

Spires

October 2024

Church of the Ascension

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

REV. VINCENT BLACK



We ended September with some much needed rain. However, because of the rain, we had our pet blessing on September 28th in Strom Hall. Note the photos on the next page of a few of our participants.

September 29th was the fifth Sunday of the month. Every fifth Sunday of the month kids of all ages take most of the leadership roles in the liturgy rather than going to Sunday school. In the photos you can see one of our youngest ushers as well as three of our newest acolytes. Sometimes on leadership Sundays youth play musical instruments, read, and even preach. It's always a blessing to emphasize that our kids are the Church of the here and now, rather than thinking of them only as the Church of the future.

Also pictured is our new banner for 2025. It will hang outside the church above the front doors. The same design is used for our save the date bookmarks and the webpage that hosts information about those events including any changes or updates.

I will be on vacation from October 5th to October 15th. You may be wondering, "How much vacation does our priest get? Wasn't he just away?" I sure would be wondering. So it's important for you to know that although I have been away a lot this year it has been primarily for work, not vacation. Clergy Days in May, General Convention in June, College for Congregational Development in August, and Diocesan Vitality Initiative in September were all work related.

Participating in diocesan and denominational initiatives and responsibilities is part of my priestly vows as well as a means by which Church of the Ascension can give back to the diocese in gratitude for all the diocesan support of the parish. And because we do a lot as a parish during the summer, I often try not to use my vacation days in those months.

While I am away, Alex DeJesus will follow-up with you at church concerning the College for Congregational Development model, Gather, Transform, Send. Alex will focus on the "transform" component. They will be speaking with parishioners at hospitality after both services on October 6th and 13th to get your responses and talk more about how Ascension is feeding you spiritually. To that end, over the next couple of weeks we'd like you to pray on and think about these two questions:

What events, ministries, activities am I involved with at Ascension that feed me spiritually?

What events, ministries, activities am I involved with at Ascension that leave me feeling tired, or stretched too thin?

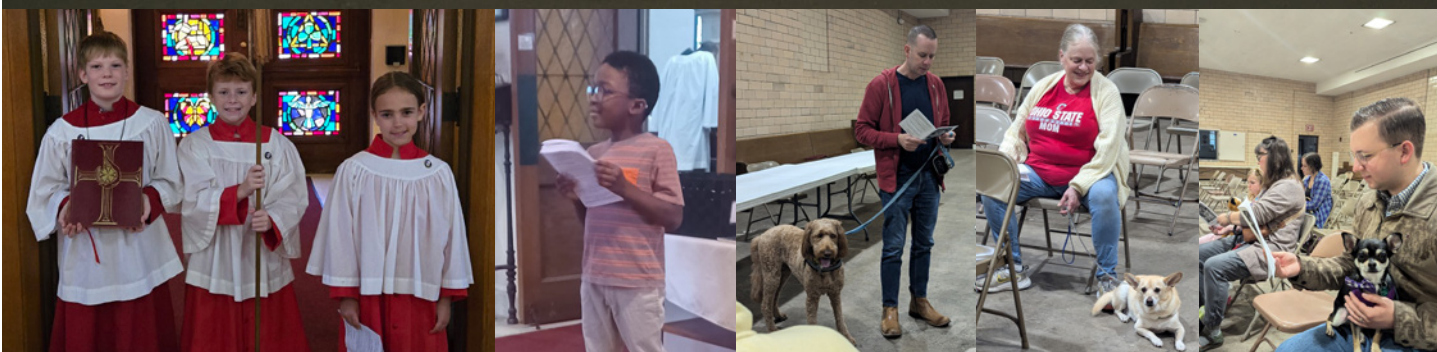
Our goal is to keep our congregation healthy by fostering meaningful engagement and avoiding burnout and activities which cause us to lose interest or passion for our spiritual lives.

I look forward to learning what you share with Alex.



