



St. Thomas Episcopal Church



THE EPISTLE February 1, 2018

Last Call for Youth, grades 8 - 12 interested in being confirmed. This weekend, February 2-4 is a Confirmation Retreat at Camp McDowell. If interested, call Jeannie Randall for more details.

Adult Confirmation - Confirmation classes will begin February 18. Please contact the church office if you would like to participate. All are welcome to attend these classes led by St. Thomas clergy. For more information, contact Dorothy at stthomas@stthomashuntsville.org. Bishop Kee will be visiting St. Thomas on April 29.

Christian Formation this Sunday, February 4:

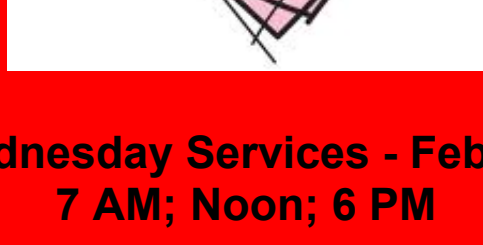
There are multiple Christian Formation options beginning at 9:30am:

* School-aged children and youth meet in Hiers Hall and Hudson Hall, respectively.

* Theological Gumbo, in the Parish Hall: The Rev. Judy Quick, a deacon in the Diocese of Alabama, is joining us to talk about hurricane recovery efforts for our companion diocese in the Virgin Islands, and how our sisters and brothers have been empowered by Episcopal Relief and Development's disaster response. You will not want to miss this report of important and life-saving work.

* Centering Prayer, in St. Anne's Chapel. No materials required for this time of silent meditation.

Make a Valentine's Day reservation at church!



Ash Wednesday Services - February 14

7 AM; Noon; 6 PM

Readings for the Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

Isaiah 40:21-31
1 Corinthians 9:16-23
Mark 1:29-39
Psalm 147:1-12, 21c

Women's Craft Night Tomorrow

All women of St. Thomas are invited to a "craft night" on Friday, February 2, from 6 - 9 PM. We will be making Valentines to send to our members living in assisted living and/or on the prayer list, and anyone else you want.

We will have construction paper, scissors, markers, crayons, and glue. If you have any other supplies you'd like to use, please bring them. Also, please bring a snack to share and whatever you'd like to drink. For more information, contact Michelle Crull at (256) 881-6855.

Food Pantry Gifts

Pantry Sunday is this Sunday! Please remember our hungry brothers and sisters and be generous. It's hard to be hungry! Contact Nell Fisher with questions at nellfisher@comcast.net.

Book Club - The

Monday morning book club will meet February 12th in the parlor at 10 AM to discuss our book selection, A Gentleman in Moscow, by Amor Towles. Newcomers and visitors always welcome.

Theological Gumbo -

Looking Ahead to February 11 Next week, in a session we call, "How to have a Holy Lent", join us to learn about some offerings within our parish and across the Episcopal Church that can draw you into a prayerful posture during Lent. What have you tried in the past? Come to the Parish Hall at 9:30am to listen and share with others!

Grief Recovery Group meeting tonight

Join us tonight at 5:30 in the Parlor. And don't forget to mark your calendar -- on February 15 we are going out to dinner. We will meet at 5:30pm at the church and caravan to a local restaurant. Check with Katherine if you'd like to hear more details - and new folks are always welcome to join us! It's never too late to process grief or loss you've experienced. Here's how to reach Katherine: curate@stthomashuntsville.org; 256-880-0247.

LENTEN BOOKLETS All Lenten devotions are due Monday, February 5. Please email your devotion/reflection to Jeannie Randall at jrann228@gmail.com.

Outreach Ministry Opportunity: Meals on Wheels

As a parish and as individuals, we at St. Thomas are deeply committed to outreach. Are you looking for an opportunity to "seek and serve Christ in all persons" who live just in our community? Meals on Wheels needs you! We have several openings available for you to participate in this wonderful feeding ministry that provides a bit of companionship and comfort to home bound neighbors in our area. Contact Donald Gillies (katharinegillies@gmail.com; 256-880-8870) to hear how you can take part.

Aquarius Club Lunches

Every February St. Thomas generously provides meals to Aquarius Club for their weekly meetings. Hosted by Central Presbyterian Church, the Aquarius Club get-togethers offer a social outlet for local adults with permanent mental disabilities. Check with Cooper Green this Sunday, February 4, in Information Hall to hear what's needed and sign up to help. Please contact Cooper at coopergreen3@gmail.com or 256-212-0999 with questions.

Congratulations Metagem Graduates

Our parishioners, Jemal Adams, Linda Lou Hardison, Pat Hrivnak, Pat Johnson, Jenna Pirani, and Libby Potter, have been trained as spiritual directors. The Metagem Institute Graduation is scheduled for Saturday, February 24 at 10 AM at St. Mary's-on-the-Highlands in Birmingham. Thomas Moore, renowned author, psychologist, monk and university professor, is the graduation speaker. Please plan to attend and support our six graduates.

Super Bowl BBQ - Proceeds from the Super Bowl BBQ this year will go to the ZED completion fund. Bulk BBQ offerings include:

whole pork butts \$40.00 each; pulled pork \$10/lb; whole beef brisket \$10/lb; sliced beef brisket \$14/lb; whole pork ribs \$20 per rack; smoked salmon \$15/lb; smoked naked wings \$12/ dozen. Call Charlie at 256-468-4221 to check for additional availability.

