



**AECST  
FOUNDED 1792**

*JESUS,  
OUR  
GREATEST  
GIFT*



**ST. THOMAS**  
THE AFRICAN EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF

**THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
The Rt. Rev. Daniel Gutierrez - Officiant  
December 6, 2020  
10:00 A.M.

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**PARISH ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE HOURS:**

Monday-Friday 9AM-4PM.

Please be advised that with social distancing still in effect:

1. No more than three (3) persons can visit the office at a time.
  2. You must be masked to enter the building and must practice social distancing while present.
  3. You must sanitize your hands upon entering the door.
  4. Only entry to the entire property will be ONE DOOR, the Absalom Jones House ramp door.
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**IN-PERSON CHURCH SERVICE RE-ENTRY:**

It is presently uncertain when we will return to worship in the church however planning is underway to assure that we are all able to safely worship upon our return. The Rector has appointed the following Committee to discern/guide the process and make recommendations to him and the Vestry. The Co-Chairs are Richard Jones, Rector's Warden, and Deborah Camp-Frye, Accounting Warden.

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**FR. GERALD (JAY) COLLINS**

will celebrate his 24th Priesthood Ordination Anniversary on Monday, December 7th. Congratulations Fr. Jay. May God continue to bless you. St. Thomas loves you!

## **CHRISTMAS FLOWERS:**

Your gift of Christmas Poinsettias and flowers for the High Altar will help beautify the church for the holidays and will be a beautiful tribute to your loved ones. (Because of Covid -19 restrictions you will not be able to pick up your poinsettias.) Deadline is December 21, 2020.

Please send the following information by mail to Clara Mae Daniels at the church:

6361 Lancaster Ave, Phila. PA 19151 or to 1792@aecst.org

-In Memory of (please list names, 5 per plant/arrangement)

-In Thanksgiving for (please list names, 5 per plant/arrangement)

-Given by (list name/names)

Envelope number, Amount

The cost of the High Altar arrangement is \$50.00

The cost of the Poinsettias are \$20.00

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## **CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE AND DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24TH**

5:00 P.M. - Virtual Service

(please tune in to the church Facebook or website page)

7:00 P.M. - Distribution of Holy Communion Outside  
and Hot Apple Cider Reception.

Hosted by: The St. Thomas Tree of Life Ministry

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## **COMING SOON:**

The Philly Pops Concert Series Featuring the Festival Choir, Philadelphia Boys Choir and the St. Thomas Gospel Choir.

The shows are from Dec. 18th - Jan. 1st at 7pm

Anyone can watch it. [www.phillypops.org/christmasgift](http://www.phillypops.org/christmasgift)

# **DAILY RECOMMENDED BIBLE READINGS**

## **This Sunday's Readings The Second Sunday of Advent December 6th**

First Reading: Isaiah 40: 1-11  
Psalm 85: 1-2, 8-13  
Second Reading: 2 Peter 3: 8-15a  
The Holy Gospel: Mark 1: 1-8

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## **Week of 12/7/2020**

Monday - Matthew 21: 1-11  
Tuesday - Matthew 22: 34-46  
Wednesday - Matthew 23: 1-12  
Thursday - Matthew 23: 13-26  
Friday - Matthew 23: 27-39  
Saturday - Matthew 24: 1-14

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## **Readings For: The Third Sunday of Advent December 13th**

First Reading: Isaiah 61: 1-4, 8-11  
Psalm 126  
Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5: 16-24  
The Holy Gospel: John 1: 6-8, 19-28

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## UPCOMING SUNDAYS IN DECEMBER

### December 13th

Third Sunday of Advent (Annual Men's Day)

### December 20th

Fourth Sunday of Advent  
(Special Christmas Program with our Church School)

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### TUESDAY ZOOM BIBLE CLASSES AT 7PM

Please send your email to:  
Fr. Collins at [JayCollins@comcast.net](mailto:JayCollins@comcast.net) or  
267-634-6185 to be added to the list.

