

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO:

Barbara & Barry Wood 5/12/00

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, Gail Carlson, Nancy Conley,

Janet Gizelt, Rick Kiefer, 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

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

Please continue to donate Forever Stamps,
paper products, or printer ink HP 61XL to
St. Thomas. Your donations are a terrific
way to keep costs down. THANK YOU!

PLEASE LET US KNOW...

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

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

St. Thomas Tidings May 2017

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

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THANK YOU!!!

Dear St. Thomas,

I sincerely thank you, from the bottom of my heart, for allowing me to serve as your Priest. I thank you for the patience you extended to me during my ministry with you all. Also, for the overwhelming kindness and care you have demonstrated to my family. I shall always cherish our time together. You all have made me want to be a better person, priest, and above all, Christian. Our time together has increased my faith, deepened my hope, and expanded my love -- and these are precisely what the church should be doing. I will keep you in my prayers as you search for your next Rector. I trust God will provide in ways that exceed your expectations.

With Great Sincerity and Profound Love,

Fr. John

THANK YOU!!!



THRIFT SHOP

Great gift items and awesome apparel are blooming in May at our Thrift Shop. Don't miss out on the designer clothing in the very chic boutique. We'd love to receive your good-quality donations of 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. Open to the public Thurs. & Fri. 9 – 3 and Sat. 9 – Noon. Phone the shop – **589-0641**.

SUNDAY LOOSE PLATE

Our **May 28th** Loose Plate Collection is designated for the **Rector's Discretionary Fund**. Memo checks: "*Rector's Discretionary Fund*" and place in the offering plate

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.

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.

WANT TO USHER?
WE NEED YOUR HELP
NOW!

PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE
352-357-4358.

PRAYER CHAIN

St. Thomas' Prayer Chain will pray for any ongoing parish needs. This ministry is powerful and healing, but requires little time from members. – if you can pray for those in need and contact others on the Prayer Chain as needed, then **please consider joining the team!** Contact **Nancy Conley**, (352) **483-2947**, or cell (352) **350-4184**, , Bette Dufour or Ann Johnson, or please leave a message with the Church Office 357-4358.

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 on Sundays 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!



DINNER PLATES AVAILABLE

St. Thomas Church currently has 175 off-white stoneware plates available for sale. These are used, but in great condition. They are 9 ¾" in diameter, heavy-weight dinner plates from the Ultima #7 style. If you are interested in acquiring these plates, we are asking \$200, or best offer. Please phone the office 352-357-4358 if you are interested.

FAREWELL RECEPTION BRUNCH FOR FR. JOHN & KAREN LIPSCOMB

The Vestry of St Thomas has regretfully accepted the resignation of Rev. John Lipscomb effective May 28, 2017.

Our Farewell Reception for Fr. John and Karen will take place on Sunday, May 21st between services in our Parish Hall from 9 – 10 am. Our Fellowship Team will provide biscuits & gravy (Fr. John's favorite dish). **Church members are invited to contribute a special dish of their own.** Please see the yellow insert in this Newsletter for details.

THANK YOU!

Special thanks to all who worked so hard over Holy Week & Easter – our clergy, staff, altar guild, LEMs, readers, acolytes, ushers, choirs, Fellowship members, and all who volunteered in any way!

VERY SPECIAL THANKS!

Thank you to everyone who donated Easter candy – the children's Easter Egg Hunt was a joyous success – over 17 dozen eggs were hidden and 13 children participated in the hunt. A huge thank you to Sophia Carter and Emma Boreske – you were terrific at hiding all those candy-filled eggs!

MOST NEWS

The MOST (Men Of St. Thomas) group meets this month on **Thursday, May 11th at 6 pm in our Parish Hall.** Contact *Jerry Fields*, President - 343-0007 with program ideas or input on future events.

ECW NEWS

Dr. John "Jack" Geeslin gave a wonderful talk at the April ECW meeting on Habitat for Humanity. In honor of his work with their Medical Team, the St. Thomas' ECW gave them \$100. We also donated \$100 to ERD (Episcopal Relief & Development) for their work here and abroad. **The next ECW meeting is Monday, May 1, 2017, at 3 p.m. in the Parish Hall.** Please join the ladies of the church for: "*Faith, Food, Fun & Fellowship*". ALL women of the Episcopal Church are members of the ECW and are welcome.

