

# weekly announcements

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION  
Making Christ Known by our Love for All



**Third Sunday after the Epiphany | January 25, 2026**

## **Cursillo Informational Dinner | TONIGHT**

Mary Beth Basu and Rebecca Posey invite you to an informational dinner about Cursillo tonight, from 5:30–6:30 p.m. in Ware Hall. This gathering is open to past Cursillo participants as well as anyone interested in attending a future Cursillo weekend. If you enjoyed the Parish Retreat, you'll love Cursillo! We'll share information, answer questions, enjoy fellowship, and of course sing a couple of songs. Chili will be provided, and guests are invited to bring a side dish or dessert to share. All are welcome—come learn more and enjoy a relaxed evening together!

## **EYC goes to Activate | TONIGHT**

Join us for a fun night at Activate Birmingham on January 25, 2026, from 6:00–7:00 PM (drop off by 5:45 PM). We'll meet at Activate Birmingham, located at 1425 Montgomery Hwy #173 in Vestavia Hills. The cost is \$25 per student. Please be sure to eat before arriving, as dinner will not be provided. All participants' guardians must complete the required safety waiver ahead of time at [playactivate.com/birmingham/waiver](http://playactivate.com/birmingham/waiver). RSVP through Realm or contact Sam Herman at [youth@ascensionepiscopal.com](mailto:youth@ascensionepiscopal.com).

## **Men's Fireside Chat | January 27**

The monthly men's evening gathering is *moving* to *4th Tuesdays*. Join us for the first gathering of 2026 from 7:30 - 9:00 p.m. We will meet at Buddy Sharbel's house, please RSVP via Realm or e-mail Martin Hoerner, [mhoerner@gmail.com](mailto:mhoerner@gmail.com). Drinks and snacks will be provided.

## **Episcopal Place Birthday Party | February 1**

We're excited for our Groundhog Day–themed birthday party at Episcopal Place. It will take place on February 1st from 1–3 PM. Volunteers are asked to arrive by 12 PM to help with setup. We'll need volunteers to contribute snacks and small treats to use as gifts, see the sign-up-genius on our website to volunteer! For more information, please contact Kelly Burke at [kellybo09@me.com](mailto:kellybo09@me.com).

## **Casual Eucharist | February 1**

Join us on Sunday, February 1 at 5:00 p.m. in Ware Hall for a Casual Eucharist. Come as you are for an evening of worship and Holy Communion in a relaxed setting. Music will be led by Sam Herman and parish volunteers and will feature hymns and songs from *The Hymnal 1982*, *Alleluia III*, and other contemporary sources.

## **Pier 23 Build-Your-Own Pizza Night | February 8**

(20s/30s group) Join us on February 8th for a build-your-own pizza night at Ascension from 5:00-7:00 p.m. We'll provide the crust, cheese, and pizza sauce. Bring whatever you would like to drink and your favorite pizza topping to share with others. We'll also play games and have the Super Bowl on (for those who like sports, funny commercials, Bad Bunny, or all of the above). Contact Emily Collette, [emily.collette@ascensionepiscopal.org](mailto:emily.collette@ascensionepiscopal.org) or Andrew Ault, [asault@crimson.ua.edu](mailto:asault@crimson.ua.edu) with any questions!

## **Ascension Men's Prayer Breakfast | February 12**

Join other men from the parish at 8:15 a.m. for breakfast, prayer, and fellowship at First Watch at the Vestavia City Center. You can RSVP in Realm or let Martin Hoerner ([mhoerner@gmail.com](mailto:mhoerner@gmail.com)) know if you plan to attend. Invite your friends or neighbors!

## **Rock Solid Bible Club | February 11**

The Episcopal Church of the Ascension invites children in grades 3–5 to join us after school from 2:45 pm – 3:45 pm as we build a strong foundation of faith. This spring, we'll explore stories of Jesus that teach us to trust Him and love others. Questions? Contact Ashley Monachelli, Director of Family Ministries: [ashley.monachelli@ascensionepiscopal.org](mailto:ashley.monachelli@ascensionepiscopal.org)

### **Shrove Tuesday Pancake & Jambalaya Supper | February 17**

Join us on Shrove Tuesday for dinner! We'll have pancakes, bacon, and Jambalaya courtesy of Jeremy Downey from Bistro V! The fun begins at 5:00 pm and we plan to wind down at 7:00 pm. The suggested donation is \$5.00 per person, or \$20 per family. All proceeds benefit Ascension's EYC (youth) program. Payments can be made at the event with cash, check or Venmo.

### **Ash Wednesday | February 18**

Ash Wednesday marks the start of the 40 days of Lent. Services on Wednesday, February 18th at 12:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. will include the imposition of ashes and holy communion.

### **Lenten Supper Series**

Join us for our Lenten Supper Series, with supper served at 5:30 p.m., followed by a speaker at 6:15 p.m. and concluding by 7:00 p.m. We look forward to hearing from a variety of voices throughout Lent: on **February 25**, Jenny Grant of Episcopal Relief & Development; **March 4**, Tracy Hipps of Christian Service Mission; **March 11**, Charles Scribner of Black Warrior Riverkeeper; and **March 18**, Kee Sloan speaks about Special Session.

### **Living Well through Lent | Sundays - February 22 - March 29**

Each Sunday morning at 9:30 am during Lent, we will talk about "Cultivating Healing and Wholeness" in the Sunshine Room. The Living Compass daily readings and reflections will be our guide to discuss preparing for Easter in our Heart, Soul, Strength, and Mind. You can also pick up a Living Compass booklet from the foyer to use at home during Lent. You'll find daily readings, questions, Scripture, prayers, quotes, and contemplative practices to help you prepare for Easter. For more information, please reach out to Mary Beth Basu, [marybethbasu@gmail.com](mailto:marybethbasu@gmail.com).

### **News & Notes**

#### **Giving Hope January**

This month for our Giving Hope Outreach we are collecting donations to support the food pantry at Grace Episcopal Church in Woodlawn. Most needed items include rice, canned soups and vegetables, cereal, oatmeal, and granola bars. Thank you for your support!

#### **What's New in Faith Formation in 2026?**

- **Rector's Bible Study** – *A Who's Who of the Bible* - Tuesdays at 8:30 a.m. in the Sunshine Room.
- **Adult Faith Formation** – *Seven Signs in John's Gospel* - Sundays at 9:30 a.m. in Ware Hall.
- **Women's Bible Study** - Tuesdays at 12 p.m. in the Sunshine Room.

#### **The Abbey Volunteers**

Help pack lunches Wednesdays or distribute Thursdays in Avondale. Sign up in Sign-Up Central or contact [rossparker@att.net](mailto:rossparker@att.net).

#### **First Light Volunteers**

Serve a meal to women and children at First Light Shelter. Sign up in Sign-Up Central or contact [caralynmcdaniel@gmail.com](mailto:caralynmcdaniel@gmail.com).

#### **Breakfast Teams**

Join a Breakfast Team! We're looking for team members (men and women) to help cook breakfast on a rotating basis every 4 weeks before Sunday School. Team leaders are already in place—we just need you! If you're interested or have questions, email Christy at [christy.smith@ascensionepiscopal.org](mailto:christy.smith@ascensionepiscopal.org).

*Scan to see announcements on website*

