

TODAY AT ASCENSION Preacher: Work Camp Speakers

HOSPITALITY HOUR

Refreshments and conversation follow every service in the Narthex.

LIFE LONG LEARNING

Yoga Classes

Randy teaches yoga every Thursday at 10:00 a.m. 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.

New Wednesday Morning Book Selection

We have started a new book, *Searching for Sunday, Loving, Leaving, and finding the Church* by Rachel Held Evans. From Amazon: Centered around seven sacraments, Evans' quest takes readers through a liturgical year with stories about baptism, communion, confirmation, confession, marriage, vocation, and death that are funny, heartbreaking, and sharply honest. A memoir about making do and taking risks, about the messiness of community and the power of grace, *Searching for Sunday* is about overcoming cynicism to find hope and, somewhere in between, Church.

Read Section II, "Confession."

The Armor of Light

As you may recall we are planning a viewing of the acclaimed documentary on gun violence - recently broadcast on PBS - *The Armor of Light*. We want to have the viewing (or viewings) in September. Our plan is to have it either at the church or in people's homes. Or both. In either scenario we will want to discuss the film in small groups. We'll be sending out an invitation for those of you who would like to facilitate a small group discussion so you let us know that you're interested. Group facilitators will prepare by viewing the video and working with other facilitators to generate questions and talking points to get the discussions going. - Alice Benson and Kirk Fitch (fitchbenson@comcast.net).

Ascension Youth Group Kicks off 2016-17 Program!

Youth Group will begin on September 25th with a Cook-Out at the Hight Walkers at 9701 Breckenridge Place in Montgomery Village. Please arrive by 6:00 p.m. for games, food and fellowship which will end at 8:00 p.m. Meat, buns, and serving items will be provided. Please bring a dish or item to share. All Youth in the 6th grade and older are encouraged to participate in the Ascension Youth Group Program! The Group meets on the second and fourth Sunday evenings of each month from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., and typically in the Church undercroft. There will be a signup sheet at the Ministry Fair to provide dinners for Youth Group evenings. We are one of the most active Youth Programs in Montgomery County-so come see what the excitement is about!

LIFE LONG LEARNING

Cell Groups at Ascension

As we lean into Fall it's time to revisit the concept of small "cell" (as in "of the Body of Christ") groups. Would you consider hosting or joining a group of about 6 to 12 people that is centered around study and discussion and that deepens the experience of community?

Some groups meeting at Ascension already function this way, such as the "Listening Hearts Community" on Monday evenings, the Education for Ministry Group on Tuesday evenings, and the Wednesday Morning Book Group ("WAM"). These cell groups meet at the church, but groups may meet in somebody's home, or even at places like Panera or Growler's Pub!

There are many leader friendly formats. Check out the "African" or "Lambeth" Bible Study here: <http://bit.ly/NeenOS>. Or the 6 session "Discipleship Group" curriculum that's based on the Baptismal Covenant: <http://bit.ly/1jSMb23>.

There are many fantastic books that would be great to share with others, such as:

- Karen Armstrong, *Twelve Steps to a Compassionate Life*;
- Diana Butler Bass, *Grounded: Finding God in the World— A Spiritual Revolution*;
- Marcus Borg, *Speaking Christian*;
- Peter Gomes, *The Good Book: Reading the Bible with Mind and Heart*;
- Brian McLaren, *We Make the Road by Walking*.

If you have a book that excites you that you want to share, let Randy know. Ideally, it will be one that will better equip you to be an "ambassador for Christ."

Groups may meet as many times as they want, of course; the suggested timeframe for getting together is 1 to 3 times a month. How often you meet and where is something you work out with people you've signed on with.

E-mail Randy if you are interested in facilitating a group, or being part of one. He will eventually publish a directory of groups for people to see what's available, and a date to get the leaders squared away before we commence. His personal group will likely be a monthly one with other group leaders.

A group for families with young children who attend the 10:15 service will meet; contact Sarah Annear if you are interested, sarahannear@gmail.com. Paul Whitmore and Sari Stoddard will host a group using the McLaren book; contact sari.stoddard@verizon.net. There is also interest in a group for singles at Ascension, over 40 and under 40. Once he has a number of commitments from prospective facilitators, Randy will circulate a list of available groups with a description of what they're about.

