

Triumph *Newsletter*

NOVEMBER 2019

Many thanks to our 85 volunteers who welcomed over 1015 neighbors at this year's Trunk or Treat!



What is Charge Conference?

The Charge Conference is the basic governing body of each United Methodist local church and is composed of all members of the Church Council, together with retired ordained ministers and retired diaconal ministers who elect to hold their membership in said Charge Conference. All members of the Charge Conference must be members of the local church. The Charge Conference must meet at least once per year to direct the work of the church and give general oversight to the Church Council, review and evaluate the mission and ministry of the church, set salaries for the pastor and staff, elect the members of the Church Council, and recommend candidates for ordained ministry. Members who are not serving in an official capacity on Church Council are welcome to attend Charge Conference to learn more about the future of St. Thomas and the UMC in 2020 and beyond.

Charge Conference

Sun, Nov 17, 4 pm

Please plan to attend this year's Charge Conference. Our District Superintendent, Rev. Jeff Mickle, will lead us in a time of holy conferencing focused on "Moving Forward in God's Mission." We will have a brief Bible study about God's mission, then consider how we are participating in that mission, and how we may move forward in it. This will be a wonderful follow-up to our Ignite Celebration and the launch of our new Strategic Plan. The agenda will also include voting on clergy compensation, church leadership, and other items requiring Charge Conference action. Rev. Mickle will also discuss the implications of General Conference 2019 actions for our local congregations and pastors. We will conclude our time together with an opportunity for fellowship and refreshments. Child Care will be provided in the Nursery.

November Sermon Series

Serenity Now

Learning to Live One Day at a Time

Beginning November 10!

This sermon series, based on the well-known Serenity Prayer written by the American theologian Reinhold Niebuhr (1892–1971) and popularized by Alcoholics Anonymous and other twelve-step programs, will help all of us discover the simple joy of taking life one day at a time. The best-known form of this prayer is as follows: "God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference."

- Serenity to Accept (Phil. 4:4 – 7)
- Courage to Change (Joshua 1: 1- 9)
- Wisdom to Know (Pr. 3: 5-8, Ecc. 9:1 – 12)

Join Pastor Abi this November for worship as we deepen our prayer life together and consider inviting someone you know who may need the encouragement of learning to pray this simple prayer.

Safety Starts with Knowing: Free Education Series

Nov 4, Nov 18 at 7 pm

The *Congregational Care Team* is hosting a Safety Forum, for our church family and the community, presenting very important topics of our day. The Forum will be presented on the third floor of St Thomas on the following **Dates**, and will address these topics:

Monday, November 4, 7 pm

Personal Safety Presenters: SGT A. BARAHONA, Manassas City Police and SARAH MAHONEY, Manassas City Police, Crime Prevention Specialist

Nothing feels worse than when we feel threatened. Learn when to call the police and how to facilitate positive interaction between the Police and citizens; as well as the benefits of the "See Something, Say Something" program and personal safety (residential, auto), as well as police services in general.

Monday, November 18, 7 pm

Bullying/Cyber-bullying: what *everyone* should know.

Presenter: JENNY MISCHEL, PhD George Mason University, Dr. Mischel is an expert in the field of bullying identification and prevention. *Teens are encouraged to attend.*

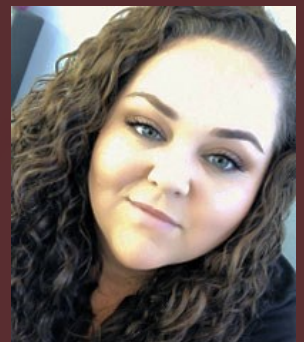
Reservations are kindly requested for preparation and space purposes.

Please contact the St Thomas Church Office, Samantha.Bouquet@stthomasumc.org OR 703-368-5161 x 101

Dear Church Family,

Sam Daniel, our dedicated and hard-working Food Pantry Director is relocating to Florida to be closer to both her parents and in-laws. October 31 was her last day on staff leading the Food Pantry. Under Sam's leadership with numerous volunteers, the St Thomas Food Pantry served 3,180 families and 13,872 individuals and collected 285,704 pounds of food over the past year. Sam's impact on our church community has indeed been a blessing to so many and a compelling example of how St Thomas UMC serves its neighbors. Please join me in sending thanks and prayers of gratitude and best wishes to Sam for her work at St Thomas and for her new journey with her family in Florida.

Farewell, Sam!



Bill Bixby, SPRC Chair

Holiday Bazaar a Big Success!

United Methodist Women



UMW who helped staff this year's Bazaar (pictured above) and some of the beautiful crafts sold that day (below). If you missed out, the UMW will be hosting a Mini Bazaar on Sun, Dec. 8!



