

# Church of the *Ascension*

Connect. Grow. Serve.



23 North Court Street  
Westminster, MD 21157  
410-848-3251  
office@ascension-westminster.com

ascension-westminster.com

## Ascension Extension | May 2024

*Ascension is called to be a family of faith so reflecting the life of Christ,  
that we draw all people to him.*

### Gratitude

Dear Ascension Family:

As I was browsing through the United Thank Offering (UTO) website to find a blessing for our UTO ingathering service on May 5, I found an article about gratitude.

*"Gratitude is a pretty simple concept but is something that many people find hard to practice. Being grateful requires simply noticing something good in your life and responding with thanks. Noticing more good things, feeling gratitude for them, and thanking the people who made those good things possible builds positivity and happiness in both the grateful person and the thanked people."*

I agree, gratitude is simple, but too often we hear so much bad or disturbing news that we are overwhelmed with our own problems or those faced by our loved ones that it is not easy to be grateful and to give thanks to the Lord for all the good things that are happening in us and all around us. Being grateful requires simply noticing something good in your life and responding with thanks. The truth is that the more we train ourselves to notice good things and to give thanks for them, the more we will find reasons to practice gratitude.

That reminds me of the story told by the French Cardinal Marty. He was appointed Bishop of Paris in 1968, when the French capital was plagued by social disturbances and riots. Bishop Marty encountered a lot of people who were suffering from the situation, and this had

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### June Ascension Extension

Please share articles and information to be included by **Monday, May 20**  
**communication@ascension-westminster.com**

### Church Office Hours

Monday, Wednesday, Friday  
9:00 am -3:00 pm

**office@ascension-westminster.com**

The Church Office will be closed on  
**Monday, May 27**, Memorial Day.

consequences on his spiritual life. He noticed that he spent his prayer time asking God to help people, but he had nothing to be thankful for. That bothered him. So, he decided that each day he would write down 10 things to give thanks for. He said that, at first, he had problems writing anything down in his notebook. He started to look around him more attentively and soon he was able to give thanks to the Lord for more than 10 persons or situations. He noticed a person smiling to a stranger in the metro, an act of kindness in the street, a person sharing something personal with him. His life was filled with gratitude.

What amazes me about the story of Cardinal Marty is that the situation around him had not changed, there was the same amount of violence and suffering, but he changed. His desire and willingness to look at the world with the eyes of Christ helped him to see the beauty of creation, the love of God in tiny details that he could not see before.

The more we are looking for and noticing good things around us, even a small smile or a flower in bloom, the more our heart will notice the good all around us. The more we will be filled with gratitude. The more our hearts will praise the Lord for the goodness present all around us.

I hope and pray that your heart will be filled with gratitude and that with the psalmist you will be able to say:



Your brother in Christ,

*Pierre-Henry+*

## Fr. Pierre-Henry Buisson

Day Off: Monday

rector@ascension-westminster.com

### May Worship

#### May 5

##### **Sixth Sunday of Easter**

8:00 am H.E. Rite I, Stone Church

9:00 am Sunday School/Adult Education

10:15 am H.E. Rite II, Holy Cross Hall

##### **Youth Sunday**

#### May 12

##### **Ascension Sunday**

##### **Mother's Day**

8:00 am H.E. Rite I, Stone Church

9:00 am Mother's Day Breakfast

10:15 am H.E. Rite II, Holy Cross Hall

#### May 19

##### **Day of Pentecost: Please wear Red**

8:00 am H.E. Rite I, Stone Church

9:00 am Sunday School/Adult Education

10:15 am H.E. Rite II, Holy Cross Hall

3:00 pm Confirmation Service

(Cathedral of the Incarnation)

#### May 26

##### **First Sunday after Pentecost**

##### **Trinity Sunday**

8:00 am H.E. Rite I, Stone Church

9:00 am Sunday School

10:15 am H.E. Rite II, Holy Cross Hall



### Confirmation

#### **On The Day of Pentecost, May 19, at 3:00 pm**

Adelaide McIntyre, Kadaj Myers, and Noah Ketterman will be confirmed by The Right Rev.

Carrie Schofield-Broadbent, Bishop of Maryland, at the Cathedral of the Incarnation in Baltimore. We rejoice with and for them.

We will welcome them officially as adults confirmed members of Ascension on Sunday, May 26.

