



Scepter



Reflection From the Rector's Desk

By The Rev. Dr. Richard C. Bauer



“We only needed to be willing to extend ourselves beyond the patterns of our day-to-day, to allow ourselves the time and the space to wander.”

My entry point to Lent came a couple of days early this year. After an overnight, building a spectacular 1500-piece Lego medieval castle and watching the Rob Reiner classic “The Princess Bride,” my boys and I set out for a walk along the Susquehanna River on President’s Day. We parked our car at the entrance to the bicycle path that begins in Marietta and thought that we’d enjoy a leisurely stroll on concrete while taking in the sun and the water on an uncharacteristically mild winter day. But when we passed the train tracks that give way to the path, my boys decided that they want-

ed to walk off in the opposite direction, where there was no visible path. And so, instead of going the way of the concrete, we took a left into a rocky tree line and proceeded down toward the river. We decided to explore, and to forge our own trail through reeds, fallen oaks, and jagged quartzite stone. We soon discovered a treasure trove of river birch branches that we broke into three perfect walking sticks, using the tools to help us find support and footing as we navigated, checking our feet for any nearby obstacles, or slithering on the shifting ground beneath us.

My sons and I were wander-

ing. We didn’t have a destination in mind, and we didn’t have a goal, other than being together. After about thirty minutes of walking, we realized that we were the only people around, that we were alone...together...in the natural world. And in-between musings over sharks that can live in fresh water and the recitation of every inappropriate joke memorized as essential fifth-grade public school vernacular, I began to feel like the spirit of Lent was descending upon us. We had made our way out of suburbia, beyond the binary constraints of “mom’s place” and “dad’s apartment,” to a space where we were exploring and discovering, where we were fully present, and yet, outside of time. And we didn’t have to travel far to get there. We only needed to be willing to extend ourselves beyond the patterns of our day-to-day, to allow ourselves the time and the space to wander.

Reflecting on this vignette, I’ve felt something of our shared faith narrative coming to life. Getting off the beaten path inspires my spiritual imagination, as I tend to entertain vivid imagery of wilderness wandering, of getting lost, when I think about Lent. Pondering the notion of Jesus wandering

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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

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alone in the desert spaces of the barren Judean mountains for forty days and forty nights, Moses upon Mount Sinai, and the journey of Israel out of bondage in Egypt toward liberation in a Promised Land, I appreciate the stories we've been handed about our ancestors stepping away from one way of being in the world in order to re-emerge (after a time) with a new understanding. And about Lent a decade ago, when a mentor of mine gave me a book



called *Honey from the Rock*, I started seeking out places in the world where I can get completely lost. In the book, Jewish Mystic and Kabbalist Lawrence Kushner offers up a theology of the wilderness that resonates with me on a primal level. Referencing the biblical Exodus, Kushner writes: "The wilderness is not just a desert through which we wander for forty years. It is a way of being. A place that demands being open to the flow of life around you. A place that demands being honest with yourself without regard to the cost in personal anxiety. A place that demands being

present with all of yourself." But Kushner also helpfully identifies the reticence of sensible folks to wander, and he cites the memory of the Israelites who thought perhaps: "it is better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness" (Exodus 14:12). Indeed, there's something disorienting and scary about not knowing what the day might bring or where we'll lay our head. When any of us are fortunate enough to find a sense of safety and home, it can feel like an extraneous endeavor to continue wandering in life.

And the more that I enjoy the privilege of walking with others as a pastor, the more that I appreciate people's affinity for the familiar. We say things like: "better the devil you know," "a bird in hand is better than two in the bush," "it is what it is." In our lives, we tend to go with, and to settle for, whatever happens to be in front of us without giving much thought to wonders about 'what could be.' On many levels, this kind of perspective speaks to faithfully embracing the gifts that we've been afforded in life, of acceptance and a spirit of peaceful gratitude. And yet, to this, Kushner suggests that we're *also* perpetually invited as spiritual beings to set aside the familiar through our sacred stories and consider embracing them in our own lives. He wonders if, perhaps, God has a pattern of calling his people out of the familiar and into the wilderness where we can meet the divine on its own terms, where we aren't in control of the context or the environment. And if our God does, indeed, call us into wilderness spaces, then maybe the Holy also invites us to linger in them as well. As Kushner writes of our ancestors who wandered in the desert: "sooner or later everyone must have understood that this Ancient Only God did not really want them to get there; He only wanted them to be *on their way*."

While wandering with my boys along the Susquehanna, I related intimately to Kushner's take on the time we set apart to engage what really matters, on the times that we're driven into the unfamiliar to cultivate a new way of seeing and of being. Truth be told; I would have been happy to stay



kind of lost there, amid rock and river, tree and reed, with my sons for an eternity. I experience the love of Christ

and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit when I'm with Ricky and Christian. And I sense that when any of us experience moments that fully invite into the "present," we're quite content to be on the journey without concern for our destination. And so, this Lent, I plan on exercising a greater degree of intentionality about being a person *on my way*. I won't be giving anything up for Lent, but I will be taking on the discipline of paying more attention to opportunities for getting lost. I hope to linger, without the need to reach a destination as I engage this season of prayer and penitence. And I pray that we will all find ourselves invited into the wilderness...wandering blessedly in community, relationship, and love as we travel together through a Holy Lent. May we journey well friends,

Rick+

Parish Office Hours

Parish Office Hours

Tuesday- Friday:
11:00 – 4:00PM

Parish Administrator
Michelle Bentley

Scepter

Production Staff:

H. J. "Mac" Miller

Joyce Kamm

Mary Snyder



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



I attended my last Vestry meeting of my 3-year term on Sunday. It was suggested that we reflect on what our term meant to us. I did silly calculations of the number of days and the amount of minutes I took. I also broke down the in-person meetings with the Zoom meetings that I attended. Those are things that can be counted and for anyone that is on the side of practicality it makes sense but not so much for a spiritual person.

I listened to my fellow Vestry members whose terms were also ending (Catherine Donohue and Ginny Kloeping) and realized that my spiritual growth was enhanced by being on the Vestry. I understand the practical work we did such as approving expenditures, budgets, and by-laws but the people I served with over the last three years left me with a part of them both spiritually and personally. The lessons that are learned while sitting at a table with your Rector and 8 other parishioners are mind blowing.

Shared stories that are viewed differently by each person, open your mind:

The impact of receiving the cup of wine at the altar vs. the mini-cups in the back of the sanctuary affects each individual differently. Empathy is a lesson learned.

The ability to comfort those in sad, dark places when a loved one has passed, or born too early, or unexpected surgeries. Sympathy is a lesson learned.

Voicing opinions regarding the expenditures of monetary gifts or unforeseen operational needs. Fiduciary accountability is a lesson learned.

Allowing the spiritual growth of members to follow their passion to be leaders in the Episcopal Church. Nurturing is a lesson learned.

