

January 2021



ST. EDWARD'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Scepter



Reflection From the Rector's Desk

**By The Rev. Dr.
Richard C. Bauer**

As many of you have already heard, I'll be starting off 2021 with a couple of extra letters in my official title; though my wife

Katrina has assured me that she won't be referring to me as "Doctor" at any point in this lifetime! But jokes aside, it does feel like a bit of a relief to have finished my study at Duke Divinity School and to have published my findings in a work entitled: *Investigating Contemplative Christian Spirituality as Christian Formation through a Process Hermeneutic: an analysis of History, Evolution, and Neuroscience in Christian Meditation*. While this sounds like a mouthful, in its essence, the research boils down to thinking about: how it is that we can better marry our heads and our hearts as a people

of faith in the modern world. How can we each come to internalize our discipleship to the degree that we recognize Christ at work in the mechanics of an ever-evolving Creation and develop deep and embodied senses of a God

and others. This gets to the heart of our biblical calls to learn how to see, think and feel with the eyes, mind, and heart of Christ as we grow in faith. The work offers a social and theological critique that addresses a failure in



“Investigating Contemplative Christian Spirituality as Christian Formation through a Process Hermeneutic: an analysis of History, Evolution, and Neuroscience in Christian Meditation

Christian formation, by addressing obstacles to intimacy with God created by common ecclesial pedagogical approaches that neglect the experiential and intellectual dimensions at play in how we come to believe and act in the world. In other words, the research looks to stimulate

present in all things?

This research argues that a “contemplative approach” to Christianity may serve to deepen our formation in a manner that helps in the difficult (and the essential work) of transforming the worldview through which we experience ourselves

conversation around how Christianity is lived out in the here-and-now, in a manner that takes into full account, scientific discovery about the nature and mechanics of the universe, and our increased understandings of how we come to hold the ideas that we

(Continued on page 2)

Inside this issue:

Vestry	3
Social Outreach	6
St. Edward's Band	8
In Memory Of	10-11
Gingerbread	18
Advent	19
Christmas Eve	20-21

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)

hold due to how the human brain has evolved to work.

Considering theologians in the early, medieval, and modern church who have cultivated approaches to experiential understandings of faith through meditation, the research argues that contemplative practice in dialogue with natural theology may provide a necessarily expanded vocabulary for the future vitality of Christian evangelism. In simpler terms, the “big” question asked is essentially this: If a person hasn’t been raised and conditioned to believe in the doctrines espoused by the Church and her creeds, why would Christianity ring “true” to an intelligent and informed person? Rooting its methodology in the “evolutionary theology” proposed by Pierre Teilhard de Chardin, in concert with findings at the intersection of religion and neuroscience, my research has led me to the conclusion that convincing biological and theological warrants exist for incorporating meditation into paradigms for Christian formation in response to this question.

For thousands of years, certainly more than double the length of our Christian history, human beings have intuitively experienced senses of connection to one another and to the transcendent. Meditation seems to have been, cross-culturally, a common denominator for heightening these senses of relational connectivity to other people and to the Divine. Interestingly enough, neuroscientists have now come to discover that meditation actually alters how we perceive ourselves and other people by activating newer, and higher, faculties in our brains that over-ride the baser instinctual complexes that evolved

to ensure our survival in the dangers of the wild. There was a time when our ancestors had to react on pre-conscious levels at rustling in the nearby bushes to prevent themselves from being eaten by wild animals. As such, we adapted to fight or to flee, to kill or to be killed, long before we learned how to trust others or to ponder the origin of the universe and our place in it.

Part of what has astounded me about this research, is just how much neuroscience has to teach us about why we experience fear of the “other” and egoic senses of separated “selves” due to over-activity in the lower, limbic systems of our reptilian brains. Embodied sense of connection to others, inner-peace, and open-mindedness appear to be faculties that we’ve only more recently developed as creatures. But through the evolution of our neocortical complexes, that have given rise to our capacities for consciousness, (and that eventually facilitated in us, a consciousness capable of reflecting back upon itself) we are capable of choosing how we perceive our lives in the world. And as the universe, like our minds, continues to expand outward in all directions, it is utterly profound to find rest in the miracle that we even exist. From a cosmic perspective: particles have converged, complexified, and given rise to consciousness over billions of years where there could have been nothing at all. It’s truly amazing that we’re here, that we’re able to reflect upon our very existences!

Even from the most critical of perspectives on Creation, it’s baffling to ponder all of the love and connectivity manifest when we bother to observe...and THAT is at the very root of a Christian worldview. There are logically sound warrants for hope and

expectation in what the future holds for us when we dare to pay attention to God’s handiwork. But we may need to put in some effort if we are to experience our lives and act in the world from out of such a point of view. Perhaps silence and contemplation are keys that can lead us to become more aware that: the Christian narrative of death and rebirth has been inscribed upon the laws that govern Creation. Maybe we can even learn how to honor our Lord’s advice to: “Be not afraid” when we perceive through a mind that comprehends a universe fully clothed in the stuff of God. May we learn how to trust in the goodness that is to come for us all.

