



St. Thomas Episcopal Church



THE EPISTLE July 5, 2018

Music Camp and VBS are happening at St. Thomas -- July 18, 19, 20!

Music Camp (9 AM-11:15) and VBS (11:15 - 3:15) are for ALL AGES. Join us as we follow Jesus on an expedition around the world! Register your kids who are entering pre-K through 6th grade. Older children, teens and adults can volunteer - we need your help in this fun adventure, plus you can earn volunteer hours and develop leadership skills. Nursery is available for younger children. Lunch is provided for all. Register online (<https://www.stthomashsvyouthchildren.com/rsvp-events-volunteer>), on our Facebook page, or pick up a paper application in Information Hall.

There are still Volunteer Jobs available for Vacation Bible School.

We have a few roles that still need filling. Here are the jobs, and the tasks associated with them. Please contact Audrey Clark (880-0247) to let her know which role you want!

Vacation Bible School Group Leader: help transition kids from Music Camp to VBS; take attendance; and lead small group time with lessons and activities that are provided.

Vacation Bible School Group Assistant: help group leader with the small group's lessons, activities, etc.

Vacation Bible School Story Tellers: (3 are needed) dress up in character to tell a story (provided for you); role will happen on one day only, for about 15 minutes.

Supplies Needed for Music Camp & VBS: Please bring your empty paper towel rolls, Pringles cans and coffee cans for our instrument crafts. We'll be making rain sticks and drums.

Mark your calendar: We will wrap up a great week of music, worship, and play with a Family Fun Day, Saturday, July 21, and a Children's Service at 10:30 AM, Sunday, July 22!

Theological Gumbo this week

Please join us in the Parish Hall for an experience in Education for Ministry (EfM). Whether you're curious about how it's done, or you're a graduate, join us to hear about EfM and share in a guided conversation called a theological reflection, facilitated by Sally Barnett.

Next week during Theological Gumbo, we will be welcoming back the Honduras Medical Mission team, hearing tales of their ministry and work last month. Please join us to celebrate and share in their stories!

**Readings for the
Seventh Sunday
after Pentecost**

2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10

Psalm 48

2 Corinthians

12:2-10

Mark 6:1-13

SAVE THE DATE

- Family Fun Day - July 21
- Children's Service - July 22
- Blessing of the Backpacks - August 5
- Rally Day - August 12
- Ministry Fair - August 26

Diocesan Confirmation Retreat for Youth!

Calling all St. Thomas Youth (entering grades 8 - 12) interested in being confirmed. There is a diocesan-wide Confirmation Retreat scheduled for July 27-29, 2018, at Camp McDowell, concluding with the service of Confirmation with Bishop Kee in St. Francis Chapel at 3:00 pm on July 29. The cost is \$100 per person. An on-line registration link can be found on the Diocesan webpage. Call Jeannie Randall for more details.

From the Finance Folks! Quarterly statements of pledges given to St. Thomas are going out this week. They will show a summary of contributions made since January, with detailed contributions received in the finance office from April 1 through June 30. Pledges paid after July 1 will be reflected on the next quarterly statement. Call Terri Good with your questions: 256-880-0247.



It's time to pick an old-time favorite hymn! On Sunday, August 26, at the 10:30 service, we will have a special Hymn Sing that features your favorite hymns that aren't sung in our usual Episcopal services. You may use hymnals from other denominations (like Baptist Hymnal, Broadman Hymnal, Methodist Hymnal, or Lift Every Voice and Sing, etc.). A box will be available in the Narthex in which to leave your requests.

For the offertory, we will have a volunteer choir perform a couple of Sacred Harp tunes. All are welcome to participate in the Sacred Harp ensemble. There will be two instructional rehearsals (learning about singing "Fa, Sol, La") in August. Days/times are to be determined. Please contact Melanie (payneme67@gmail.com) if you have questions about where to find a hymn or if you would like to join the Sacred Harp group.



Bailey Cove Farmer's Market Welcomes New

Vendor: Sweet City Micros

If you came to the market Saturday, you noticed some new vendors! This week we're highlighting Sweet City Micros. Sweet City Micros is a family run urban farm located in Huntsville. Their North Alabama greenery sells living microgreens. By growing hydroponically, Sweet City is able to provide a living product that is clean enough to use on your counter top at home. Sweet City aims to change the paradigm around healthy eating by using sustainable methods to provide high quality, living micro greens that are delicious and nutrient dense. Some of their offerings are a micro salad mix, broccoli, leek, pea and sunflower. Danica Abejon is the owner and she is happy to let you sample her greens.

Come help with the market! Look for the sign-up sheet in information hall. Volunteers usually sign up for a 2 hour shifts, 8 - 10 and 10 - noon or set-up and take down. We only need two volunteers for every shift. There is a sign-up sheet in Information Hall. Find us on Facebook! Contacts are Chrissie Bannister and Mary Beth Dobbs.



