

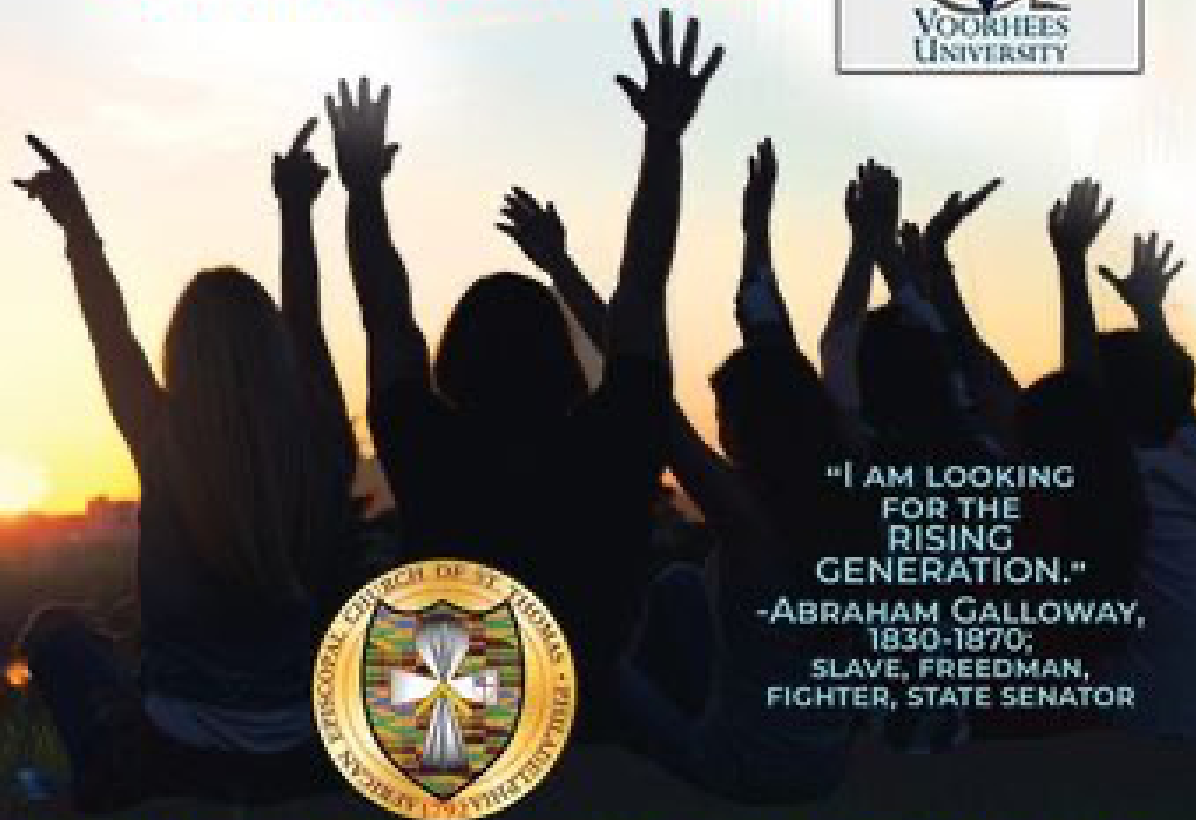
**FEBRUARY 25, 2024 10 AM**

**St. Thomas Celebrates  
EPISCOPAL HBCUs**



**SAINT AUGUSTINE'S  
UNIVERSITY**

**VOORHEES UNIVERSITY**



**"I AM LOOKING  
FOR THE  
RISING  
GENERATION."**

**-ABRAHAM GALLOWAY,  
1830-1870;  
SLAVE, FREEDMAN,  
FIGHTER, STATE SENATOR**

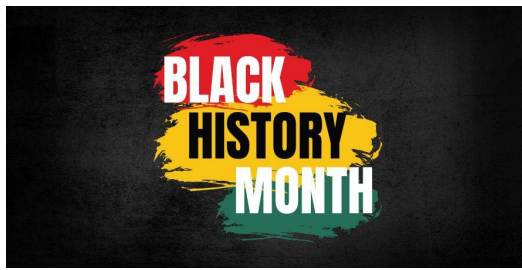
**THE AFRICAN EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS  
FIRST BLACK EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN THE USA**

THE VERY REVEREND CANON MARTINI SHAW, 17TH RECTOR

THE REVEREND FR. DAREN E. EVANS, ASSOCIATE TO THE RECTOR

6361 LANCASTER AVENUE (ABSALOM JONES WAY) • PHILADELPHIA, PA 19151 • (215) 473-3065

[WWW.AECST.ORG](http://WWW.AECST.ORG) • [WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/AECST1792](http://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/AECST1792)



**THE SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT**  
**February 25, 2024**

**“WELCOME TO THE MOTHER CHURCH”**

“Enter His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise. Give thanks unto Him and bless His name”.