Lovingly,

Father Rick+

Editor’s Note:

The building in the picture is **Duke University Chapel**. It is a chapel located at the center of the campus of Duke University in Durham, North Carolina. It is an ecumenical Christian chapel and the center of religion at Duke,

“Hermeneutic” definition: Investigating Contemplative Christian Spirituality as Christian Formation through a Process Hermeneutic: an analysis of History, Evolution, and Neuroscience in Christian Meditation.

January

Information

Parish Office Hours

Monday- Friday:
10AM – 4:30PM

Parish Administrative Assistant:
Michelle Bentley

Scepter

Production Staff:

H. J. “Mac” Miller



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) the thermostat is reset and the doors are locked.

By Meredith Aul Westgate
Senior Warden



January Scepter

Still knee-deep in Christmas cards and wrapping paper and still dwelling on the story of Mary, I find it hard to propel myself into January. Still, I don't think any of us will deeply miss the year 2020!

Looking back, I am very proud of all that was accomplished at St. Edward's last year. Father Rick jumped in feet first and, it seems, never stopped to catch his breath. Michelle, too, activated her reserves and kept going like the energizer bunny. Vestry and many parishioners stepped up to the plate, offering time, talent, and financial support. I'm sure I don't need to make a detailed list, so I will just mention the highlights – the Memorial Garden “makeover,” redesigned space for Wednesday noon services; new carpet in the sanctuary; a prayer corner... For the first time in two years, we did not need to discuss build-

ing “issues” at the December vestry meeting. In addition to improvements to our physical space, we adapted to Covid with livestreamed and recorded services, launched a Wednesday evening Bible study and Friday Lunch and Learn via Zoom. We continued our outreach projects, specifically supporting the Hempfield Food Pantry and the Jesse Tree project. Beyond all that, I think the most remarkable thing about 2020 was that we, as a congregation, managed to stay connected even though many of us have been unable to set foot in the church since last February. Father Rick looked out for us and we looked out for each other.

So, what did Vestry discuss at the December meeting? There were enough topics to keep us engaged for nearly three hours. Our expected deficit for 2021 is \$24,978. Vestry approved the draft budget with the addition of a line item for Father Rick's installation service, which is tentatively planned for April 21, 2021 depending on the status of Covid. The good news is that, as of our meeting on December 17, the church office had received 67 Stewardship pledges (up from 61 last year) totaling \$197,330, with an additional \$12,000 expected still to come in.

Representing the Finance Committee, Kevin Milligan and Mark Jakiel expressed concern about cash flow during these months of on-line only services. Thankfully, pledge payments are coming

in, but it is critical that everyone continues get them in on time.

The Jesse Tree project, spearheaded by Leslie Arnold, provided about 35 children from COBYS Family Services with pajamas, “fluffy” socks, and \$35 each in Amazon gift cards. Beth Lynch, Leslie, Kevin Milligan, and I wrapped the boxes assembly line style, one Sunday afternoon. Beth Lynch announced that we will resume collection of shoes for the Soles 4 Souls project February 14 through Good Friday.

Those of you who participated in Krist Kindling, please plan to attend our virtual “reveal” party on the evening of January 10. Please bring your stories and a snack and drink or dessert and coffee and join the fun on Zoom at 7 p.m. I will be sending out a link a few days prior to the event. If you did not participate, but would like to listen in and enjoy the fellowship, please let me know and I will mail you the link. All welcome!

Our next big event in the life of the church will be our annual meeting to be held via Zoom on or about the date of our February vestry meeting. If you have interest in serving on vestry, or, if you would like to nominate someone, (please ask them first), speak with Father Rick or any vestry member. There are a few requirements for eligibility.

Welcome 2021! The rolling out of the COVID vaccine gives us renewed hope in a better tomorrow. May it be a year of restoration and new beginnings.

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
- ★Benjamin Jenkins
- ★Drew Johnson
- ★Anthony Koser
- ★Alex Kube
- ★John Lewis

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



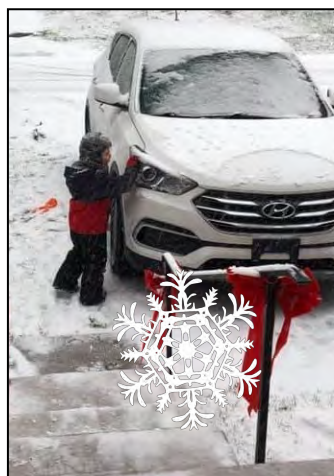
First Snow of the Season



The Bauers



Paul and Joe McLaughlin



A Christmas Birthday

Pictures by Dina Ishler



Pictured here with her mother Dina, Faith Ishler celebrated her 23rd birthday on the 23rd of December, 2020.





Cartoon posted by Hank Morrow on Facebook.

Puzzle!

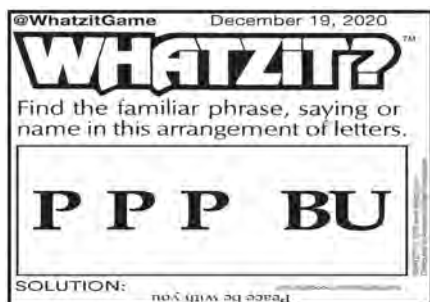
Complete each saying below. Then place the words from those blanks in the correct order to complete Proverbs 23:4.

