

Ascension

April
2011

Holy Week and Easter at Ascension

Palm Sunday

Sunday, April 17

8:00 a.m. Rite I Eucharist

Blessing of the Palms and reading of the Passion.

8:45 – 10:15 a.m.

Hot breakfast followed by Adult Discipleship Hour

10:30 a.m. Rite II Eucharist

The Liturgy of the Palms, a Festival Procession and a dramatic reading of the Passion narrative. Children Kindergarten age and older will remain with their parents for the service. Childcare is provided for ages 4 and younger in rooms 101 and 102 of the Education Wing.

Sacramental Confession

*Mon., April 18 – Wed., April 20
(by appointment)*

In the Anglican tradition, there is no requirement for private confession (the Rite of Reconciliation). However, James 5:16 reads, "Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed." If you desire to have your conscience unburdened and to receive spiritual consolation and ease of mind, you are invited to receive reconciliation with God through the aid of a priest. Jonathan Millard, Josh Miller, Ann Tefft will be available by appointment these three days during Holy Week to hear your private confession. Please call or email one of the priests or call the church office in confidence (412-621-4361, ext. 218).

Maundy Thursday *April 21 at 7:00 pm*

The worship of Maundy Thursday is rich in symbolism and will include washing of feet and the dramatic stripping of the altar in preparation for Good Friday. The service concludes in total darkness. Childcare is provided for ages 4 and younger in rooms 101 and 102 of the Education Wing.

Good Friday *April 22 Noon - 3:00 pm*

Because these are the hours Jesus hung on the cross, we encourage worshippers to keep vigil for the entire three hour period, but the service will easily allow people to spend any one hour without loss of continuity. Childcare is provided all three hours for ages 4 and under in rooms 101 and 102 of the Education Wing. A children's program for ages Kindergarten through 5th grade will be provided in the Hunt Rooms from noon until 2:00 pm.

Noon - 1pm: The Good Friday Liturgy of the Word including hymns, the reading of the Passion, the Great Litany and a homily

1 – 2pm: Hymns, silence, meditations

2 – 3pm: Stations of the Cross followed by a period of silent meditation including Veneration of the Cross.



Easter Sunday *April 24*

6:00 am *The Great Vigil of Easter (Nave)*

The first service of Easter Day begins with darkness and includes the singing of the *Exsultet*, or Song of Praise, over this year's Easter Candle, the passing of the Light of Easter, scripture, silence and Holy Baptism. Childcare is not provided. Please remember to bring your bells!

8:00 – 9:00 a.m. Hot breakfast in the Parish Hall for those who attended the Great Vigil or the 9:00 am service

9:00 a.m. *Easter Eucharist, Rite I (Nave)*

A service of Holy Eucharist in traditional language with hymns in celebration of the resurrection. Childcare is provided for ages 4 and under in rooms 101 and 102 of the Education Wing. Please remember to bring your bells!

10:30 a.m. *Festival Eucharist, Rite II (Nave)*

This service will be much like our usual 10:30 am worship, but with a Festival Procession and the hymns and anthems of Easter Day. It should be about 90 minutes long. Childcare is provided for ages 4 and under in rooms 101 and 102 of the Education Wing. Please remember to bring your bells!

Meet the Senior Warden



Eileen Manz has been at Ascension since 1991. She works as a Software Development Manager with a company in downtown

Pittsburgh. She has been on Vestry twice in the past, both times as Jr. Warden. Eileen has been a Diocesan Convention deputy, was involved in the team for the Growing to Serve campaign, the Education Wing construction, and the Education Wing basement fitout. She is currently involved in Altar Prayer ministry, Healing Prayer ministry, the annual Big Sale, and house group leadership. Eileen's other interests include a variety of outdoor ventures (biking, hiking, camping, traveling), cooking, gardening, reading, and music.

Local Missions

Ascension at Shepherd's Heart

Our next Shepherd's Heart dinner is **Sunday, April 10th**. In this ministry, Ascension joins many other parishes in our diocese as well as other congregations to welcome and serve the homeless. Many report the blessings they receive as they hand plates full of food to our homeless neighbors, who are grateful to get the best meal they'll have all week.

