

The Carpenter's Helper

Volume 4 Number 64 December 18, 2016

St. Thomas Parish, Newark, DE

302-368-4644

www.StThomasParish.org



WELCOME! Please introduce yourself to any of our parish family and complete our yellow Welcome Form found in the pew card-holder. Place the form into the alms basket or give it to an usher. Join us for fellowship in the Great Hall following services. Guests are invited to put on a hand-written blue name tag which an usher or greeter can give you. The ushers will also be glad to help with any questions you may have.

Location Key C: Classroom CO: Counter's Office GH: Great Hall K: Kitchen MR: Music Room
 N: Nave P: Parlor U: Undercroft TBD: to be determined

TODAY	8:00 a.m.	N	Holy Eucharist I
	9:15 a.m.	U	The Crèche (Nursery, birth to 3 years)
	9:15 a.m.	N, U	Children's Worship
	9:15 a.m.	P	Adult Education
	10:30 a.m.	N	Holy Eucharist II
	12:15 p.m.	P	Vestry Meeting
	12:30 a.m.	GH	Feast & Fellowship in the Great Hall
	5:30 p.m.	N	Christmas Pageant and Reception
	7:00 p.m.	GH	UD Ballroom Dance Team
Monday to Friday	5:15 p.m.	N	Evening Prayer
Monday, Dec. 19	6:30 a.m.	C	Sunrise Serenity AA Meeting
	10:00 a.m.		Hope Dining Room - Kingswood Methodist Church
	6:00 p.m.	C	Coalition to Dismantle the New Jim Crow
	7:00 p.m.	U	Climate Change Ministry Meeting
	7:30 p.m.	GH, K	Scottish Dance
Tuesday, Dec. 20	6:30 a.m.	C	Sunrise Serenity AA Meeting
	7:00 a.m.	P	<u>No</u> Bible Study – Resumes January 10, 2017
	9:00 a.m.	U	<u>No</u> Musik Garten
	5:30 p.m.	CO	AIDS Delaware Test Site
	6:30 p.m.	U	Dusk Patrol
	7:00 p.m.	GH	UD Ballroom Dance Team
	8:00 p.m.	U	AA Meeting
Wednesday, Dec. 21	6:30 a.m.	C	Sunrise Serenity AA Meeting
	10:30 a.m.	C	<u>No</u> Bible Study – Resumes January 11, 2017
	1:00 p.m.	U	<u>No</u> Musik Garten
	4:00 p.m.	GH	ECM Food Pantry
	5:00 p.m.	GH, K	<u>No</u> Episcopal Campus Ministry (ECM) – Resumes Feb. 1
	6:00 p.m.	P	Centering Prayer
	8:30 p.m.	GH, K	South College Speakers AA Meeting
Thursday, Dec. 22	6:30 a.m.	C	Sunrise Serenity AA Meeting
	6:00 p.m.	MR	Lights Children's Choir
	7:30 p.m.	MR	Adult Choir

Friday, Dec. 23	6:30 a.m.	C	Sunrise Serenity AA Meeting
	12:00 p.m.	U	Al-Anon
	6:30 p.m.	P	Women's AA Meeting
Saturday, Dec. 24			Christmas Eve
	5:30 p.m.	N	Congregational Carol Sing
	6:00 p.m.	N	Family Service: Holy Eucharist II
	10:30 p.m.	N	Congregational Carol Sing
	11:00 p.m.	N	Festal Celebration with Incense: Holy Eucharist II

CHRISTMAS DAY – December 25, 2016

9:30 a.m.	N	Congregational Carol Sing
10:00 a.m.	N	Holy Eucharist II

Diocesan Prayer for 11th Bishop of Search & Calling

In your Name, Lord Jesus, the community that is the Diocese of Delaware has been raised up and has flourished. We pray that in our day we as a Diocese may continue to be a sign of your presence in this State, a people devoted to You, and willing agents of your peace. In this time of transition as we seek a new bishop, help us to discern your will for us, to receive with joy and grace those who offer themselves to the election process, and to celebrate the episcopal ministry we have been given and that which is yet to come. Give us open and gracious hearts, patience with one another, and joy in anticipation. Lord Jesus Christ be with us in these days, as you are with us always, for You, with the Creator and the Holy Spirit, are one, Our God, now and forever. Amen.

