

# WELCOME TO CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

*Twenty First Sunday after Pentecost/One Ascension: 14 October A.D. 2018*

## Why You Choose to Give to Ascension

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Jesus Christ,

Bishop Mariann was very moved by the sight of full pews, active participants and the blending of people from many backgrounds into a single congregation. No, our work is not done; but we are making good progress, and with God's help and your good will, we will be a strong and loving body. I hope you felt the excitement and power of love in our service the week on that Sunday. It was a truly joyful event, full of pageantry, music and devotion.

I also want to thank all of you who made a pledge in the last week. Your response and generosity of giving was nothing short of astounding!! We will soon have graphic evidence of our progress, but I want to encourage you to make a pledge this week if you have not already done so.

Here are a few more statements from members of Ascension about why they pledge. You will find it interesting to see all the different perspectives that motivate generosity. Will you also share your perspective? Just send me your statement to [ocampo@ascensionmd.org](mailto:ocampo@ascensionmd.org)

Blessings

Javier

Ernest Hemingway's goal in writing was to write "one true sentence." That would be a good goal for this purpose also. (1) All that I have, all that I am or ever will be is because of God made the World. (2) I have decided to follow Jesus, here in this church (3) In praise and gratitude, I will share my time, talent and treasure for this community and its mission.

John Pruessner

I give because Church of the Ascension holds a large part of my heart in a powerful relationship of over six decades! We are fortunate to have each other at Ascension, a place where we can together grow and gain a greater awareness of God, his natural universe, and his messenger Jesus.

Meredith Horan

I pledge because Ascension is my Sanctuary and my home. It is where I go in troubled times for comfort, strength, hope, and healing. It is where I go in good times to realize my many blessings; and to give back to the community with my time, talents and financial support. And just like my home where I live, the church has commitments, bills, and hopefully some left over to help the community it supports and tries to nourish.

Janet King

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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 "Represent Jesus Christ Whatever We May be," so we welcome you to this family 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: Nan Hildebrand

Refreshments and conversation follow every service in the lower atrium.

A place of peace for parents and a beginners Sunday School is available in Room 4.  
Please feel free to bring your child.

## LIFE LONG LEARNING

### A Joyful Path

The members of A Joyful Path will be starting a new unit this week. "By calling ourselves progressive Christians, we mean we are Christians who strive for peace and justice among all people. The life of Mohammad Ghanaian who worked for justice through non violent resistance. Come and join us during the 9:00 a.m. service in Room 2.

Escuela Dominical Para Nin@s The members of A Joyful Path 12noon in Room 2. We will continue to explore and discover the importance of Jesus in our everyday lives. An art project, listening to a story about Jesus, learning the Lord's Prayer in Spanish and sharing our experiences on the Path. Come join us in Rm 2.

### Godly Play

This week in Godly Play, we examine the story of the great flood and the ark that Noah built. We move beyond the creation of the world to its re-creation and begin to see the gift of water as a symbol of cleansing, redemption and forgiveness. We also learn about God's promise, through Noah, to all of us.

### Wednesday Morning Book Group

Ascension's book group is discussing the book, "Sapiens: A Brief History of Humanity", by Yuval Noah Harari. This book explores the ways in which biology and history have defined us and enhanced our understanding of what it means to be "human". We meet weekly at 10:00 a.m. in Ascension's library on Wednesdays. All are welcome to join us. Please read Chapter 2 for this coming Wednesday.

### 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](mailto:ocampo@ascensionmd.org)

### Thursday Morning Yoga

Yoga classes are offered on Thursdays at 10:00 AM in Room 6, taught by Lucia Pires. The class is multilevel, with an emphasis on gentle yoga, and is appropriate for beginners. Props are offered, but the students are encouraged to bring their own yoga mats.

### Tai Chi

Tai Chi class is 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](mailto:Cjrosser@aol.com) if you have any questions.

## LIFE AT ASCENSION

### Are you interested in helping someone in need of transportation get to church?

We have members at Ascension that are looking for a ride to Sunday service. Are you available, are you interested in giving them a lift? If you live in Gaithersburg and would like to assist please contact the parish administrator Lin Keene at [office@ascensionmd.org](mailto:office@ascensionmd.org)

### WE HAVE GONE DIGITAL

In this day and age we must keep up with technology. We have updated Servant Keeper (Ascension's database) to allow parishioners to update their own information on the church's database. The link below will allow you to access it by entering your email address and creating a password. You will be able to upload your own photo, update your current information, and also view your contributions and print your own statements. Of course those who wish us to provide them with their statements, we will be happy to do so. You will be able to share your interests in severing and tell us where you are serving now. If you have any difficulties, please contact Lin Keene at [office@ascensionmd.org](mailto:office@ascensionmd.org)

<https://servantkeeper.com/member-portal/ECOTA/registration/email>

### Healing Prayer Ministers

We are in desperate need of volunteers to provide this special function at our 8 o'clock service. Training and assistance will be provided to you on a one-on-one basis. Give your name to Father Javier, or call Lin at 301 948-0122.

