



THIS WEEK AT ASCENSION

Why You Choose to Give to Ascension

As I told you last week, the people of Ascension give generously in many ways, financially, physically, emotionally, and spiritually. I have observed that it is impossible for people to do this unless they feel a genuine connection to the church. Anyone can sit still, thinking private thoughts for an hour, but to give time, treasure, and baked goodies week after week suggests that you are really invested in our success. I asked a few people to comment on why they give, and you will see that everyone is unique, and all have fine, personal reasons for their support. I would be very happy to share your statement, if you would send it to me at ocampoj@ascensionmd.org.

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

HEADLINERS

A Joyful Path

We welcome all 3rd to 5th graders to come and join A Joyful Path in Room 2 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.

Blessing of the Animals, Sunday October 7

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!

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.

Lands Green Waters Clean Butterfly and Bay Friendly Garden Tour - October 6

Opening remarks will occur at 9 AM at Constitution Park, 112 Brookes Ave, Gaithersburg, MD 20877 followed by additional tour stops around the City of Gaithersburg. This free self-guided tour is open to anyone interested in seeing what butterfly and Bay friendly gardening looks like. The tour features the Woodland Hills Home Owners Association, The City of Gaithersburg Constitution Park, a private home, Epworth Church and Pleasant View Historic Site. Each of these sites adds something unique to the tour and each will have a representative on site during the tour hours to answer questions about the gardens and how they were installed.

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

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.

LIFE LONG 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.

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.

Thursday Morning Yoga Class

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

Lucia Pires is from Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. She is a 500-hour Pranakriya Yoga School of Healing Arts certified yoga teacher. Her training focuses on cultivating and enhancing the relationship of the student with his or her lifeforce through yoga postures, breath work and meditation, in order to create change in awareness and help the student move towards wholeness and greater aliveness. She completed her professional training in 2015.

Lucia is the mother of two boys, ages 14 and 10, and when they give her a little break she enjoys reading, writing, long walks in nature and dancing.

Please note the following Yoga Schedule changes:

- **10/11/2018 class moved to 10/12/2018 at 10:00 am.**

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

LIFE AT ASCENSION

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

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.

WE HAVE GONE DIGITAL

In this day and age we must keep up with technology. We have update 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 whom 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 at office@ascensionmd.org

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

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

CARING FOR OUR COMMUNITY

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 and a three-day training.

For more information, call 301-921-4400 or visit www.montgomeryhospice.org/volunteer

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 question, Contact Javier at ocampo@ascensionmd.org

Men's Shelter Lunch Preparation

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 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/1VAKEz8>.

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 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

PRAYER REQUESTS

Prayers For Those Whose Lives are Closely Linked With Ours: international human rights and all organizations and individuals that promote peace and justice worldwide

We offer to your gracious protection our intercessions for those for whom we are called to pray, especially we pray for comfort, healing, courage and hope for Ashley Alford, Kathy Bainbridge, Jean Cohn, Harriette Eleanor Cooper, Fredy Diaz, Peggy Donnellon, Eleni Hailu & her family, Jim & Carol Keenan, Rudi Miksa, Daniel & Aillen Pagan, Wendy Jo Perkins, Leslie Pool, Olive Rivera, Genia Saniul-Heinig, Fran Spina, Ruthie Swain, Samuel Tellu, Suzanne Winterhalter and all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity, as well as for all those on our extended healing prayer list.

QUICK LINKS

[Link to Bishop Mariann's One Ascension Sunday on September 30 Sermon](#)

[Link to the Service Bulletin](#)

[Link to Sermon and Other Videos page](#)

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



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