



Spires June 2025

Church of the Ascension

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

REV. VINCENT BLACK



Beloved People of God,

What a glorious homecoming celebration we had on May 29, Ascension Day! We welcomed home the following ten people who lived in intentional Community at Ascension House and/or have been part of our parish family and are now ordained ministers in The Episcopal Church: The Rev. Stephen Ashby, The Rev. Kelly Aughenbaugh, The Rev. Alex Barton, Ms. Lauren Dockery, The Rev. Valerie Hart, The Rev. Leah Romanelli DeJesus, The Rev. Anna Sutterisch, The Rev. Noah Sutterisch, The Rev. Barb Telfer, and Ms. Allison Thompson. And the Rev. Gregory Stark sent a message to the congregation which is included in this edition of the *Spires*. Bishop Arthur and Lynette Williams also joined us as well as former choir members and several other people with connections to this parish and love for our Lord.



This special day, marking our namesake, was truly a testament to God's enduring presence among us. We shared a joyful meal, followed by Holy Eucharist. The spirit of reunion filled our church, with every hug and shared story deepening our sense of gratitude for the bonds that tie us together across time and distance.

During the service, we reflected on the profound meaning of the Ascension of Jesus, the very event our parish is named for. Far from being a departure, the Ascension is a radical transformation of presence. Jesus brings his risen and scarred body – a body that bore the wounds of the cross but also the marks of resurrection and victory – into the very heart of God in heaven. This powerful image reminds us that our own humanity, complete with its struggles, joys, accomplishments, and losses, is not only cherished by God but is eternally united with the divine.

This understanding of the Ascension directly informs our call to be the Body of Christ in the world. Just as Jesus did not discard his wounds upon ascending but glorified them, so too are we called to bring our whole selves to ministry. Our scars, our unique journeys, our experiences – both joyful and challenging – are not hindrances but rather integral parts of who we are called to be. They are the very avenues through which we can connect with a broken world and offer God's healing love.

The Acts of the Apostles reminds us that following the Ascension, the disciples received power when the Holy Spirit came upon them, empowering them to be witnesses to the ends of the earth. We, too, are empowered by the Spirit to continue Christ's work, living out the Gospel in our daily lives. Each person gathered for our homecoming, whether a long-standing member, a returning friend, a former resident of Ascension House, or an ordained minister, embodies this call to carry Christ's presence into the world.

Our celebration underscored the truth that relationships transform us forever. The Christian life is not lived in isolation; it is a journey shared within a loving community. The countless individuals who have built and sustained Church of the Ascension for 150 years, and those who continue to do so today, have shaped us all. It is in this rich "quilt" of shared life, of supporting each other through victories and losses, that we truly grow into the vibrant, living Body of Christ.

As we look ahead, may we continue to embrace our identity as an open and affirming Episcopal Church, a place where all are welcome, where all are valued, and where all are empowered to be the Body of Christ in the world. Let us live out the truth that God is always present, especially in our wounds, and that through us, His boundless love continues to ascend into the world, transforming lives and bringing hope to all.

For the first two Sundays in June, The Rev. Valerie Hart, who grew up in this parish and was one of the clerics who joined us for Ascension Day, will be with us for Holy Eucharist. We look forward to spending time with her and hearing stories about her life at Ascension and beyond and her years as a priest. Welcome home Rev. Valerie!

On Pentecost we will celebrate the graduation of Keira Dodd from EfM. She will share with us how Church of the Ascension has helped her to find her place in the Body of Christ and has become her vehicle for building a deeper relationship with God and God's people and growing in her own spiritual life.

God loves you. No exceptions.®

REV. VINCENT BLACK

Also on Pentecost, we will give thanks for Diane Hexter and her leadership of EfM. Diane agreed to be a co-mentor of EfM with me here at Church of the Ascension eleven years ago. For the past seven years she and John Mohlar have been co-mentors and Diane is now passing the baton to Keira to co-mentor with John. Diane will start a new EfM group at her home parish, Trinity Cathedral, in the fall. We are so grateful to Diane for her generous support of EfM and welcome Keira into this new leadership position. If you have not done EfM please ask Keira about it and prayerfully consider taking this opportunity to go deeper and grow in your spiritual life.

