

EPISCOPAL CHURCH of the
HEAVENLY REST

God's Love. For All.

*Heavenly Rest is dedicated to serving and creating community by proclaiming the good news of God's love for all.
New here? Please fill out a welcome card from the back of the pew or on our website at heavenlyrestabilene.org/visit.*

THIS SUNDAY

Adult Sunday Morning Classes - Join us Sunday mornings for one of our adult classes.

Coffee Talks led by Mark Waters - Gen von Ende Room at 9:15 am

"All the Gentiles will be blessed": The True Meaning of Epiphany - Bishop Garrett Room at 9:15am

Exploring Spiritual Treasure - Gerhart Hall at 9 am

Sunday School for Children and Youth - Children and teens can head to the parish house for community, connection, and spiritual growth! Contact Carol Ann Weston for information on children's and youth classes.

LIFE IN OUR COMMUNITY

Exploring Spiritual Treasure - Exploring Spiritual Treasure is Heavenly Rest's program for those who are new to this community or are interested in deepening their faith. **Role of the Laity** (1/18) - Sister B, **Councils of the Church** (1/25) - Kathy Balch & Kate Haney, **Confirmation Rehearsal** (2/1), **Bishop Visitation & Confirmation Sunday** (2/8)- Breakfast with the Bishop.

Vestry and Delegate Nominees - The following persons have been nominated for three year terms on Vestry: Dan Harbaugh, Gretchen Henson, Jay Moore, and Dustin Rainwater. Kate Haney has been nominated for a one year term. Five members of Vestry will be elected at the Annual Meeting. The following persons have been nominated to serve as delegates to the 68th Diocesan Convention in October of 2026 and the Special Electing Convention in January of 2027: Yvonne Batts, Melody Brown, Connie Collier, Judy Godfrey, Lisa Goolsby, Debbie Hurt, Harry Hurt, Bijoux Mashauri, Jay Moore, Dustin Rainwater, Shelly Reed, Bill Young, and Terry Young. Eight delegates will be elected at the Annual Meeting. Those not elected will serve as alternates. We are grateful to all of these individuals for their willingness to serve! More information about the nominees may be found in the upcoming Lay Reader.

Bishop Visitation - Sunday, February 8th will be our annual visit by the Bishop and we will have Services for Confirmation, Reception, & Reaffirmation. If you have any further questions or are interested in participating in Confirmation this year through Confirmation, Reception, or Reaffirmation, please contact Mother Ashley as soon as possible!

Annual Meeting 2026 - On Sunday, February 1 at 12:00, the people of this parish will gather will gather in Gerhart Hall for our Annual Meeting. This will be an opportunity to reflect on the past year, review the parish budget for 2026, and elect members of the Vestry and delegates to Diocesan Convention. Lunch will be provided, and activities for children fifth grade and younger will be available during the meeting. Please plan to join us for this time when we reflect on where we've been and look forward to the promises of the coming year.

Organ Dedication Date Change - Due to unexpected delays in the completion of our organ project, we are moving the Organ Dedication date from January 24 to **Sunday, May 3 at 6:00 p.m.** Please remove the January 24 concert date from your calendars.

"All the Gentiles will be blessed": The True Meaning of Epiphany - One could argue that much of the New Testament is a prolonged discussion of a single verse from the Hebrew Bible, namely God's promise to Abraham that "in you, all the nations of the earth will be blessed." The early Church wrestled with the question of whether and how Gentiles should be included in the life of the Christian community. On Sunday mornings during the season after the Epiphany, join David Romanik as he explores some of the texts associated with this debate and considers how they might shape our understanding of the Church today. We will meet at 9:15 in the Bishop Garrett Room.

Wednesday Night Programming during Epiphany

On Wednesday nights during the season after the Epiphany, we will explore stories of "Faith in Times of Crisis," drawing inspiration from our ancestors in the faith, as well as contemporary examples of those whose faith shapes the way they approach some of the greatest challenges this world has to offer. Join us for supper at 6:00 and the program at 6:30.

Recent research reveals that the experience of awe makes us feel small but also deeply connected. Indeed, the experience of awe is something all the world's great religions have in common. Awe makes us better people, with greater life happiness, generosity, and purpose (eudaemonia). This Wednesday, join JD Stillwater, scholar and science ambassador, as he explores awe's positive effects on our bodies and minds, how science can help us experience awe, the sibling rivalry between awe and horror, and the use (and misuse) of awe in education, politics, and war. This presentation is offered in collaboration with the Abilene Interfaith Council.