God loves you. No exceptions.®

REV. VINCENT BLACK



JOE SGAMBELLONE, SENIOR WARDEN

It takes many different teams to keep the church on the tracks, some directly involved in our liturgical experience and spiritual growth, and others tending to the very real needs of the congregation outside spiritual realm, with the buildings, grounds, and other areas.

Recently, we had a check stolen and recreated by forgers. They attempted to steal tens of thousands of dollars using a counterfeit check. The check looked very real and included a very real looking forgery of my signature. Had the check cleared, it would have cleaned out one of the accounts and left us with an overdraft fee and with no chance to recover the stolen money. They would have been successful but for Rincy Isaacs, our Treasurer, who spotted the attempt and immediately put a stop payment on it. Our banker told me that if the check wasn't caught within 24 hours, the payment would have gone through and we would have lost the money.

This is yet another reminder that our church is living in the real world. Real-life experiences come in many forms, some joyful and some, well, not so joyful. But they're all part of life and life in a spiritual community. Handling these real-life issues is not easy and it takes dedicated teams, many of them, to navigate. As conscientious fiscal stewards and with encouragement from the bank, we moved our checking into a more secure type of account. It's more expensive and the process to approve payments is more time-consuming, but it should insulate us from these types of fraud.

There are countless acts of service behind the scenes that make parish life possible and most, like checks to keep the lights on, go unnoticed. While the physical grounds, buildings, and bank accounts are not the church - WE are the church! - The means to support our spiritual journeys need care and tending, sometimes on a daily basis. Thank you to everyone who keeps the church moving forward by answering the phone, printing the bulletins, hosting hospitality, or reviewing each transaction on our accounts.

If you have an interest in joining one of the groups that keep the church moving forward, let me or Fr. Vincent know. There are plenty of opportunities to put your skills to good use.



GREGORY SENT, ARCHIVIST

All roads lead to Ascension

This is the first of three articles about streets in our community, which have names connected to families that were (or are) connected to the parish at Church of the Ascension.

Coutant family

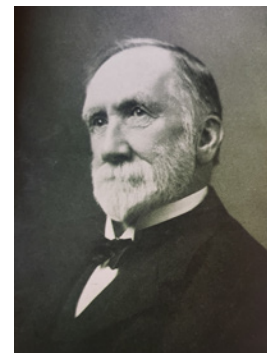
Coutant Avenue- The Coutant Avenue, found on the eastern part of Lakewood, was named for the Coutant family who had a farm in that location. Benjamin W. Coutant and Sarah Jane Townsend married on April 19, 1855. Prior to 1870, they moved to Lakewood, where they built a home on Detroit Avenue (formerly known as the Plank Road). Their home was across the street from the Hird family estate. This farming family, was known for their dedication to religion. In 1875, Benjamin's signature is found on a document in our church's archive with his pledge of a monetary gift to help build the original church. Benjamin Coutant is also found as a treasurer on vestry in the 1880s and 1890s. Sarah Coutant was notorious for teaching Sunday school for Ascension's children. The Coutants later taught Sunday school from their our home.



Benjamin and Sarah Coutant

Nicholson family

The Nicholson Family can be traced back to James and Betsey Nicholson, who came to Rockport in 1818. Their original home no longer exists, but their home, later built in 1835 still stands on Detroit and is known as the Nicholson House by the Lakewood Historical Society. They had four children who lived to adulthood: Delia, Melissa, Lewis and Ezra. Their youngest son, Ezra, with his wife and children remained in the house on Detroit. Ezra was known for his invention of the Nicholson Self Recording Ship Log and Speed Indicator. It was with the addition of grape vineyards and fruit trees on his massive estate, that Lakewood became famous for fruit production. He is also remembered in Lakewood for the development of his land with his children, creating the streets which still to this day bear the names of his three children: Lewis, Clarence and Grace. Before the building of an Episcopal church, the Nicholson family often hosted prayer meetings at their home on Detroit, which at the time was known as the Plank Road. In 1875, Ezra Nicholson and his wife Alice Fowles donated money toward the building of the original Church of the Ascension. In early records of the church, the burial of Asa Fowles, father of Alice Nicholson is found in the parish records. Each of the Nicholson children had a connection at the church. Lewis played the violin at many church services. Clarence and his wife, had their children baptized at the church. Grace was on altar guild, taught Sunday school and had her wedding performed by the minister from Ascension at her family home. Alice Nicholson and her sister-in-law, Arminda Nicholson, both were instrumental in fundraising for the original rectory of the church, which was built in 1892. The wife of Ezra Nicholson, Alice, and the wife of Ezra's older brother Lewis, Arminda, are both found on a list of women who were in the Ladies Guild. The historic Nicholson House was often used by the Church of the Ascension for luncheons, card parties, progressive dinners and exhibits, all hosted by the Nicholson family as patrons to the church.



