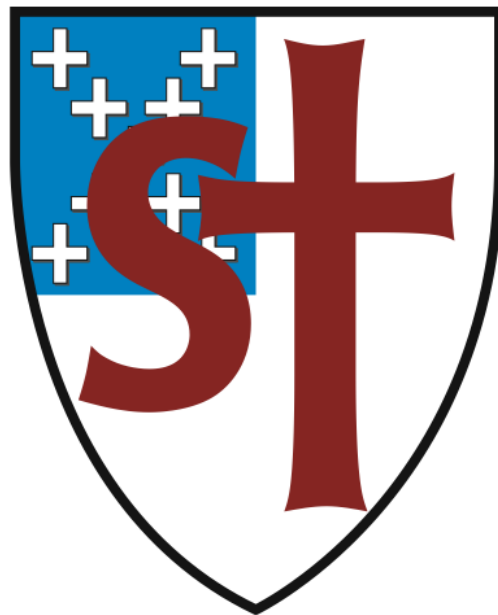


St. Thomas Episcopal Church
Sun Valley, Idaho

Annual Report 2018



ST. THOMAS VISION STATEMENT

It is the continuing vision of the parishioners of St. Thomas Church to establish our church as a community center for diverse activities and programs for children, youth, and adults of all ages—a village church that is a hospitable haven providing comfort, peace, succor, and spiritual inspiration to all. We seek to be a worshipping community that calls all members into deeper levels of communion with Christ and each other and inspires them to go forth to seek and serve Christ in the world.

ST. THOMAS CORE VALUES

Core values are the “Why” of St. Thomas. They are the foundation of both the parish’s missional identity and vision. In response to the Listening Process in 2017, the Vestry adopted the following as the parish’s Core Values:

- ◆ Worship that calls all into deeper communion with God
- ◆ Welcome, inclusion, and ongoing care of one another
- ◆ Community engagement and service
- ◆ Ministry to equip young people for lives of value, faith, and meaning
- ◆ A culture of generosity

St. Thomas Episcopal Church

2018 ANNUAL REPORT

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YEAR IN REVIEW



St. Thomas Episcopal Church
Sun Valley, Idaho

Annual Meeting
January 28, 2018
10:45 a.m.

The meeting was called to order by Father Ken Brannon at 10:45 a.m. in the sanctuary of the church.

Judi Fuller was appointed Clerk for the Annual Meeting.

Jon Thorson, as Senior Warden, was present and will be added to the agenda. No other additions to the agenda were offered from the congregation present.

Rebecca Waycott moved and Laurie Ahern seconded that the minutes from the 2017 Annual Meeting be approved as written. The motion passed.

Father Ken thanked all for coming and referred them to his written report for detailed reports from most ministries and officers of the church. He did, however, highlight the following:

- ♦ Growth in the church, in people, finance, self-understanding, and outreach; self-understanding being enhanced by the work of the Strategic Thinking process which led to clarification of our five core values, six goals for 2018, and the many strategies to reach those goals.
- ♦ Ministry growth:
 - ♦ many additions to the music program,
 - ♦ thanks to all the support ministries, the beauty of our worship services,
 - ♦ Playhouse serving as a major outreach to all ages,
 - ♦ Youth confirmation class culminating in a visit by the Bishop,
 - ♦ quality teachers in the Children's program,
 - ♦ Pastoral Care being broadened and deepened through the Stephen Ministry program, the Eucharistic Visitors, the Shawl Ministry, the Community Urgent Needs Fund, in addition to the Pastoral Care Team,
 - ♦ community outreach to many local organizations who utilize our building,
 - ♦ and the leadership offered by the many ministry leaders, vestry, and wardens.
- ♦ Jon Thorson was appointed for a second year as Senior Warden.
- ♦ David Caldwell, Margie Gould, and Alyson Witmer stepping down from the vestry with many thanks for their service.

Jon Thorson accepted his appointment with pleasure and expressed what a privilege it was for him to serve this past year. His written report is in the Annual Report, but he extended an open invitation to all parishioners for calls and conversations about church matters. He referred to the lines in a frequently used blessing, "be swift to love, and make haste to be kind," which he sees in what the church is doing.

David Caldwell, Junior Warden for the past two years, reviewed the improvements and repairs at both the church and rectory during that time. He offered suggestions that in the coming year we might focus on repair of the Community Labyrinth and discuss improvements to the overflow situation in the narthex.

Ann Scales, Chair of the Nominating Committee (David Caldwell, Margie Gould, Alyson Witmer, Wally Morgus, Art Dahl) presented and moved the slate of nominations as follows:



YEAR IN REVIEW



- ♦ Vestry: Lisa Leach, Brad Musbach, Tim Price. The motion was seconded by Mike Leach. There being no other nominations from the floor, the motion passed by acclamation.
- ♦ Convention Delegates: Judi Fuller, Isaac Brannon, Ashley Musbach, Helen Morgus, Wally Morgus, Art Dahl. The motion was seconded by Jima Rice. There being no other nominations from the floor, the motion passed by acclamation.
- ♦ Convention Alternate Delegates: Bobbie Dahl, Sheila Witmer, Carter Hedberg, Tom Archie. The motion was seconded by Page Klune. There being no other nominations from the floor, the motion passed by acclamation.

Brett Moellenberg, Managing Director of Playhouse,

- * reviewed the past year, the 15th season of Playhouse;
- * reported that, financially, it was the most successful season to date and the contribution made back to the Operating Fund of the church was significant;
- * noted that a great deal of work was done to update and revise the Charter for the Playhouse Committee, thanks to the efforts of Rebecca Waycott, a founding member of the Charter Committee, who will be stepping down in accordance with the terms of the Charter.

Wally Morgus, Treasurer,

- * reported that the parish is thriving due to 1) the generosity of the congregants, 2) the volunteers and staff, and 3) the leadership of the vestry and rector;
- * he congratulated Playhouse for their efforts and noted that St. Thomas is receiving “a big bang for their buck” in the community for the approximately \$14,000 that it costs the church to support and underwrite this outreach program;
- * referred people to review the actual numbers for 2017 and the proposed budget for 2018 in the Annual Report.
- * Wally moved and Art Dahl seconded that the proposed Operating Budget for 2018 be adopted. The motion passed.
- * thanked Roger Gould and the Finance Committee for improving the return on our invested funds, meeting the benchmark for the period of 12.5%.
- * The vestry having moved, with Margie Gould seconding, that the Playhouse proposed budget for 2018 be adopted. The motion passed.

The Rector’s Cross was presented to Norah Bretall for her remarkable service to the church, serving as a devoted Paper Angel, on the Garden Committee, chair and member of the Columbarium Committee, and loyal parishioner for many years.

There being no further business, Fr. Ken asked Joel Bejot to lead all gathered in the Doxology.

Art Dahl moved and Jima Rice seconded that the meeting be adjourned. The motion passed by acclamation and the meeting was adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Judi Fuller, Clerk



2018 IN REVIEW



Rector's Report by the Rev. Kenneth H. Brannon



Every year, in preparation for the Annual Report, I review the last four editions of our newsletter, "The Lift." I am always stunned by the vibrancy of St. Thomas Church, the joy we find in being together, and the diversity of our parish offerings. Over and over I hear seasonal members say, "I may only be here a short time each year, but this is my home church; this is where my heart is." Thank you for the ways that you make St. Thomas Church a living and loving expression of God's presence on earth.

In the pages that follow, you will find detailed information about the mission and ministry of St. Thomas. You will learn about worship and the ways that we are nourishing our hearts and souls (core value one). You will appreciate our commitment to welcome all God's children and care for one another in good times and bad (core value two). You will be amazed at ways that we are reaching out in love into the community (core value three). You will rejoice in the power and presence of children and youth in our midst (core value four). And you will be encouraged by the generosity shown by our members, not only in terms of annual giving, but also in terms of care for the earth, volunteerism, and open-heartedness (core value five).

Of particular note this year:

- ◆ We welcomed Liz Hickey as our new Children's Ministry Coordinator and expanded our Godly Play offerings and children's choirs;
- ◆ Wayne Hedberg Schmidt and Kathleen Bean were ordained to the transitional diaconate in the fall and are now preparing for ordination to the priesthood, probably in the spring;
- ◆ The Rev. M. Jonah Kendall served as visiting priest in July while I led the Idaho deputation to General Convention in Austin;
- ◆ We looked in depth at "The Way of Love" (Turn, Learn, Pray, Worship, Bless, Go, Rest);
- ◆ Stephen Ministries graduated its first class of six Stephen Ministers and began training four more, expanding and deepening our pastoral care offerings;
- ◆ St. Thomas Church and the Wood River Jewish Community wrote a spiritual psalm together with the help of Rabbi Cantor Robbi Sherwin;
- ◆ The Community Labyrinth was repaired and sealed and the Columbarium was expanded;
- ◆ The Annual Giving Campaign was a real success.