LIFE AT ASCENSION

Ministry Fair and Fiesta de las

Today we gear up for the coming to the annual Ministry Fair, annual observance of Fiesta de las Undercroft Commons.

The Fair will be held after the services, at 10:15 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. start around 12:30 p.m. There will be a drink!

The Fair is also the occasion to celebrate Christian Formation for all ages. Classes for all grade begin on September 18 at 10:00 a.m. Youth Group starts at 6:00 p.m. Christian Formation for Youth Group.

Welcome New Seminarian Jason

Jason is studying for a year at the University of St. Thomas, Minnesota, worshipping and serving in various capacities. After completing his degree Jason moved to The Hague, where he served at Crossroads International for several years. During this time he was hired by Crossroads International to work in the field supporting church planting in Central and South America. Jason relocated to the United States in 2010 and, with his wife Cecilia, joined Mary's Episcopal Church. Jason was ordained in 2014 as the Minister of Communication in the Diocese of VA and NC. He has two boys, Henning (2) and Sebastian (1).

A Call for Worship Leaders

Attention all Worship Leaders - including Prayer Leaders, Chalicists and others, and anyone who would like to serve in these capacities: I will be starting work on the Roster (for October, November, and December) shortly. If you know you have an interest, email them to me as soon as you can. I will make changes after mid-September. If you're interested in joining the Roster in these capacities, please email me at sari.stoddard@verizon.net for training. Many, many thanks to the Lord as a Worship Leader. Sari Stoddard

Today is Betty Lavern's Last Service

Take time to thank her for over 50 years of service at Ascension!

Acolyte Training with Randy

Training happens next Sunday, September 27th, at the main church. This is for new acolytes and those who are welcome.

CONTACT US

205 S. Summit Ave., Gaithersburg, Maryland, 20877
www.ascensionmd.org

- ◆ Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:30 am-3:30 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
Minister of Music—Jerold Tidwell,
tidwellj@ascensionmd.org, voice mailbox 11
Office Coordinator - Kathy Van Arnum
office@ascensionmd.org, voice mailbox 10
Media Specialist—Carol Bruno
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
Sexton - Betty LaVern, betty_s_lavern@mcpsmd.org

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 The Angus Dun Committee.
Pray for all victims of terrorism, war, and violence and for those who foster and perpetuate such acts.

THIS WEEK AT ASCENSION

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

- 11:30 am Living with Serious Illness Group—Room 1
- 1:00 pm Al-Anon—Room 1
- 6:30 pm Overeaters Anonymous—Room 4
- 7:00 pm Jr. Girl Scouts—Room 6
- 7:00 pm Outreach Committee—Library

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

- 7:00 pm Codependents Anonymous—Room 1
- 7:00 pm Stillwater Mindfulness Group—Chapel
- 8:30 pm Al-Anon—Room 1

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

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

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

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

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

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

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

- 9:00 am Overeaters Anonymous - Room 1
- 11:00 am Al-Anon - Undercroft Commons
Overeaters Anonymous - Room 1

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

Preacher: Tina Lightner

- 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**
- 10:15 am **Men's Shelter Lunches**
- 11:00 am **Holy Eucharist in Spanish—Chapel**
- 11:15 am **Holy Eucharist—Main Church**
- 5:00 pm **Holy Eucharist—Chapel**

Church Attendance	Aug 21	Aug 28	Sept 4
7:45 a.m.	23	29	23
9:00 a.m.	58	75	73
10:15 a.m.	15	12	21
11:00 a.m. Spanish Service	32	32	45
11:15 am	38	40	44
11:30 a.m. At Sunrise	12	18	
5:00 p.m.	14	16	22
Total:	192	222	228

WELCO

The Seventee

Friends: the links to the ascensions members is LIVE n

Live Link in English:

<https://www.research.>

Live Link in Spanish:

<https://es.research.ne>

There are also hard cop church office and near

You are also welcome t staff, or vestry.

Let's see if we can get

Peace,
Randy

We thank y

At Ascension, our mission is to b aliens. We invite you to fill out a