You can help cook or serve or both. Food will be provided. Cooks work in the church kitchen immediately after the 10:30 service. We usually finish by 3 pm. At 4 pm we need 2-3 cars to transport the food to Shepherd's Heart (13 Pride St near Mercy Hospital). Servers are invited to attend the 5:15 pm Eucharist. Serving the meal takes place between 6 pm and 8:30 pm. Please contact Jonathan Sewall, 412-621-0809 (home), 412-268-7185 (work) or sewall@cs.cmu.edu.

2011 Dates:

April 10

May 8

September 25

November 13

Meet the Pastors Dessert

Sunday, April 3 at 7:00 pm

Come and join Ann Tefft and Josh Miller at Ann Tefft's home for an informal dessert and a chance to get to know some of Ascension's pastors. Whether you're new to Ascension or have been around awhile we'd love to see you there. We look forward to meeting you, answering any questions you have, and letting you know a little about Ascension. The dessert will last about an hour. Please RSVP to Josh if you would like to attend (josh.miller@ascensionpittsburgh.org.)

Campus Ministry

Spring Service Trip

In March, Jonny Cagwin, Josh Miller, and Tim Raufer traveled with 21 Pitt students to Columbus, GA. The Panther Habitat for Humanity student chapter, which is advised by Jonny, chose to spend their spring break serving people in need. The goal for the week was to finish a "dried-in" home with walls, siding, windows, doors and a roof. It was a great week of building, completing the home and developing relationships with each other. We dealt with lots of rain and a slower work

week but the students had great attitudes and worked incredibly hard. Another group of 14 students spent their spring break building with HFH in Buffalo, NY.

College Student Bible Study

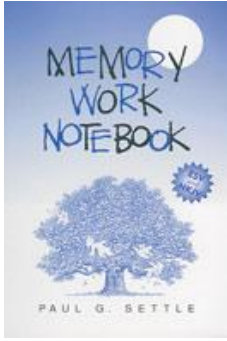
Join us for breakfast in the Parish Hall at 8:45 am followed by our study of the book of Philippians. Our quest is to study and live out today these letters written long ago. Our time together includes Bible study, prayer, and fellowship as we spend time in the Word and with each other.



Above is the cement foundation that we built upon and below is a picture of our team showing the fruits of our labor. Check the church website for more pictures



Ministry Highlights



New Program for Children

Sunday mornings from 9:15 - 10:15
Room 104 in the Education Wing

On April 3, 10 and 17 we will continue with our program *What's In the Bible?* On May 1, following Easter, we will begin a different method of Christian education, still intended to get the children into the Bible! Jennifer Cummings and Tyler Foxwell, along with their fabulous assistants, Chris and Jessica Kissell, will be taking the children through the small but mighty publication entitled *Memory Work Notebook*.

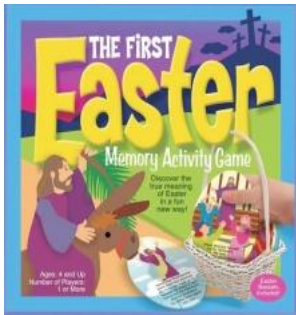
Childcare for children in the Nursery and Toddler Rooms will

be available. If you have questions, please call or email Katharine Lockett.

Congregational Prayer Initiative Celebration!

Friday, April 15 from 7-9 pm

The Joyous Celebration is almost here! Please join us on to celebrate this year of prayer in the Congregational Prayer Initiative! We have been praying for our children and youth since September, and now is the time to fellowship together. It will be a wonderful time of artistry and fun, and overall sharing the ways prayer has blessed our congregation this year. We look forward to seeing you there!



Good Friday Program for Children

April 22 from 12 Noon to 2 pm

The Hunt rooms will be set up with multiple learning and activity stations from Noon to 2:00 pm for children age 5 and older. It will be a fun, interesting and informative time for the children that will build their understanding of the significance of events surrounding the death and resurrection of Jesus. There will be an Easter Egg Hunt at 1:00 pm sharp!



Young Life Capernaum - Pittsburgh

Saturday, April 9 from 4-6 pm

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. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Katharine Lockett.



Brazil Team Support

Ascension will be sending another short term mission team to Brazil to work with a local church in Joao Pessoa. The team will have fundraisers on Mother's Day and Father's Day. Team members include Matt and Katie Swab, Deb and Brian Wortham, Christopher, Hannah and Leslie Thyberg, Ben Clifton, Joel Oliver, Naomi Buettner, Rachel

Kornfield, Kenny and Nate Wahrenberger. The team leaves for Brazil July 3rd. Please keep their fundraising efforts in your prayers.

