

The LIFT

st thomas episcopal church

FALL 2019

THE CADENCE OF FOOTFALL

Just over a year ago, I hiked the Camino de Santiago in Spain. Camino is a pilgrimage across northern Spain along a trail that pilgrims have walked for a thousand years. They say that the disciples of St. James ("Santiago"), following the same route, carried his bones to their final resting place at the Cathedral of St. James located in the town of Santiago de Compostela. Camino leads pilgrims across mountains and fields, towns and large cities; on concrete and dirt, grass and rocks; along plains and through forests, beside rivers and through canyons.

The pilgrim who walks the full length of Camino spends somewhere between thirty and forty days doing so, step after step, breath after breath, in a manner that, as time slips into space, mimics centering prayer. You may know of centering as that type of meditative Christian prayer in which the practitioner employs a meditative word to help empty the brain of its busy-ness, giving the deeper spirit an opportunity to connect.

As I walked Camino, my brain considered many things – life, my kids, the forest, my broader family, the lake and sky, my last church and the church I served before that, my house (was everything okay at home?), and so on. I prayed, too, and I realized as I prayed that, having let the urgencies of the day-to-day slowly fall away, the cadence of breath and step enabled my mind to slip into the magical world around me. Footsteps became words as my brain emptied itself of thought. Apologies to our Zen Buddhist friends, but I felt myself as one with everything around me. (An aside: What did the Zen Buddhist say to the hot dog vendor in New York City? Make me one with everything!)

Driving across the country to meet you here in Idaho, I left Tennessee behind at Memphis. The road I chose led me westward along southern Missouri, through verdant forests and valleys. The Zen of the road slowed my brain, just as the pathway had on Camino. By the time I reached that long empty stretch of Kansas highway leading away from Kansas City, the noise of the tires rolling on the interstate acted like the cadence of my footfall on Camino. I felt myself easing meditatively into the life ahead of me.



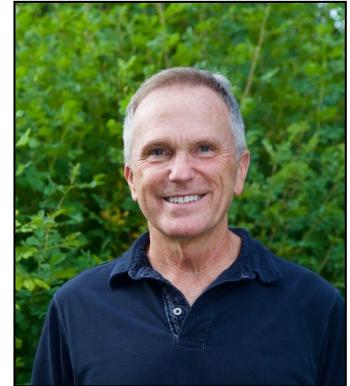
I stopped many places along the way to visit family and friends. Nashville to see my daughter, Memphis my stepfather, Poplar Bluff an uncle, and Snowmass a friend. I snapped a picture of my dog, Bones, under the welcome sign at Dinosaur, Colorado and drove through the Flaming Gorge in southern Wyoming. Entering Idaho, I passed the Potato Museum. (Who knew, right?)

This time of prayer-driving guided me to you – physically, to be sure, but spiritually, as well. I weighed all that you have experienced this summer, with Ken's departure and Kathleen's ordination. And now, what about this new priest from Tennessee? (To borrow the question someone asked about Jesus, Can anything good come out of Nazareth? Can anything good come out of Tennessee?)

Yet, here we are, you and I. You might be just as curious about me as I am about you. You probably read that I have two adult children about whom I am quite proud of (Tate, 25, and Tilly, 22). You might also be interested to learn that Bones is the same breed as two of Kathleen's dogs (wire-haired pointing griffons), or that I like to jog trails, snowboard, ski, and spend as much time outdoors as I can. You might be interested to know that I write, paint and play piano, none of it particularly well. But most of all, you might be curious about my faith.

For like most of us, I stake my claim on faith. For you see, a little faith and a whole lot of grace has brought me safe thus far, and I trust will lead me safely home.

I look forward to this next year together. I hope some of us can explore a few trails together and experience that dissolution moment of deep connection that emerges from footfall. But I also hope we experience the same connection here, during church, as we grow and learn together. Thank you so much for inviting me to join you!



The Rev. Rob Gieselmann

TRANSITION AND THE WILDERNESS

by Claudia McCain

After Canon Lucinda's visit on July 21st, our wonderful Senior Warden, Georgia Stewart, asked me to write an article relating Lucinda's presentation during Adult Education. Rebecca Waycott helped fill in the blanks from my notes, for which I am grateful.

As you may remember, Canon Lucinda's talk was about the transition process our church will be exploring as we search for a new Rector. There was a good turnout of congregants, as well as Vestry members, our new Search Committee, and Kathleen Bean.

First, Lucinda explained that we are in transition, as opposed to change. Change, as she described it, is thrust upon us. It might be in the form of losing a relationship, the loss of a job or of a loved one. It feels as if things are out of control. On the other hand, transition is guided, measured and controlled.

To explain the process of transition, Canon Lucinda used the analogy of Moses leading the slaves out of Egypt and the search for the promised land. She divided the exodus story into three sections.

In the first section the Jewish people were enslaved under Pharaoh. They wanted freedom and Moses was instructed by God to lead the slaves out of Egypt. Although Moses did not feel up to the task, God presented the burning bush to secure his belief, and spoke to him. Moses went to Pharaoh and asked for release of the slaves. When freedom was denied, ten plagues were visited upon Egypt. This included the Angel of Death and Passover. Finally, freedom was granted. Moses, with the help of Aaron, led the people to the edge of the Red Sea and God parted the seas giving them passage and protection from their pursuers.

