

EPISCOPAL
**Church of the
Ascension**



This Week at Ascension

[Link to the Bulletins for May 1](#)

[Link to Randy's Sermon "The Anonymous Christian" from April 24.](#)

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

Calendar Highlights

Saturday, April 30

9am Overeaters Anonymous,
Undercroft Commons

11am AI-Anon, Undercroft
Commons

11am Overeaters
Anonymous, Room 1

Sunday, May 1

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

3pm Confirmation Class,
Room 3

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 altar 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 people 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 improvements 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 Cottage 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

5pm Holy Eucharist, Chapel

Monday, May 2

6:30pm Overeaters Anonymous, Undercroft Commons
7pm Listening Heart Community, Library

Tuesday, May 3

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

Wednesday, May 4

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

Thursday, May 5

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

[Link to our Online Calendar](#)

Worship Leaders

Sunday, May 1
Preacher: (The Rev.) Randy Lord-Wilkinson

Flower Delivery: Esther Sawyer, Adoma Baffoe

7:45 AM *Reader/Prayers:* Jackson Douglas, *Chalicians:* Enid Cole, Leslie Sanya, *Healing Prayer:* Diana Gustafson, *Acolytes:* Ron Hayden, Jackson Douglas, Aidan Douglas, *Welcome Team:* Wadai Dennis, Frank Sanya, *Altar Guild:* Leslie Sanya, Wadai Dennis

9:00 AM, *Readers:* Sue Snay, Betsy Hasegawa, *Prayers:* Susan

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

Announcements

(click for more info)

HEADLINERS

[Pictorial Directory](#)

[Mother's Day Food Drive](#)

[Pentecost Readers Needed](#)

[Youth Work Camp 2016](#)

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

[Godly Play, May 1](#)

[Questions About Sunday School](#)

[A Joyful Path, May 1](#)

[Youth Group](#)

[Yoga at Ascension](#)

[Lenten Series on Race Follow Up](#)

[Education for Ministry](#)

[Wednesday Morning Book Group](#)

[Women's Retreat](#)

[Listening Heart Community at Ascension](#)

[Still Water Mindfulness Practice Group](#)

WORSHIP

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

McLaughlin, *Chalicians*: Sari Stoddard, Diana Gustafson, *Healing Prayer*: Randy Lord-Wilkinson, *Acolytes*: Kofi Kwamena-Poh, Kayleigh Yankie, Sam Mendimasa, *Welcome Team*: Esther Allotey-Taylor, Bev Stennett, Christine Kroma, Josephine Clarke, *Altar Guild*: Dorett Sutherland, Margaret Joseph

11:15 AM *Reader*: Sarah Rubin, *Chalicians*: Anika Lalmansingh, Christian Nwankwo, *Healing Prayer*: Diana Gustafson, *Welcome Team*: Avin Lalmansingh, Karl Didavi, *Altar Guild*: Laura Shay, Lynne Shaer

5:00 PM *Reader/Chalician*: Pete Minderman

Eucharistic Visitors: Jean Cohn, Barb Mansfield

[Bulletins for Tablets Link](#)

SERVICE

[Outreach Retreat](#)

[Men's Shelter Lunch Preparation](#)

[Gaithersburg HELP](#)

[Lord's Table Soup Kitchen](#)

LIFE AT ASCENSION

[Music Minister Jerrold Tidwell in Concert](#)

[Movie Night, May 6](#)

[Ascension Softball](#)

[Annual Picnic; Save the Date](#)

[Church Yard Sale and Car Wash](#)

[Living with Serious Illness Group](#)

[Keeping the Feast](#)

[Spanish Classes](#)

[Prayer Request Updates](#)

PUBLICATIONS

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

[May Ascendant](#)

[Together We Shine](#)

Prayers

FOR THOSE WHOSE LIVES ARE CLOSELY LINKED WITH OURS:

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 Ascension, 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

PRAY FOR COMFORT, HEALING, COURAGE, AND HOPE:

Rose, Carol, Alvaro, 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.

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