

A large purple Easter egg with a green band at the bottom, set against a background of colorful, textured brushstrokes in shades of blue, orange, green, and pink. The text "Triumph" is written in a black serif font, and "Newsletter" is written in a red cursive font across the egg.

Triumph Newsletter

APRIL 2022



Holy Week Worship Schedule

Palm Sunday, April 10

The Chancel Choir, accompanied by a small ensemble of instruments, will

share "Love Divine" by Joel Raney at BOTH services on Palm Sunday. This beautiful Holy Week Cantata features familiar Easter hymns and blends them with newly composed music for the season. Children are invited at 11 am to help lead the Palm Processional for the opening song. What a great Sunday to invite a friend for worship!

prayer vigil, a contemplative, self-led worship service will be available in the Sanctuary, with prayer prompts and resources, to help guide participants during their 30 minutes. Up to four families may sign up for the same time slot and this experience is appropriate for all ages. Please sign-up for your 30-minute time slot by going online to the following link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/508084CACA922A1FE3-20221>

Maundy Thursday, April 14, 7 PM

This service will feature traditional music, a meaningful message, Holy Communion, and the stripping of the altar in preparation for the Good Friday Prayer Vigil and Easter Resurrection!

Good Friday, April 15, 12-Hour Prayer Vigil

Individuals and families are invited to sign up for 30-minutes of prayer on the day that Jesus was crucified for our sins. Throughout the 12-hour

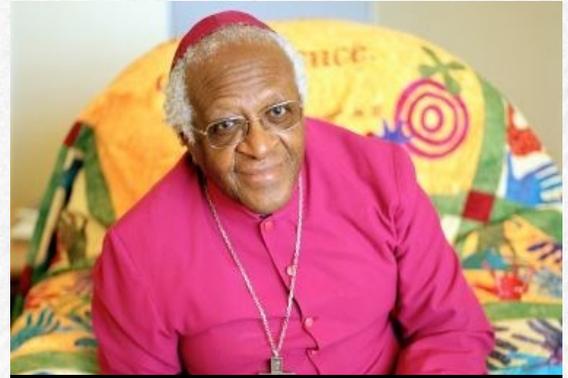
Easter Sunday, April 17

- 6:45 AM, Sunrise Service near the Columbarium. Please bring your own lawn chair. If raining, service will be indoors.
- 7:15 AM Easter Breakfast in Fellowship Hall and also Curbside To Go.
- 9 AM Traditional Celebration Service
- 11 AM Contemporary Celebration Service

Childcare is available for Sunday Services & Maundy Thursday.

Stories of Forgiveness Art Exhibition

St. Thomas is hosting the exhibition “Stories of Forgiveness,” which is a program of The Forgiveness Project, April 1 – 21. This thought provoking collection of arresting images and personal narratives explores forgiveness in the face of atrocity. Drawing together voices from South Africa, America, Israel, Palestine, Northern Ireland and England, the exhibition examines forgiveness as a healing process, a path out of victimhood and, ultimately, a journey of hope. Members of St. Thomas and the public may view the exhibit during 9 am—5 PM, Mon – Fri, and on Sundays, 9 am—1 PM. During Holy Week, extended evening hours from 5—8 pm will be offered. One visitor of the exhibition commented, “I have seen the exhibition twice myself now and for me it is the most moving and helpful experience of my life – it helped me cope with my own experience when all other methods had not succeeded.”



The Forgiveness Project, Photo by Brian Moody

We are also hosting a **special reception and hybrid gallery talk** with Louisa Hext, North America Exhibition Coordinator, on Saturday, April 9 from 1 - 4 pm. RSVP today by calling the Office if you’d like to attend.



The Crisis in Ukraine

Many of you have asked about ways to help the incredible people of Ukraine. The Missions Council has given \$2000 to this cause. If you would like to add to this, we recommend you donate to the Methodist relief Ministries/UMCOR with Advance #982450-Ukraine written on the memo line. Please mail it to: Global Ministries/UMCOR GPO, PO Box 9068, New York, NY 10087-9068. Thank you for your generosity.

Our Easter Offering

This year’s Easter offering will help support the mission work coordinated through our Mission Council, with the following principles guiding their work together:

- 50% supports local mission in our community
- 25% supports national mission projects
- 15% supports international missionaries and mission work,
- 10% supports miscellaneous efforts such as new projects or empowering more young people to serve in mission who would not otherwise be able to do so.

Throughout much of the history of the church, Lent has represented a time of self-denial and examination, a time to ponder what it means to be a disciple of Jesus. As we prepare our hearts for the resurrection of our Lord, may your Easter offering reflect what it means to you to be his disciple.

Community Clothing Closet



The Community Clothing Closet continues to serve about 160-180 families monthly. Your donations of new and gently used clothing are much appreciated! We are continually in need of underwear, socks, jeans and t-shirts for men, women and children. As we move into the warmer months, shorts and capris are needed as well. Watch the weekly bulletin for our most pressing needs each month.