Psalm 100:4

Grace and Peace to you from God on this **The Second Sunday in Lent, Youth/Young Adult Sunday, Scout Sunday, Episcopal HBCU Sunday.**

On behalf of the Clergy, Wardens, Vestry, and People of God, welcome to the historic African Episcopal Church of St. Thomas, founded in 1792 as the first Black Episcopal Church in the U.S.A. The first rector of this historic parish, The Rev. Fr. Absalom Jones was also the first Black Episcopal priest in the nation. Our parish boldly proclaims the reconciling Gospel of Jesus Christ. We are an active, mission-minded and growing church family. Whoever you are and wherever you may find yourself on your spiritual journey of faith, you are always welcomed at St. Thomas' Church, where we are joyfully and enthusiastically committed to Jesus' message of love, hope, prayer, acceptance and faith. Today, as you worship in this place, may you experience and feel the presence of the Lord, and may you leave feeling renewed, refreshed and revived. Whoever you may be and however you may find yourself experiencing life's journey, do know that St. Thomas Church welcomes you. Again, welcome!

Faithfully,  
*Martini Shaw* +

(The Very Rev. Canon) Martini Shaw, 17th Rector  
and Dean of the Schuylkill Deanery

A "History Note" from Arthur K. Sudler, Director  
St. Thomas Historical Society and Archives

**FANNY JACKSON COPPIN AND MERZE TATE: ANTI-RACIST EDUCATORS**

It is unlikely that the paths of Fanny Muriel Jackson Coppin and Merze Tate ever crossed. Tate was born in 1906 the year after Coppin's biographer, Julia Perkins, says Coppin's health worsened to the point where she was confined to her home in South Philadelphia. Yet, they shared a passion, using the tool of education to inspire students and foster social change. Coppin was born enslaved, her freedom purchased by an aunt, her academic promise noticed, and she graduated with honors from Oberlin College. Merze Tate hailed from a Black settler family in Michigan free well before the Civil War and she earned degrees from Western State Normal School (now Western Michigan University), Columbia University, Oxford University, and Harvard University. Our own Dr. Barbara D. Savage has written the first book-length biography of Dr. Merze Tate a here-to-fore largely unheralded but distinguished African American scholar who blazed a path few Black women had tread. Merze Tate: The Global Odyssey of a Black Woman Scholar is a tour-de-force. The combination of Dr. Savage's deep research and mesmerizing writing brings Merze Tate to life on the pages of the book.

Fanny Muriel Jackson joined St. Thomas and sang soprano on the choir. She organized fairs to help defray parish expenses. She was acclaimed as an advocate for women's rights and for her "race." She joined Mother Bethel African Episcopal Church later in her life when she married the pastor Rev. Levi J. Coppin who would later be elected a bishop in the AME Church. Merze Tate never married. Coppin had been recruited to teach at the Institute for Colored Youth (ICY) - Philadelphia's vanguard Black high school. Tate's educator career began at Indianapolis' Crispus Attucks High School. Both traveled internationally. Coppin accompanied her husband to South Africa after his elevation to the episcopate. She advocated for the rights of women and girls and organized schools and vocational training programs. The work took a toll on her health. Dr. Savage notes that as a child "Tate was fascinated by maps, geography, and travel accounts." As an adult traveling alone she "circled the globe twice" and "set foot on every continent but two—Antarctica and South America." With an interdisciplinary approach Tate, a historian, would move to the collegiate level and retire after three decades at the illustrious HBCU Howard University. Coppin, for whom an HBCU is now named, soon after the assassination of her fellow St. Thomas parishioner and ICY colleague, Octavius V. Catto, was appointed head of the ICY and shrewdly insured that a classical curriculum survived even as the all-male Quaker oversight board demanded the introduction of a vocational program. Dr. Savage argues that Merze Tate's published works and her focus on racialized imperialism constitute an "anti-racist geopolitics." Long before "anti-racist work" was "a thing" - as we know it - Fanny Jackson Coppin and Dr. Merze Tate - were doing *the work*.

In recognition of the Feast Day of Absalom Jones, the first Black priest ordained by The Episcopal Church, Episcopalians, and others are invited to give to the Absalom Jones Fund. Gifts support the work of historically Black colleges and universities (HBCUs) to cultivate and prepare diverse leaders. Jones recognized education as a key to empowerment. Please donate [here](#).

