



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO:

Tom & Gail Carlson	4/15/72
Rob & Linda Wilhelm	4/19/81
Ed & Wing Sigler	4/20/68
Chuck & Janet Clarke	4/22/79
David & Leslie Waters	4/23/88
Tom & Georgiana Wright	4/25/92
George & Kay Ikeler	4/25/64
Jerry & Evelyn Fields	4/28/60
George & Janet Gizelt	4/30/71
Bobby & Nancy Morgan	4/30/04

Clergy, Office & Staff

Interim Rector – The Rev'd Ted Koelln
352-446-1205

Rector (May 1) – The Rev'd Kathryn Jeffrey

Deacons – Dick Labud & Janet Clarke

Administrator – Lisa Labud

Treasurer – Marjorie Carter

Organist/Choirmaster – Richard Mangiagli

Sexton – Ryland Cox

Office Hours

Mon.—Thurs. 9 am - 4 pm, Fri. 9 am – Noon

Vestry

Sr. Warden – Bette Dufour

Jr. Warden – George Pawliczak

Joan Allen, Gail Carlson, Nancy Conley, Bev Cox,

Rick Kiefer, Thelma Martin, Diane Mullen

Ministries Chairs/Small Groups Volunteers

Acolyte Director – Rev'd Dick Labud

Altar Guild – Sue Kiefer

Prayer Shawls – Rev'd Janet Clarke

Prayer Chain – Nancy Conley

Memorial Garden – Ruth Squire

Bereavement – Kay Ikeler

Haven – Arlene Karwacki

Newcomer Baskets – Louise Dixon

MOST

Pres. – Jerry Fields V.P./Treas. – Bert Grace

Needle & Craft Group Hours:

Chair – Carol Ann Luche

Wednesday @ 10 am in Wisdom Hall

St. Thomas' Thrift Shop: Staffed by Volunteers!

Hours: Thurs. & Fri. 9 am – 3 pm, Sat. 9 am – Noon

Ph. (352) 589-0641

Office Volunteers:

Office Assistants – N.Conley, M. Winslow, K. Easter

St. Thomas Episcopal Church
317 South Mary Street
Eustis, Florida 32726

St. Thomas Tidings April 2019

Church Phone (352) 357-4358 / FAX (352) 357-9963 Newsletter Editor: Lisa Labud

Email: stthomasec@earthlink.net Website Address: www.stthomaseustis.com

WORDS FROM FR. TED

It is my intention this month in our newsletter to share with you a little about what we are doing on Thursday evenings during Lent. Our program for this Lenten Season is: Practicing Forgiveness With All Your Heart, Soul, Strength, and Mind.

We began by taking a look at Practicing Forgiveness, with the intention of overcoming our tendency to protect ourselves, and practicing forgiveness towards ourselves. The most recent discussion focused on practicing forgiveness as a choice. Our next program will be practicing forgiveness within our families.

One thing we looked at was the Lord's Prayer and that the only, the only petition in this most famous prayer is the one where there is a particular asking, a particular request: "that we only receive forgiveness when we give forgiveness".

The famous story of the prodigal son is a prime example for us of such amazing forgiveness and the ultimate in hospitality.

I was raised in a family that held hospitality in high regard. As many of you know, my father was a chef and hospitality was something he shared. My father may have taken this a bit further than some might, possibly due to his early life.

He came to America when he was only 16. His family was suffering during the depression years, which were even worse in Germany than they were here. He came to stay with an aunt and uncle north of Boston in Scituate, MA. They had promised to send him to school to finish his education and look after him. Dad's parents kept their oldest son home in Germany with them, thinking that one less mouth to feed and person to clothe would give them some relief.

His aunt and uncle did not do as promised, instead, they more or less made him an indentured servant and put him to work in the Inn that they ran. Dad learned the cooking business there and his sense of hospitality and care was in contrast to the treatment that he received in his own family.

We know that as Christians, children are gifts from God to be cherished and taught what it means to extend Christian charity/hospitality to others; they are not to be possessed and ruled over.

We, as followers of Christ are called to follow His teachings, His examples of what it means to extend hospitality/charity to others. That is our call, to love one another – As Jesus loves us!

Peace & Joy,

Fr. Ted

EASTER BRUNCH

Our Easter Brunch on Sunday, April 21st will be hosted by our men of **MOST** & served in our Parish Hall between church services, beginning at 9 am. We invite all to attend this delicious event, and we wish you all a blessed Season of Easter.