It is also worth noting that after almost twelve years as your Rector, I have been named as a finalist for Bishop of Maine, with the election taking place in February. If I am elected, I will leave in the spring and a clergy transition process will begin. If I am not elected, I will continue to serve joyfully and whole-heartedly as your priest until a new call emerges. Thank you for your prayers and support. As I said in a sermon recently, I believe we are continually in the process of being "born again," so that our lives increasingly reflect the goodness and grace of God. I love being transformed by and with you.



Senior Warden Report by Jon Thorson

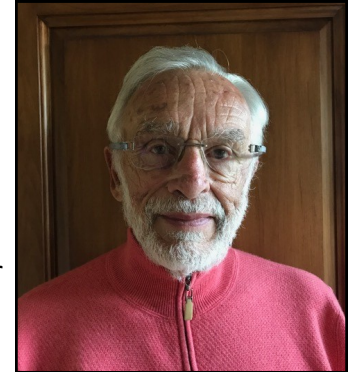
2018 was both busy and tranquil at our St. Thomas. Our building was a warren of activity as well as a place for quiet and reflective worship. We welcomed the delightful, always smiling, Liz Hickey as Sunday School Coordinator, Revs. Kathleen Bean and Wayne Hedberg Schmidt as Transitional Deacons and celebrated Wayne's ordination.

Acting, teaching, music, and learning all thrived. Specifically, Don Liebich's classes were enlightening— felt like I was back in college. Vickrie Cutler, as part of strategic visioning, leads the revival of our legacy program that will benefit both our current members and future congregants— generosity expresses love! Coach Garry Pearson leads us into Souper Bowl II with a well prepared game plan to benefit our community at large.

2019 may see our beloved Fr. Ken move on to be Bishop of Maine. Sad feelings but mitigated by joy in sending him on to extend his mission. Rachel would also be greatly missed not only by us but in the St. Luke's health care community where she serves with distinction.

Finally, not to worry, incoming Sr. Warden Georgia Stewart would provide oversight during the clergy transition process; she is seasoned and will effectively lead us forward!

I have enjoyed serving and learning as Senior Warden. Many thanks for your support.



Junior Warden Report by Brad Musbach

This has been a great first year as Junior Warden. It has been an honor to serve with so many great people, learn more about St. Thomas, develop new relationships, and continue my spiritual journey. We are lucky to have such a great administrative staff working hard to make St. Thomas a special place for our congregation and our community. Judi Fuller has been especially helpful and knowledgeable. She is a vital part of St. Thomas functioning so smoothly from day to day. Some highlights for 2018:

Columbarium: Judi ordered and arranged the installation of 64 new niches. We now have 68 regular niches, 9 large niches, and 11 nameplates available and you are invited to secure your spot in the "Hole in the Wall Gang."

Labyrinth: The committee arranged for the repair and annual maintenance of the Labyrinth. The Labyrinth is open to the entire community for use as individuals or groups.

Defibrillator: The wall-mounted unit has been refreshed and is ready in case of an emergency. Staff and other key members of the congregation attended a training for proper use.

Maintenance Calendar: A calendar is being created for recurring needs of the infrastructure of the Church, Grounds, and Rectory.

Ventilation Housing: The external sheet metal venting needed replacing. This was successfully completed.

Entry Way Carpet: The carpet at both the upper and lower level main entrances was very worn and we replaced it in July 2017 with a little darker durable entry type carpet that appears to be wearing well.

Possibilities for 2019:

Boilers: This could be the year for replacement of the boilers. Funds have been set aside.

Fence: The fence on the east side of the property is in disrepair. We will work with the adjacent property owner for removal and/or replacement.

Fire & Security: A committee has been formed to investigate if and how St. Thomas can better be prepared for fire and/or an act of violence.





2018 IN REVIEW



Treasurer's Report by Wally Morgus

The overall financial condition of St. Thomas Church remains strong. We continue to thrive, borne of three pillars:

- 1) the overwhelming generosity of our congregation and visitors;
- 2) the thoughtful diligence of our volunteers and staff in achieving the goals of our ministries, programs, and administration within the limits of our means; and
- 3) the skillful and caring leadership of our Rector and Vestry.

2018 Financial Performance

Underpinned by the foregoing, the highlights of our 2018 financial performance include:

1. Total Income clicked in at \$717,200 – 103% of budget and topping 2017 results by \$26,300 (+4% year-over-year).
 - Assessable Income – Pledges, Plate Offerings, and Grant(s) – totaled \$699,000 – 103% of budget and surpassing 2017 totals by \$36,300 (+5.5%).
\$20,000 of our Anonymous Grant (~\$44,000 per year) was recognized as Assessable Income to support church operations; this is down from \$27,000 recognized as Assessable Income in 2017. The balance of the 2018 Grant amount was deposited to our Unrestricted Endowment Fund and, as a result, not recognized as Assessable Income in 2018.
 - Non-Assessable Income – Facility Use Fees, Special Offerings, Prior-year Carryover – totaled \$18,200 – 95% of budget.
2. Total Expenses checked in at \$674,700 – 98% of budget and exceeding 2017 totals by \$12,100.
 - Rector Expenses = \$150,400 – 98% of budget; \$11,800 greater than 2017, with the lion's share of the year-over-year increase attributable to the increase in Pension Premium expense (+\$7,100 year-over-year).
 - Payroll & Costs came in at \$192,500 – 91% of budget and less than 2017 levels by \$7,000.
 - Program Expenses – supporting our array of ministries – totaled \$35,500 – 76% of budget and less than 2017 levels by \$7,400.
 - Church Operating Expenses – Utilities, Building & Grounds Services, Bookkeeping, Advertising, etc. – totaled \$131,000 – 104% of budget and up over 2017 levels by \$6,800.
 - Rectory Operating Expenses added up to \$12,600 – 92% of budget and less than 2017 levels by \$2,700. We enjoyed a nice savings versus budget in 2018 in Snow Removal and Repairs & Maintenance expenses.
 - Ministries Outside the Congregation Expenses – Diocesan Assessment, Millennium Development Goals Assessment, Special Offerings – totaled \$152,700 – 103% of budget and exceeding 2017 levels by \$5,000. The Diocesan Assessment was \$150,600...~21.5% of Assessable Income.
3. St. Thomas Playhouse (STP):
 - Income totaled \$204,900 – 91% of budget and short of 2017 levels by \$31,600 (-13%).
 - Expenses totaled \$249,000 – 109% of budget and less than 2017 sums by \$16,300.
 - The Net Deficit of \$44,100 was accounted for as part of our Ministries Outside the Congregation Expenses (see above); the STP Net Deficit in 2018 was ~\$3,500 greater than the STP Net Deficit in 2017.
4. The Net Surplus from Operations, including St. Thomas Church and Playhouse, totaled \$1,150 – about \$55 higher than 2017.



2018 IN REVIEW



Investment Committee by Roger Gould

The year 2018 for the stock market could be best classified as brutal. The markets experienced their biggest annual loss in over ten years. The Dow Jones Industrial Average declined 5.6%, the S&P 500 was down 6.2%, and the Russell 2000 (a measure of small company stocks) was down 12%. All averages declined significantly from their highs in 2018 during the fourth quarter with the Russell 2000 down 22% from its high in August. Most analysts consider it a bear market at this level.

The St Thomas Endowment was not immune from this market volatility. Total Endowment assets ended the year at \$452,074, a decline of \$36,214 from January 1, 2018. Total return performance was -8.5% for the quarter and -7.3% for the year.

The impact on total return was due primarily to our exposure to Energy, Small cap positions, and the Fixed Income portfolio (due to rising interest rates). Energy was down -20%, Small cap down -12%, and the Fixed Income portfolio down -2%. Not a lot of places to hide in the fourth quarter 2018 as the decline was broad based.

Asset Allocation is within our Investment Policy and is broadly diversified by style and sector. The Endowment has a conservative policy of 60% Equities and 40% Fixed Income. International Equity exposure amounts to 23% of our equities. The portfolio is managed by Clear Rock Capital with policy direction from the Investment Committee.

The Operating Reserve and Unrestricted Endowment accounts ended the year at \$486,738 and are invested in very short fixed income products with a maturity of less than one year. Total return was 1.05% for the year.

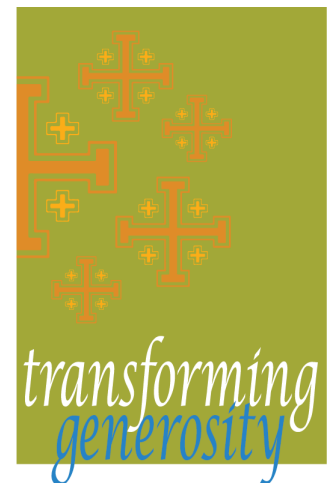
Annual Giving Campaign by John Ashton, Chair, Stewardship Committee

The theme of this year's Stewardship Campaign was "Transforming Generosity". Most of our members participated and hence will experience the transformative joy that comes from donating to a wonderful cause that does so much good in our lives and in our community. Your generosity also transforms our Church because it enables St. Thomas to continue and expand its mission. Thank you for transforming St. Thomas and being transformed!

