

Ascension

May 2011

May 8th is Mother's Day

Youth Ministry

Special Day at Ascension

8:45am Hot Breakfast

Enjoy an incredible Hot Breakfast. Women of the Parish can dine for free!

9:15am Parish Forum

You are invited to a Forum with the Rector. Come to the New Catacombs with your cup of coffee ready to ask questions of the Rector on church legal affairs or other matters on your mind.

10:30am Instructed Eucharist

Learn why we do things the way we do at this special "Instructed Eucharist."



Brazil Team Bake Sale

Come prepared to buy something special for your mom or another woman you admire....or bring a treat home to the entire family. This is one of two important fund raisers for the Brazil Team. All contributions would be very welcome!

Treat Mom to a Harp Concert

Come and celebrate Mother's Day with a Harp Ensemble Concert featuring 22 harpists of the Pittsburgh Youth Harp Ensemble and La Petit Ensemble on Sunday, May 8 at 2pm in the Nave. Enjoy familiar melodies and new sounds of students of Lucy Scandrett. A special performance of "Sakura" will be performed as a tribute to the Japanese.

Spend Mother's Day Serving at Shepherd's Heart

Some of you may want to spend Mother's Day giving to those in need. A group from Ascension will be cooking and serving a meal at Shepherd's Heart (a ministry to the poor and homeless). If you are interested in serving in this way, give Jonathan Sewall a call at 412-621-0809 or email him at sewall@cs.cmu.edu.



Support New Moms: Baby Bottle Campaign

The Baby Bottle Campaign supports the local crisis pregnancy centers beginning Mother's Day, May 8 and ending June 12. Please take a baby bottle to fill with checks, bills and change. Return them to Katharine Lockett or another staff person. Thank you for your support!

Meetings for Junior and Senior High move to separate nights!

Starting the week of April 24, Sr. High Youth Group (9-12 grade) meets Wednesday nights, 6:30-8:30. Jr. High Youth Group (6-8 grade) will meet Friday nights from 6:30-8:30. We'll meet through the summer and take a short break in August. Bring everyone you know, as Sarah has a new batch of hot sauce to get rid of.



Youth Group Senior High Graduation Party

Wednesday, May 18 from 6 to 8:30pm we will gather at the Vietnam Veteran's Shelter at Schenley Park to celebrate the graduation of eight of our seniors from youth group: Christianna Barnard, Naomi Buettner, Ben Clifton, Jack Foster, James Gilmer, Anneke Harger, Elliot Miller, Peter Regan. Many of you have gotten to know these kids over the years as Sunday School teachers, mission trip leaders or perhaps friends of their families and you are welcome to join us. Please bring a salad or side dish to share. We will BBQ hot dogs and hamburgers. It would help if you let Marilyn know you plan to come (mchislaghi@gmail.com or 412-953-7050).

Mark Your Calendars



Saturday, May 7 **Parish Work Day** (8:30am – Noon)

Please join us for our Spring Parish Work Day. All are welcome to help with putting in our screens, cleaning some windows, cleaning in the kitchen, and other spring cleaning tasks. We will begin with coffee and donuts and end with pizza at noon. It's a great time to get to know others in the parish and help our building look great! Jobs for kids also available! RSVP to Eric Newhouse at enewhouse@eqa-lc.com.

Saturday, May 7 **Diocesan Women's Gathering** (10 am to 12:30 pm)

Woman of the Anglican Diocese are invited to attend this gathering. The guest speaker is the Rt. Rev. John Rodgers who will speak on "Power in the Name." The gathering will be at All Saints Church in Rosedale. Please contact Judy Yadrick in the church office by May 2 if you are interested in attending.

Saturday, May 14 **Young Life Capernaum** (4 – 6pm)

Young Life Capernaum meets monthly at Ascension 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.

Sunday, May 15 **Marathon Sunday**

Many of the roads around the church will be blocked for the Pittsburgh Marathon. The course consists of a very large circle that wraps itself around Oakland and Shadyside. The only way into that circle, once blocked, is by using Bigelow Boulevard. It's going to be difficult for you to drive to church if you are located anywhere outside this circle (i.e. in Wilkinsburg, Regent Square, Squirrel Hill, South Hills, North Hills, etc.) So, what to do? While it may seem like you are driving out of your way, the best route in is to use Bigelow Boulevard and wind into Oakland that way. So...whether you are coming from points east, north, west or south, if you want to worship at Ascension on Marathon Sunday, plan on having a nice drive up Bigelow Boulevard! For more info visit www.pittsburghmarathon.com.