*Strengthen, O Lord, your servants with your Holy Spirit; empower them for your service; and sustain them all the days of their lives Amen. (From the BCP)*

### Baptisms

On Sunday April 14, I had the joy of baptizing Noah Adam Ketterman, a faithful member of Ascension, and baby Cheyanne Nicole Lancaster, whose family has ties with Ascension. Felicitations to Noah and Cheyanne! We rejoice with them and their families.



### United Thank Offering

**Please return your thank offering box by Sunday, May 5, when the boxes will be blessed.** One hundred percent of all thank offerings support innovative mission and ministry in the Episcopal Church and Anglican Communion.

#### Notice.

Notice the good things that happen each day.

#### Make.

Make an offering for each blessing. (Drop coins in the box.)

#### Give.

Give thanks to God for your blessings.

#### Bless.

Your blessing becomes a blessing for others.



### Please wear RED on The Day of Pentecost: May 19



We know that on the first Pentecost the disciples were able to speak in other languages. What if we could say The Lord's Prayer in the various languages spoken by our congregation? It can be a meaningful experience. At Ascension, there is also the tradition of reading a part of the Acts 2 scripture reading in various languages. So, we need your help!

**Please contact Fr. Pierre-Henry or Parish Administrator, Ann Fariss, to let us know what other language(s) you speak so we can print The Lord's Prayer in these languages and let us know if you are willing to read part of Acts 2 in another language either at 8:00 am or 10:15 am on Sunday, May 19, The Day of Pentecost.**



<b>Worship Assistants: May 2024</b>					
<b>Altar Guild: Team 2</b>					
	<b>Usher(s)</b>	<b>Lector</b>	<b>Acolyte</b>	<b>Chalicians</b>	<b>Worship Slides</b>
<b>May 5</b> 8:00 am	Don & Janice Hobart	Cheryl Vecera	Bill Sears		
<b>May 5</b> 10:15 am	1. 2.	Olivia Carpenter		1. Jill Horn 2. 3. 4.	Lynn Lyon- Vaiden
<b>May 12</b> 8:00 am	Don & Janice Hobart	Roberta Wilhelm	David Kreider		
<b>May 12</b> 10:15 am	1. David Horn 2.	Jim Fariss		1. Jim Fariss 2. 3. 4.	Jill Horn
<b>May 19</b> 8:00 am	Don & Janice Hobart	Donna Hansen	Beverly Baker		
<b>May 19</b> 10:15 am	1. 2.	Jill Horn		1. 2. 3. 4.	Beth Anthony
<b>May 26</b> 8:00 am	Beverly Baker	Roberta Wilhelm			
<b>May 26</b> 10:15 am	1. David Horn 2.	Buck Lyon-Vaiden		1. Jill Horn 2. 3. 4.	



## COMMUNITY SERVICE OF PRAYER FOR PEACE

Join us at Westminster UMC for this  
community prayer service.

THURSDAY, MAY 2, 7pm



## ***What is Realm?***

Realm is the new church software that will be used for the church's database and finances. In addition, Realm will eventually be used for communication, scheduling, and more. We will let you know as the various tools included in Realm are implemented.

**Beginning on May 1, 2024, the church's accounting will be live on Realm, allowing the Treasurer and the Vestry to manage our finances more efficiently.**

**From now on, all checks must be payable to Church of the Ascension, and on the memo line please indicate the purpose:** Pledge, Buildings and Grounds, Mistletoe Mart, Altar Guild, and so on. In Realm, donations will be clearly identified by their funds. For instance if you write a check payable to the Outreach Committee, it will be marked as restricted for Outreach.

**You will soon receive an invitation to create your Realm account** where you will be able to access your personal information, your donations, a church directory, and more as the various options are implemented. Realm will eventually be our main communication, scheduling and registration tool.

Realm will be implemented step by step. Information and training for this user-friendly system will be provided. Look for additional information and updates about Realm in the weeks and months to come!

