

WELCOME TO CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

The Sunday of the Passion Palm Sunday: 25 March A.D. 2018

Holy Week and Easter at Ascension



Maundy Thursday, March 29

7:30 p.m. Holy Eucharist with Foot Washing and Stripping of the Altar—Main Church

Good Friday, March 30

12:00 p.m. “Stations to Go” - Main Church and Various Locations in Olde Towne Gaithersburg

7:30 p.m. Prayer Book Liturgy—Main Church

Easter Eve, Saturday, March 31

7:30 p.m. Easter Vigil—Main Church

Easter Day, Sunday, April 1

7:45 a.m. Holy Eucharist—Main Church

9:00 a.m. Festival Eucharist—Main Church

11:00 a.m. Festival Eucharist—Main Church

11:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist in Spanish—Chapel

12:30 p.m. Holy Eucharist for Families with Young Children, followed by an Easter Egg Hunt— Chapel

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.

Godly Play & A Joyful Path

In Observance of Palm Sunday, Godly Play and Joyful Path will not meet today.

New Book for Wednesday Morning Book Group

We are reading Brian McLaren's latest book entitled *The Great Spiritual Migration: How the World's Largest Religion Is Seeking a Better Way to Be Christian*. Here's a description from Amazon.com (<http://amzn.to/2nGabwg>): "Brian McLaren, a leading voice in contemporary religion, argues that— notwithstanding the dire headlines about the demise of faith and drop in church attendance—Christian faith is not dying. Rather, it is embarking on a once-in-an-era spiritual shift. For millions, the journey has already begun."

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.

Beginning April 10, Tina Lightner-Morris and Lucia Pires will be teaching this class, also at 10:00 a.m. on Thursdays (except 4/19). We will begin with the Joint Freeing Series, move into some Sun Salutations and finish with an iRest/yoga nidra guided mindful meditation. Please join us for this amazing practice of embodied prayer!"

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.

LIFE AT ASCENSION

Ascension Youth Group

No Youth Group today due to Spring Break.

If you are interested in participating in the "March for Our Lives" on March 24th, please email or text Angie at ahight@nist.gov or 301-693-2399

Pledge Envelopes

Please don't forget to pickup your pledge envelopes located on the table outside the Parish Office if you haven't done so. If your pledge envelope is not there and you did not pick it up please contact Lin by e-mail at office@ascensionmd.org.

Spring Party

Join us to celebrate that the snow and cold are almost gone. We will have our Spring Party on April 14th from 7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. Tickets are on sale for \$15. The money will be used to pay expenses for the Spiritual Retreat from the 11:00 a.m. service. Ticket includes dinner, music and lots of fun.

For more information contact Berenice at berenice.rodriguez.84@gmail.com, Luis at lrpedron@gmail.com or Javier at ocampo@ascensionmd.org.

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SERVICES SIGNUP

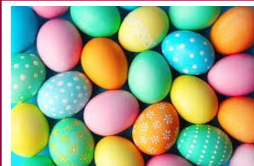
Please sign up for Holy Week and Easter Services here:

<http://ascensionmd.org/holy-week-worship-roster-sign-up/>

Holy Week Worship Roster Sign up

Current Sign-up Sheets

Title	Date	Open Spots	
Palm Sunday	March 24, 2018	11	View & sign-up >
Maundy Thursday	March 29, 2018	14	View & sign-up >
Good Friday	March 30, 2018	4	View & sign-up >
Great Vigil of Easter	March 31, 2018	13	View & sign-up >
Easter Day: 7:45 a.m. Service	April 1, 2018	13	View & sign-up >
Easter Day: 11:00 am Service	April 1, 2018	14	View & sign-up >
Easter Day: 9:00 a.m. Service	April 1, 2018	14	View & sign-up >
Easter Day: 12:30 pm Service for Families	April 1, 2018	6	View & sign-up >



Easter Eggs

If you bring Easter eggs, please place them in the box by the front door of the Narthex.

After the 12:30 service, on Sunday, April 1st (Easter Day) all the families participating in the egg hunt are invited to gather downstairs in the Parish Hall for some refreshments and conversation while we prepare for the egg hunt. The egg hunt will begin around 1:30 p.m. and all the children will leave from the Parish Hall. We ask the older children to watch out for younger children and help them if they need it.

