

September 2021



ST. EDWARD'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Scepter



Reflection From the Rector's Desk

By The Rev. Dr. Richard C. Bauer

Dear Friends,

Sitting to address our community for the Fall relaunch of our Scepter, with our 40th Anniversary on the immediate horizon, my heart is tender and filled with hope.

there. I'm thinking about the desolated peoples of Haiti, whose perpetual state of poverty seems to be exacerbated, year after year, by natural disaster. And yes, I'm thinking about COVID-19 and the Delta variant. If summer is supposed to have been all about rest and re-

ing joins in, imploding: "God grant me the *Serenity* to accept the things I cannot change, the *Courage* to change the things I can, and the *Wisdom* to know the difference."

This stream of conscious-



“There's a crack, a crack in everything...that's how the light gets in.”

I'm picturing the storied faces in our church family, holding the successes and the challenges that we're sharing together in a silent and a perpetual state of prayer. I'm thinking about our military, of all the young women and men who've sacrificed life and limb in Afghanistan, baffled by the immediate erasure of attempts at progressive change

newal, then why does it feel like nearly everyone I've been talking to is still exhausted and at wit's end on some level? To this, song lyrics dance in my head as I write. I can hear Leonard Cohen's *Anthem* echoing: "There's a crack, a crack in everything...that's how the light gets in." And like the rolling waves in ebb and flow on an ocean shoreline,

ness implies to me that we're living in a truly amazing time, where ongoing crisis continues to call us forth, beyond ourselves, as disciples of Jesus Christ. In a world of uncertainty that betrays our best predictive capacities, perhaps we're catching glimpses, in our own time, of how it has always been for people to live

(Continued on page 2)

Inside this issue:

Vestry	3
Ripples of Kindness	4
Knit Wits	6
Lunch and Learn	7
Summer Activities	14-15
Father Stephen's Books	19
Summer Services	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)

out short, mortal human lives in the midst of war, disaster, and disease. After all, as suburban modern Americans, we can experience much of the tribulation inherent to the human condition from a comfortable distance. We have lives of privilege and of leisure that can separate us from the troubles that most folks face every day around the world. As such, the invitations all around us to increase our awareness about the struggles of other members of our human family, and to exercise our privilege toward the ends of compassion and charity, are enabling us to further open our minds and our hearts in profoundly significant ways right now. The global pandemic has provided us with a tactile lesson on our connection to other people, as in marriage, for better and for worse. The inability of our military to claim victory in Afghanistan after twenty years and two trillion dollars, invites us into a reflective state of collective humility as a nation. And the increasing disasters around us in the natural world provide each of us with humbling opportunities to think about our vulnerability and exposure to things beyond our control. All of this is to say: I think that it's a very good time to be a contemplative Christian. I think that it's a very good time to be the church.

Here at St. Edward's, we're equipping our community to better navigate our world, cultivating virtues for living more Christ-centered and joyful lives. This summer, we've taken a deep dive into the meaning of feeding on Christ in our spiritual hearts as "the bread of life", and we've unpacked pillars for quality living, pondering the stuff of perspective, humility, humor, acceptance, forgiveness, compassion, and generosity. We've stood by one

another through sickness and sorrow with incredible community fidelity through phone calls, home visits, small group gatherings, and corporate prayers. We've loved one another as we've love ourselves here at St. Edward's. And as we've found a faithful and a trustworthy Lord, calming the storms of our lives, our parish has shown unparalleled commitment to building up our church for the welcoming of a wider community and for planting seeds to provide for our future life and vitality as a parish. Like our patron Saint Edward, we too are church builders. We're building a spiritual home together that helps us to navigate our individual lives in Christ, that orients us as Christians to the larger world, and that looks toward eternity from out of the abundant potential of NOW. We are continuing to expand, like the universe itself. And in the abundant light shining forth through the cracks, I'm incredibly humbled to serve this loving and vital community as rector. I pray that we can welcome our 50th year together with an equal commitment and promise for the life we share in Jesus Christ.

Peace be with us,

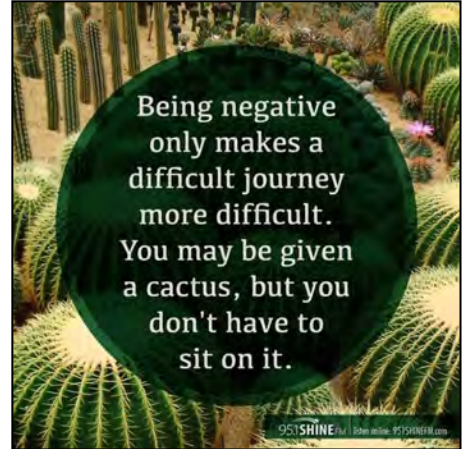
Father Rick



Parishioners Helping Parishioners

By Beth Lynch

Are you interested on being on a team to be called when a project comes in? If so, please send your name to Beth Lynch. She can be contacted at bethlynchggators@gmail.com.



New Use for Kitchen

ServeSafe Certifications have been achieved by Br. David Rutledge and Beth Lynch. This is the first step in exploring more ways we can use our kitchen to benefit our parish and the community.



Change of Parish Office Hours

Parish Office Hours

Tuesday- Friday:
11:00 – 4:00PM

Parish Administrator

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 Beth Lynch



Here we are close to the end of summer, school is or has started up again, summer vacations have concluded, but when I look at my calendar it is already filling up with exciting things to do at our wonderful parish of St. Edward's. I hope you are as intrigued as I am to attend these events.

We start off with the celebration of our 40th Anniversary on Sunday, September 12th at 12:00. We will begin the day with a combined service at 10:30 and then make our way to the parking lot and gather under a tent for a catered meal by Harvey's Barbeque. During the event we all will have the opportunity to use the photo booth, play games, work on a craft and REMINISCE. The following

Sunday the New Member Ministry will have a table at the Amos Herr Community Festival on the 19th. This is an opportunity for the church community to promote and disseminate information to the community. There are plans for games and crafts and evangelizing.

We end September with a special Coffee Hour, on September 26th, as Father David Bateman will be celebrating with us while Father Rick attends Unlocking Grace & Hope: A Weekend of Episcopal Evangelism in Vermont. This will give us the opportunity to lift David up for his ministry to St. Edward's, as our interim rector! The COVID-19 pandemic did not allow us to say our proper "thank you" to David+ and we are grateful for this opportunity! Join us!

That is not all because here comes October. Hold onto your hats because the whirlwind is still going strong. October 3rd will bring a visit from the stained-glass company to gather important information for the windows. Bishop Scanlan returns to St. Edward's on October 10th to receive and confirm our fellow parishioners into the Episcopal Church. Midweek we celebrate Saint Edward's Feast Day on the 13th.

Please don't forget that we have wonderful and fulfilling weekly events as well.



Dear Lord, loving Creator of us all, we remember with great sadness those whose lives were taken on September 11, 2001. We hold up to you the victims' families that they may know, despite their pain, that they can find solace in your loving presence. Help them bring their hurting hearts to you, realizing that your everlasting arms can bear them up and that they cannot be separated from your abiding love.

Please assure us that even though we cannot understand such horrible deeds, you can bring good out of evil, justice out of injustice and righteousness out of unrighteousness.

