

*Spires* April 2024

# Church of the Ascension

13216 Detroit Avenue • Lakewood, OH 44107 • [www.ascension-lakewood.org](http://www.ascension-lakewood.org)

## REV. VINCENT BLACK



Alleluia. Christ is risen.

The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Every single day of April this year is Easter. Next year Easter isn't until April 20th, so most of April 2024 will be in Lent, but not this year. Each and every day of this month is part of the Easter season. Easter is always seven weeks long, it lasts for 50 days, ending on Pentecost. Why is Easter so long? Because it is the most important celebration for Christians. It is the miracle of the resurrection of Jesus. The witness that death is not the end of the story, but rather life. That hatred, and violence, and murder do not have the final say, but rather love. That darkness and sadness will be overcome by joy and light. The very life, love, joy, and light of God made manifest in Jesus, our King, our Lord.



We celebrate Easter this year with the baptism of two of our members, Aaron Beatty and Domenico Sgambellone. They were baptized by our bishop at the Easter Vigil. Because they are making a mature declaration of their faith and being baptized by a bishop, when they were marked with the sign of the cross with chrism, they were also confirmed. What a joy it is to witness these two people claim the Easter story as their own, to claim God's unfailing love for them and to promise to share that love with the world. And we, with them on Easter, renewed our own baptismal vows making the same claim and promises as Aaron and Dom.

There are two offerings beginning in April to help us go deeper into our faith and empowering us to live into our vows and promises. Beginning Sunday April 7th Alex DeJesus will lead Bible Study on The Acts of the Apostles at 9:15-10am. The study will continue through Sunday May 19th. A second offering is a drama series on the life of Jesus. We will watch and discuss Season 2 of the Chosen on Thursday evenings from 6:30-8:30pm starting April 11th. I hope you will take advantage of one or both of these opportunities.

We are Easter people. Our funeral service reminds us that even at the grave we make our song Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia! (BCP p.499) We are people who claim life, promise, and possibility. May you relish in all the possibilities that Easter brings.

It continues to be my joy and privilege to serve as your priest.

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.



## INFORMATION FOR LIVE STREAMED WORSHIP

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://facebook.com/pg/ascensionlakewood/videos/),

and at [www.ascension-lakewood.org/](http://www.ascension-lakewood.org/).

## JOE SGAMBELLONE, SENIOR WARDEN

As I write this, we are entering into the most holy time in the church's calendar: Holy Week. This year's activities have been especially meaningful for me as I watch my son Dom prepare for his baptism and confirmation during the Easter Vigil at Trinity Cathedral. Aaron Beatty is also getting baptized and is no doubt undergoing a similar preparation. These are big events in one's spiritual life, so please join me in congratulating them on this step in their journey.

Speaking of big events, the eclipse is drawing near and in case you haven't heard (lol), Cleveland is in the path of totality! For more than 3 minutes we'll be plunged into darkness. I find it fitting that the eclipse is happening around Holy Week, when Jesus was plunged into darkness, was transformed, and came back to the light of life.

The resurrection is a powerful metaphor for the ability to overcome. In Jesus's darkest hour, in the tomb, there was no tomorrow; no brighter days ahead. With His resurrection, I am shown that even in my darkest hour, I can grow out of where I'm stuck and walk a better path.

Experiencing the earth falling into the shadow of the moon will offer the same opportunity to reflect on this type of transformation. I'm looking forward to being in the path of totality; seeing the darkness, feeling the coldness, and gratefully watching the sun reemerge. In those fleeting moments, as night and day are flipped, I'll say a small prayer of thanks.

Thankful that we are less guided by ignorance – that large celestial events are to be viewed with awe and wonder; that they do not bring ill tidings.

Thankful that we can share a generational event with our neighbors, friends that we know and friends we have yet to make.

Thankful that despite the headlines, the world is full of love and understanding.