*"...Grant that we may continually grow
in our own knowledge and love of you
as we strive to use all that we have, and all that we are
to follow and imitate your beloved son,
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."*

JOE SGAMBELLONE, SENIOR WARDEN



We continued our speaker series in May with a focus on Church of the Ascension's impact in the world with a presentation called "Henry Wood Elliott: Lakewoodite and America's First International Conservationist", given by Eva Wischhusen, who is soon-to-be graduated from Lakewood High School. This marvelous presentation highlighted the life of one of COTA's earliest members. Mr. Elliott was an international figure, whose work with seals in Alaska culminated in co-authoring the first international treaty dedicated to the conservation of wildlife. Ms. Wischhusen was very knowledgeable of the subject and poised in her delivery. We thank her for the time and dedication it took to put the presentation together and deliver it. One of Mr. Elliott's daughters was married at COTA and her wedding dress will be part of the "Sacred Moments Exhibit".

As befitting our special year, this year's Ascension Day was a homecoming as former Ascensionites were invited back to share our namesake day with a dinner and a service. It was truly a special day as we reconnected with old friends, swapped stories, and caught up. COTA is a special place for many people, even though we don't see all of them on a weekly basis. The roots of COTA run deep and wide.

And speaking of history coming home, I got a sneak peek of the Sacred Moments exhibit, which shows off sacramental gowns (wedding dresses, suits, baptismal gowns and priest vestments) worn in ceremonies at COTA or by the people here and have come "home" for this display. A quick story: We have a wonderful relationship with our neighbor St. Ed's, whose students we provide with opportunities for needed service hours. They are a great help in keeping this place looking great, and we asked them to help clean the undercroft in preparation for this exhibit. Well, imagine my surprise when I led a group of high school boys into the undercroft which was full of naked women mannequins. Thankfully, they took it all in stride (besides a few snickers and blushes). Their chaperone also didn't seem to mind, though I noticed they didn't take many pictures of this part of the cleaning.

The mannequins are now fully clothed, and the undercroft is completely transformed into a museum quality showplace. The formal attire is lovingly and carefully presented with some of the history behind the people who wore it. It is truly an extraordinary and one-of-a-kind exhibit. Dresses and gowns from the Victorian Era onward are on display, some so delicate that moving them risked tearing them.

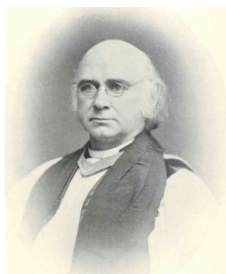
We received gowns and other items from Florida, Philadelphia, Texas, California and more. We have items from the diocese representing four different bishops and six different ministers connected with COTA. The oldest wedding dress comes from 1878, and you might be surprised how it looks; the oldest garment is a baptismal gown from the 1860s!

Special thanks to vestry member Greg Sent who organized this event and along with Lisa Raab, Karen Walsh, and Deb Polen, who spent long and dedicated hours contacting contributors and putting it together. The bulk of the work is done, but we still need your help to make this event a success. While the exhibit is open, we need Ascensionites to be present in the undercroft to help people find their way around and generally be available. Three volunteers are needed each Sunday in June and July from 12 pm - 3 pm. Sign-up sheets are in the office.

As we've mentioned before, there are several larger-scale projects that need attention, including elevator replacement, roof repair, and completing the organ. We are finalizing the cost for these projects and will soon be updating everyone with our final costs and plans to fix them. Stay tuned!

In June we continue our lecture series with a look back to when Ohio was a manufacturing center and Lakewood produced Templar cars. Dave Buehler will be speaking about the cars in what's sure to be an informative and interesting look into our storied past.

