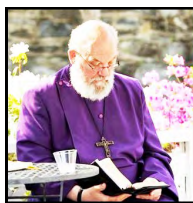


January 2018



ST. EDWARD'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Scepter



Reflections From the Rector's Desk

**By The Reverend
Canon
Stephen C. Casey**

Dear members of St. Edward's:

As we leave 2017 behind and enter the new year, it is timely to reflect on the many ways God in Christ moves in our lives. Not long after I arrived at St. Edward's, I was asked to attend an Episcopal Church retreat on the subject of Stewardship. Although I knew little about stewardship in those days, I had been asked if I would serve as chair of the diocesan stewardship committee. In those far off days, giving to the church for me meant what I think it means to many people - giving from what's left over after all the other household bills have been paid, which in reality meant very little, if anything at all.

God's grace works in

wonderful ways, for reasons I still cannot fathom I accepted the invitation to be chair of the diocesan stewardship committee and I attended the retreat. I discovered that many Episcopalians not only tithed (i.e., gave ten percent of their income to the church), but some people double and even triple tithed. These were people like you and me, with mortgages and school bills and all the other things that make up a common household budget. Yet,

"I have learnt over the years that all that I am, all that I have, all that I have been and will ever be, is of God."

giving to God in Christ in thanksgiving was a way of life for these Christians.

I returned from the stewardship workshop transformed, and over the years I have gradually worked towards tithing my cash stipend to the church. There are times when I cannot quite make it, but I try; and each Sunday, when I celebrate at the 8 am

service, my giving envelope is on the altar.

As a priest I am aware more than most of the financial needs of the church, both at a congregational, diocesan, and national level. That is the reality in which I live and move and have my being. As a husband and parent, I also know what it costs to run a family. That is also the reality in which I live and move and have my being. But another reality I have learnt over the years is that all that I am, all that I have, all that I have been and will ever be, is of God. God in Christ has given me these things and continues to enrich my life. To the riches of God's grace in my life, my primary response is to give financially in thanksgiving to the ecclesia, the people of God, the church. That is the reality of stewardship.

During the course of January, you will receive a request from St. Edward's to financially support the ministry of this place. As we stand at the doorway of a new year and reflect on the year that has

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Special points of interest:

- • *Worship services and Parish hours are on the back cover of the Scepter*
- • *Staff and Vestry Members are listed on the back cover of the Scepter*

Reflection

(Continued from page 1)

passed, I invite you to reflect on what God in Christ has given you in your life and through the church, and support St. Edward's as best you can.

I wish you all a blessed New Year,

Blessings



Fr. Stephen+



The Rector Writes:

In this edition of the Scepter, you will see a number of photographs taken over the Christmas season of events and services that took place at St. Edward's. As you enjoy them, I ask you to offer a prayer of thanksgiving for the people who have made these images possible - members of the altar guild who work tirelessly to make the church look wonderful; musicians - members of the choir and praise band, organists and soloists, who practice long hours to enhance our worship; readers, ushers and greeters, and the army of people who prepare the bulletins for each service; people who serve the nursery, provide coffee hour, serve the altar as Eucharistic ministers and acolytes; the counters who count the offering each Sunday and take it to the bank; the members of the finance committee who attend to the financial welfare of St. Edward's, the members of the vestry for their leadership - the list goes on and on. To all those people I extend my sincere thanks. And to those people who enjoy the photographs but do not serve any particular ministry, perhaps you might be tempted to try.

Fr. Stephen+



Fr. Stephen with the altar team - Christmas Eve 2017



Information

Parish Office Hours

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday:
9 AM – 3 PM

Tuesday: 9 AM – 1 PM

Parish Administrative Assistant:
Michelle Bentley

Scepter

Production Staff:

H. J. "Mac" Miller

hj_miller@outlook.com

If you're the last person to leave the building following Sunday services or an event, please take the time to make sure all the lights are turned off (including the rest rooms) and the doors are locked.

