



CELEBRATING A FEW OF OUR HEROES  
BLACK HISTORY MONTH  
(IS JUST NOT LONG ENOUGH)



AECST  
FOUNDED 1792

**THE FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY**  
**Black History Month Observance**  
**February 7, 2021**  
**10:00 AM**

**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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**ST. THOMAS  
CIRCLE  
OF  
PRAYER MINISTRY**

**PLEASE JOIN  
US WEEKLY FOR  
MONDAY MORNING  
PRAYER CALL**

**AT 6:30 AM**

**THE TELECONFERENCE NUMBER IS:  
(605) 313-6361 CODE: 268 105**

**YOU ARE WELCOME TO SEND  
AN INTERCESSORY PRAYER  
REQUEST TO:**

**[CIRCLEOFPRAYER@AECST.ORG](mailto:CIRCLEOFPRAYER@AECST.ORG)**

**PHYLLIS B. CATER \* DAPHNE GILSTRAP  
FACILITATORS**

**THE VERY REV. CANON MARTINI SHAW  
RECTOR**



**THE AFRICAN EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS**  
6361 LANCASTER AVENUE PHILADELPHIA, PA 19151 215.473.3065

## **ST. THOMAS CIRCLE OF PRAYER**

Thank you Fr. Shaw, Susan Ben, St. Thomas members and all others who participated in our first Circle of Prayer Call. Fr. Shaw's words of encouragement & Susan's gift of song were truly uplifting and the perfect way to start this historic week in our Nation.

Please remember that this is a weekly call. We look forward to our next prayer session on **Monday, Feb. 11, 2021 at 6:30 am**. If you would like to submit your name for Intercessory Prayer, please email: [circleofprayer@aecst.org](mailto:circleofprayer@aecst.org)

We welcome members who would like to participate in offering the Intercessory Prayer, the Prayers for the People, or a Meditation in Song. The teleconference call number is: (605) 313-6361 and the code is 268 105

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### **FROM THE RECTOR:**

There is still time for you to Prayerfully submit your 2021 Faithful Giving Card. You may do so by several methods: mail, drop off in the office, on our website online: ([aecst.org](http://aecst.org) or Facebook)

If you have questions, please contact the Fiscal Administrator, Jeanette Jeffrey in the Fiscal Office from 10am-1pm Monday-Thursday.

Thanking you in advance for the many ways that you share your Time, Talents and Treasures toward the ministries of St. Thomas Church.

**To All Guild and Organization Leaders / Presidents:**

Please check your email. The Annual Church Meeting is coming up and a **ONE paragraph** description of you ministries and organizations activities should be submitted to the Parish Office before the deadline of Monday, February 22, 2021. It can be sent to Gladyce DuBrey at [1792@aecst.org](mailto:1792@aecst.org)

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**Chosen 300**

**“Have a Heart for the Homeless / Hungry” Fundraiser**

Our 2021 Fundraiser for Chosen 300 will continue in February, Heart month. In 2021, we will provide meals to be served at the Chosen 300 Spring Garden Street site and at the Lancaster Avenue site. Because of our steadfast support the challenges of COVID -19 did not deter is on 2020.

We continued service at both sites!

Checks for donations should be made payable to:

**AECST Chosen 300** - with Chosen 300 on the memo line  
Mail checks to: St. Thomas Church, 6361 Lancaster Avenue,  
Phila. PA 19151. Attention: Chosen 300  
Questions?: contact [scmci@aol.com](mailto:scmci@aol.com)

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**Please Be Advised:**

The St. Thomas Thrift Shop is NOT taking donations at this time.



## **PLEASE KEEP IN PRAYER**

### **Recovering At Home:**

Regina Meacham Devero, Katrina Harris Marshall,  
Linda Holmes, Gail Harris, Waltier Blocker,  
Rosalind Roberts Smalls, Quincina Edmonds,  
Kenneth Dow, Verger Stephen Hannum,  
Suzanne Closson, Carl Dean, Joan Hall,  
Adinah Edwards, Bobby Johnson, William Edmonds  
Isedora "Gwen" Francis, Tyrone Keller

### **Hospitalized:**

Lisa Woodley, Georgia Sawyer, Mary Sewell Smith,  
Elder Lemuel Stiles

### **Rehabilitation Facility:**

Francina Norris

### **Hospice Care:**

Virginia Cooke

### **We Pray For:**

Those who are Incarcerated and their families/loved ones, as well as those affected by their actions.

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### **OUR CONDOLENCES TO:**

Nicole Harris and Family on the death of her grandmother **Gladys Harvey**. May the soul of Gladys rest in peace and rise in glory. Please pray for the family.

