

Our service starts at 10:00 AM. If you are physically unable to attend, please join us virtually via our website, YouTube, or Facebook pages. The African Episcopal Church of St. Thomas • First Black Episcopal Church in the USA The Very Reverend Canon Martini Shaw, 17th Rector 6361 Lancaster Avenue • Philadelphia, PA 19151 • (215) 473-3065 www.aecst.org • www.facebook.com/aecst1792



# THE FIRST SUNDAY OF PENTECOST Trinity Sunday, Graduate Sunday June 12, 2022, 10:00 AM

# **"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 First Sunday after Pentecost, Trinity Sunday, and Graduate 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. Whomever 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.

# Faithfully,

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

> Please click for the <u>Order of Service</u> for this Sunday's service.

Our Homilist for today along with **Fr. Shaw** is **Theresa Bramwell**. She has been an educator for 32 years and is currently a teacher at Northeast High School in Philadelphia, where she has taught English and Theatre for 28 years. Theresa is also a Debate and Mock Trial Coach.

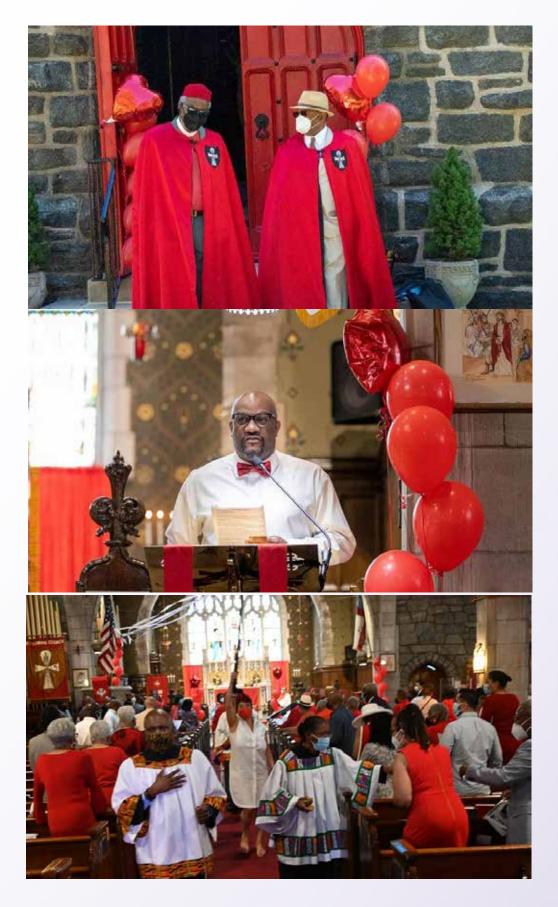


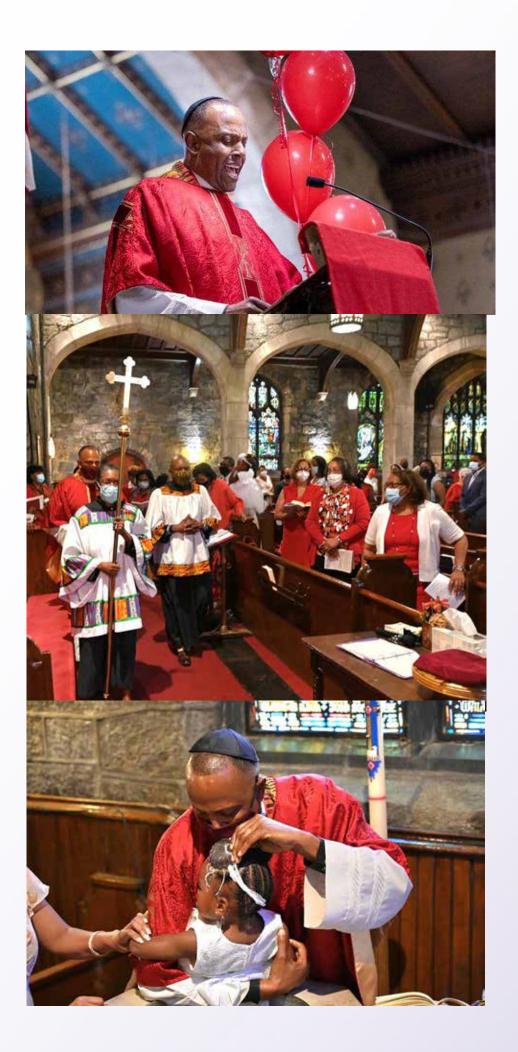
THANK YOU to the Pentecost Committee for a wonderful outdoor Pentecost reception.



