

CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER

Eblast

February 12, 2026



Coffee Time

Join us for coffee time in the Atrium this Sunday at 10:15 for coffee time, lovingly hosted by Bonnie Garrity.

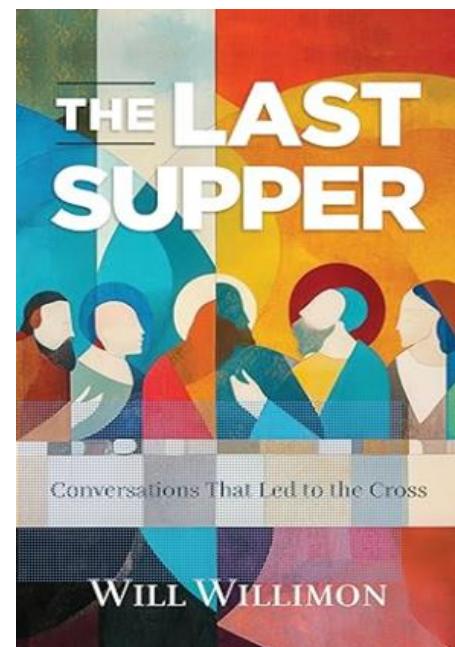
Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

On Tuesday, February 17 from 5-7 p.m. you are invited to join us at St. John in their South Wing for pancakes, sausage, egg casserole and applesauce. The youth group of St. John and Redeemer will be serving the meal. As we prepare for the season of Lent come and fill up with this delicious food and lift your spirit with great fellowship.

Lenten Bible Study

Travel with Jesus on the road to Jerusalem in this profound six-week Lenten study that explores the parables and stories Jesus told at tables along the way to his final meal. Will Willimon invites readers to experience how these table stories—about searching shepherds, welcoming hosts, prodigal sons, and rejected invitations—illuminate the deeper meaning of the Last Supper and Christ's sacrifice. Discover how Jesus used meals to reveal the surprising nature of God's kingdom. Explore how stories of mercy, invitation and hospitality prepare us for Holy Week. Understand why sharing bread and wine became the central ritual of Christian faith. Experience Maundy Thursday in a fresh, meaningful way.

18 books have been ordered and are available now. You can also get an eBook for \$12 from Cokesbury, Abingdon Press or Amazon Prime. There will be a morning session at 10 and an evening session starting at 6 with soup, salad and bread, with



the discussion starting at 6:35. Classes are scheduled to begin Monday Feb 23 and continue for six weeks. Please let Canon Melinda know which session you prefer and whether you will participate in a light supper.



Dear People of God: You are invited to keep a holy Lent beginning with worship at 12:05 p.m. here in the Church on Ash Wednesday, February 18 or at 7:00 p.m. at St. John Lutheran Church.

Every Wednesday during Lent we also offer a service of Holy Eucharist at 12:05 p.m. followed by Stations of the Cross beginning at approximately 12:35 p.m.

February 14&15 Lessons

First Lesson: Exodus 24:12-18

Psalm: 2

Second Lesson: 2 Peter 1:16-21

Gospel: Matthew 17:1-9

Serving in Worship

Worship Assistant: Margaret Cole

Usher: Bob Cole

Greeter: Glenda Hinsman

Acolytes: Kayla Marshall

Sophia Storelli

AV Operator: Paul Romano



Margaret Cole	2/12
Colleen Marshall	2/13
Dan Wayman	2/14
Linda Dix	2/17
Kay Lattimer	2/19
Doreen Marshall	2/20
Sherrie Gabauer	2/20

Scripture Reflection

Why does Jesus instruct the disciples to keep quiet about what they had seen "until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead"?



February Food Item



For the month of February we will be collecting canned tuna and chicken for our local food pantries.