The second section was entitled "Wilderness." We noted that the Jewish people wandered in the desert for 40 years. It was dry, rough and inhospitable. Eventually there was no food and the people were hungry. God sent Manna, but the people got tired of eating it and complained bitterly. They began to blame Moses and God, saying they were better off in Egypt. They felt grief and loss. So, Moses went to the mountain and asked God for help. While he was gone the people began to rebel and created the Golden Calf. Moses came down from the mountain and was angry at their ingratitude and rebelliousness. In order to survive their circumstances, they had to restructure their community. They divided into 70 groups with leaders for each one.

In the third section entitled "Promised Land," the people found a new land and home. They were not led there by Moses or Aaron, but by Joshua, and the military. As the story was recorded and reviewed, we could see the parallels to our circumstances at St. Thomas. Although Father Ken's departure was not quite as dramatic as that of the slaves and Moses, God did present him with a calling for a new land and opportunity!

Like the Jewish people, some of us may feel we are wandering in the desert without knowing who will lead us. It is a time of uncertainty, so, we are led to put our trust in God's plan for us, which requires patience! We may feel grief and loss. We may feel inclined to complain. We may create our own Golden Calf, focusing on extraneous things rather than living in the moment with the unpredictability and questions. But there is a promised land. In the bible story, Moses and Aaron did not lead the people to that land, but a new leader did – just as a new leader will be brought to us. Canon Lucinda showed us that in this time of the "Wilderness," there is opportunity. It is a time to remember who we are, and whose we are (God's people).

Canon Lucinda's analogy to the exodus story elicited these thoughts.

- ◆ Sometimes we may need help in seeing the opportunity.
- ◆ Just as the Jewish people could not bring everything with them, we may not bring everything forward with us.
- ◆ A new priest can improve on what we have been doing, bringing us new, fresh, expanded ideas. (Just as Ken did after Brian left.)
- ◆ It is not always easy to live in that place of trust.
- ◆ Lastly, it is a time for all of us to actively listen to one another.

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A MESSAGE FROMN THE VESTRY

by Georgia Stewart

Dear fellow parishioners,

This has been an amazingly busy summer at St. Thomas! We said goodbye to Father Ken and the Brannon family at the beginning of June. In early July Bishop Brian came to St. Thomas to ordain to the priesthood Wayne Hedberg Schmidt and Kathleen Bean. We then welcomed Kathleen Bean as our new Associate Rector. Also in July we formed an excellent Search Committee for a new rector that represents the diversity of our congregation. And this month we welcomed our Interim Priest, Rob Gieselmann. In addition to these changes at St. Thomas, we are also saying good-bye to Canon Lucinda Ashby from the Diocesan office as she heads off to California to be the Bishop of El Camino Real.

That is a lot of change! Even though a time of transition can be challenging and emotional for a parish, at St. Thomas the Vestry, the staff, and most especially, our parishioners are moving forward with self-confidence and assurance as we meet new situations. This means we are in a very good place to be searching for a new rector. The mission and vision of the parish are well established, and the staff and parish leaders are managing day-to-day operations well. Help from the Diocese and guidance from Rob and Kathleen are essential in assuring a smooth transition.

My prayer for now is that we can all bring to this time a willingness to be shaped and directed by the work of the Holy Spirit.

ST. THOMAS BOOKCLUB

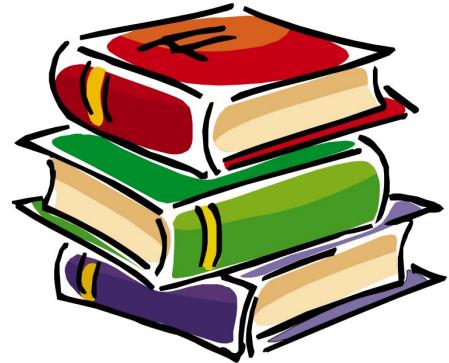
by Laurie Ahern

The St. Thomas Book Club continues to grow and thrive. Last winter and spring we were averaging 12–20 members attending the meetings. For several books we tried having two leaders instead of one, which produced some interesting conversations. No RSVP is required and new members are always welcome.

All meetings begin at 1:30 pm in the parish hall. At our last meeting in June we chose the following for our fall schedule:

- September 9: *Disgrace* by Cotzee
- October 14: *Idaho* by Emily Ruskovich
- November 11: *Where the Crawdads Sing* by Delia Owens
- December 9: Cookie Exchange, program TBD

Please direct questions to Laurie Ahern, lahern1681@gmail.com or 206-850-3974.



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Canon Lucinda finished by sharing some factual information:

- ◆ Although she was looking forward to shepherding St. Thomas through the search process, her new calling as Bishop of El Camino Real will not allow her to do so. Instead, she and Bishop Brian have chosen a very qualified Search Consultant to oversee the Search Committee. Her name will be revealed once the contracts have been completed.
- ◆ The Search committee will begin their work in September with the new consultant. During this time of transition, Bishop Brian is our Rector and has oversight of our church. The process of calling a new Rector will take approximately 18 months. For the first twelve months the Search Committee will be creating a detailed church profile.
- ◆ Lucinda stated that our church was in a very good position because of our Vestry leadership, excellent staff, solid organizational structure, and financial stability.
- ◆ When asked how priests apply for the position, she explained that there is a confidential website where clergy can view available positions.