A Memorial Service for Lucinda Harper will be held at St. Thomas on Saturday, June 18, 2022, at 10:00 AM.

# PICTURES FROM OUR GLORIOUS PENTECOST SUNDAY CELEBRATION AND BAPTISM

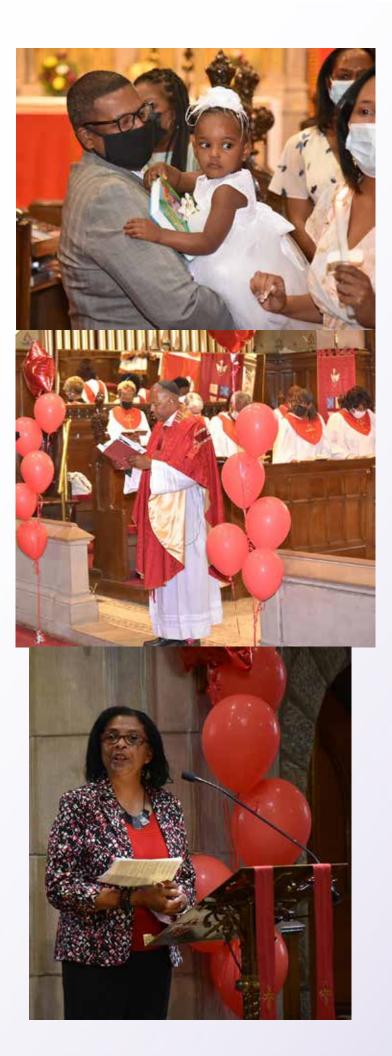




















**From the Rector:** Whoever you may be and however you may find yourself experiencing life's journey, do know that St. Thomas Church welcomes you.

#### SPEARHEAD NEWSLETTER EMAILS

If you are not receiving the Spearhead emails, please use the <u>Newsletter</u> sign up link. Your information will NEVER be shared or sold and you can **UNsubscribe** at anytime by following the instructions provided at the bottom of every email message.



# **CONGRATULATIONS!**



Gabrielle Alston graduated from Smith College with a BA in Anthropology



Alexandra Dumas graduated from Howard University with a BA in Psychology



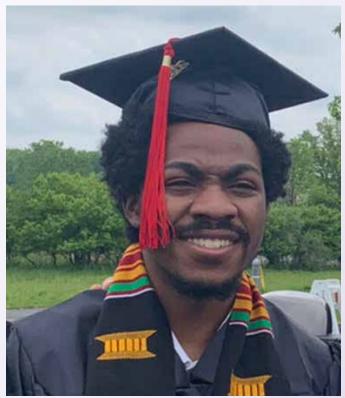
Janae Clarice Grier graduated from Saint Joseph's University - Haub School of Business - MBA



Laila Halton graduated from Chester Community Charter Middle School



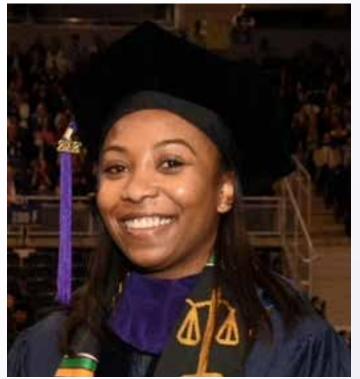
Amia Hines graduated from Chestnut Hill College with a Masters in Clinical and Counseling Psychology - M. Psych



Alonzo J. Johnson graduated from Montgomery County Community College to Temple University



Tyler Genet Lynch graduated from Sarah Lawrence College to UCLA's MFA Program in Screenwriting



Erin Napoleon graduated from University of Pittsburgh School of Law - Juris Doctor



Taylor R. Johnson graduated from University of Southern California with a BS in Business Administration



Tynecia Taylor Wilson graduated from Temple University's College of Education and Human Development with a M. Ed. Miss Liberty Bell 2022/Future Miss Penna

# A FEW QUOTES AND PARAPHRASES ON "VIRTUAL WORSHIP"

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"Virtual and live stream worship have been, and will continue to be, a blessing to the church. However, by no means can it substitute coming and physically receiving the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist (Communion)." (From Fr. Martini Shaw's Homily on Jan. 16, 2022).

"Online Masses and Spiritual Communion do not represent the church. The faithful not gathered to receive the Sacraments is not the church. Jesus' disciples always lived their relationship with the Lord in Community. They gathered, around the sacrament, at the same table, as a sign of community". (Pope Francis' message)

"If you are unable to receive the Sacrament, by reasons of extreme sickness or physical disability; or when being present at a celebration is absolutely impossible, it is possible to open yourself to God's grace and blessing". (Episcopal Church Book of Common Prayer).