DICKINSON SCHOLARSHIP

St. Thomas Church has scholarship funding available to those St. Thomas parishioners who are seeking post-secondary education or training (not available to those still in high school). The recipient must be a **member in good standing** at this church. Applications for the Dickinson Scholarship Fund will be accepted at the church office this year through April 15, 2019.

FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON

St. Thomas' Fellowship Luncheon is every 4th Wednesday at 11:30 am in our Parish Hall, with plenty of great food & fellowship. Bring a dish to share; it's a great way to get to know other people better and have a delicious lunch.

Join us next on April 24th.

CRAFT GROUP

The Craft Group meets in Wisdom Hall Wednesday mornings at **10 am** to create wonderful hand-made items. All are welcome to join this creative group – just show up! Carol Ann Luche, Chair **589-6181**.

PRAYERS

Our Prayer Chain prays for any parish needs. If **YOU** can pray for others and contact Prayer Chain members, phone **Nancy Conley, (352) 483-2947**, or cell (352) **350-4184**, or call the Church Office 357-4358.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Phone Deacon Janet Clarke @ 352-728-0929 to join this ministry, or if you know of anyone who would benefit from a prayer shawl while they are ill or indisposed – adult or child.

WEDNESDAY FITNESS CLASSES

Bess Short offers a 1/2-hour **Beginners** fitness class on Wednesdays at Noon in our Parish Hall. An **Intermediate** class follows immediately after that at 12:30 pm. Please join the group and see how quickly your level of fitness increases!



PALM SUNDAY - APRIL 14th

At our 10:30 am service *only*, we gather in the **Parish Hall & process to the church**. In the church, the Passion Narrative will be read by members of the congregation (8 & 10:30).

EASTER FUN:



We **NEED** wrapped candies for our Easter Egg hunt - please bring by the Church Office.

CONTACT US!

***If you haven't already done so, please give the church office your email address, your birthday or anniversary date, and any contact changes. Contact us if you are **hospitalized** and would like a visit. We rely on your help, or someone on your behalf, to provide us with details.

Office Phone: **352-357-4358**



4th Sunday Loose Plate Collection:

The Loose Plate Collection on the Fourth Sunday of the month is designated for the **Rector's Discretionary Fund – this month on April 28th**. As we look to welcome our new Rector here at St. Thomas Church, the **Reverend Kathryn Jeffrey** (officially on May 1, 2019), please contribute with special generosity. What you donate each month will enable Pastor Kate to directly help those who come to her with financial burdens. If you can contribute in any way, you will be providing relief where none was available. Memo checks: **"Rector's Discretionary Fund"** and place in the offering plate, or send in to our church office.

THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY

Bess Short leads **Thursday Bible Study** in the Parish Hall on **11 am** (following the 10 am Healing Eucharist service).

EPISCOPAL CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Can you donate a pack of children's diapers, new underwear & socks, or crayons and art supplies for local children ages 3 – 5 years old? Please place these items in the large boxes located in our Narthex & Vestibule. **Your contributions are greatly appreciated** by the staff and children of ECS, located here in Eustis to assist children from this community with financial needs. Thank you!

DONATIONS FOR THE HAVEN

The Haven of Lake & Sumter Counties for Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault thanks you for the donations of shampoos, assorted toiletries & soaps. Contributions are accepted in the baskets in the Parish Hall. Contact Arlene Karwacki 352-385-3838, for info.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO

Connie Wilhelm	4/04
Marjorie Carter	4/04
Cliff Martin	4/05
Logan Haggerty	4/05
Millie Gulston	4/09
Will Townsend	4/11
Martha Herron	4/16
Linda Wilhelm	4/17
Bernice Nolan	4/21
Jack Geeslin	4/24
Jane Carlson	4/25
Chuckie Clark	4/26
Nance Kauffman	4/26
Charlotte Taylor	4/27
Matt Carlson	4/28
Diane Mullen	4/29

CONTACT US:



Please contact the Church Office if you are **hospitalized** and would like a visit. We rely on your help, or someone on your behalf, to provide us with details. If you haven't already done so, please give the church office your email address, your birthday or anniversary date, and any contact changes. Phone: 357-4358

Email: stthomasec@earthlink.net

FOOD COLLECTION

Thank you to those who faithfully contribute to the food bins to help provide non-perishable food to those who come to the local pantry for assistance. These items are always very welcome and much appreciated. Bins are in the church Narthex and Parlor.