Annual Cookie Sale



I didn't get to stay for the action, but this is what the parking lot and the parish hall looked like at 7:30 this morning in preparation for the Cookie Sale. Many thanks for everyone who devoted time and talent and hard work to make it a success...and thanks for serving me a "quick" breakfast before heading out to Selinsgrove for a diocesan meeting. Fr. Stephen+

Choir Fun



By Dina Ishler

See how much fun we have in choir! Here we are getting ready for a Sunday service. All are always welcome to join us!

Patrick Ishler St. Edward's
Music Director

The Caseys on Christmas Eve



Military News

Please keep in your prayers those close to us who are serving in the military.

- ★Dustin Burleson
- ★Justin Carnahan
- ★Brandon Fox
- ★Gordon Frankenfield
- ★Matt Fuhrman
- ★Adam and Christina Grim
- ★Jack Hawk
- ★Drew Johnson
- ★Anthony Koser
- ★Alex Kube
- ★John Lewis
- ★Richard Mutari



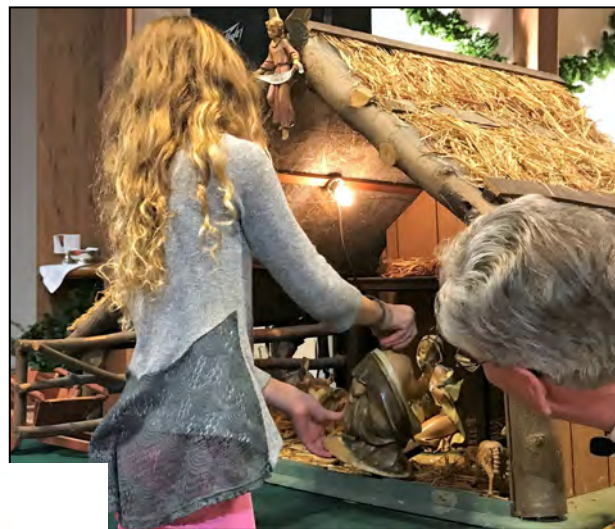
- ★David Peck
- ★Capt. Andrew Pfeiffer
- ★Rev. David J. Sparks
- ★Mike Spurr
- ★David Sternberg
- ★Allison Tomich
- ★Evan Westgate
- ★Seamas Whitesel
- ★1st Lt. Thomas Whitesel



Scenes From the Early Service on Christmas Eve



Deacon Hank and the youth of St. Edward's at the crèche on Christmas Eve.



Gina Spicer and the littlest angel.



Deacon Hank reads the Gospel.





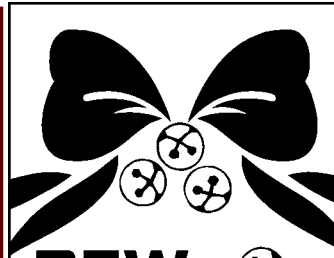
The Newsome Boys enjoy the Children's Sermon on the second Sunday of Advent.



Faith Ishler



Faith Ishler will be heading to Glasgow, Scotland in late March for her third Irish Dance World Championships, having placed sixth at the Regional Championships. Congratulations, Faith!



NEW YEAR'S NOISE-MAKERS

Ring in the New Year with these fun noisemakers!



What you need:

- Wooden craft sticks
- Metallic paint (gold and silver)
- Paint brushes
- Jingle bells (gold and silver)
- Hot glue gun
- Metallic ribbon
- Scissors
- Adult help

What you do:

1. Paint half the sticks gold and half silver. Let dry.
2. Glue three bells to each stick.
3. Cut a six-inch piece of ribbon for each stick. Tie a bow and glue it to the noisemaker. Celebrate!



A NEW CREATION



The apostle Paul says everyone who believes in Jesus becomes brand new.



Directions: Cross out every third letter. Then write the remaining letters in the blanks to complete 2 Corinthians 5:17, NIV.