Ezra Nicholson

The following streets remember the Nicholson family:

Nicholson Avenue

Waterbury Avenue, named for Waterbury, CT, where Betsey Nicholson was born.

Lewis Avenue.

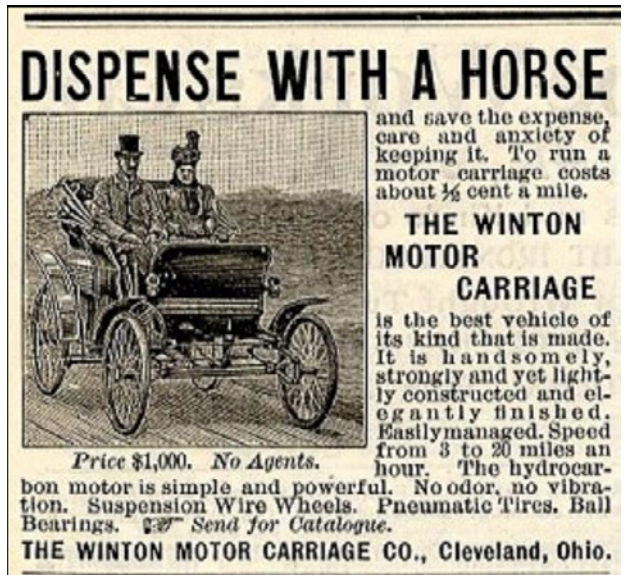
Clarence Avenue

Grace Avenue

Winton family

The Winton family became famous not just in the Lakewood community but throughout the country with the manufacturing of the Winton Automobile. The Winton Motor Carriage Company was founded in Cleveland in 1897 by Alexander Winton, a Scottish-born businessman and designer of bicycles, automobiles and diesel engines. Winton famously challenged Henry Ford to a race in 1901, which unfortunately (for Winton), he lost. The Winton family had a large estate on Lake Ave, which was torn down and is the location of the Winton Place found on the Gold Coast here in Lakewood. On September 12, 1925, Alexander Winton Jr. and Dorothy Gast married at Church of the Ascension with Rev. Wallace M. Gordon presiding.

Winton Avenue and the Winton Place remember the Winton family.



DISPENSE WITH A HORSE

and save the expense, care and anxiety of keeping it. To run a motor carriage costs about $\frac{1}{2}$ cent a mile.

THE WINTON MOTOR CARRIAGE

is the best vehicle of its kind that is made. It is handsomely, strongly and yet lightly constructed and elegantly finished. Easily managed. Speed from 8 to 20 miles an hour. The hydrocarbon motor is simple and powerful. No odor, no vibration. Suspension Wire Wheels. Pneumatic Tires. Ball Bearings. *Send for Catalogue.*

Price \$1,000. No Agents.

THE WINTON MOTOR CARRIAGE CO., Cleveland, Ohio.