Sunday, May 15 **Support our Marathon Team!**

Ten Ascensionites will be taking part in the Pittsburgh Marathon Relay to help raise money for missions at Church of the Ascension. However, their success depends on sponsorship from members of the congregation and elsewhere. Anyone interested in sponsoring a runner should contact that runner and be prepared to write a check to Church of the Ascension with Missions Relay written in the memo line. Donations can be made by the mile or in a lump sum. The list of runners is as follows: Karl Crary, Daniel Kusbit, Kenny Wahrenberger, Maria Wahrenberger, Brian Wortham, Nate Wahrenberger, Daisha Bernal, Ricardo Bernal, Jim Richards, and Kristen Richards. If you have any questions, contact Nate Wahrenberger at nathanieljacob@comcast.net.

Tuesday, May 17 **Third Tuesdays: Congregational Prayer**

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 will hold a prayer and worship hour that will be held concurrent with the Vestry meetings the third Tuesdays of the month. Please join us in the Oliver chapel! Our next session is May 17th, 7 pm.

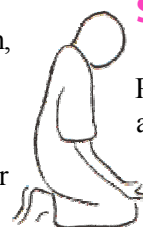
Wednesday, May 18 **The Godly Play Method** (6:30 – 8:30pm)

Join us in the Hunt Rooms as we explore a teaching method we hope to introduce into our own Christian education programming. Dr. Leander Harding will give an introduction and demonstration of a godly play lesson. Find registration forms on the table in the glass hallway or request one from Katharine Lockett (email kluckett5@verizon.net, 412-427-2778 cell). There is a small fee, however scholarships are available.

Thursday, May 19 **Child Abuse Prevention Training** (7 – 9pm)

You are invited to attend this important training session in the life of our parish family, mandatory for all who work with children or youth. If you currently volunteer with children or youth ministries but have not taken this course please contact the Training Administrator, Judy Yadrick at judy.yadrick@ascensionpittsburgh.org or 412-621-4361 to enroll. The training is free.

Sunday, May 22 **Soaking Prayer**



Come for a session of Soaking Prayer in the New Catacombs at 9:15am. Be refreshed in the Lord as prayer ministers quietly pray over you.

Family News

Wednesday, May 25

Parish Leadership Forum (7 – 8:30pm)

Are you an usher captain, small group leader, or the head of another ministry? If so we hope you can join us for the first in a series of Parish Leadership Forums. The Parish Leadership Forum is an event that will take place three times a year. It's a town hall style meeting to: celebrate what God is doing in our midst, to let you hear directly from the clergy and staff about what's on their minds as they look to the future, and to provide a venue for parish leaders for a time of Q and A with the clergy. We hope it will encourage you! Dessert will be served and childcare will be provided by reservation. We hope you're able to make it! Please RSVP by May 23 to Marilyn in the church office.

Thursday, June 2

Ascension Day



Youth Confirmation 2010

Bishop Duncan will join us for a Service of Baptism and Confirmation. This wonderful service will be followed by a cake reception at the back of the Nave. Plan on joining us!

Saturday, June 4

Oakland Girls Choir Spring Concert (7:30pm)

Church of the Ascension is privileged to host the OGC annual concert and reception once again this spring. Plan on a lovely evening out!

Sunday, June 5

Parish Picnic (11am)

Please plan on joining us at Squaw Valley Park in Fox Chapel for our Annual Parish Picnic, a highlight of our church year! This is a well-loved event by many in the parish. We roast hamburgers and hot dogs

and have the best spread of side dishes in town. We hope you can join us. Another highlight is the graduation of 5th graders from our Sunday School program. Each year our 5th graders receive a Bible and recite a special verse they have chosen. Not only is the parish picnic a neat way to connect with others in our church family, but it's a celebration of our kids and a great acknowledgement of their efforts!

July 29 to 31

Summer Women's Retreat

We will gather at Villa Maria, a retreat center about 1.5 hours north of Pittsburgh. Peggy Noll will speak on the topic of "Overflowing with Hope: Nurturing and Sharing our Christian Hope in a Cynical World." Looking at Scripture, Peggy believes that Christian hope is not for sissies. However, in the trio of faith, hope, and love, do we overlook the "middle child" of hope? We will look at some of the biblical teaching on hope; we will examine our own attitudes about this aspect of our worldview; and we will have time to get to know each other better by sharing our hopes and praying for one another. Peggy Noll has been in the diocese since 1979. Most recently the Nolls were missionaries with Global Teams at Uganda Christian University in Mukono, Uganda, where she helped to found a children's library and taught in the English faculty.

