

Vermont Ecumenical Council and Bible Society

What: Ascension is a member congregation of Vermont Ecumenical Council and Bible Society (VECBS). The VECBS describes itself as "...nine Christian denominations [American Baptist, Episcopal, Evangelical Lutheran, Greek Orthodox, Presbyterian, Religious Society of Friends, Roman Catholic, United Church of Christ, United Methodist] working together to promote Christian unity, ecumenical dialogue, and prayers for the whole of Christ's church." It carries out this mission with a variety of activities:

- bringing together the leaders of the nine member denominations so they get to know one another
- discussing theological issues and discovering where there's agreement among the denominations (Faith & Order Committee)
- working together on social issues (Peace, Justice and the Integrity of Creation)
- sponsoring ecumenical worship services (Prayer & Worship Committee)
- coming to consensus on issues of public concern and issuing statements
- communicating with its newsletter and website
- distributing free Bibles to churches and other Vermont ministries

When: Ongoing

Who: Pastor Nancy meets with the Council. Sam Swanson maintains contact through his active relationship with Vermont Interfaith Power & Light (VTIPL) because the VECBS actively assisted with the formation of VTIPL.

How: Pastor Nancy represents Ascension and the New England Synod in the VECBS organization and at ecumenical activities involving pastors and priests from member Christian churches.

Website: <http://www.vecbs.org/organization/index.html>