St. Edward's Episcopal Church Lancaster, PA

Scepter

October 2026

Reflection From the Rector's Desk

Discernment considers both personal joy and the well-being of the community. It recognizes that our deepest gifts often become most joyful when they're offered for something larger than ourselves. Perhaps this is one of the quiet miracles of parish life: we arrive seeking nourishment and discover that we are also nourishment for one another.

Our program year has begun, and with it comes a renewed invitation to participate in the mission and ministry of Christ here at St. Edward's. There are meals to prepare and neighbors to welcome, hymns to sing, Scriptures to proclaim, and the bread and wine of Holy Communion to share. Each opportunity raises a question worth pondering: What does it mean to serve in a church community?

Most of us come to church, at least in part, hoping to receive something. We may be hungry for peace, grace, friendship, meaning, or reassurance. We may need a word of hope after a difficult week or the quiet comfort of a familiar prayer. We may long for music that lifts us, preaching that challenges us, or a community in which we feel known. These desires are neither wrong nor selfish. Jesus welcomed people who came to him in need. He fed the hungry, healed the sick, forgave the burdened, and gave rest to the weary. The Church should be a place where people are fed.

Yet Christian community can't flourish if we imagine the Church only as a place that provides religious goods and services. It's tempting, especially in a culture shaped by consumer choice, to evaluate a parish as we might evaluate a restaurant, a concert, or a subscription: Did I enjoy it? Did it meet my preferences? Did I receive enough in return for my time? When an experience no longer satisfies us, the surrounding culture teaches us to look elsewhere. But Christ offers us a different way of belonging. He doesn't simply invite us to consume what has been prepared. He invites us to the table, feeds us with his own life, and then says, in effect, "Now help me feed the world."

In the Eucharist, we receive the gifts of God for the people of God. But receiving isn't the end of the movement. At the dismissal, we're sent out to love and serve the Lord. The grace we receive becomes the grace we carry. Worship gathers us inward and sends us outward; it consoles us and commissions us. We come with open hands, and Christ fills them so that we may open them again for others.

This changes the questions we ask about parish life. Alongside "Am I being fed?" we might ask, "Whom am I helping to feed?" Alongside "What am I receiving from this ministry?" we might ask, "What gift of mine is Christ inviting me to offer?" Alongside

Continued on Page 1

Inside This Issue

Vestry ____ 3
Needle Arts ____ 7
Lunch with the Chosen ____ 8
Coffee Hour ____ 11
Faith in Action ____ 12-13
Blood Drive ____ 14
Guess Who's Coming to Dinner ____ 15
Cookie Sale ____ 16

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

Continued from Page 2

"Does this perfectly match my preferences?" we might ask, "Could my presence help someone else pray, belong, or encounter God?"

These questions apply beautifully to the choir. Singing can bring great personal joy, but a church choir is more than a gathering of people who enjoy music. It's a ministry of prayer and leadership. Choir members lend their breath, attention, discipline, and delight to help an entire congregation find its voice. A hymn may not be every singer's favorite. A rehearsal may sometimes feel like work. Nevertheless, the shared harmony of the choir can give courage to someone who is grieving, awaken praise in someone who has forgotten how to pray, or help a visitor sense that there's room for their voice too. Singing lifts our hearts and voices—and helps others sing and pray aloud.

The same is true for those who serve as lectors and Eucharistic Ministers. A lector does more than complete an assigned reading. The lector receives the words of Scripture, gives them voice, and entrusts them to the assembly. Someone in the pews may hear a familiar passage as though for the first time because another person has offered it carefully and faithfully. Likewise, a Eucharistic Minister does more than assist with the mechanics of Communion. Extending the chalice and speaking words of grace is a public offering of presence and reverence. In that moment, an internal faith becomes visible: one member of Christ's body serving another with the gifts of Christ's table. Such service can transform the person receiving Communion, but it also transforms the person who serves.

This pattern extends beyond the liturgy. Our feeding ministries and other Faith in Action initiatives help us explore the connection between worship and the outside world. At the altar, Christ feeds us; in the world, we meet Christ in those who hunger. The ministries aren't separate. Each interprets the other. Our prayers shape the way we see our neighbors, and our neighbors reshape the way we understand our prayers.

None of this means that people should remain indefinitely in roles that no longer fit their gifts, health, season of life, or sense of calling. Christian ministry isn't sustained by guilt, resentment, or exhaustion. There are faithful times to rest, to discern, and to move from one form of service to another. Nor should a parish dismiss concerns by telling people simply to work harder or expect less. We must listen to one another, tend our ministries well, and help each person find places where gifts and genuine needs meet.