Therefore, confessing our human weaknesses, our grief and our struggles to make sense out of this world, we cry out with the psalmist: "Rise up, O LORD; O God, lift up your hand; do not forget the oppressed" (Psalm 10:12, NRSV). Strengthen our hearts, this day and every day. Amen.

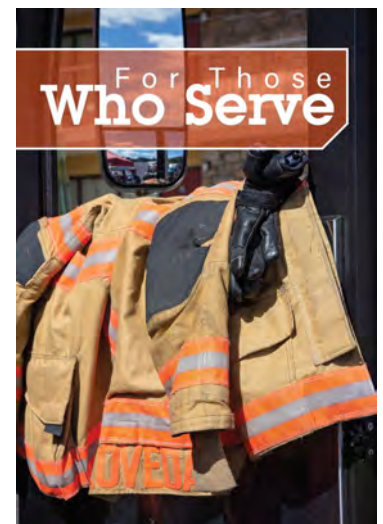


Military News

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

- ★Dustin Burluson
- ★Justin Carnahan
- ★Brandon Fox
- ★Gordon Frankenfield
- ★Matt Fuhrman
- ★Jack Hawk
- ★Benjamin Jenkins
- ★Drew Johnson
- ★William Justice
- ★Anthony Koser
- ★Alex Kube
- ★John Lewis

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



Ripples of Kindness

By Mac Miller and from The NEWSLETTER Newsletter



Recently, after leaving the hardware store, I was putting items in my car from the store cart. A woman, coming by, offered to return my cart to the store. Just a tiny act of kindness, but it made me feel so good that I thought I'd begin to note acts of kindness that occur everyday.

A friend just told me that she stopped at Turkey Hill in Millersville to buy a soda. When she went to pay, the cashier informed her that a person ahead of her had paid for her soda AND bought her a scratch off ticket. That ticket won \$20. My friend said she will pass the \$20 on to someone else. My friend was delighted and happy and will keep the kindness going.

If you experience a "random act of kindness" please send it to me to include in a future issue of the Scepter:

HJ_Miller@Outlook.com

Here are some thoughts and ideas that were printed in a publication I receive for editor's of church newsletters,:

Kindness Pebbles

"I drop kindness pebbles in still water every day, and I watch the effect they have on other people's lives. My favorite kindness pebbles are compliments. Drop a compliment and watch the ripple effect that it has in your life."

Remarkably, these cheery words come from a father who has faced many dark, difficult days. In *6 Minutes Wrestling With Life*, John Passaro tells of his daughter's heart-wrenching battle with meningitis. The struggles didn't make him bitter; rather, he frequently offers uplifting words on social media.

What if we followed Passaro's example and complimented people regularly? Philippians 4:8 (NIV) instructs us to think about things that are noble, lovely, admirable, excellent and praiseworthy. By exten-

sion, turning those positive thoughts into words causes "kindness pebbles" to spread God's light in ripples throughout someone's day — and, doubtless, through ours..

Above and beyond

When 20-year-old Hunter Shamatt lost his wallet while traveling to a wedding last fall, he assumed its contents — including \$60 in cash — were gone forever. But not only did someone return the wallet and everything inside it; the good Samaritan also *added* money. "I rounded your cash up to an even \$100 so you can celebrate getting your wallet back," read a note signed with the initials TB.

Hunter's mom, who posted a photo of the note on Facebook, said her faith in humanity was restored. The world's "not as grim as it's being made out to be," Jeannie Shamatt wrote.:

Like the good Samaritan in Luke 10:25-37, "TB" — who turned out to be Todd Brown of Omaha — went above and beyond in expressing kindness to a stranger. May we do likewise, bandaging one another's wounds, providing comfort, sacrificing our resources and showing mercy, all in Jesus' name.

—Stephanie Martin

Angels along life's trail

Weary long-distance hikers sometimes encounter "trail angels" — people who offer food and drink, bandages, shoelaces and even a place to do laundry. Along the Pacific Crest Trail, one home, dubbed Hiker's Heaven, serves as a mail drop. Trail angels say they find great joy in offering kindness to strangers.

Unexpected kindnesses — and regular rest stops — make any journey less grueling and more enjoyable. That's also true on the journey of life as we experience (and bestow) generosity and pause to spend time with God. After all, "It is God to whom and with whom we travel," said Elisabeth Elliot. "And while He is the end of our journey, He is also at every stopping place."

Kindness counts

- ✦ Make blankets or scarves for homeless people.
- ✦ • Send a care package to someone who's in college or the military.
- ✦ • Collect coins for a charity or cause.

- ✦ • When you can't attend an event, give the tickets to strangers.
- ✦ • Provide tutoring or mentoring in your field of expertise.
- ✦ • Offer to babysit or pet-sit for free.
- ✦ • Send a note of appreciation to someone who's made a difference in your life.
- ✦ • Share your gifts of music, reading or conversation at a nursing home.
- ✦ • Donate old sports equipment to schools.
- ✦ • Give someone the benefit of the doubt — maybe even a family member or yourself!



"He who sows courtesy reaps friendship, and he who plants kindness gathers love."

—St. Basil

"The point is not to pay back kindness but to pass it on."

—Julia Alvarez

Engagements

Congratulations and Best Wishes



Eliza Donohue and Matt



Harrison Kline and Sasha

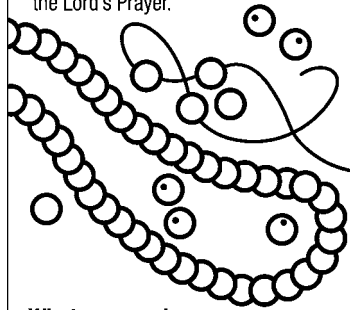
Swing Set in Use



Paul McLaughlin takes a break.

Prayer bracelet

Make this craft to help you remember the Lord's Prayer.



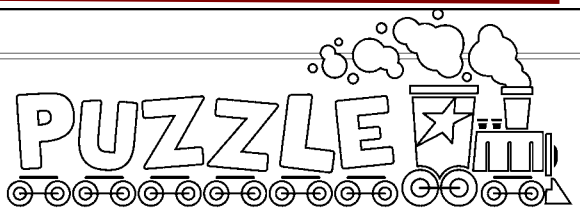
What you need:

- Elastic string (12 inches)
- Colored beads (see below)
- Clear nail polish

What you do:

1. Knot the string at one end. Add beads in this order: blue, white, gold, green, yellow, red, black, orange
2. Tie the ends so the bracelet fits your wrist. Place a dot of nail polish to secure the knot. Trim excess string.
3. As you pray, use the bead colors as reminders of Jesus' words (see Matthew 6:9-13):

- **blue** = the Father
- **white** = God's holiness
- **gold** = God's kingdom
- **green** = the earth
- **yellow** = wheat (bread)
- **red** = Christ's blood (forgiveness)
- **black** = temptation
- **orange** = God's power to deliver



Teach us to pray

In Luke 11:1-13 (NIV), Jesus teaches about prayer.

