



# The Ascendant

A Newsletter by and for Members and Friends of Church of the Ascension

January 2018

## Thursday Morning Yoga

Yoga will resume at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, January 11, 2018.

## Contemplative Eucharist

The Contemplative Eucharist will return on Sunday, January 14.

## Winter Weather Policy



At Ascension, we always TRY to have church even when the weather is bad. We realize that travelling may be very difficult for some, so please make the best decision for you and your

family about Sunday church attendance. Even if we have Sunday services during inclement weather, we may cancel all other activities, such as Christian Formation for Children, Youth and Adults. Volunteer leaders, likewise, should use personal judgment about the safety of their travel that day. Cancellations will be announced by way of e-mail and on the outgoing message line at 301.948.0122.

As a rule, we will follow Montgomery County Public Schools for closing and cancellation decisions. If there is a delayed opening our morning activities are cancelled. If schools are closed, morning and afternoon activities are cancelled. In this event, evening activities still may be scheduled, so check in with the committee chair or call the outgoing message line at the church to check the status of your meeting or activity.

## From the Rev. Nan Hildebrand

Hello dear friends of Ascension,

I write to you today with great happiness about my rejoining the wonderful congregation of Church of the Ascension.

Serendipity was in the air as Randy and I happily greeted each other in front of The White House to protest the rescission of the DACA program. We talked on this beautiful, sunny day about all sorts of things, including DACA, The Dream Act's promise to the amazing youth who dream of finding a path to citizenship. On this beautiful day, the discussion of the terrible insult and the harm to them and their families without reinstatement of The Dream Act was transformed by the rally's stand for justice. The air was filled with hope and, even joy, by the participants' good will, their festive drumming and singing and their amazing, passionate speeches. We had to acknowledge that some of possible future leaders of America were rallying for their citizenship, if we would just allow it. What a loss for our nation, if the Dreamers were not given what they were promised.

In the midst of the buoyant protest, we also talked about the transition for which Church of the Ascension was headed and for which it was planning. Being there with Randy, reminded me how engaged Church of the Ascension has always been in the causes of justice and reconciliation. I've always held you close in my heart for your good hearted mission work and church service. I've also always held you close because of the friendship you offered me so generously while we were ministry together.

Mine and Randy's conversation there led to another one and yet another one, where we explored how I might help Church of the Ascension navigate the coming ministry transition. Since, I have been deepening my interest and engagement in pastoral care in recent years in my Doctor of Ministry program at Wesley Theological Seminary, and in working at Sibley Hospital for my second unit of Clinical Pastoral Education, I suggested to Randy that I might be of special use in pastoral care. In our last meeting, he suggested the title of Pastoral Associate. I loved the title and agreed to it instantly.

When I start with you in January, I will be the point person among you for hospital and home visitation for those needing ministry away from the church. As it currently stands, I will also be working with the Lay Eucharistic Visitors, assisting any support group who requests my participation, teaching occasional classes, and being available for individual pastoral care as requested. It will also be my great honor to be among you as a preacher and a celebrant.

Since my new schedule at Sibley is not yet defined, I cannot yet let you know what my schedule at Ascension will be. As soon as that is defined within in the next week and a half, Randy and I will organize my time with you.

Please know that I am holding all of you along with Randy and his family in my heart and in my prayers. I will continually pray for Ascension's ministries and give the Lord all my gratitude for opening the door to service among you and with you.

God Bless You !

Nan+

# LIFE LONG LEARNING

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## Yoga

Yoga Classes will resume at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday January 11, 2018.

## Spanish Class

Come and take part in Ascension's Spanish Class on Mondays from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Ascension House. You don't need to know Spanish to come, because we get together to learn and practice. For more information contact Javier at [ocampo@ascensionmd.org](mailto:ocampo@ascensionmd.org)

## Godly Play

Godly Play we study Holy Baptism, the full initiation by water and the Holy Spirit into the Church. For Christians, this rite is the gateway into the family or families we call the Church. We ask the children to remember or look forward to the day of their baptism by lighting candles from the light of the Christ Candle, since this is also the day they receive their "light".

A note to Parents: On January 14, we will be baking Communion bread for the church. It is a fun and sometimes messy activity, so please dress your children accordingly.

