

# The Epistle

The Episcopal Church welcomes you

August/September 2010

Volume 15 Issue 8/9

ISSN# 385201-6



***Our Mission Vision:***  
A loving, active Christian community  
In the Anglican tradition.  
A place where people experience God  
and are equipped for services  
within and beyond our church.



## ~Rector's Thoughts~

In July, the vestry and leadership gathered for a strategic visioning retreat. The draft ideas of “who are we” and “who do we want to be” have been posted on the bulletin board in the Little Hall. And are included here:

### **Mission Statement (Identity and Purpose)**

Church of the Ascension invites and welcomes all people into a caring, nurturing family with a focus on encouraging individuals to discover purpose and fulfillment in their lives. We are committed to furthering the spiritual, physical and emotional well-being of our own church family and the greater community. We offer a way of being Christian that encourages enquiry and welcomes diversity.

### **Vision Statement**

In three or four years, Church of the Ascension will be known for: Serving God and developing a relationship with God and each other through:

- Offering a specific Outreach ministry (e.g. Food Pantry)
- Providing diverse educational and spiritual growth opportunities
- Supporting people with prayer and healing ministries
- Serving as a community gathering place
- Offering a variety of musical opportunities
- Educating people about the relationship among Scripture, Tradition and Reason/Experience

These lengthy statements are for those within the parish. Shorter summaries we can use in marketing or publicity will be developed as we move along.

Please read & add your ideas— this process is for ALL of us! Our next step is follow-up meetings based on Ministry Areas: Evangelism/Church Growth; Fellowship; Worship; Outreach; Education/Spiritual Growth; Pastoral Care; Building; Stewardship. Please join in this process through these meetings.

**Follow-up Meeting Schedule** – Please participate in ministry area meetings to decide upon next steps for this year. All are encouraged to attend all meetings.

FELLOWSHIP meeting Sunday, August 8 after 10:15 AM service, over a light lunch

OUTREACH meeting, Monday, August 9, 5 pm.

EDUCATION & SPIRITUAL GROWTH meeting, August 25, 5 pm

WORSHIP meeting, August 26, 5 pm

EVANGELISM & CHURCH GROWTH meeting, August 29, after 10:15 AM service, over a light lunch

PASTORAL CARE meeting, September 1, 5 pm

BUILDING meeting, September 11, noon

STEWARDSHIP meeting, September 12, after 10:15 AM service, over a light lunch

The Church of the Ascension has had a period of interim leadership and it's time to all join in together and go forward. This process will bring us into facing the future and celebrating the strengths of our congregation.

Thank you for participating,  
Elaine

---

## **ECW News**

Church Women United will meet on September 13, 2010 at First Christian Church at 4520 Rosedale Road, with refreshments beginning at 1:00pm. Anita Shew from the Middfest Office will speak on Batswana.

Our September 14th ECW business meeting will begin at 11:30 am, with a salad luncheon at 12:00 noon. Please bring your favorite salad to share. Following lunch, Anita Shew from Middfest will speak to us on Batswana.

## Picnic and Hymn Sing

**Sunday evening, August 29, 5:30 PM**

FOOD – FUN - & SONG

Come join us on the lawn for a picnic supper followed by an old fashioned Hymn Sing.

Bring a dish to share. Meat and drinks will be provided.

Victor Kovacs, Ascension's Music Director, will lead the singing. You'll have a chance to choose your favorite hymns to sing that evening as well as let Victor know which hymns you most enjoy. There will also be special activities for the youngsters.

Invite your friends and neighbors – it should be a fun time for all!

---

## Property Update

### Excavating Project

If you have been in the lower level in East end of the building any time in the last few years, you know we have had an ongoing water problem. Water leaks into the building after a large rain and eventually has caused a mold situation that no longer goes away. After considering many options to fix the problem and reviewing bids from various contractors, the Property Committee recommended we pay a professional excavator to correct it permanently. The vestry has authorized Greg Martin Excavating to do the work and they will be starting soon. They will be grading the yard on the east side of the building, next to McKnight Drive.

Once the outside work is complete and the interior has had ample time to dry out, the inside will be repaired.

We owe much thanks to Larry Fraley and Gloria Freeman for their time in researching, talking to contractors and helping make this long needed repair happen. There are funds available to pay for this project, but special donations are definitely welcome.

**Property Work Day** –on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month – the next time will be September 11, 9-11AM. Since it's been so hot – most of the work time has been spent inside so we hope to be able to spend time outdoors next month.

