

## TODAY AT ASCENSION

Preachers: (The Rev.) Randy Lord-Wilkinson

### 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 today. 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. In Godly Play, we will continue to learn about how Paul discovered the power of the holy spirit and went to the ends of the earth to teach people the message of love.

### 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. This week's journey on A Joyful Path will all be about perseverance. A story and then maybe some golf.

### 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.

### Wednesday Book Group: *Gilead*

The Wednesday Morning Book Group ("WAM") is reading 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." It is available in multiple versions from Amazon.com: <http://amzn.to/24o1hVf>. Discussion of *Gilead* continues on Wednesday, June 1 at 10:00 a.m. in the Library. Read pg. 26-51 for this week's discussion.

## LIFE LONG LEARNING

### 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](mailto:lperine@gmail.com) if you have questions or would like to join us.

## LIFE AT ASCENSION

### Final Budget 2017 Discussion Group: Today

Join Vestry members in the Library today at 12:15 p.m. to talk about how you think parishioner contributions and other monetary resources should be spent to best support Ascension's core missions.

### Changing of the Guard!

Absorbed as she now is with her studies and discernment for the Sacred Order of Deacons, Enid Cole has resigned from the Vestry and as Senior Warden. We are most grateful for her 2+ years of leadership! She is a dynamic, colorful and compassionate ambassador of Christ. She is succeeded by Betsy Hasegawa, a veteran warden already, and Vestry member Janet King was selected by her partners in mission as the new Junior Warden.

### Ascension Softball

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

June 13 Ascension vs. Seneca Creek CC, Flower Hill Field

June 16 Ascension vs. St. Francis at Nike Field

June 20 Ascension vs. Gaithersburg Church of the Nazarene at Nike Field

June 27 Ascension vs. Journeys Crossing at Flower Hill Field

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

### Ascension's Adventurers Seeking Ideas

Ascension's Adventure Team is seeking ideas for excursions/activities to undertake within the next 12 months or so. The excursions/activities may be recreational, educational, social, cultural, religious and/or just good fun. Please think outside of the box, we do not want to confine ourselves at this point in time.

All past activities have been half-day events, but full-day/multi-day events will also be considered.

Please email your suggestions to Richard Snay ([rssnay@aol.com](mailto:rssnay@aol.com)) by June 5, 2016. Richard will then compile a list and ask parishioners to vote so as to identify the most popular of the suggested options. P.S.: You are allowed to suggest redoing adventures that we previously enjoyed.

### Summer Office Hours

During the months of June, July, and August, the church office hours will change. The office will be open Mondays-Thursdays, 9:30 a.m.—4:00 p.m., and on Fridays 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

## LIFE AT ASCENSION

### June Movie Night

Everyone is welcome to meet up in the Undercroft Commons on Friday, June 3 at 6:00 p.m. to watch *In-side Out*.

We'll start off with pizza and whatever else people want to bring. We do ask for a donation of \$5 per person with a \$15 per family maximum toward the cost of the pizza. We'll start the movie at 6:30 and we'll most likely be out and off to bed by 8:30 p.m.

Please RSVP by Midnight Thursday, June 2. We need 10 confirmations to make Movie Night happen...

### 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. Sign up at: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0A4CABA82DA75-parish>

### Father's Day Food Drive

Honor your dads, living and departed, while helping others. Bring a bag of groceries to church before or on Father's Day, Sunday, June 19, for the food pantry at Gaithersburg HELP. Forms for dedication information are found on the welcome desk, in the Undercroft Commons, and in the Chapel. Letters of appreciation will be written to living fathers, and a list of all paternal honorees will be published. As always, we will give thanks for the ministry of fatherhood in the Prayers of the People at all services on the 19th.

### 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](mailto: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 [ocampo@ascensionmd.org](mailto:ocampo@ascensionmd.org).

### Engagement Ring Found

A women's engagement ring was found in the Main Church on Sunday, May 22. If it is yours, please contact the office with a description, so that we can get it back to it's owner at 301.948.0122.

