January 2026

ST. EDWARD'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Scepter

Reflection From the Rector's Desk

By The Rev. Dr. Richard C. Bauer

> "No one is meant to navigate winter alone. Human beings aren't solitary creatures; our nervous systems are relational. We regulate emotion through connection. We borrow calm from one another.

January often arrives like a hush. After the brightness and bustle of December—after candlelit services, crowded calendars, and the adrenaline of anticipation—the calendar turns, and something in us exhales. The days are still short. The cold lingers. The world feels hushed, stripped back to essentials. This isn't a season of fireworks or resolution-driven bravado. It's a season of slow work.

For many of us, January isn't particularly energizing; it's heavy. And our bodies know this long before our minds articulate it. Because as daylight diminishes, our biology responds. Reduced exposure to sunlight affects the regulation of serotonin, a neurotransmitter associated with mood, and melatonin, the hormone that governs sleep cycles. In colder, darker months, melatonin production increases, often leaving us feeling sluggish or foggy. Appetite changes, motivation wanes, and the body subtly shifts into a kind of conservation mode. These things aren't witnesses to deficiencies in our wills. They aren't moral failures. They're ancient evolutionary adaptations—our nervous systems responding to scarcity of light and warmth, much as they have for millennia.

For some of us, these changes deepen into what clinicians call Seasonal Affective Disorder. S.A.D. isn't simply "winter blues." It can be a serious form of depression marked by persistent sadness, fatigue, difficulty concentrating, and withdrawal from community. Naming it matters. Because naming something moves it from the realm of shame into the realm of shared human experience. And because faith communities, at their best, are places where what is named can be held with care.

But too often, religious language rushes us past this season. We speak of "new beginnings" as if they're supposed to arrive fully formed on January 1. We expect clarity, momentum, transformation—when what our bodies are asking for is patience, warmth, and gentleness. The spiritual danger of this time isn't stagnation, but self-reproach: the quiet belief that if we aren't thriving, we're failing.

Yet the Christian story offers us another way of understanding beginnings. Because the promise of Incarnation doesn't arrive as a spectacle of strength or certainty. It arrives as vulnerability. It arrives small. It arrives in the cold. And Incarnation, at its heart, is the affirmation that God meets the world not at its most triumphant, but at its most fragile. Light enters darkness

(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

not by overpowering it, but by dwelling within it. The Word becomes flesh—not as a solution imposed from above, but as a presence that abides, breathes, and grows slowly.

That matters in January. Because this season asks us to trust forms of hope that are almost invisible. It asks us to believe that what is gestating beneath the surface—beneath frozen ground, beneath heavy moods, beneath communal fatigue—is still alive. Still moving. Still becoming. And here is where community becomes essential.

No one is meant to navigate winter alone. Human beings aren't solitary creatures; our nervous systems are relational. We regulate emotion through connection. We borrow calm from one another. We survive cold seasons—literal and metaphorical—by clustering, by sharing heat, by noticing who is quiet and who is absent, by refusing the myth that resilience is an individual achievement.

A community that understands January well does not demand productivity from its members. It practices attentiveness. It lowers the bar for performance and raises the bar for presence. It creates spaces where people can arrive as they are—tired, uncertain, tender—without needing to explain themselves. And this kind of communal care can be profoundly practical. It looks like checking in on one another without an agenda. It looks like shared meals, even simple ones. It looks like offering rides, walking together, sitting in silence. It looks like normalizing the use of light therapy, counseling, medication, and rest—not as signs of weakness, but as acts of stewardship for the physical body that God has entrusted to us. It also looks like resisting isolation.

One of the cruel ironies of seasonal depression is that it convinces us to withdraw from the very relationships that could help us heal. Community, then, must sometimes be gently persistent. Not intrusive. Not demanding. But present. A text that says, "You crossed my mind." A knock on the door. A place saved at the table. These gestures matter more than we know. Because Incarnation invites us to believe that presence itself is healing. Not fixing. Not explaining. Simply staying.

But this is also a season that invites us to recalibrate our expectations of growth. In nature, winter isn't wasted time. It's when roots deepen. It's when soil rests and nutrients redistribute. The most important work is happening underground, unseen. If we measure life only by what is visible, we'll misunderstand this season entirely.

And so, spiritually speaking, January may not be a time for bold declarations or dramatic change. It may be a time for listening—to our bodies, to one another, to the quiet wisdom that emerges only when noise subsides. It may be a time to ask gentler questions: What do I need to endure well? Who do I need beside me? What would kindness toward myself look like right now? For a community, the questions shift slightly: Who is missing? Who is carrying more than we realize? Where can we slow down together?

The promise of Incarnation isn't that darkness disappears immediately. Light comes…not all at once, but steadily, imperceptibly, day by day. And January trains us in this kind of subtle confidence. If you find this season heavy, you aren't broken. If you find yourself moving slowly, you aren't behind. If you need help—light, therapy, medication, companionship—you aren't failing the spiritual life. You're inhabiting it honestly.