As of the date of this report we have raised \$516,278 in pledges which assures that we will be able to comfortably continue all our activities in 2019. In terms of donors, 183 families and individuals have made pledges for 2019 which compares very favorably with the 179 families and individuals which pledged last year. Of the 185 who contributed 84 remained the same as last year, 49 increased their pledge and 27 decreased their pledge. We had 24 new donors.

Our Committee this year consisted of Laurie Ahern, Lynn Campion, Christine Kraatz, Josh Pate, Thomas Benson, Patience Ziebarth, Vickrie Cutler (Vestry representative) and me, with Judi Fuller's providing her customary invaluable administrative assistance and our Rector providing his vision, leadership and encouragement. This proved to be a very successful team and I am sure the Congregation is most appreciative of their efforts. Special thanks to Laurie and Josh for their wonderful remarks on stewardship at services during the Campaign.

This year was my second (and for the foreseeable future, last) term as Chair of the Committee. The job has been rewarding and, truth be told, actually pretty easy. There are several reasons for this. Foremost is the fact that our congregation is a very generous bunch of people. All the Committee has to do is ask (and occasionally remind) and our members enthusiastically respond. Secondly, we have a wonderful church community that people feel strongly connected to and want to support. We have a good product! Last but not least, people in the Church willingly volunteer to serve on the Stewardship Committee, and Judi Fuller does all the administrative and bookkeeping work!





2018 IN REVIEW



Parish Register

MARRIAGES

February 10, 2018	Phoebe Virginia Welsh and Stephen Phillips Kisgen
February 17, 2018	Taylor Catherine Sexton and Bradley Steven Fair
February 24, 2018	Whitney Hayes Bren and Peter Joseph Hughes
July 7, 2018	Lindsay Ann Hatzenbuehler and Nathaniel Edward Cameron
August 3, 2018	Kasey Nicole Burden and Peter Whitney Atkinson
August 19, 2018	Tara Mehen Gillespie and Nicholas Robbins Ziebarth
September 8, 2018	Jessica Morgan Traver and Adam Robert Ingram
October 6, 2018	Adele Elizabeth Walter and Liston Hutcheson Conrad

BAPTISMS

March 31, 2018	Galen Lee Hanselman	Adult
March 31, 2018	Nicole Shea Kanowsky	Born: July 16, 2003
March 31, 2018	Tracey Kanowsky	Adult
May 20, 2018	Ava Elise Smith	Born: August 3, 2005
May 20, 2018	William Jay Smith	Born: February 22, 2008
May 20, 2018	James Henry Smith	Born: March 5, 2010
May 20, 2018	John Preston Smith	Born: September 3, 2011
May 20, 2018	Sophie Reese Kanowsky	Born: December 10, 2010
July 1, 2018	Bryce William Holle	Born: May 24, 2018
September 30, 2018	Jack Finnegan Strong	Born: May 3, 2018
November 4, 2018	Marlo Isabella Nieves	Born: May 15, 2017
December 30, 2018	Coco Angeline Campbell	Born: December 27, 2007

CONFIRMATIONS, RECEPTION, REAFFIRMATIONS

May 20, 2018	Brandley Gene Musbach	Confirmed
May 20, 2018	Isabella Marie Grossman	Confirmed
May 20, 2018	Nicole Shea Kanowsky	Confirmed
May 20, 2018	Logan Jane Lindstrom	Confirmed
May 20, 2018	Isabella Julia Ann Murtua	Confirmed
May 20, 2018	Julia Lucille Ott	Confirmed

BURIALS/MEMORIAL SERVICES

May 18, 2018	Marian Lee Davies French	Departed: March 30, 2018
July 22, 2018	Philip Alfred Willingham	Departed: December 18, 2017
July 28, 2018	Derry Ann Moritz	Departed: September 6, 2017
August 4, 2018	Calvin Charles Butler	Departed: May 7, 2018
August 29, 2018	Antonia Hunter Breck	Departed: February 21, 2018
October 13, 2018	Joe Esler Crosson, Jr.	Departed: September 15, 2018
December 31, 2018	Grace "Bubs" Newell	Departed: December 3, 2018



FINANCIAL REPORTS



Fund Balances - as of December 31, 2018

Operating	120,070.01	Memorials	4915.46
Assistant Clergy	6,850.32	Ministry Training	4,121.63
Barry Keller Fund	643.67	Organ	5,533.02
Capital Fund	260,164.77	Property, Buildings, & grounds	2,625,732.00
Children's Ministry Development	62.82	Rector's Continuing Education	3,581.75
Columbarium	18,498.01	Sabbatical Fund	9,924.33
Community Urgent Needs	23,089.40	Shawl Ministry Fund	849.00
Designated Flower Fund	1,686.67	Speaker's Fund	468.02
Designated Gifts	6,441.81	Staff Training Fund	2,077.60
Endowment (total)	628,891.73	Thank Offering Fund	5,227.41
Families	837.48	The Bilkey Memorial Fund	616.49
Haiti (total)	1,265.00	The St. Thomas Playhouse Fund	-31,445.25
Labyrinth	4,053.34	Youth Ministry Development	20,603.17
Library/Bookstore	653.26	TOTAL	3,725,414.92

St. Thomas Playhouse - Profit & Loss Comparison

	2018 Actuals	2019 Budget
<u>INCOME</u>		
Administration	27,230	25,000
Children's Tour	5,582	6,000
Company B	41,126	45,300
Company B 2	44,268	41,600
Company B—Winterized	5,852	5,550
Family Main Stage	22,835	23,700
Girlfriends' Lunch	16,598	20,625
SPACC	32,886	41,000
Summer Theater Project	8,555	8,050
TOTAL INCOME	204,930	216,825
<u>EXPENSES</u>		
Administrative	95,786	99,300
Children's Tour	5,741	5,915
Company B	33,395	30,800
Company B 2	23,502	25,385
Company B—Winterized	3,500	3,725
Family Main Stage	27,259	27,025
Girlfriends' Lunch	11,565	9,350
SPACC	33,539	37,300
Summer Theater Project	14,734	13,430
TOTAL EXPENSES	249,021	252,230
NET INCOME/LOSS	-44,091	-35,405



FINANCIAL REPORTS



St. Thomas Operating Fund Profit & Loss Comparison

	2018 Budget	Actual 2018	Proposed 2019
Income			
4000—Assessable Income			
4001—Plate Offerings	60,000	73,269	70,000
4003—Pledge Offerings	505,000	479,147	515,000
4006—Interest earned	0	0	0
Endowment Contribution ¹	13,130	13,646	13,917
Transferred from Funds	0	0	0
4020—Unpledged Grant	85,000	113,936	95,000
4527—Anonymous Grant ²	20,000	20,000	20,000
4026 - Merchant Fees on Pledges	-6,000	-1,021	0
Facility Use (assessable portion)	0	0	1,000
TOTAL 4000—Assessable Income	677,130	698,977	715,917
4500—Non-Assessable Income			
4505 - Prior Year Carryover	1,094	1,094	1,150
4520—Event Income	1,500	430	500
4521—Community Use of Facility	15,000	13,812	14,000
4525—Special Offerings	1,500	2,067	1,500
4528—Misc. Income	0	800	0
Transfer from Funds (Outreach)	0	0	5,000
TOTAL 4500—Non-Assessable Income	19,094	18,203	22,150
TOTAL 4700—STP Income	224,725	204,930	216,825
Other Income	0	2,774	0
TOTAL INCOME	920,949	924,884	954,892
Expenses			
5010—Clergy Expenses			
Cash compensation (stipend, health/dental and Social Security reimbursements)	104,755	105,782	107,539
Clergy benefits (pension, professional expenses, equity allowance)	39,353	44,624	40,361
TOTAL 5010—Clergy Expense	144,108	150,406	147,900
TOTAL 5020—Assistant Clergy Expense	(see #5069)	0	0
5030—Staff Compensation			
5031—Base Pay	198,161	151,871	193,762
5043—FICA & Medicare	15,159	11,618	14,823
5044—Staff Pensions	17,835	13,346	16,147
5045—Staff Medical Insurance	30,145	15,678	28,683
TOTAL 5030—Staff Compensation	261,300	192,513	253,415
5050—Program Expenses			
5052—Altar Supplies	1,500	2,817	2,000
5053—Nursery Care	1,500	1,192	1,250
5054—Children's Christian Education	2,000	2,923	2,300
5057—Hospitality & Fellowship	3,500	4,329	4,000
5059—Music Supplies/Choir	4,085	4,086	4,565
5059a—Sunday School Coordinator	15,000	6,165	0
5060—New Member Ministry	500	0	500
5062—Green Team	250	248	250
5063—Pastoral Care	500	-100	250
5064- Stephen Ministry	1,500	766	750
5066—Family Ministries	500	280	750
5067—Supply Organist/Pianist	2,300	2,064	2,000
5069—Visiting Clergy	5,000	3,911	1,000
5070—Staff/Volunteer Training	1,500	1,500	1,500
5071—Special Events	500	365	500
5074—Vestry	2,500	1,580	1,500
5075—Stewardship	100	115	250
5076—Youth Christian Education	2,970	2,734	2,500
5077—Adult Christian Ed.	500	500	1,500
5078—A.A.C.T.	500	0	0
TOTAL 5050-Program Expenses	46,705	35,475	27,365



