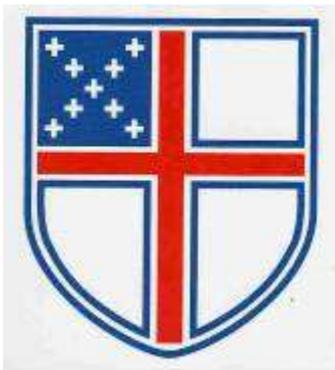


ikon

The Ascension Messenger



Advent wreath created by the Sunday school



Anglican / Episcopal
Church of the Ascension
Munich, Germany

Numbers to Note

Rector: The Rev. Steven R. Smith	+49 89 648 185 (office) +49 152 5459 9175 (mobile)
Visiting Priest: The Rev. Clair Ullmann	+43 64 6720107
Senior Warden: Lois Stuckenbruck	+49 8193 334 2592
Junior Warden: Trish Shaw	+49 152 5641 9514
Vestry Secretary: Yvonne Cockcroft	+49 89 812 2262
Treasurer: Kaye O'Connell	+49 8456 2577
Office and IT Administrator: Michael Wolters	+49 89 648 185 (office)
Ministry Coordinators:	
Altar Guild: Trish Shaw	+49 152 5641 9514
Box Office: Nathan Stuckenbruck	+49 8193 334 2592
Coffee Fellowship: Malcolm Phillips	+49 89 1306 0450
Choir: Jeff Leipsic	+49 89 688 6567
Ecumenical Relations: George Battrick Herndon Stokes	+49 89 688 1151 +49 89 6530 9998
Financial Commitment: Deirdre L. Tincker	+49 8141 70459
Greeters & Ushers: Steve Knowles	+49 8102 72618
Hospitality: Andreas Gebert	+49 152 33723156
Ikon Editors: Dee Pattee The Rev. Steven R. Smith	+49 89 616227 +49 89 648 185
Mission Committee: Barbara Norman	+49 89 6975 9309
Prisoner Support Group: Sue Morris	+49 8122 228 3379
Refugee Program: Barbara Rushiti	+49 89 1416 771
Soup Kitchen: Joachim Zeller	+49 89 2175 8575
Sunday School: Kevin Leadbeater Rachel McIntyre	+49 157 3680 1814 +49 157 3680 1812
Taizé Evening Prayer: Rémy Bethmont	+49 89 691 1120

Church of the Ascension

December 11, 14:00

Handel's Messiah

Open Sing

Join us to sing the Messiah
with orchestra and soloists.
Bring a score if you have one.

December 18, 14:00

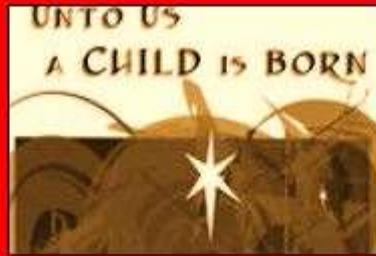
Christmas Carol Sing

Come and sing your favorite
Christmas carols, sacred and secular.

Both events held at Church of the Ascension,
located at Emmauskirche
Laurinplatz 10, Munich-Harlaching
Public Transport: Bus 139 to Autharistraße
or Tram 15/25 to Authariplatz
Entrance is free; donations go to fund Church of
the Ascension's operating budget.

Church of the Ascension
Seybothstrasse 4
81545 Munich
089/648 185

church@ascension-munich.com
www.ascension-munich.com



Advent & Christmas

Church of the Ascension

Your English-speaking Church in Munich

November 27, 12:00 Advent I

December 4, 12:00 Advent II

December 11, 12:00 Advent III

14:00 Messiah Open Sing, orchestra and soloists

December 18, 12:00 Advent IV

14:00 Christmas Carol Sing

December 21, 19:00 Christmas Lessons and Carols

(St. Willibrord, Blumenstr. 36, Munich)

December 24, 16:00 Christmas Eve service for children

(Emmauskirche Gemeindesaal)

23:00 Christmas Eve service

(St. Willibrord, Blumenstr. 36, Munich)

December 25, 12:00 Christmas Day service

**All services and events are held at the Emmauskirche, Laurinplatz 1, Munich-Harlaching
(except for the December 21 and 24 services at St. Willibrord)**

**Church of the Ascension,
Emmauskirche, Laurinplatz 1, Munich-Harlaching**

Public transport:

Bus 139 to Autharistraße or

Tram 15/25 to Authariplatz.