Directions: Add or subtract the letters indicated and unscramble the letters to form a new word, using hints from the passage. Then unscramble the circled letters to answer the question below.

party - t = **p r a y** (v. 1)

lady + i = **l a d y** (v. 3)

drab + e = **d r a b** (v. 5)

rod + o = **r o d** (v. 7)

bask - b = **a s k** (v. 9)

keeps - p = **k e e p s** (v. 9)

define - ee = **d e f i n e** (v. 9)

shift - t = **s h i f t** (v. 11)

sneaky - y = **s n e a k y** (v. 11)

sift + g = **s i f t** (v. 13)



What will the Father give to those who ask of him?

_____ (v. 13)

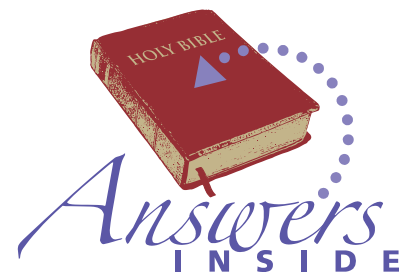
Answer: pray, daily, bread, door, asks, seek, find, fish, snake, gifts, Holy Spirit



Bible Quiz

How many times in the Old Testament do people cross a body of water on dry ground?

- once
- twice
- three times
- four times



Answer: C (See Exodus 14; Joshua 3; 2 Kings 2.)

Needle Arts Ministry

Pictures by Mary Snyder and Mac Miller

The Knit Wits are back at work at 1PM each Tuesday in the lounge area. to work on prayer shawls, hats, socks, crafts and the pocket dolls, which are made from a pattern provided by Linda Spire.

The dolls are easy and fun to make from yarn scraps. They are knitted as a flat rectangle, then stuffed and sewed to make pocket dolls that can be given to children by EMT's, police, or hospital visitors, or in any situation where a soft little doll would comfort a child.

All are invited to be a part of this enjoyable and productive group. Yarn, patterns and "expert assistance" are available, so you do not need to have a project started to join in the fun.



The knitted doll is made from an approximately 4"x 6" flat rectangle.



Some of the donated supplies that are available for all to use.

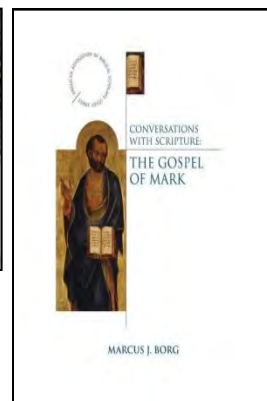


A finished doll couple.

Bible Study



Marcus Borg



St. Edward's Episcopal Church Bible Study

Time: Wednesday Evening 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86252772937?pwd=RWWVWNGVuQWWh3NU9keWRXMMWxFczg5UT09>
Meeting ID: 862 5277 2937
Passcode: 20



Inclusion Sunday

By Mary Snyder and from YouTube



Susan Clough listens to Mary Snyder

Inclusion Sunday was the last Sunday in June, which is Pride Month. I was talking about how I was welcomed by the congregation from the 1st time I walked through the doors. I was not only welcomed to attend but also to participate. This is my church family and everyone has supported me and helped me through the toughest times of my life.

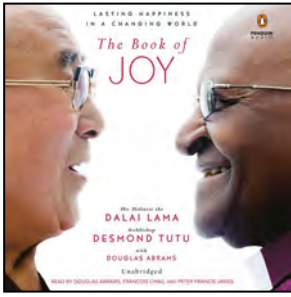


Information table set up for inclusion Sunday.

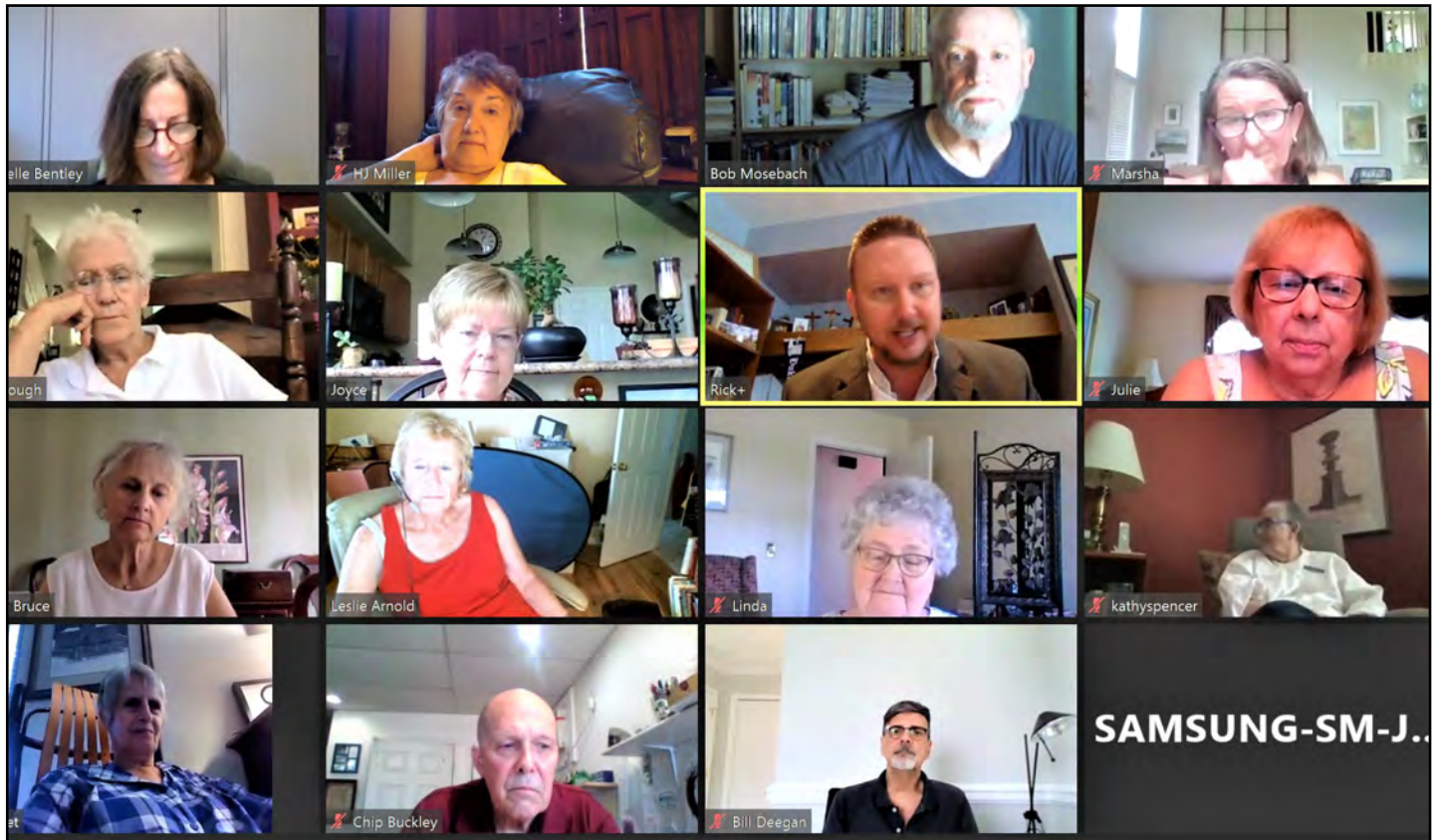


We have the LGBTQ+ flags at our sign out front to let others know they are welcome here.