### **About Voorhees**

Voorhees University is a four-year, co-educational, career-oriented liberal arts college affiliated with the Episcopal Church and the United Negro College Fund. Voorhees University is fully accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award undergraduate and graduate degrees.

The first HBCU founded, in 1897, by an African American woman, Elizabeth Evelyn Wright-Menafee, Voorhees University offers degrees in 12 disciplines – a number that’s growing as we grow. Through our long-standing affiliation with the Episcopal Church since 1924, Voorhees focuses on developing students spiritually as well as intellectually.

### **Vision**

Voorhees University will be globally recognized as a premier, comprehensive liberal arts institution focused on student success, excellence, integrity, service leadership, diversity, and faith, anchored in the embrace of a Beloved Community.

### **Mission**

Voorhees University is a private historically black liberal arts institution affiliated with the Episcopal church, whose mission is to produce highly qualified graduates who coalesce intellect and faith in pursuit of life-long learning, healthy living, the betterment of society, and an abiding faith in God.

### **Our Leadership**

Dr. Ronnie Hopkins is the tenth President and CEO of Voorhees University.

### **Our Community**

Voorhees University, which is designated as an Historic District in South Carolina, consists of 365 acres in Bamberg County in the city of Denmark. Voorhees is about 50 miles south of Columbia, 86 miles northeast of Charleston and 53 miles southeast of Augusta, Georgia.

### **Academic Programs**

Voorhees University offers undergraduate degrees in accounting, biology, business administration, criminal justice, computer science, sociology, English, health and recreation, mathematics, mass communication, and organizational management. Voorhees also offers master’s degree offerings: the Master of Business Administration Degree with concentrations in Human Resource Management and Business Analytics; and a Master of Education Degree in Teaching and Learning.

Additionally, Voorhees University offers a training program in cyber security education and has a special partnership with the National Nuclear Security Administration that permits students to participate in summer internships in cyber security at various locations across the United States.

### **Intercollegiate Sports**

Effective July 1, 2024, the Voorhees University Tigers will become a part of the Gulf Coast Athletic Conference within the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics Division I. The Tigers compete in baseball, softball, women’s volleyball, men and women’s basketball, track and field, and cross country.

### **By The Numbers**

- 42 full-time faculty members with 30.9 percent holding doctorates and terminal degrees
- 15:1 Student / Faculty Ratio
- \$ 19,976 on campus cost (\$ 12,630 off campus)



### **History of Saint Augustine's University**

Saint Augustine's University was chartered as a "Normal School and Collegiate Institute" on July 19, 1867, by the Reverend J. Brinton Smith, D.D., secretary of the Freedman's Commission of the Protestant Episcopal Church, and the Right Reverend Thomas Atkinson, D.D., Bishop of the Diocese of North Carolina. Bishop Atkinson became the first president of the Board of Trustees and Dr. Smith was the first principal. The new school opened its doors for instruction on January 13, 1868.

In 1893, the School's name changed from Saint Augustine's Normal School to Saint Augustine's School. In 1919, the name changed to Saint Augustine's Junior College, the first year in which postsecondary instruction was offered. The School became a four-year institution in 1927. In 1928, the institution was renamed Saint Augustine's College. Baccalaureate degrees were first awarded in 1931.

Under the direction of Rev. Henry B. Delany, the students quarried the stones for the construction of the Saint Augustine's Historic Chapel, and laid the cornerstone in 1895. The construction was completed in December 1895. Finally on October 11, 1897, the chapel was consecrated "Saint Augustine's Chapel" by the Rt. Rev. Joseph Blount Cheshire, Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina. The Chapel is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

In 1896, the College further extended its mission by establishing St. Agnes Hospital and Training School for Nurses to provide medical care for and by African Americans. It was the "first" school of nursing in the state of North Carolina for African-American students and served as the only hospital that served African Americans until 1960. One of St. Agnes most famous patients was boxer Jack Johnson. Following an accident that ultimately led to his death in 1946, boxer Jack Johnson was taken to St. Agnes Hospital. Johnson was the first African-American world heavyweight boxing champion.

Another "first" Saint Augustine's University is especially proud of is that the University was the nation's first historically black university to own an on-campus commercial radio station (WAUG-AM 750) and television station (WAUG-LD). WAUG 750 currently rebroadcasts hip hop and R&B from Hot 97.9 FM. WAUG-LD currently is found locally on TV 8, Spectrum 1231 and now has streaming apps on Roku, Apple TV and Amazon FireTV.