Church Office: Seybothstr 4, 81545 Munich

089/648 185

church@ascension-munich.com

www.ascension-munich.com

Editorial

“Rejoice, rejoice. Emmanuel has come to thee O Israel”

Dear Friends,

Advent marks the beginning of the church year. After many months we are out the season of Pentecost, otherwise known as Ordinary Time, and into a new one when we look forward to the coming of the light of the world. The liturgical colour changes from green to purple; we light the first candle on the Adventskranz and begin to prepare for the feast of Christmas.

In the Eastern Orthodox Church Advent is still a period of fasting and is seen as more of a time of penitence. This used to be the case in the Western church (festivities and dancing were banned) but it is something which died out at the beginning of the last century, although it is still reflected in the colour purple. Now we see Advent as a time of expectation and hope for the future, not only as the time when we celebrate the birth of Christ but also as the time when he returns as Christ the King.

Thus for us in the West, Advent is a time of joy and also of waiting. It is not a boring, meaningless waiting, but a waiting filled with excited anticipation and much preparation as we prepare to greet the King.

Barbara Norman

Rector's Epistle

At our Advent retreat this year, we considered a poem written by the former Archbishop of Canterbury, Rowan Williams. It is titled “Advent Calendar” and talks of our preparation during Advent for the coming of Christ at Christmas. It opens with the lines

*He will come like last leaf's fall.
One night when the November wind
has flayed the trees to bone...*

I reflect on trees “flayed to the bone” as I look out my balcony window at the trees, now almost bare of leaf. Leafless, they hold a mysterious, silent stark beauty. There is nothing hidden behind leaves or flowers. The trees are open, bare, showing their true selves. Archbishop William’s poem has led me this Advent to repeatedly reflect on trees, and most especially on Ascension’s new “family tree.” You all contributed to make a tree that is not stark and bare but rather radiant and blossoming. We created the “family tree” as part of this autumn’s Financial Commitment campaign. I love the theme developed by the Financial Campaign Committee (without advice or help from me!).

“We are like branches on a tree – we all grow in different directions, yet our roots remain the same.” Our tree is very different to Archbishop William’s tree; our tree is vibrant, full of smiling, happy people who are glad to call Ascension “home.” I hope that when you see our “family tree” in church each Sunday, you will take a close look at it, and remember how true it is that despite our different occupations, nationalities, political views, we are family! Our different branches together form some special and meaningful.

As we move more deeply into Advent, let us remember the root from which our branches spring—the Christ child who is soon to come with grateful and glad hearts. Grateful and glad that we are family, that we have a unique home in one another. Grateful and glad too that though we are different branches, going in all sorts of different directions, we are rooted in our living and loving God who comes to us yet again this season.

I wish you a blessed Advent and a joyous Christmas.

Rev. Steve Smith

Parish Registry

Baptism

October 2, 2016	Charlotte Sophie Happe Anne-Sophie Mary Olbers Kilian Julius Henning Olbers
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Marriage

September, 9, 2016	Brigitte Peissl & Joe Schickmair
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Burial

September 23, 2016	Michael Reade
September 26, 2016	Irene Moshuna-Sion
October 22, 2016	Karl Heinz Eck
October 28, 2016	Heinz Riegert

Worship and Music

Taize – Taize is offered Monday, December 12, 19:30, in the Upper Room of the parish house. This is a beautiful service of candles, chant, silent meditation and prayer. Take time out for quiet and join us; it is an excellent way to dive deeper into your spiritual life.

Celebrate Christmas with Lessons and Carols – Our usual Evensong service in December is instead a service of Christmas Lessons and Carols. Please join us Wednesday, December 21, 19:00, at St. Willibrord Church, Blumenstraße 36, near Sendlinger Tor. We will sing favorite Christmas carols and hear the Bible stories of the preparation for, and birth of, the Christ child. Following the service all are welcome to retire to the Sendlinger Tor Weihnachtsmarkt for fellowship.