# **IMPORTANT NOTICE:**

The wearing of masks will remain MANDATORY while at St. Thomas until further notice. St. Thomas will follow the recommended guidelines of the CDC, the City of Philadelphia, and the Diocese of PA. Let us love our neighbor and worship safely!

Masks are available for all in attendance if needed. Hand sanitizer is also available. The ventilation system has been changed to let in outside air. We request that all in attendance be VACCINATED. Unvaccinated individuals are requested to watch the Service via <u>Live Stream</u>.

# **ATTENTION ALL MEN**

Every Sunday, ALL men are invited to briefly stop and Greet other men of the parish outside under the carport after service each week.

# SAVE THE DATE NOW! Saturday, September 17, 2022, at 11:00 AM.

A portion of Lancaster Avenue will be Renamed Absalom Jones Way

Come join us for part of this Homecoming Weekend Celebrating our 230th Parish Anniversary

Co-Chairs - Albert Dandridge, Esq., Monica Lewis Jones, Catherine Stafford



The 1926 Foundation, Incorporated Brenda Johnson, President

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated" Omega Omega Chapter Chartered in 1926 Charlene M. Collins, President



# Now Accepting Scholarship Applications!!! CLASS OF 2022

*To Apply, Scan the QR Code or Copy the Link Below:* <u>https://www.the1926foundationinc.com/scholarship</u>

> For additional information, email: AKAOmegaOmegaScholarships@gmail.com



👔 @the1926foundationinc

# **ATTENTION:**

We are so blessed to be stewards of a beautiful property that God has entrusted to our care. Persons are needed to serve on our Property Committee. If interested, please speak with <u>Deborah Harrison</u> or call the Parish Office to express your interest.

# 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.

If interested, please contact Gladyce in the Parish Office ASAP to get details on upcoming scheduled rehearsals.

# **VESTRY MEETING**

If you are a member of St. Thomas and wish to participate in a monthly Vestry Meeting via Zoom, you must notify the Vestry Clerk. Send an email to <u>vestryclerk@aecst.org</u> at least two days prior to the meeting. You will then receive the link needed to join the meeting. Vestry meetings are held on the third Thursday of the month at 6:00 p.m.

# **RE-IMAGINING OUR MINISTRIES**

Persons are needed to serve on the Altar Guild. This amazing group of individuals prepare our beautiful altar each week for the Celebration of the Holy Eucharist. Interested people should contact Alfreda Brockman at <u>fredabee@verizon.net.</u>

We are in need of Readers and Intercessors, Youth and Adult. If you are interested in helping spread the Word of God through a reading, Psalm, or Intercessory prayers, please contact Gladyce in the parish office. Thank you.

We are looking for a few individuals 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.

# CALLING ALL FUTURE SHEPHERDS OF THE AECST

Plans are in the works for resurrecting and re-imagining the SHEEP & SHEPHERDS MINISTRY created many years ago by parishioner Mrs. Vernette Dow. As a telephone ministry, the goal is that every AECST family of parishioners (sheep) will have a shepherd that keeps in touch with them on a regular basis. We are now calling for parishioners to volunteer as shepherds. Before this ministry can be rolled-out, a sufficient number of volunteers is needed in order to minimize the number of families that each will shepherd. Please note that the Vestry will continue to shepherd new members. For more information and to volunteer, please either see Charlene M. Wiltshire before or after Sunday church services or send an email to her at cwiltshi@comcast. net. Thank you!

# **UPCOMING SUNDAYS IN JUNE**

#### June 12th

Graduation Recognition Sunday Please submit all names of graduates to the church office by **June 6th**.

The St. Thomas Family is invited to the wedding of Ariel Brockman and Shabazz Kelson at 3:00 PM

**June 19th** Father's Day / Juneteenth Observance

# June 26th

Youth Sunday Acolyte Commissioning Sunday

The Rector has restarted an official Search Process for the calling of a new Rector's Associate for Youth and Young Adult Ministries.