Since the beginning of its existence, Saint Augustine's University has blazed the trails in academics. Alumna Anna Julia Cooper, who was a prominent writer, educator and scholar, became the fourth African-American woman in United States to earn a doctoral degree. Today, Saint Augustine's University is proud of preserving its legacy by continuing to ensure scholars are academically equipped to be the global change agents of tomorrow.

Falcons not only soar in academics but also in athletics. The men's track and field team has experienced the victory of being Number #1 on numerous occasions. Saint Augustine's University's track and field programs have won an astounding 39 national championships, and have produced over 40 Olympians including three gold medalists.

On August 1, 2012, Saint Augustine's College transitioned in name and status to Saint Augustine's University. In 2020, the University became the first historically black university to start a cycling team, and in 2022 the first to also launch a women's rowing team.

Saint Augustine's University has a strong tradition of excellence and a rich legacy that bonds thousands of Saint Augustine's University sons and daughters from across the globe.



## OUR CONDOLENCES

to Sharon Johnson and her family on the death of her sister, **Sheryl Johnson**. A Memorial will be held here at St. Thomas on **March 12, 2024**, at **10:30 AM**. Please keep the family in prayer. May the soul of Sheryl rest in peace and rise in glory.

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## A REMINDER TO ALL GUILDS, ORGANIZATIONS, MINISTRIES, AND INDIVIDUALS:

**ANY** and **ALL** Activities using the church facilities (ie; Anderson Hall, the Undercroft, the church) or the Absalom Jones House **MUST** be scheduled and approved by the Parish Administrator: [Gladyce DuBrey](#) or call (215-473-3065) and **NOT the SEXTON** beforehand.

It is **VERY IMPORTANT** that all activities are listed on the calendar of the Parish Office.

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Please click on the link provided for the [Order of Service](#) for this Sunday.

**Following last Sunday's Annual Parish Meeting, the following people were elected to the Vestry:**  
Judith Simkins Booth, Albert Dandridge, Clare Mae Daniels, Pamela Johnson, Patricia Lynch.

**Auxiliary Vestry:** Brenda Best, Sharon Bullock, Deborah Booker-Matthews, Elaine Gillison, Mary S. Dean.

**Delegates to the Diocesan Convention:** Albert Dandridge, Esq., Dr. Cassandra Ruffin.

**Delegates to the Schuylkill Deanery:** Phyllis Cater, Mary S. Dean.

**The following were Elected / Appointed to other offices:**

Richard Jones - Rector's Warden; Deborah Camp-Frye - **Accounting Warden;**

Albert Dandridge, Esq.- **Treasurer;** Clare Mae Daniels - **Clerk of the Vestry;**

Judy Tillman - **Stewardship Chair;** William Burke - **Property Chair;**

Joe Tucker, Esq.- **Chancellor;** Deadra Cannon - **Fiscal Advisor to the Rector;**

Mary S. Dean - **Assistant to the Clerk.**

Thank you to the following persons who served on the Vestry (Jonathan Muse and Brenda Johnson Best) and term has ended. Thank you for your dedicated service.

All newly elected and presently serving will be installed/commissioned next Sunday, March 3rd during the Service.

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**Any Group, Guild, Ministry, or Fellowship wishing to have a flyer placed in the bulletin will have to provide the copies to the office no later than Wednesday for insertion in the Sunday bulletin.**

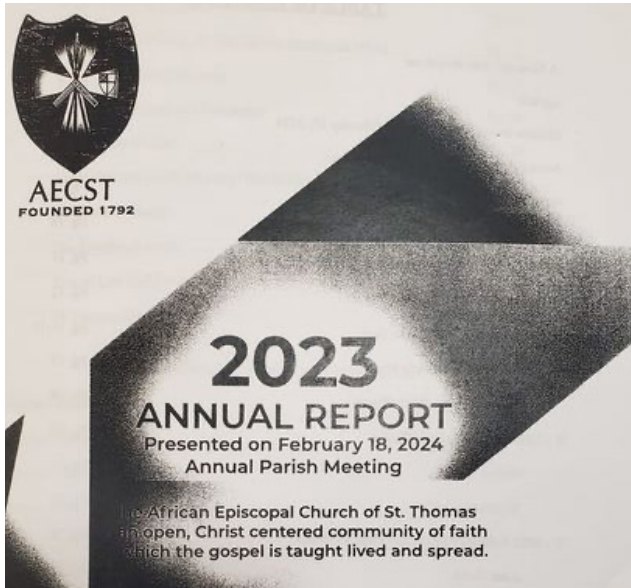
# The First Sunday in Lent, February 18, 2024



More pictures may be found on our [Facebook](#) page.



