

July 12, 2020

St. Thomas's Episcopal Parish
276 S. College Ave Newark, DE
302.368.4644

weekly newsletter

The Carpenter's Helper

This Week..we are filled with gratitude

Welcome! to our new Vestry class

This weekend, we are making it official! With gratitude to all who were involved in this year's election by mail, we welcome the St Thomas's Episcopal Church's Vestry Class of 2023:

Barbara Graham, Jill Englund Jensen, Madeline Johnson, and Kristin Sausville.

And let's not forget **Larry Duggan** who has stepped up to fulfill the final year gap left by the shift in responsibilities our our parish administrator (you can't be parish administrator and be on the vestry).

On Friday, they will begin their vestry orientation, take a look at SWEEPS and start planning what steps we can take forward in our mission of embodying God's LOVE in ACTION. What are SWEEPS you may ask. It's an acronym outlining the different ministries:

- S**- stewardship
- W**- worship
- E**- education
- E**- evangelism
- P**- pastoral care
- S**- service

**O God our protector, by whose mercy the world turns
safely into darkness and returns again to light:
we give into your hands the decisions made,
the dreams taking shape and the unfinished tasks,
for you alone are our sure defense and bring us lasting peace
in Jesus Christ our Lord.
*Amen.***

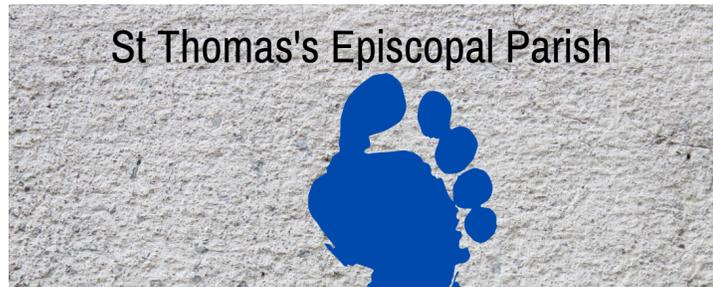
Please keep this group in your prayers, especially this weekend. And, if you feel a stirring to join in any of the ministries here at St Thomas, talking to any of our stellar 12 vestery members is a great place to start!

During the COVID-19 pandemic, St. Thomas's is alive and well. We are worshiping via live streaming on YouTube (See our YouTube Channel and hit Subscribe!). The full-text bulletins for our services can be found on our website, and by email request.

We also continue to respond to the needs of the Newark Community through our collaboration with the Newark Empowerment Center and others. Those who would like to support our work may do so by going to our "Giving to St Thomas's" page.

Our prayers are with all those who are ill, all who are caring for them, and all who are striving to hear the voice of God in these challenging times. May God bless you and keep you, now and always. For more, see the Episcopal Diocese of Delaware COVID-19 site.

Contact the office to join in the movement!



SOUL SURRENDERERS



Our Bounty has again been Blessed!

Blue Hen Bounty receives large donation from KPMG

It is a blessing that our Blue Hen Bounty has been able to continue to serve students in need during these unprecedented times. Our community's generosity has kept our cabinets stocked full of non-perishable food, as well as cleaning and sanitary products. It seems just as you can start to see the back of a cabinet, another gift comes in.

Well, this week we received a LARGE gift- 1,900 lbs to be exact! Fr Howie definitely got his workout Thursday morning, unloading the giant pallet of boxed groceries. Each box includes the same combination of high protein, calorie sustaining foods that can be combined and stretched in many ways.

The donation comes from KPMG, an international accounting cooperative, and one of the big 4 in the world. "We remain deeply committed to serving and supporting our communities during this challenge our world is facing," said KPMG U.S. chairman and CEO Lynne Doughtie in a statement. "I'm also proud of our many partners and professionals across the country who are stepping up to help their local communities at this time in so many different ways."

Many students have needed the support of our pantry during this crisis, but there is one group that Fr Howie was reflecting on as he unloaded all those boxes. There are a group of students who are here on student visas. According to the rules governing their visas, they are not permitted to work. However, because of travel restrictions caused by the global pandemic, as well as contributing monetary factors, these young adults are unable to return home. So, they remain here, stuck, with no legal means of supporting themselves. These food supplies are a lifeline to help them keep going and can hopefully give some comfort.

Please keep these young adults in your prayers, as well as those volunteers who keep our pantry going every week. And, let us also thank God for the generosity of those who continue to keep our bounty filled, and for the opportunity to make a positive difference in our community. At St Thomas- you can see God's LOVE in ACTION in so many ways!



taking care of the rest, so you can be at your best

a food pantry for UD community

COVID-19: We are open by appointment only.
Please email bluehenbounty@gmail.com or
dburgher@udel.edu to set up an appointment.

Bring your UD ID

St. Thomas' Episcopal Church 276 South College Ave.

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