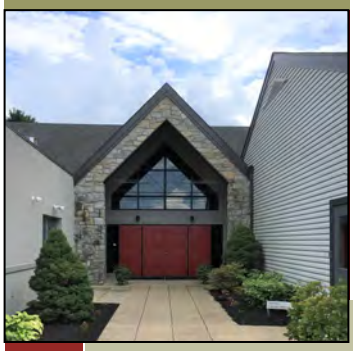
March 2024



ST. EDWARD'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Scepter

Reflecting on Our Lenten Journey

By The Rev. Dr. Richard C. Bauer

"There is just so much that , we can let a great many things go; we can dare to be free. We only need remember that: "we come from love, and to love we shall return."

Sermon excerpt from 2/18/24

I've been thinking about the nature of connection, about how we can find ourselves in places and with people that feel like home. I trust that we've all taken mental snapshots of moments in time where things felt perfect, memories that makes us smile, that make our hearts flutter. And yet, I also trust that we each also bear memories of losing our senses of home, of the mounting messes that have tied us into knots over the courses of our journeys. Sometimes we can feel so tangled and disconnected that our spiritual lives largely consist of attempts to 'get back to where we once belonged'. Indeed, it can seem as if life is itself designed to make us forget that: "we come from love, and to love we shall return." And here, in our Lenten journeys, where we're invited to re-evaluate who we are and how we've been living in the world, we're all beckoned to untie some rather tight knots of our own…the taut entanglements that alienate us from our senses of connectedness to ourselves and others, to Christ's own way of love.

In *Genesis*, we're reminded that un-creating, the untying of metaphorical knots if you will, is intrinsic to Creation itself. Because in the cross-cultural references to flood mythology that we find all around the world, the underlying theme of creative destruction, seems to speak to the notion, that sometimes a thing needs to be undone in order to make room for something better to be assembled in its place. I see this at work in our Flood stories, where submerged under water, enveloped by primordial chaos, the world and its inhabitants are washed clean of a way of being…in order to emerge as something else. Indeed, here in Lent, we honor and hold space for an intentional season of learning and faith formation…of deconstruction, wherein we engage with fresh eyes, an analysis of who we are as human beings and how we impact the world around us. And it's my sense that we do this as followers of Jesus, so that we can approach the Cross with our Lord on Good Friday and offer up the things in us that need to be put to death. Because whoever it is that we have been, individually and collectively, the con-

(Continued on page 2)

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Special points of interest:

- *• Worship services and Parish hours are on the back cover of the Scepter*
- *• Staff and Vestry Members are listed on the back cover of the Scepter*

Reflection

(Continued from page 1)

ditions of our social and cultural dynamics make us painfully aware that there is still much work to do if we are to show forth the light of God in Christ. Perhaps, we really do require a little taking apart, so that we can be put back together in a configuration that is a bit kinder and gentler, so that we can fulfill our calls to bear witness to the possibility of rebirth, of Resurrection in a dying world.

Here and now, invited to inhabit a Lenten wilderness of self-examination and discernment, we get a chance to shed our skins and reorder our affections, to lament of our shortcomings and commit ourselves to tutelage under right authority. Indeed, our Scripture refreshes our spiritual memory, lifting up the notion that all earthly and heavenly powers are under the jurisdiction of that merciful, loving, and all-embracing God made known to us in the person of Jesus. And so, we undergo spiritual rites of passage when we enter the Lenten wilderness, in the hope that we might be refashioned there; put to death in a manner of speaking, so that we too may re-emerge, a bit more in the shape and semblance of Christ's own model and likeness. So, how fitting it is for us that our Lenten journeys are modelled after Jesus' own forty days in the wilderness, where we, like our Lord, are invited into liminal space. It's a space set apart from here or there, a place between who we were and who we will become. And, in this place, there is much work to be done.

To this, as we've discussed together before, the great Cappadocian theologian, Gregory of Nyssa, once spoke to the spiritual journey as a kind of bath in refining fire. Nyssa suggested that our essence as children of God, indeed our true selves, exist fully intact (but obscured) underneath layers of muck and residue that must be burned off of our very souls on our ways toward spiritual maturity…on the road that leads us to a full reveal of the finer parts of ourselves that we've forgotten, our true identities. Because we are jaded by this world of violence, fear, and greed, and we're slowly buried over time beneath layers of loss, feelings of abandonment, and our witness to the senseless and horrendous suffering of others. Perhaps much of this residue clinging to our souls, this muck that obscures our most fundamental nature, has even been packed on voluntarily, as protective layering. Indeed, we swallow our tears, put on our brave faces and walk knowingly through the valley of the shadow of death each and every day…but before our Lord and maker, a faith rooted in hope assures us that we ARE SAFE. And a faith that IS hope invites us to risk the refining fire of spiritual discipline, the opportunity for disentanglement through observance of a holy Lent, calling us to reconnect, to know ourselves, once again, as we have been known by God.

And while we may swear ourselves off of chocolate or commit ourselves to using fewer expletives in our daily speech during Lent, we may also want to take some things **on**. Maybe we could deliberately validate another person by acknowledging their worth, and name the things that we're thankful for each day. Perhaps we could even recite each and every day, the mantra-like declaration pouring down from the heavens at the time of Lord's baptism: "You are my Child the beloved; with you I am well pleased." Because this essentially says it all…as very members of the Body of Christ, we too are the beloved daughters and the sons of God almighty…each and every one of us! And if enough of us are truly willing to be revealed (in our own hearts) as God's own…our refined points of view will change the world in which we live. We will have eyes to see the human face of God upon the shoulders of every single person we gaze upon, and we will have hearts pure enough to discern *what ought to be done* on behalf of our Lord in God's troubled creation.

And so, let us be brave friends, willing to wander in the direction of home. Let us be crucified…let us even be burned…refined in Holy fire by engaging the wilderness with our Lord, so that we might stand before God (once again) unadulterated, reflecting the image and likeness of our creator. Because beneath the muck of our lifetimes, we are still God's beloved children. And though we've all got knots to untangle, we're each worth the time and the effort that it takes for us to become better versions of ourselves, to become better friends to ourselves. There is just so much that we simply don't need, so much that simply doesn't matter. And in the Lenten wilderness with Christ, we can let a great many things go; we can dare to be free. We only need remember that: "we come from love, and to love we shall return." ….AMEN.