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# **DAILY RECOMMENDED BIBLE READINGS**

## **This Sunday's Readings The Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany**

**February 7**

First Reading: Isaiah 40: 21-31

Psalm 147: 1-12, 21c

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 9: 16-23

The Holy Gospel: Mark 1: 29-39

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### **Week of 2/8/2021**

Monday - John 7: 37-52

Tuesday - John 7: 53-8:11

Wednesday - John 8: 12-20

Thursday - John 8: 21-32

Friday - John 8: 33-47

Saturday - John 8: 47-59

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### **Readings For: The Feast of Absalom Jones**

**February 14th**

First Reading: Isaiah 42: 5-9

Psalm 126

Second Reading: Ephesians 4: 1-6

The Holy Gospel: John 15: 12-15

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## **UPCOMING SUNDAYS IN FEBRUARY**

**Feb. 7th**

Kick Off - Black History Month Observance

**Feb. 14th**

Annual Celebration of the Life and Ministry of The  
Reverend Absalom Jones

The theme for the day: "The Power and the Plague"  
Guest Homilist: The Right Rev. Robert Wright,  
Bishop of the Diocese of Atlanta, Georgia

**Feb. 21st**

First Sunday of Lent

**Feb. 26th**

Special Church School Black History Month Presentation  
at 10:00 A.M.

Annual Parish Meeting (Virtual) at Noon

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### **THE ALTAR GUILD**

is selling 2021 Liturgical Calendars for \$6.00 each.

You may purchase and arrange for pick up by calling  
Clara Mae Daniels at 215-327-6168 or Freda Brockman at  
609-841-4799 (after 3pm)



## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Wednesday, Feb. 10th**

St. Thomas is a COVID -19 Vaccination Site  
Only registered persons with appointments allowed

**Saturday, Feb. 13th**

Diocesan Celebration of  
the Reverend Absalom Jones

**DOK Prayer Call for the Nation**  
at 11:45am-12:30pm

**Feb. 17th**

Ash Wednesday  
Imposition of Ashes and Blessing Outdoors

**Please Watch**

“Rector’s Invitation to a Holy Lent and Prayers.”  
on Facebook and the website before coming for Ashes

8:00 AM - 8:30 AM

Noon - 12:30 PM

6:00 PM - 6:30 PM

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### **TUESDAY ZOOM BIBLE CLASSES**

with Fr. Jay will resume on

**April 6, 2021 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.

## **A MESSAGE FROM STEWARDSHIP:**

Our theme for this year's Stewardship - "Our Doors Are Open"

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.

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.

Thank you. "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) 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) Bring your check directly to the Parish Office during regular business hours (Monday - Thursday 9am-4pm). After business hours, drop your envelope in the door mail slot located on the front patio of the Absalom Jones House.
  
- 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, Church School, Chosen 300, 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.



## **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

Johanna W. Daye

Deborah & Barry Frye

Deborah Harrison

D. Lynn Joell

Brenda Johnson Best

Kelvin & Pam Johnson

Richard Jones

Judith & Darryle Tillman

Patricia Akins

Conchetta Brewer

Sharon Bullock

William Burke, Jr.

Deadra Cannon

Clara Mae Daniels

Linda Holmes

Dr. Frank Johnson

Cynthia Muse

Jonathan Muse

Judith Simkins-Booth

Bernadette Ingrid Wyche

**THANK YOU!**  
**IS YOUR NAME LISTED BELOW?**  
If you have not, please prayerfully submit yours TODAY!

Joyce Adams  
Dr. Gregory Allen  
Carmen Alexander  
Constance Anderson  
Dorothy Archey  
Jean Armstrong  
Jeanne Arnold  
Cedric Babb  
Paul Bach & Julie Hergenrather  
Terri Barber  
Tim Barksdale  
Brenda Battle  
Susan Ben  
Deborah Billips  
Guy M. Booth  
Ricardo Bostic  
J.R. & Alfreda Brockman  
I Page Bowser  
Theresa Bramwell  
Lorita Brockington  
Jean Brogden  
Carmen M. Brown  
Dr. Jane & Robert Brown  
Marilyn Brown  
William Brown, III  
Carmella Bullock  
Shirley Caldwell  
Cornelia Camp  
Phyllis Cater

## **THANK YOU!**

Antwyne and Jennifer Caviness  
Lynada Coleburn-Bryant  
Ted Corbin  
Terry Corson  
Gwendolyn Cottman  
Andrea Cummings  
Stacey Davis  
Carl & Mary Dean, Sr.  
Elizabeth Derr  
Dr. Rollo Dilworth  
Barbara Douglas  
Andrew & Lisa-Renee Dumas  
Quincina & William Edmonds  
Adinah Edwards  
Patricia & Roy Ellison  
Rashid & Christie Faisal  
Deidre & Larry Farmbry  
Loretta Ferguson  
Marceline Fitzwilliam  
Earlene Ford  
Wendella Fox & Herb Wetzel  
Gwen Francis  
Nikki Franke  
Irenda Gates  
Elaine Gillison  
Barbara Glenn  
Swanie Goldsmith  
Clarice Grant  
Arlene Gray  
Linda Greaves  
Carole Williams Green  
Michele Green