Thankful that, when I do fall short and plunge myself into darkness, I can acknowledge my shortcomings, repair damages, make meaningful changes, and walk forward with the promise of brighter days ahead.

## CLARKE MORTENSEN



I'm please to share with the parish that I've been accepted to Berkeley Divinity School at Yale and will be enrolling there in the fall. Bishop Jolly has given me her blessing to attend. Yale itself is not an Episcopal seminary, but it houses Berkeley as one of its denominational partners. This means that seminarians take classes with students of all sorts of denominations, but also have worship and formation in the Episcopal tradition, as well as a few extra classes. This dual program was one of the main reasons I applied to Berkeley. Seminarians have access to the wide range of classes and resources a larger institution like Yale can provide, while still having a community to anchor them to our church life. I am grateful to Ascension for their continuing support through the discernment process.

## REGIONAL CELEBRATION OF CONFIRMATION

On **May 11th at 11am** Bishop Anne will come to Church of the Ascension for a regional celebration of confirmation. All parishes in our mission area are invited to participate. Anyone from Church of the Ascension wishing to reaffirm their faith or to be baptized, confirmed, or received into the Episcopal Church is welcome to do so. Please call or email Jim Weiss in the office no later than **April 15th**.

## GREGORY SENT, ARCHIVIST



Eliza Jennings Burton Backus, daughter of Rev. Lewis Burton and Agnes Jane Wallace Burton, was born in 1855. Her father was responsible for the beginning of Church of the Ascension. Eliza was often seen by people in Lakewood riding along with her father in their buggy visiting each house along Detroit. Her father and later uncle were both ministers at Ascension during their early days. She was often found at Ascension playing the organ in the original wooden church, where she met the young minister Rev Arthur Mann Backus, who is known as the first fulltime rector of Ascension. It is said that they fell in love at first sight. They married on May 1, 1878 with her father, Rev. Lewis Burton, being the minister. Together Eliza and Arthur had two daughters, of whom only one lived to their adulthood: Jean Wallace Backus Dawson. Eliza Jennings Burton Backus was the first of 4 generations of women in her family to have connections to Ascension's history with a variety of baptisms, confirmations, weddings and funerals.



Lulu Maile Robison came from a family with important connections to the early years of Church of the Ascension. Her grandparents, William and Alice Maile, who had a successful brickyard here in Lakewood, pledged money towards the building of the original church in 1875. A few years later, their son Christopher Maile married Mary Kidd on March 1, 1883 and were one of the first marriages recorded at Church of the Ascension. Lulu Maile was the daughter of Christopher Maile and Mary Kidd and was born in 1887. Three years after graduation from Lakewood High School, Lulu married Frank H. Robison on June 5, 1907 at the Maile family home. The society pages described in detail the beautiful flowers, music and clothing of the bride and others at the event. In 1971, Lulu Maile Robison passed away and her funeral services were conducted by Rev. Harrold Braun.



Carrie Ella McDowell Krewson was born March 29, 1904. Carrie was a graduate of Lakewood High School and of Western Reserve School of Pharmacy, where she met her future husband, Arthur Krewson. On January 29, 1934, she married Arthur E. Krewson in her family home here in Lakewood, Ohio in a very private, family service with Rev. Studwell from Church of the Ascension as minister. After their wedding, Carrie and Arthur traveled to New York where they stayed for a week at the Waldorf Astoria and afterwards traveled to Bermuda for three weeks for their honeymoon. Together Carrie and Arthur had three daughters all of whom were married at Ascension, nine grandchildren of whom 3 were married at Ascension and twelve great-grandchildren of whom five were baptized at Ascension. Carrie was baptized at Ascension, married by the minister from Ascension and had her memorial service at Ascension in 2002.

What do these three women have in common? Are they related to each other? No. But all three women had a connection or relationship to Church of the Ascension. All three women will be part of an exhibit in 2025 at Church of the Ascension called "*Sacred Moments*". All three of the wedding dresses from 1878, 1907 and 1934, will be part of an exciting display of love and devotion at Church of the Ascension.