GREGORY SENT, ARCHIVIST



W. E. McLaren

William Edward McLaren (1831-1905)

William E. McLaren was born in Geneva, New York on December 15, 1831. He was the son of Rev. John Finley McLaren, a Presbyterian minister from a Scottish family. After studying at Jefferson College in Pennsylvania, William McLaren moved to Cleveland, Ohio. In Cleveland, he was editor of the Plain Dealer for years. In 1858, he longed to enter the ministry and enrolled in the Theological Seminary at Allegheny City, Pennsylvania. After being ordained in 1860, he spent two years doing missionary work in Bogota, Columbia. After years of biblical studies and prayerful thought, Rev. William McLaren converted to the Episcopal faith in 1871. In 1872, he was ordained and the following year was selected as rector of Trinity Cathedral in Cleveland. During his time at Trinity, he created the Trinity Children's Home and was instrumental in the creation of the Mission Church of the Ascension in Lakewood, Ohio. At this time, it was known as Ascension Chapel. Not long after, he was elected and then consecrated to the office and position of bishop of Illinois. During his time in Illinois, other dioceses were created. He remained in charge of the diocese of Chicago until his death in 1905. He was known for his work ethic and his creation of several religious books. He was survived by his wife, one son and two daughters.



W. E. McLaren as Bishop

He passed away on February 19, 1905 and was buried at Rosehill Cemetery in Chicago.



Rev. Wesley Brown

John Wesley Brown (1837-1900)

John Wesley Brown was born on July 7, 1837 in Baltimore, Maryland. He was the son of John Smith Brown and Sarah Harrison Brown. He was a graduate of Dickinson College and was at one time a civil engineer in the government's service. In 1860, he entered the Methodist ministry and served as a Methodist minister for five years. He then desired a more catholic and apostolic foundation and found the Episcopal faith to his liking. In 1866, he was ordained to the priesthood at St. Anne's Church in Middletown, Delaware. This was also the year he married Abigail Gambrill. As a priest and Doctor of Divinity, he was known as Dr. Brown to his parishes. He was the successor of Rev. McLaren as rector of Trinity in 1876. As part of his responsibilities, he acted as minister to the Ascension Chapel mission in Lakewood, Ohio.

In 1882, he moved to Buffalo, New York where he became rector at St. Paul's Cathedral. Six years later, he was called to New York City. Dr. Brown and his wife lived in a beautiful home on 5th Avenue in Manhattan and had the luxury of 4 servants in their home. It was Dr. Brown who performed the 1895 marriage ceremony for Consuelo Vanderbilt and the Duke of Marlborough at St. Thomas Church in Manhattan. The wedding was described by the New York Times as "the most magnificent ever celebrated in this country" with a sixty-member symphony orchestra at the ceremony.

On November 10, 1900, at the age of 63, Dr. Brown passed away. The Parish Association described him as "a man of large heart and broad sympathy which found a field in constant acts of self-denial, of charity to the poor, of comfort to the afflicted, of succor to the distressed, winning the hearts of all to whom he ministered by his kind and affable manner." Dr. Brown was buried at Woodland Cemetery in Bronx, New York.



Rev. Brown presiding over President Harrison



Eliza Jennings Burton Backus

Eliza Jennings Burton Backus (1855-1953)

Eliza Jennings Burton was born September 14, 1855 in Cleveland, Ohio to Rev. Lewis Burton and Agnes Jane Wallace Burton. Her father was the famous "Apostle of the West Side", who traveled through the Cleveland area and pushed for the mission church, which would become Church of the Ascension. She was named for her mother's sister, Eliza Jennings, who gave her estate to found the Eliza Jennings Home for underprivileged children and elderly women. As a young woman, Eliza studied and was a graduate of the Cleveland Female Seminary in June 1873. After her graduation with honors, she was known to help her father with his mission work. She often traveled with him in his buggy through Rockport to visit families, help them, pray with them and learn of the community's need for a church. She remembered visiting families along the

Plank Road (now Detroit) where the large homes were set far from the street and her father's visits with Jared Potter Kirtland. After the building of Church of the Ascension, she often helped her father at the new wooden church, playing the organ when needed. It was at Church of the Ascension that she met Rev. Arthur Mann Backus, who would soon become a full-time rector at Ascension. More importantly, he would become the husband to Eliza Jennings Burton.

