

WELCOME TO CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost/One Ascension: 7 October A.D. 2018

Why You Choose to Give to Ascension

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Jesus Christ,

I hope you felt the excitement and power of love in our service last Sunday. It was a truly joyful event, full of pagentry, music and devotion. 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 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

Blessings

Javier

I give to Ascension because I find myself part of our circle of friends who proved faithful and resilient through all the changes we have gone through in the past year. Through worship, mission and trust we are here, living strong for what we know to be truly important: God's will in our lives, loving each other, and hope for the future. I love it!

Betsy Hasegawa

I pledge to thank God for the many blessings of my life. I pledge so that Ascension can plan their budget for the next year. And I pledge because it is the right thing to do.

Elizabeth Lennon

As people of the Reformation, we are taught that justification by faith alone is necessary for salvation; however, St. James(2:17) also teaches us that "...faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead!" Ascension does numerous good works, not only in providing a spiritual home for our own members, but by serving as host to a large number of support groups and other services to persons with special needs, We may not charge a price to any of the one who receive these services, but that does not mean that they can be provided without cost. Not least among the costs we incur are those of simply maintaining our own physical infrastructure and administering our organization. These costs must be borne by the parish, which means by us, the parishioners.

Curt Lindsay

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: Javier Ocampo

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

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 if you have any questions.

A Joyful Path

We welcome all 3rd to 5th graders to come and join A Joyful Path in Rm2 during the 10:00 service. This week we will continue to search for understanding by using the Bible as a tool.. Come join us on the path for fellowship and learning.

Wednesday Morning Book Group

Next Wednesday, Ascension's book group will start 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". Please read the first chapter for Wednesday's discussion. We will meet at 10:00 a.m. in Ascension's library. Also, we will hold a pot-luck luncheon immediately following our discussion. All are welcome to join us. Please bring food to share and a beverage for yourself.

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 ocampoj@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.

Please note the following Yoga Schedule changes:

◆ 10/11/2018 class moved to 10/12/2018 at 10:00 a.m.

Godly Play

Our Godly Play lesson this week focuses on the Holy Family--Mary, Joseph and Jesus, along with the Angels, Shepherds, Magi and animals present at Jesus' birth. The Holy Family holds deep significance in Godly Play as the matrix from which new life comes. Christ's incarnation changes everything, particularly the way we understand ourselves, each other, the Creator, and the world around us.

LIFE AT ASCENSION

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.

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

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

<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.

Parishioner with Cancer in Need of Transport to Doctors

Leslie Pool has cancer and is in need of help getting to her numerous medical appointments. Ascension is not her only source of help, but we are looking for a few people who can assist. Please contact Bubba Pflantzbaum at bubbashalom@gmail.com

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. The organization is housed at 15825 Shady Grove Road, Suite 60, Rockville, MD 20850; phone: 202-253-0402.

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Last Day for Announcement Submission

Please submit any announcement you have by Wednesday every week so that we will have enough time to include it on the bulletin.

Blessing of the Animals, Today



In observance of the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, we will be blessing your feline, avian, canine, bovine, equine, porcine, reptilian, and arachnid friends at the 5:00 p.m. service on Sunday, October 7, in the Chapel. Please invite your friends to bring their pets too!

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

PLEDGE UPDATE AS OF OCTOBER 4, 2018

28 Pledges for the total of \$78,532 and 2 FRF donations for \$504

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

- ◆ Alex & Letina Langley
- ◆ Anika & Avin Lalmansingh
- ◆ Berenice Rodriguez
- ◆ Betsy & Guy Hasegawa
- ◆ Bubba Pflantzbaum
- ◆ Ceda & Zadinga Ogada
- ◆ Christopher & Susan Ahalt
- ◆ Curt Lindsay
- ◆ Fran Spina
- ◆ Gary & Susan McLaughlin
- ◆ Gordon L Donnelly
- ◆ Janet King
- ◆ Javier Garcia-Ocampo
- ◆ Jemima Carr
- ◆ John B Pruessner
- ◆ Joseph Deffenbaugh & Phyllis Eddy
- ◆ Kathryn Froelich
- ◆ Kevin Conway
- ◆ Kristen Keating
- ◆ Mary H Waldron
- ◆ Megan Didavi
- ◆ Meredith Horan
- ◆ Nancy Carman
- ◆ Neil & Nathalie Scott
- ◆ Robert Wilkinson
- ◆ Ron & Jan Hauber
- ◆ Ruth Anna Skowronski & Luis Pedron
- ◆ Sari Stoddard

Request for Updating your Email Address

We are in the process of updating your information in our system. Please make sure we have your correct email address.

CONNECT WITH US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



<http://bit.ly/2tHzJuT>



<http://bit.ly/2sYC8UV>



<http://bit.ly/2tC0Ysa>



<http://bit.ly/2paseJO>

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 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

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

**Two Diocesan Hunger Walks:
Sunday October 14**

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: Pray for church musicians and choirs
Pray for international human rights and all organizations
and individuals that promote peace and justice worldwide

THIS WEEK AT ASCENSION

Monday, October 8

OFFICE CLOSED

- 11:30 a.m. Living with a Chronic Illness—Room 2
- 1:00 p.m. Al-Anon—Room 1
- 7:00 p.m. Overeaters Anonymous—Room 1

Tuesday, October 9

- 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 10

- 10:00 a.m. Wednesday 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—Room 2

Thursday, October 11

- 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 12

- 1:00 p.m. Al-Anon—Room 1

Saturday, October 13

- 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 14

Preacher: Nan Hildebrand

- 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist —Main Church
- 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
- 1:00 p.m. Pastoral Care Team—Library
- 6:00 p.m. Youth Group —Undercroft

Attendance	September 16	September 23	September 30
8:00a.m.	25	30	
10:00 a.m.	132	119	221
12:00p.m.	45	35	
Total:	202	184	221