

Church of the Ascension  
23 North Court Street  
Westminster, MD 21157

# Ascension Extension

410-848-3251

[ascension@ascensionwestminster.com](mailto:ascension@ascensionwestminster.com)

[ascensionwestminster.com](http://ascensionwestminster.com)



## August 2022

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

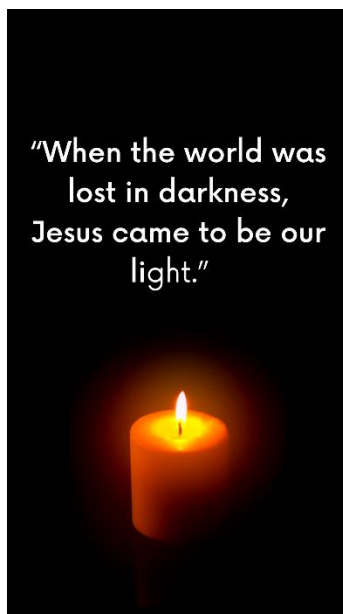
### ***“Our Light”***

*by the Rev. F. Allan Weatherholt, Jr.*

The other day in the mail Rev'd Anne and I received some samples of Christmas cards. Christmas in July, you ask? Well, the Hallmark Channel showed Christmas movies all throughout the past month! (I confess to watching a few!)

While many of us would say that it seems too early to be thinking about Christmas and ordering Christmas cards, clearly not everyone thinks so. The company that sent us those samples would like to have our order now – in August!

In any case, we glanced through these beautiful cards, and the verse on one really struck me. It read, “When the world was lost in darkness, Jesus came to be our light.”



*“When the world was lost in darkness,  
Jesus came to be our light.”*

Jesus came into the world 2,000 years ago and brought us the Light and the Love of God. All who follow Jesus are

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### **September Ascension Extension**

Please share articles and information to be included by **Monday, August 22.**  
[ascensioncommunication@gmail.com](mailto:ascensioncommunication@gmail.com)

### **Church Office Hours**

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

The Church Office will close at  
2:00 pm on Friday, August 5.

blessed with that Light and that Love. Yet, when we read the newspaper or hear the news on TV or radio, we quickly see how much darkness there is in the world. Shootings. Terrible flooding has taken lives and homes in Eastern Kentucky and parts of three other states. The war in Ukraine continues to cause horrific suffering for millions. Political controversy rages over dozens of issues. Nations are at odds with each other. There are economic fears and woes. And people's personal lives are marred with struggles over illnesses, marriages in trouble, people out of work, kids on drugs. The list goes on and on.

*"When the world was lost in darkness,  
Jesus came to be our light."*

As followers of Jesus, we have the gift of His Light. We are called to live in that Light. Whatever troubles we have, whatever problems or fears we must face, we have Jesus as our Light. And, if we have faith in Him, He will light our way through the troubles of this world – and through our own personal troubles.

There is no denying how much darkness there is in this world. Many are living in that darkness. But you and I and all others who follow Jesus have Him as our Light. We have Jesus, and, in His Love, Jesus will Light our way!



***Our 10:15 am service will be in the Stone Church*** on **August 7** and on **August 14**. This is to allow our Drama Camp/Fine Arts Camp full use of the Holy Cross Hall as they rehearse and prepare for their August 19 performance. Be sure to note this change.

***New Life For Girls*** is a Christian residential program that supports women, ages 18 to 45, as they recover from drug or alcohol addiction. Christian classes and counseling are part of the rehabilitation process. Our church has supported New Life For Girls for over 25 years. Our Outreach Committee provides Christmas food and gifts, as well as cleaning supplies. One of our previous Eagle Scouts built the playground on their property, and another parishioner created an Employment Assistance Program as a master's degree project.

**On August 21**, we will welcome them to our 10:15 am service to share their testimonies and music.

### **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

### **August Worship**

#### **August 7**

#### **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, **Stone Church**

#### **August 14**

#### **Tenth Sunday after Pentecost**

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

#### **August 21**

#### **Eleventh 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 Life for Girls**

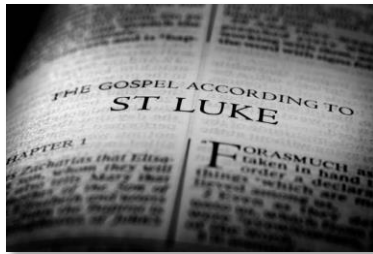
#### **August 28**

#### **Twelfth 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

**Training for Acolytes** – both new and continuing – took place in Holy Cross Hall on three Sundays in July. Led by Fr. Allan and Wes Ward, the training prepared both young people and adults to serve at the Lord's Table during worship. Praise God, we added several new Acolytes to our group! **Our goal now is to have three Acolytes at each 10:15 am service** – a Crucifer and two Torchbearers. These three will share the duties at the Altar itself.

