



**St. Thomas' Episcopal Church**  
**Agenda**  
**2016 Annual Parish Meeting**  
**&**  
**Report for the Year 2016**  
January 29, 2017 \* 12:00 p.m.

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Rev. John Lipscomb

**OPENING PRAYER**

The Rev. John Lipscomb

**INTRODUCTION OF NOMINEES FOR VESTRY/VOTE**

**CURRENT VESTRY MEMBERS:**

Joan Allen, Larry Block, Nancy Conley, Bette Dufour – Senior Warden, Janet Gizelt,  
Thelma Martin, Diane Mullen, George Pawliczak – Junior Warden, Mary Shriner

**BUDGET REPORT**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS & OTHER REPORTS / COMMENTS** (Verbal reports for those  
who did not hand in a report.)

**ADJOURNMENT**

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## 2017 PROPOSED BUDGET

<u>INCOME</u>	Budget 2016	Actual 2016	Budget 2017
Offering Income	\$152,992	\$142,326.48	\$89,574
Other Income	\$53,540	\$127,767.13	\$115,856
Total Income	\$206,532	270,093.61	\$205,430
(2017 Income reflects Desig. Pledges \$104,856 and Undesig. Pledges \$67,074)			
<u>EXPENSES</u>			
Diocesan Assessment	\$15,299	\$14,232.65	\$8,957.40
Personnel Expenses	\$158,926	\$158,481.14	\$160,506
Operating Expenses	\$27,121	\$27,289.15	\$27,121
Property Expenses	\$39,403	\$38,635.87	\$41,403
Program Expenses	\$1,450	2,125.91	\$1,450
Total Expenses	\$242,199	\$265,764.72	\$239,437.46
Income Minus Expenses	<b>(\$31,177)</b>	\$4,329	<b>(\$34,004.46)</b>

**Designated offerings** are those monetary contributions for which you, the parishioner, determine the use. Designations for these offerings can be for personnel, programs, property, or operating.

**Pledges** - If you turned in a pledge card for the year you may request that all your contribution be used for one of the above designations. You may turn in a **dated, REVISED** pledge and have the remaining annual amount be used for the designated fund.

**Checks** - If your offering is in the form of a check, you may write one of the designations in the memo section of the check. If you do not write anything there the money will be placed in non-pledge income.

**All non-designated income must be included in the amount we pay to the Diocese of Central Florida, which assesses a 10% pledge for churches in good standing.**

Bette Dufour – Senior Warden

## Senior Warden's Report

St. Thomas Parish is an involved, giving, and loving parish. As Senior Warden I have found we have the intrinsic love of others that makes us Christians. When a need is made known, we willingly give. It is a joy to work with people who understand the Christian mission and are willing to support that mission.

Volunteerism is the heart and soul of any church. Our commission is to follow Jesus and, if we choose to do that within the scope of St. Thomas Episcopal Church, we must continue to work to confirm our Parish in this community. People do volunteer when asked, but there are some tasks that can be undertaken on one's own. If you see a task that you would like to take on; first check with our Parish Administrator, Lisa Labud, to be certain that someone else is not working on it. Then move forward.

Your Vestry continues to work in a spirit of cooperation to ensure the Parish moves forward financially and meets the needs and requests of the Parish and the community we serve. I am thankful that we have been able to have open and accepting discussions about the challenges we face. The Vestry realizes the dangers of a deficit budget, but steps forth in faith that our needs will be met.

As St. Thomas moves forward, we must accept those who have left us through death or personal choice and rejoice in the new members and receive them with love.

The mission statement developed by the 2001 Vestry is enacted by our membership today.

