

WELCOME TO CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

The Second Sunday after Epiphany : 14 January A.D. 2018

First they came for the
socialists, and I did not speak out
because I was not a socialist.

Then they came for the
trade unionists,
and I did not speak out
because I was not
a trade unionist.

Then they came for the Jews,
and I did not speak out
because I was not a Jew.

Then they came for me,
and there was no one left
to speak for me.

Pastor Martin Niemöller

Prior to and during World War II, Hitler's genocidal Nazi party used variations on the triangle to identify citizens and concentration camp prisoners according to religion, ideology, sexual preference and numerous other categories. Some of the symbols were:

Yellow on Yellow (Star of David): Jews
Pink Triangle: Homosexuals
Brown: Gypsies
Purple: Jehovah's Witnesses



Red: German Political Prisoners—Communists, Socialists
Black: Vagrants and Lesbians
Green: Habitual Criminals
Blue: Emigrants

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).

TODAY AT ASCENSION

Preacher: Randy Lord-Wilkinson

Refreshments and conversation follow every service in the lower atrium.

A place of refuge for parents with restless children is available all morning in the Main Building, in Room 4.

LIFE LONG LEARNING

Tai Chi

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. Please come and join us.

Tai Chi will be cancelled any Thursday that schools are closed for bad weather this winter.

Contact Claire Rosser at 301.275.0617 or Cjrosser@aol.com if you have any questions.

Children's Formation

The members of A Joyful Path moved their classroom upstairs to Room 2 (the old nursery). Come and join us in our new setting today after the 9:00 a.m. service.

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/or practice. For more information contact Javier at ocampo@ascensionmd.org

Thursday Morning Yoga

Randy's yoga class is every Thursday at 10:00 a.m. in Chapel. 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. Wear loose fitting, comfortable clothing.

New Book for Wednesday Morning: Is Christ God?

On January 17 we will begin study and discussion of Michael Morwood's book *Is Christ God? Finding Our Faith From Amazon*: "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." You can order the book by following this link: <http://amzn.to/2CRGzCs>. For the 17th read through the end of chapter one.

Godly Play

Today in Godly Play, we will bake Communion bread for the church.

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. We meet the first and third Monday of each month in Library. Contact Lori Perine at lperine@gmail.com if you would like to join us.

LIFE AT ASCENSION

Zumba at Ascension!

Summer is here and is always a good opportunity to get in shape. For that reason, we will have Zumba classes at Ascension every Thursday at 7:30 p.m. in Undercroft Commons. 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, merengue and mambo.

Ascension Youth Group

Youth Group resumes today in the undercroft from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. As there is no school on Monday-there are no excuses not to attend! Please come for food, fun and formation! Our discussion will focus on our role in the evolving Civil Rights story started by Rev Martin Luther King.

Trevor and Angie Hight Walker

Contemplative Eucharist

The Contemplative Eucharist returns this evening at 5:00 p.m. in the Chapel.

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.

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 if the series.

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

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.

Men's Shelter Lunch Program

The Men's Shelter Lunch program provides bagged lunches for homeless men, assembled in the Undercroft once a month. Supplies are donated by Ascension members. Depending on the season, we provide forty to eighty lunches a month.

The next time the program operates is January 21 at 10:15 a.m. Contact Edith at esekasi@gmail.com if you would like to help, or sign up at <http://bit.ly/1VAKEz8>.

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. **Please: no perishables.** For more information, contact Melanie Mitchell at 301.519.1074 or melanie.mitchell@verizon.net

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
240.372.3652.

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 Javier at ocampo@ascensionmd.org

PLEDGE UPDATE AS OF JANUARY 10, 2018



149 Pledges for a total of \$353,666

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

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| ◆ Ricky Babcock | ◆ Brenda Gumula |
| ◆ Melody Bell | ◆ Pamella Irons-Forth |
| ◆ Johnathan Black | ◆ Randall Lord-Wilkinson |
| ◆ Robert & Cindi Bonsib | ◆ Martha Lubet |
| ◆ Andrew & Joyce Bvumbe | ◆ Bubba Pflantzbaum |
| ◆ Brad & Carol Clark | ◆ Leonard & Erin Martinko |
| ◆ Georgette Dennis & Douglas Lozano | ◆ Maura Ryan & Marybeth Daucher |
| ◆ Megan & Coiffi Didavi | ◆ Karen Olsen |
| ◆ Andrew & Amy Duncan | ◆ Christian & Marissa Simpson |
| ◆ George Eng & Christine Yankus-Eng | ◆ Joyce Thompson |
| ◆ Gerald & Kristin FitzPatrick | ◆ Mary Thorpe |
| ◆ Geraldine Gil | ◆ Amy Van Dalinda |
| | ◆ Trevor & Angela Walker |