### Continuing the Collection of Items for ComfortCases

The inspiring sermon last Sunday by Robert Scheer, founder of ComfortCases, has prompted many congregants to ask what more we can do to help this local non-profit organization bring dignity and hope to youth entering foster care. We will continue to have a bin in the narthex for collecting additional travel-sized toiletry items. Further information on ways to help the organization—from donating pajamas to helping pack comfort cases—can be found at [www.comfortcases.org](http://www.comfortcases.org). The organization is housed at 15825 Shady Grove Road, Suite 60, Rockville, MD 20850; phone: 202-253-0402.

### Training for all Worship Leaders

Next Sunday the 21st, between services there will be training for those folks who participate in our worship services. This includes Welcome Teams, Chalicists, Healing Prayer Ministers, Readers, etc. All members of the various teams should plan to gather in the Undercroft and meet your training personnel and get your training location. Anyone interested in the functioning of these groups, especially if you might want to participate, this is a wonderful chance to experience the process and the fun our groups have.

### Youth Group -Today

All youth in sixth grade and above are encouraged to attend Ascension Youth Group this Sunday evening from 6 pm to 8 pm in the church undercroft. Dinner will be provided, then we have an interactive formation discussion and end with fun and exciting games-some with prizes! Please text Angie with any questions. 301-693-2399.

Also, we are seeking parents to sign up to supply dinners, so please let us know when you can help out!

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## Next Baptism Dates



The next baptism date will be November 4th. If you want to be baptized or know someone who would like to be, please contact Javier at [ocampo@ascensionmd.org](mailto:ocampo@ascensionmd.org)

## Our Choir is Recruiting New Members!

A new and exciting musical opportunity awaits you! The Ascension Choir is currently recruiting new members. Singers of all ages, abilities, and voice parts are welcome to participate. If you're interested, come visit our weekly choir rehearsals on Thursday evenings at 7:30 pm in the Choir Room- no audition required and no strings attached.

We'd love to see you there!

Questions? Contact Andrew Kullberg, [music@ascensionmd.org](mailto:music@ascensionmd.org)

## Attend a Concert to Support Gaithersburg HELP

Gaithersburg HELP and The National Christian Choir (NCC) are excited to announce "An Evening with The National Christian Choir," a live Performance Benefitting Gaithersburg HELP. The NCC presents music that touches the heart from a variety of sacred styles – gospel, contemporary praise music, traditional anthems, hymns, a cappella – all combining for one joyful, uplifting experience.

**When:** November 3rd, 2018

**Where:** Pathways Baptist Church  
200 W. Diamond Avenue  
Gaithersburg, MD 20877

You may purchase tickets for \$15. Even if you are unable to attend, all proceeds go to benefit Gaithersburg HELP.

Questions? Contact Andrew Kullberg, [music@ascensionmd.org](mailto:music@ascensionmd.org)

