

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 (ABSALOM JONES WAY) • PHILADELPHIA, PA 19151 • (215) 473-3065
WWW.AECST.ORG • WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/AECST1792

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER APRIL 30, 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 the Fourth Sunday of Easter and Health Awareness Sunday. Katie Galbraith, the new President of Lankenau Medical Center Is our Guest Speaker. We welcome her to Philadelphia and St. Thomas.

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 or the **Order of Service** for this Sunday.



We welcome Katie Galbraith, the new President of Lankenau Medical Center, as our guest speaker today. Katie Galbraith was appointed president of Lankenau Medical Center in September 2022. Prior to her role at Lankenau and Main Line Health, she served as president at Duke Regional Hospital in Durham, North Carolina from 2014 to 2022.

Katie has been committed to safety, quality, equity, and social justice throughout her 25-year career. In addition to serving as president of Duke Regional Hospital, she was the interim head of community health for Duke University Health System, serving as a trusted adviser and community partner, strengthening relationships and building collaboration with local government, community leaders, and faith-based organizations. Katie received her bachelor's degree from Northwestern University and MBA from Elon University. She is a Fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives and has served on numerous boards.

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.



IMPORTANT NOTICE:

The wearing of masks is now optional, however, strongly recommended.

Masks are available for all in attendance if needed. **Hand sanitizer** is also available.

YOUR ATTENTION PLEASE: The only doors for entry on Sunday mornings are: the Front doors of the church and the front **ambulatory door** of the church. Please refrain from using other doors at this time.

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We are very pleased to announce the call of:

the Rev. Fr. Daren Evans to the position of: Associate to the Rector for Parish Life and Youth Ministries. His appointment comes at a time when we are "Re-imagining" our ministry to young families and Spanish-speaking members. Fr. Daren is a native of the Island of Jamaica, and a priest from the Diocese of Jamaica and the Cayman Islands. He most recently served in

the Spanish-speaking Diocese of Costa Rica, in the role of Dean of La Catedral El Buen Pastor and Diocesan Youth Coordinator. To relax, Fr. Daren "enjoys traveling, playing the piano, engaging in community involvement, farming, and plotting how to live off the grid".

We look forward to welcoming Fr. Daren Evans to the City of Philadelphia and St. Thomas Church. He will officially join us on June 1, 2023. To God be the glory!

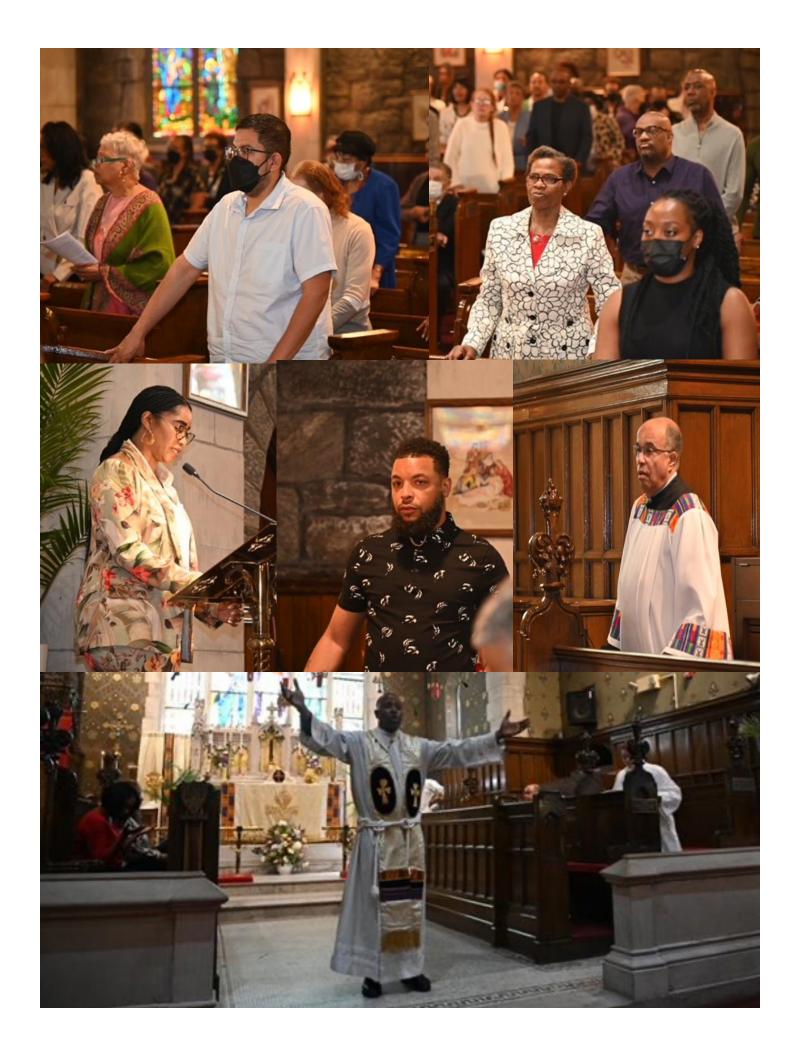
MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