St. Mary's Rummage Sale

On Friday, March 6th from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. and Saturday March 7th from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. St. Mary's will hold a rummage sale. We will be accepting clean rummage. **NO LARGE APPLIANCES OR ELECTRONICS, and ABSOLUTELY NO BOOKS, DVD'S or CD'S.** We will be accepting rummage through **FEBRUARY 22**, but nothing after that. If you have rummage that you need to drop off between now and then, please contact the church office (570) 888-2270 during office hours. Or you may reach out to Rose Carpenter or Glenda Hinsman. If you have access to the building and bring rummage, please leave it on the stack of white tables in the hallway downstairs in the Parish Hall.



This year for Black History Month we are primarily highlighting our Bishops of African descent. This week we'll take a look at our own **Nathan Baxter**, the 10th Bishop of Central Pennsylvania and the 1,010 in succession in the Episcopal Church. He was elected as bishop coadjutor on July 22, 2006, and consecrated on October 22, 2006.

Archbishop [Desmond Tutu](#) preached the sermon. Bishop Baxter is a native son, having been born in Harrisburg. He received his Master of Divinity and Doctor of Ministry degrees from Lancaster Theological Seminary. He also competed programs at Graduate Theological Union, Harvard and Columbia Universities. In our diocese, he served as rector of St. James Episcopal Church in Lancaster. Outside of our diocese, he was Dean of the Washington National Cathedral (formally known as the Cathedral of Saints Peter and Paul) from 1991 to 2003. Prior to becoming Dean of the Cathedral, he was the administrative dean and a professor of pastoral theology at Episcopal Divinity School in Cambridge Massachusetts, as well as seminary dean at Lancaster Theological seminary. He also served a number of other parishes in Pennsylvania and Virginia. Bishop Baxter retired in 2014. You can read the full article from which this summary was drawn here: [Nathan D. Baxter - Wikipedia](#)

On Wednesday, February 11, 2026, we commemorated the Consecration of the Rt. Rev. **Barbara Clemintine Harris**, the first woman bishop in the entire Anglican Communion. She is also a native Pennsylvanian, having been born and raised in Philadelphia. She was very active in the Civil Rights movement of the 1960s and beyond. She was ordained a priest in 1980 and gained a reputation of providing a prophetic voice on issues involving racism, sexism and homophobia. While it was theoretically possible to elect a woman as bishop in the Episcopal Church, it took 22 years, when she was elected as Bishop Suffragan in the Diocese of Massachusetts. As a “first” her election and subsequent consecration was very controversial, with threats against her life from those against women’s ordination in the House of Bishops. Never-the-less, 60 bishops served as co-consecrators (only three are required) before 8,000 people. *Lesser Feasts and Fasts*2024* notes that Bishop Harris was known for her powerful preaching and her advocacy for “the least, the last, and the lost” as well as her joy in sharing her faith. She served as suffragan bishop for 13 years, retiring in 2002. She then served as an assisting bishop in the Diocese of Washington until her death in 2020. You can read more about Bishop Harris here: [Barbara Harris \(bishop\) - Wikipedia](#)



The Feast of Absalom Jones

Saturday, February 14, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., and Sunday, February 15, 10 a.m. Service of Holy Eucharist | St. Paul's, Harrisburg

Join the Union of Black Episcopalians Bishop Baxter Chapter for this year’s celebration of The Feast of Absalom Jones. The program will begin with the Absalom Jones Contest & Dr. George H. Love Youth Awards Ceremony, which offers students an opportunity to reflect on the legacy of the Rev. Absalom Jones and provides a platform to share their insights and inspire others to “keep going” in pursuit of justice and freedom.



Next, the Rt. Rev. Eugene Sutton, retired Bishop of the Diocese of Maryland and current Assistant Bishop of the Diocese of Washington, will speak on the topic of repair and reparations. Bishop Sutton has written about and been recognized as a thought leader on the issues of racial reconciliation and reparations, and was a dedicated participant in the Diocese of Maryland's journey towards repair and reconciliation during his time as bishop.

Saturday evening will conclude with a celebration of African American vespers.

