



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO:

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

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

☞ 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!

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

St. Thomas Tidings March 2019

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WORDS FROM FR. TED

How much attention do you pay to signs in our daily lives? There are all sorts of signs to pay attention to, if we are looking.

Many of you know that, at one time, I was a Zoning Enforcement Officer for the City of Sioux Falls in SD. At that time, Sioux Falls was a city of 130,000 and growing. My boss assigned me to be responsible for that part of the codes dealing with commercial signage. It was, indeed, not my favorite job in the department. Every commercial sign company had convinced their customers that “bigger was better.”

They knew the ordinance as well as did I, but they were constantly trying to get variances to allow for bigger signs, or to put signs in locations where bigger was often hazardous.

When you regulate signs in any community, their placement needs to allow for sight lines not to be threatened, nor for their size or lighting to be distracting or a nuisance. All of these things came before the Board of Adjustment, almost monthly. I was, by the way, also the officer who arranged the board schedule and worked with them as their adviser.

For us, in our daily lives, there are many signs of varying sizes and intensity that vie for our attention. The Holy Scriptures talk about signs a lot in both the Hebrew Scriptures and in the New Testament.

In John we find this familiar story:

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name. [Jn. 20:31-32]

The story that precedes these two powerful concluding verses demonstrates to us what happens when signs are missed . . . for, in the first part, when Jesus reveals Himself to the disciples and breathes onto them the breath of the Spirit, Thomas is not with them. In Thomas' case, here is a man who, if he were alive today, would most likely be from Missouri. Thomas cannot bring himself to trust in the interpretation of the other disciples. Thomas needs to see for himself. He wants to be shown, up close, and personal. And, it doesn't seem to matter to him how big a deal this was to his colleagues, he wants to see for himself.

Jesus challenges Thomas' doubts: “Come on Thomas! Is seeing Me what it takes for you to believe? Whatever will become of all of those that will follow you Thomas? They won't see me as you have, and yet, many will believe!”

For us, there are many signs and wonders along the way, if we are paying attention, and if we will, from time to time, listen to other believers along their way. God is constantly in our midst trying to communicate with us in so many ways – big and small. Be alert, for

(FR. TED'S ARTICLE CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)

FR TED'S ARTICLE (Continued)

one never knows when a sign will come that will change your life for ever; and one that will enhance God's Kingdom. The story about Thomas, and the signs that we are exposed to in John lead us to a new way of interpreting those events, those signs that lead us in our Christian journeys. It was terribly important that the disciples understood the signs along the way, and then in a short time the followers of Christ had to turn to a new understanding, a new way of belief, a new way of life. As long as Jesus was present with humanity, faith was possible through visible, tangible signs. With the summary of John's Gospel the followers of Christ have moved into a time when a new type of belief, a new way of life is all that is possible. A time when the signs do not come along firsthand in the same way as when Jesus was present, and yet, we are still able with Thomas to say: "My Lord and My God!" Keep looking! Peace and Joy,
Fr. Ted

PHOTO BOARD & NAME TAGS

As we begin the meeting and greeting process with Pastor Kate, it is our wish that everyone can be easily recognized, both by Pastor Kate, and by one another; thus, we encourage everyone to wear a name tag. Also, we are now in the process of taking photographs of each parishioner so that we can put together a bulletin board with everyone's name & photo. Lisa Labud will be finding you and snapping those pictures so that we can begin this pictorial update. SMILE!

Dear Fellow Parishioners,

St. Thomas' Search Committee & Vestry, with Bishop Brewer's blessing, announced that the Rev. Kathryn Jeffrey accepted the call to be St. Thomas' Rector. Coming from St. Andrews Church, Carbondale, IL, she will begin as our Rector on **May 1, 2019**. The Vestry & Search Committee thank each member of the Parish for your patience and assistance during the 23 months of transition. Bette Dufour, Sr. Warden *"It is delightful that Saint Thomas and I get to announce our coming together... Meeting the search committee and interviewing at Saint Thomas was a nonstop experience of grace. It felt magical! There were many smiles and much laughter. Many good people were praying for us to discern wisely, and as they turn their prayers to new situations, we must step up with fervent prayer for each other and our future life and work together. I thank the search committee for their splendid hospitality and their confidence in me. I look forward to meeting each and every one of you. May God continue to weave our hearts together as we seek to further His kingdom in Eustis and beyond. May we enjoy much laughter together, as well as share deeply the sadnesses that are part of life. God bless you.*

In Christ, Pastor Kate+
(Alternately and happily known as Kathryn!)

