



AECST
FOUNDED 1792



**Breast
CANCER**

AWARENESS SUNDAY

THE AFRICAN EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS • FIRST BLACK EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN THE USA
THE VERY REVEREND CANON MARTINI SHAW, 17TH RECTOR
THE REV. EREND FR. DAREN E. EVANS, ASSOCIATE TO THE RECTOR
6361 LANCASTER AVENUE (ABSALOM JONES WAY) • PHILADELPHIA, PA 19151 • (215) 473-3065
WWW.AECST.ORG • WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/AECST1792

THE TWENTY FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
October 22, 2023

“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 Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost, Breast Cancer Awareness Sunday, and Youth and Young Adult 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 on the link provided
for the [**Order of Service**](#) for this Sunday.

ENORMOUS THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE SUBMITTED THEIR 2024 FAITHFUL GIVING CARD!!!!!!!!!!!!

Is your name listed? If not, submit yours now by using the [link](#).

2024 Faithful Giving Cards

Enormous thanks to these individuals who have submitted their 2024 Faithful Giving cards. Is your name included? Please submit yours today.

Alistair Allman	Walter & Nicole Harris	Gloria Thomas
Jeanne J. Arnold	Deborah Harrison	Darryle & Judy Tilman
Dr. Timothy Barksdale	Joyce B. Harrison	Arnott Trotman
Brenda Battle	Richard & Gwenda Hart	Justin & Lee Ann Trotman
Susan Ben	Maurice Hayes	Louise Trotman
Deborah Booker-Mathews	Rene Hayes	Karen Vaughn
Guy Booth	Erica Hill-Yates	Barbara Wiley
Ricardo Bostic	Fleta Howell	R. Seth Williams
I. Page Bowser	Robert Hugh	Stephanie Williamson
Michelanne Bradwell	Donald & Patricia Hunt	Jenelle Wilson-Johnson
Theresa Bramwell	D. Lynn Joell	Charlene Wiltshire
Conchetta Brewer	Dr. Frank Johnson	Diane Winkfield
Lorita Brockington	Kelvin & Pamela Johnson	Wanda Wood
J.R. & Alfreda Brockman	Lemont Johnson	Khalita Wright
Marilyn Brown	Brenda Johnson-Best	I. Bernadette Wyche
Robert & Jayne Brown	Richard Jones	Alice Young
William H. Brown, III	Robert & Joyce JoneJ.	
Sharon Bullock	Reggie & Sherilynn Kimble	
William Burke, Jr.	Jordina Koiler	
Yvonne Caldwell White	Nancy Lee	
Deadra Cannon	Adrienne Logan	
Charlotte Card	James Lowe	
Eleanor Chestnut	Patricia Lynch	
The Rev. Fr. Gerald Collins	Cheryl McIntosh	
Ronnie H. Collins	Michael McIntosh	
Gwendolyn Cottman	Cynthia Muse	
Albert Dandrige, III	Mueni Mwanzia	
Clare Mae Daniels	Francina Norris	
Barbara Douglass	Deborah Otey	
William & Quincina Edmonds	Andrea Petrocelli-Fields	
Fr. Daren Evans	Kim Phillips	
Loretta Ferguson	Mar Ann Phillips	
Angela Foster	Stephen Pugh	
Wendella Fox	Delores Redmond	
Barry & Deborah Frye	Clarence Rice	
Irenda Gates	Victoria Rivers	
Edita Gauthney	Shonalie Roberts	
Elaine Gillison	Yvonne Ruiz	
Barbara L. Glenn	Deborah Seay Wood	
Eugene & Marie Golson	Stephanie Seay Wood	
Chad & Toya Gordon	The Rev. Fr. Martini Shaw	
Clarice Grant	Kayma Sherman-Knuckels	
Linda Greaves Street	Judith Simkins	
Michelle Green	Arlene Singletary	
PJ Grier	Catherine Stafford	
Katrina Harris Marshall	Arthur & Michele Sudler	
	Lynda Tapper-Smith	
	Dr. Monica Taylor	
	Cheryl Taylor Stiles	

We welcome into our church family and give thanks for our new member, **Dr. Naomi Johnson Booker**. Her shepherd will be, **Brenda Johnson Best**. We look forward to getting to know her.



