



Ascension & Holy Trinity Episcopal Church



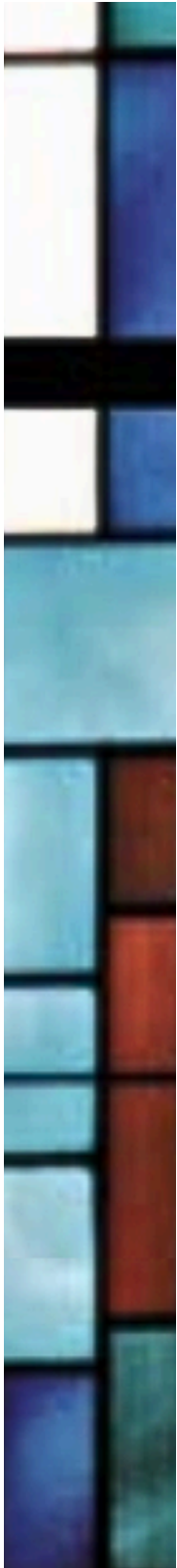
2025
Parish Profile





Our Journey in Faith:

A MESSAGE FROM THE SEARCH COMMITTEE:



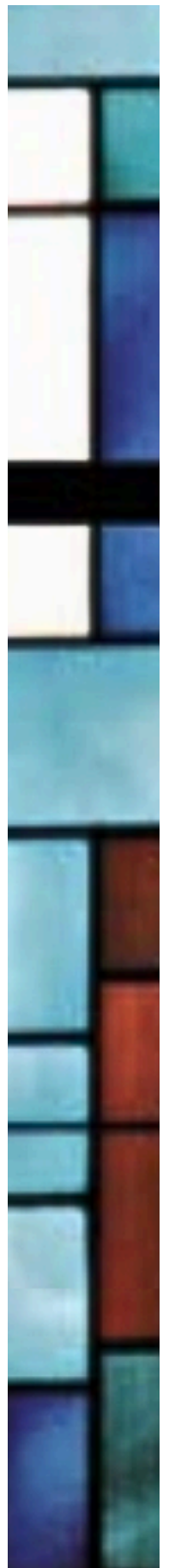
After the departure of our rector, the Rev. Eric L. Miller, in June 2024, our vestry acted promptly and identified an exceptional candidate to be our interim rector (The Rev. Elizabeth Hoster), and invited two parishioners with prior search team experience to co-chair the team to find our next rector. They cast a broad net of invitation across the parish and, with God's help, assembled a diverse team of eight people who represent a cross-section of our Parish family.

The Search Team began work in earnest in October 2024. Our first obligation was to understand what the parish wanted in our next rector. We actively solicited written and verbal input from everyone in the parish starting in November. We then used our annual meeting in January 2025 to further discern input by way of smaller group discussions, facilitated by search team members with assistance from Vestry members to capture notes.

Opinion from our congregation on the future we pray for is encouragingly clear. We want to be alive, inviting and growing. We want to be servants of God's people. We want A&HT to make a bigger difference in the lives of our congregation and in our community. We yearn for spiritual growth individually and collectively, and look forward to continuing our faith journey hand-in-hand with our next Rector. We are a place where all are welcome, because all belong.



WHO WE ARE



Our prayer during the discernment process is this:

"Gracious God, we give thanks for this loving community as we seek our next rector. Guide us in discerning Your will and keep us focused on living out our mission in Christ's name. Help us recognize and use the gifts You've given us with creativity and enthusiasm. Bless our efforts to be a vibrant part of Your Church, enriching our lives and making a difference in the world. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen."



In This Profile, You will find:

1. Who We Are: Membership & Attendance, Financial Info, Location, Facilities, Diocese Positioning
2. What We Do: Education, Fellowship, Outreach
3. Where We've Been: Church History
4. Where We Want to Go



MEMBERSHIP AND ATTENDANCE

As of January 2025

A&HT currently has 312 active baptized members. We cleaned our records in 2022 and as a result the attendance data reflects a drop in active baptized members. Our average Sunday attendance consists of 72 active and involved members, and we see real opportunity to increase membership and attendance, particularly among young families.

