



40  
| 1981-2021 |



ST. EDWARD'S  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

*Celebrating 40 years of faith.  
Looking towards the future.*







Here in 2021, we celebrate our 40th anniversary on the heels of a global pandemic, and in the midst of a great deal of change. But at St. Edward's, we've leaned on our faith tradition, and on one another, to invite the audacity of Christian hope that helps us to transform a time of crisis into an occasion for possibility. Through commitment to innovation, and listening for the whispers of the Holy, we've become clearer than ever before about our mission and our vision as Christ's Body alive in the world. Spreading the good news of our loving and merciful God, we now broadcast and archive our principal Sunday Eucharist every week, and we're seriously engaging our Christian Formation, facilitating spiritual growth in our community as we approach our shared faith with respect for the questions that we each bring, in search of ever-greater understanding. We're learning how to journey inward, embracing the ancient Christian practices of meditation and contemplation in our mid-week Eucharist.

And as we strive to transform the image of God imprinted in each of us toward better manifesting the likeness of Christ, we've committed ourselves to 'Faith in Action' through robust feeding ministries, care for prisoners, blood drives, and work with children's charities. We've also reasserted the priority of pastoral care in our church, becoming a Stephen Ministry parish and welcoming others to join us through inspired preaching, a more beautiful and welcoming campus, and the inter-personal warmth that fosters radical hospitality toward those in search of faith community. We're cultivating joy and building relationships on the firm foundations of progressive Christian principles. At St. Edward's we're looking toward the future with excitement, hope, and the fire of the Holy Spirit ignited in our hearts. May the peace of the Lord be with us as we travel together toward our 50th,

The Reverend Dr. Richard C. Bauer  
Rector

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- *Father Rick*

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# *The History of St. Edward's Episcopal Church*

*– 40 years of faith, looking towards our future.*

In 1981, the Bishop of the Diocese of Central Pennsylvania, the Right Reverend Dean Stevenson, chose to appoint a nuclear committee to develop a mission church in East Hempfield Township given the area's population growth. The Reverend John Norman was appointed as vicar in the summer of 1981. With 120 people in attendance, the first service of the newly formed mission was held on September 13, 1981 at the International Molders and Allied Workers Union Hall, located at 921 Nissley Road. Among the first acts of the new congregation was to select a permanent name for the church. The name was selected by a vote of adults and students in the seventh grade and above. The bishop approved the name of St. Edward's Episcopal Church in the fall of 1981.

Saint Edward was the next-to-last Saxon king of England prior to the Norman Conquest in 1066. Canonized in 1161, Saint Edward is especially remembered for building the first abbey church on the present site of Westminster Abbey. It is here that Saint Edward's elaborate tomb is found. The picture of Saint Edward that is used at our church is also used at Westminster Abbey. Saint Edward is depicted with a crown and halo, representing his kingship and sainthood. Saint Edward cradles "his" abbey in his left arm. The bird, sitting on top of his scepter and decorating his robe, is the martlet. Also used as a heraldic symbol on Saint Edward's crest, the martlet is commonly found on the grounds of the Abbey. The letters 'ER' stand for 'Edward Rex', Latin for Edward the King. The feast day for Saint Edward is celebrated on October 13.

By the end of 1981, St. Edward's membership consisted of 136 baptized members, representing 39 households. Reverend Norman served the church on a part-time basis as he worked to build a new community of faith. The sanctuary at the Union Hall was arranged each week using a portable altar, pulpit, lectern, hanging cross, banners, and folding chairs – all on loan from St. Thomas.

In January 1983, the Reverend Timothy Small became the second vicar at St. Edward's. Under his leadership, the funding, building design, and construction processes for our present building and site evolved, a multi-year task beginning in 1984 and culminating in 1990. Much of the early funding for the construction of the building can be credited to an anonymous parishioner who issued a challenge to the congregation, stating that for every dollar raised by the congregation, a five-dollar contribution would be made. As a result, \$122,000 was raised towards the capital fund. In 1988, sufficient funds and commitments were secured to allow construction to begin. The groundbreaking service was held on March 5, 1989.

