

TODAY AT ASCENSION

Preachers: The Rev. Deacon Kate Siberine

HOSPITALITY HOUR

Refreshments and conversation follow every service in the Narthex.

LIFE LONG LEARNING

Christian Formation Summer Break

The last day of Sunday Christian Formation classes will be Sunday, May 29. We will start up again in September. Check the announcements for information as we get closer.

Sunday School Survey for Next School Year

The teachers of Godly Play and Joyful Path would like to learn more about the families we serve and welcome anyone interested in learning about Sunday School for preschool-5th grade.

We will be waiting in the Narthex, each Sunday in May after the 9:00, 10:15, 11:00 and 11:15 services for anyone who would like to share their impressions of our programs. Questions from parents are also welcome! There is also a written survey as another way to gather information at <http://svy.mk/1qHgOx3>. Thank you for sharing with us! - Megan Didavi

Godly Play

Classes for children age 3 through second grade meet at 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. in Room 6 downstairs. This Sunday, we study the Mystery of Pentecost. In this lesson we will explore something strange that happened on Pentecost that had to do with speaking so that no matter what languages or tongues others spoke, they could understand what was meant.

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 be learning about accessing Sacred Guidance. When in need, where and to whom do we go? And we will also work on the how.

Youth Group Cookout May 22



We're Having a COOKOUT! For our last Youth Group of this school year, we will have a cook out at Angie and Trevor's house, 9701 Breckenridge Place, Montgomery Village at 6:00 p.m. Meat, buns and serving utensils will be provided. *Please bring a dish to share.* We will also be discussing fund raising projects for Work Camp. Parents are welcome to stay too!

Contact Angela Hight-Walker for more information at angela.hightwalker@gmail.com.

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 to class. Wear loose fitting, comfortable clothing.

New Book for Wednesday Book Group: *Gilead*

The Wednesday Morning Book Group ("WAM") is finishing up *Grounded* and will move on to the next book with the novel *Gilead*, by Marilynne Robinson. Here's a description of the book on Amazon: the book is "an intimate tale of three generations, from the Civil War to the 20th century: a story about fathers and sons and the spiritual battles that still rage at America's heart. In the words of *Kirkus*, it is a novel "as big as a nation, as quiet as thought, and moving as prayer. Matchless and towering." *Gilead* tells the story of America and will break your heart." The book won the Pulitzer Prize in 2004, was a New York Times Top-Ten Book of 2004, and winner of the National Book Critics Circle Award for Fiction. It is available in multiple versions from Amazon.com: <http://amzn.to/24o1hVf>. Discussion of *Gilead* begins on Wednesday, May 25 at 10:00 a.m. in the Library.

The Listening Heart Community Sabbatical

The Listening Heart Community are currently on hiatus until Monday, June 20, when we will resume our regularly scheduled meetings. Contact Lori Perine at lperine@gmail.com if you have questions or would like to join us.

LIFE AT ASCENSION

Ascension Celebration: Today

Today, we will celebrate three things: The birthday of the Christian Church, the many splendored Ascension community, and the ministry of seminarian (The Rev. Deacon) Kate Siberine. Today is her last Sunday at Ascension before she graduates from Virginia Theological Seminary and moves to Oregon.



We will have our annual Ascension International Potluck. Festivities commence in the Undercroft Commons at 12:30 p.m.

Budget 2017 Discussion Groups

Join Vestry members in the Library today at 8:45 and 10:15 to talk about how you think parishioner contributions and other monetary resources should be spent to best support Ascension's core missions. There will be a second 12:15 group on the 29th for those who missed them last Sunday.

LIFE AT ASCENSION

Pictorial Directory

There are only a few days remaining before the photographers arrive at Ascension.

Here are the available dates:

May 18-20 (Wednesday, Thursday, Friday) from 2:00 - 8:00 p.m.

May 21 (Saturday) from 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Other dates can be added as needed.

You can still sign up online today by following this link: <https://www.securedata-trans14.com/ap/churchoftheascension3/index.php?page=10>

You can also sign up on Sunday in the church office

If you have questions, contact Randy at ral@ascensionmd.org or Sue Snay at subarsy@aol.com.

Ascension Softball

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

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.

Blood Pressure Screenings

Next Sunday, there will be blood pressure screenings after each service in Room 1. All are welcome.

Annual Picnic, June 5, 2016

The annual parish picnic will be on Sunday, June 5 at the Park Pavilion at Bohrer Park. As we have done for the last few years, there will be a bilingual service at 11:00 a.m., meaning that there will be no Spanish service at 11:00 in the Chapel, nor a Holy Eucharist in the Main Church at 11:15.

The picnic, a pot luck affair, follows. Bring a dish to share and your own drinks. All paper goods will be provided. Feel free to bring chairs and blankets.

Congratulate Our Graduates!