Jared Potter Kirtland

Margaret Manor Butler, who was instrumental in the founding of the Lakewood Historical Society described Jared Potter Kirtland as "Lakewood's most illustrious citizen of the 19th century, a naturalist, doctor, legislator, teacher and writer." As a young man Jared studied medicine in Philadelphia and for many years was a country doctor. He had a true love of nature and throughout his life collected, studied and taught others about both flora and fauna. Around 1837, he purchased land in Rockport, where he built his home near what is now the intersection of Bunts and Detroit. (Bunts Road was during this time a small lane that ran through his farm and was originally known as Kirtland Lane). He shared his love of nature with many throughout the Lakewood community. Farmers learned how to cultivate grapes, strawberries, fruit trees and more because of the knowledge Dr. Kirtland shared. It was in 1839 that Jared Potter Kirtland began construction of his much beloved home named "Whippoorwill". This home was surrounded by exotic flowers, shrubs and trees from Europe and Asia. His collection was so famous that scientists and celebrities came to visit. In 1875, Jared Potter Kirtland and his daughter, Mary Kirtland Pease, both pledged money toward the building of the Church of the Ascension. The records of the church show that his granddaughter, Caroline Atwater Cutter, along with three of her children belonged to Ascension.

Although his house was torn down in 1953 to make room for Krogers, a local grocery store, his name lives on in many ways in and outside of the Lakewood community.

Whippoorwill Avenue was named after his beloved home. Kirtland Lane, named for him, is found north of Edgewater Kirtland and Kirtland Hills were also named after Jared Potter Kirtland.

CLARKE MORTENSEN, SEMINARIAN

Since this is the last period in my life when I will be able to visit new churches whenever I choose, I'm taking this time to get to know the diversity of parishes in the New Haven area. Last week's church was a reminder of the dramatic differences we hold under the "Big Tent" in the Episcopal Church. This was the "lowest" Episcopal parish I've ever been to--no acolytes, no choir, no organist, and for the moment, no priest! Right after the Prayers of the People, we had a time for folks to say their prayers aloud. This shouldn't be too unfamiliar, but when it does happen, what I'm used to is a few people quietly murmuring the names of the people they're praying for. Here, a few people actually voiced extended personal prayers, letting the congregation into their own prayer lives. After that, we had about two minutes of silent prayer just between us and God. It was a wonderful reminder that we can use some of the flexibility of our collective liturgy to edify our own personal relationships with God. And while I love organ music and incense as much as the next high church seminarian, I wouldn't say no to going back now and then.

BIBLE STUDY

There will be no Bible Study in October.

CENTERING PRAYER

We meet every Thursday at noon from 12-12:45 in Ascension Hall.
For more information ask Father Vincent or call Jim in the office.

COMMUNITY MEAL

If you have ever wanted to participate in the Community Meal but can't, we need help providing TP for the clients each month. Rather than bringing in TP, we decided it would be easier to ask for a monetary donation to purchase the needed TP. Your donation can be put in an envelope and taken to the office.

Thank you in advance if you can participate.

ASCENSION YOUNG/SH ADULT FELLOWSHIP

Meets in Ascension Hall Every First and Third Sunday 5pm-7pm.

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.

GARDEN AND YARD CLEANUP

Saturday, October 5th

Please join us on September 5th, 9 to noon to help us clean up the yard and garden.
Many hands make light work. Please help!

ASCENSION NIGHT OUT

Join us at Panini's Westlake on **Wednesday, October 16th at 6:00 pm** for an evening of fellowship, food and fun. Panini's is located at 23800 Detroit Rd. (NW corner of Detroit and Clague Roads) in Westlake.

You can see their menu at <https://paninisgrill.com/locations/westlake/>

Please RSVP to Jim in the office by Sunday, October 13th by calling the office at 216-521-8727 or emailing Secretary@Ascension-Lakewood.org



MANY HANDS

... meet, greet and seat those who have come to worship.



Chris Coppock
Kiera Dodd
Bob Hankey

Owen Jones
Joe Kidwell
Nick Masola

Ray Pratt
Rita Rozell
Kathleen Sanow

Joe Sgambellone
Jeff Sommer
Rob Theibert

MONTHLY PICK-UP YOUTH CHOIR

The KIDS will sing on Sunday, October 13th

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 if your child is interested in joining our group! All are welcome!