FINANCIAL REPORTS



St. Thomas Operating Fund Profit & Loss Comparison *(continued from previous page)*

	2018 Budget	Actual 2018	Proposed 2019
5080—Church Operating Expense			
5034—Database/Bookkeeping	14,400	14,400	15,500
5041—Cleaning Staff	24,000	20,780	3,000
5051—Advertising	2,000	2,462	2,500
5055—Convention Delegates	1,250	855	1,000
5064—Professional Acct. & Audit	1,800	1,800	1,800
5068—Subscriptions	500	400	500
5082—Cleaning Supplies	2,500	2,025	2,000
5083—Computer/Copier	9,000	12,431	9,000
5084—Insurance	10,000	13,147	12,000
5085—Lawn Care	4,000	4,993	2,000
5086—Office Supplies	3,500	3,545	3,500
5087—Repairs & Maintenance	19,000	20,928	19,000
5089—Telephone/Internet	4,500	4,717	4,500
5090—Utilities/Garbage Removal	18,500	15,647	16,000
5092—Website	500	477	750
5094—Snow Removal	5,500	3,960	4,000
5096—Bank & Merchant Charges	2,000	4,908	6,000
5097—Postage	2,800	3,002	3,000
6517—Flowers/Gifts	250	316	500
TOTAL 5080—Church Operating Exp.	126,000	130,793	106,550
5090—Misc. Expenses	0	0	0
6000—Rectory Expenses			
6002—Lawn Care	2,500	3,433	1,000
6002b—Snow Removal	2,000	644	1,000
6003—Misc.	700	674	700
6004—Repairs & Maintenance	2,500	961	1,250
6006—Utilities	6,000	7,099	6,000
TOTAL 6000—Rectory Operating Exp.	13,700	12,811	9,950
6510—Ministry Outside Congregation			
6511—Diocesan Assessment	141,202	145,758	150,343
6515—Rector's Discretionary Outreach	500	0	500
6516—Special Offering	1,500	2,067	1,500
6523—MDG	4,740	4,890	5,011
TOTAL 6510—Ministry Outside Cong.	147,942	152,715	157,354
7000—STP Expenses	179,535	249,021	252,230
TOTAL EXPENSE	919,290	923,734	954,764
NET INCOME	1,659	1,150	128

¹The Spending Policy for St. Thomas Endowment Fund authorizes an annual distribution of monies from the Fund equal three percent (3.0%) of the most-recent three-year moving average of the market value of the Fund as calculated as of December 31 each year. Monies so determined (the "Annual Distribution") may be transferred, in whole or in part, to the Operating Account(s) of St. Thomas Church for any purpose as approved by the Vestry. From time-to-time, the Vestry may determine that any or all of the Annual Distribution is not required for operating purposes and, therefore, is not to be transferred to the Operating Account(s) (the "Non-Transferred Annual Distribution"). Any such Non-Transferred Annual Distribution shall be reinvested in the Fund.

² The Anonymous Grant (Line 4527) is a gift we receive each summer in the amount of \$40,000-50,000. This annual donation is part of a twenty-year, one million dollar gift begun in 2009. There are no restrictions on the use of this money, although the vestry prefers to place it in long-term funds when possible. 2019 will be the 11th year of this grant.



MINISTRIES, PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES



Altar Guild by Mary Malkmus

It is the job of the Altar Guild members to attend to all the “behind-the-scenes” tasks that make all church services run smoothly, thus providing a meaningful worship experience for all. We are the priest’s liturgical partner. We work in pairs, preparing the Altar for all Services, Baptisms and Weddings. It is usually a once a month or month and a half commitment. Times can be changed or traded to accommodate our busy schedules.

We have a wonderful Team of dedicated volunteers. Thank you all: Betsy Ashton, Beverly Boas, Lynne Campion-Waddell, Catherine Carley, Vickrie Cutler, Lise Holt, Sue Phillips, Barbara Shelton, Mary Ann Syms, Chris Vik, and Patience Ziebarth. We will miss the help of Sue Phillips and Judy Harrison.

We are always looking for new members to join us in this meaningful work. If this kind of service to St. Thomas appeals to you, please contact Fr. Ken or Mary Malkmus at 622-3949.

Book Group by Laurie Ahern

The St. Thomas Book Club is thriving! Our numbers are growing with curious, thoughtful women. Meeting monthly, September through June, beginning at 1:30 p.m., we read a combination of fiction and non-fiction. Members bring ideas of books to read and then leaders step forward to learn about the author and lead the discussion. We have begun a new format this year, occasionally having two leaders instead of one, which often leads to a more in-depth conversation. December always brings our cookie exchange: bring 3 dozen and leave with a different three dozen.

Our selections for the first half of 20-19 are:

1/14: “Little Fires Everywhere” by Celeste Ng

2/11: “Little Soldiers” by Leonora Chu

3/11: “Angry Women Eating Bonbons” by Lorna Landvik

4/8: TBD

5/13: “Educated” by Tara Westover

6/10: “The Girl with Seven Names” by Hyeonseo Lee

All are welcome! Please contact Laurie Ahern for any questions: lahern1681@gmail.com or 208-622-3939

Acolyte Ministry by Mardi Shepard

As acolyte scheduler and trainer for the past 3 years, I would like to give a huge round of applause to the many parishioners who are serving in this very important ministry. Their commitment and enthusiasm demonstrates the true community spirit that St. Thomas strives for. My thanks go to Holden Archie, Heather Black, Ragna Caron, Doug and Dydy Cleven, Carter Hedberg, Bob Kesting, Mike Leach, Mary Malkmus, Helen Morgus, Ann Scales, Wayne Schmidt, Mary Ann and Chris Syms, and Phebe Thorne. All of you serve faithfully and continue to be there at any time to make sure the calendar is covered. My thanks to each and every one of you.

We serve as acolytes during regular Sunday services at 8:00 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. We also serve at Evensong, holy day services, funerals, and memorial services.

This past November, Father Brannon and I hosted a youth acolyte training at St. Thomas. At that time, we welcomed four new youth members to the “Fire and Bell Gang.” Ida Belle Gorby, Carter Hickey, Theo Thomason, and Lilly Whitesell have joined our ministry with great enthusiasm and passion. All four youth acolytes served at Christmas Eve services.

Father Brannon and I always encourage new members to consider this most important ministry. If you feel that you can commit to one Sunday a month to serve at God’s table, this could be your opportunity to give of yourself to a ministry that is so rewarding. I hope that all members of the congregation will consider this opportunity. Never too young, never too old!!! You may contact me at mardi.shepard@gmail.com or 208-720-7631, or call the parish office at 208-726-5349.”



MINISTRIES, PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES



Community Labyrinth by Georgia Stewart

The Community Labyrinth, located on the upper patio at St. Thomas, was repaired and repainted during the summer of 2018. Contributions from members of the community made it possible not only to pay for this restoration but also to establish a small fund for maintenance in future years.

A Labyrinth Committee is being formed with members from St. Thomas as well as members of the community who have shown interest. It is expected that we will be able to host a series of labyrinth walks when warm weather returns in 2019. In the meantime, the labyrinth is available to anyone who wishes to walk it at any time, weather permitting.



Columbarium by Sally Horn

The committee, comprised of Beverly Boas, Sally Horn, Heather Black, Gretchen Boe, and Father Ken, administers the maintenance and use of the Columbarium and recommends policy to the vestry. Our committee meets twice a year, in June and October. Members serve a three year term. Retiring from the committee this year was Carol Karner who has served as secretary during her three year term.

As of December 31, 2018, the balance in the Columbarium Fund was \$18,498.01. An additional unit of 64 niches was ordered and has been installed. 68 niches are now available for \$1,000 each and 9 niches for larger urns may be purchased for \$2,000. 11 names plates for the Memorial Board are currently available for \$300 each. When the name plates are filled, the committee will install an additional Memorial Board which as already been purchased. Once a Columbarium space has been reserved and purchased, there is no additional expense or annual maintenance fees.

The date for this years "Hole in the Wall" celebration of life party for those who currently have purchased niches or nameplates, will be hosted by Heather Black on July 29, 2019 at 6 p.m.

Please visit the columbarium which currently is being maintained beautifully and seasonally by Beverly Boas. All members of the Committee are available to review the process for reservations or to answer any questions.

Adult Education Committee by Don Liebich, Chair

The 2018 Adult Education program began with a number of sessions coordinated with the Sun Valley Center for the Arts Big Idea Project entitled "This Land is Whose Land" which focused on immigration and refugees. As part of this series we had a forum conversation with the Wood River Jewish Community on the "Diary of Anne Frank." Asmaa Albukaie, a Syrian American woman, shared her travel journey to the United States, reflected on life in Syria, and described her experiences living in Idaho. St. Thomas Forum had a two-part series entitled "Give Me Your Tired and Poor" in which we examined U.S. immigration policy: current status, policy choices and ethical issues. We also had a session in which we discussed what we learned from considering the theme of "This Land is Whose Land" and how we are called to act in response.

