

WELCOME TO CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

Twenty Second Sunday after Pentecost: 21 October A.D. 2018

Why You Choose to Give to Ascension

I continue to be both pleased and surprised by the warmth of your response to the Annual Giving Campaign. As I write, we have received 57 pledges for a total of more than \$150,000. This exceeds what we have received by this point in the several campaigns I have observed since being at Ascension. In fact, I am beginning to have hope that this represents some belief on your part that we, as a Christian community, have a shared sense of mission that is treasured. That sounds pretty serious, but look around—I see plenty of joy, acts of kindness, and just plain fun here, too. Stop by the coffee hour today and see if I'm right. All signs point to a wonderful year ahead, full of laughter, love and learning. If you have not yet pledged, I hope you will do so soon.

Meanwhile, here are several additional sincere statements about why individuals in the parish pledge.

Blessings

Javier

This is why I give. My cousins are always joking that we should pool our money and buy a "Family Compound" in Maine. This would be a place where we could come together as a family for vacations and holidays. The people at church are like my second family. I give to Ascension so that we have a family compound. A place where we can come together to worship, have a fellowship support each other and gather strength to go out into our community and do what God has called us to do both as a group and individually.

Kristen Keating

As a member of the Vestry we were asked to write a short statement as to why we pledge. It's really hard to explain how Ascension has become such a big part of my life. I found something I didn't even know I was missing. I found love and acceptance. Without Ascension I don't know where I would be. When I think of Ascension I'm filled with love and hope that is why I pledge.

Como miembro del vestry me pidieron escribir un párrafo explicando porque prometo a Ascensión. Es muy difícil explicar cómo Ascensión se ha hecho una gran parte de mi vida. Encontré algo que ni siquiera sabía que necesitaba. Aquí encontré amor, aceptación y una nueva familia. Cuando pienso en Ascensión me lleno de amor y esperanza, por eso prometo a Ascensión.

Berenice Rodriguez

A help Ascension because the Bible motivates us to congregate. It is important to belong to a Christian community to remain in communion with our brothers and sisters in Faith. As it is written in 1 Chronicles (29:14) "But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this? Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand.

La Biblia nos motiva a congregarnos. Es importante pertenecer a una comunidad cristiana a permanecer en comunión con nuestros hermanos en la fe. Como dice en 1 Cronicas "Pues, ¿quién soy yo y qué es mi pueblo para que seamos capaces de ofrecerte tantas cosas? En realidad, todo viene de ti y sólo te damos lo que de ti hemos recibido".

Fredy Diaz.

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

A Joyful Path—10:00 a.m.

The members of A Joyful Path will make discoveries about Vietnamese Peace Activist Thich Nhat Hanh. He believed sharing his beliefs in practicing inner peace and mindfulness would bring peace to others and the world. Come join us in Room 2 during the 10 a.m. service.

A Joyful Path—12:00 p.m.

Escuela Dominical Para Niños. The members of A Joyful Path at noon will learn about the most important source of our tradition- The Bible. We will learn about some sayings which are biblical and others attributed to the Bible which are not. Come join us at 12:00 pm. (noon) in Room 2.

Godly Play

This week in Godly Play, we study The Great Family. The people living around Abraham and Sarah believed that there were many gods embedded in nature. Abraham and his family believed that God was everywhere, but was that really true? What if they were to go to an unknown place or experience, would God be there? They were not sure of this, but they put their faith in God's promises and found them to be true.

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 3 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

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 if you have any questions.

LIFE AT ASCENSION

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.

Continuing the Collection of Items for ComfortCases

The inspiring sermon in September 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.

Training for all Worship Leaders

Today, 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.

Daylight Saving Time Ends November 4



Don't forget to set your clocks back one hour before you go to bed on Saturday, November 4. This is also a good time to change the batteries in your smoke detectors.

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 ocampoj@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

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

PLEDGE UPDATE AS OF OCTOBER 17, 2018



57 Pledges for the total of \$151,602 and 2 FRF donations for \$504

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

- ◆ Carolyn Dowling & John Bjerke
- ◆ T Kevin & Lisa S Blanc
- ◆ Don & Jean Cohn
- ◆ Kirk Davies
- ◆ Sarah Gallagher
- ◆ John & Kelly Ten Hagan
- ◆ Denise & Tom Lionetti
- ◆ Georgana Maines
- ◆ Alice Padmore
- ◆ Claire Rosser
- ◆ Gail Unterberger & Frodo
- ◆ Don & Marty Marks
- ◆ Paul Whitmore
- ◆ Nicole Wilson
- ◆ Jake & Ophelia Yalley-Ogunro
- ◆ Laurie & David Yelle

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 is today 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 ocampoj@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.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:



Muddy Branch
Alliance

Lands Green Waters Clean Initiative
presents a FREE
Butterfly Bird and Bay
Friendly Gardening Workshop

When: Saturday, November 3rd, 2-5PM
Where: 16 Kent Gardens Circle, Gaithersburg

We will discuss easy to implement, low cost, wildlife friendly gardening practices that also help reduce stormwater runoff and information on how to access rebates and resources to assist property owners and managers with installation of projects.



There will be plenty of Q & A time so bring your questions! Do you need help with plant selection, site planning, how to sign up for Rainscapes rewards? We'll help you!

If you sign up a week in advance and supply an address we will provide an aerial view of your property to help with project planning.

Reserve a spot early. The workshop is limited to the first 30 people who sign up. Drop-ins are welcome if space is available.

Sign up on-line here:

<https://goo.gl/forms/7rl.mAR52Qw7KwMDo2>

For more information email: info@muddybranch.org
or call Project Manager, Lauren Hubbard at 631-764-6226

Funding for this workshop is provided by:

The Muddy Branch Alliance and The Chesapeake Bay Trust



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

Pastoral Associate–The Rev. Nan Hildebrand, voice mailbox 13
hildebrandnan@gmail.com

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: The regional assemblies and regional conveners of the Diocese, Pray for all Native Americans and Native American congregations. Pray for all victims of terrorism, war and violence and for those who foster and perpetuate such acts

THIS WEEK AT ASCENSION

Monday, October 22

- 1:00 p.m. Al-Anon—Room 1
- 6:00 p.m. Spanish Class—Ascension House
- 7:00 p.m. Overeaters Anonymous—Room 1

Tuesday, October 23

- 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 24

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 25

- 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 26

- 1:00 p.m. Al-Anon—Room 1

Saturday, October 27

- 6:00 a.m. Ministerio Felicidad
- 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 81

Preacher: Tina Lightner

- 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
- 9:00 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
- 6:00 p.m. Youth Group —Undercroft

Attendance	September 30	October 7	October 14
8:00a.m.		28	26
10:00 a.m.	221	79	124
12:00p.m.		35	31
5:00 p.m.	—	32	—
Total:	221	174	181