

WELCOME TO CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost : 2 September A.D. 2018

We Don't just Go to Church - We ARE the Church!

Next Sunday, September 9, we will be holding the Annual Ministries Fair. Have you ever attended this event? It's quite a lot of fun, in a low-key, family style sort of way. Let me describe what we're trying to do this year.

Immediately after the 8am and 10am services, you will find everyone heading for the undercroft. Inside the large space, representatives from many of the volunteer activities that exist at Ascension will be standing at tables, talking to friends and parishioners about those activities. If there are openings on committees or gaps in the rosters of interest groups, they will seek volunteers to join them. This is NOT a Fortune 500 presentation at a major convention center—thank heavens! This is an informal, brief informational occasion. You will be able to mingle and learn during the coffee hour, and you won't be burdened with slick, four-color brochures. It is a chance for all of us to recognize and celebrate the selfless spirit in people who want to do two vital things: get really important work done, and build durable connections and friendships among parishioners. And realistically, this is a chance, after you see all that is being done, for you to choose to join in, too. There will be sign in sheets for each of these activities.

As I describe the Ministries Fair, I am reminded that as a PK (preacher's kid) there were ALWAYS duties to be done for our family and the church. As we grew and became stronger and more competent, the duties were more serious and difficult. But at least there were always options among the activities, and what we got out of it was the certain knowledge that we were important to the family and the church. And of course we had family parties occasionally to recognize the work and the workers! Fun is important, too!!

Historically, Ascension has focused primarily on the efforts of standing committees of the vestry. Certainly that covers a great deal of the volunteer effort that occurs at Ascension, but I have noticed that there are other efforts, some short term, or problem specific, that parishioners have willingly applied themselves to. I'm thinking here of the work of Gardening Day, when our campus had become overgrown, or the wonderful fundraising efforts of the yard sale, car wash, and bake sale enthusiasts who have helped raise funds for things that Ascension really needed. DO you think that we should include efforts like these in the future? I will be present at the Ministry Fair, and would very much like to hear what you have to say.

One last thing—have you been noticing the efforts of the Hospitality Angels? They faithfully start up the coffee and tea service, arrange for treats, and see that the space is cleaned up afterward. They make an effort to include all people—parishioners and newcomers alike, so that conversation is easy and no one is left out. This fills me with joy and hope about the essential goodness of our people and their manifest love of God and each other. Please join us next week if you possibly can. I hear that there will be a few Special Treats, maybe even some of the peach coffee cake that I have twice been too slow getting downstairs to have any of!!

Javier

Ministry Fair

Leaders and participants of parish ministry teams will be available to chat Sunday, September 9 from 8 - 10:00a.m. in the Undercroft. The program year begins on Sunday, September 16. All formation classes will meet at 10:00a.m. Service.

Bake Sale with Yard Sale

We are now going to have a Bake Sale along with the Yard Sale on Saturday, September 8. The Bake Sale will be from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. This gives you only a few days to get out your favorite recipes to bake for our Ascension Bake Sale.

You can bring your baked goods on Friday afternoon or evening to the church office, or bring them to the Ascension House. Fe Wlotzko will be at the church setting up at 8:30 am on Saturday, so you can bring your Bake Sale items any time after that.

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: 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

Starting from September 6th, Tai Chi classes will resume 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

Summer Sunday School

Children and Families are welcome! We are offering Summer Sunday School, in room 4 (also called the "Place of Peace"), during the 10:00 service. We sing, have a simple lesson, pray and play and then go to church for communion. Parents may come to Sunday school with their little ones or leave their children to us while they enjoy the church service. Over the past few weeks we have seen some beautiful interactions between older and younger children. Come hang out with us sometime! Questions? text or call: Megan Didavi at 703-626-7199

Wednesday Morning Book Group

Our group is discussing the book, "Take This Bread: A Radical Conversion," by Sara Miles. This book presents the story of its author's journey to faith and how she took Jesus' call to feed others by establishing food pantries. Our group meets on Wednesday mornings at 10:00 a.m. in Ascension's library. All are welcome to participate. Please read chapters 11, 12, and 13 for this coming Wednesday.

Spanish Class

There will be no Spanish class until September 10. For more information contact Javier at ocampo@ascensionmd.org

Thursday Morning Yoga

Yoga classes are offered on Thursdays at 10:00 AM, 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.

Yoga class Classes will resume in the Chapel on September 6, 2018

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

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.