- When the going gets tough, the tough _____ going.
- People who live in glass houses should _____ throw stones.
- If the shoe fits, _____ it.
- "It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is _____ to enter the kingdom of God."
- Good things come _____ those who wait.
- When in Rome, _____ as the Romans do.
- Don't wear _____ your welcome.
- If you want something done right, do it _____.

Write the unscrambled proverb here:

PROVERBS 23:4

Answer: Do not wear yourself out to get rich. Proverbs 23:4



Puzzle found by Julie Hoff in the December 20th Sunday LNP

A COLORFUL body

Melt crayons to show how the body of Christ works together.



What you need:

- Crayons
- Metal baking sheet
- Adult help
- Metal gingerbread man cookie cutter

What you do:

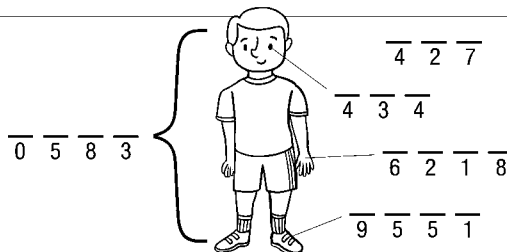
1. Remove labels and break crayons into 1-inch pieces.
2. Scatter pieces on the baking sheet, about two layers thick.
3. Bake for 10 minutes at 350 degrees until melted. Allow to cool 15 minutes.
4. When melted crayons are the consistency of playdough, press the cookie cutter through them (while still on pan).
5. Cool the pan in freezer for 15 minutes until crayons are hardened.
6. Remove from pan and break apart the shapes.

PUZZLE

WORKING IN UNISON

Just as body parts work in unison, the church — the body of Christ — is to work together for God's purposes.

Directions: Fill in the letters for each body part. Add up each part's number total, and use those totals to complete the Bible passage.



Now if the _____ should say, "Because I am not a _____, I do not belong to the _____," ... And if the _____ should say, "Because I am not an _____, I do not belong to the _____," it would not for that reason stop being part of the _____. If the whole _____ were an _____, where would the sense of hearing be? If the whole _____ were an _____, where would the sense of smell be? ... As it is, there are many parts, but one _____.

1 CORINTHIANS 12:15-17, 20, NIV

Answer: body = 16, eye = 16, ear = 13, hand = 13, foot = 20



Bible Quiz

In the story of the Magi, what word is used to give a sense of Jesus' age when the wise men visited? What does it tell us?

1. "baby"; Jesus was still a newborn in a manger
2. "child"; when the wise men visited, Jesus had grown past infancy
3. "youth"; Jesus was probably between 10 and 14
4. No word is used to suggest Jesus' age at the time of the wise men's visit.



Answers INSIDE

Answer: B (See Matthew 2:1-12.)

Social Outreach

By Beth Lynch

Dear St. Edward's Parishioners,

I would like to thank everyone in the parish. Please take the time to look in the mirror and smile because you have achieved remarkable things during 2020. The Hempfield Pantry has received generous food and monetary donations. The children at Coby's will have a Holiday Season knowing there are people that care. Collaborating with St. John's, individuals in underdeveloped countries received shoes to wear or they learned a trade by repairing shoes. The children at Landisville Primary Center have school supplies for learning.

In what many people call Covid time St. Edward's prospered in their generosity to those less fortunate. I personally am overwhelmed and proud to be a fellow parishioner with all of you. I would be remiss if I did not thank the Social Outreach Committee for all their work – Leslie Arnold, Dina and Patrick Ishler, Bruce Lynch, Ellen and Kevin Milligan, and Peg Reilly.

There is a quote from a man that inspired me to work and try to make the world a better place for all: "To know is to care, to care is to act, to act is to make a difference." – Harry Chapin.

Sincerely,

Beth Lynch

Social Outreach Committee



HAFP Food Wish List for January:

Spam
Prune juice
Chicken and beef broth
Large peanut butter
Large jelly
2 lb. packs of rice
Canned pears
Instant and regular oatmeal
Cream of celery soup
Cream of chicken soup
Boxed pastas (ziti, rotini etc.)
Canned tomatoes
Pancake syrup
Canned fruit cocktail



Soles 4 Souls

St. Edward's will be participating in a shoe drive with St. John's during the 2021 Lenten Season. Starting Ash Wednesday (February 17th) through Palm Sunday (March 28th) parishioners are invited to donate used shoes. The shoes can be lightly worn to falling apart. There will be a collection center in the church under the social outreach bulletin. Any shoes with laces should be tied together before placing in the collection box. "At Soles4Souls, we turn unwanted shoes into an opportunity, by keeping them from going to waste and putting them to good use - providing relief, creating jobs and empowering people to break the cycle of poverty."



