



Spires October 2021

Church of the Ascension

13216 Detroit Avenue • Lakewood, OH 44107 • www.ascension-lakewood.org

FROM REV. VINCENT BLACK



OCTOBER 2021

We remember St. Francis of Assisi in October; his feast day is October 4th. On the following Saturday, October 9th, we will gather at 4pm in the St. Francis Pet Memorial Garden. People are invited to bring their pets in crates or on leashes to be blessed and to bring the ashes of dead pets to be spread in the sacred circle in the garden. In addition, children are invited to bring the stuffed animals they created at the family service on September 26th

to be blessed along with any other favorite stuffed animals. It is a day to celebrate and thank God for our favorite animal friends and follow Francis's example of love.

Let me tell you a little more about those stuffed animals that were created by our families. The whole service centered around celebrating the diverse shapes, sizes, and colors of animals' bodies as well as our own bodies. We all prayed and then kids opened a bag to reveal a dog, pig, horse, frog, or other animal. They said prayers as they filled the head and body. They prayed as they placed a heart inside the animal. They then clothed their animals with little T-shirts proclaiming our message of God loves you, no exceptions!

There are a few photos included here in the Spires. But if you haven't done so I urge you to watch the service on our Facebook Page or our website. It is filled with music and laughter and adults and children creating together. It is lively, fun and definitely Spirit filled! It is a gloriously wonderful snapshot of the Church, the Body of Christ. So we definitely want kids to bring those animals back to be blessed on October 9th and more importantly to bless us with them and their presence. If you get the chance, ask about the animals they created. You will be in for a great story!



God loves you. No exceptions.®

FROM SUSAN O'DONNELL, SENIOR WARDEN



OCTOBER MESSAGE FROM THE SENIOR WARDEN

This month at Church of the Ascension we are looking forward to two special events. The first is an outdoor worship service, Blessing of the Animals, in our beautiful St Francis Garden. It is always a meaningful way to celebrate our tried, true, and loyal friends. If you have pet ashes that you would like to spread, please contact the church office at 216-521-8727.

The second event is the Car Show Fundraiser on Saturday, October 16th. It kicks off Church of the Ascension's anniversary celebration in 2025 celebrating 150 years in Lakewood, Ohio.

Thank you for all the support and encouragement in planning this event and your volunteer hours are invaluable. We will possibly have live music for some of the time. There will be lovely gift baskets (arranged as I am writing) for raffle, a fifty- fifty raffle and voting for Fan Favorites, with trophies and medallions for the first five favorite collectable cars in the show. A concession stand will feature jumbo hot-dogs with optional sauerkraut on the side and sloppy joes with the usual chips, drinks, and cookies. Rita Rozell has mailed out close to 80 letters to Lakewood businesses inviting them to help support us as well. It should be a fun afternoon and an opportunity to demonstrate Ascension's 150-year presence in our community. Please contact me by email or phone for any questions you may have.

There is a volunteer sheet in the church office for the Car Show. Also, there is link that you can sign-up for a time and job. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904044DA9AD2DA5FC1-carshow> Your help is so needed and valued. Your prayers are welcome as this event approaches. Thank you.

I said there were two special events but let us not forget that there is still going to be a Family/ Intergenerational Service on the fourth Sunday in October and as always, we have two beautiful worship services each Sunday. Every Tuesday there is a phone in prayer meeting at noon. Adult Christian Formation has begun. Shawl Ministry is meeting in person. Afternoon Guild is meeting too. Community Meals continue as scheduled as well as AA meetings. I encourage you to reach out to Father Vincent if you are interested in participating in any of the events at church. Our missionary prayer is in action.

The other day I listened to Pastor Michael Todd. He is the author of Crazy Faith: It's Only Crazy Until It Happens. He spoke how our faith lives within our ideas and dreams in our mind and then travels to our heart and then to our hands. He spoke how no dream is impossible with faith. This is exactly how Father Vincent walks the talk at our church. He has a dream of greatness and sustainability for Church of the Ascension. Our duty is to listen. We must, as the body of Christ, channel our faith into our hands.