Other programs included three sessions on the experience of pilgrimage. Rev. Bill Harper led a session on Travel: Pilgrim or Tourist; Brenda Powell discussed her pilgrimage on the Camino de Santiago and Devra Mary discussed her pilgrimage to Kumano Codo in Japan. During the summer, we were fortunate to have Irwin Sentilles return to lead a series of lectures on "First Century Views of Jesus." We also had a class on "Was America Founded as a Christian Nation?"

We are looking forward to another series of interesting, thought provoking and spiritually enhancing programs. Jima Rice and Don Liebich have been coordinating this ministry. If you are interested in participating or have suggestions for future topics, please contact either one.



MINISTRIES, PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES



Eucharistic Visitors

by Bobbie Dahl

Each Sunday a Eucharistic Visitor takes Holy Communion to those homebound parishioners of St. Thomas who wish to receive the Sacrament.

Members of the Eucharistic Visitor Team include Father Ken, Bobbie Dahl, Connie Hoffman, Pat Jorgensen, Georgia Stewart and Maryanne Whitcomb. They have been trained and certified by Father Ken. During our quarterly meetings, they also discuss and fine tune the process.

On the first Sunday of each month, the little black Home Communion box is placed on the altar. After the church Communion, Father Ken invites all Eucharistic Visitors present that day to come forward for a prayer and blessing.



Garden & Grounds

by Kaye Kearns

The gardens of St. Thomas church and rectory came to a beautiful maturity in 2018! After all the restructuring of the plant material in both gardens over the past few years, the new shrubs, plants, and ground covers have filled in and created a tapestry of color, texture, and detail. One of the rewards of this is that the weeds and overcrowding are diminished and the maintenance reduced. However, we still need all the volunteers and labor assistance we can get to keep the gardens looking beautiful and healthy! We added a new bed on the west side of the rectory and installed a retaining board and French drain along with some additional ground cover plants. It is adding a lot of interest to the front of the house!

Many thanks to our wonderful crew of volunteers who have been incredible in giving their time and skill to keep the beds looking their best! They are: Betsy Ashton, Margie Gould, Sally Horn, Page Klune, Mary Malkmus, Helen Morgus, Mardi Shepard, Lynn Whittlesey, and Sheila Witmer. You are so appreciated.

Flower Guild

by Betsy Ashton

The St Thomas Flower Guild is responsible for the 2 altar arrangements every Sunday and decorating the church for Christmas and Easter. We obtain the flowers from various sources in and around Ketchum. In the summer months, we try to use flowers from local gardens, not only to save money but it seems more appropriate with all the lovely gardens at our disposal.

The Flower Fund pays for all flowers and materials. It is supported by generous donations. We welcome memorials and dedications for weekly flowers and donors will be mentioned in the Sunday bulletin.

We have talented and dedicated members that work in pairs or alone and have a willingness to enhance our Sunday service. Please think about joining us!

Green Team

by Mary Malkmus

The Green Team is a St. Thomas ministry that endeavors to advocate, educate and articulate protection of the environment. The Team intends to develop ministries and projects that are faithful and effective in promoting environmental stewardship and the sanctity of creation.

This year we celebrated Earth Sunday with special songs and prayers. In Adult Education we showed the film "Saving Snow" which dealt with how ski towns and the snow sport industry are paving the way towards a clean energy future. The children reflected on "what I love about the earth". We held two successful highway clean-ups with our friends from Emmanuel Episcopal Church in Hailey. We also had two "Bike/Bus/Walk/Carpool to Church Days". This summer we offered sturdy cloth shopping bags to the congregation. They sold out quickly. Let us know if we should order more!!! During the month of September, we again celebrated Creation, along with people of faith around the world. Each Sunday we offered prayers of thanks for God's gift of creation and for the courage to be good environmental stewards. The film "An Inconvenient Sequel: Truth to Power" was shown.

Many thanks to the faithful members of this Ministry: Linda Bergerson, Red Bloedel, Susie King, Marylyn Pauley, and Patty Sloan.....and welcome Pat Davies and Debbie Mahan, and Molly!Goodyear!! We try to meet once a month...for only 1 hour! Come join the fun!! Call Mary Malkmus at 622-3949.



Haiti Relief Team by Doug and Dydy Cleven

“What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God.” *Micah 6:8*

Father Joseph Constant, dear friend and founder of HMP points to the work of the Holy Spirit everywhere. Some places where it was deeply felt:

- * HaRT Sunday: on May 6th, we celebrated an 8th year of partnership between St. Thomas Church and the Haiti Micah Project.
- * Sponsorships: In 2018 we had a total of 42 participants in our child sponsorship program with our 9 new sponsors continuing. We raised \$14,390 for child sponsorships and sent another \$1,400 that was left over from last years Relief Fund in June, totaling \$15,790. Then in August we sent another \$1,400 for Education, \$1,600 for child sponsorships, and \$100 from the Relief Fund equaling another \$3,100. The total donation was \$18,890. HaRT EXTENDS OUR WARMEST AND DEEPEST THANKS TO ALL ST. THOMAS SPONSORS.
- * Then a very BIG THANK YOU goes out to Sophie Craighead for her generous donation of \$20,000 for the Kai Sophie Vocational Center for Education.
- * Progress: We got to see first-hand and helped serve at the feeding program in Mirebalais which now serves up to 500 children a day. We got to see the new kitchen and dining room, which St. Thomas parishioners help to fund, that now allows for the safe preparation and serving. The Vocational Training Center is up and running with a new administrator, giving needed skills to the up and coming adults who have aged out of the school. Many of the original children we began sponsoring in 2010 are now adults!
- * Our team worked to collect toothbrushes, toothpaste, floss, mouthwash, and chapstick donated from local dentists in Ketchum and Hailey. Along with what Father Joseph brought from his church we passed out over 600 of these to the children of Mirebalais during our trip there.
- * In April of 2018, Doug and Dydy Cleven and Art Dahl went to Mirebalais to see what all our donations help with. We saw the SAES home where 29 children are cared for by staff. Your sponsorships help with school clothes and books, provide a safe place to live and eat, and some basic health care. We also visited the Vocational Center and the feeding program run out of the Vocational Center. We enjoyed visiting and connecting the children and staff. They were all so loving, kind and grateful to us. We took many pictures of our adventures. A great time was had by all!



Come and See the adventures of the coming Year of 2019!

All are invited to sponsor a child and/or to join in the work of HaRT. For more information, please contact Doug or Dydy Cleven.

<i>dydycleven@hotmail.com</i>	<i>(208) 720-6219 (Dydy)</i>
<i>d_cleven@hotmail.com</i>	<i>(208) 720-8219 (Doug)</i>



MINISTRIES, PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES



Hospitality Committee by Ragna Caron

The Hospitality Committee year, 2018, started off with the Annual Brunch at the end of January. A hungry congregation made the food disappear fast to the delight of all the helpful cooks and volunteers.

We celebrated the Bishop's visit at Pentecost with a fancy coffee hour and cupcakes. The red cupcakes were made by Sara Gorbey and the Youth group.

The Annual Picnic on August 18th at Sheila Witmer's home, was a delightful event for young and old with an abundance of scrumptious food and desserts and games for everyone.

On October 8th, our parishioner, Wayne Hedberg Schmidt was ordained. This joyous event was followed by a fancy spread of finger-food and cookies organized by the Hospitality Committee.

In October St. Thomas hosted the Diocesan meetings and our committee provided coffee break treats for them.

Following the "Lessons & Carols" service in Advent, we partnered with the Playhouse in providing a reception.

A heartfelt thank you to all the members of the committee, and especially to parting members, Beverly Boas and Sheila Witmer.

Lector Ministry by Claudia McCain

How wonderful it is that 37 members of our church family have been through training to act as lectors for our church services!

Led by Father Ken, these individuals spend about two hours once every three years to learn about reading the Lessons and Prayers of the People. Their training includes learning about the books of the Bible from which the readings are derived, the Lectionaries, the service Tracks, the specific ways to begin and end a scripture reading, as well as practicing readings.

As I always remind the Lectors during training, what a beautiful gift it is that we have the opportunity to share the word of God through the teachings of Jesus and the Apostles with our church family.

We are blessed that so many of our friends volunteer to share their hearts and talent through their reading with our congregation.



← Wagon Days



↑ Sunday School baking



Teen Lock-In →



← Exploring the labyrinth and Columbarium



Nursery action! ↑

← Easter greeters



Music Ministry by Joel Bejot

Organist:

In 2018, I played for 77 Eucharistic services (including weddings and funerals), and 29 other services. I practice regularly, and attempt to balance supporting congregational singing with creative hymn accompaniments, as well as to offer one recital per year, which I gave on November 4.

