

THE AFRICAN EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS

# YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT SUNDAY



# 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](http://WWW.AECST.ORG) • [WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/AECST1792](http://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/AECST1792)

**THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
JUNE 22, 2025**

**The Historic African Episcopal Church  
of St. Thomas**  
6361 Lancaster Avenue (Absalom Jones Way)  
Philadelphia, PA, 19151  
(215) 473-3065  
[www.aecst.org](http://www.aecst.org)

The Very Reverend Canon Martini Shaw  
The 17th Rector

The Reverend Fr. Daren E. Evans  
Associate to the Rector

The Reverend Fr. Gerald Collins  
Associate Priest



**Scan the QR code to support our church  
and our ministries.**

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Please click on the link provided for the  
[\*\*Order of Service\*\*](#)

## **“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 Second Sunday after Pentecost, Youth and Young Adult Sunday.**

We welcome our guest speakers Deacon Kyle Evans; St. Andrews, Yardley and Lindsay Christie; Trinity Solebury; Youth and Adults from Trinity Episcopal Church Solebury, St. David's, Radnor; members of the 29th Mission Philadelphia Project and Michelle Germaine, Minister for Children, Youth and Families from St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Ardmore.

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 USA, and proudly a part of the world-wide Anglican Communion. 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 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. Again, welcome!

Faithfully,  
*Martini Shaw* +

(The Very Reverend Canon) Martini Shaw,  
17th Rector and  
Dean of the Schuylkill Deanery

### **FROM THE DESK OF THE RECTOR:**

This is a reminder that the Mass (Service) ends following the Closing Hymn and Dismissal. Please make an extra effort to refrain from unnecessary chatter and departure from the Service before the conclusion. This request is being made in order to respect all gathered wishing to embrace the fullness of worship.

### **A SPECIAL REQUEST FROM THE RECTOR:**

The summer months are usually financially challenging for most churches. I am asking that you PLEASE submit HALF of your 2025 pledge by June 30th. I am also asking that you prayerfully consider contributing some extra dollars during July and August. St. Thomas has been tremendously blessed by your generous gifts.

"To whom much is given, much is required."



Our condolences to Ricardo Bostic and family on the death of his spouse LeMont Johnson. Services will be held on Thursday, June 26, 2025, 11:00 AM.at St. Thomas. May the soul of LeMont rest in peace and rise in glory.  
Please pray for the family.



## CONGRATULATIONS TO

1.) Our Oldest Father (102 years old): The Honorable Robert Williams. Judge Williams is the father of Robert, Ronald, Gail, Barry, Susan and Christopher.

2.) Our Newest Fathers:

- BJORN BUSCHAN, father of Auldric Herbert Henry Hinds Buschan, born 8/14/2024;
- RYAN BROSSA, father of Isidore "Sid" Francis Brossa, born 9/5/2024;
- KARL MIGAN, father of Alison Migan, born 2/6/2025.



**Father's Day Tributes from:**  
A Father: Eugene Phillips;  
A Daughter: Elena Foster  
A Son: Thomas V. Jackson;  
An Out-of-Town Son:  
Dr. Andrew Sudler (San Francisco, CA)

Eugene Phillips - A Father



Elena Foster- A Daughter



Thomas V. Jackson, A Son



Dr. Andrew Sudler- A Son





# The First Sunday after Pentecost/Trinity Sunday (Father's Day), June 15, 2025











Photos: Justin Trotman and Stephen Pugh  
(St. Thomas Ed Muse Memorial Photography Ministry)

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

**GREETINGS CHURCH FAMILY,**

On behalf of the **Women's Ministry Retreat**  
**and Women's Day Committee**, we extend our deepest  
gratitude for your incredible support of our recent  
Women's Weekend Celebration.

It was an honor to host our speakers and attendees for the  
Saturday Women's Retreat, and we were especially thrilled  
to welcome our guest speaker, Sheryl Lee Ralph Hughes,  
for our Sunday Women's Day Celebration.

It took many hearts and hands to make it all happen,  
and your support and gifts, whether through kind words,  
prayers, financial contributions, gifts of music or dance,  
or other forms of assistance, was truly invaluable to the  
success of the weekend. Your generosity, sacrifice, and  
commitment to the weekend filled us with joy,  
and we are immensely grateful.

Please note that giving opportunities will continue  
through the end of the year via GIVI or the Women's  
Ministry envelopes available in your pews. Again, THANK  
YOU for your continued support.

