

EPISCOPAL  
**Church of the  
Ascension**



# This Week at Ascension

[Link to the Bulletins for July 17](#)

[Link to Ms. Barb Mansfield's July 10 Sermon "Loving Your Neighbor as Yourself"](#)

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

## Calendar Highlights

**Saturday, July 16**

*Work Camp Begins*

9am Ascension's Adventure Group, Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens

9am Overeaters Anonymous, Room 1

11am AI-Anon, Undercroft Commons

11am Overeaters Anonymous, Room 1

**Sunday, July 17**

7:45am Holy Eucharist, Main Church

8:15am Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room

9am Holy Eucharist, Main Church

10:15am Holy Eucharist for Families with Young Children, Chapel

10:15am Men's Shelter Lunch Preparation, Undercroft Commons

11am Holy Eucharist in Spanish, Chapel

11:15am Holy Eucharist, Main Church

*We are ambassadors who represent Christ.* - 2 Corinthians 5:20

As you well know I am passionate about the need for Christians to learn to translate the teachings of Christianity into words and images that 21st century people can understand. I've shared with you from time to time about how often I've met lapsed members of churches who'd dutifully and joyfully brought their children up in the faith. They did lots of great volunteer work, served on committees, launched into outreach activities and taught Sunday School, for example. And they also tended to drift away after their children left the nest.

They found themselves in a spiritual vacuum. Nothing filled the hole left by the cessation of all the activities associated with child-rearing years in the church. In particular, they tell me how they cannot accept, on an intellectual level, the words of the Creeds and Bible and many of the prayers. The ancient language is opaque to them, and a stumbling block to further spiritual development, at least in the Christian Church. For the many Christians who remain (happily, even), intellectual assent to the Creeds and doctrines of Christianity as they've been received from antiquity, verbatim, is the assumed prerequisite to being a Christian in good standing.

Historically, many in the last century have been more concerned with accepting Church doctrines than taking comfort and finding new life in living as ambassadors for Jesus in today's world. I meet these "exiles" everywhere. And, of course, this is not the only reason people drifted away from Ascension or "organized religion." But this is one area that we can address head on. There are many marvelous resources for those of us who feel drawn to a ministry of learning to "speak Christian" so that we can bring those "lost sheep" back into our fold.

I for one have always felt a "call" to do this, and to complement the reshaping and updating of Christian thought and speech with practical instruction in techniques that will enable *anybody* to deepen her conscious awareness of God.

In the program year to come watch for classes that will help us all become better ambassadors.

1:30pm Maryland Uke Jam,  
Undercroft Commons  
5pm Holy Eucharist, Chapel

**Monday, July 18**  
6:30pm Overeaters  
Anonymous, Room 1

**Tuesday, July 19**  
6:30pm Spanish Class,  
Ascension House  
7pm Codependents  
Anonymous, Room 1  
7pm Stillwater Mindfulness  
Group, Chapel  
8:30pm AI-Anon, Room 1

**Wednesday, July 20**  
10am *Gilead* Book Group,  
Library  
7pm Ensemble Rehearsal,  
Main Church  
8pm Gamblers Anonymous,  
Chapel

**Thursday, July 21**  
10am Yoga, Chapel

[Link to our Online Calendar](#)

## Worship Leaders

Sunday, July 17  
Preacher: (The Rev.) Randy Lord-  
Wilkinson

*Flower Delivery:* Hawa Clemens,  
Eliane Dunn-Johnson

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

9:00 AM, *Readers:* Christian  
Simpson, Suzyn Gonzalez, *Prayers:*  
Carleton MacDonald, *Chalicians:*  
Nancy Carman, Cynthia Perley,  
*Healing Prayer:* Major Clemens,  
*Acolytes:* Alfred Wasikye, Nuelle  
Johnson, Manny Johnson, *Welcome  
Team:* Swithin Kwamena-Poh, Kevin  
Blanc, Algernon Thomas, *Altar  
Guild:* Caryl Thomas, Adoma Baffoe,  
Dotty Pfenhauer

Peace, Randy

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**Announcements**  
(click for more info)

### HEADLINERS

[Linkages to Learning](#)

[Ascension's Adventure Group to Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens,  
July 16](#)

### CHRISTIAN FORMATION

[Yoga at Ascension](#)

[Wednesday Morning Book Group: \*Gilead\*](#)

[New Wednesday Morning Book: Searching for Sunday, Loving,  
Leaving, and finding the Church](#)

[Women's Retreat - with Registration Form](#)

[Education for Ministry, Fall 2016](#)

[Listening Heart Community at Ascension](#)

[Still Water Mindfulness Practice Group](#)

### WORSHIP

[Ascension Choir](#)

[Worship Rosters, July-September](#)

[Bulletins for Tablets Link](#)

### SERVICE

[Men's Shelter Lunch Preparation](#)

### LIFE AT ASCENSION

[Helping Your Seniors](#)

[Ascension Softball](#)

[Blood Pressure Screenings, July 24](#)

[Yard Sale, August 13](#)

[Armor of Light](#)

[Summer Office Hours](#)

[Living with Serious Illness Group](#)

11:15 AM *Reader*: Alex Langley,  
*Chalicians*: Christian Nwankwo, Avin  
Lalmansingh, *Healing Prayer*: Peg  
Ruppel, *Welcome Team*: Sciou  
Broderick, Peedy Terry, Emmanuel  
Nwankwo, *Altar Guild*: Anika  
Lalmansingh, Avin Lalmansingh

5:00 PM *Reader/Chalician*: Christine  
Yankus-Eng

Eucharistic Visitors: Randy Lord-  
Wilkinson, Kate Foley

[Keeping the Feast](#)

[Prayer Request Updates](#)

## PUBLICATIONS

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

[July Ascendant](#)

[Together We Shine](#)

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## Prayers

FOR THOSE WHOSE LIVES ARE CLOSELY LINKED WITH OURS:  
In the Diocesan cycle of prayer, we pray for Church of Mary  
Magdalene, St. Christopher's Church

PRAY FOR COMFORT, HEALING, COURAGE, AND HOPE:  
Helen, Joseph, Homé, Peg, Lea Ann, Nancy, Janet, Lou, Fran,  
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 the Youth Group as they serve at Work Camp at St.  
James the Less Episcopal School in Philadelphia.

### ALTAR FLOWERS

Given by Sari Stoddard, in loving memory of her mother Janet  
Stanley King, and her stepmother Margretta Dugan Stoddard.

Episcopal Church of the Ascension  
205 South Summit Avenue  
Gaithersburg, MD 20877-2315  
301-948-0122  
[ascensionmd.org](http://ascensionmd.org)