As a church family, we will hold together in faith and trust in God's perfect plan for St. Thomas.

MILESTONES

(JUNE 1 – AUGUST 31, 2019)

Baptisms

August 11, 2019

James August Patton

Born: August 15, 2018

Marriages

July 6, 2019

Mary Jane Bauter and Craig Turner Peterson

July 27, 2019

Betty Griffith Cox and David Shelby Cronin

Burials and Memorial Services

June 3, 2019

Frederic S. (Tony) Mabbatt III Died: February 9, 2019

August 9, 2019

Ruth M Lieder

Died: July 15, 2019

SABRINA ROBLIN AND ART DAHL COMPLETE STEPHEN MINISTRY LEADERSHIP TRAINING

submitted by Maryanne Whitcomb and Art Dahl

St. Thomas Stephen Ministry is a group of trained compassionate parishioners available to confidentially help members of the congregation navigate through bumps in life that are giving them difficulty. Needs can range from something as simple but troubling as aging, to something as profound as the death of a spouse or receipt of a challenging medical diagnosis. Stephen Ministers receive detailed initial and ongoing training, and are knowledgeable in a wide variety of community resources and in the skills of human compassion.



Art Dahl and Sabrina Roblin

Sabrina and Art have returned from 50 hours of national-level Stephen Minister Leadership training. Both are invigorated and newly equipped to join Helen Morgus, Marcia Liebich, and Maryanne Whitcomb in training future Stephen Ministers at St. Thomas.

Sabrina had this to add, upon completion of her recent training in Florida, “During the training, the value of Stephen Ministry landed for me, because it expands the ability of the church to serve those in need in the community. It is a win-win for the congregation, the rector, and all those serving through the program. I’m grateful for the training, and the ability to serve in this way.”

In closing, Art suggests, “If you would like to know more about being helped confidentially, or about becoming a Stephen Minister, you can talk with Kathleen Bean or any of the Stephen Ministers. They wear blue name tags on Sunday mornings.”

UPCOMING TRAININGS

EUCARISTIC MINISTERS

Mark your calendars for Sunday, September 29 at 11:00 a.m. if you would like to be trained to serve the wine during the Eucharist. Contact Ann Taylor for more information.

(208) 720-1253

annstctaylor@gmail.com

ACOLYTES

Adults and youth are encouraged to consider training to serve at the altar as an acolyte. Training to be held on October 20 following the 9:30 a.m. service. Contact Mardi Shepard for more information.

(208) 720-7631

mardi.shepard@gmail.com



Episcopal Jedi

INTERFAITH LABYRINTH WALK

by *The Rev. Kathleen Bean*

In 2001, members of St. Thomas, the Wood River Jewish Community and others worked together to create the labyrinth that graces our entry area today. The group's dream was that the labyrinth would be a place where people of all faiths, or no particular faith, could come and experience healing, growth, comfort and joy by walking this ancient path to the center and out again.

In an effort to remind the community that the labyrinth is available to them and to demonstrate unity in a time of great division in our country and in our world, the Interfaith Clergy Leaders group will host an "Interfaith Labyrinth Walk" on Thursday, October 3 from 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. There will be mentors available throughout the evening to offer an orientation to the labyrinth and guidance on how to walk it with intention and Ellen Sanders will offer contemplative music to add to the beauty of the evening and this practice.

Please join us! This is a lovely opportunity to invite friends who do not typically attend church, but might be drawn to the opportunity to experience this ancient spiritual practice. Families are welcome!

Please contact the Rev. Kathleen Bean with any questions. Email: kathleen.bean@stthomassunvalley.org



SUMMER PERFORMING ARTS CONSERVATORY CAMP (S.P.A.C.C)





BENCHMARKS IN STEPHEN MINISTRY TRAINING REACHED SINCE FEBRUARY, 2017

by Maryanne Whitcomb

For a look back at what Stephen Ministries has accomplished thus far at St. Thomas, Helen Morgus, Referrals and Training Coordinator, offers these benchmarks:

- ◆ Stephen Ministry has been in place at St. Thomas for 2 ½ years, actively giving care for over a year now.
- ◆ A total of 9 Stephen Ministers have been trained to date (6 are currently in caring relationships today and one male is currently available to be paired with a care receiver)
- ◆ The above-noted Stephen Ministers have received 100 hours of initial training, 25 hours of continuing education, and 50 hours of peer supervision.
- ◆ A total of ten care receivers have received or are receiving care as of this writing

For an even closer look at the training received, Marcia Liebich, Continuing Education Coordinator, highlights some of the topics covered in initial training: the art of listening, maintaining confidentiality, and focus on process rather than on results.

Further, continuing education, conducted twice monthly, has included the following topics as well: caring for people who are hospitalized, grieving a loss, or experiencing the aging process. Summer topics discussed were also divorce, and the art of “caring criticism”. Several guest speakers from various community resources in Blaine County have been invited in: NAMI, Senior Connection, Hospice, and most recently, Erin Buell of St. Luke’s Center for Community Health.

