

The Carpenter's Helper

December 3, 2017

St. Thomas's 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 handwritten 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.

Now that we're in a time of transition, we've added a new section to the newsletter, "Transition Topics," that will provide information on where we are in the process. Be sure to take a look at it.

*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 First Sunday of Advent

8:00 a.m.	N	Holy Eucharist Rite I
9:00 a.m.	GH	Craft Fair – Between services and after 10:30 service
9:00 a.m.	U	Youth Confirmation
9:15 a.m.	P	Adult Education
9:15 a.m.	U	Children's Creche
9:30 a.m.	U	Children's Worship
10:30 a.m.	N	Holy Eucharist Rite II
12:00 p.m.	GH	Feast and Fellowship
12:00 p.m.	C	C.R.E.W. Youth
7:00 p.m.	GH	UD Dance Team

Tuesday to Thursday

5:15 p.m. N Evening Prayer

Monday, December 4

6:30 a.m. C Serenity at Sunrise AA Meeting
7:30 p.m. GH Scottish Dance

Tuesday, December 5

6:30 a.m. C Serenity at Sunrise AA Meeting
10:15 a.m. U Musikgarten
5:15 p.m. CO AIDS Delaware
6:30 p.m. U Dusk Patrol AA
7:00 p.m. GH U D Ballroom Dance Team
8:00 p.m. U AA Meeting

Wednesday, December 6

6:30 a.m. C Serenity at Sunrise AA Meeting
10:30 a.m. C Bible Study
4:00 p.m. C, GH, K Episcopal Campus Ministry
6:00 p.m. P Centering Prayer
8:30 p.m. GH, K South College Speakers AA Meeting

Thursday, December 7

6:30 a.m. C Serenity at Sunrise AA Meeting

	5:30 p.m.	CR	Network Delaware
	6:00 p.m.	MR, GH, U	Lights Choir
	7:30 p.m.	MR	Adult Choir
Friday, December 8	6:30 a.m.	C	Serenity at Sunrise AA Meeting
	12:00 p.m.	U	Al-Anon
	6:30 p.m.	P	Women's AA Meeting
Saturday, December 9	11:00	DSU	Consecration & Installation of Rev. Kevin S. Brown as the IX Bishop of Delaware
Sunday, December 10	Second Sunday of Advent		
	8:00 a.m.	N	Holy Eucharist Rite I
	9:00 a.m.	U	Youth Confirmation
	9:00 a.m.	C	Novel Theology
	9:15 a.m.	P	Adult Education
	9:15 a.m.	U	Children's Creche
	9:30 a.m.	U	Children's Worship
	10:30 a.m.	N	Holy Eucharist Rite II
	12:00 p.m.	GH	Feast and Fellowship
	4:00 p.m.	N	Advent Lessons and Carols
	7:00 p.m.	GH	UD Ballroom Dance Team

Transition Topics

The Vestry has met with a candidate for interim rector and has extended a call to that priest. The priest has accepted the call and we are in the process of working out the letter of agreement, then getting it approved and signed by parish and diocesan officials. Only after all of these steps have been accomplished can we make an announcement. This process has taken a long time because there are many so steps involved and we want to get it right. Although we cannot reveal the name of the priest, we can say that the priest is trained and experienced in interim ministry and is looking forward to being with us in 2018. It will be a different sort of year for St. Thomas's, but it has the potential to be a very good year as we continue our journey towards the call of our next rector.

Stewardship -- *Responsible Vestry Members – Barry Gregg & Rich Wadman*

STEWARDSHIP OF THE EARTH: THE CLIMATE CHANGE MINISTRY - *Almighty God, in giving us dominion over things on earth, you made us fellow workers in your creation: Give us wisdom and reverence so to use the resources of nature, that no one may suffer from our abuse of them, and that generations yet to come may continue to praise you for your bounty; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

(Book of Common Prayer, Prayer for the Conservation of Natural Resources)

The Climate Change Ministry is back and is looking for a few (or more) good persons! We will begin to deal with follow-up on the Diocese-wide acceptance of the Genesis Covenant (50% reduction in carbon emissions in 10 years) and will also discuss education in stewardship of the earth and new ventures for the ministry. We invite everyone to come; the more hands on board, the more we can do. Jerry Schultz, secretary

Worship -- *Responsible Vestry Members – Judy Grabowski & Ronnie Wilbur*

The Newark Interfaith Thanksgiving Service on November 21 was a wonderful experience of worship. It provided a glimpse of the wonderfully rich, diverse community of faith we have here in Newark, and was a great way to conclude our celebration of 175 years in the community. Over 170 people attended and the

offering raised over \$900 for the Newark Empowerment Center. Thanks to all who made it possible! And may we find more ways to be connected to our neighbors.