*Sacred Moments* will be a two-month exhibit during the months of June and July in 2025, which will feature wedding dresses and baptism gowns with a connection to our church. If you are part of our church's community and would like to have your gown as part of the collection, we would be honored to have it on display. Do you have a wedding dress from your mother or grandmother? Do you have your baptismal gown? What if you or your ancestor wasn't actually married or baptized in Ascension? Could it be part of the exhibit? Of course! Please reach out and talk to me if you think you might have something that would be a nice addition to our future exhibit. Please consider being part of this wonderful event.

Gregory Sent 216-570-4424 or [deutschmeister@hotmail.com](mailto:deutschmeister@hotmail.com)

## SEASON 2 OF THE CHOSEN

We will watch and discuss Season 2 of the Chosen on Thursday evenings from 6:30-8:30pm starting April 11th. The schedule is as follows:

April 11 - Episode 1

April 18 - Episode 2 & 3

April 25 - Episode 4

May 2 - Episode 5-6

May 9 - Ascension Day (Dinner and Eucharist)

May 16 - Episode 7&8

## BIBLE STUDY

Alex DeJesus will lead Bible Study on The Acts of the Apostles on Sundays 9:15-10am April 7th-May 19th.

**There will be no Bible Study on April 21st.**

## CENTERING PRAYER

We will resume Centering Prayer on Thursdays at noon during the Easter season from 12-12:45 in the chapel. It will consist of 20 minutes of silence as well as scripture reading, and reflection.

**We begin on April 4th and end on May 16th.** We will then evaluate whether or not to continue.

**Please give it a try.**

## CELEBRATION OF DANI AND CLARKE'S MARRIAGE

On April 21st we will have a special hospitality after the 10:30am service in celebration of Dani and Clarke's marriage. Please plan to join in the festivities.

## ASCENSION YOUNGISH ADULT FELLOWSHIP

**Meets in Ascension Hall Every First and Third Sunday 5pm-7pm. Beginning April 21, 2024**

Just like the group name says, this is all about fellowship. Come get together to spend time in community with your fellow parishioners aged 18+. We will play board games, watch movies, engage in conversation, and more as we grow closer together and strengthen our bonds as friends and siblings in Christ.



## SHAWL MINISTRY

Shawl ministry will meet on **Wednesday, April 3rd & 17th** in Ascension Hall from 1 pm - 3 pm. We will continue to meet on the first and third Wednesday of each month.

**Delivery Help Needed!** People wanted to help deliver shawls. This task is getting to be too much for the ladies – we need some help! Contact Mary Staley at (216) 527-4186

## RED WORK QUILT

One of our projects for the 2025 celebration will be a quilt made by us, the people of Church of the Ascension. It will be a traditional Red Work quilt, the type that was made in 1875 and is still made today. Each square will represent the Christian faith with an explanation of how we celebrate it today. Anyone is welcome to volunteer to embroider a symbol and be acknowledged in the explanation of their square. All squares will be on the same fabric using the same floss. Fabric and floss will be available at sign up in the main office.



Example of redwork embroidery of praying hands

**Any questions or concerns call Honey or Charlotte Partlow at 216 221 5030.**



## MANY HANDS

.....serve as acolytes.



## COLLECTING CLOTHES

Collecting Clothes for St. Luke's Episcopal Church. Box is outside the office. Please only clean and lightly worn clothing. Highly needed are seasonal men's and children's items.

## AFTERNOON GUILD

**Wednesday, April 10th for lunch at 12:30pm**

This month, the AFTERNOON GUILD will have our "Out to Lunch" meeting. We will be meeting at [Burntwood Tavern](#) in Rocky River (Detroit Avenue near Heinens) and will meet at 12:30 for socialization and lunch. A reservation by April 8th is necessary to have enough space. Please let Margie know by texting 440-476-8450 or emailing at [bach2schol@hotmail.com](mailto:bach2schol@hotmail.com). I look forward to hearing from you.