Interested in learning more about Stephen Minister training? Ask any one of the current Stephen Ministers, who wear blue nametags at the Sunday morning services!



Erin Buell,
St Luke's Center for Community Health

GREEN TEAM

by Mary Malkmus



During the month of September, we will again be celebrating the Season of Creation. We will join together with Christians from around the world to rejoice in the good gift of creation and reflect on how we care for it. As the environmental crisis deepens, we are called to witness our faith by taking action to preserve the gift we share. We invite you to join us on a journey, as we walk together towards greater stewardship of our place in creation. On each Sunday we will reflect on one of the following: Ocean, Flora and Fauna, Storms, Cosmos, and Blessing of the Animals.

Also, you will have an opportunity to help clean our section of Highway 75, in October!!!

EUCARISTIC VISITOR MINISTRY

by Bobbie Dahl

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

If you would like to know more about being a Eucharistic Visitor yourself, please call the Reverend Kathleen Bean at 208-726-5349 or Bobbie Dahl at 208-720-6378.

Also, we would appreciate it if you would contact us if you know a St. Thomas parishioner who might benefit from home communion.

God's Peace, Bobbie



COLUMBARIUM

by Heather Black

The Columbarium Committee hosted coffee hour in the middle of July so that parishioners could learn more about the Columbarium at St. Thomas, and then ended the month with its annual “Hole In The Wall Gang” party. The committee which is comprised of Heather Black, Beverly Boas, Gretchen Boe and Sally Horn recently also added Carolyn Wicklund to its ranks.

The Columbarium is a final resting place for St. Thomas parishioners and/or their loved one's ashes to be inurned. If inurnment is not of interest, then it is also possible to purchase a commemorative nameplate which is on the wall of the columbarium. The original set of niches is just about full at this time, so in 2019 we installed a new set of niches, and they are ready to be reserved. If you have not already made other plans for your final resting place and consider St. Thomas your spiritual home, this may be something for you to consider.

The parish office has brochures with general information on end of life planning, as well as forms to fill out when purchasing a niche or nameplate and forms that help guide you when planning your memorial service. It is wise to pre-plan your service because after you've lost your loved one, the task of getting through all the end of life details can be overwhelming and you will be grateful that you made these arrangements ahead of time. Additionally, if you or your loved one is ill, at the very end, sometimes it's just too much to ask of the dying to figure out, and of course, in some cases when there's a sudden passing, the shock and trauma can make it difficult to get this done.

While this feels like a sad subject and we don't like to discuss dying, it's actually easier when we are somewhat in denial because we are living a good and healthy life than when passing is imminent. Just food for thought! Feel free to reach out to a committee member or to Judi Fuller in the office if you have any questions or interest in memorial planning or niche/nameplate purchases.

MUSIC DIRECTOR

by Joel Bejot

This past Sunday, we sang “Morning has broken,” with words by Eleanor Farjeon. Farjeon lived in England 1881–1965 and published several books of poetry for children and adults, educational books, and memoirs. Our hymnal includes only one of her hymns, “Morning has broken,” a delightful little text celebrating creation. It was written in 1931, and was relatively unknown until Cat Stevens recorded the hymn in 1971. The pianist on the Cat Stevens track, Rick Wakeman, would shortly join the progressive rock band Yes. This hymn has had really interesting cross-cultural influences.

As we are coming into the new school year, consider saying “yes” to a new thing. We have many opportunities to make music in this parish, and I hope you can find something in the following list. Please contact me for more information.

1. Pray and sing in the pew or chair. Serving a congregation with a vibrant prayer life and well-sung hymns is an honor.
2. Join a choir:
 - a. St. Thomas Choir meets on Tuesdays, 5:00–6:30, and sings most Sunday mornings during the year. Many folks join us for a season, while they are in town, and many join us throughout the year.
 - b. Evensong choir meets most Tuesdays, 6:30–7:30, during the evensong season, and sings for this monthly service.
 - c. The RSCM chorister program is open to children, and utilizes a graded system where kids learn a lot about singing, musicianship, hymns, psalms, and anthems. Rehearsals began on August 28, but it's not too late to sing with us!
3. Ring bells: Ringing handbells is a unique experience! Come try it, and join our little group. We rehearse on Tuesdays at 12:00 noon.
4. Play an instrument. I'm always looking for folks with keyboard skills, or who would like to develop those skills. Please see me if you are interested in playing the piano or organ, or are just curious about how these big machines work.



PASTORAL CARE

by Maryanne Whitcomb



Gretchen Boe

Gretchen Boe and Elaine Phillips are the two newest members of the St. Thomas Pastoral Care team.

Gretchen offered the following, “I am very happy to join the Pastoral Care Team, working with sensitive people who take an interest in the parish members’ health and well-being. During our monthly meetings, we address members whose names are on the Parish Prayer List, and discuss ways in which we might help an individual or their families.”

Elaine added, “when members of the Pastoral Care Team explained their mission to me, I was quite interested in becoming a part of this very important ministry. I look forward to providing both material and spiritual support to members of our church family when and where there is a need. It may be providing meals, brief errands, or sending cards and making telephone calls.

