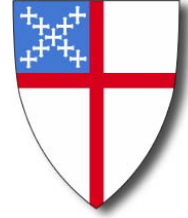


St. Thomas Episcopal Church



September 2010 Newsletter

A Letter from the Senior Warden

Hi Folks,

Well, it has been a long, hot, dry summer – at least in downtown Greenville. I heard that somebody's yard actually got wet the other day – not at 210 Church Street. Your Vestry and Search Committee have been at work – planning for the Fall and examining new names submitted to potentially be our new Rector.

First – Search Committee update: the Search Committee has interviewed a prospective priest and is setting up a visitation with him here. Updates to follow.

On September 12, we will have our Fall Kickoff. We will talk about the programs and opportunities for ministry here at St. Thomas. Some are continuations and some are new – WoRM Hole, Men's breakfast, Choir, ECW, Lay Readers, Greeters, Altar Guild, Adult Christian Ed. and more. We need a member of each group to be prepared to talk about your group for a couple of minutes. Please come join us. We will have refreshments before church and lunch after. We will provide drinks and chicken as usual. Please bring vegetables, salads, desserts, etc.

For the adult class on Sunday mornings, I have been talking to some priests for help. Larry Williams (our rector from '81-84) has given me the name of a book they have used and really liked. It is The Great Omission by Dallas Willard. I know we can get it from Amazon; Larry says most of the larger bookstores also carry it. I am going to order a copy and look at it. I'll keep you posted.

September 12, is also *National Back to Church Sunday*. Do you know someone who is not involved with any particular church, new-comers who have not picked out a church yet or someone who has not been back for a while? This is a great day to invite them. Most people just want to be asked. Let me encourage you to do the asking.

At this time our pledge contributions are behind by a couple of months (significant!). This is offset by expenses that, for the present, are lower than last year. This will not last long. Let me encourage you to do your best to catch up. In **July** we sent out the six month notice as to pledge statuses and to verify your pledge. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call Meredith or Lois.

Lastly, we have announced at church that we are looking at houses to purchase one to use as a rectory. There are several ramifications to this. First, it provides immediate housing for a new priest coming in. It represents (at some point in the future – how far out who knows) an appreciable asset. If a priest wishes to purchase their own home then this Vestry is committed to get in the rental business. As many of you know these are tough times to figure out housing if you are not committed to a long term residency. We welcome your comments and notice of properties that you see on the market.

In Christ,
Bill

Prayer List

Pray daily for the church,+ Katherine our Presiding Bishop, +Phillip, our Bishop, previous Bishop+ Charles, our Priest Fred+ and Marcia. Our vestry, our nation and city, our president, governor, mayor and other elected leaders, our military (Dent Neilson, Alabama National Guard, ,Issac Melton, Marines, law enforcement officers and firefighters, the sick, the needy and the bereaved. Olga Morton, Alice Farnum, Betsey Vincent, Donna Smith, Jeanne Helton, Camille Fuller, Jackie West, Nita, Tina Brooks Powell, Stirling Hamilton,Ralph, Richard Bennett, Robert Autrey, Starla, Robert, Ralph Mejia, Morris Slingoff, Jerry Hinson, Dick Till, Trish O'Connor, Suzie Snow, Willene Taylor, Rebecca Williams Bill Watson, Brenda Morton, Sarah Berry-Dove, Gulf Oil Spill Victims and The Jail Ministry.

PLEASE HELP US KEEP THE PRAYER LIST UP TO DATE; TELL US WHO TO ADD OR REMOVE.

Your Senior Warden and other members of the Vestry and the Visitation Committee are available to visit. You need only call. Please call the Church Office in case of illness, hospitalization or home confinement. Do not assume anyone else will do it.

Include St. Thomas in your Will for the benefit of your children and grandchildren. Your attorney can easily accomplish this for you. Spiritual growth requires regular attendance. Make your soul's health your first priority and resist the temptation to let other things take precedence. Set the example for your children by showing them that regular worship is important for you and your family. You will insure that the church will be part of their lives in the future. Also teach them by example good stewardship and generosity.