Carol Ann Luche, Treasurer and Acting President

ECW NW DEANERY MEETING

Just a reminder that the ECW deanery meeting will be held on Saturday, May 6, from 9-2 at Crystal River. A \$10 registration fee includes Continental Breakfast & Lunch. The deadline was April 27. Please see/call Carol Ann Luche (304-920-2251).

DONATIONS FOR THE HAVEN



The Haven of Lake & Sumter Counties for Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault thanks you for the toiletries donated to The Haven's women & children. Contributions are accepted in the baskets located in the Parish Hall. Please contact Arlene Karwacki, 385-3838, for information.

GOOD FRIDAY OFFERING

This year, **\$630** was collected for the *Good Friday Offering* and sent for Missions in Jerusalem and the Middle East – thank you to all who donated!

MOTHER'S DAY HAT



EXTRAVAGANZA



Marilyn
Pierson and
Sue Kiefer
(top left)



Linda
Wilhelm and
Connie
Wilhelm
(bottom left)

Mother's Day is coming....and so is our annual **Hat Day!** Ladies, put on your finest hat on Mother's Day – **May 14, 2017** – and wear it to church. Last year, 59 ladies wore hats– can we top that in 2017? Wear your finest hat, bonnet, cap, or tiara and help us honor all Mothers on that day.

(Photos above from 2015)

MOTHER'S DAY EVENTS

Join us between services in the Parish Hall on **May 14th** for a special Mother's Day "Festive Brunch" at 9 am between church services.

SPRING OUTREACH MEETING

The Thrift Shop funding meeting will be held on **June 11th at 9:15 am** in the Sunday School room. Written funding requests **must be received in the office prior to the 11th**.

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSURE

St. Thomas' Church Office will be closed **Monday, May 29th** for Memorial Day.

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.

ALTAR FLOWER DONORS

Select any Sunday to donate flowers: they are \$60 each week – sign-up chart is located by the sacristy. 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.**

PARISH LIFE AND SUNDAY

FELLOWSHIP

Recently, our Sunday Fellowship group has made some much-needed purchases of new dinnerware and warming trays to create a better fellowship experience for everyone. To continue these welcome upgrades, your help through contributions to "**Parish Life**" can enable St. Thomas to make further purchases for this ministry. Your donations are welcome at any time, made out to "Parish Life".

Our Sunday Fellowship after the 10:30 service is coordinated by Mike Christensen, with special offerings in the Parish Hall each week. Your Contributions help with costs – just a small donation from each person attending is terrific! Contact Mike spikes0213@aol.com or phone 352-205-3314 to help.

ST THOMAS' VESTRY MEETING

Our Vestry meets on May 23rd at 7 pm in the Parish Hall. Members are: Bette Dufour/Sr. Warden, George Pawliczak/Jr. Warden, Joan Allen, Gail Carlson, Nancy Conley, Janet Gizelt, Rick Kiefer, Thelma Martin, Diane Mullen.

ST. THOMAS BOOK STORE

"Anytime" Gift Exchange



This month is a great time for special gift giving for Mother's Day and Springtime. **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 **May 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 one of our clergy will come to you in your pew).

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: **May 24th**.

EASTER FLOWER OFFERINGS

Many heartfelt thanks for the generosity of all those who contributed to this year's Easter Flower Offering - **\$1,241** was donated to help with Easter Flower costs! Additionally, **\$867** was donated for St. Thomas' special Easter collection.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO

Bess Short	5/04
Wendy Geeslin	5/07
Bert Gulston	5/07
Marilyn Gordon	5/10
Martha Carter	5/11
John Prentice	5/11
Ben Carter	5/14
Joan Allen	5/16
Carol Ann Luché	5/17
Larry Tyree	5/18
"Trae" Doug Johnson III	5/21
Christine Reilly	5/23
Wally Taylor	5/23
Shaylyn Tytler	5/23
Tyler Boreske	5/24
Arlene Karwacki	5/24
Joanna Cotter	5/25
Pamela Harwin	5/25
Frank Mayr	5/26
Georgiana Wright	5/27
Pam Ray	5/30

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

CHILDREN'S NURSERY

Our church Nursery is open and staffed every Sunday during our 10:30 am church service. The Nursery is conveniently located directly behind our Parish Hall in the Sunday school building.

