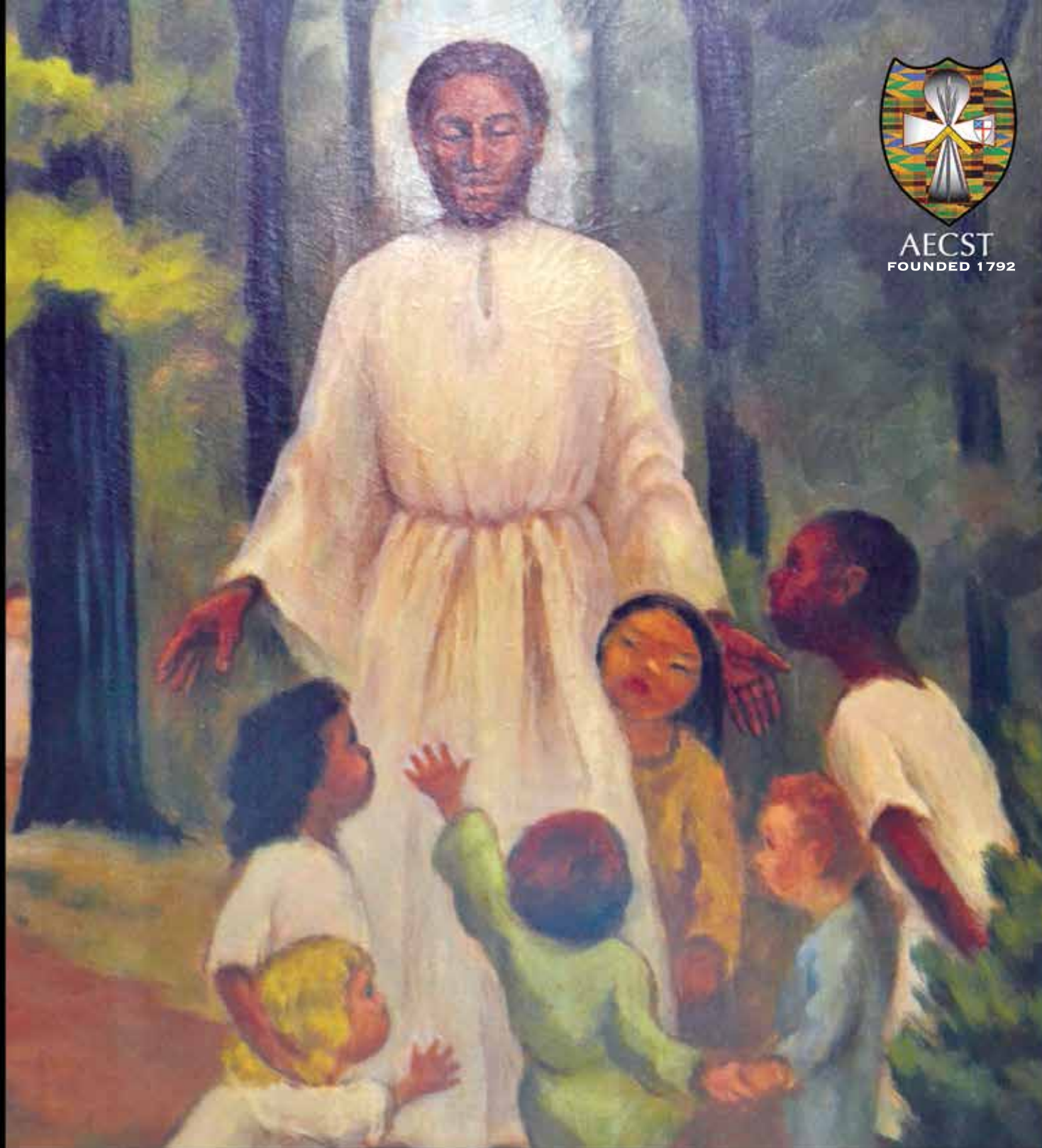




AECST
FOUNDED 1792



**“Suffer the Little Children to Come Unto Me and Forbid Them Not:
For to Such Belongeth the Kingdom of Heaven”. Mark 10:14**

In 1949 the AECST invited local artists to participate in a contest to provide a centerpiece for the Children’s Altar. Robert Moore’s painting, presented here, was chosen and now resides in Anderson Hall, along with many other paintings by Mr. Moore, a long-time faithful member of the AECST..