*Pierre-Henry+*



**Spring Clean Up:**  
**Saturday, May 4**  
**9:00 am – 12:00 pm**

**On Saturday, May 4, 9:00am - 12:00pm**, the Buildings and Grounds Committee needs help with light bush trimming, weeding and sprucing up our grounds. We will supply gardening tools; bring your gardening gloves. **No experience necessary.** (Rain Date: May 11)

CHILDREN AND YOUTH MINISTRIES WILL HOST A  
**MOTHER'S DAY BREAKFAST FUNDRAISER.**

**9:00 AM ON MOTHER'S DAY, MAY 12**

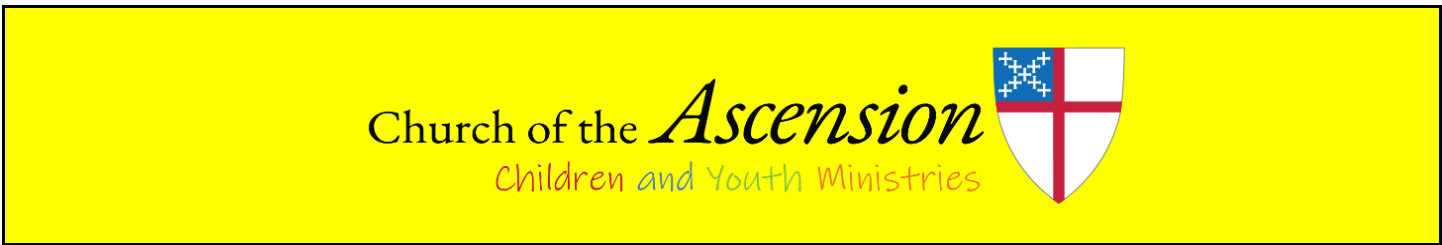
IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL.

**EVERYONE IS INVITED AND ENCOURAGED  
TO BRING A FRIEND.**



THIS EVENT IS FREE. DURING THE BREAKFAST,  
DONATIONS WILL BE COLLECTED TO SUPPORT  
ASCENSION'S **FREE SUMMER PROGRAMS**. OUR GOAL  
IS TO RAISE \$3,000 AT THIS EVENT.

**Click on the image to RSVP by Sunday, May 5.**



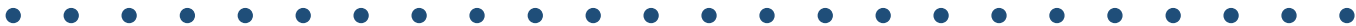
[youth@ascension-westminster.com](mailto:youth@ascension-westminster.com)

**Last Day of Sunday School: Sunday, May 26.**



**Youth Sunday**

**Sunday, May 5 will be Youth Sunday during the 10:15 am service!** The children and youth are invited to be active participants in the liturgy. The Children's Choir will sing. If your child is interested in ushering, reading, being an acolyte, singing or anything else, please let us know.



*Click on the image for schedule and registration information.*



**Volunteers are needed for Vacation Bible School**

**June 17 -June 21 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm**

For additional information: [youth@ascension-westminster.com](mailto:youth@ascension-westminster.com)



**Join us at Baugher's Orchard & Farm at 12:30pm on May 19** where we will celebrate the end of the school year. **Pack a Lunch.**

Please send a message to [youth@ascension-westminster.com](mailto:youth@ascension-westminster.com) to let us know that you plan to attend.



**On Memorial Day, May 27,** join us at **10:00 am**, at the Ascension parking lot for Westminster's Annual Memorial Day Parade. We will walk to the parade route together.





### Themed Potluck Lunch

The Fellowship Committee is hosting potluck themed lunches every **third Friday of the month at 12:00pm!** Join us for a fun time of food and community! Show off your cooking skills with a different theme each month. Plates, flatware, etc. will be provided.

Date	Theme	Description
May 17	Breakfast for Lunch	Bring anything you would eat for breakfast.

Please call the Church Office to RSVP.



### Church Picnic: June 2 at 12:00 pm

Join us in celebrating our Confirmands and our graduates! We are so proud of all their hand work!

Please bring a dish to share. Fried Chicken will be provided. A mobile ice cream truck from The Cow will visit our picnic!

Click on the image to RSVP by Sunday, May 26.

# Mistletoe Mart

The Mistletoe Mart Committee is busy planning for **Mistletoe Mart #50 which will take place in 7 months on November 7-9, 2024.**

We are currently on track to have 50 specialty shops for our 50th anniversary! Vendor jurying is now complete, and the remaining vendor contracts have been issued. Our beautiful postcards are on order and due in May. New pictures have been added to [the Mistletoe Mart website](#). Menus are being reviewed. We are having fun reminiscing as we look through past invitations, pour through photos and fondly remember dear friends since our first Mistletoe Mart in 1974.

**Please be sure to mark your calendar** and begin to think about how you would like to be part of this year's exciting activities!