Si"Lent" Reflections

On the following pages is a "silent reflection" from the Mariawald retreat participants, through their submission of a photo (or 2), without commentary.

So many folks, with so many different perspectives and thoughts, it feels very "Lenten" to have them expressed through what we all ***saw*** in retreat.

Parish Office Hours

Tuesday- Friday:
11:00 – 4:00PM

Parish Administrator

Michelle Bentley

Change your clocks Sunday Mar. 10

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.

Si “Lent” Reflections

SILENCE

Si “Lent” Reflections

Reflections From the Retiring Vestry Members

We give thanks to our retiring vestry members and their faithful ministry in tending to the business of our spiritual home!

How quickly the years pass these days! Suddenly I am finishing up my vestry term and time as senior warden. It has been an honor to serve during this time of spiritual vitality and community building at St. Edward's. This time has also marked my personal transition into retirement, leaving behind the career I found so challenging and fulfilling. In this last phase of my life, I never intended to become a couch potato and indeed I have been blessed to find new opportunities for ministry and personal growth moving forward. Serving here at my spiritual home has grounded me and provides the context and inspiration to "finish strong" as a lifelong student and follower, a disciple of Jesus.

Apprehensive at first however, I was moved challenged and strengthened having served on Vestry. I found it rewarding as it helped me understand the important role that lay people play as church leaders.

When asked to serve on the Vestry three years ago I was very surprised, to say the least. After some conversations with several persons and a lot of soul searching I agreed to take the education requirements to be a member of the Episcopalian faith, and become a member of the Vestry. I must say it has been a very rewarding and enriching experience for me. Under Fr. Rick's leadership we have worked together to accomplish much. Questions were always welcomed with a discussion to follow, so that all understood the purpose of the presentation or idea. I am glad that I took the challenge of serving and wish the newly installed members the best in serving the church.

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
★1st Lt. Thomas Whitesel

Vestry Candidates

Mike Freshwater

I was born and baptized as an Episcopalian in Ohio. I have been a member of St. Edward's since the early 1990's. Having been a youth group leader through both my girl's formative years, I then became a charter member of the famous St. Edward's Praise and Coffee Hour Band. If you don't know me, catch the band on the third Sunday of the month between services. You will spot me singing, playing guitar, or playing the hand drums. I'm also the designated limb picker upper, Celtic cross stainer, and jack of all trades around the church property.

My life partner is Deann Buffington. She lives in Lititz and is a member of Lititz Moravian Church. She might attend St. Edward's on holidays or take in a service once in a while with me. Likewise, if she is a reader during a service at LMC, I might attend service with her (especially if they are having the Moravian Love Feast - coffee and Moravian Sugar Cake). We are grandparents to three wonderful, adorable, and amusing grandkids. The older two, Nora and Colin, live in New Jersey with Alison and Mike. The youngest, Avery, lives in York with Jaime and Mike (yep, both girls married a Mike!) We love spending time with them.

I enjoy travelling and visiting faraway places. Other vacations are usually spent with my family who all live in Tucson. My retirement occupation has been as a part time guide and bus tour driver for the Amish Farm and House, the original tourist attraction in Lancaster County. I have met dignitaries and celebrities from all over the world. When I get the time, I enjoy sailing, kayaking, biking and golf (pretty much in that order.)

I look forward to serving St. Edward's again and hope I can contribute back as much as St. Edward's has given me.

Ethel Lawrence

I was born in Philadelphia, PA. I have been an Episcopalian all my life. I'm a widow and I have worked closely with Peggy Hanzelman to start the widows group, which formed several years ago. I love working with the amazing woman of the needle arts group, who meet on Tuesdays. Recently, I have been helping with the finance committee.

Most of my life was spent raising my sons and building and managing several local businesses that served Lancaster and its surrounding communities for over forty years.

My hope is that life experiences will offer fruitful insights, in service to our parish as a vestry member, as we continue to steward and thrive as a strong and loving church family.

Kathleen Moretto Spencer

I was baptized a Roman Catholic and remained a practicing Catholic until I married a divorced man 40 years ago when that was and still is grounds for excommunication. (My late husband, Jim was a professor of physical chemistry at F & M.) I was introduced to the Episcopal Church while attending a funeral at Saint James and where I felt I had come home. I was officially received at Saint James, and I have been an Episcopalian now for 15 years. The saying goes that "the Episcopal Church is Catholic light," but to me it is "Catholic compassionate."

I was born in South Philadelphia, all four of my grandparents emigrated in the early twentieth century to the US from the same small county in Italy. I grew up in Yeadon, Pa and attended high school at the former Saint Leonard's Academy of the Holy Child in Philadelphia on a music scholarship. I received both an AB and an MA in music history from the University of Pennsylvania and an MS in library science from Drexel University. While a graduate student at UPenn, I took a year's leave to work as the interim librarian at the former Notre Dame International School in Rome, Italy which is where I began my life-long love affair with the Eternal City. Later in life, I was also privileged to spend two extended periods in Rome at the American Academy, once as a visiting fellow and once as a participant in an NEH Summer Seminar for college teachers.

My working years were spent in academic libraries: for 2 years as a cata-

(Continued on page 7)

Vestry Cont'd

(Continued from page 6)

loger in the Music Library at SUNY Buffalo, and for 7 years as Assistant Director of the Yale University Music Library. While at Yale, I was awarded a year-long leave to participate as a management intern in the office of the University Librarian at UNC Chapel Hill. In 1982, I was hired by F & M and worked there for 14 years as the library director and after retirement for five years teaching courses in the history of the City of Rome in the departments of Classics and Art History. I retired as College Librarian Emerita and Adjunct Assistant Professor Emerita of Classics and Art History.

