

St. Thomas Tidings March 2017

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WORDS FROM FR. JOHN

The Jewish Bible has golden-rule like passages, including: "Don't oppress a foreigner, for you well know how it feels to be a foreigner, since you were foreigners yourselves in the land of Egypt" (Exodus 23:9) and "Love your neighbor as yourself" (Leviticus 19:18).

Confucius sums up his teaching as: "Don't do to others what you don't want them to do to you." (Analects 15:23)

Rabbi Hillel explained the whole of the Torah saying, "What is hateful to yourself, don't do to another. That is the whole Torah. The rest is commentary. Go and learn." (Sanhedrin of the Babylonian Talmud 56a)

Jesus states the golden rule in a positive manner: "So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets." (Matthew 7:12)

The golden rule appears throughout history in a variety of cultures, philosophies, and religions. It is a deceptively simple aphorism, yet profoundly difficult to apply and sustain in one's life. That is why Confucius would add that we are to practice the golden rule, "all day-everyday" implying not just when we *feel* like it. Our Lord Jesus embodied the golden rule up to forgiving his executioners while he suffered on the cross. Let us use the golden rule, as commanded by Jesus, to be our true North, our standard for our Christian lives. Start in your home, with your immediate family, then in your workplace and church. Practice this revolutionary principle over and over again. And, WHEN not IF you fail—start again try again. It is precisely these deceptively simple proverbs that Jesus commands that will transform life both individually and collectively. Proverbs like, "Blessed are the peacemakers" "Do not judge" "Pray for your enemy" and "do to others as you would have them do to you." Let us always strive to practice the golden rule with one another at St. Thomas. This in turn will help us practice it in the world.

Can you imagine a community wherein people act for the well-being of others?

Peace,
Fr. John

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

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO:

Don & Diane Damon 03/17/79
Richard & Buzzie Anderson 03/22/58

Clergy, Office & Staff

Rector – John W. Lipscomb III

Deacons – Dick Labud & Janet Clarke

Administrator – Lisa Labud **Treasurer** – Marjorie Carter

Organist/Choirmaster – Richard Mangiagli

Sexton – James Sellers **Nursery** – Bess Short

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

Vestry

Sr. Warden – Bette Dufour

Jr. Warden – George Pawliczak

Joan Allen, Larry Block, Gail Carlson, Nancy Conley,
Janet Gizelt, Thelma Martin, Diane Mullen

Ministries Chairs/Small Groups Volunteers

Acolyte Director – Rev. Dick Labud

Prayer Shawls – Rev. Janet Clarke

Prayer Chain – Nancy Conley

Fellowship – Mike Christensen,

Bev Cox, Nancy Conley

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

Bereavement – Kay Ikeler **Haven** – Arlene Karwacki

MOST

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

E.C.W.

Secretary – Leigh Clark Programs - Winnie Luche

Treas. – Carol Ann Luché

CPC – Betty Carr UTO -Evelyn Wright

Hospitality – Nancy Conley

Chaplain – The Rev. Janet Clarke

Needle & Craft Group Hours:

Carol Ann Luché /Chair Wed. @ 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

CHILDREN'S NURSERY

Our church Nursery is open and staffed every Sunday during our 10:30 church service. Our Nursery is located behind the Parish Hall.

☞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

Come see our great St. Patrick's Day and Spring-fresh clothing & gifts at the Thrift Shop & Boutique. Please leave donated items on the SIDE porch of the church office or bring to the shop during store hours: Thurs. & Fri., 9 am - 3 pm; Sat., 9 am - Noon. We need great condition kids' clothing & toys, knick-knacks, household items, and jewelry. Come any Wednesday between 9 - 11 am to volunteer on a **WORK DAY** to help with light-duty tasks. Phone the shop - **589-0641**.

SUNDAY LOOSE PLATE

Our **March 26th** Loose Plate Collection is designated for the **Rector's Discretionary Fund**. Memo checks: "*Rector's Discretionary Fund*" and place in the offering plate. Your donations enable Fr. John to assist those with financial difficulties.