GREGORY SENT, ARCHIVIST



Rev. Arthur Mann Backus

Rev. Arthur Mann Backus (1843-1891)

Arthur Mann Backus was born on November 17, 1843 in Troy, New York. He was a graduate of Nashotah Theological Seminary and became deacon on Ascension Day- May 30, 1875. His ordination took place in St. John's Church in Ohio City. In 1876 he advanced to priesthood. He became assistant minister to Trinity Church in Cleveland, Ohio. According to some sources he is remembered as the first official rector of Church of the Ascension. He later became rector of St. Andrew's in Elyria, Ohio.

Eliza Jennings Burton and Arthur Mann Backus married on Wednesday May 1, 1878 at noon at Trinity Church. Eliza's father, Rev. Lewis Burton performed the ceremony, assisted by the rector of the church Rev. John W. Brown. Together they had two daughters: Jean and Marjory.

After his time in Ohio, the Rev. Backus and his wife moved to Massachusetts. For nine years Rev. Backus was rector of St. Paul's in Dedham, Massachusetts. Rev. Backus was known for his love of church music and his ability to sing. It is believed that from a heroic deed of rescuing a young woman who was drowning, Rev. Arthur Backus injured his heart and for years suffered. Because of his illness, he and his family returned to Ohio where he hoped to recover. He died in Painesville, Ohio on July 18, 1891 at the age of 47. He was buried at Lake View Cemetery. Although it was a marriage that lasted only 13 years, it was remembered as a very happy marriage. Less than one year after the death of her husband, their daughter Marjory passed away at the age of seven.

A few years later, Eliza and her children moved back to Cleveland and became active at St. Paul's Episcopal Church. In 1921, she was elected president of the Women's Auxiliary of the Episcopal Diocese of Ohio. She also founded the Book of Remembrances of the Ohio Diocese, in which gifts to the diocesan churches may be recorded in the name of a relative or friend. Later in life, Eliza moved to Lakewood to live with her daughter and family. She moved back into the community where as a young woman she visited so many of the pioneer families and Church of the Ascension was a new, small church. In 1940, many of the old houses were gone, the city had grown and the church was now of brick and stone. She lived with her daughter, granddaughter and great-granddaughter- all of whom were active at Church of the Ascension.

On August 2, 1953, weeks away from turning 98, Eliza Jennings Burton Backus passed away. Retired Bishop Beverley Tucker presided over her funeral on August 4, 1953. She was buried with her husband in the Burton family plot at Lake View Cemetery.

SPEAKERS AT ASCENSION

Sunday, June 22nd, Noon: Speaker Dave Buehler, Topic "Templar Cars from Lakewood"

Wednesday, July 23rd, 5:30pm: Speaker Mia Hutchinson Soosai, Topic "The French and Andrews Family in Lakewood History"

Friday, July 25th, 5:30pm: Speakers Jennifer Cauffield and Jeff Hutchinson, Topic "Rise and Fall", Hutchinson Family of Lakewood and their role in the Great Lakes.

Something Olde



~Sunday
School~

Something New



REV. GREGORY STARK



Dear Church of the Ascension,

Nearly 12 years ago you welcomed a bright-eyed, poetry-loving 21 year old to your church picnic. He was new to Lakewood, and, while not new to church, didn't know where God was calling him. You invited him to suppers and EfM and choir. You told him your stories, shared your time and made him feel at home.

Now thousands of miles away, living in the UK that not-as-young-anymore adult is a priest and chaplain at Emmanuel College, Cambridge. The lessons you taught about what it means to be the Body of Christ have stayed with me. From Ascension in 2013-2014, I went off to Yale Divinity School (coming back for visits to Ascension and the diocese) to train for the priesthood. I was ordained a deacon in June 2017, and a priest in December of the same year. You were like a second sponsoring parish to me. I served as curate and then associate rector at St. Andrew's, Elyria and Christ Church, Oberlin from 2017 to 2021, where I tried to practice the love you all taught me. From there I went to Belgium to pursue a research masters in theology and work for the Convocation of Episcopal Churches in Europe for two years, before moving to Cambridge in October 2023 to begin my current position. I am in my second year (of four) in my PhD in theology, examining how the literature, art, and activism around HIV/AIDS in 1980s New York City can be a resource for how we think about grief and mourning in Christian theology.