Lunch and Learn



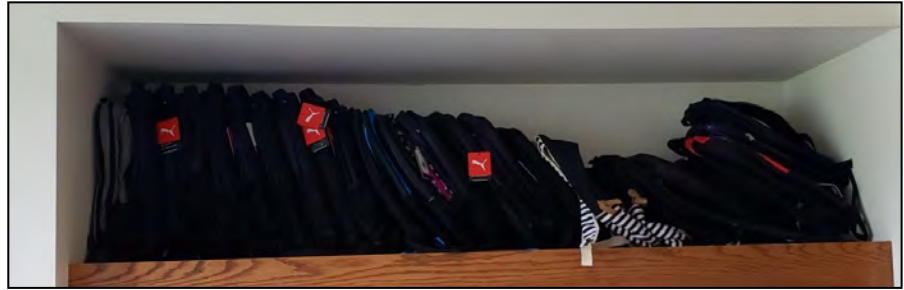
On July 16th, we began our 8-week summer series of Lunch & Learn using the book, *The Book of Joy - Lasting Happiness in a Changing World* by His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu. This has been a gentle way to journey through the summer months, together. Zoom information about how to connect to these sessions is included in the Thursday e-mail.





Requested items:

- Canned fruit;
- Canned mixed vegetables;
- Canned garbanzo beans;
- 1 lb. packages of rice;
- 2 lb. packages of rice;
- Noodles;
- Boxed pasta;
- Pasta sauce;
- Cereal; Oatmeal (regular or quick NOT instant).



Backpacks for Hempfield School District. We have over 40.



Bruce and Beth Lynch and Patrick and Dina Ishler shopping for school supplies in previous years.



Blessing of the Food for the Pantry.



Loading food to be delivered to the Hempfield Food Pantry.



Beth Lynch passing out shopping bags donated from the Hempfield Food Pantry.

Thank you for Books for Prisoners

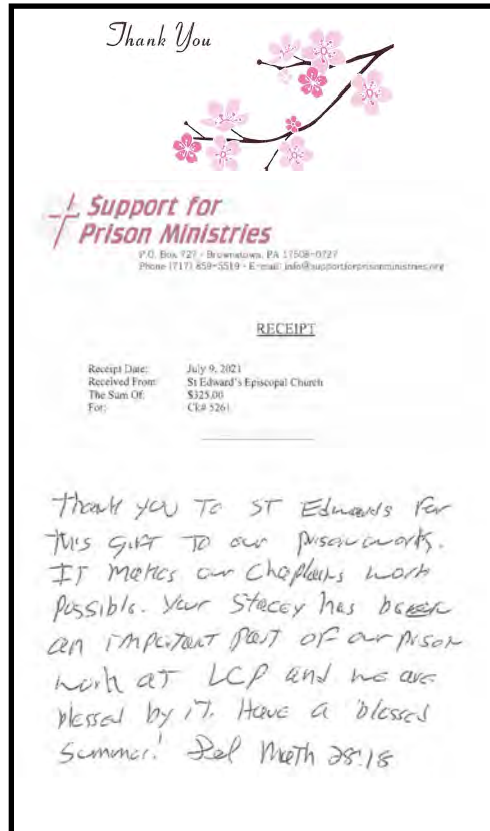
From Stacey D. Catigano



Tremendous gratitude to Libby Sternberg and all the generous folks @St. Edward's Episcopal Church! Thank you for your loving donation of funds and books for our incarcerated brothers and sisters!



Books are stored at St. Edward's



September

Coming Soon to St. Edward's

By Beth Lynch

More details to come.

Wednesday Night Pokémon League

6:30 to 8:00 p.m.



Coffee Hour Craft

Sunday, August 29



By Mary Snyder, Christina McLaughlin and Nancy Mannion (co-chairs)

The New Member Ministry committee has exciting plans for welcoming new members to St. Edward's, as well as creating a presence in our community. To launch our fall efforts, we will be participating in the Amos Herr Festival at the Amos Herr Park 1700 Nissley Road in Landisville Sunday September 19 from 11am-4pm. We will have an information table as well as activities for children. Volunteers are needed beginning at 10 am that day. See the attached sign-up sheet here https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1_6EBZYzLo4w1FGXErBnDWkgJq7oU-EuAjOOPCe-Rca0/edit

We are actively seeking new committee members. Next meetings are scheduled on Sunday September 26 and October 17 at 9:15 am. Fill your coffee cup in the social hall and join us in creating programs that extend a warm welcome to visitors and members alike.



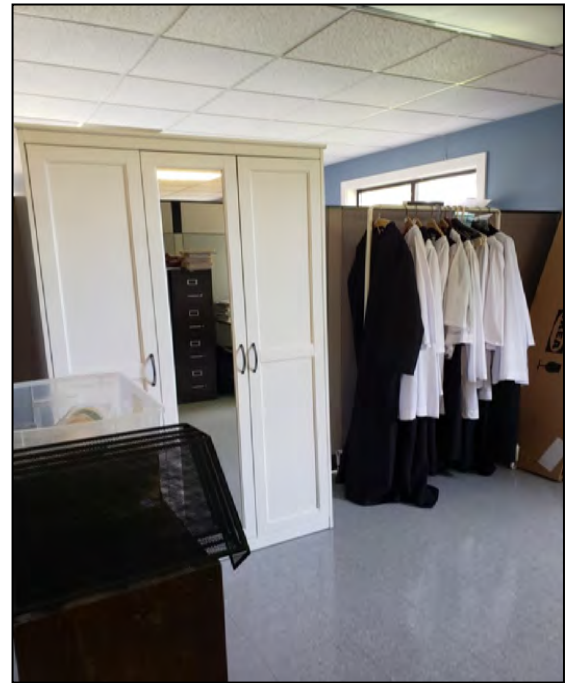
The whirligigs, in the Parish Hall windows are the craft that will be offered at the Amos Herr Festival

Updated Areas

Pictures by Mary Snyder



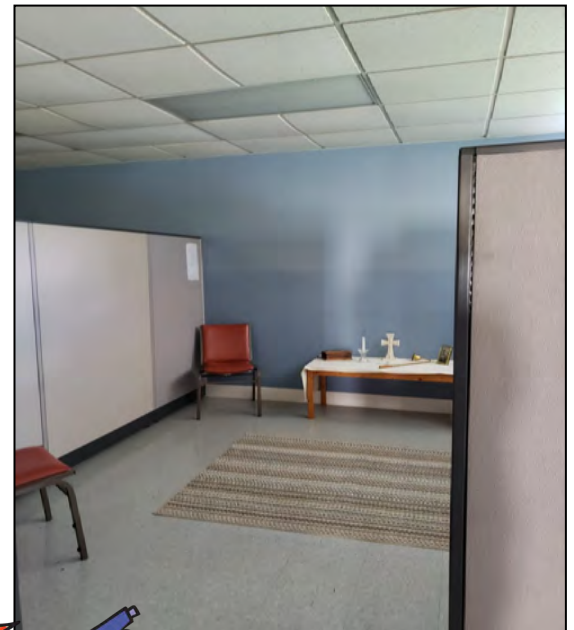
Narthex waiting area outside of Fr. Rick's office.