# DAILY RECOMMENDED BIBLE READINGS READINGS FOR

Readings for the Day of Pentecost June 5, 2022

The First Reading: <u>Acts 2:1-21</u> <u>Psalm 104:25-35, 37</u>

The Second Reading: <u>Romans 8:14-17</u> The Holy Gospel: <u>John 14:8-17</u>

> The Holy Gospel Readings for the Week of June 6, 2022 Monday- Luke 17:1-10 Tuesday - Luke 17:11-19 Wednesday - Luke 17:20-37 Thursday - Luke 18:1-8 Friday - Luke 18:1-8 Saturday - Luke 18:15-30

The First Sunday of Pentecost/ Trinity Sunday June 12, 2022

The First Reading: Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31
Psalm 8

\_The Second Reading: <u>Romans 5:1-5</u> The Holy Gospel: <u>John 16:12-15</u>

The Holy Gospel Readings for the Week of June 13, 2022

Monday-<u>Luke 18:31-43</u> Tuesday-<u>Luke 19:1-10</u> Wednesday - Luke 19:11-27 Thursday- Luke 19:28-40 Friday - Luke 19:41-48 Saturday - Luke 20:1-8



Our church family is invited to attend the Celebration of Marriage for Ariel Brockman and Shabazz Kelson on Sunday, **June 12, 2022, at 3:00 PM** at The African Episcopal Church of St. Thomas.

# ACOLYTES NEEDED

We are in need of Acolytes (Youth and Adults). Please consider serving God in this rewarding ministry. If interested, please contact the Rector ASAP.



**AECST BIBLE STUDY WITH FR. JAY** 

Bible Study with Fr. Jay concludes the liturgical year with our meeting on **Tuesday, May 31st**. We will resume on Tuesday, **September 13th** at **7:00 PM**.

# **ALTAR FLOWERS**

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

\_\_ flowers on the High Altar - \$60.00

\_\_ flowers on the Absalom Jones Altar - \$50.00

\_\_ flowers on the Columbarium- \$40.00

\_\_\_An Easter Lily @\$25.00 each (5 names per plant)

Please PRINT

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_, In Thanksgiving for\_\_\_\_\_,

Name \_\_\_\_\_, Envelope#\_\_\_\_\_, Amount\_\_\_\_\_.

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# ASSOCIATE RECTOR SEARCH

The Rector has restarted an official Search Process for the Calling of an Associate to the Rector for Youth Ministries and Parish Life.

**POSITION OPENING - ST. THOMAS ASSISTANT SEXTON** 

Part-time position is open for an Assistant Sexton. Hours are typically some weekday evenings, Saturdays, and Sundays. Presently, reduced hours due to pandemic restrictions. Hours will increase as in-person activities increase. For more information, interested persons should contact <u>Deborah</u> <u>Harrison</u>.

# PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR PARISHIONERS WHO ARE:

# **RECOVERING AT HOME**

Justin Trotman, Alice Bowman-Cropper, Teena Watson Matthews, Grace Wetzel, Linda Holmes, Rosalind Rodriquez, Gwenda Hart.

# PLEASE KEEP IN PRAYER

Terri Barber, Adinah Edwards, Joan Hall, Robert Brown, Georgia Sawyer, Isedora "Gwen" Francis, Shirley Winkfield, Dr. Thomas Snowden, Shirley Caldwell, Stephanie Williamson, Francina Norris, Ridart "Butch" Farmer, Leatrice Snowden, Leotta Griffith, Karen Ragland, Lisa Woodley, Winston Lowe, Kenneth Dow, Linda Holmes, Edita Gauthney.

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# WE PRAY FOR

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

# ST. THOMAS COLUMBARIUM INURNMENT

If you have a loved one who has passed away in the last year and would like to schedule a St. Thomas columbarium inurnment, please contact the church office at 215-473-3065.

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# **STEWARDSHIP NEWS**

#### FROM THE RECTOR

You should have received your Third Quarter Statement of the Stewardship year. I am urging everyone to please assure that your 2021 Pledge is current. If you have questions, please contact the Fiscal Administrator, Jeanette Jeffrey in the Fiscal Office from **9:30 AM-2:00 PM Monday -Thursday**. Thanking you in advance for the many ways that you share your Time, Talents and Treasures toward the ministries of St. Thomas Church.

I ask that you, using the chart below to assist you, prayerfully fill out your 2022 Faithful Giving Card. Please place it in the offering plate, postal mail, or electronically use our Faithful Giving. <u>Pledge Form</u> on our website.

Again, thanks so much for your continued support to the ministries of our amazing parish.

