



# The Steeple Bell

Information for the St. Thomas Episcopal Church Family, July 2018



## From the Pastor . . .

Dear Family of God at St. Thomas,

Summer has arrived! At least, the calendar tells us this is so, though some days with the cooler weather and lots of rain, we may doubt it. It's the time of year when the church program year has come to an end and there are less events, meetings and no church school. Things are a little more laid back and many St. Thomas members are away on much needed vacations, renewing ties with family, taking time to enjoy more outdoor pursuits and attending graduations or other events.

Numbers in the church pews for worship tend to be down over the summer though, sometimes, visitors to this area of Michigan, or family members of St. Thomas members attend a service here. When God created our beautiful world, we know He rested on the seventh day from creating and called this special day, the Sabbath. He also consecrated the Sabbath. So, it's a special day each week, not necessarily on a Sunday if you have a job that requires you to work then, that all of us need to take off to slow down, to re-create ourselves so we are refreshed to jump back into the busyness of life.

Summer gives us better weather and, hopefully, more time to think about our family, our lives, our jobs, our bucket list of things we want to do, places we want to visit or things we would like to achieve in our lifetime. It's also a time when we need to think about our spiritual life, our ministry and our church. **What are my or your needs re these three things? What are the needs of your church, St. Thomas?**

The day to day life of St. Thomas is going along pretty well. Our congregation has adjusted well to having Morning Prayer services once or twice a month with the leadership of one of our four worship leaders. Now that your priest is only working two thirds time our financial picture is more stable. Our outreach group is very active and our Thrift shop thriving. Most ministry needs are being met.

However, most of our congregation is elderly and this is a concern. Pastoral Care ministry is busy all the time with serving the needs of our members and sometimes others who need our practical and also spiritual support, care and concern. More members serving on the Pastoral Care team would be great!

Here at St. Thomas, we have no regular Sunday school for children or a youth class/activities. Young people are not here often enough to have an ongoing viable class. This is no indictment of our parents, but the reality of busy lives with multiple responsibilities and only so much time. **So, what can we do to meet the spiritual needs of this generation of children and youth including our own? What can we provide or do that will make it possible for children and youth of members and non-members, currently, to be here and be nurtured in the faith at a time and in a way that will work for busy parents?**

The Bishop's Committee and I need some input about and workable solutions from you, the congregation of St. Thomas, re what we can do together to help bring younger families here so we can nurture and grow in the faith the next generation of faithful disciples of Jesus. I hope that during the summer all of us will think about and then share input re what we can do together, so we can again enjoy the joyful and enthusiastic chatter of children and youth in our classrooms and hallways. Jesus said, **"Let the children come to Me."** May we pray, act and gather the children in!

Faithfully in Him, Rev. Shirley +



**Rev. Shirley's Contact Information:**  
**Cell:(734) 934-0748**  
**Home: (734)-925-1736**  
**E-mail: revshirleymcw@yahoo.com**

**Worship Services:**

*Sunday, 8:00am & 10:00am Holy Eucharist*  
 Morning Prayers Services will be on the  
**2<sup>nd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>** Sundays of each month.

*Wednesday, 10:30am Holy Eucharist (Sept-May)*  
 and Seasonally as Announced

**The Steeple Bell**

A monthly publication  
 of

**St. Thomas Episcopal Church**  
 2441 Nichols Drive  
 Trenton, MI 48183-2486  
 734-676-3122

Web Site: [stthomastrenton.org](http://stthomastrenton.org)  
 E-mail: [stthomastrenton@gmail.com](mailto:stthomastrenton@gmail.com)

**The head of the Church, Jesus Christ!**

The Rt. Rev. Wendell N. Gibbs, Jr.,  
 Bishop of the Diocese of Michigan  
 & Rector of St. Thomas Church

The Very Rev. Shirley McWhorter-Vicar  
 Ramona Moyski-Secretary  
 Carol Hoggard-Bookkeeper  
 Barbara Conroy-Music Director  
 Gerald Eory-Custodian

