

February/March 2021



ST. EDWARD'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Scepter



Reflection From the Rector's Desk

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

He has told you, O mortal what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God? (Micah 6:8)

A Lenten Reflection on 'Faith in Action'

God is most certainly great...and God is undoubtedly good! And yet, it's hard for any of us to fully reconcile our beliefs in the benevolent grace of our Lord in the midst of suffering. We tremble in the knowledge that the forces at work in our natural order can swallow and drown us, that famine or disease can stop us short in the midst of all our progress. When we ponder the movements that have steered human history, it can seem as if our species has an irredeemably selfish appetite for power and greed. Like Jesus crying out, feeling forsaken on the cross, we often wonder where God is in our moments of greatest need. What are we to make of our lot? When addressing the evils of our world, systematic theologians either

tend to argue that God has a master plan and doesn't act in the world, or (more satisfyingly) that people must assume an active role in helping God's plan to unfold if His will is to be done. This understanding of God in terms of a 'Process Theology', is one wherein we exercise a free will that ei-

a life after death, Rauschenbusch (like the Process theologians) suggests that following in the footsteps of Jesus requires that we commit ourselves to actively co-creating the Kingdom of God in the societies in which we live, right now. The author asserts that "all human goodness must be social goodness" and that Jesus essentially sought to historically re-establish the righteousness of his people by refocusing their attention on the 'true' meaning of the Mosaic Law and exposing the folly of their highly ritualized religious practices. Rauschenbusch is highly critical of Christian ceremonial systems for squandering religious impulses on ritual and suggests that: "The force that

faith
in ACTION
BE THE CHURCH

ther promotes the nature of God's divine benevolence or one that acquiesces to evil and seeks to satisfy our selfish impulses.

In his seminal work *Christianity and the Social Crisis*, Walter Rauschenbusch contends that the central meaning of Jesus' teachings, are social in nature. While many theologians and believers have historically placed a great deal of importance on individual redemption and the promise of

would have been competent to "seek justice and relieve the oppressed" has been consumed in weaving the tinsel fringes for the garment of religion." From this perspective, the call that Jesus echoes from Micah 6:8 has been largely lost to a Christianity that is consumed with ceremony, personal salvation, and the payoff in a life to come. But while the Kingdom of God is frequently envisioned in

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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)

other-worldly terms, we are reminded of Jesus' assertion in Luke's Gospel that **"It is already here, right in the midst of you."** (Luke 17:21) By relegating the Kingdom to a future ethereal plane, perhaps we, the Church itself, help to diminish the importance for social justice in the lives we currently live. Rauschenbusch writes: "On the supposition of a future life we can adjourn the manifest inequities of this life to the hereafter and trust that good and evil will yet be balanced justly when time and eternity are put together."³ However, if we are to remember the voices of the Hebrew Prophets, we will be quick to remind ourselves of the very real need to love and serve others (and not ourselves) in this world if we are to be right with God.

But many of us in America firmly believe that we are going to 'go' to heaven just because we've confessed with our lips that Jesus is the Son of God. In what some have coined 'cheap grace,' there is a very real debate in American Christianity which asserts that personal belief amounts to salvation and that good works are irrelevant in the face of God's grace. But perhaps we're faithful to ask ourselves: How can such an outlook even begin to respond to even the most basic interpretation of Jesus' message? In Matthew, Jesus simplifies the Law and articulates the active nature of Godly living: "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets." (Matthew 22:37-40)

In his book *Doing Justice*, Dennis Jacobsen writes that "the world as it is co-opts religion for its own purposes."⁴ Indeed, religion is a powerful tool for maintaining the status quo and is particularly effective in doing so when people believe that their suffering in this life will actually benefit them in the world to come. This 'theodicy of compensation' has marked the short and brutish lives of many humble believers over the past two thousand years. But Jacobsen asserts that religion ought to be responding to the injustices of this world in such a way that points society toward justice. The author poignantly articulates the sad disparity between the world as it should be and the world as it is, in a conversation that identifies the complicity of Christian communities that are afflicted with 'pseudo-innocence.' Jacobsen argues that: "pseudo-innocence lacks that courage to see the world as it is (and) imagines that the world is essentially good, that war is waged for moral purpose, that race relations will be transformed through friendliness. Pseudo-innocence is undaunted in its cheery approach to relationship and bewildered and useless when it comes to systemic injustice. Martin Luther King, Jr. with reference to Paul Tillich observed that although power without love is tyranny, love without power is sentimentality. Sentimentality is the face of pseudo-innocence."⁵ Along these lines, merely feeling bad for those who suffer injustice as a moniker of personal morality has no real place in the social gospel. Sentimentality lacks real purpose because it does nothing for those who are suffering. Placing a coat on the shoulders of a shivering man is exponentially more meaningful than feeling bad for his condition.

Much of our Christian sympathy is cloaked in 'pseudo-innocence' that takes

the form of well-articulated prayers recited by well-meaning (but socially inactive) believers. But, while we pray for the widowed, orphaned, the sick and suffering and those in prison; are we merely wearing masks of piety while enjoying our privilege and power? Jacobsen adds an important additional insight to this discussion in his distinction between 'do-gooders' and 'doers of good.' The author notes that even well-intended acts of Christian charity can perpetuate unjust structures of power, where the giver of charity exercises a position of superiority over the recipient of charity. He writes: "The works of mercy can degenerate into merciless works when wrought, not by the doer of good, but by a do-gooder. The do-gooder operates out of condescension. The do-gooder is always "for" the other and not "with" the other. The do-gooder seeks to help while secretly despising the one who is helped. The do-gooder needs the powerlessness of the other in order to feel powerful. The do-gooder basks in the gratitude of those who are helped. The do-gooder needs to be needed."⁶ In this way, churches and individuals may participate in outreach and advocacy on many levels, while never entering the trenches where the needy reside. Accepting Jacobsen's premise means that living into the work that Jesus has called us to do requires far more than even acting on behalf of others...we must instead identify and share in the experience of 'the other' in equal relationship. To do this whole-heartedly, is to cast away all sense of hierarchy and to enter all relationships in parity as brothers and sisters. For many do-gooder Christians, acquiescing to an equal footing with the poor, the imprisoned or the infirmed is not a call to be answered.