In August 1989, the Reverend Margaret Custer became the interim vicar. Under her guidance, the congregation made the transition to the new church building. The first service in our present building was held on February 25, 1990. A Dedication and Consecration Service, officiated by the Right Reverend Charles McNutt, was held on April 1, 1990.

In August 1990, the Reverend Aaron Zull became the third vicar at St. Edward's. His tenure was marked by a renewed focus on a variety of important ministries; including Christian Education, youth programs, and outreach to the community at large. Many of the programs and events at St. Edward's, over the years, were developed under Father Zull's tutelage.

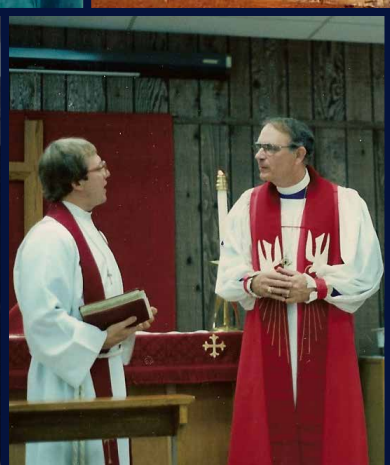
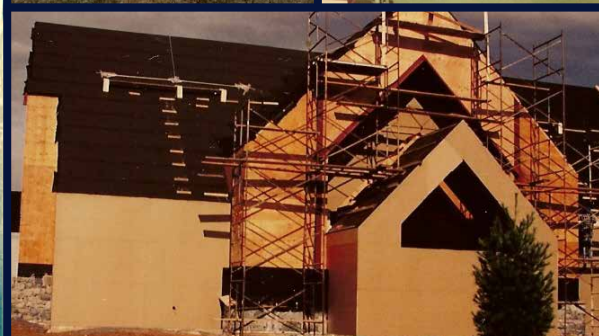
The Reverend Roy Turner became the parish's second interim vicar in November 1997. His ministry sought to impress upon the congregation a sense of our dependence on each other through Christ as the parish matures and moves forward.

The Reverend Stephen C. Casey became the fourth vicar at St. Edward's in July 1998. He spent much of his first year getting to know parishioners, our history, as well as establishing his vision for the church and our place in the community and diocese. A highlight of Father Casey's first year at St. Edward's was the Installation Service and Celebration for Father Casey in November 1998; officiated by the Right Reverend Michael Creighton, Bishop of the Diocese of Central Pennsylvania. For the next 20 years, under the ministry leadership of Stephen+, St. Edward's grew in many ways. Our parish campus was expanded to include a parish hall; our parish family grew; our ministries within our parish community, as well as to the wider community expanded; and our mortgage was paid in full through the generosity of a member of our parish family. Father Casey was elected an Honorary Canon of St. Stephen's Cathedral in Harrisburg in 2008 and served as the rector of St. Edward's until his retirement, on his birthday, November 9, 2018. It was with great sadness that our beloved Stephen+ died, due to complications from COVID-19, on January 19, 2021. We were honored to celebrate his life, with the Rt. Reverend Dr. Audrey Cady Scanlan, XI Bishop of the Diocese of Central Pennsylvania, Celebrant, and the Rt. Reverend Dr. Nathan D. Baxter, X Bishop of the Diocese of Central Pennsylvania, Resigned, Homilist at a private family service. The service was livestreamed around the globe, to all who knew and loved the Reverend Canon Stephen C. Casey, on January 30, 2021.

In January 2019, the Reverend David Batemen became our interim rector. For the next 15 months, Father Bateman kept St. Edward's steady in our ministry and mission. Vestry leadership worked closely with our interim rector during this time to keep our parish family united and to make necessary building repairs and improvements to our nursery, sacristy, narthex, and kitchen. On March 15, 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic closed our parish for in-person worship, as we were on the cusp of calling a new rector.