The Sisterhood Guild will meet on Saturday, **May 6th** at Noon in Anderson Hall.

Pictures from the Third Sunday of Easter April 23, 2023

More pictures may be found on our <u>Facebook page</u>.











UPCOMING SUNDAYS IN APRIL / MAY

April 30th - Health Awareness Sunday. Our guest speaker will be Katie Galbraith, President of Lankenau Medical Center.

April 30th - Men are Cooking. after service in Anderson Hall. See Flyer for more information.

May 14th - Mother's Day

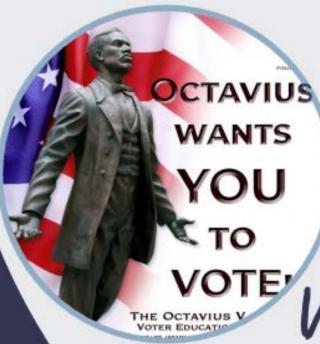
May 21st - Graduate Sunday

May 28th - Pentecost Sunday Wear something red.

If you speak a language other than English, ie: German, Swahili, Spanish, etc, and would like to be a part of the service, please contact the church office.

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.



O.V. CATTO VOTER EDUCATION MINISTRY

ROAD TO THE PRIMARY

Voting With Purpose

SPRINGTIME ELECTION SERIES

POWER Mayoral forum Off-Site (must register)|
Open Forums with candidates & officials | Social Engagement
and much more...

*Check weekly updates in AECST Facebook/ Spearhead

For more information contact Wendella Fox wpfox3008@verizon.net

DATE(S):

- *Sunday April 16th
 (Off Site Must Register 3pm-6pm)
- Saturday April 22nd
- Saturday April 29th
- Saturday May 6th

<u>Time:</u>

1:00pm - 3:00pm

Doors open at 12:30pm

L<u>ocation:</u> St. Thomas 6361 Lancaster Ave Phila PA 19151 - Anderson Hall

PRIMARY ELECTION: TUES MAY 16TH

The African Episcopal Church of St.Thomas
The Very Reverend Canon Martini Shaw, 17th Rector
www.AECST.org. www.FACEBOOK.com/AECST1792

TO OUR ST. THOMAS FAMILY

On 5/6, we anticipate learning more about the ballot, ballot questions and any tips for voting in person on Election Day [5/16]. These will take place from 1:00 – 3:00 PM in Anderson Hall. All are Welcome & bring a friend or two.

After the Pennsylvania Primary on May 16, we anticipate having a meeting or two to plan next steps and other activities. All are Welcome to join!

Ernestine Johnson, Greg Lyles, Ted Smith, Wendella Fox & Greg Allen.

The Catto Ministry has developed a Voter's Guide for the Philadelphia Primary 2023, which includes a description of each office on the ballot, recommendations for the Judicial Commission for candidates for judge, and important deadlines to vote in Pennsylvania, Delaware, and New Jersey. Click here for more information.

AECST LIVE STREAM

Please join us for Worship on the St. Thomas <u>website</u>, the <u>Live</u> <u>Service</u>, or on our <u>Facebook</u> page or <u>youtube</u> every Sunday morning at 10 am. You can also watch <u>Past Services</u> and <u>Highlights</u> from past services.



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join us GOSPEL MUSIC NIGHT

An interfaith celebration of our Savior in conjunction with the St. Thomas Gospel Choir

6pm Sunday, April 30 1682 Wood St. Philadelphia, PA

Free garage parking on 18th between Vine St. & Wood St.

THE CHURCH OF
JESUS CHRIST
OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS



It's ALMOST HERE! MAY 147H!