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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



We lost our beloved Father Stephen to Covid in mid-January and, for me, most of the rest of the month remains in a fog. Many parishioners attended the live streamed memorial service on January 30th.

Vestry met a week later than usual to attend to business. Financially, we did quite well in January. At \$21,462 the income was about \$2,000 less than the budgeted amount while our actual expenses lined up almost exactly with the budgeted amount. Some money was saved by having only half the parking lot ploughed for the mid-December snowfall since the staff and Monday's NA meeting need less parking area while the building is not otherwise in use. We await forgiveness of the \$30,000 PPP loan, which, needless to say, is a significant financial support.

Vestry approved an expenditure of \$350

from Altar Guild's budget to purchase a credence table, a new paschal candle, and a brass follower for the paschal candle to be used for Father Stephen's service and in the future.

Social Outreach (soon to be called Faith in Action) delivered a carload of food and a check for \$2500 to the Hempfield Area Food Pantry. Beth Lynch announced a plan to again join St. John's Lancaster in collecting used shoes for the Soles 4 Souls project during Lent. There are boxes available in the church for donations.

A concern was raised about spam blocking programs that may be preventing some parishioners from getting church mailings. Father Rick offered to investigate ways to make mass mailings less susceptible to spam blocking programs. If you are not receiving regular emails from the church office, please contact Michelle.

Bob Mosebach assisted Father Rick in creating a flow chart of active programs at St. Edward's to provide an overview of ministries and activities. Leslie Arnold is working with Father Rick to provide Christian formation to youth with on-line lessons and a Lenten Gratitude journal for children, and to plan for Sunday School programs when we are able to return to in-person services.

In the weeks prior to the February meeting, St. Edward's officially became recognized as a parish in the Diocese of Central PA; and, through the efforts of Father Rick and our attorney, St. Ed-

ward's has officially incorporated. Working closely with the diocese, Father Rick also negotiated the transfer of the deed to the property from the diocese to our parish.

A committee consisting of Kevin Milligan, Herb Johnston, Mike Freshwater and myself met in the fall to update the terms of the Rector's Equity Fund (formerly Vicar's Equity Fund). The fund, established years ago by a small group of parishioners to provide a vicar with an interest-free loan to purchase a home, has been expanded to include moving and home renovation expenses. The new document, prepared by Kevin, was approved by vestry.

Father Rick reported that 150-200 people are attending on-line services and 25 new members have joined the church (rather impressive without in-person worship)! Highlights of the 2020 parochial report include our ability to live stream services, the acquisition of new technology (cameras and sound equipment), and collaboration with other parishes. Community service projects continue through the generosity of all of you.

While the Casey family has requested memorial contributions in Stephen's name to be donated to St. Gregory's Abbey in Michigan, a place near and dear to Stephen's heart, several people have expressed a desire to donate to a fund that will provide a lasting legacy

(Continued on page 12)

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



Krist Kindle Reveal

Pictures by Rayelenn Casey and Zoom

KK trivia quiz

The big reveal was held Sunday evening Jan. 10th. Mary, Jodie and Beth Hake won the prize for having the most correct answers. How would you do?

Krist Kindle is a tradition that originally comes from what country?

What is the total number of households that participated this year?

What is the largest number of families that ever participated in the same year?

One year, a Krist Kindling dinner was inadvertently scheduled on the same night as another important event in January that caused great irritation with at least one participant. What event was it?

I am going to tell you four things that happened during Krist Kindling deliveries. Three are true. Which one was NOT true?

A. Cherry pie was eaten by an animal that left the cherry skins strewn across the front yard.

B. Someone had to hide behind a bush for 20 minutes before dropping off the goods while the receiver stood on the front porch perusing the moon

C. Someone delivered the gift to the wrong house and the intended recipient marched to the home down the street and asked for it back.

D. Someone's car broke down on the way to Krist Kindle and the AAA tow truck took the person to deliver the gift.

6. How many of the families visited this year received something edible all three weeks?

7. Westgates participated in Krist Kindling every year except for the first year. Who has participated the next longest? (hint: they did not participate this year because of Covid?)

8. What is the first name of the person who started this tradition? (hint: It is the same name as a place that has been very much in the news) ...

9. Answer either question correctly – Of those present tonight, who lives closest to the church? Who lives farthest from the church?

10. Name three former clergy, lay ministers, or interns that have participated in Krist Kindling

BONUS: What was the first year of Krist Kindling at St. Edward's? (2 point bonus)

Answers

1. Germany

2. 19

3. (36 in 1999)

4. Super Bowl (The person who bitterly complained was a Steeler's fan and the Steelers were in the Super Bowl. He came to the dinner but he sat in his car to listen to the game)

5. D

6. 3

7. Dorris Smith

8. Georgia

9. Closest: Fr. Rick

Furthest: Hakes

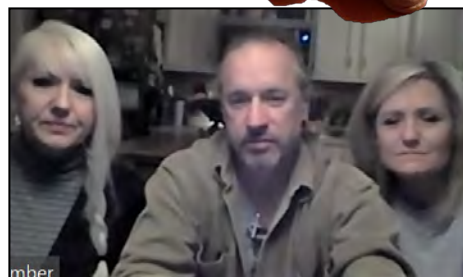
10. Aaron Zull, Hank Morrow, Peg Custer, Stephen Casey, Allison Carnahan, Charlotte Turner
Bonus: 1988

Mary and Beth won this Kris Kringle ornament



Meredith Organized the project and MC'd the Reveal

A most enjoyable part of the evening was the recounting of the adventures experienced as the participants tried to keep their identity secret during delivery to the recipients.