THOSE WHO SING PRAY TWICE!



TRUNK OR TREAT

Sunday, October 27th immediately following the 10:30 am service (approximately at 12 pm)



We will be hosting a Trunk or Treat for children in Strom Hall. All are invited to come in costume to the service! Of course, as always, everyone is free to do as they feel most comfortable. Join us in passing out treats to the children in a safe and kid friendly environment. There will be games and fun activities as well. We will end around 2pm. Please let Greg Sent know if you are willing to help out with the Halloween fun and manage one of the activities that will be offered.

For more information - please contact Greg Sent or the church office at (216) 521-8727.

OFFICE HOURS

Office Hours are: 9am – 1:30pm, Tuesday - Thursday

THE AFTERNOON GUILD

The Afternoon Guild will be meeting on **October 9th at 12:30pm**. Ann Beyer will provide our lunch and Dolly Doyle will lead us in completing a craft for the November 16th Christmas Market.

Please RSVP so we have an idea how many will be participating. We will each contribute \$4 toward lunch. Hope to hear from you at either bach2schol@hotmail.com or 440-476-8450!

SHAWL MINISTRY

Shawl ministry will meet on **Wednesday, October 2nd & 16th** 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

SACRED MOMENTS

A COLLECTION OF 150 YEARS OF WEDDINGS AND BAPTISMS

In June and July of 2025, Church of the Ascension will have an exhibit of wedding and baptismal gowns on display for our parishioners and the community to enjoy. Do you have a gown you would be willing to have part of the exhibit?

You might be part of Church of the Ascension but you have your mother's or grandmother's gown. Could it also be part of the exhibit? Absolutely! Share your family's history and sacred moments with us.

We are also looking for pictures for a slideshow during the exhibit. Please let us scan your wedding or baptisms for a show that represents 150 years!

Please contact Gregory Sent at deutschmeister@hotmail.com or at 216-570-4424.

The wedding photograph shown is of Suzanne Hutchinson and Donald W. Milestone, who were married at Church of the Ascension on June 26, 1948. Her wedding dress was inspired by the dress Queen Elizabeth wore at her wedding in 1947. Church of Ascension will have the honor of having this dress on display at our Sacred Moments Exhibit.



GROUP LEADERS MEETING

Sunday, October 6th 2024

Our group leaders meeting will be at 12:00 in the west side of Asscensioon Hall.
It is time to see where we are with our plans. Every one has talent and we need you the Assencionites to help.
Think of what you can contribute to help make this market a success.

Thank you to everyone who brought in canning jars. It truly helps.

TOYS WE NEED TOYS

We are having a toy walk at the Christmas Market (like a cake walk but with toys for kids) and we hope that each of us can bring a NEW toy by the first of November for this activity.

Please bring them to the main office for Owen Jones.

THE CHRISTMAS MARKET NOVEMBER 16, 2024

ARTS and CRAFTS - Any craft you like to make is welcome. We need product produced, as much as possible. The team leader is Dolly Doyle.

TOY WALK - which is similar to a cake walk but instead of cakes the winner receives a toy. All toys need to be new and something to draw the attention of children. Donate a toy if possible. The team leader is Owen Jones

CENTER PIECES - In this area containers, ribbon, items to decorate Thanksgiving and Christmas center pieces are welcome. The team leader is Gregory Sent.

COUNTRY STORE - The country store will provide canned pickles, jams etc. Do you make candles, cookies in a jar, jam or minced meat for pie along with pies, cakes, breads to sell that day? Empty canning jars are needed. This team leader is Charlotte Partlow.

FIBERS and JEWELRY - Has the knit and crocheted products along with anything of fabric. Jewelry is added to this area and should be hand-made. Think of all the things you can add to this collection. The team leader is Linda Rerko.