When I think about generosity, kindness, patience, and, most of all, love, I think of that year and the many years since when you demonstrated these fruits of the Spirit. Last September, when I had the privilege to spend time with many of you, I was delighted to see and celebrate how you have continued in your gift of hospitality.

On this anniversary and the celebration of the feast of the Ascension, I join with you from afar in rejoicing in how you have raised up so many into the experience of God's abiding love. This is one of the symbols, for me, of the feast of Christ's Ascension. It is not so much that he has gone up to some place far away in the heavens, but that he has gone ahead of us and promised us a place within the heart of God. As we await this promise of fulfillment, we look to one another and celebrate how God is alive and at work in our midst already.

We may be divided by time and space from those who have gone before us, but Christ has promised to send one who will comfort us, advocate for us, and accompany us in being Christ's Body in the world.

Many blessings on this magnificent feast day and much love,

Fr. Greg

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>.

OFFICE HOURS

9 am – 1:30 pm, Tuesday – Thursday

EUCCHARISTIC VISIT

If you are unable to attend church and would like to request Holy Communion to be brought to you please call or email our Church Secretary 216-521-8727 secretary@ascension-lakewood.org

CLARKE MORTENSEN, SEMINARIAN

So, year one of seminary is at an end! My first year at Yale has been an amazing time of transitions, learning, and new friends! If I had to choose a favorite class of the year, it would have to be systematic theology. Every class lecture felt more like a sermon (albeit one in which everyone is frantically taking notes and trying to keep up). I'll be referring back to my systematics notes for many years to come, as I have a feeling they'll be useful for sermon writing, pastoral care, and theological reflection.

I can also share with you that next year, I'll be on the ministry team for the ecumenical chapel on campus. I'm excited to learn from other folks' traditions, while also sharing the rich resources of the Episcopal Church. This year, I've been intentionally visiting all sorts of different churches, because this is one of the last periods when I will get to do that before being called to a parish. I've visited a wealth of Episcopal churches, and so far, I've also been to Greek Orthodox, United Church of Christ, American Baptist, and Presbyterian churches.

Also next year, I'll begin my field education at Trinity on the Green in New Haven. Trinity is a large downtown church with a lively ministry involving New Haven's homeless community. This does mean the end of my church-hopping adventures, but I'm excited to dive right into parish ministry again.

Lastly, Dani and I plan on visiting Ascension in August. We plan on being at church on the 10th and 17th, and in town the week in between. We look forward to seeing our Ascension family again, and until our arrival, please enjoy a photographic round-up of the school year.



WE NEED HELP FUNDRAISING

Fundraising is an important part of keeping the Church of Ascension alive. Our newest idea for a fundraiser is a bourbon raffle. If you have an interest in assisting with this project please see [Joe Sgambellone](#).

A change has been made to the date for the Holiday Market.

Mark November 8, 2025 on your calendars as the new date.

Any time is the right time to begin a project for the Holiday Market. Each and every one of us has a talent and these talents can be turned into items for sale at the market.

We need as much product as possible so please start your talents today.

A NIGHT OUT AT THE BALLPARK

Join us on Tuesday, June 24th, at 6:40 pm as our Cleveland Guardians take on the Toronto Blue Jays. Tickets are \$20.00 each, and can be reserved by calling Rob Theibert at 330-807-4255.

PRIDE IN THE CLE 2025

All Diocese of Ohio churches are invited to participate in the [Pride in the CLE march and festival](#) in downtown Cleveland on June 7. Church representation can be one or two people or a group of 15 to 20. As in 2024, we will have a booth after the march to meet and greet festival attendees. Join us as we share our message of God's love for all, with no exceptions. Now's the time to organize your group!