**Bishop's Committee**

<u>Term expires Jan-2020</u>	<u>Term expires Jan-2021</u>
Mike Krupa (Warden)	Cheryl Koerber
Gary Sonnenberg	Sherry Fegreus
Kathy Zook	Scott Abernathy (Warden)

Secretary to the Bishop's Committee: Sherry Fegreus  
 Treasurer: Bishop's Committee

**Office Hours**

Monday – 3:30am - 6:00pm  
 Tues- Thurs- 9:00am-1:00pm & 3:30pm-6:00pm  
 Friday 8:00am-4:00pm

**Christian Education**

*Children & Youth 10:00am Sundays*  
*Adults-Wed 11:00am (Sept-May) and*  
 Seasonally as Announced

**Ways to Participate  
 Beyond Worship:**

If you have an idea for a ministry or a group that you would like the church to be involved in, please speak to Rev. Shirley, and we'll see what we can do to make it happen.

- Invite someone to worship or Bible study with you, and offer to pick them up.
- If you haven't seen someone in worship lately, give them a call or send a card.
- Invite a neighbor for coffee and offer to pray with them.
- Volunteer for a committee.

Help generate some content for our church's social media platforms:

- [Facebook: St. Thomas Episcopal Church Group](#)
- [Website: stthomastrenton.org](http://stthomastrenton.org)

For example, take a picture of something that speaks to you of God and his love and and share it on your favorite social media site (be sure to tag our church).



*Please don't forget to keep up your financial pledge this summer. The church's expenses don't take a vacation.*

**YOUR PLEDGE**  
This Summer



### Trenton Food Pantry

St. Thomas members work during the month of August. Two workers are needed for each Wednesday from 11:00 – 2:00 plus two additional workers from 9:30 – 11:30 on the

second Wednesday of the month. There is a sign-up sheet in our church foyer.

The pantry is housed at St. Philip Lutheran Church which is located at 1790 Fort Street (on southbound Fort between King and Harrison).

The pantry is open on Wednesdays from 11:00 – 2:00. Government commodities are also available on the second Wednesday of each month for Trenton residents. For more information contact St. Philip Church at 734-676-7141



We need a monthly update so please remember to inform the office of the condition of the people you have placed on the Sunday Prayer List, especially those that can be removed to make room for others. Thank you.

### **Green Apple Salad By Sherry Fegreus**

6 med granny smith apples (cubed with peel)

#### Day before

Mixture:

- 1 small 8 oz crushed pineapple with juice
- 1 beaten egg
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1 tbs flour
- 2 tbs cider vinegar

Cook mixture on med heat until thick. Cool. Add 8 oz cool whip; Refridge overnight

#### Next Day

Add apples 2 hours before serving and crushed salted peanuts to taste.



- |                     |                     |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| 06 Sybil Resh       | 23 Stephen Chapman  |
| 06 Anne Hahn        | 25 Milton Moore Jr. |
| 09 Lea Donna Plaza  | 26 Janice Gorham    |
| 15 Nancy Sutherland | 26 Mike Krupa       |
|                     | 27 Heather Sherry   |



### Thrift Shop News!!

**Just a reminder:** The Thrift Shop will be **CLOSED** during the **month of July**. If you wish to bring donations during July, please put them behind the desk at the foot of the stairs. If you have questions, want a receipt for donations, etc. contact Jean Pendell, Barb Hewison or Fran Felty.

shopwithscrip.com



### Don't forget our Scrip Program

Where do you shop? Home Depot? Macy's? J.C. Penny? Panera Bread?

You can purchase gift cards through the scrip program for all of these stores. There is an even longer list of participating stores on the internet at [glscrip.com](http://glscrip.com) or on the hallway bulletin board. Just fill out the form and give it (and your check) to Kimberly Abernathy. She will have the gift cards ready for you the following Sunday. You get the full value of the card- and you help St. Thomas at the same time.