THIEROEFQORXEIDFAMNYAON
SEILSITNCVHRKISDTTBHEWNE
QWCDREYATMIOC�HFASWCOR
MEGTHWEOFLDXHASSGZONL
ETJHEWNEQWIDSHREROE

_____ ! 2 CORINTHIANS 5:17, NIV

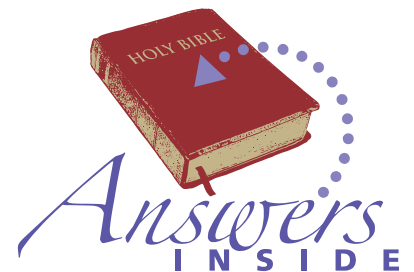
Answer: Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: the old has gone, the new is here! 2 Corinthians 5:17, NIV



Bible Quiz

At the start of a new year, we remember that God continually gives us new chances. What does Jesus say to a woman caught in adultery?

- A. "Go, and from now on sin no more."
- B. "Not even in Israel have I found such great faith."
- C. "Peace be with you."
- D. "Tell no one what I have done for you."



Answer: A (See John 8:11.)



By Meredith Aul

I helped deliver packages to people in need for my church's Jesse tree project. It took about 5 minutes to get all the packages inside the agency. We left our flashers on and ran in with the goods. On the way out, I saw the meter guy putting a parking ticket on my windshield. Ellen Milligan and I were ticketed. Ellen and I pleaded with the meter guy as we explained we were just bringing Christmas to people who would not otherwise have one. After much ado and a call to the parking authority, he voided the tickets! A true Merry Christmas all around.



Fr Stephen prays a blessing on the gifts for over 120 disadvantaged children and youth. Gifts were carefully chosen according to each child's wishes.

Thanks to Leslie Arnold for organizing this year's massive Jesse Tree project. And thanks to able and hard-working assistants Dina Ishler, Ellen Milligan and Kevin Milligan. And to all who bought gifts and wrapped gifts.

Advent

Pictures by Rosie Westgate and Rayelenn Casey



The 10:15 service the First Sunday of Advent
Liz and Buddy Yeager light the first Advent Candle



The 10:15 service the second Sunday of Advent
Mary Snyder and Jodie Good light the candles..



Everyone enjoys the annual service of Advent Lessons and Carols. Nine readers, and a chance to sing those lovely and richly meaningful Advent hymns that we only sing once a year.



3rd Sunday of Advent.



Gaudete Sunday — some folks at St Edward's traditionally love to dress in purple or Sarum Blue for Advent, but on 3rd Advent this year many really made an effort — turning out in joyful pinks!

Coffee Hour



Thank you to the following parishioners for their commitment to providing goodies, hosting and clean up during our coffee hours on Sunday's. The coffee hours

are important times of fellowship and welcoming and we look forward to 2018 and more participants in this very important ministry. . . so vital to our parish in conveying to all who are in search of a church home or visiting the area and choose to come to St. Edward's to worship that we are a thriving and welcoming parish. If you are interested in adding your name to the 8 AM list, please contact the parish office or Bev Hess as we are looking for 3 more participants in the rotation. The sign up sheet for the 9:15 and 10:15 services is in the parish hall and it is in need of volunteers!

December Hosts:

Mark and Barb Jakiel

Roger and Ginny Kloepping

Jerry and Julie Hoff

Larry and Bev Hess

R.B. Mullineaux

The Newsome Family

The Milligan Family

Ted Cardwell

Thank You

"Michael and Sandy Patrone would like to thank the parish

of St. Edward's for the support through prayer and cards during

Sandy's recent medical issue. God bless you !"



Men's Group

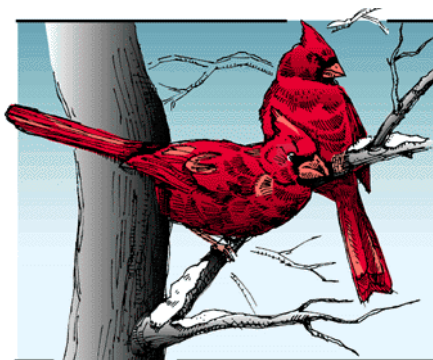


Men's GROUP

By Mike Patrone
Men of St. Edward's:

Things are changing with the Men's Group and the only way to find out the changes is to attend. You will be pleasantly surprised.

Things start at 9 AM the last Saturday of the month in the Parish Hall.



JANUARY

Adult Fellowship

WHAT: Annual Cabin-Fever-Tired-of-Winter *White Elephant Party*.

