

May 2026



Scepter



Reflection From the Rector's Desk

There are moments in the life of a parish that feel quietly significant—not because of spectacle, but because something real is taking root beneath the surface. Our recent *Travel Like a Hero* book launch was one of those moments. To gather 110 of you in one space—to listen, to reflect, to engage a shared framework for meaning-making—was both humbling and deeply encouraging. Thank you for showing up with such openness of heart and mind. What unfolded that evening was more than a presentation; it was a kind of communal threshold. A reminder that spiritual formation isn't something reserved for Sunday mornings alone, but something we're all actively cultivating in the fabric of our daily lives. If there was a central thread woven through that evening—and indeed, through the book itself—it is this: the journey toward a more compassionate, connected life begins closer to home than we often imagine. It begins not “out there,” not first in



“the spark of divine love we speak about so often—the image of God within us—isn't something we have to manufacture. It's already present. Already alive. But like any spark, it can be obscured. Covered over by layers of fear, self-doubt, and inherited shame. Our work isn't to create it, but to uncover it”

our attempts to fix the world or even to love our neighbor, but here—within the often-neglected landscape of our own inner lives. Spiritual formation, in this sense, isn't primarily about adopting beliefs or performing religious duties. It's about learning how to be in right relationship—with God, yes, and with others—but also, fundamentally, with ourselves. That may sound deceptively simple. But anyone who has taken even a few honest steps inward knows how complex that terrain can be. Because many of us carry voices within us that are not entirely our own. Voices shaped by past relationships, by cultural expectations, and, at times, by distorted expressions of religion that have emphasized guilt over grace, shame over dignity, fear over love. These voices can become so familiar that we mistake them for truth. They narrate our lives in quiet, per-

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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 Cont'd

sistent ways: “You’re not enough. You’ve failed too many times. You should be better by now.” And so, without always realizing it, we begin to relate to ourselves as critics rather than companions.

The invitation at the heart of spiritual formation—and the invitation I sought to name in *Travel Like a Hero*—is to begin shifting that relationship. To become, quite literally, friends with ourselves. Not in a self-indulgent or dismissive way, but in a way that’s grounded in honesty, compassion, and a willingness to see clearly. Friendship with oneself doesn’t mean ignoring our shortcomings or avoiding accountability. It means creating enough internal safety to tell the truth about our lives without collapsing into self-rejection. It means recognizing that growth doesn’t happen through condemnation, but through understanding. In many ways, this is the inner work that undergirds everything else.

Because when we’re at war with ourselves, it becomes exceedingly difficult to extend genuine compassion to others. We may perform kindness. We may say the right words. But beneath the surface, there’s often a subtle tension—a guardedness, a fragility—that limits our capacity for true connection. We project outward what we haven’t yet reconciled within.

But when something begins to shift—when we learn, slowly and imperfectly, to meet ourselves with patience rather than judgment—something else becomes possible. The energy that was once spent maintaining inner conflict becomes available for presence. For curiosity. For love. This isn’t abstract theology. It’s lived experience. Think of the way Jesus engages with those he encounters. Again and again, we see a posture that’s both deeply honest and profoundly compassionate. He names truth without shaming. He invites transformation without coercion. There is, in his presence, a kind of spa-

aciousness—an ability to hold complexity without reducing a person to their worst moment. If we take seriously the idea that we’re called to embody that same spirit, then it stands to reason that such a posture must begin within our own hearts.

And yet, many of us were not taught to do this.

For some, religion itself became a source of inner division—a place where the emphasis on sin eclipsed the deeper truth of belovedness. For others, difficult relationships—family systems, formative experiences, cultural pressures—left imprints that continue to shape how we see ourselves long after those moments have passed. Part of the work of spiritual formation, then, is the gentle and courageous process of discerning which of these inherited narratives are life-giving, and which are not. This requires a kind of interior listening.

It asks us to notice the tone of our inner dialogue. To pay attention to the ways we respond to our own mistakes. To observe where we’re quick to judge ourselves and where we’re able to extend grace. And then, slowly, to begin making adjustments—not through force, but through awareness.

In *Travel Like a Hero*, I describe the journey as one of wayfinding. Not a rigid map with fixed outcomes, but a set of tools that help us navigate the terrain of our lives with greater clarity and intention. One of those tools is precisely this: the cultivation of an inner posture that mirrors the compassion we seek to offer the world. Because here is the quiet truth: the spark of divine love we speak about so often—the image of God within us—isn’t something we have to manufacture. It’s already present. Already alive. But like any spark, it can be obscured. Covered over by layers of fear, self-doubt, and inherited shame. Our work isn’t to create it, but to uncover it.

And that uncovering happens, in part, through the way we learn to relate to ourselves. When we begin to release the grip of guilt that no longer serves growth... when we loosen the hold of shame that was never ours to carry... when we allow ourselves to be seen, even by ourselves, with a measure of kindness—something shifts. The spark has room to breathe. And as it does, it naturally begins to extend outward. We find ourselves more patient with others, not because we’re trying harder, but because we’re no longer so tightly wound within. We listen more fully. We react less defensively. We become, in small but meaningful ways, more available to the people and the world around us.

This is how spiritual formation takes root—not through dramatic gestures alone, but through the steady reorientation of our inner lives.