But discernment is different from consumption. Discernment asks, "Where is God calling me now?" Consumption asks, "What am I getting?" Discernment considers both personal joy and the well-being of the community. It recognizes that our deepest gifts often become most joyful when they're offered for something larger than ourselves. Perhaps this is one of the quiet miracles of parish life: we arrive seeking nourishment and discover that we are also nourishment for one another. The person who reads Scripture strengthens the person who sings. The person who sings encourages the person approaching the chalice. The person serving at the altar is inspired by the person feeding a neighbor. The person who prepares a meal is sustained by the prayers of people they may never meet. No ministry stands alone, because no member of Christ's body stands alone.

As this program year unfolds, consider where your gifts and joys might meet the spiritual hunger of those traveling beside you. Explore how liturgy and the outside world shape one another through our feeding ministries and Faith in Action initiatives by connecting with Beth Lynch. If you like to sing, speak with Blair Lord about the choir. If serving as a lector or Eucharistic Minister stirs something in you, connect with Bob Mosebach.

And perhaps bring one more question to prayer: "Christ, how might you use what I love to build up your people?"

We'll not always feel equally fed by every service, hymn, sermon, or ministry. But when we offer ourselves to Christ and to one another, something deeper than satisfaction becomes possible. We become companions in grace—receiving, giving, and discovering that the table of God grows more abundant whenever we help one another take our place at it. May the Lord bless and keep us as the season changes, as the leaves fall around us, to make room for something new.

Rick+

Parish Office

Parish Office Hours
Tuesday- Friday: 11:00 – 4:00PM
Parish Administrator
Michelle Bentley
Scepter Production Staff
H. J. "Mac" Miller
hj_miller@outlook.com
Photos by:
Mary Snyder
starleo1328@yahoo.com

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

Vestry

VESTRY

By Susan Murray

As our junior warden, Mary Gibson, had recapped for the congregation in our September Scepter, the vestry took a summer hiatus. While this gives us space to rest and renew in preparation for our program year of mission and ministry and stewardship planning, we, as a vestry body, stay very connected, via liaisons, to the ministry leaders, and parishioners, in our community. This is a very vital function of being a vestry member as it fosters and strengthens relationships within our community. After all, as lay persons, we are ALL ministers of the Church!

The role of Laity is to:

- Represent Christ and the church in daily life.
- Carry out Christ's work of reconciliation in the world.
- Take part in the worship, life, and governance (as a vestry member) of the church.

As a matter of fact, the Book of Common Prayer articulates the importance of lay people as essential leaders of our church. And when one takes a look at the materials of Ministries and Spiritual Formation opportunities at St. Edward's (you can find these booklets on our web site and printed copies in our front entry, narthex, and parish hall) you get a sense that in this spiritual home, we truly encourage you to discern where you may feel called to serve at St. Edward's. Imagine. . . you can start small – like hosting a coffee hour. Or, you can serve the altar, sing in the choir. Maybe you have a "green thumb, but no garden at your home? Plenty of outside gardening here! And so much more! As Father Rick likes to teach us, we are encouraged to consider the ubuntu maxim – I am, because we are, in a faith journey undertaken with and for others. We are all part of that fabric of humanity and in addition to the "business of the church" that we discuss each month at vestry, we also have opportunities to explore these experiences as well. It creates a new dimension in serving our parish in ways that teach us how to become disciples in Christ. And that feels like a "faith in action."

A quick recap of our August business meeting:

- Father Rick delivered his Rector's Report which detailed our finances, our search for an organist/pianist, new models for stewardship and legacy outreach, and our commitment to Safe Church requirements within our leadership and volunteers requiring this training. As a vestry, we were very assured by Father Rick to know that we are entering the program year from a position of genuine strength, not because we are absent of challenges, but because "our community has repeatedly demonstrated its ability to meet them with generosity, ingenuity, and faithfulness." When needs arise at St. Edward's, the parish has responded, and for that we are so grateful!

Here is a Fall and Winter Calendar that shows some (not all) dates of note:

- September 13–October 31: Fall Basket Raffle Fundraiser
- October 3: Diocesan Convention Zoom business meeting
- October 17: Meredith Westgate Fellowship event—Guess Who's Coming to Dinner
- October 31 at 1:00 p.m.: Potluck lunch and basket raffle drawing in the Parish Hall
- November 1: All Saints' Day
- One worship service at 10:00 a.m., with coffee hour at 9:00 a.m.
- November 8: Bishop's visitation – one service at 10 AM
- November 23–27: Parish office closed for Thanksgiving; no Wednesday service
- November 29: First Sunday of Advent
- December 5: Cookie and Craft Sale
- December 24 at 4:30 p.m.: One Christmas Eve service at 4:30 PM
- December 25: Christmas message from Father Rick posted on YouTube
- December 25–January 2: Parish office closed; no Wednesday service

To close: I became a member of the St. Edward's family a few years after my husband's passing and I am grateful to be here! I was raised Episcopalian, as my grandfather was an Episcopal priest and it is a blessing to sit in church every Sunday with my sister, Lucie. I also thank God every day for all of my loving family, my dear children, their spouses and my grandchildren, and my five siblings!