## A Joyful Path

The members of A Joyful Path are moving their classroom upstairs to Room 2 (the old nursery). Come and join us in our new setting Sunday, January 7th after the 9:00 a.m. service.

## Tai Chi Class

Tai Chi classes are offered at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday afternoons in the Chapel; a good time of peace and balance in a lovely place at sunset. Please come and join us.

Contact Claire Rosser at 301.275.0617 or [Cjrosser@aol.com](mailto:Cjrosser@aol.com) if you have any questions.



## Zumba

We have Zumba classes at Ascension every Thursday at 7:30 p.m. in the Undercroft. Zumba is a dance fitness program created by Colombian dancer and choreographer Alberto "Beto" Perez during the 1990s. Zumba involves dance and aerobic movements performed to energetic music. The choreography incorporates hip-hop, soca, samba, salsa, meringue and mambo.

## The Listening Heart Community

The Listening Heart Community is Ascension's "monastery of the heart", an intentional group for seekers in all stages of their spiritual journey to explore Benedictine and other contemplative spirituality in community. This fall and winter, we will be praying with the writings and teachings of Thomas Merton, the American mystic and Trappist monk, in observance of the centennial of his birth.

We meet again on Monday December 4. Contact Lori Perine at [lperine@gmail.com](mailto:lperine@gmail.com) if you would like to join us.

## Room 4: "Sanctuary"

At the most recent meeting of Ascension's teachers with the Rector, it was clear that the "nursery" has not been utilized as originally intended for toddlers and infants up to age 3. This has been the case for some time. Parents with infants and toddlers attend the 10:15 service (often with a child on the way!) or one of our other services. Starting January 7, 2018, Room 2 will be the Joyful Path classroom (for kids in 3rd to 5th grade), and Room 4 will become a comfortable place for parents with children who need a "break" from sitting in church. There will be comfortable furniture, a bathroom, and in time a monitor so that the service can be seen and heard there.

## New Book for Wednesday Mornings

The book group will conclude its discussion of Elie Wiesel's gripping chronicle of his experience at Auschwitz in *Night*, on January 10. On the following Wednesday the group dives into a contemporary exploration of Jesus in Michael Morwood's *Is Jesus God?* You may purchase the paperback version of the book from Amazon for \$11.15 here: <http://amzn.to/2CRGzCs>. Here's a description of the book: "In the new millennium, the most central question is how to understand God and Jesus. This book is an invitation to Christians—and non-Christians—to challenge their inherited notions of how and why Jesus is to be thought of as divine." Many of you will recognize Morwood's name as we have been using a Eucharistic prayer that he composed at 11:15 and 5:00.

# LIFE AT ASCENSION

## Interfaith Dialogue and Reflection Series



Church of the Ascension will be one of the hosts of a four-part program series of interfaith dialogue and reflection titled "Abraham's Children."

The four sessions will be held in March on Wednesday evenings, 7-9 PM as follows:

- March 7 at Church of the Ascension (205 S Summit Ave, Gaithersburg, MD 20877)
- March 14 at Kehilat Shalom (9915 Apple Ridge Rd, Gaithersburg, MD 20886)
- March 21 at Islamic Center of Maryland (19411 Woodfield Rd, Gaithersburg, MD 20879)
- March 28 at Tikvat Israel Congregation (2200 Baltimore Road, Rockville, MD 20851)

Developed by the Institute for Islamic, Christian, and Jewish Studies in Baltimore, Abraham's Children offers text study and dialogue among the three Abrahamic faiths in an effort to engage "the complexities of what is shared and what is unique in the Jewish, Christian, and Muslim traditions."

The Faith Community Working Group of Montgomery County and the Greater Gaithersburg Interfaith Alliance is teaming up with Church of the Ascension, the Islamic Center of Maryland, Kehilat Shalom and Tikvat Israel Congregation as co-sponsors of the series.

For more information or to sign up, write Richard Lederman at ledermanrc@gmail.com or call him at 240-441-8074.

## Ascension Youth Group Jan FY18 and Mission Trip Info

### January 7

NoMoCo- Service Project at Nourish Now.