Hark! The Festive Carols Ring



There is something about a Christmas carol that brings out the nostalgia in us. Hear “Away in a Manger” or “Hark, the herald angels sing,” and we are transported back to other times, other places. And “Silent Night”, whether in German or English, is a sure emotional journey...

This chord is struck every year at our much-loved “Carol Sing,” coming up on Sunday, December 18, at 1400. As happens each year since the “Sing” was started in the late 1980’s, every pew, every folding chair, even the choir loft, will be filled to capacity. And

Janet Day-Strehlow will be there, in Santa Claus hat and holiday mood to guide us through the songbook. Which songs will she choose? “It depends on my mood,” she says, but you can be sure that old favorites, like “Deck the Halls” (everyone jumps to their feet at each “Tralalalala ”.) and “Jingle Bells” (car keys at the ready) will be offered. And don’t forget one of the highlights of this afternoon, “Twelve Days of Christmas.” Whether you are six or sixty, you are expected to portray a milkmaid -a-milking or a drummer drumming.

The “sing” originated as a Christmas event in the Gemeindesaal. It was the idea of Mary Jane Matheny-Brück, and soon became a much-loved tradition. Janet has been inspiration/cheerleader for almost 20 years, and has seen some changes in the program. Poetry and other readings were dropped, as making the afternoon too long, especially for the many children who attend. The high point comes at the very end. The lights dim, a hush descends, and we sing “Silent Night,” first in English, then in German. No need to say anything more...Christmas is here.



Dee Pattee



Spiritual Formation

Sunday School – Sunday school is held each Sunday during the school year. The children participate in the beginning of the Sunday service, 12:00, and then go to Sunday school. They return by 13:00 to join the congregation for Holy Communion. Sunday school is appropriate for children ages 4-10.

Wednesday Bible Study – Each Wednesday, 10:45-12:00, Rev. Steve leads an exploration of the Bible readings for the upcoming Sunday. Bible study is preceded by Morning Prayer. All are welcome to join us. We meet in the Upper Room of the parish house. Note: Bible study is not held December 28, January 4 and January 11.

Let's Start a New Tradition: Advent Retreat, St. Ottilien



Throughout the past years, the annual Lent retreat has become a much appreciated tradition at Ascension.

Another beloved tradition of ours has become the Advent Lessons and Carols Service in St. Ottilien, on a Saturday afternoon at the beginning of Advent. The music is led by the Munich English Choir, to which many of our choir members belong. Ascension's artist in residence, Stephen Norton, conducts the Munich English Choir. Stephen and the choir have been rehearsing for many weeks.

St. Ottilien is situated in the countryside between Munich and Augsburg. It is the ideal place to withdraw from the hectic life of the city; to get away from daily business and cares, away from the crowded Christmas Markets and malls. So, when word went round that in addition to our Lent retreat Rev. Steve was offering a 24-hours Advent retreat in St. Ottilien, ending with the beautiful Carols service, we were more than happy to join the group of retreatants.

Advent – derived from Latin “adventus” – “the arrival” – is a penitential season, in which we are called to prepare not only for Christmas as the memory of Jesus’ birth into our world, but also for His second coming.

The five poems chosen from “Haphazard by Starlight: a Poem a Day from Advent to Epiphany” edited by Janet Morley, took us on a journey which started Friday evening after dinner. Following the session, we prayed Compline and did Christian meditation. We finished the day in a relaxed manner in the “Stüberl”.

If anyone of us had thought of an “Advent Calendar” as the typical chocolate-in-plastic-and-colorful-paper compound, the poem “Advent Calendar” by Rowan Williams took us into a different realm. So did our reflection on the other poems by D. H. Lawrence, Philip Larkin, W. B. Yeats and Denise Levertov. The morning session on Saturday filled our spirits mightily with thoughts, a plentitude of reflections on what Advent means to us and in the contemporary setting.

After lunch, leisure time remained until the service started, which all of us enjoyed in different ways, walking, reading, resting.

