



This Week at Ascension

[Link to the Bulletins for April 24](#)

[Link to Randy's Sermon "After the Liturgy, the Laundry" from April 17.](#)

[Link to the Episcopal Diocese of Washington's Website](#)

Calendar Highlights

Saturday, April 23

9am Overeaters Anonymous, Undercroft Commons
11am AI-Anon, Undercroft Commons
11am Overeaters Anonymous, Room 1

Sunday, April 24

Blood Pressure Screenings in Room 1 after each service
7:45am Holy Eucharist, Main Church
8:15am Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room
9am Holy Eucharist, Main Church
9am Godly Play, Room 6
9am A Joyful Path, Room 11
10:15am Holy Eucharist for Families with Young Children, Chapel
11am Holy Eucharist in Spanish, Chapel
11am Godly Play, Room 6
11am A Joyful Path, Room 11
11:15am Holy Eucharist, Main Church

Earth Day Reflection

"Have you ever stopped to wonder what holds the universe together, what makes the earth function as remarkably as it does?

"The scientific community teaches us that a dazzling array of physical forces provide the answer, giving the universe and the earth their structure and coherence. They teach us that the sun provides the energy for life on earth, that water and soil and air support the growth of all plants and animals, and that creation's various parts participate in a vast, interconnected drama that has produced life in abundance. If you pause for a moment, the way in which the earth is structured and brings forth life - with each form finding its own place within the structure of the larger whole - is mind-boggling. For example, scientists have recently reported that as of 2009, the Marine Ocean Census had identified over 17,500 new species of marine life alone that live more than 200 meters underwater - so deep that light is no longer able to penetrate. One of their favorite finds? "Jumbo Dumbo" - a 6-foot swimming creature that propels itself by "flapping earlike fins", reminiscent of Walt Disney's flying elephant. Creation's creativity, its raw abundance of life-forms, and the ways in which they combine to create thriving ecosystems, is a stunning and beautiful reality.

"Where scientists see physical and evolutionary forces at work, holding nature together and fueling its fruitfulness, Christians can see the work of the Holy Spirit - working through natural structures and processes while also serving as the source of these same structures, these same processes. Just as it does at the beginning of time (Gen. 1:2), the Spirit of God draws order out of natural chaos, creates structure and fruitfulness in the midst of bleak, sterile conditions, and makes a home for life in settings where survival might seem impossible.

"In Galatians, Paul writes that "the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. ... And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit." (Gal,

1:30pm Vestry Meeting,
Room 1
3pm Confirmation Class,
Room 3
5pm Holy Eucharist, Chapel
6pm Youth Group,
Undercroft Commons

Monday, April 25

6:30pm Overeaters
Anonymous, Undercroft
Commons
7pm Girl Scouts, Room 6

Tuesday, April 26

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

Wednesday, April 27

10am *Grounded* Book Group,
Library
7pm Ensemble Rehearsal,
Main Church
8pm Gamblers Anonymous,
Chapel

Thursday, April 28

10am Yoga, Chapel
11am Episcopal Seeking
Seniors, Asbury
7:45pm Choir Rehearsal,
Choir Room

[Link to our Online Calendar](#)

Worship Leaders

Sunday, April 24

Preacher: (The Rev.) Randy Lord-
Wilkinson

Flower Delivery: Eliane Dunn-
Johnson, Alice Padmore

7:45 AM *Reader/Prayers:* Enid Cole,
Chalicians: Wadai Dennis, Sharon
Hayden, *Healing Prayer:* Janet King,
Acolytes: Raymond Chin, Jackson
Douglas, Aidan Douglas, *Welcome
Team:* Herald Douglas, Lisa
Murdock, *Altar Guild:* Enid Cole,

5:22-25)

"Christians traditionally have interpreted this passage as a guide for our behavior towards other people. Theologians now increasingly recognize this passage's application to our treatment of the earth. This raises important questions. What would it look like for human beings to behave with love, joy, peace, and kindness towards Creation? How can our churches teach our members to act with generosity, gentleness and self-control towards the earth? These questions matter - and it's important for churches to take them seriously as they seek to shape their members' identity and lives."

From "Green Faith: Interfaith Partners for the Environment"

Announcements

(click for more info)

HEADLINERS

[Pictorial Directory](#)

[Mother's Day Food Drive](#)

[Pentecost Readers Needed](#)

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

[Godly Play, April 24](#)

[A Joyful Path, April 24](#)

[Youth Group, April 24](#)

[Yoga at Ascension](#)

[Education for Ministry](#)

[Wednesday Morning Book Group](#)

[Listening Heart Community at Ascension](#)

[Still Water Mindfulness Practice Group](#)

WORSHIP

[Worship Rosters, April-June, 2016](#)

[Bulletins for Tablets Link](#)

[Calling all Altar Guild Members](#)

SERVICE

[Men's Shelter Lunch Preparation](#)

[Gaithersburg HELP](#)

Mardia Dennis

9:00 AM, *Readers:* Andrew Greene, Christian Simpson, *Prayers:* Kate Siberine, *Chalicians:* Nancy Carman, Cynthia Perley, *Healing Prayer:* Susan McLaughlin, *Acolytes:* Manny Johnson, Msangwa Ogada, Nuelle Johnson, *Welcome Team:* Swithin Kwamena-Poh, Kevin Blanc, Algernon Thomas, *Altar Guild:* Nancy Carman, Cynthia Perley, Liz Lennon

11:15 AM *Reader:* Kate Siberine, *Chalicians:* Diana Gustafson,, Kirk Fitch, *Healing Prayer:* Laura Shay, *Welcome Team:* Pete Minderman, Kendall Anderson, *Altar Guild:* Laura Shay

5:00 PM *Reader/Chalician:* Kate Siberine

Eucharistic Visitors: Pamela Irons-Forth, Enid Cole

Lord's Table Soup Kitchen

LIFE AT ASCENSION

Ascension Softball

Ascension Sunday Celebration

"Annual Giving Campaign Cottage Meeting"

Living with Serious Illness Group

Keeping the Feast

Spanish Classes

Prayer Request Updates

PUBLICATIONS

[Link to the Annual Report and the Vestry Candidate Questionnaire](#)

[April Ascendant](#)

[Together We Shine](#)

Prayers

FOR THOSE WHOSE LIVES ARE CLOSELY LINKED WITH OURS:

In the Diocesan cycle of prayer, we pray for Grace Church, Georgetown, Grace Church, Silver Spring Parish, Grace Episcopal Day School, St. Mark's Church, DC, St. Mark's Church, Fairland

PRAY FOR COMFORT, HEALING, COURAGE, AND HOPE:

Carol, Nancy, Janet, Lou, Fran, The Stracener Family, and all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

We pray for peace in the world and all who are serving our country here and abroad, especially those in harm's way, and their families.

Equip us and empower us to be witnesses to your love - as advocates and as servants, as ministers of welcome and of hope for all affected by natural disasters, violence, and war.

We pray for all special intentions, and those on our extended Healing Prayer List.

We pray for those who are in discernment around confirmation, Alice Bennett, Grace Bennett, Jerry Fitzpatrick Fayemi Johnson, Wendy Quijada, and Alfred Wasikye.

THANKSGIVING:

For the life of Rafael Marchante, brother in law of Mario Calix
and Julissa García, who died on April 10.

Episcopal Church of the Ascension

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