Many of the stories involved Rose Dixon. Rose was an enthusiastic Krist Kindler. Rayelenn sent this picture of Rose at a past kk Reveal. Rose Dixon's daughter, son, and daughter-in-law participated in memory of their mother. The ornaments the Dixons gave as gifts had been purchased by Rose just for KristKindling.



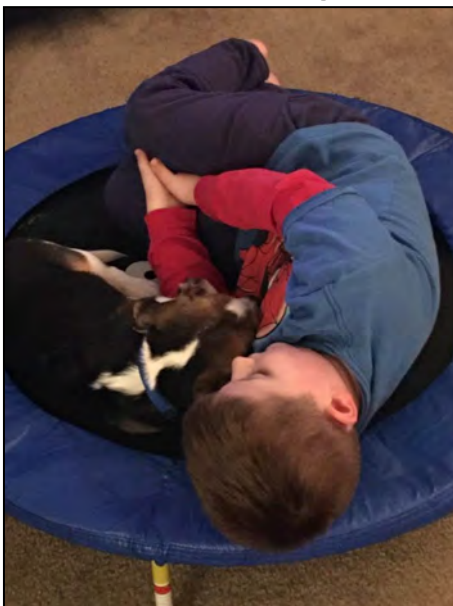
This year's Reveal was done on Zoom.



Emma's Valentine Message



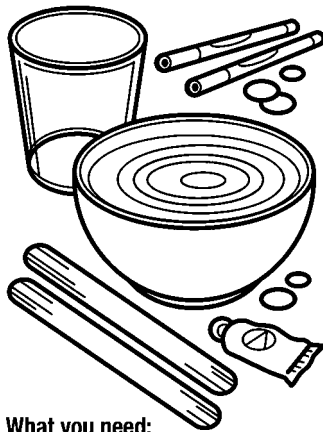
Sadie's coordinated message



Paul and his new puppy, Teddy

**Loving
embraces**

Express your love and friendship with handcrafted bracelets.



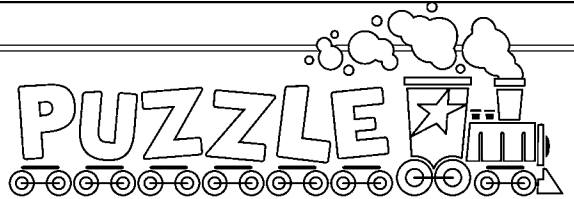
What you need:

- Adult help
- Bowl of boiling water
- Wide wooden craft sticks
- Glass cup
- Markers, paint or decorative tape

What you do:

1. Pour about 3 cups of boiling water into a bowl. Soak sticks in the water about 30 minutes.
2. Remove sticks and slowly, gently bend them into a curve.
3. To maintain the shape, place curved sticks inside a glass cup overnight to dry completely.
4. Remove and decorate the bracelets, which make fun Valentine's Day gifts.

PUZZLE



A famous friendship

In the Bible, Ruth and Naomi are known for their loving friendship.

Directions: Using the key, fill in the blanks to see what Ruth says to Naomi.

[illegible]

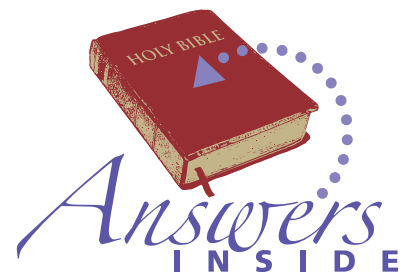
Answer: "Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God." Ruth 1:16, NIV



Bible Quiz

As the Israelites wandered in the wilderness, they longingly remembered some of the foods they'd had in Egypt. Which foods were not mentioned?

- A. carrots and potatoes
B. onions and garlic
C. fish and leeks
D. melons and cucumbers



Answer: A (See Numbers 11:4-6.)

We, the Social Outreach Ministry, are working actively with our same goals, but we now have a new name: *Faith in Action*.



The need for a name change became evident as we realized that the use of our old moniker was causing confusion as to understanding our mission. Apparently, some parishioners think we are a ministry that hosts parties and gatherings. We are not. We are the ministry that focuses on work in our community - be it internal or local but is or worldwide. Thus, the name change.

To illustrate our varied roles, imagine an old-fashioned message decoder from the days of yore. It was round and had layered circles on top of each other connected to make one tool. Each circle moves independently of the others. Now think of our programs as independent but connected circles that are integral to Faith in Action.

The outer ring represents the Hempfield Food Pantry - this is non-stop project that is ongoing throughout the year.

The second ring is composed of the list of programs and projects that we support: Jesse Tree, School Supply Drive, Soles 4 Souls, and Feed My Starving Children. This "wheel of faith in action" can be laid atop the circular and cyclical liturgical church year calendar to illustrate that each of our ministry's programs occurs in designated times of the church year. More specifically, the programs correlate to Advent, Lent, Post Pentecost, and ordinary time. In Advent we participate in Jesse Tree; in Lent we collect shoes for Soles 4 Souls and work a weekend at Feed My Starving Children; and in Ordinary Time, we collect school supplies. The post-Pentecostal time is in the planning stages, but the season's goal is to result in a joint effort among several

local churches to participate in a blood drive hosted at St. Edward's.

The third ring is our parish/ministry: Faith in Action.



