

February 2024



ST. EDWARD'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

# Scepter



## Reflection From the Rector's Desk

By The Rev. Dr. Richard C. Bauer



“Adlerian psychology proposes that we have the capacity for casting off the fetters that restrain our growth, and our happiness in life, by embracing attitudes that hold us each accountable for our own wellness and flourishing. We have far more power over our own thoughts and feeling than we give ourselves credit for.

I think that 2023 wiped me out! By the time that all was said and done with Christmas worship here at St. Edward's, I could feel my sense of vitality slowly melting away like a carrot-nosed snowman in warming weather. From the stuff of divorce to crafting a new

home space as a part-time single dad, while mustering all that I have had to walk with our community as a faithful pastor and friend, an awareness of my existential exhaustion descended upon me at some point on the 26<sup>th</sup> of December. And in the quiet aftermath of the Holiday blitz, I let myself embrace the sadness that I felt over the dear friends that we've said goodbye to here in our church family, and I allowed myself to sit with the unshakeable disappointment lingering at the center of my being...that I simply hadn't been able to accept that I don't live in "my" house with "my" sons anymore.

From this head and heart space, I was profoundly blessed to have one of my closest and oldest friends put me up for a week of refreshment and renewal back in my hometown. But my exhaustion travelled to South Florida with me, and by New Year's Day, I realized that I was getting quite sick. I had made it to the beach and the pool, even managed to sit in with a rock band, but I was out of gas. By now we all know the drill... the lethargy that invites a sore throat and a cough, the fever and the congestion, the belabored breathing like an anvil placed upon the chest...I had COVID!!!

(Continued on page 2)

### Inside this issue:

Pokémon League	4
The Story of John	10
Events in Lent	11
Bible Challenge	14-15
Holiday Pictures	16-17
Faith in Action	18-19
Sue Bianco's Ministry	20

### 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

Hopping a plane back to Central PA, I dragged my bones out to Mount Joy under a mask to be greeted by bitter cold and snowfall. Sometimes you've just got to laugh, right?! Weathered, and under the weather, I could do little more than curl up with a book that Michelle had given me for Christmas called "The Courage to Be Disliked" by Fumitake Koga and Ichiro Kishimi, and I've got to tell you, I think that it was just what I needed!

The book takes the form of a conversation between a student and a teacher to explain the principles of Adlerian Psychology. As a contemporary of Sigmund Freud and Carl Jung, Alfred Adler is the lesser-known psychologist who pushed back on Freud's deterministic view about human behavior. Because while Freud attributed a great deal of our behavior to direct cause and effect relationships, an "etiology" that explains how we act as the result of childhood nurture or trauma, Adler advocated for a more subjective read on who we are by denying the impact of past events on human behavior. Because, according to Adler, people have more freedom than we think, always moving toward goals in life that we ourselves set. And because we are not determined by our experiences, but by the self-determining meaning that we give them, Adler taught that we each possess the authentic capacity to change, to choose to be happy or not to be happy in life. Now, I don't know if I'm entirely convinced by Adler's take on our behavior, but I did find the description of his theories about human psychology to be empowering as I continue to work through my thoughts and feelings about being divorced and seeing my sons less than I used to.

What I found particularly helpful in my reading was the reminder that: *none of us live in an objective world, but instead a subjective world, that we ourselves give meaning to.* From our religious beliefs to

our opinions about ourselves and others... we think and act in support of perspectives we take on to facilitate the underlying goals we have as human beings. This means that we each choose our own lifestyles and participate in social realities fueled by the meaning that we attach to our experiences. But perhaps just as importantly, we often cling to the thoughts and the behaviors that we've inherited because we lack the courage to explore anything that could compromise the sense of security that we find in our points of view or the pleasures that we currently enjoy. Indeed, sometimes we intentionally stall, thwarting our own progress as creatures because we prefer to live inside 'the realm of possibilities' rather than risk changing and growing in any particular direction. And this is where the title of the book comes into play. Adlerian psychology proposes that we have the capacity for casting off the fetters that restrain our growth, and our happiness in life, by embracing attitudes that hold us each accountable for our own wellness and flourishing. We have far more power over our own thoughts and feeling than we give ourselves credit for. And so, proposing that all problems are inherently interpersonal relationship problems, Adler considers how often our power struggles bind us in life, our feeble attempts to manipulate and control other people in order to have them meet our expectations.

Reflecting on the little book that had become my COVID companion, it dawned on me that much of my concern over divorce has been a matter of inherited baggage. Because in comparison to my socially constructed understanding of the ideally successful life, divorce has spoken to me of my inability to make another person love (or even like) me. It has grieved me that I couldn't control the thoughts and feeling of another person, no matter how hard I tried to love fearlessly, provide financially, and

craft a respectable life for myself and my family. I've felt tarnished, as if my future will be determined in some way by divorce. I've negatively judged myself for failing to influence the behavior of another person...but that was never my job in the first place.

I'm sharing this meditation with our community because I suspect that we may all feel held back by our currently held beliefs from time to time. We can all get down on ourselves for things that are beyond our control. But it seems to me that there's something of a Gospel parallel between the faith that we share and Adlerian psychology...the bit that reminds us of our freedom to choose who we'll be and how we'll live in the world. Jesus invites us to live in a manner that is highly countercultural, and it may require that we have "the courage to be disliked" when the stuff of mercy, peace, love, and truth falls out of fashion in the socio-political and economic dynamics of our secular lives.

None of our futures are determined by our pasts. And I think that Adler is at least partly right. We can be happy if we claim responsibility for our freedom to think, act, and feel in life-giving ways. We can love people who dislike us...if we're courageous enough to give without needing to receive. And while it's still hard for me to embrace the title of "divorced dad", I think that I...like all of us...have everything that I need to choose to be happy. We're quite blessed 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  
Mary Snyder  
Joyce Kamm



**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



## What Is the Vestry Up to Now!

The Vestry met on Sunday January 22, 2024, for their monthly meeting. Here are the bullet points that may interest you as a parishioner:

- ✦ The 2023 year ended with a balanced budget and even a bit extra.
- ✦ The 2024 budget was reviewed and received the recommendation to bring it to the parish for a vote.
- ✦ The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on March 10<sup>th</sup>. There will be one church service that Sunday at 9:00 a.m. The meeting will be held immediately following the service.
- ✦ The Vestry unanimously authorized the parking lot to be fixed.
- ✦ The Feed My Starving Children event will take place the weekend of April 5-7<sup>th</sup>.
- ✦ The Vestry approved the dates for FIA

## LEARN FROM THE BEST, BE YOUR BEST.

By Beth Lynch

It provides on-line classes in many areas by experts in their fields. I have started a few classes that I never finished, but there are some that struck a chord with me that I try to incorporate their lessons into my life. These are five classes that I took that affected me in a positive way or gave me that "Aha" moment.

