

THE AFRICAN EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS

CELEBRATING OUR YOUTH



AMEN

THE HISTORIC AFRICAN EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS
FIRST BLACK EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN THE USA • FOUNDED 1792
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 • WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/AECST1792

THE SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

June 30, 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 Sixth Sunday after Pentecost** and we are **Celebrating our Youth**.

We welcome the youth and adults **from Trinity Episcopal Church, Solebury, PA, and St. David’s Radnor, PA**, worshiping with us this morning.

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

Please click here
for the [Order of Service](#).

This Sunday, June 30th: “Celebrate Our Youth”.

We welcome youth and youth leaders from Trinity Church, Solebury; and St. David’s, Radnor.

A service of celebration and youth-only fellowship following service for our youth and our visiting churches.



FROM THE DESK OF THE RECTOR

You will soon be receiving your 1st Quarter Financial Statement. Please carefully examine it and make an extra effort to fulfill your mid-year faithful pledge of giving by **June 30th**. Enormous thanks to everyone current with their faithful giving and actively supporting our many ministries with their treasures.

RECTOR'S PRAYERFUL WISH LIST

Replacement of Air Conditioning units - \$100,000.00.

Our air conditioning units have provided over 30 years of comfort. They are now in need of being replaced. Please prayerfully consider a donation toward the replacement.

SUMMER GIVING

PLEASE remember to maintain your weekly/monthly giving during the summer months when traveling and on vacation.



**In July and August, the
Parish Administrative Offices and Church
hours are Monday - Thursday
9:00 AM - 3:00 PM**

The Fifth Sunday after Pentecost Graduate / Scholarship Sunday

June 23, 2024







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



**Congratulations to the 2024
St. Thomas Graduates and Scholarship recipients!**



UPCOMING SUNDAYS

“Celebrating Our Youth”: Youth, Young Adult and Church School Sunday. Joining us will be youth and adult leaders from Trinity Episcopal Church in Solebury and St. David’s, Radnor.



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2024

FROM PRE K TO KINDERGARTEN

Addison Trotman - Germantown Friends Kindergarten
Axel Trotman - Germantown Friends Kindergarten

FROM ELEMENTARY TO MIDDLE SCHOOL

Malkam Yates - Paul V. Fly Elementary to Eisenhower Science and Technology Middle School

FROM MIDDLE SCHOOL TO HIGH SCHOOL

Sakiyah Davis - Mann Master Charter to Shoemaker Mastery Charter

Heaven Sedziafa - Southwest Leadership Academy to Audenried High School

FROM HIGH SCHOOL TO COLLEGE

Anthony L. Carter, Jr., - The Haverford School to Howard University

Howard Chapman, Jr., - Camden County Technical High School to Rowan University

Jackson Jones - Perkiomen Valley High School to Temple University

Channing Joseph Mikell Wells - The Episcopal Academy to Bucknell University

FROM COLLEGE

Andrew Malik Dumas, III - from Drexel University with a B.S. in Biology

Melissa Gray - from Drexel University with a B.S.E. in Computer Science

Christopher McNeal - Harrisburg University with a B.A. in Business Administration

FROM GRADUATE SCHOOL

Jason Ross Brockman from Widener University Delaware Law School, Juris Doctorate

Musu Doe from Walden University with a Masters in Nursing (M.S.N.)

Dr. Christopher R. Koilor, M.D. from Temple University - Lewis Katz School of Medicine to University of Michigan Hospital Residency in Anesthesiology

Tyler Genet Lynch from the University of California at Los Angeles with a Masters in Fine Arts (MFA)

Dr. Samira Savoury from Wilmington University with a Doctoral degree in Business Administration D.B.A.

