



September 2023
The Canterbury Cross
Monthly newsletter of St. Thomas à Becket Episcopal Church
Morgantown, WV

Photos From Fr. Michael's Installation

Last month on Saturday, August 19 we celebrated Fr. Michael Delk's installation as Rector by Bishop Matthew Cowden. Members of the vestry, search committee, congregation, and diocese participated in the service. *Photos by Aurie Acciavatti and Neha Lal.*



Father Michael's Contact Information

If you have a pastoral emergency and need to reach Father Michael, please feel free to call his cell (757) 876-3786 anytime 24/7.

Go ahead and put it in your phone right now, so it'll be there for you when you need it.

His email is rector@stthomasabecket.org



Upcoming Offerings in September

Beginning Sunday, September 10 we will resume our 8:00 am Holy Eucharist Rite I without music (this will be in-person only).

Also beginning Sunday, September 10 we will start a new adult class, a chapter-by-chapter study of Paul's Letter to the Galatians, which will meet at 9:00 am. Please bring a Bible.

Our goal is to begin offering Children's Sunday School as early as September 10; stay tuned for more information. If you are interested in volunteering with this ministry, please contact Fr. Michael.

Sunday School volunteers need to be trained with the Episcopal Church's *Safe Churches, Safe Communities* training.

Safe Churches, Safe Communities (formerly Safeguarding God's Children) provides participants with the information they need to protect the children they know and care for in their personal and professional lives. This training comes from an online course and is free.

Email Canon Catherine Saxe to register for an online training session: csaxe@wvdiocese.org

Please allow 2-3 business days for your information to be entered into the system. Once that is completed, a message will be sent to the email address that you provided. It will contain your login, password and any other pertinent information needed for you to proceed with the training.

Outreach Opportunity: HomeStart Closet

We received this urgent request to help new international students get established in Morgantown. WVU is no longer contributing to this effort. If you'd like to give support in any way, please use the contact information provided.

Dear Friends,

I am writing to bring your attention to the International HomeStart Closet which was begun in the 1990s to meet the needs of International students who arrive in Morgantown to study at WVU. It was started by Women Across Cultures and is now a collaborative effort, led by volunteers and sponsored by the Office of Global Affairs. After the restrictions placed on us by COVID, we have got back to doing what Morgantown and WVU do best – welcoming our new visitors and helping them establish their new home here. We provide basic equipment such as dishes, pots and pans, and linens free of charge to students, mostly graduate students living off campus in apartments.

This year we have been overwhelmed by the number of requests we have received. While in the past we had some help in stocking our shelves from WVU, recently we have had to rely solely on donations. Thus we have been unable to meet the needs of all of the students who applied to us and are seeking help. Our wish list includes pillows, towels, bathmats, blankets, comforters, pots, skillets, bowls, glasses, etc., either new or gently used.

Anyone who would like to contribute to the cause, either by making a donation (payable to Women Across Cultures) or lending a hand, may contact me at 304-685-8312 or liz.finklea@gmail.com. Your help will be most welcome.

Liz Finklea
HomeStart Closet Volunteer Coordinator

First Friday Dinners: A group of St. Thomas parishioners have been meeting for dinner on the first Friday of the month at Preston County Inn. Look for announcements in the Parish Post.

ECM Breakfast: All parish men are invited to have breakfast together on Saturday, September 30 at 9:00 am at Apple Annie's.

Socks & Underwear Donations

By Aurie Acciavatti

Many thanks to everyone who contributed to the Outreach summer collection of undies and socks. Anne Greza has delivered them and said the teachers were very pleased to receive them. Anne is pictured here, along with Kathy Fedan placing the cradle full of undies and socks in front of the altar to await Father Michael's blessing.



office. Work will begin August 21 and continue for six weeks. The Committee is still working on new bookshelves; Jeffrey Carver is involved with that project.

Parking lot sealing is planned for Friday, September 8. No one is allowed to be on the parking lot for 24 hours after the sealing is complete.

We reaffirmed that we will continue to leave the back doors to the sanctuary open during the service and continue to leave the partition between the sanctuary and the parish hall open during services. These were instituted as COVID policies and will continue.

We are resuming the practice of dedicating the loose plate offering on the first Sunday of each month to the Rector's Discretionary Fund. During COVID there was not any loose offering but now that covid is over we are resuming that policy.

Deacon Al is getting the liturgical schedule together. We are starting 8:00 am services again and need to have someone to assist in every service. For anyone who is interested he can arrange for them to be trained as Eucharistic ministers.

Diocesan convention is coming up October 26-28 in Martinsburg. We have historically paid for registration for delegates but not for travel. Now we are going to reimburse delegates for lodging and travel if requested.

Father Michael has hit the ground running. He has been doing some visiting, including visiting with newcomers. He is planning to resume the 8:00 service on September 10 (Rite I, no music). We will also begin a six-week adult Bible study on Galatians. There are also plans for children's Sunday School.

Grace Ayscue talked generally about plans for children's Sunday School. There is not a detailed plan yet but there is definitely something in the works. Any volunteers would be welcome.

August Vestry Meeting Highlights

By John McFerrin

The Discernment Committee has met and has recommended that Scott Williams move forward toward the priesthood, a step the vestry approved. He feels called to a bi-vocational priesthood, encompassing both teaching and sacramental work. This is not the end of the line; it is another step in the process of becoming a priest. Other steps remain.

Jeff Fedan presented the report of the Property Committee. They completed installation of a new faucet and sprayer in the kitchen. They are working on installing additional light in ceiling of the library and insulating the ceiling above the office area. The Committee wants to install a door at the end of the hallway, near the nursery. Most of the time we only need to heat and cool the area where the offices are since those areas are occupied. With no door, it is hard to confine the heat and cooling to that area. A door would make it possible to save on heating and cooling when the rest of the building is unoccupied.