The Carols service was the climax of the 24hours. The beauty of the choir’s music took us into the season of Advent, and made us return to our daily life newly enlivened.

Barbara Rushiti

Mission

English Speaking Prisoner Support Group – Cards with multi-coloured sheep and shepherds getting above themselves wearing garments of purple, more chocolate St. Nicholases than one should really buy in one go, service sheets with lessons and carols in German and English, a sermon that was left out last year and sadly missed – it promised to be a good Advent service for the prisoners in Stadelheim on 4th December.

First of all a big thank you to the children from the Sunday school who coloured the Christmas cards so beautifully. These were much appreciated, much more so than ones simply bought from a shop. One prisoner wanted to take two as he has two children and wanted to send one each of the cards to them.

So we were all set thanks to the faithful members of the ESPSG who supported this ministry. We had to turn some volunteers away this time. They missed a great service. Rev. Steve’s sermon was much appreciated and the singing was marvellous – not just from the choir — although their renderings of “Swing Low Sweet Chariot” and “We are Marching in the Light of God” as an encore for us were well worth waiting for – the congregation sang and clapped along with enthusiasm.

But why bother? I can only speak for myself but I’m sure fellow-worshippers feel the same – because we came away with a smile in our hearts. That sounds rather fanciful perhaps but nonetheless true. I have never come away from Stadelheim without marvelling that in such a forbidding and cheerless place there can be genuine smiles and heartfelt singing. The prisoners give us those smiles because for one short time on a Sunday they are still shut away but at least not completely forgotten. We left Christmas cards and chocolate

Nikolasses for the men. They left us with smiles and an awareness of a whole new meaning to “go out into the world in peace.” Pastor Walter also gave us each a branch for the feast of St. Barbara. The branch should be put in water and will give us blossom on Christmas Eve. All members of the ESPSG wish you a blessed Advent and Christmas.

Sue Morris

Vali’s visit to Ascension – Vali Zaharia, executive director of Children in Distress (CiD) in Romania, visited Ascension for six days in November. The weather was cold, wet and windy, but Vali brought the warmth of her personality, commitment and inspiration. Highlights of her time with us were the pack party, where almost 100 Christmas boxes for CiD were prepared, her attendance at Sunday worship, and her CiD presentation after the service.



Vali also spent time with parishioners she had not met before on our mission and service trips to Romania. Vali toured Munich with me on two mornings, seeing lots of churches, city hall and the Residenz. She even made the strenuous ascent to the tower of St. Peter's church. Vali also learned the sport of Kegeln, the German version of bowling. Although a beginner, she won the game!

Vali has written on the CiD website: "I want to thank everyone involved for their hospitality and kindness and their commitment to the charity's work in Cortea de Arges, Cernavoda and Bucharest". Thanks to you, too, Vali!

Rev. Steve Smith

Mission & Service Trip to Romania – The next trip to serve with Children in Distress is August 9-16, 2017. The trip is open to all members of Ascension, 16 years and older. The cost is approximately 800€, which includes flight, hotel, meals and transport. Financial assistance is available. The trip can accommodate 14 persons. For those who serve during the mission trip, there are two options for tourism, August 6-9 to the Danube Delta (where the Danube empties into the Black Sea), and August 17-20, when some missionaries will stay on to explore Bucharest.

Refugee Ministry – Everyone is invited to the Christmas party at McGraw Refugee Camp, Tuesday, December 20, 16:00-19:00. There will be refreshments and music, and a fire to warm the body and spirit. St. Nikolaus will meet anyone who would like to attend at the parish house at 15:30 or you can meet us at the Camp, Tegernseer Landstraße 239a, near the Mangfallplatz U-Bahn station. Episcopal Relief & Development has given Ascension a grant of 2300€ to purchase Christmas gift cards at DM for the 130 persons at the Camp, to be handed out by St. Nikolaus at the Christmas party. St. Nikolaus and his elves also visit the Bayern Kaserne, the largest refugee camp in Munich, to distribute gifts donated by local businesses.