Tynecia Wilson from Temple University with a Graduate Certificate in Public Relations



Congratulations to the Recipients of the St. Thomas Book Award

From St. Thomas: **Channing Wells** attending Bucknell University

St. Thomas Community Outreach Awards:

Motivation High School - **Ethan Gunter** and
Morgan Johnson

West Philadelphia High School - **Nehemiah Mathis** and
Abdul Ndiyae

Boys Latin High School - **Nasir Davis** and **Justin Williams**
Camden County Technical School - **Howard Chapman Jr.**





OUR CONDOLENCES

and prayers for Henri White, Cary Smith, and family
on the death of their wife and mother,

Yvonne Caldwell Smith White.

Her service will be held at St. Thomas on
Wednesday, July 17, 2024. The viewing will begin at
10:00 AM and the Requiem Mass at **11:00 AM.**

May the soul of Yvonne rest in peace
and rise in eternal glory. Please pray for the family.



ATTENTION: ALL PARENTS OF CHILDREN

During the summer months (July and August), there
will be a reserved area in the front of the church for our
children to gather. There will be fun things for the children
to enjoy during the Service. There will be a reserved area
for parents nearby. Please speak with Fr. Daren for more
specific details.



OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT!!!

The Episcopal Church has elected **The Right Rev. Sean Rowe** as the next Presiding Bishop. We offer our prayers for him, his ministry, and his family.



St. Thomas was well represented in Louisville, Kentucky at the Episcopal Church General Convention and the Daughters of the King Triennial (DOK).

(Prayers for one of St. Thomas DOK member who had to be admitted to the hospital).



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.



A note from the Octavius V. Catto Voter Education Ministry

Greetings All

We are gearing up for General Election 2024 activities. If interested in participating in Octavius V. Catto Voter Education Ministry, please contact Wendella Fox at 215-880-4936 or wpfox3008@verizon.net.

The Catto Ministry is a non-partisan ministry, which follows the legacy and advocacy of our St. Thomas member, Octavius Catto, around civic engagement and voting. He was killed on Election Day 1871, because of his advocacy.



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.



Happy Birthday to the members of our parish celebrating in July

- 7/1 Sharon Bullock, Bobby Johnson, Patricia Holmes
- 7/2 Marilyn Miller, Carla Shelton
- 7/3 Robert Williams, Conchetta Brewer, Leslie Harris, Rev. Darryl James
- 7/5 Joan Hall, Kelly Jones, Dale Williams
- 7/6 Tiana Pankey
- 7/7 Mueni Mwanza
- 7/9 Michael Pyles
- 7/10 Dorothy Archey, Theresa Carter
- 7/11 Scott Nichols, Julie Hergenrather
- 7/12 Dorothy Smith
- 7/13 Gwen Cottman, Nicole Harris, Laura Wilson
- 7/15 Sarahn Santana
- 7/16 Deborah Nixon, Allister Allman
- 7/17 Elizabeth Trulear, Monica Taylor, Shari Bullock
- 7/19 Tom Lynch, Paula Wright, Laurie Dow, Ava Mathurin, Sukona Davis
- 7/20 Victoria Rivers, Sheree Winkfield
- 7/23 Louise Trotman
- 7/24 Richard Jones Sr., Larry Wilshire
- 7/25 Doris Matthews
- 7/26 Julian Johnson, Nicole Price, Georgia Sawyer, Taylor Garfield, Samuel Aboah
- 7/27 LaDon Elliot
- 7/28 Kaleb Miles, Dr. Jermaine McDonald
- 7/29 Deborah Matthews
- 7/30 Marian Wise, Gwendolyn Perryman
- 7/31 Tyler Lynch, Candice Hall



**The Reverend Canon Thomas Wilson Stearly Logan, Sr.
Memorial Prize**

**The Schuylkill Deanery of the Episcopal Diocese of Pennsylvania
The Very Reverend Canon Martini Shaw
Dean of the Schuylkill Deanery**

Since 2015, the Schuylkill Deanery has recognized student scholars by offering **The Rev. Canon Thomas Wilson Stearly Logan, Sr., Award**. This award, which has had a profound impact on past recipients, is provided to students at churches within the Schuylkill Deanery who have demonstrated exceptional academic achievement, community service, and a strong commitment to their faith.