We have entered into a contract to fix up the rector's



Stewardship Giving Report			
July *	Giving	Expenses	Variance
Monthly	\$29,356	\$10,781	\$18,575
2023 YTD	\$158,514	\$78,928	\$79,586

* Amounts reflect information from the Treasurer's report given August 17, 2023 on the previous month's finances.

Sunday Worship Schedule

The Rev. Michael Delk, Rector

The Rev. Al Prichard, Deacon

8:00 am Holy Eucharist I (in-person)

10:30 am Holy Eucharist II

(in-person and livestreamed on YouTube)

Nursery care available during the 10:30 service



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St. Thomas à Becket Episcopal Church

75 Old Cheat Road

Morgantown, WV 26508

September 2023

S	M	T	W	R	F	S
					1	2
3 14 Pentecost 10:30 am Holy Eucharist II (in-person and on YouTube) Coffee Hour	4 Labor Day	5	6	7 Parish Hall RSVD: Carver	8 Church driveway being sealed. No traffic.	9 Church driveway being sealed. No traffic.
10 15 Pentecost 8:00 am Holy Eucharist I 9:00 am Adult Formation Class: Galatians 10:30 am Holy Eucharist II (in-person and on YouTube) Coffee Hour <i>Finance Committee Meeting after church</i>	11 Parish Hall RSVD: Spears	12	13 12:30 pm Backpack Feeding Program @ SRSB	14	15	16 Parish Hall, Kitchen RSVD: Fellowship
17 16 Pentecost 8:00 am Holy Eucharist I 9:00 am Adult Formation Class: Galatians 10:30 am Holy Eucharist II (in-person and on YouTube) Newcomers' Celebration Luncheon <i>Worship Committee Meeting after church</i>	18 Parish Hall RSVD: Spears 7:30 pm Outreach Meeting (Zoom)	19	20	21 7:00 pm Vestry Meeting	22	23 Parish Hall, Kitchen RSVD: Fellowship
24 17 Pentecost 8:00 am Holy Eucharist I 9:00 am Adult Formation Class: Galatians 10:30 am Holy Eucharist II (in-person and on YouTube) Coffee Hour & Milestone Birthdays Celebration	25	26	27	28 6:00 pm Property Committee Meeting	29	30 9:00 am ECM Breakfast @ Apple Annie's



Birthdays

- 6 - Kevin Steurer
- 11 - Craig Walker
- 13 - Marian Hollinger
- 13 - Aidan Orner
- 13 - Wilma Tolka
- 15 - John Lambertson
- 15 - Cookie Schultz
- 18 - Lindemarie Crawford
- 19 - Ben Taylor
- 21 - Renee Beard
- 24 - Scott Williams
- 25 - Tom Anderson
- 25 - Dede Burnell
- 25 - Tara Steed
- 26 - Grace Ayscue
- 28 - Carol Roberts Spears

Anniversaries

- 4 - Kevin & Sarah Orner
- 6 - Marlin Dehoff & Neha Lal
- 12 - Bill & Dorothy Skidmore
- 17 - Linda Durfee & Paul Henneberger
- 22 - John McFerrin & Karen Kostol

Don't see your birthday or anniversary listed? Let us know!
parish@stthomasabecket.org

Service Ministers' Schedule: September 2023

<p>September 3 14 Pentecost</p>	<p>Acolytes: John Beall, Jeff Fedan, Bob Acciavatti Altar Guild: Kathy, Florita, Cheryl, Liz, Carol Counters (Sunday): Kathy Fedan, Linda Yost Eucharistic Minister: Jeff Fedan Intercessor: Margot Racin</p>	<p>Producer: Jeffrey Carver Readers: Kathy Fedan, Alice Meehan Ushers: Byron Nelson, Carolyn Nelson Vestry Closer: TBD</p>
<p>September 10 15 Pentecost</p>	<p>8:00 am Liturgical Assistant: A. Nicely 8:00 am Reader: Beth O'Neil Acolytes: A. Nicely, Bob Acciavatti, Theo Tolka Altar Guild: Alice, Hap, Mary Lou, Bernie, Cookie Counters (Monday): Linda Yost, Nancy Mosser Eucharistic Minister: A. Nicely</p>	<p>Intercessor: Corey Farris Producer: Nancy Mosser Readers: Angela Carver, John Pearson Ushers: Angela Carver, Maddie Carver Vestry Closer: Corey Farris</p>
<p>September 17 16 Pentecost</p>	<p>8:00 am Liturgical Assistant: Tara Steed 8:00 am Reader: Acolytes: Tara Steed, Bob Acciavatti, Shepard Tolka Altar Guild: Natalie, Alice, John, Lynda Counters (Monday): Linda Yost, Aurie Acciavatti Eucharistic Minister: Grace Ayscue</p>	<p>Intercessor: John Beall Producer: Corey Farris Readers: John Taylor, Susan Seitz Ushers: Roy Spears, Carol Roberts Spears Vestry Closer: Marlin Dehoff</p>
<p>September 24 17 Pentecost</p>	<p>8:00 am Liturgical Assistant: John Beall 8:00 am Reader: Acolytes: Carol Beall, Bob Acciavatti, Caroline Beddow Altar Guild: Grace, Anne, Patty, Susan Counters (Monday): Kathy Fedan, Susan Seitz Eucharistic Ministers: Carol Roberts Spears</p>	<p>Intercessor: Aurie Acciavatti Producer: TBD Readers: Bernie Schultz, Beth Royall Ushers: Kathy Fedan, David Sullivan Vestry Closer: Jeff Fedan</p>