

TODAY AT ASCENSION

Preacher: The Rev. Javier García Ocampo

Refreshments and conversation follow every service in the Narthex.

The Nursery is open today from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. It is in Room 2, in the rear hallway of the annex at the high school end of the building. Ask a welcome team member for directions.

We give thanks for the baptism of Eleanor Abigail Ford at the 10:15 service today. She is the daughter of James and Jennifer Ford.

LIFE LONG LEARNING

Yoga Classes

Randy teaches yoga every Thursday at 10:00 a.m. in the chapel. These are gentle, entry level classes anyone may enjoy. No props are needed. There are some mats, blocks and blankets for those who want them. If you have your own mat, bring it. Wear loose fitting, comfortable clothing.

Two Armor of Light Viewings Scheduled

Kirk Fitch and Alice Benson plan to host a viewing at church TONIGHT, October 16 at 6:30 p.m. A light supper will be served at approximately 6:10 p.m., therefore it would be ideal for people who come to the 5:00 p.m. service. A signup link will follow soon, to get a count of those who wish to eat before the showing.

Trevor and Angie Hight Walker are offering a viewing and discussion of the award winning video at 8:00 p.m. on Friday, October 28th at their home in Montgomery Village, 9701 Breckenridge Place. Dessert will be served. A SignUp Genius link will be sent out soon.

Wednesday Morning Book Group

We will finish *Searching for Sunday: Loving, Leaving, and finding the Church* by Rachel Held Evans on November 2 (there will be no group on October 26).

Read Section VI, "Anointing of the Sick" in preparation for Wednesday's discussion.

On November 16 Randy and the Wednesday Morning Book Group will begin exploring *Finding God in the Waves: How I Lost My Faith and Found it Again Through Science*, by Mike McHargue. From Amazon.com: "From the host of the popular podcasts, The Liturgists Podcast and Ask Science Mike, a story of having faith, losing it, and finding it again through science—revealing how the latest in neuroscience, physics, and biology help us understand God, faith, and ourselves." For a fuller description and to purchase, go to <http://amzn.to/2ecQ9DC>

LIFE LONG LEARNING

Cell Group News

On the first Sunday of the month there is a group for parents of small children, facilitated by Sarah and Brian Annear. While the group originated from the 10:15 service, anyone who fits the profile is welcome! You can read the book's preface and introduction at the below Amazon link. <http://amzn.to/2d87Apx> It is based on this text from Genesis: <http://bit.ly/13yDft0> Feel free to bring snacks/toys to help distract the little ones.

Sari Stoddard and Paul Whitmore's group is also using the McLaren book and is taking names of interested people, who will decide when and where to meet together. E-mail Sari at sari.stoddard@verizon.net if you want in.

A Joyful Path

The members of A Joyful Path will be spending the next several Sundays studying and learning about "the Many Ways." We will be exploring and discovering the beliefs and rituals of the five major world religions. We will continue our journey from Hinduism to Buddhism. Come and join us in Room 11 during the 9, 11 and 11:15 services.

Godly Play

This week in Godly Play, we study The Great Family. The people living around Abraham and Sarah believed that there were many gods embedded in nature. Abraham and his family believed that God was everywhere, but was that really true? What if they were to go to an unknown place or experience, would God be there? They were not sure of this, but they put their faith in God's promises and found them to be true. Godly Play classes meet downstairs in Room 6 during the 9, 11 & 11:15 services.

A note to parents: Next week, we will be baking Communion bread for the church. It is a fun and sometimes messy activity, so please dress your children accordingly!

The Listening Heart Community

The Listening Heart community is Ascension's "monastery of the heart", an intentional group for seekers in all stages of their spiritual journey to explore Benedictine and other contemplative spirituality in community. We meet the first and third Monday of each month. Contact Lori Perine at lperine@gmail.com if you would like to join us.

Stillwater Mindfulness Practice Group

Our weekly program of meditation and mindfulness practices in the tradition of zen monk and peace activist Thich Nhat Hahn will continue on Tuesdays from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. in the chapel.

LIFE AT ASCENSION

Let's Do Dinner and Dancing This Saturday!

Mark your calendars for an evening of music, great food, and dancing, hosted by Ascension's Hispanic congregation, on Saturday October 22, beginning at 6:00 p.m. All are welcome! The ticket price of \$10 per person covers one dinner and one soda, and unlimited dancing! Tickets will be on sale after services on Sunday. See Javier with any questions.



All Saints' at Ascension

At the 9:00 and 11:15 services on Sunday, November 6, we will prayerfully read the names of loved ones who have entered into the "land of light and joy" and are now part of the Church Triumphant. All Saints' Sunday is the occasion for celebrating the lives and legacies of the great saints of the church and the saints of our lives. Forms for you to complete are on the tables in the hallway next to the office and in the Chapel. Copies of the list of names of those for whom you have requested prayers will be available on the welcome desk in the narthex of the main church on All Saints' Sunday.



At 7:45, 9:00 and 11:15 we will also renew our Baptismal Covenant.