Wishing you peace and abundant blessings.  
Co-Chairs: Monica Lewis Jones, Sherilynn Kimble,  
Victoria Mosley Rivers



## **CATTO MINISTRY CORNER**

Join us on **Sunday June 29, 2025**,  
immediately after service, as we set the schedule for  
activities for the remainder of the calendar year.

We will share information and unravel ideas  
shared during the April Lenten series presentation.

Light refreshments will be served.

Looking forward to your input and collaboration.

Wendella and Elaine

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## **ANNOUNCING OUR NEW MEMBERS AND CONFIRMATION CLASSES**

Classes will begin in September. Most classes will be held  
via Zoom. Check the bulletin and Spearhead for additional  
information. Please speak with Fr. Daren or Seminarian  
Kathryn Brossa if you have questions.

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**The New Members Manual has arrived.**  
Please use the [link](#) to access it.

## THE CHURCH DIRECTORY

“Our directory will not be complete without you!”

Schedule your professional photography session TODAY immediately after service in the Undercroft. The staff at Universal Studios are uniquely qualified and we are excited to be able to use their services. The sign-up period begins on **Sunday, June 22 through Sunday, July 20.**

If we don't see your name on our list, you may receive a call. Photographs of you and your family will be taken on **August 6-9 and September 25-27.**

Universal will provide a complete professional portrait studio at the church.

You'll enjoy a variety of poses, backgrounds, portrait sizes, finish and framing options.

Everyone who is photographed by Universal will receive a complimentary 8 x 10 portrait, a directory and can purchase additional portraits.

Unfortunately, there will be a \$15.00 charge for photos submitted but not taken by Universal Studio. For questions, please see Ashley Hines or Suzanne Clossen.

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## ATTENTION STUDENTS

Applications for the 2025 Rev. Canon Thomas Wilson Stearly Logan, Sr. Memorial Prize are now being accepted.

Eligible high school seniors can review the program guidelines and priorities online. Go to [www.schuylkilldeanery.org](http://www.schuylkilldeanery.org) for scholarship information.

**The application deadline is June 30, 2025**  
(late submissions will not be reviewed).



## OUR DEDICATED OUT-OF-TOWN MEMBERS/FAMILIES

We give thanks to God for these active and dedicated members/families of St. Thomas who presently live in other cities, states, and countries, but remain connected weekly by various media platforms:

Constance Anderson  
The Rev. Dr. Paul Bach & Dr. Julie Hergerather  
Christopher Burks  
Deadra Cannon  
Nora Corbin  
Dr. Ted Corbin  
Paula Cropper  
Lee Daniels  
Stacey Davis  
Rashid, Christie, and Gabrielle Faisal  
The Rev. Dr. Wil Gafney  
Bradley Hammond  
Richard & Gwenda Hart  
Dr. Calvin Johnson  
**Bettie Jones**  
Rae Scott Jones  
Richard Jones, Jr.  
Dr. Sheila Jones  
Steven and Jameela Lewis  
Gregory Lyles  
Dr. John Rich  
Richard & Rebecca Scales  
Shelly and Ann Stewart  
Howard Tucker  
Allison Young

# WE ARE FAMILY

Each week, we feature one of our out-of-town members/families. This week, we give thanks to Bettie Jones. She said, "I've been a member of St. Thomas for over 30 years. Sometimes life takes you to places you never planned, and for me it's

Charlotte, NC, but the joy of being able to come home to my St. Thomas family is a special blessing. I miss you all, especially the Historical Society's Saturday gatherings and the Guild of the Christ Child baptisms. I'm looking forward to the next time I'm able to come home for another dose of good ole St. Thomas fellowship. Peace, blessings and love."





## **A Celebration Of A Life Well Led**

On June 14th, at St. Thomas, people from churches across the diocese celebrated the life of the Reverend Canon Thomas Wilson Stearly Logan, Sr., who devoted over sixty years to The Episcopal Church. Logan died in 2012 at the age of 100.



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Are you receiving robocalls from the Rector with special announcements? Do you know someone who does not receive the electronic Spearhead every week? If not, please send your email and cell number to [Gladyce DuBrey](#)

## **MISSION PHILDELPHIA returns to St. Thomas!!!**

On Wednesday, June 18th, participants were hosted for dinner by our Gospel Choir.