As a resident of Lancaster, I served on the Boards of the Lung Association, The Pennsylvania Academy of Music, The Lancaster Public Library, and The Lancaster Symphony Orchestra. My most cherished volunteer accomplishment was my twelve-year tenure as Founder, Director, and Fundraiser of the concert series, Early Music at Saint James.

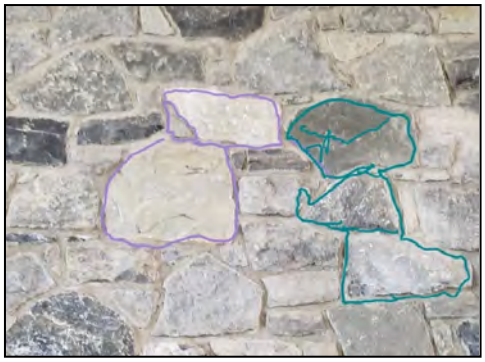
In retirement at Willow Valley Communities, I advocate for families dealing with Alzheimer's disease, and participate in memory and Alzheimer's education for both staff and residents.

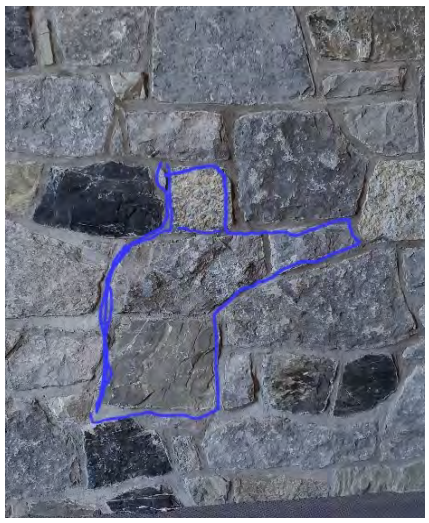
I have been a parishioner at St. Edward's since Father Rick's appointment as pastor. I attend the 10:00 am Sunday service and also the contemplative mass on Wednesdays at noon. I participate as a Stephen Minister, and when possible in the Friday Lunch and Learn.

As a member of Vestry at St. Edward's, I will bring my experience at managing the library at F & M, a complex organization with a multi-million-dollar budget, and my board service in the Lancaster community.

People in Stone

By Beth Lynch





Beth has seen all kinds of things in the stones behind the altar. This collection is all people. Can you see what she sees?

Tutoring

At the Rahim boys November conferences, all the boys' teachers said that writing is the area that is most challenging. This is no surprise, as writing in a second language is often the hardest skill to master. Najib asked me if it would be possible for us to resume working with the boys to improve their writing skills. Based on our previous experience, we agreed that it would be best to work with the boys one-on-one in a quiet setting without a lot of distractions. With Malalay now driving, we decided to organize a weekly session in the church Sunday school area.

This venture was intended to begin in January, but was postponed due to several illnesses. Rayelenn Casey volunteered to work one-on-one with Tayab and Beth and Seth Hake said "Yes," to work with Khateeb and Sohaib. I am doing my best to coordinate the effort and provide reading and writing materials. Joyce Kamm put together a snack basket and drinks to stave off any after school hunger pangs. Randy Westgate, Beth Lynch, and I are available to substitute (all three of us already stepped in on Week 1 due to illness).

Teachers at Tayab's February conference suggested we incorporate reading and writing skills for him: finding text that he enjoys reading and then having him answer writing prompts which analyze the text. Since he and Khateeb will both be taking PSSA tests this year, we are incorporating some PSSA text analysis questions. For Sohaib, the plan is to work on sentence structure, grammar, and organization in narrative writing.

Tutors and students (pictured below) can be found hard at work on Tuesday afternoons in the Sunday School area. On the day I stopped by to take these photos, Anfal was happily serving treats to Malalay from the pink kitchen in the nursery during the hour wait.

,

Seth with Khateeb

Beth with Sohaib

Tayab with Rayelenn

Pokémon League

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 17th through March 20th.

March 6 – Team battles and Surprise Craft

March 13 – Battle an Adult

March 20 – Let Us Celebrate!!!

Easter Egg Hunt

Easter Sunday March 31st
after the 10:00 AM service

Children , grandchildren ard visitors are all welcome to participate.

Donations of candy and volunteers to fill eggs are needed.

See Leslie Arnold for details

Irons on Ice

Gail and Dick Irons' grandsons at the Lititz Ice and Fire event.

This family loves dogs of all kinds

Grape EXPECTATIONS

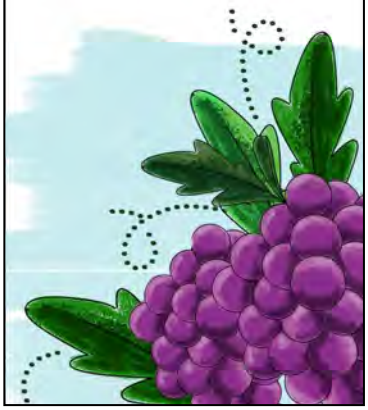
Try this chilly new take on a healthy snack.

What you need:

- 30 grapes, washed and dried
- ½ cup vanilla yogurt
- 4 graham crackers, crushed
- Toothpicks
- Parchment paper

What you do:

1. On a baking sheet lined with parchment paper, arrange grapes in a single layer. Freeze for two hours.
2. Insert a toothpick into each grape.
3. Dip each grape into the yogurt, coating half of it.
4. Roll each dipped grape in the crushed crackers. Place back on the parchment.
5. Freeze for two more hours. Enjoy!

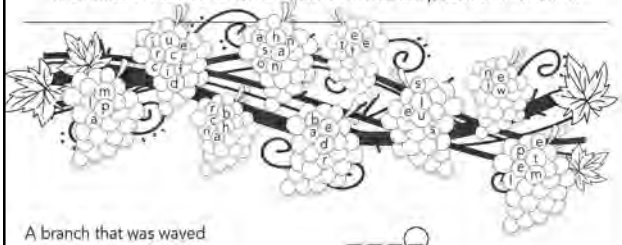


PUZZLE

A LASTING LESSON

Before dying on the cross, Jesus teaches the disciples an important lesson.