Late October and November our pledge drive begins. It is titled, "Every Perfect Gift". We live this motto at Church of the Ascension most recently through our Organ Campaign. Now as we enter 2022, we are approaching a shortcoming in our budget. Please put Church of the Ascension in your prayers.

We share so many gifts with our community. Church of the Ascension is on track to serve 1200 meals this year alone. We also host 10 AA meetings a week, more than any church in Lakewood. We have achieved all of this with the seeming never ending restraints of the pandemic.

Your commitment to pledge to Ascension has made our mission possible. Your financial gifts have provided us with the most amazing worship and Christian education opportunities Ascension has ever experienced. I am so thankful for Father Vincent and his leadership. We have maintained and improved our building with its stellar community kitchen. Our building is warm and dry and serves as a place to worship, meet, and study our faith. It is a place where the community gathers for support, friendship, and meals. Thank you for your pledges. Together let's pray on our church's financial needs and consider how we can meet the needs of our church as our financial resources change.

In Faith, Susan O'Donnell

Something to think about:

About 57% of our total church budget comes from pledges. Our church counts on 50 pledge units each month.

Church of the Ascension Policies Concerning COVID-19 Updated on September 2, 2021

Chalice will be offered beginning June 13th.

No one should receive from the chalice if they are uncomfortable and/or unsafe to do so. We believe in the doctrine of concomitance which means one receives the full benefit of the sacrament whether they receive one or both forms of bread and wine.

We will continue to stand for communion until further notice.

Outdoor Holy Eucharist will continue at 8am through September 26th. Outdoor Family Service will continue on the 4th Sunday of each month through September 26th.

Masks and social distancing are encouraged but not required inside the building for those fully vaccinated. Anyone unvaccinated is expected to wear a mask.

We will continue to offer the peace without moving from our places through a bow or gesture rather than through a hug or handshake allowing people to maintain their personal space.

Everyone is expected to continue washing hands thoroughly as well as sanitizing all chairs, handles, switches, and surfaces. We will sanitize the building by fumigation monthly rather than weekly beginning in July.

Hospitality on Sundays and community meals will continue to be held outside through the end of September. Community meal organizers can then decide what is best for their respective meal beginning in October. Safety policies and cleaning practices will be strictly followed.

Groups will not serve coffee and other refreshments inside until further notice.

Singing will continue to be pre-recorded until the choir resumes leading singing in worship. All participants are encouraged to sing along with both pre-recorded and live singing. Hymnals and Prayer books will be returned to the pews after the plaster work in the church is completed.

FAMILY/INTERGENERATIONAL MONTHLY OUTDOOR SERVICE

Because of the wonderful responses from our children and adults alike, we will have an outdoor family service once a month. It will be held on the fourth Sunday of the month at 9:30am. Our next Outdoor Family Service be held on October 24th. All are invited to attend.

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

Blessing of the animals and pet memorial service Saturday, October 9th at 4pm in the West Garden. If you intend to have the remains of your pets spread in the holy circle, please contact Father Vincent by Sunday October 3rd.

Memorial offerings may be made to support our garden fund.
All live pets are to be caged or leashed. Stuffed animals welcome as well.

ASCENSION CONNECTIONS

Good Shepard Episcopal Church in Lyndhurst is sponsoring a Banquet/Gala on October 23rd from 6pm to 9pm. The event is curbside pick-up and will raise money for

PLANT A SEED. www.plantaseed4achild.org

Donation is \$25.00 per person. Contact MS. Bass at 216-407-3725

The rector of Good Shepard Episcopal is Steve Ashby, a former seminarian and resident of Ascension House.

THE ECW (EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN)

We will be meeting on October 13th at 1:30 pm for our monthly meeting at The Market, 1137 Linda St. in Rocky River. If you are planning on attending this meeting, please call or text Margie Hildebrandt at 440-476-8450.

This is a choose your own lunch event!

We hope to see you there for fun conversation and good food!