LUNCH COUNTER - Susan O' Donnell has volunteered for the task of running all aspects of the kitchen operation. I'm sure she will welcome helpers .

MINATURES and DOLLHOUSES - Rita Rozell is the team leader for this area. Workshops will be announced on the techniques for making miniatures.

PICTURES WITH ST. NICK - We will have an area for taking pictures with St.Nick November 16, 2024. These pictures can be of children, pets, families or couples. Kathleen Sanow is in charge of this event.

REMEMBER OUR SUCCESS DEPENDS ON YOU.

Additional areas that may need your help .

POINT OF SALE - Is where products are paid for, or money collected. This area will be headed by Susanne Foster and Rincy Isaacs. They will need additional help running totals and packaging.

LOGISTICS - Set up and clean-up will be headed by John Mohlar. This will be a major task that will need many hands. We need all the youth of the congregation to report for duty here. See John so he knows who will join his team.

PUBLIC RELATIONS - Advertising, advertising and advertising. This important area will be covered by Jan Bednarski and Bill Rice. They will need help distributing flyers.

October 2024



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 12:12 pm - Noon day prayer via conference call 5 pm - Trials for Hope Meal	2 1-3 pm - Shawl Ministry in Ascension Hall	3 12 - 12:45 pm Centering Prayer 7-9 pm - Choir Rehearsal	4	5 9 am - Yard Cleanup
6 8 am- Service 10:30 am- Service 5-7pm - Youngish Adult Fellowship	7	8 12:12 pm - Noon day prayer via conference call	9 2:30 pm - Afternoon Guild Ascension Hall	10 12 - 12:45 pm Centering Prayer 5 pm - Community meal 7-9 pm - Choir Rehearsal	11	12
13 8 am- Service 10:30 am- Service Children Sing	14	15 12:12 pm - Noon day prayer via conference call	16 1-3 pm - Shawl Ministry in Ascension Hall 6 pm - Ascension Night Out Panini's Westlake	17 12 - 12:45 pm Centering Prayer 7-9 pm - Choir Rehearsal	18	19
20 8 am- Service 10:30 am- Service 5-7pm - Youngish Adult Fellowship	21	22 12:12 pm - Noon day prayer via conference call 7 pm - Vestry	23 2:30 pm - Afternoon Guild Ascension Hall	24 12 - 12:45 pm Centering Prayer 7-9 pm - Choir Rehearsal	25	26
27 8 am- Service 10:30 am- Service 12- 2 pm - Trunk of Treat	28 5 pm - Trials for Hope Meal	29 12:12 pm - Noon day prayer via conference call	30 2:30 pm - Afternoon Guild Ascension Hall	31 7-9 pm - Choir Rehearsal <i>Halloween</i>		

INFORMATION FOR LIVE STREAMED WORSHIP

The service is streamed live each Sunday at 10:30am on The Church of the Ascension website:

<https://ascension-lakewood.org/> and on YouTube: <https://tinyurl.com/4rs872e2>.

Previous services and featured choir videos on YouTube at: <https://tinyurl.com/3c336j6n>.

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

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.

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

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.



OCTOBER CELEBRATIONS



BIRTHDAYS

October 2nd: Frances Isaacs
October 2nd: Charlie Spada
October 3rd: Linda Rerko
October 4th: Janis Carlson
October 4th: Cori Clemens
October 4th: Martha (Boots) Johnston
October 5th: Mary Ann Deibel
October 7th: Kinzley Gillies
October 8th: Beth Madden
October 10th: Rhemington Marcella
October 10th: Patricia Sayler

BIRTHDAYS

October 13th: Teddie Black
October 15th: Corey Niebes
October 17th: Rhydian Marcella
October 25th: Jenny Christ
October 29th: John O'Donnell
October 31st: Joe Sgambellone

ANNIVERSARIES

October 26th: Jenny & Michael Christ
October 30th: Susan & Bob Hankey
October 31st: Diana & Marck Strozewski