New Choir room



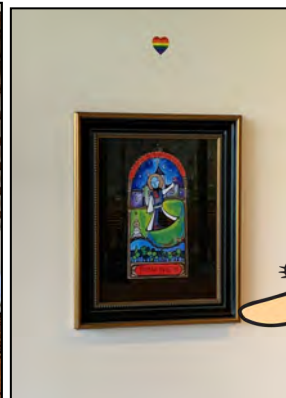
Narthex



Education areas are being organized.



Entrance display case



Thomas Merton picture



Many thanks to all who are helping Fr. Rick organize, rearrange, and update the look and feel of the narthex and the education wing of St. Edward's. The goal is to make the spaces attractive and welcoming for parishioners and newcomers.

peace
love
joy

St. Edward's Fundraiser 2021

Journey in peace. Reflect your love. Give with joy.

For 2021, our fundraising event will be our beautiful basket raffle, commencing Sunday October 3rd – October 31st! **Let us have a bountiful harvest** as we seek to meet a **fundraising goal of \$5,000** for the mission and ministry of St. Edward's. Stay tuned for details in late September on ticket sales and some great surprises!

This is our main fundraising event for 2021, so we prayerfully invite your support.



- 09/02, 09, 16:** Confirmation Classes: 6 PM - 8 PM. In-person
- 09/09:** Clericus (PH) 1 PM - 3 PM
- 09/10:** Woolwrights artisan group (PH) 9 AM - 3 PM
- 09/12:** 40th Anniversary Celebration: Worship at 10:15 AM. Luncheon at 12 Noon
- 09/14:** Stephen Ministry Training **start date:** 6 PM -8 PM, in-person
- 09/19:** St. Edward's at the Amos Herr Community Festival – **New Member Ministry**
- 09/19:** **Sunday School start date** & baskets due for 2021 Fundraiser event
- 09/26:** Father David supply clergy & celebration of his ministry to St. Edward's coffee hour reception (**Please join us!**)



- 10/03:** St. Edward's 2021 Fundraiser – Basket Raffle – Begins (through October 31st!)
- 10/08:** Woolwrights artisan group (PH)
- 10/10:** Bishop Visitation; Confirmations & Receptions
- 10/13:** St. Edward Feast Day

Please note this is a recap of some larger event dates & meetings and does not include our worship calendar and our spiritual formation offerings – all of which are messaged separately! We have so much to offer in our community of faith and you can find all of it in your weekly emails, Sunday bulletins, and on our web site.

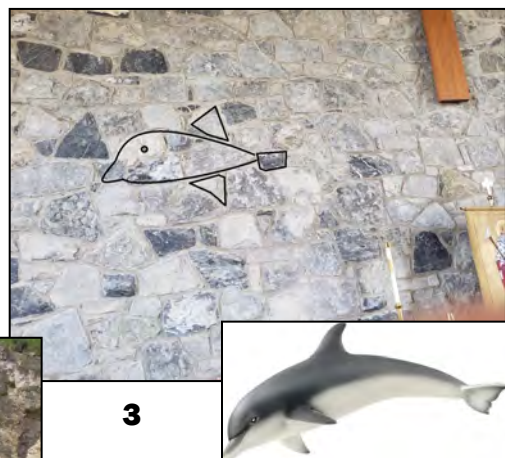
Do You See What I See?



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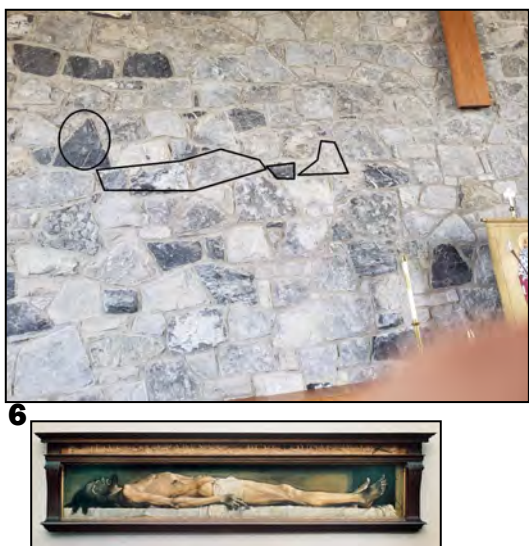
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Beth Lynch and Gloria Kacinko pointed out what they have seen in St. Edward's stone wall. Can you see them? Do you see something else?



5



6

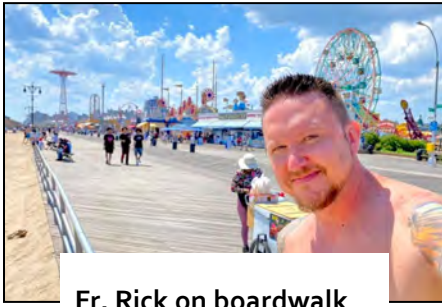


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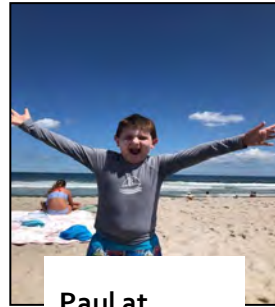


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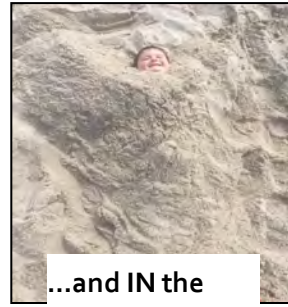
Summer Activities



Fr. Rick on boardwalk



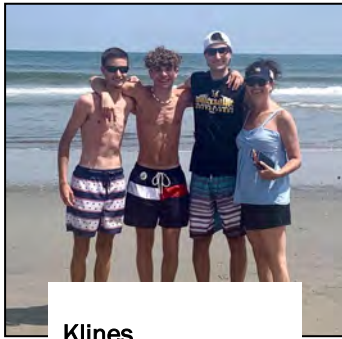
Paul at...



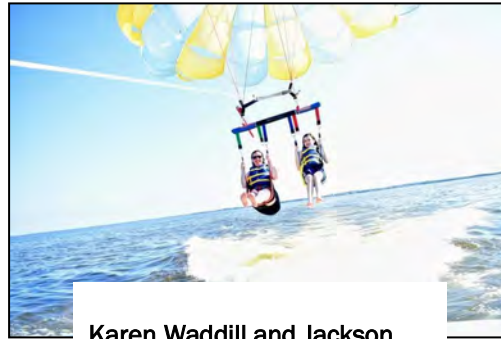
...and IN the beach.



