

EPISCOPAL Church of the Ascension



This Week at Ascension

[Link to the Bulletins for
January 31](#)

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

Calendar Highlights

Saturday, January 30

9am Ascension's Adventure
Group - Carlisle House
9am Overeaters Anonymous,
Undercroft Commons
11am AI-Anon, Undercroft
Commons
11am Overeaters
Anonymous, Chapel

Sunday, January 31

7:45am Holy Eucharist, Main
Church
8:15am Choir Rehearsal,
Choir Room
9am Holy Eucharist, Main
Church
9am *Godly Play*, Room 6
9am *A 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
11am *A Joyful Path*, Room
11
11:15am Holy Eucharist,
Main Church
1pm Pastoral Care Team
Meeting, Library
5pm Holy Eucharist, Chapel

Christian

Some think of a Christian as one who necessarily *believes* certain things. That Jesus was the son of God, say. Or that Mary was a virgin. Or that the Pope is infallible. Or that all other religions are all wrong.

Some think of a Christian as one who necessarily *does* certain things. Such as going to church. Getting baptized. Giving up liquor and tobacco. Reading the Bible. Doing a good deed a day.

Some think of a Christian as just a Nice Guy.

Jesus said, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life, no one comes to the Father, but by me." (John 14:6). He didn't say that any particular ethic, doctrine, or religion was the way, the truth, and the life. He said that he was. He didn't say that it was by believing or doing anything in particular that you could "come to the Father." He said that it was only by him - by living, participating in, being caught up by, the way of life that he embodied, that was his way.

Thus it is possible to be on Christ's way and with his mark upon you without ever having heard of Christ, and for that reason to be on your way to God though maybe you don't even believe in God.

A Christian is one who is on the way, though not necessarily very far along it, and who has at least some dim and half-baked idea of whom to thank.

A Christian isn't necessarily any nicer than anybody else. Just better informed.

By Frederick Buechner

Announcements
(click for more info)

Monday, February 1
6:30pm Overeaters
Anonymous, Undercroft
Commons
7pm Listening Heart
Community, Library

Tuesday, February 2
6:30pm Spanish Class,
Ascension House
7pm Education for Ministry,
Library
7pm Codependents
Anonymous, Room 1
8:30pm AI-Anon, Room 1

Wednesday, February 3
10am *Falling Upward* Book
Group, Library
6pm Yoga, Chapel
7pm Spanish Bible Study,
Ascension House
7pm Ensemble Rehearsal,
Main Church
8pm Gamblers Anonymous,
Chapel

Thursday, February 4
10am Yoga, Chapel
7:45pm Choir Rehearsal,
Choir Room

[Link to our Online Calendar](#)

Worship Leaders

Sunday, January 31
Preacher: (The Rev.) Randy Lord-
Wilkinson

Flower Delivery: Alice Padmore,
Esther Sawyer

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

9:00 AM, Readers: Gary McLaughlin,
Susan Ahalt, *Prayers:* Christine
Yankus-Eng, *Chalicians:* Diana
Gustafson, Major Clemens, *Healing*
Prayer: Randy Lord-Wilkinson,
Acolytes: Manny Johnson, Msangwa

HEADLINERS

[Movie Night, February 5](#)

[Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper](#)

[Ash Wednesday, 2016](#)

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

[Godly Play, January 31](#)

[A Joyful Path, January 31](#)

[Youth Group](#)

[Education for Ministry](#)

[Falling Upward, Wednesday Morning Book Group](#)

[New Book for Wednesday Morning Book Group](#)

[Talking About Race](#)

[Yoga at Ascension](#)

[Listening Heart Community at Ascension](#)

[Still Water Mindfulness Practice Group](#)

WORSHIP

[Bulletins for Tablets Link](#)

[Worship Rosters, Jan-Mar 2016](#)

SERVICE

[Gaithersburg HELP](#)

[Men's Shelter Lunch Preparation](#)

[Ascension's Cancer Support Group](#)

[Lord's Table Soup Kitchen](#)

LIFE AT ASCENSION

[Ascension's Adventure Group to Carlyle House](#)

[Dia de la Candelaria](#)

[Our Winter Weather Policy](#)

[Keeping the Feast](#)

[Spanish Classes](#)

[ESOL Classes](#)

[Prayer Request Updates](#)

Ogada, Nuelle Johnson , *Welcome Team*: Swithin Kwamena-Poh, Kevin Blanc, Algernon Thomas, *Altar Guild*: Ophelia Yalley-Ogunro, Esther Taylor

11:15 AM *Reader*: Sarah Rubin, *Chalicians*: Page Salazar, Rimie Sicard, *Healing Prayer*: Laura Shay, *Welcome Team*: Sciou Broderick, Peedy Terry, *Altar Guild*: Anika Lalmansingh, Avin Lalmansingh

5:00 PM *Reader/Usher*: Christine Yankus-Eng

Eucharistic Visitors: Barb Mansfield

PUBLICATIONS

January Ascendant

Together We Shine

Prayers

FOR THOSE WHOSE LIVES ARE CLOSELY LINKED WITH OURS:

In the Diocesan cycle of prayer, we pray for The Finance and Investment Committees, The Standing Committee, Pray for the Mission and Ministry of the Episcopal Church, Pray for the leaders of all the nations, especially Barack Obama, President of the United States.

PRAY FOR COMFORT, HEALING, COURAGE, AND HOPE:

Carol, Ann, Joseph, Alice, Warren, Nancy, Janet, Lou, Fran, Leslie, and all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

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.

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.

Compassionate God and Father of all, we are horrified at violence in so many parts of the world. It seems that none are safe, and some are terrified. Hold back the hands that kill and maim; turn around the hearts that hate. Grant instead your strong Spirit of Peace- peace that passes our understanding but changes lives.

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

ALTAR FLOWERS:

Given by Eliane Dunn-Johnson, in celebration of the 16th birthday of Elise Johnson.

THANKSGIVING:

For the life of Monique Marbury, who died on January 15.

For the life of Susan MacDonald, wife of Carleton MacDonald, who died on January 18.

For the life of Doris Ngaruiya, who died on January 24.

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