To recognize the overworked people in the parish. Supporting is a lesson learned.

Most of all, to appreciate the gifts each person brings to the table is the best lesson learned.

When I reflect on the reason I wanted to serve on the Vestry, I remember distinctly that I thought it would be exciting to be on Fr. Rick's first Vestry. I was not disappointed. The growth of the parish, the improvements to the building and grounds, and the outreach to our parish family is mind-blowing. Remember back then COVID-19 closed our in-person church. Many thought that the church was closed down. Nope! Fr. Rick's technical knowledge raised us into a new realm of electronic services. The phone became an important personal contact tool. Do not forget ZOOM. Spiritual life was expanded to ministry meetings, Bible Study groups,

Vespers, and so much more. Zoom allowed us to discern with Dina Ishler her call to ministry.

I would like to meet a person who is not blown away with our beautiful sanctuary and memorial garden. The ordinary time vestige and table coverings, the lighting for the choir, the spiritual hangings, the carved cross outside, the trees and plants, the baptismal font and the stained-glass window.

I can truly express that my time on Vestry provided me more than I provided the Vestry.

Picture by Mary Snyder



This Lenten quilt, made by Sharon Hubbard and Dina Cerase is hanging in the Narthex. Watch as these beautiful quilts change with the liturgical seasons.

Military News

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

- ★ 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
- ★ Mike Spurr
- ★ David Sternberg
- ★ Clayton Tennies
- ★ Connor Tennes
- ★ Evan Westgate
- ★ Seamas Whitesel
- ★ 1st Lt. Thomas Whitesel





Testimonials from Care Receivers

“Her weekly visits became an anchor in my life—something I could rely on when everything else was so uncertain. She was a steady reminder of God’s presence, helping me know I was never alone.” -Ellen

“The time I spent with my Stephen Minister was the only time in the week when I could truly focus on my own needs. She was there just for me.” - Elizabeth

“Although my needs changed as I went from wife to caregiver to widow, my Stephen Minister’s love and support remained a constant. She was there at every stage of my journey, helping me through some of the most difficult moments of my life—so I could begin to heal.” -Susan

“When things seemed like too much to handle, my Stephen Minister brought normalcy and calm. With him by my side, I knew I could make it from one week to the next. I could feel God’s presence when my Stephen Minister was there.” -James

To learn more about Stephen Ministry and determine if this ministry could benefit you or someone you know, please contact Peg Hanzelman at phanzelman@comcast.net or 717-390-4944.



Brochures are available in the Parish Hall and also in the sanctuary pews.



Picture by Dina Ishler

Paddling through Lent — and life

Lent is a time for restoring balance to our lives. The Eskimos practice balance as they venture into freezing Arctic waters in little boats. If you’ve ever paddled a kayak, you know how easy they are to tip. Thankfully, kayaks are just as easy to turn back upright.

That isn’t a bad image for Lent — or for life as a whole. Whatever spiritual disciplines we adopt, if we succumb to temptation, it’s no biggie. One of the lessons of Lent is that, as long as we’re traveling light, it takes only a quick twist of the paddle to right us. That paddle twist might take the form of a quick but heartfelt prayer: “Jesus, set me straight again!” Or it might mean some extra time set aside for quiet meditation with God. Don’t get worried if your spiritual discipline fails now and then. Just let Jesus help you get upright once more, and keep paddling!

—adapted from Carlos Wilton, in *Homiletics*

“Be more concerned with your character than your reputation, because your character is what you really are, while your reputation is merely what others think you are.”
—John Wooden



By Beth Lynch

Pokémon winter session is Jan 18 thru March 29. Learn to battle, travel, play games, do crafts and so much more.



Wednesday nights
6:30 p.m.
to 8:00 p.m.

Kitchen Helpers Needed



The beautiful kitchen that is attached to the parish hall is about to become fully operational. There are a few steps needed to get it state certified, but that is in the works. There is a need for individuals to step forward and willing to be Kitchen Helpers. These individuals will help with supplies, inventory and keeping the kitchen in working order. If this is up your alley please contact Beth Lynch at 336-707-0140.



Wedding Gown Shopping



Rachael Smith and Peg Reiley



Snow Angel



Rayelenn Casey's Granddaughter

SPRINGTIME SNACKS



Whip up a plate of these cute, healthy treats!

What you need:

- Celery sticks
- Cherry tomatoes
- Cucumber circles
- Olives
- Cream cheese spread
- Fresh basil leaves (optional)
- Adult help

What you do:

1. Have an adult help you wash and cut the veggies.
2. Spread cream cheese inside the celery rods.
3. Place a cucumber circle upright in the cream cheese to make a bug body.
4. Add the tomato as a head.
5. Arrange basil leaves on a plate and place the veggie bugs on them.
6. Making different-shaped bugs with your favorite veggies. Enjoy!



A seasonal reminder

Signs of spring remind us of God's promises.

Directions: Use the picture code and clues to complete Isaiah 61:11, NIV.

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------|
| plants grow here | seeds are planted in this |
| to coil and jump (also a season of the year) | when watered, these make plants |
| to expand and get bigger | another word for seedling |

For as the _____ makes the _____

come up and a _____ causes _____

_____ to _____, so the

Sovereign LORD will make righteousness

and praise _____ up before all nations.

ISAIAH 61:11, NIV

Answer: soil, sprout, garden, seeds, grow, spring



Bible Quiz

In the Gospels, Jesus raised several people from death. Which of the following was not one of them?

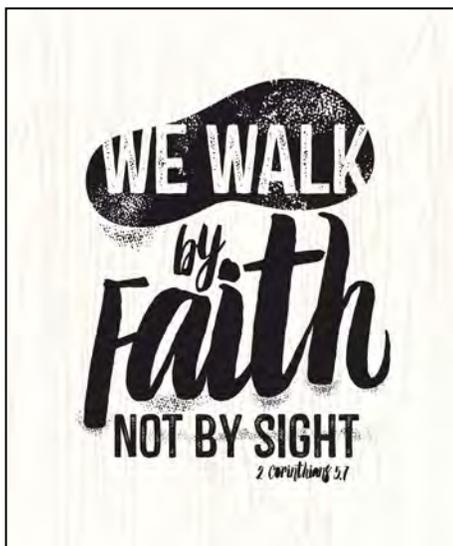
- Tabitha
- Jairus's daughter
- A widow's son
- Lazarus



Answers
INSIDE

Answer: A (See Acts 9, Mark 5, Luke 7, John 11.)

Men's Group



Saturday Men's Group: 2nd Saturday of the month *from 8 AM - 10 AM*. Join us at St. Edward's, in partnership with Saint James Episcopal Church, for two hours of fellowship, including Morning Prayer. Coffee and donuts will be served. Our next meeting is Saturday, February 11th.

Widow's Group



Our **Widows Group** meets on the first Thursday of each month at 10 AM at the church.

