

# WELCOME TO CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

*One Ascension Sunday : 29 July A.D. 2018*

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## An Old Fashioned Picnic

I have been looking forward to this 1A Sunday since the last one! When I realized that the kitchen wouldn't be quite ready for us, I was disappointed at first. But then I realized that a summer picnic is just the sort of informal get together of friends and family that makes everyone share, laugh, fool around, and create memories of our times and emotions at certain places. Do you doubt me? Think about your own memories of picnics past. Who was there? What did you eat? What activities came after the eating? Are your childhood memories different from your young adult memories of picnicking? If you're like me, you may recall odd things. For example, my mother always made hard boiled eggs and rice! Why? Nobody really liked it...but it was a picnic staple. My dad was a very serious, formal man. Seeing him without his clerical collar, trying to relax in the country, I have to smile today as I picture it. Later, as a young man carousing around with other youth, I recall nothing about the food, only the rental of horses or off- road bikes, the noise, the music and the laughter. I wish I had photos of those early picnics. I think I would see things in them that might not have been important to me then, but would have meaning today.

When we picnic together this week, let's recreate the joy and fellowship of old- time family gatherings, as well as the gathering of the multitudes around Jesus as he preached. That was a kind of picnic, don't you think? Surely, all those 5,000 people were not committed followers yet—they were interested in what was happening, and came for a good look. I'll bet that most of them had a snack or two tucked away on their person, and part of the miracle of being able to feed them all was getting them all to share everything they had! You know, some of the folks who plan our 1A meals say that they are always concerned about the amount of food that has arrived by the beginning of the service that day. "Oh Gosh, this doesn't seem like enough!", they always say. But somehow, there is ALWAYS enough; somehow, we always distribute leftovers to others.

A picnic is in the best tradition of family life, and life with Jesus. Our relationships deepen, and the informal setting makes it easier to welcome the stranger to our group, and to share our bounty with him.

I hope that as you sit in the grass (or at one of the tables in the undercroft) that you will feel that you can share yourself, as well as your picnic food with those around you. It would also be lovely if you took out your phone or camera and captured an image of our picnic that will help you remember something of this day. And if you really like the picture, send a copy to me ([ocampo@ascensionmd.org](mailto:ocampo@ascensionmd.org)) so that the Church will have an institutional memory of the friends, the food, and the fun!

Javier

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**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).



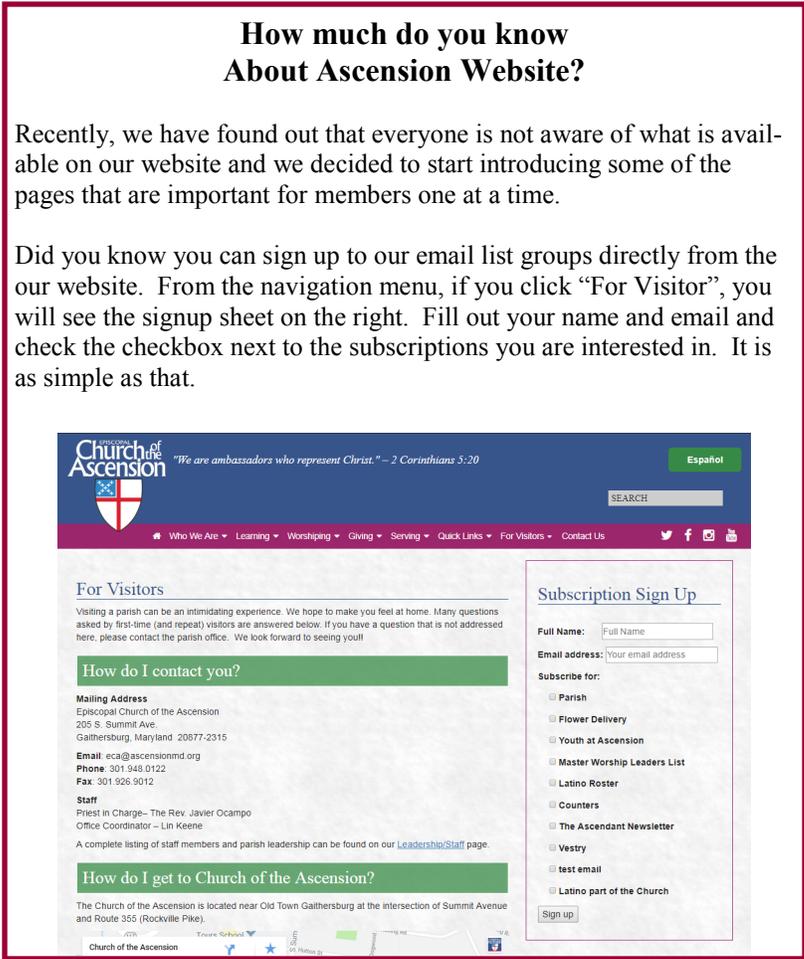
**Personnel Committee Seeks Volunteers!**

Do you have Human Resource Management or Managerial experience? Do you have a keen eye for detail? Are you gifted at conflict resolution? Well if so, then the personnel Committee is looking for volunteers. We are looking for help with the following areas of personnel: reviewing the personnel policies and guidelines, establishing salary structures, creating and performing annual reviews, and reviewing benefits packages for the staff and clergy. If any of the above sounds interesting, Ascension could use your help. Please contact the Vestry Liaison, Rose Buck, at [rose.buck2@gmail.com](mailto:rose.buck2@gmail.com) or at 301.325.6291 or email Lin Keene at [office@ascensionmd.org](mailto:office@ascensionmd.org).