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. Thanks so much for your help with this.

STEWARDSHIP KICK-OFF:

During Stewardship Month 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 by going on our website, Spearhead, Facebook page, or this [link](#). You can also mail your Faithful Giving Card or bring it to the Altar at Church.

Important Note from the Rector:

Please help us to end the year without a deficit by completing your 2023 financial pledge by December 31st, 2023. If you are unsure of your balance, please contact Jeanette in the Fiscal Office.



Our condolences to Inez Turner on the death of her sister, **Gloria Jackson**. May the soul of Gloria rest in peace and rise in glory. Please pray for the family.

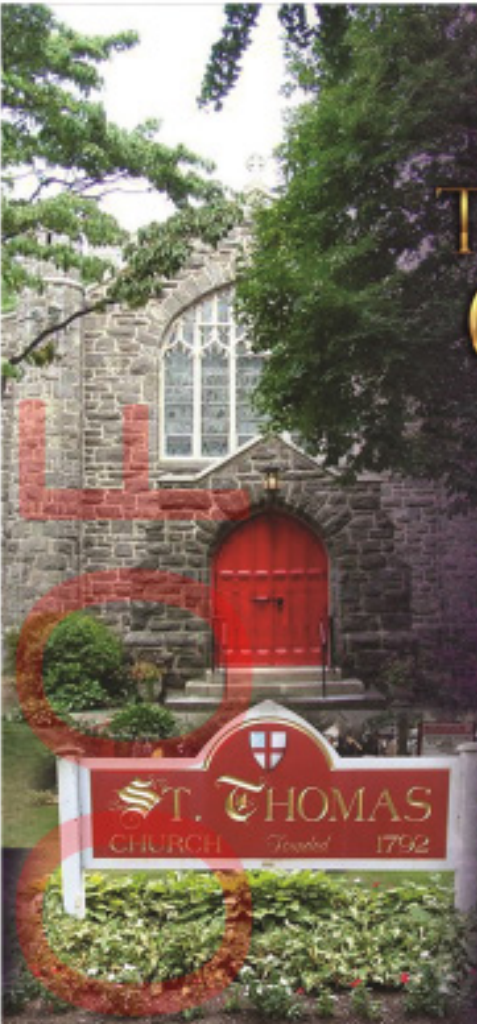
Beginning **November 1st**, any Group, Guild, Ministry or Fellowship wishing to have a flyer placed in the bulletin will have to provide the copies to the office no later than Wednesday for insertion in the Sunday bulletin.

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month and today is Breast Cancer Awareness Sunday.

Additional Resources and Information will be available in Anderson Hall provided by St. Thomas' Faith-Based Partner Drexel University College of Nursing and Health Professional/Lazarex Cancer Wellness HUB.

Please wear something pink to service.





THE GERALDINE B. WOOD COLUMBARIUM


"AN HONORED TRADITION"

THE AFRICAN EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF SAINT THOMAS
6361 LANCASTER AVENUE | PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19151
215.473.3065 | WWW.AECST.ORG



THE VERY REVEREND CANON MARTINI SHAW, RECTOR


I AM THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE.



CREMATION AND BURIAL TRADITIONS

From earliest times, people have been concerned about their final earthly resting place, often with concern that it be near the gathering place of their families. In Christian times, preferred burial space was within the Church itself where the faithful gathered for celebrating a liturgy or for a prayer service. The dual tradition of burial and of cremation was preserved in both ancient and in Christian times. More recently, consideration of the spiritual and the practical aspects of cremation and inurnment within the Church itself has led to a revival of this aspect of the tradition. When space within the Church was no longer available, the churchyard cemetery developed. Only in recent times have burial grounds, far removed from the community centers of life and prayer, (Laurel Hill Cemetery, Historic Eden Cemetery) been used.

THE COLUMBARIUM



A Columbarium is a vault with recessed metal compartments of niches for placing earthly remains after cremation. The cremated earthly remains are preserved in niches in a Columbarium fittingly designed and prepared. Each metal niche is enclosed with a protective front of wood, to which is attached a bronze identification plate for the appropriate name and date of death. The dual tradition of burial and cremation was preserved in ancient and Christian times.

