



AECST
FOUNDED 1792

ד"א גרויסע רומענישע שוהל

TRUST AND OBEY...
MATTHEW 21:23-32

S

THE AFRICAN EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF

ST. THOMAS

THE SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

The Rev. Issac Bonney

September 27, 2020

10:00 A.M.

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 vestry has submitted to the Bishop our re-entry plan, which includes: Not re-entering for corporate worship until sometime in the fall. This plan has been approved by the Bishop.

Members of the Rector's Advisory Committee on Re-Entry:

Richard Jones, Rector's Warden, Co-Chair

Deborah Camp-Frye, Accounting Warden, Co-Chair

Fr. Jay Collins, Clergy

Deborah Harrison, Vestry, Building / Property Chair

Albert Dandridge, Esq., Vestry, Legal

Brenda Best Johnson, Vestry, Ushers

Deadra Cannon, Aux. Vestry, Support

Alfreda Brockman, Altar Guild

Dr. Calvin Johnson, M.D., Medical Advisor / Public Health

Phyllis Cater, Health Ministry

Dr. Gregory Allen, Ph.D, Communication

Gladyce DuBrey, Rector's Executive Assistant

NEW PARISH ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE HOURS:

Beginning September 7th, 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.

AECST HEALTH MINISTRY NOTE!

Remember to wear your mask when you are out!

Governor Tom Wolf's Secretary of Health signed expanded Mask Wearing Order which was released on July 1st.

Please go to <https://www.governor.pa.gov/newsroom/gov-wolf-sec-of-health-signs-expanded-mask-wearing-order/> for more information.

PLEASE KEEP IN PRAYER

Recovering At Home:

Waltier Blocker; Regina Meacham Devero;
Katrina Harris Marshall; Alice Bowman-Cropper; Ken Bundy;
Lisa Stevenson Woodley; Gail Harris; Susan Waterford;
Sheryl Johnson; LeMont Johnson; Diane Hutchins;
Linda Holmes; Deborah Seay

DAILY RECOMMENDED BIBLE READINGS

This Sunday's Readings
The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 27th

First Reading: Exodus 17: 1-7
Psalm 78: 1-4, 12-16
Second Reading: Philippians 2: 1-13
The Holy Gospel: Matthew 21: 23-32

Readings For:
The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost
October 4th

First Reading: Exodus 20: 1-4, 7-9, 12-20
Psalm 19
Second Reading: Philippians 3: 4b-14
The Holy Gospel: Matthew 21: 33-46

Week of 9/28/2020
Monday - Matthew 6: 25-34
Tuesday - Matthew 7: 1-12
Wednesday - Matthew 7: 13-21
Thursday - Matthew 7: 22-29
Friday - Matthew Matthew 8: 1-17
Saturday - Matthew 8: 18-27

UPCOMING SUNDAYS IN SEPTEMBER

**St.Thomas' own clergy will offer meditations during Sundays
September 27th - The Rev. Isacc Bonney**

UPCOMING SUNDAYS IN OCTOBER

October 4th

At noon will be the Outdoor Blessing of Animals for the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi on the Great Lawn! Bring your dogs, cats, horses, turtles, birds, fish, etc. Tell your family and friends. Masks MUST be worn. Please maintain Social distancing.

**October 11th
2021 Stewardship Kick-Off**

**October 18th
Annual Octavius V. Catto Sunday**

**October 25th
Youth Sunday**

Tuesday Zoom Bible Classes at 7pm.

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

ALTAR FLOWERS:

Flowers may now be placed on the altar in memory of a loved one or in celebration of a birthday, wedding anniversary or other celebration. Please send your payment to the church (6361 Lancaster Ave., Phila. PA 19151), in memory or care of the persons name and who it is given by. Flowers are \$50.00. The check can be made out to The Altar Guild.

The African Episcopal Church of St. Thomas

Church School is Back!

Welcome to a new and exciting year of adventure in our Christian journey - learning and living through Christ

Calling ALL AECST Students K-12, Parents and Teachers

Join us for a **Virtual Meet and Greet** for the opening of
AECST Church School

Sunday, September 27, 2020 | 12:30pm

...to gather and learn about our plans for the new season!