## PLEDGE UPDATE AS OF OCTOBER 11, 2018

39 Pledges for the total of \$98,572 and 2 FRF donations for \$504

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

- |                             |                                      |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| ◆ Alex & Letina Langley     | ◆ Joseph Deffenbaugh & Phyllis Eddy  |
| ◆ Aloysius & Frances Farrah | ◆ Kathryn Froelich                   |
| ◆ Anika & Avin Lalmansingh  | ◆ Kevin Conway                       |
| ◆ Berenice Rodriguez        | ◆ Kristen Keating                    |
| ◆ Betsy & Guy Hasegawa      | ◆ Mary H Waldron                     |
| ◆ Betty B Knight            | ◆ Megan Didavi                       |
| ◆ Bubba Pflantzbaum         | ◆ Meredith Horan                     |
| ◆ Ceda & Zadinga Ogada      | ◆ Nancy Carman                       |
| ◆ Christopher & Susan Ahalt | ◆ Neil & Nathalie Scott              |
| ◆ Curt Lindsay              | ◆ Peggy Ruppel                       |
| ◆ Cynthia Perley            | ◆ Raymond & Doris Chin               |
| ◆ Dorett Sutherland         | ◆ Richard & Susan Snay               |
| ◆ Elizabeth Lennon          | ◆ Robert Wilkinson                   |
| ◆ Fran Spina                | ◆ Ron & Jan Hauber                   |
| ◆ Gary & Susan McLaughlin   | ◆ Ruth Anna Skowronski & Luis Pedron |
| ◆ Gordon L Donnelly         | ◆ Sari Stoddard                      |
| ◆ Janet King                | ◆ Shirley Allen                      |
| ◆ Javier Garcia-Ocampo      | ◆ Wadai Dennis                       |
| ◆ Jemima Carr               |                                      |
| ◆ Jennie B Cargill          |                                      |
| ◆ John B Pruessner          |                                      |

## 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 October 21 at 9:30 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, October 27 in the church kitchen. If you have any questions, Contact Javier at [ocampo@ascensionmd.org](mailto:ocampo@ascensionmd.org)

## 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 process.

## 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)

Two Diocesan Hunger Walks:  
Sunday Today

Cathedral Walk at 2pm or Southern Maryland  
Walk at 1:30 p.m.

Walk details and materials are available on the  
EDOW Website.

The Hunger Fund plays an important role in the support of small organizations in the Diocese who feed the hungry. Funding has been shrinking at an alarming rate resulting in feeding fewer people. Your participation and donations are greatly needed.

## 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 in the Narthex 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

**Minister of Music**–Andrew Kullberg  
music@ascensionmd.org, voice mailbox 11

**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  
2021: Berenice Rodriguez, Robert Waters,  
Susan McLaughlin  
Sari Stoddard, *Clerk of the Vestry*  
Avin Lalmansingh, *Treasurer*

Christian Formation for Children: Megan Didavi ~ Christian  
Formation for Youth: Angie Hight-Walker ~  
Facilities: Ted Bedell ~ John Prussener  
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: St. Luke’s Church, Trinity Parish, St. Luke’s Church, Brighton, St. Luke’s Parish, DC, St. Luke’s House, Bethesda Hunger Fund Committee, World Food Day (October 16) - Pray for all who are hungry, especially children

## THIS WEEK AT ASCENSION

### Monday, October 15

- 1:00 p.m. Al-Anon–Room 1
- 6:00 p.m. Spanish Class–Ascension House
- 7:00 p.m. Overeaters Anonymous–Room 1
- 7:00 p.m. Listening Hearts Community–Library

### Tuesday, October 16

- 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, October 17

10:00 a.m. **Wednesday Book Group**–Library

- 1:00 p.m. Al-Anon–Room 1
- 2:00 p.m. NoMoCo Parish Clergy
- 7:00 p.m. Overeaters Anonymous–Room 1
- 8:00 p.m. Gamblers’ Anonymous–Room 2

### Thursday, October 18

- 10:00 am. Yoga–Room 6
- 4:00 p.m. Tai Chi–Room 6
- 6:30 p.m. Al Anon/Spanish–Room 1
- 6:30 p.m. Ensemble–Main Church
- 7:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

### Friday, October 19

- 1:00 p.m. Al-Anon–Room 1
- 6:00 p.m. Couples 12-Step Program–Room 1
- 8:00 p.m. Couples 12-Step Program–Library

### Saturday, October 20

- 9:00 a.m. Overeaters Anonymous–Room 2
- 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, October 21

**Preacher:** Javier Garcia

- 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist –Main Church
- 9:30 a.m. Men’s Shelter Lunches
- 10:00 a.m. Bible School for 3+ year olds & under – Room 4
- 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist –Main Church
- 10:00 a.m. Godly Play–Room 6
- 10:00 a.m. Joyful Path–Room 2
- 12:00 p.m. Escuela Dominical Para Niños - Room 2
- 12:00 p.m. Eucaristia en Espanol–Main Church
- 1:30 p.m. Maryland Uke Jam –Chapel

| Attendance    | September 23 | September 30 | October 7  |
|---------------|--------------|--------------|------------|
| 8:00a.m.      | 30           |              | 28         |
| 10:00 a.m.    | 119          | 221          | 79         |
| 12:00p.m.     | 35           |              | 35         |
| 5:00 p.m.     | –            | –            | 32         |
| <b>Total:</b> | <b>184</b>   | <b>221</b>   | <b>174</b> |