

March 2026



ST. EDWARD'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Scepter



Reflection From the Rector's Desk

By The Rev. Dr. Richard C. Bauer



“Lent doesn't ask, *How hard can I be on myself?* It asks, *How honest can I be?*”

Lent rarely announces itself with thunder. It arrives the way winter light shifts—almost imperceptibly. The alleluias fall silent. The colors in the sanctuary deepen to purple. Yet the texture of our ordinary lives remains unchanged: emails still ping, children still need tending, anxieties hum beneath the surface. Nothing external compels us to notice. We're simply given a choice. We may move through these forty days as we always have, or we may step—gently and deliberately—into their invitation. Lent does not coerce. It beckons toward reflection, repentance, renewal.

In Travel Like a Hero, I

wrote about pilgrimage as something more than geography. The most meaningful journeys, I've learned, don't require a passport; they require honesty. In every great myth, the hero's path isn't about spectacle or conquest but transformation—shedding illusion, relinquishing ego, consenting to growth. Each year, Lent offers us that kind of passage: not an escape from our lives, but a descent more fully into them; not a performance of piety, but a reorientation of the heart. The Church gives us this season not because we've failed, but because we're still becoming. We are unfinished. And that unfinishedness is grace.

The Gospels lead us into the wilderness. Before public ministry, before parables gather crowds, before healing hands are extended, Jesus steps away. Forty days. Sparse landscape. Hunger. Silence. We often hear “wilderness” and imagine punishment. But in Scripture, wilderness is about revelation. The desert strips away excess. It clarifies appetite. It exposes the stories we rely on when comfort fades.

Most of us don't need to fabricate such terrain; life provides it—through loss, aging parents, vocational crossroads, fragile health, strained relationships. Lent

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- • *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)

simply invites us into a voluntary wilderness: to clear space, simplify, and pay attention. The desert doesn't ask us to despise ourselves. It asks us to see clearly.

And yet, too often, Lent becomes little more than a diet of denial: chocolate surrendered, social media paused, wine set aside. These gestures can matter, but they aren't the point. The deeper question isn't merely, What will I remove? but What is shaping me? The most consequential conversations we hold are not public but inward. The tone we use with ourselves quietly determines the posture we take toward the world.

Lent can become a threshold where illusion thins and false narratives fall away—where we recognize how fear has guided decisions, how pride has narrowed vision, how comfort has dulled compassion. Formation begins with this awareness. It may unsettle us. But it liberates us.

Ash Wednesday reminds us that we are dust. It can sound severe. But at heart, it is mercy. To remember our mortality is to regain proportion. Deadlines soften. Grievances cool. We are freed—not shamed. Dust is not an insult; it is belonging. We are of the earth: finite, fragile, and therefore precious.

Lent doesn't ask, How hard can I be on myself? It asks, How honest can I be? Notice the voice that rises when you fall short. Is it impatient or patient? Accusing or inviting? The interior tone of our lives shapes everything.

Rather than tightening us, Lent opens space. It calls for steady practices—small enough to sustain, deep enough to change us.

Begin with silence. Ten minutes at the

edge of the day. Sit. Breathe. When attention wanders—and it will—return gently to a simple prayer: Here I am. Silence does not eliminate distraction; it teaches us not to be ruled by it.

Read Scripture as mirror rather than weapon. Linger over a parable. Let it question you. Allow it to become a companion in becoming.

At day's end, practice a brief Examen. Where did gratitude flicker? Where did irritation surface? No shame. Just attention. Over time, reflection replaces reactivity.

Repair what is frayed. A delayed conversation. An apology withheld. Justice begins in proximity—in the courage to say, I was wrong or I am listening.

And tend the body. Walk in the lengthening light. Rest deliberately. Eat with awareness. Spiritual growth is not disembodied; grace meets us in muscle and breath.

None of these practices will dazzle. But they soften what has hardened. They deepen roots where no one else can see.

Every real journey presents a threshold—a place where old maps fail and new ones have not yet formed. It is uncomfortable terrain. We are tempted to retreat into habit or rush toward premature clarity. Lent teaches us to remain: with unsettling insight, with unresolved grief, with attentiveness to the suffering of the world without numbing ourselves through distraction.

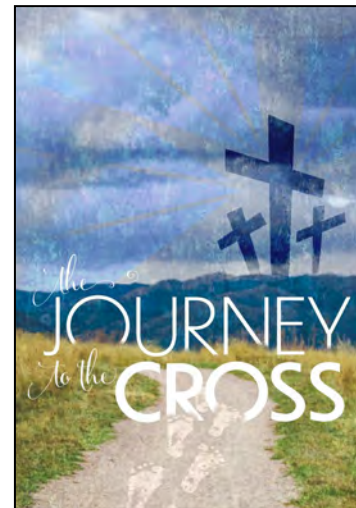
Still, Lent is not bleak. Its hope is mature because it refuses shortcuts. The wilderness is not the final chapter. We witness to light even when we cannot yet see it. Christian hope does not deny fracture; it cultivates steady trust. When we fast from distraction, attention sharpens. When we

confess misalignment, humility grows. When we forgive, bitterness loosens. When we serve, our interconnectedness becomes visible again. These changes are gradual—often unnoticed—but they alter the soul's direction.

Lent is root work. What appears dormant may be deepening. Beneath long-held habits and quiet assumptions, something steadier is taking hold. The journey is shaped not only by mountaintops but by valleys—the unglamorous decision to remain present when comfort and consolation are delayed.

So let us move forward—curious, patient, unafraid of unfinishedness. Let us trust that the One who calls life from dust is at work in hidden places of our hearts. When light begins to break—gradually or all at once—may we recognize it as love unfolding. Lent is not about proving ourselves worthy of resurrection. It is about learning, step by steady step, to live as people already entrusted with it. Travel well,

Rick+



Parish Office Hours



Parish Office Hours

Tuesday- Friday: 11:00 – 4:00PM

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Mary Snyder
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If you're the last person to leave the building following Sunday services or an event, please take the time to make sure all the lights are turned off (including the rest rooms) the thermostat is reset and the doors are locked.