**The 232nd Annual Parish Meeting  
was held on Sunday, February 18, 2024  
after service in celebration of  
232 years of faithful service to God's people.**



**Hundreds of Pennsylvania Masons gather here at the  
“Mother Church” to celebrate their “First”  
on Sunday, February 18, 2024.**

Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge  
Free and Accepted Masons of Pennsylvania  
1<sup>st</sup> Masonic District



**Founders Day Service**

Sunday, February 18th, 2024 @ 4:00 PM

**The Very Rev Canon Martini Shaw**  
17th Rector

The Historic African Episcopal Church of St. Thomas  
6361 Lancaster Avenue  
Philadelphia, PA 19151

**Honorable, Paul Anthony Hibner, No. 18**  
**Most Worshipful Grand Master**



## **DO YOU PLAY A MUSICAL INSTRUMENT?**

Have you ever thought about using that talent to glorify God in worship? Please prayerfully consider joining our St. Thomas Jazz Ensemble, St. Thomas Chancel Choir or St. Thomas Gospel Choir. If interested, please contact Gladyce in the Parish Office ASAP to get details on upcoming scheduled rehearsals.

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**Chosen 300**  
"Have a Heart"  
for the homeless,  
sheltered,  
underserved

Our 2024 Fundraiser for Chosen 300 will begin in "Heart Month" on **Sunday, February 18th**. The funds will provide meals to be served at the **Chosen 300** Spring Garden St. site and the Lancaster Ave, site.

Checks should be made payable to:  
**AECST Chosen 300:** Put Chosen 300 and your envelope number on the memo line.  
Mail checks to: St. Thomas Church  
6361 Lancaster Ave., Phila. PA 19151  
Attention: Chosen 300 or Place your check in the collections plate. Questions:  
[Cynthia Muse](#)

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**2024 Liturgical Calendars** are on sale for \$8.00 Please see Clare Mae Daniels or any member of the Altar Guild to purchase one.

## **GOD HAS TRULY BLESSED US!**

Our dedicated Accounting Warden and Fiscal Administrator provide training to four of our talented Vestry and Auxiliary Vestry members.



## UPCOMING SUNDAYS

**February 25, 2024**

Youth and Young Adult Sunday

Scout Sunday

St. Thomas Celebrates Episcopal HBCUs

**March 3, 2024**

Installation and Commissioning of  
Vestry, Aux. Vestry and others.

**\*Coffee Hour (Chat and Chew)**

Have you ever considered hosting a Coffee Hour (Chat and Chew) following Service in thanksgiving for a blessing received or in memory of a departed loved one? Please contact Gladyce for further details.

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## MEMBER INFORMATION FORMS

In an effort to get correct member information, we are asking **EVERY** parishioner to fill out a Member form. The church has received many returned mailings because of bad addresses. We would appreciate your new address, phone number, and email address. Please fill out the [form](#) and return it to the [church office email](#). Please fill out 1 form for each adult member of your family, children may go on one of the forms.

Forms are also available on the table in the back of the church.

Thanks so much for your help with this.



**OUR LENTEN JOURNEY BEGINS**  
**Ash Wednesday Services**  
(Imposition of Ashes and Holy Eucharist)

**Wednesdays in Lent**  
**Lenten Theme: "From Gaza to Calvary"**  
**6:00 PM - Holy Eucharist**  
**6:30 PM - 7:15 PM**  
**Lenten Presentation / Discussion**

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**Confirmation Classes** are on Sundays at 8:30 A.M. Please speak with [Fr. Daren](#) or [Seminarian Kathryn Brossa](#) for further details.

## FROM GAZA TO CALVARY!

**Wednesday Lenten Series Kicks off** to a great start on **February 21, 2024**. Did you miss the first one? There are four more to come.





Friday, February 23, 2024 - 8PM

# Winter Concert

**Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church**  
625 Montgomery Avenue  
Bryn Mawr, PA 19010

## The Main Line Symphony Orchestra

Don Liuzzi, Music Director

### **WORLD PREMIERE**

**Dr. Jay Fluellen**

Mass for The Light Becoming

*with members of The Philadelphia  
Community Mass Choir, Singing City, and  
Philadelphia Chorale*

### **Rachmaninoff**

Piano Concerto #2

*Priscila Navarro, soloist*

Vocalise #14

### **Tchaikovsky**

Pezzo Capriccioso

*Kwanyun Loo,*

*soloist*

Photo by Chris Swisher

More information:



Tickets available at the door and online:

[https://MLSO\\_Winter\\_Concert\\_2024.eventbrite.com](https://MLSO_Winter_Concert_2024.eventbrite.com)

MLSO.org

## DAILY RECOMMENDED BIBLE READINGS

### READINGS FOR the Second Sunday in Lent February 25, 2024

The First Lesson: [Genesis 17:1-7,15-16](#)  
[Psalm 22:22-30](#)

The Second Lesson: [Romans 4:13-25](#)  
The Holy Gospel: [Mark 8:31-38](#)

### The Holy Gospel Readings for the Week of February 25, 2024

Monday - [Luke 6:27-38](#)

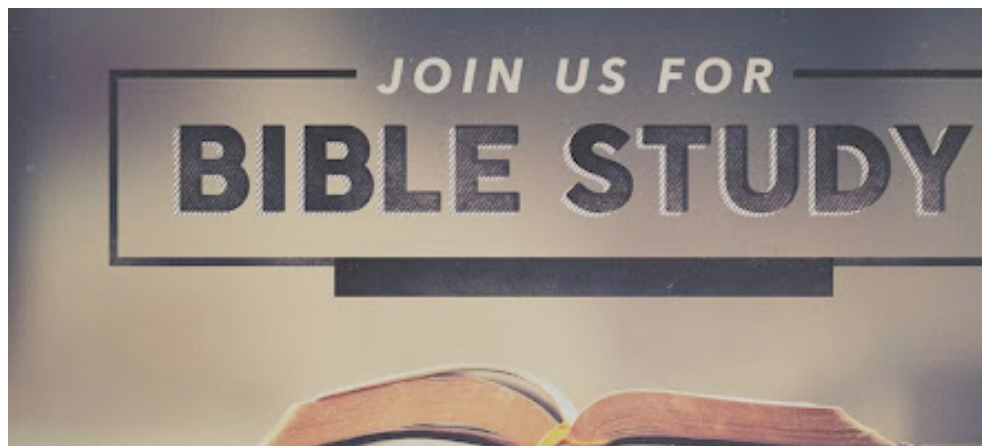
Tuesday - [Matthew 23:1-12](#)

Wednesday - [Matthew 20:17-28](#)

Thursday - [Luke 16:19-31](#)

Friday - [Matthew 21:33-43](#)

Saturday - [John 15:11-32](#)



**Bible Study** with Fr. Jay is every Tuesday evening at 7:00 PM. If anyone is interested in joining the group, contact [Fr. Jay](#).

## RE-IMAGINING OUR MINISTRIES

Persons are needed:

-to lift their voices on the **Comfort Choir** during funeral services at St. Thomas. Please contact [D. Lynn Joell](#) if interested.

-to serve with the **Sound Ministry** for Sunday morning service and weekday funeral services. If interested, please contact Gladyce in the Parish Office.

-to serve on the **Altar Guild**. This amazing group of individuals prepares our altar each week for the Celebration of the Holy Eucharist. Interested people should contact [Alfreda Brockman](#).

-to serve as **Readers and Intercessors** to read the Holy Scripture during our weekly services. Interested persons should contact Gladyce in the Parish Office to sign up.

-to join the **Transportation Ministry**. The main mission of the ministry is to provide transportation to parishioners who attend Sunday Service who may be parked in a nearby remote parking lot. Please contact Gladyce in the office if you are interested.

-as **Acolytes** to serve on the altar. Please contact [Fr. Daren](#) if you are interested.

-**Photography Ministry** is in need of additional photographers. You do not need to be a professional photographer but do enjoy taking pictures. Anyone interested can contact [Bill Edmonds](#) or [Dale Williams](#).

**The Shepherds Ministry** is still in need of many more volunteers to be able to shepherd all households of our congregation. Shepherds set their own schedules to be in regular touch with their households of sheep by phone, email, text or various social media platforms. Each is assigned no more than 4 households. All Ministry meetings are held via Zoom. Please note that the Vestry will continue to shepherd, for one year, all new members joining the congregation. For more information, or to volunteer, please contact [Charlene M. Wiltshire](#).

## JOIN THE GIRLS FRIENDLY SOCIETY!

Meetings are on Saturdays from 11am -1pm. All girls aged 3-30 are welcome. Girls participate in: Service Projects, Gir Talk, Arts & Crafts, World Day of Prayer, Founder's Day, Mission Day and GFS Day, along with trips to the Theatre, Museums, Ice Skating, Mini Golf, trips to the Pumpkin Patch and Holiday House in Cape May, NJ. **If you would like to volunteer as a leader or sponsor, please contact the Branch Advisor, Nikkol Simms at [njsimms@verizon.net](mailto:njsimms@verizon.net)**





## **Young Adult Bible Study**

Fr. Daren is offering a Bible Study series for Young Adults on Wednesdays at 6:00 PM.