Also, I hope to bring supportive listening and prayer – I will do my best to be of help.“



Elaine Phillips

Gretchen and Elaine join several other long-term members of the team: Marylyn Pauley, Jeanne Cassell, Marcia Liebich, Pat Jorgensen, Patty Sloan, Connie Hoffman, and Maryanne Whitcomb. Parishioners are invited, at any time of need, to place themselves, a family member, a friend, or anyone for whom prayers are being asked onto the prayer list. The only requirement is that the person placed on the list has given his or her approval to be placed on the list. Green “Prayer Request” cards are available in the office, which should be filled out in the event of a new prayer request. All names (first only) are printed in the Bulletin each Sunday, and the names newly-added are spoken aloud during “Prayers of the People.” One of the members of the Pastoral Care Team prays the list, in it entirety, each of the seven days of every week.

CHILDREN’S MINISTRY

by Liz Hickey

Grand Days of Summer was such a hit this summer! We had 10 different members who offered to lend their talents and special skills to the St. Thomas Sunday School. From flying, to voice-overs, astronomy, and the art of storytelling – there was something for everyone. The children and youth loved hearing these new lessons from our parishioners. It is these small moments that keep the children coming back and gives them the opportunity to know our members and to have those meaningful conversations in the Narthex or at coffee hour.

Blessing of the Backpacks and the **Sunday School Registration Carnival** is on September 8th. Sunday School will begin on September 15th with the Story of Abraham and the lesson of Second Creation: The Falling Apart. We have many new and exciting ideas for Sunday School this fall, with the introduction of Mini-Messy Church; a more hands on approach to learning and new *Godly Play* stories and new Legos to *Brick-By-Brick*.

Sunday School Gathering will now begin at 9:20-9:40 a.m. upstairs in the Narthex by the Children’s Cross which is something we began this summer. The children and youth will participate in the opening Hymn then walk downstairs to the Parish Hall where we will welcome, gather prayers, pass the Peace, and divide into classes. This will give the children and youth an opportunity to feel a part of the service and is a more visible gathering space for everyone.

As Fall creeps up on us, we hope to see many of your children in Sunday School and Youth Group. Making church and Sunday School a routine for your children is so important for building a lasting relationship with God and spirituality as your children grow in life. We love seeing the inter-generational relationships the children and youth make with parishioners in the classrooms and hallways of St. Thomas Church. Knowing they are loved and cared for in church and the community gives them a sense of belonging. We look forward to seeing you soon.



2019 ANNUAL PARISH PICNIC

A wonderful summer afternoon, the best venue ever, and a terrific turnout – all made more enjoyable due to a fantastic planning, shopping, and work crew.

Thanks to everyone who attended and who worked so hard to make it possible.



ST. THOMAS FORUM – ADULT EDUCATION

by Don Liebich

The Summer Adult Education program focused on an exploration of the Old Testament or Hebrew Scriptures. The Rev. Kathleen Bean started the conversation by asking the question “Why the Old Testament?” This was followed by a four part series of lectures led by Irwin Sentilles. The topics covered were: “An Exploration of Exodus,” “The Stories of the Kings,” “Understanding the Psalms,” and “An Introduction to the Prophets.” In this series we examined the origin of the stories included in the Old Testament, the context in which the stories were retold and organized by various scribes to make the relevant to events affecting the Jewish people at that time. We also looked at how these ancient stories still resonate with us today.

As usual, Fall is a busy time in the St. Thomas community and is a time of transition. As a result education classes will be interspersed with other events. The schedule as it now stands is here:

September 1	Q & A with Rob
September 8	Sunday School Registration
September 15	History and Meaning of Communion – Rev. Kathleen Bean
September 22	NAMI – Mental Health Awareness and Conversation
September 29	St. Francis and Care of Creation – Rev. Kathleen Bean & Green Team
October 6	Blessing of the Animals
October 13	Trailing of the Sheep
October 20	TBD
October 27	Bishop Brian visits (confirmations)
November 3	History of the Saints – Rev. Kathleen Bean
November 10	Diocesan Convention
November 17	Church Music – Joel Bejot
November 24	Christianity and Colonialism – Don Liebich

HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE

by Ragna Caron, Chair

On June 9, the Hospitality Committee and Vestry gave a “Good Bye” reception for Father Ken and his family. It was a bittersweet event seeing our Rector of 12 years leave. However, delicious food, speeches, and musical performances lifted our spirits and the party turned into a delightful evening.

On July 8, we hosted a big and happy event for Kathleen Bean and Wayne Hedberg Schmidt. They were ordained into the priesthood by Bishop Brian. The reception was held on the church's terrace on a beautiful July evening with tables overflowing with tasty dishes.



Plenty of food!



From Idaho to Texas!



Plenty of people!



Plenty of fun!