By Jay Miller

As we eased through a chilly February, our thoughts inevitably turned toward spring and warmer weather. As a parish, we had a lovely gathering for our annual Shrove Tuesday pancake supper, the conclusion of which brought us into Ash Wednesday and the season of Lent. Self-reflection during Lent can be a powerful tool for transformation. By examining our thoughts, actions, and intentions, we gain insight into areas where we can grow and improve. This season invites us to embrace humility, to seek forgiveness, and to cultivate gratitude for the blessings in our lives. As we prepared to enter into this season of reflection, our vestry held its final meeting under its current configuration. Bob Mosebach, Blair Lord and myself are cycling off of the vestry and three new faces, along with those remaining, will help Father Rick shepherd Saint Edward's forward. During our meeting, we three were asked to reflect on our experiences and without going into great detail, to no surprise, we all felt it was a positive and rewarding experience, standing up for this communi-

ty; leaning into the present while making room and considerations for the future of Saint Edward's. We learned that we are on stable financial footing and have taken steps to help make our money work for us. We are welcoming new members to our parish family and seeing signs of growth. We were excited to hear of the upcoming release of Father Rick's book and also that new parish engagement opportunities will be explored and opened for those wishing to be more active and participatory. In closing, it truly is a time of hope, renewal and growth at Saint Edward's. I look forward to seeing all the good things that await this parish family in the weeks, months and years to come.



2026 Vestry Nominees will be elected at annual meeting March 15th.

See page 10 for Bios of the 3 nominees: Julie Hoff, Bruce Lynch and Susan Murray



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.



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





Keelan Sisters by Beth Lynch

We gathered for Nancy's birthday in Dallas over the January 23rd weekend. I travelled in from Lancaster. Nancy lives in Dallas. Cathy is from Maui and Megan lives in Oregon.



Rayelenn Casey's valentine
"Happy Valentine's Day, all.
Still so cold here
But warm in our hearts"



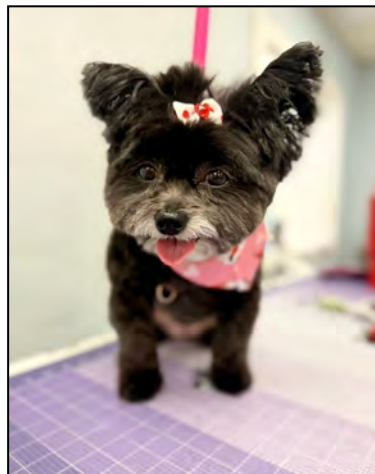
Mary and Jodi in very cold Cape May



St. Francis may be wishing for a warmer spot?



Rosie Westgate with sister-in-law and nieces



Sue and Phil Purdy's Gabby after her Valentine's Day spa trip



Swarr Run- not quite ready for trout season

Grandchildren



From Catherine Donohue:
Our newest valentine ;
Skye Catherine, born to Eliza and Matt



Irons' Grandsons at Lititz Fire and Ice



Happy Birthday to sweet Emmy,
Westgate's favorite 1 yr. old



Mary Dorsey's family, Mike, Kerry, and
Robbie Lamarque



These cheerful "palm trees" make a bright reminder of the celebration that greeted Jesus as he entered Jerusalem.

What you need:

- Bananas (for the tree trunks)
- Kiwis or green grapes (for the palm leaves)
- Mandarin oranges (for the ground)



What you do:

1. Slice bananas in half lengthwise and place vertically on a plate.
2. Arrange kiwi slices or grapes at the top to form palm fronds.
3. Add oranges at the base.
4. Serve immediately or chill until ready to serve.



Bible Quiz

In Bible times, shepherds spent most of their days with their sheep—guiding them to food and water and guarding them from danger. When a sheep was injured, the shepherd treated the wound with a special liquid. What was it?

- A. Water
- B. Honey
- C. A salt solution
- D. Olive oil



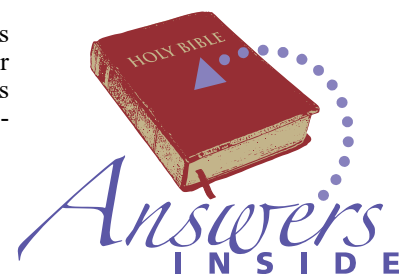
PUZZLE

MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE

It's time to tune up your Bible brain!
Decode the notes to discover a verse that sings with joy.
Using the musical note code, write the words of Psalm 100:2 (NIV) in the correct order below.

CODE: before come gladness him joyful LORD songs the with Worship

_____ the _____



Answer: D (See Psalm 23:5)

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

Pictures by Meredith Aul Westgate, Mary Snyder and Mac Miller

By Bruce Lynch

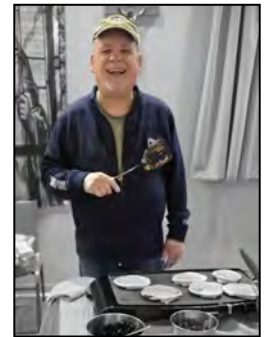
The February 17 Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner at St. Edward's was a success again this year! The Men's Spirituality Group took the lead in hosting and organizing the event, which was attended by fifty five people. Folks from our congregation as well as the community had a lot of fun and enjoyed the food and fellowship! Thank you to our talented and hard working cooks, Rick D., Mark, Bob, and Jay, and to the other people who made excellent contributions to organizing and hosting the Dinner. We look forward to enjoying future fellowship events.



Great turnout for a very pleasant start to Lent



Bob Oliver and Leslie Arnold



Rick Dombach

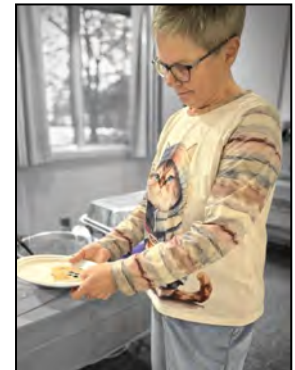
Singing Happy Birthday to Bob Oliver to celebrate his 90th