Ascension Hosts Annual Convention of Episcopal Churches in Europe

What is Convention? – The Convocation of Episcopal Churches has parish and mission churches in six countries on the Continent, Germany, Belgium, France, Switzerland, Italy and Austria. Every autumn elected lay members and clergy from the churches gather for the annual Convention. October 19-23 it was Ascension's turn to host. Approximately 100 people gathered at Schloß Fürstenried, laity, clergy, spouses/ partners and of course our Bishop, Pierre Whalon. The cost of Convention is paid through registration fees; the hosting parish does not provide funding.

Worship – Worship is a fundamental part of Convention. Ascension organized and led five services over the five days. We began Wednesday with a beautiful choral Solemn Evensong, with Ascension's artist in residence, Stephen Norton, conducting the Munich English Choir. I was preacher. Thursday evening we offered another Evensong, again with Stephen conduction AND playing the organ at the same time! Friday morning was the opening Eucharist, with Bishop Pierre presiding and me as preacher. Stephen conducted the Convocation choir, made up of Convention participants who like to sing. Saturday morning was a sung service of Morning Prayer, again under the leadership of Stephen. Our final service was a festive closing Eucharist, held at Heilige Familie church in Ober-Giesing. Bishop Pierre was preacher. Jeff Leipsic, our choir director, conducted a magnificent combined Ascension and Convention choir, and Stephen and our organist Jan Menno Schmidt played the impressive church organ in such a spirited and skilled way that they received a standing ovation at the end of the service.

Legislation and Guests – During the plenary sessions of Convention the delegates passed the 2017 Convocation budget (a balanced budget), heard from the Rev. Michael Martin, ecumenical officer of the Lutheran church in Bavaria, listened to presentations on refugee ministry, and heard Bishop Pierre's Convention address. A large part of our time was spent in small groups, where we discussed the questions that had been distributed in advance of Convention to vestries, such as "what are your hopes for your congregation and the church in Europe in the next decade?" and "how can the Convocation respond better to the needs of your congregation?" The discussions were fruitful and engaging; the results of our reflections now will be used by the Bishop's Council of Advice as they create a strategic plan for the Convocation's future. The Convention also passed a resolution, submitted by Ascension, supporting the discussions toward full communion between the Episcopal Church and the Lutheran Church in Bavaria.

Many ecumenical guests attended Convention – representatives from the Lutheran, Old Catholic, Greek Orthodox, Reformed and Presbyterian churches. Bishop Pierre commented several times that in his 15 years as Bishop in Europe he has not led a Convention in which so many ecumenical guests took part.

Rev. Steve

The Social Side of Convention – Of course Convention is about business and hearing news from around the Convocation and the wider church and it is about worshipping together. But it is also a chance to get to know people from our parishes and missions and a good way of doing this is during the social events.

On Thursday evening, the Bishop invited all the clergy and their partners to dinner and Ascension parish members took lay attendees to Schwabing for their choice of Afghan, Bavarian, Greek or Lebanese food. One participant commented: "I wound up with a couple of people I knew and some I didn't and that's perfect. Plus a small group gives a chance to talk to everyone in the group." Thanks to everyone who led the groups.

Friday evening is traditionally the Bishop's Dinner, which is a formal event. Deirdre Tincker organised a wonderful meal at the Palmenhaus at Schloß Nymphenburg. Ascension participants wore their Tracht and everyone agreed that both venue and occasion were memorable.



To celebrate the end of the business part of Convention, Saturday evening is usually a more casual event. The evening was held at Schloß Fürstenried and was organised by Carmen Bleicher and George Battrick. We enjoyed a Bavarian/Romanian buffet followed by a disco. Who knew that so many of our Convocation priests are such good dancers! A comment from another participant "The thing I really loved was the Saturday dance; it creates much more contact and solidarity than just sitting there watching entertainment."

Whilst most attendees were at the business meetings of Convention, the partners of some delegates joined Kristi Nowak and Phil Cockcroft for the partner's programme. Friday they went to the NS-Dokuzentrum where the Director welcomed them and generously gave them free entry to the museum. On Saturday they enjoyed a guided tour around Munich city centre, and on both days they all went to lunch together.