Directions: Use the clues to unscramble the letters in each grape cluster. Then write the circled letters in order below to complete John 15:5, NIV.



A branch that was waved ___ ___ ___ ○

How Jesus was put to death ___ ___ ○ ___ ___ ___ ___

A stick attached to the vine ___ ___ ___ ○ ___

People shouted this to Jesus ○ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___

Jesus washed these ○ ___ ___ ___

This was broken and eaten ___ ___ ○ ___ ___

The Messiah ___ ___ ○ ___ ___

A drink from grapes ___ ___ ○ ___ ___

Jesus drove the money changers from here ○ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___

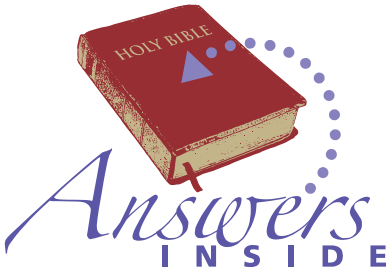
"I am the vine; you are the branches.
If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear _____ _____;
apart from me you can do nothing." *John 15:5, NIV*

Answer: palm, crucified, branch, hosanna, feet, bread, Jesus, wine, temple; much fruit

Bible Quiz

The "Christ hymn" in Philippians 2 proclaims that after Jesus humbled himself even to the point of death, God exalted him, and that eventually all will worship him. What two body parts are named as part of that worship?

A. knee; tongue
B. hands; feet
C. arms; lips
D. heart; mouth



Answer: A (See Philippians 2:10-11.)

Celtic Spirituality Worship This Week!!!

Special Invitation March 1—2

From St. Paul and St. Luke Episcopal Churches

Brother Stefan Andre Waligur

Join us for a weekend of beautiful music, workshops and Taize worship led by Brother Stefan Andre Waligur, a musician/ composer and founder of the Community of Peace, a religious community in Louisa, VA. He is a well - known retreat leader and offers concerts and workshops on Christian and Celtic spirituality. "

... absolutely breath - taking...powerful is not even near to the right word. Everybody should have a chance to hear and then hear again and again. Thank you so much! "

Phyllis Tickle, Author/ Scholar and Fellow at the National Cathedral in Washington, D.C.

Celtic Concert

Irish Jives + Vibes
Friday March 1
7 pm at St. Paul Episcopal, Columbia

An evening of beautiful Irish melodies, ancient stories and lovely poetry. Br. Stefan will be joined by local musicians.

Saint Paul Episcopal Church
340 Locust Street
Columbia, PA 17512

Celtic Spirituality Workshops

The Wonder and the Wild Workshops
Saturday March 2, 2024
10 am and 2 pm at St. Luke, Mt. Joy

You're invited to two workshops on Celtic Spirituality: During each two-hour workshop, Br. Stefan will explore the rich tradition of the Celtic world. Join us for interactive presentations focusing on:

- Ancient stories
- Poetry
- Music from the Irish tradition

Both workshops are free.
Call 717 -653 -4977 to reserve a seat .

St. Luke Episcopal Church
209 South Market Street
Mount Joy, PA 17552

Taizé Worship Service

Saturday March 2, 2024 5pm at St. Luke Episcopal, Mt. Joy

End your day with a beautiful, candlelight worship experience. Br. Stefan will lead the chants at this month's Taize contemplative service of scripture, meditation, singing and prayer.

St. Luke Episcopal Church
209 South Market Street
Mount Joy, PA 17552

Monthly Taizé Worship Service at St. Luke's. Mt. Joy

1st Saturday of every month at 5:00pm

You are invited to join us at St. Luke Episcopal Church the first Saturday of every month at 5pm for a regularly scheduled candlelight Taize worship service of scripture, singing, meditation and prayer.

St. Luke Episcopal Church
209 South Market Street
Mount Joy, PA 17552

Bless You

On March 17, when we remember the Christian missionary St. Patrick, Irish blessings abound. Here are two benedictions to share with friends in the faith:

Deep peace of the running wave to you,
Deep peace of the flowing air to you,
Deep peace of the quiet earth to you,
Deep peace of the shining stars to you,
Deep peace of the Son of Peace to you.
Amen.

May there always be work for your hands to do;
May your purse always hold a coin or two;
May the sun always shine on your windowpane;
May a rainbow be certain to follow each rain;
May the hand of a friend always be near you;
May God fill your heart with gladness to cheer you.

Guess Who's Coming to Dinner

The popular Guess Who's Coming to Dinner dinner will be back for a spring gathering. I hope everyone who came last time will enjoy another opportunity to mingle with a new mix of old and new friends and that people who have not yet enjoyed this experience will join in for a delicious meal and fellowship. The date is Saturday April 20 at 6:00 p.m.

For now, I am looking for hosts! That way I have an idea of how many people can be accommodated on a first-come, first-served basis. I have not had to turn anyone away at the last two dinners, but it does seem less stressful to know ahead of time how many hosts we have. It would be wonderful to have some new hosts so that our "regular" volunteer hosts can enjoy an evening out.

If you are interested in hosting, your role is to set a table for 6-8 (whichever you can accommodate) and provide the main dish and beverages. Guests bring an appetizer, salad, or dessert or possibly rolls or wine as best complements your meal. You will be notified who your guests are ahead of time so that you can coordinate the menu. If you would like to host an informal dinner for six or eight in your home please complete the form below and return it to the box in the Narthex (or call or text Meredith Aul at 717-575-2119) by Sunday, March 24. Forms for those who prefer to be guests will be in the April Scepter.

I would like to host a Guess Who's Coming to Dinner for six _____
eight_____ on Saturday April 20
At 6 p.m.

Name_____

Phone number_____

email address _____

Christian Symbols

THE BUTTERFLY —

The butterfly symbolizes resurrection, Easter and the new life we have in Christ Jesus. As a caterpillar disappears into a chrysalis, so Jesus' lifeless body was hidden in a tomb. The emergence of the butterfly, rising into the sky in its beautiful new body, reminds us of Christ's resurrection — and ours.