It’s worth noting that this isn’t a linear process. There will be moments of clarity and moments of confusion. Times when we feel deeply connected, and times when old patterns resurface. This, too, is part of the journey. Friendship with oneself includes the ability to stay present through these fluctuations without abandoning the path.

And importantly, this work is not meant to be done in isolation. One of the gifts of a community like St. Edward’s is precisely the opportunity to practice these ways of being together. To create spaces where honesty is welcomed, where compassion is modeled, where we can learn—through one another—what it means to live more fully into the love we profess.

The book launch was a glimpse of that possibility. A room full of people willing to engage questions that matter. To consider not only what we believe, but how we live. To explore the connection between inner transformation and outward expression.

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Parish Office



Parish Office Hours

Tuesday- Friday: 11:00 – 4:00PM

Parish Administrator

Michelle Bentley

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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 Fr. Rick

As we began a new term, it was a joy to welcome Susan Murray, Bruce Lynch, and Julie Hoff to the vestry. We stepped into this season together amid meaningful change—change that invites both thoughtful innovation in our shared worship life, and careful discernment around expenditures that ensure the safety of our parishioners and honor the ways we remember our loved ones.

We began our business this month by electing a Junior Warden to serve as the “People’s Warden,” a role that brings general parish concerns to our shared attention while working closely with Michelle to ensure smooth and effective operations. We unanimously selected our sister, Mary Gibson, to serve us in this capacity. We also reelected Mike Freshwater as our Vestry Clerk—lifting up his gift for clear note-taking and the ability to shape organized, accessible monthly minutes. I was delighted to share that Julie Hoff has accepted my invitation to serve as Senior Warden, the “Rector’s Warden.” Given her experience and steady leadership in this role, it is a true gift to have her return to this position.

Turning to parish life and finances, we discussed, what is emerging as, a remarkably hopeful picture. Our financial position through the first quarter of 2025 is the strongest it has been in my six years as rector—an occasion for genuine gratitude, and a meaningful sign of renewal taking shape in real time. This makes the moment all the more striking when set against the challenges we’ve continue to face. Over the past year, we’ve said goodbye to eleven beloved members of our parish family, with three more profound losses already in the early months of 2026. We had also absorbed a loss of annual gifts—over \$20,000—amid broader cultural and political tensions that have tested the public witness of the Episcopal Church.

And yet, even here, we see signs of life that deserve our attention. Not a denial of loss, nor a dismissal of real strain, but a steady reminder that something enduring continues to take root among us. New members are joining. People are showing up, choosing to stay, engaging in our Faith in Action ministries, and supporting our mission with generosity and purpose. There remains, at the heart of this parish, a resilient current carrying us forward into what comes next.

At the same time, our shared life reminds us that change is constant. At the start of Holy Week, I attended a choir rehearsal to share that Karen Waddill had accepted a position at another church and will be resigning as our Choir Director and organist, with her final Sunday on May 3rd. In a community that has already navigated significant loss, this news had been felt deeply by the choir. There were real, and understandable, questions about what the future of their ministry would look like. It was a grace to hear our new

vestry heartfully articulate its support for our choir, expressing its commitment to providing an instrumentalist for our 10:00 service.

But this moment also invited us to reflect thoughtfully on our stewardship of resources. Our current investment in music for 10:00 has exceeded \$20,000 annually, while the typical rate for a supply organist is approximately \$175 per service—about \$9,100 over the course of a full 52-week year. This presented an opportunity for us to consider a more sustainable and flexible model for our parish. By engaging supply organists and reimagining how the choir rehearses, we recognized that we could realize meaningful savings—potentially over \$10,000 annually—while also encouraging lay leadership among the talents already present in our choir. To this, our vestry helpfully reminded me that for eighteen years, the choir was self-directed by a volunteer, from within the group. And so, we’re excited about reengaging this model as we move forward.

This month, a significant portion of our vestry time was devoted to administrative matters, in collaboration with Michelle. We looked ahead to our fundraising calendar, approved expenditures connected to our Memorial Garden and monument, and considered proposals related to how we plan on financing our need for a new sidewalk and concrete at our entryway. There’s much before our vestry in this coming term and we’re genuinely excited about the work we’ll share. We’re incredibly blessed with caring, competent, and creative leaders here at St. Edward’s!

Rick+

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
- Gordon Frankensfield
- Matt Fuhrman
- Jack Hawk
- Drew Johnson

- William Justice
- Anthony Koser
- Alex Kube
- John Lewis
- David Peck
- Capt. Andrew Pfeiffer
- Morgan Prigmore
- Mike Spurr
- David Sternberg
- Clayton Tennies
- Connor Tennies
- Evan Westgate
- Seamas Whitesel
- 1st Lt. Thomas Whitesel



Easter Egg Hunt

Pictures by Mary Snyder and Rayelenn Casey



EGG HUNT



On a rainy Easter Sunday, the traditional Egg Hunt moved to the Parish Hall. But, just in case you thought that would dampen the excitement and spirit of our valiant Easter Egg scavengers, we discovered the children's excitement could not be contained! There were treats everywhere and the scramble to gather the eggs and the reveal of the treats inside was a joy to watch. With 10 children laughing with delight at their bounty, it could not have been a better way to infuse a little Easter Bunny magic into a beautiful Sunday of worship and fellowship.





Deacon Harry goes from center stage Baptism to dreamland in record time. See Deacon Harry's baptism pictures on page 20.