EfM can prepare us for the specific ministries to which we are called. Education for Ministry (EfM) is a worldwide program developed by the School of Theology of the University of the South, grounded in the belief that every baptized person is called to ministry. Through a small-group setting

that encompasses prayer, study, reflection, and sharing,

The four-year program has curricula that build upon each other as participants study the Old Testament, the New Testament, church history and tradition, and theology. During weekly sessions, participants worship together, discuss what they have studied, and engage in conversation through a method called theological reflection. Theological reflection (TR) is at the heart of EfM; it is a process of looking at an issue through four lenses: Tradition, Culture, Beliefs, and Personal Actions. This discipline enables us to see where God is in their lives, in the world, and how to respond to that. In short, EfM is a transformative program that invites us to grow in relationship with God and to discern how God is calling each of us to serve. Don't you want to share in this, too?

The St. Thomas EfM group will resume our community gatherings on Tuesday evenings in early September. Register by the end of July. There are openings in each year. There is a tuition fee payable to Sewanee; payment plans and financial assistance are available through St. Thomas. Donations to the EfM scholarship fund are also welcome. For more information contact Sally Barnett, 256-651-6545 or Jeanne Randall, 256-348-9918.

Lobsterfest Silent Auction - It isn't too early to begin saving items for the auction. This year we are focusing on baskets, gift certificates, and new items. Now is the time to start building baskets and asking merchants for donations. Smaller baskets seem to sell better I have several baskets and items I have already purchased. Ask me if you would like to use these items. Stop by Information Hall to get ideas for donations. Questions? Call Patty Moy 256-881-8265.



Kid Kits for the Neighborhood Store A major ministry of the Neighborhood Store is Kid Kits. They offer backpacks full of necessary school supplies to parents at a much discounted cost, providing a hand up and not a hand out. To provide this service, they need our help. Please be generous and donate school supplies and back packs so that children can start the new year with all the materials that they need. Collection will be from June 1st to July 15th. Please contact Nell Fisher at nmfisher10016@gmail.com if you have any questions.



We are so excited to finish all the work on Cassandra Stewart's home on Saturday. No matter what you like to do, we have a job for you. We need to clean windows, clean the floors, install a cabinet and countertops, water plants, paint trim, and make sure we have picked up all the stray nails! We expect this to be a half-day job so will be finished by noon with no lunch. Directions: Take the Parkway north to Winchester Road. Turn left on Winchester to Sandia. Turn right on Sandia to Desha. Turn left on Desha to Menifee. Turn right on Menifee to 6312. Hope to see you Saturday morning. Elouisa Stokes 256-604-8669

St. Thomas Summary of Parish Giving

Below are the offerings for the past two Sundays. Year to date (YTD) numbers are also shown. YTD is cumulative over the past Sundays of 2018. Offering is compared to budget. Last column is more or (less) figures.

Sunday	Offering		
	Actual	Budgeted	
24-Jun	\$17,476	\$13,841	\$3,635
01-Jul	\$13,647	\$13,841	(\$194)
YTD	\$368,353	\$359,866	\$8,487

This Week at St. Thomas

Thursday, July 5

4:00 PM Centering Prayer, St. Anne's Chapel
7:00 PM Men's Spirituality Group, Youth Room

Saturday, July 7

8:00 AM Farmers' Market
8:00 AM Habitat for Humanity, 6312 Menifee

Sunday, July 8

8:00 AM Holy Eucharist, Nave

Nursery Available

9:00 AM Breakfast, Local & National Outreach

9:30 AM Christian Formation Classes

Children's Sunday School, Hiers Hall

Youth Sunday School, Youth Room

Centering Prayer, St. Anne's Chapel

Theological Gumbo, Parish Hall, Exploring Education

for Ministry by Sally Barnett

10:30 AM Holy Eucharist, Nave

Nursery Available

Wednesday, July 11

9:30 AM Bible Study, Conference Room

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

Thursday, July 12

4:00 PM Centering Prayer, St. Anne's Chapel

7:00 PM Men's Spirituality Group, Youth Room

WORSHIP TEAM for JULY 8, 2018

Celebrant

The Rev. Paul Pradat

Preacher

The Rev. Katherine Harper

Organist

Melanie Payne

8:00 AM

Eucharistic Ministers Todd Christiansen, Kristi Boyer

Lectors Pat & Al Johnson

Acolyte Alex Steel

Ushers Kay & Dick Strobel

10:30 AM

Eucharistic Ministers Barbara Meyer, Rena Anderson

Lectors Linda Hanson, Robbie Clark

Acolytes Nathan Cantrell, Grayson Brewer, Phoebe Jones, Trent Plank

Ushers Dana Wright-Dempsey, Jocelyn Wright-Dempsey

Vestry on Duty

Patty Moy, David Hattaway

Altar Guild

Ulla Allison, Marcia Steiner, Vicki Bell, Pat & Al Johnson

Flower Guild

Barbie Harwell, Karen MacLeod

Breakfast

Local & National Outreach Committee

St. Thomas Episcopal Church | stthomas@stthomashuntsville.org |

<http://www.stthomashuntsville.org>

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