

The Anchor Line January 2023



We have seen his star in the east and have come to worship him.

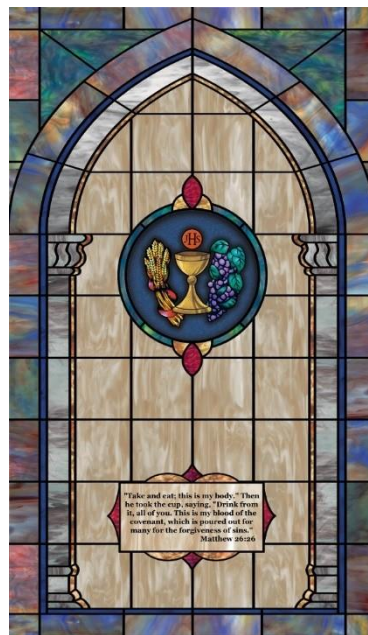
Matthew 2:2

Stained glass windows have always held a special place in my heart. My maternal grandmother had colored glass above her front door and the sun would shine through in the early morning making a beautiful rainbow on the hall carpet.

Saint Edmund's Church in the village of Hardingstone, Northamptonshire, England where I was confirmed and married had plenty of stained-glass windows lining the nave, sadly above the altar most of the colorful glass had been removed. Rumor has it that during WWII it was hidden to protect it. However, it has never been found since and might be buried in the vault of a leading village family. This vault is bricked up, no one has ever looked, perhaps it's time!

Stained glass has been used for thousands of years, beginning with the Ancient Romans and Egyptians who produced small objects made from colored glass. Stained glass windows in Britain can be traced way back to the 7th century, with early examples found in churches and monasteries.

So delightful that Grace Episcopal Church has its own version of stained-glass. Thank you to John Ketter for gifting this beautiful artwork to our church.



COOKIE EXCHANGE I am all cookied out! A great sugar rush as at least 10 of the Grace and St. Thomas ladies shared 3 cookies with each friend plus a recipe. Debbie Edmondson opened her home and provided lunch, after which an interesting discussion was led by Debbie on chapters 4-6 of "Mothers and Daughters of the Bible Speak." We talked about David and Bathsheba and their son Adonijah, not to mention, but we did, poor old Uriah the Hittite! We spoke seasonally of Mary and Jesus too, as mother's and sons were covered by these chapters. Looking forward to discussing further chapters this year. We will read Chapters 7 to the end ready for discussion in February at the home of Debbie Edmondson at 14114 Front Beach Road, Panama City Beach, FL 32413. Lunch and beverages will be provided. Thank you, Debbie for generously sharing your home with us.

Beverly Nield

Christmas Eve So sorry to have missed this event. I have heard The Ensemble of Excellence Quartet were wonderful and almost 50 people were in attendance to enjoy them at their annual Christmas Eve performance.

Yasya Brown, on the Violin

John Divine, played the Clarinet

Francette Bullock, on Viola

Rose Docy, played the Cello

Performing holiday music through the centuries; The Ensemble of Excellence have a 15-year tradition of coming to Grace Episcopal Church on Christmas Eve.



Thank you and long may the tradition continue.

Update from the Junior Warden

At our recent annual parish meeting I described several major projects completed in 2022 using funds from the Capital Reserve Fund (formerly Hurricane Fund). The old 15-ton church air conditioning system was replaced last January with a more efficient 10-ton system which lowered our utility cost and reduced the noise level in church. The remaining two old air conditioning systems in the office and library were found to have major leaks early last year so they were replaced. A new irrigation well and pump were installed and all the fluorescent lighting in the facility was converted to LED lamps. Other smaller upgrades included a timer on the electric hot water heater, a ring doorbell for the office, and new smart thermostats. Finally, thanks to a memorial gift, the windows in church were provided with new stained glass film artwork.

In 2023 the Vestry will be considering proposals for connecting our church facility to the municipal sewer, parking lot repairs and improvements, and replacing the wood patio by the kitchen and installation of new sidewalks by the narthex using brick pavers. If funds are available some landscaping improvements may be considered as well.

Many thanks to the folks who helped on December 19th to decorate our church for Christmas, including Marie Knafelc, Deb Gray, Carl Walters, Nancy and Dean Beckman, Kim and Tom Jacobsen, and Father Joseph. Special thanks to Bonnie Hale and Jeanine Pope for all the preparations and adult supervision!

Peace and Happy New Year! Fred Pope



Ministry Schedule for January 2023

January 1

Lector: Kelley Hodges

Crucifer: Katy Hodges

Chalice Bearer: Carl Walters

Greeter: Fred Pope

Counter: Carl Walters

January 8

Lector: Jamie Shepard

Crucifer/Chalice Bearer: Deb Gray

Greeter: Fred Pope

Counter: Fred Pope

January 15

Lector: Bill Demo

Crucifer/Chalice Bearer: Phyllis Demo

Greeter: Fred Pope

Counter: Fred Pope

January 22

Lector: Amy Helms

Crucifer/Chalice Bearer: Jack Friou

Greeter: Carl Walters

Counter: Carl Walters

January 29

Lector: Bonnie Hale

Crucifer/Chalice Bearer: Carl Walters

Greeter: Fred Pope

Counter: Fred Pope



Thank you all for your help!!

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