The African Episcopal Church of Saint Thomas has constructed three structures consisting of 220 niches that can accommodate 440 urns along the Southeast wall in the Absalom Jones Chapel area. Eligible persons and active members of the African Episcopal Church of Saint Thomas and their families can purchase a niche. The opening date for the Columbarium was November 1996. A Columbarium Committee composed of four persons and the Parish Rector will govern and administer the affairs of the Columbarium. The Committee has established and will administer the policies and regulations governing sales, maintenance and expansions as was initially established by an 11-member task force.

Niches may be reserved by advance purchase, at the time of need, singly, or for family groups. The purchaser gets a Certificate of Ownership, which indicates a choice of niches. The Certificate entitles a person to a bronze nameplate and assurance of perpetual care. Orders and/or deposits are now being received. Selection of a niche will only occur upon receipt of final payment.

If you are interested in receiving more information on the Columbarium, please contact the Church Office at 215-473-3065 or the Columbarium committee c/o Victoria A. Mosley Rivers at 215-878-3651 or 267-253-2899.

Congratulations!

ST. THOMAS HAS AN EMMY AWARD WINNER!!!

Congratulations to our own Ashley Williams. (An Emmy for Diversity Equity and Inclusion Long Form). Ashley, your St. Thomas family is so proud of you.



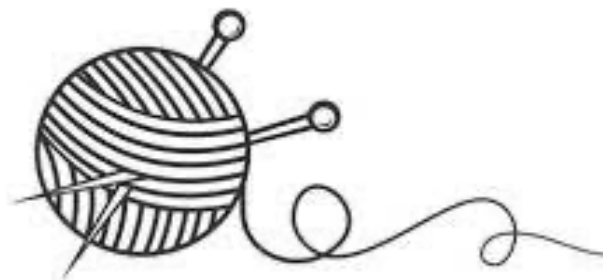
KNITTING CLUB:

Coming back to the Absalom Jones House on

Wednesday, October 25th

from **10:00 AM - Noon.**

Bring your yarn, and patterns and join in on the fun!



FOR YOUR GRAMMY® CONSIDERATION



Rollo Dilworth, composer
Claudia Rankine, poet

Temple University Choirs and Wind Symphony
Paul Rardin, conductor
with poem read by Kimmika L.H. Williams-Witherspoon

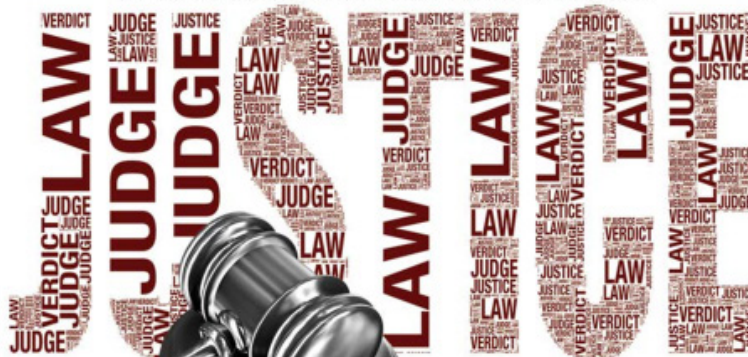
**Best Choral
Performance**
Dilworth: Weather -
Stand the Storm //
Paul Rardin, conductor
// Temple University
Choirs and Wind
Symphony // Patricia
Cornett // Rollo
Dilworth