YEAR	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Active Baptized Members	488	485	330	319	312
Average Sunday Attendance	117	86	104	101	72
Easter Sunday Attendance	N/A	86	220	187	146
Christmas Eve/Day Attendance	N/A	179	197	210	187
Pre-School Enrollees	25	35	43	34	34
Baptisms	1	4	1	5	2
Confirmations	10	0	4	0	0
Marriages	0	2	2	0	0
Burials	4	7	5	5	2
Pledging Units	86	78	79	76	68

Diversity: While Wyoming is predominantly a white (12.7% non-white residents) upper-middle class community, A&HT has consistently welcomed and been attended by people from a multitude of national, ethnic, cultural and economic backgrounds. We have had many women clergy, priests and deacons, including our current interim rector, the Rev. Elizabeth Hoster, and our deacon, the Rev. Libbie Crawford. A&HT's congregation is a diverse faith community; more than half of our current members have come to the Episcopal Church from other denominations. Our motto is "all are welcome because all belong!"



FINANCIAL INFORMATION

As of January 2025



A&HT is on solid financial footing. We have operated on a balanced budget basis going on fifteen years. Our year-round stewardship program continues to emphasize the gifts of time, talent, and treasure. Like most churches today, we are increasingly dependent upon the financial generosity of our more senior parishioners. Despite that, A&HT enjoys a healthy capital reserve which provides several years' worth of financial stability in the event of a major financial downturn.

YEAR	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Pledge Contributions	397,061	375,559	374,379	384,699	405,687
Total Contributions	421,572	391,340	411,205	406,246	416,862
Grove Ave. Rent	19,625	19,950	20,225	20,400	20,800
Other Income	1,115	-	8,613	9,527	7,633
Total Income	442,312	411,290	440,043	436,173	445,295
Expenses					
Worship/Christian Ed.	9,850	10,239	12,353	12,589	12,135
Outreach 1	68,275	77,142	72,582	73,347	79,188
Salaries and Wages 2	134,960	144,402	142,792	143,867	124,126
Taxes/Insurance/Pension	63,373	31,440	31,003	32,554	25,594
Administration	15,169	13,592	13,658	17,161	16,239
Property	97,961	113,694	131,485	141,808	139,579
Total Expenses	389,588	390,509	403,873	421,326	396,861
Total Surplus/Deficit	52,724	20,781	36,170	14,847	48,434

1 Includes our Diocesan Mission Share. In 2024, our share was \$52,875.

2 Includes salaries for Rector, Deacon, Parish Secretary, Minister of Music, and Nursery Caregiver



LOCATED IN WYOMING, OHIO



Officially becoming a village in 1874 with 600 residents, Wyoming today is a city encompassing 2.87 square miles, approximately **8750 people, & 3200 households**. Over 70% of the population have a bachelor's degree with many holding executive and professional positions in the Greater Cincinnati area. Wyoming is the first northern suburb of the city of Cincinnati & straddles the dividing line between East & West Cincinnati. About 12 miles from downtown Cincinnati, Wyoming provides easy access to I-75 & Ronald Reagan highways. The city of Wyoming is an established, neighborhood-oriented walkable community with tree-lined streets, and a place where small-town character, relationships, & traditions endure. Wyoming's residents appreciate the rich history of the community yet are forward-thinking, inclusive, and involved, as evidenced by a history of excellent public services, a fiscally responsible government, excellent schools, & dedicated citizen volunteers. It is a welcoming, safe, & diverse community for its residents and its visitors. **Its small-town charm offers opportunities to interact with neighbors and strengthen and cultivate friendships.**

Consistently sought out for its schools, Wyoming has 3 neighborhood elementary schools, a community middle school, and a high school with total enrollment in all schools to be about 1900 students. The high school is ranked by US News & World Reports as one of the **top 3 public high schools in the city of Cincinnati and number twelve in the state**. From the same source, Wyoming Middle School is in the city's top 5 schools. Hilltop Elementary was recently rated **4th in the state & 1st in the city by US News & World Reports, with Elm Elementary 4th in the city** (of schools not segregated by gifted designations.). Further evidence of the value residents place on education comes in the passage of a **\$72.5M bond levy in 2024** by 69% of voters to build 3 new neighborhood elementary school buildings. With over 99% of its property tax revenue coming from its residential base, Wyoming is also proud of its Fine Arts Center that provides education in music, art, & dance as well as its diverse restaurants and thriving business district.



