

Church of the *Ascension*

Connect. Grow. Serve.



23 North Court Street
Westminster, MD 21157
410-848-3251
churchoftheascension@gmail.com

ascension-westminster.com

Ascension Extension | July 2023

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

Thank you for the many birthday remembrances marking my 75th year on June 29! I so appreciated all the cards, notes and thoughtful gifts, and I was delighted with the surprise singing of "Happy Birthday" in Church on June 25. Ascension is such a caring congregation, and I love you all!
-- In Christ, Fr. Allan+

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"Episcopal Youth Event" (E-Y-E) is set for **July 4-7** on the nearby campus of the University of Maryland, College Park. Held once every three years, E-Y-E is a gathering of young people ages 15-19 from across the nation and around the world. Together with chaperones and some Bishops and other Clergy, attendance totals around 1500 persons. This year's theme is a bilingual one – *Regresso A Casa: A New Age of Faith*. In a summer camp-like atmosphere, young people are helped in developing leadership skills, spiritual practices and early stages of vocational discernment. Several young people from our own Diocese of Maryland plan to attend. More details are at: [Episcopal Youth Event \(episcopalchurch.org\)](http://episcopalchurch.org)

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Our Diocese hosts "It's All About Love" July 9-12 at the Baltimore Convention Center. Dubbed as a "Festival for the Jesus Movement," this national event features three evenings of revival-style worship services, with a Closing Eucharist on Wednesday morning. Presiding Bishop Michael Curry will be the first to preach on Sunday night, July 9, at 7:00 p.m. All four services are free and open to all. A \$125 fee is charged for the three days of numerous workshops and meals. For more information, please click here: <https://allaboutlove.sched.com>.

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August Ascension Extension

Please share articles and information to be included by
Friday, July 21
ascensioncommunication@gmail.com

Church Office Hours

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

Confirmation 2023

We salute our 5 **confirmands** who were prepared and presented by Fr. Allan to Bishop Sutton at a special 3:00 p.m. Confirmation Service held on **June 11** at the Cathedral of the Incarnation, Baltimore. Our five were **James Anthony, Calvin Burnett, Alex Corns, James Corns and Maddox Shuman.**



Ascension was one of seven Parishes presenting over 40 Confirmands to our Bishop! In addition, our own Ann Fariss was Lector for the service, Kat Dittrich (who "audited" this year's class) carried our Ascension Banner in the procession, and Jim Fariss took some wonderful photos and a video, which are on our Facebook page. We are proud of all these persons, and again we congratulate and wish God's blessings to our Confirmands!



A Celebration of Holy Baptism: On Tuesday afternoon, **June 20**, I was privileged, as your Interim Rector, to celebrate Holy Baptism for **James Ian MacKenzie** on this little fellow's first Birthday! James is the young son of parishioners Stephanie Parker and Jarod MacKenzie, whose Marriage I was delighted to celebrate in December 2021. Our newly-Baptized is the grandson of parishioners Donna and Joe Parker, and Jackie and Kevin Weschler are the proud Godparents.



A nice delegation of family and friends attended the 4:00 p.m. service, held in the Stone Church. Congratulations and God's abundant blessings to our newest Christian and all his family and friends!

Fr. Allan's Office Hours

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday
Day Off: Monday
except in times of pastoral need or emergency

email: revfaweatherholt@aol.com
phone: 301-491-6888

July Worship

July 2

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

8:00 am H.E. Rite I, Stone Church
9:00 am Adult Education
10:15 am H.E. Rite II, Holy Cross Hall

July 9

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

8:00 am H.E. Rite I, Stone Church
9:00 am Adult Education
10:15 am H.E. Rite II, Holy Cross Hall

July 16

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

8:00 am H.E. Rite I, Stone Church
9:00 am Adult Education
10:15 am H.E. Rite II, Holy Cross Hall

July 23

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

8:00 am H.E. Rite I, Stone Church
9:00 am Adult Education
10:15 am H.E. Rite II, Holy Cross Hall

July 30

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

8:00 am H.E. Rite I, Stone Church
9:00 am Adult Education
10:15 am H.E. Rite II, Holy Cross Hall

New Rector!

Hallelujah!

After fifteen months of diligent work by our Discernment Committee, the Vestry is excited to announce that a new Rector has been Called to Church of the Ascension.