Coach K Teaches Values-Driven Leadership

Levar Burton Teaches the Power of Storytelling

Amy Poehler: Prepare to Be Unprepared  
Kevin Hart: Using Humor to Make Your Mark

Dr. Jane Goodall: Conservation

Fr. Rick often talks about living in the present. The tips by Amy Poehler allowed me to see how to live in the present more effectively. Amy Poehler is a comedian who relies on improv and adlibbing. Keep Saying Yes – because if you say no then you have shut down all possibilities of a new idea coming to fruition. Be a Good Listener – this allows the person you are interacting with to realize they are important. If you are listening,

then you will not jump into situations that do not need your help. Take Up Space – if you do not tell people what you want or need, they will never know. Cannot Be Halfway In – straddling the line does no one any good. By fully going in allows completeness. You get the joys of success and the pains of failure. Don't Bail On Your Partners.

As I ponder these classes I thought to myself that St. Edward's offers their own Master Classes. Currently the one being offered is the Bible Challenge hosted by Fr. Rick and Bob Mosebach. The expertise of these men is giving our parish an opportunity to be educated in the scriptures. Personally, my schedule does not allow me to tune into the discussions, but I am listening on Audible to a Bible. It leads to many questions, ponderings, AHA moments and "did I hear that correctly" on my behalf. It also has led to discussions with family and friends, and it is only January.

Use the experts in your lives to engage in a lifelong education be it spiritual, academic, or fulfilling a yearning to learn. My father was a master in organizing, math, politics and home maintenance and I reaped many lessons from him. I lean into friends that are from a different culture to learn of a different lifestyle. Look around your Master Instructors are closer than you realize.

events for the 2024 year.

- ✦ Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner will be held from 5:30 to 7p.m. on February 13th. A sign will be purchased to advertise to our community.
- ✦ The TV in the Parish Hall will be used to advertise ministries and events.



<https://www.masterclass.com/>

## Military News

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

★Richard Mutari

Please advise Michelle Bentley in the Parish office or HJ Miller@ Outlook.com if these names should remain on our list:

★Justin Carnahan  
★Brandon Fox  
★Gordon Frankenfield  
★Matt Fuhrman  
★Jack Hawk  
★Benjamin Jenkins

★Drew Johnson  
★William Justice  
★Anthony Koser  
★Alex Kube  
★John Lewis  
★David Peck  
★Capt. Andrew Pfeiffer  
★Mike Spurr  
★David Sternberg  
★Clayton Tennies  
★Connor Tennies  
★Allison Tomich  
★Evan Westgate  
★Seamas Whitesel  
★1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Thomas Whitesel





STEWARDSHIP  
A Way of Life

It is with humbleness of heart that we thank our parish family for their robust participation in our 2024 Stewardship Campaign. We could not successfully accomplish our ministry and mission without the commitment of your pledge gifts. When our parish family is presented with our budget, at the Annual Meeting in March, you will see how the discernment and diligence of our finance committee transforms your gifts into a sound and secure yearly financial plan. This is so vital to the stewarding of this spiritual home, helping to secure its legacy for future generations. In 2024 you will be hearing more about the expanded ways you can ensure the legacy of St. Edward's through Legacy gifts and Endowment Funds.

*"May the Lord bless our efforts and continue to enliven our hearts through the abundance of our shared lives in Christ."* – Father Rick



Liz and Buddy Yeager 's bush turned itself into a Jabba the Hutt snowman!



This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under CC BY-SA

**St. Edward's Episcopal Church hosts a Pokémon Club on Wednesday nights from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.**

**Activities include: card battles, trading, crafts, games, giveaways, and much more.**

The Spring Dates will be from January 17<sup>th</sup> through March 20<sup>th</sup>.

January 17 - Welcome to our Pokémon Club

January 24 - Ice Pokémon and Snow Globes

January 31 – Pokémon Hunt and Clay sculptures

February 7 – Learn to Battle in a 3-way game and Valentine's Day Cards/Boxes.

February 14 – Uno Game and Make a Poke Ball

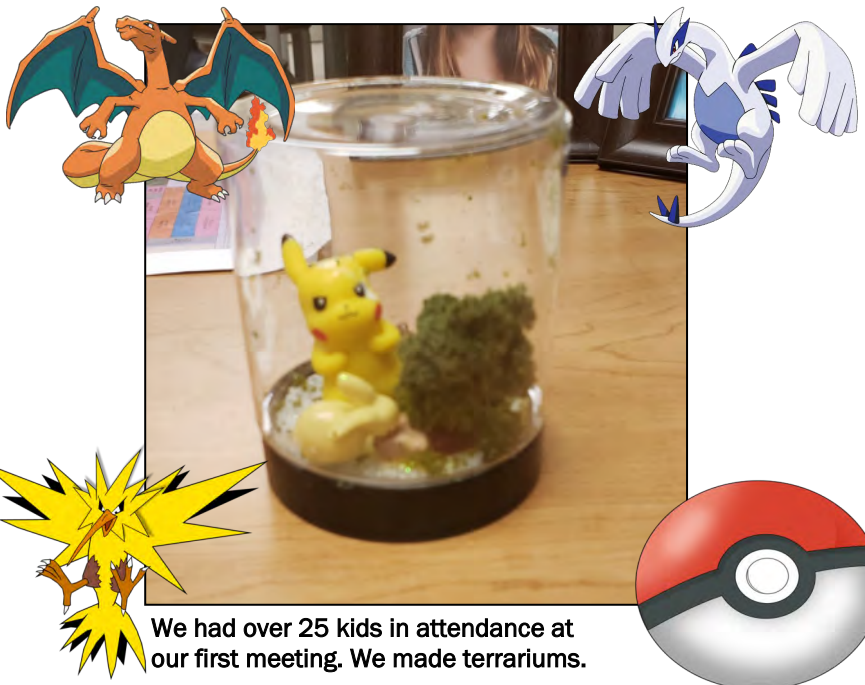
February 21 - Game Day! The more games you play the more tickets you can earn.

February 28 – Bingo and perler beads

March 6 – Team battles and Surprise Craft

March 13 – Battle an Adult

March 20 – Let Us Celebrate!!!



We had over 25 kids in attendance at our first meeting. We made terrariums.





Ricky and Christian Bauer



Irons' oldest grandson fractured pinky to wrist sledding this week



## HEART strings

Make this heartfelt craft as a decoration or gift.