Write your favorite hymn(s) on the notepad in the church vestibule and they will be sung during the summer. We may use a Eucharistic Prayer from Enriching Our Worship and other prayers for prayers of the people. If you would like to sing a solo or play an instrument during the summer worship, then please speak to Barbara Conroy. Thank You!

**St. Thomas Episcopal Church  
Bishop's Committee Meeting  
June 14, 2018**

**\*Opening Prayer/Meditation:** The Very Rev. Shirley McWhorter

**\*No Quorum**

**\*Absent:** Gary Sonnenberg, Cheryl Koerber, Scott Abernathy

**\*Financial Update:** Carol Hoggard, Bookkeeper, gave financial report. Our budget for May (utility/DTE Energy). June will be overbudget for this year. Discussion regarding budget items. Tabled until August meeting: suggestions and recommendations to maintain current budget and any changes needed.

**\*Minutes of last meeting:** Tabled until August meeting for approval. Updates will be discussed then.

**\*Communications:** None

**\*Acknowledgments:**

- \*Thanks to Ramona regarding contact with Brookline for grass cutting
- \*Thanks to Gary McWhorter for repair of the washing machine at the rectory.
- \*Thanks to Mandy and Ralph Vidusic for coffee supplies and the team for preparing refreshments each Sunday.

**\*New Business:**

- \*Discussed Church insurance and expenses including carpeting in the Sanctuary after flooding, repair under floor leak site.
- \*To request Tom Byrne (Capital Campaign) to postpone his presentation until September BC meeting.

**\*Warden Corner:** No comments

**\*Misc.:**

**\*Reverend Shirley Comments:** Be encouraged and continue to offer prayers regarding challenges ahead. We have done well in past, and we are thankful.

**\*Next B.C. meeting August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018, at 6:30 PM in the guild hall (no meeting in July)**

**Vacation Dates:** Ramona: August 6-10

\* Lord's Prayer: All

Adjourned 8:39 PM.

Respectfully Submitted by: Sherry Fegreus and typed by Ramona Moyski



**OFFICE HOURS**

During Rev. Shirley's & Gary's vacation

For the week of July 9th

Monday, open 3-6pm  
Tuesday-Thursday, Office closed in am; open 3-6pm  
Friday, open 8am-4pm

For the week of July 16th

Monday, open 3-6pm  
Tuesday-Thursday, Office closed in am; open 3-6pm  
Friday, open 8am-4pm



**Want to do something fun??**

**How about a Mudhens game, are you Game?**

We have 3 Saturdays dates in mind,  
Aug 4 (Indianapolis Indians) or  
18 (Rochester Red Wings) or  
25 (Columbus Clippers).

There will be 3 sign up sheets, the one with the most names is the date we will pick. Sign up early.

## St. Thomas History – part 3-

### St. Thomas expands

The Martha-Mary Chapel was dedicated in Nov. 1948 and could seat 140 people. Although the church was enlarged in 1953 to seat 220 people, by the mid 1960's St. Thomas church had outgrown its building. Ground breaking for the A-frame church which can seat 300 in the nave plus 50 in the balcony took place on June 25, 1967. The spring of 1968 marked both the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of St. Thomas and the dedication of the new sanctuary.

St. Thomas church sponsored the establishment of a Parochial Mission in Flat Rock, Michigan in 1955. This mission originally served 12 families and was named St. Timothy's. In 1969 discussions began concerning the possibility of merging St. Timothy's with another mission, Church of the Holy Family in Rockwood, to form a new Diocesan Mission named St. Matthew's. Ground breaking took place for the St. Matthews Episcopal Church building on May 28, 1973. Services at St. Matthew's were held from 1971 to 2001.