They will join us in worship this Sunday







## **MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

**June 22nd**

The Second Sunday after Pentecost

Youth & Young Adult Sunday/Church School Recognition/

Members from Mission Philadelphia will be  
worshipping with us

**June 29th**

The Third Sunday after Pentecost

~Graduate Sunday/Scholarship Sunday~

Submit [your form](#) today.

~Celebration of St. Thomas Monarchs Ministry~



## **CATTO MINISTRY CORNER UPDATE**

**Join us Sunday, June 29, 2025, in Anderson Hall,**  
immediately after service, as we set the schedule for  
activities for the remainder of the calendar year.

We will share information and unravel ideas shared  
during the April Lenten series presentation.

Light refreshments will be served.

Looking forward to your input and collaboration.

Wendella Fox and Elaine Gillison



## **THIS WEEK AT AECST – June 23, 2025**

### **Tuesday, June 24th**

Advocacy Outreach Group Meeting  
6:00 - 9:00 PM in the Undercroft

Pilgrims on a Journey Adult Bible Study  
with Fr. Jay via Zoom - 7:00 PM

### **Wednesday, June 25th**

Bible Study with Fr. Daren  
6:00 PM in the Absalom Jones House

St. Thomas Gospel Choir  
7:30 PM in Anderson Hall

### **Thursday, June 26th**

Memorial Service for LeMont Johnson  
11:00 AM

Vestry Meeting  
6:00 PM via Zoom

### **Saturday, June 28th**

Daughters of the King Meeting  
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM in Anderson Hall

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### **AECST LIVE STREAM**

Please join us for worship on the St. Thomas [website](#),  
the [Live Stream Service](#), or on our [Facebook](#) page or  
[Youtube](#) every Sunday morning at 10:00 AM.

You can also watch [Past Services](#).

**Join Dr. Jay Fluellen on Saturday, June 21, at 7:00 PM**

for Songs of Love and Hope at Trinity Church,  
Hatboro, 151 W County Line Rd, Hatboro, PA 19040.

This captivating Vocal and Piano Duo Concert  
traverses a rich musical landscape.

Dr. Jay Fluellen, pianist and Perry Brisbon, tenor  
will weave together a diverse selection of pieces from  
multiple genres, including classical works, heartfelt  
African American spirituals, uplifting gospel,  
and vibrant jazz.

Audiences will hear compositions by esteemed artists  
such as Scott Joplin, Charles Gounod, Hall Johnson,  
Richard Smallwood, Undine Smith Moore,  
Jay Fluellen and others.

This concert will showcase the profound ways in which  
music fosters connection and builds a sense of community.

For tickets and more information, go to [Eventbrite](#)

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**GRADUATE SUNDAY is NEXT SUNDAY, June 29, 2025**

Have you or your child graduated or been promoted?

Please complete the [Graduate Profile form](#) online.

We want to highlight your achievements and share them  
with the congregation. Submit your information to the  
office before **Sunday, June 22, 2025, deadline.**



**AFRICAN EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS  
YOUTH COUNCIL HOSTS:**



**FRIDAY, AUGUST 22, 2025**

**ARRIVE AT CHURCH 4:30PM**

**BUS LEAVES PROMPTLY AT 5PM**

**\*\*SHOW BEGINS AT 7PM WITH 2.5 HR RUN TIME\*\***

**CHILDREN : \$20**

**ADULTS (18+) : \$100**

**INCLUDES TRANSPORTATION, BOXED LUNCH AND TICKET TO SHOW**

**TO REGISTER, PLEASE CONTACT:**

**PAM JOHNSON-267.235.8334 OR PAMELAJOHNSON5620@GMAIL.COM**

**WENDELLA FOX-215.880.4936 OR WPFOX3008@VERIZON.NET**

**CHECKS PAYABLE TO AECST W/ NOAH SHOW IN MEMO  
OR GIVI APP**

**PLEASE REGISTER BY JUNE 30, 2025**

**The Jesse F. Anderson (JFA) Scholarship Committee**

will sponsor a bus trip to:

The National Museum of African American History and Culture and National Portrait Gallery, Washington, DC on

**Wednesday, August 13, 2025**

Departs from St. Thomas at 8:30 AM Returns 7:30 PM.

Cost: \$75.00, (cash or check)

Lunch on your own.

Contact Paula Lamb 215-620-7250 or any member of the committee for more information.