Thank you for supporting our Bazaar via donations, shopping, and/or participation. If you missed the fun, come support our craft booth at Centreville United Methodist Church's Bazaar on Sat, Nov 2 from 9 am to 3 pm and/or at our Mini-Bazaar held in the Fellowship Hall on Sun, Dec 8! Our crafts make great Christmas presents or can be used to decorate your home for the holidays.



White House Ornaments are still available for \$22 on Sundays and through the church office.

The Annual UMW Christmas Party will be Friday, December 6 at 6 pm. Bring a potluck dish to share and a wrapped gift (\$20 value) for our fun gift exchange.

266 Apple Pies This Year!

Over five Wednesdays leading up to the Bazaar, the Apple Pie team of 12 to 15 people per week put in almost 200 hours to make 266 pies. Apparently the pies this year were particularly good, as several people came back to buy more after they baked the first one! By Sunday after the Bazaar, we were completely sold out. Sales of these pies totaled over \$3200, with all proceeds going to missions supported by the United Methodist Women. Thanks to all who bought pies, and thanks to our great team of volunteers.



OWLS: Older, Wiser, Livelier Seniors

By Lynn Furlong

On September 20 the OWLS met at the church to travel via church van to the Front Royal home of Pete and Kay Polen. Pete and Kay are former members of St Thomas UMC who moved to Front Royal several years ago. Although Pete and Kay have a lovely home, we all enjoyed spending time on their back deck, taking in the beautiful weather and serene wooded surroundings. We all were entertained by their stories of the wildlife sightings around the house, including the bear looking in the front door and a bear coming up the back steps as Kay sat reading on the deck. No, we did not see any bears or other wildlife, just lots of birds. Lunch was a potluck, and, as usual, the food was delicious. After a relaxing afternoon, we said our goodbyes and headed back to Manassas. Kay and Pete extended an open invitation to return any time. I'm sure we will put a return visit on our calendar for next year.



Please mark your calendars for our November adventure, when we will meet at Hector's of Nokesville, 12842 Fitzwater Dr. at 1 pm on November 15. Hector's is a quaint Mexican restaurant with a menu that is sure to appeal to everyone. I was assured all choices can be made without hot spices for those (me included) who don't like spicy food. We hope everyone can join us for this fun day. Please RSVP to Marian Ludlow (703-361-4390) or Lynn Furlong (703-499-0243) by November 12 so we can give Hector's our final count by November 13.

Also coming up, on December 20th the OWLS will be traveling into Washington DC to view the National Christmas Tree and then stopping at Sweetwaters in Centreville on our way back to Manassas. Put this on your calendar, NOW. More details will be in the bulletin.



The OWLS met at Jukebox Diner on October 18. More on this fun luncheon outing in the next newsletter.

Student Ministry



THE PACK AM: SUNDAYS AT 9:40 am in Room 305 Students 6th-12th grade are invited to join us as we journey together through "The Gospel Project," God's redemptive story for mankind.

UPCOMING PACK MEETINGS

November 3: DC Homeless Meal Packing, 11:30 am in Fellowship Hall

November 5: Pack Meeting

November 15-17: Called Youth Retreat, Eagle Eyrie in Lynchburg, VA



November 19: Friendsgiving, 5:30-7:30 pm

We'll start with the Thanksgiving Feast in the Fellowship Hall and then move to The Den for dessert! We'll be inviting an adult Sunday School class to join us for the fun. Bring a dessert to share!

Confirmation Orientation for Students & Parents

Sun, Nov 10, 12:30 pm in Room 300

Students 6th Grade and older are invited to join us with their parents to come find out what the Confirmation process is all about. Confirmation is the time when students have the chance to respond to their baptism and choose a life following Christ. The process begins with a series of classes beginning in late January. Contact Caleb Mathews to RSVP for the orientation. caleb.mathews@stthomasumc.org



Called Youth Conference

All 6th-12th Graders are invited to attend Nov 15-17! Join hundreds of middle and high school youth exploring what it takes and what it looks like to be ONE!

Deadline to register and pay is Nov 3.

Cost is \$155. Contact Caleb Mathews to register and pay:
caleb.mathews@stthomasumc.org



PRESCHOOL-Bubble Factory

"Can you say thank you?" How many times will a child be asked that question in their preschool years? We ask them again and again because we want to help them learn to be thankful. This month is all about saying thank you. In fact, we are going to be bubbling over with thankfulness with our Bubble Factory theme.

Throughout the month, preschoolers will learn to be thankful for their family, friends, and food. And, they'll learn that saying, "Thank you" is just as important as being thankful.



ELEMENTARY-Hall of Fame

Honor is letting someone know you see how valuable they really are. All people have value because they were created in God's image. God values each of us so much that He sent Jesus to make it possible for us to have a forever relationship with Him. We follow God's example when we show others that they have value, too. **Bottom Line:** Honor - Letting someone know you see how valuable they really are.