CONTACT US

205 S. Summit Ave., Gaithersburg, Maryland, 20877
www.ascensionmd.org

- ◆ Office Hours: Monday-Friday 10:00 a.m. 4:00 p.m.
- ◆ Phone: 301.948.0122 ◆ Fax: 301.926.9012
- ◆ Randy's Cell: 301.801.4347
- ◆ Javier's Cell: 202.903.6426
- ◆ 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

Assistant to the Rector—The Rev. Javier Garcia Ocampo
ocampo@ascensionmd.org, voice mailbox 16

Interim Ministers of Music
9:00 a.m. Clarice Snyder
11:15 a.m. Karina Gomez McCarty

Parish Administrator - Lin Keene
office@ascensionmd.org, voice mailbox 10

Media Specialist—Eleni Hailu
comm@ascensionmd.org, voice mailbox 14

Altar Guild Directors, Mardia Dennis, 301.540.4499
mard908@gmail.com, Dotty Pfadenhauer, dottypfa@aol.com
and Georgana Maines, mainesgnh@verizon.net

LEADERSHIP AT ASCENSION

Senior Warden: Betsy Hasegawa
Junior Warden: Janet King

Vestry:

2018: Berenice Rodriguez, Avin Lalmansingh,
Gary McLaughlin

2019: Rose Buck, Zadinga Ogada, John Pruessner
2020: Gordon Donnelly, Meredith Horan, Luis Pedron
Sari Stoddard, *Clerk of the Vestry*
Avin Lalmansingh, *Treasurer*

Christian Formation for Children: Megan Didavi ~ Christian
Formation for Youth: Angie Hight-Walker ~ Facilities: Ted Bell
Finance: Howard Holland ~ Mission: Paul Boynton ~ Pas-
toral 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
St. Peter's Church, Poolesville

Church of the Ascension and St. Agnes, DC
Washington Interfaith Network (WIN)

Commission on Ecumenical and Interreligious Ministries
Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

THIS WEEK AT ASCENSION

Monday, January 15

OFFICE CLOSED

1:00 p.m. Al-Anon—Room 1
7:00 p.m. Listening Hearts Community—Library
7:00 p.m. Overeaters Anonymous—Room 1

Tuesday, January 16

10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting—Library
6:00 p.m. Spanish Bible Study—Ascension House
7:00 p.m. Codependents Anonymous—Room 1
7:00 p.m. Stillwater Mindfulness Group—Chapel
8:30 p.m. Al-Anon—Room 1

Wednesday, January 17

10:00 a.m. Wednesday Morning Book Group—Library
1:00 p.m. Al-Anon—Room 1
7:00 p.m. Overeaters Anonymous—Room 1
8:00 p.m. Gamblers' Anonymous—Chapel

Thursday, January 18

10:00 a.m. Yoga—Chapel
4:00 p.m. Tai Chi —Chapel
7:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal—Choir Room
7:30 p.m. Zumba—Undercroft

Friday, January 19

1:00 p.m. Al Anon—Room 1
6:00 p.m. Couples 12-Step Program—Room 1

Saturday, January 20

9:00 a.m. Overeaters Anonymous—Chapel
11:00 a.m. Al-Anon—Undercroft
11:00 a.m. Overeaters Anonymous—Room 1

Sunday, January 21

Preacher: Nan Hildebrand
7:45 a.m. Holy Eucharist—Main Church
9:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist—Main Church
10:00 a.m. Latin Choir—Room 1
10:15 a.m. Adult Class —Library
10:15 a.m. Godly Play—Room 6
10:15 a.m. Joyful Path—Room 2
10:15 a.m. Service for Young Children— Chapel
10:15 a.m. Men's Shelter Lunches
11:00 a.m. Eucaristia en Espanol—Chapel
11:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist—Main Church
1:30 p.m. Maryland Uke Jam —Undercroft
2:00 p.m. Christian Counseling Network —Library
5:00 p.m. Contemplative Eucharist—Chapel

Attendance	December 25	December 31	January 7
7:45 a.m.	—	—	26
9:00 a.m.	—	—	80
10:15 a.m.	58	161	6
11:00 a.m. Spanish Service	—	—	40
11:15 am	—	—	31
5:00 p.m.	—	—	33
Total:	58	161	219