Parishioners Jim Fariss and Laura Corns have kindly volunteered to put our Ascension Acolytes' duties in a printed booklet. Meanwhile, watch for our "expanded" use of Acolytes at Sunday services. And, if you are part of our group, please sign up to serve as often as you can! This first phase of training is now completed. We will bring the Acolytes together periodically in advance of Holy Days and special Seasons.



**Summer Adult Education** with Fr. Allan will continue through **Sunday, September 4**. We are studying St. Luke's Gospel – the Gospel from which we are reading on most Sundays between now and Advent.

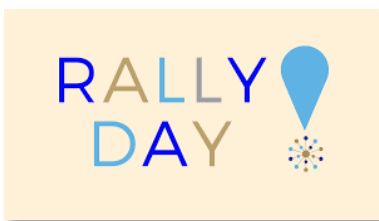
We meet each Sunday at 9:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. Coffee and doughnuts are available. All are welcome!

### **Block Party**

Come to our Ascension Block Party on **Sunday, September 4, following the 10:15 am service!** Weather permitting, we will gather in the back Parking Lot, or, if needed, in the Fellowship Hall. We will have refreshments, ministry displays, small gifts and other fun things.

Best of all, you can purchase – for just \$10 – one of our brand-new Ascension T-shirts! They will be available in both youth and adult sizes, and you will want one!

We will tell you more about this event as the date gets closer, but please mark your calendar and plan to be with us!



**September 11**

**'Rally Day' is Sunday, September 11** - This is the special day when we "rally" around the importance of our Sunday School and Youth ministries and launch into a new program year for the entire church. The year's first Sunday School and Adult Classes will meet at 9:00 am.

During the 10:15 am service, Children's Church will resume in our beautiful Children's Chapel; we will commission all those serving in our Children's and Youth ministries, and we will offer prayers asking God's blessing upon this important work. It's a red-letter day as we begin our 2022-23 year of ministry! Don't miss it!

### ***Our Praise Ensemble***

is actively recruiting new members!

All voices/instruments are welcome, and we are especially in need of sopranos and altos :) Tenors and basses are very welcome as well! All ages are welcome to join the group! We ask that you prayerfully consider joining us – summer is the perfect time to try out a music group and see if it is a good fit for you.

The Praise Ensemble practices every Tuesday evening from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm, and we generally sing at the 10:15 am service on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month. For more information you are welcome to come and sit in on a rehearsal or contact Donna Parker at 425.394.3008.



***Our Adult Ensemble*** is actively recruiting new members!

Everyone is welcome. The Adult Ensemble meets during the summer at 6:30 pm every other Wednesday in the Holy Cross Hall. We generally sing during the 10:15 am service on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month.

In the fall, we will rehearse at 7:30 pm on the Wednesday prior to the 2nd and 4th Sundays, and we will rehearse at 9:30am (before the 10:15am worship service.) For more information, you are welcome to join us at a rehearsal (August 10 and August 25 at 6:30 pm) or contact Mary Butler at 410-239-6019.

### ***Our Handbell Choir***

plans to resume rehearsals in mid-September. **There is a great need for new members in this worship ministry.** Participants may range in age from 6th grade through adult.

On **Sunday, August 28**, after the 10:15 am service, anyone who is interested in learning more about the Handbell Choir may meet with Lynn Lyon-Vaiden at the Handbell Choir tables in the Holy Cross Hall.



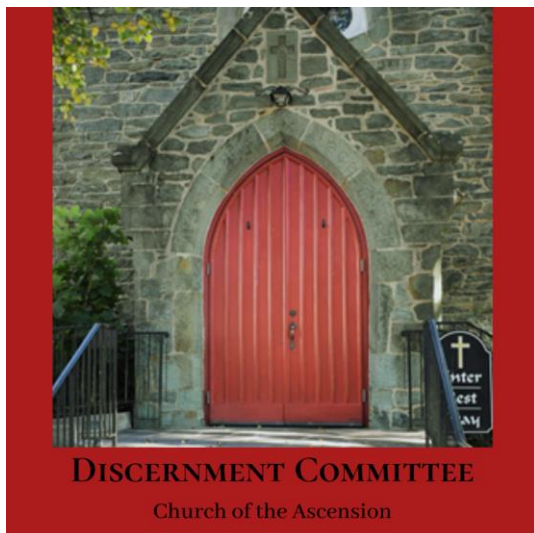
### ***Grant Received***

Church of the Ascension has received a wonderful Diocesan grant in the amount of \$9,700! The grant is for a major upgrade to our audio-visual system in Holy Cross Hall. New and more up-to-date equipment will enhance our livestreaming of services and greatly improve our broadcasting of music from our worship.