On Sunday, Bishop Sutton will preach during the 10 a.m. service of Holy Eucharist at St. Paul's, Harrisburg, with the Howard University Gospel Choir joining in worship.

[Learn more.](#)

For our Common Life – I am Black But Beautiful: Christianity, Visual Arts and Race Making

Friday, February 27, 6:30 p.m. | Zoom

For Our Common Life is a diocesan virtual formation series focused on reconciliation and the calling of our diocese and its members to strive for justice and peace among all people. The series creates space for speakers from across the Church and our wider communities to share their stories and expertise, sparking meaningful conversation and inspiring ministry within our congregations and faithful action in our local communities. In this session, we are delighted to welcome Dr. Elena FitzPatrick Sifford, Associate Professor of Art History at Muhlenberg College and a member of the Cathedral Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem to present in this series.



Dr. Elena FitzPatrick Sifford, Associate Professor of Art History at Muhlenberg College, will present on the historic function of the visual arts in reinforcing racial ideologies within the Church. Considering evangelizing arts, colonial city views, and moralizing secular arts, the talk will shed light on the ways that visually depicting racialized people as Others served to propagate church teachings that served white supremacist ideologies. The talk will then offer examples of how Black and Brown artists have responded to these portrayals, thereby offering new possibilities for an aesthetic reflection of the Beloved Community. After registering you will receive a confirmation email with information about joining the meeting. [Register here.](#)



tacklehunger.org

AND THE RESULTS ARE IN!

The Souper Bowl of Caring raised \$202 dollars for our two local food pantries: Feed My Sheep and the Valley Food Pantry. Somewhat like the final score, we had a lopsided contribution with \$80 for the Patriots (gotta love those loyal fans) and \$122 for the Seahawks. The Vestry also allocated the \$75 surplus from our Christmas organ and harp concert, and \$150 “cash back” from our credit card to our local pantries. So both organizations will receive \$213.50 from our parish to fight hunger. And for that we give thanks and praise to God. The Vestry also distributed \$250 from the

Conklin Trust to “Wreaths Across America.” Our Scout Troop 4019 is an active participant in Wreaths Across America and the Vestry wants to support both this organization and our Troop.

DOORS

A number of our members have noticed how “down at heels” our front doors are. The Vestry had some trouble locating a contractor who has experience working with historic structures or aged wood. We’re grateful for suggestions of whom to contact and we followed up with all of them. The Vestry has selected Door Restore as our contractor and the first doors to be restored/refinished are the doors opposite the hospital (our main entry way and the doors directly opposite the altar.) The doors that lead directly to the church will be removed for refinishing during the warmer months. We are endeavoring to schedule the work while we worship with St. John at St. John. The main entry way doors can be worked on in place. The estimated cost is \$7,790.



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After six days Jesus took Peter, James and John with him and led them up a high mountain, where they were all alone. There he was transfigured before them. (Mark 9:2)

The Transfiguration

While he was still speaking, a bright cloud enveloped them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!" Matthew 17:5 (NIV)

Complete the activity by filling in the blanks.



A number of words have been removed from the text and placed in a word bank. Use the words from the word bank to fill in the blanks in the text. Write the words in the blanks provided.

After _____ days Jesus took with him Peter, James and John and led them up a high mountain.

While they were there, _____ was transfigured before them.

His _____ shone like the sun and his _____ became as white as the light.

Suddenly, Moses and Elijah appeared and were _____ with Jesus.

Peter said, "Lord it is good for us to be here. If you wish, I will put up _____ shelters-one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.

While they were talking, a bright cloud covered them and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my _____, whom I love; I am pleased with him. Listen to him!"

When the disciples heard this, they were terrified and _____ face down to the ground.

Jesus said to them, "Don't be _____. Get up.

As they went down from the mountain, Jesus told them not to tell anyone what they had _____.

Based on Matthew 17:1-9

Son face	Jesus six	afraid clothes	talking three	seen fell
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