I'm excited to have added some new folks who come regularly to fold during the week! We were blessed by Micron and Aurora organizations who came and folded and helped distribute clothing! Please consider helping one Saturday morning. It's a great opportunity to do together with your small group or as a family. Please reach out to Renee Kinnear (Renee@rrkinnear.com) if interested to learn more.

'whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.' Matthew 25:40

Taste of St. Thomas Newcomer's Event



All newcomers and guests are invited to the Taste of St. Thomas on Sunday, April 3 at 12:15 pm in Room 300! You can learn a little more about St. Thomas and meet pastors, key lay leaders and other newcomers, all the while enjoying a lunch made by our awesome kitchen ministry team. Please sign up on the Connect Card in your bulletin or by calling the church office. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Arum at arum.kim@stthomasumc.org.

Graduate Sunday

We would like to celebrate our graduates during Sunday Worship Services on Sunday, May 15th! There will also be a small reception with cakes and refreshments in between the two worship services (at 10 - 11 AM) that our church members can stop by and greet with the student and their families.

If you or someone you love is graduating this year (high school, college, graduate school, professional school, etc.), please fill out a form by Sunday, April 24th here: <https://forms.gle/LHvgQSKeHaRvuXmQ7>



Any questions? Please contact Pastor Arum (arum.kim@StThomasUMC.org or 571-438-3953)

United Methodist Women



The UMW is holding a Spring Craft Bazaar! To see the available items and place an order, go to:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/bEsQdBdhDwedJ59U8>.

Orders will be accepted through noon on **April 4**. Click on the photos to enlarge and read the information. To place an order, email item number from photo to Info.STUMW@gmail.com. We will respond with a pickup receipt.

Curbside pickup will be on Tuesday, April 5, 5-6:00 pm by the carport at the Parsonage House. Please have exact change or checks made out to STUMW. We will bring your order to your car. All proceeds go to missions supporting women and children.



Join the United Methodist Women for a Flower Arranging Workshop at The Flower Gallery, led by Doug Burroughs. We'll meet at The Flower Gallery, Saturday, **April 9 at 10am**. Cost for the presentation, materials and flowers is \$40, or just come to learn for free. Refreshments provided. Bring a friend! Sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0C4FADAB2CA3F85-flowe>

News from the Kitchen

We are very appreciative for the extra help we have had while Frank is recovering from surgery. As many of you know he is home and taking things easy. He has enjoyed receiving cards from many of you during this time. If you would like to send him a card his address is: 10812 Caraway Circle Manassas, VA 20109.

Please look for details about the Easter breakfast elsewhere in the newsletter.

Our April menus are as follows:

April 5

Garden Salad

Bacon Cheeseburger

French Fries

Dessert: Pumpkin Pie

Kids: Same as Adult meal

Cookie: Caramel Bars

April 12

No dinner this week. Please join us next week, April 19.

April 19

Caesar Salad

Chicken and Mushroom Crepes

Steamed Broccoli

Dinner Roll

Dessert: Lemon Meringue Pie

Kids: Chicken Nuggets

Cookie: Caramel Bars

April 26

Steak and Chicken Fajita

Rice and Beans

Dessert: Flan with Caramel

Kids: Grilled Cheese

Cookies: Caramel Bars

Thank you!

The Kitchen Ministry Team

Children's Ministry



The Children's Ministry has been exploring our "Page-Turner" themed Sunday School lessons with kids both virtually and in-person. In April we will be focusing on "Did You Know," a series in which we will learn many interesting facts as well as learning that Jesus is King, He is alive, He loves us, and we can trust Him. Children's Church during the 11:00 service is always a good time, reinforcing our weekly and monthly themes.

Easter Egg Hunt

We hope everyone can join us on Saturday, April 16 from 2-4pm for the Easter Egg Hunt. We have many more activities planned than just finding eggs. The fun will include a petting zoo, photos with the Easter Bunny, crafts, music from the praise band, and food trucks for everyone to purchase a tasty treat.

You can help us get ready by donating candy and Easter eggs. Filled eggs are preferred, but we are also grateful for empty eggs and/or candy donations. All candy must be individually wrapped and nut-free candy is preferred if possible.



Tweens Ministry

The Tweens Ministry, Kids Care 2, had a Lenten theme in March. We created our Lenten devotional, made resurrection rolls, and learned that because of what Jesus did for us, sin can just fly away if we ask for forgiveness. On April 8, the group will meet to help prepare for the Egg Hunt and enjoy carnival-themed fun outside (weather permitting). The Tweens are also looking forward to having their very own exclusive camp this summer! More to come on that soon!



VBS Is Around the Corner!