All widows are invited. Come to a place where sharing is caring.

For more information contact:
Peggy Hanzelman:

717.390.4944

phanzelman@comcast.net or:

Ethel Lawrence:

717.314.8993

ethell748@gmail.com

Lunch and Learn

Picture by Mary Snyder



The books this group has discussed.

By Bob Mosebach

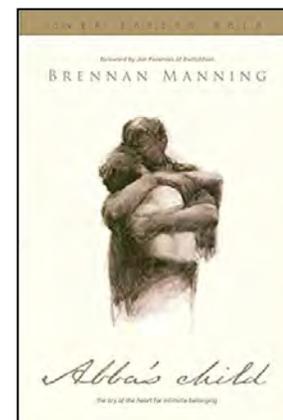
Paul speaks of inner conflict in his letter to the Romans (7:14-20): 'I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate'. We all experience this same thing in one way or another, and at some point wonder what this internal disconnect is all about, and what we might do about it. In Lunch and Learn we are investigating this phenomenon in 'Abba's Child', by Brennan Manning.

We are born with a personality that is unique to ourselves, not duplicated by anyone else who has ever lived or will ever live, but before we are even conscious of it we begin to sense that certain behaviors are more acceptable than others; some things garner a positive response where others do not. Our 'inculturation' has begun, and continues as we learn how to be in the world, to get along, to be accepted. By the time we are adults we've built a wall of behaviors around that unique personality with which we were born, mostly for very good and

valid reasons. But what often happens is that we begin to think that these accumulated behaviors are not just modifications but what really defines who we are. Manning calls this version of ourselves 'the imposter', or the 'false self'; others call it the 'ego'.

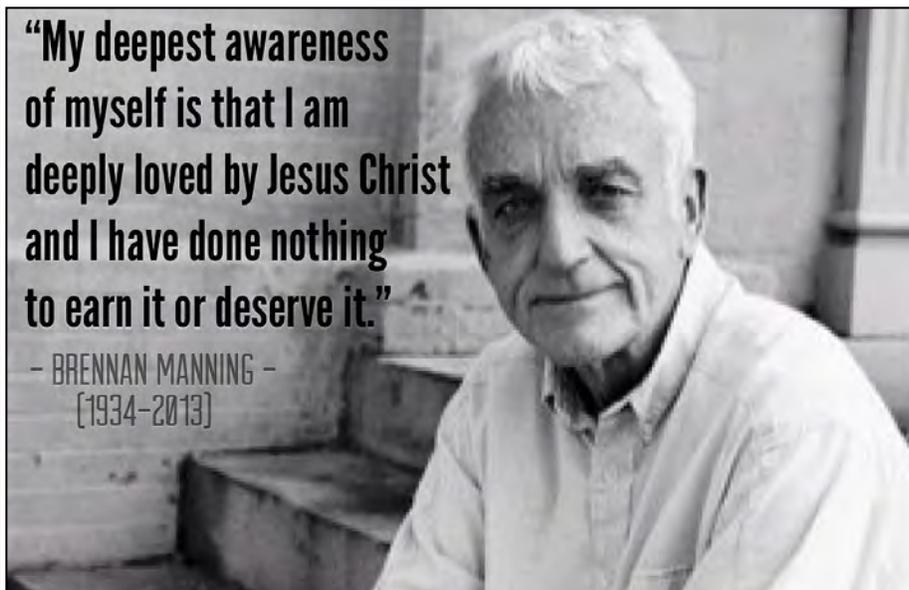
Though our ego was developed for all the right reasons, when it overtakes that unique individual we were born to be, the one that God sees us as, our 'True self', the conflicted self becomes evident as it did for Paul, and as most of us eventually discover. The question is then, having come to this realization, what is there to be done? How do we rediscover our True Self, who we really are in God's eyes?

Join us Friday's at noon to 1 pm on Zoom. The Zoom link is included in Michelle's Monday email each week. You need only click on that link, and the rest is automatic. The Lunch and Learn conversations over the past couple years have been rich and very useful as the group shares their thoughts and experiences, so please join us.



"My deepest awareness of myself is that I am deeply loved by Jesus Christ and I have done nothing to earn it or deserve it."

- BRENNAN MANNING -
[1934-2013]



Wednesday Evening Bible Study Series “The Parables”

Our St. Edward's Wednesday night Bible study offers an in-depth look, in this case at Jesus' parables. Our approach to Bible study has been to use the 'Conversations with Scripture' series as a guide through the topic. We travel at our own pace with the intention to delve into the scripture, recognizing its social-historical meaning for its initial hearers, as well as its modern-day readers. Please join us on our spiritual journey. Bob Mosebach



William “Bill” Brosend

Conversations with Scripture: The Parables by William Brosend

Overview from Barnes & Noble: *From the very beginning, human beings have loved to listen to stories. And Jesus loved to tell them. The parables are vivid, rich, arresting stories that make us think and teach us lessons about our relationship with God and others. From talents to mustard seeds, from shepherds to Samaritans, Jesus used common reference points to teach important truths.*

But the parables are filled with ambiguity and room for interpretation. With historical and cultural background, and careful scholarly detail, this book helps readers

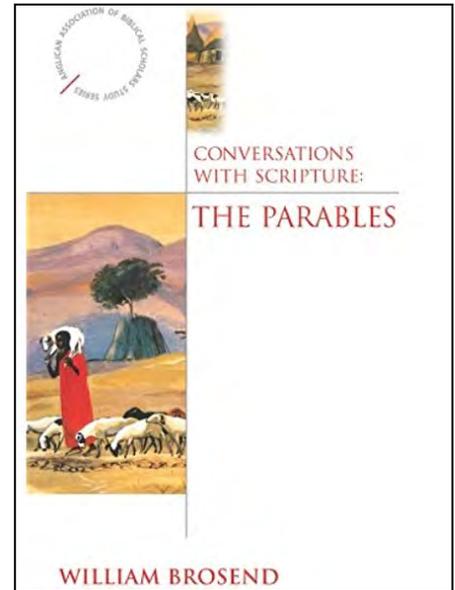
explore their beauty, richness, and joy.

The author is uniquely qualified to have written this book. As he says in the introduction:

The parables of Jesus are important to me for many reasons, most of which will be obvious by the time you finish this book, so only a few need be noted here. First, the parables were Jesus’ favorite way to preach and teach, and as someone who preaches and teaches about Jesus I believe content and form are both important. Better understanding how Jesus taught will help us better understand what he taught. Second, I have found that the Gospel of Mark is correct in saying that parables are the way the people of God best hear the Word of God (4:33–34). In a variety of settings, from seminary to Sunday school, classes on the parables of Jesus are consistently appealing. Finally, as I explain in the last chapter, I also believe that learning how to interpret the parables helps us in our interpretation of the whole of Scripture. So the work we do together on the

parables may help you be a better student of the Bible in unexpected ways. I have been preparing most of my life to write this little volume on the parables, and I have to admit that I had a marvelous time doing so. I pray that you will be informed and formed by it, and hope that you will enjoy it a bit in the process. Blessings!

