

TODAY AT ASCENSION

Preachers: (The Rev.) Randy Lord-Wilkinson

HOSPITALITY HOUR

Refreshments and conversation follow every service in the Narthex.

LIFE LONG LEARNING

Godly Play

Classes for children age 3 through second grade meet at 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. in Room 6 downstairs. This week in Godly Play, we remember Jesus' last hours in the story of "Jesus and the Twelve." We learn about the Last Supper, the final meal Christ shared with his disciples before his crucifixion. We also discuss the lives of the disciples and their transformation into apostles.

A Joyful Path

A Joyful Path welcomes all third to fifth graders to come and join us in the Room 11 during the 9 and 11:15 services. The members of A Joyful Path will study how we the more we choose to see beauty and goodness, the more we live in happiness and joy. We will use a story about John Muir in the mountains as the foundation for the lesson. The 11:15 class needs to finish work on the bulletin board.

Youth Group

The Youth Group will meet again on May 8 at 6:00 p.m. in the Undercroft Commons. Contact Angela Hight-Walker for more information at angela.hightwalker@gmail.com.

Baptisms

Baptisms will be held in the Main Church next on May 15, Day of Pentecost, but may be scheduled at any time for a Chapel service.

Contact the Rector for more information at 301.948.0122 ext. 12 or ral@ascensionmd.org.

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 to class. Wear loose fitting, comfortable clothing.

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 encounter scripture and other texts through lectio divina and use contemplative practices to deepen our experience of the sacred in each moment. Meeting dates in May are May 2 and 16 from 7-8:30 p.m. in the library. Contact Lori Perine at lperine@gmail.com if you would like to join us.

LIFE LONG LEARNING

Wednesday Morning Book Group: *Grounded*

We are currently discussing *Grounded*, Diana Butler Bass's latest book on the transformation of religion in America. We meet next on Wednesday, May 4 at 10 a.m. in the Library. Read Chapter 8 before we meet.

Women's Retreat

The Women's Retreat is back!! Once again Hallowood Retreat Center, near Sugarloaf Mountain, will be the site of our gathering of the women of Ascension for renewal, fellowship and learning from Friday evening, August 19 - Sunday noon, August 21, 2016. Please mark your calendars and plan to join your sisters for singing, hiking, crafts, study and togetherness.

Are you interested in helping plan the August Women's Retreat? We will meet on Thursday, May 5 at 6:45 p.m. in the library to discuss themes for retreat. We are looking for a few good helpers with logistics, crafts, activities, music, program ideas, etc. Contact Ophelia Mag-nusen Yalley-Ogunru, opiemagz@gmail.com or Lauren Kingsland, Laurenkingsland@gmail.com.

Lenten Series Follow Up

"The end is reconciliation; the end is redemption; the end is the creation of the beloved community."
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., December 3, 1956

To give voice to the legacy of pain surrounding our shared heritage of racism, we are reading Prayers of the People today, at the 9 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. services. These prayers are the fruit of our Lenten series on race: **ALL GOD'S CHILDREN TALK ABOUT RACE**. As a community of lovers of Jesus, adults and youth, we joined in four interactive workshops to develop a shared vocabulary, to examine anxieties and hopes about race and to build a foundation for making a difference in the wider world. We anchored our discussions in personal experience and current events and in Martin Luther King, Jr.'s call for a Beloved Community. Out of the workshop on Systemic Racism came prayers we hope will make a difference in the world by publicly confessing to God our failures and bringing to God our hopes for reconciliation and justice. May we find Grace here.

Thank you to our readers today; Marsha Sutherland, Megan Didavi, Alexander Langley, Anne Brink, Bob Waters, Diana Gustafson, Josh DeRosier, Avin Lalmansingh, Anika Lalmansingh, Aaron Lalmansing, Faith Broderick, Laura Shay, and Johnetta Mars-Gibson.

We hope to continue the conversation. If you are interested talking about Racism on a regular basis, please let Randy or me know. - Diana V Gustafson, Seminarian - Dmorgan1@vts.edu

LIFE AT ASCENSION

Movie Night, Friday, May 6

Our next movie night will be Friday, May 6 in the Undercroft Commons at 6:00 p.m. We will be watching the movie *Spider Man*. Please RSVP by Thursday, May 5 at <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0A4CABA82DA75-seespiderman>



Mother's Day Food Drive: May 8

In honor or in memory of our mothers on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 8, we invite you to donate a bag of groceries to replenish the food pantry at Gaithersburg HELP. There are forms available on the welcome desk, in the Undercroft Commons, and in the Chapel, where you can designate your contribution "in honor of" a loved one. That person will receive a letter notifying them of your gift. For donations "in memory of" loved ones, we will add those names to a list for special prayers.