**Best
Arrangement,
Instruments
and Vocals**
Weather: Stand the
Storm // Rollo
Dilworth, arranger

You are invited to join us for

JUDICIAL SUNDAY
OCTOBER 29, 2023 10AM

THE AFRICAN EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS

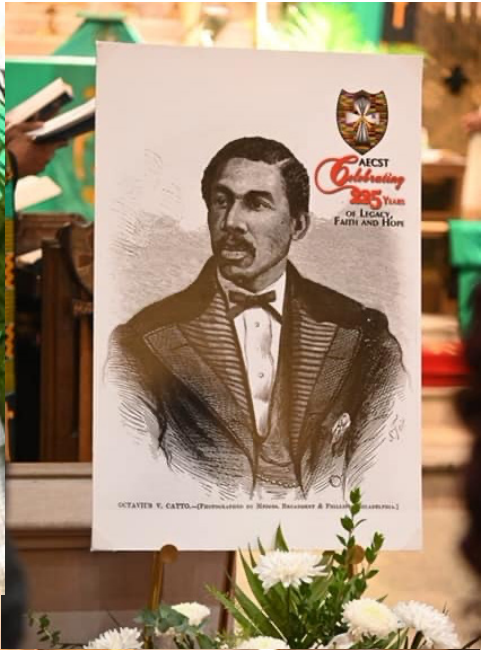


GUEST SPEAKER:
THE HONORABLE JOHN M. YOUNGE
U.S. DISTRICT JUDGE

~A RECEPTION FOLLOWING THE SERVICE~

THE VERY REV. CANON MARTINI SHAW, RECTOR
THE REV. FR. DAREN E. EVANS, ASSOCIATE TO THE RECTOR
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Pictures from the Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost, October 15, 2023





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

A Message from the Octavius V Catto Ministry

We want to take a moment to Thank All who participated in Catto Sunday on October 15, 2023, because we celebrated, honored, and lived into Catto's legacy. After our inspirational service, our St. Thomas Family, our neighbors, and the community received information and resources. We urge everyone to **VOTE on November 7, 2023**, and to encourage at least 10 family and friends to do so. We note that for more information about statewide PA judicial candidates, participate in the Committee of 70 event on **October 24, 2023**, at **6:30 PM**, go to the website to register for the Zoom event. www.seventy.org We also recommend that on **October 29**, please attend our church service where members of the Judiciary will be present. Peace and abundant Blessings

Ernestine Johnson, Ted Smith, and Wendella Fox
Co-Chairs of the Octavius V Catto Voter Education Ministry



**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.

ATTENTION ALL MEN OF ST. THOMAS*
(Ages 18 - 102 years old)

St. Thomas Men's Ministry and Fellowship: A Gathering of men in fellowship!!! **Saturday, October 21, 2023, 8:30 AM.**

A conversation with our own R. Seth Williams, President and C E.O. Second Chance Strategies, LLC; former District Attorney of Philadelphia. "Crime Prevention & Recidivism Reduction"

Please [RSVP](#) today. Refreshments will be served



Dear Church family,

This year, the **St. Thomas Chapter of the Daughters of the King** will again collect donations for undersourced families through our Annual Thanksgiving Service project. The Daughters will be collecting outside of the Church or near the front doors after Sunday service beginning Sunday, October 8th through Sunday, November 19th.

If you wish to donate via check, please make the check out to AECST; in the memo, please note **ThksProjDOK**. You may also mail your donation to The Historic African Episcopal Church of St. Thomas 6361 Lancaster Ave (Absalom Jones Way) Philadelphia, PA. 19151 attention: Fiscal Secretary.

Additionally, if you are aware of household(s) within the St. Thomas Church family who are in need of a Thanksgiving contribution, please contact [Ms. Sharon Bullock](#), [Ms. Thomasina Hack](#) or any of our St Thomas Chapter Daughters of the King.

The deadline to submit names of families is Sunday, November 19, 2023.

Thank you in advance for your generosity and together, let us bring Thanksgiving Joy to all!

UPCOMING SUNDAYS IN OCTOBER/NOVEMBER

**October 22nd - Youth and Young Adult Sunday
Breast Cancer Awareness Sunday**

October 29th - Judicial Sunday

The Honorable John M. Younge, speaker, U.S. District Judge

A.E.C.S.T. Kid Friendly Trunk and Treat

Sunday, October 29, 2023, 12:00 Noon (in the parking lot)

Bring your little ghosts and goblins, princesses, and superheros to join in the fun in costume or not.

Ages 12 and under. Volunteers needed to decorate your trunk and pass out candy. Please [email](#) Gladyce in the [church office](#).