Music Director:

Over the course of each service, an average of 16 musicians have sung or played with us. This is about 10% of the congregation, which is a great place to be. Are you the next musician at St. Thomas?

Choirs:

Parish Choir:

We have done great work this year! In addition to singing hymns and anthems nearly every week, the choir does extra work over the holidays. I am always happy to meet and encourage new singers, and we have encouraged a few returning members recently.

RSCM Choirs:

We have had a great year so far with two groups of kids, divided by age. We use the RSCM "Voice for Life" curriculum. These kids learn so much, and have so much to offer the church and the community.

Evensong Choir:

We offer evensong on the 3rd or 4th Sunday of the month at 5:30 April – December. Our little choir worked on a lot of great music. Four different priests and lay-people officiated at the services on a rotating basis.

Other Services:

Sacred Space:

In January, we resumed a new service entitled "Sacred Space" led by a few singers and myself. The service was characterized by Bible readings, poetry, lectio divina group homilies, and less formal music.

Taizé:

Last year, a few singers and myself helped lead each Taizé service, which added a lovely layer to the music. In December, the service resumed with some returning singers.

There's More!

Handbell Choir:

We still have a set of Malmark Handbells borrowed from St. Michael's Cathedral in Boise. We have 7 ringers that meet on a regular basis, and they ring in church about once a month.

Concert Series:

I produced "Wintereisse" in February, my own organ recital in November, and had two screenings of "Sacred Sound."

Thomas Playhouse:

I supported a couple of the numbers at the Girlfriend Lunch. For Company B, I was the Music Director, and, for the fall show, I played and adapted the synth part with the small orchestra.

Other:

In February, we produced a talent show for Shrove Tuesday.

In June, I attended the RSCM Training Camp in Portland, OR. An amazing experience.

In August, I worked with Rabbi Robbi and Fr. Ken on writing a new song with our congregations.

In November, I taught a hymn workshop.

Thank you all very much for the opportunity to live and work here. It has been a wonderful year, and I thank you for all your support for my family and me.



MINISTRIES, PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES



Pastoral Care Team by Maryanne Whitcomb

The Pastoral Care Team continued its traditional role in 2018 of offering support and comfort for those in need within the St. Thomas family. Under the direct leadership and guidance of Father Ken, the Team members meet on the fourth Tuesday of every month. Members currently are: Jeanne Cassell, Connie Hoffman, Pat Jorgensen, Marcia Liebich, Marylyn Pauley, Patty Sloan, and Maryanne Whitcomb. The various needs of the parish are brought to the teams' attention either when a St. Thomas member directly requests care in some fashion, or when Father Ken is made aware of a need.

Members' needs can vary greatly, but might include an illness or hospitalization, grieving a loss, challenges of aging, or facing some distress in their own lives or those of a family member. The types of care range from phone calls, notes or cards of encouragement, performing helpful simple errands, preparing and delivering occasional meals, or brief home visits to comfort. However, the primary action of the Pastoral Care Team is that of prayer, and the maintenance of the parish prayer list. One member of the Team volunteers to pray the parish prayer list, in its entirety, each of the seven days of each week. The team also conducts a quarterly phone call review of the list – to assure that it is up to date and accurate.

Anyone wishing to add themselves, or a friend or family member, to the prayer list may do so at any time in the year by filling out a brief Prayer Request Form that can be obtained from Judi Fuller in the church office. Further, anyone interested in exploring whether their own spiritual gifts might lend themselves well to serving on the Pastoral Care Team is encouraged to speak further with Father Ken.

Stephen Ministry by Maryanne Whitcomb

MISSION: To train and supervise lay caregivers to provide Christian care to those hurting, troubled or in need of other kinds

VISION: We serve as Christ to one another by offering quality on-going weekly care to members of St. Thomas Church, and potentially, others in need in our community.

BACKGROUND: in January of 2017, Father Ken, accompanied by Marcia Liebich, Helen Morgus, and Maryanne Whitcomb, attended a week of Stephen Minister Leadership training in Anaheim, California. They returned equipped to teach the 50 hours of training required to become a Stephen Minister. Attending that first class in late 2017 were Don Liebich, Sabrina Roblin, Georgia Stewart, and Rebecca Waycott. All four, plus Marcia Liebich and Maryanne Whitcomb, were commissioned to serve as Stephen Ministers at a special ceremony at St. Thomas in April of 2018.

All six, since then, have been carefully and confidentially matched, by Father Ken, with a care receiver. The six continue to give care and are meeting twice a month with the other Stephen Leaders to offer progress reports, to receive supportive supervision, and to participate together in continuing education.

LOOKING FORWARD: The Stephen Leader team has begun training a second group of Stephen Ministers this Fall. Meeting every Monday to receive the 50 hours of training, under the leadership of Helen Morgus and assisted by the other Stephen Leaders, are: Art Dahl, Margie Gould, Wayne Hedberg Schmidt, and Alyson Witmer. A commissioning is planned for April 7, 2019, after which Art, Margie and Alyson will be matched by Father Ken with care receivers within St. Thomas, and Wayne will carry the training into the work that comes forth in his future ministry.

LONG TERM: It is hoped that a class of Stephen Ministers will be trained at St. Thomas annually, and that others will be able to attend Regional Leadership Training to assist in future trainings, peer supervision, and continuing education. Those interested in learning more are encouraged to speak with Father Ken, or one of the other Stephen Leaders.



MINISTRIES, PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES



Taizé by Georgia Stewart



The weekly Taizé services held at St. Thomas during the winter months began in Advent of 2017, and continued in 2018 until the beginning of Lent. These beautiful candlelight services of song, silence, and prayer were conducted on Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m. in the nave. Once again, there was larger attendance than the previous year and increased participation from the interfaith community of the Valley.

The contemplative prayer form that has become known as “Taizé Prayer” takes its name from the Taizé community of France—an ecumenical Christian monastic fraternity in Burgundy--founded in the early 1940’s by Brother Roger. For more than 60 years, until his death in 2005, Brother Roger worked tirelessly to open ways to heal the divisions between Christians and among people in general. The Taizé community is made up of more than 100 brothers from Catholic, Protestant, and Orthodox backgrounds who come from about 30 countries. It has become one of the world’s most important sites of Christian pilgrimage, with a focus on youth. Every year thousands of young adults from every continent go to Taizé for prayer, Bible study, sharing, and communal work. They are encouraged to live in the spirit of kindness, simplicity, and reconciliation.

The St. Thomas service is crafted around the worship style of Taizé, it includes music from the Taizé community as well as other music in the style of Taizé. It incorporates two distinguishing marks of Taizé-like worship: repetition and silence.

Shawl Committee by Pat Jorgensen

Our first shawl was completed and delivered to Marc Oliver eleven years ago this January. We have continued since then to create and deliver well over 200 shawls. We have a committed group of knitters but we are always looking for new members.

We meet at 4:00 p.m. the second Wednesday of every month in our Fireside Room. The shawls are knit and delivered to members of our congregation who are experiencing special needs or events in their lives to show God’s love and caring.

The words of thanks and appreciation are unbelievable, rewarding and it is obvious each recipient feels “knit together” with our warmth and love.

Come and join us and if you have any questions call Pat Jorgensen at 208-726-8302.

Ushers by Mike Menser

The usher’s ministry at St. Thomas is alive and well. We have grown our roster of ushers to 15 individuals, all of whom consistently serve throughout the year! We would however very much like to have more women and men volunteer to be an usher! Having more ushers would be most helpful so each individual is not requested to serve so often. If you wish to learn more about the usher’s ministry please contact me or Judi Fuller. Becoming an usher is simple. We have a prepared written outline as to the duties and the procedure.

Our goal as ushers is to welcome all who enter our doors and make them feel welcome and appreciated. Thanks to all of you wearing your name tags and our ushers providing blue visitor name tags to those who are visiting us the entire congregation can help with this goal. So please when you see someone wearing a blue visitor nametag introduce yourself and welcome them into our church family.

Thank you for allowing me to be a part of this ministry.



Youth & Family Ministries by Sara Gorby

"Equipping young people for lives of value, faith, and meaning."

Youth Group is a place for our young people to gather and talk about life, school, family, friends, and faith. It has been an honor to sit with the young people of St. Thomas and get to know them better. We had a large group of 6th graders move into Youth Group. This has increased our regular morning attendance significantly. Average Sunday went from 3-4 to 6-8, with some Sundays still coming in at 4 young people.

Youth Group curriculum is based on themes that are selected by mentors and informed by what our young people want to explore. We began the year talking about Baptism and used a slide show to talk about the symbols of baptism. Then we dove into our baptism promises with the theme "Respect the Dignity of Every Human Being", which included talking about the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.'s ministry and civil rights leadership. Through Lent we discussed Faith: A Practice with topics of Self-Care, Meditation, Prayer, Mental Health. All of these themes were rich with scripture reading and conversation. A highlight was having Sara Pettit teach us to make her no bake "bolitas," protein balls that were so good! During the Easter Season we told our spiritual stories and where we feel God in our experiences at St. Thomas.