## Master Schedule for September

<b>The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost</b>		
<b>5 September</b>		
	<b>8:00 a.m.</b>	<b>10:15 a.m.</b>
<b>LEM:</b>	Janice Revelos	Bob Wilson, Van Barnette
<b>1st Lesson:</b>	David Stitt	Van Barnette
<b>2nd Lesson:</b>	Janice Revelos	Karah Hunt
<b>Intercessor:</b>	Janice Revelos	Bob Wilson
<b>Acolytes:</b>		Miranda Marshall & Ireland Robert-
<b>Greeters:</b>		Betty Ann Wolfe, Jeff Baldrige
<b>Prayer Station:</b>		Lorna Keeton, Jeff Baldrige
<b>Unlock &amp; Lock:</b>	Mary Deas Wortley	Kitty McIntire
<b>Count:</b>	Jon Wolfe	
<b>Altar Guild:</b>	Betty Kibbey's Team — Betty Lerch, Betty Townsley, Cindy	
<b>Breakfast:</b>	John Renick	
<b>Loose offering:</b>	Rector's Discretionary Fund	
<b>Flowers:</b>	Given to the Glory of God.	

<b>12 September</b>		
	<b>8:00 a.m.</b>	<b>10:15 a.m.</b>
<b>LEM:</b>	Lee Ann Holly	Janice Revelos, David Stitt
<b>1st Lesson:</b>	Mary Deas	Jeff Baldrige
<b>2nd Lesson:</b>	Lee Ann Holly	Teena Baldrige
<b>Intercessor:</b>	Lee Ann Holly	Janice Revelos
<b>Acolytes:</b>		Will Ellis, Blair Marshall
<b>Greeters:</b>		LynneWaxweiler, DeeAnn Kah
<b>Prayer Station:</b>		Ben & Kitty McIntire
<b>Unlock &amp; Lock:</b>	Harry Bell	John Ginter
<b>Count:</b>	Gloria Freeman	
<b>Altar Guild:</b>	Lee Ann Holly's Team — Roslyn Ginter, Karah Hunt,	
<b>Breakfast:</b>	Joan Thomas	
<b>Loose offering:</b>	Building Maintenance Fund	
<b>Flowers:</b>	Given to the Glory of God.	

19 September		
	8:00 a.m.	10:15 a.m.
<b>LEM:</b>	David Stitt	Lee Ann Holly, Monica Wilson
<b>1st Lesson:</b>	Al Worrell	Jean Kramer
<b>2nd Lesson:</b>	David Stitt	Monica Wilson
<b>Intercessor:</b>	David Stitt	Monica Wilson
<b>Acolytes:</b>		Bailey Marshall & Ireland Robert-
<b>Greeters:</b>		Jackie McMurray, Maxine Deaton
<b>Prayer Station:</b>		Lee Ann Holly, Lorna Keeton
<b>Unlock &amp; Lock:</b>	Monica & Bob	Ben Solem
<b>Count:</b>	Suzie Wright	
<b>Altar Guild:</b>	Lee Ann Holly's Other Team — Sue Thomas, Eugenia	
<b>Breakfast:</b>	David Dohn	
<b>Loose offering:</b>	Food Pantry	
<b>Flowers:</b>	Given to the Glory of God.	

26 September		
	8:00 a.m.	10:15 a.m.
<b>LEM:</b>	Janice Revelos	Bob Wilson, Van Barnette
<b>1st Lesson:</b>	Jeff Baldrige	Jenny Catalan
<b>2nd Lesson:</b>	Janice Revelos	Bailey Marshall
<b>Intercessor:</b>	Janice Revelos	Van Barnette
<b>Acolytes:</b>		Miranda Marshall & Leah Robertson
<b>Greeters:</b>		Betty Ann Wolfe, Cindy Carlson
<b>Prayer Station:</b>		Jean Kramer, Jeff Baldrige
<b>Unlock &amp; Lock:</b>	Lee Ann Holly	Karah Hunt
<b>Count:</b>	Skip Kah	
<b>Altar Guild:</b>	Judi Schneider's Team — Mary Deas Wortley, Tom Wortley, Maxine Woodward, Suzie Wright, Fran Ellis,	
<b>Breakfast:</b>	Mike Freeman	
<b>Loose offering:</b>	General Operating Fund	
<b>Flowers:</b>	Given to the Glory of God.	