*"We are called by Jesus to be a loving family, accepting all peoples so they may experience healing; grow spiritually; and be empowered for ministry."*

Bette Dufour  
Senior Warden

## ALTAR GUILD

This year saw many changes with the make-up of St. Thomas' Altar Guild. After taking up the reigns of the Altar Guild during 2004, Sue Kiefer stepped down as our Directress this year. No one has filled her shoes in that position; indeed, it has taken four individuals just to take on the regular duties of that position. Sue Kiefer set the bar very high, always striving for excellence for herself and the Altar Guild Team. She has been very much missed, her loving guidance and direction were an example to us all. **Thank You, Sue Kiefer!**

As "God's Housekeepers", St. Thomas' Altar Guild continually does a WONDERFUL job keeping up with our weekly routine. Serving on the Altar Guild can be a very humbling as well as rewarding experience. Our church is steeped in such beautiful tradition and ceremony. Our numbers are few but faithful - Have you ever thought about what it takes to decorate our church for Christmas or Easter? Maybe you should come and join us! There are many ways to become involved at St. Thomas – and Altar Guild is just one of them! Please consider joining.

## BAZAAR 2016 REPORT      OCT. 22, 2016

CRAFT SHOP	343.50
PARISH PANTRY	574.00
PLANTS	94.00
SALAD LUNCH	1,032.00
GENERAL STORE	1,180.75
TOY SHOP	148.25
DONUTS	12.00
TASTES AROUND THE WORLD	1,372.13

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TOTAL RECEIPTS	4,756.63
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TOTAL EXPENSES	( 312.00)
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<b>BAZAAR DAY PROFIT</b>	<b>4444.63</b>
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FOR COMPARISON: 2015 BAZAAR DAY PROFIT	4070.75
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<i>THRIFT SHOP*</i>	<i>419.35*</i>
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## ST. THOMAS' BOOK STORE & GIFT SHOP FOR 2016

St. Thomas' Book Store and Gift Shop is for the benefit of you, the parishioner. It is located in the Parish Hall and open on Sundays from 9:00-10:30 a.m. and after the 10:30 service until everybody has left the Parish Hall.

All proceeds from the Bookstore go for outreach and restocking the shelves (\$500 of new merchandise for this year's Bazaar). We have a wide variety of interesting and religious related stock. It includes everything from Prayer Books and Bibles to children's books and puzzles. We specialize in crosses, angels, and butterflies.

Due to the fact I fell and spent 2 months in the Villages Rehab Center, I was not able to do anything. In the meantime, Carol Ann Luche filled in for everything and took care of her mother (Betty Carr) and still does. Without her we would not have done what was done. Many thanks and love goes to her. And thanks to her husband Stephen for bringing me food each Sunday while I work the Store. Thanks go to the congregation for helping out.

### Outreach from the Bookstore

Rev. Stephen Dass (Missionary-Brazil)	\$100.00
St. Thomas' Thrift Shop (roof repairs)	\$100.00
St. Thomas' (kitchen)	\$100.00
Thanksgiving Baskets	\$ 50.00
Orlando Terrorist Attack (Pulse)	\$ 50.00
Episcopal Diocese of W. Va. (June flood)	\$ 50.00
Donation for Miles of Pennies (MOP)	\$ 80.00
Orlando Sentinel Family Fund (feed homeless)	<u>\$100.00</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>-\$630.00</b>

### Outreach Projects from Parishioners

Miles of Pennies – Collected on 4 <sup>th</sup> mile	\$290.00
Campbell's Bar Codes – Labels for Education	200 points
Episcopal Boys' Home, Covington, VA	
General Mills' Box Tops for Education	365 Box Tops \$36.50
Eustis Elementary School	
Pop Tops - Ronald McDonald House	9 lbs.
Used Stamps—to buy Bibles—through Bay Street Baptist Church	1 lb.

As of December 30, 2016, we now have \$660.56 toward our **Fourth Mile of Pennies** (\$844.80). So, please continue to drop your pennies, nickels, dimes, quarters, and dollar bills in the big jug in the Parish Hall. This money goes to National CPC (Church Periodical Club) to buy books for children here and overseas.

Thank you everyone for all that you have done. **Labels for Education** is being phased out, but please continue to cut out **Box Tops** (yes, there are fewer of these too) and bring in **Pop Tops** and **Used Stamps**. Everyone that we save these items for is very appreciative. It helps them buy educational equipment, books, etc., for boys and girls, and allows the family to stay near their sick child in the hospital.