Mary Dorsey, Barb Czepukaitis



Karen Grant, Lori Miller, Rick Dombach



Beth Lynch studying the blueberry pattern on her pancake



Rosie Westgate



Barbara and Vince Czepukaitis



Mary Rettino

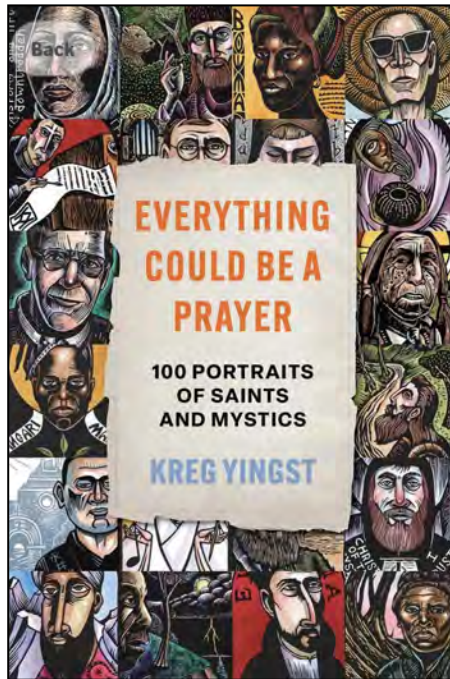


Mark Jakiel

Lunch and Learn



Beginning Friday, February 20th, we will hold a very special Lenten Lunch & Learn series with the book: *Everything Could Be A Prayer*. We will meet, via Zoom, on Fridays at 12 Noon and follow a reading guide to Saints and Mystics outlined for us in this beautiful art book. The readings are short and filled with history and insights that will inspire you! This is a wonderful Lenten discipline we can participate in, as a community. The book is available on Amazon. Each week we will cover the **reading guide for Lent saints** and discuss how their virtues and how they lived can guide our journeys in this modern world. What better way to travel through Lent than with each other, in reflection, and in discussion about the lives of this great cloud of witnesses showing us a way to how *Everything Could Be A Prayer*.



Book Insights from Amazon:

Pray and meditate along with mystics and saints through this luminous collection of more than one hundred block prints by artist Kreg Yingst, curator of the beloved Instagram account @psalmpayers.

Teresa of Ávila, Howard Thurman, Black Elk, Fannie Lou Hamer, Simon of Cyrene, and Jarena Lee: through radiant woodblock prints of these and other icons of the faith, artist Kreg Yingst ushers us into

God's presence. In *Everything Could Be a Prayer*, mystics who have communed with God and who worked for justice, mercy, and liberation come alive. Yingst carves images onto blocks of wood or linoleum and then inks and prints them on paper. The resplendent portraits of mystics and justice-seekers that result lead us into *visio divina*, or "sacred seeing." This form of ancient Christian prayer, in which one meditates on a work of art, moves us into sacred reflection and action.

Each mystic embodies a virtue or practice such as mercy, vulnerability, forgiveness, worship, and courage. From Brigid of Kildare we learn hospitality; from Ida B. Wells, truth. From Josephine Bakhita we learn freedom; from Takashi Nagai, trust. All point us toward Christ Pantocrator: ruler of all. Each print is paired with a scripture, a meditation on a life well lived, and a prayer. *Everything Could Be a Prayer*, complete with Lent and Advent reading guides, is a rich resource for private prayer and communal reflection.

Together with the saints we pray our way toward the resurrection. We pray along with Sandhu Sundar Singh: "You alone do I desire, and where you are, there is heaven." And with Mary of Egypt: "Blessed is God who cares for the salvation of all souls." With this great cloud of witnesses, we find kinship with Christ. We see anew, and we ask: What if everything could be a prayer?

Lent Madness



LENT MADNESS is brought to you by Forward Movement

This Lent, we are diving into a theme our world desperately needs: **Bridge Builders & Community Makers**. These holy humans did not just talk about unity and love, they practiced it, risked all for it, and built communities that still echo through the Church today. Their witness is not history. It is living inspiration for us, the global Lent Madness viewing public!

The first matchup was posted, Thursday 2/19. Head to LentMadness.org each morning to cast your vote and make your voice heard. You'll get an email for every matchup.

You can also jump into the conversation on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/leptomadness), [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/leptomadness), or the website itself. Don't be afraid of the comment section, we'll see you there!

And let us know how you're engaging with Lent Madness this year. Whether you only create a bracket, wear purple for every vote, or make your own saintly art, we want to see it! DM us your photos and ideas and you just might end up featured on the blog.

Keep an eye on our socials as the world of Lent Madness expands. Friends from across the Church will be debating, defending, celebrating, and boldly predicting who will win the Golden Halo.

So far the matchups and **winners** who will move on to the Saintly Sixteen:

Paul the Apostle vs. **Peter the Apostle**
February 23, 2026

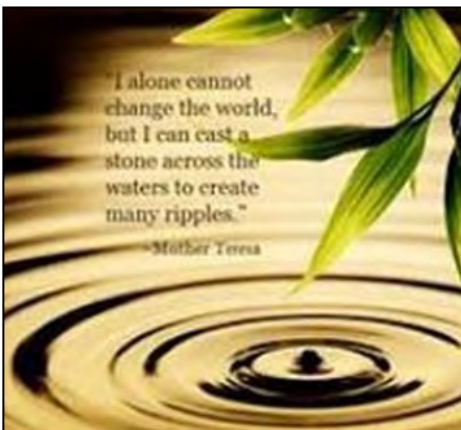
Benedict of Nursia vs. Basil the Great
February 21, 2026

Elizabeth Ann Seton vs. **Desmond Tutu**
February 20, 2026

John Wesley vs. **Martin Luther**
February 19, 2026



"O Lord, I want to be in that number"



"My name's Barbara. I'm 68. Last week I found out my neighbors have been lying to me for two years. I live alone. Husband passed in 2022. Kids are across the country. I manage fine. Keep my house clean. Pay my bills. Don't need help from anybody.

But my driveway's steep. Ice builds up bad in winter. I'd fall trying to salt it, so I hired a kid from down the street. Twenty bucks every time it snowed. Kid named Austin.

He'd show up early morning. Shovel. Salt. Leave before I could thank him properly. Good kid. Last Tuesday, I'm at the grocery store. Austin's there with his mom. I go to say hello. His mom looks confused.

"I'm sorry, have we met?"

"I'm Barbara. Austin shovels my driveway."

She looks at Austin. He goes red. "Mom, I'll explain later."

She turns to me. "Ma'am, Austin's never shoveled your driveway. He doesn't do any yard work."

I felt like I'd been slapped. "But..... he's been coming for two years. I pay him"

Austin interrupts. "Mrs. Barbara, can we talk outside?"

We go to the parking lot. He's panicking. "Please don't be mad. I wasn't stealing from you."

"Then what were you doing with my money?"

