

Ascension

February 2011

Festa Brazil

Saturday, February 12

5:30-7:30 pm

Ascension's Parish Hall

In July 2011, Ascension will again be headed to Joao Pessoa, Brazil. We will partner with Anglican churches to support VBS, evangelism and other community outreach initiatives. This year's team is currently being formed and will be lead by two couples – Brian and Debora Wortham and Matt and Katie Swab. Thanks to everyone at Ascension who helped make last year's trip such a success through prayer and financial support. We are counting on your support again this year as we seek to deepen the relationships we have begun to develop between our parish and churches in Joao Pessoa. To help us prepare for this year's trip, please plan on joining us for FESTA BRAZIL!

While enjoying Brazilian food and music, learn more about opportunities to partner with our Anglican brothers and sisters in Christ in Brazil in reaching out with God's love in word and deed. A great way to warm up with a touch of the tropics in the dead of winter. For more information: DeniseJCox@yahoo.com

You and your children
are invited
to an evening of
food and fellowship
Authentic Brazilian meal
prepared by Ascension's own
Brazilian chefs
Enjoy Brazilian music
in a festive Brazilian
atmosphere
Donations will be accepted
towards the second
Ascension short-term
mission trip to Joao Pessoa,
Brazil in the
summer of 2011



New Members and Confirmation Class

Are you an adult who is interested in becoming a member of Ascension or being confirmed? If so please sign up for the next New Members and Confirmation Class. The class will start the first weekend in February and meet during the 9:15 Education Hour. The class will run for 10 weeks. Confirmations will take place on Ascension Day, Thursday, June 2. To sign up for the class please call the church office and ask for Josh Miller.

Prayer Initiative

Dear Prayer Partners,
As you are praying for your assigned child or youth this Spring, why not take the opportunity around Valentine's Day to show them the love of Jesus? Be it a kind word, a small card, or just a reminder that they are being prayed for, your prayer partner would love to hear from you! If you have any questions about the Congregational Prayer Initiative, please see Katharine Lockett or Sarah Laribee. Thanks!



Summer 2010 Intergenerational Team

Annual Meeting: Vestry Nominees

Annual Parish Meeting Sunday, February 27

Sunday, February 27, 12:30 pm
Please make every effort to attend. We will hear from the Rector, Senior Warden and Finance Committee. We will also vote in new vestry members. We will begin with a light lunch in the parish hall. Childcare for grade 5 and younger will be provided. To assist us with planning, please contact Katharine Luckett if you will need care for your children.

What is the Vestry?

It is the governing board of a local Anglican parish consisting of the Rector, the Wardens, and elected lay members. The Rector presides at meetings of the vestry (or, in his absence, the Sr. Warden). The vestry shares with the clergy the leadership of the congregation. The vestry makes decisions about church budget, building plans and serves as a council of advice for the Rector.

Lay members of the Vestry are elected at a parish's annual meeting.



RD Wilkes

Having begun a relationship with the Lord Jesus through a Young Life outreach while growing up in Pittsburgh, RD went to Albright College in Reading PA where he met, and married, Donna. RD has since been an Area Director with Young Life, an outreach of caring Christ centered adults who seek to help adolescents understand and respond to the gospel, in Reading, Canton OH, Pittsburgh North Hills, Oxford UK, and Philippi WV. Along the way RD secured his MAT from Fuller Theological Seminary. Three years ago he and Donna moved to the South Side to assume various training and supervisory duties with Young Life in and around Pittsburgh. They have 3 married children; Shawna, David (both residing in Pittsburgh) and Michelle (in Annapolis MD) and 4 grandchildren. After moving to the South Side, RD and Donna happened into Ascension and, having been drawn in by the worship and fellowship, never looked anywhere else.



Linda Christie

Linda came to Ascension in the summer of 2006 at the suggestion of a friend from The Falls Church in Virginia. Since then she has made Ascension her church home, becoming a member in the fall of 2006 and then being confirmed in the Anglican Church this past May. Linda is currently a professor at Grove City College where she teaches the senior capstone courses for students majoring in Business and Entrepreneurship. Linda focuses on preparing her students to live out their faith in the workplace and she enjoys maintaining close relationships with her former students and learning from their experiences in the "real world." She's most passionate about creating opportunities for her current and former students to engage in entrepreneurial ventures which aid the poor in developing countries. Presently Linda serves at Ascension on the Hospitality Committee and as a small group leader. She loves helping new people find a place to connect and use their gifts to serve the body of Christ.



Jay Gowdy

A Connecticut Yankee raised in the South, Jay came to Carnegie Mellon as yet another agnostic, self-absorbed hacker. Over the next few years he fell in love with Jesus, his wife Karen, the city of Pittsburgh, and the Church of the Ascension. Upon graduation he and Karen were married at Ascension, and he remained at Carnegie Mellon as a programmer, continuing on to receive a Ph.D. in Robotics, and ultimately working in the Robotics Institute as a project scientist. After realizing he had been at the university for longer than the incoming students had been alive, he moved on to industry, and currently works in Gibsonia developing vision-based safety systems for cars and trucks. Jay spent many years as a house group leader, and now hosts the North Hills group as a member. He is an original member of Resounding Grace and is the longest serving sound technician. Jay and Karen's two daughters, Elena and Mariana, have both grown up in the Church, and are involved with the youth group, acolyting, and Oakland Girls' Choir.

The 9:15 Discipleship Hour

Parent & Family Sunday School

Location: Hunt Room 2

We begin a new study on February 6.

Our focus will be based on two books:

Parenting with Love and Logic and

Parenting Teens with Love and Logic

by Jim Fay and Foster Cline, MD. More

information is available at the *Love and*

Logic Institute website. These books are designed to make parenting and teaching

fun and rewarding, instead of stressful and chaotic. *Love and Logic* provides

practical tools and techniques that help adults achieve respectful, healthy

relationships with their children.