January

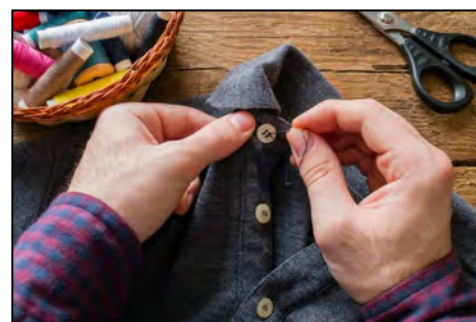
Social Outreach



Clothing Repairs



The Social Outreach Committee is offering to assist parishioners with a clothing repair service. If you need buttons replaced or a hem fixed or a patch ironed on let us help, etc. Place your clothing items in a bag and a note with your name and repair requests and place in the narthex in the marked basket. You will be notified when the repairs are complete.



Social Outreach



Pictures by Beth Lynch

By Leslie Arnold

The giving spirit abounded with donations to support the annual Jesse Tree project sponsored by St. Edward's.

No matter the cancellations of many an event this season, this annual community outreach program was a success. We were able to purchase pajamas, socks, and gift cards for the neediest children served by Lancaster County Children and Youth Social Service Agency (COBYS). These gift selections were recommended by the staff at COBYS, after we decided to collect monetary donations rather than assign individual children to participating parishioners.

Nearly 35 members of the congregation contributed to the project, and members of the Social Outreach mission met one afternoon to wrap the special gifts.

Looking forward to next year, we have new ideas already to improve the shopping experience for all.

Thank you to all.

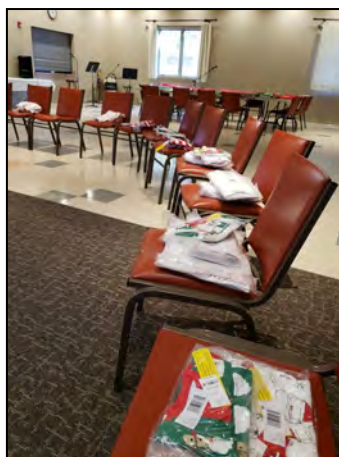
A quick course on how to wrap 30+ presents in 2 hrs. St. Edward's annual Jesse Tree giving to COBYS.



1st layout boxes



Then add tissue paper



Sort gifts by size



Box the gifts



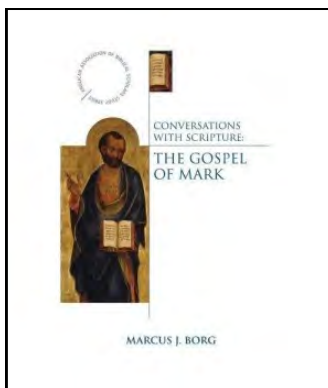
Label



Wrap



Ready to give. Thank you to all who made this possible.



By Bill and Yvonne Gasperetti

Our next session will begin on Wednesday January 13, 2021 from 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM and continue on every Wednesday thereafter. The focus for this session will be on the Gospel of Mark from an Anglican/Episcopal perspective. Our Study Guide will be:

Borg, Marcus (2019), *Conversations with Scripture – The Gospel of Mark (Anglican Association of Biblical Scholars Study)*

This study is available from various sources with paperback editions costing from about \$18.00 to \$22.95 and digital editions in the \$9.99 to \$11.99 range. The following are some of the links:

Amazon (www.amazon.com) \$18.00 pa-

perback; \$11.99 Kindle

Logos www.logos.com paperback;\$11.99 digital

Barnes & Noble
www.barnesandnoble.com \$18.95 paperback; \$11.99 digital

Christian Book Store
(www.christianbook.com) \$22.95 paperback; \$ 9.99 EBook

If you are interested in joining the Group please email Yvonne Gasperetti at ygasperetti@gmail.com or Bill Gasperetti at bgasperetti@att.net; home telephone (717) 459-3222.

We look forward to hearing from you.



It's the season for giving! A special SHOUT OUT to the Bible Study group at St. Edward's Episcopal Church for coordinating this wonderful expression of care for our residents. This group went together and purchased warm, fleecy socks for each of our residents- complete with medical grade grippers on the bottom of each sock! These socks are so cool and a great gift that will add some Christmas cheer for our seniors. Thank you for taking the time to share a blessing with us! Shhhhhh, don't tell our residents, it's a surprise for the week of Christmas.

Kris Wilson
Director of Advancement

St. Edward's Band



Father Rick, Randy Westgate, Mike Freshwater, and Jamie Alton practice for the Diocesan Drive-in Christmas service offerings that were to be held December 19-20. Unfortunately, a December snow storm prevented the services from happening, but Father Rick saw a great opportunity to record their music in a setting to use for our January 3rd Liturgy of the Word.

Lunch and Learn

Friday Lunch & Learn: 12 Noon – 1 PM via Zoom

Please join us for this informative and spiritual time together. Attendance at every session is not required. If you would like to join and need a copy of *Walk In Love*, please contact the parish office.