The following is a prayer I pray every day, and I would like to share it with you:

God of the present moment. God who in Jesus stills the storms and soothes the frantic heart. Bring hope and courage to all as we wait in uncertainty. Bring hope and peace to whatever lies ahead. Bring us courage to endure what cannot be avoided. For your will is health and wholeness, you are God and we need you! Amen!

In faith,

Susan Murray

Military News

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

Please advise Michelle Bentley in the Parish office or HJ_Miller@Outlook.com if any of these names should not remain on our list:

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

11 and 92–Irene Achey and her relative, Sheridyn, celebrate their matching birthdays.

Joel Kline begins his senior year at Penn State

Torin and Liam Irons "There's always that one kid in the family."

Trip to visit a guitar factory and museum

Bob Mosebach, Mike Freshwater, Jay Miller, Rick Dombach, Rick's guitar teacher, Steve Davis, Randy Westgate and Fr. Rick

By Fr. Rick

So…..Rick Dombach organized a tour to the Martin Guitar Factory in Nazareth, for those of us who are interested in guitars, to see how the instruments are made. We learned about the history of the company and got the opportunity to walk the factory floor with a guide. Catching a glimpse of every stage of the building process, we were able to observe skilled artisans at work. We watched guitars being put together that are valued between $5,000-$100,000 and toured a museum that had instruments spanning the company's 200-year history. It was a pretty amazing experience for our group.

Before we left, we were able to enter their "Players Room" and try out some of the instruments for ourselves!!!!

Factory tour

Mary Snyder and Jodi Good's Labor day holiday went from camping to the beach

Kid's Corner

Elias James Kline, 20 inches, 7lbs.
Born Sunday, Sept. 6th after lunch.
Born to Harrison and Sasha Kline

Emma and Sadie's first day of first grade

Give Thanks with Music

Music is one way to give thanks to God. Make these simple instruments to accompany your singing!

What you need:

- 3 small coffee cans with lids
- 1/2 cup dry pinto beans
- 1/2 cup unpopped popcorn
- 1/2 cup uncooked rice
- Heavy-duty tape
- Construction paper
- Glue
- Scissors
- Markers or crayons for decorating

What you do:

1. Put the beans in one can, the popcorn in another, and the rice in the third.
2. Secure the lids and tape around the rims.
3. Cover the cans with construction paper and glue it in place.
4. Decorate the cans with markers or crayons.
5. Shake the cans to hear the different sounds, then use them to make joyful music for the Lord!

PUZZLE

A Family of Prayer

Acts tells us about a man named Cornelius. He was a Roman soldier who worshiped God and prayed with his family. God used Cornelius to help Peter learn an important truth: God welcomes everyone who loves Him and does what is right.

Solve the math problems using the grid. Then use the key to find the letter for each answer. Write each letter on the blank to discover what Cornelius and his family did.

GRID	
A	B
C	D

KEY
a = 7 e = 8
i = 10 o = 9
u = 11 y = 6

"He ___ nd ___ ll h___ s f___m ___l___
w___r___ d___v_____t___nd
G___d-f___ ___r___ngs h___ g___v___
g___n___r___ ___al___ r___ th___s___ ___n
n___ ___d ___nd pr___y___d t___ G___d
r___g___l___n___," ___ cts 10:2, NIV

Bible Quiz

Psalm 103 (ESV) begins: "Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name! Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his _____." What should we "not forget"?

A. goodness
B. kindness
C. gifts
D. benefits

Answer: D (Psalm 103:2)

Recipes Return to the Scepter

Recipes were once a regular feature in the Scepter, and we are pleased to bring them back in response to reader requests. This marks the second month that favorite recipes have returned.