OUR FACILITIES



The Sanctuary

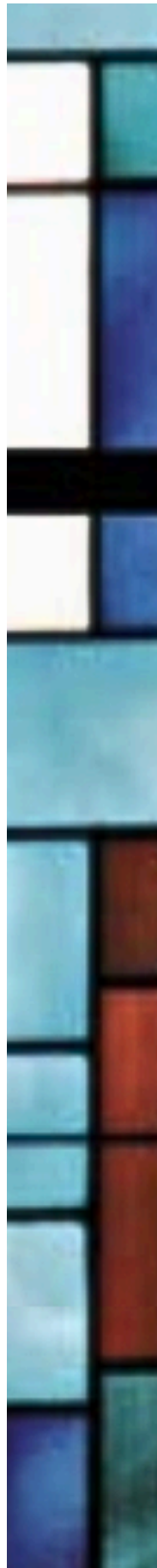
The facility is air-conditioned and seats 288 in the nave, with additional seating space in the balcony. One distinctive feature of our worship space is the large stained glass window panel (facing west, above the Burns Avenue entrance to the narthex and sanctuary). A&HT adopted the stained-glass window motif for publicity purposes and incorporated those colors in our parish logo.

The Rectory

Our rectory is an updated 1928 Victorian charmer located in the heart of the City of Wyoming's Historic Village District and directly adjacent to the church property. This three-story home has three bedrooms, three full baths, and a finished attic. Freshly painted inside and out with newly refurbished hardwood floors, the home has undergone a total renovation of the kitchen including all new appliances, cabinets, and countertops. The driveway can accommodate two to three cars. There is so much to enjoy about this delightful home with its central location – just a short walk to downtown Wyoming stores, restaurants, library, parks and schools. Rectory maintenance, lawn care, and landscaping are all covered under our annual parish budget. The rectory is available for immediate occupancy by our next rector. And while it is right next door, our parish has always honored the privacy of our rector and their family. It is our priest's family sanctuary, and we are committed to respecting their need for privacy.

The Education Wing

The education wing, built in 1965, includes the parish office, the rector's office, treasurer's office, our Parish Health Ministry space, a memorial chapel, an assembly room with library, and a large, well-equipped kitchen -- all on the main level.





OUR FACILITIES



The Parish Hall

The Parish Hall was built in 1926 and provides a large multi-purpose space for meetings, receptions and other group activities. Our facilities are used regularly by a wide range of community groups that include karate classes, yoga, an English country dancing group, Canines for Christ of Cincinnati (a faith-based pet therapy training program), the Wyoming Democrats, various community event planning sessions (such as the annual Wyoming Community Art Show), and a local Boy Scout troop. Additionally, we partner with the A&HT Wyoming Preschool to offer Christian-based preschool education and part-time care for approximately forty young children ages 2-5 in the lower level of our education wing.

A memorial garden is located in a recessed area between the sanctuary and the parish hall, facing Burns Avenue. "The Gathering Place" is a large brick patio, added in 2005, and is located next to the education building facing Worthington Avenue. It has proven to be a great space for fair-weather events (e.g., parish cookouts, concerts, Sunday lemonade hour, pet blessing, and even Sunday worship services during the summer). Our split-level design remains an accessibility challenge as we look to further leverage our space for additional ministries for the community.

A&HT Preschool

The lower level includes eight classrooms and is home to the A&HT Preschool. Our preschool serves children ages 2-5 on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursday, & Friday. The preschool was established as an outreach of A&HT to Wyoming & also the surrounding communities. The goal is to provide a safe, stimulating & God-centered school environment to promote the social, emotional, intellectual & physical development of each child enrolled. The experienced staff is committed to building character as well as loving the children where they are. They have a number of special events during the year, and serve as a continued opportunity for outreach.