To RSVP contact Supt. Dottie Archey
215.473.3065

or email at dottie.archey@gmail.com

*Interested in becoming a Church School Teacher?
Contact Dottie Archey to learn more*

*Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old,
he will not depart from it
Proverbs 22:6 - KJV*

+++++

The Very Reverend Canon Fr. Martini Shaw
Rector - AECST



AECST
FOUNDED 1792

**THE AFRICAN EPISCOPAL CHURCH
OF SAINT THOMAS
MEN'S MINISTRY & FELLOWSHIP
PRESENTS:
CONVERSATIONS ON RACE IN AMERICA:
OPPORTUNITIES FOR ACTIVISM**

**JOIN THE MEN'S MINISTRY & FELLOWSHIP
ON SEPTEMBER 30, AT 7:00PM EDT**

**AS WE CONNECT ACROSS THE DIOCESE,
FOR A CANDID DISCUSSION ON
RACE RELATIONS IN OUR COUNTRY.**

**WE INVITE ALL MEMBERS OF OUR DIOCESE,
INCLUDING YOUR FAMILY, FRIENDS, AND COLLEAGUES,
TO JOIN US FOR A DIALOGUE ON
RACIAL DIVIDES AND PRACTICAL AND RELATIONAL PATHS
TOWARD CHANGE, RECONCILIATION, AND FORGIVENESS.
MEN'S MINISTRY RECOGNIZES THAT OUR DIOCESE IS A
WELCOMING COMMUNITY POSITIONED TO
BUILD BRIDGES BASED ON FELLOWSHIP THROUGH CHRIST.**

**PLEASE INVITE YOUR
FAMILY AND FRIENDS TO JOIN US IN THIS DISCUSSION.**

PLEASE SEE LOG IN INFORMATION FOR ZOOM THAT FOLLOWS.

**THE AFRICAN EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF SAINT THOMAS
MEN'S MINISTRY & FELLOWSHIP (MM&F)**

PRESENTS

**EPISCOPAL MEN CONVERSATIONS ON
RACE IN AMERICA SERIES:**

OPPORTUNITIES FOR ACTIVISM – REIMAGINING PUBLIC SAFETY

Join the Men's Ministry & Fellowship on, September 30, at 7:00pm EST, as we connect in community across our Diocese for a candid discussion on race relations in our country. We invite all members of our Diocese, including your family, friends, and colleagues, to join us for a dialogue and discussion of racial divides and practical, relational paths forward to change, reconciliation, and forgiveness. MM&F recognizes that our diocese is a welcoming community positioned to extend relational bridges based on friendship through Jesus. Please invite your family and friends and share this opportunity with those you love.

Under support of The Very Rev. Canon Martini Shaw,
Seventeenth Rector of the Historic African Episcopal Church of St. Thomas

MODERATOR



Moderated by MM&F President **Mr. Greg Lyles**. Mr. Lyles is a resident of Philadelphia and a member of AECST for 5 years. He is an active member of Indivisible Philadelphia, Fair Districts PA, and AECST O.V. Catto Voter Education Ministry. Mr. Lyles is a native of Greensboro, Alabama and a graduate of the University of Alabama. Mr. Lyles is a son of the Civil Rights Movement; Parents and Grandparents were all foot soldiers in the marches and protests in Selma and Birmingham, Alabama. Professionally, Mr. Lyles is currently Marketing Director for Market Access with Otsuka Pharmaceuticals.

ZOOM INFO

JOIN THE CONVERSATION

Register in advance for this meeting by visiting the link below.