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### PLEASE KEEP IN PRAYER

#### Recovering At Home:

Regina Meacham Devero, Katrina Harris Marshall,  
Linda Holmes, Gail Harris, Waltier Blocker,  
Rosalind Roberts Smalls, Quincina Edmonds,  
Virginia Cooke, Kenneth Dow, Joyce Harrison,  
Verger Stephen Hannum, Suzanne Closson,  
Dr. Jay Fluellen, Angela Foster

#### Recovering In Facilities:

Pastor Sadie Mitchell - Saunders House

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:**  
**All Our Parishioners Celebrating December Birthdays**

- 12/2 Christine Bovell
- 12/3 Patricia Garfield, Louise Marcotte, Carl Dean, David Bakali
- 12/4 Yvonne Syndor
- 12/5 Samuel Ellison, Walter Harris
- 12/6 Stacey Davis
- 12/7 Arnott Trotman, Barbara Douglass
- 12/10 Bernice Ambrose, Ariele Hunt, Maurice Hayes, James Lowe
- 12/12 Jennie Patterson, Carmen Brown
- 12/13 Samantha Tyler
- 12/14 Steven Dandridge, Ruth Moses, Adinah Edwards,  
Jessie Rich
- 12/15 Johanna W. Daye, Linda Tapper-Smith, Gabriel Faisal
- 12/16 Clarence Rice
- 12/17 Tyleenda Wilson, Christine Faisal
- 12/18 Clara Mae Daniels, Alverna Wiley, Susan Ben,  
Jerome Peterson
- 12/19 Daryn Stewart, Theresa Sheilds
- 12/20 Kimberly Lloyd, Donna Foster, Scarlett Scales
- 12/21 Ginger DuBrey
- 12/22 David Alexander
- 12/23 Irving Stevenson
- 12/25 Wanda Tarawaly, Carl Minot, Stephen Pugh, James Kane
- 12/27 Antoinette Avery, Carmen Alexander
- 12/28 Janae Grier, Kimberly Holmes
- 12/29 Jared Lowe, Wanda Hill
- 12/30 Howard Tucker
- 12/31 Donald Hunt, Sr., William Wright-El

## **OUR CONDOLENCES TO:**

Ricardo Bostic and Lemont Johnson on the death of Ricardo's baby brother **Maurice Bostic.**

Conchetta Brewer and family on the death of her sister, **Arlene Brewer.**

May their souls rest in peace and rise in glory.

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## **A MESSAGE FROM STEWARDSHIP:**

The 2021 St. Thomas Offering Envelopes are now ready for pick up in Anderson Hall. You may pick them up during Parish Office Hours (M-F: 9:00 A. M - 4:00P.M.) by entering through the A.J. House entrance with the ramp. Please don't forget your mask. If by chance you live in the same neighborhood of a church member who is unable to pick theirs up, perhaps you can pick theirs up and put it in their mail slot or between their doors. Thank you.

If you have changed your address, home/cell phone number or email address, please send your changed contact information to Judy Tillman at [tillman\\_72@msn.com](mailto:tillman_72@msn.com) or the church email [1792@aecst.org](mailto:1792@aecst.org) so that we can update the church records.

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## **You have several ways to submit your Pledge Card:**

- Bring your offering to the Parish Fiscal Office
  - Mail your card to the Parish Fiscal Office
  - Photograph and email your 2021 Faithful Giving/Pledge Card to the Parish Fiscal Office at [fiscal@aecst.org](mailto:fiscal@aecst.org)
  - Submit online at [www.aecst.org](http://www.aecst.org) or on our Facebook page.
- “To whom much is given, much is required.” Luke 12: 48**

## **2021 FAITHFUL GIVING CARDS**

Thank you to the following individuals who have already submitted their 2021 Faithful Giving Cards.

### **Clergy, Vestry, Auxiliary Vestry Leadership**

Fr. Martini Shaw

Fr. Gerald Collins

Walter & Patricia Bantom

Ronnie Collins

Albert S. Dandridge, III Esq.

Johanna W. Daye

Deborah & Barry Frye

D. Lynn Joell

Brenda Johnson Best

Kelvin Johnson

Richard Jones

Judith & Darryle Tillman

Patricia Akins

Conchetta Brewer

Sharon Bullock

William Burke, Jr.

Deadra Cannon

Clara Mae Daniels

Linda Holmes

Cynthia Muse

Judith Simkins-Booth



**THANK YOU!**

IS YOUR NAME LISTED BELOW?

If you have not, please prayerfully submit yours TODAY!