Stewardship -

2017 OFFERING ENVELOPES – The envelopes for Stewardship 2017 are available in the Great Hall for those who have requested them. If you want envelopes, and a box is not there for you please write your name on the list on the table. Your box will be available the following Sunday. If you have questions contact Jeanne Moore at 302-292-1326 or jeannesmoore1@verison.net.

ST. THOMAS CLIMATE CHANGE MINISTRY – On the Climate Change Ministry Wall: Please borrow and return the resources you find there in the way of books or magazines. **The Climate Change Ministry meets Mondays at 7:00 p.m.** in the Undercroft. For further information contact Karl Krauss at ktkdelaware@gmail.com or go to <https://groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/stthomas-climate-change-ministry>.

GIVING BY TEXT -You can now make a contribution to St Thomas's Parish with a quick text message! Simply send a text to **302-246-5684** with the amount you would like to contribute. Make sure to include the dollar sign before the amount. **Example:** \$25. You'll be sent a text with a link to register. Click on the link and enter your cardholder name and credit or debit card information. Once your registration is complete, you will receive a text verification and a receipt via email. For future giving, simply send a text with the amount you wish to give, and it will process automatically!

Worship

CENTERING PRAYER AT ST. THOMAS - *Be still and know that I am God.* Psalm 46:10

Centering Prayer is a method designed to facilitate the development of Contemplative Prayer by preparing our body, mind, and spirit to receive this gift. For more information contact Joe Corsello at 302-369-0330 or jmcorsello@gmail.com.

DAILY DEVOTIONAL RESOURCE - *FORWARD DAY BY DAY* is a publication that contains Bible readings and devotions and is issued quarterly. They are available in pocket size and large print and can be found in the top shelf of the publications rack in the entry hall. The cost of the booklet is covered by your free will donation.

W.O.O.W. THE FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY - The Feast of the Epiphany is celebrated on January 6, the twelfth night of the Christmas Season. At St. Thomas's, we celebrate this principal feast day in a W.O.O.W. kind of way, which means Wildly Out Of Wonder! On this day, we remember We Three Kings from Orient are and their arrival at the stable of Bethlehem, led by the guiding star of the East, to worship the King of Kings and Lord of Lords in the baby Jesus. So, in following the wisdom of those three kings and countless others in faith, it is good for us to do the same!

We are in the planning stages for a gathering on **Friday evening, January 6 in the Great Hall at 6:00 p.m.** for a potluck supper. We will begin with Evening Prayer followed by supper. The main course will be provided, so your offerings of salad, vegetable, side dish, or desserts are appreciated. The sign-up sheet is available on the Great Hall door bulletin board. We will gather around the Christmas greens that have adorned the church in the parking lot and burn them on our REALLY BIG FIRE to welcome the light of the Season of Epiphany. Contact Cana Hartman at Cana.hartman@gmail.com or call her at 302-354-3277 if you have any questions concerning the potluck supper and how you will help us make this Twelfth Night W.O.O.W!

Education

ADULT EDUCATION – The adult education class will be viewing and discussing *The Bible*. The series features powerful performances, exotic locales, and dazzling visual effects that breathe spectacular life into the dramatic stories of religious belief and courage from Genesis through Revelation. Please join us at **9:15 a.m. in the Parlor** on any Sunday. For further information, contact Larry Duggan at lgjd@udel.edu or Ronnie Wilbur at vwilbur@gmail.com.

DISMANTLING THE NEW JIM CROW– *What can I do?* Show up for racial justice and find out more! The group meets the third Monday of the month in the Great Hall. The next meeting will be **TOMORROW, Monday, December 19th, at 6:00 p.m.** If you are interested or would like more information contact Connie Malin at 302-834-3016 or Cami Seward in the church office 302-368-4644 or at camiseward@gmail.com.