And if we, as a community, can learn to honor this season together—to move gently, to speak softly, to stay close—then January becomes not an obstacle to the spiritual life, but a teacher within it. Because the God we confess doesn't rush past winter. God enters it. And in that quiet, embodied presence, something holy begins—long before the thaw. May we winter well together friends…in Christ,

Rick+

"Joy
If heaven brings perfect enjoyment of the Light eternal, earth is surely then our training ground for enjoying the Word made flesh here in the manger."

Br. Keith Nelson, SSJE

Parish Office Hours

Parish Office Hours

Tuesday- Friday: 11:00 – 4:00PM

Parish Administrator: Michelle Bentley

Scepter Production Staff

H. J. "Mac" Miller
hj_miller@outlook.com

Photos by:
Mary Snyder
starleo1328@yahoo.com

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.

Gun Violence Prevention

By Bruce Lynch

I participated in the October 28, 2025 Zoom meeting of the "Saving Lives: Ending Gun Violence" group within our Episcopal Church Diocese. I was impressed and inspired by the variety of gun safety initiatives that churches in our area are acting on. Here are examples of opportunities for interested members of our congregation to get involved:

Educational programs such as "Be Smart" promote responsible gun ownership through safe storage of one's guns and ammo. Free gun lock kits are provided by Penn Medicine Lancaster General Health and Mental Health America of Lancaster County. Safe storage helps prevent lethal accidents involving children and other family members and assists with suicide prevention by making lethal means less easily available.

Following the "Swords to Plowshares" gun violence prevention event that St. Edward's hosted in September 2022, St. Thomas Episcopal Church's Reverend Jennifer Mattson and her staff have done Raw Tools training to become a site where donated guns are physically transformed into useful tools and items. St. Thomas is also in the process of becoming a "safe disposal site" for donated guns. Providing a safe site and process for people who have guns they want to dispose of is an important part of gun violence prevention.

"With One Voice" is an interfaith gun violence prevention group started by Bishop Audrey Scanlan and Reverend Martha Harris (St. Luke's Episcopal Church) that is working in partnership with "CeaseFirePA" and focuses primarily on legislative action and working at the state capitol in Harrisburg. "With One Voice" is also collaborating with community members to provide a free viewing and discussion of the documentary and song "Louder Than Guns" on Wednesday March 18, 2026 in Lancaster.

Additional information is available, including a Resources section on gun safety actions individuals can take, on the "Episcopal Bishops United Against Gun Violence" web site: https://bishopsagainstgunviolence.org/

Vestry

By Jay Miller

As the year comes to a close, it's a natural time to pause and reflect on all that has transpired over the past twelve months. We've faced challenges, celebrated achievements, and grown both personally and spiritually as a parish. Looking back, it's clear that the experiences we've shared as a Saint Edward's family have helped shape us, from Father Rick teaching valuable lessons through sermons of the Gospels and also through our interactions and connections with each other, deepening our faith and helping those around us. We've had very successful fund raising activities as well as social activities from Guess Who's Coming To Dinner, to pot-luck dinners together in the parish hall. We continue to provide food assistance for those in need via the HAFP as well as serving meals to those in need downtown, along with several other Faith In Action initiatives that do so much to help others. As a vestry, we thank each and every one of you for your gifts of time, talent and treasure and for your continued participation in the life of Saint Edward's.

Looking ahead to the new year, there's a sense of excitement and optimism about what's to come. With opportunities for participation and growth on the horizon of our spiritual journey together. As a vestry, we will work to set goals and expectations for the new year and continue to build on the year that was, so that we as a parish can continue to grow and flourish. As we turn the page on 2025 and look toward the next chapter, let's carry forward the love, hope, faith and sense of family that we've built here at Saint Edward's.

A Merry Christmas and a Happy and Blessed New Year to all!!

Military News

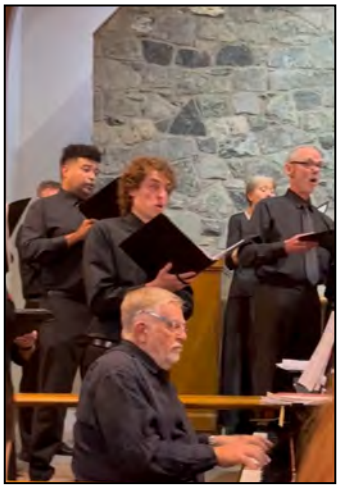
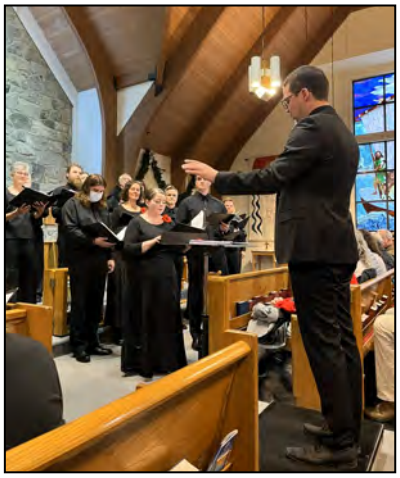
Please keep in your prayers those close to us who are serving in the military.