Joyce Adams  
Constance Anderson  
Jean Armstrong  
Cedric Babb  
Paul Bach & Julie Hergenrather  
Terri Barber  
Brenda Battle  
Deborah Billips  
I Page Bowser  
Theresa Bramwell  
Jean Brogden  
Jayne Brown  
William Brown,III  
Shirley Caldwell  
Cornelia Camp  
Phyllis Cater  
Lynada Coleburn-Bryant  
Andrea Cummings  
Terry Corson  
Dr. Rollo Dilworth  
Barbara Douglass  
Quincina & William Edmonds  
Patricia & Roy Ellison  
Deidre & Larry Farmbry  
Loretta Ferguson

## **THANK YOU!**

Earlene Ford  
Wendella Fox & Herb Wetzel  
Gwen Francis  
Nikki Franke  
Elaine Gillison  
Barbara Glenn  
Clarice Grant  
Linda Greaves  
Carole Williams Green  
Michele Green  
Leotta Griffith  
Joan Hall  
Gail & Roosevelt Harris, Sr.  
Joyce Harrison  
Gwenda & Richard Hart  
Gregory Hayes  
Denise Henderson  
Quentin Heyward  
Wanda Hill  
Fleta Howell  
Patricia & Donald Hunt  
Dr. Diana Hutchins  
Kim Hyde  
Joyce Jackson  
Diann Jacox  
Fr. Darryl James  
Bobby Johnson

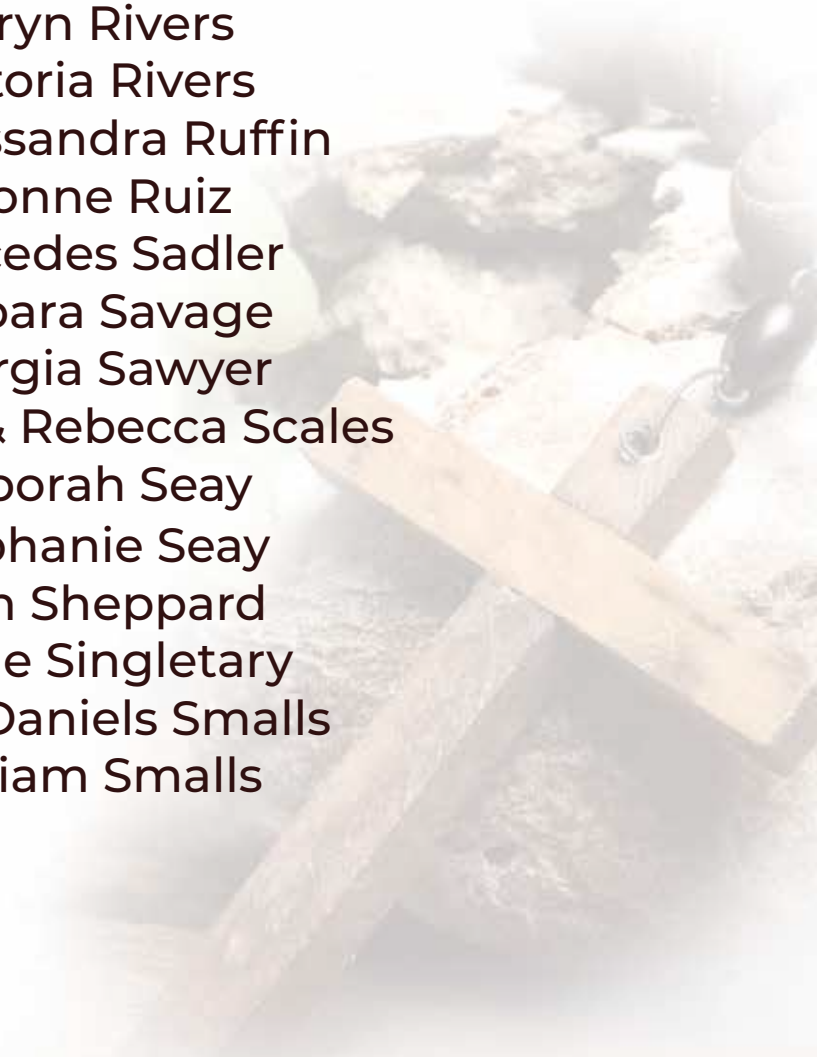


## **THANK YOU!**

Lemont Johnson  
Sheryl Johnson  
Jenelle Wilson Johnson  
Bettie Jones  
Joyce & Robert Jones  
Sheila Jones-Smith  
Tyrone Keller  
Reggie & Sherilynn Kimble  
Jurdina Koiler  
John Kortue, Sr.  
Louise Lewis  
Kimberly Lloyd  
Adrienne Logan  
C. Adjoa Love-Dorsey  
Constance Lyons  
Deborah Matthews  
Shelia McCullough  
Denise McKinney-Gibson  
Regina Meacham Devero  
William Meek  
Deirdre Milanes  
Carl Minott  
Colin & Helen Mitchell  
Rev. Sadie Mitchell  
Thelma Montara