Bill Brosend



Wednesday Evening Bible Study:
6:30 PM to 8:00 PM: Zoom invite in your weekly emails. For questions, please contact:

Bob Mosebach at:

rcmosebach@comcast.net or

Leslie Arnold at: larnold897@aol.com

Bowie the Parish Pup



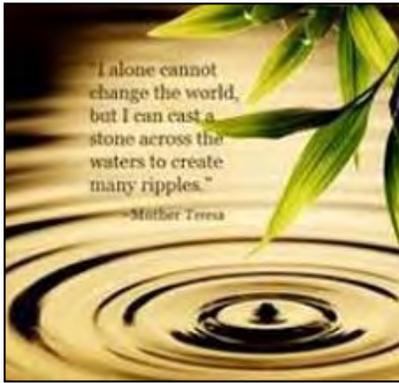
“Wandering” near the river



“I really need a day in between Saturday and Sunday.”



“Ah! Starbucks.... I needed this!”



Parishioners Helping Parishioners

By Beth Lynch



There are some parishioners that are unable to attend services or events in person due to transportation issues. Please keep them in mind when attending yourself. A quick call to a fellow parishioner to offer to drive them to a church service or other events can only bring us closer together



Are you moving or downsizing?

Thank you



I get kinda silly when people do nice things for me.

Thank you for gifting me with such a beautiful garment in such a gorgeous shade of blue. It felt wrapped in a hug when I'm wearing it. I love it!

Sincerely,
Cathy

Thank you for a prayer shawl.



Are you planting a spring garden?

Let FIA know what you need help with and help will be on the way. Beth Lynch (336) 707-0140.

Do the jobs seem overwhelming? Let FIA know what you need help with and help will be on the way.

Beth Lynch

(336) 707-0140



Women's Spirituality Group Story

By Michelle Bentley



Each month, on the first Saturday of the month, women gather at 10 AM in the parish hall to engage in Morning Prayer, reflection, fellowship, and light refreshments. This is our Women's Spirituality Group – the brainchild of Barb Czepukaitis. Over the past several months, Barb, and myself - with the spiritual and theological guidance of Father Rick, Bob Mosebach, and Dina Ishler - have been faithfully engaged in discerning the formation of this spiritual ministry, in partnership with the women who participate in this group.

ence that is certainly worth exploring! On its present path, we encourage group participation in the reading of our Morning Prayer liturgy, fostering a greater connection to the communal nature of that service. We also empower participants to reflect on the scripture readings prior to the gathering so that we can engage in heartfelt dialogue that allow us the opportunity to express how our scripture intersects with our modern day lives. It is amazing the conversations we have! Our hearts and minds are open to an evolving direction, expressed by the women participating in this monthly gathering and we encourage the women of St. Edward's (and their friends!) to join us for future gatherings. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet one another and explore our shared faith. A note of encouragement: One does not need to be an "expert" in theology or have your "spirituality" all figured out! That is the beauty of these offerings. . .we support and encourage each other to explore a path of unknowing. As I like to say: "Come on in, the water's fine!"

. It has been, and is, a wonderful experi-

"Great opportunities to help others seldom come, but small ones surround us every day."

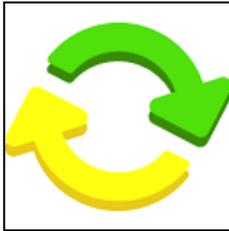
—Sally Koch

By Beth Lynch

I recently listened to a Master Class by Jane Goodall on conservationism. It struck me that many of us already do many things that go toward helping the earth we live on. At St. Edward's we recycle boxes and the church bulletins. We are very mindful of our utility issues. The leafy debris on our campus are taken to the city mulching hub. That does not mean we have to stop there. As individuals there are many things that can be done.

Here are just a few ideas:

Lancaster Freecycle-Trash Nothing!



<https://trashnothing.com/beta/lancaster-freecycle>

Trash nothing! makes it easy for people to give away their unwanted but reusable items to people in their local community who can use them. People can post items to give away or request items from others in their local community - everything is always free with no strings attached. It's easy to use, simply post what you have to give away and request things that you want and other members of the group will contact you if they can help. It keeps things from the landfills.

Community Aid -



The donation site off of Good Drive in Lancaster is a great place to donate items no longer needed by you. When dropping off items don't forget to let them know it is from St. Edward's. By mentioning our parish we earn points that will go back into our coffers.



Back in December of 2022, Mitch Mathias of WITF contacted St. Edward's to inquire if we would be willing to be featured in a new online series they were creating, titled: Overlooked Art that would be featured on their Arts, Culture, and Lifestyle hub – Mosaic.

What a wonderful opportunity for St. Edward's to be one of the spiritual homes featured in this series. As Mitch detailed to us, "The basic idea of the series is to highlight the beauty of the art in some of the churches in Central PA. Each will run an average of 3 minutes, and most likely include shorter 60 second versions. It would be online-only and set to music.

WITF is working on reaching out to a younger audience and trying to take advantage of the possibilities that the internet holds."

Below is the YouTube link that features St. Edward's video segment that was released as we begin Lent:

This video will give you a new appreciation of the details of the artist's work.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rwAoIxbZLIk&t=10s>

We hope you enjoy this beautiful segment and you will share it with your friends and family.



Lunch With The Chosen



Hosted by Father Rick and Blair Lord

Sunday February 5th marked the first “Lunch with The Chosen.” Members of our congregation joined with bagged lunches to watch *The Chosen*, an independently produced streaming series about Jesus, his ministry, and his first disciples. Rather than start from the first episode of season 1, we brought everyone in with episode 4, “The Rock on Which It Is Built.” In it, Simon (not yet called Peter) finds himself in a dire situation: he owes taxes to the Roman government, and he’s made a deal to turn in Jewish fishermen working on Shabbat to clear his debt. Torn between saving himself and doing the right thing, he soon lands in a dark place—emotionally and literally—while racing against the clock. When rescue comes, it’s in the most unexpected way. Meanwhile, the Pharisee Nicodemus has been keeping an eye out for an

unknown man who can perform miracles. This search eventually brings him face-to-face with the outspoken preacher John the Baptizer.

After the episode, our group engaged in a discussion full of uplifting insights and thoughtful, sometimes challenging questions about beliefs and the experiences that shape them. It was a blessing to share our reactions and meditations as a loving, supportive community.

I’m excited to continue this journey with you! Our next Chosen luncheon will be **Sunday, March 5th**, right after the 10am service in the parish hall. We will watch episode 5, “The Wedding Gift,” in which Jesus sets out on his first journey with his new followers to attend a wedding feast in Cana. Make sure to bring your wine, loaves, and fish (or other lunch options). You won’t want to miss this party!