NOVEL THEOLOGY - Novel Theology meets **TODAY**, the second Sunday of each month (September - May) at 9:15 in the Great Hall Classroom. Below you will find the book list for 2016/2017. If you have questions, call Phyllis Rawling at 239-2689 or phyllcr@gmail.com.

Jan. 8	<i>The Fault In Our Stars</i>	John Green
Feb. 12	<i>Relic Master</i>	Christopher Buckley
Mar. 12	<i>Union Quilters</i>	Jennifer Chiaverini
Apr. 9	<i>In His Place</i>	Harry C. Griffith
May 14	<i>A Man Called OVE</i>	Fredrik Backman

Evangelism

WAYS TO STAY IN TOUCH - In addition to the Google group mail list, keep in touch via St. Thomas's web site at <http://stthomasparish.org/> or via St. Thomas's **Facebook** page. To join our Facebook community, you can go to our web site at <http://stthomasparish.org/> and click the Facebook ("F") link at the **top right**, log on to Facebook and *like* us. You can also go directly to Facebook, search for **St. Thomas's Episcopal Parish** just be sure to click that you *like* us! The weekly *Carpenter's Helper*, monthly *Carpenter* newsletters, and sermons are published via all three avenues. Please share our mail list, web site and Facebook page with others who wish to keep in touch with St. Thomas's Church.

Pastoral Care

PASTORAL CARE MINISTRY – The Pastoral Care Ministry provides many services to our parish family such as prayers, lay eucharistic visits, prayer shawls, note/cards, hospital/home visits, rides and meals. When you know of a need or can lend a hand, please contact Donna Weaver at dweaver214@gmail.com, your Vestry leader Marilyn Prime, or the parish office.

Service

SERVING GOD'S PEOPLE WITH HOPE – On the third Monday each month, St. Thomas's is committed to preparing & serving a nutritious meal for those in need at Hope Dining Room at Kingswood United Methodist Church on Marrows Road. Volunteers gather by 10 a.m. or after to begin preparation of the meal, set up of the dining room and so on. Lunch is served from 12 noon to 1:00 p.m. Our next day to serve is **TOMORROW, Monday, Dec. 19th**. If you are able and willing to help, please contact Marge and Jack O'Donnell at 302-832-1419 or jodmod2@yahoo.com or Susan Hechter at 302-738-9918 or susanahechter@gmail.com.

THE GIFT OF A PARKING SPACE - When you come to St. Thomas's on any given Sunday, you often find our small parking lot filled to the brim! For the new person who wishes to "come and see", this can be not as helpful. Many people who seek a relationship in a church family begin this search during the Advent and Christmas season. Each Sunday we have access to Robbins Avenue at the University of Delaware directly across the street from us, the English Language Center across from the church on the corner of West Park Place and College Avenue, the Grove when weather permits, and along the designated side of Indian or Sunset Road. What a lovely way to add to our health and well-being with a little walk to and from church. You are invited to give a Christmas gift in this welcoming way.

HOLY HEARTS AND HELPING HANDS - We ask your prayers and help to purchase a gift card that could help provide a tank of gas or to buy some needed grocery staples at a local store. Please give them directly to Cami Seward or put in an envelope marked to Cami's attention and place in the offering plate.

NEWARK AREA WELFARE COMMITTEE'S FOOD CUPBOARD - There is a current need for **small jars of mayonnaise, grape or strawberry jam or jelly, canned fruit, and canned tomatoes**. Contributions go in the baskets as you enter the Sanctuary. The NAWC Food Cupboard **also needs volunteers** to distribute food at the Cupboard housed at the United Methodist Church on Main St. The Cupboard hours are from 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information contact Susan Hechter at 302-738-9918 or susanahechter@gmail.com.