Fall Topic:

“If It’s Not About Love, It’s Not About God”

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## Calling for Youth Acolytes!



All youth of our church are invited to serve in the AECST Acolyte Ministry. No prior experience is needed as training will be provided. This is an excellent way for our children and youth to be involved in the life of the church. For more information please speak with [Fr. Daren.](#)

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**Scout Troop #133** - Our Cub Scout Program is open to children grades 1-5. The Cub program meets at 2:00 PM. on Saturdays. Our Boy Scout Program is open to children aged 11-17 years old. The Scout Program will meet at 3:00 PM on Saturdays according to the schedule. Please contact Scout [Master Howard Chapman](#) for more information.

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### **Church School begins at 10:00 AM.**

The theme this year is :”Exciting Stories of the Bible.” Registration forms may be found on the tables in the Undercroft Sunday School room or the registration [link.](#)

**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR PARISHIONERS WHO ARE:**

**IN THE HOSPITAL:**

Thomas Snowden - University of Pennsylvania;

**IN REHAB:**

Helena Allen - Simpson House

Fr. Darryl James -Stapeley Rehab

Leotta Griffin - Saunders House

Terry Corson - Deer Meadows

**AT HOME:**

Adinah Edwards, Robert Brown, Ridart “Butch” Farmer,  
Gwendolyn Langford, Shirley Winkfield, Lemont Johnson,  
Ronald Coleman, Thelma Silvers, Linda Holmes,  
Alletta Parris-Olday, Kenneth Dow,  
Joyce Harrison, Patricia Ellison, Carl Dean.

**KEEP IN PRAYER:**

Justin Trotman, Daryn Stewart, Cathy Stafford,  
Teri Taylor, Lisa Woodley, Irving Stevenson,  
Sandra Bryant Miller, Gladyce DuBrey.

**WE PRAY FOR**

those who are Incarcerated and their families, as well as  
those affected by their actions.



## **ALTAR FLOWERS**

**Flowers are not placed on the altar in Lent except for Rose Sunday, March 10, 2024.**

To order flowers, please return the form with payment to: Clare Mae Daniels or Alfreda Brockman. (Please do not place it in the collection plate or give to the church office.) Thank you.

- I would like to place flowers on the High Altar - \$60.
- I would like to place flowers on the Absalom Jones Altar - \$50.
- I would like to place flowers on the Columbarium - \$40.

(Please PRINT/ TYPE. You may use an additional piece of paper for more names.)

A) In memory of \_\_\_\_\_

B) In Thanksgiving for \_\_\_\_\_

Given by \_\_\_\_\_

Envelope # \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_



## **CAPITAL BUILDING IMPROVEMENT CAMPAIGN**

Thank you to all who have contributed to the fund. Everyone is asked to please make a minimum sacrificial gift of \$40 per month. Please use the envelope from your packet or place Building Fund in the Memo section of your check or click the Donation Button or Capital Improvement [Donation Button](#) on our [website](#).

## **STEWARDSHIP NEWS**

Please pray about your Faithful Giving for 2024. We need strong support for our budget and many endeavors and outreach projects at St. Thomas. You'll be able to either complete your Faithful Giving Card or go on our website, Spearhead, Facebook page, or this [link](#) to complete your Faithful Giving Card. You can also mail your Faithful Giving Card or bring it to the Altar at Church.

**The Building Fund Envelopes** have been placed in Anderson Hall beside the Offering Envelopes. Please pick them up with your offering envelopes. And if you've already picked your offering envelopes up please pick up your Building Fund envelopes. You can also do your Building Fund offering online once a month. Each box of Building Fund envelopes will include twelve envelopes, one for each month. Thank you

## AECST LIVE STREAM

Please join us for Worship on the St. Thomas [website](#), the [Live Service](#), or on our [Facebook](#) page or [youtube](#) every Sunday morning at 10:00 AM. You can also watch [Past Services](#).

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**IMPORTANT:** Please make sure your name, number, and amount are placed on your offering envelope. This is very important to keep bookkeeping accurate. If you're unsure of your number, please don't hesitate to [contact](#) me. We appreciate your help with this.

If you have moved and have not sent your new address to the church office at 215-473-3065 or [email](#), **please do so ASAP**. The church has received many returned mailings because of bad addresses. We would appreciate your new address, phone number, and email address. Thanks so much for your help with this.

