

The Carpenter's Helper

Volume 4 Number 71 February 5, 2017

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	Theological Education Sunday & 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	Theological Education Sunday & Holy Eucharist II
	11:30 a.m.	GH	Feast & Fellowship in the Great Hall
	5:30 p.m.	N	Inclusive Language Liturgy & Holy Eucharist
	7:00 p.m.	GH	UD Ballroom Dance Team
Monday to Friday	5:15 p.m.	N	Evening Prayer
Monday, February 6	6:30 a.m.	C	Sunrise Serenity AA Meeting
	7:00 p.m.	U	Climate Change Ministry Meeting
	7:30 p.m.	GH, K	Scottish Dance
Tuesday, February 7	6:30 a.m.	C	Sunrise Serenity AA Meeting
	7:00 a.m.	P	Bible Study
	9:00 a.m.	U	Musik Garten
	12:00 p.m.	P	ECM Advisory Meeting
	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, Feb. 8	6:30 a.m.	C	Sunrise Serenity AA Meeting
	10:30 a.m.	C	Bible Study
	1:00 p.m.	U	Musik Garten
	4:00 p.m.	GH	ECM Food Pantry
	5:00 p.m.	GH, K	Episcopal Campus Ministry (ECM)
	6:00 p.m.	P	Centering Prayer
	8:30 p.m.	GH, K	South College Speakers AA Meeting
Thursday, Feb. 9	6:30 a.m.	C	Sunrise Serenity AA Meeting
	4:00 p.m.	P	OxFam Hunger Committee Meeting
	6:00 p.m.	MR	Lights Children's Choir
	7:20 p.m.	U	Bluegrass Jam
	7:30 p.m.	MR	Adult Choir

Friday, Feb. 10	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

Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany – February 12 , 2017

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.	C	Novel Theology
9:15 a.m.	P	Adult Education
10:30 a.m.	N	Holy Eucharist II
11:30 a.m.	GH	Feast & Fellowship in the Great Hall
12:00 p.m.	C	CREW Youth Group
5:30 p.m.	N	Inclusive Language Liturgy & Holy Eucharist
7:00 p.m.	GH	UD Ballroom Dance Team

Diocesan Prayer for 11th Bishop 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.

175TH ANNUAL MEETING - The Wardens and Vestry of St. Thomas's Parish have set aside the second Sunday in Lent, **March 12, 2017 for the 175th Annual Meeting** of St. Thomas's Parish. This important gathering gives opportunity to gather as a community of faith, to hear reports of our ministry activities over the year past and plans for the year ahead, and to elect four [4] people to three year terms as servant leaders of our parish. We will also be affirming/electing delegates to represent St. Thomas's at the Special Convention for the election of the 11th Bishop of Delaware scheduled for July 15, 2017. The current delegates to the Diocesan Convention are willing to serve – **Jordan Kinsey and Marilyn Prime, Mariah Payne** as our under 30 year old delegate, and **Devon Miller Duggan** as alternate. Nominations will also be included from the parish if you feel called to serve in this important event of our common life. **Nomination forms and the requirements of being a Vestry candidate are now on the nametag table.** For the Annual Meeting we will gather at 12:00 p.m. in the Great Hall, beginning with time of fellowship and a light lunch with refreshments. The meeting will begin at 12:30 p.m. We are offering activities for our children so that parents may participate fully in the life and ministry of our parish. More information will be forthcoming in February and March, and weekly in the *Carpenter's Helper*. We will again offer the Annual Report electronically at least one week before the Annual Meeting.

Stewardship -

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 ktdelaware@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!

RECTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND -The Vestry has resolved to commit the plate cash (i.e., the cash not contributed toward a pledge) from the first Sunday of every month to the Rector's Discretionary Fund. While the plate cash is typically about \$80 a Sunday, the First Sunday resolution is meant to represent an outward, visible commitment to those who are less fortunate.