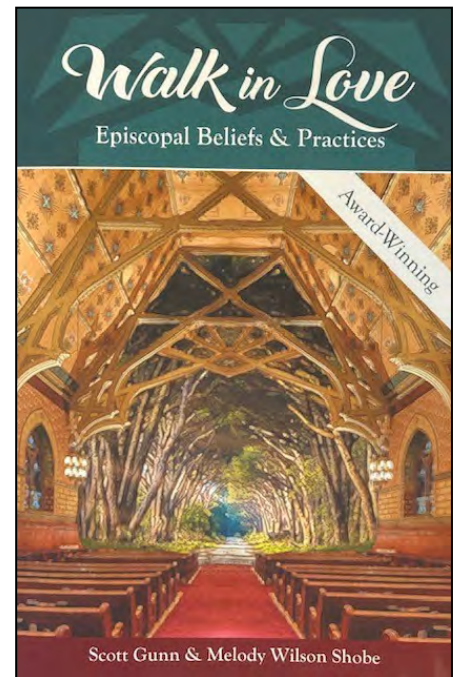
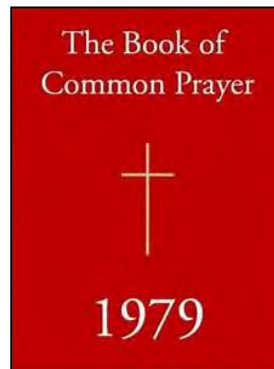
Remember to take some time to devote to exploring and making notations on the handout that Bob has supplied so that we may engage in our spiritual formation together, sharing our insights, thoughts, and questions.

With Peace,

We encourage you to have your Book of Common Prayer for each session and the text, *Walk In Love* is optional. If you do not have a copy of the BCP on hand, this link will give you the downloadable pdf. https://sainteds.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/book_of_common_prayer.pdf

Each week, we will provide a hand out in the Monday emails that you can download and review prior to the Friday session.

Father Rick, Bob Mosebach, and Wanda Stoltzfus



At a recent session Fr. Rick discussed the Eucharist.



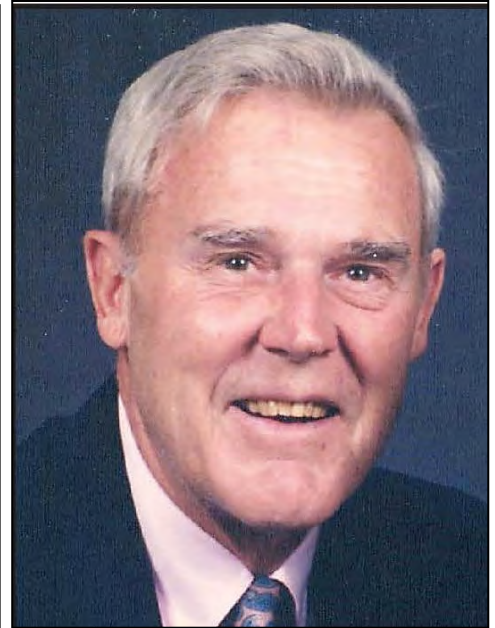
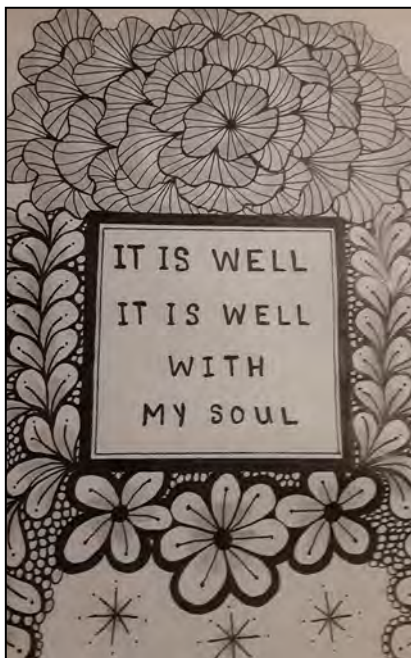
Artwork submitted by a parishioner as: A tribute to God's faithfulness during a difficult spiritual journey.

Collect 17. For Church Musicians and Artists

O God, whom saints and angels delight to worship in heaven: Be ever present with your servants who seek through art and music to perfect the praises offered by your people on earth; and grant to them even now glimpses of your beauty, and make them worthy at length to behold it unveiled for evermore; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Page 819 in The Book of Common Prayer



We pray for the family of Harry West, Harry passed away in Winston-Salem, NC where he lived near his daughter, Wendy Martin. Harry and Barbara West were long-time members of St. Edward's and were faithful parishioners attending the Rite II and Contemporary services each Sunday. Barbara passed away last year and is interred in our Memorial Garden. Harry will also be interred in our Memorial Garden, next to his beloved Barbara.

Barbara F. West, 87, entered into heaven on November 25, 2019 at the Mennonite Home Communities in Lancaster. Born in Philadelphia, she was the daughter of the late Ruth and Norman H. Fisler.

Barbara was the wife of F. Harry West with whom she celebrated 64 years of marriage. In addition to her husband, she is survived by two children; David K. West, Winston-Salem, NC, and Wendy W. Martin, wife of Dale Martin, Winston-Salem, NC, as well as three grandchildren; Melissa, Diana and Mary. She was preceded in death by her sister Pat Weinstein.