During the 1980's and the 1990's St. Thomas was known for hosting the Fall Festival of the Arts. This juried fine arts show began on Thursday night with a punch and cookie reception and was open to the public for 3 days. Most members of St. Thomas helped with the Art Show in one way or another from set-up to making cookies for the reception to serving as hosts and hostesses during the show.

The St. Thomas Community Thrift Shop opened its doors in 1999. The purpose of the Thrift Shop is to recycle and sell donations of household and clothing items and books inexpensively as well as accommodating client referrals from other area agencies. Nineteen years later, the Thrift Shop is going strong. Some of our customers refer to it as "The St. Thomas Boutique" and come frequently to see "what's new". It is the most visible outreach project of our church.

St. Thomas celebrated the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its founding in 1993 with a picnic at the church. A Time Capsule was buried in the Memorial Garden. What was in the Time Capsule?

What changes have happened at St. Thomas in the 21<sup>st</sup> century? How did we celebrate the 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2018? Look to future Steeple Bell articles for the answers.

Information prior to 1988 from the book

"The First 145 years" by St. Thomas member Jerry Kersh.



### **Looking for a day getaway? Check out the Tours info below**

We have a couple of tours, you might be interested in joining a few of our parishioners on.

The first one is:

The tour is of 3 beautiful churches, Mariner's Church, Solanus Casey Center and St. Anne de Detroit. Enjoy unique architecture and rich history as we learn about each. This Tour is on Tuesday, November 13. \$ 73.00

The second one is:

Murder Mystery Dinner Trip. It leaves out of Blissfield and goes to Adrian and back. This tour is on Tuesday, October 18th, \$99.00, includes bus, train, dinner.

All you have to do is call custom holidays tell them what trips you want to go on and send \$10.00 deposit.

The final payment for the 3 Churches is due by October 13, and for the Murder Mystery is by August 15 .

If you are interested in going the contact information is below.

#### Custom Holiday Tours

15250 Euclid Allen Park, MI 48101

313-388-0448

[www.customholidaysonline.com](http://www.customholidaysonline.com)

They rate the trips according to activity levels. The church tour is level 2, which means there is a lot of walking involved. Train is level 1. Train trip is on Thursday 10:00 to 3:30, Church tour is 8:00 to 4:30. They call week before to let you know departure times and where to go to catch bus.

**P.S.: There are cancellation fees on trips.**

#### **For dinner train**

If you cancel prior to August 15, there is a \$20.00 fee. Aug. 15 thru Sept. 15, \$65.00 fee.; After Sept. 15 no refund.

#### **Church tour**

cancel prior to Oct.13 \$10.00 fee; Oct 13 thru 31, \$25.00 fee; Nov. 1st no refund.

If you can, get a substitute at anytime and incur no penal-

# The Steeple Bell

St. Thomas Episcopal Church  
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Trenton, Michigan 48183-2486  
[734] 676-3122

TO:



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## Coming Up This Month:

No Choir practice for the Summer

All Wednesdays	11:00am - Bible Study
Sunday, 1 <sup>th</sup>	8:00 am 10:00 am H.E. and Birthday Sunday
Wednesday, 4 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Office Closed, 4th of July (No Bible study)</b>
Sunday, 8 <sup>th</sup>	8:00am & 10:00am Morning Prayer
Wednesday, 11 <sup>th</sup>	11:00 am Bible study
Sunday, 15 <sup>h</sup>	8 am & 10 am H.E. Service; Healing & Scrip
Monday, 16 <sup>th</sup>	Steeplebell deadline
Wednesday, 18 <sup>th</sup>	11:00 am Bible study
Saturday, 21 <sup>st</sup>	Dr. Jack Rothwell Committal Service
Sunday, 22 <sup>nd</sup>	8 am & 10 am H.E. Service
Wednesday, 25 <sup>th</sup>	11:00 am Bible study
Sunday, 29 <sup>th</sup>	8:00am & 10:00am Morning Prayer

Morning Prayers Services will be on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> (when there is a 5<sup>th</sup>) Sundays of each month.