After being recommended to the Vestry by the Discernment Committee, **the Reverend Pierre-Henry Buisson** was chosen by the Vestry at the June meeting and approved by The Right Rev. Eugene Taylor Sutton, Bishop of Maryland, last week.

The Reverend Buisson was ordained in 1989 and has served parishes in Maryland, Arizona and Virginia. Pierre-Henry and his wife, Sophie, are moving from a parish in Virginia and are both thrilled to be joining our parish and eager to live in our historic rectory. **Pierre-Henry will begin his ministry with us in mid-August.**

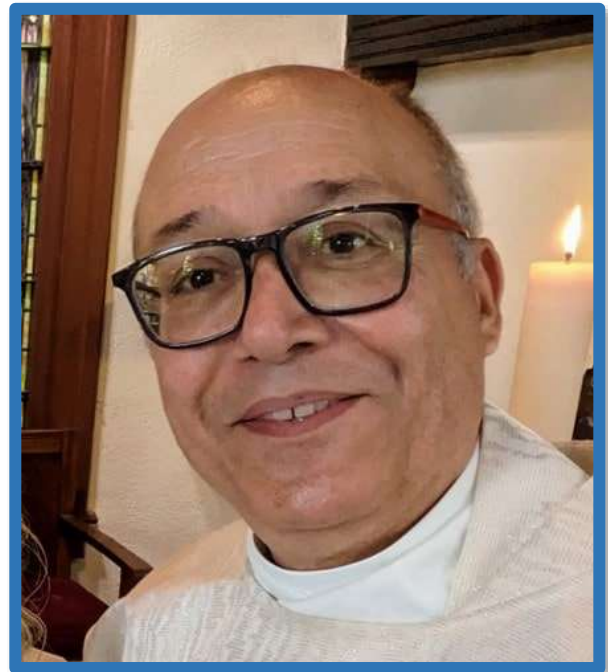
As the Discernment Committee has reported all along, they felt the presence and guidance of the Holy Spirit throughout this process, and this was particularly strong when first meeting Pierre-Henry. We are confident you will find them both charming, genuine and engaging.

His references describe him as fervent in his desire to bring people closer to God, a person passionate about his love of God. We look forward to sharing more information with you in the coming weeks.

The Vestry extends sincere gratitude to the Discernment Committee, Ellen Anderson and Helen Lang, Co-Chairs and Susan Considine, Donna Hansen, Melissa Leahy, Buck Lyon-Vaiden, and Rick Reinders for their dedication and commitment to this journey.

Some reflections from the Discernment Committee about Rev. Pierre-Henry Buisson:

- He is compassionate and a good listener; humble and genuine with a good sense of humor.
- He is energetic and is incredibly enthusiastic.
- He is very excited about growing our church and is pleased we have strong lay leadership.
- He is very supportive and engaged in youth ministries and says it's a priority for him.
- There is a warmth and kindness that resonates from his sermons.
- Pastoral care is also a priority for him, and he has the gift of a caring ear.
- I found him to be honest, humble, a person of deep faith, very approachable, and a good listener with a fine sense of humor.
- He is charming, as is his wife, Sophie.



Meet Our New Rector: The Rev. Pierre-Henry Buisson

A native of Rochefort, France, the Rev. Pierre-Henry Buisson first followed his childhood dream and enlisted in the French Army in 1979. He served in the Army for five years and resigned to become a Roman Catholic seminarian. He became an ordained priest and served parishes in France where a significant amount of his ministry involved working with children and youth. And along came Sophie! He resigned his position and immediately proposed.

In 2000, Pierre-Henry was received into the Episcopal Church in France where he served as a Lay Pastoral Leader and later, a Priest-in-Charge of a mission church in Bordeaux. At the invitation of his Bishop, he, Sophie and their three children moved to Alexandria, VA where he earned his Master's Degree in Divinity at Virginia Theological Seminary in 2010. Upon completing his degree, he was called to serve as Assistant Rector and Chaplain of the school at St. Martin's in the Field in Severna Park, MD. From Maryland they moved to Arizona where he was called to be Rector at St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Prescott, where he served for seven years. He accepted a call to be rector at Emmanuel Episcopal Church in Delaplane, VA in 2021. He was honored when asked by the Bishop of Virginia to serve as the Dean of the Piedmont Region.

