

The Carpenter's Helper

March 3, 2019

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.

Our Heavenly Creator, who has blessed this dedicated church family for 175 years, serving our community in your faith and love; we give you thanks, and we ask for guidance for our Parish, Transition Committee and Vestry as we continue on our journey to mutual ministry with our next rector, Fr. Howie Sasser. 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 – Rich Wadman & Denise Burgher

CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES AVAILABLE – The 2019 contribution envelopes are still available. Please contact Jeanne Moore at jeannesmoore1@verizon.net or 302-292-1326 or Barbara Graham at 44graham@comcast.net or 302-598-4143 to arrange a pick up.

DID YOU KNOW YOU MAY BE ABLE TO USE YOUR IRA TAX-FREE?

In December 2014 Congress enacted legislation making QCDs (qualified charitable distributions) permanent. If you're over age 70 1/2, you can send up to \$100,000 per year directly from your IRA to a qualifying charity -- including St. Thomas's. The distribution is excluded from your gross income making it tax free. For more information, contact Amy Keach or your tax advisor.

Worship – Responsible Vestry Members – Judy Grabowski & Ronnie Wilbur

FOURTH SUNDAY CHOIR - This year I am trying a new idea to help interest anyone out there to sing with the choir. Here is my plan: It is called *Fourth Sunday Choir*.

On the 4th Sunday of each month (not necessarily the last Sunday....) anyone who is interested in singing with the choir will be encouraged and welcomed. This will also involve the Thursday evening rehearsal just before that Sunday, for the first part of the rehearsal. The anthems for these Sundays will be fairly uncomplicated and the choir will already have rehearsed them. New singers will be able to sing either the melody or try one of the other parts, depending on their voice range.

This idea is different than the Summer Choir in that new singers will be expected to attend the prior Thursday's rehearsal for the first half-hour or so. If they can't then they wouldn't sing on the Sunday.

The strong choral tradition of St. Thomas's is in jeopardy unless a new wave of singers comes forth to make a commitment to our parish and our liturgy. Experiencing the joy and fellowship in the rehearsal room is an essential ingredient in understanding how important and rewarding this way of giving time and treasure is to the life of our parish.

Please consider giving this a try! The next Fourth Sunday Choir will be on February 24, 2019.

Thank you, and....CHEERS! Marc Cheban

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.

CENTERING PRAYER INTRODUCTORY WORKSHOP - Do you yearn for the still, quiet voice of God? Do you want to explore how to open to the divine indwelling? Centering Prayer is a method designed to facilitate the development of contemplative Prayer by preparing our body, mind, and spirit to receive this gift. The Centering Prayer Introductory Program provides a basic definition of contemplative prayer in comparison to other kinds of prayer and expresses the intention of Contemplative Outreach to retrieve reclaim and re-appropriate the contemplative dimension of the gospel and share the gift of Centering Prayer *with people of all faiths*. **The Centering Prayer Workshop** will be held on **Saturday, April 27, 2019**, from 9:00 to 12:30. Please arrive 15 minutes early. Location: **St. Thomas' Episcopal Church, 276 S. College Ave, Newark, DE 19711**. To register, contact Kate Burchess at kkburchess@gmail.com or 443-406-7072. Please leave message with name and phone number. *Suggested Offering is \$20.*

FLOWER DONATIONS – There will be no flowers on the altar between March 10 and April 21 as it will be Lent. However, there are still plenty of opportunities to donate altar flowers available after Easter. Please refer to the listing on the left side Great Hall Door in the Narthex for available dates. Also, there will be an opportunity to donate flowers for Easter Sunday. Flowers may be donated to remember a loved one, or celebrate an occasion or person in your life. Flower Donation forms are available at the bottom of the sign-up sheet in the Narthex. Easter Memorial forms will be available in the bulletins during Lent.

Education– *Responsible Vestry Member – Kristin Sausville*

CAMP ARROWHEAD – Brochures are now available in the Narthex for the summer of 2019 at Camp Arrowhead. Additional information regarding applications and costs are available from Belinda Young-Payne.

COPING WITH GRIEF - The daily struggle of missing loved ones that are no longer with us is always hard. It can be particularly difficult for those who are dealing with loss to navigate through the changes that loss creates.

The Reverend Deacon Cecily Sawyer Harmon, LCSW, and Dr. Lisa DiRenzo are continuing to offer the grief workshop. The group meets the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month at 9:15 in Deacon Cecily's office. Please call Adele Meredith at the church office, 302-368-4644, to register.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES LEADERS NEEDED - Please consider the INVITATION to join the St. Thomas's children's ministries team. It is a wonderful ministry that richly blesses everyone involved. The children teach and inspire us as much as we do them. And the team members are tremendous support and inspiration to each other. We are so thankful for all the children and adults who have been and still are a part of the program. However, we need new faces to join us. Maybe God is calling you?

“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 are more comfortable being the helper teacher each time, that is fine too. If you feel called to be a part of children's ministry in any way, please contact Belinda Young-Payne via email at belmar43@aol.com or by phone at 302-388-4017 (cell) or 302-832-8834 (landline).

NOVEL THEOLOGY – The reading list for the coming year's Novel Theology is below.

March 10	<i>The Damascus Way</i>	Davis Bunn
April 14	TBA	
May 12	<i>Remarkable Creatures</i>	Tracy Chevalier

For further information or questions please contact Susan Hechter at susanahechter@gmail.com or 302-738-9918.

