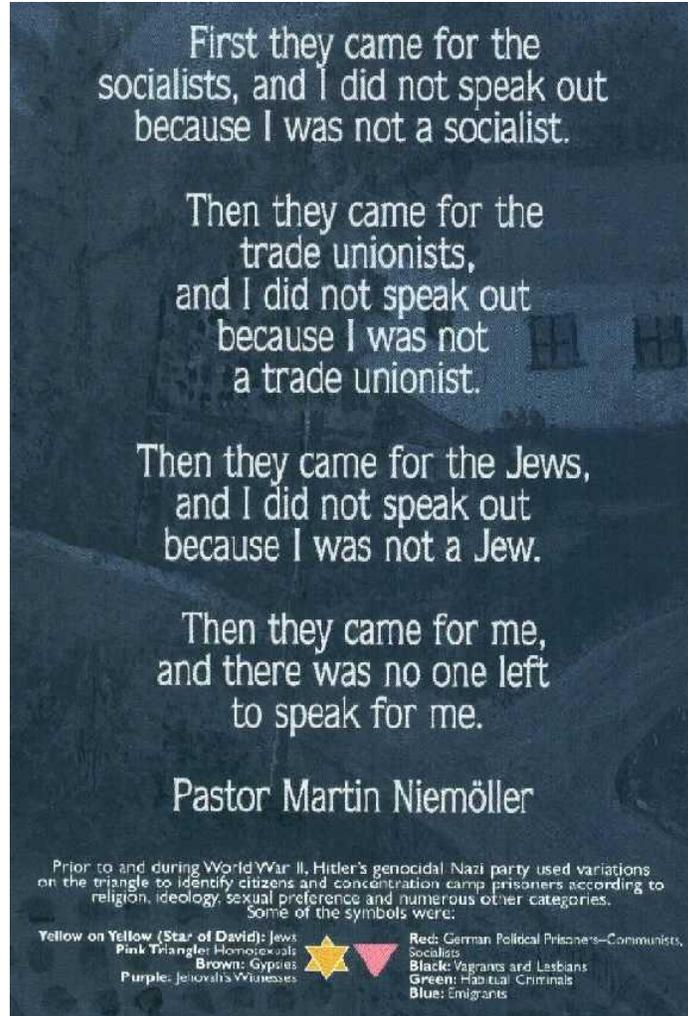


This Week at Ascension



HEADLINERS

New Book for Wednesday Morning: *Is Christ God?*

On January 17 we will begin study and discussion of Michael Morwood's book *Is Christ God? Finding Our Faith From Amazon*: "In the new millennium, the most central question is how to understand God and Jesus. This book is an invitation to Christians—and non-Christians—to challenge their inherited notions of how and why Jesus is to be thought of as divine." You can order the book by following this link: <http://amzn.to/2CRGzCs>. For the 17th read through the end of chapter one.

Ascension Youth Group Jan FY18 and Mission Trip Info

January 14
Regular Ascension Youth Group
6 pm – 8pm Ascension Undercroft
Need dinner volunteers please

January 28
Regular Ascension Youth Group
6 pm – 8pm Ascension Undercroft
Need dinner volunteers please

Please email or text us if you can attend this Sunday's service project or if your family can cover dinner one of the evenings.

Also-I have dates for our Mission Trip in June. It is June 23rd through June 29th. We will return to Philadelphia and will be going with our Virginia diocese friends.

Finally-thank you all for the coats and winter wear we sent to St. James! We sent them 37 pounds of warm items and they were so grateful!!

Best-
Angie and Trevor

Volunteers Needed

We are looking for volunteers for the church office from 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Contact Lin at office@ascensionmd.org

LIFE LONG LEARNING

Tai Chi

Tai Chi classes are offered 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](tel:301.275.0617) or Cirosser@aol.com if you have any questions.

Thursday Morning Yoga

Randy's yoga class is every Thursday at 10:00 a.m. in Chapel. These are gentle, entry level classes anyone may enjoy. No props are needed. There are some mats, blocks and blankets for those who want them. If you have your own mat, bring it. Wear loose fitting, comfortable clothing.

Godly Play

This week in Godly Play, we will bake Communion bread for the church.