November 5th - Observance of the Feast of All Saints / All Souls;

Observance of our 1st Rector (Absalom Jones) and 17th Rector (Fr. Shaw) birthdays both born on November 6th.

Please use the [link](#) to order candles for your departed loved ones.

November 12th - Observance of Veterans Day

November 19th - Family and Friends Sunday

November 26th - Youth and Young Adult Sunday (YAYA)

You are invited to pray and walk with thousands of Black women across the country for Girl Trek's 9-day (**October 15-23**) Prayer Trek. Our team won in 2017. Sign up at this [link](#). Select "Find your Church Crew" on the website and register under African Episcopal Church of St. Thomas - Women and Girls. We have the opportunity to win \$1,000 for our Health Ministry. If you questions contact [Sherilynn Kimble](#).



GirlTrek
2023
PRAYER TREK
OCTOBER 15-23

SCAN HERE



To learn more and sign up visit www.prayertrek.org

If you're battling unhealthy habits, if you're in a season of despair and your faith is wavering, or you're in a season of abundance and looking to touch and agree with others who believe that blessings multiply when we join together, this is the place for you."

Each year, GirlTrek puts the call out to its sisters in the army of the Lord to cover ourselves in prayer, ground ourselves in the word, lace up our sneakers, and practice the Fruit of the Spirits in accordance with 9 fruits in the bible (Galations 5:22-23).

How it Works:

- WALK** ← *Just 30 min a day*
Just 30 minutes a day. We'll provide you with scripture and a daily meditation to help you reflect on the Lord and your wellbeing.
- WORSHIP** *daily prayer line*
Join our daily prayer line as we ask the Lord to heal our bodies and transform our communities.
- WITNESS**
Don't let your sisters miss their blessing. Encourage the women in your church to sign up at www.prayertrek.org.

As seen on
CNN **npr** **TED** **THE ROOT** *The New York Times* **ESSENCE**

This Week at AECST - October 23, 2023

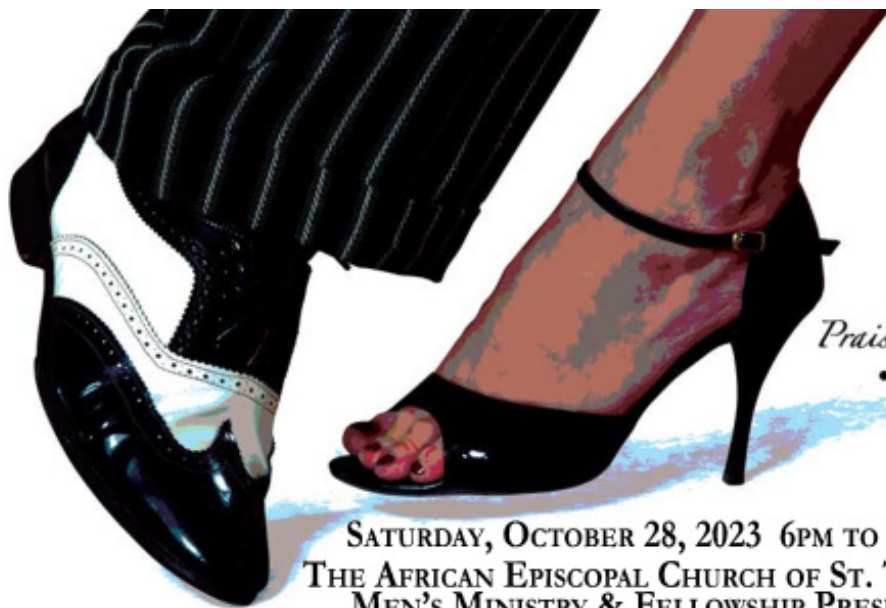
Monday 10/23 - Parish Discernment Committee - 7:00 PM

Tuesday 10/ 24 - Bible Study with Fr. Jay via Zoom - 6:00 PM
Parish Discernment Committee - 6:00 PM

Wednesday 10/ 25 - Young Adult Bible Study
with Fr. Daren - 7:00 PM
Gospel Choir Rehearsal - 7:30 PM