The expanded use of our church facilities enables the prospects of additional outreach opportunities, service to the community, and potential growth. We are open to finding new ways to share the blessings of our facilities with the community, all to the glory of God!



PART OF THE DIOCESE OF SOUTHERN OHIO



A&HT is part of the Diocese of Southern Ohio, which comprises 71 churches and more than 15,000 Episcopalians in Cincinnati, Dayton, Columbus, and in farm towns, county seats, and suburban centers in 40 counties across the southern half of the state. Our bishop is the Rt. Rev. Kristin Uffelmann White. Information about the diocese can be found at www.diosohio.org Locally, four Episcopal faith communities (Ascension & Holy Trinity, The Community of the Transfiguration (an Episcopal Women's Community in Glendale), Christ Church Glendale, and St. Simon's of Cyrene in Lincoln Heights work closely together in areas of outreach and social justice.

Diocese and Greater Cincinnati Dynamics

In the spring of 2024, our diocese began a discernment process focused on listening and dreaming for the future. With a goal of cultivating healthy systems and supporting innovative change for the future of the church, this process resulted in the development of a vision for the future and the creation of a Mission Implementation Team. More details may be found at www.diosohio.org/who-we-are/

A&HT parishioners have historically embraced diocesan work. Two of our parishioners served on the committee to nominate the bishop; one is the recently retired head of the trustees and previously served as president of the Standing Committee; another currently serves on the Faith in Life Committee, and another sits on the Creation Care and Environmental Justice Commission as well as the Sustainable Development Goals Grant Committee, was a member of Diocesan Council, and was the executive director of the diocese's Episcopal Community Services Foundation (ECSF).

Our new bishop is approachable, and her staff is attentive to the needs throughout the diocese and they respond discerningly. The bishop is re-creating her staff to better serve the needs of the diocese and is ushering in a new and energetic time in southern Ohio. People with exceptional skills and experience have been appointed to fill the senior staff positions, and it is clear who is responsible for what. We notice that clergy morale has improved substantially throughout the diocese. This is an exciting time to be here!

We have worked with other deanery congregations in a number of ministries over the years, including Lenten School, refugee resettlement, Habitat for Humanity projects, and Vacation Bible School. In the past we have collaborated with other congregations in hosting homeless families and providing free meals for those in need in our community. The parish is very actively involved in important local charities including the Valley Interfaith Community Resource Center, Matthew 25 Ministries, Episcopal Retirement Services, giving our gifts of time, talent and treasure in support.

Our local demographics span the range from upper middle-class bedroom communities to blue collar and lower-middle class neighborhoods with many Appalachian and African-American residents. Less than a mile from the church is a vibrant and growing Mauritanian community.



WORSHIP

During the interim period, weekly Worship Services are scheduled as follows:

Sunday*

8:00 a.m. Worship with Holy Eucharist Rite II (No Music)

9:00 a.m. Christian Formation

10:00 a.m. Worship with Holy Eucharist Rite II (With Music)

Monday / Wednesday / Friday

6:00 p.m. Evening Prayer (on Facebook Live)

*Childcare for infants and children through three years old is available in our nursery from 9:15 a.m. until the end of the 10:00 a.m. worship service. The nursery is located next to the Parish Hall.

Worship at A&HT by Our Interim Rector, The Rev. Elizabeth Hoster

The Diocese of Southern Ohio has embraced a rich diversity of worship styles over the past 15 years, moving beyond its traditionally low church roots. Ascension & Holy Trinity has cultivated a worship environment that blends the best of both low and mid-church traditions. Our previous rector, the Rev. Eric L. Miller (a Virginia Theological Seminary graduate) brought a more low-church approach, while my own interim leadership embraces a mid-to-low church style — frequently wearing liturgical vestments, and using Sanctus bells in select liturgical seasons.

What truly distinguishes A&HT is not a rigid adherence to high or low church liturgy, but our commitment to offering a warm church liturgy that fosters deep connections with Christ and one another. Our liturgy emerges from a spirit of pastoral care, inclusion, and welcome for all — using language and practices that invite participation and resonate with everyone. Whether the priest is wearing a chasuble or blessing a child's stuffed animal brought to the altar, the focus remains on community. Mistakes, such as forgetting to light the candles or a novice acolyte learning on the job, are seen not as disruptions, but as part of the living, breathing nature of our worship. At A&HT, the liturgy exists to serve the community, not the other way around.