Thanks to Bette and Richard Dufour for opening the Book Store every Sunday after the 8:00 Service. A special thank you to Dotty Fetrow for her assistance in the Book Store on Bazaar Day.

*Betty Carr, Book Store Director*

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## **Craft Group and Fellowship Luncheon Annual Report for 2016**

The **Craft Group** meets every Wednesday from 10:00 a.m. to noon, January through October (as our Craft Room stays set up in Wisdom Hall to continue Christmas/Bazaar sales) We always welcome new members, male or female. Bring your own craft to work on or possibly learn something new from us, or come teach us something new. We have less than 10 core members, but there are several others who can not attend on Wednesdays and yet contribute items to sell. Most of us attended the memorial garden ceremony of long-time worker and friend, Evelyn Webster (we still have 3 items she knitted). Come share in our fellowship and 5 minutes of prayer (we have our own Chaplain-The Rev. Janet Clarke). Our objective is to make items to sell at the Bazaar so that we can help our church financially.

Most of us participate in the **Fellowship Luncheon**, which meets on fourth Wednesdays (except November and December), in the Parish Hall at 11:30a.m. This fellowship has grown, as a group of Thrift Shop workers now participate in the luncheon. There are several men in our group. You too can be part of this feasting and camaraderie; just bring a dish to share. The Craft Group and the Luncheon continue in the summer months.

The **Craft Group** raised \$331.50 on Bazaar Day, but we continued to sell after services until Christmas. So, thanks to all of you who bought, we raised over \$400 more. The Craft Group gave St. Thomas' **\$814.25** to use as needed from the 2016 Bazaar. Thanks to the members of the Craft Group and several others who can not attend our Wednesday work days for their hard work all year long. And thanks to you, the parishioners, for the purchases you have made.

The money raised during the rest of the year goes for outreach projects and supplies for the next Bazaar. The workers donate many of the supplies themselves. To raise this money, we continue to have our Craft Table in the Parish Hall. We have officially adopted the Seamen's Church Institute as our outreach project. In 2016, we spent \$57.60 for some of the yarn for the knitted (or crocheted) hats and scarves; Louise Dixon knitted 80 caps in 2016, and several others knitted or crocheted hats or scarves for these sailors/workers when they come into port. We continue to knit lap robes for Boggy Creek. Louise Dixon creates the plastic canvas bags given to Sunday morning visitors. There is an overlap between our Craft Group and the Prayer Shawl Ministry, headed by the Rev. Janet Clarke.

Thank you to all the hard working members who attend the Craft Group every week, to those others who donate items, and to all of you who make purchases at the Bazaar or in the Parish Hall.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Carol Ann Luche*, Chairman

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## ECW ANNUAL (and FINANCIAL) REPORT 2016

Nancy Conley was our President in the Spring and each month of the Fall has seen a different woman preside at our first Monday ECW meetings in the Parish Hall at 3:00 p.m. All women of St. Thomas' are automatically members and are invited to attend. Light snacks are furnished by members; our Chaplain The Rev. Janet Clarke leads us in devotional time (inspirational thoughts and a short worship service); and we have a fun activity as a small money maker for our treasury. We had several interesting programs: Sean Lahey discussed his book; Nurse Next Door" organization gave us 2 programs and fed us; Bess Short introduced us to her physical exercise program; Mary Ann Revell encouraged us to write some memories for our loved ones; Janet Clarke discussed the writing of the Bible; Father John Lipscomb discussed the Blessing of Animals; we had a Christmas Party and sang carols; and held a bridal shower for Carol Ann Nestor Luche in January.

We have no President nor Vice-President, but our other officers for 2016-2017 are: Leigh Clark-Secretary, Carol Ann Luche-Treasurer, The Rev. Janet Clark-Chaplain, CPC-Betty Carr, UTO-Evie Wright, Programs-Winnie Luche, Hospitality-Nancy Conley, Ways&Means-Blossom Mahoney, The Haven-Arlene Karwacki, Kirteen Calliste, and Wilmateen Chandler. Thanks to our monthly chairs (Carol Ann, Janet, Nancy, Winnie) and those who provide food, clean dishes, etc. All are appreciated.

