

# The Carpenter's Helper

Volume 5 Number 100 August 27, 2017

St. Thomas Parish, Newark, DE

302-368-4644

[www.StThomasParish.org](http://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. 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.

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

### The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

<b>8:00 a.m.</b>	N	<b>Holy Eucharist Rite I</b>
9:15 a.m.	P	NO Adult Education We will resume on September 3
<b>10:30 a.m.</b>	N	<b>Holy Eucharist Rite II</b>
10:30 a.m.	U	The Crèche (Nursery, birth to 3 years)
10:30 a.m.	U	Children's Worship
12:00 p.m.	GH	Feast and Fellowship
7:00 p.m.	GH	UD Ballroom Dance Team

**Monday to Friday** 5:15 p.m. N Evening Prayer

**Monday, August 28** 6:30 a.m. P Sunrise Serenity AA Meeting  
7:30 p.m. GH NO Scottish Dance

**Tuesday, August 29** 6:30 a.m. P Sunrise Serenity AA  
7:00 a.m. C NO Bible Study until the first Tuesday in September  
5:30 p.m. CO AIDS Delaware Test Site  
6:30 p.m. U Dusk Patrol AA  
7:00 p.m. GH NO UD Ballroom Dance Team  
8:00 p.m. U AA Meeting

**Wednesday, August 30** 6:30 a.m. P Sunrise Serenity AA Meeting  
10:30 a.m. C NO Bible Study until the first Wednesday in September  
6:00 p.m. P Centering Prayer  
8:30 p.m. GH, K NO South College Speakers AA Meeting

**Thursday, August 31** 6:30 a.m. P Sunrise Serenity AA Meeting

**Friday, September 1** 6:30 a.m. P Sunrise Serenity AA Meeting  
12:00 p.m. U Al-Anon  
6:30 p.m. P Women's AA Meeting

**Sunday, September 3 Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

<b>8:00 a.m.</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>Holy Eucharist Rite I</b>
9:15 a.m.	P	Adult Education
<b>10:30 a.m.</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>Holy Baptism &amp; Holy Eucharist Rite II</b>
10:30 a.m.	U	The Crèche (Nursery, birth to 3 years)
10:30 a.m.	U	Children's Worship
12:00 p.m.	GH	Feast and Fellowship
7:00 p.m.	GH	UD Ballroom Dance Team

**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 the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays of the month starting in June in the Undercroft. **Their next meeting will be Tuesday, September 12th.** For further information contact Karl Krauss at [ktkdelaware@gmail.com](mailto:ktkdelaware@gmail.com) or go to <https://groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/stthomas-climate-change-ministry>.

**RENOVATION WORK IN THE GREAT HALL** – Starting Monday, August 28, 2017 there will be a renovation of the floor in the Great Hall. As a result the Great Hall will be unusable until the renovation is complete. The current timeline has the work being completed by Friday, September 1, 2017. Groups who use this space during the week have been notified and have either cancelled their event or have been temporarily relocated within other parts of the building. The Property Committee greatly appreciates your cooperation during this time and we hope to be back to full use of the room very soon.

**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](mailto:jmcorsello@gmail.com).

**FR. PAUL AWAY** -- Fr. Paul and Marilyn are away August 25-September 1 for their annual Memorial House host week. Please welcome back **the Reverend Ed Godden** who will lead the morning worship services. Please welcome Fr. Ed to our family in faith! For a pastoral emergency, please call Adele at the church office during weekday office hours, and the Reverend Deacon Cecily Sawyer Harmon ONLY after office times at 302-530-3493

**GUEST PREACHER** – On Sunday, September 3, we have the return of the **Reverend Michelle Topi**. Michelle has been on a powerful spiritual journey that led her 6 years ago to Delaware, and to a new church family at St. Thomas's Parish. She received a Masters of Divinity from Pacific School of Religion in Berkeley, California in 2000, but life's path took her away from the Episcopal priesthood. After her move to Delaware, she began working at Calvary Episcopal Church in Wilmington, then at St. Paul's Lutheran in Newark, and Lutheran Campus Ministry at UD. As the journey continued, she once again discerned a call to ordained ministry and this eventually led her to ordination as an Interfaith/Interspiritual Minister through One Spirit Interfaith Seminary in New York.



After her ordination in 2015, Michelle first served as an Interim Pastor at St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Wilmington. She currently serves as Director for Faith Formation at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Newark. This self-proclaimed "Luther-palian" is thrilled and grateful to be, once again, back "home" at St. Thomas's!

**BLESSINGS OF BACKPACKS** -- On Sunday, September 3, Father Paul will be blessing backpacks for **all students** who bring them to any of our two services as a way to start and continue your school year on the right path. All who desire are welcome to participate, regardless of age or type of "backpack" you bring -- briefcases will get blessed too! *"The love of the Lord is instruction in wisdom, and humility goes before honor."* Proverbs 15:3

### **Education**

**COME & SEE AT BIBLE STUDY** -- Being part of an ongoing weekly bible study group has been part of my life for over 30 years. We offer TWO bible study groups to fit most schedules. The **Early Risers** group meets on **Tuesday from 7:00 to 8:00 a.m.** in the Parlor – a great way to start your day and make it to work or class at the university in plenty of time! This time of study will resume again on **Tuesday, September 5**. The **Not-As-Early-Risers** group meets on **Wednesday from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.** in the Great Hall classroom, and will resume on **Wednesday, September 6**. No preparation needed nor seminary training required – just bring yourself, your soul, your interest, your wonderings, your hunger for sharing and knowing YOUR story that is the Bible, and sharing this sacred story of you with others in this journey.