Music plays an essential role in our worship, under the expert direction of Mrs. Sara Cahall, our Minister of Music for the past four years. With her extensive experience as an organist, pianist, and choral director, Sara brings a deep knowledge of church music and a diversity of styles that enriches our liturgy. Our chancel choir, supported by four paid section leaders, is a vital part of our worship, offering strong musical leadership. Additionally, the first Sunday of each month, we host the "A&HT Singers," an initiative designed to welcome anyone with a passion for music to join our choir, providing a wonderful opportunity for engagement and outreach within our congregation.

At Ascension & Holy Trinity, we offer a warm, welcoming environment where both clergy and community are united in their love for God and each other.



PARISH ORGANIZATION

Interim Rector: The Rev. Elizabeth Hoster

Deacon: The Rev. Deacon Libbie
Crawford

Minister of Music: Mrs. Sara Cahall

Parish Administrator: Mrs. Valerie Davis

Communications Coordinator: Ms. Ernaisja Curry

A&HT Preschool Director: Mrs. Sandy Rempe

Facilities Manager: Mr. John Fitzwater

Vestry

Our vestry consists of eleven members: the senior and junior warden (each elected for a one-year term), and nine members at-large (each elected to three-year terms on a rotating cycle). Vestry's primary responsibilities are stewardship and strategic planning for the parish. Each vestry member also serves as a liaison to a different ministry. Ministry leadership is typically led by non-vestry lay members of the church.

Ministries and Mission Groups

Lay members of A&HT are encouraged to give of their time and talent through our many ministries. As a matter of routine, ministry leadership is shared by two people to help ease the workload and provide continuity during times of change.

Worship

Altar Guild: A long-established, well-organized group of talented people perform the traditional responsibilities of preparing the altar and vestments for worship services.

Choir: The A&HT choir is a group of some twenty people (including four paid section leaders) with a mix of talent and capable of outstanding choral music in support of worship services and special events.

Chalice Bearers and Lectors: This group encompasses a wide range of age and experience to both assist in serving communion and the reading of scripture lessons during worship.

Lay Eucharistic Ministers: Educated, qualified, and licensed by the Diocese to carry the Eucharist to home-bound church members.

Acolytes: This liturgical ministry promotes active participation in our worship services by our youth.

Ushers: Undertaking the traditional service-support and welcoming duties, this ministry provides an opportunity for both individuals and families to serve as ushers or as an usher team.

Audio-Visual Ministry: Our primary Sunday worship service includes a live telecast via Facebook Live. Participants in this ministry set up and run the audio/visual cameras and equipment and monitor the live broadcast during worship service, enabling those who cannot attend in person to participate remotely.

Nursery: Our parish pays for adult supervision of young children during our 10:00 am Sunday service and at other times as needed.



EDUCATION



Adult Formation

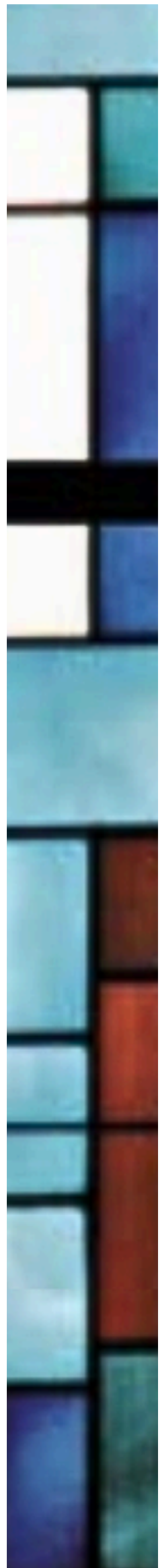
We have a thriving adult education ministry at A&HT. We meet at 9 am, in between the 8 am and 10 am services for a weekly Bible study session. Typically, our classes cover entire books of the Bible (if they are short enough) or sometimes stories related to a single character. We have had two adult formation teachers who usually alternate so everyone has a break from preparing a class. We typically have a group of between 5 and 15 people who attend our classes, most in person but usually a few online. We record our meetings on Zoom so that participants who cannot attend can listen later. This online presence and recording is extremely helpful as it allows us to meet even on the rare occasions our worship services are canceled.