★Richard Mutari

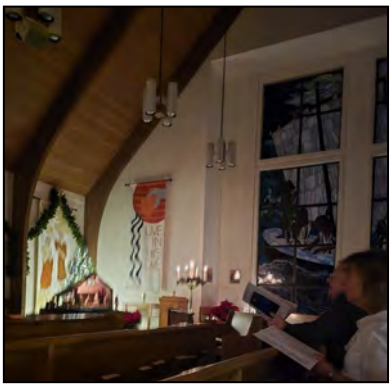
Please advise Michelle Bentley in the Parish office or HJ Miller@ Outlook.com if these names should remain on our list:

★Justin Carnahan
★Brandon Fox
★Gordon Frankenfield
★Matt Fuhrman
★Jack Hawk
★Drew Johnson
★William Justice
★Anthony Koser
★Alex Kube
★John Lewis
★David Peck
★Capt. Andrew Pfeiffer
★Mike Spurr
★David Sternberg
★Clayton Tennies
★Connor Tennies
★Evan Westgate
★Seamas Whitesel
★1st Lt. Thomas Whitesel

Lancaster Chamber Singers

Pictures by Mary Gibson

Views of St. Edward's in December

Pictures by Mary Snyder



Kid's Corner

Joe McCabe and granddaughter Lynne says, "This little girl is Harley. There are 7 more!

Brenneman's receive communion

Snowflake SNACK CAKES

Celebrate the beauty of winter with these fun snowflake-inspired treats!

What you need:

- Graham cracker squares or sugar cookies
- White frosting or marshmallow fluff
- Pretzel sticks (snowflake arms)
- Shredded coconut or white sprinkles
- Mini marshmallows or candy pearls

What you do:

1. Frost each cracker or cookie.
2. Arrange pretzel sticks in a crisscross for the snowflake base.
3. Sprinkle with coconut or sprinkles for snow.
4. Add marshmallows or candy pearls to the ends for detail.

Lesson tie-in:
Remind kids that God made each of us unique—just like no two snowflakes are alike! (Psalm 139:14, KJV)

PUZZLE

TRANSLATE GOD'S WORD

The Bible we use is translated into English from other languages. "Translate" the verse below using the code.

CODE			
A=	E=△	L=□	R=+
B= X	G= ●	M= ✓	S= ■
D=	H=	N=	SH=
	I= ▲	O= ✿	T= ♬
	K= ‖	P= □	TH= ●

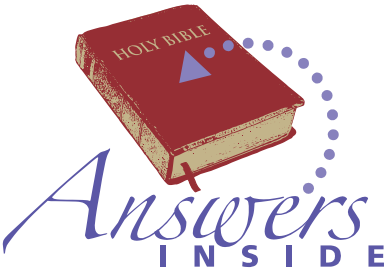
Proverbs 3:13

Answer: Happy is the one who finds wisdom and the one who gets understanding.

Bible Quiz

Fill in the blank to complete this verse from 2 Corinthians: "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new _____. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

A. Creation
B. Beginning
C. Season
D. Covenant



Answer: A (See 2 Corinthians 5:17, ESV)"

Pictures by Mary Snyder

Join Us for Coffee Hour

By Michelle Bentley

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.

Kathleen Spencer

Oreo Bon-Bon's

A coffee hour favorite

By Beth Lynch

Many people have asked how to make the Oreo Bon-Bons I make so here it is in print.

Supplies:

- Package of Oreo's
- 1 brick of cream cheese (softened)
- Bag of chocolate melting chips

Directions:

1. Crush the Oreo's.
2. Mix in the cream cheese.
3. Refrigerate for at least 15 minutes.
4. Roll the dough into balls and refrigerate for 30 minutes.
5. Melt the chocolate along the way as you dip the balls into the chocolate. Place it in refrigerator until you are ready to serve.

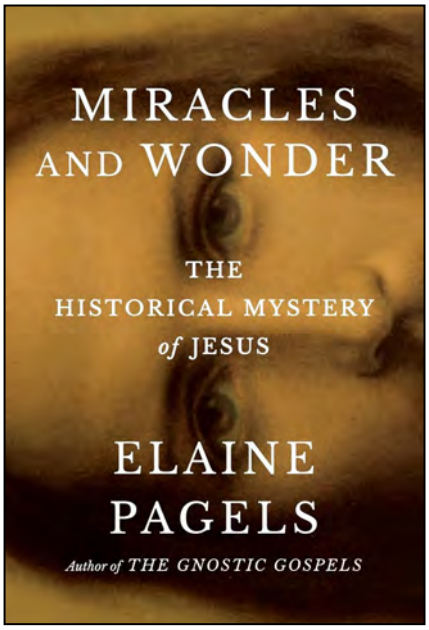
For a surprise, between steps 4 and 5 roll them into POP ROCK Candy for an exploding delight.

