

## Mission

*The Church of the Ascension is a communion of faith, bound together in our worship, fellowship, and ministry; uplifted by the Holy Spirit; and committed to sharing and growing in Christ's love.*

## Values

- **Community/Communion:** We recognize that, while we have relationships with people in many different organizations, those in church are fundamentally different. This communion is called together by God as one of the primary means by which we are able to know and serve God more deeply. In all our activities, building and embodying life-giving relationships is essential.
- **Worship:** The opportunities—on Sunday morning and at other times—to worship the living God are what sustain and strengthen us for abundant life and service. While our tastes and experiences of God may differ, the sacramental (God being present with us through our worship) and liturgical (common actions and prayers that unite us) nature of worship is the cornerstone of our life at Ascension.
- **Discipleship/Stewardship:** Membership at Ascension is not just about attendance. We are a communion of people committed to growing deeper in our relationship with God and more committed to God's service. We strive to see and know that all we are, all we have, and all we do we freely offer to God in gratitude for God's grace and love freely given.
- **Communication:** Transparency and immediacy are the means by which we will embody this value. Interpersonal, group, and mass communication through both simple and high-tech means will enable everyone to find their way into this communion of faith and deeper into their walk with God.
- **Service/Outreach:** Ascension serves those outside our membership who are in need—materially, emotionally, socially, and spiritually—as much as we serve our fellow members. Reaching out in generosity, gratitude, and love inherently deepens our faith, strengthens our community and improves our stewardship.

## Committees

Every committee organizes its ministry to ensure that it embodies these core values, that it is a place where members build relationships, learn their faith, and deepen their walk. Before undertaking specific work, each committee: will be grounded in prayer and will encourage regular attendance at worship; will be attentive to the health and well-being of its members and the members of its teams; will value and make faithful use of the gifts of all members; and will lovingly hold one another accountable for work and commitments.

Two groups of committees make up our mission structure: Management Committees and Program Committees.

**Management Committees** are those who provide support functions necessary to carry out all our work. They foster good stewardship of resources and ensure that committees and members: know our mission and their place in it; have sound policies and accountability for their work; have the

greatest resources possible (people, money, materials, space); and know how their work fits together with and impacts others' ministry.

**Program Committees** carry out direct ministry with and for both the members of Ascension and the larger community. These groups prayerfully and creatively implement programs to further worship, fellowship, and ministry and to call each person into a deeper relationship with God in Christ.

## Management

### Personnel

Policy	Rector's Ministry Review
Staff Review Support	

### Finance, Budget, Stewardship

Endowment	Investment
Audit	Budget
Stewardship	

### Building and Grounds

Volunteer Projects	Information Tech
Service Contracts	Grounds
Outside Group Liaisons	Improvements

### Communication

Newsletter	Web Site
Parish News	Announcements
Advertising	Bulletin Boards and Signs

## Program

### Worship and Music

Altar Guild	Acolytes/Chalice Min
Ushers	Lectors
Adult Choir	Praise Team
Children's Music	

### Christian Education

Adult Education	Youth Ministry
Sunday School	Baptism and Confirmation

### Pastoral Care

Crisis Ministry	Grief Ministry
Shut-in	Prayer Ministers/Prayer Chain
Eucharistic Visitors	

### Outreach

Diocesan and Regional Liaisons	Emergency Response
International Outreach	National Outreach
Local Outreach	

### Hospitality

Greeters	Newcomers
Parish Dinners	Coffee Hour