

TODAY AT ASCENSION
Preacher: Dr. Tina Lightner

Today we welcome Dr. Tina Lightner to the pulpit.

Refreshments and conversation follow every service in the Narthex.

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.

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 III, "Holy Orders, " in preparation for Wednesday's discussion.

The Armor of Light

We are just about ready to schedule viewings of the acclaimed documentary on gun violence entitled *The Armor of Light*. Our plan is to have them either at the church or in people's homes. Or both. Kirk Fitch and Alice Benson are up for hosting one, as are Trevor and Angie Hight Walker. If you want to host a viewing, simply e-mail Randy. In any event, we hope you will make time to learn about and discuss this very important topic.

Ascension Youth Group Kicks off 2016-17 Program!

Youth Group will begin next Sunday, 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. 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!

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.

A group for families with young children who attend the 10:15 service will meet in the Library; contact Sarah Annear (sarahannear@gmail.com) if you are interested. 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. E-mail Randy if you are interested in facilitating a group, or being part of one. 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.

A Joyful Path

Welcome to all young people in grades 3-5. A Joyful Path is a Spiritual Curriculum for young hearts and minds. For the first few weeks, the members of the class will be learning about the Path and Teachings of Jesus. Our affirmation is: The life of Jesus helps me understand that I am one with all. We will learn about Jesus and the Sacred Community. A letter from Paul, a game and an art project will be a part of our Path. Come and join us downstairs in Room 11 during the 9, 11 & 11:15 services.

Godly Play

This is a Montessori-based curriculum for children ages 3 through 2nd grade, presenting the stories of the Bible within a sacred space. Children experience these stories, wonder about them, and then are allowed open-ended opportunities, usually with art supplies, to explore the stories. Godly Play classes meet downstairs in Room 6 during the 9, 11 & 11:15 services.



LIFE AT ASCENSION

Welcome New Seminarian Jason Cutshall



Jason is studying for a year at Virginia Seminary and joins us as a field education student. He grew up in Minnesota, worshiping and serving in many different denominations. After completing his Master's of Divinity degree Jason moved to The Hague, Netherlands, where he served at Crossroads International Church for two years. During this time he was hired by Christian Associates International to work in their operations department supporting church planting in Europe and North and South America. Jason relocated to Arlington, VA in 2010 and, with his wife Cecily, began attending St. Mary's Episcopal Church. Jason came on staff there in 2014 as the Minister of Community Life. Jason is a postulant in the Diocese of VA and lives at VTS with his wife and two boys, Henning (2) and Soren (4 mo).

Welcome Nursery Coordinator Magda Tosta



I connected with Magda through Indeed.com and was blown away by her credentials. She lives in Aspen Hill but is from Honduras and for a time lived in Norcross, Georgia, where she was very active in her church as a worship leader and faith formation teacher. She studied pre-law for two years at Catholic University in Tegucigalpa. Her English is elementary but she is outgoing and highly motivated to become more fluent. She will be assisted by some of our bilingual youth, notably Jazmine Diaz, whom you will remember as the dynamic 11 year old who read so beautifully in English and Spanish on Ash Wednesday and Maundy Thursday. If you attended the Festival last Sunday you could not miss Magda as she gave a dazzling karaoke performance. Give her a warm Ascension welcome! - Randy

Episcopal Spiritual Life Inventory

Friends: the links to the online questionnaire reviewing the spiritual life of Ascensions members is LIVE now through midnight October 2.

Link in English: <https://www.research.net/r/RenewalWorks2082>

Link in Spanish: <https://es.research.net/r/RenewalWorksSpanishVersion2082>

There are also hard copies in both languages available on the table outside the church office and near the chapel door. You are also welcome to use a church computer; talk to a member of the clergy, staff, or vestry.

Let's see if we can get 200 surveys in this year!

LIFE AT ASCENSION

New Office Hours

The church office will be open Monday to Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Acolyte Training with Randy

Training is today at 12:30 p.m. in the main church. This is for new and veteran servers. All are welcome.

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 a.m. service on the third Sunday of the month. We will put lunches together today at 10:15 a.m.. Come join us!