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Also, our May meeting will be our postponed discussion on preventing or living with high blood pressure. This is open to anyone who would like to attend. For lunch we will be in Ascension Hall at 12:30 and the discussion will be at 1:15. You do not need to do both. Please sign up if you would like to attend. There will be a signup sheet at coffee hour.

## MONTHLY PICK-UP YOUTH CHOIR

**The KIDS will sing on Sunday, April 14th**

On the second Sunday of each month, from September through May, all children are welcome to join our monthly pick-up Youth Choir and sing a song for the 10:30 am service offertory.

Margie will prepare the kids during the first part of the service and they will then offer that song as an Offertory Anthem the same day.

Please send me an email at [bach2schol@hotmail.com](mailto:bach2schol@hotmail.com) if your child is interested in joining our group! All are welcome!

**THOSE WHO SING PRAY TWICE!**

## ASCENSION NIGHT OUT

**Wednesday, April 17th at 6pm**

Please join us for an evening of great food, fun and fellowship at Carrabba's Italian Grill, located at 25054 Sperry Dr in Westlake.

You can view the menu at <https://locations.carrabbas.com/ohio/westlake>

**Please RSVP to Jim either by calling the office at 216-521-8727 or emailing [Secretary@Ascension-Lakewood.org](mailto:Secretary@Ascension-Lakewood.org) by Sunday, April 14th.**

We look forward to enjoying the night out together.

## HELP WANTED - HOSPITALITY MANAGER

I am writing to ask you to think about managing hospitality for a 3 to 6 month period of time. The duties of a hospitality manager are to make sure the Ascension Hall narrow closet is stocked with disposable paper and plastic goods like napkins, cups, plates, and plastic silverware. It also includes monitoring the cleanliness of the Ascension Hall Kitchen, making sure there are garbage bags, soaps, paper towels as well as coffee and tea products.

I have been doing this duty for the past few years. I would love to have someone else join the team.

I have found that stocking the hospitality cupboards is a once-a-month commitment.

Please consider volunteering for this role at Ascension to maintain high quality and welcoming hospitalities.

Submitted by Susan O'Donnell

### Hospitality Guidelines

- 1.) Paper goods, garbage supplies, serving dishes are available in the kitchen and narrow cupboard in Ascension Hall
- 2.) Clean-up
  - a. Wash dishes and put away.
  - b. Empty coffee pot and rinse out.
  - c. Combine ALL garbage into large can and close- up bag. Take to dumpster or leave in can with trash lid secured.
  - d. Take leftover food home. Try not to leave leftover food. It is often thrown out because no one uses it.
  - e. Wipe off tables.
- 3.) The building will be locked by a church member that has a key

**Thank you for supporting hospitality.**

## KARAOKE NIGHT OUT

**Tuesday, April 30th from 7:00 till 9:00 PM**

Warm up your vocal cords for Karaoke Night Out. Our night out will be at Corky's Place located at 13302 Detroit Ave. Corky's Place is 21 years of age and older with no exceptions. Due to limited parking please use the Church's West parking lot and if you need to park closer we can use the Garden Center's lot.