Adult Sunday School

Location: Hunt Room 1

This spring we will continue digging deeper with New

Testament selections from the E100 Challenge. In

February and March, we will focus on some of the

parables and miracles in Jesus' ministry. Come join the

fun as we discuss how these passages are relevant to our

everyday lives.



Youth Ministry

Hey, Youth Groupies!

There's a ton going on this semester at CAYG (Church of the Ascension Youth Group) and we want you to be a part of it.

Youth Group meets Wednesdays from 6:30 to 8:30 pm in the Old Catacombs.

Sunday School meets Sundays at 9:15 am in the Old Catacombs.

Big Stuff Coming Up:

Jubilee Conference College Initiative - February 19

30 Hour Famine/Lock-In - February 25/26

Wired Retreat - March 4 - 6

The best way to get information is to check the Facebook Page (Church of the Ascension Student Ministries) or the website. Also, if you are a parent and are not on the parents email list, email Sarah at sarah.laribee@ascensionpittsburgh.org and we'll get you on the list.

Foundations Course/Youth Confirmation

Our youth confirmation class entitled "Foundations," jointly led by Sarah Laribee and the Rev. Jack Gabig, will begin Sunday, March 13 during the Discipleship Hour.

For more information please see Fr. Gabig or Sarah Laribee or the youth ministry Facebook Page. This course is open to youth grades 6 and up and is open to inquirers

as well as candidates for Confirmation. Parents are asked to come to the first meeting

on March 13. Brochures are available that include an application form to fill out

along with more detailed information about the course.

Campus Ministry Page 3



Jubilee 2011

"It could CHANGE everything"

February 18-20

Please pray for Ascension's Campus Ministry as students will be attending the Jubilee

Conference this month with thousands of other college students. The Jubilee Conference

is a fantastic opportunity for college students and it happens here in Pittsburgh. The weekend is

an incredible dive into how we as Christians can use our studies, skills, and passions to serve God

and live out the Kingdom vision. Here are some words from the

website - "*Jubilee is the CCO's annual college student conference. Jubilee is a catalytic event created*

to provide a vision of and for life to help followers of Jesus grow in living out their faith in every area of life. Encouraging students to

consider the public implications of their own personal transformation and what it means to be faithful to

God in their university years and their vocational pursuits that will follow."

follow."

www.jubileeconference.com

Family News

February Birthdays

1. Daniel Kusbit
2. Paige Forster
3. Bill Lindberg, Tom Hillman
Andrew Cummings
4. Anne Babson, Isabella Very
6. Samuel Forsythe
7. Denny Thompson
David Weeber, Lisa Sayre
8. Nikolas Seiber
9. Barbara Franzen, Paul Henry
Juanita Brannan, Jon Houck
John Rankin
10. Hannah Hall
11. Danny Hall
12. Paul Anderson
13. Dan Sharkey, Benn Wilson
14. Bonnie Liefer
James Rankin (Sr.)
James Rankin, (Jr.)
Zara Ostrander
16. Jeannie Martin,
Robert Terwilliger Jennifer Berger
Jesse Sunquist
17. Karen Gowdy
18. Ann Tefft, Jay Gilmer
21. Eric Newhouse
Katarina Mertz
23. Nathaniel Smith Sr.
Andrea Thieman
24. Douglas Spence
25. Stephanie Raufer
26. Rebecca Tickner
26. Isabella Wortham
27. Kathryn Barnard
29. Matthew Kusbit

Website

Our website is back and better than ever! Thank you so very much to Phil Mollenkof who designed the site for us! Visit us at www.ascensionpittsburgh.org. If you would like the password to the pictorial directory that is posted online, please contact Judy in the church office.

Calendar

Festa Brazil
Saturday, February 12

Youth Group Service Project
Saturday, February 19

Young Life Capernaum



Saturday,
February 19
4 – 6 pm

Young Life is a well-established international Christian organization that proclaims the Gospel of Jesus and shares His love with teens and young adults. Young Life Capernaum meets monthly and gives people with mental and/or physical disabilities the chance to develop in their relationship with Christ, to have fun and make friends. Volunteers model Christ's unconditional love and acceptance as they walk alongside these young adults.

Jubilee Conference
February 18 - 20

Annual Meeting
Sunday, February 27

Youth Group "Wired" Retreat
March 4 - 6

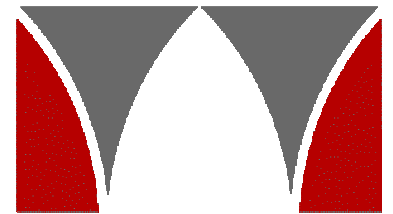
Saltworks
Young Company Show
"Alice in Wonderland"
March 4 (7 pm) &
March 5 (2 pm & 7 pm)
Tickets \$7 at the door



Fat Tuesday
March 8

Ash Wednesday
March 9

Wednesday Lenten Dinner Series
March 16, 23, 30 and April
6



**CHURCH OF THE
ASCENSION**

Worship ♦ Grow ♦ Give

A Worshipping Community;
Equipping God's People;
Sharing Christ's Healing With a Broken World

Worship Services

Sunday

8:00 am
Holy Eucharist Rite I

8:45 am
Hot Breakfast; Parish Hall

10:30 am
Holy Eucharist Rite II

5:00 pm
Jonah's Call

Wednesday

7:00 am
Holy Eucharist Rite II
in the Gordon Chapel
followed by breakfast

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The Ascent

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Ascent Deadline

Articles for the March Ascent are due February 14 and will be available February 27.