"Felicidad" Ministry to Day Laborers

Some people from the 11:00 a.m. service have started a new ministry called "Felicidad." We are very interested in going through our neighborhood and sharing the Gospel of God with the people. We will get together on Saturday, September 24th to make sandwiches, then head out to distribute them to the people (the majority of these people are immigrants) who are waiting for a job outside the Seven-Eleven, close to the Church. We will also offer prayers for them, asking what they want to pray for. If you want to join us we are going to meet at 6:00 a.m. in the kitchen and then will go to Seven-Eleven.

Annual Friendship Picnic - Save the Date!

Please save Sunday, September 25th, from 1 to 5 p.m. to join the Montgomery County Annual Friendship Picnic that brings together communities with diverse cultures and faiths. Food and drinks will be provided so everyone may relax and enjoy the afternoon! Kosher, Halal, Vegetarian and Traditional Cuisines! We kindly request that you bring one non-perishable food item, which will be donated to local Montgomery County food banks. The event will be held at Wheaton Regional Park 2000 Shorefield Road, Wheaton, MD 20902 . Copy and paste this link to register: <http://conta.cc/2cM85Fp>

FINANCIAL REPORT

Last Week's Income*	Weekly Budget Goal	Year to Date Income*	Year to Date Budget Goal
\$14,026.48	\$9,498.19	\$347,701.12	\$341,934.92

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
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Seminarian—Jason Cutshall
jascut@me.com

Minister of Music—Jerrold Tidwell,
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Office Coordinator - Kathy Van Arnum
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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 - open

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. Matthew's
Church / San Mateo, Hyattsville;
St. Matthew's Day School, Hyattsville.
Pray for peace and benevolence among all nations, re-
membering especially the United Nations International
Day of Peace (September 21).

THIS WEEK AT ASCENSION

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

1:00 pm AI-Anon—Room 1
6:00 pm Girl Scouts—Room 1
6:30 pm Overeaters Anonymous—Room 4
7:00 pm Jr. Girl Scouts—Room 6
7:00 pm Listening Hearts Community—Library

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

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

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

10:00 am Wednesday Morning Book Group—Library
1:00 pm AI-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 22

10:00 am Yoga Class—Chapel
6:00 pm Bariatric Support Group—Chapel
7:45 pm Choir Rehearsal—Choir Room

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

1:00 pm AI-Anon—Room 1

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

6:00 am Felicidad Sandwich Making—Kitchen
9:00 am Overeaters Anonymous—Chapel
11:00 am AI-Anon—Undercroft Commons
11:00 am Overeaters Anonymous—Room 1

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

Preacher: Jason Cutshall

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—Room 1
5:00 pm Holy Eucharist—Chapel
5:30 pm Youth Group Cookout

Church Attendance	Aug 28	Sept 4	Sept 11
7:45 a.m.	29	23	30
9:00 a.m.	75	73	106
10:15 a.m.	12	21	10
11:00 a.m. Spanish Service	32	45	45
11:15 am	40	44	62
11:30 a.m. At Sunrise	18		10
5:00 p.m.	16	22	16
Total:	222	228	279

WELCOME TO CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost: 18 September A.D. 2016

Retreat for Ambassadors of Christ!

I'll be leading an outreach or "missional" retreat in our Chapel from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Saturday, October 8th. Anyone may come, of course, but this is especially aimed at Ascension members and friends who are already engaged in missional activity in our community or are drawn to do so and want to know more. Our purpose is to deepen our awareness of how what we do in the community, especially under the auspices of our many outreach partner ministries, define our mission. All that's required is an interest in the world around us and a desire to be a disciple of Christ. Please come and share your experiences and dreams for Ascension, and what you'd like to do with them! Through prayer, reflection, and discussion we'll identify how we, as members of Ascension, can be the hands and feet of Christ in our community.

Sign up here if you plan to come: <http://bit.ly/2cq1xL>

Please RSVP by Midnight Thursday, October 6th. I need 8 people signing up to make a "quorum."

For more information or if you have questions or suggestions, contact me or Outreach Chair Paul Boynton at boynton357@verizon.net .

Peace,
Randy

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).