



# THIS WEEK AT ASCENSION

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## 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 pageantry, 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](mailto:ocampo@ascensionmd.org)

Blessings

Javier

Ernest Hemingway's goal in writing was to write "one true sentence." That would be a good goal for this purpose also. (1) All that I have, all that I am or ever will be is because of God made the World. (2) I have decided to follow Jesus, here in this church (3) In praise and gratitude, I will share my time, talent and treasure for this community and its mission.

John Pruessner

I give because Church of the Ascension holds a large part of my heart in a powerful relationship of over six decades! We are fortunate to have each other at Ascension, a place where we can together grow and gain a greater awareness of God, his natural universe, and his messenger Jesus.

Meredith Horan

I pledge because Ascension is my Sanctuary and my home. It is where I go in troubled times for comfort, strength, hope, and healing. It is where I go in good times to realize my many blessings; and to give back to the community with my time, talents and financial support. And just like my home where I live, the church has commitments, bills, and hopefully some left over to help the community it supports and tries to nourish.

Janet King

## HEADLINERS

### **A Joyful Path**

The members of A Joyful Path will be starting a new unit this week . " By calling ourselves progressive Christians, we mean we are Christians who strive for peace and justice among all people. The life of Mohammad Ghanaian who worked for justice through non violent resistance. Come and join us during the 9:00 a.m. service in Room 2.

### **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](mailto: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](mailto:music@ascensionmd.org)

## **Godly Play**

This week in Godly Play, we examine the story of the great flood and the ark that Noah built. We move beyond the creation of the world to its re-creation and begin to see the gift of water as a symbol of cleansing, redemption and forgiveness. We also learn about God's promise, through Noah, to all of us.

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

Cathedral Walk at 2:00 p.m. 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.

## 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](mailto: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](http://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

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 2 for this coming Wednesday.

## 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.

### **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](mailto: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](mailto:bubbashalom@gmail.com)

### **Healing Prayer Ministers**

We are in desperate need of Volunteers to provide this special function at our 8 oâ€™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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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 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](mailto:melanie.mitchell@verizon.net)

# PRAYER REQUESTS

Prayers For Those Whose Lives are Closely Linked With Ours: St. Luke's Church, Trinity Parish, St. Luke's Church, Brighton, St. Luke's Parish, DC, St. Luke's House, Bethesda, Hunger Fund Committee, World Food Day (October 16) - Pray for all who are hungry, especially children

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, Sciou Broderick, Harriette Eleanor Cooper, Fredy Diaz, Peggy Donnellon, Tana Hight, Jim & Carol Keenan, Simon J. Mwamba, 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 Javier's Sunday October 7 Sermon: "Ways of Love - Worship"](#)

[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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