Fr. Logan served as the Rector of Calvary Church Northern Liberties, one of eight churches that comprise the Schuylkill Deanery. He was named Rector Emeritus when he retired in 1984. Upon retirement, he became Associate Priest of the African Episcopal Church of St. Thomas. At the time of his death in 2012, Rev. Canon Logan was the eldest serving African-American priest in the Episcopal Church.

The application may be found [here](#).

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](#).

DAILY RECOMMENDED BIBLE READINGS

READINGS FOR

The Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

June 30, 2024

The First Lesson - [Lamentations 3:21-33](#)
[Psalm 30](#)

The Second Lesson - [2 Corinthians 8:7-15](#)

The Holy Gospel - [Mark 5:21-43](#)

The Holy Gospel Readings for the Week of July 1, 2024

Monday - [Luke 22:52-62](#)

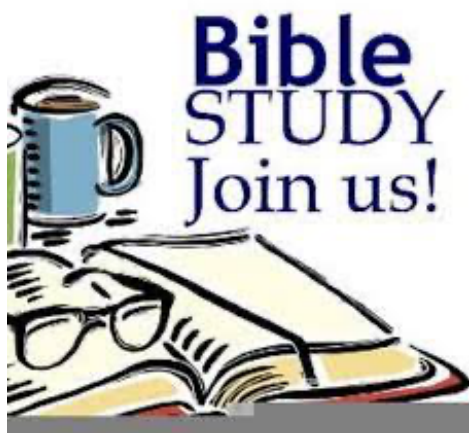
Tuesday - [Luke 22:63-71](#)

Wednesday - [Luke 23:1-12](#)

Thursday - [Luke 23:13-25](#)

Friday - [Luke 23:26-31](#)

Saturday - [Luke 23:32-43](#)



**Tuesday, 6/18 at 7:00 PM is the
last Bible Study with Fr. Jay until
September.**

ALTAR FLOWERS

Flowers on the High Altar are in Loving Memory of
Beloved Mother, Ruth Hayes,
in celebration of her 100th Birthday,
given by her sons, Gregory and Maurice Hayes.

To order flowers, please return the form with payment to Clare
Mae Daniels or Alfreda Brockman.

To order flowers, please return the form with payment to
Clare Mae Daniels or Alfreda Brockman.

I would like to place flowers on the High Altar - \$60.00

I would like to place flowers on the Absalom Jones Altar -
\$50.00

I would like to place flowers on the Columbarium- \$40.00

(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 \$ _____

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR PARISHIONERS WHO ARE:

IN REHAB:

Helena Allen - Simpson House; Fr. Darryl James - Stapley Rehab; Leotta Griffith, Linda Holmes - Saunders House

AT HOME:

Robert Brown, Kenneth Dow, Ridart "Butch" Farmer, Gwendolyn Langford, Alletta Parris-Olday, Ola Bass; Ronald Coleman, Shirley Winkfield, Thelma Silvers, Lemont Johnson, Patricia Ellison, Mary Ann Jones, Shirley Caldwell, Terry Corson, Barbara Douglas, Patricia Holmes, Loretta Fergueson, Verger Stephen Hannum, Rev. Dr. Thomas Snowden, Cornelia Camp

KEEP IN PRAYER:

Justin Trotman, Daryn Stewart, Cathy Stafford, Teri Taylor, Lisa Woodley, Sandra Bryant Miller, Waltier Blocker, Adinah Edwards, Carl Dean

WE PRAY FOR

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



St. Thomas
Presents

"WADING IN THE WATER"

August 5-9, 2024

from 10 am to 2 pm
drop-off starting at 9 am



A VACATION BIBLE EXPERIENCE

Ages: 4-16

FREE OF COST

Plenty of fun, fellowship, and food!