Thursday 10/26 - JFA Scholarship Committee meeting - Noon

Saturday 10/ 28 - Chancel Choir - 10:00 AM -1:00 PM
ECS Graduation Ceremony - 10:00 AM
Scouts - 1:00 - 4:00 PM
Men's Ministry Cabaret - 6:00 - 10:00 PM



- Dance, Caribbean, Praise & Line Dance Music
- Complimentary Set-ups
- Free Parking
- Cash Raffle

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2023 6PM TO 10PM
THE AFRICAN EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS
MEN'S MINISTRY & FELLOWSHIP PRESENTS

~ Old School Cabaret ~

THE NARBETH FIRE HALL
100 CONWAY AVENUE, NARBETH PA 19072
TICKETS \$15.00 PER PERSON \$25.00 PER COUPLE

FOR INFORMATION & TICKETS CONTACT:
MIKE ARCHY 215-983-3939 OR ED GIEGER 716-207-0405

DRESS LIKE YOU'RE BLESSED & READY TO HAVE AN ENJOYABLE EVENING!

BRING AND SHARE FAVORITE FOODS, BEVERAGES AND DESSERTS
PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT MEN'S FELLOWSHIP OUTREACH INITIATIVES

THE VERY REV. CANON MARTINI SHAW, RECTOR • 6361 LANCASTER AVENUE • PHILADELPHIA, PA 19151 • (215) 473-3065

AECST/CHOSEN 300 Community OUTREACH

Calling Volunteers to Serve @ Chosen 300 locations

Arrive at 4:30pm – Directions will be given – Completed by 7:30pm, 2023 SERVING DATES :



Friday , July 14th : 1116 Spring Garden Street, Phila, PA. 19123

Monday, July 17th : 3959 Lancaster Ave, Phila. PA 19104

Friday, Sept. 15th : 1116 Spring Garden Street, Phila, PA. 19123

Friday, Nov. 17th : 1116 Spring Garden Street, Phila, PA. 19123

Monday, Nov 20th: Lancaster Ave, Phila. PA 19104



For Any Questions, please contact Dr. Tim Barksdale at 215-868-6766

"Whoever shuts their ears to the cry of the poor will also cry out and not be answered." Proverbs 21:13



SAVE THE DATE - SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2023

Friends of the Historical Society are inviting all members of St. Thomas to join us on Saturday, **November 4, 2023**, to see the Forten Exhibit at the Museum of the American Revolution!! As you may know, James Forten, a member of our congregation and the Vestry, was an extraordinary entrepreneur, a philanthropist, and a friend of Rev. Absalom Jones. Stay tuned for more details. By the way, have you seen the James Forten plaque?

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](#).



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

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.

Join the St. Thomas Gospel Choir

led by Waltier Blocker and Conference Attendees will perform together at the Bent But VBroken Conference on November 4th. Click on the [link](#) for more information.





Jazz Cafe

November 5, 2023

3:00 – 5:00 pm

**African Episcopal Church of
St. Thomas
6361 Lancaster Ave,
Philadelphia PA 19151**

**Be dazzled by young Jazz
musicians of the Marian
Anderson Young Artist Program
at this **free community concert.****

**Enjoy light bites supplied by
Anderson Artist parents at the
Meet the Artist Reception.**

*RSVP to receive reminders!
playonphilly.org/jazzcafe*



DAILY RECOMMENDED BIBLE READINGS

Readings for:
the Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost
October 22, 2023

The First Lesson: [Exodus 33:12-23](#)

[Psalm 99](#)

The Second Lesson: [1 Thessalonians 1:1-10](#)

The Holy Gospel: [Matthew 22:15-22](#)

**The Holy Gospel Readings for the
Week of October 23, 2023**

Monday - [Luke 9:51-62](#)

Tuesday - [Luke 10:1-16](#)

Wednesday - [Luke 10:17-24](#)

Thursday - [Luke 10:25-37](#)

Friday - [Luke 10:38-42](#)

Saturday - [Luke 11:1-13](#)



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”

**Kid
Friendly!
Ages 12 &
Under**

AECST

**Volunteers
needed to
decorate your
trunk and hand
out candy!**

TRUNK OR TREAT

Come and Join Us!