If you would like to catch up on episodes 1 through 4, you can access The Chosen for free at these links:

- new.thechosen.tv
- angel.com

You can also download The Chosen App or the Angel Studios App to your Amazon FireTV, Apple TV, or Roku, and on your phone from the Apple Store or Google Play Store.

I’ve also attached a picture to go with it. Let me know if you have questions. Thank you!

Best,

Blair

Evening Prayer

Sunday Evening Prayer, at 7:00 PM:

We use the 1979 *Book of Common Prayer* and the readings for the Sunday Lectionary. It is a quiet service and a good way to end the weekend and prepare for the week to come.

Anyone interested can send me an email to be put on an email distribution list:

drutledge1225@gmail.com

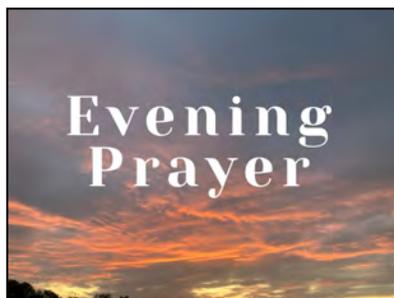
Sunday Evening Prayer@ 7:00pm

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84700614072>

Meeting ID: 847 0061 4072

Passcode: SunEP



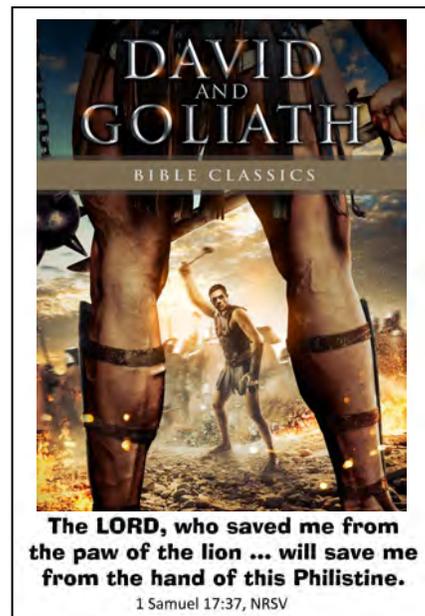
Facing Giants



During the NCAA basketball tournaments, many fans enjoy rooting for an underdog, hoping a Cinderella story will emerge. First-round March Madness matchups often are billed as David vs. Goliath events, with perennial powerhouses facing off against little-known schools.

Underdogs play key roles in the Bible: Moses takes on Pharaoh’s army, Daniel defies a king and David squares off against an actual giant. Being an underdog didn’t faze David, who knew the source of his strength: “For the battle is the Lord’s,” he says in 1 Samuel 17:47. What assurance as we battle life’s “giants”!

In Goliath Must Fall, Louie Giglio writes, “Our giants keep taunting us, so we need to hold God at his word: that he is already victorious.” Instead of “staring at our giant,” we must “lock eyes with Jesus” and remember that “life is short and God is big.” With bold hearts, adds Giglio, we can worship with “holy urgency” while giants fall.





SAVE THE DATE! MARCH 12, 2023

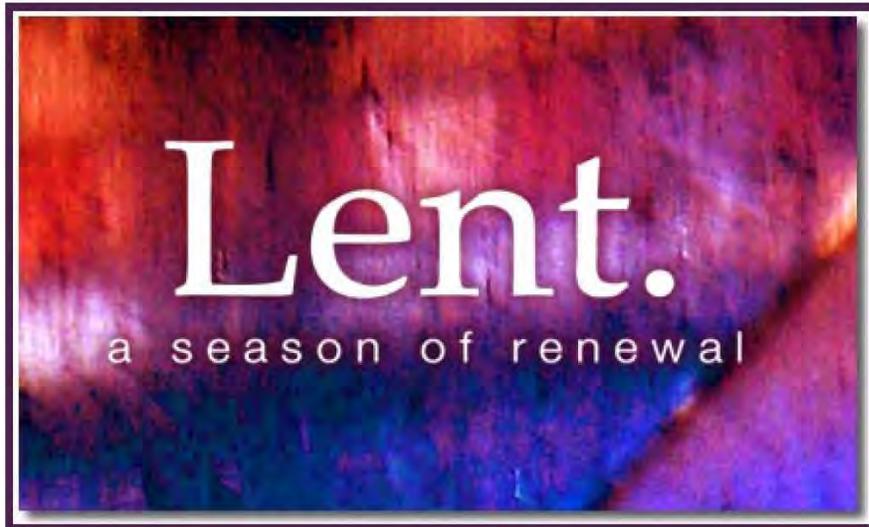
10 AM – RITE II WORSHIP

11:30 AM – ANNUAL MEETING (SANCTUARY)

**12:30 PM – REFRESHMENTS, MUSIC, AND
MINISTRY FAIR (PARISH HALL)**

**THIS IS AN IMPORTANT DAY IN THE LIFE OF ST. EDWARD'S!
WE HOPE YOU WILL MARK YOUR CALENDARS TO JOIN US AS WE WORSHIP
AT ONE SERVICE, FOLLOWED BY OUR ANNUAL MEETING.
AND THAT'S NOT ALL!!! WE WILL GATHER IN FELLOWSHIP FOR
REFRESHMENTS, MUSIC, AND AN OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK WITH MINISTRY
LEADERS ABOUT THE AMAZING WAYS TO SERVE IN OUR SPIRITUAL HOME.**

THIS IS ALSO THE START OF DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME.



WHO IS MY NEIGHBOR?

ACCORDING TO THE BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER, LENT PROVIDES US WITH THE OPPORTUNITY FOR SELF-EXAMINATION, REPENTANCE, PRAYER, FASTING AND SELF-DENIAL; AND TO READ AND MEDITATE ON GOD'S HOLY WORD (BCP, P 265).

THIS LENTEN SEASON, EPISCOPAL RELIEF & DEVELOPMENT INVITES YOU TO JOIN US AS WE MEDITATE ON THE COMMANDMENT TO LOVE OUR NEIGHBOR AND CONSIDER THE MEANING OF THIS FUNDAMENTAL INSTRUCTION IN OUR DAILY LIVES.

WE HAVE PRINTED COPIES OF ER&D BOOKLETS FOR THOSE WHO WISH TO FOLLOW THESE MEDITATIONS DURING THE LENTEN SEASON. COPIES WILL BE IN THE NARTHEX AND A LINK TO AN ONLINE VERSION WILL BE IN OUR WEEKLY EMAILS.

WE WILL ALSO OFFER A BEAUTIFUL COLORING BOOKLET FOR ADULTS AND CHILDREN TO EXPLORE AS A MEDITATIVE PRACTICE DURING LENT. THE BOOKLETS AND COLORING PENCILS WILL BE AVAILABLE IN THE NARTHEX.