Going forward, if you would like to contribute a favorite or request a specific recipe, please send your ideas to HJ_Miller@outlook.com or text to (717)917-8716

Contributed By Mary Gibson

Simple Baked Salmon with Lemon Butter (for 4)

Ingredients

4 salmon fillets about 1.5 to 2 pounds total
1 tablespoon olive oil
3 tablespoons butter
¼ cup lemon juice
1 teaspoon sea salt (optional)
1 teaspoon garlic powder (optional)
1 teaspoon dried parsley flakes
½ teaspoon ground black pepper
Garnish with fresh parsley and lemon slices at serving (optional)

Instructions

- Preheat oven to 400°F; add olive oil to the bottom of a baking dish
- Pat salmon dry with paper towel; let sit at room temperature while preparing sauce
- Melt butter, stirring in the seasonings and lemon juice
- Place salmon in baking dish; pour sauce over salmon. Brush some sauce on top of fillets to ensure they are coated with sauce
- Bake for 15-20 minutes or until flesh is opaque and flakes easily with a fork. The USDA recommends cooking to 145°F on an instant thermometer. OR: Depending on thickness of the fillets, cook to desired doneness. Medium doneness is about 130 degrees. See note below.
- Allow to rest for 5 minutes, then garnish with fresh parsley and lemon slice, if desired, and spoon any additional sauce over salmon when serving

Notes

l often bake at 350 degrees F until salmon reaches about 130 degrees on an instant thermometer. Time will vary depending on thickness of fillets. This allows for "carryover temperature" while the salmons rests.

Use an instant thermometer for best results.

You can use fresh minced garlic and fresh herbs for cooking. Italian seasoning or Herbes de Provence, or lemon pepper seasoning are other options.

October is Pastor Appreciation Month

Daylight Savings Time ends Sunday Nov 1st

Anna Rosenberg

Sharon Hubbard and Granddaughter, Anna

Contributed by Donna Holwager

This announcement was in Saint James Headlines and Happenings. Anna was given a nice send off as she gets ready to move to Bath England. Sharon was able to be there for the formal acknowledgment of her granddaughters contribution to Saint James and to wish her well on her new venture!:

"We gave thanks to Anna Rosenberg as she prepares to attend the University of Bath, in England, for an MSc in Conservation of Historic Buildings. Before she worked with Children, Youth and Families, Anna began her work at Saint James as an intern supporting Cordelia Moyse in the archives in June of 2025. She joined us as a graduate of Temple, with a degree in Classics and History. Anna's work with Cordelia included creating a searchable catalog of over 1,000 of our photographic holdings. As she saw Saint James and its ministries through our remarkable photographic history, she wanted to be more involved in congregational life. Her farewell was on September 13th.

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 . They also create quilted, embroidered and craft items for the Cookie/Craft sale, and the Basket Raffle

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.

Debbie McGuigan demonstrates her limberjack

Debbie found this antique limberjack and dressed her

Debbie dressed an antique "limberjack" now named Verona. She learned at a Folk Music camp to tap on the board to make Verona dance. Barb O'Brien and the rest of the group enjoyed the demonstration. Verona has Debbie's cat's fur for hair!

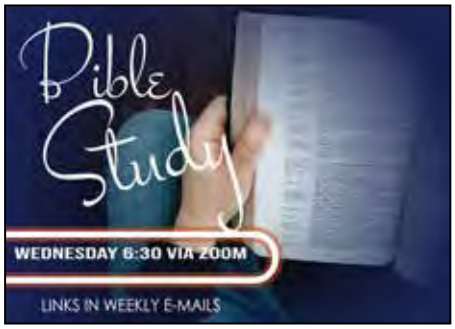
Irene Achey was so surprised by Jeri King's gift of this colorful shawl that Jeri knit. It was a lovely gesture, and was so appreciated by Irene who had admired the colors and textures as Jeri created this original masterpiece.

Irene Achey, Jeri King and the gift

Sharon Gromis creates stunning greeting cards. A box of which is available in the basket raffle. Below she demonstrates a special tool for Gloria Kacinko.

The Anniversary Quilt, made in 2007, now hangs in the lounge.

Bible Study Led by Bob Mosebach



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.

Our current session on Acts of the Apostles is finishing this intriguing book of the Bible. Keep an eye out for the next topic our Zoom group will explore. We warmly invite you to join us for this enriching and gentle journey through a fascinating book of the Bible. It's a wonderful chance to learn and grow together!

Lunch With the Chosen

Hosted by Blair Lord

Fall has arrived! Schedules are starting to fill up as ministries return from summer break, including Lunch with The Chosen. We will resume with the first episode of season 5, "Entry," on October 4th. How appropriate that this episode is the "entry" of the new viewing season!

This episode is an entry point in other ways, too. For one, it portrays Jesus's arrival to Jerusalem on a donkey, which prompts adoring crowds and bristling adversaries to recall the messianic promise of Zechariah 9:9. It also starts the countdown on Jesus's last week of earthly life. Triumph and tragedy quickly mingle, the bitter with the sweet (as Mary Magdalene noted in season 4, episode 7, "The Last Sign"). I'm excited to meet with you again for this episode and the engrossing discussion to follow. As usual, we will gather in the parish hall at 11:45am with our bagged lunches.

