

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO:

Richard & Joanna Cotter	8/02/59
Coleman & Shirley Holt	8/02/86
Dick & Lisa Labud	8/04/79
Dennis & Sally Hartenstein	8/08/81
Jeff & Pam Ray	8/15/59
Brian & Shannon Bailey	8/18/07
Jack & Wendy Geeslin	8/24/57

## Clergy, Office & Staff

**Interim Rector – The Rev'd Ted Koelln**

**352-446-1205**

**Deacons – Dick Labud & Janet Clarke**

**Administrator – Lisa Labud**

**Treasurer – Marjorie Carter**

**Organist/Choirmaster – Richard Mangiagli**

**Sexton – James Sellers**

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

### Search Committee

Leon Stricklen (Chair), Kay Ikeler,  
Jerry Fields, Maggie Kaiser (Alternate)

### Ministries Chairs/Small Groups Volunteers

**Acolyte Director – Rev'd Dick Labud**

**Altar Guild – Sue Kiefer**

**Search Committee Chair – Leon Stricklen**

**Prayer Shawls – Rev'd Janet Clarke**

**Prayer Chain – Nancy Conley**

**Fellowship – Mike Christensen, Kathy Easter**

Bev Cox, Nancy Conley, Maryann Winslow

**Memorial Garden – Ruth Squire Book Store – Betty Carr**

**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 August 2018**

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

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### WORDS FROM FR. TED

For some time now I have struggled with a number of issues regarding our lives together in this great country of ours. One is how much do we engage in dialog regarding how we live together being faithful to the pledges/promises we make to God in our daily relationship with Him. Weekly, in our worship together, we pledge to be faithful. Daily, we make the same kind of commitments in our prayers. We promise to love God, and in addition, we promise to love one another as our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ has loved; ---as Jesus loved! We all know this is not easy! It is difficult, to say the least in our world today which is so polarized, so tribal. I am reading and re-reading a book that I just happened to pick up some time ago. It is a book about patriotism in America. The book is entitled, “What Unites Us, Reflections on Patriotism”, by Dan Rather. What initially attracted me to this book was how he begins. Rather recalls being mostly ignorant, oblivious to the circumstances that affected our country as a young man growing up during the depression. Issues of racism, gender inequality, voting issues, inclusion, empathy, education, etc. were not things he thought much about early in his life. I was the same. As a young man growing up in Boston in the 60's I was unaware of similar issues. In fact, it wasn't until I was in seminary in the 80's that the equality of women was a consideration on any level. In my class of 24, almost half were women. It was in discussions with them and the faculty that my eyes/heart were opening to the struggles that women faced day to day; and are still facing today. Rather says at one point in his book that the word “immigrant” was not a word that was discussed or heard in his home or his school. Same with me. Yet, we were indeed immigrants, and recent ones as well. My great-grandfather on my mother's side came from England. My dad came from Germany at the age of 16. My dad came here during the great depression. We didn't discuss being such recent immigrants. We were very engaged in our churches, Episcopal churches in the Boston area. No discussions of immigration ever came up as I recall. My best friends in high school were of Irish decent, several friends were black, some were Greek. Our differences of race/religion were just not discussed. When I got to college in SD in the mid 60's I was shocked to hear of race-rioting in the Boston schools. Where did all that come from, I thought? In his chapter on Immigration, Rather, in his book begins: “No one can deny that the United States is now, and has always been, a nation of immigrants. The issue of immigration has become one of the most contentious and divisive of our current age.” Much to our shame, in our sinfulness, I believe. He goes on to talk about the great diversity of cultures/peoples that were in Houston when he grew up; mostly he was unaware of the diversity. Me too, in Boston. He goes on to write in the chapter: “A united citizenry can be quilted together from so many different cultural fabrics.” The “quilt” of America is made up of all of those who look, speak, or pray differently than one another. And, as we have learned, even the “Native Americans” have come here from somewhere else. The peoples of this earth are pretty much migratory in nature; and when we move, we displace others who were there before us. That has been going on since the beginnings of human-kind on this earth. And, once established in a particular geographic area, we usually then claim it as our own, and struggle with those who come after.