## Food Pantry Update

Our staff continues to grow, it is time that we introduce them to you. Lee Ann Holly and Lisa Burnett (our Sexton) often help me to shop and to get the breads and sweets from Marsh's three times each week. Billie Martens and her brother, Howie are in charge of distributing the breads and sweets. David Dohn and Nate McKinney are in charge of filling the bags with paper products, soap products and dishwashing soap. They also help carry out the boxes of food to the cars. Nate is especially "Johnny on the spot" for this duty. Monica Wilson, Lee Ann Holly and I fill the boxes with items from the shelves. Bob Wilson is in charge of the computer. All recipients must bring identification of each person in the household, proof of address and proof of the children's ages or placement in school. We are receptive of new persons volunteering as some of us need time off occasionally. Remember you have a choice of Tuesday evening from 5:00-7:00 pm or Friday from 10:00-12:00 pm.

We need more help in stocking our shelves. Canned goods are never too many! Fresh fruits and vegetables from the gardens are so much appreciated. If you are willing to take a particular item and supply 30 or 40 of them each week, it helps. Eggs, paper items (toilet paper, paper towels and hand soaps) are a few of the items that appear each week. One parishioner donates frozen pizza on a regular basis. Another brings fresh fruit each week.

Marsh's donates day old bread, rolls, cookies, cakes, pies, sweet breads, etc. three times each week. This has been heaven sent and would have cost too much to have on our own. Be sure to tell them how much we appreciate the "10 items for \$10.00" sales. We can stock up on those items as well as the items we have coupons for.

Lets show our community how we care for those who are not as fortunate as we are!

Thank you.

Joan Thomas

**Anita and Michael Dohn, Missionaries in Health Ministries****Web-site:** <http://dohnfamily.org>**E-mail:** [DohnFamily@sams-usa.org](mailto:DohnFamily@sams-usa.org)

Anita and Michael Dohn are physicians serving as South American Missionary Society missionaries with La Iglesia Episcopal Dominicana at the diocesan Clínica Esperanza y Caridad. They live along the southern coast in San Pedro de Macorís in the Dominican Republic.

### 500 years of disappointment

We went to drop-off a stethoscope and blood pressure cuff for one of the volunteer health promoters in a rural community. A visiting short-term team bought the equipment the day after one of the young health promoters said that it would be helpful for monitoring blood pressures in the community, as well as for him personally as he begins medical school next year.

When he received the equipment, he gave heart-felt thanks on behalf of the community as well as himself. His voice broke as he spoke; it was an emotional moment for him. A visitor from the team who was there mentioned the emotion and that is was somewhat more than he might have expected. Part of explanation of the emotional response could be that people with limited resources are often very appreciative. But there may be more to it ...

Not long after we arrived here in 2000, the Rev. Ricardo Potter (who was born in a similar rural community not far from here) offered us an insightful observation.

He noted that Columbus landed here in 1492 and had built the settlement of 'Navidad' somewhere on the north coast of the island before the end of that year. That was the beginning; people have been coming here ever since. The residents of this island have more experience with 'foreigners' coming here, making promises, and then not fulfilling them any other place in the hemisphere. Disappointment is the norm.

There are several implications to this observation. People will not commit quickly; they want to wait and see if this latest 'promise' seems as though it will really bear fruit. One of the advantages of long-term mission is that it is ... well ... long-term. People can see that we are committed and we are laboring with the people. Credibility is easier to generate.

Another implication is that when a need is expressed and then a 'foreign' short-term team fulfills that request two days later, it is a genuine surprise. It goes against the norms. It may engender a degree of astonishment. And that can get emotional.

Keep praying, Michael

Read more about this short-term team: <http://dohnfamily.org/PPOTWO38.aspx>

**August Birthdays**

08/02 Alex Catalan  
 08/04 Joshua Butler  
 08/06 Lee Pudvan, Jr.  
 08/07 Jane Thomas  
 08/07 Joan Thomas  
 08/08 Bob Draut, Jr.  
 08/08 Andrew Hawkins  
 08/09 Amanda Mason  
 08/10 Connie Pollard  
 08/10 Dani Solem  
 08/11 Thomas Hawkins  
 08/11 Sage McCall  
 08/13 Will Ellis  
 08/13 Kristin Smith  
 08/14 Adam Doud  
 08/14 Bob Shockley  
 08/15 Timothy Saxton  
 08/16 Claudia Bates  
 08/16 Allison Solem  
 08/17 Charles Patterson  
 08/18 Dick Frye  
 08/18 Bill Johnson  
 08/20 Betty Apple  
 08/21 Alexandria DeVore  
 08/21 Wendy Wilson  
 08/26 Rachel Campbell  
 08/28 Eric Campbell  
 08/28 Lynne Waxweiler  
 08/31 Chelsea Hartz