ADVENT LESSONS AND CAROLS - Please join us at 4:00 p.m. December 10 for our annual service of Advent Lessons and Carols. The service will offer an inspiring and thoughtful break from the hustle and bustle of the Christmas rush. Come and be refreshed.

CHRISTMAS FLOWER MEMORIALS – Forms will be available either online under the Forms section of the parish website or as an insert in the Sunday bulletins starting December 3. Please complete and return with payment to the church office by Monday, December 18 for inclusion in the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day bulletins.

EVENING PRAYER – Evening Prayer on Mondays will be suspended until our leader is feeling better. We miss you Pete Greiss, Get Well Soon!!

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.

Education– *Responsible Vestry Member* – Kristin Sausville

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 3rd Monday of each month with changing locations every month. **Their next meeting is Monday, December 18, 6:00 p.m. at St. John’s AMC, 17 New London Rd., Newark** (at the corner of New London Rd. and Cleveland Ave). If you are interested or would like more information contact Cami Seward at 907-321-3336 or at camiseward@gmail.com.

ADULT EDUCATION – Come one and all, new and old! Starting on October 1, the Adult Education group began to explore the *People of the Way: Renewing Episcopal Identity* by Dwight Szcheile. The discussion aims to explore the ways St. Thomas can move into the future beyond these walls as we share our story of God. The book can be easily purchased online via Amazon, B&N or any bookstore. For any questions, please contact Ronnie Wilbur at vwilbur@gmail.com or Larry Duggan at lgjd@udel.edu

NOVEL THEOLOGY – Our Novel Theology Book Group has resumed at 9:15 a.m. in the classroom area. The list of books for the balance of the year are:

December 10	<i>The Christmas Train</i>	David Baldacci	January 14	<i>Hillbilly Elegy</i>	J. D. Vance
February 11	<i>Mrs. Lincoln’s Dressmaker</i>	Jennifer Chiavari	March 11	<i>The Reason For God</i>	Timothy Keller
April 8	<i>Turn Right at Machu Picchu</i>	Mark Adams	May 13	<i>The End of Your Life Book Club</i>	Will Schwalbe

For further information or questions please contact Phyllis Rawling at phyllcr@gmail.com or 302-545-5105.

CHILDREN’S WORSHIP - Children’s Worship began again on September 10 for children 3 years (bathroom-trained) to 6th grade. Sunday School normally runs from 9:30 to 11:10. Our goal is to have three Sunday School classrooms this year. In order to do this in the best way that we can, **we need at least two more teachers**. I am praying we can find some new faces to join our children's ministry team. Teaching involves an average commitment of two Sundays a month and an hour or two of preparation the week you are the lead teacher. We teach in teams of two so you would be lead teacher an average of once a month. If you feel called

to be a part of children's ministry in any way, please contact me. I can be reached via email at belmar43@aol.com or by phone at 302-388-4017 (cell) or 302-832-8834 (landline).

Evangelism – Responsible Vestry Members – OnetaApplewaite, Joe Corsello, & Regina McCann

COFFEE HOUR - Volunteers are needed throughout November and December. There are signup sheets located on the bulletin board near the kitchen, and also on the door leading into the Great Hall. We are looking for volunteers to be at the church between 9:30 and 10:00 and to be sure to take care of set up and clean up. Please sign up to host a Coffee Hour.

SUBMITTING ARTICLES - Articles submitted for publication in the Carpenter's Helper should reach Adele in the church office by Tuesday noontime each week. This will allow time to insert and proofread the article prior to copying. Send articles to adelemeredithstthomas@gmail.com.

Pastoral Care – Responsible Vestry Members – Regine DeMoraes & Marilyn Prime

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, your Vestry leaders Marilyn Prime and RejaneDeMoraes, or the parish office.

Service – Responsible Vestry Member – Keith Fleming

PROJECT ANGEL TREE – We will be providing gifts for a needy family this holiday season. The family has 3 children, a daughter age 6, a son age 5, and another son age 2 ½. Please pick up an ornament from the tree and bring your gift, wrapped, to the church office by Sunday, December 17.

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 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.

HOPE DINING ROOM TEAM is seeking a new leadership to coordinate our monthly commitment to serve at Hope Dining Room. Help us continue the valuable ministry to the homeless and those who are food challenged by becoming a member of our team. Contact Jack & Marge O'Donnell or Susan Hechter if you are called to serve this ministry in this time.

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, December 18**. 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.

And Also

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.

Supply Clergy The Reverend Elizabeth Masterson – 302-547-7931
ermasterson@gmail.com

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

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