Lunch and Learn

Our next Friday Lunch & Learn will begin Friday, November 7th at 12 noon via Zoom. We are very excited for our new book *Miracles and Wonder - The Historical Mystery of Jesus* by Elaine Pagels. We invite you to read a synopsis of her work and please consider joining us in our next session as we discover, together, how Pagels does more than solve a historical mystery. She sheds light on Jesus's enduring power to inspire and attract.

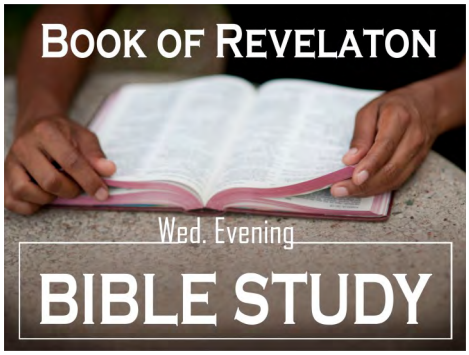
"The depth of spirituality she uncovers is profound." —*The New York Times Book Review*

Her New York Times Bestseller reads like a historical mystery, with each chapter addressing a fascinating question and answering it based on the gospels Jesus's followers left behind. Why is Jesus said to have had a virgin birth? Why do we say he rose from the dead? Did his miracles really happen and what did they mean?



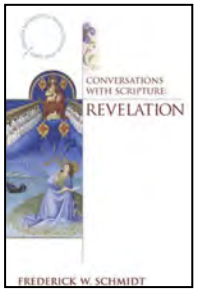
The story Pagels tells is thrilling and tense. Not just does Jesus come to life, but his desperate, hunted followers do as well. We realize that some of the most compelling details of Jesus's life are the explanations his disciples created to paper over inconvenient facts. So Jesus wasn't illegitimate, his mother conceived by God; Jesus's body wasn't humiliatingly left to rot and tossed into a common grave—no, he rose from the dead and was seen whole by his followers; Jesus isn't a failed messiah, his kingdom is a metaphor: he lives in us. These necessary fabrications were the very details and promises that electrified their listeners and

Wednesday Evening Bible Study



Roadmap, myth, or history? An accessible review of The Book of Revelation for today's audience.

Conversations with Scripture: Revelation



is the first book in the Anglican Association of Biblical Scholar Study Series. Written in accessible language and sensitive to those who have little or no experience in reading the bible, each book in the series focuses on exploring the historical and critical background, as well as how the biblical texts written centuries ago can still speak to readers today.

Frederick W Schmidt

Frederick W. Schmidt, also the series editor, explores the approaches that have dominated the interpretation of John's Apocalypse and offers the reader an accessible means of understanding and evaluating them. With this grounding in hand, Schmidt explores how Revelation can shape our understanding of God, and nurture our spiritual lives in unexpected ways. Leaving behind "left-behind" theology, Schmidt offers instead an approach that allows this obscure, almost opaque text to speak to us anew about God, faith, hope, and justice.

Schmidt is an ordained Episcopal priest and holds a bachelor's degree from Asbury College, a master of divinity from Asbury Theological Seminary, and a doctor of philosophy from Oxford University, where his original academic work was in New Testament studies.

Precious Lord Take My Hand

Thomas Dorsey, a jazz musician from Atlanta, made a bold decision in 1926 to leave behind secular music and devote his talent to writing songs for the Lord. But following that call wasn't easy. During the Great Depression, many church leaders criticized his soulful gospel style, calling it "the devil's music." Dorsey later joked, "I got kicked out of some of the best churches in the land."

Then, in 1932, tragedy struck. While in St. Louis for a revival, he received a telegram that his wife had died suddenly during childbirth. His faith was shaken to the core, and grief nearly silenced him. Yet in his deepest sorrow, Dorsey turned back to what he knew best — music. Out of that heartbreak came one of the most beloved hymns of all time:

"Precious Lord, take my hand, Lead me on, let me stand. I am tired, I am weak, I am worn…"

Dorsey's song reminds us that even in our valleys, God is near — guiding us, strengthening us, and using our pain to comfort others who walk the same road.