Rick and Freda Dombach's granddaughter, Lily



Freda Dombach and granddaughter Dahlia

GROWING IN GOD'S word

Try this craft as a reminder that we need to continue to grow in God's Word.

What you need:

- Small terra cotta pot and plate
- Acrylic paints (various colors)
- Paper plate
- Potting soil (enough to fill the pot)
- Small inside plant or packet of seeds
- Newspaper or paper
- Paintbrush
- Cup of water
- Permanent black marker



What you do:

1. Spread some newspaper out on a table for your working area.
2. Squeeze the paint colors that you wish to use onto your paper plate.
3. Paint designs on the pot and plate.
4. When the pot is dry, take the black marker and on the top part of the pot write: Growing in God's Word.
5. Pour a small amount of potting soil into the bottom of the pot. With adults help, place your plant into the pot and surround your plant with the rest of the soil. If planting seeds, follow the packet instructions.
6. Water your plant so the soil is moist. Check your plant everyday and keep the soil moist.
7. Enjoy watching your plant grow, and remember that you too, need care as you grow in God's Word.

2 Peter 3:18 NIV

But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen.



A LEGACY OF FAITH

You're blessed when you have a mother, a grandmother or any relative or friend who passes down a strong faith to you. In the Bible, Timothy learned about faith from his mother and grandmother.

Complete the verse below by filling in the blanks with the correct vowels.

VOWELS: 1 = a 2 = e 3 = i 4 = o 5 = u

* _ 3 _ 1 m r _ 2 m _ 3 nd _ 2 d _ 4 f
 y _ 4 _ 5 r s _ 3 nc _ 2 r _ 2 f _ 1 _ 3 th, wh _ 3 ch
 f _ 3 rst l _ 3 v _ 2 d _ 3 n y _ 4 _ 5 r gr _ 1 ndm _ 4 th _ 2 r
 L _ 4 _ 3 s _ 1 nd _ 3 n y _ 4 _ 5 r m _ 4 th _ 2 r
 _ 2 _ 5 n _ 3 c _ 2 _ 1 nd, _ 3 _ 1 m p _ 2 rs _ 5 _ 1 d _ 2 d,
 n _ 4 w l _ 3 v _ 2 s _ 3 n y _ 4 _ 5 _ 1 ls _ 4 .*

2 Timothy 1:5, NIV

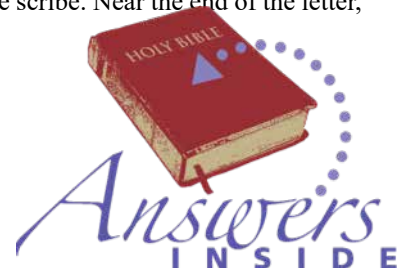
Answer: *I am reminded of your sincere faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois and in your mother Eunice and, I am persuaded, now lives in you also.



Bible Quiz

Although the apostle Paul is credited with writing the letter to the Romans, he dictated the message while another believer served as the scribe. Near the end of the letter, that writer briefly identifies himself. Who was it?

- A. Tertius
- B. Timothy
- C. Lucius
- D. Aquila



Answer: A (Romans 16:22)

Reflection Cont'd

Continued from page 2

My hope is that this conversation continues—not just in formal settings, but in the quiet moments of your own lives. In the way we speak to ourselves when no one else is listening. In the grace we extend when we fall short. In the curiosity we bring to our own unfolding stories. Because it is there, in those moments, that the deeper work is happening. And as that work deepens, something beautiful begins to emerge. A way of being that's less reactive, more grounded. Less fearful, more open. A way of being that reflects, however imperfectly, the love at the heart of the Gospel. There's a word from another tradition that captures this beautifully: Namaste. Often translated simply, it carries a depth of meaning that resonates deeply with our own understanding of the divine. At its heart, Namaste is an acknowledgment. A recognition that the sacred isn't confined to distant places or abstract ideas, but is present—here, now—in each person we encounter. At our best, it's as if the God in me recognizes and reverences the God in you. But that recognition becomes possible, in a fuller sense, when we've first learned to recognize and reverence the sacred within ourselves. And so the journey continues—within, among, and beyond us—guided by the quiet, persistent invitation to become more fully who we already are. Travel well, friends,

Rick+

Needle Arts

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

Members of this group, make items such as prayer shawls and baptism blankets, as well as hats and scarves to be donated to any in need. and quilted and embroidered items.

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.




A knitted Paddington Bear made by Mac Miller



Irene Achey and Geri King watch as Barbara O'Brien demonstrates her unique way of unwinding her yarn





Guns to Gardens

Community Safe Disposal Event


June 15th, 4:30-7:00 p.m.

Many people have unwanted firearms with no trusted way to discard them. They might have a gun that was inherited, or maybe a gun that was used in a suicide. Or perhaps a gun stored in a home with children or grandchildren. There are many reasons why people want to dispose of unwanted guns. We are here to help.

Dispose of your unwanted guns in a safe and loving environment. Guns are dismantled by trained volunteers with power saws. Pieces from the guns are given to local blacksmiths from RAW tools for the purpose of creating garden tools and art.

Bring your unloaded firearm(s) stored in the trunk of your vehicle to:

St. Thomas Episcopal Church
301 Saint Thomas Road
Lancaster, PA



"...and they shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation; neither shall they learn war any more." Isaiah 2:4

The secret of my success is that at an early age I discovered that I was not God.
—Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr.