And finally, we invited all participants to share lunch with us after the Sunday Eucharist: thanks this time to Andreas Gebert, Malcolm Phillips and their team as well as everyone who brought food for the buffet. Some final comments from other participants:

“Everything worked and every detail had been anticipated”

“Everything was perfect and so thoughtful. Even the small things showed how much you were all thinking of us. Thank You!”

Yvonne Cockcroft

Elections and Awards – Elections and awards form an important part of the business of the Convention.

This year’s elections included Secretary of Convention and clergy and lay delegates to both the Bishop’s Council of Advice and the Convocation Disciplinary Board. Lay delegates elected to the Council of Advice were Mary Faigle, Montpellier, and Sonja March, Nürnberg, both from mission congregations. Revs. Sunny Hallinan (Waterloo) and Rob Warren (Clermont-Ferrand) were re-elected as clergy members.



This year four clerical and four lay delegates also were elected to represent the Convocation of at the triennial General Convention of the Episcopal Church, to be held in Austin, Texas in 2018.

Elected from Ascension were Rev. Steve Smith, David Case and Yvonne Cockcroft.



Each year the Bishop honors with the Bishop’s Award those who have served the Convocation and their own Parish. This year’s awards were presented to former Convocation Canon for Communication, Jere Skipper, and two Ascension members, Yvonne Cockcroft and David Case.

Kaye O’Connell

Council of Anglican and Episcopal Churches in Germany

A Memorable Event

Dr. Yazid Said, a speaker with a powerful interfaith message, addressed the September meeting of the Council of Anglican and Episcopal Churches in Germany (CAECG). The meeting was held in the Church House in Lübbecke, which is run by the British Army. Dr. Said was born in Nazareth, has an Israeli passport, and is a Christian with Syrian orthodox roots. He was brought up in a family which moved with his grandfather to the Anglican tradition, making him special, but also putting his life on the margin of the society in which he grew up. So it is no surprise that interfaith discussion is the theme of his life. His story, which is also his spiritual autobiography, gives the conflict between Muslims, Jews, and Christians a voice and a face which one doesn't hear in the world media, a voice tuned to prayer and a face which shows no hate. Dr. Said teaches Islamic studies at Liverpool University. Email or print copies of his talk are available from the parish office.

Martin Schaeffer

Lia Edwards

Photography is her Passion: Meet Lia Edwards

How do you like our church family tree? The creative talent behind it is Lia Edwards, photographer, who has been capturing many of our church's special moments. The Financial Commitment Committee (FCC), of which Lia is a member, came up with the idea, photos were sought, or taken, and the rest was left up to Lia, a professional photographer. Lia and her husband Huw are Sunday school teachers, and Huw serves on the vestry.



Image Copyright Lia Edwards 2016, from the series "Self Portraits of Motherhood".

Lia has a flourishing business in family photojournalism, a relatively new 'niche' which captures the daily fun? chaos? routine? of family life. Of course, one of her favorite subjects is daughter Cari, 4, now quite poised in front of a camera. Lia works mostly with international families in Munich as the distance from 'home' seems to lend urgency to keeping the memories alive. Whatever the reason, the families give her 'carte blanche' to

portray them in their most relaxed moments: eating, celebrating, relaxing having fun...a far cry from the posed portraits of yesteryear. The family photography business is "a new genre," she says, "I am like a journalist. I spend up to 12 hours with a family, often spend the night." Lia's fascination with photography dates back seventeen years to her law school days when she met Huw. He lent her his camera. "I loved what I could do with it. He never got it back. Learning photography is something that never ends and that is what still ignites my passion for this art form today."

Dee Pattee

Did You Know?

That the 12-member vestry (the church council) reflects the national demographic of our congregation, with five members from England, three from Germany, three from the U.S. and one U.S.-Englishman, and that the vestry comprises 6 women and 6 men? And that our treasurer, who attends vestry meetings, is from Australia?

That our members come from 28 nations, 30% from Great Britain, 25% from Germany, 20% from North America, and 25% from Africa, Asia/Australia, South America and Ireland?

