

This Week at Ascension

Journey to Generosity ***Exercising a Generous Power***

They bear colorful names: Roscoe. Sweetwater. Desert Sky. Buffalo Gap. Horse Hollow. These are all vast farms in Texas. Wind farms.

Giant turbines receive the wind's power and translate it into electricity. Because it is properly channeled, the wind's energy enhances the lives of thousands of people. We take for granted reading after sunset and cooling off at the end of hot day in air-conditioned comfort, driving at night with the aid of streetlights and grabbing ice cream from the freezer.

The same wind that supports modern life can uproot trees and flatten homes. Tornados ravage towns every year. Joplin, Missouri, and Moore, Oklahoma, are just two locations on a long list of destruction and loss.

Wind power, like any power, can enhance well-being or deepen misery. Build up or destroy. The key is channeling that immense power for the good. Jesus had something like this in mind when he said, "Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth." (Matthew 5:5) Only, he wasn't talking about wind power. He had the power of each human life in mind.

I have to confess, until recently the meekness passage was my least favorite Beatitude. Without realizing it, I had been reading it something like this: "Blessed are the weak, for they shall inherit the earth."

Strictly speaking, I have always known that Jesus had something else in mind. But I figured the whole peacemaker thing farther down the list of Beatitudes said it much better, so I read right past the idea of meekness.

Then my friend Nick Knisely, bishop of Rhode Island, set me straight. He told me that "meek" means "power under control." If you look up the Greek word that we translate as meek, you'll see that he's exactly right.

God invests in each of us the power to transform the world. When we devote our time, our spiritual gifts, and our financial resources to God's dream of a just and peaceful creation, our energies feed the hungry, heal the sick, mend fractured relationships, and restore shattered lives. In other words, God works through our generosity to restore the world.

On All Saints' Day we remember that saints are not weak. The creator and redeemer of all things flows through them. Flows through us. We can exercise a generous power.

The Rt. Rev. Jake Owensby

HEADLINERS

Cookbook Committee Update

Online ordering for the cookbook is now closed due to low stock. Please email the church administrator at office@ascensionmd.org if you would like to purchase a book, and she will forward your inquiry to the Cookbook Committee.

Ascension Youth Group Fall 2017 Schedule

The Ascension Youth Group typically meets on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. in the undercroft of the church, unless otherwise noted. We will not meet on November 26th due to Thanksgiving. Youth Group is open to anyone in 6th grade and older. They need not attend services at Ascension. A typical Youth Group meeting includes dinner, provided by two families, a spiritual lesson and fun games. Our motto is “Food, Fellowship & Fun.”

[Read More](#)

LIFE LONG LEARNING

Wednesday Book Group: *Christ Actually: Reimagining Faith in the Modern Age*

Read chapter 6, “Thou Art Peter” in preparation for Wednesday’s discussion. The book group meets in the Library from 10:00—11:30 a.m.

A Joyful Path for Sunday

A members of A joyful Path will be affirming: I will remember God is within me and all others. Remembering that God is within us and a part of everything that ever was and ever will be is one of the most important things we can do.

As humans, we naturally forget things and occasionally forget to be present for our family and friends when they need us. That part of being human, that is part of the learning process. We will play several memory games and hear a story about the never forgotten son. Come and join us in Room 11 after the 9:00 a.m. service. See you there.

Godly Play

This week in Godly Play, we will study a number of the prophets from the Old Testament at 10:15 a.m. in Room 6. Much has changes since creation. The People of God have been freed from slavery, ruled their own country, been defeated, carried off into exile, and returned to rebuild the temple and Jerusalem. God had been with them all the way—but they had not always been with God. The prophets' job was to show the people, the king and the priests when

they turned away from God. We learn that prophets still exist today and continue to help all of us know the true way to live.

CARING FOR COMMUNITY

Neighbori-ando in Gaithersburg

On Thursday, November 9 Javier will be at Greene Growlers bar from 6:30pm to 8:00pm. If you want to talk and meet other people from Ascension, join us! We can have a good time and talk about Ascension and its life at the same time building stronger bonds through communication and knowing each other better. The bar is located at [227 E. Diamond Ave. Gaithersburg, Maryland](#) in front of the train station at Gaithersburg.

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, December 23 in the church kitchen. If you have any question, Contact Javier at ocampo@ascensionmd.org

Men's Shelter Lunch Preparation

The Men's Shelter Lunches program provides bagged lunches, assembled in the Undercroft Commons once a month. Supplies are donated by Ascension members. Depending on the season, we provide forty to eighty lunches a month.

[Read more](#)

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](tel:301.519.1074) or melanie.mitchell@verizon.net

Mobile Med

For the next few weeks, the van is out for repairs and patients will be referred to the Mobile Med clinic at 981 Rollins Avenue in Rockville on Tuesdays. Questions and if you want to volunteer at our waiting room, contact Jean Cohn at spangle1@comcast.net or [240.372.3652](tel:240.372.3652).

LIFE AT ASCENSION

All Saints' Sunday Prayer

In past years we've had a list to read at the Prayers of the People, comprising your written requests made in advance. As we had some who brought pictures of departed loved ones, along with their stories, it seemed redundant to create a list, yet something needed to be done to prayerfully recall the faithful beloved departed. Therefore, today at all services, we will ask you to name your loved ones aloud at the Prayers. After each name, we will sound the gong.

Thank You

Everyone who came to Randy's aid when he called for pickup trucks to haul major clutter off the church campus and out of the main building: Ted Bedell, Kevin Blanc, Avin Lalmansingh, Doug Krause, and Christ Ruggeri.

The Montgomery County VOICES from the Holy Land film series

Montgomery County Voices from the Holy Land Film Series will show "*Two Blue Lines*" which examines the human and political situation of the Palestinian people from the years prior to the creation of Israeli to the present day from various Israeli perspectives on Sunday aft., 11/5 at 2:30 pm at Christ the Servant Lutheran Church in [Montgomery Village \(9801 Centerway Rd\)](#).

Pledge Cards

Remember to bring Your Pledge Cards to Church: And place them in the baptismal font as you come forward to receive Communion.

Prayers For Those Whose Lives are Closely Linked With Ours: Resolutions Committee of the Diocese, Pray for all military veterans, chaplains, personnel and their families (Veterans' Day - November 11), Diocesan Confirmation Service (November 10) Pray for those who are being confirmed

Pray for Comfort, Healing, Courage, and Hope:

Beth, Sue, Melanie, Fran, Mike, Delores, George, Dorett, Ruthie, Russ, Suzanne, Sally and William and all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

We give thanks for the life of J. Edward and Henrietta Koenig, parents of Monica Koenig Caphart and grandparents of Feeta Caphart, in whose memory the altar flowers were given.

We give thanks for the life of Cianna Farrah Cooper, daughter of Aloysious and Frances Farrah, who died last Sunday.

We pray for peace in the world and all who are serving our country here and abroad, especially those in harm's way, and their families.

We pray for all special intentions, and those on our extended Healing Prayer List.

Quick Links

[Link to Service Leaflets for November 5](#)

[Link to Podcast of Javier's Sermon on Sunday, October 29: "The Three Great Commandments"](#)

[Link to the Episcopal Diocese of Washington's Website](#)



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