



ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NEWS

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



APRIL 21, 2024

Visit our Realm online directory information page at www.ascensiondenver.org for set up, tips, and more.

Visit www.ascensiondenver.org to sign up for weekly updates and news from us.

WELCOME TO CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION!

We are delighted to welcome you to Church of the Ascension. A vibrant church community in Denver since its founding in 1904, Ascension is a place where faith and real life intersect. From here, we are called to share God's love in the Church and in the world through generous hospitality, serving one another, community involvement, and providing a safe place to explore a relationship with God. Whether you are a Denver native or have recently moved here, a committed Christian or someone inquiring about the faith for the first time, we want you to feel at home. Please know that you are invited to participate in all aspects of our worship. We are so glad that you're here.

Amy Feins, Associate Rector

Dear People of Ascension,

I can't thank you enough for the marvelous sendoff that you gave me on April 7. It was everything that you do so well - beautiful and faithful worship with glorious music, followed by a joyful celebration where every detail was perfect - food, flowers, and especially the presence of so many of you of all ages. I was especially touched by the generous contribution to Locally Haiti toward the new hospital and health center in Petit Trou de Nippes since you know how vital I believe our active outreach ministries have been to the growth and health of Ascension. The gold necklace is so elegant and pretty and the loveliest reminder of how incredibly blessed I was to serve Ascension. Your cards and notes have meant the world to me. I am forever grateful to each and every one of you.

I can't wait to see where God leads you next. Meanwhile, I hold you in my prayers and in my heart.

With devotion,

Weezie +

OUTREACH AND MISSION

WOMEN'S HOMELESSNESS INITIATIVE. Once a month, Ascension parishioners make lunches that are distributed to Urban Peak in partnership with our outreach partner Women's Homelessness Initiative. Thank you to Carolyn Craig, Jan Douglas, Robin McDougal, Sherry McGinnis, Kathleen Reilly, and Barb Watson who made lunches this past Tuesday. Please consider helping in the following ways:

- Bring the following items to the basket at the back of the Church: bottled water (**8 ounces or less, please**), bread, and savory and sweet individually wrapped snacks.
- Join us for lunch-making **on Tuesday, May 14 at 3:45 p.m.** in the Kitchen for this fun fellowship activity for all ages.

SAVE THE DATE FOR EVENING FOR HAITI. This year's Evening for Haiti, the annual fundraiser for our outreach partner Locally Haiti, will be held on **Sunday, May 5 at 4:30 p.m.** at Tivoli Turnhalle. This year's celebration will feature special guests from Haiti, Dr. Vanessa Suffren and Johnny Verneus, a Haiti-themed dinner, live and silent auctions, and the presentation of this year's Ted Lewis Award to Teresa Henry. To participate, please go to <https://www.locallyhaiti.org/blog-posts/2023/3/13/eveningforhaiti2024>. You can also reach out to John Douglas or Chris Nazar for more information.

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE 2027 PATH LUNCHEON. Help support affordable housing in our community by attending St. Francis Center's Positive Action Towards Housing (PATH) lunch event on **Tuesday, May 7 at 11:30 a.m.** at Temple Emanuel, 51 Grape Street, Denver, 80220. Questions? Contact Andrew Sprinks at (303)244-0745.

**Register
Here:** 

**Donate
Here:** 

THE GREAT 50 DAYS

THE CELEBRATION OF EASTER continues for 50 days! This joyful season celebrates Jesus's resurrection and his presence among his followers and others through his ascension to the coming of the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost (which is the Greek word for fiftieth day). Easter traditions include standing to pray, the return of "Alleluia," the burning of the Paschal candle at all services, flowers, and the omission of the confession.

Other ways to tap into the Easter celebration:

- *The Art of Holy Week and Easter* by Sister Wendy Beckett, which is available at Amazon and Barnes and Noble.
- *50 Days: Celebrating Easter with Daily Reflections*, a daily email from Forward Movement. To subscribe, go to <https://50days.org/subscribe/>.
- The Book of Acts – yes, that Book of Acts, the one from the Bible, which tells the story of the early church from Jesus's Ascension to Paul's final imprisonment in Rome.

PARISH LIFE

INTERIM RECTOR. The Rev. Canon Lucy S. L. Amerman will join Ascension as Interim Rector for 10 weeks beginning **April 24**. Lucy has years of experience serving on not-for-profit boards, dealing with child welfare and elder care. She attended Goucher College, Widener University School of Law, Princeton Theological Seminary, and Oxford University. She and her husband Jackson Haas, a retired Lutheran pastor, have a blended family of six grown children and eight grandchildren living from coast to coast. Lucy is excited to join us at Ascension.



RECTOR SEARCH COMMITTEE UPDATE. The Search Committee is excited to announce that the Rector job has been posted! View our profile at our website: www.ascensiondenver.org/rectorsearch. Please spread the word in the broader church about this position and our wonderful parish. The application will be open until May 15, and the Diocese will present the committee with candidates in late May. In the meantime, the committee will work on interview questions for the candidates. If you have any questions about the search, please email search@ascensiondenver.org, or reach out to anyone on the search committee: Chris Nazar, chair, and members Christi Canada, John Douglas, Sherry McGinnis, Susanna Shannon, and Cullen Wold. Please keep Ascension and our future rector in your prayers.

PRINTED DIRECTORY UPDATE. Thank you to everyone who participated in the photo sessions for our new directory. The process of merging all the addresses and other information is almost complete. A printed directory should be available by **early June**. This is a lengthy process and we are excited to share the final product soon. If you have any questions, please email Amy Leonard at amyleonard022@gmail.com or Christi Canada at christi.canada@gmail.com.