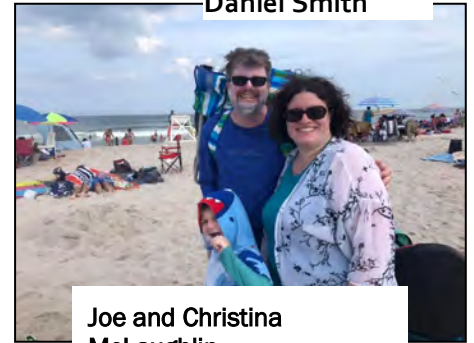
Peg Reiley,
Rachael and
Daniel Smith



Klines



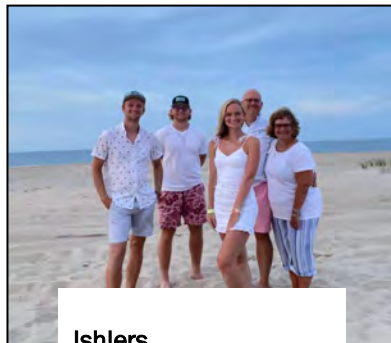
Karen Waddill and Jackson



Joe and Christina
McLaughlin



Irons kiting



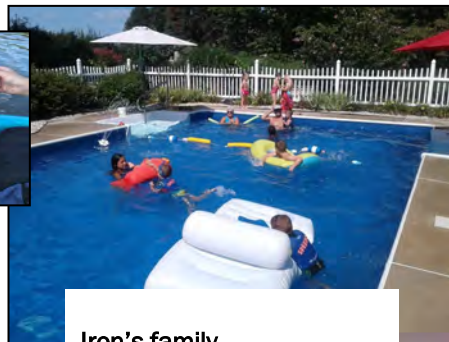
Ishlers



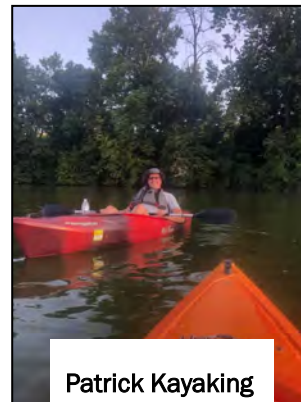
Iron's "wrecking crew"



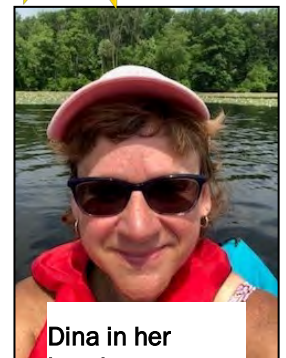
Mary & Jodi kayak
birthday



Iron's family



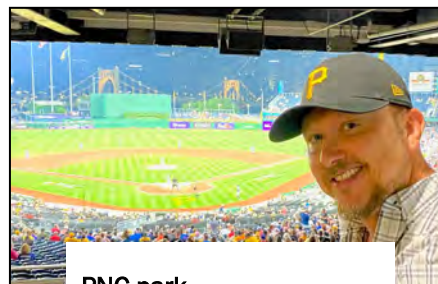
Patrick Kayaking



Dina in her
kayak.



Jerry Hoff models the socks Father Rick presented to him after Jerry shot a hole-in-one on the ninth hole at Four Seasons Golf Course in July!

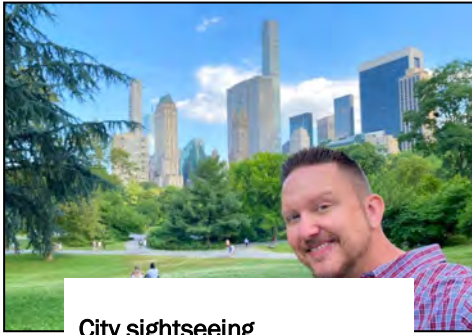


PNC park

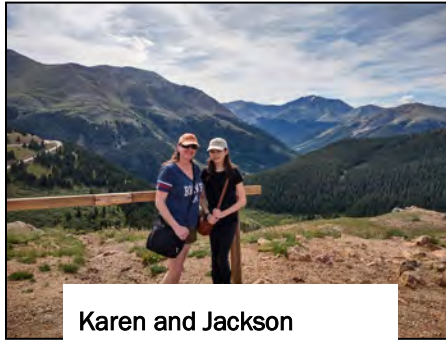


Matthew Sternberg
throws first pitch at
Clipper stadium

Summer Activities



City sightseeing



Karen and Jackson mountain sightseeing



Joel Kline



Westgate's Family



4th and Family Bauers



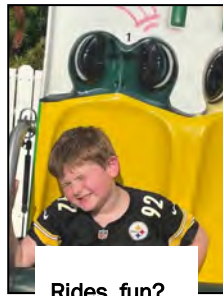
Bauer boys 4th of July



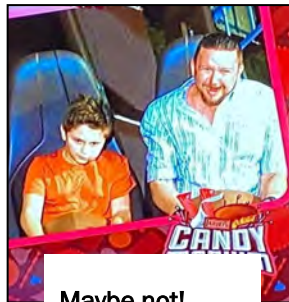
McLaughlins at the York Fair



Westgate's Family



Rides, fun?



Maybe not!



Irene Achey, Jackie and Eric at Sandblade's "Scone School"



Liz and Buddy...



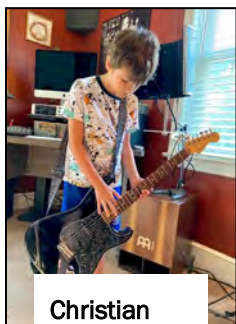
Mary and Jodi -Pizza party.



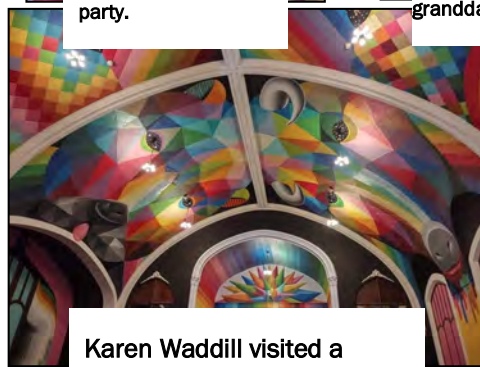
Randy Westgate & granddaughter



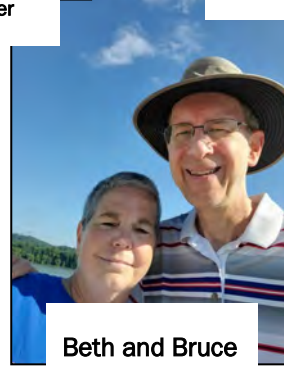
Eric and Mac Miller making scones.



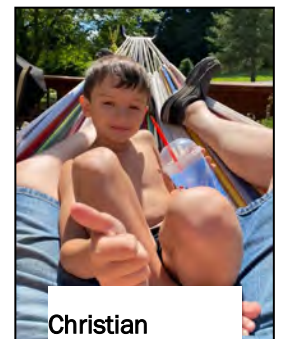
Christian Bauer



Karen Waddill visited a different church.



Beth and Bruce Lynch hiking



Christian relaxing with Dad

Beth Lynch's Younger Brother "Man on a Mission"



Nueva Vida staff in Mérida, Mexico drop off gifts on Day of Children or "Día del Niño." New volunteer David W. Keelan, from Pennsylvania and Maryland, is pictured at right.

At the ripe old age of 55, I decided to retire early, leave the United States, and relocate overseas. A number of life events drove my decision: a house fire, divorce, downsized at work (again), my parents passing away a week from one another, children grown, pandemic fatigue, and the fact that my siblings are far-flung and spread across the United States. I was burned out. I had to do something different, but the plan did not include sitting on a beach as tempting as it was.