Children's Formation

Children's formation (between kindergarten age and 6th grade) has, over the past several years, been taught by a group of volunteers. This is an area of challenge for A&HT but also potential growth as we have not had consistent leadership of children's formation. We have had youth ministers in the past to help with our children's formation, and the new rector may explore the possibility of revisiting this.

Confirmation of Adults and Youths/ Youth Formation

Bishop Kristin Uffelmann White received two new members into the Church during her most recent visit to A&HT in December 2024. These newest members of A&HT were led into the Body of Christ under the guidance of one of our lay leaders. Our formation of youth (mainly 6th grades-12th grades) has primarily been volunteer-led. This continues to be an area of challenge but also one with great potential for growth.





MINISTRY TO THE CONGREGATION



Parish Health

This group, supported by Episcopal Retirement Homes, is working to improve the health of parishioners in body, mind, and spirit, according to the teachings of Jesus. Activities include CPR and AED training and a greeting card ministry, as well as the opportunity for parishioners to borrow various medical equipment. Additionally, a parishioner runs a guided meditation that meets on Zoom regularly for parishioners and community members alike to decompress.

Knitting Group

This group meets once a month at church and works on their own at home. The group of about 15 women knits prayer shawls, scarves, hats, and baptismal blankets, which are given to anyone in need of comfort or consolation. The group annually donates a significant number of hats and scarves to the Salvation Army.

Book Groups

Daytime and evening book clubs meet regularly for learning, fellowship and to reach out to non-church members.

Communications

A&HT is blessed to have a paid, part-time communications coordinator (Ernaisha Curry), who oversees the development and deployment of digital media. Weekly communications about worship services, church activities, ministries and community events are conveyed via several mediums. Email is the prime medium of communication within the parish, supplemented by bulletin inserts, the parish website, and distribution of "Connections," our monthly newsletter.



MINISTRY TO THE CONGREGATION

Music

A&HT has an exceptional music ministry, and is known throughout the community and region as a hub for music community as well as an excellent concert venue. Led by our Minister of Music and four paid section leaders, the parish choir (with occasional help from A&HT singers) hosts an annual Fall Hymn Sing, a Spring Choral Showcase Concert, and regular fundraisers for the community. Additionally, we partner with various local musicians to host an annual Summer Jazz Concert series at The Gathering Place, and ad-hoc concerts featuring parishioner-musicians. Our music program has a long and active history of participating in community events and working with other local churches, including youth choirs. We regularly feature performances by other choirs, such as Thomas More University Chorus, Cincinnati Boychoir, and The May Festival Children's Choir. We also participate in community performances such as congregational evensongs or musical theater performances around the area. Our music ministry is both a strength and an exciting area of growth and opportunity for our next rector.

Fellowship

A&HT has a strong tradition of, and capacity for, hospitality. Family events have been very successful, such as a show every Shrove Tuesday, outdoor jazz concerts on the Gathering Place, and Advent wreath making. We recently launched a "Connected Communities" initiative, in which members connect by interest such as young families, social groups, and groups based on interests in reading and learning. Additionally, parishioners meet informally based on age (such as the "50's and Forward" group) or by interest. Our commercial grade kitchen and meeting room facilities are in excellent condition and are used frequently for church events.





