

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO:

Art & Ann Maltby	6/05/53
Thelma & Cliff Martin	6/14/69
Richard & Bette Dufour	6/15/74
Bert & Millie Gulston	6/21/69
Robert & Odalys Carter	6/27/97

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 June 2018

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Recently I was reading once again a story by a fellow priest and friend from another Diocese. At the time that he wrote this brief story, he had been ordained for over 45 years. He wrote:

"In every generation, some think the very fabric of the Church is coming unraveled. However, my experience at the 'grass roots' tells me the Church is a magnificent and durable tapestry, wondrously woven, and the weaving never ceases. God is the master weaver, but He subtly puts into our hands the most exquisite threads."

He then went on to relate to us about a phone call he had received. He had gotten a call from the daughter of one of the young women who had been in his youth group over 40 years before. The mother was in distress and her daughter had reached out to this priest as her mom had told her children of some of their experiences those many years ago – and "mom needed him now!" [The weaving continues.]

He called her right away and learned that she had recently lost three of her sisters, and now her husband had died. She talked about the parish they had both attended those many years ago, and now that church did not have a priest. The last priest had not done well from the outset and it was soon discovered that he was stealing from the church. The mom was the Sr. Warden during all these difficulties; but her faith continued to be strong. *'She was dealing with a lot, but the fabric was holding, because a lot of weaving had gone on.'*

They talked of one of the church families that always invited visitors to their home for lunch after church; and how my friend, Doug, spent a lot of time at their modest apartment home for good food and fellowship. They all knew that these folks didn't have a lot, but what those folks of very modest means had, they shared. [The weaving was ongoing.]

They talked about some of the deep questions that were shared in that youth group. Doug said he didn't always have what he felt were great answers for their inquiries, but he understood their doubts and fears and concerns, [and 'the weaving was quietly going on.].

'Now so many years later, her daughter puts us in touch, and we talk across the miles and the years, and as we talk we are the Church, not unraveling but still engaged in weaving. How blessed we are to be part of this sacred and wondrous design in which we ourselves can be threads that reach across the decades.'

Today, we are so very concerned about our wonderful church and about our great country. It seems that things are unraveling daily as we listen to the news; as we struggle with numbers and budgets at our churches.

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

FR. TED'S ARTICLE – (Continued)

We hear of criminal activity, ongoing lying, narcissism, lack of character, lack of morals, the actual tearing down of our democracy; and the list goes on and we are told that even the foundations of our democracy are coming unraveled. And yet, at the 'grass roots' there is ongoing a weaving of precious threads of empathy, inclusion, strong moral fiber, and most importantly to us all, as Bishop Curry pointed out in the royal wedding homily, we go on loving God and loving one another. And, he pointed out that those who do not love their neighbor cannot know God, because God is love, and one cannot love God and then not love what God has created! And, there is an evident lack of love of one another at the highest levels of our current political leadership; so much so that the leaders of our church and many other churches are calling all to repent and return to the Lord. Thankfully it is at the 'grass roots' where the durability of the tapestry of our humanity is shown by the ongoing weaving of the wonderful and precious threads that God has given to us to put into the tapestry.

Today, in our difficult times, we have hope because of our faithfulness in the strength of all of those threads woven together. Jesus knew where the strength of the tapestry was and is, and the 'weaving goes on.'

Look with great reverence at the threads in your hands. By themselves, they have no strength, but woven with others, they create a strength that is durable and one that strengthens us all.

*Peace & Joy,
Fr. Ted*

INSTRUCTED EUCHARIST

Please bring a friend or neighbor to St. Thomas Church with you on **Sunday, July 1st** when Fr. Ted is planning an instructed Eucharist at both services.

BOOK STORE

St. Thomas' Book Store always has the perfect gift selection for any occasion: butterfly pins, crosses, key chains, jeweled necklaces, 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 are now on **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. Many thanks for your continued support. *Betty Carr, CPC Chairman, Book Store*

"TONGUES OF FIRE" CHILI & HOT WINGS WINNERS

Thank you to all participants and those who provided chili and hot wings to share at our Tongues of Fire Chili/Hot Wings Cook-off on Pentecost Sunday. **The 1st Place Chili Winner was Tom Carlson,** 2nd Place – Carol Ann Luche. **The Hot Wings Winner was Cynthia Lenninger.** Congratulations on your championship entries! Many thanks to: Our judges – Abby Martin and Terry Oldham – and special thanks to our kitchen helpers.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES FOR E.E.S.