THE BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

In partnership with the Animal Shelter of the Wood River Valley and area clergy, the Blessing of the Animals will be held at St. Thomas Church Sunday, October 6 at noon.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

September

- 1 John Peavey
- 1 Will Hausmann
- 2 Peter Dembergh
- 2 Nicholas Swift
- 3 Patty Sloan
- 3 Peter Lockwood
- 4 Charlotte Davis-Jeffers
- 5 Art Dahl
- 6 Brad Musbach
- 6 Ruth Jones

- 6 Peter Wolter
- 6 Michelle Ferris
- 8 Sue Phillips
- 12 Bob Ziebarth
- 15 Vicki Johnston Foster
- 15 Laurie Ahern
- 15 Doreen Sadler
- 16 Wendy Jaquet
- 17 Candice Pate
- 17 Charlie Cord
- 18 Steve Pauley
- 19 Marylyn Pauley
- 20 Teri Szombathy
- 20 John Stevens
- 20 Rae DeVito
- 22 Dave Hitchin
- 22 Bill Craig
- 23 William Fruhling
- 23 Barbara Shelton
- 24 Gus Conrad

- 24 Liz Hickey
- 24 Mollie Patton
- 25 Bailey Cleven
- 26 Barbara Churchill
- 27 Nate Thornton
- 28 Mary Colhoun
- 29 Bob Kesting
- 30 Mike DeChevrieux
- 30 Robyn Rogers

October

- 1 Jim Monger
- 1 Elliot Bulls
- 1 Judy Harrison
- 2 Alexandra Black
- 2 Sue Noel
- 2 Betsy Crusel
- 3 Claudia McCain
- 4 Susie King
- 4 Edie Cary
- 4 Susan Thurston
- 5 Gabe Cherian
- 5 Tyler Davis-Jeffers

- 6 Anne Zauner
- 6 Lucy O'Connell
- 6 Ann Taughner
- 8 Bill Cassell
- 9 Mike Menser
- 11 Catherine Carley
- 11 Carolyn Wicklund
- 12 Diane Hartogensis
- 12 Carter Hedberg Schmidt
- 12 Ashley Musbach
- 13 Susan Perin
- 13 Annie Williams
- 13 M.B. Davis
- 16 Nancy Cord
- 17 Patience Ziebarth
- 17 Wayne Hedberg Schmidt
- 18 Lindy Brewer
- 18 Jack Bulls
- 19 Barbara Capik
- 19 Audra Mary
- 20 Alyson Witmer
- 22 Michele Jefferson
- 22 Jim Jaquet

- 23 Hunter Todd
- 23 Molly! Goodyear
- 23 Angela Brady Hall
- 25 Beverly DeChevrieux
- 26 Tricia Cavallero
- 26 Kathleen Schwartzenberger
- 27 Tim Price
- 29 Pierson Carlsen
- 29 Janet Dunbar
- 30 Vicki Riedel
- 30 Carol Karner
- 31 Greet Hostetler

November

- 1 Kris Miller
- 1 Jude Carter
- 1 Santo Cavallero
- 2 Catherine Collins
- 3 Kinley Miller
- 3 Francie Hawkey
- 4 Jonathan Tatterson
- 5 Vann Sheue
- 5 Chris Duryee
- 6 Priscilla Draper

- 6 Helen Morgus
- 6 Gerry Kearns
- 6 Fran Gray
- 8 Jack Heinz
- 9 Emma Bejot
- 9 Sandor Szombathy
- 10 Maunsel Hickey
- 10 Roger DeBard
- 11 Ragna Caron
- 13 Mike Leach
- 14 Neil Ryan
- 16 Beverly Boas
- 17 Karl Hostetler
- 17 Diane Mercep
- 17 Ford Van Fossan
- 18 Patrick Buchanan
- 19 Erik Schwartzenberger
- 19 Brooke Irby
- 20 Marilyn Alcamo
- 21 Cody Strong

- 22 Doug Cleven
- 23 Suzie Pearson
- 23 Tim Williams
- 25 Julia Long
- 27 Jane Hansen
- 28 David Chojnacky
- 28 Harvey
- 28 David Chojnacky
- 29 Joan Swift
- 30 Ann Pebbles

The deadline for the next issue of *The Lift* is 4 p.m., Tuesday, November 18.

Please submit information and story ideas to the church office or email to Judi Fuller at jfuller@stthomassunvalley.org
Should you have any comments or suggestions that will help us improve our newsletter, we will be pleased to receive them.

Should you wish to discontinue your subscription to *The Lift* please let us know via email.

WAGON DAYS

Saturday, August 31

Join us for the best seat on the parade route on the St. Thomas sidewalk! Support Youth Group trips and activities with your \$10/seat. We set up the chairs, you show up and enjoy!

Chili, hot dogs, and drinks are available for purchase.

Seating begins at 11:00 a.m.

Parking is limited. If you require ADA parking please reserve with Sara.

RESERVE SEATS BY CALLING THE CHURCH OFFICE
(208) 726-5349 or speak to Sara Gorby.



MINI-MESSY CHURCH AT ST. THOMAS



Many of you may remember Messy Church that Jessica Bejot introduced to our Saturday evening worship a few years ago. We want to bring some of that flavor back with Mini-Messy Church!

Messy Church is the idea of experiencing the Bible stories in very tactile ways. With hands-on creative experiences, it is great for all ages and we encourage parents to share in the experience with their children.