**What you need:**

- Yarn
- Scissors
- Parchment paper
- Baking sheet
- Heart-shaped cookie cutters
- ¼ cup cornstarch
- ½ cup water
- Adult help

**What you do:**

1. Cut yarn into 12-inch pieces.
2. Place cookie cutters atop a baking sheet lined with parchment paper.
3. Combine cornstarch and water in a saucepan. Heat mixture over medium heat, stirring until thick and smooth. Remove from heat and cool to form a "glue."
4. Dip each piece of yarn into the mixture to coat completely. Squeeze off any excess.
5. Place yarn in the cookie cutters, allowing pieces to cross and loop within the heart. Add more until the cookie cutter is filled and the yarn looks like a heart.
6. Remove cookie cutters and bake the sheet for two hours at 150°F, or until hearts are dry and hard.

## PUZZLE

### CONNECTED BY LOVE

God's Word is filled with messages about love, which connects us to God and to one another.

*Directions: Draw a line from the beginning of each Bible verse (on the left side) through the heart to the rest of the verse (on the right side). Use the Scripture references for help.*

a. We	1. each other as I have
b. Above all,	loved you. John 15:12
c. My command	2. has no one than this: to
is this:	lay down one's life for
d. And over all	one's friends. John 15:13
these virtues	3. But perfect love drives
put on	out fear. 1 John 4:18
e. Greater	4. each other deeply,
f. See what	because love covers
great	over a multitude of sins.
g. There is	1 Peter 4:8
no fear in	5. the Father has lavished
	on us, that we should
	be called children of
	God! 1 John 3:1
	6. because he first loved
	us. 1 John 4:19
	7. which binds them all
	together in perfect
	unity. Colossians 3:14

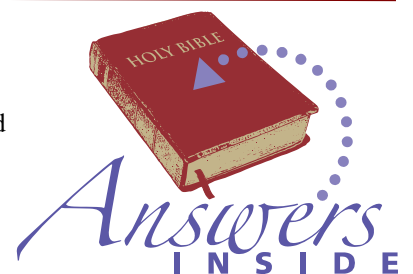
Answers: a, 6; b, 4; c, 1; d, 7; e, 2; f, 5; g, 3



## Bible Quiz

Use one word (perhaps in different forms) for all the blanks to complete this Scripture passage: "Dear friends, let us \_\_\_\_ one another, for \_\_\_\_ comes from God. Everyone who \_\_\_\_ has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not \_\_\_\_ does not know God, because God is \_\_\_\_."

- A. believe
- B. help
- C. love
- D. forgive



Answer: C (See 1 John 4:7-8, NIV)



## Chalking the Door



Epiphany (also known as Twelfth night, *Theophany*, or Three Kings Day) marks the occasion of a time-honored Christian tradition of “chalking the doors.” The formula for the ritual —

adapted for 2024 — is simple: take chalk of any color and write the following above the entrance of your home: **20 + C + M + B + 24**.

The letters have two meanings. First, they represent the initials of the Magi — Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar — who came to visit Jesus in His first home. They also abbreviate the Latin phrase, *Christus mansionem benedicat*: “May Christ bless the house.” The “+” signs represent the cross, and the “20” at the beginning and the “24” at the end mark the year. Taken together, this inscription is performed as a request for Christ to bless those homes so marked and that He stay with those who dwell therein throughout the entire year.

The chalking of the doors is a centuries-old practice throughout the world, though it appears to be somewhat less well-known in the United States. It is, however, an easy tradition to adopt, and a great practice whereby we dedicate our year to God from its very outset, asking His blessing on our homes and on all who live, work, or visit them there.

The timing for the chalking of the doors varies somewhat in practice. In some places, it is done on New Year’s Day. More commonly, it is performed on the traditional Feast of the Epiphany — the Twelfth Day of Christmas. Most often the chalking takes place after Epiphany Mass, and can be done at any church, home, or dwelling. Traditionally the blessing is done by either a priest or the father of the family. This blessing can be performed simply by just writing the inscription and offering a short prayer, or more elaborate-

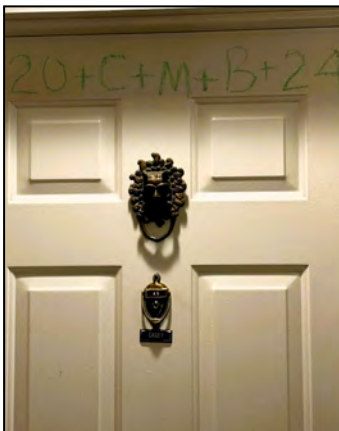
ly, including songs, prayers, processions, the burning of incense, and the sprinkling of holy water.

For a complete liturgy for Chalking the door see: <https://www.thetableindy.org/epiphany-tradition-chalking-of-the-door/>

Final prayer from that liturgy:

Visit, O blessed Lord, this home with the gladness of your presence. Bless all who live or visit here with the gift of your love and grant that we may manifest your love to each other and to all whose lives we touch. May we grow in grace and in the knowledge and love of you, guide, comfort, and strengthen us in peace, O Jesus Christ, now and forever.

From: <https://onepeterfive.com/the-chalking-of-the-doors-an-epiphany-tradition-explained/>



The door to Rayelenn Casey's home



Children at St. Paul's, Columbia, chalking the front doors after a Saturday Evening Service. Pictures by Rev Martha Harris



Mac Miller Chalking the back door of St. Paul's in Columbia after a Saturday Evening Service.

## Taizé Worship



Interested in experiencing meditative worship with candle-light, chanting, scripture and short periods of silence?

Join Brother David Rutledge as he leads

worship at St. Luke Episcopal Church, 209 South Market St, Mount Joy, PA at 5PM on February 3.



Douglas Beach of St. John's Episcopal Church, Lancaster is the pianist and vocalist. We hope to see you there!



## Lent Madness



### About Lent Madness

Can you have fun in Lent? Yes, if you play along with Lent Madness – a basketball-inspired holy competition to see which of 32 saints earns the coveted Golden Halo. While it all seems very frivolous, you'll learn about the saints along the way. By the time Holy Week comes along, you'll see how God works in the lives of ordinary people to shine the light of Christ's love in a world in need of hope

Bloggers provide biographies to help fans choose which saint they'll vote for each day throughout Lent. Sixteen saints make it to the Round of the Sainthood Sixteen; eight advance to the Round of the Elate Eight; four make it to the Faithful Four; two to the Championship; and the winner is awarded the coveted Golden Halo! The first round consists of basic biographical information about each of the 32 saints

Things get a bit more interesting in the subsequent rounds as we offer quotes and quirks, explore legends, and even move into the area of saintly kitsch.

Through the humor and online communion, Lent Madness helps us to get to know some amazing people who have come before us in the faith and reminds us that there's no reason for a dreary Lenten discipline. Learn more and sign up for email updates at: <https://www.lentmadness.org/>

## Daily Meditations



Each Day SSJE has a one word meditation.