June Scepter

May

20

Due Date

Thank You From Franck Family



Your words have comforted us,
Your support has strengthened us,
And your love has sustained us.
Thank you to all at St. Edward's who have helped our family navigate this difficult time.

Thank you Fr. Rick for visiting Curt so many times, for comforting him and

holding his hand when he especially needed it. Your love was felt by us all.

Thank you Michelle for being a rock and navigating us through every aspect of the Memorial Service. We were grateful for all your help and suggestions.

Thank you Karen and the choir. Your music made the service so beautiful and we appreciate your work in

learning the anthem. We could tell you put your heart into the music.

Thank you to the "Knit Wits" for the beautiful prayer shawl and pocket prayer square. Purple is my favorite color and it is a gentle reminder of Curt.

Thank you also to all of you who sent cards, notes or called. Your kindness was truly appreciated.

Thank you so much to all who made the Memorial Garden so beautiful. It comforted my family and me and we are so happy Curt has a beautiful place to rest. And finally, thank you to all who came to Curt's Memorial Service. It was truly a celebration of his life, and I think he would have been surprised but also very happy that you came.

My family and I truly appreciate your kindness and it will always be remembered.

With love,
Mary Ann, Doug, Laura, Mike, Katie, Olivia and Darius



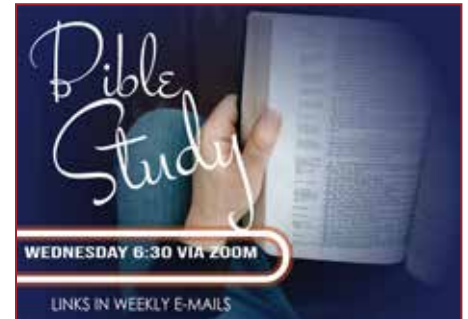
Coffee Hour

Pictures by Mary Snyder

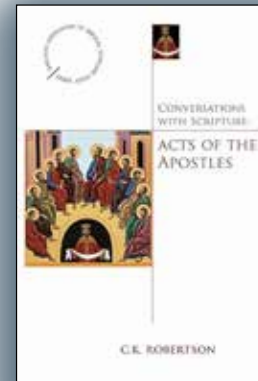
One of the foundations of our weekly fellowship is our Sunday coffee hour. From 9 AM to 10 AM each Sunday, we offer folks a chance to gather, as one community, between the services, as well as the space we hold for our fantastic Coffee House Band to perform,

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.





Author C.K. Robertson presents a well-researched, yet highly readable exploration of the Acts of the Apostles. Robertson is an alumnus of Virginia Tech, Virginia Theological Seminary, and Durham University, and for ten years has served as Distinguished Visiting Professor at The General Theological Seminary. He is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations, and recently was named Honorary Canon in the Scottish Episcopal Church. Dr. Robertson and his family currently live in a town just outside New York City.



Lent Madness -Announces the Winner of the Golden Halo

But first... what an incredible season it has been. We have learned, laughed, and lived into the witness of some truly amazing saints. The final two contenders were Desmond Tutu and Constance and her Companions. The group of Episcopal Nuns sometimes called The Martyrs of Memphis were the winners and their story is one of great service and compassion and sacrifice.

From Forward Movement's Lent Madness site:

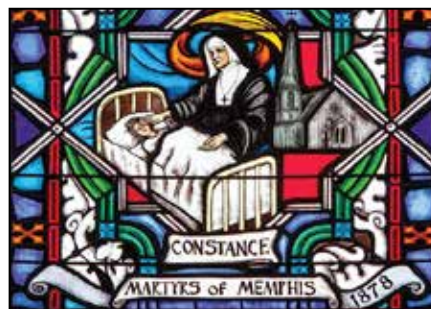


We give you thanks and praise, O God of compassion, for the heroic witness of the Martyrs of Memphis, who, in a time of plague

and pestilence, were steadfast in their care for the sick and dying, and loved not their own lives, even unto death.

Remember their names: Sister Constance, Sister Thecla, Sister Ruth, Sister Frances, the Rev. Charles Carroll Parsons, and the Rev. Louis S. Schuyler.

Constance and her Companions They gave their lives in service to others. They remained in a yellow-fever devastated Memphis, TN to minister to and care for the sick while thousands fled the city. They succumbed to the very epidemic they were fighting. They died in September 1878; nonetheless, their imprint



Rev. Charles Carroll Parsons, and the Rev. Louis S. Schuyler.

on the city is lasting and remains 148 years later.

They are collectively known as Constance and her Companions, the Martyrs of Memphis: Sister Constance, Sister Thecla, Sister Ruth, Sister Frances, the



Guess Who's Coming to Dinner

By Rick Dombach

The Lights Went Out Last Night

After a nice evening at the Dombach's house, starting off with appetizers and small talk, we moved into the sunroom for a meal of fruit salad, pork chops, rice, cauliflower casserole, minted peas, and a tiramisu cheese cake. We decided, or Freda came up with the idea, in order to get to know each other better, we would share a picture or story from our lives, and we all have cell phones with pictures. Gren and Jeri King, Rayelenn Casey, Peggy Hanzelman, Mark Espie, Dan Sanders.

Rick and Freda Dombach shared something from their past, and we all learned something new and interesting.