YOU BID YOUR FAITHFUL PEOPLE CLEANSE THEIR HEARTS, AND PREPARE WITH JOY FOR THE PASCHAL FEAST; THAT, FERVENT IN PRAYER AND IN WORKS OF MERCY, AND RENEWED BY YOUR WORD AND SACRAMENTS, THEY MAY COME TO THE FULLNESS OF GRACE WHICH YOU HAVE PREPARED FOR THOSE WHO LOVE YOU. (BCP, P 379)

Needle Arts Ministry

The Needle Arts Ministry meets Tuesday at 1 PM in the lounge area.

Members of this group, plus volunteer crafters, work all year to create a variety of items for the cookie/craft sale. They also make items such as prayer shawls and baptism blankets, as well as hats and scarves to be donated to any in need.

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.



Irene Achey, Barb O'Brien and Sue Bianco untangle a skein of "bargain" yarn we found at a craft thrift shop.



Mac Miller made a hat that was a bit too large.



Freda Dombach

One Tuesday Freda kindly took the time to stop in to thank the Knit Wits for this prayer shawl, which they had knitted. The shawl was given to her when she was hospitalized and she said she really appreciated it, as she was always so cold and it helped to warm her. The Knit Wits were grateful for her thoughtful visit. They often don't know where their finished products go, so it was wonderful to see and hear where one item found a home.



Other Knit Wits advised her to draw it together and add a pom pom. Problem solved!!



Donna Holwager's "spring" pillow. She said their pet rabbit thought this was a friend, Their real rabbit often sat with his "bunny buddy."

If Not Church?



After some time away from the church, author Donald E. Miller returned to the fold. He writes:

"One thing that brought me back ...

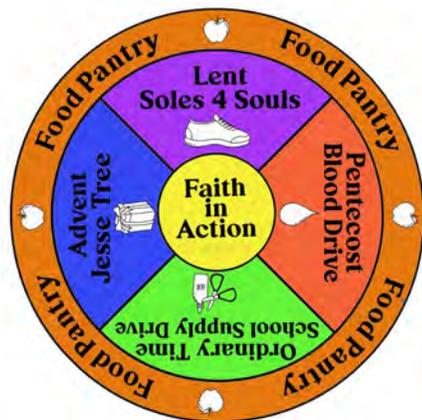
was asking simply: What are the alternatives to the church? Where are the communities that sanction the pursuit of meaning and truth as a legitimate enterprise? that have material and personal resources to assist in this search? that provide regular occasions for confession of failures? that renew and inspire? that provide a setting where children are nurtured? where family members can be buried? where births can be celebrated? where social issues can be debated?"

Miller concludes: "There are a number of institutions that deal with one or several of these questions, but historically the church has demonstrated its ability to energize all of these activities."



Food items currently requested:

- Canned vegetable soup
- Canned cream of celery soup
- Canned cream of broccoli soup
- Canned carrots
- Canned mixed vegetables
- Large jelly
- Large peanut butter
- We prefer no glass containers.
- Thanks!
- Diane



Soles For Souls



Collecting shoes now through April 2.

St. Edward's is once again working with St. John's collecting new and used shoes over Lent. So rather than giving something up for Lent, let's give something. When people lack the resources to get through today, it's difficult for them to focus on tomorrow. Soles4Souls turns shoes into opportunities for education and employment so they can have a more hopeful future.



Feed My Starving Children

Date: Sunday, March 26, 2023
 Time: 1:30 PM to 3:30 PM
 See details below.

Race Against Racism:

April 29, 2023 9am
 Musser Park Lancaster City
 Be part of the biggest and longest consecutively run Race Against Racism in the nation! We will walk with all the walkers this year.

Blood Drive

We are partnering with Lancaster General Hospital. Thursday, May 18th. The drive begins at 2 and ends around 7 pm. All blood collected goes back into their local hospitals. Ages 16 to 74 are eligible.

Feed My Starving Children



Saint Edward's is looking forward to participating in the 8th Lancaster County Feed My Starving Children MobilePack event. We have signed up to fill 20 volunteer spaces. Details for our volunteer time slot are as follows:

Date: Sunday, March 26, 2023
 Time: 1:30 PM to 3:30 PM
 Location: Lancaster County FMSC MobilePack
 Willow Street Mennonite Church
 399 East Penn Grant Rd
 Willow Street, PA 17584

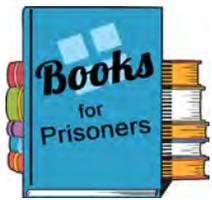
Feed My Starving Children (FMSC) is a Christian organization founded in 1987. Through MobilePack events, FMSC is able to partner with local community organizations to send healthy, safe meals

to malnourished children around the world. How does it work? 1,500 volunteers work during 2 hour shifts to pack 300,000 meals in 3 days to help alleviate world hunger!

Over the last seven events, the Lancaster County Feed My Starving Children (FMSC) MobilePack has brought together more than 7,500 volunteers to pack and send more than 1.9 million meals to Somalia, Haiti, Malawi, Dominican Republic, Belize, Jamaica and Poland to feed those most in need. This has been an opportunity for adults and kids of all ages to hand-pack nutritious Manna Pack meals - specifically designed to reverse malnutrition - and make a positive difference in the world.

If you would like to volunteer, please sign up on the clipboard in the narthex.

If you have any questions about the MobilePack event, please ask Dottie Gschwend, Kevin Milligan, or Beth Lynch for more information.



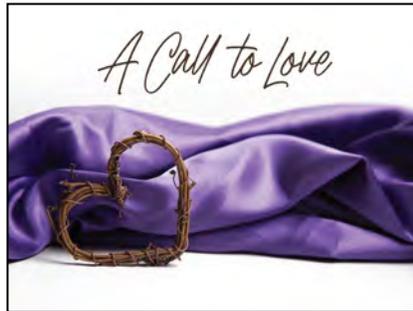
Books for Prisoners

Thanks to everyone who bought books or donated money for the Books for Prisoners project. \$250 worth of books were purchased and delivered to the prison in February. Please keep adding books to our bookcase. Remember these books must be inspirational or true stories and have a Christian theme. Your favorite novels will not be accepted into the prison. Please drop donated books off in the church narthex. Money is also welcomed. If you donate money, please note "Books for Prisoners" on the memo line. You will find a list of requested books on the top of the bookcase in the Narthex. You may also shop through Amazon. The Amazon Wishlist can be found at: https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/K6N2OXW5AFVE?ref=wl_share



*We're all writing out of a wound, and that's where our song comes from. The wound is singing.
We're singing back to those who've been wounded."
-Poet, Dorianne Laux*

Birthday Cards to Mike



Happy Birthday Mike

If all goes as planned, Mike will be coming home in December. This will be the last opportunity to show support. I would be grateful if you would send him a birthday card. If you mail it by March 15, he should receive it in time for his birthday. Thank you so much!!! - Joyce Kamm

Mike's address is:
Smart Communications / PA DOC
GERALD RINTZ—NS0955
SCI Phoenix
P. O. Box 33028
St. Petersburg, FL 33733

Prison Reform

Lancaster Bail Fund

The Lancaster Bail Fund works to fill a critical gap through the establishment of a revolving fund used to post cash bail for individuals held in pretrial detention at the Lancaster County Prison in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, who would otherwise remain incarcerated due to an inability to pay.