Although a RSVP is not required I am trying to get an idea of approximately how many people will attend for food and staffing purposes. Please let Jim know if you are planning on attending by either calling the office at 216-521-8727 or emailing [Secretary@Ascension-Lakewood.org](mailto:Secretary@Ascension-Lakewood.org)

**Be sure to invite your friends and family, the more the merrier.**

# April 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> 12:12 pm - Noon day prayer via conference call 5pm - Trials for Hope Meal	<b>3</b> 1:30 pm - Shawl Ministry in Ascension Hall	<b>4</b> 12 - 12:45 pm - Centering Prayer 6:30-8:30pm - The Chosen viewing, Bible study 7-9 pm - Choir Rehearsal	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 9 am - Yard Cleanup
<b>7</b> 8 am- Service 9:15 am- Bible Study 10:30 am- Service 5-7pm - Youngish Adult Fellowship	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> 12:12 pm - Noon day prayer via conference call	<b>10</b> 12:30 pm - Afternoon Guild Burntwood Tavern	<b>11</b> 12 - 12:45 pm - Centering Prayer 5 pm - Community meal 6:30-8:30 pm - The Chosen, Bible study 7-9 pm - Choir Rehearsal	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> 8 am- Service 9:15 am- Bible Study	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> 12:12 pm - Noon day prayer via conference call	<b>17</b> 1:30 pm - Shawl Ministry in Ascension Hall 6 pm - Ascension Night Out Carrabba's Italian Grill	<b>18</b> 12 - 12:45 pm - Centering Prayer 6:30-8:30 pm - The Chosen viewing, Bible study 7-9 pm - Choir Rehearsal	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> 8 am- Service 10:30 am- Service 12pm - Clarke & Dani Party 5-7pm - Youngish Adult Fellowship	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 12:12 pm - Noon day prayer via conference call	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 12 - 12:45 pm - Centering Prayer 6:30-8:30 pm - The Chosen viewing, Bible study 7-9 pm - Choir Rehearsal	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 3:30-6:30 pm - Suzuki Strings & Reception
<b>28</b> 8 am- Service 9:15 am- Bible Study	<b>29</b> 5 pm - Trials for Hope Meal	<b>30</b> 12:12 pm - Noon day prayer via conference call 7-9 pm - Karaoke Night Out				



## FINANCIAL OFFERINGS TO THE CHURCH

Please mail in your pledges/financial offerings so we can continue with the ministries of the church as well as meet our financial obligations.

### SCAN THE CODE BELOW



Or visit: [ascension-lakewood.org](http://ascension-lakewood.org)

Where you can make a one time donation or set up continuing donations. Please join us in helping to keep The Church of the Ascension strong and able to meet the needs of an ever-changing world.

## UPDATING OUR CHURCH RECORDS

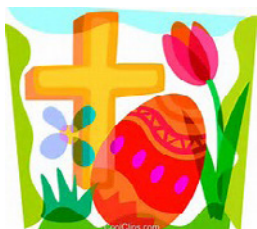
Thank you to all who updated their church records at the Annual Meeting. Being that it was quite hectic and so many pens did not work, it may have been difficult or impossible to update your information last Sunday. If you took your information home with you to complete, please make certain that information gets back to Jan either in person, via email [jan.bednarski@ascension-lakewood.org](mailto:jan.bednarski@ascension-lakewood.org) or by calling her at 440-728-6300.

If you were not able to attend the meeting, Jan can forward your record to you via email for your review. Simply email her with that request. It will save Jan from having to contact you. Much thanks to all in helping keep our records up to date!

## DO YOU HAVE ITEMS FOR THE NEXT SPIRES?

Do you have something you would like to see in an upcoming issue of the Spires? Please submit your items by the 18th of the month to [danielvanah16@gmail.com](mailto:danielvanah16@gmail.com)

# APRIL CELEBRATIONS



### ANNIVERSARY

04/16 Dolly & John Doyle

### BIRTHDAYS

04/01	John Carlson	04/13	Julia Masola
04/01	Ramzi Gazala	04/14	Michael Crowdes
04/01	Mary Staley	04/19	George Staley
04/04	Claudia Esposito	04/21	Elle Heller
04/05	Maizie Gillies	04/23	Brian Telfer
04/08	Nick Ciarniello	04/28	Charlotte K. Partlow
04/10	Thomas Esposito	04/30	Rosemary Ballard
04/11	Jerry Knapp		

God loves you. No exceptions.®