As the night progressed and darkness set in, folks made their way home. Dan and Mark were the last here, helping to bring dirty dishes and such to the kitchen. It seemed like the only way to get them to leave was to turn out the lights. And literally, they went out, half the development we live in lost power, it was pitch black. So we used our cell phone camera, found some candles and flashlights to guide them safely out of the house to their car. Did you ever have a sink full of dishes and no power? We made do until it was restored about 12:15 am. So ends another dinner with good friends and unexpected events.



Mark Espie, Dan Sanders, Peggy Hanzelman, Rick Dombach, Gren and Jeri King, Freda Dombach and Rayelenn Casey

By Meredith Aul

Pictures by Rosie Westgate, Mary Snyder and Mac Miller



Meredith and Randy Westgate, Art Hagan, Irene Achey Mary Snyder, Mac Miller, Mary Snyder, Bob Mosebch



Rosie made Origami rabbit favors



Mary Gibson, Mac Miller



The cone did not stop Biscuit from enjoying the evening



Randy and Rosie Westgate



Art Hagan



Bob Mosebch



Irene Achey and Rusty



Beautiful spring table setting



Jeanne Mosebch



Meredith Aul and Mary Snyder

It was a "splendid table" at my house for the Guess Who's Coming to Dinner dinner on Saturday, April 18. We started the evening with an appetizer of shrimp cocktail and another of cream cheese and red pepper jelly with crackers brought by Mac Miller. Art Hagen, Jeanne, and Bob Mosebch brought wine. Dinner by Randy Westgate was Parmesan Crusted Chicken (a family favorite) with roasted red potatoes and broccoli, and a tossed salad (with homegrown lettuce)

made by Mary Snyder and Irene Achey. The Mosebachs brought Italian bread, and Mary Gibson brought a key lime pie with raspberry sauce and a tray of mini strawberry and lemon cakes for dessert.

We started dinner with the "penny game," where everyone picks a penny from a "hat" and shares something about themselves during the year on their penny. The biggest challenge was reading the dates on some of the pennies! Rosie had to draw at least five

pennies before finding one minted after her birth year. The penny conversation traveled around the table and lasted through most of dinner. While everyone was already at least a little acquainted with one another, I think we all learned something new – and sometimes surprising about everyone else at the table. Suffice it to say it was an evening of a shared meal, interesting tales, and a lot of laughter!

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY



Mom



Eliza Donohue Elgin and daughter Skye. Skye will be baptized on Mother's Day at her church in DC.



Grandmother Catherine assures us Skye Catherine loves baseball, just not the noise canceling gear



FIRST REFORMED LANCASTER

CHICKEN BARBECUE DINNER SALE

Order one of our delicious meals, where you can enjoy a little of everything, while supporting a great cause. Tell your family, friends, and neighbors to support a day of faith, community, and giving back!

FRIDAY, MAY 15TH 12NOON-6PM
PLACE ORDERS NOW!

- Barbecue Chicken
- Macaroni Salad & Green Beans
- Homestyle Desserts

Delivery, Dine-in or Take-Out

\$17 PER DINNER

Add-ons \$3 each
 Half Chicken \$12

Contact Us
 717-397-5149

40 E. Orange St. Lancaster, PA



Puzzle!

In spring and summer, we remember mothers and fathers with special days. Find the parents of these Biblical children. Check the verse given for help.

Joah (2 Kings 11:2)	A _____
Obed (Matthew 1:5)	B _____
Joseph (Genesis 35: 22-24)	_____ C _____
John the disciple (Matthew 4:21)	_____ D _____
John the Baptist (Luke 1:13)	_____ E _____
Lo-Ruhamah (Hosea 1:6)	G _____
Jezreel (Hosea 1:4)	H _____
Esau (Genesis 25:28)	I _____
David (1 Samuel 16:19)	J _____
Jacob (Genesis 25:28)	_____ K _____
Samuel (1 Samuel 1:19-20)	_____ L _____
Gershon (Exodus 2:21-22)	M _____
Samuel (1 Samuel 1:19-20)	_____ N _____
Jesse (Matthew 1:5)	O _____
Gershon (Exodus 2:21-22)	_____ P _____
Joseph (Genesis 35: 22-24)	R _____
Isaac (Genesis 21:3)	S _____
John the Baptist (Luke 1:13)	_____ T _____
Jonathan (1 Samuel 14:1)	_____ U _____
Solomon (1 Kings 2:1)	_____ V _____
Jesus (Matthew 1:18)	_____ Y _____
James (Matthew 4:21)	Z _____



MAY 10 – JULY 5, 2026
FUNDRAISING GOAL: 100 SQUARES AT \$275/EACH

YES. . . IT IS TIME!!!

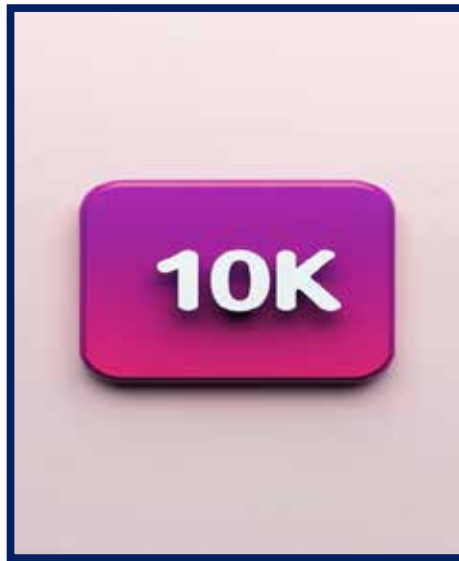
FOR THE SAFETY AND SECURITY OF OUR COMMUNITY AND TO THOSE WHOM WE WELCOME TO OUR CAMPUS FOR EVENTS, MEETINGS, GATHERINGS, IT IS TIME TO REPLACE OUR 36+ YEAR-OLD SIDEWALK. HOW CAN WE REACH OUR GOAL?