LIBRARY

St. Thomas' Library is open on the honor system any time the office is open. Please take the time to visit - located in the old Conference Room.

PRAYER CHAIN

St. Thomas' Prayer Chain is ready to pray for any ongoing needs. Need prayers? Call Nancy Conley at 483-2947, cell (352) 350-4184, or leave a prayer request with the office.

JESUS' MIRACLES STUDY

Bess Short is leading a 26-week study of the healing miracles of Jesus each Sunday at 9:15 am in our church Library.

CRAFT GROUP

The Craft Group meets in Wisdom Hall every Wednesday morning at **10 am** - rain or shine - to create wonderful hand-made items. All are welcome to join the group, no prior crafting skills are required! And check out their sale gift table in the Parish Hall- all hand-made and seasonally-themed!

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Join Fr. John's Adult Sunday Class; "*Thinking Aloud, Allowed*"; held each Sunday in our Parish Hall at 9:15 am.

WEDNESDAY FITNESS CLASSES

Bess Short offers a half-hour **Beginners** fitness class on Wednesdays at Noon in our Parish Hall. Bess also leads an intermediate class at 12:30 pm each Wednesday to help you improve your daily lifestyle.

ALL ARE WELCOME!



WANT TO USHER? WE NEED YOU!
CALL THE OFFICE 352-357-4358.

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

CHILDREN'S CHAPEL

This month, Children's Chapel will be offered on March 5, 12, & 19 for our younger children attending the 10:30 am service. On March 26, we invite children to participate in various parts of the service on Family Worship Sunday.

2017 PLEDGES

If you wish to fill out a pledge card; blank cards are located in the church or contact the office. Please leave your completed card in the Sunday offering plate or mail to the church office as soon as possible. Thank you for your support of St. Thomas operating costs, programs and ministries.

FROM YOUR SENIOR WARDEN

The Vestry of St Thomas has regretfully accepted the resignation of Rev. John Lipscomb effective May 28, 2017. We are sad to lose our knowledgeable, fun-loving priest with whom we have been blessed for the past six years. The Vestry members are pledged to prayerfully and sincerely search for our new priest and ask you to uphold us in your prayers. We wish nothing but the very best for John and Karen and their family in their future.
Bette Dufour, Senior Warden

ECW MARCH NEWS

The ECW meets on **Monday, March 6th at 3 pm** in the Parish Hall for: "*Faith, Food, Fun & Fellowship*". ALL women of the Episcopal Church are members of the ECW.

Please come & join us.

ECW SPAGHETTI DINNER THANKS

The ECW Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser held on Saturday, February 18th was an immediate sell-out and a huge success, thanks to all those who helped with the event - from all of the servers, to those who bought tickets. Thank you especially to Mike Christensen for his generous help with the dinner, and thank you to Ruth King for providing such gifted musical entertainment. In addition to being such a wonderful evening, it was also a financial success, earning over \$900 for this ECW fundraiser.

FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON

St. Thomas' Fellowship Luncheon is every 4th Wednesday 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. This month: **March 22nd**.

MOST NEWS

The MOST (Men Of St. Thomas) group meets this month on **Thursday, March 9th at 6 pm** in our Parish Hall. Contact *Jerry Fields*, President - 343-0007 with program ideas or input on future events.

"SOUPER BOWL" SUNDAY WRAP-UP:

There were 9 entries in our delicious 2017 Soup Competition - the top three winners were: 1st Place - Carol Ann Luché with Turkey Noodle Soup; 2nd Place - Tyler Boreske with Loaded Potato Soup; and 3rd Place - Jerry Fields with Firehouse "Little Bit of Everything" Soup. Thank you to all of our soup entrants and to all those who just brought a soup to share. Every soup was definitely a winner, as were all of the lucky folks who attended this "souper" event. Hats off to our judges for their fantastic help in determining the winners! We look forward to next year's Souperbowl Contest to find out what soup will become the recipient of St. Thomas' "Golden Ladle" Award.