When possible, participating parishes are asked to provide volunteers to staff the booth and make a contribution to help cover costs of the booth. For more information about participating, please contact

Dan McGuire mcguirenyc@gmail.com or Deacon Barb Telfer telferbjt@hotmail.com.

Are you planning to participate in a different Pride event in your area?

Please let us know (contact Canon Rosalind rhughes@dohio.org), so that we can better support one another's Pride activities.

EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY

If you have a desire to make meaning of your life, to better understand your relationship with God, to uncover your gifts so that you might use them in God's creation, and to be in community with others as you discern your purpose, then consider joining an Education for Ministry (EfM) program. Developed through the University of the South in Sewanee, Tenn., the curriculum for Lay people offers seminary-level education without the burden of tests and grades. It will start in most parishes in September and finish in June, every week for 36 weeks. Currently, it is being offered at [8 parishes](#) around the Diocese. Mentors are filling classes now for the fall season, so contact the mentor of the class. At Ascension that is Keira Dodd keiradodd@yahoo.com or John Mohlar johnmohlar@sbcglobal.net. The cost is \$350 per person, annually, plus books. For more information, please visit: linktr.ee/efm.sewanee.edu.

ASCENSION NIGHT OUT

Wednesday, June 21st at 6pm

Please join us for an evening of fellowship, food, and fun at [The Harp](#). Hopefully, the weather will cooperate, and we can enjoy dinner on the patio with a beautiful view of Lake Erie.

[The Harp](#) is located at 4408 Detroit Avenue in Cleveland.

Please RSVP to Jim by Sunday, June 15th by either calling the office at 216-521-8727 or emailing Jim.Weiss@Ascension-Lakewood.org.

VISIT OUR SACRED MOMENTS EXHIBIT

12 pm -3 pm Sundays in June and July. Bring family and friends!

We will need three volunteers for each Sunday (One person to sit and greet and two to help visitors enjoy the exhibit. Please sign up in the office for as many Sundays as you wish. If you have any questions about the exhibit, call or text Gregory Sent at 216-570-4424.

Free Will Offering (\$10 Suggestion).

150TH ANNIVERSARY COOKBOOK AVAILABLE!

150th Anniversary Cookbooks: A Slice of History with photos, recipes, and biographies spanning the years!

Now available for a minimum donation of \$20.00.

SESQUICENTENNIAL MEMORABILIA

Make sure to get your anniversary mementos for sale outside the parish office.

Items include bags, ornaments, mugs, and magnets. Limited supply.

ALL PURCHASES AND DONATIONS CAN BE MADE VIA THE FOLLOWING QR CODE:



PLEASE BEWARE OF SCAMMERS

DO NOT PAY FOR CHURCH EVENTS OR SIGN UP FOR THEM VIA EMAIL.

Please be careful and check that all events for 2025 are listed on the save the date bookmarks or on the webpage <http://www.150years.org>

If you are not sure call Jim in the office 216-521-8727.

Something Olde



~Sunday
School~

Something New



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.

ALTAR GUILD

Have you ever wondered about the beautiful arrangements and preparations that make our services so special? Our Altar Guild plays a vital role in creating a sacred space. We're looking for new members! If you'd like to learn more about what we do and how you can join this ministry, please contact Derek Lewallen at 440-821-6266. We need members to help with both 8 am and 10:30 am services.

SHAWL MINISTRY

Shawl Ministry is meeting on Wednesday, June 4 for lunch.

This will be are last meeting until September.

THE AFTERNOON GUILD

Afternoon Guild will not meet in June, July and August.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday school is now finished for the season and will not take place during the summer. Sunday school will resume in the fall. August 31st will be a youth service for those children willing to participate.

SUMMER CAMP AT BELLWETHER FARM

Looking for a screen-free, adventure-filled summer experience where your child can explore, learn, and build lifelong friendships? Bellwether Farm offers a small, close-knit environment with an average of 40 campers per week, ensuring a warm and supportive community. Campers unplug from technology and dive into hands-on activities like archery, canoeing, farm experiences, field games, and nature crafts. They'll gain valuable life skills through cooking farm-fresh meals, caring for animals, and working together as a team. In cozy cabins with eight peers and two counselors, kids build strong friendships while enjoying camp-wide games, assemblies, and unforgettable evening events like the legendary talent show. Bellwether Farm Summer Camp is a place where every child is celebrated, encouraged, and given the space to grow in confidence, independence, and a love for the outdoors. Located in Wakeman, OH, less than an hour from downtown Cleveland, your child can get away without being far away. Check out the [FAQ](#) to see a sample schedule and learn more about the best weeks of summer!