Mistletoe Mart Co-Chairs

*Jenny Beeker, Donna Hansen, Kim Tompkins*



**Spring 2025**

Beginning in spring 2025, *Noah* will be performed at Sight and Sound Theater, Lancaster PA. **Tickets go on sale on May 1, 2024 and will be ordered between May 1 and May 15** because tickets for daytime, Saturday shows will be the first to sell out.

**Don't miss the boat!** Please click on the image to complete the **Interest Survey** if you are interested in buying one or more tickets to this show. After your completed survey is received, additional details will be shared.

## Adult Education

**Tuesday Morning Bible Study:** Our current topic is **The Sermon on the Mount**. We will meet on **May 7 and May 21** from 9:30 am - 11:00 am in Room 202. Please contact Bill Sears for questions or additional information.



**Sunday morning Bible Study meets on Sunday morning at 9:00 a.m.** in the Fellowship Hall. The subject is the Gospel of Mark. We are doing a chapter-by-chapter assessment and discussion. **Please note that this class will not meet on May 12 and May 26.**

## Book Club

**May 29 at 12:00 pm:** Our May selection is *Never Let Me Go* by Kazuo Ishiguro. Written in 2005, it is set in an alternative dystopian version of Great Britain in the 1990s in which cloning technology allows for the mass proliferation of organ donation. **Join us on Wednesday, May 29th, at noon** in the Guild Room to discuss this unique novel.

Do you have a book suggestion? Please contact Cheryl Vecera.

## The 1844 Shoppe: May Days!



## The 1844 Shoppe: Updated Hours

**The 1844 Shoppe will be open on Saturdays from 9am-3pm beginning May 4.**

Friday hours will not change:  
10am – 1pm.



**VESTRY MINUTES - Tuesday, April 16, 2024 6:30 P.M. in the Guild Room**

1. Opening:
  - a. The meeting began at 6:32 pm.
    - i. Those Present: Fr. Pierre-Henry, Donna Hansen, Gary Lang, ~~Luke Gore, Jennie Grabill, Deb Howard~~, Rick Reinders, Beverly Baker, Liz Lowe, ~~Joe Parker~~, Roberta Wilhelm, Beth Anthony, Diana Baker, Carrie Goff, Kim Tompkins.
  - b. Prayer: Fr. Pierre-Henry
  - c. Note: Kim Tompkins filled in as Registrar for this Vestry Meeting while Jackie Weschler is on maternity leave. She has a master copy of all documents for Jackie upon her return.
2. Approval of Consent Agenda:
  - a. Vestry Meeting Minutes (February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024), Vestry Resolutions (February), Vestry Notes (March 12, 2024), 2024 Lawn Care Contract Documentation, Ascension By-Laws (February 12, 2023).
    - i. Motion Approved: Rick Reinders motioned to accept. Beverly Baker seconded. All in favor.
  - b. Finance Committee Monthly Financial Reports (January – March, 2024) dated 4/8/2024:
    - i. Vestry must review & accept the Financial Reports on a monthly basis.
      1. Motion Approved: Roberta Wilhelm motioned to accept. Beverly Baker seconded. All in favor.
3. Old Business:
  - a. Employee Retention Credit (ERC) update:
    - i. The \$ 21,864.94 credit is expected to be received within the next couple months.
      1. Rick explained the credit will most likely be sent to Ascension in four partial payments throughout the year.
  - b. Audit for 2023 update:
    - i. Audit is in process between Jim Jordan, Debbie Bargar and Nancy Starner.
      1. Update is pending.
  - c. Offertory Counting Teams update:
    - i. Donna Hansen and Beverly Baker are the current counting team until the 2023 Audit is complete and best practices are identified and implemented. Debbie Bargar is backup.
      1. Current process is going well.
      2. Process improvement is pending based upon audit and Realm system implementation.
      3. Once continuous improvement processes are implemented, new counting teams will also be trained.
  - d. Middendorf Loan update:
    - i. Documentation requested for Vestry education and update (handout).
    - ii. Action: Father Pierre-Henry will obtain summary document and send to the vestry.
      1. Action for May Meeting: Discuss method to communicate the current status to the congregation.
  - e. Confirm Ascension Mission Statement which reflects our ministries:
    - i. Motion Approved: Proposal attached for **Connect, Grow, Serve**.
      1. Diana Baker motioned to accept. Rick Reinders seconded. All in favor.
  - f. Select Vestry Liaisons which reflect Ascension's mission statement:
    - i. Updated document organized by Connect, Grow and Serve attached for review.
    - ii. Motion Request for May: Need to assign the Vestry Liaisons by category.
      1. Action for May Meeting: Liaison assignment in process. Will continue to address at May vestry meeting to address the remaining gaps.
      2. Action for May Meeting: Fr. Pierre-Henry will clearly define the vestry liaison role. The major goal is to facilitate communication between the vestry and committee chair.
      3. Note: Liaisons identified at today's meeting can begin to contact their committees.
  - g. 1844 Shoppe update:
    - i. Conversations continue to take place regarding extending shop hours by day.
    - ii. Action: Donna Hansen will work with the 1844 Shoppe to enhance the communication to congregation, including requesting additional volunteers.
  - h. Boy Scout items stored in the 30 N. Court Street Shed and under the Fellowship Hall stairs update:
    - i. Action: Carrie Goff reported that Robin Goff will:
      1. Clear out the Fellowship Hall area during the week of April 15.
      2. Invite other BSA members to review what is in the shed during April & May.
      3. Research the older Pinewood Derby racetrack options with other BSA members during April & May.
    - i. Purchase and Install a Camera for the Nursery update:
      - i. Action: Jackie Weschler is researching options.
4. New Business:
  - a. Expenditure Approval Process - Current Guidelines:
 