A daily monastic practice to nourish your spirit.

Take on a simple practice that draws on the rhythm and richness of the monastic life – yet fits into your day.

<https://www.ssje.org/word/>

Here is an example of the word for Sat. Jan 6, 2024:

### Epiphany

Epiphanies seem to be random, but they are not. They build over time until the last little bit of information is gathered, and the picture comes fully into focus. Epiphany means 'manifestation.' How has Jesus been made manifest in your life? How is it that you have found yourself in this place, at this time, to pay homage to Jesus?

Br. Jim Woodrum, [SSJE](#)  
[Read More and Comment >](#)



### Daily Office

Forward movement offers options for daily prayer, both in text and audio. A personal prayer list and follow up comments on the day's scripture readings are also available. Here is an example of the meditation for Sat. Jan 6, 2024:

### Epiphany

**Isaiah 60:1.** *Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.*

When I had nightmares as a child, my father taught me to recite Psalm 27 for comfort: "The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear?" This divine light staves off fear. It's a light that brings comfort and calm and allows us to see in the darkness.

But over the years, as I have recited this prayer throughout my life at some of the most challenging intersections, I have come to realize that I have this light within me. As children of God, we all have this light—and it is up to us to shine this light in the world. We, too, can bring calm and peace with this light. We, too, can bring comfort and courage with this light in our words and actions and in our very beings. Yes, self-doubt and lack of self-confidence may suppress the light, and others may try to squelch our light with unkind words. But the light of God yearns to shine and longs to be seen. It is unwavering, unextinguishable, and even contagious! Light will always make a way. Let your light shine!

## Spring Training for Christians

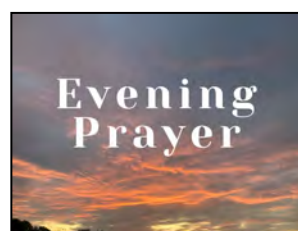
The word Lent comes from Middle English and German words for springtime. In light of the start of baseball season, some people call the pre-Easter season "spring training for Christians." This fresh perspective moves away from the flawed understanding that Lent must be somber, or that giving something up for Lent is punishment for sin or a way to earn God's favor.

As people of faith, we should never take a season off. But every so often — at least once a year! — we do well to examine where we need to get back in shape spiritually. Perhaps we will indeed opt to give something up: that swearing habit, sleeping in on Sundays, or the cost of a weekly treat so we can donate the money instead. Or maybe we'll take on something new for Lent: a Bible study, prayer routine or

service project.

Hebrews describes spiritual discipline as challenging in the moment but yielding righteousness later. The writer urges us, "Lift your drooping hands and strengthen your weak knees ... so that what is lame may not be put out of joint but rather be healed" (12:11-13, ESV). May the spring training of Lent strengthen and heal us all.





### 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](mailto:drutledge1225@gmail.com)

Sunday Evening Prayer@ 7:00pm  
Join Zoom Meeting

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

Meeting ID: 847 0061 4072

Passcode: SunEP

Saint Edward's Shrove Tuesday Pancake dinner will be held February 13<sup>th</sup> in the Parish Hall. We will be serving pancakes and sausages from 5:30 – 7:00 p.m. A Gluten free option will be available if pre-ordered. Please text Beth Lynch at 336-707-0140 to reserve gluten free pancakes.

There is a need for volunteers to cook, set-up, refill stations and clean-up. Please look in the narthex for a sign-up sheet.

## Coffee Hour

### Pictures by Mary Snyder

One of the foundations of our weekly fellowship is our Sunday coffee hour. From 9 AM to 10 AM each Sunday, we offer folks a chance to gather, as one community, between the services, as well as the space we hold for our fantastic Coffee House Band to perform,

Join us at a coffee hour, sign up to serve as a coffee hour host, participate in our craft activities, or, if you hold musical gifts, contact Randy Westgate about joining the Coffee House Band.



Coffee House Band January 21st.



Craft day between services on Feb 4th. Lenten gift for our at home parishioners.



Liz Yeager, Irene Achey, Eric and Jackie Sandblade and Sharon and Jeffrey Gromis



# 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.

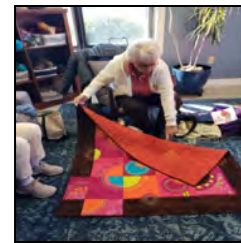
Remember, everyone’s always welcome to pop up at a Needle Arts meeting on Tuesdays at 1 PM in the lounge. No reservations required-just bring your sense of humor with you.



Barbara O'Brien created this stunning quilt for her son.



Detail of the intricate designs. Barbara is an artist who uses fabric and an advanced sewing machine to create works of art.



The back with the inscription



To Jack O'Brien made with love by Barbara O'Brien 2023

## St. Edward's Annual Meeting



Service at 9:00 AM.

Meeting immediately following in the sanctuary.

March 10, 2024

Coffee hour following the Annual Meeting.

One of the highlights of our parish life is our Annual Meeting. This year, our meeting will be held on Sunday, March 10<sup>th</sup> immediately following our **one combined service at 9:00 AM**. What makes a St. Edward's Annual Meeting so special, you may ask? So much, in the pathways it provides for each parish member to be involved in the “business” of our parish life, becoming an integral part of the ministry and mission of our spiritual home!

1. As a parish family, we review, and vote to approve, our Annual Budget that is crafted with care by our finance committee, based upon our pledges, for the 2024 fiscal year. It is so important to stay informed of how we steward **your resources** in the months ahead so that we can effectively carry out the ministry and mission of our spiritual home.
2. We “vote in” our new vestry members. During the month of February, our parish family will be presented with short biographies of our current slate of vestry members. For the next

3. 3-year term, we will have three members presented at our Annual Meeting. We “vote in” our delegates for our Fall Diocesan Convention, which will be held on October 18-19 in State College, PA. If you feel that this is a ministry you would like to engage in for 2024 (you must be willing to attend the spring and fall convocation meetings and travel to State College for the convention), please contact the parish office to submit your name. We are seeking 4 delegates.
4. We are presented with a comprehensive booklet that includes: Rector's Report, Wardens' reports; ministry reports, and financial statements – a wonderful resource that provides wonderful details of the life and legacy of St. Edward's.
5. We engage in important conversation about the state of our spiritual home, led by Father Rick. **We encourage folks to join the conversation!!**
6. We can become better informed of the wide array of spiritual formation programs, ministry opportunities, and giving/gifting opportunities at St. Edward's with literature to take home and ministry leaders available for your inquiries.
7. We get to be together, at one worship service, getting to know each other a little bit better through prayer, conversation, and. . .please stay for coffee and breakfast treats! We are so lucky to have these opportunities to be together!