We will work with Tim Klick, of a Hagerstown firm. Mr. Klick has already served a number of churches in both the Dioceses of Maryland and Washington. We are grateful to Fr. Allan and Rev'd Anne, who guided us through the application process for this generous grant. We will keep you updated as plans move forward.

**Worship Assistants: August 2022**

	Usher(s)	Lector	Acolyte(s)	Chalicians	Worship Slides
<b>August 7</b> 8:00 am	Beverly Baker	Angela Chmar	Charlie Aler		
<b>August 7</b> 10:15 am	Cheryl Vecera Gary Lang	Liz Lowe	Raymond Lui		
<b>August 14</b> 8:00 am	Beverly Baker	Donna Hansen			
<b>August 14</b> 10:15 am	Amy Mataban Bryan Lance	Jill Horn		Ellen Anderson Nancy Barry	
<b>August 21</b> 8:00 am	Donald Hobart Janice Hobart	Beth Anthony	Charlie Aler		
<b>August 21</b> 10:15 am		Betsy Reinders	Donna Fine Kaelyn Goff Reilly Goff	Betsy Reinders	
<b>August 28</b> 8:00 am	Donald Hobart Janice Hobart	Donna Hansen	David Kreider		
<b>August 28</b> 10:15 am		Charlie Jones	James Corns Alex Corns		Jeanne Cox

**Discernment Committee:  
All-Parish Survey**

The Discernment Committee wants everyone to have the opportunity to complete the All-Parish Survey.

**The deadline is extended until August 8.** We value each response and appreciate your time and prayerful reflection as you complete the survey.

Please direct questions to the Discernment Committee Co-Chairs at [rectorsearch@ascensionwestminster.com](mailto:rectorsearch@ascensionwestminster.com).

Ellen Anderson 815-761-2642  
Helen Lang 443-829-6504



summer@ascensionwestminster.com

**FREE SUMMER PROGRAMS**



**FINE ARTS CAMP**  
*Drama, Music and Art*

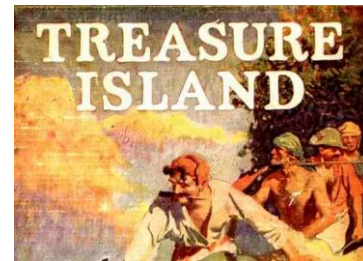
**August 8 - 12**

**and**

**August 15 - 19**

Ages: Completed K - 3rd grade  
9:00 am - 11:00 am (Mon.-Fri.)  
and Friday (8/19) 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Ages: Completed 4th - 9th grade  
12:00 pm - 3:00 pm (Mon.-Fri.)  
and Friday (8/19) 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm



**Decorating Help is Needed  
on Saturday, August 6.**

Please contact Betsy Reinders if you are able to help: brr100@comcast.net or (301) 865-3694

**Lunch Help is needed every day  
during camp.**

For more information, or if you are able to help, please contact Bobbie Gooding at 443-789-8176, or call the Church Office, 410-848-3251.

<b>The Vestry</b>		
<b>Vestry/Officers</b>	<b>Term Ends</b>	<b>Ministry Liaison</b>
Rev. Allan Weatherholt		Interim Rector
Bryan Lance, Sr. Warden	January 2023	Finance
Titus Mataban, Jr. Warden	January 2024	Buildings and Grounds
Nancy Starner, Treasurer	January 2022	Finance
Susan Considine, Registrar	January 2023	Worship/Altar Guild
Rick Reinders	January 2025	Finance
Ron Cox	January 2023	Finance
Donna Hansen	January 2023	Outreach
David Kreider	January 2023	Worship
Jill Horn	January 2024	Outreach
Katie Corbin	January 2024	Discipleship
Jackie Weschler	January 2024	Membership
Jennie Grabill	January 2025	Altar Guild
Luke Gore	January 2025	Buildings and Grounds
Deb Howard	January 2025	Outreach

<b>Year-to-Date Income and Expenses through June 30, 2022</b>		
	<b>Actual Year-to-Date</b>	<b>Budgeted Year-to-Date</b>
<b>Income:</b>		
General Giving	109,045.72	93,2400.00
Fundraisers	3,119.64	6,999.98
Rental	8,525.00	8,400.00
Miscellaneous	14,862.80	3,130.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>135,553.516</b>	<b>111,769.98</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>		
Staff and Staff Support	65,242.64	69,222.05
Buildings and Grounds	49,328.01	54,229.76
Diocese of MD	17,059.02	17,059.00
Office/Business Expenses	11,038.88	16,697.94
Ministries/Worship	10,170.34	13,090.82
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>152,838.89</b>	<b>170,299.57</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>(17,285.73)</b>	<b>(58,529.59)</b>