**(Fr. Ted's article continued on next page)**

## FR. TED'S ARTICLE (Continued)

Rather again: "Too many times the term "American" has been used as a weapon against new immigrants, especially those who look, speak, or pray differently. And yet, **one of the noblest ideals of our country is that anybody from anywhere can be an American.** [emphasis mine] This has been, and continues to be, an eternal battle between our demons and angels for the soul of the United States. And it was present at the baptism of a nation that proclaimed 'all men are created equal' but defined many men as three-fifths of a whole, never mind women of all races." Rather goes on to discuss the waves of immigration that have occurred in our country, and the often difficult times those waves have all produced. No peoples want to be displaced once they have been established in a geographical locale that they have determined to be "their own." Xenophobia is often just under the surface, waiting to rear its ugly head to justify somehow the ways in which we differentiate ourselves, one from another. Yet, as followers of Christ, xenophobia is a sin, pure and simple, and there is never any justification for it – never, as a faithful follower of Christ! Rather again: "These days, Muslims find themselves particularly under attack, not only by discriminatory new government policies but also in schools, public spaces, and other avenues of daily life where their fellow citizens often make negative assumptions about their religion and reasons for their being here. **Never mind that immigrants are rarely responsible for violent acts.** Seldom do they attempt to undermine the values of our country. Instead, we have seen time

and again that immigrants and their children are eager to serve their new nation, and often at great sacrifice." Those who served in the war of independence, in our Civil War, in WW II, and most recently many in our armed forces are recent immigrants; willing/wanting to serve their new country. Rather: "**Patriotism and sacrifice know no ethnicity, race, or religion. And it has always been thus.**" Remember recently the ultimate sacrifice made by Captain Humayun Khan, US Army, who died in a suicide attack in Iraq. He then became a potent symbol in the political debate during our last national election. **There should be no question about whether our newest Americans are willing to sacrifice for their adopted country.**" In summary of this essay on religion/immigration, there is this statement that is truly biblical in nature: Rather: . . . "real people don't fall neatly into stereotypes, a lesson that many need to revisit these days." [I would add that much of current leadership of every political position need to revisit this important lesson] Rather: "We are a people of energy and purpose, a blended land of ever-increasing diversity that so far has proven the strength and wisdom of our great experiment. [democracy in its best instance] We must find a way to defeat the forces of intolerance. If we do, we will emerge a better, stronger nation"; a nation made up of people who are inclusive, welcoming, faithful. And, as the Christian members of our great society, we will emerge, more importantly, as a people who do indeed follow the Great Commandment, where we love God, and love one another --- and there are **no exceptions!** I am not trying to address anyone's issues with current immigrant concerns dealing with "illegal" immigration. However, I am trying to address immigration in a much more general/universal way. Most of us are immigrants, all of us are Christians, and therefore are called to treat all people with love as Jesus loved.

Peace & Joy, Fr. Ted

*To my St. Thomas Family: On behalf of our family, I want to express to all of you our sincere appreciation for your expressions of sympathy, caring and compassion at the death of our beloved John. Speaking for myself, I don't know how I could have gotten through these last weeks without the love and support I received from all of you and I will always be grateful for that. It is at times like these that we realize how very precious and important FAMILY is.*

*With Love, Monika Potter*

### BOOK STORE

*St. Thomas' Book Store has:* jewelry, crosses, key chains, statues, books, pins, bookmarks, plaques, and an amazing assortment of religious-themed giftables. **The Book Store is OPEN Sundays in our Parish Hall after each service.** Betty Carr wishes to thank all those who have contributed to the **Miles of Pennies** jug in the Parish Hall. We now have **\$150** toward **Mile 5**; so, please continue to drop your pennies, nickels, dimes, quarters, and dollar bills into the jug in the Parish Hall. **Miles of Pennies** is the branch of **CPC (Church Periodical Club)** that buys books for children, both here and abroad. I appreciate your continued support. *Betty Carr, CPC Chair, Book Store*

### 2018 ALTAR FLOWER DONORS

The flower chart is available on the usher stand by the sacristy. Select any Sunday to donate flowers: they are \$60 each week. **Fill out a green flower donor sheet located by the chart and place slip in the offertory plate with check or money for the flowers.**

### FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON

This month's Fellowship Luncheon will be on **Wednesday, AUGUST 22<sup>ND</sup> at 11:30 am** in our Parish Hall. Bring a dish to share.



### HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO

Mark Carlson	8/01
Marie Fentz	8/02
Lily Tytler	8/04
Jimmie Clark	8/07
Sally Hartenstein	8/08
Sarah Kiefer	8/09
Monika Potter	8/09
Suzi Roberts	8/10
Evelyn Wright	8/10
Juliana Wright	8/10
Michael Thomas	8/12
T.J. Reilly	8/15
Sean Reilly	8/16
Jeanne Kauffman	8/20
Chuck Clarke	8/22
Sonia Carter	8/23
Melissa Noiles Bragg	8/25
Gwenyth Boreske	8/26
Margie Prentice	8/26
Shannon Bailey	8/28

### SAVE THE DATE\*SAVE THE DATE!

**St. Thomas Church is planning our BAZAAR 2018. It will be held MONDAY, NOVEMBER 12<sup>TH</sup> from 9 am – 2 pm. Mark your calendars.**

### 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday Loose Plate Collection:

Our **August 26<sup>th</sup>** Loose Plate Collection is designated for the Rector's Discretionary Fund. Please memo checks: "*Rector's Discretionary Fund*" and place in the offering plate.