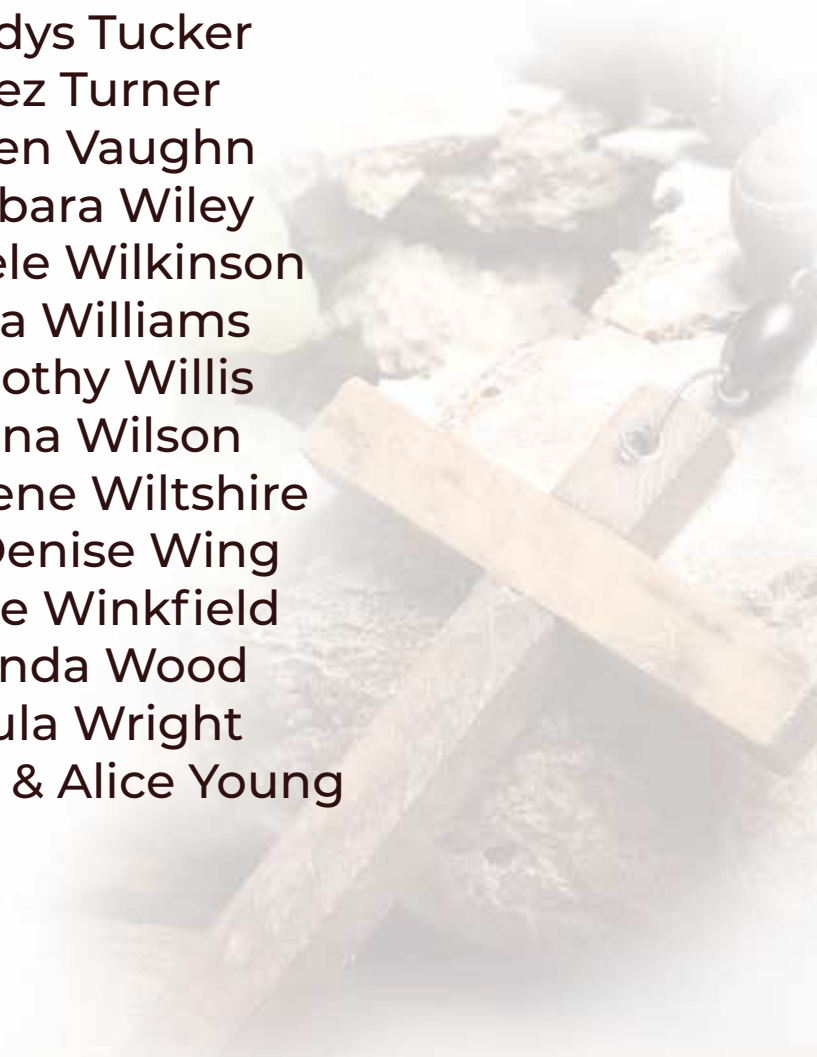
## **THANK YOU!**

KyMBERli Morrell  
Elsie Moto  
Mueni Beatrice Mwanzia  
Vincent & Lisa Napoleon  
Jerome & Helen Peterson  
Marcia Pruett  
Stephen Pugh  
Audrey Pyles  
Karen Ragland  
Dr. Vivian Ray  
Dolores Redmond  
Caryn Rivers  
Victoria Rivers  
Dr. Cassandra Ruffin  
Yvonne Ruiz  
Mercedes Sadler  
Barbara Savage  
Georgia Sawyer  
Richard & Rebecca Scales  
Deborah Seay  
Stephanie Seay  
Leah Sheppard  
Arlene Singletary  
Velva Daniels Smalls  
William Smalls



## **THANK YOU!**

Anita Smith  
Dorothy Smith  
Langsten Smith  
Lynda Tapper-Smith  
Catherine Stafford  
Dr. H. Lynn Starr  
Joyce Anne Stewart  
Lisa Stewart  
Sheila Stubbs  
Dr. Monica Taylor  
Rosita Taylor  
Gloria Thomas  
Gladys Tucker  
Inez Turner  
Karen Vaughn  
Barbara Wiley  
Michele Wilkinson  
Julia Williams  
Dorothy Willis  
Lorna Wilson  
Charlene Wiltshire  
Dr. Denise Wing  
Diane Winkfield  
Wanda Wood  
Paula Wright  
Donald & Alice Young