Register at QR CODE ATTACHED

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

ASSOCIATERECTOR@AECST.ORG



**COMING
SOON!**

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YOUNG ADULT NEWS

AECST Family Podcast Series

The first episode of the AECST Family Podcast Series is finally here! Please follow the [link](#) and enjoy.

**Looking for a nice quiet getaway?
Come to Holiday House in Cape May, New Jersey**

GFS PA HOLIDAY HOUSE

OPENING FOR THE 2024 SEASON! JUNE 1ST- SEPTEMBER 30TH

2024 Season Donation Rates

\$125/night: single occupancy

\$225/night: double occupancy

\$250/night: triple occupancy

*Family and Group rates available

No meals \$90/night: single occupancy. Must be indicated at the time of reservation.

JUNE/SEPT Bed and Breakfast Rate \$100/night: single



[Ask for details about our SPECIALS! \\$250/person \(Children 12 and under ½ price.\)](#)

Out of School- Two weeks!

- Mon., 6/17- Fri., 6/21
- Mon., 6/24- Fri., 6/28

- [4th of July Special-](#) Choose Mon., 7/1- Fri., 7/5
OR Wed., 7/3 - Sun., 7/7
- [Labor Day Weekend](#) Fri., 8/30- Mon., 9/2

For reservations e-mail gfsholiday@yahoo.com or call *609-846-6097 *New phone number!

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](#).

YOUTH COUNCIL

Do you feel called to work with Youth? Do you have great ideas that will help the church to connect with the youth of today (and vice versa)? You are invited to be a part of our parish Youth Council. Please contact [Fr. Daren](#) for more details.

YOUNG ADULT GATHERING

All young adults are invited to a time of fellowship on the 4th Sunday of every month in Anderson Hall immediately following worship.

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.

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 Scout Program is open to children aged 11-17 years old. The Scout Program will meet at 3:00 PM on Saturdays. Please contact Scout [Master Howard Chapman](#) for more information.

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 complete your Faithful Giving Card by going 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

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](#) Judy Tillman. 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 would bring their envelopes to them. 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 (Absalom Jones Way).
- 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 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 **www.aecst.org** website or send an email to our **[Fiscal Administrator](#)**.
Thank you so much to all who have return them.

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 Administrator | 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 | baptism@aecst.org |
| | 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 |
| Girls Friendly Society | Nikkol Simms | njsimms@verizon.net |
| Jazz Ensemble Director | | jobopss@aol.com |
| Live Stream Ministry | Yaseen Farooq | livevideo@aecst.org |
| | Terri Tillman | |
| Memorial Flowers | Alfreda Brockmam | fredabee@verizon.net |
| | Clare Mae Daniels | happycmd05@aol.com |
| Monarch Greeters Ministry | | |
| Parish Vergers | Stephen Hannum | 1792@aecst.org |
| | Karen Ragland | Kdrags415@gmail.com |
| Parish Webmaster | Gail Hinton Harris | webmanager@aecst.org |
| Property Chair | William Burke | property@aecst.org |
| Scout Pack 133 | Howard Chapman | howchapman@gmail.com |
| | 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 |

VESTRY OFFICERS

Richard Jones (Rector's Warden)
Albert S. Dandridge, III Esq. (Treasurer)
Deborah Camp-Frye (Accounting Warden)
Judy Tillman (Stewardship Chair)
William Burke (Property Chair)
Clare Mae Daniels (Vestry Clerk)

VESTRY

Deadra Cannon
Wendella Fox
Marie B. Golson
Deborah Harrison
D. Lynn Joell
Kelvin Johnson
Pamela Johnson
Patricia Lynch
Judith Simkins-Booth

AUXILIARY VESTRY

Brenda Best
Deborah Booker Matthews
Conchetta Brewer
Sharon Bullock
Ronnie Collins
Mary S. Dean
Elaine Gillson
Eugene Golson
Cynthia Muse
Dr. Monica Taylor
Darryle (Bobby) Tillman

THE AFRICAN EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ST. 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.