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**The AECST Youth Council** will sponsor a bus trip to see:  
Sight and Sound Theatres - Live on Stage production of

“Noah” on **Friday, August 22, 2025**

Departs from St Thomas promptly at 5:00 PM

Cost: Children \$20.00, Adults (18+) \$100.00  
(box dinner included)

Contact: Pam Johnson 267-235-8334 or  
Pamelajohnson5620@gmail.com or

Wendella Fox 215-880-4936 or wpfox3008@verizon.net

**Deadline is June 30, 2025**



# The Sound of Liberty Concert

Presented by The Marian Anderson Museum



Dr. Jay Fluellen  
Director of Music / Pianist

**WHEN: JUNE 28TH 2025**

Join us as we celebrate Americas Birthday with an amazing concert filled with extraordinary performances of Patriotic Favorites, beloved Standards and the Great American Songbook highlighting known and unknown composers of the 20th Century.



Jillian Patricia Pirtle Soprano



Carmella Green Soprano



Terrance Hart Tenor



Laurice S. Kennel Soprano

EUBIE BLAKE MARGARET BONDS ★

GEORGE GERSHWIN FLORENCE PRICE

HARRY T BURLEIGH SCOTT JOPLIN



Marcus Simmons Bass



Tanisha Anderson Mezzo Soprano



Fazeed Simpson  
Trumpet



Richard Hill Jr.  
Bassist



Ann Marie Pocklembo  
Violinist



Kynoe Simpson  
Sax / Flute



Robert Henderson  
Percussion



Brenton Mattox Bass

**WHERE: Historic Mother Bethel AME Church**  
419 S 6th St, Philadelphia, PA 19147  
**TIME: 3 PM**

**TICKET ADMISSION: \$30.00**

(Children under 7 are Free and Group Rates are Available)



Confirm Your Tickets at The Marian Anderson Museum  
762 S. Martin Street Philadelphia Pa 19146  
215-779-4219 [www.marianandersonhistoricalsociety.weebly.com](http://www.marianandersonhistoricalsociety.weebly.com)



## **ALTAR FLOWERS**

Flowers on the High Altar are given in thanksgiving for the 28th birthday of **Cheyenne Williamson**, given by Gladyce, Ginger, and Courtney.

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

(Please do not place in the collection plate or give to the church office). Thank you

*Unfortunately, due to rising costs of goods, the Altar Guild has increased the cost of the flowers.*

High Altar - \$70

Absalom Jones Altar - \$60

the Columbarium - \$50

Please use the QR Code below to order flowers or contribute to our church ministries.



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## **WEDNESDAYS IN-PERSON BIBLE STUDY**

with Fr. Daren meets in the AJ House at 6:00 PM. Our Spring study will be a "Journey through the Book of Revelation."

**DAILY RECOMMENDED BIBLE READINGS**  
**Readings For the 2nd Sunday after Pentecost**  
**June 22, 2025**

The First Lesson - [1 Kings 19:1-15](#)  
[Psalm 42, 43](#)

The Second Lesson - [Romans 5:1-5](#)

The Holy Gospel - [John 16:12-15](#)

**The Holy Gospel Readings for the**  
**week of June 23, 2025**

Monday - [Matthew 17:14-21](#)

Tuesday - [Matthew 17:22-27](#)

Wednesday - [Matthew 18:1-9](#)

Thursday - [Matthew 18:10-20](#)

Friday - [Matthew 18:21-35](#)

Saturday - [Matthew 19:1-12](#)



**PILGRIMS ON A JOURNEY ADULT BIBLE STUDY**

meets on Tuesday at 7:00 PM via Zoom.

Next week, **June 26th**, will be the last meeting for AECST's 2024-2025 program year. We will resume meeting on Tuesday, **September 2** at our usual time and venue. As always, it is an honor to serve as the facilitator for this ministry.



## **ATTENTION: ALL COLLEGE STUDENTS OF ST. THOMAS**

Please know that your church family is here to support you during your years of academic studies. Please [email](#) Fr. Daren your contact information as soon as possible (including cellphone). Our prayers remain with you.

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### **TINY TYKES TEMPLE**

Our new “**Tiny Tykes Temple**” needs YOU!

Thank you to **Sarah Shaw Thomas, Julio Rodriguez, Chelsea Selby and Ashley Quetant** for joining the oversight committee! We are going to make a great team that will assure that the Tiny Tykes Temple is available most Sundays.

You know, there’s always room for one, two or three more! Email Father Daren, [associaterector@aecst.org](mailto:associaterector@aecst.org) and let him know you can assist.