<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJUpd-yqpzouE91acrjMkIVgdglQTHAe15Ij>

Join the Men's Ministry & Fellowship and
The African Episcopal Church of Saint Thomas
Wednesday, September 30th, at 7:00pm EST

**The webinar event will be open starting at 6:45 EST
and is limited to the first 200 attendees.**

We will be joined for the roundtable discussion by five special guests:



Catherine Meeks, PhD, is Executive Director of the Absalom Jones Center for Racial Healing. Prior to the center's opening she chaired its precursor, Beloved Community: Commission for Dismantling Racism for the Episcopal Diocese of Atlanta. A sought-after teacher and workshop leader, Dr. Meeks brings four decades of experience to the work of transforming the dismantling racism work in Atlanta. The core of her work has been with people who have been marginalized because of economic status, race, gender or physical ability as they pursue liberation, justice and access to resources that can help lead them to health, wellness and a more abundant life. This work grows out of her understanding of her call to the vocation of teacher as well as her realization that all of humanity is one family which God desires to unite.



Albert S. Dandridge, III, Esq. is a Partner at the Law Firm of Schnader Harrison, LLP, where he serves as the chair of the firm's Securities Practice Group and Chief Diversity Officer. His legal work is concentrated in municipal and corporate finance matters, and he regularly counsels major public companies, broker-dealers and investment advisors on their securities reporting and financing requirements. Mr. Dandridge has also lectured frequently on securities topics. Before joining Schnader Harrison, Mr. Dandridge served at the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) as associate director of small business and international corporate finance in the SEC's Division of Corporation Finance. In addition, he served as special counsel in the Division of Corporation Finance. In 2015, Mr. Dandridge served as the 88th Chancellor of the Philadelphia Bar Association. Mr. Dandridge is a decorated Vietnam Combat Veteran with the U.S. Marine Corps and was awarded, among many honors, the Bronze Star with Combat "V" for Valor and the Purple Heart. He is a Trustee with the Episcopal Diocese and a member of St Thomas African Episcopal Church. Mr. Dandridge received his B.A., Magna Cum Laude, from Temple University and his J.D. from Temple University Law School. He also received a LL.M from the University of Pennsylvania Law School.



Sharon Cotton Bullock is a Retired Sergeant from the Philadelphia Police Department. She is a graduate of the City of Philadelphia Police Academy and was one of the first female officers to patrol the City of Philadelphia. In her career in Public Safety she served as a patrol officer, Juvenile Aid Officer, Sex Crimes unit Officer and Child Abuse unit officer. Mrs. Sharon Bullock Cotton was the recipient of several commendations for her service including an Official Commendation for Heroism and the Four Chaplain Legions Honor Membership. She is a native Philadelphian and is the mother of three daughters, nine grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren. Mrs. Sharon Cotton Bullock is a proud member of the Historic African Episcopal Church of St. Thomas.



Ted Smith is a lifelong resident of West Philadelphia and attended both Central High School and Drexel University. He's a US Army Veteran, Committee Person for the 44th Ward - 18th Division and was a 2016 candidate for State Representative. Since 2016 Mr. Ted Smith has become a member of Millennials in Action Political Action Committee, sits on the Boards for Simpson-Fletcher Conestoga Senior Apartments and Belmont Alliance Civic Association and is an active member of the 16th Police District PDAC. Mr. Smith is a proud member of the Historic African Episcopal Church of St. Thomas.



George Vosburgh is a Business owner and Former Educational leader with extensive administrative experience in elementary and secondary independent schools, both boarding and day. Mr. Vosburgh has served on several boards and is now a retired active volunteer. In the Pennsylvania Diocese, Mr. Vosburgh has served on the following committees; member, Standing Committee/Episcopal Diocese of PA, Member, Diocesan Anti-Racism Commission, former member, Diocesan Council/Episcopal Diocese of PA, Former Deputy of the General Convention, and the Former President Episcopal Church Club of Philadelphia. He is a member of St David's Episcopal Church.

AECST MEN'S MINISTRY & FELLOWSHIP CONVERSATION ON RACE COMMITTEE

Andrew Dumas is a member of the African Episcopal Church of St. Thomas and serves as the MM&F Treasurer and Chair of Conversations on Race Series. Mr. Dumas has served on numerous Boards focusing on Art Education and Economic Development. Professionally, Mr. Dumas is an Attorney, Business owner, and a Chief Compliance Officer for a Global Financial Technology Firm. Mr. Dumas is a graduate of the University of Virginia School of Law and also an alumnus of Florida State University and Florida A&M University.