Purposeful, peaceful evolution - A French paleontologist claimed in 1956 that evolution has a goal - that stage of consciousness in which humanity collectively has the mind of Christ. All but alone within the scientific community, Teilhard de Chardin is likewise unusual within the Christian community, where a violent reading of the Book of Revelation is better known than this gradual "divinization" of humanity. 7-9 PM this Thursday, February 1 in the conference room. Discussion led by orbital engineer John Hanson. RSVP to meisterp@uah.edu for handouts.

Children's and Youth Ministry Information Mark your calendars

Nursery

- Parents' Day Out will be held on Wednesday, February 7. Children from birth to five years old are welcome every Wednesday from 9:30am-12:45pm. Contact Audrey (youth@stthomashuntsville.org) with questions about this ministry.

Children

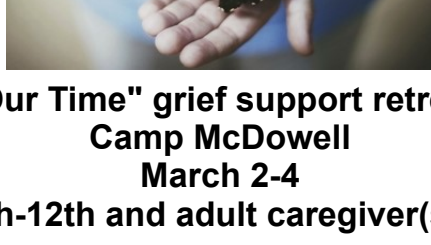
- Join us on Saturday, February 10 for our first Children's Fun Day at 11am. These monthly gatherings will be held on the second Saturday of each month. On February 10, children are invited to play and watch a movie in the Youth Room from 11am-1pm.
- On Sunday, February 11, we will have a Service Project Sunday during Sunday School. Join us from 9:30-10:15am in Hiers Hall.

Youth

- February's theme is feeding. We will focus on ourselves and the community this month. Join us for Sunday School 2.0 every Sunday morning 9:30-10:15am and then again for EYC every Sunday evening 4:00-6:00pm
- Feb 13 Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper Teens in grades 8-12 come after school to help us get ready to serve the feast, starting at 4:15pm! The Pancake Supper is from 5:30-7:00pm

Stay Connected

For all the latest updates check out our mobile friendly web site <http://stthomasyouthhsv.wixsite.com/stthomasyouth>



"Our Time" grief support retreat Camp McDowell March 2-4

A free retreat for 6th-12th and adult caregiver(s) healing from loss

At "Our Time" 6th-12th graders and their adult caregiver(s) have time to reflect on their loss, express feelings, and connect with others who grieve in a supportive environment facilitated by professional staff. The Our Time program (developed by licensed therapists) offers tools for healthy grieving, a common language for kids and adults, healing activities of remembrance, and the comfort found in community, rest, and fun. This free retreat provides opportunity for recreation, and restoration in a naturally beautiful setting - Camp McDowell.

Our Time is for kids and an adult caregiver(s). Recommended a minimum of 3 months after the loss. There is no cost to attend Our Time. Feel free to contact Susanna Whitsett (susanna@campmcdowell.com; 205-281-1903) for more details. We welcome your questions and appreciate your interest.

This Week at St. Thomas

Thursday, February 1

5:30 PM Grief Spiritual, Parlor
7:00 PM Men's Spirituality Group, Youth Room
7:00 PM Abrahamic Prayers, Conference Room

Friday, February 2

8:30 AM First Stop Breakfast
6:00 PM Women's Craft Night, Parish Hall

Sunday, February 4

8:00 AM Holy Eucharist, Nave
Nursery Available
9:00 AM Breakfast, Vestry
9:30 AM Children's Formation Classes
Children's Sunday School, Hiers Hall
Youth Sunday School, Youth Room
Centering Prayer, St. Anne's Chapel
Theological Gumbo, Parish Hall
10:30 AM Holy Eucharist, Nave
Nursery Available
4:00 PM Treble Choir (grades K-2), Choir Room
5:00 PM Treble Choir (3rd grade & up), Choir Room

Monday, February 5

6:00 PM Outreach Meeting, Conference Room
7:00 PM The Great Emergence Book Discussion, Parlor

Tuesday, February 6

6:00 PM EfM, Conference Room

Wednesday, February 7

9:30 AM Bible Study, Conference Room
9:30 AM Parents' Morning Out - drop-off
11:00 AM Healing Service, St. Anne's Chapel
Noon Bible Study, Conference Room
12:45 PM Parents' Morning Out - pick-up
6:00 PM Holy Eucharist, Nave
Nursery Available
6:00 PM Financial Peace, Conference Room
7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room

WORSHIP TEAM for FEBRUARY 4, 2018

Celebrant & Preacher
Deacon
Seminarian
Organist at 8 AM
Music at 10:30 AM

The Rev. Paul Pradat
The Rev. Judy Quick
Les Hegwood
Melanie Payne
Joyful Noise

8:00 AM

Eucharistic Ministers
Lectors
Acolyte
Ushers
Greeters

Todd Christiansen, Kristi Boyer
Pat & Al Johnson
Penny Nielson
Pat & Al Johnson
Nell & David Fisher

10:30 AM

Eucharistic Ministers
Lectors
Acolytes
Ushers
Greeters

Barbara Meyer, Rena Anderson
Lipmon Moy, Betsy Hill
Lizzy Chilton, Griffin Anderson, Erin Slagle,
Anna Erbach
Allen Prescott, Jim Teasdale
Nancy & Jim Teasdale, Sally Upchurch

Vestry on Duty
Breakfast

David Hattaway, Elizabeth Duling
Vestry - Genie McCoy, Jason Conklin,
Wyn Vestry, Dave Hattaway, Patty Moy, Elaine Poplin

Altar Guild

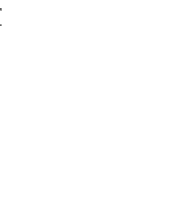
Gail Perna, Penny Nielsen, Barbara & Larry Meyer, Miguel Strickland & Lorrie Fields

Flower Guild

Laurel Davis, Gayle Dodson

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