MAY 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 3 pm – ECW Meeting 7-8 pm – AA Meditation Group in Wisdom Hall	2	3 9-11 am – Thrift Work Day 10 am – Craft Group 12 pm – Beginner’s Fitness 12:30 pm – Fitness Class 7 pm – Choir Rehearsal	4 9 am–3 pm – Thrift Shop 10 am – Healing Service 11 am – Lectionary Class 6:30 pm – AA Group	5 9 am–3 pm – Thrift Shop	6 9 am–Noon - Thrift Shop Open
7 HEALING <u>*SUNDAY SCHEDULE</u> 4 Easter	8 7-8 pm – AA Meditation Group in Wisdom Hall	9	10 9-11 am – Thrift Work Day 10 am – Craft Group 12 pm – Beginner’s Fitness 12:30 pm – Fitness Class 7 pm – Choir Rehearsal	11 9 am–3 pm – Thrift Shop 10 am – Healing Service 11 am – Lectionary Class 6 pm – MOST Meeting 6:30 pm – AA Group	12 9 am–3 pm – Thrift Shop	13 9 am–Noon - Thrift Shop Open
14 MOTHER’S DAY <u>*SUNDAY SCHEDULE</u> 5 Easter LADIES HAT DAY – BOTH SERVICES 9 am – Brunch in Parish Hall	15 7-8 pm – AA Meditation Group in Wisdom Hall	16	17 9-11 am – Thrift Work Day 10 am – Craft Group 12 pm – Beginner’s Fitness 12:30 pm – Fitness Class 7 pm – Choir Rehearsal	18 9 am–3 pm – Thrift Shop 10 am – Healing Service 11 am – Lectionary Class 6:30 pm – AA Group	19 9 am–3 pm – Thrift Shop	20 9 am–Noon - Thrift Shop Open
21 <u>*SUNDAY SCHEDULE</u> 6 Easter 9 am – FAREWELL RECEPTION IN PARISH HALL FOR FR. JOHN & KAREN LIPSCOMB	22 7-8 pm – AA Meditation Group in Wisdom Hall	23 7 pm - Vestry	24 9-11 am – Thrift Work Day 10 am – Craft Group 12 pm – Beginner’s Fitness 11:30 am Fellowship Luncheon 12:30 pm – Fitness Class 7 pm – Choir Rehearsal	25 9 am–3 pm – Thrift Shop 10 am – Healing Service 11 am – Lectionary Class 6:30 pm – AA Group	26 9 am–3 pm – Thrift Shop 1:30 pm – Healing/ HE @ Lakeview	27 9 am–Noon - Thrift Shop Open
28 DISCRETIONARY <u>*SUNDAY SCHEDULE</u> 7 Easter FR. JOHN’S FINAL DAY AT ST. THOMAS CHURCH	29 MEMORIAL DAY Church Office CLOSED	30	31 9-11 am – Thrift Work Day 10 am – Craft Group 12 pm – Beginner’s Fitness 12:30 pm – Fitness Class 7 pm – Choir Rehearsal	<u>*SUNDAY SCHEDULE</u> Holy Eucharist Services: 8 & 10:30 am Fr. John’s Adult Class, “Thinking Aloud, Allowed”, in Parish Hall: 9:15 – 10 am Healing Miracles of Jesus Study in Library: 9:15 am Coffee Hour in Parish Hall – 9 am Fellowship in Parish Hall - Noon		

Farewell Brunch

**To celebrate the ministries of
John and Karen Lipscomb**

Sunday, May 21

9AM to 10AM

In the Parish Hall

**Biscuits and gravy will be served
along with other brunch items lovingly
prepared by parishioners**

**A basket will be available if you wish to honor
John and Karen with a monetary gift for 6
years of service to the St. Thomas Parish.**

Please make all checks payable to John and Karen as a gift.