The summer is always filled with St. Thomas Playhouse opportunities and young people join "Grand Days of Summer" as helpers and participants.

In the fall, we spent our first few weeks getting to know each other, comparing our getting to know each other to Jesus gathering disciples. We used games and food to share this time together. Other themes included: Community Series, looking at how Jesus built his community and how it compares to how we build community today, THANK FULL, series on gratitude and serving others, finishing 2018 with a series called MARVELOUS LIGHT. MARVELOUS LIGHT was a highlight with our young people retelling the story of Jesus from the annunciation to his teaching in the temple.

Teen Confirmation Class was held February-May with five young people being confirmed, Saba Grossman, Nicole Kanowsky, Logan Lindstrom, Bella Maurtua, and Julia Ott.

Thank you to our mentors JoEllen Collins, Page Klune, and Sara Pettit! They are so faithful and full of love for young people.

OTHER MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS

- Training 4 new teen acolytes (Thank you Mardi, Wayne & Father Ken)

- 5 Confirmations

- Assembling Thanksgiving Baskets

- Lock-In with Emmanuel Hailey

- UP FRONT young people serving in leadership roles (acolytes, greeters, lectors, collection, and oblation)

- Rites of Passage from one class to another

- Potluck & Kickball at the Loving's

- Parish Picnic @ Sheila Witmer's

- Shrove Tuesday Talent Show & Pancakes

- Wagon Days

- Hot Dog Cart

- Blessing of the Animals (and making treats for the animals)

- Nativity Pageant

- Lisa Day and Alyson Witmer class Sound Mind...Sound Spirit



Confirmands with Bishop Brian and Fr. Ken



MINISTRIES, PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES



Children's Ministry by Liz Hickey and Sara Gorby

Rachel Brannon served our children in the role of Sunday School Interim Coordinator as we explored next steps in hiring a part-time Children's Ministry Coordinator. We are so grateful to Rachel for her faithful service. She has helped maintain and build relationships with children and their families. We also thank Helen Morgus for her leadership with Godly Play and assisting Rachel during the year.

Sunday School Highlights:

- ♦ In January, we held a Godly Play Story Drive to bring new materials into the classroom. Stories included Old Testament Stories, More Stories of Jesus, and The Saints. It was a huge success and we have been able to incorporate new stories through out the year.
- ♦ Attendance remained steady at 5-8 in each of the Sunday School Classes offered (Godly Play, Building Faith Brick by Brick, and Weaving God's Promises). We averaged about one combination class per month. Rachel and Sara made the decision early in the year to work toward a two class Sunday School to help with teacher and space allocation in the Fall.
- ♦ UP FRONT (Kids Up Front) children were invited to sit in the front pew with families. Father Ken and Helen Morgus geared sermons to a broader audience to include the children with great success! UP FRONT Sundays were also well attended by children with an average of 15 children, plus parents or grandparents.



Liz Hickey

October 1st, I was fortunate enough to join the St. Thomas family as the Children's Ministry Coordinator. I knew I had big shoes to fill but I have enjoyed this challenge and loved all the support I have had along the way. The Children here bring me such joy and I love getting the opportunity to grow with them.

We started our fall season with a bang. The Blessing of the Animals always proves to be a big day for St. Thomas and its animals. The Sunday Schoolers got a kick out of making bacon cheddar dog biscuits and cat nip treats. We had many hands to make and serve these treats for our four (sometimes 3) legged friends.

We had a great attendance for the Fall Potluck at the Loving's Home. Courtney's famous brisket, hospitality and fierce kickball game was a great start to the fall season. Thank you to the Loving's for hosting our Fall Children and Youth Ministries Potluck. It was one we won't forget!

We have now divided our Sunday School into 2 classes, Pre-K through 2nd grade called Godly Play and grades 3rd through 5th grade called Godly Play B3 (Short for Brick By Brick). Our attendance is averaging 5-8 students in the Godly Play class and 4-6 students in the B3 class.

Over the past few months the children have studied many different stories from the Bible and some more close to home. During each class, they had an opportunity to discuss what it meant to them and how that might reflect in their own lives. Some of the highlights have been Joseph, the Columbarium, and the Nativity. For Joseph and the story of his brothers, the children made Joseph and his coat of many colors. During All Saints, we discussed the final resting place and the importance of remembering our loved ones. The children toured the St. Thomas Columbarium and then made a Day of the Dead altar in the classroom with things that reminded them of the ones that they have lost, followed by a roundtable discussion on who they lost and why they were so memorable.

In December, we studied Advent and the Holy Family. Per the children's request, we made an edible gingerbread nativity. Their discussion on making room for this miracle baby and what it means to be kind was truly moving. It set the pace for the Holiday Season!

I want to thank all the Sunday school teachers and leaders that have given their time and energy this year: Dydy Cleven, Art Dahl, Helen Morgus, Courtney Loving, Rachel Webster, Rachel Brannon, and Sara Gorby. Also including the Doorperson's and assistants who show up to set the pace for the day: Pam Irby, Lisa Leach, Ragna Caron, Lou Morris, Alyson Witmer, Sabrina Roblin, and Jill Hitchins. A special thanks to our resident craft aficionado Ashley Musbach. She is the creative mind behind some the children's favorite crafts like the wooden Jacob's Ladders and the beautiful heart angels.

MINISTRIES, PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES

St. Thomas Playhouse by Brett Moellenberg

St. Thomas Playhouse had incredible artistic and commercial success in 2018. Our Summer Theater Project and Family Main Stage productions saw sizable increases in ticket sales, while our Company B 2 (August) day camp enjoyed record tuition income. These examples of growth continue to propel Playhouse forward and allow us to create more ambitious productions with each passing year.

We also had some significant changes to our Playhouse Charter Committee in 2018 with longtime members Rebecca Waycott, Heather Black and Susan Bilkey stepping off for at least one cycle. Page Klune is the new Chair of the committee with Deb Roberston as Vice Chair.

Playhouse saw a significant decrease in tuition for Company B (June) camp, as well as a decrease in donors for 2018. We plan to pursue more underwriting for our programs and explore more grant opportunities locally, nationally and within the Episcopal Church. We also plan to increase the marketing of our programs to parents of Pre-K to 1st grade children, as well as bilingual families.

St. Thomas Playhouse continues to be the only consistent home for American Musical Theater in the Wood River Valley. We are proud to be able to present so many wonderful pieces to the community. Please enjoy a few photos from our 2018 season.



Dr. Dolittle Jr. | Company B
June



Disney's The Little Mermaid Jr. | Company B | 2 August



Sister Act | Summer Theater Project
June



Seussical the Musical | Family Main Stage
September



Stellaluna | Children's Theater Tour
February-March



Diocesan Convention

by Helen Morgus

The 51st Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Idaho was held over the weekend of November 9th - 11th in Boise. At Convention, lay and clergy delegates hear reports, approve the budget, and elect leaders for Diocesan Council and Standing Committee. And amidst and beyond that, we connect, we learn, we serve, and we worship.

Representing St. Thomas this year were Father Ken and Isaac Brannon, Art Dahl, Judi Fuller, Brad and Ashley Musbach, Helen and Wally Morgus and Deacon Wayne Hedberg Schmidt. Carter Hedberg Schmidt went as a guest, as all are invited to do, any year.

Diocesan Convention is a unique chance to cross into new territory and meet our brothers and sisters from around Idaho. This year, we were seated in mixed groups for guided discussions about two issues: what the consequences should be for parishes that are behind on their financial support of the Diocese (their diocesan assessment), and what we envision for the future of Paradise Point, the Diocese's summer camp on Payette Lake, where a conservation easement is being considered. The discussion questions brought forth strong and diverse responses. Reporters from each table summarized and shared them for all to hear, and Diocesan Council received written feedback that will inform decisions going forward.

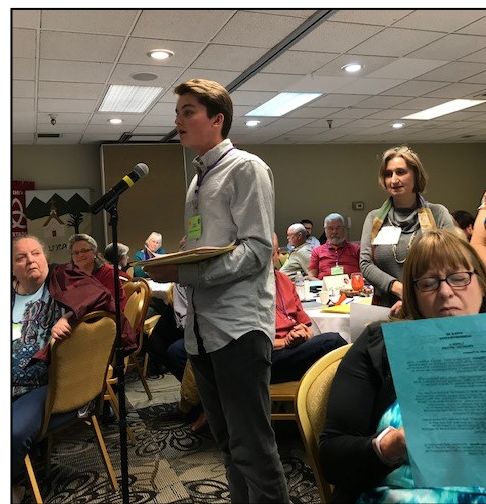
Convention also provides a new perspective on the institution of the wider church. This year's Guest Presenter was The Rev. Canon Stephanie Spellers, a Canon to the Presiding Bishop for Evangelism. Canon Spellers instructed, questioned, cajoled and inspired. Her joyful talks were sprinkled with movement and song: we stood to sing spirituals and mingle with one another. And the point was, you and I are Episcopal evangelists when we seek, name and celebrate Jesus' loving presence, and then invite people to more. This is what it means to be the Church in this moment—to follow Jesus and his Way of Love. It's front and center on the website of The Episcopal Church (<https://www.episcopalchurch.org/>).