"Giving it to Mr. Roy. Your neighbor three doors down. He's the one shoveling. Has been the whole time. But his wife's medical bills are crazy. He needed the money but was too proud to take it. So we made a deal. You'd pay me, I'd pay him, he'd shovel your driveway. You'd think I was doing it."

I just stood there. Austin kept going.

"He made me promise not to tell. Said you'd stop paying if you knew it was him doing charity. But it wasn't charity. You were paying for work. He was doing the work. I was just..... the middleman."

I went straight to Roy's house. Knocked hard.

He opened the door. "Barbara?"

"Two years. You've been shoveling my driveway for two years and let me think it was a teenager."

He sighed. "You needed it done. I needed the income. You wouldn't have paid me. Pride's a stupid thing, but there it is."

We stood there. Two old, stubborn people.

"Coffee?" I finally asked.

"Yeah. Coffee."

Now Roy comes over most mornings. We drink coffee. Talk. Yesterday he fixed my porch railing. I made him dinner. He tried to refuse. I said, "Pride's a stupid thing."

He stayed.

I'm 68. Thought I was helping a kid earn money. Turns out, my neighbor was helping me while I was helping him. And a teenager was making sure two proud old people could both keep their dignity.

Sometimes the help you need comes wrapped in a way you can accept it.

And sometimes, letting people help you is its own kind of kindness."



Help

The sin of self-reliance sets us up not simply in opposition to God, but to one another. To offer and receive help is not the sign of weakness so many of us think it is. Rather it is a sign of love: our giving, receiving, and needing love.

[Br. James Koester, SSJE](#)
[Read More and Comment >](#)



We invite our parish family to join Mary Ann Franck, and the Franck family, as we celebrate the life of Curt Franck on Saturday, March 28th at 3:00 PM at St. Edward's. Following the service, Curt will be interred in the St. Edward's Memorial Garden and there will be a reception in the parish hall.



Coffee Hour

Pictures by Mary Snyder

A great way to ease into ministry at St. Edward's is to sign up to host a coffee hour on any given Sunday! The sign-up sheet is always on the coffee service table. This is a fun way to meet your fellow parishioners and to serve a very vital element to our community - fellowship! Coffee hour hosts have lots of support, too. Our 8 o'clock parishioners make the coffee and set the service table for you. If you prefer to create your own table, we will just put out the basics and you can decorate and serve in your own style. Bring your favorite sweet, savory or anything in-between goodies by 8:50 AM to set out on the service table and you are set to go! We will also help you with the clean-up so you feel comfortable with navigating the kitchen. We hope you will give it a try! A good number to plan on serving (so you do not over purchase) is 30.



Beth Lynch organizes a craft to send our home bound parishioners



Randy Westgate, Rick Dombach and Gregg Klinger



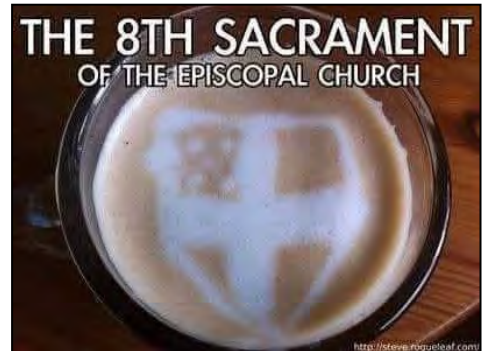
Eric and Jackie Sandblade enjoy the treats



Always lots of snack options



The Coffee House band plays one Sunday each month



Vestry Nominees



Julie Hoff

I have been a member of St. Edward's for the past 44 years. My husband Jerry and I, along with our two sons, David and Michael started attending shortly after St. Edward's held its inaugural service at the Union HaH on Nisley Road in the fall of 1981. We were immediately drawn to the people of the newly forming parish and became committed to the mission of establishing a new Episcopal church in our area.

Since that time, St. Edward's has been and remains an integral part of my Life. I have participated in many ministries over the years, some in small ways, others in leadership positions. My Altar Guild commitment has been steadfast since I began it in the Union Hall days. I have served on Vestry under two rectors and served one year as Senior Warden.

Organizing the 40th anniversary celebration and assisting with the annual basket auction and cookie sale have been fun and rewarding experiences in my church life. Participating in the Lunch and Learn program has added a new dimension to my spiritual journey. It has opened my mind to new ways of thinking about and understanding my faith.

St. Edward's is my church home and my church family. I have never felt that more than this past year through Jerry's illness and passing. The love and support this community of faith has shown to me have uplifted and sustained me through some dark days.

I am committed to the future of this church. I want to see it grow in love and service to God and our neighbors. I am honored to be asked to serve on Vestry and look forward to seeing where God leads us!



Bruce Lynch

St. Edward's has been my spiritual home since 2015 and I continue to be impressed with the warmth, caring, and dedication of the congregation and leadership here. After not attending church regularly growing up, my religious faith has grown as an adult and I feel a strong connection with the Episcopal Church. During my time at St. Edward's I've been involved with the Men's Spirituality Group and our Faith in Action Committee. I've contributed to ministries through the Committee such as the Race Against Racism, Soles for Souls, Feed Our Starving Children, Pridefest, and the Hempfield Area Food Pantry. I am currently part of the "Saving Lives: Ending Gun Violence" group within our Episcopal Church Diocese.

I am a Licensed Psychologist, and my career has been in the college student mental health field for the past thirty years. My responsibilities include providing personal counseling and crisis intervention to students, supervising other mental health professionals, and facilitating positive discussions about mental health topics. I've served in the Director of Counseling Services role at Elizabethtown College for the past twelve years. I previously worked in college Counseling Centers at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro and Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Virginia (where Beth and I met and got married, and where our son James joined us!). My hobbies include playing board games and doing other activities with Beth and James, playing golf, and staying connected with friends.

I appreciate being nominated and I would be honored to serve St. Edward's as a member of the Vestry. I'm excited about the opportunity to contribute as we further develop the spiritual and interpersonal connections within St. Edward's and the positive impact of our congregation in the surrounding community.



Susan Murray

My name is Susan Murray. I was born in Chester County, but was raised with my 5 siblings in southern Lancaster Co. I was raised Episcopalian; my grandfather was an Episcopal priest at Valley Forge Military Academy and many other churches throughout his long life. I married my husband Bill Murray at St. Thomas Episcopal Church in 1973. We lived in Allentown where he was a mechanical engineer at PPL until 2008 when he retired, and we moved back to Lancaster.