<http://nourishnow.org/about/>

MUST RSVP

UNUSAL TIME 2 pm- 3:30 pm

UNUSAL LOCATION 1111 Taft Street in Rockville

### January 14

Regular Ascension Youth Group

6 pm - 8pm Ascension Undercroft

Need dinner volunteers please

### January 28

Regular Ascension Youth Group

6 pm - 8pm Ascension Undercroft

Need dinner volunteers please

Please email or text us if you can attend this Sunday's service project or if your family can cover dinner one of the evenings.

Also-I have dates for our Mission Trip in June. It is June 23rd through June 29th. We will return to Philadelphia and will be going with our Virginia diocese friends.

Finally-thank you all for the coats and winter wear we sent to St. James! We sent them 37 pounds of warm items and they were so grateful!!



Best-

Angie and Trevor

## Movie Night: *Spirited Away* February 2nd at 6:30 p.m.

Everyone is welcome to meet up in the Undercroft on Friday, February 2nd at 6:30 p.m. to watch *Spirited Away* (rated PG).



During her family's move to the suburbs, a sullen 10-year-old girl wanders into a world ruled by gods, witches, and spirits, and where humans are changed into beasts.

Chihiro and her parents are moving to a small Japanese town in the countryside, much to Chihiro's dismay. On the way to their new home, Chihiro's father makes a wrong turn and drives down a lonely one-lane road which dead-ends in front of a tunnel. Her parents decide to stop the car and explore the area. They go through the tunnel and find an abandoned amusement park on the other side, with its own little town. When her parents see a restaurant with great-smelling food but no staff, they decide to eat and pay later. However, Chihiro refuses to eat and decides to explore the theme park a bit more. She meets a boy named Haku who tells her that Chihiro and her parents are in danger, and they must leave immediately. She runs to the restaurant and finds that her parents have turned into pigs. In addition, the theme park turns out to be a town inhabited by demons, spirits, and evil gods. At the center of the town is a bathhouse

where these creatures go to relax

# LIFE AT ASCENSION

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## Ascension's Adventurers to Tour Schifferstadt



All parishioners and friends are invited to participate in a docent-led tour of the Schifferstadt Architectural Museum in Frederick, Maryland on Saturday, January 13<sup>th</sup>.

Built around 1758, Schifferstadt is one of the oldest and most historic buildings in Frederick, and among the best examples of early Colonial German Architecture in the country. Built at the beginning of the French and Indian War as frontier settlers abandoned their western Maryland farms in fear of raids from the French and their Indian allies, Schifferstadt could have been built to provide a refuge for families west of Frederick who chose to stay on their land should they need it. Joseph Bruner, a German immigrant, and his family left their village of Klein Schifferstadt in 1729 in hopes of gaining independence, including the

right to own property and build a home in the "New Land." He purchased 303 acres of virgin timber in 1746, cleared and farmed the land, and built a modest wood structure for his family home. Joseph Bruner named his farm Schifferstadt after his hometown in the Palatinate region of South Western Germany. Joseph's eighth and youngest son, Elias Bruner, bought the farm from his father in 1753, and built the stone farmhouse in 1758 that we know today as Schifferstadt. Although its exterior and interior have been altered over the years, Schifferstadt maintains many original architectural features.

Participants can meet with us at 9:45 a.m. in Ascension House's parking lot to carpool. Alternatively, participants can meet us at 10:20 a.m. at Schifferstadt. The cost for the one-hour tour is \$5 per person.

People are also invited to join us for lunch at Gladchucks Bros. Restaurant. The carpools will be organized to allow people to return directly to Ascension if they are unable to join us for lunch.

For more information about Schifferstadt, see: [http://www.frederickcountylandmarksfoundation.org/fclf\\_schiffgen.html](http://www.frederickcountylandmarksfoundation.org/fclf_schiffgen.html)

For more information about the restaurant, see: <http://gladchucks.com/index.html>

Also feel free to contact Jan Hauber (tel: 301-498-6613; email: [janet.hauber@verizon.net](mailto:janet.hauber@verizon.net)) for additional information. If you are planning to join us, please let Jan know by Wednesday, January 10<sup>th</sup>, so that she may make appropriate arrangements. Our tour is limited to 24 people (two groups of at most 12 people each).