Sophie and Pierre-Henry have three adult children, Raphael, Pauline, and Clement. They enjoy hiking and exploring new outdoor spaces. Pierre-Henry plays the guitar, the Native American flute and loves to read and garden.

They are thrilled to be coming to Ascension!

The Vestry		
Vestry/Officers	Term Ends	Ministry Liaison
Rev. Allan Weatherholt		Interim Rector
Donna Hansen, Sr. Warden	2024	Finance/Mistletoe Mart
Joe Parker, Jr. Warden	2026	Buildings and Grounds
Nancy Starner, Treasurer	2024	Finance
Jackie Weschler, Registrar	2024	Fellowship/Children & Youth
Jill Horn	2024	Outreach/Altar Guild
Katie Corbin	2024	Children & Youth
Carrie Goff	2024	Children & Youth/Altar Guild
Jennie Grabill	2025	Outreach/Altar Guild
Luke Gore	2025	Buildings and Grounds
Deb Howard	2025	Outreach/Children & Youth
Rick Reinders	2025	Finance and Memorials
Beverly Baker	2026	St. Martha's Guild/Mistletoe Mart
Liz Lowe	2026	St. Martha's Guild/St. James Guild/Altar Guild
Roberta Wilhelm	2026	Buildings and Grounds

Worship Assistants: July 2023					
	Usher(s)	Lector	Acolyte(s)	Chalichists	Worship Slides
July 2 8:00 am	Donald & Janice Hobart	Donna Hansen	David Kreider		
July 2 10:15 am	1. David Horn 2. Ron Cox	Kevin McIntyre	1. Kaelyn Goff 2. Reilly Goff 3.	1. Bobbie Gooding 2. John Holbert 3. Sandy White 4. Kevin McIntyre	Jill Horn
July 9 8:00 am	Beverly Baker		Charlie Aler		
July 9 10:15 am	1. Ron Cox 2. Bryan Lance	Buck Lyon-Vaiden	1. 2. 3.	1. John Holbert 2. Helen Lang 3. 4.	Jeanne Cox
July 16 8:00 am	Beverly Baker	David Kreider			
July 16 10:15 am	1. Bryan Lance 2. Mark Howe	Bobbie Gooding	1. 2. 3.	1. Bobbie Gooding 2. John Holbert 3. Ellen Anderson 4.	Roberta Gore
July 23 8:00 am	Donald & Janice Hobart	Roberta Wilhelm	Charlie Aler		
July 23 10:15 am	1. Bryan Lance 2.		1. 2. 3.	1. John Holbert 2. 3. 4.	
July 30 8:00 am	Deb Howard	Donna Hansen	David Kreider		
July 30 10:15 am	1. Ellen Anderson 2. David Anderson	Liz Lowe	1. 2. 3.	1. 2. 3. 4.	

Coffee Hour Volunteers: Thank You!!

July 2	St. James' Guild	August 13	Buildings and Grounds Cmte.
July 9	Praise Ensemble	August 20	St. Martha's Guild
July 16	Ascension Staff and Volunteers	August 27	Memorials Committee
July 23	Thursday Night Bible Study	September 3	Altar Guild
July 30	Pins and Needles	September 10	Children & Youth Committee
August 6	Outreach Committee	September 17	Mistletoe Mart
		September 24	Vestry

1844 Shoppe

The 1844 Shoppe will celebrate Independence Day throughout the month of July by offering **25% off items that are Red, White, or Blue AND BOGO (buy one get one free of equal or lesser value) on Jewelry that is Red, White or Blue.** We still have a selection of **books** that are **free**, too.

Book Club

On **Wednesday, July 26th**, the Book Club will review *The Devil in the White City* by Erik Larson, the story of Chicago in the late 1800s and how it had a chance to rise above terrible crime and social unrest when it won the bid to host the World's Fair but instead ended up contributing to the creation of the world's first known serial killer.

All are welcome to join us at 12:00 pm in the Guild Room.

Please send book suggestions to
Cheryl Vecera.
(cherylvecera@gmail.com)

Our August book: *The Old Man and the Sea* by Ernest Hemingway.