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

Backpack Drive Big Success

I would like to thank everyone for their support of the backpack drive. Your donations of supplies and financial support enabled us to provide 55 backpacks for the Linkages to Learning program at Summit Hall E.S. in Gaithersburg. This is the largest number of backpacks we have provided since 2015. Thank you to those who helped to stuff the backpacks. I really appreciate your support of this project and I am sure that the children appreciate the backpacks. Thank you again! Kristen Keating

Yard Sale & Car Wash - September 08



Second Annual Summer Yard Sale and Car Wash on Saturday, September 08, 2018 from 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. If you have furniture or clothes that you want to donate, bring them to the office. Remember that you can bring your car to be washed. We also need help. If you are available, you are welcome to join us! For more information, please contact Javier at ocampo@ascensionmd.org or 202-903-6426 or Ascension Office.

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.

ATTENTION WORSHIP LEADERS

Chalichists, readers, acolytes, healing prayer ministers, ushers, hospitality angels, flower deliverers: It's time to start looking for any black-out dates you may have for October, November and December. I will be starting the roster for the next quarter shortly and if I know in advance that you won't be available on specific dates, I won't schedule you for those dates. That's so much easier than your having to find a sub! Email me any "not available" dates you may know of at sari.stoddard@verizon.net. Blessings on all of you, and thank you for offering your help to our worship.

Thanks in advance,
Sari

Update your Email Address

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.

Invitation for Enid's Ordination



By the Grace of God and the people consenting
The Right Reverend Mariann Edgar Budde, Bishop of Washington
will ordain to the Sacred Order of Deacons in Christ's One Holy
Catholic and Apostolic Church

Sandra Russline Bramble
Enid Omodele Cole
Joan Marie Crittenden
Anne Elizabeth Derse
Elizabeth Lovette Dixon
Martha Josephine Eldredge
Susan Cheryl Fritz
Janice Marie Hicks
Lesley Werner Krauland
Kathryn Evans McMahon
Steven Eugene Seely
Eugene Nat Wright

on Saturday, September 22, 2018, 10:00 a.m.
at the Cathedral Church of St. Peter and St. Paul
3101 Wisconsin Avenue, NW,
Washington, District of Columbia

Your prayers and presence are requested.
Clergy: Red Stoles

Reception to follow in the Bishop's Garden.
Clergy planning to process please RSVP to www.edow.org/ordinationrsvp
by September 14, 2018.

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

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 or at 301.325.6291 or email Lin Keene at office@ascensionmd.org.

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. We are delivering the Comfort Cases leading the 10 a.m. service on September 9, 2018. If you bring supplies to donate, a bin is still available at Narthex.

Fiesta de las Americas

In some Latin American countries, in September we celebrate our Independence. For this reason, we are organizing a party in the Undercroft Commons on Sunday, September 16, after the 12:00 p.m. service. We invite everyone to attend!

Bishop's Visit and One Ascension Sunday

Bishop Mariann Edgar Budde spends much of her time out and about in the congregations of the diocese. In addition, she makes an official visitation to each of the diocese's 88 congregations once every three years. These visits occur on Sunday mornings, and the schedule is typically announced each summer. In years in which the bishop does not visit, a member of her senior staff visits instead. This year she will come to Ascension on Sunday September 30th, since it is also One Ascension Sunday we will have just one service at 10:00 a.m. After the service we will have a potluck. Please sign up if you want to bring any food or drink.

Healing Prayer Ministers

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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 September 16 at 11:15 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, September 29 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.

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

Interim Minister of Music
10:00 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
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 ~
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: Campus Ministries of Howard University, University of Maryland, George Washington University, Georgetown University, American University and St. Mary's College, National Association of Episcopal Schools, Pray for all students and teachers

THIS WEEK AT ASCENSION

Monday, September 3

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, September 4

- 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, September 5

- 10:00 a.m. Wednesday Book Group—Library
- 1:00 p.m. Al-Anon—Room 1
- 7:00 p.m. Overeaters Anonymous—Room 1
- 7:00 p.m. Worship Committee—Library
- 8:00 p.m. Gamblers' Anonymous—Room 2

Thursday, September 6

- 10:00 am. Yoga—Chapel
- 4:00 p.m. Tai Chi—Chapel
- 6:30 p.m. Al Anon/Spanish—Room 1
- 7:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Friday, September 7

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

Saturday, September 8

- 7:00 a.m. Car Wash/Yard Sale
- 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, September 9

Preacher: Rob Scheer

- 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
- 6:00 p.m. Youth Group—Undercroft

Attendance	August 12	August 19	August 26
8:00a.m.	29	25	29
10:00 a.m.	104	89	104
12:00p.m.	25	34	30
Total:	158	148	163