POTLUCK LUNCH SUNDAY, MARCH 17th

The Reverend Kathryn Jeffrey (our newly called Rector) is visiting St. Thomas Church on Sunday, March 17th to worship with us as part of the congregation, and to join us in fellowship. As a special welcome from St. Thomas, we are planning a Potluck Luncheon that day at Noon in our Parish Hall. Please keep in mind that this special day is also **St. Patrick's Day** and bring any appropriately-themed dish to share if you wish (shepherd's pie, cabbage dishes, soda bread, Irish stew, colcannon, etc.).

THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY

Bess Short leads **Bible Study** in the Parish Hall on **Thursdays at 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 soaps, shampoos, and assorted toiletries. Contributions are accepted in the baskets in the Parish Hall. Contact Arlene Karwacki 352-385-3838, for info.

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.

BISHOP'S SABBATICAL ASSISTANCE

To assist Bishop Brewer with funding for his 2019 Sabbatical, you may make a personal gift to him; as a GIFT and **not** a tax-deductible contribution. You must make checks payable to: **Bishop's Sabbatical Fund**

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.

🎵 CHORAL EVENSONG SERVICE

Don't miss a special *Choral Evensong Service* held here at St. Thomas Church on **Sunday, March 31st at 4 pm** as part of your Lenten observance.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO

Beverly Cox	3/02
Marilyn Pierson	3/02
Leigh Boreske	3/04
Allen Malony	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 Carlson	3/18
Hannah Carter	3/19
Margaret Nacke	3/19
Nancy Conley	3/20
June Lindner	3/24
Terry Oldham	3/30
Richard Mangiagli	3/31

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

Artist **Diane Damon** is exhibiting 2 pieces of unusual art at Leesburg's Center for the Arts. Viewing is March 1-23. See the poster in the Parish Hall for full details.



THRIFT SHOP

Good luck will be with you this month when you shop our sales...look for a special "GREEN SALE".

Thank you to ALL our volunteers – new and long-time – for your dedication to this ministry. In recognition of their service, all Thrift Shop volunteers are invited to the:

THRIFT SHOP APPRECIATION LUNCHEON

It will be held in our Parish Hall on Tuesday, **March 5, 2019 at 11:30 am**. RSVP by signing up on the sheet on the front desk at the shop – or phone the shop to let us know -- 352-589-0641. Please phone Sandy Pettitt 352-551-4225 or Gail Norris 352-357-2518 if you are able to volunteer. **Shop hours are - Thurs. & Fri., 9 am - 3 pm; Sat., 9 am - Noon.** 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!



DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME

Begins **SUNDAY, March 10th**.

Remember to set clocks AHEAD ONE HOUR Saturday night (March 9th) before you go to bed.

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.



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.**

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.

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. The event begins with brief **fellowship at 9:45 a.m.** in the Parish Hall. The first meditation will begin promptly at 10 a.m. Lunch will be provided at noon. Closing will be at 2 p.m. There will be a sign-up sheet in the parish hall. Please sign-up if you wish to come so that we can plan lunch.

ASH WEDNESDAY
HOLY EUCHARIST
AND IMPOSITION OF
ASHES SERVICES:
NOON & 7:00 pm on March 6th

LENTEN PROGRAM

Beginning on **Thursday, March 14th**, and continuing on Thursdays during Lent, Fr. Ted is offering a program 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.

HEALING – 1st SUNDAYS

On **March 3rd**, 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.

MOST MARCH NEWS

The MOST (Men Of St. Thomas) group have changed the date of their meeting and **will meet on Monday, March 18th at 6 pm** in the Parish Hall Please feel free to contact *Jerry Fields*, President @ 343-000 with any future program ideas.