SENIOR FELLOWSHIP LUNCH. Join us **Wednesday, May 8 at 11:30 a.m.** for a potluck lunch and fellowship in the Parish Hall. There is no need to RSVP, but please contact Joan Casey at jccaset01@gmail.com or (303) 204-5683 if you need a ride!

WORSHIP

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE TODAY. In recognition of the 55th observance of Earth Day tomorrow, our Prayers of the People today are from the Episcopal Church's Liturgical Materials for Honoring God in Creation. To learn more about Earth Day, go to <https://www.earthday.org/history>.

SONSHINE SINGERS. Open to all children age 4 through 5th grade, will continue **Wednesday, April 24** at 4:30 pm to learn a special anthem for Ascension Sunday (May 12). The last two rehearsals are scheduled for 4:30 on May 1 and a required dress rehearsal on May 8. For more information, please contact Cindy Lindeen-Martin, cindy@ascensiondenver.org.

COMMON CUP AT COMMUNION. At our 8 and 10 a.m. services, we offer bread (including gluten-free) and wine to sip from the chalice. *At this point, please note that our bishop has not authorized the return of intinction (dipping the bread in the wine) by parishioners.* Please know that receiving bread alone is full communion, and either or both constitute the full sacramental presence of Christ.

FLOWERS IN THE CHURCH. Flowers remind us of the beauty of God's creation and are an offering of thanksgiving to God. If you would like to contribute flowers in thanksgiving, honor, or memory of someone or some special event, please email Sarah Dougherty at sarah@ascensiondenver.org.

CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL. There will be Sunday School today at 9 a.m. for children in PreK through grade 5. Sunday School continues through **May 19**.

YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL. Youth Sunday School for those in grades 6 through 12 continues through May 19 in the library upstairs.

NURSERY. The nursery is open for children ages 0-4 every Sunday from 9 until 11 a.m.

POPSICLES AND PIZZA ON THE PLAYGROUND. Save the date for Pizza and Popsicles on the playground! On **Sunday, April 28** we will gather at Observatory Park from 4:30-6 p.m. to celebrate the end of the program year! This is a great way to connect with other Ascension parents and children.

GIVING

The generosity of our parishioners and friends is what makes Ascension thrive. From children's and youth ministries to music to outreach and so much more, your generosity contributes to the vitality of our parish. You can contribute financially by texting AscensionDenver to 73256, going to www.ascensiondenver.org, or by mailing your contribution to 600 Gilpin Street, Denver, CO 80218. *Please consider a gift to provide an even stronger foundation for 2024 and beyond.* Thank you!

KEEPING PLEDGES CURRENT. During this time of transition it is especially important that we manage our budget, and you can help by keeping your pledge payment current over the course of the year, especially during the spring and summer months. While many of us will enjoy time away, Ascension's expenses do not take a vacation! Simply text "AscensionDenver" to 73256 or visit www.ascensiondenver.org/pledge. Thank you for your generosity!

THE ASCENSION LEGACY. Participants in The Ascension Legacy have made a commitment to support Ascension through a gift in their will or other planned gift. Any person, regardless of age or circumstance, can make a gift of gratitude that will help create a lasting foundation for Ascension. To find out more, please contact Endowment Committee Chair Chad Nichols or Parish Administrator Sarah Dougherty at sarah@ascensiondenver.org.

ADULT SPIRITUAL FORMATION

For more information or to receive a Zoom link, please email Amy Feins at amy@ascensiondenver.org.

BIBLE STUDIES. Gospel Bible Study led by Priest Associate Garry Horle meets **today at 9 a.m.** in Classroom B and focuses on the Gospel lectionary reading for the day. Tuesday Bible Study led by Associate Rector Amy Feins meets **Tuesdays at 12 noon** on Zoom and focuses on Hebrew scripture. This week we continue our study of Jonah and will cover the third chapter of this short yet action packed story!

BOOK GROUP. Throughout the year and within the context of our Christian faith, the Ascension book study seeks to listen to and explore a variety of voices through fiction, nonfiction, memoir, and poetry. The resulting thoughtful discussions take place on **Tuesdays at 5 p.m.** on Zoom. We are currently reading and discussing *The Women* by Kristin Hannah, a novel about a young woman coming of age at a time when our country was divided by the Vietnam war and broken by its politics. Join us on **Tuesday at 5 p.m. where we will cover chapters 15-22.**

UPCOMING

MONDAY, APRIL 22

8 a.m. Morning Prayer, *Zoom*
6 p.m. The Steps We Took AA meeting, *Library*

TUESDAY, APRIL 23

8 a.m. Morning Prayer, *Zoom*
noon Jonah Bible Study, *Zoom*
5 p.m. *The Women* by Kristin Hannah
Book Study, *Zoom*

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24

8 a.m. Morning Prayer, *Zoom*
10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting, *North Meeting Room*
4:30 p.m. SONShine singers, *Music Room*
6 p.m. New Freedom AA meeting, *Library*
6:30 p.m. Vestry meeting, *Classroom B*

THURSDAY, APRIL 25

8 a.m. Centering Prayer, *Chapel and Zoom*
7 p.m. Parish Choir Rehearsal, *Church*

FRIDAY, APRIL 26

8 a.m. Morning Prayer, *Chapel and Zoom*

To receive a Zoom link for Bible or book studies, please email Amy Feins at amy@ascensiondenver.org.

To receive a Zoom link for Centering Prayer, please email Barb Watson at barbarawatson825@comcast.net.

To receive a Zoom link for Morning Prayer, please email Brian Ward at beemerward@icloud.com.



*Where faith and real life intersect
and from where we are called to share God's love in the church and in the world.*

600 Gilpin Street | Denver, CO 80218 | 303.388.5978 | www.ascensiondenver.org

Office Hours: Tuesday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and by appointment