## Widow's Group



Our **Widows Group** meets on the first Thursday of each month at 10 AM at the church. Next meeting Thursday, February 8<sup>th</sup> All widows are invited. Come to a place where sharing is caring.

**For more information contact:**  
Peggy Hanzelman: 717.390.4944  
[phanzelman@comcast.net](mailto:phanzelman@comcast.net) or:  
Ethel Lawrence: 717.314.8993  
[ethell748@gmail.com](mailto:ethell748@gmail.com)

# The Story of John

By Jeanne Mosebach



Psalm 98 Sing to the Lord a new song for he has done marvelous things.

I hate surprises! And yet, I experienced the best ever surprise when on August 27 I met my (half) brother John DeRosa, a sibling none in my family knew about or even imagined. I grew up with three siblings: an older sister – Pat; a younger sister – Cookie; and a still younger brother – Peter. My sister Pat died of cancer in 1994, and my brother Peter died in August 2021.

Since then, Peter's daughter Jenna (in Texas) had been investigating "23 and Me" and found an unexpected DNA match that pointed to a possible relation. At the same time John, having been adopted as a baby, had also been doing a similar investigation and also found a possible match - with a different part of the family. Further investigation seemed to confirm that he was a son my father never knew he had.

Of course we were skeptical, because we had no reason whatever to think this could be so. As a first step in finding out if this could be true, Jenna put together a conference call with Cookie, John, and me. I contained my excitement (and anxiety) and Cookie did the same. As I heard John's voice on the phone I recognized the same cadence as my brother, Peter. We found out that although John lives in NJ, he works in PA - at the Pepper Palace, a boutique in Peddler's Village in LaHaska.

So we made a plan for Bob and I to meet John and his fiancée Karen at Peddler's Village. We met them on August 27,

2023, two years to the day that my dear brother Peter had passed away. Coincidence? Initial contact was emotional to say the least. We continued to get to know one another over lunch, and had a joyous time together. I watched in amazement as my new brother had several mannerisms and a sense of humor much like that of my father and Peter.

We learned that in addition to managing the Pepper Palace, John is a singer, songwriter, and guitar player. This was good news because my sister Cookie is also a singer, songwriter and guitarist. The next time we met with John and Karen, John was performing at an outdoor venue at the Village. I would have loved to have seen him and Peter together playing their guitars and singing and laughing!

Later, Cookie flew up from Florida and after another trip to Peddler's Village we gathered here at our home for dinner, singing, and music. It was almost as though we had grown up together and knew each other well. Where this will go from here is anyone's guess. John's music career appears to be taking off in a myriad of ways, even at the age of 59. A song he wrote was nominated for best song of the year in Nashville, TN. He did not win but was awarded a Martin guitar on stage at the Grand Old Opry.

As this was all unfolding Cookie wrote a short song:

(This little ditty is best sung slow and sad for the first part)

I was feeling kind of sad the other day

Seems like my family is all passing away

Well, sister Jeanne, it's just you and me

So I guess this is the way it's going to be!

(upbeat)

Then came the phone call, "You'd better sit down so you won't fall"!

You're about to discover that you've got a BROTHER.....from another mother!

Sing to the Lord a new song for he has done marvelous things.



# The Alabaster Box

Contributed by Joyce Kamm



A sinful woman came into the room  
No one expected what she would do  
She counted the cost  
Broke the box  
Filling the house with her affection  
Though she got looks  
From every direction  
The perfume worth more  
Than a year's wages  
The disciples scoffed,  
"Why would you waste this!"

Washing Jesus' feet with her tears  
Repenting in her heart  
For all the sinful years  
Wiping His feet with her hair  
As the fragrance of the  
Perfume filled the air  
Pouring the perfume on his head  
Preparing Jesus for burial  
Though all around her  
Were adversarial\

Then Jesus told the pharisee a parable  
But it's not quite a riddle  
"Whoever has been forgiven less  
Loves little"  
The great love she showed  
Was in response to the  
Forgiven debt she owed

Accused for her act of surrender  
But she let Jesus defend her  
"She has done a beautiful thing to Me  
Leave her alone  
Let her be."

He told the women  
"Your faith has saved you,  
Go in peace"  
Now what she did will be  
Told wherever the gospel is preached

Jesus was also accused while on the tree  
His sacrifice for all to see  
His body broken on the cross  
His love poured out  
His life the cost  
See, He's our alabaster box  
The punishment on Him brought us Peace  
Yes, let the fragrance of His healing release  
Peace

<https://marisadamore.com/blog/alabaster-box-poem>



*As we begin our Lenten season, we offer these opportunities for worship and gathering*



**February 13<sup>th</sup> 5:30 PM – 7:00 PM**

pancakes | sausages | beverages

*Free will offering appreciated*



**February 14<sup>th</sup> 12 Noon**

St. Edward's Episcopal Church

Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes



**February 15<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup>**

St. Edward's Lenten Silent Retreat at Mariawald

*There is still time to register!*



*The St. Edward's Family Wall is expanding!  
Let's get to know everyone  
and share our stories!*

**Top Row:** Mary Gibson; Ethel Lawrence; Mac Miller; The Milligan family; Kathy and Alan Flowers; Deborah Fast; Vince and Barb Czepukaitis; Sharon and Jeffrey Gromis

**Second Row:** Mark and Barb Jakiel; Curt and Mary Ann Franck; Dorris Smith; Phil and Sue Purdy; Mike Freshwater and Deann Buffington; Sandra Klick; Bob and Jeanne Mosebach; Bob and Sharon Hubbard; Sue and Joe Hurlburt

**Third Row:** Buddy and Liz Yeager; Beth, James, and Bruce Lynch; Michael and Tina Shank; Zenaída Uy; Stephen and Catherine Donohue; Lori and Jay Miller; Father Rick, Ricky, and Christian Bauer; Glen and Michelle Bentley; Marsha and Herb Johnston; Gail and Richard Irons; Wanda Stoltzfus; Jan and Bill Deegan

**Fourth Row:** Fred Cluck and Nancy Mannion; Kim and Jean Havens; Art Hagan, grandson Lucas & son Brian; Dina and Tony Cerase; Linda Lentz; Jackie and Eric Sandblade; Ron and Ann Vail; Donna and Joe Holwager; Jodi Good and Mary Snyder



## Lunch with the Chosen



**Hosted by Father Rick and Blair Lord**

Epiphany Sunday saw the return of Season 2 with the fourth episode “The Perfect Opportunity.” Everyone who joined in had the special treat of meeting Simon the Zealot, whose name we might recognize from the list of Jesus’s twelve disciples. However, Simon is still with the Zealots, carrying out a dangerous mission—that is, until a miracle changes the course of his life. We also met the paralyzed man at the pool of Bethesda, who in the show is connected to Simon in a surprising and powerful way. The episode prompted discussion and reflection about the challenge of waiting and recognizing when Jesus steps into our lives. Thank you to everyone who ate,

watched, and shared their thoughts!