St. Thomas Church is partnering with Eustis Elementary School to help provide school supplies. Please see the list included with this Newsletter for items needed. Bring your school supplies back to St. Thomas by August 15, 2018.

VESTRY MINUTES ONLINE

Our website, www.stthomaseustis.com, has current information regarding our ministries & events. Please take the time to visit our site to see everything that's been added to keep you abreast of St. Thomas' happenings! Please check out the "Upcoming Events" on the Home Page and our Photo Gallery for the recent Mother's Day event.

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**.

DONATIONS FOR THE HAVEN

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

☞ 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!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO

Kathy Nolf	6/02
Trish Patterson	6/07
Sandy Pettitt	6/10
Kalia Baillene	6/16
Tom Carlson	6/16
Ann Johnson	6/17
James Sellers	6/17
Lynn Bailey	6/19
Diane Damon	6/19
Grace Bartsch	6/22
Mimi Smith	6/23
Ruth Squire	6/26
Jeff Ray	6/30

4th Sunday Loose Plate Collection:

Our **June 24th** Loose Plate Collection is designated for the Rector's Discretionary Fund. Please memo checks: "*Rector's Discretionary Fund*" and place in the offering plate.

**To receive a copy of the church directory, email us at stthomasec@earthlink.net

WELCOME
TO ST. THOMAS CHURCH
Diane C. Shearer of Tavares, FL

Pam Eureka of Leesburg, FL

FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON

This month's Fellowship Luncheon will be on **Wednesday, June 27th at 11:30 am** in our Parish Hall, with plenty of food & fellowship. Bring a dish to share; it's a great way to get to know other people better and have a delicious lunch.

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. To ensure that your intention is listed correctly in the bulletin: 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 OR send in to the Church Office.



***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. Phone: **352-357-4358**

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 Church Office at (352) 357-4358.

THRIFT SHOP IN JUNE



The fashions & sales are sizzling at the Thrift Shop & Boutique this month, with Wedding Gifts, Anniversary Gifts, Graduation Gifts, Father's Day Gifts and Anytime Gifts! As always, thank you for your continued donations. We'll gladly accept your well-cared for items that you would like to "regift". We'd love to receive your good-quality *household items* or *knick-knack donations*, or the donation of your time as a *volunteer*. Continue to leave donated items on the SIDE porch of the church office or bring to the shop during shop hours: Thurs. & Fri., 9 am - 3 pm; Sat., 9 am - Noon. Phone # (352) 589-0641. **Please stop by this month, the Thrift Shop will be closed all of next month, throughout July and into August, reopening Thursday, August 16th.**

SUNDAY ADULT FORUM

At **9:15 am** on Sundays – we gather as a group in our Parish Hall. Our **June 3rd** Adult Forum will begin our discussion on *"The Lord's Prayer"*. This is an opportunity to learn, share and grow. No materials are required; please just show up and join in.

THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY

Bess Short leads **Bible Study** in the Parish Hall on **Thursdays at 11 am**, following our Healing Holy Eucharist Service held at 10 am each Thursday.

WEDNESDAY FITNESS CLASSES

Bess Short offers a half-hour **Beginners** fitness class on Wednesdays at Noon in our Parish Hall. An **Intermediate** class follows immediately after that at 12:30 pm each Wednesday. **ALL ARE WELCOME!**



FATHER'S DAY – JUNE 17th

Please help us honor all fathers by joining us in the Parish Hall between services for a delicious **FATHER'S DAY BRUNCH** on Sunday, June 17th at approximately 9 am. In order to allow our volunteers to go home and enjoy the day with their families, there will be **NO FELLOWSHIP** after the 10:30 service. Thank you for your consideration and have a wonderful Father's Day!

MOST JUNE NEWS



The **MOST** (Men Of St. Thomas) group will meet **Thursday, June 14th at 6 pm in our Parish Hall**. Join the men of St. Thomas for an evening of great fellowship & fun! There will be a guest speaker and a meal. For details, contact *Jerry Fields*, President @ 343-0007.