**August Anniversaries**

08/08  
 Helen & Rick  
 Stevens-Gleason  
 08/12  
 Eula & Van Barnette  
 Christine & Lee Pudvan Jr.  
 08/13  
 June & Rich Haller  
 08/18  
 Alicia & James Lawson  
 08/21  
 Kay & Larry Fraley  
 08/26  
 Jan & David Dohn  
 08/31  
 Fran & Tom Ellis

**September Birthday's**

09/01 Jan Lane  
 09/01 Audrey Link  
 09/02 Andrew Cady  
 09/03 Hannah Gomia  
 09/03 Ireland Robertson  
 09/03 Monica Wilson  
 09/08 Eugenia Palmer  
 09/09 Jared Doud  
 09/11 Kent Lane  
 09/11 Patrick McCausland  
 09/12 Eula Barnette  
 09/12 Cam Hammond

09/13 Diana Solem  
 09/14 Jan Dohn  
 09/15 Ben McIntire  
 09/15 Leonard Robinson  
 09/15 Chris Wilson  
 09/16 Van Barnette  
 09/17 Jason Lehman  
 09/17 Aggy Stevens-  
 Gleason  
 09/19 Vern Thomas  
 09/21 Daniel Johnson  
 09/23 Lindy Driscoll  
 09/26 Tom Ellis  
 09/26 Jack McCausland  
 09/27 Robert Getter  
 09/27 Dena Morris  
 09/27 Carrie Solem

**September Anniversaries**

09/10  
 Joanne & Al Worrell  
 09/11  
 Betty & John Apple  
 09/16  
 Maxine & Bill Johnson  
 09/29  
 Cindy & Tim Carlson

## **Sunday School Rally Day and Picnic set for September 12**

Picnic after the 10:15 Service

All children of every age have been in the hearts of those who have planned for a blessed and enriching year of Sunday School. The promise of this year is to offer our children a connection with the entire congregation through the Scriptures.

The curriculum, **Living The Good News**, allows each child to experience the Sunday readings through art, music, song, stories, prayer, discussion, skits and poetry. Sunday School classes will be the foundation for children to share Scriptures with their families.

This year, children will also have Chapel services to increase their understanding of what goes on in the “big church”, and to give them the experience of multi-age interaction.

We are asking EVERYONE to get involved in guiding our children toward spiritual growth. Plan to celebrate with our children on RALLY DAY, Sunday, September 12 to kick-off a wonderful, exciting Sunday School Year.

Blessings.

Roslyn Ginter

Helen Stevens-Gleason

Dear Parish,

It has been great to be home and I am enjoying the hot humid weather because I love to swim. It is so nice to live in a home again and enjoy our wonderful yard and the peace and quiet. I didn't realize how confining dorm life is. It is also great to be able to go anywhere I like, even if it is in Megan's old car with no air conditioning. Not having a car in California is not too much of a hardship, but you feel a lack of freedom after a while.

I also thoroughly enjoyed working on the sermon for June 13 and delivering it. Each time I preach I become more comfortable with the process. I remember my first sermon took a minimum of three weeks to prepare, a luxury I will not have as a priest! I was also very nervous back then. Elaine has invited me to take part in her sermon preparation group and that has been a wonderful way to bounce ideas off of others. I look forward to my homiletics class this coming semester so I can further refine my preaching skills.

Larry and I went to Maryland to see our son Eric, his wife Crystal and celebrate Caydence's one year birthday. I then had one day to prepare for my trip to England for Biblical Summer School on Inclusivity/Exclusivity. It was a great way to enter into dialogue surrounding the Archbishop's Pentecostal letter and Presiding Bishop Katherine's response. I was in class with people all over the Anglican Communion, South Africa, New Zealand, Australia, Hong Kong, Abba Dabba, Canada, Denmark, England and the US.

It was a wonderful experience and I came away understanding that it is not just the ECUSA that is dealing with issues of inclusivity, but all the Provinces in the Anglican Communion are as well. In the states we have the impression that we are alone in our stance in the US, but England is in the same situation. As I was told by many- "we just don't say anything". In other words, "Don't ask don't tell" is the protocol in England. But I found the other countries more open to discussion.