Barbara graduated from Cheltenham High School and West Chester University before teaching and substitute teaching in elementary school for many years. She enjoyed swimming, sewing, traveling, and spending time with family. After retirement, she and Harry spent part of the year in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida before moving to Woodcrest Villa in 2006. She was a member of St. Edwards Episcopal Church.

Barbara was laid to rest in a private family ceremony at St. Edwards Episcopal Church memorial gardens.

From Charles E. Snyder Funeral Home Obituary

Frank Harry West, age 92, entered into heaven on December 12th, 2020 in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. He was born in Philadelphia, the son of the late Lillian Mae Miller and Harry West, and stepson of Frank L. Miller.

Harry graduated from Central High School in Philadelphia, served in the Navy for two years, and was a graduate of West Chester University with a Master's in Education from Temple University. He worked in education for 37 years, serving as principal of Donegal High School before his retirement in 1986. He was a lifetime member of Mitchell Lodge 296, Jenkintown, Philadelphia and Lu Lu Temple Shrine, and was a member of St. Edward's Episcopal Church.

Harry enjoyed all sports, traveling, and spending time with family. He will be missed by all who knew him.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to St. Edward's Episcopal Church, 2453 Harrisburg Pike, Lancaster, PA 17601. To send the family an on-line condolence, please visit www.salemfh.com.

From Lancaster LNP 12/20/2020 Obituary



In our continuing season of Covidtide, while we cannot meet for in-person ministry, we continue to collect recipes and artwork for this project, staying connected to each other, while answering our call to raise funds in support of the St. Edward's social outreach ministry initiatives.

We continue to request your favorite recipe(s), or just your artistry, your creativity, or a favorite prayer, meditation, or even a video you created on YouTube.

The book will be designed in a digital format (with printable options). Once the cookbook is compiled, we will work for ways to share and request a suggested donation.

St. Edward's Episcopal Church

Cookbook 2021

Digital & Printable

Submit your favorite recipes

Artistic Submissions, too!



ST. EDWARD'S
EPISCOPAL
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**ST. EDWARD'S
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JOIN US, VIA
ZOOM, FOR
PRAYER &
SPIRITUAL
FORMATION
WINTER 2021

717.898.6276
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info@sainteds.org

Faith

Praying Morning and Evening Prayer using the 1979 *Book of Common Prayer*: January 28th, February 4th, February 11th from 7:00-8:30 PM Resources needed: 1979 *Book of Common Prayer* and a Bible (your choice of translation), Episcopal Church Calendar (contact parish office). Contact Br. David Rutledge for more information & to register, by 01/25: drutledge1225@gmail.com Zoom meeting details will be in weekly emails and posted on our web site.

Contemporary Bible Study: Wednesday Evenings starting January 13th from 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM The focus for this session will be on the Gospel of Mark from an Anglican/Episcopal perspective. Our Study Guide will be: Borg, Marcus (2019), *Conversations with Scripture – The Gospel of Mark* (Anglican Association of Biblical Scholars Study). Please email Yvonne Gasperetti at ygasperetti@gmail.com or Bill Gasperetti at bgasperetti@att.net or call us at 717.459.3222.

Lunch & Learn: Episcopal Beliefs and Practices: Fridays from 12 Noon – 1 PM. Join Father Rick and Bob Mosebach as we continue exploring our Episcopal Beliefs and Practices with the text, *Walk in Love* by Scott Gunn and Melody Wilson Shobe, as well as the Book of Common Prayer and additional study guides. Contact the parish office for further information. Zoom meeting details will be in weekly emails and posted on our web site.

Friday Evening Prayer: Each Friday at 7:00 PM. This is a wonderful way to peacefully end our week and is led by Patrick Ishler. Join us on Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86327105082> Join Code: 863 2710 5082

Taize Service, First Saturday of each month at 5:00 PM: Members of St. Edward's are cordially invited to join St. Luke's for our Zoom Taize service. A service of deep prayer and worship, sacred darkness, and the singing of chants in candlelight. Prepare by lighting some candles. Connect to the service: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84847298680> Contact St. Luke's to let them know you will attend: stlukesmountjoy@gmail.com for entry into secure waiting room.

Celebration for the Life of Rose Dixon December 5th



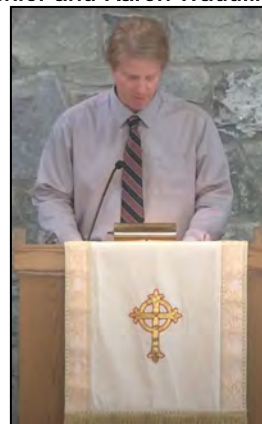
Service Bulletin



Patrick Ishler and Karen Waddill



Cheryl Shearer



Lamar Dixon



Clinton Dixon



Bob Mosebach

Celebration
of Life



Coffee Hour



Join us for our Virtual Coffee Hour every Sunday, after the 10 AM service, on Zoom, from 11:00 - 11:40 AM. The join code and pass code are in your Saturday email message. Our coffee hours, hosted by Christina McLaughlin, are a great way to meet fellow parishioners, share in fellowship, and serve as our social outreach to each other, keeping the fabric of our parish life strong as we continue to weather this Covidtide into the new year. Stay for the entire 40 minutes or just drop in to say hello! All are welcome! Check Saturday's e-mail for zoom codes.