I attended the Church of the Mediator, Allentown and volunteered doing many different jobs. My husband passed away in 2021, but I am grateful to be here close to my children, spouses and grandchildren, and my siblings.

I started coming to St. Edward's about 2023 and I am grateful for this church family and incredible leader, Fr. Rick. He has been a great listener for the past few years.





SAVE THE DATE! MARCH 15, 2026

10:00 AM – RITE II WORSHIP

11:30 AM – ANNUAL MEETING (SANCTUARY)

12:30 PM – 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 OPPORTUNITIES TO SPEAK WITH FATHER RICK, OUR MINISTRY LEADERS,
AND VESTRY MEMBERS, TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE AMAZING WAYS TO
SERVE IN OUR SPIRITUAL HOME.**



*Holy Week & Easter
Services
at St. Edward's*

JOIN ST. EDWARD'S
AS WE CELEBRATE
LENT,
HOLY WEEK
& EASTER 2026

SERVICE & EVENT
INFORMATION
LISTED BELOW

sainteds.org
717.898.6276



ST. EDWARD'S
EPISCOPAL
CHURCH

Friday, March 27th: *Stations of the Cross* at 7:00 PM

Sunday, March 29th: *Palm Sunday* – Rite I at 8:00 AM & Rite II at 10:00 AM

Wednesday, April 1st: *Contemplative Eucharist with Meditation* at 12 Noon

Thursday, April 2nd: *Maundy Thursday Service* at 7:00 PM

Friday, April 3rd: *Good Friday Service - Veneration of the Cross* at 7:00 PM

Saturday, April 4th: *Easter Vigil Service* at 7:00 PM

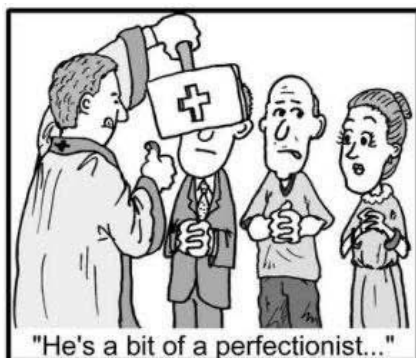
Sunday, April 5th: *Easter Sunday Service* – Rite I at 8:00 AM and Rite II at 10:00 AM (*Children's Easter Egg Hunt immediately following the 10:00 AM service.*)

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

Retreat



For 2026, we will be taking a hiatus for our Annual Lenten Silent Retreat. Our yearly retreat is a beautiful way to begin the Lenten journey and availability at Mariawald, this year, did not offer us the opportunity of those dates, so we had thought an end-of-Lenten retreat would be viable. As we have discovered, Holy Week preparations conflict with a retreat at the end Lent. Stay connected to our announcements as we plan the return of a Lenten Silent Retreat at the beginning of Lent for 2027!



Guess Who's Coming to Dinner



For now, I am looking for hosts! That way I have an idea of how many people can be accommodated. While I have never had to turn anyone away, it's helpful to know how many hosts are available ahead of time. It would be great to have some new hosts so that those who have opened their homes on multiple occasions can enjoy an evening out.

If you are interested in hosting, your role is to set a table for six or eight (whichever your home best accommodates) and provide the main dish and beverages. Guests bring an appetizer, salad, dessert, rolls or wine as best complements your meal. The fun is in the mystery. Guests don't know who else will attend the dinner until they arrive at their designated home. Hosts will be given a guest list in advance so that they can coordinate the menu.

By Meredith Aul

The semi-annual Guess Who dinner is scheduled for Saturday, April 18th at 6 p.m. Please mark your calendar for an informal evening of a shared meal and interesting conversation.

If you would like to host an informal dinner for six or eight in your home – or if you prefer to attend a dinner, please complete the form below and return it to the box in the Narthex (or call or text Meredith Aul at 717-575-2119). I would appreciate hosts signing up by Sunday March 29th.

If you would prefer to be a guest, be sure to sign up by Sunday, April 5th.

✂

Yes! I will participate in the Guess Who's Coming to Dinner on April 18th at 6 p.m.

Name(s) _____

I am/We are able to host 6 ____ 8 ____ people.

I am/We are happy to either host or be a guest _____

I/we would like to attend as a guest _____

I'm a single, please seat me with _____

Your host will get back to you about a week in advance to discuss details. Please call or text Meredith Aul at 717-575-2119 if you have any questions.





By Kevin Milligan

"Saint Edward's is looking forward to participating in the 11th Lancaster County Feed My Starving Children MobilePack. Our packing time will be Saturday March 21, 2026 from 2:30 PM - 4:30 PM at Willow Street Mennonite Church.

Feed My Starving Children (FMSC) is a Christian organization founded in 1987. Through MobilePack events, FMSC is able to partner with local community organizations to send healthy, safe meals to malnourished children around the world. To date, our meals have gone to Somalia, Haiti, Belize, Dominican Republic, Malawi, Uganda, Jamaica, Poland, Guyana, Moldova and Peru. Working together over the last 10 events, more than 12,000 volunteers from our community have come together to send more than 2.7 million meals to those most in need around the world!

Food Insecurity is a local challenge as well. Therefore, in addition to packing safe meals for children around the world, FMSC is inviting everyone to bring along a non-perishable food item that will be donated to the Lancaster County Food Hub that is located in Lancaster city.

If you would like to volunteer, please complete the sign-up sheet in the narthex. If you have any questions about the MobilePack event, please ask Kevin Milligan for more information."

ONGOING MINISTRIES:

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

UPCOMING MINISTRIES:

- Feb18- Mar.29 Soles4Souls
- Mar. 5 Blood Drive
- Mar 21 Feed My Starving Children
- April 25 Race Against Racism
- 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



Hempfield Food Pantry

Current items requested:

Thank you for the 168 pounds of food delivered to the pantry in January.

In January, the pantry served 439 children, 762 adults, 326 seniors for a total of 1,527 people served !