### Driving Direction's from Ascension to Schifferstadt

Schifferstadt's Address: 1110 Rosemont Avenue, Frederick, MD  
Drive north on I-270 and continue onto Route 15 North toward Gettysburg  
From Route 15 take the Rosemont Avenue exit  
Go straight through the light at the bottom of the ramp  
Schifferstadt will be immediately on your right.  
Parking is in the church lot across the street.

### Driving Direction's from Schifferstadt to Gladchucks

Gladchucks Bros. Restaurant Address: 489 N. Patrick Street, Frederick, MD  
Turn right out of parking lot, take immediate right onto Rosemont Avenue  
Slight right when Rosemont becomes College Parkway  
Slight left onto Rockwell Terrace, then immediate right onto College Avenue  
Right onto one-way W. Patrick Street  
Gladchucks is on your right

# CARING FOR OUR COMMUNITIES

## Special Christmastide Offering

Dear Friends and Members of Ascension:

At its most recent meeting on December 17th, the Vestry voted unanimously to take up a special Christmastide collection to support the cause of Henry Sanchez, whose story is related to us by parish member Lucelia Justiniano, an immigration lawyer.

"Henry Sanchez, whose case obtained national attention when he was falsely accused of raping a girl at Rockville High School, was for a time the "poster child", or scapegoat, for anti-immigrant sentiment around the country.

"All charges against Henry were dismissed. In the process, his father Adolfo was detained by immigration authorities, forcing his two other children (ages 21 and 14) out of their apartment. Adolfo was released from ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement) custody on a \$20,000 bond (which seems inordinately high since he has no criminal background at all) but the family was able to pull together enough money to pay it through loans from friends.

"After Henry's charges were dismissed, the state released him into ICE custody and now is holding him on a \$40,000 bond which the family is unable to pay. Adolfo's wife (Henry's stepmother) has also struggled greatly with caring for her 9 children since she depended on him to help provide for her children (the youngest 7 living with them are 2, 4, 9, 9, 13, 15, and 21 years old). Henry lived on his own from the age of 14 to 18 when he reunited with his father.

"He has never before been in any trouble with the police here or in his native Guatemala. He endured substantial physical abuse at the hands of his mother while he lived with her in Guatemala and fled Guatemala due to gang threats. There is no doubt that he needs guidance and therapy to overcome his past trauma. However, what he has received so far in this country is downright injustice. Adolfo, Henry, and his two brothers are all currently in deportation proceedings.

"I come across so many devastating stories but I feel like extending a hand to this family will renew their hopes in the U.S.

"Thank you.  
Lucelia R. Justiniano, Esq."

If you want to make a contribution to Henry's fund, you may write a check to 'Ascension' with 'Henry' in the memo line. We realize that this is a controversial project, and so all of us in the leadership circle want to be available to hear your concerns and questions, if you have any. Our pictures and names are in the narthex (and have been for years), so you know who we are!

We are also starting a bit late, but remember that Christmas lasts until January 6, the Feast of the Epiphany. So if we can have your offering in hand by Sunday, January 7 we would be most grateful!

Christmastide Blessings!  
The Clergy and Vestry of Ascension

## Men's Shelter Lunch Program



The Men's Shelter Lunch program provides bagged lunches for homeless men, 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. The next program is on January 21 at 10:15 a.m. Contact Edith at [esekasi@gmail.com](mailto:esekasi@gmail.com) if you would like to help, or sign up at <http://bit.ly/1VAKEz8>.

## Mobile Med

Mobile Med will not be at Ascension House starting tomorrow January 2nd (until the beginning of March). I have posted signs on the Ascension House bulletin board and on the door to the chapel. Signs list the alternate location as well as a number to contact for more information.

Jean Cohn  
[spangle1@comcast.net](mailto:spangle1@comcast.net)  
240.372.3652.