Coffee group posts Christmas greetings. These and all submitted greetings can be seen on St. Edward's Virtual Christmas card at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MVpzOne0aLA&t=3s>

Thank You



To Father Rick, Vestry, Parishioners & friends,

A most heartfelt "thank you" to you all for your generosity, in gifts and such lovely notes, during this Christmastide and throughout this year. Your faithfulness to our parish community; your commitment to our ministries; and your support in our most important initiatives that our parish leadership has so carefully, and lovingly, planned and completed this year have been inspirational to me. It is your outpouring of love that makes my ministry as joyful and fulfilling as it can possibly be, each and every day.

With gratitude, peace, and love,
Michelle

Gaudete Sunday

The Third Sunday of Advent is sometimes called "Gaudete Sunday." The name comes from the Latin word "Gaudete", meaning rejoice which is the first word of the Latin introit for the service.

On Gaudete Sunday rose-colored vestments may be worn instead of violet (or instead of deep blue, in some Anglican and Lutheran traditions), which is otherwise prescribed for every day in the season of Advent. Gaudete Sunday was also known as "Rose Sunday".

In churches that have an Advent wreath, the rose-colored candle is lit in addition to two of the violet- or blue-colored candles, which represent the first two Sundays of Advent. . Purple (or blue) is the traditional color for Advent, representing blood and repentance. But on Gaudete Sunday, we take away a little of the penitential tone of the rest of Advent, we "lighten up" for a moment of rejoicing in anticipation of Jesus' arrival. Thus the lighter rose color of

the candle.

Despite the otherwise somber readings of the season of Advent, which has as a secondary theme the need for penitence, the readings on the third Sunday emphasize the joyous anticipation of the Lord's coming



Memorial Garden

Pictures by Mary Snyder and Michelle Bentley



During the Christmas season, many stop by to remember their loved ones interred in our beautiful Memorial Garden. Our most recent update is that our granite monument stone has arrived in Lancaster County from the quarry in Vermont. We will be working to install the base, and complete the inscription and plaque installation on the main piece prior to installation.



Prayer

Waiting until God is heard

We're often taught that prayer is speaking to God. And of course, that's part of it. It's good to pray for the well-being and needs of others — even Jesus prayed for his disciples. It's okay to pray for our own growth in faith and love. It's a wonderful, powerful thing, modeled especially by the Psalmists, to give God thanks and praise. And God welcomes our cries of pain and sorrow, offering the Spirit's help when words fail us (Romans 8:26).

But through the ages, many deeply faithful followers of Christ have practiced contemplative prayer, centering prayer and other forms of stillness before God. Danish theologian Søren Kierkegaard (1813-1855) expressed it this way: "To pray does not mean to listen to oneself speaking. Prayer involves becoming silent, and being silent, and waiting until God is heard."

"For last year's words
belong to last year's
language and next
year's words await
another voice."

—T.S. Eliot.

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

hj_miller@outlook.com



Prayer Corner



St. Edward's has a prayer corner in our sanctuary! During the month of December, Father Rick, with the assistance of Michelle, created a new contemplative space in our sanctuary. Overlooking the Memorial Garden, we now have a wonderful private interior space to pray, meditate, and remember our loved ones with the lighting of a candle. In addition to the prayer candles, the space is adorned by a lovely framed icon of the Virgin Mary and brass cross, each placed on their own pedestals flanking the votive candle stand. We look forward to the day where this space will be available to everyone, once we are able to worship in-person. Through generous donations, it is our joy to be able to continue to create new spaces for our parish com-

munity that allow us to gather, in solitude, and togetherness, in prayer. As we offer this first Scepter edition for 2021, on January 1st, we offer this Collect from the BCP, page 213:

The Holy Name January 1

Eternal Father, you gave to your incarnate Son the holy name of Jesus to be the sign of our salvation: Plant in every heart, we pray, the love of him who is the Savior of the world, our Lord Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting.

Amen.



Thank You

thank you

With heartfelt gratitude we wish to Thank all who gave to St. Edwards and Hospice of Lancaster County in memory of Andrew Campbell, my life partner who went to be with the Lord on November 20 th.

All the condolence cards and special messages will forever be held in our hearts.

To Father Rick and Michelle, we will forever hold close to our heart your prayers and comfort throughout our journey as Andrew went to be with the Lord.

May 2021 bring the world Peace and Blessings.

Bonnie C. Miller



<https://sainteds.org/>



Friday Evening Prayer

Daily Evening Prayer: Rite Two (BCP, p.115)

Seek him who made the Pleiades and Orion, and turns deep darkness into the morning, and darkens the day into night, who calls for the waters of the sea and pours them out upon the surface of the earth: The Lord is his name. Amos 5:8

The following Confession of Sin may then be said

Confession of Sin

The Officiant says to the people

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Officiant and People together, all kneeling

Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.