No jars.....No expired items

- Cereal
- Pancake mix
- Canned Mixed fruit
- Canned Peaches
- Canned Mandarin oranges
- Spaghetti sauce. (No glass jars)
- Egg noodles
- Salmon (15 oz.)
- Canned Cream of chicken soup
- Dried beans (bags)
- Raisins
- Crackers
- Cake mix...icing
- Ketchup
- Mustard
- Salad dressing

UTO Collection



\$152.38

SOLES 4 SOULS

By Bev Achey

S.t Edward's is once again working with St Johns collecting new and used shoes over lent. So rather than giving something up for Lent, let's give something.

When people lack the resources to get

through today, it's difficult for them to focus on tomorrow. Soles4Souls turns shoes into opportunities for education and employment so they can have a more hopeful future.

The collection will run from February 18th thru March 29th



Update on First Reformed Church January 27th Meal

Let it Snow! Let it Snow!
Let it Snow

By Freda Dombach

This was the weatherman's prediction along with blustery freezing cold temperatures and with strong advisories to remain in our homes and off the roads starting on the Sunday before our meal on January 27th. What were we to do about providing our meal at First Reformed Church?



Would we be able to accomplish our mission to feed the hungry especially during the most frigid weather of the winter? The city and county were already opening up additional shelters and requesting food and supplies for those in need. After reaching out to our contacts for the program, we

found out, if St Edward's was not able to provide the meal on Tuesday, there would be no meal and the average 100-120+ people would be sent away. Canceling our meal was not an option.

The organizing team went to work brainstorming options and alternatives, locating contact emails and phone numbers to reach out to all the volunteers on the sign-up sheets for assistance as we were determined to find a way to make it happen. We prayed our volunteers would be willing to adjust to the new and last minute challenges and they did! Thank you to all who baked corn muffins and cookies and delivered them to the church by Friday so our "brown bag" crew were able to prepare and pack our supplies for transport. The chili makers worked long and hard in the kitchen preparing, cooking, and sampling the chili until it was just right! Fortunately, we were able to arrange with the First Reformed Church to deliver our food, and supplies on the Saturday afternoon before the snow started which was a tremendous help.

The day of the meal, our crew of 8 all arrived safely in our boots and extra warm attire to serve our chili mac meal. With the cold weather outside, we only had 51 people sign in for the meal that evening. We anticipated more people, but unknown to us there were additional churches and groups providing meals close to the shelters. With plenty of chili and food everyone was welcomed to have extras which they were grateful for. Following their dinner, the individuals were invited upstairs to the clothing room where the St Edward's baskets with warm hats, gloves and socks were available. The clothing room is open every Tuesday and Saturday during the community meals.

Volunteers to assist with the community meals at First Reformed Church are always in need and winter is almost over so.....think Spring and be ready to volunteer!

Rahim Family Collection

There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex for the ongoing Rahim collection paper towels, tissues, toilet paper, shampoo, toothpaste, body wash, hand soap, laundry detergent, laundry softener, dish soap, dishwasher tablets, kitchen garbage bags and hand sanitizer, Mac and Cheese, Cooking oil, and bags of potatoes.

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



LANCASTER GENERAL HEALTH

Community Blood Drive hosted by St. Edwards & The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

The Penn Medicine Lancaster General Health Blood Donor Center Team is hosting a community blood drive near you!

Our blood drives aid in supporting patients at Lancaster General Hospital, Women's and Babies Hospital and the Ann B. Barshinger Cancer Institute. We thank you for your support in helping to save Lancaster lives!

Requirements for Donation

- Must bring a valid form of ID
- Feel well and healthy at least 3 days before donation
- Age 16-79 and be at least 110 pounds
Age 16 must have parental consent
- Hydrate well and eat a full meal at least 4 hours prior to donation

Donor Thank You Gift

As a thank you, all donors presenting will receive a short sleeve T-shirt (choice of maroon or tan).

March 5th (Thursday)
2:00pm – 7:00pm

► LOCATION

St. Edward's Episcopal Church
2453 Harrisburg Pike
Lancaster, PA 17601

► APPOINTMENTS

To schedule an appointment, scan the QR code, call the Blood Donor Center Team at **717.544.0170, Option 1** or visit us online at PennMedicine.org/givebloodLGH

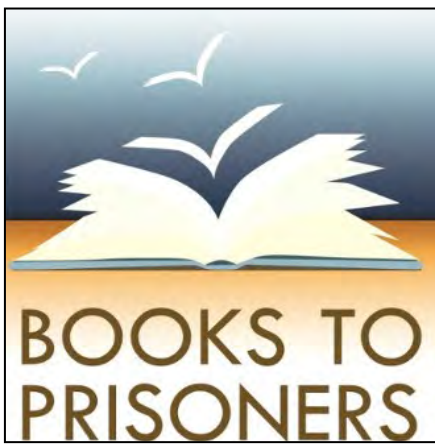


By Meredith Aul

This year our annual blood drive will again be held jointly with our neighbors at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. It will take place in our parish hall on Thursday, March 5, 2-7 p.m. You must be ages 16-79 to donate. Sixteen year olds will need a signed parental consent. LGH will give donors maroon or tan short sleeve t-shirts as a thank you for participating.

Register for an available time slot by contacting the Blood Donor Center Team at 717-544-0170 or online LGHealth.org/giveblood or use the QR Code on the poster above.

I am looking for volunteers to assist for two hour shifts, 2-4 and 4-6 and 6--closing (usually around 7:30). If you are available, please contact Meredith Aul by phone or text at 717-575-2119.



By Randy Westgate

Because of your generosity we were able in December to purchase more books for prisoners in Lancaster County prison. We purchased 4 copies of the Life Recovery Bible, a bible which links to the 12 steps of recovery for addiction to drugs, alcohol, and other personal issues. According to the chaplain's office at the prison, these bibles are given as a reward to prisoners who memorize 10 bible verses, and are well-loved: "We are always running low! These would be a big help to us!" The vast majority of prisoners there are dealing with addiction of one sort or another, and recovery is the key to reduce recidivism and allow a change of heart and a return to long term health and freedom for those who are incarcerated.

If you would like to contribute to this cause you may put a check in the offering plate and write "Books for Prisoners" on the memo line.

Many thanks!



Louder Than Guns

By Bruce Lynch



I learned about the upcoming film screening and discussion called "Louder Than Guns" from the "Saving Our Lives: Ending Gun Violence" group within our Episcopal Church Diocese. The free event will start at 6:15 pm on Wednesday March 18 in the Ware Center in Lancaster, and is presented in partnership with the Lancaster County Local Journalism Fund, Penn Medicine, the Briar Hill Foundation, and Mental Health America of Lancaster County.