Requested food items for the month of March are:

- Large peanut butter
- Large jelly
- Canned corn
- Canned carrots
- Canned mixed vegetables
- Mac and cheese
- 2 pound package of dried pinto beans
- Regular oatmeal

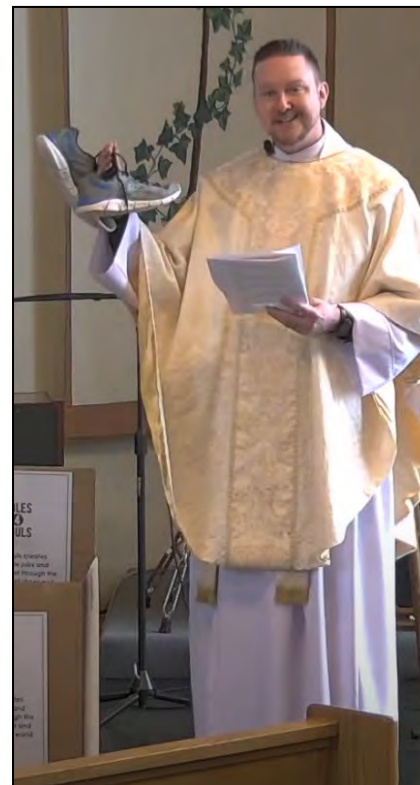


The Social Outreach Committee is offering to assist parishioners with a clothing repair service. If you need buttons replaced or a hem fixed or a patch ironed on let us help, etc. Place your clothing items in a bag and a note with your name and repair requests and place in the narthex in the marked basket.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



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."





2020 was a year in which we saw our partnership with Community Aid change dramatically. Due to COVID-19, their bin partnership program was thrown into disarray as people stayed home, cleaned their houses of unwanted goods in large quantities, and then literally "dumped" anything and everything at the various bin locations. St. Edward's saw an unprecedented amount of worthwhile donations go to waste as the organization could not keep up with scheduled pickups, had no place to store the mountain of donations, and what was once considered "treasure" for those in need, turned to trash, causing the organization to substantially cut back on bin locations.

St. Edward's was one of the bin locations to be eliminated. However, we accepted the invitation to be in a Virtual Partnership with Community Aid, going forward. By remaining in partnership with this organization, St. Edward's receives .06 cents/pound for soft goods donations brought to their donation center on Good Drive. By indicating our Partner account #40036 each time you drop your donation off, we will receive the appropriate credit. Checks are issued, quarterly, to the church and we average between \$60-\$120/quarter. Included in our Virtual Partnership is the ability to receive Care Cards to enable us to help those in need, as they are good for merchandise in their stores. We must meet a 2500/lb per quarter to receive \$300 in cards/per quarter to distribute. If we continue on a robust path of donations to Community Aid, St. Edward's could also qualify to apply for grants that could enable us to extend our reach to a dedicated ministry, or develop a program to aid those in need in our wider community. We hope that the good people of St. Edward's will continue to support Community Aid as this established community non-profit organization offers us a very "easy lift" to extend our Faith In Action impact in the wider community.



While this may not seem as exciting (!), it is to those of us in the altar guild! We finally completed some needed fabrication and installation of cabinet doors to enclose the area under the sacristy sink. We have finally completed the sacristy project!

Welcome Ministry



By Mary Snyder
Welcome, welcome!

There is so much to welcome this time of year. We welcome more light at the end of each day. Starting March 14, daylight savings time will spring us forward. We welcome the celebration of St. Patrick on March 17, and the first day of Spring March 21. Finally, our celebration of Palm Sunday will take place on March 28, and many of us will be getting ready for spring cleaning. New plants are emerging and the sunnier days lend to opportunity to open the windows for letting fresh air in. We welcome this new season and all it has to bring, but most importantly, we

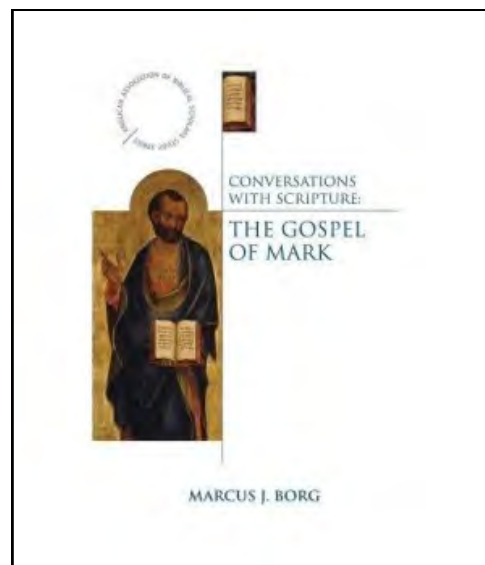
welcome new and old friends. A special welcome to returning or first time visitors. We hope that you will become part of our family.

Some upcoming opportunities to gather together in worship and fellowship include our ongoing Friday evening prayer, Sunday morning coffee hour, and Friday noon lunch and learn. Through the season of Lent there is a special prayer service happening on Sunday evenings. All gatherings are currently taking place on zoom. For information on how to connect to zoom meetings, and to get connected with email updates, please reach out to the St. Edward's office.

Looking forward to seeing you on Zoom!