Arthur Sudler is a member the African Episcopal Church of St. Thomas and serves as the Director of it's Historical Society & Archives. He is also a member of the Diocesan History committee and Cathedral Chapter of the Philadelphia Episcopal Cathedral. Professionally, Mr. Sudler is the Director of Information Governance with the firm of Fox Rothschild, LLP. Firm. Mr. Sudler is a graduate of Oberlin College.

Donald Moore is a member of the African Episcopal Church of St. Thomas. Professionally, Mr. Moore is the Vice President for Real Estate and Facilities at Drexel University. He has served on a number of Boards focusing on Economic Development. Mr. Moore is a graduate of Bradley University and Stockton University.

Dr. Greg Allen is a member of the African Episcopal Church of St. Thomas. Professionally, Dr. Allen is a Experienced educator with a demonstrated history of working to help low-income families improve their quality of life. Strong business development professional skilled in Nonprofit Organizations, Event Management, Team Building, Philanthropy, and Fundraising. Dr. Allen is a graduate of Temple University and Penn State University.

Dr. Tim Barksdale is a member of the African Episcopal Church of St. Thomas and is past president and current member of the AECST Men's Ministry and Fellowship. He also serves as the Vice President of Chosen 300 Homeless outreach. Professionally, He is a Doctor of Clinical Psychology, a Licensed Master Social Worker and the Sr. Executive Director of Clinical Services for Merakey, supervising clinicians in the states of PA, NJ, DE, VA, and CA. Dr. Barksdale is a graduate of the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine, Immaculata University and La Salle University



AECST
FOUNDED 1792

THE FEAST
OF
ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

"THE BLESSING OF ANIMALS"

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2020, NOON
ON THE GREAT LAWN.

BRING YOUR:
DOGS, CATS, HORSES, TURTLES, BIRDS, FISH, ETC.

TELL YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS.

MASKS MUST BE WORN.

PLEASE MAINTAIN SOCIAL DISTANCING.



ST. THOMAS
THE AFRICAN EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF



God willing and the people consenting
The Rt. Rev. Daniel G. P. Gutiérrez
XVI Bishop of The Episcopal Diocese of Pennsylvania
will ordain

Darrell Lamont Tiller
and
Yesenia 'Jessie' Alejandra

to the Sacred Order of Priests in Christ's One Holy
Catholic and Apostolic Church

on

Saturday, October 10th 2020

Eleven in the morning

at

St. John's at Diocesan Center

23 E Airy Street, Norristown Pennsylvania

Your prayers and virtual presence are requested.

Live Streaming will be on the Episcopal Diocese of Pennsylvania's

One Love Channel <https://episcopalpa.online.church> and

YouTube Channel <http://youtube.com/episcopalpa>

OUR CONDOLENCES TO:

Deborah “Binky” Seay, Brianna, Gabrielle, Cathy Seay and family on the death of their son, father and husband, **Andre Seay**. Please keep the family in prayer.

Dear Church Family,

Thank you so much for your prayers, cards and gifts which have kept me uplifted through my two operations and now during my recovery at home. I am so blessed to be a member of as Father Shaw says “The friendliest church in the world.”

With Love, **Christian, Regina Meacham-Devero**

ENORMOUS EXPRESSIONS OF GRATITUDE TO:

Quentin Heyward, who has served as our Sunday Services Videographer and Editor since March; and to **Anthony Carter** who will now lead the team for our new LIVE Sunday Services to begin October 4th. Thanks so much, gentlemen for sharing your creative Time, Talents and Treasures. St. Thomas’ is truly and immensely blessed!!!

Pew Memorial Plaques:

On The Feast of All Saints, Sunday, November 1, 2020 you can dedicate a Pew Plaque in Memory of your Loved Ones. The cost is \$500.00 and the deadline for payment is October 4, 2020. Checks and money orders can be made payable to AECST. You may also pay through the “Givi” app, please indicate your wish to order a Pew Plaque and include contact information. For additional questions or information contact Victoria A. Mosley Rivers at victoria.rivers@verizon.net or 215-878-3651

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.

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.

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** every Sunday morning at 10am.

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.