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

THE SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Church School Sunday

Sunday, September 19, 2021

10:00 AM

FROM THE RECTOR

Whoever you may be and where you may find yourself experiencing life's journey, do know that you are always welcome at St. Thomas Church.

ST. THOMAS IS OPEN FOR IN-PERSON SERVICE

Due to CDC and Diocesan recommendations, we can only accommodate **150** people in the church. All others will be directed to Anderson Hall. There will be a **sign-in sheet**. Masks are **MANDATORY** for all in attendance. Seating will be spaced. Please check the signs on each pew before you enter. **Hand sanitizer** will be available.

The ventilation system has been changed to let in outside air. We request that all in attendance be **VACCINATED**. Unvaccinated individuals are requested to watch our Live Stream service via the website, Youtube or Facebook. A link for the live stream service can be found on the aecst.org homepage.

A PASTORAL NOTE FROM THE RECTOR

Grace and Peace to you.

I pray that this communication finds you well. Recent news reporting re: COVID19 has caused me great concern, especially for our dear brothers and sisters who have not been fully vaccinated against COVID19. If you are unvaccinated, I ask you to prayerfully consider being vaccinated ASAP. Please spread the word regarding the importance of being fully vaccinated.

Please receive this note as a symbol of my deep concern and love. And let us continue to pray for those infected with and affected by the virus.

THE CIRCLE OF PRAYER MINISTRY

Please join us for the return of the
Circle of Prayer Ministry
Call on Monday,
September 20, 2021 at 6:30 AM!

We encourage you to reach out to us at
circleofprayer@aecst.org to submit
prayer requests or if you are interested
in leading the Intercessory Prayer,
Offer a Prayer(s) or provide a Meditation in Song.

The Teleconference call number is: **605-313-6361** Access
Code is: **268105** Prayer is the Answer!

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

is now being scheduled. If you or someone you wish to be baptized, please go to our website www.aecst.org, go to "About The AECST". Use the drop down to click on Holy Baptism. All the information about baptism and the electronic application form can be found there.

**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

**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

THE PANDEMIC HAS EMPOWERED THE CHURCH TO RE-IMAGINE

Please join our rector in RE-IMAGINING.

**We will Re-imagine new ways to view our relationship
with Jesus Christ.**

We will Re-imagine new ways to proclaim the Gospel.

We will Re-imagine new ways to feed and nurture others.

**We will Re-imagine new ways to evangelize
and grow the church.**

**We will Re-imagine new ways to serve
our seniors and youth.**

**We will Re-imagine new ways of community
outreach and service.**

**We will Re-Imagine new ways to engage in
social justice and politics.**

TODAY WE INSTALL:

Members of the Live Stream Ministry:

**Yaseen Farooq, Quentin Heyward, Teri Tillman,
Dale Williams, Theodore Bythewood, Dylan Coleburn,
Kim Hyde, Stephen Pugh, Joseph Stevenson,
Brandon Stiffand Harold Townsend.**

Our dedicated Church School Staff:

**Dorothy Archey, Superintendent; Quincina Edmonds,
Mueni Mwanzia, Rashanda Stiff, Mayla Jackson, Caryn
Rivers, Bobby Tillman, Pamela Johnson, Arlene Gray, Erica
Hill-Yates, Alana Farooq, Wendella Fox and Clara Daniels,
Regina Meacham-Devereaux.**



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 IS REQUIRED.

Please register using our AECST Church School Registration Link
<https://forms.gle/nat7CGEYd7WNcS6X8>

Once you register, you will receive the Zoom link to attend.

All parents and church school aged children
are encouraged to attend.

If you need more information please contact
Dottie Archey at 215-474-2815

or you can send an email to
churchschool@aecst.org for more information.

WELCOME BACK VIRTUAL CHURCH SCHOOL!

Church school will meet by ZOOM with a Open House and registration on Sunday, **September 19th at noon**. Please register using AECST Church School Registration.

Link: <https://forms.gle/nat7CGEYd7WNCs6X8>

Once you register, you will receive the Zoom link to attend Church School. All parents and church school aged children are encouraged to attend. If you need more information, please contact Dottie Archey at 215-474-2815 or you can send an email to: churchschool@aecst.org for more information.