☞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!

### THRIFT SHOP SUMMER NEWS

St. Thomas' Thrift Shop & Boutique has been closed to the public over the summer. **The Thrift Shop's Grand Re-opening will be on August 16<sup>th</sup>**, with a fresh and surprising selection of new merchandise on the shelves. Please continue to leave donated items on the SIDE porch of the church. **Thrift Shop Needs:** Children's books, toys and games. Please contact either Sandy Pettitt 352-551-4225 or Gail Norris 352-357-2518 to help at any time. **Thrift Shop Phone: (352) 589-0641**

**Hours: Thurs. & Fri. 9 am – 3 pm  
Saturday 9 am – Noon**

### PRAYER CHAIN

St. Thomas' Prayer Chain will pray for any ongoing parish needs. If **YOU** can pray for those in need and contact others on the Prayer Chain, phone **Nancy Conley**, (352) **483-2947**, or cell (352) **350-4184**, or phone the Office at (352) 357-4358.

### BISHOP BREWER VISITATION

If you are interested in Baptism, Confirmation, Reception or being Reaffirmed on **October 14, 2018** when **Bishop Greg Brewer** next visits St. Thomas Church, please see Fr. Ted Koelln as soon as possible or phone the church office.

### 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! Carol Ann Luche, Chair **589-6181**.

### JULY 2018 OUTREACH

Thrift Shop funds were voted for disbursement, and Vestry-approved as follows:

Golden Triangle MOPS Childcare	\$ 500.00
ARC Sunrise	\$2,000.00
Haven	\$2,000.00
Lake Comm. Found. "Open Door"	\$2,000.00
Turning Point Ranch	\$2,000.00
<u>Thrift Shop Summer Maintenance</u>	<u>\$ 500.00</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 9,000.00</b>

### SUNDAY ADULT FORUM

At **9:15 am** on Sundays – we gather in our Parish Hall for this opportunity to learn, share & grow. No materials required; just show up and join in.

### THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY

Bess Short leads **Bible Study** in the Parish Hall on **Thursdays at 11 am**.

### SUMMER CONTRIBUTIONS

Phone the church office for a current update on your contributions 352-357-4358.

### MOST NEWS

The MOST (Men Of St. Thomas) group will resume meetings on Thursday, September 13<sup>th</sup>. Please feel free to contact *Jerry Fields*, President @ 343-000 with any program ideas or input on future events. Have a terrific summer!

### THANK YOU

A special thank you and "green-thumbs-up" to Richard Dufour for his recent work in the Memorial Garden – it is neat and lush again!

### BAZAAR PIE & COFFEE CAFÉ

Marie Fentz & I, assisted by some other ladies, will be having a Pie & Coffee Cafe during the bazaar. Since we will only be serving pies, no cakes, brownies, etc., we will need help getting our table filled. If you are willing to donate a pie or two - or three or four - please let me know so I can make a list. Contact Joan Allen (352) 483-1235 [jralen2007@aol.com](mailto:jralen2007@aol.com)

### ST. THOMAS' MINISTRIES

All are called! The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. You've heard these words before. Please pray in consideration of joining those at St. Thomas that are about the work of serving one another. We have need of: lecturers, servers, altar guild members, choir members, ushers, etc.

The more of you who will serve, the less often you will have to be scheduled. We need to have all of this work shared. At present we are in need. Please respond in the positive, asap.

In addition, if you can get involved in the BAZAAR coming up in November, please let Diane Mullen know of your likely contributions.

Please join us in the Stained Glass workshop, other projects go on there, you might want to get involved. Also, there is the opportunity to try coloring art – possibly to frame and sell at the Bazaar. Give it a try! Peace & Joy, Fr. Ted

### THANK YOU PATRIOTS!!

St. Thomas' Independence Day Celebration on June 30<sup>th</sup> was **outstanding**, thanks to our many talented speakers who entertained and informed us with their well-practiced speeches and colorful garb of that era. We all appreciate your efforts. What a terrific, early Fourth of July gift for us all! Special thanks to the cast members: Rick Kiefer, Sue Kiefer, Opal Mahoney, Joan Allen, Thelma Martin, Walker Lenninger, Lynn Bailey, and Kevin Bailey. And thank you to grillers - Mike Christensen & Jack Geeslin; line servers - Natalie Christensen & Ann Johnson; other server/helpers - Kathy Easter & Maryann Winslow; and to Fr. Ted Koelln, the American Legion Post 330 Color Guard, Ed Lisle, Leon Stricklen, Carl Ludecke, Richard Mangiagli, Diane Mullen, and Nancy Conley.