For those who like to mark their calendars well in advance, we will watch the second episode of season 5, "House of Cards," on November 1st.

If you'd like a recap of the past seasons before our viewing season resumes, The Chosen's YouTube channel has posted summary videos for seasons 1-3. The Chosen website (thechosen.tv) and app (available on FireTV, Apple TV, Roku, the Apple Store and the Google Play Store) have Extras that delve deeper into its stories and application of Scripture, such as the Aftershow and the Bible Roundtable. You can also just watch (or rewatch) the episodes on the website, app, or Amazon Prime.

Wednesday Noon

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

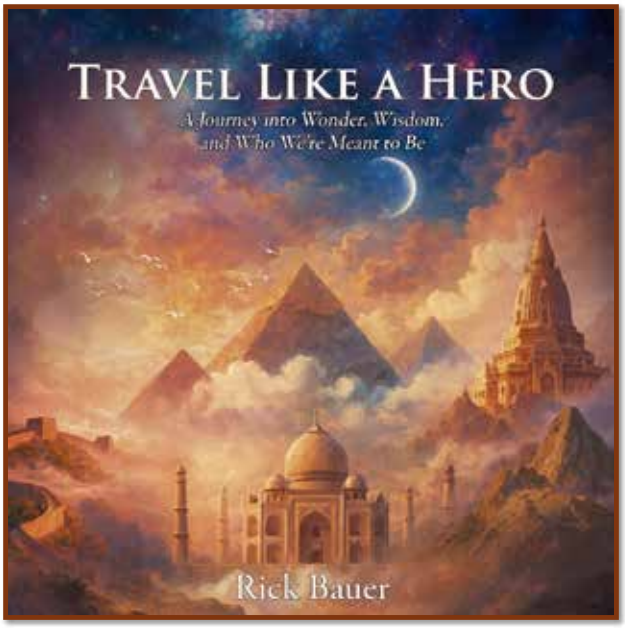
Sunday Evening Prayer, at 7:00 PM

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

If we have no peace, it is because we have forgotten that we belong to each other.
—Mother Teresa



LUNCH & LEARN

FRIDAYS FROM 12 NOON – 1:30 PM

For our fall/early winter Lunch & Learn, we have a unique formation opportunity at St. Edward's. Twelve sessions of discovery through the travelogue and spiritual roadmap of *Travel Like a Hero* led by the author, Rick Bauer!

For anyone who attended the book launch this spring, you got a taste of Rick's journey – through a great conversational program - of the experiences, people, places, wisdom teaching, and sufferings that can happen to anyone – everyone - in a lifetime. In sharing his journey, Rick makes it very accessible for us to be open to conversations about our shared human experience. Our lives are journeys that matter, as we navigate a path to heal, inspire, and bless others. *Travel Like a Hero* is, at its heart, an exploration of what it means to live thoughtfully and courageously in a complex world. We couldn't think of a better person as our guide than Father Rick!

This chapter-by-chapter program is designed to offer participants clear, usable wayfinding tools for everyday life. This Lunch & Learn has a reading schedule and a workbook, which you can obtain by contacting the parish office. We also have book copies in-house and they are available, as well, on Amazon and Audible.

You must have the Zoom app to access the link, which will be in each Monday email message. We will also send a follow-up message to the group on Tuesdays.

You can join us at anytime in this 12-week session!

JOIN US IN SUPPORTING OUR FALL BASKET FUNDRAISER!

We have 48 AMAZING baskets to raffle off this year! You can purchase bundles through October 31st. Our fundraising goal for 2026 is $8,500

Our ticket bundles offer people wonderful value while helping us to meet our fundraising goal. Our three ticket bundles are:

$75/55 tickets

$55/40 tickets

$25/15 tickets

Choose the ticket bundle that works for you. **You can choose as many bundles as you would like to support this year's fundraiser (and to have fun taking a chance on winning a basket!) In addition to Sunday ticket sales, you can contact the parish office, via email or phone (or stop by) Tuesday - Friday between 11 AM – 4 PM and purchase your ticket bundle(s). With each $25 you spend you will receive a special ticket that you will write your name on and that will go into a collection box for a chance to win a $250 Visa Gift Card at our November 1st drawing. ($25 = 1 special drawing ticket; $55 = 2 special drawing tickets; $75 = 3 special drawing tickets).**

Send your check **for your ticket bundle(s),** ***payable to St. Edward's Episcopal Church*** **and write in the memo line "Basket Fundraiser." If you are reserving your ticket bundles by phone, mail your check to: 2453 Harrisburg Pike, Lancaster, PA 17601. We also accept cash and credit card.**

Mark your calendars to attend the drawing for the baskets at our POTLUCK LUNCH ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31st at 1:00 PM. We invite everyone, including your friends and family, to bring a dish to share. Sign-up sheet will be in the narthex!