Contemporary Bible Study Session



Wednesday Evening Bible Study - (Anglican Association of Biblical Scholars Study).
Wednesday, February 24th - 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM: The focus for this session, led by Bob Mosebach and Leslie Arnold, was on the Gospel of Mark from an Anglican/Episcopal perspective. Our Study Guide is: Borg, Marcus (2019), *Conversations with Scripture – The Gospel of Mark*

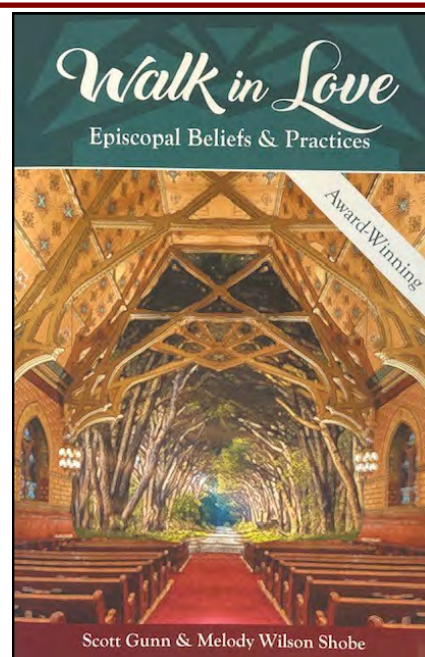
For questions, please contact Bob Mosebach at rcmosebach@comcast.net or Leslie Arnold at larnold897@aol.com



Lunch and Learn

Episcopal Church Polity

- National Church
 - Convocations
 - A geographic collection of parishes
 - Parishes
 - Rector and/or other clergy
 - Vestry
 - Annual meeting
 - Mission churches
 - Direct supervision of the Bishop
 - Vicar / Advisory Board
 - By Laws
 - Annual Meeting
- Provinces
- Dioceses



Lunch & Learn: Episcopal Beliefs and Practices: Fridays from 12 Noon – 1 PM led by Bob Mosebach

The class uses this book and the Book of Common Prayer.



In our continuing season of Covidtide, while we cannot meet for in-person ministry, we continue to collect recipes and artwork for this project, which will be launched in 2021.

This is a wonderful way to stay connected to each other, while answering our call to find ways to raise funds in support of the St. Edward's Faith In Action initiatives.

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
CHURCH**

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stedoffice@comcast.net



ST. EDWARD'S
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SPIRITUAL
FORMATION
WINTER 2021

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sainteds.org
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*Zoom meeting details in
weekly emails*



Faith

Bible Study: Wednesday Evenings: 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 look in your weekly emails for Zoom invitation. For questions, please contact Bob Mosebach at rcmosebach@comcast.net or Leslie Arnold at larnold897@aol.com

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.

Friday Evening Prayer 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 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.

Sunday Evening Prayer at 7:00 PM: send Br. David Rutledge an email to be put on an email distribution list: drutledge1225@gmail.com **Join Zoom Meeting** <https://zoom.us/j/95355083080> **Meeting ID: 953 5508 3080**

Lenten Stations of the Cross: Join St. Edward's and St. Luke's for this Lenten offering, available anytime, on the [St. Edward's YouTube Channel \(click here\)](#), beginning during the first week of Lent. There will also be a link, on our web site and in the YouTube description, to The Way of the Cross pdf for you to download and follow along.

Reflection Cont'd.

(Continued from page 2)

The works of Jacobsen and Rauschenbusch offer a wealth of insight to those of us who are inclined to actively engage society as Christians. Particularly in Rauschenbusch's contention that 'goodness' is inherently social in nature in combination with Jacobsen's urging that 'doers of good' must stand with the other; I have found reason for re-evaluating my understanding of the Christian Social Gospel. I have always placed a great deal of prayer-felt emotion into ministry and have probably been guilty of quite a bit of 'pseudo-innocence' myself. This attitude, indeed, seems to echo across the denominational boundaries of our modern American Christianity. We live in a class system that is largely defined in economic terms. As a culture, we have exercised tremendous effort to increase our collective standard of living, to the point where, even our poor have comparatively more than billions of our brothers and sisters around the world. America is rich and (all-in-all), Americans are charitable people.

Moving forward, I see the fruits of the social gospel springing forth best from our faith when our ministries are strongly oriented toward enfranchising the disenfranchised. This means bringing 'the other' fully into our folds. While we need to be passionate about outreach and dedicated to serving others, we must preach and teach the way to disrobing ourselves of our conceit. In truth: **there is no us and them... there is only us.** As we mature in the imitation of the Christ, we are invited to see even the perceived 'least' among us as equal in value through spirits that recognize the indwelling of the most Holy God in each and every person that we meet. As servant of servants, we build the Kingdom of God with the nourishment of spiritual food that satisfies the hunger of those in need AND through a Christian love that emphatically proclaims the sacred worth of every person. With God's help, may we exercise such a 'Faith in Action'...AMEN

1. Walter Rauschenbusch, *Christianity and the Social Crisis in the 21st Century: The Classic That Woke Up the Church* (New York: HarperCollins Publishers, 2007), 55.
2. Ibid., 5.
3. Ibid., 13.
4. Dennis A. Jacobsen, *Doing Justice: Congregations and Community Organizing* (Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2001), 6.
5. Ibid., 12.
6. Ibid., 20.

I Dream of a Church

By Karen Bables



Inspired by a Langston Hughes poem, I Dream of a World, NPR's Morning Edition resident poet Kwame Alexander and host Rachel Martin suggested that listeners write their way out of the unprecedented events of the past year and into a space of possibility. After the poems were submitted, Alexander took lines from some of the pieces and created a community crowd-sourced poem. Alexander and Martin read the poem on air on January 28. (You can find the story on the Morning Edition website.)

I happened to be lying in bed waiting for my back and leg to be somewhat influenced by pain medication so I could start my morning. I tuned in just as they started reading; I was in tears before they finished.

That joyful experience prompted me to start my own poem called, I Dream of a Church which follows. I would love readers to use the comment section to submit their own lines of poetry to complete what I share below. I will add them to the poem and re-publish at a later date.