All these events occurred in a relatively short period. My family and friends often asked how I was dealing with so many life incidents, one right after the other? I received a lot of sympathetic looks and well wishes. Well, what is one to do? My brother Dan often reminded me that a problem is an opportunity in disguise. So I decided to open a new chapter in my life. Why be driven by circumstances when one can create them? I am not under any delusion that I can control life events; there are just too many unknowns. But there are things I can control, and changing direction and starting again was one thing I could do.

I decided to move to Mérida, Mexico, for a number of reasons: safety, proximity to the U.S., and economics and announced this to my friends and family. There were many comments, and most of them positive. But then another unexpected event occurred. Fortunately, nothing tragic, as I was not up for more drama. As I prepared

to relocate, a college friend, Rob, called and asked if I was aware of an organization in Mérida called "The Mission of Friendship" I was not, so he went on to explain the organization as best he knew. Rob and I had not been just college friends; we were also in formation together at St. Mark Seminary in the Diocese of Erie, Pennsylvania. Rob went on to become a fabulous priest, but I left the seminary to begin a career and start a family.

The Mission of Friendship is a collaborative effort between the Diocese of Erie and the Archdiocese of Yucatán. The Mission of Friendship has been serving the economically disadvantaged families of Mérida since 1971, and 2021 marks its 50th anniversary. Why did I not learn about this organization when I was doing my research about Mérida? Why did I learn about it only after I'd decided on Mérida? Coincidence? Luck? Providence? I do not know, but I knew that I needed to learn more. So, after a few emails, I was introduced to Patricia "Trish" Pipkin, the Mérida-based director of the program, we exchanged emails and arranged for a Zoom call.

Trish and I agreed that my biggest weaknesses was my unfamiliarity with the Mission's goals, organization, and function, and lack of Spanish speaking skills. She suggested, and I agreed, that it would be best if I helped with facilities maintenance as a means to learn about the Mission and improve my Spanish.

Getting to Mérida presented some logistical (and expensive) problems. To make a long story short, I ended up making a six-day drive with my 55-pound dog, my cat, some personal possessions and clothing. I arrived in Mérida on Dec. 19, 2020. I am no trailblazer, many people made this move before I did, but I knew that I wanted to be part of something in Mérida. I was not obsessing about the Mission and what led Rob to making that phone call, but it was on my mind a lot.

After settling in for a couple of days I emailed Trish and asked, "When can I get started cleaning bathrooms?" Before long I was assisting the Mission's director of logistics, Jose, in preparing the pre-school and after-school (Nueva Vida) to reopen post-pandemic. We stripped paint, painted, cleaned, did yard work, fixed the roof and more. I knew the sun here could be brutal, and as you may know – the sun here is brutal. Twice a week now I make my way to the Mission and do what is needed under Jose's supervision and guidance. Fortunately, I have not had to clean a bathroom. Yet.

I came to learn that among the initiatives overseen by the Mission of Friendship are a subsidized preschool to help working families; an after-school program called Nueva Vida (New Life) providing a meal, academic support and enrichment classes for elementary-school girls; a medical clinic; a program for visiting groups providing opportunities for adults and college groups to experience another culture; the Amigos Program, a sponsorship opportunity that supplies essential financial support to impoverished families, and The Sister Parish Program, which pairs entire parish communities in the Yucatán with parish communities in the Diocese of Erie.

The teachers and staff at Nueva Vida are an amazing and dedicated group of women. Despite my lack of Spanish and other shortcomings, they make me feel welcome – embraced really. That feeling was reinforced when the Mission invited me to accompany some of the staff on April 30, Day of Children or "Día del Niño" to visit the program's children and families at their homes to drop off gifts. At the time I did not understand that Día del Niño is a celebration much like Father's Day and Mother's Day in the U.S. It is a big deal. As we drove through south Mérida to deliver packages of food, school supplies, and toys to 18 families — and up to 29 after the pandemic — served by Nueva Vida I noticed many cars and trucks decorated with colorful balloons, streamers,

(Continued on page 17)

Man on a Mission cont'd

(Continued from page 16)

and ribbons. Entire families were packed into the cars to parade and celebrate the day in honor of their children. La familia!

I rode with Trish and we spoke a lot about the families, the successes, the disappointments, and the area of south Mérida, but mostly about being involved in the lives of the families and how much the families return to the Mission which makes the work so rewarding. Helping one child in one family does make a difference.

Dia del Nino was an eye opener for this expat. Intellectually I understood who the Mission was serving but visiting the homes of 18 families is quite a different experience, and my understanding grew deeper. Every home we visited sparked a different reaction from the girls – mostly excitement, but some shyness. Siblings watched from the house, a window, the yard, or jumped right in with the visits, mothers held babies on their hips as they watched their daughters, fathers looked on proudly and expressed gratitude for the food. I remember one young father standing in the doorway of their home holding his new born son in his arms and smiling proudly at his wife and daughter as they greeted our group. I witnessed families, in some cases, the entire family, who were happy, proud of their daughters, providing for their families despite the poverty and unique challenges that poverty presents. One family encouraged their daughter to thank me in English, which she did. As her mask was falling over

her nose, she looked up, held her finger to her temple to think, then she said “thank you” to cheers from all around. I was charmed. Her mother and father, like the rest, are committed to obtaining the best for their children and see education and language as a key to their daughter’s (and family’s) success.

After day of the children the Mission was now more real than ever. I witnessed an important part of Mérida.

Nueva Vida – New Life is what the mission is trying to provide for these girls and their families — a chance to provide a higher education and help provide these girls a better shot at going to University. Trish said that won’t just change the girl’s life, it will change the entire family’s life for generations. Whatever led me here, and to the Mission of Friendship, Nueva Vida has also breathed new life into me, and has given me a different perspective on my own series of events that led me here to Mérida. Despite my setbacks, despite my personal tragedies, despite everything I have, it is petty in comparison to what these families endure, and I have received much more in return than I think I am capable of returning to them.

As the Mission of Friendship celebrates its 50th year serving our community I hope you have the chance to see their work first hand, and maybe even find a way to help them continue their work for another 50 years.

Help Wanted



By the Altar Guild -

Worship the Lord in the beauty of Holiness!

Preparing the altar area for worship each week is a sacred and spiritual experience currently administered by a devoted group of eleven people. At one time, the Altar Guild had as many as sixteen members.

We need more help!

Please consider joining this essential ministry! No experience is necessary. The Altar Guild provides training. We work in teams so there is always an experienced member as part of a team. The set-up times are flexible (Thursday, Friday, or Saturday) and are arranged between the members of a team. Each team is scheduled about once a month. With more members, it could be every five or six weeks.

We are open to men, women, and young people who are willing to make a commitment to this ministry. If you are interested in joining us or if you have questions, please contact Bev Hess, Julie Hoff, or notify the church office. We look forward to hearing from you!



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



Two Little Boys

After a hardy rainstorm filled all the potholes in the streets and lanes, a young mother watched her two little boys playing in the puddles through her kitchen window.

The older of the two, a five year old lad, grabbed his sibling by the back of his head and shoved his face into the water hole. As the boy recovered and stood laughing and dripping, the mother ran to the yard in a panic.

“Why on earth did you do that to your little brother?” she asked as she shook the older boy in anger.