Registration and details at: <https://www.bellwetherfarm.com/camps/summer-camps>

CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS

The cost of a week of camp is \$500.00 per camper. If you are willing to help parents offset some of that cost with a scholarship, please write on check or envelope "for camp scholarship" and drop off in the office or put in the offering plate.

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.

BREATHE YOGA MINISTRY RESTORATIVE YOGA WITH MEDITATION

Sunday, June 1st, at 12:45pm in Strom Hall

A serene practice designed to foster connection with your mind, body, and the Holy Spirit. This restorative yoga class gently guides participants through calming postures and meditative moments, allowing for deep relaxation and spiritual renewal. It offers a sacred space to release tension, quiet the mind, and experience the divine presence within. Ideal for those seeking peace, healing, and a deeper spiritual connection.

We will meet the first Sunday of each month in Strom Hall

June 2025

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|--|---|--|-----------|--|
| 1 8 am- Service 10:30 am- Service 12:45 pm- Breathe Yoga Ministry 12 pm -3 pm - Sacred Moments Exhibit 5-7pm - Youngish Adult Fellowship | 2 | 3 12:12 pm - Noon day prayer via conference call 5 pm - Trials for Hope Meal | 4 1-3 pm - Shawl Ministry in Ascension Hall | 5 12 - 12:45 pm - Centering Prayer | 6 | 7 9am -12 pm- Yard Clean Up Pride in the CLE march and festival |
| 8 8 am- Pentecost Service 10:30 am- Pentecost Service 12 pm -3 pm - Sacred Moments Exhibit | 9 | 10 12:12 pm - Noon day prayer via conference call | 11 | 12 12 - 12:45 pm - Centering Prayer 5 pm - Community meal 7-8:30 pm - Choir Rehearsal | 13 | 14 |
| 15 8 am- Service 10:30 am- Service 12 pm -3 pm - Sacred Moments Exhibit 5-7pm - Youngish Adult Fellowship | 16 | 17 12:12 pm - Noon day prayer via conference call | 18 6 pm - Ascension Night Out at The Harp | 19 12 - 12:45 pm - Centering Prayer 7 pm - Finance Committee and Vestry | 20 | 21 |
| 22 8 am- Service 10:30 am- Service 12 pm - Speaker Dave Buehler, Topic "Templar Cars from Lakewood" 12 pm -3 pm - Sacred Moments Exhibit | 23 5 pm - Trials for Hope Meal | 24 12:12 pm - Noon day prayer via conference call 6:40 pm - Cleveland Guardians a night out at the Ballpark | 25 | 26 12 - 12:45 pm - Centering Prayer | 27 | 28 |
| 29 8 am- Service 12 pm -3 pm - Sacred Moments Exhibit 10:30 am- Service | 30 | | | | | |

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.

JUNE CELEBRATIONS

BIRTHDAYS

June 05: June Madden
June 09: John Welfley
June 11: Patricia Strmac
June 21: David Buehler
June 22: Chris Forest
June 23: Nora Pethtel
June 25: Joe Kidwell
June 26: Lucy Heller
June 28: William Beyer
June 28: Ella Jane Fowerbaugh
June 29: Christopher Coppock



ANNIVERSARIES

June 03: Addison & Aaron Beatty
June 04: Gregory Sent & Daniel Vanah
June 10: Sarah & Nick Ciarniello
June 12: Claudia & Thomas Esposito
June 20: Mary Ann & Christopher Deibel Jr.
June 24: Ann & William Beyer
June 28: Melissa & Bret Schlosser

ASCENSION YOUNGISH 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.

DANIEL VANAH, EDITOR

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