**DISMANTLING THE NEW JIM CROW** – *What can I do?* Join us as we work together for racial justice and a better understanding of the impacts of racism in our state. The group meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month with changing locations every month. **Their next meeting is Monday, September 18<sup>th</sup> at St. Thomas's** . If you are interested or would like more information contact Connie Malin at 302-834-3016 or Cami Seward at 907-321-3336 or at [camiseward@gmail.com](mailto:camiseward@gmail.com).

**ADULT EDUCATION** – We will resume our study together on September 3. For further information, contact Larry Duggan at [lgjd@udel.edu](mailto:lgjd@udel.edu) or Ronnie Wilbur at [yfwilbur@gmail.com](mailto:yfwilbur@gmail.com)

### **Evangelism**

#### **Pastoral Care**

**PASTORAL CARE MINISTRY** – The Pastoral Care Ministry provides many services to our parish family. When you know of a need or can lend a hand, please contact Donna Weaver at [dweaver214@gmail.com](mailto:dweaver214@gmail.com), your Vestry leaders Marilyn Prime and Rejane deMoraes, or the parish office.

#### **Service**

**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 Adele Meredith or put in an envelope marked to Adele's attention and place in the offering plate. **We have no cards to give at this time so we turn away many who come to us – will you help??**

**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](mailto:susanahechter@gmail.com).

**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, September 18<sup>th</sup>**. If you are able and willing to help, please contact Marge and Jack O'Donnell at 302-832-1419 or [jodmod2@yahoo.com](mailto:jodmod2@yahoo.com) or Susan Hechter at 302-738-9918 or [susanahechter@gmail.com](mailto:susanahechter@gmail.com).

### **And Also**

**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 175<sup>TH</sup> 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](mailto:cjcooper15@verizon.net). Here are a few trivia tidbits:

**St. Thomas's was established on August 1, 1842 at a meeting with Rev. George Allen, Thomas Blandy, Benjamin Gibbs, William S. Wilson, William Cooch, and James S. Martin. All but Rev. Allen became our first vestry. Mr. Blandy was our first senior warden and our first treasurer. Mr. Martin left quite an impression on Newark. He purchased St. Patrick's tavern, rebuilt it, and renamed it "Deer Park Hotel" after his home he called "Deer Park Farm" that was located where the First Church of Christ Scientist is today. The Grove is the last remaining piece of Deer Park Farm.**

**The Diocese of Delaware unanimously received St. Thomas into union with the diocese at their convention on May 31, 1843. Mr. Gibbs was our delegate. The first rector was Rev. Walter E. Franklin and he served the parish from 1845 to 1853. His daughter, Anjelica, an infant, was the cemetery's first burial in 1850. It is believed a child of Mr. Martin's was also buried in the cemetery in 1854.**

**The first building cost \$3,825 to build. That would be nearly \$500,000 in today's dollars. At the time of our centennial celebration, St. Thomas's parish house served as a sector dressing station. A celebratory dinner was held at Newark United Methodist Church. The bishop preached in October. A box containing historical relics was preserved for our bicentennial celebration. When the new building was built, St. Thomas's asked the city for permission to park on *both* sides of South College Avenue on Sunday mornings. The city said no to the request, citing safety concerns. What we now call the Stewardship Campaign was called "Loyalty Sunday" in 1953. The bottom of a carefully crafted letter reads as follows:"How much shall I give?" Ask yourself, "How much has God given me?"**

**In April, 1953, the vestry approved a resolution to raise funds totaling approximately \$125,000 for the new parish building. That would be just over \$800,000 in today's dollars.**



***Thanksgiving for our XI Bishop of Delaware, the Reverend Kevin S. Brown***

Almighty God, you sent your Son Jesus Christ to reconcile the world to yourself: We praise and bless you for those whom you have sent in the power of the Spirit to preach the Gospel to all nations. We thank you for the call of our XI Bishop of Delaware, the Rev. Kevin S. Brown, his wife Caroline, and their daughters Margaret and Emily; we pray that he will be a faithful pastor who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries we share together. We thank you that in all parts of the earth a community of love has been gathered together by their prayers and labors, and that in every place your servants call upon your Name; for the kingdom and the power and the glory are yours forever. Amen

**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](mailto:paulgennett@comcast.net)

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

Organist and Choir Director: Marc F. Cheban - 302-220-9680  
[a1b2celeste@yahoo.com](mailto:a1b2celeste@yahoo.com)

Parish Administrator: Adele Meredith  
[AdeleMeredithStThomas@gmail.com](mailto:AdeleMeredithStThomas@gmail.com)

Children’s Ministries: Belinda Young-Payne  
[belmar43@aol.com](mailto:belmar43@aol.com)

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[acookbook27@gmail.com](mailto:acookbook27@gmail.com)

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Parish Registrar: Wendy Campbell - 302-368-9562  
[wjcampbell7@yahoo.com](mailto:wjcampbell7@yahoo.com)

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

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