We will gather for a short meeting right after the July 4th holiday. Look for an announcement in the bulletin, digital Spearhead or text for details. You don’t have to have a Tiny Tyke to participate; just a heart ready to serve.

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## **CALLING ALL DANCERS!!!!**

Opportunity awaits if you want to praise the Lord in dance and worship. The “Angels in Motion” dance ministry, a multi-generational ministry welcomes all ages, and skill levels in ballet, modern, jazz, and African dance to join! Interested? Please contact, Director, [Pamela Johnson.](#)



## **VERGERS NEEDED!**

Are you being called to this exciting ministry?  
Want to know more about what a Verger does?

The Verger Guide may be found [here](#)

Please speak with Karen Ragland or  
the Rector for more details.

## CHAT AND CHEW

Have you ever considered hosting a Chat and Chew following Service in thanksgiving for a blessing received or in memory of a departed loved one? Please contact [Gladyce](#) in the church office for further details.

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### 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](#) (215-473-3065) and **NOT the SEXTON** beforehand. It is **VERY IMPORTANT** that all activities are listed on the calendar of the Parish Office.



## 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. 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](#).
- **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](#).



**The AECST Podcast**, a series dedicated to tackling tough questions our children may ask, all from a faith-based perspective, will return soon. Each episode offers thoughtful discussions to help families navigate complex topics with wisdom and compassion.

If you or someone you know in our congregation has an expertise in or a passion for any of the following subjects, we'd love to have you as a conversation partner!

This season's topics include:

- Understanding Your School-Age Child
- Building Friendships
- Talking About Suicide, Grief and Loss
- Understanding Cultural Appropriation
- Bullying
- Gun Violence
- Honoring Difference
- Wealth, Poverty, and Income Inequity
- Use of Technology

Join us in creating meaningful conversations that support families in faith and life. Contact [Fr. Daren](#), to get involved. Stay tuned for more details!

## **CHURCH SCHOOL TEACHERS NEEDED**

Are you willing to serve, at least one Sunday per month, as a church school teacher? Please prayerfully consider this call. We are especially looking for young adults, men, and anyone who loves children. Please use this [link](#) to register to become a church school teacher.

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## **IMPORTANT NOTE FROM THE RECTOR**

St. Thomas celebrates children and youth not only as the church of TOMORROW but also as the church of TODAY!!! We welcome and encourage their full presence and participation in our Sunday worship.

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## **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 (20's and 30's) are invited to fellowship the 4th Sunday of every month in Anderson Hall immediately following worship.

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## **GIRLS' FRIENDLY SOCIETY**

All young ladies are invited to join us on Saturdays in the Undercroft at 11:00 AM.

The Girls' Friendly Society does not meet every Saturday.

Please contact [Nikkol Simms](#) for more information and the schedule.

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## **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.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR PARISHIONERS WHO ARE:**

**IN LONG-TERM CARE RESIDENCES:**

Helena Allen - Simpson House;  
Linda Holmes - Saunders House; Gwendolyn Langford -  
Arden Courts of Cherry Hill; Inez Turner - The Residence at  
Bala Cynwyd; Ola Bass - The Pinnacle at Plymouth Meeting;  
Ridart "Butch" Farmer - Centennial Healthcare and  
Rehabilitation Center; Patricia Holmes - Care Pavilion

**AT HOME:**

Robert Brown, Thelma Silvers, Patricia Ellison,  
Mary Ann Jones, Shirley Caldwell, Wendell Whitlock,  
Solomon Cropper, Verger Stephen Hannum, Virginia DuBrey,  
Alice Bowman Cropper, Quincina Edmonds, Joyce Stewart

**KEEP IN PRAYER:**

Justin Trotman, Cathy Stafford, Lisa Woodley,  
Adinah Edwards, Ann Stewart, Waltier Blocker, Arlene Gray,  
Daryn Stewart, Santee Ruffin, Angela Holloway, Yvonne Sydnor,  
Mary Ann Phillips, Alexandra McFadden Rodriguez,  
Sharon Harper

**WE PRAY FOR**

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

## CALLING FOR YOUTH



What's an Acolyte? Am I old enough? Why do I want to be one? These and other questions can be answered by Father Daren! No prior experience is necessary to serve in the Acolyte Ministry. Rehearsals are on Sundays, immediately after service.

This is an excellent opportunity for children and youth to become involved in the life of the church.

Contact [Fr.Daren](#) for details.