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

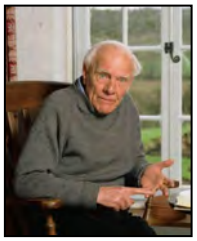
https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84700614072

Meeting ID: 847 0061 4072

Passcode: SunEP

Malcolm Muggeridge

Transformed



Before becoming a Christian late in life, British journalist Malcolm Muggeridge denied that Jesus was God's Son and had risen from the dead. If Jesus' body was missing, he said, someone probably snatched it and abandoned it to the vultures, leaving the bones to whiten in the sun.

For Muggeridge, the turning point was encountering a living Lord. "If you should ask me by what authority I talk about the power of Christ to change human nature, I should reply to you simply … because he has changed me," Muggeridge said after discarding agnosticism. "I can look anybody in the face today — my friends, my colleagues and what, perhaps, is most difficult of all, the members of my family — and be sure that they know, as I know, that I am really and literally a new creature in Christ Jesus since the day when he came into my life."

—adapted from *The Wired Word*

SAVE THE DATE! MARCH 10, 2024

9:00 AM – RITE II WORSHIP

10:30 AM – ANNUAL MEETING (SANCTUARY)

11:45 AM – REFRESHMENTS (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 AND YOU WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK TO OUR MINISTRY LEADERS, AND VESTRY MEMBERS, TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE AMAZING WAYS TO SERVE IN OUR SPIRITUAL HOME.**

THIS IS ALSO THE START OF DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME.

JOIN ST. EDWARD'S AS WE CELEBRATE LENT, HOLY WEEK & EASTER 2024

SERVICE & EVENT INFORMATION LISTED BELOW

sainteds.org

717.898.6276

ST. EDWARD'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Friday, March 22nd: *Stations of the Cross* at 7:00 PM

Sunday, March 24th: *Palm Sunday* – Rite I at 8:00 AM & Rite II at 10:00 AM

Wednesday, March 27th: *Contemplative Eucharist with Mediation & Healing Prayer* at 12 Noon

Wednesday, March 27th: Triduum Fellowship Dinner (potluck) at 5:30 PM

Thursday, March 28th: *Maundy Thursday* Service at 7:00 PM

Friday, March 29th: *Good Friday* Service - *Veneration of the Cross* at 7:00 PM

Saturday, March 30th: *Easter Vigil* Service at 7:00 PM

Sunday, March 31st: *Easter Sunday* Service – Rite I at 8:00 AM and Rite II at 10:00 AM (*Children's Easter Egg Hunt immediately following the 10:00 AM service.*)

Please note: Our 10:00 AM services on Palm Sunday & Easter Sunday will be livestreamed.

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner Feb.13th

Pictures by Rayelenn Casey and Beth Lynch

Great way to kick off Lent!

Great pancake chefs manned the griddles!

Emma celebrates with a Mardi Gras mask.

Sadie dons a Mardi Gras hat

Emma and Sadie arrive with Anfal

Randy and Meredith Westgate share a table with friends!

The Garden and Gethsemane

by DON KNEBEL on March 31, 2015

During Passion Week, Christians around the world will rehear the story of Jesus' agony in the "Garden of Gethsemane." Travelers to Jerusalem can visit what is said to be the very garden. But whether Jesus ever set foot in that garden is far from certain.

Surprising to many Christians, the Bible never mentions a "Garden of Gethsemane." The *Gospels of Mark* and *Matthew* report that Jesus shared a Passover meal with his disciples before going to "Gethsemane," a corruption of Hebrew words literally meaning "wine press for oils," where he prayed and was then betrayed by Judas. The *Gospel of John* says Jesus prayed with his disciples the night before Passover and was later betrayed by Judas in an unnamed "garden." From these accounts, some Christians concluded that Gethsemane was a garden, while others concluded Jesus prayed at the site of a wine press and then went to a garden.

Since the fourth century, Christians have identified multiple locations near the foot of the Mount of Olives matching their own conceptions of Gethsemane. The most popular site is a walled garden across the Kidron Valley from the Temple Mount. It includes flower-lined paths and eight olive trees carbon-dated to the time of the Crusaders, making them the oldest such trees

(Continued on page 19)

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.

This group always has a lot of fun. Ethel Lawrence is accompanying Debbie who is playing banjouke. (Debbie's husband restores instruments.) Barb O'Brien enjoys the entertainment as she works on a crocheted baby blanket.

Widow's Group

Our **Widows Group** meets on the first Thursday of each month at 10 AM at the church. Next meeting is Thursday, March 7th. 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

Coffee Hour

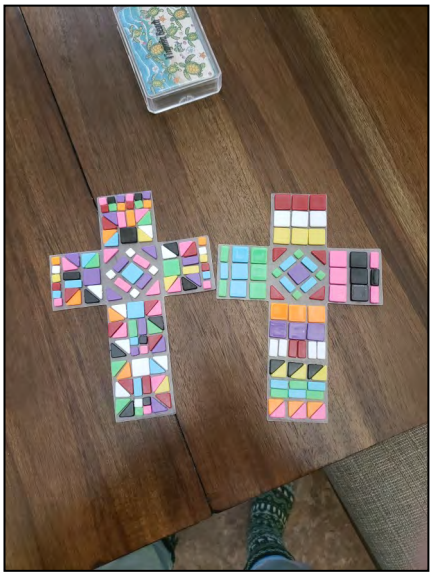
Pictures by Mary Snyder

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.

Irene Achey and Barb Jakiel matched!!

There are always nibbles to accompany the beverages



The craft Beth Lynch organized to create gifts for shut-ins

Lunch with the Chosen

Hosted by Father Rick and Blair Lord

I can hardly believe it's been a year since we began this ministry of monthly Chosen viewings! Thank you to everyone, whether as a regular viewer or an occasional audience member, for spending part of your Sundays with us.