We also advocate for policies and practices that would decrease the inequitable incidence of pretrial incarceration for socioeconomically disadvantaged individuals and work towards the creation of a more just and humane pretrial system here in Lancaster. To learn how you can support this effort at Prison Reform, visit: <https://lancasterbailfund.org/>

Support For Prison Ministries, Brownstown

How You Can Help



Prayer Needs For March 2023

Praise Item – We recently received a letter from an inmate in a state prison, who is in the RHU (solitary confinement) about how he looks forward to our Bible publications that come to him in RHU. While he has done something to isolate himself from the rest of the population, SFPM/Streams of Life gives hope and encourages him to go to the Bible. He also is being released from prison this summer and asks our prayers that he can stay out of trouble and walk in a Christian life.

Pray for a prison worker – who is having suicidal thoughts; that they can receive hope.

Pray for the Prison Conference – that SFPM is holding on Saturday, March 4. Our hope is that prison leaders and volunteers may be recharged to serve in their roles as they learn more from different prison perspectives.

Prayers please for Joey, Mike, Charlie and Matt, friends or relatives of St. Ed's parishioners.

Prayers for Father Rick, Randy Westgate and others as they minister at LCP

If you are interested in learning more about Prison Ministry, please see Father Rick, Bruce Lynch or Joyce Kamm

For Prisons and Correctional Institutions—Book of Common Prayer

Lord Jesus, for our sake you were condemned as a criminal: Visit our jails and prisons with your pity and judgment. Remember all prisoners, and bring the guilty to repentance and amendment of life according to your will, and give them hope for their future. When any are held unjustly, bring them release; forgive us, and teach us to improve our justice. Remember those who work in these institutions; keep them humane and compassionate; and save them from becoming brutal or callous. And since what we do for those in prison, O Lord, we do for you, constrain us to improve their lot. All this we ask for your mercy's sake. *Amen.*

By Joyce Kamm



Tay earned the distinction of being on the Honor Roll.



How's that for a 13-year-old from Afghanistan who has only been in our school system one year and two months!! So proud of you! Thank you to our tutors who helped Tay with a little bit of self-discipline that helped him adjust to the teacher's expectations. You contributed to his success.



Malalay and Najib went bowling!

I wish I had a picture to share but I took all the pictures with Najib's camera to send to their children in Afghanistan. They had so much fun. Malalay managed to get a higher score than Najib. But that didn't deter him. He said, "Next time I am going to challenge her!" Next time?? I was happy to hear that. Our little gang goes bowling again on March 4. This should be interesting to watch!! Stay tuned. More news next month.....

Pictures by Mary Snyder



Coffee House Band

One of the foundations of our weekly fellowship is our Sunday coffee hour. From 9 AM – 10 AM each Sunday, we offer folks a chance to gather, as one community, between the services. It is our hope that this will help forge new friendships and relationships with those whom we may not otherwise get an opportunity to meet! Not only has this coffee hour arrangement helped with how we engage ministry participation with volunteers to serve as coffee hour hosts, but it allows us to have special events, such as intergenerational craft Sundays, as well as the space we hold for our fantastic Coffee House Band to perform, and have us participate in, a wide range of music. May 2023 stir your



February 12th munchies



February brought 3 new musicians: Colin, Henry, and Nora



Folks enjoying the band and visiting

Christian Symbol

SHAMROCK



St. Patrick used the shamrock to teach people about the Godhead. Holding up a shamrock, he challenged them, "Is this one leaf, or three?" Inevitably, people replied that it was both, prompting St. Patrick to draw the analogy that so, too, is God: one God in three Persons — the Holy Trinity.

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



Shrove Tuesday "Mardi Gras" Pancake Supper

Pictures by Michelle Bentley, Mac Miller and Meredith Aul



Rick and Freda Dombach, Br. David Rutledge and Deborah Fast



Bob Mosebach



Beth Lynch



Kyle Scheurich and Joyce Kamm



Rick Dombach and Deborah Fast



Beth and Bruce Lynch



Ricky, Fr. Rick, and Christian Bauer



Sarah Bierbower, Mac Miller & Jeanne Mosebach



: Asher joined his grandparents, Randy & Meredith Westgate



Lori & Jay Miller, Br. David



Joe & Donna Holwager



More fun with the decorations



Mac Miller and Julie Hoff

Look Who Came to Dinner



Mark Espire and Dan Sanders

Westgate's guests



Randy and Ethel Lawrence



Ethel and Donna Ray

Unfortunately, 3 planned guests were so sorry they had a family emergency that caused them to cancel at the last minute, but the remaining six of us had a fantastic meal and a lot to talk about. The "Two Truths and a Lie" activity was interspersed throughout the evening as it inspired a 'winding road' of conversation each time someone read the statements. Some "truths" we learned: Donna Ray served as treasurer, accountant, and chair of a financial committee of one at her former church in Collingswood, New Jersey; Dan Sanders served a 20 year term on the Selective Service Board; Ethel Lawrence has a swimming pool; Randy Westgate once ran the NYC marathon; Mark Espire has traveled across the continent in the US and Canada by train; and Meredith played percussion in high school concert and marching band. Our conversation included how we came to St. Edward's, where we were on 9/11, travels by plane and train, shared connections to Philadelphia, and a lot of laughter. The time passed quickly. At some point Ethel asked, "What time is it anyway?" It was 11:36 p.m.! We talked a bit more, packed up the leftovers to take home and ended our evening just after midnight. I think it's safe to say, a good time was had by all.



Susan Clough between Barbara and Vince Czepukaitis, Leslie Arnold and Steve and Catherine Donohue in the back

On the left: Wanda Stoltzfus's guests. On the right and below Bob and Jeanne Mosebach's guests



Sandra Klick, Alan Rockwell, Bob and Joyce



Mike Shank and Mary Snyder



Mike and Joyce Kamm



Jeanne and Bob Mosebach, Tina Shank, Alan Rockwell, Sandra Klick and Irene Achey

Look Who Came to Dinner

Dinner with Nancy Mannion and Fred Cluck



Fred at the head of the table



Nancy's Selfie



Sue and Joe Hurlburt, Michelle Bentley, Jamie Alton and Peggy Hanzleman

We did not do a formal 'ice breaker' but we found out many interesting things and common connections among our group as the evening progressed. There were two music teachers, two people who do wood working as a hobby, two people who are involved in the development of the new library in downtown Lancaster as well as the York History Center in York County. None of us were life-long Episcopalians, and no one was a native of Lancaster County. Everyone brought a tasty contribution to the meal and we all agreed that we want to have future "Guess Who..." dinners!