The St. Thomas Gardener's Annual:

Mother's Day Longrour mother by wearing agited red, pink or white earnation Flower Day
Freewill donations
help the purchase of
colorful
Summer and Fall flowers.

See D. Lynn Joell or any Gardener member for donations.

OUR SERVICE STARTS AT 10:00 AM.

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The Reverend Canon Thomas Wilson Stearly Logan, Sr. Memorial Scholarship The Schuylkill Deanery of the Episcopal Diocese of Pennsylvania

Review Committee

Jean Fowler

Marcia L. Hinton, Chair

Meredith Wiggins

The Reverend Canon Thomas Wilson Stearly Logan, Sr.

March 19, 1912-May 2, 2012



Education and achievement were very important to, and stressed by the Logan family. Throughout his life, he was surrounded by accomplished men and women and he was encouraged to make his own significant contributions to society.

He graduated from Central High School and attended Johnson C. Smith University and Lincoln University graduating in 1935. He

earned a Bachelor of Sacred Theology from General Theological Seminary (GTS) in New York City, and a Masters of Sacred Theology from Philadelphia Divinity School in 1941. Father Logan also received five honorary doctorates, including Lincoln University, Hampton University and St. Augustine's College.

Father Logan selflessly devoted over seventy-three years of his life to the Episcopal Church. At the time of his death, he was the oldest serving African American priest in the Episcopal Church, USA.



More information and an application can be found at the link provided.



Carrie Lessene, Director

In Concert



The Historic African Episcopal Church of St. Thomas 6361 Lancaster Avenue Philadelphia, PA 19151 4:00 p.m. May 7, 2023.

\$15.00

The Caribbean Festival Committee is pleased to host the 11th Annual Caribbean Festival on Sunday, June 11th. Join us for the sweet sounds of steelpan music, samplings of delicacies from the Caribbean, and lots of fellowship and fun! The committee is already meeting and planning is in full swing. If you'd like to be a part of the planning, please email us at caribfestaecst@gmail.com. This event is free and open to all!

In order to raise funds to host this event, the committee is planning a few fundraising events before the festival. On **May 7th** and **21st**, join us immediately after service for the sale of Jamaican patties! We will have chicken, beef, and vegetarian options.

Want to see our beloved Philadelphia 76ers play in Round 2 of the NBA playoffs?

The committee will raffle off two tickets to see a home game at Wells Fargo Center. Each ticket is \$20 and will be available until **Sunday, April 30th -** winners will be drawn on Sunday afternoon. For more information, please call/text Michael Grizzle at 267-973-5599.

2023 ANNUAL WOMEN'S DAY CELEBRATION "Calabatina 4(0) Vana"



THE HONORABLE

JOANNA MCCLINTON

FIRST WOMAN ELECTED

PA SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE

Sunday June 4, 2023 - 10:00 AM

Theme: "And now these three remain: faith, hope and love.

But the greatest of these is LOVE"
1 Corinthians 13:13



If you are physically unable to attend,

please join us virtually via our website, YouTube, or Facebook pages.
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ALTAR FLOWERS

Flowers on the Columbarium are in Loving Memory of my wife, **Phyllis Johnson**, given by Bobby Johnson.

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

 I would like to place flowers on the I would like to place flowers on the I would like to place flowers on the 	Absalom Jones Altar - \$50.
(Please PRINT/ TYPE. You may use ar paper for more names.)	additional piece of
A) In memory of	
B) In Thanksgiving for	
Given by	
Envelope #	_ Amount \$

Attention AECST Students!

The Jesse F. Anderson Scholarship Fund applications for St Thomas Book Awards are available for graduating high school seniors who are members of AECST and plan to attend a school of higher learning in the Fall. Applications are also available for AECST Members who are enrolled in a full-time Graduate Program. Application Deadline: May 15, 2023. For more information contact Paula Lamb: 215-620-7250(high school seniors), Diana Hutchins: 610-525-4322, (Graduate Students) or Thomasina Hack: 215-901-2773.

A ST. THOMAS HEALTH MINISTRY NOTE

STAY UP TO DATE with vaccinating against COVID-19 and the Flu. The new COVID-19 (Bivalent) booster is now available for anyone 12 and over.

For guidelines on when to get your booster go to the <u>CDC</u> or consult with your doctor's office. Both the COVID-19 booster and the Flu vaccine are available at local pharmacies (RiteAid, CVS and Walgreens).

Go on their website to schedule an appointment.