Prayer for Our Country

"Almighty God in whom we live and move and have our being, we commend this nation to your mutual care, that we surely trusting in thy defense may not fear the power of any adversary. Grant to the President of the United States and all in authority, wisdom and strength to know and to do thy will, that the spirit of Wisdom may save them from all false choices and that in thy light, they may see light, and in thy straight path they may not stumble. Give to our armed forces, law enforcement and intelligence officer's success in discovering the evil intent and plans of terrorists before they act, and success in preventing them from carrying out their plans. Grant by your Grace that we may be victorious over terrorism in all of its forms and purposes. Through the sake of thy Son and our Savior Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

(Adapted from the Book of Common Prayer by Fr. Fred Lindstrom)

Announcements

- **Holy Communion will be celebrated –**
 - **September 12** by visiting clergy, Fr.David McDowell-Fleming
 - **September 26** by visiting clergy for a return visit, by Fr. Mark Waldo

- **SUPER SUNDAY is Sunday September 12:**

- Kick off for the fall season and the first get together after a long hot summer. Sign up sheets will be available for the programs scheduled for fall.
- First Sunday (on the Second Sunday) luncheon will also be held on September 12th. Jill Stallworth will be the hostess. Chicken and Beverages will be provided. We ask each family attending to bring a salad, vegetable dish or dessert.
- **PLEASE NOTE THE TIME CHANGE:** Beginning September 12 Worship will be held at 10:30, At the 9:30 hour, beginning Sunday, September 19, WoRM Hole and adult education will begin.

- **FOOD BASKET**

- Please remember the food basket on First Sunday, September 5, and bring non perishable goods for donation to the food basket

Food Basket Shopping List

Large Canned Fruit	Pasta	Lg packets mashed potatoes
Small Canned Fruit	Large canned vegetables	Sm Pkgs mashed potatoes
Canned Meat or Fish	Grits	Peanut Butter
Canned Spaghetti Sauce	Saltine Crackers	Jelly
Dried spaghetti sauce (small packet)	Dried beans or peas	Macaroni and Cheese
6 oz cans tomato sauce	Rice	Canned Soup

- **DOLL HOUSES**

- Frances Frakes tells us that there are 2 more of her wonderful doll houses for sale. If anyone is interested or knows of anyone who is interested please call the church office for detail or to place an order. 382-8914. These are the last ones that will be available, EVER. Frances says “we will not be making any more.”

Worship Assistants

SUNDAY September 5

Greeter: Priscilla Davis

Acolytes: Team 2

Lay Readers: Jim and Dent

Altar Guild: Ramona and Mary

Ushers: Harry and Bob

Flower Guild: Mary

SUNDAY September 12

Greeter: Jan Ackerman

Acolytes: Team 3

Lay Readers: Bill and Steve

Altar Guild: Ramona and Mary

Ushers: Dent and Sumpter

Flower Guild: Mary Dearing

SUNDAY September 19

Greeter: Marion Norman

Acolytes: Team 1

Lay Readers: Julian and Morgan

Altar Guild: Susan, Cemira and Claudia

Ushers: Mints and Garry

Flower Guild: Joanne and Rosa

SUNDAY September 26

Greeter: Rosa McGowin

Acolytes: Team 2

Lay Readers: Cleve and Mack (there will be a substitute for Cleve)

Altar Guild: Susan Cemira and Claudia

Ushers: Everett and Mike

Flower Guild: Rosa and Joanne

September Birthdays

Dakota Berry	5
Sumpter McGowin	7
Kara Halford	10
Abbey Mullins	12
Anne Feathers	16
Gantt Hartley	16
Nell Jernigan	17
Joe Watts	17
Jennifer Idland	18
Marion Norman.	20
Van Speir	21
Ed Mcferrin	25
Bill Hamilton.....	27
Jim Jernigan.....	28
Larry Lehman.....	28
Herbert Morton.....	28



September Anniversaries

Mr.and Mrs. William Till	1
Mr & Mrs. Stirling Hamilton	4
Mr. & Mrs. Don Jones	9
Mr.& Mrs. Lynn H. Watson	11
Mr.& Mrs.Stirling Hamilton III	23
Mr.& Mrs. Don Lewis	25



September

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

1

Choir Practice 6:30pm

2

3

4

5

Fifteenth Sunday after
Pentecost
Worship: 10:00am

6

Labor Day

7

8

Choir Practice 6:30pm

9

10

11

12

Sixteenth Sunday after
Pentecost
Sunday School: 9:30am
Worship: 10:30am
Super Sunday!

13

Vestry Meeting 5:30pm

14

Holy Cross Day

15

Choir Practice 6:30pm

16

17

18

19

Seventeenth Sunday
after Pentecost
Sunday School: 9:30am
Worship: 10:30am

20

21

22

Choir Practice 6:30pm

23

24

25

26

Eighteenth Sunday after
Pentecost
Sunday School: 9:30am
Worship: 10:30am

27

28

29

Choir Practice 6:30pm

30

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