



# This Week at Ascension

[Link to the Bulletins for  
September 27](#)

[Link to Randy's Sermon  
"Beginner's Mind" from  
September 20.](#)

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

## Calendar Highlights

**Saturday, September 26**  
9am Overeaters Anonymous,  
Undercroft Commons  
9:30am Ascension's  
Adventure Group,  
Cunningham Falls  
11am Al-Anon, Undercroft  
Commons  
11am Overeaters  
Anonymous, Chapel

**Sunday, September 27**  
*Blood Pressure Screenings  
after each Service in Room 1*  
7:45am Holy Eucharist, Main  
Church  
8:15am Choir Rehearsal,  
Choir Room  
9am Holy Eucharist, Main  
Church  
9am Godly Play, Room 6  
9am Joyful Path, Room 11  
9am ESOL Class, Room 1  
10:15am Holy Eucharist for  
Families with Young  
Children, Chapel  
11am Holy Eucharist in  
Spanish, Chapel  
11am Godly Play, Room 6

### *Mr. Christ, the Unexpected One*

In recent weeks we've read two versions of Peter's pivotal acknowledgement of Jesus as Messiah.

For many more years than I care to admit, I thought 'Christ' was Jesus's last name. When I was fortunate enough to study under some world class, Harvard educated religion profs at *West Virginia University*, I put it all together in a new way. Or, more accurately, it was explained to me that 'Christ' was his title. It meant "anointed one" in Greek. In Hebrew, the term is 'Messiah'. So we can call him Jesus Messiah, too. Anointed ones in ancient Israel were kings. They were anointed with God's Spirit, and acted as God's representatives in the governing and leading of the people.

We, too, are anointed ones at baptism, with all of the same connotations.

In general, many Jews in that period of the history of Israel expected the Messiah, the Christ, to be another king, like David. He would liberate them from Roman occupation and lead God's Chosen to a new and glorious chapter of their history.

But, of course, we know how the story goes. Jesus was not that kind of Christ.

I had a bishop in Washington State who always said "Jesus the Christ" when he prayed aloud and when he celebrated the Eucharist, even when the 'the' wasn't there. He wanted us to know who Jesus was and is, and to remind us that this human being was as anointed as anyone could possibly be: positively brimming over with Spirit.

Don't be too surprised if I start calling him 'the' Christ, because that is who he is for us. I pray, however, that Jesus the Christ will accompany you on your journey always, and never cease to be a surprise to you.

Namasté, Randy

11am Joyful Path, Room 11  
11:15am Holy Eucharist,  
Main Church  
1pm Christian Counselors  
Gathering, Library  
1:30pm Vestry Meeting,  
Room 1  
5pm Holy Eucharist, Chapel  
6pm Youth Group/  
Formation, Undercroft  
Commons

**Monday, September 28**

6:30pm Overeaters  
Anonymous, Undercroft  
Commons  
7pm Girl Scout Meeting,  
Room 6  
7:30pm Outreach Committee  
Meeting, Library

**Tuesday, September 29**

9:30am Staff Meeting,  
Library  
7pm Spanish Bible Study,  
Ascension House  
7pm Still Water Mindfulness  
Practice, Chapel  
7pm Codependents  
Anonymous, Room 1  
8:30pm AI-Anon, Room 1

**Wednesday, September 30**

10am *Daring Greatly* Book  
Group, Library  
7pm Spanish Class, Ascension  
House  
8pm Gamblers Anonymous,  
Chapel

**Thursday, October 1**

10am Yoga, Chapel  
7:45pm Choir Rehearsal,  
Choir Room

**Friday, October 2**

6pm Family Movie Night,  
Undercroft Commons  
6pm Couples in Recovery,  
Chapel

[Link to our Online Calendar](#)

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**Announcements**

(click for more info)

**HEADLINERS**

[Family Movie Nigh, Friday, October 2](#)

[Blessing of the Beasts, October 4](#)

[Ascension Youth Group/Formation, September 27](#)

[Lee Custer, Memorial Service, October 10](#)