**How much do you know About Ascension Website?**

Recently, we have found out that everyone is not aware of what is available on our website and we decided to start introducing some of the pages that are important for members one at a time.

Did you know you can sign up to our email list groups directly from the our website. From the navigation menu, if you click "For Visitor", you will see the signup sheet on the right. Fill out your name and email and check the checkbox next to the subscriptions you are interested in. It is as simple as that.



**Fill the Bin For Comfort Case**



Ascension's Youth Group has been supporting the important work of a local non-profit organization—Comfort Cases, that provides services to children as they head into foster care. The Founder, Robert Sheer, will be speaking to the congregation today at 10:00a.m. If you bring supplies to donate, a bin is available at Narthex.

**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 program is today at 11:15 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/>

**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, July 28 in the church kitchen. If you have any questions, Contact Javier at [ocampo@ascensionmd.org](mailto:ocampo@ascensionmd.org)

**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)

**Prison Ministry**

Bubba Pflantzbaum has been writing to an inmate in Cumberland for about 10 years, providing friendship and access to information. His name is Jim, and he may be released in the next year or so. Jim is always looking for people to correspond with, so if you are interested in getting involved with this ministry, please email Bubba at [bubbashalom@gmail.com](mailto:bubbashalom@gmail.com)

**Montgomery Hospice**

Montgomery Hospice is a nonprofit hospice that has been serving the residents of Montgomery County for 36 years. We provide professional end-of-life care in homes, extended care facilities and at Casey House, our acute care facility. We are looking for new volunteers. Our greatest need is for volunteers to visit patients. These volunteers provide companionship for patients, respite for family members, lavender oil hand massages, music by the bedside or help with practical matters. Many provide the gift of "presence" by simply being with a patient. All volunteers go through an application

## CONTACT US

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

- ◆ Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 9:30 a.m. 3:30 p.m.  
Friday 10:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.
- ◆ Phone: 301.948.0122 ◆ Fax: 301.926.9012
- ◆ Javier’s Cell: 202.903.6426
- ◆ Prayer requests: Fill out a yellow prayer request card on the table at Narthex, 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

**Priest in Charge** –The Rev. Javier García Ocampo  
ocampo@ascensionmd.org, voice mailbox 12

**Interim Ministers of Music**

9:00 a.m. Clarice Snyder

**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,

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:**

- 2019: Rose Buck, Zadinga Ogada, John Pruessner
- 2020: Gordon Donnelly, Meredith Horan, Luis Pedron  
Sari Stoddard, *Clerk of the Vestry*  
Avin Lalmansingh, *Treasurer*
- 2021: Berenice Rodriguez, Robert Waters,  
Susan McLaughlin

Christian Formation for Children: Megan Didavi ~ Christian

Formation for Youth: Angie Hight-Walker ~  
Facilities: Ted Bedell ~

Finance: Avin Lalmansingh ~ Mission: Paul Boynton ~  
Pastoral Care: Nan Hildebrand ~  
Personnel: Jean Cohn ~

Worship: Gary McLaughlin, Curt Lindsay

**Delegates to Diocesan Convention:**

Mardia Dennis, Gary McLaughlin, Sue Snay  
Alternate: Fredy Diaz

## Cycles of Prayer

Prayers For Those Whose Lives are Closely Linked With  
Ours: Diocesan Historiographer  
Diocesan Committee on Constitutions and Canons  
Diocesan Disciplinary Board

## THIS WEEK AT ASCENSION

### Monday, July 30

- 1:00 p.m. Al-Anon—Room 1
- 7:00 p.m. Overeaters Anonymous—Room 1

### Tuesday, July 31

- 7:00 p.m. Codependents Anonymous—Room 1
- 7:00 p.m. Stillwater Mindfulness Group—Chapel
- 7:30 p.m. Spanish Bible Study—Library
- 8:30 p.m. Al-Anon—Room 1

### Wednesday, August 1

- 10:00 a.m. Wednesday Book Group—Library
- 1:00 p.m. Al-Anon—Room 1
- 6:30 a.m. Facilities Committee—Room 2
- 7:00 p.m. Overeaters Anonymous—Room 1
- 8:00 p.m. Gamblers’ Anonymous—Chapel

### Thursday, August 2

- 10:00 a.m. Yoga—Chapel

### Friday, August 3

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

### Saturday, August 4

- 9:00 a.m. Overeaters Anonymous—Chapel
- 11:00 a.m. Al-Anon—Undercroft
- 11:00 a.m. Overeaters Anonymous—Room 1
- 6:30 p.m. Al-Anon/Spanish- Room 1

### Sunday, August 5

**Preacher:** Barbara Mansfield

- 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist —Main Church  
Bible School for 3+ year olds & under — Main Church
- 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist —Main Church
- 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist —Main Church
- 11:00 a.m. Latin Choir — Room 1
- 12:00 p.m. Eucaristia en Espanol—Main Church
- 1:30 p.m. Vestry Meeting—Room 1

Attendance	July 8	July 15	July 22
8:00a.m.	27	24	21
10:00 a.m.	94	102	144
12:00p.m.	30	27	33
Total:	151	153	198