COMMITTAL SERVICE

There will be a committal service for **Peggy Snyder Hallett** in St. Thomas' Memorial Garden on Saturday, March 23rd at **1:00 pm**. Peggy died last year in November.

4th Sunday Loose Plate Collection:

Every month, the Loose Plate Collection on the Fourth Sunday of the month is designated for the **Rector's Discretionary Fund – this month on March 24th**. As we look to welcome our new Rector here at St. Thomas Church, the **Reverend Kathryn Jeffrey** (officially on May 1, 2019), please be especially generous in your contributions to this fund. 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.

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!



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 March 27th.

BISHOP CURRY SERMON VIDEO AVAILABLE

Presiding Bishop Curry's Sermon at the Cathedral Church of St. Luke/Orlando on the morning of February 3, 2019 can be viewed by clicking on the following link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TbOo8zyQf4s> Total time of video is 31+ minutes in length.

MARCH 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<p>*SUNDAY SCHEDULE</p> <p>Holy Eucharist Services: Traditional - 8 am Healing on March 3rd</p> <p>Coffee Hour in Parish Hall – 9 am Adult Forum in Parish Hall – 9:15</p>	<p>Family - 10:30 am</p>			<p>1</p> <p>9 am – 3 pm- Thrift Shop</p>	<p>2</p> <p>9 am – Noon – Thrift Shop</p>
<p>3 HEALING</p> <p>*SUNDAY SCHEDULE</p> <p>Last Epiphany</p>	<p>4</p> <p>7-8 pm – AA Meditation Group in Wisdom Hall</p>	<p>5 SHROVE TUESDAY</p> <p>11:30 am – Thrift Shop Appreciation Luncheon in Parish Hall</p>	<p>6 ASH WEDNESDAY</p> <p>9-11 am – Thrift Work Day 10 am – Crafts Noon – HE & Imposition of Ashes 12 pm – Beginner’s Fitness 12:30 pm – Fitness Class 7 pm – HE & Imposition of Ashes 7 pm – Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>7 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</p>	<p>8</p> <p>9 am – 3 pm – Thrift Shop 1:30 pm – Healing/HE at Lakeview in Altoona</p>	<p>9</p> <p>9 am – Noon – Thrift Shop</p> <p>Daylight Saving Time -  Spring forward and set clocks ahead one hour tonight</p>
<p>10 DST BEGINS</p> <p>*SUNDAY SCHEDULE</p> <p>1 Lent</p>	<p>11</p> <p>7-8 pm – AA Meditation Group in Wisdom Hall</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13 9-11 am – Thrift Work Day 10 am – Crafts 12 pm – Beginner’s Fitness 12:30 pm – Fitness Class 7 pm – Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>14 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</p>	<p>15</p> <p>9 am – 3 pm – Thrift Shop</p>	<p>16</p> <p>9 am – Noon – Thrift Shop</p>
<p>17 ST. PATRICK’S DAY</p> <p>*SUNDAY SCHEDULE</p> <p>2 Lent</p> <p>Noon – Potluck in Parish Hall (St. Patrick’s Theme) Welcoming Pastor Kate</p>	<p>18</p> <p>6 pm – MOST Meeting</p> <p>7-8 pm – AA Meditation Group in Wisdom Hall</p>	<p>19</p> <p>7 pm – Vestry</p>	<p>20 9-11 am – Thrift Work Day 10 am – Crafts 12 pm – Beginner’s Fitness 12:30 pm – Fitness Class 7 pm – Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>21 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</p>	<p>22</p> <p>9 am – 3 pm – Thrift Shop 1:30 pm – Healing/HE at Lakeview in Altoona</p>	<p>23</p> <p>9 am – Noon – Thrift Shop</p> <p>1:00 pm – Peggy Snyder Hallett Committal in Memorial Garden</p>
<p>24 DISCRETIONARY</p> <p>*SUNDAY SCHEDULE</p> <p>3 Lent</p>	<p>25</p> <p>7-8 pm – AA Meditation Group in Wisdom Hall</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27 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</p>	<p>28 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</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>
<p>31</p> <p>*SUNDAY SCHEDULE</p> <p>4 Lent</p> <p>4 pm – Choral Evensong</p>						