We invite you to Evening Prayer Friday evening at 7:00 PM. This is a wonderful way to peacefully end our week and is led by Patrick Ishler. Join on Zoom or Facebook live.

Welcome Ministry



All are welcome to join in our online programs, please see our semi-daily email for information. If you are not on our email list, please call the office at 717-898-6276 or email stedsoffice@comcast.net to be put on the list.

By Mary Snyder

Welcome 2021! With a new year comes new hope. We have had many transitions in the past year at St. Edwards and beyond. The coming year holds promise of new beginnings and moving forward as the dust settles. While we are meeting virtually, it is important to stay connected as much as possible. We hope that our virtual presence will be able to allow us to stay connected and reach out to as many as possible.

There are several ways to meet others and stay connected during this time. Two opportunities happening every Friday include our Lunch and Learn from 12:00-1:00 p.m., where we are learning about the Episcopal Book of Common Prayer (BCP), and the Friday Evening Prayer at 7:00 p.m. Also, there is a virtual coffee hour following our 10:00 a.m. Sunday service each week.

Looking forward to "seeing" everyone and making new friends in 2021!

Welcome to all visitors attending virtually. We are happy you have chosen to spend time with us.



Gingerbread Architecture

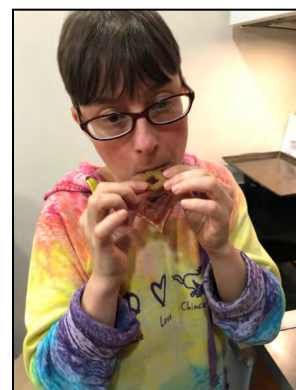
Pictures by Mary Snyder



December 2018 the Sunday school created a gingerbread version of St. Edward's, including pretzel and gum drop pews.



Christmas day 2020, Mary Snyder and Jodi Good decided to try their hand at building gingerbread buildings. They began by making the dough, rolling it, then cutting the parts. Next came making the cement and dipping the edges of the pieces .



Using the melted sugar "cement" they constructed their buildings.

Jodi recycled the unused "lumber".



Finally, cover the cemented joints with decorative frosting and add the finishing details.

It took all day, but Mary and Jodi created a complete village. The center island is a cutting board, made by Bradley Mattson and donated to the recent auction. They gave away all but one house. Liz and Buddy were the lucky recipients of one the finished masterpieces.

The Four Sundays of Advent



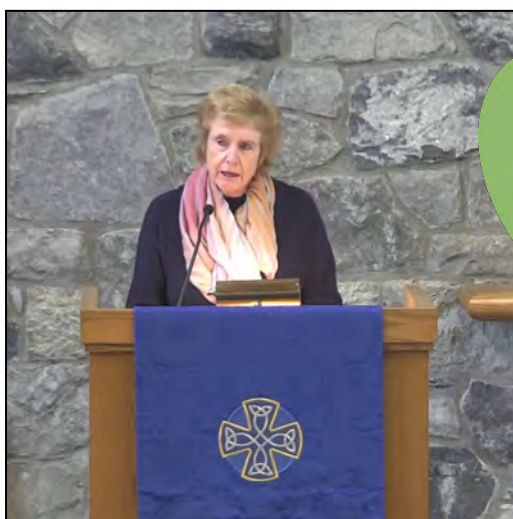
Patrick Ishler and Karen Waddill add so much to each service



Fr. Rick and the Sarum blue vestments and altar hangings



Advent wreath weeks one through four



Leslie Arnold read week 3



Dina Ishler preached week 2



Week 4 had a variety of music offerings



Mary, Did You Know?

Dr. Randy Westgate, Mike Freshwater & Father Rick



Week 4 Mary was the focus of the homily

Christmas Eve



ST. EDWARD'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
LANCASTER, PENNSYLVANIA

The Reverend Dr. Richard C. Bauer, Rector



Christmas Eve Service
December 24, 2020
8:00 p.m.



Christmas Eve



Tonna Dieter,
Violin



St. Edward's Episcopal Church

2453 Harrisburg Pike

Phone 717-898-6276

Email: stedsoffice@comcast.net

www.sainteds.org

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

Staff

The Rev. Dr. Rick Bauer,
Rector

Michelle Bentley, Parish
Administrative Assistant

Patrick Ishler,
Choir Director

Karen E. Waddill,
Organist & Pianist

Elizabeth Yeager, Nursery

Parish Office Hours

Monday-Friday:
10 AM – 4:30PM

Vestry (year term ends)

- ✦ **Catherine Donohue**
(2023)
- ✦ **Michael Freshwater**
(2021) Secretary
- ✦ **Julie Hoff (2022) Jr.**
Warden
- ✦ **Mark Jakiel (2021)**
- ✦ **Herb Johnston (2021)**
- ✦ **Ginny Kloepping**
(2023)
- ✦ **Beth Lynch (2023)**
- ✦ **Ellen Milligan (2022)**
- ✦ **Meredith Westgate**
(2021) Sr. Warden

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

