

St. Thomas Tidings May 2018

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

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

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

**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 **HP61XL** to St. Thomas – your donations are a terrific way to keep down costs!

Have you ever bought something that needed to be assembled?

Those types of items generally come with a set of instructions, some of them very good, very helpful, very easy to understand and carry out. Other ones sometimes come and are so confusing one would think they were written in another language, where one also had to be ambidextrous and a multi-tasker.

In addition to the assembly instructions, there also usually was a parts list, and a list of tools required.

Have you ever started something like this without ever consulting the instructions or the list of contents and tools required list?

Well, sorry to say, I have done that – more than once. For some reason I have decided a time or two that I could put something together all by myself. Well, there are, of course all sorts of problems that may arise from not reading the instructions. You might not have the right tools from the start, and you might have to tighten, or screw shut something that just doesn't fit – isn't that frustrating!

Or maybe you didn't check it out and after some assembly, you hit a snag and can't go on because you're missing a part; and it could be something really small, but the project can't be completed until the correct part is obtained and used correctly.

These all have happened to me, and it can be annoying, to say the least.

You know, in the Episcopal Church, we don't have a lack of instructions, though they are often over-looked; replaced by local customs, or the possibility of the priest-in-charge having some sort of unusual customs, or just plain "quirkiness." [Of course, no one from The School of Theology of the University of the South at Sewanee, TN could be so]

Anyway, we have a lot of rules, regulations, and guidelines that were meant to keep us on track and to help us understand what it means to follow Jesus as an Episcopalian. Much of the guidance comes to us in the form of the rubrics in our Book of Common Prayer. Many years ago these guides were not only written in italics, they were also written in red – thus the name.

Many members, including many clergy, often disregard the rubrics, though, as a general rule, we shouldn't. They have been carefully crafted to help guide us, to give us the directions we need, and sometimes even suggest the tools to carry out what is needful.

Before I went to seminary, I was a Zoning Enforcement Officer, and just for a short time before that a Building Inspector. The codes we "enforced" were the minimum standards expected of those living in our community; the minimum standards. Rubrics are much like that.

In a book written to "expand" the understanding/interpretations of the rubrics, there is this in the preface: "For some clergy, the rubrics have been thought to indicate everything that was needed for the proper celebration of a rite. Yet in practice this was never the case.

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

FR. TED'S ARTICLE – (Continued)

The rubrics of the Book of Common Prayer supplied the ritual framework – one might say the ritual minimum – of each liturgical action, but the rites were celebrated in a particular building under specific conditions which invariably shaped the way the rubrics were interpreted.” *Prayer Book Rubrics Expanded, Byron D. Stuhlman, 1987*

The rubrics of the 1979 book allow flexibility and interpretation that was not present before this book. This has moved us from a rigid interpretation of liturgy to one that is not like a “liturgical drill.”

One small example, if you care to look, the words *may* and *shall* are used in the rubrics. The first allowing one to be flexible, the latter there to ensure that the practice indicated remains uniform throughout the Episcopal Church [although we all know that these types of “regulations” can and are sometimes overlooked]. At a recent, nationally televised liturgy, the Gospel for that service was read by a priest. The rubric is very clear: “In the absence of a Deacon, a (bishop or) presbyter reads the Gospel.” [It’s very unlikely, to me, that a deacon wasn’t present]. A minor change to some, but not at all a correct one.

Take a look at the rubrics sometime, you might find out something you didn’t know before and it just might surprise and delight you – or not!

In any case, you can always ask about them and I will be glad to engage in a conversation about them with you; or help you find an answer.

Peace & Joy,

Fr. Ted

PENTECOST IS MAY 20th

**Help us heat the FIRE of the Holy Spirit
with our**

“Tongues of Fire”

Chili & Hot Wings Cook-off after the **10:30 service on Pentecost Sunday – May 20th**. Just bring your award-winning dish for entry (or just to share) to the Parish Hall and enjoy plenty of delicious chili and hot wings.

**Please remember to
Wear RED
to church that day!**

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.

Please continue to also bring **Box Tops for Education** for Eustis Elementary, and **tops** for Ronald McDonald House. (Ask Diane Damon about **cancelled stamps**). These are ways to help others that cost us nothing.

Many thanks for your continued support.
Betty Carr, CPC Chairman, Book Store

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!

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.

WELCOME TO ST. THOMAS CHURCH

Jennifer (Jenn) Hoban of Mt. Dora

Jill & Allen Malony of Eustis

Pricilla Seaward of Mt. Dora

NEW ADDRESS:

Jeanne Kauffman
c/o Linda Braley
13683 SW 171st Drive
Archer, FL 32618



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
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



JOIN THE CHOIR!

Choir Rehearsals are held on Wednesdays at 7:00 pm in Wisdom Hall. Join us as we sing unto the Lord.

New Members Welcome!

4th Sunday Loose Plate Collection:

Our **May 27th** Loose Plate Collection is designated for the Rector’s Discretionary Fund. Please memo checks: “*Rector’s Discretionary Fund*” and place in the offering plate.

VERY SPECIAL THANKS

Thank you to everyone who donated Easter candy – the children's Easter Egg Hunt was a joyous success, with over 19 dozen eggs hidden and 14 children participating in the hunt.

FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON

This month's Fellowship Luncheon will be on **Wednesday, May 23rd 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.**

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSURE

St. Thomas' Church Office will be closed Monday, May 28th for Memorial Day.



***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**

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 at any time. 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 ADULT FORUM

At **9:15 am** on Sundays – we gather as a group in our Parish Hall. 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.

CHURCH CLEANING DAY

Can you help clean up and tidy our Church Sanctuary and Narthex? Join us **Tuesday, May 1st at 9:00 am** to assist with light-duty cleaning chores. Thank you!

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!**



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.

MOTHER'S DAY HAT



Mother's Day is coming...and so is our annual **Hat Day!** Ladies, wear your finest hat, bonnet, cap, or tiara to church on Mother's Day – **May 13, 2018**, and help us honor all mothers that day. Last year, 59 ladies wore hats– can we top that in 2018?

MOTHER'S DAY BRUNCH

Our Mother's Day Brunch on **May 13th** will feature a delicious menu. We invite you to enjoy brunch with us at approximately **9 am** in our Parish Hall - between Sunday church services. We need **VOLUNTEERS** to help serve and clean up – please call the office **357-4358** or Mike Christensen (Sunday Fellowship Coordinator) at **spikes0213@aol.com** or phone 352-205-3314. 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. We thank you for your consideration and wish you all a wonderful Mother's Day!

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/brunch members, and all who volunteered in any way!

HEALING – 1st SUNDAYS

On **May 6th**, 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.

MOST MAY NEWS



The **MOST** (Men Of St. Thomas) group will meet **Thursday, May 10th 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.

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.

EASTER OFFERINGS

Many heartfelt thanks for the generosity of all those who contributed to this year's Easter Offering in the special envelopes provided in the bulletins - **\$1,490.00** was collected. Additionally, a total of **\$1,335.00** was donated toward Easter Flower costs!

GOOD FRIDAY OFFERING

This year, **\$503.00** was collected for the *Good Friday Offering* to be sent for Missions in Jerusalem and the Middle East – thank you to all who donated!

MAY 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 9 am – Church Narthex/Sanctuary Cleaning (Volunteers Welcome!)	2 9-11 am – Thrift Work Day 10 am – Craft Group 12 pm – Beginner’s Fitness 12:30 pm – Fitness Class 7 pm – Choir Rehearsal	3 9 am–3 pm – Thrift Shop 10 am – HE/Healing Service 11 am – BIBLE STUDY 6:30 pm – AA Group	4 9 am–3 pm – Thrift Shop	5 9 am – Noon - Thrift Shop
6 HEALING <u>*SUNDAY SCHEDULE</u> 6 EASTER	7 7-8 pm – AA Meditation Group in Wisdom Hall	8	9 9-11 am – Thrift Work Day 10 am – Craft Group 12 pm – Beginner’s Fitness 12:30 pm – Fitness Class 7 pm – Choir Rehearsal	10 9 am–3 pm – Thrift Shop 10 am – HE/Healing Service 11 am – BIBLE STUDY 6 pm – MOST Meeting 6:30 pm – AA Group	11 9 am–3 pm – Thrift Shop 1:30 pm – Healing/HE at Lakeview in Altoona	12 9 am – Noon - Thrift Shop
13 MOTHER’S DAY <u>****SUNDAY SCHEDULE</u> 7 EASTER 9 am – Brunch between services in Parish Hall Ladies: WEAR HATS TODAY	14 7-8 pm – AA Meditation Group in Wisdom Hall	15 7 pm - Vestry	16 9-11 am – Thrift Work Day 10 am – Craft Group 12 pm – Beginner’s Fitness 12:30 pm – Fitness Class 7 pm – Choir Rehearsal	17 9 am–3 pm – Thrift Shop 10 am – HE/Healing Service 11 am – BIBLE STUDY 6:30 pm – AA Group	18 9 am–3 pm – Thrift Shop	19 9 am – Noon - Thrift Shop
20 PENTECOST <u>*SUNDAY SCHEDULE</u> Noon – “Tongues of Fire” Chili/Hot Wings Contest in Parish Hall WEAR RED!	21 7-8 pm – AA Meditation Group in Wisdom Hall	22	23 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	24 9 am–3 pm – Thrift Shop 10 am – HE/Healing Service 11 am – BIBLE STUDY 6:30 pm – AA Group	25 9 am–3 pm – Thrift Shop 1:30 pm – Healing/HE at Lakeview in Altoona	26 9 am – Noon - Thrift Shop
27 DISCRETIONARY <u>*SUNDAY SCHEDULE</u> TRINITY SUNDAY	28 MEMORIAL DAY Church Office Closed 7-8 pm – AA Meditation Group in Wisdom Hall	29	30 9-11 am – Thrift Work Day 10 am – Craft Group 12 pm – Beginner’s Fitness 12:30 pm – Fitness Class 7 pm – Choir Rehearsal	31 9 am–3 pm – Thrift Shop 10 am – HE/Healing Service 11 am – BIBLE STUDY 6:30 pm – AA Group	<u>*SUNDAY SCHEDULE</u> Holy Eucharist Services: - 8 am & 10:30 am Healing on May 6 Adult Class in Parish Hall – 9:15 am Coffee Hour in Parish Hall – 9 am Fellowship in Parish Hall – Noon ****(No Fellowship on Mother’s Day)	