*It is understood best practices are being researched and policies may be updated in the future.*

    - i. Action: Vestry Liaisons can begin to communicate this current process to committee chairs.
  - b. Finance Committee - Current Role:
    - i. The Vestry has the ultimate responsibility for the finances of Ascension. The Finance Committee is to assist with generating and maintaining the church funds and aid with financial decision making. It is an advisory role and provides factual data to the Vestry.

- ii. Finance Committee Purpose/Scope:
    - 1. Create annual church budget.
    - 2. Allocation of funds.
    - 3. Oversee the financial reporting to vestry, rector, church groups and congregation.
    - 4. Provide updates on financial health of Ascension.
    - 5. Ensure financial controls are in place and being followed.
  - c. Buildings & Grounds - Upcoming Projects for the Middendorf Loan monies:
    - i. Motion Approved: Buildings & Grounds and Vestry agree to the prioritization sequence for upcoming projects:
      - 1. Beverly Baker motioned to accept. Beth Anthony seconded. All in favor.
        - a. Rectory boiler replacement (estimate \$ 24,000).
        - b. Gutter and downspout repairs (estimate \$ 6,000).
        - c. Brick work repairs and repointing (estimate \$ 2,500).
      - 2. Defer signage to a future timeframe. Perhaps the diocese has options.
        - a. Signage (estimate \$ 6,000).
          - i. Action: Fr. Pierre-Henry will contact the diocese to research if any funding options exist.
  - d. Contract Review Committee Status (Beth Anthony, Diana Baker, Kim Tompkins):
    - i. Provide status update to review existing service contracts in order to develop a spreadsheet outlining current contract renewal dates.
    - ii. As a result, the impacted committee can review the business situation, new quotes can be requested and a new contract can be reviewed and submitted for approval before the existing contract either expires or is automatically renewed.
    - iii. Action: Beth Anthony has begun to review open contracts and is beginning to review timeframes. Working with Office and B&G to obtain any missing contracts. Will also explore subscriptions. Beth will request support and assistance as needed.
  - e. 2024 Budget Review Status (Fr. Pierre-Henry):
    - i. Status update for the 2024 annual budget was provided at the meeting (handout).
    - ii. Fr. Pierre-Henry played a video from an Episcopal church in Texas regarding various reasons for church budget deficits and options they explored to address.
  - f. 2024 Children & Youth Summer Program:
    - i. Schedule was provided at meeting for Vestry informational purposes (handout).
  - g. Buildings & Grounds Fire Alarm and Sprinkler System:
    - i. Roberta Wilhelm handed out a Fire Alarm and Sprinkler System document.
    - ii. Vestry members are invited and encouraged to contact the Buildings & Ground committee to review in more detail or to request a tour.
5. Leadership Reports:
- a. Rector (Fr. Pierre-Henry)
    - i. None for this month due to Lent, Holy Week, and Easter schedules, followed by vacation.
  - b. Senior Warden (Donna-Hansen)
    - i. None for this month.
  - c. Jr. Warden (Gary Lang)
    - i. Topics already part of agenda (Boy Scout items, prioritization for upcoming Middendorf Loan projects).
6. Closing Prayer: Lord's Prayer by Donna Hansen.
7. Adjournment:
- a. 4/16/2024, Guild Room.
  - b. Motion to adjourn the meeting was made at 8:14 pm.  
Diana Baker motioned to accept. Carrie Goff seconded. All in favor.