WHEN: Sunday, January 28th at 4:00.

WHERE: Elaine Radcliffe's house, 3190 Grande Oak Place, Lancaster (West Hempfield).

BRING: The **Ugliest, Funniest, Tackiest, Stupidest Gift you can find** (wrapped beautifully, of course) for our hilarious gift exchange!

ALSO BRING: Some "finger food" (dips, spread, cheese and crackers, etc.) to share.

SIGN-UP: In the Parish Hall, no later than January 18th.

Krist Kindling Dinner

By Meredith Westgate



Krist Kindling families and other former or possible future Krist Kindlers, please plan to join us at the annual Krist Kindling dinner in the multi-purpose room on Sunday, January 21 at 6:00 p.m. Families: please bring a main dish and a salad or dessert - enough to serve six -- to share as well as your own table service. If you are single or a couple, please bring one main dish to share. Beverages will be provided. Bring your stories and your good humor. Guaranteed: a warm and cozy evening with a few good laughs and maybe a surprise or two. Everyone is welcome to join the fun. Questions? Call Meredith Westgate, 898-9245.

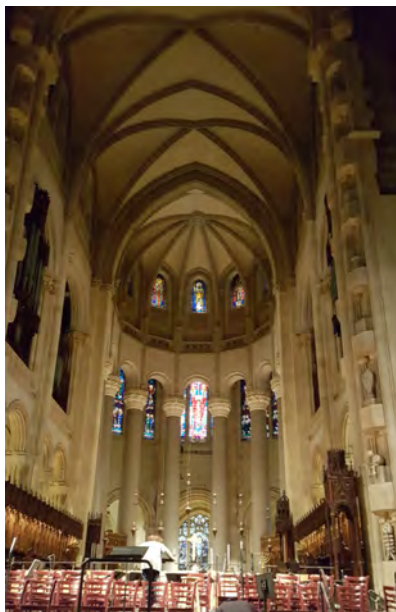


A Visit to the Cathedral Church of St. John the Divine in NYC

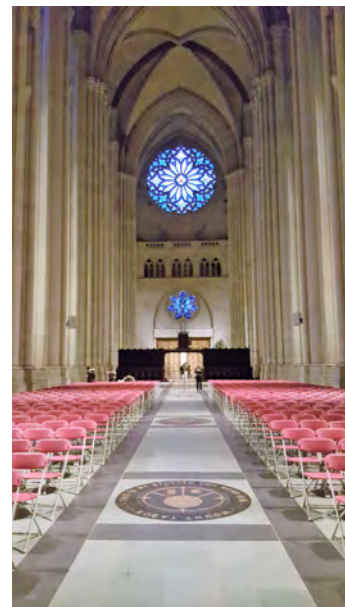
By Mac Miller



The Right Reverend Clifton Daniel



The inspiring interior of the Cathedral



On a snowy Saturday in early December I was able to attend a noon service in this impressive cathedral. This is the cathedral for the Episcopal Diocese of New York. It is the largest Anglican church in the United States. Construction began in 1892. It remains unfinished with construction and restoration a continuing process, thus it is often nicknamed *St. John the Unfinished*. The Right Reverend Clifton Daniel conducted the service. Fr. Daniel is the interim dean of the cathedral. He most recently served as provisional bishop of the Diocese of Pennsylvania.

Musical Events at St. Edward's and a Visitor



"Tis the season to be jolly..." Advent and the Christmas season was very present at St. Edward's when on one weekend at the beginning of December we hosted the Lancaster Chamber Singers, with Amy Yovanovich as a guest soloist, and the Hershey Handbell Choir. Apparently the Hershey Handbell Choir has performed at St. Edward's more than any other congregation. And some how, on that same weekend, we had a furry guest visitor to the church...the bear did not sign the visitor's book but we think his name was Ted E. Bear.



