

SERVING GOD AT ASCENSION: Opportunities for Families and Children

Opportunities to serve God are everywhere! Sometimes, though, it can be challenging to find service opportunities for our children —either on their own, or alongside their families. Here are some of the ways our children are serving God by serving others at Church of the Ascension:

Just For Kids:

Welcome Kids: Even the youngest child can welcome the stranger! Children ages 3 and up act as child greeters at the 10:30am service. Kids arrive 15 minutes early, put on a special badge and hand out crayon bags to young parishioners. If your child would like to try it or sign up, contact Jacqueline Soltys at 588-0590 or Jacqueline@knoxvilleascension.org

Ascenders: A new service club for grade-school kids (grades 3-5). Kids gather about once a month for games or a project and prayer during “kids worship” time. Service projects outside the church are organized periodically. So far The Ascenders have participated in the IJAMS River Rescue, made welcome bags for Family Promise families (see below), and collected change for Pennies for Peace. If you’d like to be added to the Ascenders e-mail list, please call or send a message to Jacqueline@knoxvilleascension.org

Family Opportunities

Family Promise: This interfaith network supports and houses homeless families on a short-term basis. Ascension hosts Family Promise families about every three months. Families with young children can provide part of a meal during their stay at Ascension, or, best of all, simply spend time with the families and their children at the church. This has proven to be a profound (and fun!) experience for many Ascension children and their families. For more information visit <http://www.familypromiseknoxville.org/> or to ask about volunteering, contact Ann O’Connor at 673-0088.

FISH Pantry: This food pantry, a ministry of Church of the Ascension, serves more families than all the other food pantries in Knoxville combined. Families with children are welcome to help with food distribution. This past Thanksgiving, a group of Ascension’s young families handed out food and homemade cookies to guests. For more information, visit <http://fishhospitalitypantries.org/> or to volunteer, contact Jim Wright at 588-9200.

Flower Ministry: A simple, loving ministry you and your child can participate in as your schedule allows. Every Monday Ascension creates two arrangements from the altar flowers and delivers them, along with a card, to parishioners who are sick or who have had a death in the family. Children are welcome deliverers! To learn more or sign up for one or more Mondays, call Charis Hoskins at the church, 588-0589.