Ascension Softball

The men's softball team play on Mondays at 6:30 p.m. Playoffs will be July 25 & 30.

May 12 Ascension vs. Emory Grove at Nike Field
May 16 Ascension vs. Journeys Crossing at Field TBD
May 23 Ascension v. Epworth UMC at Flower Hill Field

If you would like more information, contact Ted Bedell at tedbedell@comcast.net or 301.520.8449, or Bill Ward at William.ward@nrc.gov or 301.523.4088.

Pictorial Directory

The last time we sat for portraits to create a pictorial directory of Ascension members was May 2011. Time for another!

Save these dates for your portraits: May 18-20 (Wednesday, Thursday, Friday) from 2:00-8:00 p.m. and May 21 (Saturday) from 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Other dates can be added as needed.

You can start signing up online today by following this link: <http://bit.ly/1UgWglo>

There will also be opportunities to sign up on Sundays.

If you want to help out with the project or have questions, contact Randy (ral@ascensionmd.org) or Sue Snay (subarsy@aol.com).

Yard Sale and Car Wash

On Saturday, June 25, Ascension will hold a yard sale and car wash to raise funds for the Church. If you have gently used clothes, house wares, furniture, books or any other items to donate for the yard sale, please bring them to church. Also, if you are able to help during the day of June 25, let Javier know at ocampoj@ascensionmd.org.

LIFE AT ASCENSION

Prayer Request Policy

The term for a prayer request is four weeks, infinitely renewable. The regular Sunday prayer list is for parishioners and their families, including extended family members. The weekday list used by the staff, called the "extended prayer list," is for coworkers, friends, and so on. When you see a name missing that you think should be included in the Prayers of the People and the list in the bulletins, say their names at service, preferably out loud, then fill out a new prayer request form, found on the desk under the bulletin board in the Narthex, and the table near the Chapel door. - Randy

Keep Us Informed

If you have a new email, phone number and/or address - please let the office know. You may email office@ascensionmd.org, leave the information in the basket on the table by the office, or call 301.948.0122.

CARING FOR OUR COMMUNITY

Work Camp

Sign Up Now!

Saturday, July 16- Friday, July 22

Where: Philadelphia City Camp/Episcopal Mission Center.

Cost: \$350
episcopalmissioncenter.org/summer-break.html

This is always a very rewarding experience for Youth and for the adult chaperones. The number of spots is limited but sufficient, and will be filled on a first come first served basis. There is room for 18 youth and 4 adults.

Please contact Angie to sign up or with any questions: angela.hightwalker@gmail.com. Make checks out to Church of the Ascension, with Work Camp in the subject line. Please, leave the check with Kathy in the office, not in the plate or with Angie.

During our May 8 Youth Group, after our meal, the rector will meet with youth and adults interested in going.

Finally, we are looking for donations to help offset the cost of youth-in-need and chaperones. Please consider a tax deductible donation and look out for Work Camp fund raisers!

WORSHIP

Pentecost Readers Needed

The Day of Pentecost is drawing near! I'd like to invite those of you who can read in another language to let me know if you can read a verse of the Gospel on Sunday, May 15, at either the 9:00 or 11:15 a.m. service. Please, email Randy at ral@ascensionmd.org.



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' Cell: 301.801.4347
- ◆ Prayer requests: Fill out a yellow prayer request card on the table in the Narthex, Chapel or e-mail the office.

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

Spanish Language Missioner—The Rev. Javier García Ocampo
ocampo@ascensionmd.org, voice mailbox 16

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

Seminarian—The Rev. Deacon Kate Siberine,
ksiberine@gmail.com

Seminarian—Diana Gustafson, *dmorgan1@vts.edu*

Office Coordinator - Kathy Van Arnum
office@ascensionmd.org, voice mailbox 10

Communications - Pia Leaman
leamanp@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, *ericmelody@gmail.com*,
Samuel Munguia, *pianoconclave@verizon.net*

Nursery Director - Gisèle Lachance, 301.928.0788

Sexton - Betty LaVern, *betty_s_lavern@mcpsmd.org*

LEADERSHIP AT ASCENSION

Senior Warden: Enid Cole
Junior Warden: Betsy Hasegawa

Vestry:

2017: Denise Lionetti, Najma Stubblefield, Paul Whitmore
2018: Janet King, 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 Church of the
Ascension, Gaithersburg and Iglesia La Ascencion, Church
of the Ascension, Lexington Park, Church of the Ascen-
sion, Silver Spring (Sligo Parish), The Parish of St. Monica
and St. James, St. Philip's Church, Baden, St. Philip's
Church, Laurel, St. Philip the Evangelist Church, St.
Philip's Child Development Center

THIS WEEK AT ASCENSION

MONDAY, MAY 2

6:30 pm Overeaters Anonymous - Undercroft Commons
7:00 pm Listening Heart Community—Library

TUESDAY, MAY 3

6:30 pm Spanish Class—Ascension House
7:00 pm Education for Ministry—Library
Codependents Anonymous—Room 1
8:30 pm AI-Anon—Room 1

WEDNESDAY, MAY 4

10:00 am *Grounded* Book Group—Library
7:00 pm Ensemble Rehearsal—Main Church
8:00 pm Gamblers' Anonymous—Chapel

THURSDAY, MAY 5

10:00 am Yoga—Chapel
6:45 pm Women's Retreat Meeting—Library
7:45 pm Choir Rehearsal—Choir Room

FRIDAY, MAY 6

6:00 pm Movie Night—Undercroft Commons
Couples in Recovery—Chapel

SATURDAY, MAY 7

9:00 am Overeaters Anonymous - Room 1
9:30 am Safeguarding God's Children—Undercroft
Commons
11:00 am AI-Anon - Room 1
Overeaters Anonymous - Room 1

SUNDAY, MAY 8

Preacher: Ms. Enid Cole
Mother's Day

7:45 am Holy Eucharist—Main Church
8:15 am Choir Rehearsal—Choir Room
8:30 am Budget Discussion Group—Library
9:00 am Holy Eucharist—Main Church
Godly Play—Room 6
Joyful Path—Room 11
10:15 am Service for Families with Young Children—
Chapel
Budget Discussion Group—Library
11:00 am Holy Eucharist in Spanish—Chapel
11:15 am Holy Eucharist—Main Church
Godly Play—Room 6
Joyful Path—Room 11
12:15 am Budget Discussion Group—Library
3:00 pm Confirmation Class—Room 1
5:00 pm Holy Eucharist—Chapel
6:00 pm Youth Group—Undercroft Commons

Church Attendance	April 10	April 17	April 24
7:45 a.m.	20	17	21
9:00 a.m.	95	87	85
10:15 a.m.	31	20	21
11:00 a.m. Spanish Service	32	26	41
11:15 am	71	32	37
11:30 a.m. At Sunrise	-	15	14
5:00 p.m.	18	23	30
Total:	267	220	249

WELCOME TO CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

The Sixth Sunday of Easter: 1 May A.D. 2016

Capital Campaign Update

There isn't going to be one! Read on....

To all who participated in the "Cottage Meetings" and discussed ideas for renovations to our church building -
THANK YOU. The remarks were insightful and showed much thought and love for our parish.

You Have Been Heard.

Three basic ideas clearly emerged as supported in the meetings. They are, 1) lowering the chancel (where the al-
tar sits now) to the same level as the rest of the nave (main church); 2) improving lighting throughout the main
church and narthex (entryway from the front doors); and 3) updating the sound system.

The pews will remain. The atrium and sacristy will be unchanged. Church will not be "in the round"; the only peo-
ple behind the altar will be musicians and worship leaders....as it is now.

The Vestry and Rector believe these three changes should be pursued. Itemized costs have been estimated and are
such that a formal capital campaign is not required. New microphones and speakers are being tried out now in the
church; the Vestry has voted to purchase a similar system drawing the cost from a fund especially for improve-
ments in worship.

There will still be a lot of details to decide upon and choices to make, but the most important point is that ideas
were shared, parish groups talked about them, and priorities became clear. So again, on behalf of the Rector and
Vestry, **THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME, ENERGY, AND LOVE.** The community spirit demonstrated through the Cot-
tage Meetings is one reason why our space is so cherished.

It worked so well, we'd like to do it again:

Budget Priorities Discussion Groups

With the Annual Giving Campaign over, the Vestry would like to hear from you again. This time, we want your
ideas on spending the treasure we pledge or put in the plate on Sundays. A series of meetings at church will start
Sunday May 8. Come with ideas, suggestions, or just to listen. No sign-ups are necessary; the only requirement is
to show up and share.

May 8: groups at 8:30, 10:15, and 12:15
May 15: groups at 8:30, 10:15
May 29: group at 12:15

All groups meet in the Library. If there are more than 12 in a group a "breakout" second group may be considered.

In Christ,
Randy, Enid, and Betsy

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).