The story of ALERT in the Lancaster Convocation

By Deacon Hank Morrow

In the wake of Super Storm Sandy in 2012, as people became fully aware of the massive destruction of homes and communities along the New Jersey coast, The Rev. Canon Pete Greenfield saw an opportunity for the churches in this convocation to respond. The Episcopal Churches in Lancaster County were geographically close to these seaside communities, and we had a personal connection with the people. So the ten churches gathered, blessed, and delivered 137 five-gallon buckets filled with cleaning supplies donated by parishioners for the returning homeowners in Lavallette and Ortley Beach, New Jersey. This was the beginning of ALERT's mission and ministry.

ALERT is an acronym for the All Lancaster Episcopal Response Team. ALERT is a cooperative outreach ministry of the ten Episcopal Churches of the Lancaster Convocation. In Jesus' name and by God's grace, we seek to identify and respond to emergency needs in our local communities and, on occasion, in the wider church. ALERT's vision is to become aware of the suffering of our neighbors and to care so deeply for them that we give of ourselves and our resources. We offer our prayers and more. We become Christ's hands and heart, especially when devastating events occur.

We experienced such joy in our mission to New Jersey that the leaders from the ten Lancaster churches began meeting to discuss ways we might continue raising awareness and responding to our neighbors in great need or whose lives are disrupted by disaster or emergencies.

We found it challenging to maintain interest in these projects and to raise the funds to sustain our ministries, but we patiently

persevered. We believed that faithfulness in listening to God's call would yield great fruits, and so, one step at a time, ALERT's ministry is growing. Through generous donations from special concerts, worship services, Bonham Fund and Operation Understanding grants, and private contributors, ALERT has provided cleaning supplies, household tools, personal hygiene bags, extensive labor, space and money for the ALERT mission. By offering physical, financial, and spiritual assistance to our member churches and the local community, we have come to know each other better and appreciate the gifts we have and share as instruments of God's peace, love, and hope.

There are two ongoing ALERT ministries that I would like to invite you to support:

Lancaster Prison Bible Ministry.

To date, there have been over 4,000 bibles collected and distributed to our neighbors incarcerated in the Lancaster County prison. If you would like to help in this ministry, just bring bibles, new or used, to the parish and we will see that they get to the chaplains at the prison.

Refugee Resettlement through Church World Services:

With the help of local churches and volunteers, the CWS immigration and refugee office in Lancaster welcomes around 400 individuals each year to central Pennsylvania and aims to help the new arrivals adjust, become successful members of their local neighborhoods.

CWS of Lancaster serves the refugee and immigrant communities of central Pennsylvania through hard work and a long-term commitment of support. People who once had no hope are discovering the means of transforming their lives.

CWS of Lancaster works hand-in-hand with caring churches, organizations such as ALERT and individuals to provide help and homes to refugees, and work to build a community in the U.S. for uprooted people so that they can fashion a better future.

ALERT is currently working with CWS to support the resettlement of two families in Lancaster city, Sarah Alzubaydi, with two children, and Miriam Abdel Aziz with six children. ALERTS ministry in this resettlement has been focused in four specific areas: **Tutoring, Transportation, Financial Mentoring, and Material Donations.** Each focus area has an ALERT coordinator that works directly with CWS.

A list of needed items for the families includes:

Laundry detergent, Dishwashing liquid, Soap (bar & liquid), Shampoo, Windex, Cleanser, Sponges, Kleenex, Paper towels, Toilet paper, Napkins, Toothpaste, Toothbrushes, Dental floss, Diapers (size 3 or larger), Baby wipes, Deodorant, Body lotion, Lip balm, Feminine hygiene (tampons & sanitary pads).

Our faith tells us that all things work for good when the Holy Spirit instills in us wisdom and grace. God has accomplished all this by working in and through ALERT. If God is calling you to be part of this resettlement ministries in any way please let Canon Stephen or Deacon Hank know and we will connect you with the proper ALERT coordinator.

ALERT holds monthly meetings at Saint Edward's on the third Tuesday of every month at 7 PM and would welcome your attendance to learn more about this important Convocation minister.