## **THANK YOU!**

Signe Griffin  
Leotta Griffith  
Thomasina Hack  
Joan Hall  
Stephen W. Hannum  
Gail & Roosevelt Harris, Sr.  
Leslie T. Harris  
Joyce Harrison  
Gwenda & Richard Hart  
Gregory Hayes  
Maurice Hayes  
Denise Henderson  
Quentin Heyward  
Wanda Hill  
Merle Hopson  
Ruth E. Hopson  
Angela Holloway  
Karl Holloway  
Fleta Howell  
Patricia & Donald Hunt  
Dr. Diana Hutchins  
Kim Hyde  
Joyce Jackson  
Diann Jacox  
Fr. Darryl James  
Bobby Johnson  
Lemont Johnson  
Sheryl Johnson  
Jenelle Wilson Johnson  
Vernetta Johnston



## **THANK YOU!**

Bettie Jones  
Clarence Jones, Jr.  
Donna Jones  
Joyce & Robert Jones  
Kelly Jones  
Rene Jones  
Sheila Jones-Smith  
Marie Jordan  
Winsome Josephs  
Tyrone Keller  
Reggie & Sherilynn Kimble  
Jurdina Koiler  
John Kortue, Sr.  
Valerie Hutton LaBonne  
Kathleen Lacey  
Paula Glenn Lamb  
Gwendolyn Langford  
Nancy Conway Lee  
TamlaLee  
Louise Lewis  
Steven & Jameela Lewis  
Karen Leys  
Kimberly Lloyd  
Adrienne Logan  
C. Adjoa Love-Dorsey  
James T. Lowe, Jr.  
Winston Lowe  
Patricia Lynch  
Constance Lyons  
Deborah Matthews  
Maria McWilliams-Zayzay  
Shelia McCullough

## **THANK YOU!**

Denise McKinney  
Denise McKinney-Gibson  
Dianne McNeal  
Regina Meacham Devero  
William Meek  
Deirdre Milanes  
Jann Minor  
Carl Minott  
Colin & Helen Mitchell  
Pastor Sadie Mitchell  
Thelma Montara  
Elsie Moto  
Mueni Beatrice Mwanzia  
Vincent & Lisa Napoleon  
Francina Norris  
Jerome & Helen Peterson  
Mary Ann Phillips  
Simone Pollard  
Marcia Pruett  
Stephen Pugh  
Audrey Pyles  
Michael Pyles  
Karen Ragland  
Dr. Vivian Ray  
Dolores Redmond  
Dianne McNeal  
Anita Reid  
Kimberly Reinheckel  
Clarence Rice  
John Rich  
Caryn Rivers  
Victoria Rivers





## **THANK YOU!**

Rosalind Roberts-Small  
Thomas Rolland  
Kayma Sherman-Knuckles  
Dr. Cassandra Ruffin  
Yvonne Ruiz  
Mercedes Sadler  
Dr. Barbara Savage  
Georgia Sawyer  
Richard & Rebecca Scales  
Denise Rae Scott-Jones  
Deborah Seay  
Stephanie Seay  
Leah Sheppard  
Arlene Singletary  
Velva Daniels Smalls  
William Smalls  
Anita Smith  
Cary Smith  
Dorothy Smith  
Langsten Smith  
Linda Tapper-Smith  
Dr. & Mrs. Thomas Snowden  
Catherine Stafford  
Dr. H. Lynn Starr  
Joseph Stevenson  
Joyce Ann Stewart  
Lisa Stewart-New  
Shelly & Ann Stewart  
Elder Lemuel & Cheryl Stiles  
Sheila Stubbs  
Carolyn Summers  
Yvonne Syndor  
Wanda Tarawaly



## **THANK YOU!**

Dr. Monica Taylor  
Rosita Taylor  
Teri Taylor  
Gloria Thomas  
Teri Tillman  
Justin & Lee Anne Trotman  
Louise Trotman  
Wanda Tarawaly  
Harold Townsend III  
Gladys Tucker  
Joe Tucker & Alycia Horn  
Inez Turner  
Karen Vaughn  
Jacquelyn Wallace  
Yvonne White  
Alverna Wiley  
Barbara Wiley  
Michele Wilkinson  
Julia Williams  
Stephanie Williamson  
Dorothy Willis  
Arletha Wilson  
Lorna Wilson  
Charlene Wiltshire  
Larry & Natalie Wiltshire  
Dr. Denise Wing  
Diane Winkfield  
Wanda Wood  
Paula Wright  
Beverly Yates  
Donald & Alice Young  
M. Elaine 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

Calling ALL AECST  
Students K-12, Parents  
and Teachers

JOIN US  
FOR OUR  
VIRTUAL CLASSES  
EVERY  
SUNDAY @ 12:00 NOON

**KNOW JESUS.  
CHANGE THE WORLD!**

Registration required via email  
To RSVP contact Supt. Dottie Archey  
(215) 837-6941 or email at [churchschool@aecst.org](mailto:churchschool@aecst.org)

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)



## **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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Please join us for service on the St. Thomas Website [www.aecst.org](http://www.aecst.org) or our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/aecst1792> every Sunday morning at 10am.

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## 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 Fr Gerald Collins	
Associate Minister	The Rev Dr Thomas G Snowden	
Associate Minister	The Rev Dr Paul Bach	
Parish Vergers	Stephen Hannum	
	Lisa Steward-New	
	Karen Ragland	
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	webmanager@aecst.org
Property Chair	Deborah Harrison	215-473-3065

## **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	

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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.

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