On Sunday, February 4<sup>th</sup>, we will continue to the next episode, “Spirit.” If you’re eager to see more of John the Baptist and find out what happens to Simon the Zealot next, you won’t want to miss it. We’ll meet in the parish hall after the 10am service. Remember to bring a bagged lunch!

If you would like to catch up on all of season 1 or part of season 2, you can access *The Chosen* for free at these links:

- [new.thechosen.tv](http://new.thechosen.tv)
- [angel.com/watch/the-chosen](http://angel.com/watch/the-chosen)

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.

For those of you who are caught up all the way through Season 3 of the show, *The Chosen* will be returning to theaters this month with Season 4, starting with the first 3 episodes at select cinemas! You can look up showtimes and tickets through Fathom Events.

## Stephen Ministry



Our **Stephen Ministry** program is a confidential and prayerful resource to support those in need during the challenging times we encounter in our personal lives.

If you could benefit from the confidential, one-to-one care of a Stephen Minister, please contact our Pastor Care Coordinator, Peggy Hanzelman at phanzelman@comcast or 717-390-4944. There are brochures in our narthex and in our sanctuary pews. Our Stephen Ministers are also identified by special name tags at our Sunday worship.



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

“I do not at all understand the mystery of grace — only that it meets us where we are but does not leave us where it found us.”

Include your news and announcements in the next Scepter.

Due date for March will be:

**February 20th.**

Send articles and announcements to:  
HJ\_Miller@outlook.com



## Women's Spirituality Group

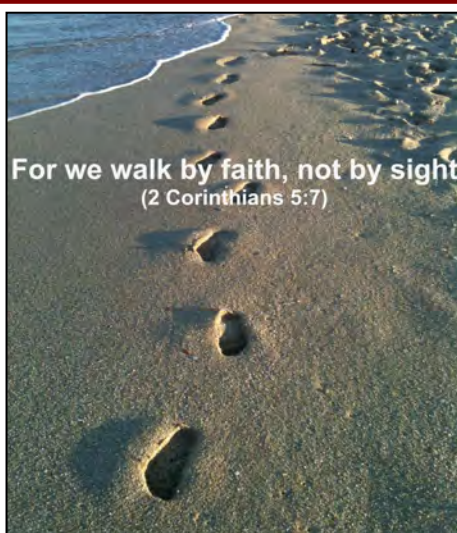
By Michelle Bentley



**Saturday Women's Group:** We meet the first Saturday, each month, from 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM, in our lounge area. This is a wonderful opportunity to get to know one another a bit better through Morning Prayer, reflection, and refreshment.

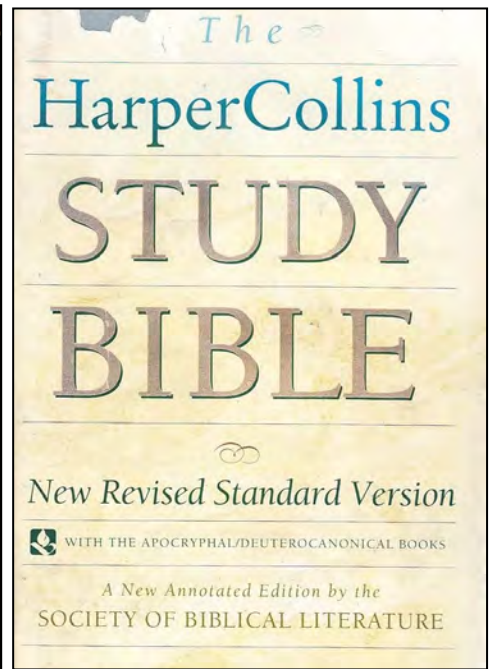
Perhaps you would like to lead a conversation segment one month? Maybe you have an idea for future gatherings? Bring your wonderings, and ease into 90 minutes of prayerful time that is engaging and restorative.

## Men's Group



**Saturday Men's Group:** 2nd Saturday of the month from 8 AM -10 AM. **Join us for two hours of fellowship**, including Morning Prayer. Coffee and donuts will be served. **Next meeting** Saturday, February 10th at 8 AM

## Join The Challenge!



**OUR NEW YEAR BIBLE CHALLENGE:** We are into the "Challenge" now!! If you have not purchased your Bible, yet, please look for the *NRSV Harper Collins Study Bible*. We invite EVERYONE in our spiritual home to share in, and learn from, Father Rick's passion for sacred texts by engaging for 30 minutes per day in reading through the Bible, from

cover-to-cover, from Genesis through Revelation, throughout 2024. *We are excited for this journey* as we encounter life-changing opportunities to discover so much about historical settings and original sources that influenced and shaped these texts. We will offer two intentional spaces each week, via Zoom, for conversation so you can keep current with

weekly discussions and offer your questions. Let's engage in our discovery, in community. Father Rick and Bob Mosebach will guide us, *"With the Spirit's help"* as we uncover new possibilities for what the Living Word has to say to us in the here and now. We hope you will join us! *Schedules are available in the narthex.*

## Straight Through the Bible Reading Plan February 2024

1-Feb Leviticus 5-7	13-Feb Numbers 7:60-10:10	25-Feb Deuteronomy 4:1-6:15
2-Feb Leviticus 8:1-11:8	14-Feb Numbers 10:11-13:16	26-Feb Deuteronomy 6:16-9:21
3-Feb Leviticus 11:9-13:39	15-Feb Numbers 13:17-15:21	27-Feb Deuteronomy 9:22-12:32
4-Feb Leviticus 13:40-14:57	16-Feb Numbers 15:22-16:50	28-Feb Deuteronomy 13:1-16:8
5-Feb Leviticus 15:1-18:18	17-Feb Numbers 17-20	1-Mar Deuteronomy 16:9-19:21
6-Feb Leviticus 18:19-21:24	18-Feb Numbers 21-23	2-Mar Deuteronomy 20:1-23:14
7-Feb Leviticus 22-23	19-Feb Numbers 24:1-26:34	3-Mar Deuteronomy 23:15-27:10
8-Feb Leviticus 24:1-26:13	20-Feb Numbers 26:35-28:31	4-Mar Deuteronomy 27:11-28:68
9-Feb Leviticus 26:14-27:34; Numbers 1:1-41	21-Feb Numbers 29:1-31:47	5-Mar Deuteronomy 29:1-32:14
10-Feb Numbers 1:42-3:32	22-Feb Numbers 31:48-33:56	6-Mar Deuteronomy 32:15- 34:12; Joshua
11-Feb Numbers 3:33-5:22	23-Feb Numbers 34-36; Deuteronomy 1:1-15	
12-Feb Numbers 5:23-7:59	24-Feb Deuteronomy 1:16-3:29	