2017 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.**

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

CAMP WINGMANN SUNDAY

On Sunday, March 26th, Fr. Deke Miller, Director of Camp Wingmann, will be at St. Thomas to speak about what the camp has to offer and how you can help. Fr. Deke will be joining us at our services and will discuss the mission of the camp and how it affects young lives of those who attend. An informational display will be set up in the Parish Hall with brochures & other material available.

SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP

Mike Christensen is our Sunday Fellowship Coordinator, with lite refreshments in the Parish Hall after the 10:30 service. Contributions are needed to help with weekly costs – just a small donation from each person attending will be a huge help! Contact **Mike spikes0213@aol.com** or phone 352-205-3314 to help.

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSURE

St. Thomas' Church Office will be closed Friday, March 17th.

SPRING WORK DAY

There will be a Spring Work-Day on March 18th 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.

VESTRY INSTALLATION

On March 5th, we will install our new Vestry. Members are: Bette Dufour (Sr. Warden), George Pawliczak (Jr. Warden), Joan Allen, Larry Block, Gail Carlson (newly elected), Nancy Conley, Janet Gizelt, Thelma Martin, and Diane Mullen. Thank you all for your devoted service to St. Thomas!

ASH WEDNESDAY HOLY EUCHARIST AND IMPOSITION OF ASHES SERVICES:

St. Thomas' Ash Wednesday services will be at
Noon & 7:00 pm on MARCH 1st.

ST. THOMAS BOOK STORE Gift Exchange



Anytime is a great time for giving gifts. Come check out the Bookstore! for a variety of unique items: Jewelry, angels, books, plaques, key chains, and more - all are reasonably-priced and thoughtful. Almost everything in the shop is religious-inspired, (All profits go to outreach). Thanks to the generous contributors to the **Miles of Pennies** jug in the Parish Hall, over ¾ of a mile. So, please continue to drop spare change, and dollar bills into the jug to buy books for children, both here and abroad. Many thanks for your continued support.
Betty Carr, CPC Chairman, Book Store

HEALING – 1st SUNDAYS

On **March 5th**, 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 one of our clergy will come to you in your pew).

FOOD DONATIONS

Every Sunday, a basket of food items donated by St. Thomas' parishioners is brought up to the altar. Donated food is then delivered to St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry. We encourage everyone to bring in extra canned or packaged food each week

EASTER ALTAR FLOWERS



Easter flowers (Sunday, April 16th) will be purchased with gifts from members of the parish, as memorials & thank offerings. *It is our hope that donations received will be generous once more to enable our Altar Guild to cover increasing flower costs.* 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: March 9th - Palm Sunday.**

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

If you know of anyone for whom you would like to have a prayer shawl, please call Janet Clarke (728-0929). We are in need of those who can knit and would like to be part of this ministry.

NEWS OF RECORD

New Addresses:

Carol Ann & Stephen Luché
36835 Sandy Lane
Grand Island, FL 32735-8426

Deaths:

Marguerite Kennedy on 2/08/2017
Richard Spice Wheeler on 2/10/2017
Arthur Turner on 2/16/2017

To send a Card of Caring to Art Turner's widow, please mail to :
The Rev. Betty Turner
1901 Oak Circle
Tavares, FL 32778



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO

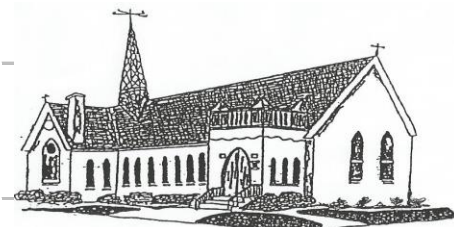
Beverly Cox	3/02
Marilyn Pierson	3/02
Leigh Boreske	3/04
Valarie Ortiz	3/05
Morgan Emerson	3/07
Becky Battle	3/08
Quinn Reilly	3/09
Art Maltby	3/10
Pete Ortiz	3/11
Mark Lenninger	3/12
George Ikeler	3/16
Lisa Labud	3/17
Tenley Gail Carlson	3/18
Hannah Carter	3/19
Margaret Nacke	3/19
Nancy Conley	3/20
June Lindner	3/24
Jared Lipscomb	3/27
Terry Oldham	3/30
Richard Mangiagli	3/31

*If you haven't already done so, please give the church office your email address, birthday, anniversary date, and any contact changes.

