

LET YOUR FOUR-LEGGED FRIENDS STRUT THEIR STUFF

Pet Parade at the Blessing of the Animals

Does your animal friend possess a quality that sets him apart from other animals and makes him dear to your heart? Then bring him to the third annual Blessing of the Animals and enter your special pal in the Pet Parade. You may enter in one of three categories with a \$50.00 cash prize awarded in each category: Ugliest Lovable Mug (a face only a mother could love), Mini Me (pet and owner look-alike) and It's All About the Attitude (if your pet's got it - you know what we mean!). The cost to enter is \$2.00. Look for the Pet Parade registration table at the Blessing of the Animals and sign up before 2:15 on the day of the event. Owners and pets will participate in a short parade down the church sidewalk and strut their stuff for the judges and the public.

This year's Blessing of the Animals will be held on Sunday, October 3rd from 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. on the lawn at Federated Community Church (across the street from the downtown library). The event is sponsored by Shared Earth Network, a citywide interfaith environmental group. The mission of Shared Earth Network is to unite people of faith to advocate for the environment. Their work links people of different faiths to share information, events and action alerts. You can learn more about them through their website at www.shareearthnetwork.org. Their motto, "Shared Earth, Shared Abundance" extends to animals as well as people. The blessors at this event will represent many of Flagstaff's faith traditions including Buddhist, Catholic, Celtic Christian, Jewish, Muslim, Protestant, Sufi and a Navajo Pastor. Our animal friends are a blessing in our lives. This is an opportunity to bless them in return.

There will be exhibits from the Second Chance Center for Animals, Animal Defense League of Arizona, Habitat Harmony, Grand Canyon Wolf Recovery Project, Shared Earth Network and Paw Placement. Dr. DeCou from Flagstaff Animal Hospital will be available to answer questions about your animal friend at the "Ask a Vet" table, free of charge. Local groomers will be offering free nail trims for dogs. A fun feature this year is the Best Friends Photo Booth. A photographer will be set up to take pictures of you and your favorite four-legged (or two-legged or winged) friend. We will have free treats for the animals and animal crackers for their human escorts!

There is no admission charge for the Blessing of the Animals and all animals are welcome. Please bring your pet on a leash or in a cage to this family-friendly event. Come celebrate the animals with us!