In Loving Memory of Bob Hubbard

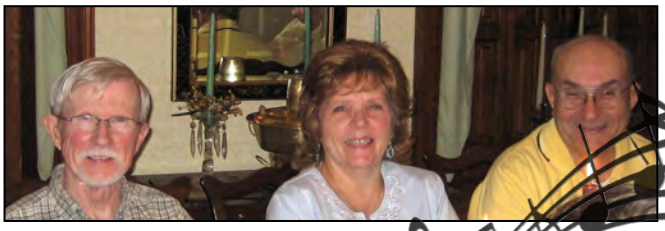
MCM 26.2
MARINE CORPS MARATHON

Sharon and Bob

For details of Bob's life see: https://www.thegroffs.com/obituaries/robert-hubbard-22/#!/Obituary

Casket draped with Quilt of Valor made by Sharon

With Dorris Smith and Elaine Radcliffe



With Liz and Buddy Yeager

Mary Ann Franck, Jo Anna Hebberger Stephen Casey and Curt Franck

With Kathie Rodgers

ST. EDWARD'S STEWARDSHIP 2026

As we travel in this season of stewardship, I invite you to listen for how God may be calling you to give. May this be, for all of us, a season of gratitude, renewal, and faith. May we give joyfully, knowing that what we offer helps build a Church where love is made real—where all are welcomed, and Christ's presence is known. And may our stewardship this year reflect the generosity of the One who gives us everything, asking only that we love in return.

- Father Rick

Our 2026 Stewardship Campaign continues. . . We have achieved a 65% mark towards our goal - not just in dollars raised, but in pledges submitted, as well. We are still seeking our remaining 35% in pledge form submissions and dollar commitments so that we can successfully steward the mission and ministry of St. Edward's for 2026. If you did not receive a pledge form and letter, please contact the parish office and we will mail one to you! We prayerfully request that forms be submitted at your earliest convenience so our finance committee can forge our budget in January.

JOIN US FOR OUR
LENTEN SILENT RETREAT
MARCH 25-28, 2026
**NEW THIS YEAR – BEGINS ON MARCH 25TH
THE WEEK BEFORE PALM SUNDAY

ST. EDWARD'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

HELD AT: MARIAWALD RETREAT CENTER IN READING, PA

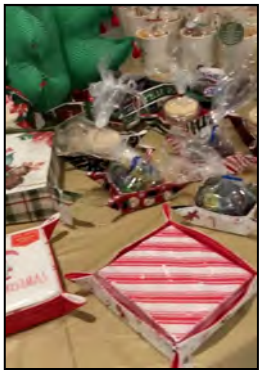
A WONDERFUL OPPORTUNITY TO REST & RENEW
AS WE TRAVEL TOWARDS THE END OF OUR LENTEN JOURNEY

REGISTRATION FORMS/DETAILS WILL BE IN THE NARTHEX MID-JANUARY

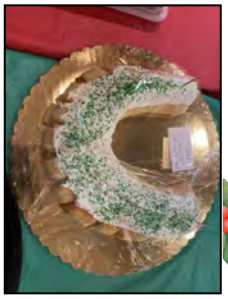
REGISTER BY FEBRUARY 22ND – SPACE IS LIMITED!

Cookie and Craft Sale

Pictures by Meredith Aul, Mary Gibson and Mary Snyder



Cookie Craft Crew!! Donna Holwager, Rick Dombach Julie Hoff, Mark Jakiel, Michelle Bentley, Tina Shank, Sharon Gromis, Barb Jakiel, Freda Dombach, Beth Lynch, Ginny Kloepping and Kevin Milligan



Hempfield Food Pantry

Current items requested:

Peanut butter (1 pound size)
Strawberry jelly
Tomato paste
Spaghetti sauce
Lentils (1 pound bags)
AND other dried beans
Canned mandarin oranges
Canned pears
Canned pineapple
Canned chick peas
Canned red beets
Canned spinach
Canned chicken (regular size)

(No Glass Containers Please)

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 Monday and Wednesday from 10 am to 1 pm

ONGOING MINISTRIES:

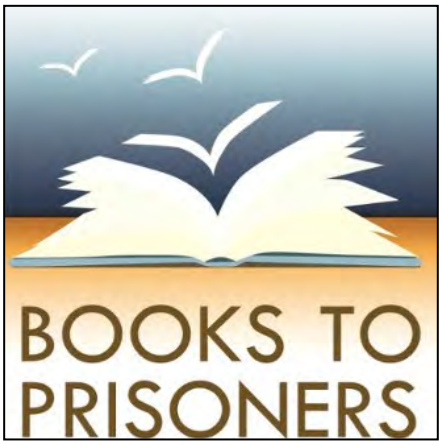
Books for Prisoners
Hempfield Food Pantry
Collection areas are in the narthex

UPCOMING MINISTRIES:

Jan 27 2026	First Reformed Dinner
Feb18– March 29	Soles4Souls
Mar. 5	Blood Drive
Mar 21-22	Feed Starving Chil dren
Mar 25	Race Against Racism
April- May 4th	Annual Blood Drive
May 12	First Reformed Dinner
July-Aug.	School Supply Drive
Sep. 1	First Reformed Dinner
Nov	Turkey Drive
Nov-Dec	Jesse Tree
Nov-Dec	ALERT Sock Drive

Volunteers Needed At Hempfield Food Pantry

The Hempfield Food Pantry is looking for volunteers to help them at their bread line station on Monday and Wednesday distributions according to your availability. This would involve handing out the types of breads that each family would be entitled to plus being there as a welcoming face. The position of bread distributor will be in the mornings from probably 8:30 to noon and would include a lot of standing. If interested please contact: Diane Gerlach at dlsgerlach@comcast.net



Books for Prisoners Program: In our ministry, we are now accepting monetary donations for our Books for Prisoners program. There is a box in the narthex to place your donations in. Please contact Randy Westgate with any questions.