Sonia Carter headed our Thanksgiving Basket Project. Sonia Carter, Nancy Conley, Ann Johnson, and Carol Ann Luche were in the Parish Hall to greet and give out the baskets to the families from Eustis Elementary. Baskets were also given out through Father John's office, Mary Shriner's school, and the Eustis Police Department, for a total of 30 baskets. Thanks to all the congregation for this food and the \$1,100 that went as Publix gift cards. This was truly a blessing to many families and great support and love from our church.

The Rev. Janet Clarke headed the Christmas Kiva Project. The congregation helped us collect toiletries, slipper socks, etc. for the 24 residents there. Nancy Conley assisted her in this project. Again, many thanks to you all.

ECW and MOST worked together to sponsor the church's annual Christmas party. The ECW received profits from the wine sale and the 50/50. We thank you.

Our total Blessings Box for 2016 was \$318.35; this goes straight to Father John's Rector's Discretionary Fund. At each meeting we share one or more blessings and put in \$1 (or more) for each.

We did not have a major fund raiser in 2016, which seriously limited our outreach for the year. Our only income was \$159.65 from our Ways&Means activities at our meetings. So, our balance is down to \$504.47. We started discussions for a spaghetti dinner as a fund raiser in the new year.

For outreach in 2016, we gave:

\$100.00	– “gift of support” (Diocesan ECW dues)
\$100.00	– CPC (Church Periodical Club)
\$100.00	– UTO (United Thank Offering)
\$200.00	– St. Thomas' Kitchen Renovation
\$139.60	– New Bowls – Parish Hall
\$200.00	– Thrift Shop Repairs
\$100.00	– The Havens
\$100.00	– ERD (Episcopal Relief and Development)
<u>\$100.00</u>	– The Rev. Stephen Dass (Missionary – Brazil)
<b>\$1,139.60</b>	<b>TOTAL OUTREACH for 2016</b>

Respectfully submitted by,  
*Carol Ann Luche*, Treasurer

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## **OUTREACH FUNDING 2016**

for the 12 Months.....January, 2016 - December, 2016

### **Section I: St. Thomas Contribution to Diocesan & Parish Outreach Ministries**

A) 25% of our Diocesan Pledge (\$14,232.65) goes to Diocesan Outreach Program	3,558.16
B) Sao Paulo – Stephen Dass Ministry	978.00
C) Jerusalem Missions (Good Friday Offering)	619.00
D) Thanksgiving Offering for Honduras Church & Missions	320.00
E) United Thank Offering (UTO)	380.89
F) Thanksgiving Baskets for Eustis Elementary	1,050.00
G) Orlando Terror Attack	102.00
H) Haiti Disaster Relief	190.00
I) Hurricane Matthew Relief	50.00

<b>TOTAL SECTION I</b>	<b>\$ 7,248.05</b>
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### **Section II: Other Cash Outreach Programs**

A) Spring 2016 Thrift Shop Outreach Fund Allocation	7,930.00
B) Fall 2016 Thrift Shop Outreach Fund Allocation	10,600.00
C) ECW Outreach (ECW Financial Detailed Report on Page 7)	1,139.60
D) St. Thomas Book Store & Gift Shop (Book Store Detailed Report on Page 5)	630.00

<b>TOTAL SECTION II</b>	<b>\$ 20,299.60</b>
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<b>Year 2016 TOTAL Outreach Ministries Contributions</b>	<b>\$ 27,547.65</b>
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### **Section III: Donations of Goods and use of Facilities to Community Programs**

- Parishioners donated travel-sized toiletries for The Haven (a temporary shelter for women & children) in the Parish Hall Donation Basket.
- Items “at the ready” from Thrift Shop donated to burn-out victims and families in need.
- Eye glasses & hearing aids not sold in Thrift Shop are donated to local Lions Club, suitcases donated to the Haven, cell phones to the Haven.
- Monthly collection of canned and boxed non-perishable goods delivered to St. Vincent de Paul.
- Collection of Campbell’s Soup Labels for Boys Home in Covington, Virginia to help them purchase much-needed items.
- Donation of hand-made prayer shawls delivered by parishioners for Shut-ins.