### SCHOOL SUPPLIES FOR E.E.S.

St. Thomas Church members can donate school supplies for Eustis Elementary School. The Wish List and Donation Box are in our Parish Hall. Please bring your school supplies back to St. Thomas by **August 15, 2018**. After that, we will begin collecting food for **Thanksgiving Baskets**.

### HEALING – 1<sup>st</sup> SUNDAYS

On **August 5<sup>th</sup>**, those wishing prayers or anointing may do so after all have received the Eucharist. Please come to the altar rail, or notify an usher and one of our clergy will come to you in your pew.

### 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.

### 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. 

### ALL ARE WELCOME!

### NEW ADDRESSES

Ann Johnson  
24745 Lester Way  
Eustis, FL 32736

Sue Carlsson  
4160 county road 104,  
Oxford, fl 34484

### WELCOME

Charlene McKinley (352) 344-2366  
June and Bill Christiansen  
840 W. Woodward Ave.  
Eustis, FL 32726

# AUGUST 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>*SUNDAY SCHEDULE</b>			<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Holy Eucharist Services: - 8 am &amp; 10:30 am</b> <b>****Adult Forum in Parish Hall – 9:15 am</b> <b>Coffee Hour in Parish Hall – 9 am</b> <b>Fellowship in Parish Hall – Noon</b>			<b>10 am – Craft Group</b> <b>12 pm – Beginner’s Fitness</b> <b>12:30 pm – Fitness Class</b>	<b>10 am – HE/Healing Service</b> <b>11 am – BIBLE STUDY</b> <b>1:15 pm – Stained Glass</b> <b>6:30 pm – AA Group</b>		
<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>HEALING</b>  <b>*SUNDAY SCHEDULE</b> <b>11 PENTECOST</b>	<b>7-8 pm – AA</b> <b>Meditation Group in</b> <b>Wisdom Hall</b>		<b>10 am – Craft Group</b> <b>12 pm – Beginner’s Fitness</b> <b>12:30 pm – Fitness Class</b>	<b>10 am – HE/Healing Service</b> <b>11 am – BIBLE STUDY</b> <b>1:15 pm – Stained Glass</b> <b>6:30 pm – AA Group</b>	<b>1:30 pm – Healing/HE at</b> <b>Lakeview in Altoona</b>	
<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>*SUNDAY SCHEDULE</b> <b>12 PENTECOST</b>	<b>7-8 pm – AA</b> <b>Meditation Group in</b> <b>Wisdom Hall</b>		<b>10 am – Craft Group</b> <b>12 pm – Beginner’s Fitness</b> <b>12:30 pm – Fitness Class</b>	<b>9 am – 3 pm – Thrift Shop</b> <b>REOPENS</b> <b>10 am – HE/Healing Service</b> <b>11 am – BIBLE STUDY</b> <b>1:15 pm – Stained Glass</b> <b>6:30 pm – AA Group</b>	<b>9 am – 3 pm – Thrift Shop</b>	<b>9 am – Noon – Thrift Shop</b>
<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>*SUNDAY SCHEDULE</b> <b>13 PENTECOST</b>	<b>7-8 pm – AA</b> <b>Meditation Group in</b> <b>Wisdom Hall</b>		<b>10 am – Craft Group</b> <b>11:30 am – Fellowship</b> <b>Luncheon</b> <b>12 pm – Beginner’s Fitness</b> <b>12:30 pm – Fitness Class</b>	<b>9 am – 3 pm – Thrift Shop</b> <b>10 am – HE/Healing Service</b> <b>11 am – BIBLE STUDY</b> <b>1:15 pm – Stained Glass</b> <b>6:30 pm – AA Group</b>	<b>9 am – 3 pm – Thrift Shop</b> <b>1:30 pm – Healing/HE at</b> <b>Lakeview in Altoona</b>	<b>9 am – Noon – Thrift Shop</b>
<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	
<b>DISCRETIONARY</b>  <b>*SUNDAY SCHEDULE</b> <b>14 PENTECOST</b>	<b>7-8 pm – AA</b> <b>Meditation Group in</b> <b>Wisdom Hall</b>			<b>9 am – 3 pm – Thrift Shop</b> <b>10 am – HE/Healing Service</b> <b>11 am – BIBLE STUDY</b> <b>1:15 pm – Stained Glass</b> <b>6:30 pm – AA Group</b>	<b>9 am – 3 pm – Thrift Shop</b>	