First Reformed Dinner on January 27, 2026

By Beth Lynch

St. Edward's parish will be serving a hot meal at the First Reformed Church in downtown Lancaster on Tuesday, January 27th at 5 p.m. The Faith In Action ministry is looking to involve the entire parish as much as possible. Here are the ways that individuals can help:

Supply ingredients for the meal by 1/25/26.

Cook the chili and pasta in St. Edward's kitchen on Monday 1/26/26 starting at 11 a.m.

Bake Cookies due by 1/25/26.

Bag supplies on 1/26/26.

Serve the meal on 1/27/26.

Man the hat, scarf, and glove table.

There will be a sign-up sheet in the narthex for each category or supply need. We will need elbow pasta, ground beef, red kidney beans, tomato sauce, paste and diced. We are asking for the baking of cookies and corn bread. The corn bread mix will be provided.

Main dish to be served will be chili with pasta . Parishioners are asked to provide ingredients and to help prepare and serve the meal.

The collection of Jesse Tree Gifts the Second Sunday of Advent– December 7th Picture by Mary Snyder

Rahim Family Collection

There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex for the ongoing Rahim collection. Items needed are: Paper towels, tissues, toilet paper, shampoo, toothpaste, body wash, hand soap, laundry detergent, fabric softener, dish soap, dishwasher tablets, kitchen garbage bags, hand sanitizer.

Please leave donations in baskets under the counter in the Narthex.

The hats, gloves, and socks that have been collected will be offered to those attending the meal.

Faith in Action

A Christian is someone who makes it easier for others to believe in God — not through perfection, but through kindness, grace and love in everyday life. When people see Christ's compassion in us, they're drawn closer to Him.

Bishop Scanlan discusses the Jesse Tree Story

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=124cYVsN_3I
Jesse tree video from Bishop Scanlan

Lunch With the Chosen

Hosted by Blair Lord

Merry Christmas-tide and Happy New Year! Yes, we are at the tail-end of the Christmas season, looking ahead to Epiphany in 2026. Back in December, we watched episode 5 of season 4, "Sitting, Serving, Scheming." This episode covered many plot threads, including Jesus and his followers visiting Mary, Martha, and Lazarus in Bethany along with Judas wrestling with doubt and confusion over what Jesus's status as Messiah actually means in juxtaposition with worldly concerns. One scene that stands out to me is when Roman soldiers compel the group to carry their belongings for one mile, only for Jesus to offer to continue another mile. It beautifully portrays Jesus as teacher and transformer of hearts, even if the needle moves ever so slightly.

Our luncheon viewing of *The Chosen* continues on Sunday, **January 4th**, with "Dedication." The title refers to the celebration of Hanukkah, which Jesus and company observe while confronting religious leaders in the Temple and hearing worrisome news about Lazarus. While this episode missed the 2025 Hanukkah window, we hope you'll join us anyway to eat, view, and discuss. Come with your bagged lunch to the parish hall after the 10am service.

If you're catching your breath and checking your February calendar, **February 1st** (we're hitting the ground running!) will feature episode 7, "The Last Sign." It's the penultimate episode of season 4!

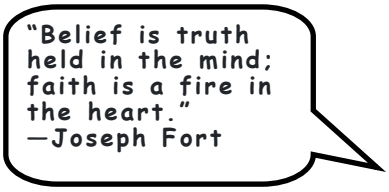
If you want to continue watching *The Chosen* beyond our monthly luncheon, you can access it for free at thechosen.tv You can download The Chosen App to your Amazon FireTV, Apple TV, or Roku, and on your phone from the Apple Store or Google Play Store. Additionally, the show is available on Amazon Prime.

Let me know if you have any questions. Thank you!

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, January 10th



Taizé Worship

Saint Luke Episcopal 209 South Market St. Mount Joy, PA.

The first Saturday of every month @ 5pm.

Interested in experiencing meditative worship with candlelight, chanting with live musicians (harp, piano, guitar), scripture interspersed with short periods of silence? Join us as Br. David Rutledge or The Rev. Martha Harris lead worship.