This February's viewing of season 2, episode 5, "Spirit," presented an intriguing what-if via a conversation between John the Baptist and Jesus, as well as a startling turn of events for Mary Magdalene when she is triggered by old traumas and struggles to find the strength to face them. The presence of another character afflicted by a demon raised questions about what the "demonic" means to us in the 21st century. To what extent does possession, whether supernatural or mundane, affect us today? How do we use it to explain the darkness we encounter?

On a brighter note, Simon the Zealot has left his order to follow Jesus. Well, we'll see how simple that choice is after surrendering his literal dagger. It's not as extreme as what any of us is giving up for Lent, but it could model the preconceived notions and weapons we might need to set aside to better follow our Lord.

We hope you'll be here on **Sunday, March 3rd**, anxious to see what happens next for Mary, John, Simon, and the rest of the crew in episode 6, "Unlawful." We usually start between 11:45am and 12:00pm in the parish hall following the 10am service. Don't forget your 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
- 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 soon premiere Season 4 on the apps. Stay tuned!

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, March 9th at 8 AM

Stephen Ministry

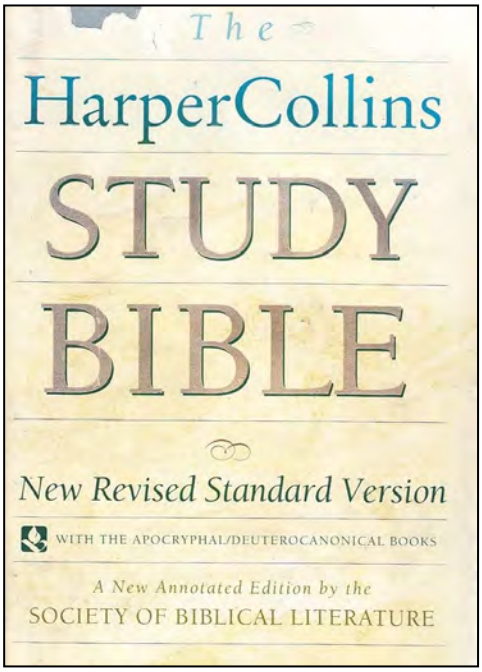
Our ***Stephen Ministry*** program is a confidential and prayerful resource to support those in need during the challenging times we encounter in our personal lives. If you could benefit from the confidential, one-to-one care of a Stephen Minister, please contact our Pastor Care Coordinator, Peggy Hanzelman 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 believe that God is in me as the sun is in the colour and fragrance of a flower - the Light in my darkness, the Voice in my silence.
Helen Keller

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

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.***

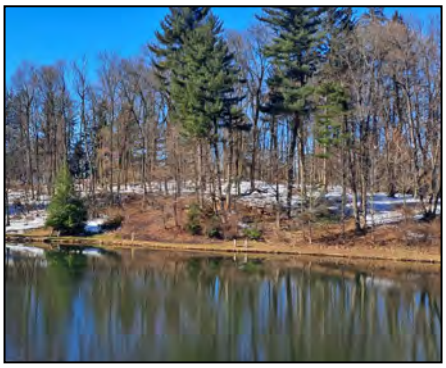
Straight Through the Bible Reading Plan March 2024

1-Mar Deuteronomy 16:9-19:21
2-Mar Deuteronomy 20:1-23:14
3-Mar Deuteronomy 23:15-27:10
4-Mar Deuteronomy 27:11-28:68
5-Mar Deuteronomy 29:1-32:14
6-Mar Deuteronomy 32:15-34:12; Joshua 1:1-9
7-Mar Joshua 1:10-4:24
8-Mar Joshua 5:1-8:23
9-Mar Joshua 8:24-11:9
10-Mar Joshua 11:10-14:15
11-Mar Joshua 15-17
12-Mar Joshua 18:1-21:12
13-Mar Joshua 21:13-23:16
14-Mar Joshua 24; Judges 1-2
15-Mar Judges 3-5
16-Mar Judges 6-7
17-Mar Judges 8-9
18-Mar Judges 10-13
19-Mar Judges 14-16
20-Mar Judges 17:1-20:11
21-Mar Judges 20:12-21:25; Ruth 1:1-2:13
22-Mar Ruth 2:14-4:22; 1Samuel 1
23-Mar 1Samuel 2-4
24-Mar 1Samuel 5:1-9:10
25-Mar 1Samuel 9:11-12:18
26-Mar 1Samuel 12:19-14:42
27-Mar 1Samuel 14:43-17:25
28-Mar 1Samuel 17:26-19:24
29-Mar 1Samuel 20-22
30-Mar 1Samuel 23:1-25:31
31-Mar 1Samuel 25:32-30:10
1-Apr 1Samuel 30:11-31:13; 2Samuel 1-2
2-Apr 2Samuel 3:1-6:11
3-Apr 2Samuel 6:12-10:19
4-Apr 2Samuel 11-13
5-Apr 2Samuel 14-16
6-Apr 2Samuel 17-19
7-Apr 2Samuel 20:1-22:34

Reflections from the Silence at Mariawald

By Joyce Kamm

My plans were to cocoon in my room this weekend with my big fleecy blanket...no outside walking through the woods as usual...and I did just that. Friday morning I brought the chair from the porch inside and sat gazing at the pond, the geese and the woods beyond.



The tree tops of the evergreens were gently swaying in the wind, rocking back and forth and it reminded me of how I used to rock my children in the rocking chair to calm them down. It reminded me of how I do the same to calm down my spirit now. It also reminded me of this verse from Romans.

"For we know that the whole creation groaned and travailed in pain..."

When gazing at the trees, I pictured God rocking His creation.

The next morning those same trees were exquisitely and beautifully dressed in white….as calm and as peaceful as they could be.

Pondering this, I began comparing the trees to us humans.

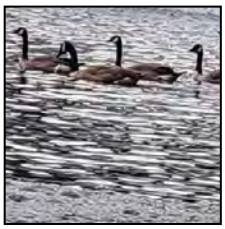
In the storms of life...