How it will work:

- | | |
|------------|---|
| 9:30 a.m. | Gather in the Narthex by the wooden cross/name tags |
| 9:35 a.m. | Welcome 2/3 |
| 9:40 a.m. | Split into 2 or 3 stations (art/craft, kitchen, meditation) |
| 10:00 a.m. | Talk/Discussion |
| 10:20 a.m. | Join Communion |

Mark Your Calendars Mini-Messy Church:

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| October 13 | I am the Good Shepherd (John 10:7-11) |
| November 17 | I am the Light for the World (John 8:12) |

SUNDAY SCHOOL/YOUTH GROUP REGISTRATION AND CARNIVAL BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

Bring your backpacks to be blessed as we head into a new school year. After church we will kick off a new year with games, a bounce house, and Big Wood Dogs Cart.

When: Sunday, September 8, 2018

Where: St. Thomas Church

Time: Following the 9:30 service, during Coffee Hour

All Are Welcome!

Register and update information about your children and young people at the registration table.

Blessing of the Backpacks

Sunday, September 8th
during the 9:30 am service

Join us at coffee hour after the service for Sunday School & Youth Group registration, bounce house, Bigwood Dogs Hot Dog Cart, fun & games!

St. Thomas Episcopal Church
Sun Valley, Idaho



FAMILY MINISTRIES POTLUCK DINNER

When: Sunday, September 29

Time: 5:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m.

Where: The Hickey's Home

705 Canyon Road in East Fork

Bring: Salad, side dish, or dessert to share (and BYOB)

RSVP: Liz Hickey, lhickey@stthomassunvalley.org

TEEN CONFIRMATION CLASS

We will offer a Teen Confirmation Class this fall in anticipation of the Bishop's Visit on October 27th.

Who Youth ages 8th grade +

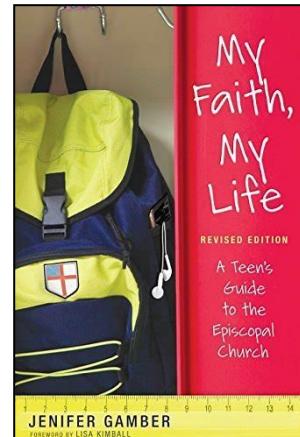
Where St. Thomas Fireside Room

When Proposing Monday evenings 6:00-7:30

Starting September 9th

Book *My Faith, My Life* by Jenifer Gamber

Register with Sara Gorby, sgorby@stthomassunvalley.org or (208) 726-5349 ext. 16.



YOUTH ACOLYTE TRAINING

Acolytes are the service participants who carry the crosses, candles, and other items in procession, and who help in a number of important ways throughout the service.

Becoming an acolyte is a great way to get involved and to learn more about Episcopal worship.

Who: youth ages 5th grade +

Training: Sunday October 20th after church

Questions: Contact Sara Gorby, sgorby@stthomassunvalley.org

YOUTH GROUP FALL CALENDAR

Youth Group meets during the 9:30 am service.

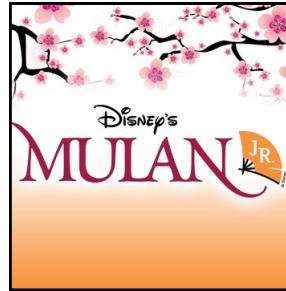
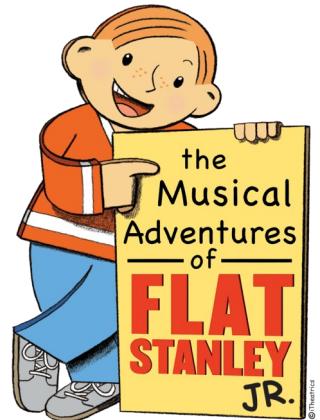
- September 15 Get To Know You Games & Burning Questions
- September 22 Walk the Labyrinth & Monkey Bread
- September 29 Lesson: The Story of Adam & Eve
Family Ministries Pot Luck Dinner @
The Hickey's
- October 6 Blessing of the Animals & Baking Pet Treats
- October 13 Mini-Messy Church for Children & Youth
- October 20 Lesson: The Story of Joseph the son of Isaac
- October 27 BISHOP THOM'S VISIT ~ Remain in Worship
Youth Acolyte Training after church
- November 3 ALL SAINTS SUNDAY
- November 10 Lesson: Praying in the Color
- November 17 Mini-Messy Church for Children & Youth
- November 24 Assemble Thanksgiving Baskets



NURSERY CAREGIVERS

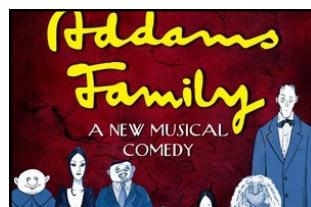
We say a fond farewell to Isaac Brannon and Audra Mary as our nursery caregivers as they headed off to college! We are so grateful for their service and send them with blessings for adventures lies ahead.

We welcome four new nursery caregivers. Natalee Morse, Julia Ott, Bella Mautua, and Emma Bejot. They have all been involved in St. Thomas Sunday School, Youth Group, and St. Thomas Playhouse. Say hello when you see them!



STP SUMMER 2019 PHOTOS!

Here are some of our favorite photos from this summer, featuring our June productions of *Flat Stanley Jr.* and *The Addams Family*, SPACC and our August production of Disney's *Mulan Jr.* Once again, we had over 200 children participate in our programming this summer, along with guest artists and directors from around the country!