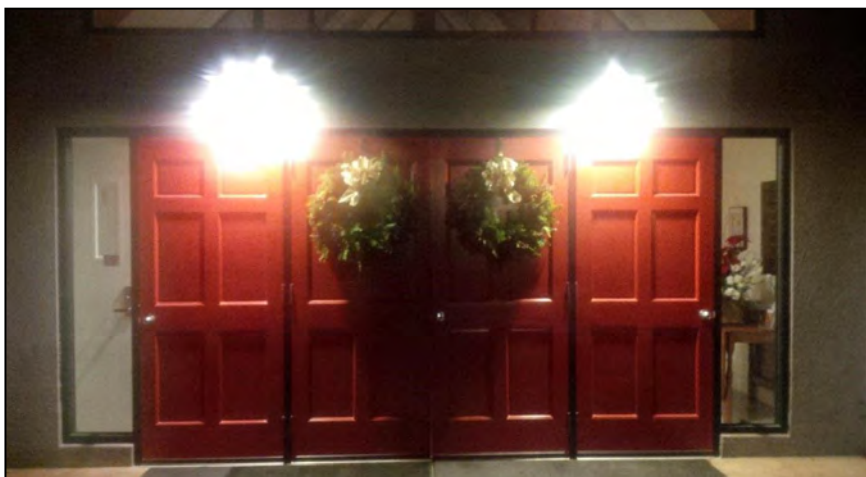
Include your news and announcements in the next Scepter.
Due date for February will be:
January 20th.
Send articles and announcements to:
hj_miller@outlook.com



www.sainteds.org

"Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that."
—Martin Luther King

St. Edward's Christmas Eve and Christmas Morning



Little Paul McLaughlin and Emily Casey made a good team lighting the Christmas wreath during the Christmas Day service.

Saturday Service

Polly Oliver Tennies



Dr. Polly Oliver Tennies graduated from Kennesaw State University on December 12, 2017 with a doctorate in Educational Leadership after successfully defending her dissertation, Leadership for Parent Involvement: A Case Study.

Dr. Tennies graduated from Hempfield High School and then Juniata College, Huntingdon, PA receiving a Bachelors Degree in Elementary and Early Childhood Education. She furthered her education with a Masters as a Reading Specialist from Loyola College in Baltimore and then a Leadership Certificate from the University of Georgia. She also earned her Educational Specialist degree at Kennesaw State University, GA in Educational Leadership. For the past seven years she has served as the Principal of Chestatee Elementary School, a Forsyth County School, in Gainesville, Georgia. This is her 31st year in public education.



**Third Saturday of
Each Month
5:30 PM
Next Services
January 20th
Rite II**

Praise Brand Provided all the Music for the 4:30 Service

Pictures by Dina Ishler and Rayelenn Casey



The praise band practicing and at 4:30 Christmas Eve Service. This is the very first time for the band doing all the music for the service.

Christmas Eve Services



The sights and sounds of Christmas Eve at St. Edward's were enjoyed by all.



ST. EDWARD'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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Lancaster, PA 17601

Phone 717-898-6276

Email: stedsoffice@comcast.net

www.sainteds.org

LOOK FOR US ON THE WEB!
www.sainteds.org

Staff

**The Reverend Canon Vestry
Stephen C. Casey, (year term ends)
Rector**

**The Rev. Hank
Morrow, Jr., Deacon**

**The Rev Eugene F.
LeFebvre, Honorary
Associate Priest**

**Michelle Bentley, Parish
Administrative Assistant**

Parish Office Hours

Monday, Wednesday, Thurs-
day, Friday: 9 AM – 3 PM

Tuesday: 9 AM – 1 PM

- ✦ **Camille Horine (2018)
Junior Warden**
- ✦ **Dina Ishler (2020)**
- ✦ **Herb Johnston(2018)**
- ✦ **Raymond H. Kiefer
(2019)**
- ✦ **Susan Landin (2020)
Secretary**
- ✦ **Brian Newsome
(2018) Sr. Warden**
- ✦ **Bill Swiernik (2020)**
- ✦ **Meredith Westgate
(2020)**

Worship Services

Sunday Services

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I (said)

10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II

Contemporary Service (2nd Sunday, Sept – May).

Wednesday

12:00 Noon – Holy Eucharist with healing

Saturday

5:30 Holy Eucharist Rite II (Third Saturday)