**Parish Officers and Vestry**

The Reverend Pierre-Henry Buisson, *Rector & President*  
 Donna Hansen, *Senior Warden*  
 Gary Lang, *Junior Warden*  
 Jackie Weschler, *Registrar*  
 Nancy Starner, *Treasurer*  
 Rick Reinders, *Assistant Treasurer*

**Until 2025**  
 Luke Gore  
 Jennie Grabill  
 Deb Howard  
 Rick Reinders

**Until 2026**  
 Beverly Baker  
 Liz Lowe  
 Joe Parker  
 Roberta Wilhelm

**Until 2027**  
 Beth Anthony  
 Diana Baker  
 Carrie Goff  
 Kim Tompkins

# *Chamber Music on the Hill*

*Presents*

## *The Atlantic Guitar Quartet*

*Saturday, May 11, 2024, 7 P.M.*

*Scott Center, Carroll Community College*

*Mark Edwards  
James Keretses  
Matthew Slotkin  
Zoë Johnstone  
Stewart*



The Atlantic Guitar Quartet presents an elegant array of chamber pieces, a journey through musical history that invites us to pause and contemplate along the way. Strains of melancholy and joy ripple between four classical guitars as these masterful musicians fuse life and art in a dazzling display of the variety and virtuosity of an underappreciated musical genre. Bring the family for a unique evening of music you don't want to miss!

**Tickets:** \$15 general admission; \$10 Seniors 60+ and Military;  
Tickets online & at the door; ALL students of all ages admitted FREE.



**Facebook/CMOTH**



CMOTH is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization devoted to performing excellent chamber music in all its diversity and to nurturing the musical interests of our young people.

Funded in part by a *Community Arts Development Grant* and a *Community Accessibility Project Grant*, both from the **Carroll County Arts Council** and the **Maryland State Arts Council**.



Click on the Image to make a reservation.

Buy 50/50 raffle tickets from Buck Lyon-Vaiden, Kat Dittrich or Donna Hansen.

## JOIN US FOR DREAMBUILDERS' SPRING FUNDRAISER



**What:** Happy hour and/or dinner

**Where:** Bushel And A Peck  
12250 Clarksville Pike Ste. H  
Clarksville, MD 21029

**When:** Wednesday, May 15th  
Happy hour: 4 PM- 9 pm  
Live Music  
Dinner: 4 Pm- 9 pm

A portion of the proceeds from your meals and drinks goes directly toward funding the materials to build three homes in Hazard, Kentucky.

Due to limited capacity, if you are interested in dinner, please make a reservation on the Bushel and a Peck webpage:

<https://www.bushelandapeck.com/reservations>

or call Bushel and a Peck at 410.531.1809.



If you are unable to attend you can still support Dreambuilders by purchasing 50/50 raffles tickets \$5 each or 5 for \$20. Or, use this QR code or go to [www.DreamBuildersMD.org](http://www.DreamBuildersMD.org) and click "donate".

To register for May 21 and May 22: Please email [jaklinger@comcast.net](mailto:jaklinger@comcast.net).



## YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID

### LEARN HOW TO SUPPORT THE YOUNG PEOPLE IN YOUR LIFE

Youth Mental Health First Aid teaches you how to identify, understand and respond to signs of mental health and substance use challenges among adolescents ages 12-18. You'll build skills and confidence you need to reach out and provide initial support to young people who are struggling. You'll also learn how to help connect them to appropriate support.

### AFTER THE COURSE, YOU'LL BE ABLE TO:

- Recognize common signs and symptoms of mental health challenges, including anxiety, depression, eating disorders and attention deficit hyperactive disorder (ADHD).
- Recognize common signs and symptoms of substance use challenges.
- Understand how to interact with a young person in crisis.
- Know how to connect a young person with help.
- Better understand trauma, substance use, self-care and the impact of social media and bullying.


Join the more than

**2.6** MILLION

*First Aiders who have chosen to be the difference in their community.*

### REGISTER TODAY!

#### Delivery Format:

An in person course valued at \$170.00, at no charge, sponsored by Church of the Ascension, Westminster, MD. Material cost only: \$50.00 Seating is limited. 