CAR SHOW

Church of the Ascension

Saturday, October 16th

10am -3pm

\$10 registration Cars, Food, Raffles, and Music

Kicking off 150 years in Lakewood – Support our Mission

AFTERNOON GUILD

Wednesday, October 13th, at 12:30 pm in Ascension Hall

All women of our church are welcome and quite often a gentleman or two, as we try to include workers in our church around lunch.

SHAWL MINISTRY

Shawl ministry resumed on Wednesday September 1, 2021.

We will meet in Ascension hall at 1:30 pm. We will continue meet on the first and third Wednesday of each month.

Noon day prayer Tuesdays At 12:12pm via conference call

On Tuesdays there will be a conference call enabling you to call in and join Father Vincent and other members of our Ascension community for:

- Noonday Prayer (10 minutes),
- A reflection from Forward Day by Day (5 minutes),
- Time for us to check-in with each other (20 minutes),
- Time to ask questions and exchange information (10 minutes),
- Prayer for the Church of the Ascension.

This will give everyone access to our priest and allow us to continue together in prayer and fellowship.

**We will start noonday prayer promptly at 12:12 and end just before 1pm.
Please do not call in before 12:05pm.**

You can call in for all or part of the time.

We will use the Book of Common Prayer pp. 103-107.

Dial-in number: (425) 436-6300

Access code: 593523#

Use *6 to mute and un-mute yourself when trying to talk.

We will use the Book of Common Prayer pp. 103-107.

Ascension Permanent Zoom Meeting Link

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82605560985?pwd=NUZPYmp5bFpSQXEzVGZEOXpjOExaQT09>

Meeting ID: 826 0556 0985

Passcode: ascension

Tap for cell phone to call automatically:

+13017158592,,82605560985#,,,,*786753522# US (Washington DC)

Or Dial

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

Meeting ID: 826 0556 0985

Passcode: 786753522

SUNDAY 10:30AM SERVICE

The entire service is streamed live each Sunday at 10:30am on

The Church of the Ascension Facebook page

[facebook.com/pg/ascensionlakewood/videos/](https://www.facebook.com/pg/ascensionlakewood/videos/),

and at www.ascension-lakewood.org.

October 2021



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 9 am - Yard & Garden Cleanup
3 8 am- Service 10:30 am- Service	4	5 5:30 pm - Trials for Hope Meal 12:12 pm- Noon day prayer via conference call	6 1:30 pm - Shawl Ministry Ascension Hall	7	8	9 4 pm- Pet blessing and memorial
10 8 am- Service 10:30 am- Service	11	12 12:12 pm- Noon day prayer via conference cal	13	14 5:30 pm - Community Meal	15	16 10am -3pm Car Show Fundraiser
17 8 am- Service 10:30 am- Service	18	19 12:12 pm- Noon day prayer via conference cal	20 1:30 pm - Shawl Ministry Ascension Hall	21	22	23
24 8 am- Service 9:30 am- Family and Intergenerational Service 10:30 am- Service	25 5:30 pm - Trials for Hope Meal	26 12:12 pm- Noon day prayer via conference cal	27	28	29	30
31 8 am- Service 10:30 am- Service						

PLEDGES AND OFFERINGS TO THE CHURCH

Please mail in your pledges/financial offerings so we can meet our financial obligations.

Please join us in helping to keep The Church of the Ascension strong
and able to meet the needs of an ever-changing world.

USE YOUR SMART PHONE TO SCAN THE CODE BELOW



OR VISIT: theascensionshop.com where you can make a one-time donation or set up continuing contributions.

amazonsmile
You shop. Amazon gives.

You can pick **Church of the Ascension** to donate to on **amazon**smile and amazon will donate a percentage of your total purchase to the church.



OCTOBER CELEBRATIONS



BIRTHDAYS

October 2nd: Frances Isaacs
October 2nd: Charlie Spada
October 5th: Mary Ann Deibel
October 7th: Kinzley Gillies
October 8th: Beth Bergstrom
October 13th: Teddie Black

BIRTHDAYS

October 25th: Jenny Christ
October 29th: John O'Donnell
October 31th: Joe Sgambellon

ANNIVERSARIES

October 26th: Jenny & Michael Christ