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### **Scout Troop #133** - Scout Troop #133

"A camping we will go, a camping we will go, Hi-ho and off we go, a camping we will go." Yes, the Scouts are heading out and up towards the Poconos.

Summer sleepaway camp is **June 22 – June 27, 2025, at Resica Falls, East Stroudsburg, PA**

The last regularly scheduled meetings for Cubs and Scouts will be on Saturday, June 21, 2025.

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



## STEWARDSHIP NEWS

### HOW CAN I BE FAITHFUL TO GOD AND THE CHURCH THROUGH STEWARDSHIP?

“Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver”.

2 Corinthians 9:7

The Stewardship Committee of the African Episcopal Church of St. Thomas recognizes that stewardship may take form in several ways: your time, talent, or treasures. The one commonality is that each of us must prayerfully ask God to guide us in making the right choices and have faith that He will guide us to the right decision.

Our church has a tremendous congregation that is thriving and growing. The ministries that we have serve all of God’s children near and far. These endeavors require all three forms of stewardship: but especially your sharing of treasure. Prayerfully consider donating by using the QR Code below.



## **CAPITAL BUILDING IMPROVEMENT FUND**

If you are actively contributing, thank you! Your gifts are truly appreciated. Everyone is asked to make a minimum sacrificial gift of \$40 per month. The Building Fund Envelopes are located in Anderson Hall beside the Offering envelopes. When using electronic payments select "Building Fund." If using checks write "Building Fund" on the memo line of your check.

## **STEWARDSHIP NEWS**

The church has received many "undeliverable" mailings. If you have moved, please update your mailing address with the church office by [email](#) or phone 215-473-3065.

Can you help deliver offertory envelopes to our sick and shut-in parishioners? 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. A list of our sick and shut-in parishioners is located next to the offertory envelopes in Anderson Hall.

There are several ways to submit your offering and tithes: church service offertory, using the QR code below, [website donations](#), downloading the Givi app, U.S. mail, or hand deliver it to the Fiscal office.

**IMPORTANT:** Make sure your name, envelope #, and amount are included on the front of your offering envelope. This is critical for bookkeeping accuracy. Help is just an email away. Contact [Patricia Lynch](#).

## RECTOR'S PRAYERFUL WISH LIST

\$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 donating toward the replacement and use the [link](#) provided. Thank you to those who have already given toward the new air-conditioning units.

There are several ways to submit your offering and tithes: church service offertory, use the QR code, website donations, download the Givi app, U.S. Mail or hand deliver it to the fiscal office.



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## FAITHFUL GIVING CARD (PLEDGE)

Please pray for your Faithful Giving for 2025.

You'll be able to complete your [Faithful Giving Card](#) on the [church website](#), or by using the paper Faithful Giving Card. Strong support is needed to meet the budget, our many endeavors and outreach projects at St. Thomas. Your Faithful Giving Card can also be placed in the Alms Basin or mailed to the church office.



## 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,  
(Absalom Jones Way) Philadelphia, PA 19151
- 3) **Use the Givi app.** If you don't already use the app and nor 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 10:00 AM-2:00 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) **Faithful Giving Cards (Pledge)** - Please send them via the US mail to the church or fill out the form **[electronically](#)** through the **[www.aecst.org](http://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	
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	Arlene Gray	bsapack0133@gmail.com
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Transportation Ministry		
Videography Ministry	Quentin Heyward	recordedvideo@aecst.org
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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 - Pamela Johnson | Treasurer - Albert S. Dandridge, III Esq.  
Stewardship Chair - Patricia Lynch | Property Chair - William Burke

Dr. Tim Barksdale	Clare Mae Daniels	Kelvin Johnson
Judith Simkins Booth	Eugene Golson	Monica Lewis Jones
Deadra Cannon	Marie B. Golson	Deborah Matthews

## THE AUXILIARY VESTRY

Brenda Best	Mary Sandra Dean	Dr. Monica Johnson Taylor
Conchetta Brewer	Elaine Gillison	Darryle (Bobby) Tillman
Sharon Bullock	D. Lynn Joell	Judy Tillman
Ronnie Collins	Cynthia Muse	

## DELEGATES TO THE DIOCESAN CONVENTION

Albert S. Dandridge, III Esq. | Dr. Cassandra Ruffin | Alternate: Tyrone Keller

## DELEGATES TO THE SCHUYLKILL DEANERY

Phyllis Cater | Mary Dean | Alternate: Tyrone Keller