Here is the description of the event:

"A music film about gun violence and gun rights in America. Old Crow Medicine Show's Ketch Secor and NPR's David Greene journey through rural, urban, and suburban America, having a conversation that humanizes all sides of this country's polarized gun debate. Through the convening power of music and civil discourse, Secor and Greene help those they meet to find unexpected common ground."

Little Voice's Lesson

A mother invited several guests over for dinner. When everyone gathered around the table, she turned to her 6-year-old daughter and asked, "Would you like to say the blessing?"

"I don't know what to say," the little girl replied.

Her mother smiled. "Just say what you hear Mommy say."

The child bowed her head and prayed sincerely, "Dear Lord, why on earth did I invite all these people to dinner?"



Tomorrow

We Have Tomorrow!

During the Korean conflict, journalist Marguerite Higgins, a courageous and award-winning war correspondent, spoke with a young soldier shivering in the bitter cold. He was eating from a tin can, his face streaked with mud, when she asked, "If I could give you anything in the world you wanted, what would you ask for?"

The soldier paused for a moment, then answered quietly, "Give me tomorrow."

What a simple yet profound longing. For those living in hardship, tomorrow represents hope—the chance to see another sunrise, to experience peace, to begin again.

As Christians, we live with the blessed assurance that we not only have today, but also tomorrow—an eternal tomorrow promised through the risen Christ. Scripture reminds us, "Death has been swallowed up in victory" (1 Corinthians 15:54, NRSV). And again, "Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Corinthians 15:57, NRSV).

Because of Christ's resurrection, we no longer fear what tomorrow may bring. Our future is secure, our hope unshakable. In Him, tomorrow is already ours.

Clue

Contributed by Donna Holwager

Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson were camping.

They pitched their tent under the stars and went to sleep. Sometime in the middle of the night, Holmes woke Watson and said, "Watson, look up at the sky and tell me what you see."

Watson replied, "I see millions and millions of stars." Holmes said, "And what do you deduce from that?"

Watson replied, "Well, if there are millions of stars, and even a few of them have planets, it's quite likely there are planets like Earth out there. And if there are a few planets like Earth out there, there might also be life."

Holmes said, "Watson, you idiot, it means somebody stole our tent."

Needle Arts

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

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

All are invited to be a part of this enjoyable and productive group. Yarn, patterns and “expert assistance” are available, so you do not need to have a project started to join in the fun.

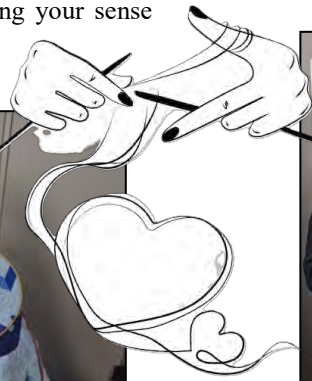
Remember, everyone’s always welcome to pop up at a Needle Arts meeting on Tuesdays at 1 PM in the lounge. No reservations required-just bring your sense of humor with you.



Barbara O'Brien, Gloria Kacinko, Jeri King, Debbie McGuigan, Irene Achey and Mac Miller met for lunch at Blue Collar before knitting on Feb 17th.



Sue Bianco has completed quilts for each of her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren., Here she is working on her most recent one, for her 15th great grandchild



Debbie McGuigan brought in these 2 items that her mother had made. Do you have any idea what they were designed to do? The single handle and odd shaped opening stumped us. Fr. Rick helped us try to figure out what it might possibly have been designed for. Perhaps a bib of some kind?



Rosie Westgate found this on chat GPT:

These are child’s barber / haircut capes

Here’s why that fits:

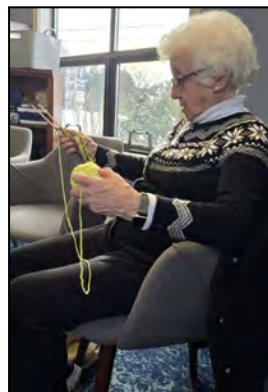
The off-center loop hooks over the one sided snap.

The odd center opening is for the neck — older homemade versions weren’t always perfectly round.

The circular shape allows hair to fall away from clothing.

Handmade versions were common decades ago for cutting children’s hair at home.

They’re basically soft, washable versions of what barbers use — just made at home.



Irene Achey had a bit of a situation with her yarn. Persistence paid off and she managed to find an end and rewind the tangle into a usable ball.



Unified Diocese of the Susquehanna

Pictures by Mary Snyder



Swarr Run



The frozen Susquehanna with Turkey Hill windmills in the distance



Wright's Ferry Bridge across the Susquehanna

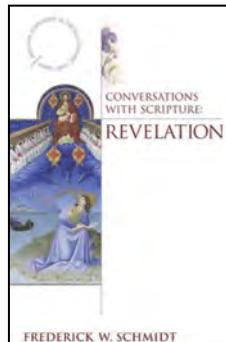
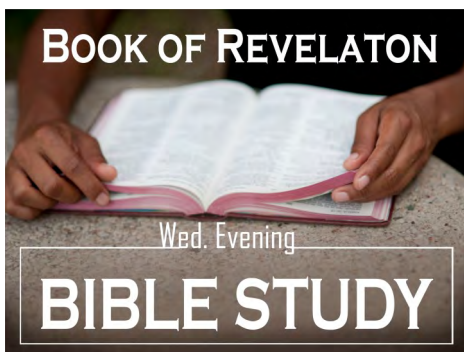
THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF THE **Susquehanna**

After years of discernment, planning, and preparation, the legacy dioceses of Bethlehem and Central Pennsylvania have officially reunified to become The Episcopal Diocese of the Susquehanna. Together, we are one community of Episcopalians in 117 churches, loving God and neighbor in 39 counties across central and northeastern Pennsylvania. .

Our Swarr Run connects us directly to the Susquehanna River and to the name of our unified Diocese.

Moving forward, everything you'll need to know can be found on the new diocesan website, please [CLICK HERE](#).

Wednesday Evening Bible Study



...tive 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

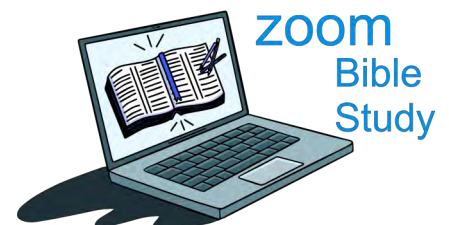
that allows this obscure, almost opaque text to speak to us anew about God, faith, hope, and justice.