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

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

# **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**.

#### A CHART TO ASSIST US WITH OUR FAITHFUL GIVING

Holy Scripture commends a minimum tithe of (10% of our earnings)

# Where are you on your spiritual journey? Annual Faithful Giving

Yearly Income	2%	5%	10%
\$10,000.00	\$200.00	\$500.00	\$1,000.00
\$15,000.00	\$300.00	\$750.00	\$1,500.00
\$20,000.00	\$400.00	\$1,000.00	\$2,000.00
\$25,000.00	\$500.00	\$1,250.00	\$2,500.00
\$30,000.00	\$600.00	\$1,500.00	\$3,000.00
\$40,000.00	\$800.00	\$2,000.00	\$4,000.00
\$50,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$2,500.00	\$5,000.00
\$60,000.00	\$1,200.00	\$3,000.00	\$6,000.00
\$70,000.00	\$1,400.00	\$3,500.00	\$7,000.00
\$80,000.00	\$1,600.00	\$4,000.00	\$8,000.00
\$90,000.00	\$1,800.00	\$4,500.00	\$9,000.00
\$100,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$10,000.00
\$110,000.00	\$2,200.00	\$5,500.00	\$11,000.00
\$120,000.00	\$2,400.00	\$6,000.00	\$12,000.00
\$150,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$7,000.00	\$15,000.00
\$175,000.00	\$3,500.00	\$8,750.00	\$17,500.00
\$200,000.00	\$4,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$20,000.00

# THE 2022 OFFERING ENVELOPES

are now ready for you to pick up in Anderson Hall. If you're unable to pick them up on Sundays after church you may do so Monday through Friday from 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM. If you have a parishioner who lives near you who can't get to church, perhaps you can pick theirs up as well.

You can now complete your pledge card by mail or on our website.

If you have decided to use the Givi App or Online Giving Donations, please email me at <a href="mailto:stewardship@aecst.org">stewardship@aecst.org</a> with your name and envelope number.

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.

Thank you very much.

Judy Tillman, Stewardship Committee

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# 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.
- 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 Parish Office during regular business hours. 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.
- 6) Pledge Cards: Pledge cards can still be sent for 2022. Please send them via the US mail to the church or electronically through the <u>www.aecst.org</u> website or send an email to our <u>Fiscal Administrator</u>. Thank you so much and thank you to all who have sent them in.

Bishop Rector Assistant to the Rector Associate Priest Associate Minister Associate Minister Executive Asst to the Rector Fiscal Administrator Sexton Asst Sexton Chancel Choirmaster Gospel Choirmaster Rector's General Counsel Baptism Co-Chairs

Church School Superintendent Ed Muse Photography Ministry Fiscal Assistant to the Rector Girls Friendly Society Jazz Ensemble Director Live Stream Ministry

**Memorial Flowers** 

**Parish Vergers** 

Parish Webmaster Property Chair Special Advisor to the Rector Scout Pack 133

Transportation Ministry Videography Ministry William Burke Ushers Ministry

#### **MINISTRY STAFF**

The Rt. Rev. Daniel G P Gutierrez The Very Rev. Canon Martini Shaw

The Rev. Fr. Gerald Collins The Rev. Dr. Thomas G Snowden The Rev. Dr. Paul Bach Gladyce DuBrey Jeannette Jeffrey LaDon Elliott **Ronald Jones** Jay Fluellen, D.M.A. Waltier Blocker Joe Tucker. Esa Gail H Harris Patricia Walker-Ellison **Dottie Archev** William Edmonds Deborah Camp - Frve Nikkol Simms Joe Stevenson Yaseen Faroog Terri Tillman Alfreda Brockman Clare Mae Daniels **Stephen Hannum** Karen Ragland Lisa Steward-New Gail H Harris Deborah Harrison **Richard Jones** Howard Chapman Arlene Grav J. Reggie Kimble Que ntin Heyward Arlene Singletary

#### rector@aecst.org

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fredabee@verizon.net happycmd05@aol.com 1792@aecst.org Kdrags415@gmail.com ljs210@msn.com webmanager@aecst.org dneharrison04@gmail.com r724jones1@gmail.com howchapman@gmail.com bsapack0133@gmail.com tkglimo@aol.com recordedvideo@aecst.org leaniepo@verizon.net

#### THE VESTRY

Rector's Warden - Deadra Cannon Accounting Warden - Kelvin Johnson Clerk of the Vestry - Clare Mae Daniels Treasurer - Albert S. Dandridge, III Esq.

> Patricia Bantom Brenda Johnson Best Judith Simkins Booth Ronnie Collins Wendella Fox, Esq. Deborah Harrison D. Lynn Joell Jonathan Muse Darryl (Bobby) Tillman Judith Tillman

#### THE AUXILIARY VESTRY

Patricia Akins Conchetta Brewer Sharon Bullock Gregory Lyles Patricia Lynch

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.