THANK YOU TO OUR MOST GROUP!

The Mother's Day Brunch was superb, thanks to our many talented guys who helped with the event. **Mike Christensen** did a phenomenal job cooking all the tasty offerings (started cooking at 2 am – whew!) We all appreciate your efforts. What a terrific Mother's Day gift for us all from the **Men Of St. Thomas!** And thank you to all our lovely ladies – the hats were a real treat. (Photo below shows some of our servers at the brunch: L to R – Rick Kiefer, Jerry Fields, Cliff Martin, Bert Gulston)



INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION

St. Thomas Church will be hosting this popular event on **Saturday, June 30th from 10 am -- 2 pm**. There will be hamburgers, hot dogs, church tours, and surprise events and offerings. Please tell your friends, bring a neighbor, and don't miss this fun-filled day.

SEE YOU THERE!

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 for whatever reason.

SPRING OUTREACH MEETING

The Thrift Shop funding meeting will be held on **July 1st at 9:15 am** in the Sunday School room. All funding requests *must be in writing and received in the office prior to the 1st*.

HEALING – 1st SUNDAYS

On **June 3rd**, 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.

JUNE 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	*SUNDAY SCHEDULE Holy Eucharist Services: - 8 am & 10:30 am Healing on June 3 ****Adult Forum in Parish Hall – 9:15 am Coffee Hour in Parish Hall – 9 am ****Fellowship in Parish Hall – Noon ****(NO Adult Forum or Fellowship on Father’s Day)				1 9 am–3 pm – Thrift Shop	2 9 am – Noon - Thrift Shop
3 HEALING *SUNDAY SCHEDULE 2 PENTECOST	4 7-8 pm – AA Meditation Group in Wisdom Hall	5	6 9-11 am – Thrift Work Day 10 am – Craft Group 12 pm – Beginner’s Fitness 12:30 pm – Fitness Class	7 9 am–3 pm – Thrift Shop 10 am – HE/Healing Service 11 am – BIBLE STUDY 6:30 pm – AA Group	8 9 am–3 pm – Thrift Shop 1:30 pm – Healing/HE at Lakeview in Altoona	9 9 am – Noon - Thrift Shop
10 *SUNDAY SCHEDULE 3 PENTECOST	11 7-8 pm – AA Meditation Group in Wisdom Hall	12	13 9-11 am – Thrift Work Day 10 am – Craft Group 12 pm – Beginner’s Fitness 12:30 pm – Fitness Class	14 9 am–3 pm – Thrift Shop 10 am – HE/Healing Service 11 am – BIBLE STUDY 6 pm – MOST Meeting 6:30 pm – AA Group	15 9 am–3 pm – Thrift Shop	16 9 am – Noon - Thrift Shop
17 FATHER’S DAY ****SUNDAY SCHEDULE 4 PENTECOST 9 am – Brunch between services in Parish Hall	18 7-8 pm – AA Meditation Group in Wisdom Hall	19	20 9-11 am – Thrift Work Day 10 am – Craft Group 12 pm – Beginner’s Fitness 12:30 pm – Fitness Class	21 9 am–3 pm – Thrift Shop 10 am – HE/Healing Service 11 am – BIBLE STUDY 6:30 pm – AA Group	22 9 am–3 pm – Thrift Shop 1:30 pm – Healing/HE at Lakeview in Altoona	23 9 am – Noon - Thrift Shop
24 DISCRETIONARY *SUNDAY SCHEDULE 5 PENTECOST	25 7-8 pm – AA Meditation Group in Wisdom Hall	26	27 9-11 am – Thrift Work Day 10 am – Craft Group 11:30 am – Fellowship Luncheon 12 pm – Beginner’s Fitness 12:30 pm – Fitness Class	28 9 am–3 pm – Thrift Shop 10 am – HE/Healing Service 11 am – BIBLE STUDY 6:30 pm – AA Group	29 9 am–3 pm – Thrift Shop	30 9 am – Noon - Thrift Shop 10 am – 2 pm: PATRIOTIC CELEBRATION