Family News

April Birthdays

- 1 Lisa McDonald
Jared Drennen
Ian Mollenkof
- 2 Cole Van Ormer
Eileen Manz
Gorret Nakyambadde
Josiah Stadelmeier
Peter Holt
- 4 Mary Lou Vercellotti
- 5 Linda Von Bloch
Kimberly Tefft
- 7 Maddey Edwards
- 8 James Stout
Andrew Defusco
Joshua Trusnovic
- 9 James Scannell
- 10 Denise Apple
Ruth Thompson
- 11 Earl Glotfelty
- 12 Rumi Kauffman
Karl Crary
- 13 Alfred Crissman
Nicole Shirk
- 14 Stephen McGlynn
- 15 Scott McKee
Theodor Mertz
- 17 James Gilmer
- 18 Carol Finelli Brown
David Holt
- 19 Laura Very
Rachel Kornfield
- 20 Doreen Boyce
- 21 Andrew Kohn
- 22 Timothy Podnar
Jack Millard
- 23 Margaret Pepper
- 25 Jennifer Bell
- 26 Battle Brown
Warren Van Every
- 28 Jacqueline McKee
Jonathan Sewall

April Anniversaries

- 2 Douglas and Joanne Spence
Terry and Nicole Shirk
- 6 Karl and Susan Crary
- 21 Alan and Linda Komm
- 23 Nate and Fern Smith

Condolences

Our condolences are extended to Laura Irvine and family at the loss of her mother, Margaret Gross, on March 19.

Prayer Opportunities

Sunday, April 10th

Come and join us for a special "Soaking Prayer" session. Students from the Global School for Ministry of Mechanicsburg, PA. will be joining our prayer ministry team to offer a special time for "Listening Soaking Prayer" from 9:15 to 10:15, in the Guild Room! Come and be refreshed in the Lord!

Third Tuesdays

In response to requests that we come together as a church for corporate prayer and intercession for Ascension and the diocese of Pittsburgh; for our leaders, especially Jonathan, the standing committee and Archbishop Bob Duncan; and for our property settlements - we are offering a once monthly opportunity, held concurrent with Vestry meetings on the Third Tuesdays of the month, to come together in prayer and worship.

Please join us in the Oliver chapel! Our first session will be on April 26th, 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm! In April Vestry will meet on the fourth

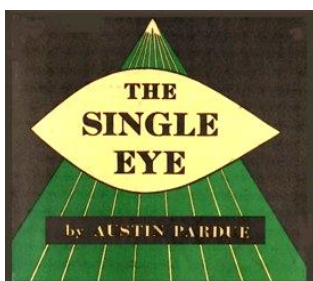


Easter Lily Memorials

Each year lilies, given in memory or honor of a loved one, adorn our church on Easter morning and the week following. If you would like to give an Easter Lily Memorial, please contact Ruth Ann Morgan at 412-371-5487 by noon Monday, April 18.

Church Library

April Book report



The Single Eye
by Austin Pardue

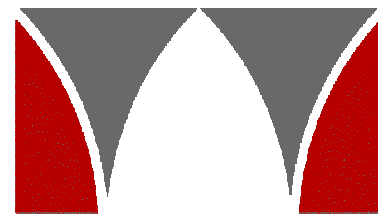
The name and person of Austin Pardue is well known to many Pittsburghers and Ascensionites alike. He was the productive bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh from 1944 to 1968. The bishop was a prolific writer and had written a total of eight books prior to penning *The Single Eye* in 1957.

The writing style in this book is warm and friendly; that which would be used when writing a letter to a dear friend. Combining this with the bishop's deep understanding of God and human nature, he presents and discusses topics to help us move beyond our humanity, and towards a closer walk with our Father in heaven.

The first section of the book includes chapters entitled 'Be Strong in the Lord', 'The Secret of Being Right', and 'At One with the Father'. The second section of the book deals exclusively with prayer; in many respects it is a 'prayer - how to' manual. I found the chapter titled 'Be Sure to Pray for Yourself' especially meaningful.

It is quite possible that this book could change your faith, and therefore change your life. Finally and boldly I suggest that this book should be required reading for all choosing to wade out into deeper spiritual waters.

- Jack Wasko



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

Published monthly by the Church of the Ascension.
Marilyn Clifton Chislaghi, Editor
Judy Yadrick, Publisher

Ascent Deadline

Articles for the April Ascent are due April 14 and will be available on April 24.