MINISTRY TO THE COMMUNITY

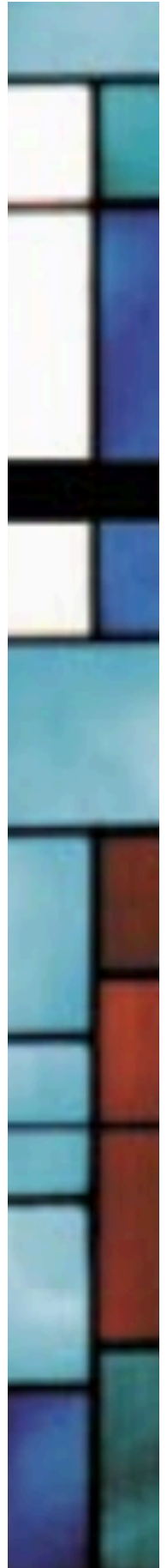


The parish's long-standing priorities in outreach have included food security, children's programs, welcoming immigrants, and sustainable development goals. The Outreach committee makes recommendations to the Vestry on the Easter and Christmas offerings and uses these major feasts to offer the parish an opportunity to take timely action on critical needs as dictated by current events prevailing at the time (such as natural disasters or other emergent needs). Our Outreach team works with the other Episcopal congregations in the Mill Creek Valley. Our current work with these congregations focuses on equipping nearby Lincoln Heights youth to serve as peer mediators.

While we are by nature a generous congregation, the parishioners of A&HT are very active in hands-on ministries, encouraging and supporting church members who volunteer to meet local needs. Our strongest volunteer involvement is with *Valley Interfaith Food and Clothing Center* in Lockland, Ohio. Additionally, our parish is active with *Heartfelt Tidbits* and *The Healing Center*, two nonprofits dedicated to supporting immigrants arriving in our area. We support *Matthew 25 Ministries*, a national disaster relief organization, and often collect and sort donations. Members of our community regularly serve lunch and socialize with *Episcopal Retirement Services St. Paul's Village*, a low-income elderly community in our area. Several members of our parish are active in *Habitat for Humanity*. Our church is a socially conscious congregation where individuals have taken it upon themselves to take God's love into the world through our many ministries.

Connection to Other Faith Communities

As part of our outreach to the local community, A&HT has a wonderful relationship with area churches, both in the city of Wyoming and in the Greater Cincinnati area as a whole. In addition to the outreach mentioned above, we collaborate with other Wyoming churches and the synagogue on outreach for our youth (namely our teenagers). Additionally, our parish has been a hub for community conversation, such as a "Welcoming a Stranger" event we hosted with other communities when instances of immigrant fear surfaced recently. There is also a close working relationship between various faith leaders in Wyoming. Our congregation takes God's love to our local, national, and global communities.





Where We Have Been

CHURCH HISTORY



A&HT is the union of two historic suburban Cincinnati churches: Holy Trinity in Hartwell (founded in 1872) and Church of the Ascension in Wyoming (founded in 1893), located just two miles apart. The merger in 1965 was overseen by the Rev. Wiley Ralph, who served as rector until 1986. Under his leadership, the focus on fellowship and parish projects fostered strong bonds. Together, the congregations built a new church and paid off the mortgage within a decade. This period ended with a close-knit congregation eager for new challenges.

In 1987, the Rev. Spenser Simrill succeeded Wiley Ralph, inspiring outreach missions. Under his guidance, the church launched a Habitat for Humanity affiliate, built a school and sanctuary in Haiti, and helped resettle a refugee family from Uganda. When Spenser left in 1992, the church had strong outreach and youth ministries, but the bonds between members were weaker.

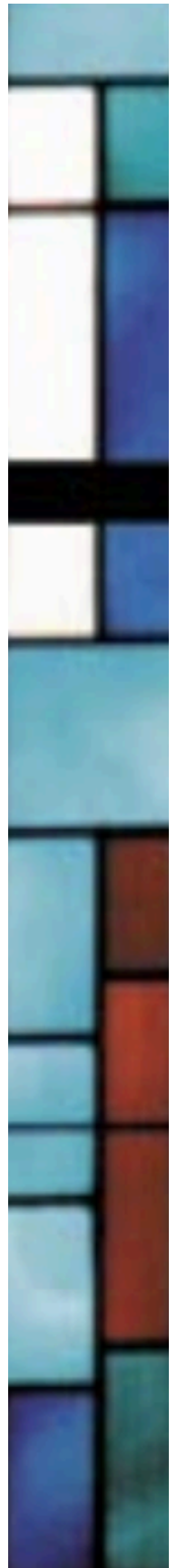
The Rev. Charlie Brumbaugh, who became rector in 1993, refocused on pastoral care and strengthened parish bonds. Outreach projects, such as building two Habitat for Humanity homes locally, took center stage. When Father Charlie resigned in 2001, A&HT faced two years without a full-time interim rector, leading to a decline in membership and ministry programs, particularly for children and youth.