That the vestry at its October meeting appointed George Battrick (English) and Herndon Stokes (U.S.) as Ascension's representatives to the Ack, the ecumenical group of Christian churches in Bavaria?

That Ascension's representatives to the Council of Anglican and Episcopal Churches in Germany are Martin Schaeffer and Barbara Rushiti (both German) and Rev. Steve Smith (U.S.)?

That the Suinat family is moving to California?

That Laura Biron-Scott, Ascension's seminarian in 2015, will be ordained to the priesthood June 25 at St. Mary's, Kidlington, near Oxford?

That Michael Dormandy, Ascension's seminarian in 2014, has published commentary to the book, *Epistola Fundamentalis*?

The Rt. Rev. Pierre Whalon, our bishop, has announced his resignation as of summer 2019?



YAE 2017

Youth Across Europe (ages 13-19)
Canterbury to Paris

May 24-28, 2017

Join us as we celebrate our 20 years' YAE Jubilee Year! Inspired by the journey made 20 years ago by our first ever YAE group, our own pilgrimage will begin in Canterbury and end in Paris with a joyous Jubilee celebration with YAE Past, Present and Future.

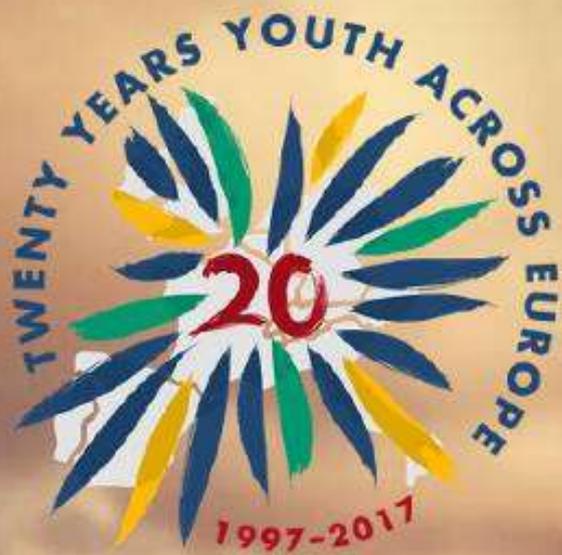
20 euro fee per person

Includes all accommodations, meals, and travel. Travel to Canterbury and back from Paris not included.

More details to come!

Contact Naomi Cunningham with questions. Email: nzcunnin@ksu.edu Cell: +33 06 67 34 86 00

Juniors Across Europe



May 25-28, 2017

Paris

20 euro fee per person

Join us in an incredible adventure with exciting games set out for you,
around Paris.

We'll be ending it with a Jubilee celebration along with the past,
present and future YAE's !

Contacts:

Naomi. Email: nzcunnin@ksu.edu Cell: +33 06 67 34 86 00

Katrina. Email: katrinanealhamel@gmail.com

Cell: +33 06 77 28 98 69

What I Meant to Say...

They're Back! Those Wonderful Church Bulletins!

These sentences actually appeared in church bulletins or were announced at church services.

The fasting & prayer conference includes meals.

Scouts are saving aluminum cans, bottles and other items to be recycled.
Proceeds will be used to cripple children.

The sermon this morning: 'Jesus Walks on The Water.'
The sermon tonight: 'Searching for Jesus.'

Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale.
It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house.
Bring your Husbands.

Don't let worry kill you off—Let the church help.

Miss Charlene Mason sang 'I Will Not Pass This Way Again,'
giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.

For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.

Next Thursday there will be try-outs for the choir. They need all the help they can get.

At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be 'What is Hell?'
Come early and listen to our church choir practice.

Eight new choir robes are currently needed due to the addition of several new members
and to the deterioration of some older ones.

The church will host an evening of fine dining, super entertainment and gracious hostility.

Pot-luck supper Sunday at 5:00pm.
Prayer and medication to follow.

The Ladies of the church have cast off clothing of every kind.
They may be seen in the basement on Friday afternoon.

This evening at 7pm there will be a hymn singing in the park across from the church.
Bring a blanket and come prepared to sin.

Low self-esteem support group will meet Thursday at 7pm.
Please use the back door.