## CARING FOR OUR COMMUNITY

### Work Camp 2016

Saturday, July 16- Friday, July 22

Where: Philadelphia City Camp/Episcopal Mission Center.

Cost: \$398

Go to: [episcopalmissioncenter.org/summer-break.html](http://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](mailto: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.

### Outreach Retreat—Being Ambassadors of Christ!

All are invited to a Saturday morning Ascension Outreach Retreat on June 4<sup>th</sup>, 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](mailto:boynton357@verizon.net)

## WORSHIP

### Attention all Worship Leaders, and Those Interested in Becoming a Worship Leader

I am in the process of updating the list of worship leaders (chalcists, lectors/readers, welcome team members/ushers, acolytes and flower deliverers). If you would like to join in any capacity (we will train you) or change your status (add or delete a worship position), please email me asap.

I will also be preparing the new worship roster for the months of July, August, and September shortly; if there are any changes specific to those months, let me know that too. Many thanks! Sari Stoddard, [sari.stoddard@verizon.net](mailto:sari.stoddard@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 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

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

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

**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, ericsmelody@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:** Betsy Hasegawa  
**Junior Warden:** Janet King

### 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 The Diocesan  
Committee on Human Resources, The Canons and Staff of  
the Diocese of Washington, All Vestries, Parish Leaders  
and Staff Members.



## THIS WEEK AT ASCENSION

MONDAY, MAY 30

*Memorial Day—Office Closed*

6:30 pm Overeaters Anonymous - Room 1

TUESDAY, MAY 31

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

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 1

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

THURSDAY, JUNE 2

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

FRIDAY, JUNE 3

6:00 pm Movie Night—Undercroft Commons  
Couples in Recovery—Room 1

SATURDAY, JUNE 4

8:30 am Outreach Retreat—Chapel  
9:00 am Overeaters Anonymous - Room 1  
11:00 am Al-Anon - Undercroft Commons  
Overeaters Anonymous - Room 1

SUNDAY, JUNE 5

Preacher: The Rev. Javier García Ocampo

7:45 am Holy Eucharist—Main Church  
8:15 am Choir Rehearsal—Choir Room  
9:00 am Holy Eucharist—Main Church  
10:15 am Service for Families with Young Children—  
Chapel  
11:00 am Bilingual Holy Eucharist and Parish Picnic—  
Bohrer Park  
5:00 pm Holy Eucharist—Chapel

Church Attendance	May 8	May 15	May 22
7:45 a.m.	31	22	22
9:00 a.m.	106	103	99
10:15 a.m.	16	15	13
11:00 a.m. Spanish Service	61	41	59
11:15 am	46	35	42
11:30 a.m. At Sunrise	9	16	-
5:00 p.m.	12	15	15
Total:	281	247	250

# WELCOME TO CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

*The Second Sunday after Pentecost: 29 May A.D. 2016*

## The Thin Places

There is in Celtic mythology the notion of "thin places" in the universe, where the visible and the invisible world come into their closest proximity. To seek such places is the vocation of the wise and the good, and those who find them find the clearest communication between the temporal and the eternal. Monasteries and holy places were meant to be founded at such spots to increase the likelihood of a transcendental communication. These thin places were threshold places, from the Latin *limen*, which can mean a border or frontier place where two worlds meet and where one has the possibility of communicating with the other. In Celtic studies the phrase can refer to places that stand at the border between the spiritual and temporal realms, and between people gifted with supernatural gifts in the mundane world and those living on the border.

Perhaps we can adapt the concept of such thin places to the experience that people are likely to have as they encounter suffering, joy, and mystery, and seek in some fashion to make sense of that encounter. If we think of these encounters as the ultimate thin places of human experience, and of religion as a way of talking and thinking about the encounters, we might do very well to think of the Bible as our guide through the thin places, and as providing us with a record of how our ancestors coped with their encounters and guidance beyond their particular situation which may be useful in ours.

Peter Gomes, *The Good Book*

## 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).