In 2003, the Rev. Robert Rademaker was called as rector, initiating the rebuilding of children's education with the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd program. His tenure also saw the strengthening of the choir and funding for 20 homes in El Salvador. Father Bob left in 2007, and after another prolonged search, the Rev. Eric Miller became rector in 2010. His youth, energy, and pastoral care were a great fit, and he served for 14 years, providing much-needed leadership.

Throughout our history we have remained externally focused, taking God's love into the world. The ties that bind us remain strong. We are financially sound, and blessed to be able to provide for the needs of the church and our surrounding communities. We are nourished by many years of faith-filled and heartfelt care for one another, our community, and the wider world.



WHERE WE WANT TO GO



Our parish continues to be engaged in a wide range of ministries and continues to take God's love into the world through our interim period. In addition to those ongoing efforts, with Vestry support, the Search Team has identified three objectives to help move us closer to our vision.

- 1. Our youth ministry will be reinvented to be comprehensive, robust, and sustainable.** We envision an active youth ministry comprised of four key tenets: (1) Christian education – anchored by a multi-year education program with alternative entry-point options; (2) participation in worship; (3) involvement in music, and (4) engagement in outreach efforts. To date, our youth ministry has been heavily dependent upon volunteers who have had the inspiration, dedication, and energy to undertake this ministry. It lacks an overall plan and depends almost entirely upon the initiative of our volunteers. Given our church's location, this ministry is fundamental to what we are called to do. We must get it right and keep it right if we are to thrive as a faith community.
- 2. A&HT will continue to be flexible in how we worship to pursue a variety of liturgical styles to better meet people where they are on their faith journey.** We recognize the need to attract people to the church while also honoring traditional forms of service. Our summer Gathering Place services are a popular alternative format for worship. "Ashes to Go" on Ash Wednesday has proven to be helpful to busy families during Lent. As we seek to reach new families, we must be able to serve their needs.
- 3. A&HT will have a comprehensive fellowship ministry**– uniting the A&HT family at-large and individual families within our church community. We are committed to continue being a church home for a diverse congregation: long-time members and newcomers, married couples and single people, traditionalists and modernists, all while respecting ethnic, political and gender differences. Our many ministries represent opportunities to work and grow together in Christ, and our differences can be a source of strength that helps forge these family bonds.

Delivering against these three objectives will help bring our vision to life. We seek spiritual guidance from our next rector to help us on our faith journey. We are one of the Episcopal Church's best kept secrets!



WHAT WE SEEK FROM OUR NEXT RECTOR



Our vision is to become a vital and growing faith community, with inspiring worship services and Christian growth opportunities. A church with compassion-centered ministries through which all find a place and take God's love into the world. We envision a lively and energetic faith community where all are welcome because all belong.

We seek inspired leadership to help us live into our vision; a rector who embodies warmth and inspires parishioners of all ages, fostering intergenerational relationships that enrich the community. The rector should be accessible, approachable, and open to the diverse spiritual needs of all parish members. A strong focus on Christian formation, particularly in building a vibrant youth group, is desired. The rector will be committed to building relationships that bridge the church and its surrounding area while nurturing the growth of young people and families.

We seek a dynamic, charismatic rector, inspired by God's love; a rector who will foster spiritual transformation through meaningful prayer and practices that deepen relationships with God. The ideal candidate will be able to honor the beauty of traditional worship while making services relevant and invigorating. We welcome someone with the creativity, passion, and initiative to inspire change where needed. He/She will focus on creating a space for dialogue and exploration, encouraging transformation rather than simply delivering information. Collaboration with the Minister of Music is key, as music plays a central role in our worship and community life.

We seek a partner with a passion for growing the Church; A&HT members know we must stand for more than being "loving and caring," though this is a firm foundation on which to build. Experience managing staff and empowering lay leaders to engage in God's work and grow together in faith is essential to accomplish this task. Most importantly, the ideal candidate will have the ability to connect with a diverse congregation, engaging with both the parish and the broader community.