Evangelism – Responsible Vestry Members – Joe Corsello, Cana Hartman & Joy Lynam

WINTER LADIES NIGHTS - Ladies, it looks like the 15th will be a great date for Ladies' Night Out this winter. We hope you can make this relaxing opportunity to visit with other ladies from St. Thomas's.

Friday, March 15th: Olive Tree Café, 13 Chestnut Hill Plaza, 379 East Chestnut Hill Rd.

Monday, April 15th: Courtyard Marriot, 400 David Hollowell Dr. (just off Rt. 896 as you head out of Newark)

Sue Houghton

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.

LAY HEALING MINISTRY – Members of the Lay Healing Ministry Team are available every Sunday at the 10:30 service during the administration of the Eucharist and after the service at the Julian Porch. The team will be meeting on Sunday, March 10 after the 10:30 service in the Parlor. Anyone wishing to join the team is invited to attend the meeting or contact Sylvia Berta at sylsings@aol.com or 302-743-2899.

CHRIS DONOHO MEDICINE MINISTRY - Did you know that medical expense assistance is available from St. Thomas's Chris Donoho Medicine Ministry account? We have a small endowment in memory of Chris Donoho which generates interest designated to be used for medical expenses (doctor appointments, medicine, equipment, etc.). If you, or someone you know, in need of help with medical expenses, please contact Fr. Ed or any member of the Finance Committee for details. Please do not let a lack of money keep you from taking the medications you need or from seeing a doctor.

Service – Responsible Vestry Member

BLUE HEN BOUNTY NEEDS RE-STOCKING- The spring semester will soon be starting, and students will be hungry. *Blue Hen Bounty*, ECM's and St. Thomas' food pantry for U of D students is in need of food - especially **instant food like Easy Mac, canned tuna, and other instant one-serve meals, snacks such as crackers and granola bars, and non-perishable breakfast foods**. Please bring your contributions to the stage in the Great Hall.

ECM DINNERS – ECM has resumed their weekly Wednesday dinners and are in need of folks who would like to make the meal. Sign-up sheet is in the Narthex on the right side door leading into the Great Hall. For questions please contact Sally Price (302) 584-2224 or SallyEymanPrice@gmail.com or Denise Burgher (323) 627-4782 or dburgher@udel.edu .

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. **Donations of gift cards are always welcome – will you help??**

NEWARK AREA WELFARE COMMITTEE'S FOOD CUPBOARD - There is a current need for folks to transport the food that has been collected over to Newark United Methodist Church. There is also a continuing 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 nave. 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.

CODE PURPLE – Winter is an especially hard time for those who are homeless. Code Purple is a ministry of the Newark Ecumenical Community to answer the needs of those who are homeless when the outside temperature dips below 20 degrees. Through a rotation of churches who willingly open their doors to the homeless, the Newark Ecumenical Community, organized by Friendship House and the Newark Empowerment Center, provides hospitality in the forms of a supper, a place to sleep, and breakfast in the morning. Each member congregation of the NEC provides the manpower necessary to provide the hospitality that is offered. When a Code Purple is declared, the NEC sends out an email to the member congregations soliciting manpower for that night’s housing as well as the site for that evening. Would you consider helping provide the hospitality the homeless so deeply need?

GO BAGS NEEDED - Newark Empowerment Center is once again in seriously short supply of Go Bags. While there were many delivered around the holidays, those supplies have been exhausted. Time for a Go Bag party for youth groups, church groups, Scouts, office parties, or service organizations. The need never goes away. These Go Bags are used right here in Newark. If you would like somebody to speak about the homeless of Newark please let me know. I believe it will be very enlightening. Those of you who are regular NEC volunteers, please pass this email on in your church.

HOW TO MAKE A GO BAG - All assembled in a 1 gallon zip lock bag, with a napkin and spoon. Individual Chef Boyardee meals in microwavable container, Snack cracker packs (cheese or peanut butter), Granola type bars, Individual Fruit cup or apple sauce, Box or pouch drink.

Diocesan News

EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN (ECW) – The inaugural edition of **Proclaim!** the ECW – Delaware Board of Directors newsletter has been received. The Board hopes to inform parish chapters in the diocese of the activities in other parishes. It will also serve to inform the various ECW groups of Province wide activities and meetings. **Proclaim!** can be found on the right side door leading into the Great Hall.

PROVINCE III ECW 100th ANNUAL MEETING – The 100th Annual Meeting of the Province III ECW will be held April 26 – 28, 2019 at the Valley Forge Casino Resort. “Making God’s House a Home” will be the theme for this meeting. Keynote Speakers will be The Rev. Faith Fowler and Bishop Daniel Gutierrez. Deadline for registering for the meeting is March 30. Hotel reservations should be made by April 3 in order to take advantage of the promo code “ECW”. The agenda, registration and hotel reservation information may be found on the bulletin board on the right side door leading into the Great Hall.

WELCOME

FR. HOWIE SASSER

Contact Information

276 South College Avenue, Newark, Delaware 19711

Office phone number - 302-368-4644

Church office hours Monday – Thursday 9:00 - 2:00 p.m.

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Website: <http://StThomasParish.org>
Facebook: StThomasEpiscopalChurchNewarkDelaware
page:
Parish Email: email@StThomasParish.org

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Deacon: The Rev. Deacon Cecily Sawyer Harmon
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