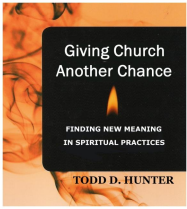


May Birthdays

1. David Thyberg
2. Meagan Budzowski, Zoe Woon
3. Sarah Laribee
4. Jewel Anita Hendrix, Ella Fuener
5. Karis Kornfield
6. Dannielle Olmi
7. Diane Stadelmeier, Victor Bernal
8. Rachel Stadelmeier
9. Frank Alton, Bill Campbell
Angie Van Every
10. Jake Bell
11. Brenda Harger
12. Ella Jane Newhouse
16. Suzanne Gibbon
17. Renee Smith, Lucia Campbell
Daniel Block
18. Lou D'Abruzzo
19. Samuel Wilson
20. Bob Edwards, Hannah Thyberg
21. Charlotte Dickerson
Joanne Spence
22. Alexis Kinson
23. Allen Burnett, Pamela Kuhns
Luke Cummings
24. Robert Frederking
25. Lindley Hunter, Kevin Trenney
26. Logan Shirk
27. Napier Wilson, Marion Clarke
Clifton McKee, Emma Harger
28. Charles Bader, James Babson
29. Dee Wilson, Robin Capcara
31. Shirley Kilpatrick

May Anniversaries

1. Barb Zimmerly and Francis Pionati
5. Paul and Linda Von Bloch
8. Brian and Nicole Mack
9. Jack and Marcia Walsh
11. David and Pamela Kuhns
17. David and Ginger Weeber
20. Brian and Alexandra Tiel
21. Jack and Lori Porter
Fred and Christine Thiemann
22. Ronald and Judy Yadrick
24. Thomas and Marcine Hillman
26. Kathleen and Clifford Hartle
31. Patrick and Stacey Regan



Church Library

Giving Church Another Chance by Todd D. Hunter

“This book is written for everyone who has tried church and found it wanting, but somewhere deep within they still desire a spiritual life in the way of Jesus. I understand, it happened to me.” Todd

Hunter shares about his struggles in connecting church to the practices of his daily life and was not excited about going to church. His faith in Jesus and His Kingdom was strong but it was the activities of the church that troubled him. Read where his questions took him and why he decided to take another look at what the church offered for his spirituality.

Prison Ministry

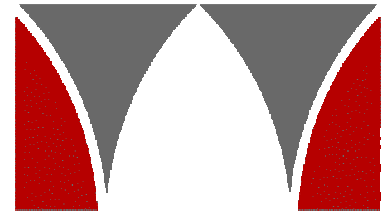
Kairos Outside of Western Pennsylvania, or KOWPA, is a special branch of Kairos Prison Ministry that reaches out to the women left behind when a loved one is or has been incarcerated. This is often a painful journey, picking up the pieces of everything left behind, ‘doing time’ in their own way. They are sad, hurt, ashamed, and alone. Frequently friends fade away, and families turn their backs on them. Sometimes churches have left them hungry for love.

Kairos Outside reaches out to these women and offers love and support they need to continue their difficult journeys. We minister to women during a 3-day weekend retreat. A total of 30 women will gather for this weekend at no cost to the guests, they will be surrounded by others who have also experienced brokenness. During the weekend the team models unconditional love and respect, and the guests are offered forgiveness of themselves and others. The guests are pampered and supported by the local KOWPA community, comprised of Christian women and men from all denominations, beliefs, races, and backgrounds. Together these people experience a bond in spirit that grows and continues after the weekend is over. Ongoing contact and support is also available through regular reunion gatherings.

Christine Money is a member of the Board of Directors for *Kairos Prison Ministry International* and has been a leader in Ohio adult and youth corrections since 1981. Speaking about her experience with *Kairos Outside*, Christine says, “I could tell story after story, but generally I have seen healing take place in many families and relationships as they come to God and found Jesus Christ on weekends. I’ve seen families reunited after many years of separation. I’ve witnessed many miraculous experiences through this ministry that it is almost overwhelming when you think about it!”

The first Pennsylvania *Kairos Outside* will be held at the St. Paul of The Cross Retreat Center in Pittsburgh June 24 -26. Several Ascension members plan to participate. We need help in many areas: fundraising, ‘day angels’ who can come to the facility and work for a couple of hours, food donations, and prayer warriors to commit to prayer during the weekend. All of these selfless acts will show these women the unconditional love of Jesus Christ in unexpected ways.

We also have surprises planned along the way to show these women how special they truly are to us. We hope that you can help us achieve a successful first weekend and that you will consider supporting KOWPA with your prayers. For more information, please email Jackie McKee at mckeejk@gmail.com.



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 a.m.
Holy Eucharist Rite I

8:45 a.m. Hot Breakfast;
Parish Hall

10:30 a.m.
Holy Eucharist Rite II

5:00 p.m.
Jonah’s Call

Wednesday

7:00 a.m.
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 June Ascent are due
May 15 and available May 28.