# Friday Lunch & Learn and Wednesday Bible Study Sessions

St. Edward's Episcopal Church

h\_j\_mi

Mary Gibson

Rick - PA

Mary

office@ruhischurch.org

Rick Bauer

Michelle

Bill Deegan

Randy Westgate

susan clough

Rayelenn Sparks Casey

Bonnie

Lynne McCabe

Leslie Arnold

Blair Lord

Meredith Aul / Randy Westgate

Anthony Tooth

Tina / Michael Shank

*I humbly ask each of you to take the "Bible Challenge" with me this coming year. From January 1<sup>st</sup> through December 31<sup>st</sup> of 2024, our parish will engage the daily discipline of reading through the Bible from cover-to-cover, from Genesis through Revelation*

**Fr. Rick**



# Holiday Pictures



The Donohues and their stockings

A big *Thank You* to all who made our Christmastide so special - from the altar guild to the choir; ushers and greeters; floral arrangers and technology livestream gurus, and everyone who so tirelessly and lovingly beautified our sanctuary and welcoming spaces and then took the time to so carefully restore our spiritual home to begin Epiphany tide. The warmth that enveloped us all, and those who visited us, during this season was very special and, again, we *thank you!*



Nancy Manion and grandson Felix



Fred Cluck and grandson Felix



Joyce Kamm's son Mike and grandson, Ollie, after dinner nap



Joyce Kamm & great grandson, Ollie



Bauer stockings



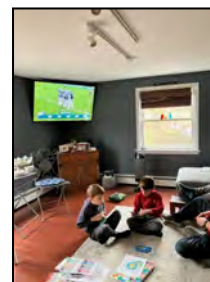
Casey granddaughters Sadie and Emma celebrate a new year...



and enjoy the holiday decorations.



Peg Reilley's family in matching PJs



Irons grandsons play games



Lots of hugs



Dinner with the church family



Dinner with Jodi and Mary's family



Special Meals



We exchanged Christmas cards



Special Christmas music



Iron's Grandson at Christmas Eve service



Mary and Jodi at Christmas Eve



Mac Miller's family around the tree



# Holiday Pictures



Jesse tree gifts for COBY kids



Kris Kindle gifts for each other



Westgates visited friends in Pittsburgh



Rosie's Christmas Concert



Klines at a football game



Beth Lynch on Outlaw in Ft. Worth Texas



Beth's family at the Ft. Worth Stockyards



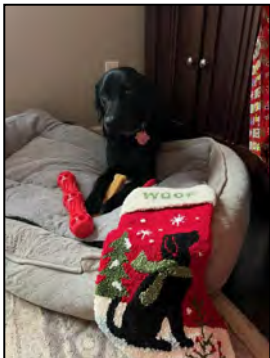
Mary and Jodi enjoying the lights



Irons visited Hershey fresh tree display



St. Nicholas visited St. James in Lancaster



Iron's grand dog Phoebe June's first Christmas



Very own bobble head!







For the month of February the  
**HEMPFIELD AREA FOOD PANTRY**  
is requesting:

- Canned fruit
- Canned soup
- Canned red beets
- Cereal

The mission of the Hempfield Area Food Pantry is to show the underserved the gracious love of God by feeding the body, mind and soul of it's clients with dignity!

The pantry is open on Mondays and Wednesdays from 10 am to 1 pm.



February 14 thru March 24, 2024

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.

The collection will run from *Ash Wednesday (February 14th) through Palm Sunday (March 24th)*. We encourage folks to faithfully search their closets and support this ministry with your donations that always exceed our expectations! *In 2023 we collected 452 pairs of shoes!*

## Community Aid News

Below is a list of items you can bring to Community Aid, mentioning they are for St. Edward's Episcopal Church (*Our Partner Number is 40036*). We will receive credit for quarterly payouts that assist our Faith-in-Action ministry. Community Aid has always accepted these items, but in the past, they did not give credit to partner organizations for electronics, toys, and household goods.

- |             |                 |
|-------------|-----------------|
| Clothing    | Electronics     |
| Shoes       | Toys            |
| Accessories | Household goods |

## Rahim Household Goods Collection

We have begun accepting donations for the February Rahim family household goods ingathering. The items *below are still needed from the list*:

- 1 large fabric softener
  - Bar Soap
  - Toothpaste
  - Toothbrushes (adult & child)
  - Toilet Paper
  - Microfiber cloths
- Please enter your donation on the sign-up sheet.



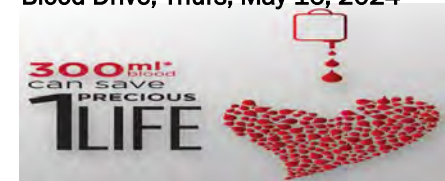
Feed My Starving Children—April 5 thru 7, 2024



Race Against Racism—April 27, 2024



Blood Drive, Thurs, May 16, 2024



Our nation faces the lowest number of blood donors in decades. Over the last 20 years, the number of people donating blood to the Red Cross has fallen by about 40%. We hope you plan to donate

**Where:** St. Edward's Parish Hall

**Time:** 2:00—7:00pm

Eligible at our site: 16 to 80 years of age. \*LGH policy change has raised the age for off site donations.

Preregistration is recommended. Registration details will follow closer to the event.

**Blessing of the Backpacks Coming August 2024**







## Prayer Opportunities Within St. Ed's

**Prayers for incarcerated family or friends of our parishioners:**

**Joey (nephew of parishoner)**  
**Jeremy (friend of parishoner)**  
**Saskita (niece of parishoner)**

**Prayers for:**

**Father Rick**, Chaplain & Music Ministry at Lancaster Country Prison  
**Randy Westgate**, Music Ministry and Leader of Celebrate Recovery at LCP.

## Prayer Requests From Support For Prison Ministries, Brownstown

Thank you for taking time to pray for the needs of Support for Prison Ministries and the work of our chaplains and volunteers and those incarcerated that they minister to daily.

**Pray for** an inmate whose mother was recently killed in a car accident. Pray for the inmate as he walks through this journey of grief.

**Pray for** a young female inmate who was just released from LCP and is going back to her parent's home. Pray for peace to be in the household and that the young lady will seek Jesus and change her way of living.

**Pray for** former chaplain Isaias Maldonado, who is currently experiencing some significant health issues. Pray for healing for Isaias and God's grace and blessing.