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 <u>UNsubscribe</u> at anytime by following the instructions provided at the bottom of every email message.

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 **vestryclerk@aecst.org** 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 PM.



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.

begin Oct. I, 2022 Ilam-Ipm

> 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

JOIN THE GIRLS FRIENDLY SOCIETY!

Meetings are from 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM. All girls aged 3 - 30 are welcome. Girls participate in: service projects, girl talks, arts & crafts, World Day of Prayer, Founder's Day, Mission Day and GFS Day along with trips to the theater, 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 our Branch Advisor, Nikkol Simms.

Please help support our St. Thomas GFS Branch with a love donation. Donations will go to helping them go on their Founders' Day trip to Washington D.C. in March and World Council in South Africa August 3-11, 2023. If you have any questions, please contact Nikkol Simms.

CHURCH SCHOOL

is held in the undercroft at **10:00 AM** for Youth ages 4 through High School. The theme for this church school year is "The Lord's Prayer".

Join us as we RE-Imagine our Church School Adventures with Prayer, Fellowship, Programs, and Fun! Register in person or contact **Dottie Archey** for more information or 215 837-6941.

SCOUT TROOP #133 -

Our Cub Scout Program is open to boys grades 1-5. The Cub program meets at 2:00 PM on Saturdays.

The 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 <u>Howard Chapman</u> for more information.

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 **Gladyce** in the office 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.

Readings for the Fourth Sunday of Easter April 30, 2023

The First Lesson: Acts 2:42-47
Psalm 23

The Second Lesson: 1 Peter 2:19-25
The Holy Gospel: John 10:1-10

The Holy Gospel Readings for the Week of May 1, 2023

Monday - <u>Luke 6:1-11</u>

Tuesday - **Luke 6:12-26**

Wednesday - Luke 6:27-38

Thursday - <u>Luke 6:39-49</u>

Friday - <u>Luke 7:1-17</u>

Saturday - <u>Luke 7:18-28,29-30,31-35</u>

Readings for the Fifth Sunday of Easter May 7, 2023

The First Lesson: Acts 7:55-60

Psalm 31:1-5,15-16

The Second Lesson: 1 Peter 2:2-10

The Holy Gospel: John 14:1-14

The Holy Gospel Readings for the Week of May 8, 2023

Monday - <u>Luke 7:36-50</u>

Tuesday - <u>Luke 8:1-15</u>

Wednesday - Luke 8:16-25

Thursday - <u>Luke 8:26-39</u>

Friday - Luke 8:40-56

Saturday - Luke 9:1-17

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR PARISHIONERS WHO ARE:

IN REHAB:

Nora Corbin-Little Flower Rehab; Linda Holmes, Fr. Darryl James.

RECOVERING AT HOME:

Rosalind Rodriquez, Alletta Parris-Olday, Harold Yates, William Smalls, Leatrice Snowden, Pearl Henderson, Fr. Jay Collins, Teri Taylor, Calvin Thompson.Nia Mathurin, Tyrone Keller, Nikki Franke.

KEEP IN PRAYER:

Louise Lewis, Adinah Edwards, Robert Brown, Justin Trotman, Georgia Sawyer, Shirley Caldwell, Stephanie Williamson, Francina Norris, Leotta Griffith, Ridart "Butch" Farmer, Kenneth Dow, Gwendolyn Langford, Eleanor Chestnut, Dorothy Smith, Alice Bowman-Cropper, Daryn Stewart, Joan Hall, Sheryl Johnson, Shirley Winkfield, Dr. Thomas Snowden, Lemont Johnson, Dr. Walter Bantom, Bill Edmonds.

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.

STEWARDSHIP NEWS

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.

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**.

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 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 now be sent for 2023. Please send them via the US mail to the church or electronically by clicking this link <u>Click></u> or send an email to our <u>Fiscal Administrator</u>. 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. Cannon Martini Shaw	rector@aecst.org
Associate to the Rector		
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	Dottie Archey	churchschool@aecst.org
Ed Muse Photogrphy 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	Joe Stevens	jobopss@aol.com
Live Stream Ministry	Yaseen Faroog	livevideo@aecst.org
-	Terri Tillman	
Memorial Flowers	Alfreda Brockmam	fredabee@verizon.net
	Clare Mae Daniels	happycmd05@aol.com
Monarch Greeters Ministry	Roy Ellison	s.royellison@gmail.com
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

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.