Sincerely, Nancy and Fred

PPS: A HUGE **Thank You** to Meredith for coordinating this effort!!

Beth and Bruce Lynch hosted Br. David Rutledge, Rayelenn Casey, and Rick and Freda Dombach. The conversation was lively and moved quickly from topic to topic.



Fr. Rick and Lori Miller



Most fun "Truth" (explanation below)

Mac Miller's guests



Elizabeth Watts, Fr. Rick, Lori Miller, Jay Miller, Dorris Smith, Tony Watts and Sally Lederer

The conversation at 84 Main St. was fun and far ranging. From favorite movies and TV shows, Jay Miller has seen the original Star Wars, in theater, 47 times plus more viewings at home, to favorite restaurants, to Tony Watts explaining a patent he has for a Teflon like material to use in places where friction needs to be reduced without the use of oil and lubricants, as in the space vehicles, to travels far and wide. The Watts were in Wuhan just before the pandemic erupted. Fr. Rick once entertained Cambodian villagers with an impromptu concert outside the ruins of Angkor Wat. Lori Miller's dream job would be a zoo keeper, which led to a discussion of our pets and our "NO WAY" pets. Dorris Smith refuses to visit a relative who sleeps with a snake, but she recounted taking part in tarantula stomping contests in Oklahoma. We talked about accents from Penna Dutch, Mac Miller once gave a Freshman Speech class talk about "FarTars" (Fire Towers) to Sally Lederer's southern LA drawl to Elizabeth Watts explaining the different accents in parts of the UK. Most fun of all, Sally Lederer was once a member of a belly dancing group, AND she brought a picture to prove it. With the diversity of interests and experiences we had a great visit with each other.

Mariawald Retreat

Pictures by Joyce Kamm and Michelle Bentley



Dina Ishler, Deborah Fast, Kathy Spencer, Michelle Bentley, Joyce Kamm, Rayelenn Casey, Wanda Stoltzfus, Back: Blair Lord, Bob Mosebach, Fr. Rick Bauer, Br. David Rutledge



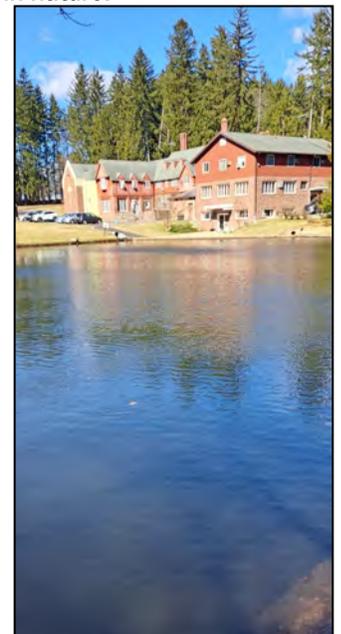
Morning at Mariawald



Watch "Adagio Albinoni (Strings and Organ)" on YouTube <https://youtu.be/i5bhbSWCWuQ>
 "Grab your phone. Go outside, look up at the night sky, turn the volume up and listen to this beautiful piece of music from the cellist of Sarajevo. A concert in nature."

Lent is like a long "retreat" during which we can turn back into ourselves and listen to the voice of God ... using the arms of faith: prayer, listening to the word of God and penance. In this way we will be able to celebrate Easter in truth, ready to renew the promises of our baptism.

—Pope Benedict XVI



Dining hall and chapel

February Services

Pictures by Mary Snyder



Jeanne Mosebach



Lent begins

Worship
SERVICES



Ash Wednesday Gospel



Jamie Alton



Fr. Rick and Deborah Fast



Fr. Rick Eucharist



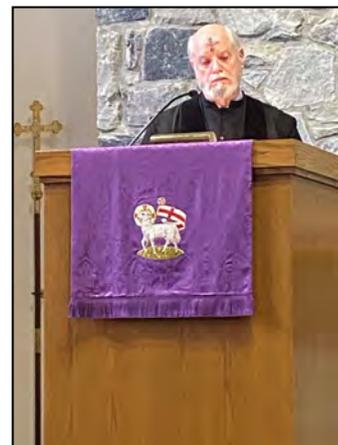
Beth Hake



Jay Miller



Ash Wednesday



Bob Mosebach



Rayelenn Casey



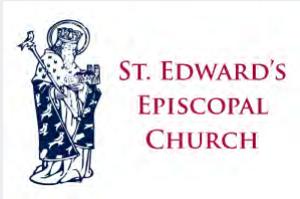
Ellen Milligan,
Fr. Rick & Bowie



Karen Waddill and the expanded choir



Peter Weber



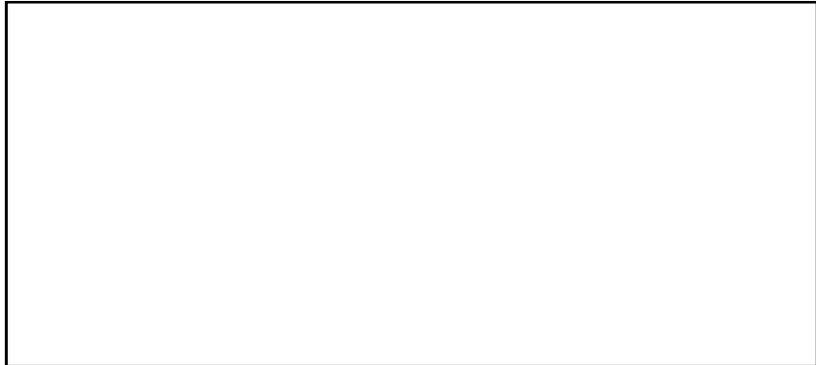
2453 Harrisburg Pike

Lancaster, PA 17601

Phone 717-898-6276

Email: stedsoffice@comcast.net

www.sainteds.org



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

Staff

**The Rev. Dr. Rick Bauer,
Rector**

**Michelle Bentley, Parish
Administrative Assistant**

**Karen E. Waddill,
Director of Worship Music**

Parish Office Hours

Tuesday-Friday:
11AM – 4:00PM

Vestry (year term ends)

- ✦ Catherine Donohue (2023)
- ✦ Karen Grant (2024)
- ✦ Peg Hanzelman (2024)
- ✦ Richard Irons (2025)
- ✦ Joyce Kamm (2025)
- ✦ Ginny Kloeping (2023)
- ✦ Beth Lynch (2023)
- ✦ Mary Snyder (2025)
Junior Warden
- ✦ Randy Westgate (2024)
Sr. Warden

Worship Services

Sunday Services

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

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II

Wednesday

12 Noon: Contemplative Eucharist,
Meditation, and Healing Prayer

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