## Gaithersburg HELP

This organization provides emergency food and other support to needy families in Gaithersburg. Non-perishable food collected at Ascension every week, and during specific holiday in-gatherings, helps to stock the pantry. Donations may be brought to church at any time and left in the narthex. For more information, contact Melanie Mitchell at 301.519.1074 or [melanie.mitchell@verizon.net](mailto:melanie.mitchell@verizon.net)

## Ministerio Felicidad

Ascension members prepare lunches and send love and prayers to day laborers in the neighborhood of the church. Join Javier at 6:00 a.m. on Saturday, January 27 in the church kitchen. If you have any questions, Contact him at [ocampo@ascensionmd.org](mailto:ocampo@ascensionmd.org)

## February Ascendant

Please e-mail Eleni Hailu by Wednesday, January 24, if you have anything for the December Ascendant at [comm@ascensionmd.org](mailto:comm@ascensionmd.org). Thank you!

# VESTRY MINUTES

November 19, 2017

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**PRESENT:** The Rev. Randy Lord-Wilkinson, Junior Warden Janet King, Gordon Donnelly, Meredith Horan, Gary McLaughlin, Zadinga Ogada, Luis Pedron, John Pruessner, Berenice Rodriguez. **Absent:** Senior Warden Betsy Hasegawa, Rose Buck, Avin Lalmansingh.

The meeting opened at 1:30 with Bible study; the business meeting began at 2:00.

**CONSENT AGENDA:** Gary moved that the consent agenda be adopted as presented. Zadinga seconded the motion, and it passed.

## OLD BUSINESS

Selection of Vestry Liaison to Minister of Music Search Committee. The Vestry elected John to be the Vestry representative to the committee.

Vestry candidates. The Vestry took preliminary steps toward getting candidates for the three new vestrypersons to be elected at the Annual Meeting in March.

## NEW BUSINESS

Furniture for atrium. Lin had researched furniture for the lower atrium, high tables and a coffee cart. After discussion, the vestry was in favor. Gary moved to approve the purchase, with a cap of \$1,200; Zadinga seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Supply clergy. Until such time as we have an interim clergy-person, we will use supply clergy. Decisions have to be made about the number of services to be covered, specifics of the coverage, and other responsibilities. Gary suggested that an Ad Hoc committee to address these things be established; he volunteered as did Gordon and Zadinga. Nan Hildebrand will return to Ascension as a pastoral associate, with only occasional preaching.

Historiographer. This position had been let fall to the way-side in recent years, but the vestry agreed to reinstate it. Much has happened in the last ten years, and it needs to be documented. Instead of a single person, it could become a Small Group activity. The clerk agreed to write something for the bulletin and ascendant asking for those interested; Meredith agreed to be point of contact.

Emergency security response. With churches becoming targets of attacks, the vestry discussed what Ascension could or should do. The combination on the doors was recently changed, and was given out to fewer people. Gary suggested we might invest in cameras at the three entrances, so that Lin could see who is at the door when the doorbell rings. Randy suggested the matter be referred to Ted Bedell, Facilities Committee chair. John, as liaison, will contact Ted.

The Giving Tree. Due to our very late start on this annual outreach project, it was proposed that instead of collecting

a variety of hats, gift cards, food, etc., that we choose a single recipient of a special Christmas collection, as is done for the Lenten rice bowl. The proposed recipient is Henry Sanchez, who was falsely accused of a crime. That brought him, as an undocumented immigrant, to the attention of ICE, which then put him in deportation custody. He needs \$40,000 to be released, which will delay his deportation hearings. Need pic of him. Janet moved that Ascension hold a Christmas-tide special offering for Henry Sanchez in lieu of the customary Giving Tree. Luis seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

## OPEN MIC

Gordon asked about the reorganization of the classrooms; Randy said it would be complete and ready on 1/7/18.

Gordon reported that our interim choir-master/organist Clarice Snyder is working out very well and giving the choir some challenging music to work with. He also reported there would be a pageant rehearsal upcoming.

**ADJOURNMENT:** At 3:45 p.m., Meredith moved that the meeting be adjourned. Gary seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Sari Stoddard  
Clerk of the Vestry

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## PARISH FINANCES

### Budget Development and Implementation



We continue to work with the Rector and Wardens to close out the 2017 budget, including evaluating the steps taken to reduce operating expenses and bring our income and expenses more closely into alignment. Our goal throughout the year was to narrow the gap between income and expenses during 2017 and achieve a balanced budget by mid-2018, if not sooner.