- A tree can be split wide open, so can we.
- A branch can be broken off and lie dying on the ground. Parts of us can do the same….and may need to.
- A tree can be totally uprooted and fall to the ground...so can we.
- A tree can be cut down so that only the stump remains.

An interesting fact about that from Google…"Foresters have discovered stumps still living from as far back as the 1800's. A tree stump that should have died is being kept alive by neighboring trees that are funneling water and nutrients to it through an interconnected root system. The finding adds to a growing understanding that trees and other organisms can work together for the benefit of a forest."

So how does that apply to us? In life, there are times when we feel that all is left is a stump, and we are dying from the pain of the axe or chainsaw that cut us down, and waiting for the wounds to heal. Sometimes we are the person wielding the axe. Lord, have mercy. In times like this we are kept alive by neighboring roots that are funneling spiritual and emotional water and nutrients of love, compassion, comfort, and grace to us through our interconnected root system. As more life is poured into us, as more growth occurs, the wounds, hopefully, begin to heal so that we can flow together for the benefit of the "Body of Christ".

Even the geese seem to understand the need to flow together.. When flying in their "V" pattern, if a goose falls out of formation, it suddenly feels the drag and resistance of trying to go it alone and quickly gets back into formation to take advantage of the lifting power of the bird in front. As I witnessed on other occasions, when geese find themselves swimming in opposite directions, they invariably turn around and start to swim together, flowing in the same direction.



If we have the same innate desire for connection that comes natural to geese, we will stay in formation with those who are headed in the same direction we want to go.

Mercy us, Lord. Rock us in Your comforting arms until we, like the trees, are washed in the aftermath of fresh fallen snow.

"Wash me and I shall be whiter than snow" (Psalms 51:7);

It's always a gift to go on a silent retreat. May I learn to live my everyday life in a similar pattern. Less words, less books, less busyness.

- More **time** in nature, which is God's "first Bible",
- More **silence**, learning to **listen** for that "still small voice.
- **Noticing** … **watching** ..... **wrestling ….waiting**…**surprised** by God.
- **Seeking** unity with the Holy.

Lord, You have made us for Yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you." –St. Augustine, Confessions".

Bishop Scanlon—A Lenten Meditation

A meditation from Bishop Scanlan as she stood beside a very large branch that had broken off her tree.

"I want to talk about brokenness. That is one of the invitations we have in Lent, to open ourselves to God and look at the brokenness in our lives, asking God to work with us to create wholeness again. That's the whole mission of the church, that's the mission of Jesus and I think God's idea when Jesus was sent to us….to bring us back to wholeness.

One of the goals of Lent, as we look to Easter with clear eyes, is to look at who are we today, at the places that are broken, at the places that need reconciled...and then work toward wholeness. I pray that you have the courage and strength to look with clear eyes at the places where God can come in and create a clean heart "

Psalm 51 Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving kindness. In your great compassion, blot out my offenses. Wash me through and through for my wickedness. Cleanse me from my sins for I know my transgressions and my sin is ever before me. Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence and take not your Holy Spirit from me. Give me the joy of your saving help again. Sustain me with your bountiful spirit." YouTube 2-16-24

On YouTube

Father Rick and Randy Westgate continued their series on our St. Edward's YouTube Channel - "*Sermon Talk*." This is a great opportunity to meditate on our teachings and to ponder the questions through our reflections and conversations. We are so lucky to have these spaces to explore.
(1) SERMON TALK Episode 2 (Epiphany 2024) - YouTube

Gethsemane

(Continued from page 14)

on earth. The adjoining Church of All Nations, built in the 1920s on the site of earlier churches, is claimed to cover the stone on which Jesus knelt while he prayed. At least three other locations on the Mount of Olives, including a cave said to have housed an ancient wine press, are also associated with the Biblical accounts of Jesus' agony in Gethsemane. The traditional choices for Gethsemane are all near major first century roads crossing the Mount of Olives. Some scholars believe a secluded location north and east of traditional locations would be a more likely spot for someone seeking to pray.

For Christian visitors to Jerusalem, whether the traditional sites of Gethsemane are precisely the place of Jesus's agony is irrelevant. Being in the vicinity of where Jesus prayed on the night before his crucifixion is close enough

Resurrection Gardens

Blair Lord and her mother created this beautiful resurrection garden last year for Easter

A mini Resurrection Garden is a recreation of Jesus' tomb in the rock during His burial. Using a variety of basic garden supplies (including planting soil, rocks, and grass seed), children create a mini scene of Christ's tomb and his eventual resurrection from the grave.

Where can you go to make your own Resurrection Garden?:

Perfect Pots

745 Strasburg Pike, Strasburg, PA 17579
(717) 917-8733

The greenhouse will be ready for spring the weekend of March 8th! A table will be set up dedicated to creating resurrection gardens.

Ken's Gardens: Garden Centers

Resurrection Garden Workshop (Smoketown Location)
Saturday, March 16 · 11am - 12pm
$20
(717)-392-4875
https://www.eventbrite.com/e/resurrection-garden-workshop-smoketown-location-tickets-810504750527

Walk-In Mini Resurrection Garden Workshop (Intercourse, PA)
Saturday March 30 11 AM to 3 PM
$10
(717)-798-3922
https://www.eventbrite.com/e/walk-in-mini-resurrection-garden-workshop-intercourse-pa-tickets-823936575477

This can be a fun project for young gardeners, with real grass that grows quickly. Even your cat may enjoy eating the grass.

HEMPFIELD AREA FOOD PANTRY is requesting:

Large peanut butter
Large jelly
1 lb. elbow macaroni
1 lb. spaghetti
1 lb. egg noodles
Canned corn
Canned red beets
Canned pears
Canned tuna
Canned chicken
Cereal
(No glass jars please)

Now thru March 24, 2024

Soles 4 Souls Shoe Collection has begun! 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 through March 24.*** Collection boxes will be in the narthex and the sanctuary. ***In 2023 we collected 452 pairs of shoes***!

Rahim Household Goods Collection

Please consider contributing to the monthly Rahim family household goods ingathering. Our next delivery is Sunday, March 17th. Below are the items needed. Please sign up on the sheet in the Parish Hall by the AED unit.