If you have decided to use the Givi App or [Online Giving Donations](#), please [email](#) your name and envelope number. Thank you very much. Judy Tillman

A list of the Sick and Shut-In parishioners has been put in Anderson Hall with the Offering Envelopes. If you live near a parishioner who is unable to come to church, it would be much appreciated if you could slot their envelopes.

Thank you

## WAYS TO CONTINUE TO BE FAITHFUL TO GOD AND THE CHURCH THROUGH STEWARDSHIP

“To whom much is given, much is required.” Luke 12:48

- 1) **Sunday Offering Plate.**
  - 2) **Mail in** your check or money order to the church.  
Please use the following address:  
The African Episcopal Church of St. Thomas  
c/o Fiscal Administrator.  
6361 Lancaster Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19151
  - 3) **Use the Givi app.** If you don't already use the app and don't have an account, it's easy to obtain.  
Please click the links below for the type of device you own to download the **givi app (givi IOS App)** for your Apple (iPhone, iPad, or iPod touch) or **(givi Android App)** for your Android device. If you have any questions, please speak with **Deadra Cannon**, 215-844-6115.
  - 4) **Bring your check** directly to the Fiscal Office during regular business hours ( Monday - Thursday 10 am-2 pm) **After business hours**, drop your envelope in the door mail slot located on the front patio of the Absalom Jones House.
  - 5) **Church website - [Online Giving](#)**  
Simply select the button/s on the page that represents where you'd like your payment to be applied, i.e. your pledge, the AJ House, Easter, etc. **NOTE:** Please remember to enter your envelope number in the Customer ID field, if you are a member of St. Thomas when filling out your online giving information.)
  - 6) **Pledge Cards** - Please send them via the US mail to the church or fill out the form [electronically](#) through the website or send an email to our [Fiscal Administrator](#).
- Thank you so much and thank you to all who have sent them in.

## MINISTRY STAFF

Bishop	The Rt. Rev. Daniel G P Gutierrez	
Rector	The Very Rev. Canon Martini Shaw	rector@aecst.org
Associate to the Rector	The Rev. Fr. Daren E. Evans	associaterector@aecst.org
Associate Priest	The Rev. Fr. Gerald Collins	associatepriest@aecst.org
Associate Minister	The Rev. Dr. Thomas G. Snowden	dravidian@comcast.net
Associate Minister	The Rev. Dr. Paul Bach	pauljaybach@gmail.com
Executive Asst to Rector	Gladyce DuBrey	1792@aecst.org
Fiscal Administor	Jeannette Jeffrey	fiscal@aecst.org
Sexton	LaDon Elliott	1792@aecst.org
Asst Sexton	David McGilberry	1792@aecst.org
Chancel Choirmaster	Jay Fluellen, DMA	chancelchoir@aecst.org
Gospel Choirmaster	Waltier Blocker	gospelchoir@aecst.org
Rector's General Counsel	Joe Tucker, Esq	jtucker@tigattorneys.com
Altar Guild	Alfreda Brockman	fredabee@verizon.net
Baptism Co-Chairs	Gail Hinton Harris	thegail@hotmail.com
	Patricia Walker-Ellison	p.walker.ellison@gmail.com
Church School Superintendent	Tynecia Wilson	churchschool@aecst.org
Ed Muse Photography Ministry	William Edmonds	edmon57@comcast.net
Fiscal Advisor to the Rector	Deadra Cannon	assistantfiscal@aecst.org
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## **THE VESTRY**

Rector's Warden - Richard Jones  
Accounting Warden - Deborah Camp Frye  
Clerk of the Vestry - Clare Mae Daniels  
Treasurer - Albert S. Dandridge, III Esq.

Brenda Johnson Best  
Judith Simkins Booth  
William Burke  
Deadra Cannon  
Wendella Fox, Esq.  
Marie Golson  
Deborah Harrison  
D. Lynn Joell  
Kelvin Johnson  
Jonathan Muse  
Judith Tillman

## **THE AUXILIARY VESTRY**

Conchetta Brewer  
Ronnie Collins  
Eugene Golson  
Dr. Monica Johnson Taylor  
Pamela Johnson  
Patricia Lynch  
Cynthia Muse  
Darryle "Bobby" Tillman

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**THE AFRICAN EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF SAINT THOMAS** is a Christ-centered community that welcomes all people. This community embraces and executes the core values of our founder, the Reverend Absalom Jones: leadership, morality, spirituality, equal rights, education, liberty, charity, justice, humanitarianism, self-determination, self-respect, and freedom. St. Thomas is an open, Christ-centered community of faith in which the Gospel is re-imaged, taught, lived and spread.