Sunday 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

Wednesday Noon

Looking for a meditative complement to Sunday services? Need a peaceful break mid-week? Join us for the Wednesday Noon Contemplative Eucharist and Meditation in the Parish Hall chapel. Each Wednesday, about 16-20 of us gather for reflection, meditation, and Eucharist, led by Father Rick. It truly is a refreshing reset to the week. For some, this is their weekly service they attend. We welcome donations to our free-will offering plate at this service.

Looking Ahead

Lent Madness

We've almost recovered from our Halloween candy hangovers. We've belted out all eight verses of the classic All Saints hymn. Returning Lent Madness fans will know what that means: it is now ALL BRACKETS DAY... with a twist for 2026. Our new Supreme Executive Committee declares this the start of All Bracketstide!

We're not just giving you a day… we're giving you a SEASON of bracket build up! Starting November 15, we'll drop a brand-new first-round matchup every single day leading up to Advent. Follow along on Facebook, Instagram, or right here on this website https://www.lentmadness.org/

as each matchup is revealed. Click here

For more from Michael:

As a reminder, or if you're new to this online devotion, here's how Lent Madness works: on the weekdays of Lent, information is posted at www.lentmadness.org about two different saints. Each pairing remains open for 24 hours as participants read about and then vote to determine which saint moves on to the next round. Sixteen saints make it to the Round of the Saintly 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 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

"O Lord, I want to be in that number when the saints go marching in. "

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner

By Bruce Lynch

All are invited to this year's Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner, which will be hosted by the Men's Spirituality Group on February 17 at 5:30 pm. Join us for this fun event which will kick off our Lenten journey with fellowship and a delicious feast of pancakes and sausage prepared for you by our talented chefs! Only bring yourselves, your appetites, and your friends and family members.

In order to give our planners a good idea of how much food to prepare, please use the attendance sign-up sheet that will be in the narthex beginning Sunday January 25. To help us defer costs, we prayerfully request a free will offering that evening. There will be baskets at our serving areas for collection. We look forward to seeing you there!

What We Really Need

Twelve ministers were on a flight headed to a conference in Seattle when the plane hit a fierce storm. Trying to calm their nerves, they told the flight attendant, "Let the pilot know everything's fine — there are twelve ministers on board!"

A few minutes later, the flight attendant returned from the cockpit.

"Well?" one of the pastors asked with a grin. "What did the pilot say?"

She smiled and replied, "He said he was glad to have 12 ministers aboard, but he would rather have four good engines."

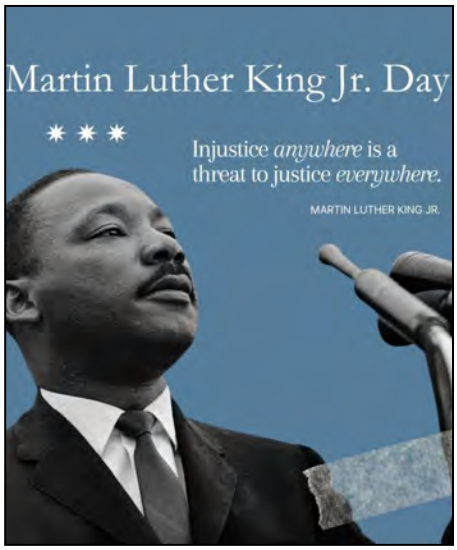
Krist Kindling January 17 Reveal

By Meredith Westgate

Krist Kindling has gone ultra-smoothly this year! I believe it's the first time in about 35 years I haven't gotten a single phone call about some sort of mix-up. Of course, delivering to the church instead of someone's house in the dark has made things easier, though a little less dramatic.

All those who participated as well as anyone who would like to chase away the winter blahs are invited to gather in the Parish Hall for a soup and salad lunch on Saturday, January 17 at noon. You will find a sign-up sheet in the Narthex. Please include the individual names of your group for seating purposes and indicate whether you will be bringing soup, salad, bread or rolls, or dessert. If you are wondering about quantity, 20 families participated. As a rule of thumb, whatever you bring, please make it enough to serve 6-8 people.

Oh! And don't forget to bring along your hope, peace, joy, and love. See you there!