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME

Begins **SUNDAY, March 12th.**
**Please remember to set
clocks AHEAD ONE HOUR
Saturday night (March 11th)
before you go to bed.**





March 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p align="center">*SUNDAY SCHEDULE Holy Eucharist Services: 8 & 10:30 am Fr. John's Adult Class, "Thinking Aloud, Allowed", in Parish Hall: 9:15 am – 10 am Healing Miracles of Jesus Study in Library: 9:15 am Children's Chapel at 10:30 am Service on March 5, 12, 19 Family Worship on March 26 Coffee Hour in Parish Hall – 9 am Fellowship in Parish Hall - Noon</p>			<p>1 ASH WEDNESDAY 9-11 am – Thrift Work Day 10 am – Craft Group Noon – Ash Wednesday Service 12 pm/12:30 pm - Fitness Classes 7 pm – Ash Wednesday Service 7 pm – Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>2 9 am–3 pm – Thrift Shop 10 am – Healing Service 10:45 am – Lectionary Class 6:30 pm – AA Group</p>	<p>3 9 am–3 pm – Thrift Shop</p>	<p>4 9 am – Noon - Thrift Shop</p>
<p>5 HEALING *SUNDAY SCHEDULE 1 Lent Vestry Installation Today</p>	<p>6 3 pm – ECW Meeting 7-8 pm – AA Meditation Group in Wisdom Hall</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8 9-11 am – Thrift Work Day 10 am – Craft Group 12 pm – Beginner's Fitness 12:30 pm – Fitness Class 7 pm – Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>9 9 am–3 pm – Thrift Shop 10 am – Healing Service 10:45 am – Lectionary Class 6 pm – MOST Meeting 6:30 pm – AA Group</p>	<p>10 9 am–3 pm – Thrift Shop 1:30 pm – Healing/ HE @ Lakeview</p>	<p>11 9 am – Noon - Thrift Shop DST Starts – Set Clocks AHEAD 1 Hour Tonight!</p>
<p>12 DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME *SUNDAY SCHEDULE 2 Lent</p>	<p>13 7-8 pm – AA Meditation Group in Wisdom Hall</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15 9-11 am – Thrift Work Day 10 am – Craft Group 12 pm – Beginner's Fitness 12:30 pm – Fitness Class 7 pm – Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>16 9 am–3 pm – Thrift Shop 10 am – Healing Service 10:45 am – Lectionary Class 6:30 pm – AA Group</p>	<p>17 9 am–3 pm – Thrift Shop Church Office Closed</p>	<p>18 8 am – Noon – Church Work Day 9 am – Noon - Thrift Shop</p>
<p>19 *SUNDAY SCHEDULE 3 Lent</p>	<p>20 7-8 pm – AA Meditation Group in Wisdom Hall</p>	<p>21 7 pm - Vestry</p>	<p>22 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 7 pm – Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>23 9 am–3 pm – Thrift Shop 10 am – Healing Service 10:45 am – Lectionary Class 6:30 pm – AA Group</p>	<p>24 9 am–3 pm – Thrift Shop 1:30 pm – Healing/ HE @ Lakeview</p>	<p>25 9 am – Noon - Thrift Shop</p>
<p>26 DISCRETIONARY *SUNDAY SCHEDULE 4 Lent CAMP WINGMANN SUNDAY</p>	<p>27 7-8 pm – AA Meditation Group in Wisdom Hall</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29 9-11 am – Thrift Work Day 10 am – Craft Group 12 pm – Beginner's Fitness 12:30 pm – Fitness Class 7 pm – Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>30 9 am–3 pm – Thrift Shop 10 am – Healing Service 10:45 am – Lectionary Class 6:30 pm – AA Group</p>	<p>31 9 am–3 pm – Thrift Shop</p>	