We are hosting VBS this summer from June 20-24. The theme is Food Truck Party and it is sure to be a blast. If you are able to lend a hand that week, please reach out to Kristi Swanson. We are thankful for all assistance! We also invite you to join us for Spy Academy and Innovation Lab later in the summer. Children can be registered for camps at this link: <https://stthomasumc.org/summercamps.html>



Student Ministry

By Pastor Arum

Easter is around a corner, so **Youth Sunday** is, too! We traditionally celebrate Youth Sunday, on the following Sunday after Easter, so this year's Youth Sunday will be Sunday, April 24th. In the last two years, due to the pandemic our students pre-recorded their skit, their music performance and readings and presented them as a video during the worship services. But, this year, most of the parts will be live on site. Our students will practice their parts during the PACK Night time on the first two Sundays of April. Please mark the Youth Sunday on your calendar and come join to support our students!



This year's **Graduate Sunday** is Sunday, May 15. We will celebrate the big accomplishment of our high school seniors, and college and graduate school graduates during the worship services. There will be also a simple reception with cakes and refreshments in between the two services in the Fellowship Hall that our church members can stop by and greet with the students and their families. If you or someone you love is graduating this year, please fill out a form here by Sunday, April 24th: <https://forms.gle/LHvgQSKehaRvuXmQ7>

Here are the highlights of THE PACK Gatherings in March!



*Every first Sunday we have our Worship Day and celebrate the birthdays of the month.
Happy Birthday to Wyatt Almond, Jack Bailey, Felicia Michalek, Gabby Ledesma, and Aiden Lowry!
(Jack Bailey and Wyatt Almond pictured)*



On our Fun Day, we went to play bowling! Can you guess who was the best player? It's Nick Kinnear!

Did you notice that the lawn around the church building and the Food Pantry area became extra neat and trash-less? It's because our students mulched and picked up trash on March 27 as their mission project of the month! Our church is so ready for Easter celebration!



This year four students are on the Confirmation Journey (as pictured above from left to right): Stephanie Burnett, David Ometz, Jonathan Buck (John Rosko, an adult leader), Christopher Verosko. They are meeting in Room 309 on Sunday mornings at 10AM.

The Confirmands also participated in the Bi-District Confirmation Retreat on Saturday, March 26 at Camp Highroad. It was an awesome opportunity to meet many students at other UMCs who are taking the same confirmation journey! We are one family in Christ!



Older, Wiser, Livelier Seniors (OWLS)

Fourteen OWLS enjoyed a nice breakfast/lunch at IHOP at Manassas Mall on Friday, March 25. It was so good to see some new faces as well as a few who haven't been able to join us lately. Once we finished our meal, five walked down to the Pottery Café where we painted our pottery pieces that included cups, a bowl and a shell shaped soap dish. We can't wait to see what they look like when glazed and fired.

Next month we will meet on Friday, April 22 at Cracker Barrel, north of I 66. Please note, we will be returning to our regular time of 1:00 AM. Mark your calendars now! We hope to see you there. Please RSVP to Marian (571-315-6881) or Lynn (703-499-0243) by April 20 so we can give Cracker Barrel a final count.

The OWLS meet the 4th Friday of each month and we always welcome new friends, 55 years old and older. You do not have to be a member of St. Thomas to attend.



St. Thomas
United Methodist Church

St. Thomas UMC

8899 Sudley Road,
Manassas, VA 20110

Rev. Abi Foerster, Senior Pastor

Rev. Arum Kim, Associate 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

Upcoming Events

- **April 9** UMW Flower Arranging Workshop, 10 am
- **April 9** Stories of Forgiveness Reception, 1 pm
Holy Week (M—F) Evening Hours, 5 - 8 pm
- **April 10** **Palm Sunday Easter Cantata**
9 am & 11 am (with Kid's Palm Procession)
- **April 14** **Maundy Thursday Service**, 7 pm
- **April 15** **Good Friday Prayer Vigil**, 7am - 7 pm
- **April 16** Easter Egg Hunt, 2pm - 4pm
- **April 17** **Easter Sunday**
6:45 am Sunrise Service
7:15 am Breakfast
9:00 am Traditional Worship
11:00 am Contemporary Worship

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 Carolyn Clouse Carl Juran	4 Pat Dodson	5	6 Dominic Johnson	7	8 Mary Petrilla Kathy Swancott	9 Anne Young Merv Lyle
10	11 Katie Yost Will Ameen	12 Virginia Shin	13 Christopher Adams Heather Jones Logan Kotus Don Rickerson Connie Santee	14	15 Jonathan Buck Madalyn Young Chris Tacik	16
17	18	19	20 Earl Amstutz Daniel Goldfarb	21 David Norman Jaime Thornton	22 Madison Assor Samirah Jarrett	23 Renee Kinnear
24	25 Jim Flynn	26	27	28 Robby Fick	29 Pam Ackley Daniel Harcup Kathy Evans	30