"FIDDLER ON THE ROOF"

Winner of nine Tony Awards when it debuted in 1964, *Fiddler on the Roof* is the brainchild of Broadway legends, Jerome Robbins and Harold Prince, songwriters, Jerry Bock and Sheldon Harnick, and bookwriter, Joseph Stein. Touching audiences worldwide with its humor, warmth and honesty, this universal show is a staple of the musical theatre canon.

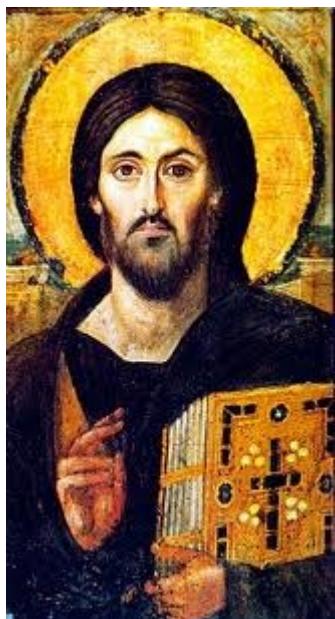


Set in the little village of Anatevka, the story centers on Tevye, a poor milkman, and his five daughters. With the help of a colorful and tight-knit Jewish community, Tevye tries to protect his daughters and instill them with traditional values in the face of changing social mores and the growing anti-Semitism of Czarist Russia. Rich in historical and ethnic detail, *Fiddler on the Roof*'s universal theme of tradition cuts across barriers of race, class, nationality and religion, leaving audiences crying tears of laughter, joy and sadness.

Our cast features over 50 members of the community, with ages ranging from 11 to 83 years old.

Performances: September 19 at 7:00 p.m.
September 20 at 7:00 p.m.
September 21 at 2:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.
September 22 at 2:00 p.m.

Tickets are available online at
www.stthomasplayhouse.org or by
calling 208-726-5349 ext. 15.



A LOOK AHEAD TO THE TAIZÉ SERVICES IN WINTER

Traditional Taizé services will again be offered this coming winter at St. Thomas. The services will begin on the first Wednesday of Advent, December 4th, and continue into Epiphany, after a short break for the holidays.

This 30-minute candlelit service was initiated at St. Thomas in 1994. Today, the service continues to focus on a shared experience to deepen an inward awareness of God's presence in our lives, both individually and collectively, leading towards reconciliation and peace in our homes, in the community, the nation, and the world.

Taizé is a meditative service that incorporates repetitive song and chant, scripture reading, prayer, and several periods of group silence. The service is led by clergy and laypersons alike and freely open to any member of the community seeking the solace and comfort of this beautiful meditative experience.

Any member of St. Thomas interested in joining the small committee leading and hosting the Taizé services is urged to be in touch with Associate Rector, Kathleen Bean, at the church office or kathleen.bean@stthomassunvalley.org.

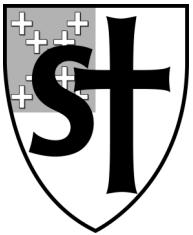
WINTER CAMP

St. Thomas Playhouse will host Company B Winterized once again! Featuring the songs of Queen, the camp is sure to be a rockin' good time. The dates for the camp are Dec. 26-28 & 30, and registration will open November 1. at www.stthomasplayhouse.org

For: Ages 4-13

Where: St. Thomas Episcopal Church





st. thomas episcopal church
201 Sun Valley Road
PO Box 1070
Sun Valley, ID 83353

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BISHOP	The Rt. Rev. Brian J. Thom
INTERIM PRIEST	The Rev. Robert Gieselmann
ASSOCIATE RECTOR	The Rev. Kathleen Bean
VESTRY OFFICERS	Georgia Stewart, Senior Warden Brad Musbach, Junior Warden
VESTRY MEMBERS	Alison Burpee, Ruth Jones, Lisa Leach, Claudia McCain, Tim Price, Becky Smith, Rebecca Waycott
ADMINISTRATION	Joel Bejot, Music Director Judi Fuller, Parish Administrator Sara Gorby, Children, Youth, and Family Ministries Director and Playhouse Education Director Liz Hickey, Sunday School Coordinator Brett Moellenberg, Playhouse Managing Director and Electronic Media Coordinator

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday: 8:00 a.m.- Rite I Eucharist
9:30 a.m.- Rite II Eucharist with Music
Wednesday: 1:00 p.m. Eucharist with Anointing for Healing
Evensong Service at 5:30 p.m. (9/29, 10/27, 11/17, 12/22)

NURSERY, CHURCH SCHOOL & ADULT EDUCATION

Nursery Care is provided during the 9:30 a.m. Sunday service.
Christian Education for children is held at 9:15 a.m. Sunday morning.
Christian Education for Middle School youth is held at the 9:30 service on Sunday.
Adult Education meets after the 9:30 a.m. service most Sundays.
Bible study is held on Thursday at noon.

OFFICE HOURS Monday-Thursday
10:00am—4:00pm

TELEPHONE (208) 726-5349
FAX (208) 726-7570

MAILING ADDRESS:
PO Box 1070
Sun Valley ID 83353

EMAIL: admin@stthomassunvalley.org

WEBSITE: www.stthomassunvalley.org
www.stthomasplayhouse.org