Thank you for your support, through fundraising and in complement to our stewardship, of the mission & ministry of St. Edward's.

Coffee Hour

Pictures by Mary Snyder

Mary Gibson hosted a squirrel-themed coffee hour on Sunday, Sept 20th. Even her scarf featured squirrels. As she usually does, Mary raffled off the themed decorations, and the winner was Mary Snyder

Jay Miller and Fr. Rick played on Sunday Sept. 20

Our Sunday coffee hour is a cornerstone of weekly fellowship. Every Sunday from 9 to 10 AM, everyone is welcome to gather as one community between services, and once a month, enjoy a performance by our fantastic Coffee House Band.

Join us for coffee hour, sign up to host, take part in our craft activities, or, if you're musically gifted, contact Randy Westgate about joining the Coffee House Band.

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.

Always a good time for nibbles and fellowship

Thank you for the 323 pounds of food items contributed to the pantry in June. WOW !! In June, the pantry served 539 children; 922 adults; 392 seniors… for a total 1,853 people served.
Fifty-four volunteers gave 682 hours to the pantry June.

Current requested items:

- Cereal
- Canned chicken rice soup
- Canned tuna
- Canned cream of mushroom soup
- Canned corn
- Canned chicken
- Canned potatoes
- Variety pack instant oatmeal
- 1-pound bag dried beans
- Granola bars
- Crackers
- Spam
- Condiments

ONGOING MINISTRIES:

Collection of food for the Hempfield Food Pantry, Rahim Family Donations, and donations for books for Prisoners in the narthex is ongoing.

UPCOMING MINISTRIES:

Jesse Tree-Mid-November thru early December

Turkey Drive-November 15-22nd, 2026

Soles for Souls-February 10 – March 21, 2027

Feed My Starving Children-Late March 2027 TBA

Race Against Racism-April 24, 2027

Blood Drive-Spring 2027

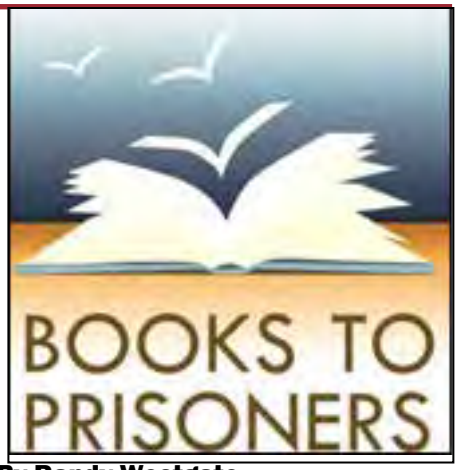
Back To School Drive-July/August 2027

First Reformed Dinner Three Tuesdays during the year TBA

Pictures by Gail Irons.

Richard and Gail pack the groceries into the van and deliver it to the Hempfield Food Pantry.

Food collection in the closet in the Narthex



By Randy Westgate

Because of your amazing generosity we have been able to purchase another 32 books for prisoners at Lancaster County Prison. These books were requested by the chaplain's office to be provided to both male and female inmates. Books we purchased this time were:

When God Doesn't Fix It, by Laura Story, a Christian recording artist who writes of her husband's recovery and struggles after surgery for a brain tumor diagnosed shortly after their marriage.

My Jesus: from Heartache to Hope, by Anne Wilson.

Joni and Ken: An Untold Love Story, by Joni Eareckson Tada.

Battlefield of the Mind, by Joyce Meyer

Resue Story: Faith, Freedom, and Finding My Way Home, by Zack Williams, a recording artist who is in recovery from drug addiction, and whose latest popular song was recorded with Dolly Parton, by the way.

These books are an amazing blessing to our brothers and sisters in prison because of their past mistakes and poor decisions, many of which are the result of addiction, and will hopefully help them chart a new course for their lives.

The head chaplain at the prison, Katie Harnish, included this comment in a recent email to me, speaking about St. Edward's Books for Prisoners ministry:

"Wow this is wonderful! What a generous church!" Indeed.

If you would like to contribute to this ministry, put a check in the offering plate with "Books for Prisoners" on the memo line.

Thanks, and blessings,

First Reformed Dinner September First

By Beth Lynch

138 meals served

10 servers
6 different dessert choices
2 local grocery stores donated $50 each
Huge community effort between making desserts, preparing the meal, and serving.