THRIFT SHOP

Thank you to ALL our volunteers, new and long-time, for your dedication to this ministry. Please phone Sandy Pettitt 352-551-4225 or Gail Norris 352-357-2518 to become a new volunteer. **The Thrift Shop is closed for Holy Week – April 18th, 19th, and 20th.** Regular Shop hours are - **Thurs. & Fri., 9 am - 3 pm; Sat., 9 am - Noon.** 352-589-0641. Donations of good, clean items are always welcome. You may continue to bring donations to the shop or SIDE porch of the Church Office.

ADULT FORUM

Sunday Adult Forum continues each Sunday at 9:15 am in the Parish Hall on: *"God Is Closer Than You Think"*, authored by John Ortberg, We'll have a short video and discussion for our forum sessions on this book. All are welcome!

LENTEN PROGRAM

Continuing on Thursdays in April - on April 4th and April 11th - Fr. Ted is offering a special program on "Forgiveness" in the evening, starting with Evening Prayer at **6 pm**, progressing to a humble meal of soup and bread in our Parish Hall, followed by a spiritual study. This Lenten study will be contemplative, productive and reflective, and deeply rewarding. Please sign up on the sheet available in the Parish Hall to give an approximate number for meals.



EASTER ALTAR FLOWERS

Easter flowers (Sunday, April 21st) are purchased with parishioners' gifts, as memorials & thank offerings. Please fill out an Easter Flower intention sheet (in Sunday bulletins). Print your intention & amount you wish to donate toward Easter flower costs. Mark "*Easter Flowers*" on your check's memo and place your check & intention sheet in the Offertory Plate or mail to the Office. **Intention Deadline: April 14th - Palm Sunday.**

2019 ALTAR FLOWER DONORS

The flower chart is available on the usher stand. Select any Sunday to donate flowers - they are \$60 each week – you may SHARE a Sunday with someone. To ensure your intention is listed correctly in the bulletin: Fill out a green flower donor sheet located by the chart and place in the offertory plate with check or money OR send in to the Church Office.

QUIET DAY on APRIL 6th

There will be a Lenten Quiet Day on Saturday, April 6th, led by Deacon Janet Clarke. The theme will be, "*He Bore Our Sins*", with silent reflection observed between meditations. We will devote this day in reflection on the passion of Our Lord, His physical, emotional, and spiritual sufferings, from Gethsemane to The Cross. We will begin at 9:45 am, with the first meditation at 10 am. A salad lunch will be provided. Closing will be at 2 pm. Please join us on this day. There is a sign up sheet in the Parish Hall. Our Easter rejoicing will take on more meaning as we consider the cost that was paid to redeem us for our sins.

SPRING CAMPUS WORK DAY

There will be a Spring Work Day on **April 13th from 8:00 am until Noon** to prepare the buildings and grounds for the Easter season. Please show up and help out as you are able.

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday during the day, the church will be open for any to come in and pray, although there will be no services April 15-17.

MAUNDY THURSDAY – April 18th
Our HE/Healing Service is at 10 am. **We will have a Traditional Seder Meal at 6 pm in our Parish Hall. Please sign up in the Parish Hall if attending.** Tickets are on sale – see Gail Carlson. The cost is \$10/person. This will be followed by the Stripping of the Altar, and the Watch of the Repose throughout the night.

GOOD FRIDAY - April 19th
Our Stations of the Cross is at 11 am. **At Noon, the Traditional Good Friday Liturgy** service with the congregation taking parts in the narrative will take place.

HOLY SATURDAY – April 20th
Great Vigil of Easter Service – 7 pm ushers in Easter Day with the lighting of the Paschal Candle.

EASTER SUNDAY – April 21st – Holy Eucharist with Music at **8 & 10:30 am.** Brunch in the Parish Hall at 9 am & Egg Hunt @ 9:45 am. Children – bring a basket for the Egg Hunt! And bring flowers from home to help flower the cross.

MOST APRIL NEWS



The MOST (Men Of St. Thomas) group have changed the date of their meeting and **will** meet on **Monday, April 15th at 6 pm** in the Parish Hall Please feel free to contact *Jerry Fields*, President @ 343-0007 with any future program ideas.

PLEASE SIGN UP

*We will have a sign-up sheet for the Watch of the Repose - a night vigil held in our church Maundy Thursday, April 18th (following the Stripping of the Altar) – through Good Friday morning, by parishioners in one-hours shifts. If you're able to keep vigil during the night, **please sign-up on the bulletin board** in the Parish Hall by the hours you will keep watch*

Good Friday Offering

The Good Friday Offering will be collected during Holy Week and at our Good Friday Service on April 19th in aid of the Episcopal Jerusalem Church in the Middle East. Last year, we collected \$503 through the generous donations of our parishioners.