**Pray for SFPM Prison Conference on March 16, 2024** to be held at Hinkletown Mennonite Church. Pray for the preparations. Our hope is prison ministry interested individuals can learn valuable tips in working with the incarcerated.



## Interested in Volunteering? Prison Ministry Conference

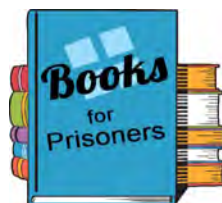
On Saturday, March 16, 2024 a Prison Ministry Conference will be held for pastors, chaplains, volunteers, and those interested in prison ministry.

Conference Time: 8am to 1pm  
Location: Hinkletown Mennonite Church, 2031 Division Highway Ephrata, PA 17522  
Cost: \$30

To register or read all the details, [click here](#).

To support their Spring Roast Beef Dinner fundraiser, [click here](#) for details.

## Books For Prisoners



**Plans are to have the Books for Prisoners picked up on February 6.** If you are planning to donate, see the list of suggested books below. Please drop donated books off in the church narthex.

Money is also welcomed. If you donate money, please note "Books for Prisoners" The book list can be found on top the bookcase in the narthex or you can purchase through the Amazon Wishlist at:

[https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/K6N2OXW5AFVE?ref=wl\\_share](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/K6N2OXW5AFVE?ref=wl_share)

### Books Requested:

The Jesus Revolution by Greg Laurie  
Healing Neen -Tonier Cain  
Save Me from Myself: How I Found God,  
Quit Korn, Kicked Drugs, and  
Lived to Tell My Story – Brian Welch  
Washed by Blood: Lessons from My Time with Korn and My Journey to Christ – Brian Welch  
The Big Hustle by Jim Walberg

## Letter From An Inmate At LCP To Chaplains

I would like to thank every one of the chaplains that went out of their way to help while I have been incarcerated here at LCP. I know for a fact that God has been working in my life as well as my families and the other inmates here at LCP. The events that I have seen happen while I have been here has impacted my life and has drawn me closer to God. I am scheduled to leave here January 29 to begin the newest part of my life again. Thank you .



## Patient Trust

Above all,  
trust in the slow work of God.  
We are quite naturally  
impatient in everything to reach  
the end without delay.

We should like to skip the  
intermediate stages.  
We are impatient of being  
on the way to something unknown,  
something new.

And yet it is the law  
of all progress that it is made  
by passing through some  
stages of instability—and  
that it may take a very long time.

And so I think it is with you;  
your ideas mature gradually—  
let them grow,  
let them shape themselves,  
without undue haste.

Don't try to force them on, as though  
you could be today what time  
(that is to say, grace and circumstances  
acting on your own good will)  
will make of you tomorrow.

Only God could say what  
this new spirit gradually forming with-  
in you will be. Give Our Lord  
the benefit of believing that his  
hand is leading you, and accept  
the anxiety of feeling yourself in  
suspense and incomplete.

—Pierre Teilhard de Chardin, SJ  
excerpted from *Hearts on Fire*

# Sue Bianco's Weekly Ministry



Nearly every week Sue brings her padded roll of freshly washed and ironed linens to the Sacristy



First she places the clean ironed and folded purificator in its drawer.



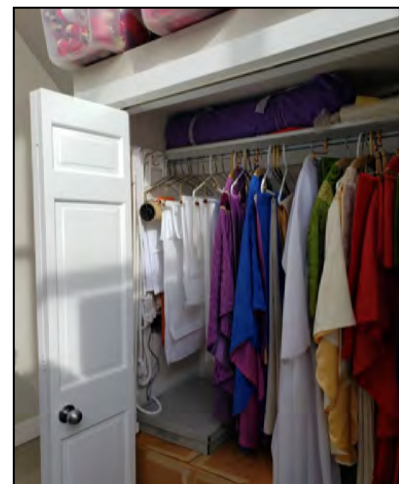
The corporal and the fair linen (not shown) are carefully unrolled



The unrolled items are carefully placed on padded hangers so as not to wrinkle



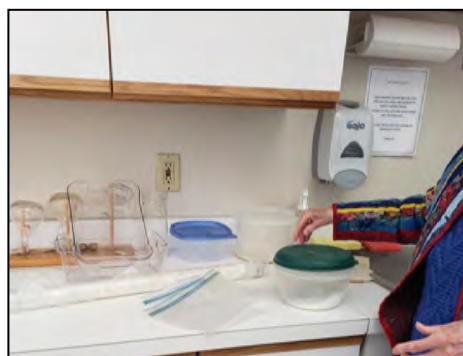
A clean corporal ready to be used for a Eucharist



The larger Fair Linens and the corporals hang along with the vestments



Sue takes the used linens from the container where the Altar Guild member has put them to soak after communion



Finally Sue reads the container for the next set of used linens.

Sue has been doing the linens for longer than she can remember. She would be delighted to have someone volunteer to learn how to share this essential ministry that many don't know is being done week after week. She would help them learn the task.

She says that, other than the Fair Linen, it really isn't terribly difficult, but it requires a commitment which, thankfully for St. Edward's, Sue has been willing to do for years and years.

It is truly inspiring how members of St. Edward's find ways to use their individual talents to support the work of our church.



# January Services

Picture by Mary Snyder



Kim Kline reads at 8 AM service



Gina Bautista+  
reads the Gospel



8 AM Communion



Howard Kempzell+  
celebrates Epiphany



Gina+ and Jay Miller



Fr. Rick and Jay Miller



Gina+ celebrates Holy  
Eucharist



Fr. Rick preaches



The Gospel

Worship  
SERVICES



Bob Mosebach extinguishes the  
Epistle candle



Howard  
Kempzell+ and  
Deborah Fast



Karen Waddill accompanies her daughter, Jackson, on the flute



A snowy Sunday



Blair Lord, Beth Hake, Mary  
Ann Franck Robin Weber,  
Barbara Czepukaitis



Buddy Yeager, Peter Weber, Vince Czepukaitis,  
Seth Hake, Curt Franck, Jaime Alton



2453 Harrisburg Pike

Lancaster, PA 17601

Phone 717-898-6276

Email: [stedsoffice@comcast.net](mailto:stedsoffice@comcast.net)

[www.sainteds.org](http://www.sainteds.org)

LOOK FOR US ON THE WEB!  
[www.sainteds.org](http://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)

- ✦ Karen Grant (2024)
- ✦ Peggy Hanzelman (2024)
- ✦ Richard Irons (2025)
- ✦ Blair Lord (2026)
- ✦ Beth Lynch (2025)
- ✦ Jay Miller (2026)
- ✦ Bob Mosebach (2026)
- ✦ Mary Snyder (2025)  
Jr. Warden
- ✦ Randy Westgate,  
Sr. Warden (2024)

## 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/)