Día de los Muertos

At the 11:00 a.m. Spanish Eucharist in the Chapel on All Saints' Sunday, we will be observing a Latin American tradition called the festival of "Día de los Muertos." As is customary we will adorn the altar with pictures of departed loved ones, and offer our memories of them and their spiritual legacies to the Lord.



"Fifth Sunday" Brunch is Coming

Save the date! Ascension's next gathering of the Fifth Sunday Brunch will take place on October 30 at 12:30 p.m. in the Undercroft. All are welcome, new and old members alike. Sign up here: <http://bit.ly/2e3ztmi> See all of you there on the 30th.

Visitors' Welcome Kits Are Available

If you are visiting Ascension today, Welcome! To learn more about the community that is Church of the Ascension, please take home with you a yellow welcome packet, located on the Chapel counter and on the table next to the Office. A Welcome Team member will be glad to assist you!

CARING FOR OUR COMMUNITIES

Men's Shelter Lunch Program

The Men's Shelter Lunches program provides bagged lunches, assembled in the Undercroft Commons once a month. Supplies are donated by Ascension members. Depending on the season, we provide forty to eighty lunches a month.

Sign-up for contributions are through an online system and assembly occurs by those present after the 9:00 am service on the third Sunday of the month. We will put lunches together TODAY at 10:15 am. Contact Edith at esekasi@gmail.com if you would like to help, or sign up at <http://bit.ly/1VAKEz8>.

Fall into Wellness Health Fair

Come to Church of the Ascension on Saturday, October 29 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., to a health fair hosted by The Diabetes Selfcare Management Institute. There you can get a free flu vaccination, information on the latest trends in health and wellness, an exercise demonstration, vendor giveaways and discounts, and some good old fashioned fun for the kids. See the posters in the narthex, chapel, and table outside the office.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Last Week's Income*	Weekly Budget Goal	Year to Date Income*	Year to Date Budget Goal
\$14,814.66	\$9,498.19	\$390,198.59	\$379,927.70

N.B.—In addition to pledge and plate income, together with what Ascension receives in rental fees and money from several small trusts, Ascension uses the cash portion of the Endowment Fund to meet month-to-month operating expenses. In general, we have been using between \$7,000 - \$8,000 per month from the Endowment on top of a monthly transfer of \$3,334 that the Vestry approved as part of the 2016 budget.

Pledge Update as of 10-11-16:

- 13 Pledges for the Annual Giving Campaign, total \$26,126
- 6 Pledges for Facilities Reserve Fund, total \$14,600

Thanks to those below who have pledged:

Mary Anna Culkin, Carleton MacDonald, Don & Martha Marks, Claire Rosser, Paul Whitmore, Jake & Ophelia Yalley-Ogunro, Christopher & Susan Ahalt, Levin B Broughton, Jemima Carr, Cynthia Perley, Neil & Nathalie Scott, Laura Shay & Linda MacNeil, Carolyn Dowling & John Bjerke, Donna R Moss

CONTACT US

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- ◆ Office Hours: Monday-Friday 10:00 am-4:00 pm
- ◆ Phone: 301.948.0122 ◆ Fax: 301.926.9012
- ◆ Randy's Cell: 301.801.4347
- ◆ Prayer requests: Fill out a yellow prayer request card on the table outside the office, in the Chapel or e-mail the office at office@ascensionmd.org.

Bishop of Washington - The Rt. Rev. Mariann Edgar Budde
mebudde@edow.org, 202.537.6550

Rector - (The Rev.) Randy Lord-Wilkinson
ral@ascensionmd.org, voice mailbox 12

Assistant to the Rector—The Rev. Javier García Ocampo
ocampo@ascensionmd.org, voice mailbox 16

Seminarian—Jason Cutshall
jascut@mac.com

Minister of Music—Jerrold Tidwell,
tidwellj@ascensionmd.org, voice mailbox 11

Parish Administrator - Kathy Van Arnum
office@ascensionmd.org, voice mailbox 10

Media Specialist—Eleni Hailu
comm@ascensionmd.org, voice mailbox 14

Altar Guild Directors—Sari Stoddard, 301.972.0914,
Sari.stoddard@verizon.net, Mardia Dennis, 301.540.4499
mard908@gmail.com

Children's Music Leader - Howard Hanson,
howarddhanson@gmail.com

Chapel Musicians - Eric O'Loughlin, ericsmelody@gmail.com,
Samuel Munguia, pianoconclave@verizon.net

LEADERSHIP AT ASCENSION

Senior Warden: Betsy Hasegawa
Junior Warden: Janet King

Vestry:

2017: Denise Lionetti, Najma Stubblefield, Paul Whitmore

2018: Maria Estela Rodriguez, Avin Lalmansingh,
Gary McLaughlin

2019: Rose Buck, Zadinga Ogada, John Pruessner
Sari Stoddard, *Clerk of the Vestry*
Howard Holland, *Treasurer*

Christian Formation for Children: Zadinga Ogada ~ Christian
Formation for Youth: Angie Hight-Walker ~ Facilities: Ted
Bedell Finance: Howard Holland ~ Outreach: Paul Boynton ~
Pastoral Care: Randy Lord-Wilkinson Personnel: Jean Cohn ~
Worship: Carleton MacDonald