LIVE VIDEO UPDATE

Our new Live Video System has been fully installed. We are very grateful for our Live Stream Ministry Team:

Yaseen Farooq - Co-Director
Quentin Heyward - Co-Director
Teri Tillman - Co-Director
Dale Williams - Co-Director
Theodore Bythewood
Dylan Coleburn
Kim Hyde
Stephen Pugh
Joseph Stevenson
Brandon Stiff
Harold Townsend

Advisors to the Ministry:

Deadra Cannon, Dr. Jay Fluellen and Gail Harris.

Our parishioners, friends and visitors who cannot be in physical attendance will be able to continue to worship with us each week via live stream at the aecst.org homepage.



**GFS FUN DAY
CHERRY CREST FARM'S
PUMPKIN FESTIVAL!**



150 CHERRY HILL ROAD, RONKS, PA 17572

SAVE THE DATE:

11.6.21

ANIMALS, RIDES, GAMES, CORN MAZE, AND FOOD!

Calling all GFSers AND girls ages 3+ interested in joining GFS!
Parents, tag-a-longs, and GFS leaders are all welcome.

Please contact Nikkol Simms at njsimms@verizon.net if interested.

For their COVID policies:

<https://www.cherrycrestfarm.com/covid>

Varying discounts are available on regular ticket price.

DAILY RECOMMENDED BIBLE READINGS

Readings For The Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost September 19th

First Reading: Wisdom of Solomon 1: 16-2: 1, 12-22
Psalm 54

Second Reading: James 3: 13-14; 3: 7-8a
The Holy Gospel: Mark 9: 30-37

Week of 9/20/2021

Monday - Luke 1: 1-4; 3: 1-14

Tuesday - Luke 3: 15-22

Wednesday - Luke 4: 1-11

Thursday Luke 4: 14-30

Friday - Luke 4: 31-37

Saturday - Luke 4: 38-44

Readings For The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost September 26th

First Reading: Numbers 11: 4-6, 10-16, 24-29
Psalm 19: 7-14

Second Reading: James 5: 13-20
The Holy Gospel: Mark 9: 38-50

TUESDAY ZOOM BIBLE STUDY

Resumed meeting on Tuesday,
September 14th at 7:00 PM via Zoom.
Please contact Fr. Jay by email to be added
to the list and receive the Zoom link at:
jcoll1906@gmail.com.

UPCOMING SUNDAYS IN SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER

September 19th

Church School Resumes (Zoom at 12 Noon)

September 26th

Annual Education/ Back to School/
Youth Sunday



Speaker: Wendella P. Fox,
Director of the Philadelphia office of
the US Department of Education,
Office for Civil Rights

Theme: "I Believe that I am Blessed and I am
a Blessing. I Believe that I live to make a difference".

October 3rd

Stewardship Kick-Off Sunday

The Annual Blessing of Animals
In Celebration of the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi
at **2:00 PM** on the Great Lawn.

October 10th

Annual Observance and Celebration of
The Life of Octavius V. Catto and
the 150th Anniversary of his assassination.

The African Episcopal Church of Saint Thomas
6361 LANCASTER AVENUE
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19151
The Very Reverend Canon Martini Shaw, Rector

PEW MEMORIAL PLAQUES



THE FEAST OF ALL SAINTS
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2021
DEDICATE A PEW PLAQUE
IN MEMORY OF YOUR LOVE ONES

\$500.00

(Payment Deadline: October 10, 2021)

Checks or money orders can be made payable to: AECST.

You may pay also through the "givi" app.

Make certain to indicate your wish to purchase a
Pew Memorial Plaque and include contact information.

Visit the Church's website at <http://www.aecst.org/donations.htm>
for other Payment options.

For additional questions or information contact:

Victoria A. Mosley Rivers

victoria.rivers@verizon.net or 215-878-3651



RECOVERING AT HOME

Linda Holmes, Joseph Stevenson,
Lisa Woodley, Rosalind Roberts Smalls.

PLEASE KEEP IN PRAYER

Suzanne Closson, Shirley Caldwell, Carl Dean,
Adinah Edwards, Francina Norris, Isedora "Gwen" Francis,
Kenneth Dow, Shirley Winkfield, Robert Brown,
Judith Simpkins-Booth, Stephanie Williamson,
Ridart "Butch" Farmer, Georgia Sawyer, Joan Hall,
Dr. Thomas Snowden, Leatrice Snowden.