THE GIFT OF FLOWERS - Each week, during the appropriate Church seasons, a **Flower Guild** member of this parish creates the floral arrangement that adorns the sanctuary. We need new members! If interested contact Karen Krauss at krauss831@yahoo.com for more information.

And Also

GREENING THE CHURCH - The Flower Guild would love to have your help in decorating the church for the Christmas season on Friday, Dec. 23 beginning at 10:00 a.m. Sweepers, wrappers and other helpers are very much appreciated. We welcome newcomers! Contact Karen Krauss at krauss831@yahoo.com if you have questions.

EPISCOPAL RELIEF & DEVELOPMENT - On the name tag table are *Gifts for Life* catalogs. This gift offers the opportunity to give something that keeps giving all year round! A gift card is sent to explain the gift you have chosen for the person and some of your recipients may adopt the idea as their own tradition. Please pick up a catalog or see Sister Jackie if you have questions. You can also do this by phone at 1-855-312-HEAL or on line at www.episcopalrelief.org/giftsforlife.

175TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST. THOMAS'S - St. Thomas's parish was first organized on August 1, 1842 – 175 years ago in 2017. This year-long birthday party recognizes our enduring ministry in Newark and our warmth as a parish of faithful people. Watch *The Carpenter's Helper* and webpage for further details as the celebration develops. Please contact **Nicole Cebula**, **Laura Greene**, or **Tom Fairchild** to learn more about our plans and how you can help.

JOURNEY OF CHANGE: CALLING OUR 11TH BISHOP FOR THE DIOCESE OF DELAWARE- You can access all up-to-date information from www.bishopsearchdiodel.org. The prayer for our search will be included in the *Carpenter's Helper*, and will be our concluding prayer during Prayers of the People each Sunday now through the election in the summer of 2017. You are invited to add this prayer of intention in your daily prayer practice.



Saint Paul's Lutheran Church
701 S. College Ave.
Newark, DE 19713

Light and Hope on the Longest Night Evening Worship
Wednesday, December 21 at 7:00 PM

While Advent is a season of hope and Christmas is a season of joy, not everyone feels hopeful or likes celebrating. Grief, illness, aging, depression, loneliness, unemployment, and losses are magnified. Even those who are not struggling with losses may feel the stress of preparations and expectations around Christmas time. A *Longest Night/Blue Christmas* service may provide a time and place of solace during the often frenetic days surrounding the celebration of Christmas. The service will be on **Wednesday, December 21 at 7:00 PM at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Newark**. This is an opportunity to gather for a time of quiet and peace on the darkest day of the year, with our honest yearnings seeking the return of light and hope.



Contact Information

276 South College Avenue, Newark, Delaware 19711
Church office hours Monday – Thursday 9:00 - 2:00 p.m. 302-368-4644

Parish Website: <http://StThomasParish.org>
Facebook Page: <facebook.com/StThomasEpiscopalChurchNewarkDelaware>
To view Parish Emails: <http://groups.google.com/group/StThomasParish>
Carpenter Submissions: mshoughton@verizon.net

To subscribe to automatically receive Parish Emails see the "Google Groups"
section on the Parish Website.

Rector: The Reverend Paul W. Gennett, Jr. 610-513-7988
paulgennett@comcast.net

Deacon and Episcopal Campus Minister: The Rev. Deacon Cecily Sawyer Harmon- 302-530-3493
csawhar@udel.edu

Organist and Choir Director: Marc F. Cheban - 302-220-9680
a1b2celeste@yahoo.com

Parish Administrator Cami Seward-907-321-3336
camiseward@gmail.com

Children's Ministries: Belinda Young-Payne
belmar43@aol.com

Youth Ministry: Alex Cook - 302-593-9044
acook@udel.edu

Pastoral Care Ministry: Donna Weaver - 302-753-1910
dweaver214@gmail.com

Parish Registrar: Wendy Campbell - 302-368-9562
wjcampbell7@yahoo.com

Parish Business Manager: Dominic Berta - 302-738-4696

Sexton: Brian Smith - 302-368-4644 (church)