I Dream of a Church

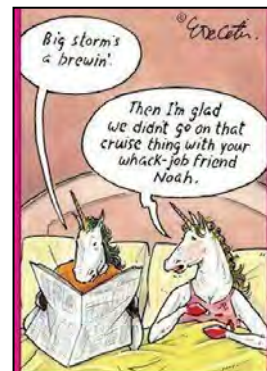
- ✦ I dream of a church where the Holy Spirit carries gracious power and sprinkles it into the souls of believers – and the power of money and tradition and multi-generational membership is shattered and swept out the door.
- ✦ I dream of a church where theology is wrapped in so much love that when people disagree love wins.
- ✦ I dream of a church where gratitude is the oxygen that fills the sanctuary and makes breathing in the atmosphere a blessing.
- ✦ I dream of a church whose members are on a pilgrimage, walking toward lives of deep companionship with Jesus, inspired by other pilgrims (past and present).
- ✦ I dream of a church where awe and wonder float and settle in the hearts of believers.
- ✦ I dream of a church where my proud black husband could be welcome for the person he was and not because he filled people's expectations.
- ✦ I dream of a church where shared pain, sorrow, disappointment, and doubt are welcomed, held in careful hands, and then returned, blessed by grace and understanding.
- ✦ I dream of a church where the words and lived experiences of a Howard Thurman or a John Lewis or a Sojourner Truth are as much revered as those of a Billy Graham or a Richard Foster or Barbara Brown Taylor.
- ✦ I dream of a church where shards of beliefs and traditions of world religions are not stomped on but are appraised like diamonds and saved in a jewelry box created for thoughts worth considering.
- ✦ I dream of a church where no member is helpless or hopeless or hungry or homeless because fellow disciples, filled with empathy and love, take action.

<https://livingasapprentices.com/2021/01/28/i-dream-of-a-church/>

Contributed by Joyce Kamm

Noah's Ark Humor

Contributed by Bob Oliver



(Continued from page 3)

for Father Stephen at St. Edward's in honor of his nearly 20 years' service to the parish. A number of suggestions for meaningful and lasting gifts have been proposed. The discussion is ongoing.

Annual meeting, originally planned to take the place of the February vestry meeting, was postponed until the first Sunday in March. This decision, in compliance with our by-laws, was made in hopes of garnering more participation. I invite you to come together at the regularly scheduled coffee hour directly after church on March 7. At this meeting, we will review the year's progress and vote by acclamation to approve the nominees for three year terms on vestry: Karen Grant, Peggy Hanzelman, Joe McLaughlin, and Randy Westgate.

My time as Senior Warden has come to an end. I just finished writing a message for the annual report. From here on, my final thoughts are much the same. It has been an honor and a pleasure to serve you and St. Edward's. I am proud of the work vestry has done to be faithful stewards of our building and property, our efforts to keep our church family connected, and to serve those in need locally and beyond. We have tried to keep God at the center of all we do. I am grateful for the leadership and Christ-centered love and compassion that Father Rick brings to us and for all that Michelle does to minister to us all while keeping the parish moving forward. There are many to be acknowledged, but I'd like to make special mention of our treasurer Kevin Milligan and the finance committee who keep us on track on the business end of things; and Mac Miller, who shines a bright light on the loving community that we are in the monthly Scepter. Who wouldn't want to attend this church?!

I also want to recognize vestry members who are going off having completed three-year terms: Mike Freshwater, Mark Jakiel, and Herb Johnston, all of whom have contributed to the well-being of this church in so many ways. Carrying on are Catherine Donahue, Ginny Kloepping, Beth Lynch, Ellen Milligan, and Junior Warden Julie Hoff. Julie has been a great support and confidant to me this year and I am so thankful for her partnership. I so appreciate the teamwork, unity, and friendship of all these leaders on vestry. And to each of you, thank you for your contributions of time, talent, and financial support. It's been quite a ride! I look forward to a bright future with you all.



Francis de Sales,

This prayer, by St. Francis de Sales, was used by Fr. Rick at the end of the Second Sunday after Epiphany. To many this prayer was familiar, as Fr. Stephen used it to end services:

"The same everlasting Father who cares for you today will care for you tomorrow and every day. Either he will shield you from suffering or give you unfailing strength to bear it. Be at peace then and put aside all anxious thoughts and imaginings." Amen

(French: [François de Sales](#);
Italian: [Francesco di Sales](#))

was a Bishop of Geneva and is honored as a saint in the Roman Catholic Church. His father sent him to a good school when he was young, and he received spiritual formation from the Jesuits. After a disturbing spiritual fear of being condemned, he eventually resolved his problem and decided to dedicate his life to God in 1587. He became a doctor of law at the age of 24 at the Jesuit College of Clermont, Paris, and was ordained a priest by Bishop Claude de Granier and stationed in Geneva in 1593. He became bishop of Geneva in 1602.

Francis de Sales is the author of various collections of sermons on Mary, Lent, prayer and Christmastide. He was known as a spiritually understanding man as well as a friend of the poor. Though known for his great intellect and theological wisdom, he spoke with simplicity and earnestness, so that all could understand. *An Introduction to the Devout Life*, his best-loved work, is based on notes he wrote for a

cousin for marriage, stressing that sanctity is possible in everyday life. He was canonized by Pope Alexander VII in 1665. His feast is celebrated on January 24.

Other Quotes:

"The measure of love is to love without measure."

– Francis de Sales

"Have patience with all things, but chiefly have patience with yourself. Do not lose courage in considering your own imperfections, but instantly set about remedying them—every day begin the task anew."