On April 15, 2020, the Reverend Dr. Richard C. Bauer, "Father Rick," accepted the call to serve as our new rector. And though none of us could have predicted we would experience such unprecedented circumstances in our first year together, our St. Edward's family has thrived under the strong leadership; business acumen; theological insights and teaching; guidance and expertise in Christian Formation; and pastoral shepherding of Father Rick. In addition to gifting us with his professional music background, it was Father Rick's technology expertise that allowed us to quickly adapt to a higher level of increased technology integration to bring services, spiritual formation programming, and business meetings to accessible levels for all. Our caliber of programming, pastoral outreach, and beautification of our spiritual home – from our Memorial Garden to our sanctuary; new chapel space in our parish hall wing; and continued revitalization and reimagination to all our spaces – continues in ways that inspire our parish family, providing us with strong parish growth. Due to the pandemic, we did not hold our "official" Installation Service for Father Rick until his one-year, plus one week, anniversary on April 21, 2021. Because of the COVID-19 restrictions in place for in-person worship, our parish watched the service via livestream, with those in attendance consisting of Father Rick's family, vestry members, and Search Committee members. A reception, via Zoom, was held on Sunday, April 25th. We have learned, with the guidance of our new rector, that these times call for us to open our minds and our hearts to what the Holy Spirit has in store for us, as we journey forward in faith, looking towards the future.







## *The Five Marks of Mission*

The Five Marks of Mission are an important statement on mission. They express the Anglican Communion's common commitment to, and understanding of, God's holistic and integral mission. The mission of the Church is the mission of Christ.

1. To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom
2. To teach, baptize and nurture new believers
3. To respond to human need by loving service
4. To transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind and pursue peace and reconciliation
5. To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation, and sustain and renew the life of the earth

## *Opportunities to Serve at St. Edward's*

We all have spiritual gifts that we have received, and those which we can give. Our first spiritual gift was the one we received from God in the form of our first breath. And whether we realize it or not, we all possess spiritual gifts from God that are meant to be used in His service.

Recognizing, and then giving, your spiritual gifts are vital to the successful mission and ministry of a parish. The Body of Christ is made up of many members. As Christians, we are all ministers of the church and we all possess unique gifts, given by the Spirit, that allow us to carry out the Great Commission.

## *St. Edward's Ministries*

Adult Spiritual Formation	Lector
Altar Guild	Lay Eucharistic Minister
Choir	Memorial Garden
Coffee Hour	New Member Ministry
Communications	Pastoral Care/Stephen Ministry
Cultural Events	Praise Band
Faith In Action	Property/Building Committee
Fellowship	Special Events Committee
Finance Committee	Stewardship Committee
Fundraising Committee	Sunday School
Historian	Usher
Knit Wits	Vestry

*Special thanks, to Elaine Radcliffe, St. Edward's Historian, and to all of our photographers, over the years, who share their love for St. Edward's, with us, in pictures.*

## *What We Believe*

*We Episcopalians believe in a loving, liberating, and life-giving God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. As constituent members of the Anglican Communion in the United States, we are descendants of and partners with the Church of England and the Scottish Episcopal Church, and are part of the third largest group of Christians in the world. We believe in following the teachings of Jesus Christ, whose life, death, and resurrection saved the world. We have a legacy of inclusion, aspiring to tell and exemplify God's love for every human being; women and men serve as bishops, priests, and deacons in our church. Laypeople and clergy cooperate as leaders at all levels of our church. Leadership is a gift from God, and can be expressed by all people in our church, regardless of sexual identity or orientation.*

*We believe that God loves you — no exceptions.*

THE *Episcopal* CHURCH 

[episcopalchurch.org](http://episcopalchurch.org)



The  
**EPISCOPAL CHURCH** in  
**CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA**

The Rt. Rev. Audrey C. Scanlan, XI Bishop  
[diocesecpa.org](http://diocesecpa.org)



## ST. EDWARD'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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Looking towards the future.*

The Reverend Dr. Richard C. Bauer, Rector  
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