We also hear the good news of mission on the local level, made possible by Idaho Episcopal Foundation grants. Examples: new Prayer Books for inmates at the Snake River Correctional Institute; materials for a story quilt made by refugees at Artisans4Hope in Boise; supplies for the Free Little Pantry associated with a soup kitchen in Idaho Falls. Any parish may sponsor a local organization in need for IEF funds, extending the love of God beyond the church's walls. Who in the Wood River Valley could benefit from an I.E.F. grant sponsored by St. Thomas Church?

Each year, Convention also involves a service project. Folks in the Western Deanery learned that schools needed toiletries for families that can't afford them. So parishes collected hygiene products and volunteers brought them to Convention. Thanks to Art and Bobbie Dahl for heading this up at St. Thomas. At Convention, teen volunteers sorted the donations and filled 28 boxes that school nurses in western Idaho will distribute to children and families in need.

And Convention draws us together to thank, praise and dwell with God. Worship binds and realigns us. As host, the Southwestern Deanery worship committee wove prayers and music from traditional and refreshing sources into liturgies for Compline on Friday; Morning, Noonday and Evening Prayer on Saturday and Eucharist on Sunday.

At Diocesan Convention, we conduct the business of the Diocese, but as 2018 and other years prove, it is far more than "business as usual." It is mutual blessing.



Isaac Brannon, a delegate, represents his table at diocesan convention.



ANNUAL MEETING INFORMATION



AGENDA

Sunday, January 27, 2019

The annual meeting begins with Holy Eucharist at 9:30 A.M. and continues with a business meeting and brunch.

The Rector is chair of the annual meeting.

According to parish bylaws, "Every baptized person not less than 16 years of age who has been enrolled in the parish register for the three months preceding the annual parish meeting and has been a regular communicant of the parish shall be a voting member of the parish and may vote at parish meetings."

1. Holy Eucharist
2. Brief break
3. Call to order
4. Appointment of clerk
5. Additions to agenda
6. Approval of minutes from last year
7. Rector's report, expressions of gratitude, and appointment of Senior Warden
8. Senior Warden's report Jon Thorson
9. Junior Warden's report Brad Musbach
10. Nominating committee report Heather Black
11. Elections
 - a. Appointment of tellers
 - b. Election of three new vestry members for three year terms
 - i. Nominees: Tom Benson, Allison Burpee, and Rebecca Waycott
 - ii. Nominations from the floor (if any)
 - iii. Distribution of ballots (if necessary)
 - iv. Election
 - c. Election of six delegates and four alternate delegates to diocesan convention (November 8-10, 2019, in Burley)
 - i. Nominees for delegate: Tom Archie, Liz Hickey, Andy Kerstetter, Jima Rice, Sabrina Roblin, and
Mardi Shepard
 - ii. Nominees for alternate delegate: Todd Stewart, Connie Hoffman, Meredith Skillman, and Linda Bergerson
 - iii. Nominations from the floor (if any)
 - iv. Distribution of ballots (if necessary)
 - v. Election
12. Annual Giving Campaign report John Ashton
13. Playhouse report and presentation of Playhouse budget Brett Moellenberg
14. Treasurer's report for 2018 Wally Morgus
15. Presentation of church budget for 2019 Wally Morgus
16. Approve playhouse and church budgets for 2019
17. Announcement of election results (if necessary)
18. Presentation of Rector's Cross
19. Doxology or Song of Praise Joel Bejot
20. Adjournment
21. Brunch

*Many thanks to those who prepared the brunch today.
Volunteers are invited to help the vestry with clean-up afterwards.*



ANNUAL MEETING INFORMATION



Nominations to the Vestry (2019-2022)



Tom Benson - A life long New Yorker, I moved to Ketchum with my wife Dell-Ann in 2018 after living here part time for the past 5 years. It is exciting to be beginning our semi-retirement years in the vibrant Sun Valley community where we can also enjoy Idaho's seemingly endless outdoor recreation opportunities. I graduated with an accounting degree from Binghamton University and completed an MBA at Columbia University. After working for 10 years in public accounting I served as the CFO of several publicly traded media and entertainment companies. I am currently working part time as a board member of a company based in New York while Dell-Ann is working this winter as a member of the guest services team on Baldy. I was a longtime active member of the Lutheran Church community in New York where I was blessed to serve in numerous leadership roles including as chair of my church's pre-school board and as treasurer and board chair of Long Island Lutheran High School. We have two children Michael (26) and Miranda (24) who live in Philadelphia and Seattle, respectively. I am very excited to have found such a welcoming new church home at St. Thomas and look forward to contributing my time and talent as a member of vestry.

Allison Burpee - My husband (Sam Smith) and I moved back to our native Idaho end of 2016 and feel very blessed with the positive change! We have two kiddos Max (6) and Stella (4) that are getting to spend a bunch of time outdoors and exploring, just like Sam and I did as kids. I grew up in Boise, ID and took advantage of an opportunity to play college soccer at Clemson University (go TIGERS) and earn a degree in history. Afterward, I joined the Peace Corps and served 2 years as a volunteer in Bolivia. I learned Spanish and fell in love with both service and travel simultaneously! I went to graduate school in Tempe, AZ and earned a master's degree in social work. I work part-time at the St. Luke's behavioral health clinic in Hailey and am very fortunate to have a job that fulfills my desire to serve the community. I'm thrilled to be a part of St. Thomas and it's an honor to be able to give back to the church that has given me and my family such a warm welcome.



Rebecca Waycott - Born in Montana, my life has taken me many places, including over 15 years in Latin America. I returned to the West in 2001 with my husband, Richard, and our two children, Louisa and Colin. St. Thomas immediately became our church home and almost concurrently we became involved in the fledgling theater program. I was a founding member of St. Thomas Playhouse and served on its Committee for 16 years, during 10 of which I was proud and lucky enough to be Chair. What a wonderful experience those years have been. I served on the Vestry at St. Thomas during Brian Baker's tenure as rector, acting as Junior Warden. In 2006 I acted as Chair of the Search Committee, the result of which was the hiring of our Rector, Ken Brannon. I can still remember the deep emotional thrill we all felt when Ken accepted St. Thomas' call. Most recently I have undergone the training and have become a Steven's Minister. This is a wonderful new outreach program that touches many lives in profound ways. And the other latest St. Thomas activity, is playing with the Bell Choir - what fun! As you can tell, St. Thomas has been an integral part of my life, and I am thrilled to be asked to serve on the Vestry.

Nominations for 2019 Diocesan Convention Delegation

Each year, the Idaho Diocese of the Episcopal Church holds a convention; this year the convention will be held November 8-10, 2019, in Burley.

The nominees for delegates to Convention are: Tom Archie
Jima Rice

Liz Hickey
Sabrina Roblin

Andy Kerstetter
Mardi Shepard

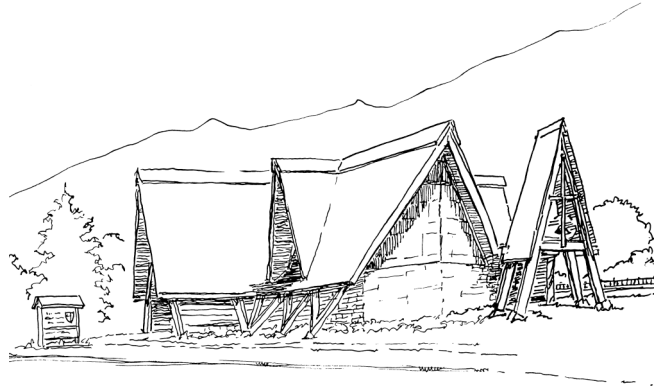
The nominees for alternate delegates to Convention are:

Todd Stewart
Meredith Skillman

Connie Hoffman
Linda Bergerson

In addition, the Rector, Senior Warden and Junior Warden serve as non-elected delegates.

St. Thomas Episcopal Church



BISHOP	The Rt. Rev. Brian Thom
RECTOR	The Rev. Kenneth H. Brannon
TRANSITIONAL DEACONS	The Rev. Kathleen Bean The Rev. Wayne Hedberg Schmidt
VESTRY OFFICERS	Jon Thorson, Senior Warden Brad Musbach, Junior Warden Wally Morgus, Treasurer Judi Fuller, Clerk
VESTRY MEMBERS	Vickrie Cutler, Ruth Jones, Lisa Leach, Claudia McCain, Garry Pearson, Tim Price, Becky Smith, Georgia Stewart
ADMINISTRATION	Joel Bejot, Music Director and Organist Judi Fuller, Parish Administrator Sara Gorby, Children, Youth & Family Director & Playhouse Education Director Liz Hickey, Sunday School Coordinator Brett Moellenberg, Playhouse Managing Director and Electronic Media Coordinator

ST. THOMAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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