– Francis de Sales

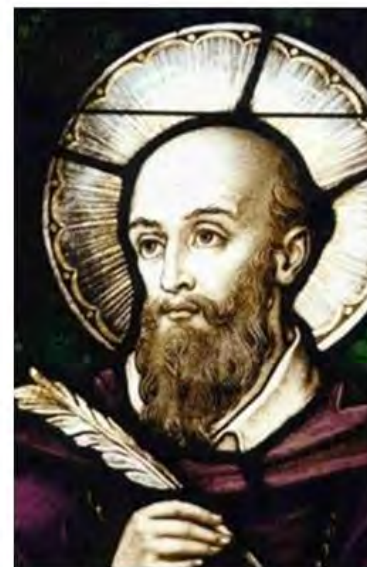
"If, when stung by slander or ill-nature, we wax proud and swell with anger, it is a proof that our gentleness and humility are unreal, and mere artificial show."

– Francis de Sales, Introduction to the Devout Life

"

-Be at peace and put aside anxious thoughts and imaginations.

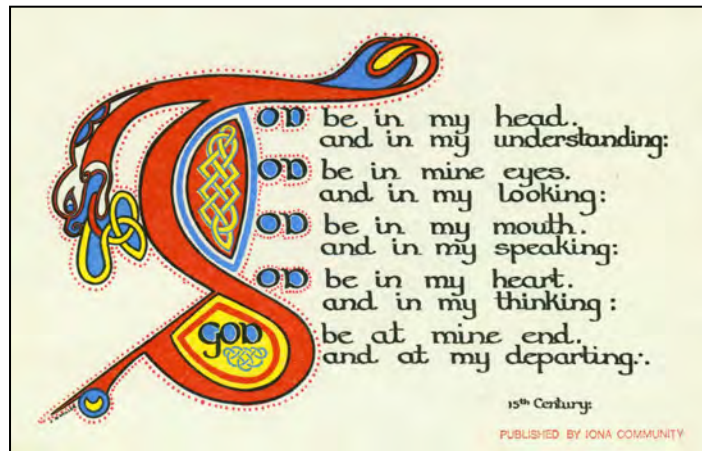
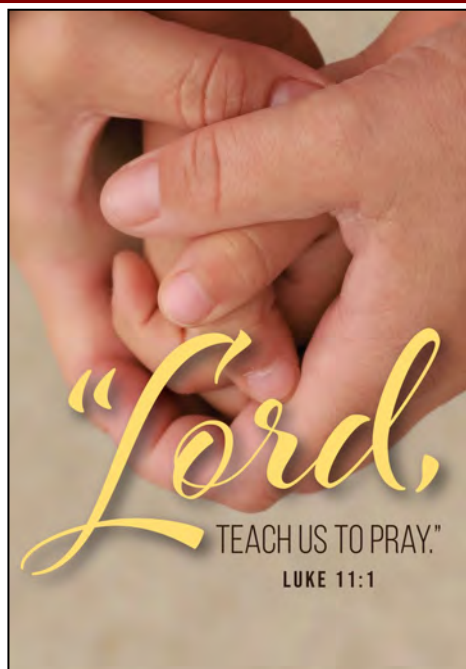
-Francis de Sales



"Do not wish to be anything but what you are and try to be that perfectly."

~St. Francis de Sales

Friday Evening Prayer



The Ishlers combine prayers from many sources in the Friday evening prayers held at 7PM on Zoom and Facebook live. This Iona prayer is one of the group's favorites.

Peter Weber sent us this beautifully scripted prayer from Iona, Western Hebrides. As Peter tells it: "I purchased this while having a day visit in Iona, half a lifetime ago, but as if I were just there. Years later, one of my sons had two pilgrimages there, once as a Youth Group member, and secondly as a Young Adult Leader, from our old church."

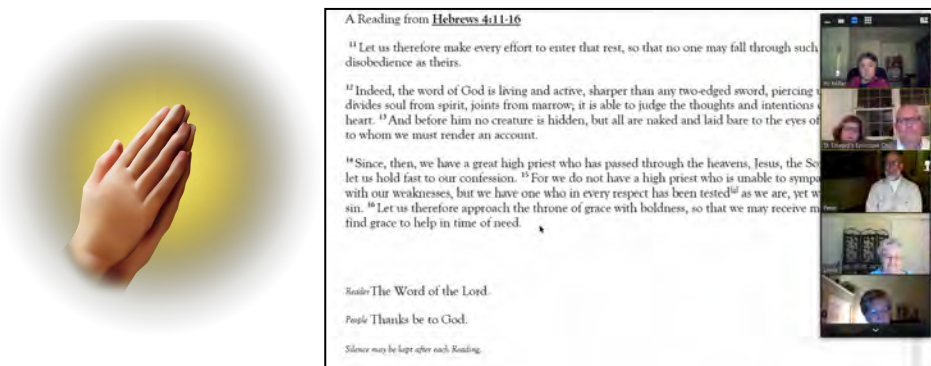
"I would permit no man, no matter what his color might be, to narrow and degrade my soul by making me hate him."

—Booker T. Washington

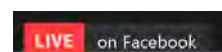


Iona is a small island in the Inner Hebrides off the Ross of Mull on the western coast of Scotland. It is mainly known for Iona Abbey, though there are other buildings on the island. Iona Abbey was a centre of Gaelic monasticism for three centuries and is today known for its relative tranquility and natural environment. It is a tourist destination and a place for spiritual retreats. Its modern Scottish Gaelic name means "Iona of Columba".

Friday Evening Prayer



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.



Include your news and announcements in the next Scepter.
Due date for April will be:

March 20th.

Send articles and announcements to:
HJ_Miller@outlook.com
hj_miller@outlook.com



Coffee Hour



Virtual Coffee Hour Sundays following the 10AM livestreamed service.

Sign in information for Zoom. Is in the Saturday e-mail. It is hosted by Christina McLaughlin.

Let us share our fellowship with one another during our extended Covid-tide.



A light moment, Feb. 14th, as The Reverend Dr. Love did a fun rendition of the Love Boat theme.