St. Martha's Guild: Year In Review (continued)

- We enjoyed providing fun for the children at the **Parish Christmas Party** with lots of little toys after 'spinning the wheel' repeatedly!
- In January, we were honored to work with the Buildings and Grounds Committee to provide a lovely **reception for Bill Sears** as he stepped down from the leadership of the Building and Grounds Committee.
- In February, we introduced our one and only outreach program, the **United Thank Offering**, and held another successful **Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper**. We are always so grateful for such wonderful parish participation in this event.
- In March, we helped provide some of the **Confirmation Class lunches** for our confirmands.
- In April, we held a lovely **reception after the Evensong service**.

Other than holding receptions when needed, our purpose is to provide financial help in religious endeavors. **This year, we gladly helped Luke Gore and Maddox Shuman finance their June DreamBuilders trip.** After completing our year with a delicious dinner out together, we look forward to hearing God's call to serve however needed at our Rector's request.

Our officers for 2023-2024 will be:

President: Betsy Reinders

Co Vice Presidents:

Melissa Leahy and Beverly Baker

Secretary: Nancy Starner
and

Treasurer: Sharon Schwartz

Thank you for all of your support this past year! Please note: if you are interested in joining St. Martha's Guild, we welcome new members!

St. Martha's Guild: Year In Review

St. Martha's Guild is ready for a summer break after a busy year.

- We welcomed **new members** this year: Melissa Leahy, Nancy Starner, Cathy Tibbs, Beverly Baker and Kat Dittrich.
- We distributed our annual **Thanksgiving and Christmas gift cards** to needy families.

Adult Education

'Episcopal 101' is our summer Adult Education class with Fr. Allan. This is a light-hearted course on some basics of the Episcopal Church. The class includes information which even "seasoned" Episcopalians may not know! **We meet weekly at 9:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.** Coffee and doughnuts are included, and all are welcome!



Tuesday Morning Bible Study will meet on July 11 and July 18 to continue their study of the Revelation to John.

Meetings are in Room 202 from 9:30 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. Please contact Bill Sears (redrock2@verizon.net) for questions or additional information.



Thursday Night Bible Study: Radical Acts

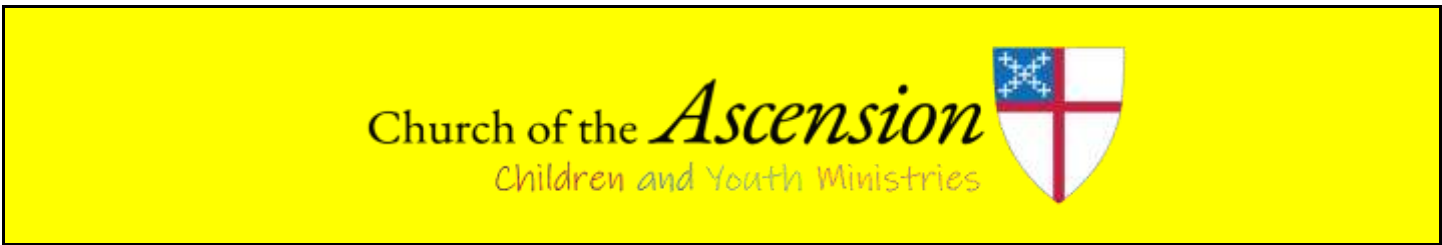
A five-week study of Acts 1 – 12 will continue through July 27 on Thursday Nights at 7:00 pm.

(In-Person and via Zoom)

We look forward to providing **Coffee Hour on Sunday, July 23!**



Church Staff	
Rev. F. Allan Weatherholt, Jr.	Interim Rector
Ann Fariss	Parish Administrator
Lynn Lyon-Vaiden	Communications Associate/Handbell Choir Director
Mary Butler	Organist/Adult Ensemble Director
Donna Parker	Organist/Praise Ensemble Director
Reagan Dunn	Digital Ministry Associate
Meredith Litlv	Summer Programs Coordinator
Kaelyn Goff	Summer Programs Assistant
Suzanne Walter	Nursery Attendant
Donald Chepko	Night Sexton



Roberta Gore is leading a **Book Club for High School Youth**. The book is *Black* by Ted Dekker. The last meeting will be held on **July 23 from 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm in Room 209:**

Pizza and drinks are included. Please contact Roberta Gore if your youth will attend (ncdramadamsel@gmail.com).