**CHRISTIAN FORMATION**

[Godly Play, September 27](#)

[A Joyful Path, September 27](#)

[Christian Formation for Children Registration Form](#)

[Christian Formation for Youth Registration Form](#)

[Daring Greatly](#)

[Yoga Classes at Ascension](#)

[Listening Heart Community at Ascension](#)

[Still Water Mindfulness Practice Group](#)

**WORSHIP**

[Bulletins for Tablets Link](#)

[Worship Rosters, October - December](#)

**SERVICE**

[Gaithersburg HELP](#)

[Ascension's Cancer Support Group](#)

[Lord's Table Soup Kitchen](#)

[Men's Shelter Lunch Preparation](#)

**LIFE AT ASCENSION**

[Ascension's Adventure Group to Cunningham Falls](#)

[Blood Pressure Screenings, September 27](#)

[Spanish Classes](#)

[ESOL Classes](#)

## Worship Leaders

Sunday, September 27

Preacher: Ms. Kate Siberine

*Flower Delivery:* Alice Padmore

**7:45 AM Reader/Prayers:** Jean Cohn, *Chalicians:* Wadai Dennis, Sharon Hayden, *Healing Prayer:* Meredith Horan, *Acolytes:* Raymond Chin, Jackson Douglas, Aidan Douglas, *Welcome Team:* Don Cohn, Jean Cohn, *Altar Guild:* Enid Cole, Mardia Dennis

**9:00 AM Readers:** Gary McLaughlin, Sue Snay, *Prayers:* Susan McLaughlin, *Chalicians:* Margaret Tellu, Esther Tellu, *Healing Prayer:* Paul Whitmore, *Acolytes:* Kofi Kwamena-Poh, Stacy Taylor, Kayleigh Yankie, *Welcome Team:* Margaret Joseph, Dorett Sutherland, James Black, Jonathan Black, *Altar Guild:* Nancy Carman, Cynthia Perley, Sari Stoddard

**11:15 AM Reader:** Alice Benson, *Chalicians:* Anika Lalmansingh, Avin Lalmansingh, *Healing Prayer:* Sarah Rubin, *Welcome Team:* Alex Langley, Alice Padmore, *Altar Guild:* Laura Shay, Georgana Maines

**5:00 PM Reader/Usher:** Pete Minderman

**Eucharistic Visitors:** Enid Cole, Meredith Horan

[Hospitality Hour](#)

[Prayer Request Updates](#)

**CAPITAL CAMPAIGN**

[Capital Campaign News](#)

**PUBLICATIONS**

[September Ascendant](#)

[Together We Shine](#)

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**Prayers**

**FOR THOSE WHOSE LIVES ARE CLOSELY LINKED WITH OURS:**

In the Diocesan cycle of prayer, we pray for Church of St. Michael and All Angels

In the Anglican cycle of prayer, we pray for Southern Highlands - (Tanzania)

**PRAY FOR COMFORT, HEALING, COURAGE, AND HOPE:**

Peg, Hollis, Susan, Johnetta, Nancy, Janet, Lou, Fran, and all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

We pray for Ascension's Minister of Music Discernment Team.

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. For all people affected by natural disasters, violence, and war.

God our strength and our redeemer, We ask for your loving presence and for your peace to be with the people of Syria, of all religious traditions and of none. Be with those in positions of leadership, that their decisions may hasten peace and bring an end to violence. Be with those who are in fear for their safety and their lives. Be with those who have lost their homes, livelihoods, and loved ones. Give them strength and courage. And be with us, as we listen and discern your call to us. Equip us and empower us to be witnesses to your love - as advocates and as servants, as ministers of welcome and of hope for Syrians and all those displaced by war and violence.

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

**ALTAR FLOWERS:**

The altar flowers are given by Hallie Porter, in loving memory

of Virginia West.

**THANKSGIVING:**

For the life of Margaret Ann Rutherford McClure Benson, step-mother of Alice Benson

For the life of Lee Custer, husband of Peg Custer, who died on September 22.

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