STAINED GLASS CLASS

Sally Hartenstein is now leading the class in our Sunday School Room each Thursday at **1 pm**. Please join her to work on the new group project for the Bazaar, or your own special project. Sally has much experience and has designed and created the windows in our Parish Hall, Wisdom Hall and Church Parlor.

HEALING – 1st SUNDAYS

On **April 7th**, those wishing prayers or anointing may do so after all have received the Eucharist. All are invited to come to the altar rail, or please notify one of our ushers and Fr. Ted will come to you in your pew.

☞Please continue to donate **Forever Stamps**, Paper Products, or printer ink **HP61XL** to St. Thomas – your donations are a terrific way to keep down costs!

APRIL 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 7-8 pm – AA Meditation Group in Wisdom Hall	2	3 9-11 am – Thrift Work Day 10 am – Crafts 12 pm – Beginner’s Fitness 12:30 pm – Fitness Class 7 pm – Choir Rehearsal	4 9 am – 3 pm – Thrift Shop 10 am – HE/Healing Service 11 am – BIBLE STUDY 1:00 pm – Stained Glass 6 pm – Lenten Program 6:30 pm – AA Group	5 9 am – 3 pm- Thrift Shop	6 9 am – Noon – Thrift Shop 9:45 am – 2 pm – QUIET DAY in Parish Hall
7 HEALING <u>*SUNDAY SCHEDULE</u> 5 Lent	8 7-8 pm – AA Meditation Group in Wisdom Hall	9	10 9-11 am – Thrift Work Day 10 am – Crafts 12 pm – Beginner’s Fitness 12:30 pm – Fitness Class 7 pm – Choir Rehearsal	11 9 am – 3 pm Thrift Shop 10 am – HE/Healing Service 11 am – BIBLE STUDY 1:00 pm – Stained Glass 6 pm – Lenten Program 6:30 pm – AA Group	12 9 am – 3 pm – Thrift Shop 1:30 pm – Healing/HE at Lakeview in Altoona	13 8 am – Noon – CAMPUS CLEAN-UP DAY 9 am – Noon – Thrift Shop
14 PALM SUNDAY <u>*SUNDAY SCHEDULE</u> 10:30 am gathers in Parish Hall for Procession (Easter Flower Deadline)	15 HOLY MONDAY 6 pm – MOST Meeting 7-8 pm – AA Meditation Group in Wisdom Hall	16 HOLY TUESDAY 7 pm – Vestry	17 HOLY WEDNESDAY 10 am – Crafts 12 pm – Beginner’s Fitness 12:30 pm – Fitness Class 7 pm – Choir Rehearsal	18 MAUNDY THURSDAY Thrift Shop CLOSED 10 am – HE/Healing Service 11 am – BIBLE STUDY 1:00 pm – Stained Glass 6 pm – SEDER MEAL followed by Stripping of the Altar and Watch of the Repose 6:30 pm – AA Group	19 GOOD FRIDAY Thrift Shop CLOSED 11 am – Stations of the Cross Noon – Good Friday Liturgy	20 HOLY SATURDAY Thrift Shop CLOSED 7 pm – Great Vigil of Easter Service
21 EASTER 8 am – HE with Music 9 am – Brunch 9:45 am – Easter Egg Hunt 10:30 am – HE with Music	22 7-8 pm – AA Meditation Group in Wisdom Hall	23	24 9-11 am – Thrift Work Day 10 am – Crafts 11:30 am – Fellowship Luncheon 12 pm – Beginner’s Fitness 12:30 pm – Fitness Class 7 pm – Choir Rehearsal	25 9 am – 3 pm Thrift Shop 10 am – HE/Healing Service 11 am – BIBLE STUDY 1:00 pm – Stained Glass 6:30 pm – AA Group	26 9 am – 3 pm – Thrift Shop	27 9 am – Noon – Thrift Shop
28 DISCRETIONARY <u>*SUNDAY SCHEDULE</u> 2 Easter	29 7-8 pm – AA Meditation Group in Wisdom Hall	30	MAY 1 PASTOR KATE’S FIRST DAY AT ST. THOMAS	<u>*SUNDAY SCHEDULE</u> Holy Eucharist Services: Traditional - 8 am Healing on April 7 th Coffee Hour in Parish Hall – 9 am Adult Forum in Parish Hall – 9:15		Family - 10:30 am