“We were just playing ‘church’ Mum”, he said.

“I was baptising him - in the name of the Father, the Son and ‘in the hole-he-goes’



Coffee Hour

Pictures by Mary Snyder and Mac Miller



A great time to visit



Individually wrapped goodies



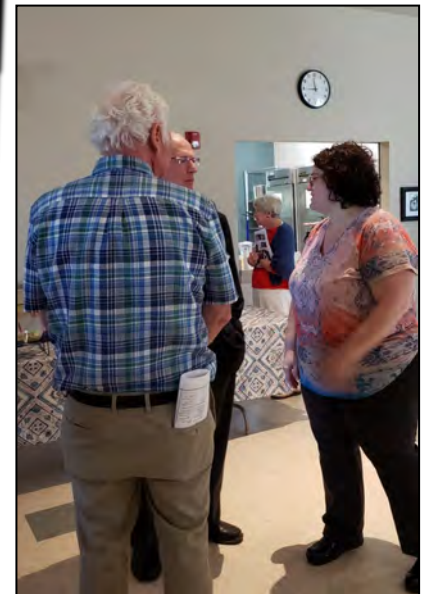
Bob Mosebach and Matthew Sternberg



Leslie Arnold, Kiki Davis-Brugmann Paul McLaughlin and slug



Bev Hess And Fr. Tim Small



Christina McLaughlin is the organizer



Michelle Bentley welcomes Curt & Mary Ann Franck & Mary Ann's sisters



Joyce Kamm, Buddy Yeager, Wanda Stoltzfus and Beth Lynch



Melissa Golden and Julie Hoff

Father Stephen Casey's Books



Many at St Edward's remember Father Stephen's extensive priestly library arrayed on multiple bookcases in the rector's office. But did you know that he had as many (or more) theological books on his many bookshelves at home? Recently Rayelenn Casey packed up all those books in 45 boxes. Some were donated to a few priests, some were donated to the LGH seminarian chaplain intern who had kindly and prayerfully supported Rayelenn through Stephen's hospitalization, and the rest were donated to Virginia Theological Seminary's Bishop Payne Library. Rayelenn fondly remembers the days, when Stephen was a seminarian there, when the announcement would go out that a priest's library had been donated and that books were ready for the students to pore over and take. "I always thought of the Biblical phrase 'without money and without price,' said Rayelenn recently, "because students could take at no cost whatever books they needed to help build up their librar-

ies." It is a very long-standing tradition at VTS. Father Rick became quite nostalgic when he was asked about it. "Those were some of the best days at seminary," he said, and added that many of the books in his own priestly library were obtained in this way. So on July 22, Rayelenn rented a U-Haul truck. Her son-in-law Kevin and Fr. Rick moved all those books out of the Casey home and into the truck in about ten minutes. Fr. Rick prayed over all those books, thanking God for the good they had done Stephen and St Edward's, and praying for the seminarians who would now benefit from the collection. At the seminary 3 hours later, Rayelenn met with Dr. Mitzi Budde, the same woman who was librarian when Fr. Stephen was a student, (and when Fr. Rick was a student!) "Stephen was one of those memorable students who was ALWAYS in the library," Dr. Budde recalled. "He was a serious and hard-working student, but he was always good for a funny story and a laugh." The boxes of books were trundled into the library on dollies and book carts by Mitzi and two of her assistants. When the seminary began classes just recently, the years-old tradition was re-enacted; the call went out and seminarians responded quickly, streaming from all points to the library to pick out books they needed, "without money and without price." Fr. Stephen's extensive and well-curated library will live on to enhance the ministries of so many priests. Thanks be to God.



At the seminary Rayelenn met with Dr. Mitzi Budde, the same woman who was librarian when Fr. Stephen was a student, (and when Fr. Rick was a student!)



Fr. Rick prayed over all those books, thanking God for the good they had done Stephen and St Edward's, and praying for the seminarians who would now benefit from the collection



Mitzi Budde and a library assistant moving the books into the Bishop Payne Library.



The call went out and seminarians responded quickly, streaming from all points to the library to pick out books they needed.

Summer Services

Pictures by Mary Snyder, Mac Miller and from Live Stream



Fr. Tim Small July 4th



Dina Ishler July 11th



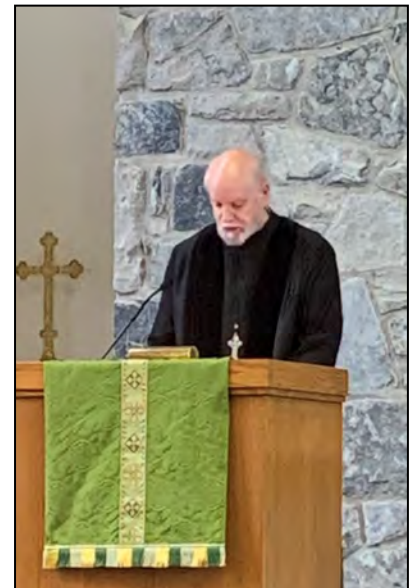
Recessional July 11th



The Rev. Canon Chris Streeter August 1st



Fr. Rick as parishioner August 1st.



Bob Mosebach July 11th



Patrick Ishler, Mary Ann and Curtis Franck and Buddy Yeager July 11th



Jeanne Mosebach July 11th

Summer Services



Praise Band: Patrick Ishler, Mike Freshwater, Karen Waddill, Randy Westgate, Beth and Seth Hake. July 4th



Patrick Ishler, Beth and Seth Hake August 1st



Fred Cluck June 27th



Nancy Mannion June 27th



For July 4th Offertory Karen Waddill played an arrangement of the Battle Hymn of the Republic



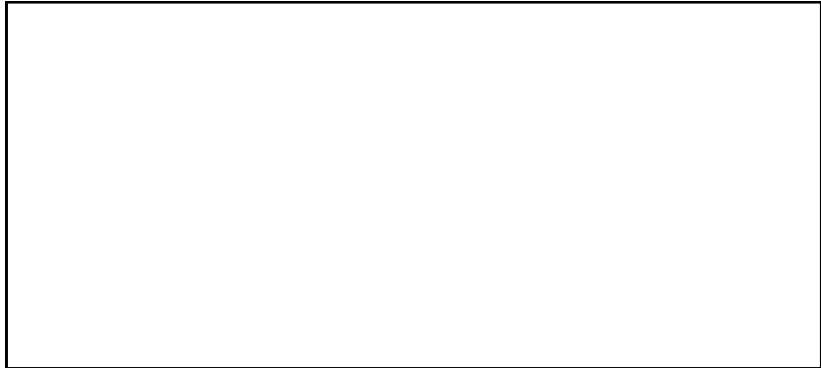
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Lancaster, PA 17601

Phone 717-898-6276

Email: stedsoffice@comcast.net

www.sainteds.org



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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

Tuesday-Friday:
11AM – 4:00PM

Vestry (year term ends)

- ✦ Catherine Donohue (2023)
- ✦ Karen Grant (2024)
- ✦ Peg Hanzelman (2024)
- ✦ Julie Hoff (2022) Sr. Warden
- ✦ Ginny Kloeping (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

Wednesday

12 Noon: Contemplative Eucharist,
Meditation, and Healing Prayer

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