OVER AN 8-WEEK PERIOD WE ENCOURAGE FOLKS TO PURCHASE A SQUARE FOR \$275 VIA CHECK OR CASH IN THE OFFERING PLATE ON SUNDAY, VIA THE DIOCESAN PORTAL, PAYPAL, OR OUR ZETTLE CREDIT/DEBIT CARD IPAD APP SET UP IN THE PARISH HALL AND NARTHEX DURING WORSHIP/FELLOWSHIP. MANY CONVENIENT WAYS TO PARTICIPATE!

PLEASE MARK ALL DONATIONS: *SIDEWALK FUNDRAISER* SO WE CAN ALLOCATE THEM PROPERLY.

HELP US ACHIEVE OUR GOAL TO ENABLE A WELL-MAINTAINED, SECURE AND AESTHETICALLY PLEASING SPIRITUAL HOME THAT IS ACCESSBILE AND SAFE TO ALL!

ST. EDWARD'S FISCAL FITNESS CHALLENGE



MAY 10 – JULY 5, 2026
FUNDRAISING GOAL: \$10,000

HOW CAN WE REACH OUR GOAL?

OVER AN 8-WEEK PERIOD WE ENCOURAGE FOLKS TO DONATE AS OFTEN AS THEY CAN VIA CHECK OR CASH IN THE OFFERING PLATE ON SUNDAY, VIA THE DIOCESAN PORTAL, PAYPAL, OR OUR ZETTLER CREDIT/DEBIT CARD IPAD APP SET UP IN THE PARISH HALL AND NARTHEX DURING WORSHIP/FELLOWSHIP. MANY CONVENIENT WAYS TO PARTICIPATE!

PLEASE MARK ALL DONATIONS: *10K FISCAL FITNESS CHALLENGE* SO WE CAN ALLOCATE THEM PROPERLY.

HELP US ACHIEVE OUR GOAL IN YEAR TWO OF OUR ANNUAL "EXTRA GIVE"!! YOUR DONATIONS ENSURE THAT OUR SPIRITUAL HOME IS WELL-STEWARDED DURING THE SUMMER MONTHS WHEN OUR OPERATING EXPENSES INCREASE. HELP US TO STAY "FISCALLY FIT" BY JOINING THE 10K CHALLENGE!! LAST YEAR WE RAISED OVER \$11,000!

In Memory of Ruth Yovanovich

Pictures from the funeral by Mary Gibson



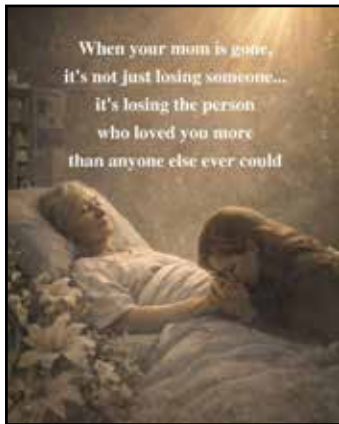
Ruth
(Brubaker)
Yovanovich



Bill and Ruth



IN
Loving
MEMORY OF
Ruth
Yovanovich



When your mom is gone,
it's not just losing someone...
it's losing the person
who loved you more
than anyone else ever could



Father Rick and Ruth on her birthday



Ruthie Miller



Amy Yovanovich



Christina Berguson



Christyan Seay

Ruth agreed to
adopt 4 siblings,
THEN told her
husband!! And
they had 12 kids.
Ruth said the Lord
helped her with
all of them. Great
story!!



Richard Irons and Ruth



Jon Erik Berguson



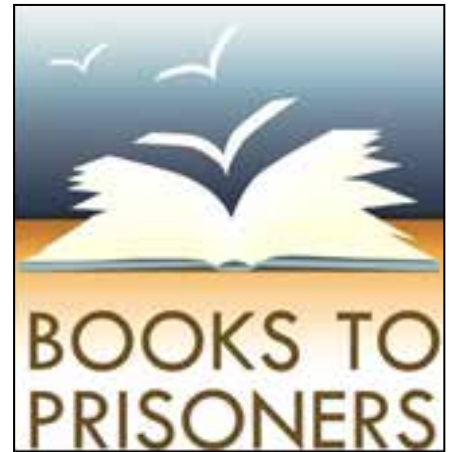
Ruth and Amy always with smiles!



Picture Caption



Father Rick homily about Ruth's gift to him - Andrew Wyeth's Christina's World and celebrating Holy Eucharist



ONGOING MINISTRIES:

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

UPCOMING MINISTRIES:

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
Lent 2027	Soles4Souls
Spring 2027	Blood Drive
Mar 2027	Feed My Starving Children
April 2027	Race Against Racism

By Randy Westgate

Many thanks for your generosity in contributing to our program which purchases books for prisoners at Lancaster County Prison. The books are delivered directly from Amazon to the chaplain's office for distribution to prisoners. This month we purchased a total of 15 copies of three often-requested books:

Unashamed-- Rap artist, Lecrae, writes of his recovery through faith in Jesus from abuse, drug and alcohol abuse, and a suicide attempt. He "powerfully models how to be a Christian in a secular age."