One Ascension Sunday Potluck Agenda

1. A blessing by Father Javier
2. The meal is served and we will let table by table to be asked to come forward.
3. There will be music as organized by Meredith Horan.
4. Closing remarks by Betsy H Senior Warden and Father Javier.

CARING FOR OUR COMMUNITY

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 program will be on April 15 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>

Mobile Med

Mobile Med: Ascension hosts the Mobile Med van on Tuesday at Ascension House (where the van parks) and the Chapel (where the patients wait). We have volunteers that man the waiting room from 7a-3p. You do NOT need medical knowledge or training - we act as hosts to the patients as they wait. We welcome new volunteers!

Jean Cohn | 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. **Please: no perishables.** For more information, contact Melanie Mitchell at 301.519.1074 or 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, March 24 in the church kitchen. If you have any questions, Contact Javier at ocampo@ascensionmd.org

2018 Lenten Rice Bowl Recipient

A Lenten tradition since the tenure of Rector Harry Dalzell (1970-1980), your offering, placed in the wooden bowl in the font as you come forward for Communion, goes toward an outreach ministry. Typically, we alternate between local and domestic or international causes. This year the Rice Bowl offering goes to Gaithersburg HELP, an agency that provides material support to struggling residents of all kinds. Ascension's food offering goes to the HELP food pantry on Muddy Branch Rd. Parish member Melanie Mitchell has been heavily involved with HELP board for many years. Former Rector Joe Clark served two terms as president of the HELP board.

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

CARING FOR OUR COMMUNITY

Make a difference for someone facing the end of life

JSSA Hospice and Transitions Volunteer Training May 6 and 7, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Rockville, MD.

JSSA, a non-sectarian community agency, is seeking volunteers over the age of 18 to help enhance the quality of life of individuals and families facing life-threatening or terminal illness. JSSA offers specialized training for prospective volunteers for its Hospice and Transitions programs. Following the training, volunteers are asked to commit to a minimum of 2 hours a week visiting patients in the Hospice or Transitions programs. If you're interested please fill out the application. Or contact Carrie Myatt, Volunteer Coordinator, at 301-816-2611 or cmmyatt@jssa.org

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,
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 Be-
dell 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: Fred Diaz

Cycles of Prayer

In the Diocesan cycle of prayer, we pray for
Chapel of the Intercession, Washington Hospital Center
Pray for all hospital, hospice,
nursing home and healthcare chaplains
Pray for all parish nurses and healthcare providers
African Palms
Passover (March 31-April 7)

THIS WEEK AT ASCENSION

Monday, March 26

1:00 p.m. Al-Anon—Room 1
6:00 p.m. Spanish Class—Ascension House
7:00 p.m. Overeaters Anonymous—Room 1

Tuesday, March 27

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, March 28

10:00 a.m. Wednesday Morning Book Group—Library
1:00 p.m. Al-Anon—Room 1
6:00 p.m. Ensemble Rehearsal—Main Church
7:00 p.m. Overeaters Anonymous—Room 1
8:00 p.m. Gamblers' Anonymous—Chapel

Thursday, March 29

10:00 a.m. Yoga—Chapel
4:00 p.m. Tai Chi—Chapel
Holy Eucharist Foot Washing, Stripping of the
Altar
7:30 p.m. Zumba—Undercroft

Friday, March 30

12:00 p.m. Stations to Go—Entrance of the Main Church
1:00 p.m. Al Anon—Room 1
7:30 p.m. Good Friday Liturgy—Main Church

Saturday, March 31

9:00 a.m. Overeaters Anonymous—Chapel
11:00 a.m. Al-Anon—Undercroft
11:00 a.m. Overeaters Anonymous—Room 1
7:30 p.m. Great Vigil of Easter—Main Church

Sunday, April 1

Easter SUNDAY

Preacher: Randy Lord-Wilkinson
7:45 a.m. Holy Eucharist—Main Church
8:00 a.m. Immigration Consultants—Library
9:00 a.m. Festival Holy Eucharist—Main Church
11:00 a.m. Celebracion del dia de Pascua—Chapel
11:00 a.m. Festival Holy Eucharist—Main Church
12:30 p.m. Service for Families with Children—Main Church
1:30 p.m. Easter Egg Hunt

Attendance	March 4	March 11	March 18
7:45 a.m.	28	25	21
9:00 a.m.	65	78	85
10:15 a.m.	9	3	13
11:00 a.m. Spanish Service	40	40	45
11:15 am	42	41	37
5:00 p.m.	3	5	9
Total:	187	192	210