coascension.org
Becky Taylor, Music Ministry beckytaylor@coascension.org
Will McQueen, Facilities Manager will@coascension.org
Tracy Hinton, Parish Administrator thinton@coascension.org
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 Worrilow, 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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