WE PRAY FOR

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

OUR CONDOLENCES TO

Richard, Rebecca, Scarlett and Jerimiah Scales on the death of
Richard's Grandfather, **James Alexander Scales.**

Wendell Foxx, Herb Wetzel and Grace Wetzell on the death of
Wendela's cousins, **Rafiq Munir and Nashyra Whitaker.**

Ralph and Katrina Marshall on the death of Ralph's Father,
Ellis Marshall, Jr.

May their souls rest in peace and rise in glory. Please pray for
the families.

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.

IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM STEWARDSHIP

If you have moved and have not sent your new address to the church office 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. Please send your changes to me at: stewardship@aecst.org. Thank you, Judy Tillman

PROPERTY UPDATE - GOOD NEWS!

Major work has started on our entire roof, pointing of all exterior and interior stones, and ultimately the cleaning of the interior stones. The ventilation system has been changed to let in outside air. If you have questions, please speak with our Vestry Property Chair, Ms. Deborah Harrison.

PLEASE JOIN US FOR WORSHIP LIVE STREAM

on the St. Thomas website homepage: www.aecst.org,
on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/aecst1792> or
[Youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com) every Sunday morning at 10:00 AM.

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. 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.

"To whom much is given, much is required." Luke 12:48

FINANCE OFFICE

Mid-year Financial Reports have been mailed. If you have not received yours, please contact Jeannette in the Fiscal office ASAP. We ask that you please continue your financial support of our Parish ministries. Thanks for all your contributions to date.

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.

SPEARHEAD EMAILS

If you are not receiving the Spearhead emails, or have someone else you wish to receive, 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.

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

Yearly Income	2%	5%	10%
\$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

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	associatepriest@aecst.org
Associate Minister	The Rev. Dr. Thomas G Snowden	dravidian@comcast.net
Associate Minister	The Rev. Dr. Paul Bach	pauljaybach@gmail.com
Vergers	Stephen Hannum	1792@aecst.org
	Karen Ragland	Kdrags415@gmail.com
	Lisa Steward-New	ljs210@msn.com
Executive Asst to the Rector	Gladyce DuBrey	1792@aecst.org
Fiscal Administrator	Jeannette Jeffrey	fiscal@aecst.org
Fiscal Assistant to the Rector	Deadra Cannon	auntdd48@aol.com
Sexton	LaDon Elliott	1792@aecst.org
Asst Sextons	James Brown	1792@aecst.org
	Ronald Jones	1792@aecst.org
Chancel Choirmaster	Jay Fluellen, D.M.A.	chancelchoir@aecst.org
Gospel Choirmaster	Waltier Blocker	gospelchoir@aecst.org
Rector's General Counsel	Joe Tucker, Esq	jtucker@tlgattorneys.com
Acolyte Ministry	Lisa Woodley	
Altar Guild /Memorial Flowers	Alfreda Brockman	fredabee@verizon.net
	Clara Mae Daniels	happycmd@aol.com
Baptism Co-Chairs	Gail H Harris	thegail@hotmail.com
	Patricia Walker-Ellison	p.walker.ellison@gmail.com
Bible Study	The Rev. Fr. Gerald Collins	associatepriest@aecst.org
Church School Superintendent	Dottie Archey	churchschool@aecst.org
Ed Muse Photography Ministry	William Edmonds	edmon57@comcast.net
Girls Friendly Society	Nikkol Simms	njsimms@verizon.net
	Carlia Miller	trublu265@aim.com
Jazz Ensemble Director	Joe Stevenson	jobopss@aol.com
Live Video Ministry Co-Directors	Yaseen Farooq	livevideo@aecst.org
	Quentin Heyward	
	Terri Tillman	
	Dale Williams	
Parish Webmaster	Gail H Harris	webmanager@aecst.org
Property Chair	Deborah Harrison	
Scout Pack 133	Howard Chapman	howchapman@gmail.com
	Arlene Gray	bsapack0133@gmail.com
Transportation Ministry	J. Reggie Kimble	tkglimo@aol.com
William Burke Ushers Ministry	Brenda Johnson Best	brjb46@gmail.com

THE VESTRY

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

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.