## Parish Register of St. Thomas' Episcopal Church 2016

Funerals:	<i>Stanley Joseph Paskiet III</i>	<i>1/15/2016</i>
	<i>Diane J. Carson</i>	<i>7/14/2016</i>
	<i>Evelyn Webster (Committal)</i>	<i>8/24/2016</i>
	<i>Douglas E. Johnson, Sr.</i>	<i>10/28/2016</i>
Baptisms:	<i>Gwenyth Grace Boreske</i>	<i>3/26/2016</i>
	<i>Carrol Wayne McSwain</i>	<i>8/07/2016</i>
Weddings:	<i>Carol Ann Nestor</i>	
	<i>&amp;</i>	
	<i>Stephen Edward Luché</i>	<i>2/13/2016</i>
	<i>Chelsie Joy-Ann Lipscomb</i>	
	<i>&amp;</i>	
	<i>Gage Tyler Camden</i>	<i>9/24/2016</i>

## PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

It is with pleasure that we were able to distribute 19 prayer shawls during the year 2016. So rewarding to receive the many thank you notes from the recipients commenting on how much their prayer shawl brought them comfort. This brings a total of 314 prayer shawls that have been lovingly made by our members and given to those who were in need. Respectfully submitted by Janet Clarke, Prayer Shawl Ministry

## SEAMEN'S INSTITUTE MINISTRY

We mailed 56 hats and 5 scarves this past year to the Seamen's Institute in Newark, New Jersey. The Episcopal Church sponsors this institute for the benefit of those men and women who serve in the merchant marine. Respectfully submitted by Janet Clarke, Seamen's Institute Ministry

## **THRIFT SHOP ANNUAL REPORT - 2016**

WOW! and a **BIG THANKS!** to the many volunteers  
and to all parishioners for your donations!!!

Our dedicated group of volunteers worked many hours every week in the Thrift Shop, sorting, pricing, decorating, cleaning and stocking the shop with the many items donated from our parishioners and the community. Good quality merchandise is always welcome as donations – bring to the shop during hours of operation or leave on the side porch of the Church Office. The shop continues to be the most popular resale shop in the area because of all this hard work, our outstanding merchandise and workers, and our very chic boutique. We are proud to have several new volunteers who have joined the group this year to help operate and maintain the shop.

The Thrift Shop phone number is (352) 589-0641 and our hours of operation to the public are Thursdays and Fridays: 9:00 am - 3:00 pm; Saturdays: 9:00 am - 12:00 noon. We close for Holy Week, Thanksgiving Week, two weeks for Christmas and New Year’s Day, and for 6 weeks during the summer.

After expenses paid to run the shop and needed repairs, every penny is given to Outreach in our community. The community as a whole knows to call us for any emergency needs such as fires, school children with dire needs, and prison release persons needing clothing to start a new job and life. We also bring items such as sweaters, jackets, coats and blankets to help the homeless who arrive at the Open Door for assistance.

For the year 2016, at our Spring and Fall Outreach Disbursal Meetings, we contributed to the following organizations in our Community:

*Organization--*

Church Periodical Club (CPC)	\$ 1,183.33
ERD (Episcopal Relief & Development)	\$ 1,683.35
Haven of Lake & Sumter	\$ 3,665.83
Open Door of Eustis (Lake Community Foundation)	\$ 3,665.83
Sunrise ARC	\$ 3,665.83
Turning Point Ranch	\$ 3,665.83
Capital Improvements/Repair Fund	\$ 1,000.00

**TOTAL 2016 THRIFT SHOP OUTREACH FUNDING**

**\$ 18,530.00**