Bev Achey, Richard Irons, Beth Lynch, Todd Barclay, Rick Dombach, Gail Irons, Freda Dombach, Meredith Lord, Blair Lord

Bev Achey preparing desserts

Gail and Richard Irons, Rick Dombach

Meredith Lord

Rahim Supplies

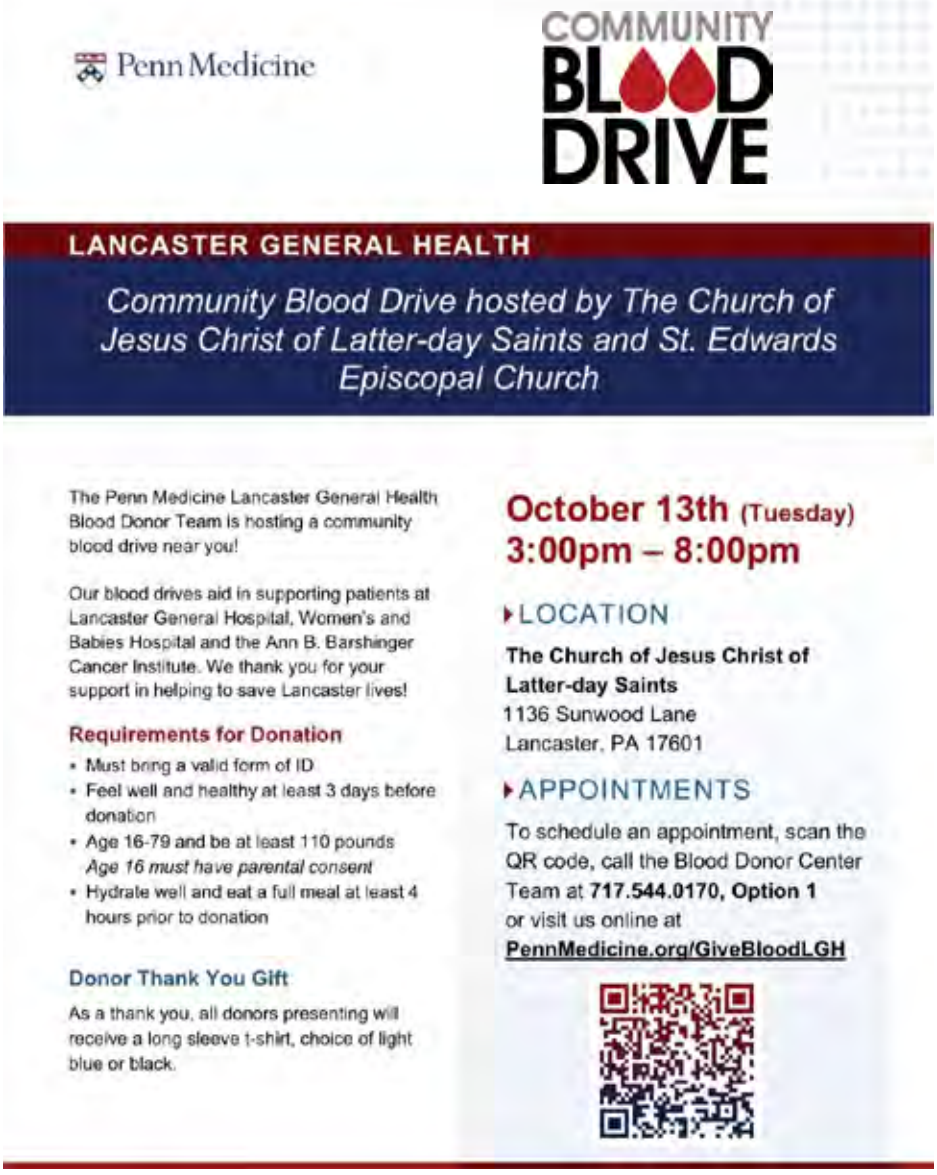
The sign-up sheet in the narthex for April - June for our collection of hygiene, paper products and cleaning supplies for the Rahim family. Please consider purchasing an item on the list for our monthly collections. Monthly needs are: paper towels, tissues, toilet paper, shampoo, toothpaste, body wash,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

Car for the Rahim Family

"We engage the faith of our Lord, trusting that a God sufficiently sized is big enough for everybody who acts in love, who cares for one another, and looks out for one another." It is our hope these words encourage us to always consider the story of "new life." The metaphors live and breath as we work and if you find you, or someone you know, is in a position where they would consider selling their vehicle for a reasonable price, please connect with Father Rick for more details.