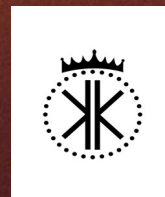
MEMORY VERSE: "Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go."

Joshua 1:9b, NIV

King's Kids

Our ministry with children seeks to share the faith with the next generation of children from birth through 5th grade. The primary ministry occurs on Sunday mornings. Check it out...

SUNDAY MORNINGS AT STUMC:



Nursery, 0-2 years old:

Provided during all three worship services from 8:00 am—12:15 pm.

SUNDAY SCHOOL @ 9:40 am



Preschool Kids,
Room 107



Elementary Kids,
Worship Center



KIDS CHURCH @ 11:00 am

3 years old-2nd Grade

Following the Children's Message in the Sanctuary, kids are escorted to the Nursery for age appropriate

KIDS CARE 2 for Tweens!

Our next gathering is Friday Nov 8, 6pm-8pm.

All 3rd-5th Graders are invited to this month's gathering in the Children's Worship Center. We'll be talking about Foster Care and doing a mission project with Together We Rise to help support kids who live in foster homes. Every month we gather for food, fun, faith, and a hands on service project. Plan to join us this month and bring a friend!





Ignite the Fire Event

A Celebration of the Past, Present,
& Future of St Thomas UMC
Sunday, November 3

All are invited to
a free, catered breakfast
beginning at 8:30 am!

Dynamic Worship begins at 10 am
(It's the end of daylight savings
so please set your clocks
back one hour on Saturday!)



November Events

Rev. Abi Foerster, Senior Pastor

stthomasumc.org

703-368-5161

Newsletter Deadline:

15th of the month

Please email all articles to both:

samantha.bouquet@stthomasumc.org

receptionist@stthomasumc.org

- Nov 3 Ignite Celebration
8:30 am Breakfast
10:00 am Worship
12:00 noon Columbarium Dedication
5:00 pm DC Homeless Mission
- Nov 4 Safety Forum - Personal Safety
- Nov 17 Charge Conference at 4 pm
- Nov 18 Safety Forum - Bullying
- Nov 19 Tues Night Dinner - Thanksgiving
- Nov 28 Thanksgiving - Office Closed
- Nov 29 Office Closed

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
November Event Calendar					1 9:30am Caregiver Support Group 7:00pm Media Circle	2
	3 Ignite Celebration 8:30am Breakfast 10:00am Worship Noon Columbarium Dedication 5:00pm DC Homeless	4 6:30pm UMW Exec Comm. Mtg 7:00pm Safety Forum – Personal Safety	5 5:30pm The Pack 7:15pm Trustees, Congregational Care, Stewardship	6 6:00am Alzheimer’s Networking Group	7	8 8:30am Manassas Therapy Dogs 11:00am DAR Meeting
10 12:30pm Orientation for Confirmation 12:30pm Worship Committee	11 7:00pm Life After Miscarriage	12 1:00pm Dorcas Circle 7:15pm Finance, Communications, Evangelism, Children/Youth Team	13	14	15	16 8:00am USDA Food Distribution 11:00am Memory Cafe
17 4:00pm Charge Conference	18 7:00pm Safety Forum - Bullying	19 4:00pm Worship Arts 7:15pm The PACK 7:15pm SPRC, START	20	21	22	23 8:00am Food Pantry Turkey Day
24	25	26 7:15pm Church Council	27	28 THANKSGIVING Office Closed	29 Office Closed	30
Weekly Schedule (subject to change due to holidays or other events – check with your coordinator)						
12:15pm JNS Rehearsal	7:30pm St Thom Cats	5:30pm Dinner 6:00pm Kidz Rock Choir 6:30pm Worship 7:15pm Praise Band 8:00pm AA Meeting	10:00am Quilts for Kids 6:45pm Chancel Choir	9:00am Classical Conversations 7:30pm Handbell Choir 8:00pm AA Meeting		8:00am Ladies Emmaus Group 8:00am Men’s Breakfast Group 9:00am Food Pantry

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
November Birthdays					1 Doug Byard Stella Bouquet	2
3 Jane Amstutz Hank Heuser	4	5 Tyler Parowski	6 Debbie Barnard Kennedy Alexander	7 Hope Segar	8 Kimberly McGregor	9 Joe Workman
10 Jackie Pearson Daniel Ometz Daniel Lewis Jennifer Lewis	11	12	13 Bryant Alexander	14 Janel Weed	15 Samantha Seagle	16
17	18 Dick Crompton Jill Guice	19	20	21	22 Jeff Thornton	23
24 Lee Becker Nailey Norman	25	26 Brenda Farrar Daniel Deem	27 Karen King Meghan Perez	28 Tammy Fick Jeffrey Barlow Cindy Enke	29 Steve Verosko	30 Nicholas Kinnear