If you or someone you know is graduating from either high school or college please let the church office know or email Pia at leamanp@ascensionmd.org. Please include their name and college they will be attending or from what college they will be graduating. Thanks!

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 put them on the Ascension House porch. Also, if you are able to help during the day of June 25, let Javier know at ocampoj@ascensionmd.org.

CARING FOR OUR COMMUNITY

Work Camp: Saturday, July 16- Friday, July 22

Where: Philadelphia City Camp/Episcopal Mission Center.

Cost: \$398
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.**

Fundraisers are being organized by youth and their parents. Scholarships are available. See Angie or Randy.

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 o'clock service on the third Sunday of the month. We will put lunches together today. Contact Edith at esekasi@gmail.com if you would like to help, or sign up at <http://bit.ly/1VAKEz8>.

Outreach Retreat—Being Ambassadors of Christ!

All are invited to a Saturday morning Ascension Outreach Retreat on June 4th, to be held in the Chapel from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. 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! Remember:

Through prayer, reflection, and discussion we'll strive to identify how we, as members of Ascension, can be the hands and feet of Christ in our community.

For more information, please contact Paul Boynton at boynton357@verizon.net

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 St. Dunstan's
Church, Pray in thanksgiving for the life and witness of
Thurgood Marshall

THIS WEEK AT ASCENSION

MONDAY, MAY 16

6:30 pm Overeaters Anonymous - Undercroft Commons

TUESDAY, MAY 17

6:30 pm Spanish Class—Ascension House
7:00 pm Education for Ministry—Library
Codependents Anonymous—Room 1
Stillwater Mindfulness Group—Chapel
8:30 pm Al-Anon—Room 1

WEDNESDAY, MAY 18

10:00 am *Grounded Book Group*—Library
2:00 pm Pictorial Directory Photo Sessions
7:00 pm Ensemble Rehearsal—Main Church
8:00 pm Gamblers' Anonymous—Chapel

THURSDAY, MAY 19

10:00 am Yoga—Chapel
2:00 pm Pictorial Directory Photo Sessions
7:45 pm Choir Rehearsal—Choir Room

FRIDAY, MAY 20

2:00 pm Pictorial Directory Photo Sessions
6:00 pm Couples in Recovery—Room 1

SATURDAY, MAY 21

9:00 am Overeaters Anonymous - Room 1
10:00 am Pictorial Directory Photo Sessions
11:00 am Al-Anon - Room 1
Overeaters Anonymous - Room 1

SUNDAY, MAY 22

Preacher: (The Rev.) Randy Lord-Wilkinson
Blood Pressure Screenings after each Service in Room 1

7:45 am Holy Eucharist—Main Church
8:15 am Choir Rehearsal—Choir Room
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

11:00 am Holy Eucharist in Spanish—Chapel
11:15 am Holy Eucharist—Main Church
Godly Play—Room 6
Joyful Path—Room 11

1:30 pm Vestry Meeting—Room 1
2:00 pm Christian Counseling Network—Library
5:00 pm Holy Eucharist—Chapel
6:00 pm Youth Group Cookout—Hight Walker House

Church Attendance	April 24	May 1	May 8
7:45 a.m.	21	19	31
9:00 a.m.	85	91	106
10:15 a.m.	21	10	16
11:00 a.m. Spanish Service	41	51	61
11:15 am	37	52	46
11:30 a.m. At Sunrise	14	-	9
5:00 p.m.	30	30	12
Total:	249	253	281

WELCOME TO CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

The Day of Pentecost: 15 May A.D. 2016

The Day of Pentecost

"Pentecost was an important Jewish festival before it became a Christian festival. One of the three pilgrimage festivals that ideally were to be spent in Jerusalem, it occurred fifty days after Passover, the commemoration of Israel's liberation from Egypt. It recalled and celebrated the giving of the covenant to Israel on Mt. Sinai. It was about the creation of a new kind of community— a way of living together radically different from life in Egypt. This meaning and the period of fifty days were brought forward into the early Christian understanding of Pentecost. The central affirmation of Pentecost is that the Spirit promised by Jesus is now present among his followers and in the world. The Spirit is the Spirit of God, the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of Christ. This claim is foundational to the New Testament and early Christianity.

"Thus Pentecost is about the abiding presence of Jesus as the Holy Spirit. In Luke's Gospel, the public activity of Jesus begins with the descent of the Spirit upon him: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me" (4: 18). From the cross, Jesus's final words are, "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit" (23: 46). The spirit that was in Jesus returns to God and then is given to the community at Pentecost.

"In the Christian calendar, the Sunday after Pentecost is Trinity Sunday. The progression, the sequence, is metaphorically and symbolically perfect. Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Holy Week, and Easter have been about God and God's incarnation in Jesus. Now, with the descent of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost, the Trinity is complete— and so we celebrate it on Trinity Sunday."

From *Speaking Christian*, by M. Borg

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).