October 29th

Starts at 12:00PM

**Costumes optional
but encouraged!**

Location: AECST Parking Lot

**Bring your little ghosts, goblins, princesses,
and superheroes to join in the fun!**

**Please contact Gladycy in the church office at
215-473-3065 or 1792@aecst.org**



**The African Episcopal Church of St. Thomas (The First Black Episcopal Church in the USA)
The Very Reverend Cannon Martini Shaw, 17th Rector
6361 Lancaster Avenue (Absalom Jones Way) Philadelphia, PA 19151
www.AECST.org www.Facebook.com/AECST1792**

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](#).

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. Please contact Scout [Master Howard Chapman](#) for more information.

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 [here](#).



Nikkol Simms
Branch Advisor
njsimms@verizon.net

For more info:
<http://gfsus.org/>

Find us on Facebook!
GFS PA African
Episcopal Church of St.
Thomas

GIRLS' FRIENDLY SOCIETY

GFS is ready to begin a new year of worship, study, play and service! We are excited to recharge our continuous mission of uplifting our young ladies and preparing them for today's society. We are also preparing for this year's theme to Love, Serve, and Grow and remembering our 75+ years of legacy at St. Thomas.

We meet Saturday mornings

**First meeting:
September 30, 2023
11am-1pm**

Membership Ages:

Teddy Bears: 3-5 yo.

Junior Members: 5-13 yo.

Senior Members: 14-21 yo.

Ambassadors: 18-30 yo.

Girls participate in:

Service Projects

Girl Talks

Arts & Crafts

World Day of Prayer

Founder's Day

Mission Day

GFS Day

Past Recreational Opportunities:

White water rafting

Theaters

Museums

Ice Skating

Segway/Ziplining

Mini Golf

Holiday House in Cape May, NJ

GFS World Council Sri Lanka 2026

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR PARISHIONERS WHO ARE:

IN HOSPITAL:

Sheryl Johnson - Jefferson Hospital,
Joe Stevenson - Temple Hospital.

IN REHAB:

Helena Allen - Simpson House;
Thelma Silvers - Penn Rehab.

RECOVERING AT HOME:

R. Seth Williams, Linda Holmes, Ashley Williams,
Ashley Quetant.

KEEP IN PRAYER:

Adinah Edwards, Robert Brown, Joe Stevenson, Justin Trotman, Georgia Sawyer, Shirley Caldwell, Joan Hall, Stephanie Williamson, Leotta Griffith, Kenneth Dow, Ridart "Butch" Farmer, Gwendolyn Langford, Teri Taylor, Eleanor Chestnut, Dorothy Smith, Dr. Alice Bowman-Cropper, Daryn Stewart, Sheryl Johnson, Shirley Winkfield, Dr. Thomas Snowden, Dr. Walter Bantom, Bill Edmonds, Leatrice Snowden, Lemont Johnson, Laverne Hudson, Cathy Stafford, Harold Yates, William Smalls, Alletta Parris-Olday, Ronald Coleman, Fr. Jay Collins, Tyrone Keller, Seminarian David King, Conchetta Brewer, Joyce Jackson, Lisa Woodley, Fr.Darryl James.

WE PRAY FOR

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

ALTAR FLOWERS

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 \$ _____

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](#).

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 remember to maintain your pledged financial giving.

Parishioners, please remember to include your envelope number as well as your name on your offering envelope. The number is especially important. If you don't have your envelope number please don't hesitate to contact me. Thanks so much for your help with this. [Judy Tillman](#)

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.

FROM STEWARSHIP: 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
**Ways to continue to be Faithful to God and the Church
through Stewardship:**

- 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.
- 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	
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	Arlene Gray	bsapack0133@gmail.com
Stewardship Chair	Judy Tillman	stewardship@aecst.org
Transportation Ministry		
Videography Ministry	Quentin Heyward	recordedvideo@aecst.org
Voices of Comfort	Robert Davenport	robertnewtondavenport@gmail.com
William Burke Ushers Ministry	Arlene Singletary	leaniepo302@gmail.com

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

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.