January 19, 2026

Advent Services

Pictures by Mary Snyder and Irene

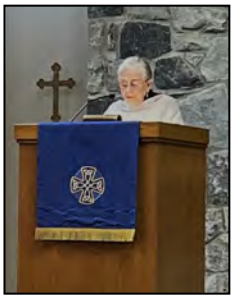
Advent Wreath

Art Hagan

Service Dog

Donna Burkholder,
Guest Organist

Beth Lynch


Kathleen Spencer

Group prayer

Bob Mosebach
Kim Kline

Beautiful Snow

Jaime Alton played
piano for the choir
members who were able
to get to church

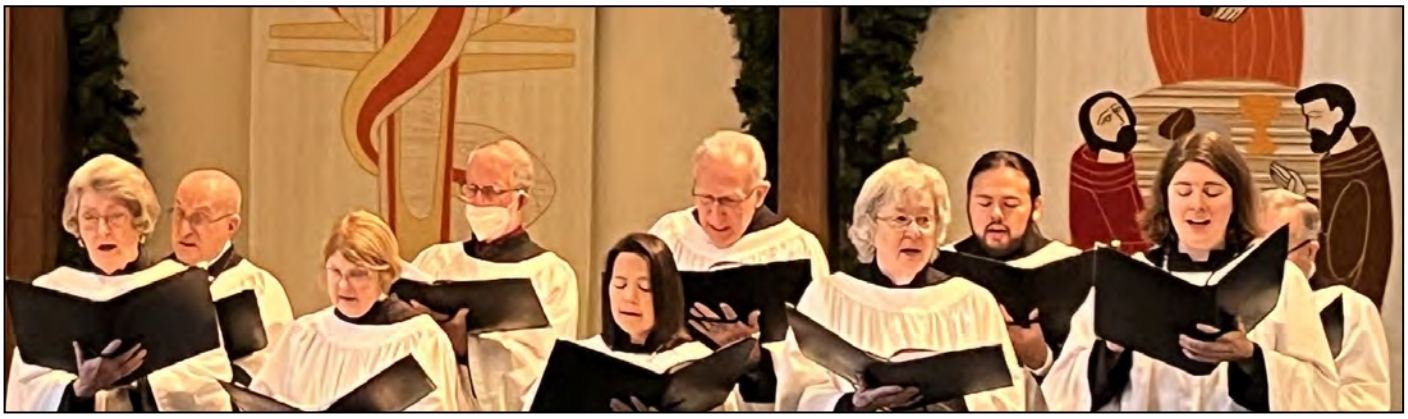
Jay Miller

Peter Weber

Lighting the 4th candle

Bob Mosebach

Buddy Yeager

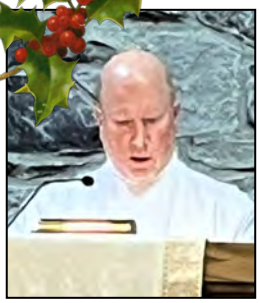
Sermon

The choir adds so much to each service

Christmas Eve Services

Pictures by Mary Snyder, Rayelenn Casey and from Live Stream

Emily Casey and nieces

Leslie Arnold

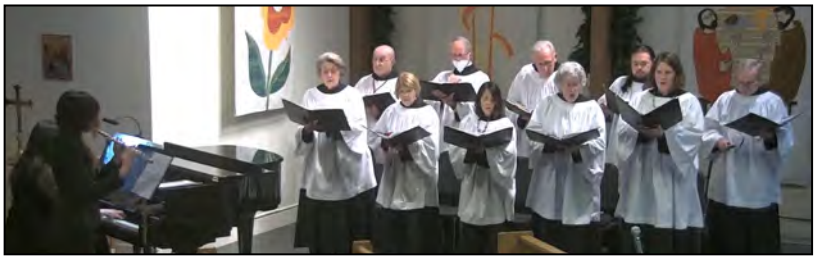


Jay Miller

Blair Lord

Jamie Alton

Silent Night

Amy Yovanovich "O Holy Night"

Karen Waddill and Daughter Jackson

ST. EDWARD'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

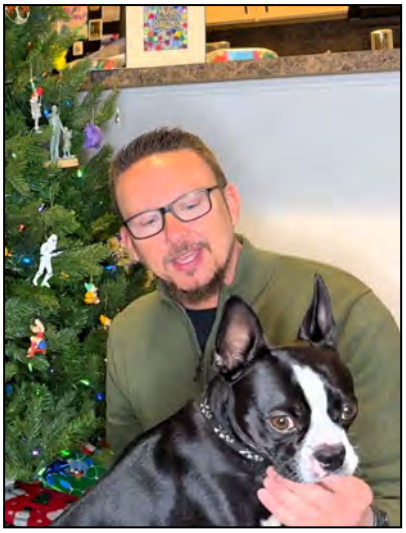
2453 Harrisburg Pike

Lancaster, PA 17601

Phone 717-898-6276

Email: stedsoffice@comcast.net

www.sainteds.org



Fr. Rick's Christmas message

Click here to connect to a Christmas Day Message from Father Rick

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

Staff

The Rev. Dr. Rick Bauer, Rector

Michelle Bentley, Parish Administrator

Karen E. Waddill, Director of Music

Parish Office Hours

Tuesday-Friday:
11AM – 4:00PM

Vestry
(year term ends)

- **Mike Freshwater(2027) Vestry Clerk**
- **Mary Gibson(2028)**
- **Ethel Lawrence (2027)**
- **Blair Lord (2026) Vestry Clerk**
- **Jay Miller (2026) Senior Warden**
- **Bob Mosebach (2026)**
- **Donna Ray(2028)**
- **Dan Sanders(2028)**
- **Kathy Spencer (2027)**

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 and Meditation