Free Summer Programs will begin on July 10. Programs will be offered every Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday through August 4.

Summer Program Volunteers are needed! Please click on the image to sign up to volunteer.

Registration for Free Summer Programs closed on May 31. Click on the image for a schedule of events/programs.



Summer Programs Coordinator

Hi! I'm Meredith Litlv ("light love"), a local Winters Mill High School graduate and granddaughter of parishioners Roger and Donna Bair. I studied History at Southern Virginia University and currently teach Social Studies at Sykesville Middle School. I worship at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

For fun, my husband and I love to travel and hunt down unassuming Asian restaurants to find the best local eats. I also love to roller skate, cook, and visit museums (especially art museums!)



Summer Programs Assistant

My name is Kaelyn Goff and I graduated from Francis Scott Key High School in June. I will be going to Wilson College in the fall to study Animal Science. I have been a member of Ascension all my life! I am an Acolyte and help in Sunday School and sometimes in the Nursery.



I am excited to work with the Summer Programs this year.

Kids Community Cookout and Toy Swap: July 18!



The Children and Youth Committee will host a Toy Swap at our first ever Community Cookout

Tuesday, July 18th 11:00am-2:00pm. We are asking for donations from our parish of gently used children's toys (no stuffed animals please). Donated toys will provide the start of the swap. We hope to be able to not only provide toys to swap but to send home toys to families that are in need. If you have any questions about donations, please contact Deb Howard (nuttymom23@gmail.com). If anyone is interested in assisting during the Toy Swap, please reach out to anyone on the Children and Youth Committee. We thank you in advance for your help.

ascension-westminster.com/events

FAMILY MOVIE NIGHTS

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

**JOIN US EVERY FRIDAY
DURING OUR
FREE SUMMER
PROGRAMS.**



SCHEDULE:

Ice Age	July 14
Tangled	July 21
Moana	July 28
Robin Hood	August 4
Mary Poppins Returns	August 11
Drama Camp	August 18
Performance of <i>The Wizard of Oz</i>	
Nanny McPhee	August 25

**LIGHT SNACKS
PROVIDED. FEEL
FREE TO BRING
FOOD OR DRINK.**

Potluck Dinner:
August 18 at 6:00 pm

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

Themed Potluck Lunches

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.

Month/Date	Theme	Description
July 21	Vegetable	Bring a dish that includes a vegetable.
September 15	Restaurant Re-Creation	Bring a dish that re-creates a dish from your favorite restaurant.

Click on the image below to RSVP for the July and September lunches.

Bring your favorite dish to a themed lunch, every 3rd Friday at noon.

Church of the Ascension
23 N Court St.
Westminster, MD
410-848-3251

Fellowship Hall

POTLUCK LUNCH
REGISTER ONLINE AND
BRING A FRIEND

JUNE 16
Bring anything you can stuff. **STUFF IT**

JULY 21
Bring a dish that must contain a vegetable, even desserts and drinks. **VEGETABLE**

SEPTEMBER 15
Bring a dish that re-creates a dish from your favorite restaurant. **RESTAURANT RE-CREATION**

OCTOBER 20
Bring a dish served in a hot pot, slow cooker or crock pot. **HOT POT/CROCK POT**

NOVEMBER 17
Bring any dish from Ascension's cookbook **ASCENSION'S COOKBOOK**

DECEMBER 15
Bring a dish that is red or green and shows your holiday spirit. **RED AND GREEN**

ascension-westminster.com/events

Year-to-Date Income and Expenses through May 31, 2023		
	Actual Year-to-Date	Budgeted Year-to-Date
Income:		
General Giving	\$ 109,135.96	\$ 75,455.80
Fundraisers	\$ 2,340.12	\$ 6,098.35
Rental	\$ 7,125.00	\$ 7,125.00
Miscellaneous	\$ 1,274.35	\$ 3,285.00
Total Income	\$ 119,875.43	\$ 91,964.15
Expenses:		
Staff and Staff Support	\$ 50,385.02	\$ 50,547.65
Buildings and Grounds	\$ 52,465.45	\$ 44,489.47
Diocese of MD	\$ 14,128.35	\$ 14,128.35
Office/Business Expenses	\$ 12,625.97	\$ 11,524.99
Ministries/Worship	\$ 7,898.94	\$ 10,772.50
Total Expenses	\$ 137,503.73	\$ 131,463.36
Net Income	\$ (17,628.30)	\$ (39,499.21)