We have prepared a very preliminary 2018 budget based on projected expenses for next year, along with projected income based on the progress of the pledge campaign to date. We plan to complete a final version of the budget by early January for discussion with the Rector, Wardens, and Vestry. The budget will include estimates for basic operating costs, including upkeep of our facilities.

Among the areas we still need to address are estimates for personnel costs reflecting Randy's retirement on April 1, 2018. We are working on projections for the balance of the year for clergy support for 2018, as well as estimates for leadership of Ascension's music program.

# PARISH FINANCES

## November Financials

Total income for November was \$36,682. Ascension received \$3,186 in plate receipts and \$28,676 in pledge income. Both are consistent with levels we usually see in November. Our Miscellaneous Unrestricted Income was \$2,600, and we had rental income and income from other use of Ascension's facilities totaling \$2,220.

For November, our total expenses were \$45,201. Most expense categories were at or below expected levels for the month. Our Salary & Benefits costs continue to reflect the changes made in the staffing of musicians for our Sunday services. General Office Expenses returned to normal levels after being much lower earlier in the fall. Our Facilities expenses were somewhat higher than amounts we generally see at this time of year, but not unusually so.

We had negative net income for November of \$8,519 based on the income and expenses figures just described. Year to date, we have income of \$506,971, against total expenses of \$529,203 creating a deficit of \$22,232 thus far for the year. Ascension's total income includes the gift we received earlier this year from the estate of Kathryn Brooke.

Finally, the Endowment Fund stands at approximately \$308,000 as of November 30. The balance in the Fund continues to benefit from the largely positive trends in the stock market. Our Unrestricted Cash Reserves were at \$55,204 as of month's end. In addition, with the continued donations that we have received, we now have \$39,604 in the new Facilities Reserve Fund.

## PLEDGE UPDATE



As of December 27, we have 121 Pledges for \$283,196

Thanks to those below who have pledged to the annual giving campaign:

- ◆ Adeline Hedd-Williams
- ◆ Algernon Thomas
- ◆ Algernon Thomas
- ◆ Alice Benson
- ◆ Alice E Padmore
- ◆ Aloysius & Frances Farrah
- ◆ Andrew & Venice Greene
- ◆ Anne Brink
- ◆ Arturo & Maria Rodriguez
- ◆ Avin & Anika Lalman-singh
- ◆ Barbara Mansfield

- ◆ Bendu B Toee
- ◆ Bernice Rodriguez
- ◆ Betsy Hasegawa
- ◆ Betty Knight
- ◆ Beverly Stennett
- ◆ Carleton MacDonald
- ◆ Carolyn Dowling/ John Bjerke
- ◆ Ceda & Zadinga Ogada
- ◆ Charles Ofori Dickson
- ◆ Chikezie Nwankwo
- ◆ Chris & Rachel Ruggeri