It was exciting to be in England at the time the Bishops voted to clear the way for the ordination of women bishops. Our opening speaker was one of those voting at the Synod. He kept us abreast of the political action and we were informed that very evening of the outcome.

As I write I have two weeks to get ready for my last year at seminary. I have been working on applications for employment, organizing and studying for my General Ordination Exams and completing my paperwork in order to apply for candidacy. I meet with the Commission of Ministry in October, so more than ever I need your prayers.

I will keep you abreast of all of my adventures,

God be with you, Kay Fraley, Seminarian

## **News from Ascension's Youth Group**

We had a successful week on the high seas at VBS, and were overwhelmed by the congregation's commitment to pitching in and doing whatever needed to nurture our youngest members!

A huge thank you to Victor Kovacs and Helen Stevens-Gleason for leading the children in music; Gloria Freeman for her expertise; Joan Thomas and her kitchen team of Nate, Maxine, and Leeann; Gloria Freeman and Jean Kramer for organizing incredible games; LeeAnn Holly for leading crafts; Lorna Keeton and Mary Ann Brown for heading up registration; Will Ellis and Bailey Marshall for using their phenomenal acting skills; Mike and Gloria Freeman, Zack and Katherine Duda, John and Roslyn Ginter, Mary Deas Wortley, Cathy, Jack, and Sam McCausland, and the youth for set construction and decoration; Elaine for all of her support; and, additional volunteers Miranda and Cori Marshall, and Joel Duda.

Many of you were generous enough to donate supplies for the week, and we appreciate this more than you could know! Also a huge thank you to Crosspointe Church of Christ and Holy Family Parish for allowing us to share their sets, and for loaning or donating the majority of supplies we used throughout the week!

It was an amazing experience for everyone involved--you should all be incredibly proud of our youth as they grow in their walk with Christ.

Peace, Rachel Eve

P.S. We offer thanks to the many volunteers at Holy Family Parish in Middletown and Crosspointe Church of Christ in Hunter for allowing us to use their background panels and sailing ship. They also loaned or donated hundreds of dollars of supplies and props to us. Their generosity and hard work is truly appreciated.

Many Ascension members helped with construction, painting, making props, transporting the items to our church (a FULL U-Haul truck!), loading and unloading, etc.

Many thanks to Katherine and Zack Duda, Gloria and Mike Freeman, John, Rachel Eve, and Roslyn Ginter, Cathy, Jack, and Sam McCausland, Helen Stevens- Gleason, and Mary Deas Wortley.

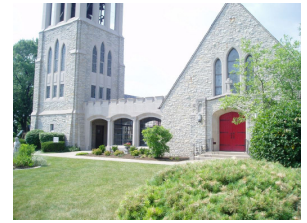
We also appreciate Lorna Keeton for making many calls to encourage pre-registration and all the people who were kind enough to donate items for VBS. Thank you!

Rachel Eve

[reve.ginter@gmail.com](mailto:reve.ginter@gmail.com) or 513-267-4451



# *THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION*



2709 McGee Ave.  
Middletown, Ohio 45044  
Phone: 513-424-1254 Fax: 513-424-6864  
E-mail: [Ascension@newascension.org](mailto:Ascension@newascension.org)

[www.newascension.org](http://www.newascension.org)

The Rev. Elaine S. Caldbeck, Ph.D., Rector

[rector@newascension.org](mailto:rector@newascension.org)

Cell (513) 292-9942

The Rev. Dr. Hugh A. Whitesell, Priest Associate

(513) 932-5383

Mrs. Donna Schoonmaker, Parish Secretary, Epistle Editor

[ascension@@newascension.org](mailto:ascension@@newascension.org)

(513) 424-1254

Mr. Jeff Baldrige, Treasurer

[accounting@newascension.org](mailto:accounting@newascension.org)

Mrs. Frances Casson, Bookkeeper

[accounting@newascension.org](mailto:accounting@newascension.org)

Mrs. Lisa Burnett, Sexton

Mr. Victor E. Kovacs, Jr., Director of Music Ministry

Miss Rachel Eve Ginter, Youth Director

Mrs. Kitty McIntire, Senior Warden

Mr. John Ginter, Junior Warden

Miss Dani Solem, KidsZone Staff

Mrs. Cori Marshall, KidsZone Attendant

Mr. John Watson, Webmaster

Miss Carrie Solem, Media Center

The Episcopal Church of the Ascension  
**2709 McGee Avenue.**

Middletown, Ohio 45044-4836

**Dated material—please deliver promptly**