October Blood Drive

By Meredith Aul



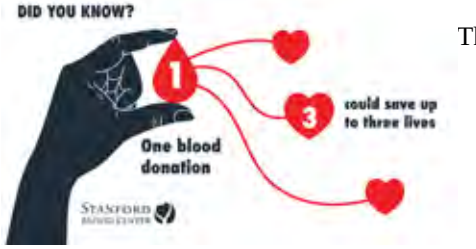
Parishioners are asked to share this flier on social media to help us recruit donors.

In addition to donors, we are looking for volunteers for the following time slots:

3:00 PM – 4:45 PM
4:45 PM – 6:30 PM
6:30 PM – 8:00 PM

Volunteers will help greet donors and assist as needed. If you are able to help, please call me at 717-575-2119.

This is a great opportunity to continue connecting and building a relationship with our neighbors across the street, who will also be assisting us with our blood drive in May.



Thank you for your support,

Save the Date

Bishop Audrey's visit on November 8th

On Sunday, November 8th The Rt. Reverend Dr. Audrey Cady Scanlan, Bishop Diocesan of the Diocese of the Susquehanna, will be visiting St. Edward's!

We will have one service on that Sunday at 10 AM followed by a coffee hour and visit with the bishop. This is a wonderful opportunity to show our hospitality and the bishop welcomes conversation and Q&A with our parish.

Please mark your calendars - November 8th 10 AM! We invite you to come to church, in-person, on this special day that includes the renewal of baptismal vows. And join us after the service for a special coffee hour spread!

Guess Who's Coming to Dinner

By Meredith Aul

For our semi-annual Guess Who Dinner on Saturday, October 17, we're going to try something a little different this time: no hosts and no cooking! Instead, we will be welcomed at your choice of one of three restaurants: Ciro's in East Petersburg, Lombardo's Restaurant in Lancaster, and The Fireside Tavern in Strasburg. Please fill out the card in the narthex or give me a call or send a text by Sunday, October 4 to reserve a spot – first come, first served to join a party of up to 8 at each restaurant. Arrive for dinner at 6 p.m. and enjoy dining in the company of fellow St. Edwardian's. Separate checks will be provided.
Meredith
717-575-2119

Restaurant Choices

You'rx nxxdxd!

Evxn though my typxwritxr is an old modxl, it works quitx wxll— xxcxpt for onx kxy. I havx many timxs wishxd it workxd pxrfxctly. It's trux that thx othxr kxys work grxat, but just onx kxy not working makxs a hugx diffxrxncx.

Somxtimxs our church sxxms likx my typxwritxr — not all thx kxy pxoplx work. You may say to yoursxlf, "Wxll, I'm just onx pxrson. I don't makx or brxak thx church." But it doxs makx a big diffxrxncx bxcausx a church, to bx xffxctivx, nxxds thx activx participation of xvxry pxrson.

So, thx nxxt timx you think your xfforts arxn't nxcxssary, rxmxmbxr my typxwritxr and say to yoursxlf, "I'm a kxy pxrson in thx congrxgation, and I'm nxxdxd vxry much."

Quilter's Gift

Jean Riley, Sharon Hubbard and Rick Bauer look over the quilt pieced by the White Oak quilters as their appreciation for meeting at Saint Edwards. This quilt is made for the Christmas cookie and craft show sale in December.

St. Edward's
is hosting its annual

Cookie/Craft Sale

Saturday, December 5, 2026.

The 20 plus year fund raiser has been a consistent success from its inception bringing in close to $3000 a year. We can all do the math which emphasizes the importance of this event.

This year a few new twists will be added:

1.)The sale will not be exclusively cookies. We are looking for pie makers and specialty bread makers.

2.)The sale is open to candy and whimsical treats.

3.)All parishioners will be given access to flyers and coupons to distribute to fellow workers, neighbors and friends advertising the sale.

4.)Post orders will be available on select items for delivery later in December.

We are excited to continue this long tradition and once again bring the **Lancaster community to our beautiful campus**.

September Worship Services

Pictures by Mary Snyder and the Live Stream

Fr. Rick Sermons

Prayers

Processional

Donna Esbenshade and Lori Miller

Jay Miller

Art Hagan

Blair Lord

Jamie Alton

Kiki Davis-Brugmann

Cindy DiStefano

Beth Hake

Michael Groff

Beth Lynch

Eldonna Filardi

Eucharist

Donna Burkholder

The Choir returns with their first anthem of the year

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. (said)	Holy Eucharist Rite I
10:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist Rite II

Wednesday

12 Noon:	Contemplative Eucharist and Meditation

WORSHIP WITH US ONLINE
https://sainteds.org/