Tattoos on the Heart--The author runs a gang-intervention program in LA, and recounts "a breathtaking series of parables inspired by faith," true stories of redemption and healing for young people held captive by failures and shame.

Cross Addicted--Broken by trauma and addiction, this woman writes of her "raw, stumbling journey toward freedom." It offers reader renewed hope and describes practical steps of recovery.

Through these books we to plant seeds that can lead to healing and freedom for these incarcerated beloved children of God.



No jars.....No expired items
 Thank you for the 275 pounds of food contributed to the pantry in March ...
 WOW !

In March, the pantry served 552 children, 993 adults, 412 seniors for a total of 1,957 persons served !

Currently, the pantry requests the following food items:

- Canned tomato soup
- Canned cream of mushroom soup
- Canned beets
- Canned potatoes
- Canned peaches
- 1 lb. bags dried beans
- Pancake mix
- Pasta (boxed)
- 1 lb. bags white rice
- Granola bars

The pantry is especially in need of "Sugary" cereal.



Rahim Supplies

The sign-up sheet in the narthex for April - June for our collection of hygiene, paper products and cleaning supplies for the Rahim family. Please consider purchasing an item on the list for our monthly collections. Monthly needs are: 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.



"The best portion of a good man's life: his little, nameless, unremembered acts of kindness and love."
 by William Wordsworth



SOLES 4 SOULS

By Bev Achey

Thank you to everyone who donated shoes for Soles4Souls with your help we beat last year's record with 798 pairs of shoes. In case you wondered that is over 100 more pairs. A special Thank You to the following people :

1. Sharon Gromis - who brought boxes to pack the shoes and got the lunch people at Hempfield involved
2. Ginny Kloeping -who put the word out and set up collections boxes at Woodcrest and brought over 140 pairs

3. Beth Lynch - who put out the word at Donegal
4. Beth Lynch and Irene Achey- who helped pack up the shoes
5. Beth Lynch, Bruce Lynch and Scott Smith- who helped load up the 46 boxes
6. Beth & Bruce Lynch and Scott Smith - who helped deliver the shoes to Saint John's

Once again Thank you to everyone in our community who came together to help our world community.



First Reformed Dinner

Our next First Reformed Dinner is May 12th and we will be providing a menu of: Cheese pizza, applesauce, snack veggies, cookies/brownies, water. We are looking for two things: Would you be willing to “sponsor” a pizza? We are in need of 30 pizzas and are working with local pizzerias to help us with our outreach. A pizza sponsorship is \$15. Please place a cash or check (payable to St. Edward's) donation in an envelope marked: First Reformed Dinner. We are also looking for cookies/brownies, either homemade or store bought. We thank you for your generosity of spirit in helping us successfully feed our downtown homeless population, making their day a little more hopeful!

ALERT serves dinner

“ALERT” is the All Lancaster Episcopal Response Team. Churches in Lancaster County join together to do God's work in serving a hot meal to our neighbors. Last night at First Reformed Church in Lancaster, members from St John's (Lancaster), St Thomas (Lancaster), and St Edward's (Lancaster), joined forces to prepare and serve a delicious pasta dinner to around 120 people in who are food insecure. (St Luke in Mount Joy provided a tray of pasta.) Many thanks to all those who support this ministry of hospitality and sharing to those less fortunate. Many thanks to First Reformed Church for hosting this important community service.



46 boxes containing 798 pairs of shoes packed to be delivered to St. John's



Beth Lynch served the salad as the ALERT crew served a meal in April at First Reformed Church in Lancaster

Book Signing --Travel Like a Hero

Thank you for supporting my book!

Photographs by Daniel McGarrity Photography

The journey from “How Did We Get Here?” to “Where Will We Go Next?” is an exploration not only across continents and experiences, but through the peaks and valleys that inhabit the landscapes of our head and heart. A true Hero’s Journey!

I hope you encourage your friends, family, or anyone you know to embark on the adventure of this book. It truly is a worthy traveling companion in the journey of life.

Please remember that reader reviews are always welcome on the on-line platforms where the book is sold - Amazon and Barnes & Noble Booksellers.



Rich Ba⁺



Lunch With the Chosen



Hosted by Blair Lord

Thank you, everyone, who joined us for quiche, coffee, and conversation while watching the very first episode of The Chosen! This opening to the show introduced us to Mary Magdalene, Simon, Andrew, Matthew, and Nicodemus in ways that attempt to fill in the blanks that the Bible narratives leave at most only briefly sketched. Part of our conversation reflected on how little we know about these characters despite their impact through Jesus's ministry. The exploration of their potential backgrounds gave us a glimpse into the lives of Jews and even Romans in first-century Galilee, grounding us in a better understanding of

the setting that Jesus stepped into when he proclaimed the gospel. It was also fascinating to discuss some of the traditions that have emerged over time, such as the origin of Lilith (the alias Mary uses in this episode). A rich discussion as always!