McDonogh School 45th Annual Summer Carillon Concert Series

7:00 – 8:00 p.m. Rain or Shine Free Admission

June 30

Laura Ellis, University Carillonneur
University of Florida
Gainesville, Florida

July 7

Annie Gao, Carillon Fellow
Bok Tower Gardens
Lake Wales, Florida

July 14

Dina Verheyden, City Carillonneur
Mechelen & Puurs, Belgium
and
Richard de Waardt, City Carillonneur
Rotterdam & Tholen, The Netherlands

July 21

Buck Lyon-Vaiden, School Carillonneur
McDonogh School
Owings Mills, Maryland

July 28

John Widmann, City Carillonneur
Joseph Dill Baker Carillon
Frederick, Maryland

*To watch the carillonneur perform live:
www.mcdonogh.org/carillon/*

*Concert programs will be available on the
McDonogh School website.*



SAVE THE DATE

God willing and the people consenting
The Reverend Carrie Schofield-Broadbent
will be ordained and consecrated as a Bishop in
the one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church, and
**Bishop Coadjutor of the
Episcopal Diocese of Maryland**

Saturday, September 16 at 11:00 AM
at Washington National Cathedral
3101 Wisconsin Avenue NW
Washington DC 20016

Chief Consecrator:
The Most Reverend Michael Bruce Curry
Presiding Bishop and Primate of
The Episcopal Church

*Tickets not required. Formal invitations with schedule,
information about accommodations and parking to come.*

Members One Of Another



Again, we extend our love, prayers and sympathy to parishioner Terri Wilhelm and family in the passing of her husband, **Michael Wilhelm**. Fr. Allan officiated at Mike's Memorial Service on June 16 at the Westminster Post of the American Legion.



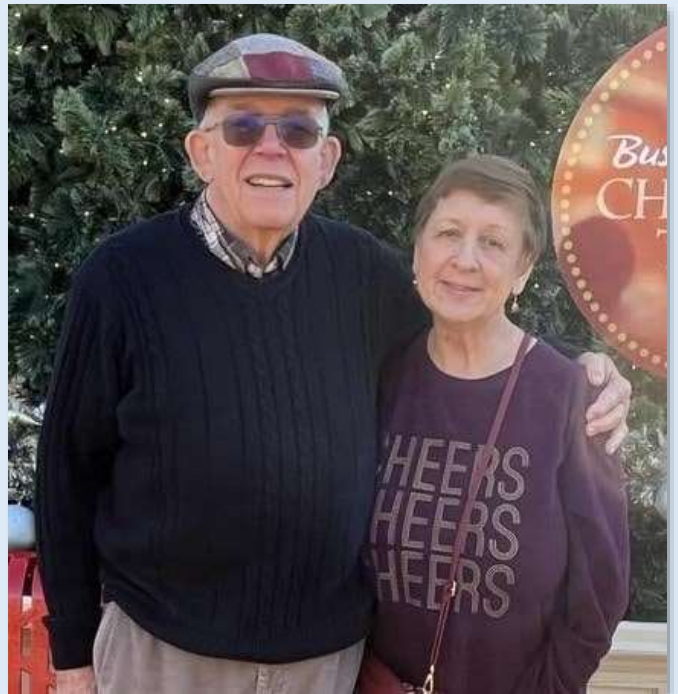
We extend our love, prayers and sympathy to the family of parishioner **Elizabeth Heagy**, whose Memorial Eucharist Fr. Allan celebrated in the Stone Church on Friday, June 30. Committal followed in Ascension's columbarium.



We are saddened to learn of the June 24 passing of parishioner **Margaret Smith**, 96, of Carroll Lutheran Village. She had been under Hospice care in recent weeks. No service plans have been announced.



Happy 50th Wedding Anniversary: Lew and Mary Myers - July 28



Upcoming Events and Opportunities

JULY

Free Summer Programs Begin	July 10
Family Movie Nights Begin	July 14
Kids Community Cookout and Toy Swap	July 18
Themed Potluck Lunch	July 21
High School Book Club	July 23

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