Awe, Science, Religion, and Eudaemonia (January 21) - JD Stillwater

"With Undivided Hearts": Bonhoeffer and the Cost of Discipleship (January 28) - The Rev. Cole Jodon

The Witness and Work of the Novi Community (February 4) - Steve Gumaer

THE WEEK AHEAD

View a detailed schedule at heavenlyrestabilene.org/calendar

Sunday, January 18th

8:00 AM Holy Eucharist - Rite I (Nave)*
9:15 AM Sunday School Classes for Adults and Children
10:30 AM Holy Eucharist - Rite II (Nave & live stream)*
1:00 PM Holy Eucharist in Swahili (Nave & live stream)*
7:00 PM Holy Eucharist
7:30 PM Encounter - Young Adult Ministry

Monday, January 19th

5:30 AM Breakfast on Beech Street
8:30 AM Morning Prayer
6:00 PM Education for Ministry (EFM)

Tuesday, January 20th

8:30 AM Morning Prayer
10:00 AM Staff meeting
12:00 PM Abilene Interfaith (McMurry)
4:00 PM Contemplative Prayer
5:15 PM Vestry Meeting
7:00 PM Abilene Pipers
7:00 PM Unity Group AA

Wednesday, January 21st

8:30 AM Morning Prayer
10:00 AM Sewing Circle
5:15 PM Children's Music, Choristers, and Wind Down
Wednesday*
5:30 PM Holy Eucharist with Prayers for Healing*
6:00 PM Meal and Programming*
6:40 PM Canterbury Ringers
7:30 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, January 22nd

8:30 AM Morning Prayer
9:30 AM Thursday Morning Bible Study
12:00 PM Men's Brown Bag
12:00 PM EST Mentor Meeting (Midday Option)
6:00 PM EST Mentor Meeting (Evening Option)
6:00 PM Girl Scout Troop
7:00 PM Unity Group AA

Friday, January 23rd

8:30 AM Morning Prayer
9:30 AM Hands-On Grocery Distribution

Saturday, January 24th

8:30 AM Swahili Prayer
9:00 AM Altar Guild Preparation
10:30 AM Afternoon Children's Choir Rehearsal
4:30 PM Aleluya Kwaya Rehearsal

Sunday, January 25th

8:00 AM Holy Eucharist - Rite I (Nave)*
9:15 AM Sunday School Classes for Adults and Children
10:30 AM Holy Eucharist - Rite II (Nave & live stream)*
1:00 PM Morning Prayer in Swahili (Nave & live stream)*
2:00 PM Grow Sunday School
2:00 PM Worship at Lyndale
7:00 PM Evening Prayer
7:30 PM Encounter - Young Adult Ministry

* Nursery available (ages 0-4 years old)

MINISTRIES

Hands-On Outreach Ministry – Our parish grocery distribution ministry, Hands-On Outreach, is currently in need of **saltine crackers and canned tuna**. If you are able to help, please bring your donations to the parish office during regular hours. Contact Sue McWilliams at smmmn@aol.com for more information. Thank you for your continued generosity!

PRAYERS

Thanksgivings for those celebrating birthdays this week: Gary Ackers, Lane Ashley, Jackie Batjer, Jeff Goolsby, Shirlene Plocheck

Intercessions: Dave Yoder, Eric Tanner, Bobby Atchley, Martha McDaniel, Kathryn Townsend, Tom Lindley, Carter Christie, BJ Madrid, Suzanne Rhodes, Evelyn French, Michael Hagar, Sam Sloane, Mary Ellen Shorten, Brianna Johnson-Onielle, Crystal and Abigail Keet, Don Bridges, Johnny Musselman, Annabel House, Olman Santeliz, Keith Boyd, Chuy Lopez and Krystan Powell, Jim, Scott Mead, Charlie Donovan, Jacob Moore, Chris Thomas, Alice Townsend Poirrier, Charles Fairchilds, Bryan Gibbs, Karen Telck, Leslie Smith, Barbara Arnold, Mary Angermueller, Dianne Cash, Martha Swartz, Nancy Williams, Thomas Madrid, Mike Mansell, David Weigle, Arnold Guerra, Susan Langford, Dawn Ahart, Jerry Gulley, Jeannie Best, Ralph Webb, Rusty Plocheck, Barbara Brock, Anne Melcher, Larry and Leta Bell, Christopher Choate, Shane Jones, Amanda Sellers, Russell McKeever, Francois Mulanda, Suzie Ramsey, Barbara Payne, Glen Funkey, Angaza Alembo

Intercessions for deployed military and first responders: Weaver Lilly, Riziki Mulanda, Michael Scarborough, Fire, Police, and Sheriff's Departments, Health Care Workers

Intercessions for the recently departed: Sharon Haynes, Gayle Ruth Cooper Korte, Robert Hoppe, Hubert Smith, Dick Mansfield, John Best, Sherry Hirsch, David Jeffries, Chuck Hurlbut

CONTACT US

To learn more or to contact the clergy, visit us online at heavenlyrestabilene.org or by email info@heavenlyrestabilene.org.

602 Meander Street, Abilene, Texas 79602

Office Hours: M-Th 8:30 AM-12:00 PM, 1-4:30 PM, F 8:30-12:00 PM

Hands On-Assistance (Online) M,W,F 10:30 AM-12:00 PM, Grocery Distribution F 9-11:30 AM

Phone: (325) 677-2091

@heavenlyrestabilene



Thrift House, 761 Walnut Street, Abilene, TX 79601

(325) 672-3812

Open: Tuesday-Friday 9:30 AM- 4:30 PM

Is there something you would like to share with the church? Please submit announcements and materials to the Communications office.

Contact Jen Rogers at jrogers@heavenlyrestabilene.org.