Delegates to Diocesan Convention:

Kristen Keating, Carleton MacDonald, Sue Snay
Alternate: Mardia Dennis

Cycles of Prayer

In the Diocesan cycle of prayer, we pray for
St. Luke's Church, Brighton; St. Luke's Parish, DC;
St. Luke's Church, Trinity Parish;
St. Luke's House, Bethesda; The Hunger Fund Committee;
World Food Day (October 16)
Pray for all who are hungry, especially children

THIS WEEK AT ASCENSION

MONDAY, OCTOBER 17

1:00 pm Al-Anon—Room 1
6:30 pm Overeaters Anonymous—Room 4
7:00 pm Listening Hearts Community—Library

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 18

6:00 pm Bible Study—Ascension House
7:00 pm Codependents Anonymous—Room 1
7:00 pm Stillwater Mindfulness Group—Chapel
8:30 pm Al-Anon—Room 1

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 19

10:00 am Wednesday Morning Book Group—Library
1:00 pm Al-Anon—Room 1
6:30 pm Spanish Class—Ascension House
6:30 pm N. Montgomery Cty Regional Meeting—Main Church
7:00 pm Ensemble Rehearsal—Choir Room
7:00 pm Overeaters Anonymous—Room 1
8:00 pm Gamblers' Anonymous—Chapel

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20

10:00 am Yoga Class—Chapel
7:45 pm Choir Rehearsal—Choir Room

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21

1:00 pm Al-Anon—Room 1
6:00 pm Couples 12-Step Program—Room 1

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22

9:00 am Overeaters Anonymous—Room 1
11:00 am Al-Anon—Undercroft Commons
11:00 am Overeaters Anonymous—Room 1
6:00 pm Dinner & Dancing—Undercroft

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23

Preacher: (The Rev.) Randy Lord-Wilkinson

7:45 am Holy Eucharist—Main Church
8:15 am Choir Rehearsal—Choir Room
9:00 am Holy Eucharist—Main Church
9:00 am and 11:00 am Godly Play—Room 6
9:00 am and 11:00 am Joyful Path—Room 11
10:15 am Service for Families with Young Children—Chapel
11:00 am Holy Eucharist in Spanish—Chapel
11:15 am Holy Eucharist—Main Church
1:30 pm Vestry Meeting—Library
5:00 pm Holy Eucharist—Chapel
6:00 pm Youth Group and Spiritual Formation—UC

Church Attendance	Sept 25	Oct 2	Oct 9
7:45 a.m.	30	33	22
9:00 a.m.	92	94	79
10:15 a.m.	17	10	12
11:00 a.m. Spanish Service	35	44	39
11:15 am	59	41	52
11:30 a.m. At Sunrise	12	—	12
5:00 p.m.	21	30	9
Total:	266	252	225

WELCOME TO CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

The Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost: 16 October A.D. 2016

Living Generously

The Rev. Christine Rockwell

Haven't we all been told that perseverance, along with resilience, are the keys to adult success? In Luke's gospel today we see perseverance in action as the determined woman, most probably at an extreme social and economic disadvantage from the judge, perseveres until she wears him down and receives justice and compensation for her grievance. Probably a minor miracle in that biblical setting! So, could this woman's perseverance teach us something not only about justice, but also about our understanding of stewardship? One of the most valuable lessons I have learned over the years is that to be successful as a steward, I need to persevere as I approach charitable giving, just as I need to persevere in the many other facets of my life. If I am serious about my religious stewardship, it's helpful to remember this woman and the judge. Taking one stab at my annual pledge amount, or making a pledge to begin proportional giving, won't get me to the goal of being generous with the gifts God has given me unless I stick with the goal I have set and persevere when I encounter hardship and difficulty in reaching that goal. Pledging to take on a volunteer project will go nowhere unless I also promise myself to persevere when obstacles get in the way of keeping my pledge (and obstacles always do). Jesus tells us it is important to persevere and that spiritual rewards await those who are consistent and constant in their relationship to God. What that tells me is that God will indeed help me reach my spiritual goals if I commit myself to persevering when the going gets tough.... As I know it will.

Reflection Questions:

- Think of a time you pledged time or money to the church. Were there obstacles that got in the way of your commitment?
- How did you react to those obstacles?
- Did you persevere in fulfilling the promise(s) you had made? If not, does that make it harder for you now to pledge time or talent or treasure?

The Rev. Cristine V. Rockwell is a retired parish priest and former college chaplain at UMass Amherst. She has been active in issues of stewardship since before her ordination in 1990.

PS. Pledge cards for the Annual Giving Campaign and Facilities Reserve Fund, and Electronic Funds Transfer Forms, are available on the table by the office door, Chapel side entrance, and on the website.

TO OUR VISITORS, NEWCOMERS, AND SEEKERS

We thank you for joining us today and hope you will return often.

At Ascension, our mission is to become "ambassadors of Christ," so we welcome you to this community of resident aliens. We invite you to fill out a welcome card (located in the rack at the ends of each pew).