- ◆ Christopher & Susan Ahalt
- ◆ Claire Rosser
- ◆ Curt Lindsay
- ◆ Cynthia Perley
- ◆ Daisy & Kemal Okudo
- ◆ David & Stephanie Mitchell
- ◆ Don & Jean Cohn
- ◆ Donald & Martha Marks
- ◆ Dotty & Jerry Pfadenhauer
- ◆ Elaine T Dunn-Johnson
- ◆ Elizabeth Lennon
- ◆ Enid Cole
- ◆ Escobar Vergel
- ◆ Esther & Archie Sawyer
- ◆ Esther & Robert Taylor
- ◆ Esther Tellu
- ◆ Fayemi & Christina Johnson
- ◆ Fe Wlotzko
- ◆ Florence Sasu
- ◆ Fran Spina
- ◆ Francisco Balicao
- ◆ Frank & Leslie Sanya
- ◆ Gary & Susan McLaughlin
- ◆ Georgana Maines
- ◆ Gerlinda Somerville
- ◆ Gina Fera
- ◆ Gordon L Donnelly
- ◆ Hallie Porter
- ◆ Howard & Margaret Holland
- ◆ Isaac & Josephine Clarke
- ◆ Jake & Ophelia Yalley-Ogunro
- ◆ James & Antoinette Babcock
- ◆ James A Black
- ◆ Janet King + FRF
- ◆ Janet M Rhoads
- ◆ Jemima Carr
- ◆ Jennie B Cargill
- ◆ John & Kelly Ten Hagen
- ◆ John Pruessner
- ◆ Johnetta Mars-Gibson
- ◆ Kathleen Bainbridge
- ◆ Kathleen Foley
- ◆ Kathryn Froelich
- ◆ Kevin Conway
- ◆ Kirk Davies
- ◆ Kristen Keating
- ◆ Laura Ann Whirley
- ◆ Laura Shay
- ◆ Lauren Kingsland
- ◆ Laurie Yelle
- ◆ Lavina & Stewart Williams
- ◆ Levin B Broughton
- ◆ Linda G Sye
- ◆ Lisa Murdock & Herald Douglas
- ◆ Lovetta F Willie
- ◆ Luis Pedron & Ruth Skowronski
- ◆ M Mackert
- ◆ Mabel Olivera
- ◆ Margaret Donnellon
- ◆ Margaret Tellu
- ◆ Maria E Rodriguez
- ◆ Marion Rice
- ◆ Martha Page Beach
- ◆ Mary (Kay) & Clay Kolle
- ◆ Mary H Waldron
- ◆ Melanie Mitchell
- ◆ Meredith Horan
- ◆ Michelle Wood & Steve Heinig
- ◆ Monica Koenig Caphart
- ◆ Monteath Petersen
- ◆ Nancy Carman
- ◆ Natalie Lois Wilson
- ◆ Neil & Nathalie Scott
- ◆ Paul Whitmore
- ◆ Peggy Ruppel
- ◆ Pete & Ellen Minderman
- ◆ Peter Maroulis
- ◆ Phyllis Eddy & Joseph Deffenbaugh
- ◆ Raymond & Doris Chin
- ◆ Richard & Susan Snay
- ◆ Robert & Linda Waters
- ◆ Robert A Wilkinson
- ◆ Ron & Jan Hauber
- ◆ Ronald & Sharon Hayden
- ◆ Rose Buck
- ◆ Roy Bevington & Connie Finch
- ◆ Ruby King
- ◆ Russell E Weber
- ◆ Sarah Gallagher
- ◆ Sari Stoddard
- ◆ Sciou & Jacob Broderick
- ◆ Suzanne E Hood
- ◆ Swithin & Ama Kwamena-Poh
- ◆ Ted & Kelly Bedell
- ◆ Terry & Kristin Johnsen
- ◆ Thomas & Dorothy Thiele
- ◆ Thomas Hall
- ◆ Todd & Jennifer Shea
- ◆ Tom & Denise Lionetti
- ◆ Wadai Dennis
- ◆ William & Delores Finister
- ◆ Winsome J Palmer



# The Ascendant

A Newsletter by and for Members and Friends of Church of the Ascension

January 2018

The Episcopal Church of the Ascension  
205 South Summit Ave.  
Gaithersburg, MD 20877-2315

*Address Service Requested*

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

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## Contact Us

Phone: 301.948.0122 Fax: 301.926.9012  
eca@ascensionmd.org www.ascensionmd.org

## Parish Staff

Rector  
Assistant to the Reactor  
Interim Organist & Choir Director  
Interim Ensemble Accompanist  
Parish Administrator  
Media Specialist

Randy Lord-Wilkinson  
Javier Gracia Ocampo  
Clarice Snyder  
Karina Gomez McCarty  
Lin Keene  
Eleni Hailu

## Sunday Services

7:45 a.m.—Holy Eucharist  
*"Meditative" service, no music - Main Church*  
9:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist  
*Classic sacred music of the Church accompanied by Choir and Organ—Main Church*  
10:15 a.m.—Eucharist for Young Children and Families  
*Storytelling of the Gospel with children's songs—Chapel*  
11:00 a.m.—Eucharist in Spanish  
*Songs and prayers in Spanish—Chapel*  
11:15 a.m.—Holy Eucharist  
*Modern Music and liturgy accompanied by instrumental ensemble—Main Church*  
5:00 p.m.—Contemplative Eucharist—Chapel