# **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**

<b>Yearly Income</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>10%</b>
\$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



AECST  
FOUNDED 1792

The African Episcopal Church  
of  
St. Thomas  
Church School  
is

**BACK!**

Calling ALL AECST  
Students K-12, Parents and Teachers

WELCOME TO A  
NEW AND EXCITING YEAR  
OF ADVENTURE IN OUR CHRISTIAN JOURNEY  
- LEARNING AND LIVING THROUGH CHRIST

**KNOW JESUS.  
CHANGE THE WORLD!**

**JOIN US  
THE AECST CHURCH SCHOOL  
EVERY SUNDAY AT NOON**

Registration required via email  
To RSVP contact Supt. Dottie Archey  
(215) 837-6941 or email at [churchschool1792@gmail.com](mailto:churchschool1792@gmail.com)  
Interested in becoming a Church School Teacher?  
Contact Dottie Archey to learn more.

The Very Reverend Canon Fr. Martini Shaw, Rector

"Start children off on the way they should go,  
and even when they are old, they will not turn from it"

Proverbs 22:6 (NIV)



## HOW CAN I STILL GIVE TO THE CHURCH WHEN I AM ASKED TO STAY INDOORS / MAINTAIN SOCIAL DISTANCING?

- 1) Mail in your check or money order to the church.  
Please use the following address:  
The Historic African Episcopal Church of St. Thomas  
c/o Fiscal Administrator  
6361 Lancaster Avenue  
Philadelphia, PA 19151
  
- 2) 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**.
  
- 3) Drop off a payment at the church anytime in the mail slot of the AJ House door on the patio or the Parish Office during office hours.
  
- 4) Church website **<http://www.aecst.org/donations.htm>**  
(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.)



## **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.

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If you are not receiving the Spearhead emails, please visit <http://eepurl.com/djyGiD> to subscribe. 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.

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Don't have Facebook but want to see the service? Please join us for our Virtual Worship Service on the St. Thomas Website: [www.aecst.org](http://www.aecst.org) every Sunday morning at 10am.

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### **THE VESTRY**

Rector's Warden - Richard C. Jones  
Accounting Warden - Deborah Camp-Frye  
Clerk of the Vestry - Johanna W. Daye  
Treasurer - Kevin Johnson

Alister Allman	Albert S. Dandridge	Jonathan Muse
Patricia Bantom	Deborah Harrison	Darryl (Bobby) Tillman
Ronnie Collins	D. Lynn Joell	Judith Tillman
	Brenda Johnson Best	

## MINISTRY STAFF

Bishop	The Rt Rev Daniel G P Gutierrez	
Rector	The Very Rev Canon Martini Shaw	rector@aecst.org
Assistant to the Rector		
Associate Priest	The Rev Dr Sadie S Mitchell	
Associate Priest	The Rev Fr Gerald Collins	
Associate Minister	The Rev Dr Thomas G Snowden	
Associate Minister	The Rev Dr Paul Bach	
Parish Vergers	Stephen Hannum	
	Karen Ragland	
	Lisa Stewart	
Executive Assistant to the Rector	Gladyce DuBrey	1792@aecst.org
Fiscal Assistant to the Rector	Deadra Cannon	
Investments Advisor to the Rector	Albert S. Dandridge, III, Esq	
Fiscal Administrator	Jeannette Jeffrey	fiscal@aecst.org
Sexton	LaDon Elliott	
Asst Sexton	James Brown	
Rector's General Counsel	Joe Tucker, Esq	215.875.0609
Chancel Choir Master	Jay Fluellen, D.M.A.	drjfluellen@gmail.com
Gospel Choir Master	Waltier Blocker	
Jazz Ensemble Director	Joe Stevenson	
Church School Superintendent	Dottie Archey	215..474..2815
Memorial Flowers	Alfreda Brockman	
Baptism Co-Chairs	Gail H Harris	215..450..9312
	Patricia Walker-Ellison	215..643..7223
Ed Muse Photography Ministry	William Edmonds	302..502..6375
	Dale Williams	
Social Media Manager	Gregory J Allen, PhD	215..477..2672
Scout Pack 133	Arlene Gray	bsapack0133@gmail.com
Sound Ministry	Joe Stevenson	
Transportation Ministry	J Reggie Kimble	610..585..8053
William Burke Ushers Ministry	Brenda Johnson Best	
Parish Webmaster	Gail H Harris	ghwebmaster@aecst.org

***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 taught, lived and spread.***