Lunch with The Chosen will resume on the first Sunday of the month. Please bring a bagged lunch and join us for episode 2, "Shabbat," on May 3rd. The episode will continue to follow Mary after her restoration, Nicodemus's response, and Simon and his questionable choices. We will meet in the parish hall at 11:45am.

The last viewing before summer break will be on June 7th with episode 3, "Jesus Loves the Little Children."

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.



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, flute, guitar), scripture interspersed with short periods of silence? Join us as Br. David Rutledge, Br. A. J. Robins or The Rev. Martha Harris lead worship.



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.

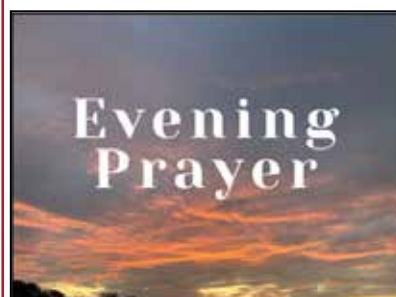


Men's Group



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, April 11th



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

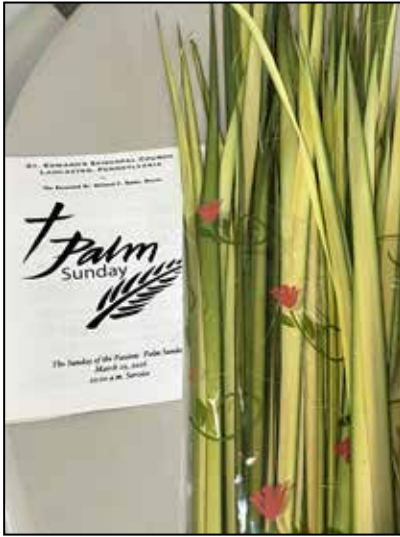
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84700614072>

Meeting ID: 847 0061 4072

Passcode: SunEP

Holy Week

Pictures by Rayelenn Casey, Mary Gibson and Mary Snyder



Blessing of the palms



The 10 AM service



Cindy DiStefano



Kiki Davis-Brugmann



Beth Lynch and Father Rick



The St. Edward's Choir Anthem Hosanna, Hosanna!



Father Rick sermon



Celebrating Holy Eucharist



Sunday Greetings

Holy Week

Pictures by Rayelenn Casey, Mary Gibson and Mary Snyder



Art Hagan



Foot washing



Blair Lord



Stripping the altar



Handle with Care



Julie Hoff places Crown of Thorns



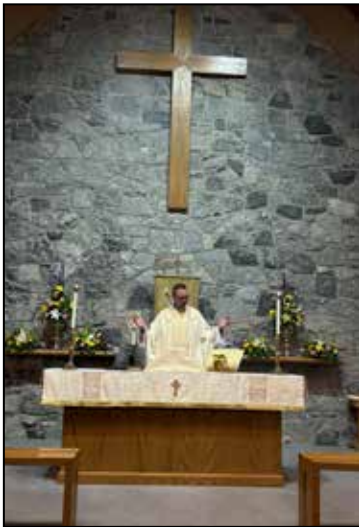
Bob Mosebach and Father Rick and parishioners at the foot of the Cross



Seth Hake



Beth Hake



Father Rick censes the altar prior to Eucharist



Jay Miller serves as thurifer



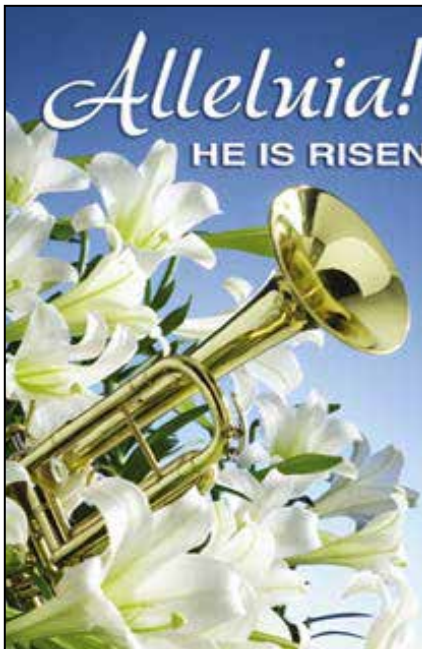
Seth Hake chants The Exultet

Easter Sunday

Pictures by Rayelenn Casey and Mary Snyder



Peter Weber



The Breneman family gathers for the baptism of Deacon Harry Breneman



Thanksgiving over the Water



The Baptism



Jay Miller, Kevin and Ellen Milligan



Father Rick Easter blessings to the nieces and nephews of Vanessa Helsel

April Services

Pictures by Mary Snyder and the Live Stream



The Reverend Canon David Lovelace and Art Hagan



Vanessa Helsel



Adam Lefever Hughes



Fr. Rick Sermon



The Gospel



Announcements



Seth Hake



Cindy DiStefano



Vanessa Helsel, Jay and Lori Miller

Worship SERVICES



The Eucharist



Father Rick and Beth Lynch



Kathleen Spencer



Kiki Davis-Brugmann



Mary Rettino



Jamie Alton



Karen Waddill Director of Music and the choir add so much to each service



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)
Junior Warden
- ✦ Julie Hoff (2029)
Senior Warden
- ✦ Ethel Lawrence (2027)
- ✦ Bruce Lynch(2029)
- ✦ Susan Murray(2029)
- ✦ 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

<https://sainteds.org/>