For March we are still in need of:

2 large laundry detergent (Tide)

1 large fabric softener

Paper Towel

All-purpose house cleaner

Microfiber cleaning cloths

Look for a new sign-up sheet at the end of March for April – June which will include the complete list of items.

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
Shoes
Accessories

Electronics
Toys
Household goods

Feed My Starving Children

When: Saturday, April 6th
Time: 2:30 PM
Where: Willow Street Mennonite Church
399 East Penn Grant Rd.
Willow Street, PA 17584

Join our ministry team in this important global outreach project. We are seeking volunteers, and all must be signed up in advance. The sign-up sheet is in the narthex.

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 parishioner)
Jeremy (friend of parishioner)
Saskita (niece of parishioner)

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.

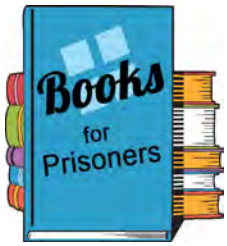
Pray for SFPM Prison Conference on March 16, 2024 to be held at Hinkletown Mennonite Church. Pray for the preparations. Our hope is prison ministry interested individuals can learn valuable tips in working with the incarcerated.

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



Thank you to all who supported this worthy ministry. We are now on hiatus and will keep you informed of our next collection in the fall of 2024.

On the Lighter Side

Former lobbyist Jack Abramoff, a key figure in several high-profile political scandals, is now serving a six-year prison sentence. When interviewed about his unlawful tactics, Abramoff said, "God sent me 1,000 hints that he didn't want me to keep doing what I was doing. But I didn't listen, so he set off a nuclear bomb."

It shall be opened?

Many years ago, according to a United Press report, Ted Bentz, a Jackson Prison inmate and a member of "Baby Face" Nelson's gang, wrote the state parole board: "In Luke 11:10, Christ says, 'Everyone that asketh receiveth and he that seeketh findeth, and to him who knocketh, it shall be opened.' By virtue of the above, how about a parole?" The board promptly replied: "'Trouble me not; the door is now shut'-Luke 11:7."

—Gerald Kennedy in A Reader's Notebook

A Prayer by
Pierre Teilhard de Chardin, SJ

Lord, enfold me in the depths of your heart; and there hold me, refine, purge and set me on fire. Raise me aloft, until my own self knows utter annihilation.

A Prayer by
John Henry Cardinal Newman

God has created me to do Him
some definite service;
He has committed some work
to me which He has not
committed to another.

I have my mission—
I may never know it in this life,
but I shall be told it in the next.
...I am a link in a chain,
a bond of connection
between persons.

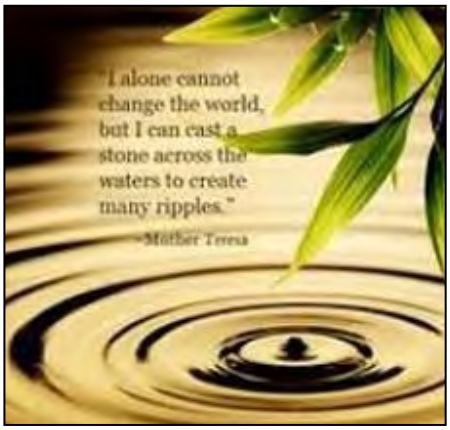
He has not created me for naught.
I shall do good;
I shall do His work;
I shall be an angel of peace,
a preacher of truth
in my own place,
while not intending it,
if I do but keep his Commandments.

….Therefore I will trust Him.
Whatever, wherever I am.
I can never be thrown away.

If I am in sickness,
my sickness may serve Him;
in perplexity,
my perplexity may serve Him;
in sorrow,
my sorrow may serve Him

...He does nothing in vain.
….He knows what He is about.

Ripples of Kindness



From NextDoor

I lost my wallet about a week ago. I knew things dropped out between my car and my door because my husband recovered a few items but not my wallet. Someone by the name of Doug found it while walking and brought it to the leasing office of the villages of old hickory. A real testament to kindness. Thank you again Doug.

By Rayelenn Casey

Here's a memory of folks at St Edward's supporting each other as church family with generosity, and so good naturedly. That big snow was 8 years ago this week?. Our nearest St Ed's neighbours, Maura and David Keener, walked over from their house to ours and snowblowed us back into the land of the living. Kindness of friends. And I recall David said he just ran his snowblower on the whole walk from their house to ours, creating a helpful pathway along the sidewalks and on the side of the road for others.

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

—Sally Koch

Fellowship Dinner

WEDNESDAY,

March 27th 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM

We invite all to a parish-wide potluck supper in the parish hall! This is a wonderful way to celebrate the beginning of Holy Week.

How does it work?

Bring a main dish, dessert, or salad/bread for 5 people. Bring your own place setting: dish, utensils. We will provide the drinks. And we will have paper goods available for folks. This makes for easy set-up and clean-up, allowing us to enjoy each other's company!

We will have a sign-up sheet in the narthex, beginning March 3, so we can make certain the parish hall tables are set up for the group. Please add your name and whether you will be bringing a main dish, salad/bread, or dessert.

February Services

Picture by Mary Snyder

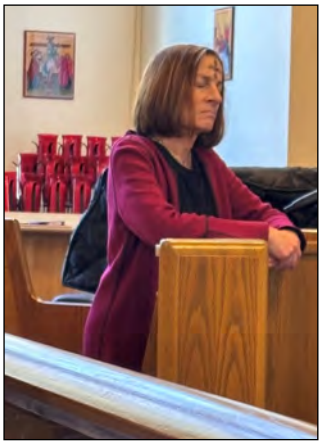
Father Rick and Bob Mosebach

Fr. Rick and Bob Mosebach

Rayelenn Casey

Linda Jones

The Imposition of Ashes



Michelle Bentley

Buddy Yeager and Peter Weber

A sermon

Kiki Davis-Brugmann

Jay Miller

The Gospel

Jay Miller

The altar is set.

ST. EDWARD'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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)

- **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