Children's Formation

The members of A Joyful Path moved their classroom upstairs to Room 2 (the old nursery). Come and join us in our new setting today after the 9:00 a.m. service.

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

CARING FOR OUR COMMUNITY

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, January 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 is January 21 at 10:15 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 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

Mobile Med will not be at Ascension House starting tomorrow January 2nd (until the beginning of March). I have posted signs on the Ascension House bulletin board and on the door to the chapel. Signs list the alternate location as well as a number to contact for more information.

Jean Cohn
spangle1@comcast.net
[240.372.3652](tel:240.372.3652)

LIFE AT ASCENSION

Zumba at Ascension!

Summer is here and is always a good opportunity to get in shape. For that reason, we will have Zumba classes at Ascension every Thursday at 7:30 p.m. in Undercroft Commons. Zumba is a dance fitness program created by Colombian dancer and choreographer Alberto "Beto" Perez during the 1990s. Zumba involves dance and aerobic movements performed to energetic music. The choreography incorporates hip-hop, soca, samba, salsa, merengue and mambo.

Contemplative Eucharist

The Contemplative Eucharist will return on Sunday, January 14.

Winter Weather Policy

At Ascension, we always TRY to have church even when the weather is bad. We realize that travelling may be very difficult for some, so please make the best decision for you and your family about Sunday church attendance. Even if we have Sunday services during inclement weather, we may cancel all other activities, such as Christian Formation for Children, Youth and Adults. Volunteer leaders, likewise, should use personal judgment about the safety of their travel that day. Cancellations will be announced by way of e-mail and on the outgoing message line at [301.948.0122](tel:3019480122).

As a rule, we will follow Montgomery County Public Schools for closing and cancellation decisions. If there is a delayed opening our morning activities are cancelled. If schools are closed, morning and afternoon activities are cancelled. In this event, evening activities still may be scheduled, so check in with the committee chair or call the outgoing message line at the church to check the status of your meeting or activity.

Interfaith Dialogue and Reflection Series

Church of the Ascension will be one of the hosts of a four-part program series of interfaith dialogue and reflection titled "Abraham's Children."

The four sessions will be held in March on Wednesday evenings, 7-9 PM as follows:

- March 7 at Church of the Ascension ([205 S Summit Ave, Gaithersburg, MD 20877](https://www.ascensiondc.org/))
- March 14 at Kehilat Shalom ([9915 Apple Ridge Rd, Gaithersburg, MD 20886](https://www.kehilatshalom.org/))
- March 21 at Islamic Center of Maryland (19411 Woodfield Rd, Gaithersburg, MD 20879)
- March 28 at Tikvat Israel Congregation (2200 Baltimore Road, Rockville, MD 20851)

Developed by the Institute for Islamic, Christian, and Jewish Studies in Baltimore, Abraham's Children offers text study and dialogue among the three Abrahamic faiths in an effort to engage "the complexities of what is shared and what is unique in the Jewish, Christian, and Muslim traditions."

The Faith Community Working Group of Montgomery County and the Greater Gaithersburg Interfaith Alliance is teaming up with Church of the Ascension, the Islamic Center of Maryland, Kehilat Shalom and Tikvat Israel Congregation as co-sponsors if the series.

For more information or to sign up, write Richard Lederman at ledermanrc@gmail.com or call him at [240-441-8074](tel:240-441-8074).

PRAYER REQUESTS

Prayers For Those Whose Lives are Closely Linked With Ours: St. Peter's Church, Poolesville, Church of the Ascension and St. Agnes, DC Washington Interfaith Network (WIN), Commission on Ecumenical and Interreligious Ministries, Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

We pray for comfort, healing, courage and hope for Harriette Eleanor Cooper, Mike Darracott, Sally and William Glick, Sue Jenkins, Melanie Mitchell, Fran Spina, Ruthie Swain, Gail Unterberger, Kim Weaver, 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.

We give thanks for the life of Tom Thiele, who died early Thursday morning. May he rest in peace and rise in glory.

QUICK LINKS

[Link to Service Leaflets for January 14](#)

[Link to Podcast of Randy's Sermon on Sunday, January 7: "Portable Priest"](#)

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