

 **THE MESSENGER** 
Ascension Lutheran Church

“Belong, Believe and Become all that God Promises”

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October 2024

October is a special month to celebrate with our loving pets.



Blessing our animals is considered important in many faiths as a way to acknowledge and express gratitude for the role animals play in creation. It signifies our connection to the natural world and our responsibility to care for all living beings often rooted in the belief that God created and blessed all His creatures, including animals; it can also serve as a reminder to treat animals with respect and compassion.

The Bible is telling us in many places how God cares for animals, and He would like us to care for them as well. Proverbs 12:10 said “the righteous care for the needs of their animals.” This verse provides a view on animal’s rights; which is that animals are part of God’s creation and should be treated with respect and care.

October 4th is the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi. We bless all kind of animals because story tells us that St. Francis had a deep love for animals and believed that they reflected God’s love and beauty in different ways.

St. Francis saw animals as a sacrament that pointed to God’s existence. He also believed that animals reminded him of God’s true purpose for them.

Today, congregations from different denominations choose a day closest to October 4th to bless pets and other animals that people bring. Every year it seems like more people bring their amazing creatures that our God made for us to take care with love and compassion, to receive a blessing, regardless of their religious denomination.

There is a positive effect of blessing our animals. It can be a very well deserved celebration for what they are and for what they do for us. Also, we honor God for His creation, reminding us that we are responsible for caring for them.

Pastor Emilce Erato

October Schedule



Mondays

11-12 p.m. Brew Crew-AA

Tuesdays

9:30 a.m.-Council

11-12 p.m. Brew Crew-AA

6:45-8:30 p.m. Power Up-Tae Kwon Do

Wednesdays

11-12 p.m. New Life-AA

Girl Scouts 10/16 3:30-5:00 p.m.

7-9 p.m. Sunshine Yoga-Luther Room

Road to Recovery 7:15-8:30 p.m.

Thursdays

6:00-7:45 p.m. Power Up-Tae Kwon Do

Fridays

11-12 p.m. New Life-AA

Saturdays

9-1 p.m. SDA Church-Sanctuary

9-11:15 a.m. Road to Recovery-AA

1-3 p.m. SDA Church-Parish Hall

Sundays

10:30 a.m. Worship Service



The following need your prayers...

Chuck Albers, Sylvia Erato, Stephanie Baio, Tina Bugalia, Bill Ciampa, Gray Collingwood, Jimmy E., Elsie, Brian and Dylan Gasperetti, Hunter George, Kathryn Graven, Virginia Heinsch, Angela Herber, Joe, Michael Kelly, Joanne Kempel, Kate Lang, Cynthia Listort, Bill and Fran McGowan, Chuck Miata, Nicki, John Pisarri, Schneider family, Moira Sheldon, Donna Slyman, Robert Smith, Court Stevenson, Peter Stevenson, Kevin Sullivan, Miriam Valder, Teri Ventimiglia, Deanna Ventura, and James Wheeler.



Judy Schmidt 10/4
Gustavo Zuniga 10/24
Fran McGowan 10/28

OCTOBER 27
Reformation
Sunday



Place Your Order for Free At-Home
COVID-19 Tests

Go to:

<https://special.usps.com/testkits>

OCTOBER OUTREACH

Lutheran Social Services of New York

Thanksgiving Baskets



The New Life Center-Long Island-A hunger prevention site of Lutheran Social Services of New York-is already at work to provide bountiful Thanksgiving meals to needy families in our community. **You can help by contributing items from the list below or donating through your offering envelopes.** The Center also accepts gift cards from Lidl, Shoprite and Stop & Shop.

Food Items:

Juice, Cookies, canned fruits and vegetables, cake mixes, gravy, sweet potatoes, yams, coffee, tea, hot chocolate, pasta, sauce, jello, pudding, peanut butter, jelly. Pancake mix and syrup.



When an ambulance is needed,
call 516-742-3300 or 911.

Christmas Gift Giving Program LSS New LIFE Center



Ascension will be taking part in the Christmas Gift Program by collecting new hats, gloves and socks for children and adults. In addition, we will be collecting pajamas and underwear for boys and girls size 8-14. Collection boxes will be in the narthex.



Eleanor Betz has received a Thrivent Action Team grant to assist with our endeavors.

All contributions should be in by December 1st.
We will deliver our donations on Monday,
December 2nd.

In The Month Of October

Poet: Catherine Pulsifer

In the month of October, a season's tale unfolds,
As nature's palette shifts, vibrant colors behold.
The weather turns cooler, a crispness fills the air,
Leaves cascade like confetti, a dance without a care.

Children's hearts flutter, counting days with glee,
Anticipating Halloween, a night of mystery.
The sun's rays wane, as twilight gently sweeps,
Shorter hours of daylight, as the world slowly sleeps.

October's charm enchants, a magical embrace,
A symphony of change, in this transient space.
With each passing day, a glimpse of nature's art,
October's beauty whispers, etching memories in the heart.



GOOD THINGS ARE HAPPENING AT ASCENSION.....



Ascension is welcoming some new groups to our church:

Lutheran Social Services in Uniondale, who we have supported with food drives, baby layette donations etc., through the years, has lost their space due to Grace Lutheran Church closing. The council met with their director over the summer and have offered them our basement space so they can continue their important ministry. They have been updating things in the basement, at their expense, and plan to have the food pantry operational here, on October 29th.

A huge thank you to Eleanor Betz, Lois Altvater, Helmut Prill and Carole Brosnan for organizing any garbage in the basement and AA members for bringing the garbage out to be picked up.

A representative from Seventh Day Adventist church approached us looking for space for their services on Saturdays. Council has agreed to let them use our church for their services on Saturday mornings and then they gather in the Parish Hall for a fellowship lunch.

Teresa, owner of Sunshine Yoga, has requested space for her classes. Council agreed to allow her to use the Luther

Room above the Parish Hall. She and her husband have come in and waxed the floors and hung curtains and will maintain the room for her classes. She holds a Restorative Yoga class on Wednesday nights from 7-7:30 (which is beginner friendly) and a Hatha Yoga class right after that, on Wednesday nights, from 7:45-8:45. If you are interested in attending her class she can be reached at 718-552-5803.

We still continue to have different AA groups meeting at Ascension, every day except Thursdays and Sundays to help the community.

We also continue to have Power Up (a Tai Kwon Do class) that meets on Tuesday and Thursday evenings in the Parish Hall.

Each of these outside groups using various parts of our building are making donations to Ascension for the use of our building. Check the October schedule on page 2 of the Messenger to see how our building is being used each month.

Good things are happening here.