Worship

THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION SUNDAY - The Episcopal Church designates the first Sunday of February as **Theological Education Sunday**. This year I have invited **Francie Thayer** as our preacher for **TODAY**. Francie is the director of **The Retreat Center at Hillsboro in Hillsboro MD**. The Retreat Center is a ministry of the Diocese of Easton, as a retreat center where people can come for quiet, reflection, prayer, study, overnight retreat, and spiritual direction. Francie is married to Peter Thayer, Head of School at St. Anne's. She is a graduate of Virginia Theological Seminary with a Masters in Theological Studies. The loose plate offering will be designated to support the work of **The Retreat Center at Hillsboro**. Please be generous with an extra offering today. If you wish to write a check, please make out to St. Thomas's Parish and include in the memo line **Theological Education Sunday**.

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.

Education

ADULT EDUCATION – On Sunday, Jan. 22 the adult education group will begin discussing the first autobiography ever written in English, *The Book of Margery Kempe*, written by Margery Kempe (c. 1372-after 1438). Although it is an autobiography, it focuses largely on her fantastic spiritual life and has much to fascinate modern readers. We will be reading the Penguin translation by B. Windeatt, which is readily available through Amazon. After discussion of Margery the class will work with *Revelations of Divine Love* by Julian of Norwich (1342-1416). 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 **Monday, February 20th, 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 the second Sunday of the 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.

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 **Monday, Feb. 20th.** 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.

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.

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.

And Also

CHAMBER CONCERT AFRICA TO AMERICA - Newark Symphony Chorus and Newark Symphony Orchestra will present Chamber Concert, *Africa to America*. February 11, 2017, at Newark United Methodist Church, 69 East Main St., Newark, DE. This program is partially funded by a grant from the Delaware Humanities Forum. Dr. Caroliese Reed will lead a discussion after the concert. Tickets may be purchased at the box office or purchased in advance for a discount. 8th grade and under, admission is free. For more information call 302-369-3466 or visit NewarkSymphony.org.

BENEFIT CONCERT FOR THE NEWARK EMPOWERMENT CENTER – The Newark Empowerment Center is located in the Newark Methodist Church and assists our local homeless population. We have an opportunity to support the Empowerment Center by buying tickets to the **HEART OF NEWARK CONCERT** featuring *Mike Arenson and Friends*. The concert is **Saturday, February 11th from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m.** at **UUFN, 420 Willa Road, Newark**. Tickets are \$15 and are available on Eventbrite at HeartOfNewark.com as well as **from St. Thomas's church office during the week** or from **Connie Cooper on Sundays**. It is an evening of music and dancing for all ages. Child care will be available for a small donation. This is planned for just before Valentine's Day as a fun way to warm up and share a good time. It's also a way to help care for Newark residents who are in need.

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.

HISTORY RESEARCH FOR 175TH ANNIVERSARY - In honor of St. Thomas's 175th anniversary, we will continue research into the parish's history that we began in 2015. This will include organizing the parish archives, researching in various sources, and sharing the information with the parish and the larger world. All that is required is an inquiring mind and a commitment to accuracy. If you're interested or have questions, contact Connie Cooper at 302-731-7595 or cjcooper15@verizon.net.

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.

CRAFT FAIR 2016 - Thanks to so very many volunteers, the 2016 Bazaar was a huge success. We raised over \$6,000 which is more than in each of the last ten years. At our meeting on January 17, 2017, we approved disbursements to **Episcopal Church Women, Interfaith Resource Center, Newark Empowerment Center, Camp Arrowhead, The Way Home, the Newark Food Pantry, Father Paul's Discretionary Fund, and to the Hope Dining Room Account**. Prior to Christmas, we purchased gift cards at Wawa, Superfresh, and Acme for the Parish Secretary's distribution to those in need in our community.

We had a small core of folks that met monthly during the entire year to make the Bazaar a success. These included Connie Malin, Connie Cooper, Debbie Kearns, Barbara Graham, Carol Palermo and Marilyn Gennett. It was thanks to Debbie Kearns and her students at Networks that we were able to offer the shirts and tiles this year. Many others spent hours at the church during the days of the Bazaar. If we have forgotten to thank someone, please forgive us. **Barbara Graham has agreed to be the contact person for the 2017 Bazaar**. Look for the kickoff meeting this Spring!

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>

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)