## Church Staff

Rev. F. Allan Weatherholt, Jr.	Interim Rector
Ann Fariss	Parish Administrator
Lynn Lyon-Vaiden	Communications Associate/Handbell Choir Director
Mary Butler	Organist/Choir Director
Donna Parker	Praise Ensemble Director
Wes Ward	Director of Children and Youth Ministries
Kim Weschler	Summer Programs Coordinator
Reagan Dunn	Digital Ministry Associate
Suzanne Walter	Nursery Attendant
Donald Chepko	Night Sexton

### Tuesday Morning Bible Study

meets at church, from 9:30 am until 11:00 am. Everyone is welcome! Please contact Bill Sears if you plan to attend, or if you have any questions: (redrock2@verizon.net)

**Our next series, "The I AM Statements of Jesus in the Gospel of John," begins in August, and we will meet on August 2 and August 16.**

We will focus on the way Jesus adopted the most personal name of God from the Hebrew Scriptures to reveal his own identity.

The class will not meet in September. Sessions will continue in October and November.

After those sessions, our next topic will be: **"The Seven Letters from Jesus to the churches as mentioned in the Revelation to John."**

All classes are open to everyone; we generally meet on the first and third Tuesday of the month.



**The Book Club will meet on August 24 at 12:00 pm in the Guild Room.**

We'll start with lunch, which can be purchased from the Soup Kitchen for \$2.00, or you can bring your own.

Our selected book for August is "The Four Winds" by Kristin Hannah, about one family's struggles during the depression living in the Dust Bowl region of the country.

Our September selection will be "The Tokaido Road" by Lucia St. Clair Robson.

Everyone is welcome.  
We hope to see you there.



**Book Sale**  
September 9 and 10

To benefit Outreach Ministries

Church of the Ascension  
23 North Court St.  
Westminster, MD 21157

Bring books, CDs, DVDs to the Church Office.

### 1844 Shoppe

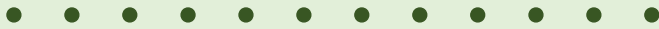
Don't miss the chance to add to your jewelry collection in August. We will hold our Annual \$5.00 Fill-a-Bag Jewelry Sale throughout the month. Includes all Costume Jewelry - Earrings, Bracelets, Necklaces, and more!





**Thank You Notes**

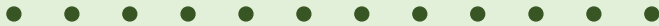
**Elizabeth Heagy** is grateful for all the prayers, cards and phone calls during her recent illness.



**From Debbie and Charlie Jones:**

We are grateful to Deb Howard, Max Howard, Kevin Weschler, Carrie Goff, Jennie Grabill and Kevin Grabill for recent assistance in our home.

They did the 'heavy lifting' to clean out our basement to prepare for renovations. Many Thanks!



Dear Ascension Family:

Thank you so much for your prayers and cards during my recent illness. I can't begin to tell you how much they brightened my day when I was feeling so bad. Thank you again for your kindness and caring.

In His love,  
**Ron Cox**



## *Lambeth Conference*

### **The Lambeth Conference of Anglican Bishops**

is underway through August 8, and we ask your earnest prayers for this historic gathering.

Our own Diocesan Bishop, The Right Reverend Eugene T. Sutton, is among more than 650 Bishops attending from 165 countries

throughout the world. The conference is held once each decade, convened and hosted by the Archbishop of Canterbury, currently The Most Reverend Justin Welby.

The theme of this 15<sup>th</sup> gathering (the conference dates from 1867) is “God’s Church for God’s World.” Events for the conference are held at three locations – the University of Kent, Canterbury Cathedral and Lambeth Palace in London.

The Bishops are prayerfully discussing and addressing many major issues: the global impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, economic struggles, racial inequality, climate change, differences over same-gender marriage, mission and evangelism.

Because each of the member Churches is considered autonomous, the Lambeth Conference is not a legislative body. Nonetheless, the issues addressed have impact on those member Churches. The worldwide Anglican Communion, of which the Episcopal Church is a part, is the third largest Christian body in the world.



### *Upcoming Events and Opportunities*

#### AUGUST

10:15 am Worship Service in Stone Church	August 7 and August 14
Fine Arts Camp/Drama Camp	August 8-12, August 15-19
Fine Arts Camp/Drama Camp Performance	August 19 at 7:00 pm
New Life for Girls visit to Ascension (10:15 service)	August 21

#### SEPTEMBER

Block Party	September 4
Book Sale	September 9 and September 10
Rally Day	September 11

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