

The Carpenter's Helper

January 28, 2018

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 Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

8:00 a.m.	N	Holy Eucharist Rite I
9:00 a.m.	U	Youth Confirmation
9:15 a.m.	P	Adult Education
9:15 a.m.	U	Children's Crèche
9:30 a.m.	U	Children's Worship
10:30 a.m.	N	Holy Eucharist Rite II
12:00 p.m.	GH, K	Feast and Fellowship
7:00 p.m.	GH	U D Dance Team

Monday, January 29

6:30 a.m.	C	Serenity at Sunrise
7:30 p.m.	GH	Scottish Dancing

Tuesday to Thursday

5:15 p.m.	N	Evening Prayer
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Tuesday, January 30

6:30 a.m.	C	Serenity at Sunrise
10:15 a.m.	U	Musikgarten
12:00 p.m.	P	ECM Council
5:00 p.m.	CO	AIDS Delaware
6:30 p.m.	U	Dusk Patrol AA
8:00 p.m.	U	AA Meeting

Wednesday, January 31

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, February 1

6:30 a.m.	C	Serenity at Sunrise AA Meeting
6:00 p.m.	MR, GH,	Lights Choir
7:30 p.m.	MR	Adult Choir

Friday, February 2	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, February 3

Sunday, February 4	Fifth Sunday after Epiphany		
	8:00 a.m.	N	Holy Eucharist Rite I
	9:00 a.m.	U	Youth Confirmation
	9:15 a.m.	P	Adult Education
	9:15 a.m.	U	Children's Crèche
	9:30 a.m.	U	Children's Worship
	10:30 a.m.	N	Holy Eucharist Rite II
	12:00 p.m.	GH, K	Feast and Fellowship
	12:00 p.m.	C	C.R.E.W. Youth
	7:00 p.m.	GH	UD Dance Team

Transition Topics

On Sunday, January 21, St. Thomas's transition and search process got off to a great start. Mimi Delcuze, our transition consultant, gave an inspiring sermon that put our search process into a theological context. The Interim Rector, Transition Committee, Search Committee, Vestry, and congregation committed themselves to their tasks in the process. The Search Committee had its first meetings. And the Search Committee and Vestry wrote the collect that will guide us throughout the process. Please make it part of your regular prayers.

Our Heavenly Creator, who has blessed this dedicated church family for 175 years, serving our community in your faith and love. We ask for guidance for our Parish, Search Committee and Vestry as we embark on the journey to mutual ministry with our next Rector. Bless us with your grace and fill us with knowledge and fortitude throughout this process. In the holy name of Jesus Christ, our savior, and of the Holy Spirit, AMEN.

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

CUSTODIAL HELP NEEDED –While our sexton, Brian is recovering from shoulder surgery we will need help with keeping our spiritual home clean. Anyone interested in helping or being a part of a “cleaning crew” contact Connie Cooper at 302-731-7595 or cjcooper15@verizon.net. An hour or two makes a huge difference.

PLEDGE ENVELOPES –The 2018 contribution envelopes will be available in the Great Hall on December 15. They are arranged alphabetically. Please pick yours up as soon as possible. If there are any questions regarding your 2017 giving report please contact Jeanne Moore at jeannesmoore1@verizon.net or Barbara Graham at 44graham@comcast.net.

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

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.

PALM COLLECTION – Palms are being collected for this year’s Ash Wednesday service. Bring your palms from previous years to be transformed into the ashes for our Ash Wednesday services.

SILENT RETREAT DAY – We have been invited to participate in a Silent Retreat Day at St. Paul’s Lutheran Church, 701 South College Ave., on Saturday, February 17, from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. It will be a day of prayer, reflection, contemplation and SILENCE. There is no cost. A simple vegetarian and gluten free lunch will be served. Additional information can be found on the flyer posted in the entrance. If you are interested in attending please contact the Rev. Michelle Topi at faithformation1@comcast.net or by calling St. Paul’s church office at 302-368-0064

Education– Responsible Vestry Member – Kristin Sausville

FORWARD DAY BY DAY – The February, March, April edition of Forward Day by Day can be found in the tract rack. Your free-will donation helps defray the cost of the subscriptions for this publication.

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, February 19, 6:00 p.m. at New Elizabeth AME Church, 250 Corp Blvd., Newark.** 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 Szechele. 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:

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 – Oneta Applewaite, Joe Corsello, & Regina McCann

COFFEE HOUR – During this time of transition and changes within St. Thomas's, the Hospitality Ministry has decided to transform and revamp the coffee hour held after the 10:30 service each Sunday. As our Sunday Service booklet invites us for "fellowship and light refreshment," we have decided to keep the coffee hour to a minimum of light refreshments such as coffee, tea, and iced tea/lemonade. This will be very much like what we offer in the summer months, but now to be all year round. The coffee hour can be expanded to a larger offering if there are special occasions that warrant it, such as special events or if groups or ministries want to have a larger assortment of treats to celebrate an event or milestone. Those individuals/groups can host a Sunday of their choice and announce it to the parishioners as they see fit to communicate it. We welcome parishioners who may want to bring a tray of cookies or cheese/crackers to offer to a regular Sunday coffee hour, but there is no obligation to do so. Volunteers for making the coffee and juices are always welcome and appreciated immensely but, there is no need to sign up for a designated Sunday. The same will apply for the clean-up process, volunteers to clean up after the refreshments are welcomed and appreciated but, it should be a minimal amount to clean up. The idea is to keep a lighter, simpler method to our gatherings and allow us all to enjoy our fellowship time together as parishioners and congregation.

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 – Rejane 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 Rejane DeMoraes, or the parish office.

Service – Responsible Vestry Member – Keith Fleming

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.

176TH ANNUAL MEETING - The Wardens and Vestry of St. Thomas's Parish have set aside the fourth Sunday in Lent, March 11, 2018, for the 176th 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. Nomination forms and the requirements for being a Vestry candidate are now on the nametag table. Vestry nominations are due on Sunday, February 11. 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. 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 offer the Annual Report electronically at least one week before the Annual Meeting.

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.

Interim Rector	The Reverend Edward E. Godden 302-373-7999 eegodden@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
Parish Administrator	Adele Meredith AdeleMeredithStThomas@gmail.com
Children's Ministries:	Belinda Young-Payne belmar43@aol.com
Youth Ministry:	Alex Cook - 302-593-9044 acookbook27@gmail.com
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)