Thank You

To our dear friends at St. Edward's,

Please accept our humble thanks for all the love and support we've received this past week as we honor the life of our father/grandfather Robert Carter. We are blessed to have such a spiritual community to embrace us always, but especially in times such as losing someone we love and care for dearly. Thank you for reaching out through meals, cards, emails, phone calls and prayer. We feel your love and we are truly grateful.

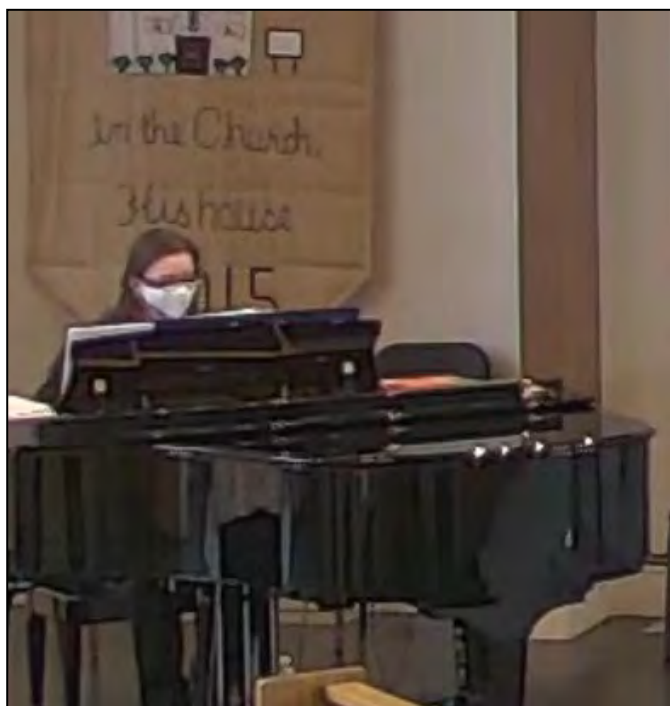
With love,

The Ishlers

Dina, Patrick, Faith, Carter & Thomas

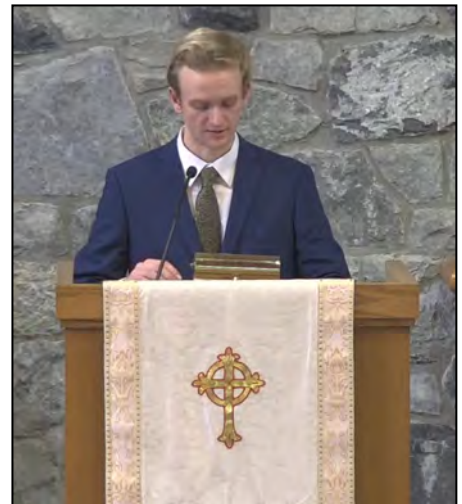


"This Little Heart of Mine"



Fr. Rick reacts to Karen Wadill's Valentine's Day offertory music of Dixon Lowes' arrangement of "This Little Heart of Mine"

Celebration for the Life of Robert Carter December 5th



Friday, January 15th we celebrated the life of Robert D. Carter, beloved father and grandfather of Dina, Patrick, Carter, Faith, and Thomas Ishler. Patrick sang, Carter read and Dina was able to convey how special and unique her father was.

Celebration
of Life





*Holy Week & Easter
Services
at St. Edward's*

JOIN ST. EDWARD'S
AS WE CELEBRATE
HOLY WEEK & EASTER
2021

**SERVICE
INFORMATION
LISTED BELOW**

sainteds.org
717.898.6276



ST. EDWARD'S
EPISCOPAL
CHURCH

Sunday, March 28th: *Palm Sunday* at 10:00 AM: Livestreamed via our St. Edward's YouTube Channel.

Wednesday, March 31st: *Tenebrae Service* virtual offering, via the Diocese. Links to this service will be in our weekly email messaging.

Thursday, April 1st: *Maundy Thursday Service* at 7:00 PM: Livestreamed via our St. Edward's YouTube Channel.

Friday, April 2nd: *The Way of the Cross* at 3:00 PM: Please tune into our St. Edward's YouTube Channel to pray the Stations of the Cross at this hour, via our posted offering that we have engaged with throughout the Season of Lent.

Friday, April 2nd: *Veneration of the Cross* at 7:00 PM: Livestreamed via our St. Edward's YouTube Channel.

Saturday, April 3rd: *Easter Vigil* virtual offering, via the Diocese. Links to this service will be in our weekly email messaging.

Sunday, April 4th: *Easter Sunday Service* at 10:00 AM: Livestreamed via our St. Edward's YouTube Channel

Please note: As details become more available, we will be posting them in our weekly messages and providing bulletins, via pdf download or links to diocesan bulletins, for all services.

Ash Wednesday

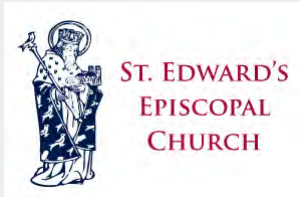
Pictures by Mary Snyder and Michelle Bentley



The Rev. Ingrid Andersen St. Luke's Episcopal Church Mount Joy



Brother David Rutledge receives ashes



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Email: stedsoffice@comcast.net

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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 – 4:00PM

Vestry (year term ends)

- ✦ Catherine Donohue (2023)
- ✦ Karen Grant (2024)
- ✦ Peg Hanzelman (2024)
- ✦ Julie Hoff (2022) Sr. Warden
- ✦ Ginny Kloepping (2023)
- ✦ Beth Lynch (2023)
- ✦ Joe McLaughlin (2024)
- ✦ Ellen Milligan (2022)
- ✦ Randy Westgate (2024)

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

[HTTPS://SAINTEDS.ORG/](https://sainteds.org/)