#### Date and Time:

May 21 and 22. 6:00 pm-9:15 pm Feel free to bring sandwich/snack

#### Location:

Church of the Ascension, 23 N Court St, Westminster MD 21157

#### Where to Register:

Please email [jaklinger@comcast.net](mailto:jaklinger@comcast.net) You will be sent a link to register

Learn how to respond with the Mental Health First Aid Action Plan (**ALGEE**):

- A**ssess for risk of suicide or harm.
- L**isten nonjudgmentally.
- G**ive reassurance and information.
- E**ncourage appropriate professional help.
- E**ncourage self-help and other support strategies.

For more information, visit [MHFA.org](http://MHFA.org)



## Thank You Notes

**Thank you for the amazing surprise birthday party on April 6.** Thank you to those who organized and participated in any way to make the event memorable. Thank you for the many cards and gifts received. Many asked me if I was really surprised. Yes! I had absolutely no clue about the party. I was dumbfounded when I opened the door of the Fellowship Hall, so much that I took a step backward after opening the door. It was an amazing party, filled with joy, fun, and love. Thank you all!



**Thank you one and all for the incredible turn out for Outreach's Candy fundraiser.** The donations were fantastic and decadent; thank you candy makers. The folks who turned out with smiles, support and purchasing power, thank you. The money raised will help Outreach continue it's financial support of many community programs such as (but not limited to): Shepherd's Staff, Carroll County Food Sunday, Upper Room, Access Carroll, New Life for Girls, and Family Friends. Thank you once again- Outreach Committee.

**Thank you to everyone who donated eggs, candy or money to support the Easter Egg Hunt!** We hid about 400 eggs, including eggs donated by Texas Roadhouse. Thanks for making this event amazing!  
Carrie Goff





*Upcoming Events and Opportunities*

MAY

<b>Buildings and Grounds Spring Clean Up</b>	<b>May 4</b>
<b>Return United Thank Offering Boxes</b>	<b>May 5</b>
<b>Mother's Day Breakfast: RSVP by May 5</b>	<b>May 12</b>
<b>DreamBuilders Fundraiser</b>	<b>May 15</b>
<b>Themed Potluck Lunch</b>	<b>May 17</b>
<b>The Day of Pentecost: <i>Please wear Red</i></b>	<b>May 19</b>
<b>Strawberry Picking at Baugher's Orchard</b>	<b>May 19</b>
<b>Confirmation at Cathedral of the Incarnation</b>	<b>May 19</b>
<b>Outreach Committee: Mental Health First Aid</b>	<b>May 21 &amp; May 22</b>
<b>Last Day of Sunday School</b>	<b>May 26</b>
<b>Memorial Day Parade</b>	<b>May 27</b>

JUNE

<b>Annual Church Picnic: RSVP by May 26</b>	<b>June 2</b>
<b>Vacation Bible School</b>	<b>June 17 – June 21</b>



**Coffee Hour volunteers are needed.** Please contact the Church Office with the date that you or your group are able to host. (office@ascension-westminster.com)

**May 5:** Emilia Howe  
**May 12:** Fellowship

**May 19:** Available  
**May 26:** Available

**Church Staff**

Rev. Pierre-Henry Buisson	Rector
Ann Fariss	Parish Administrator
Lynn Lyon-Vaiden	Communications Associate/Handbell Choir Director
Mary Butler	Organist/Adult Ensemble Director
Donna Parker	Organist/Praise Ensemble and Children's Choir Director
Reagan Dunn	Digital Ministry Associate
Suzanne Walter	Nursery Attendant



### ***Shepherd's Staff Blessings Closet***

**During May**, donations of non-food items for Shepherd's Staff to assist individuals and families in Carroll County who cannot afford to purchase everyday necessities will be accepted. Items in the adjacent columns are needed. Please place your donations in the containers provided at the entrance of the Stone Church and the Holy Cross Hall.

#### **\*\* High need items**

All Purpose Cleaner**	Incontinence Briefs
Baby Diapers - all sizes	Men's Disposable Razors
Bar Soap	Paper Towels**
Deodorant	Shampoo**
Disinfecting Wipes/Spray	Toilet Paper**
Dish Soap**	Toothpaste**
Disposable Gloves	Toothbrushes**
Feminine Hygiene	Ziploc Bags - all sizes
Hand Sanitizer	

## **Church of the Ascension**

**23 North Court Street  
Westminster, MD 21157**