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.

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 sensi-

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





Hosted by Blair Lord

The penultimate episode of season 4 hit us with a big moment from the Gospel of John: the raising of Lazarus. "The Last Sign" unfolds the drama with Jesus, his followers, his closest friends, and even his mother. Thomas, especially, faces a devastating reality: one person's prayer is answered by God's intervention while his own goes unanswered. "Why?" is the reverberating question many people in the episode ask, as we did while watching the episode. Why does God answer some prayers and not others? The disciples also struggle to understand the impact of this miracle. Jesus isn't only showing his power over death; he is facilitating events that will lead to his own.

Like in February, the next episode will take place at the start of the month. On **March 1st**, we will brace for the ending of season 4, titled "Humble," and the start of Jesus's final days. Please join us in the parish hall at 11:45am.

Now, for an important heads up. In April, we're going to slightly veer from the course in two ways.

First, we will have our viewing on **April 12th**—not April 5th, which is Easter Sunday, but the following week. Second, instead of proceeding to season 5, we are going to circle back to where it all began. That's right: we will watch episode 1 of season 1, "I Have Called You By Name." For folks who weren't with us back in February 2023, we launched Lunch with *The*

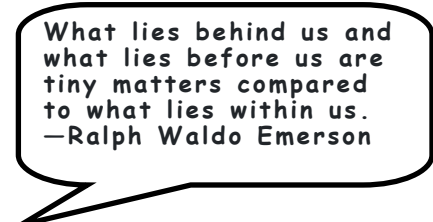
Chosen with episode 4, which saw Peter (still called Simon) getting caught in a rip-tide with Rome, only to be rescued in his first encounter with Jesus. Now, it feels fitting to watch the first 3 episodes of season 1 to see where these familiar faces started: Simon, his brother Andrew, Mary Magdalene, Matthew, Big James, and his brother John. It will be an opportunity to compare their pre-Jesus lives with their lives during his Passion. For anyone interested in getting a glimpse of the series' genesis, April's viewing will be a great place to start.

If you want to watch *The Chosen* outside 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.

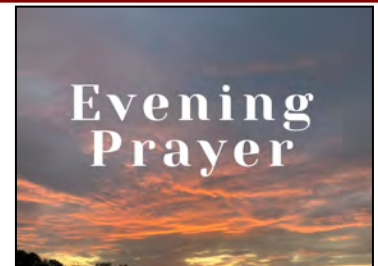


Saturday Men's Group: 2nd Saturday of the month from 8 AM -10 AM. **Join us for two hours of fellowship**, including Morning Prayer. Coffee and donuts will be served.

Next meeting Saturday, March 14th



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



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 candle-light, 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.

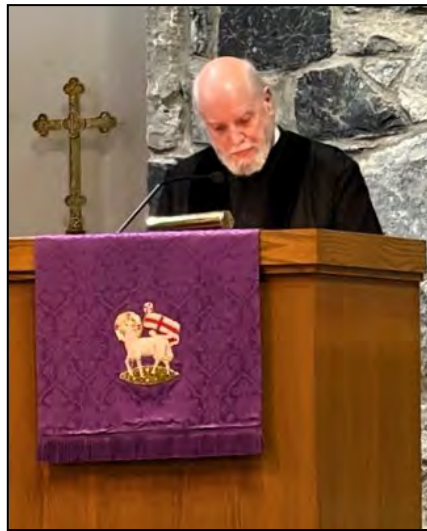


Ash Wednesday

Pictures by Mary Gibson and Mary Snyder



Fr. Rick



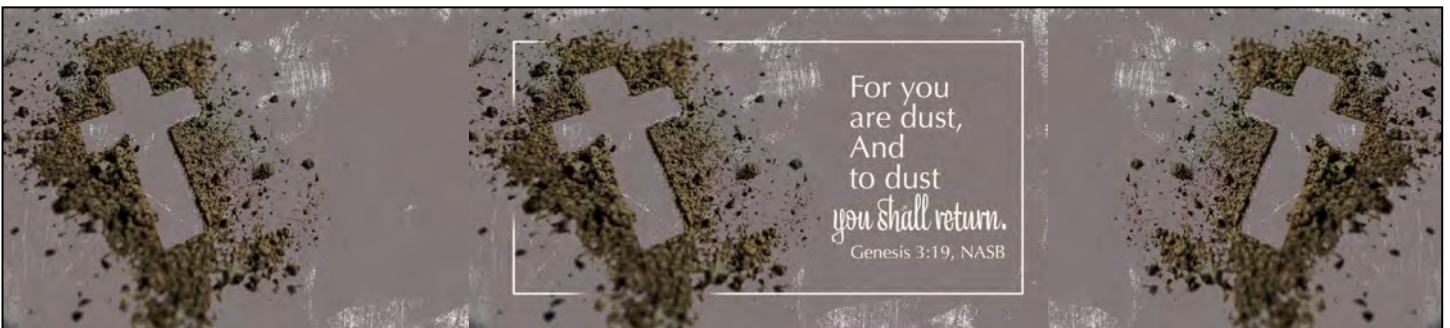
Bob Mosebach



The Eucharist



Imposition of ashes



February Services

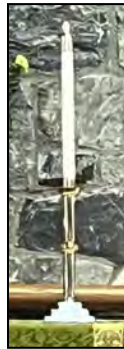
Pictures by Mary Snyder



Fr. Rick and Jay Miller



Beth Lynch



Vanessa Helsel, Jay and Lori Miller



Fr. Rick and Bob Mosebach



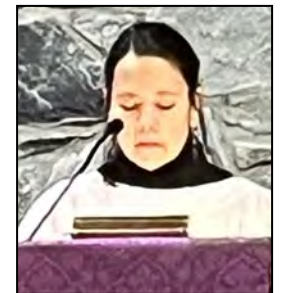
Buddy Yeager



Jeanne Mosebach



Art Hagan



Beth Hake



Seth Hake



Kiki Davis-Brugmann



Jamie Alton



Cindy DiStefano



Mary Rettino



Fr. Rick



The Eucharist



Worship
SERVICES



**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
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

