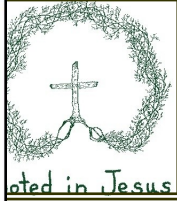


# St. Thomas' Anglican Church



## WEEKLY E-NEWSLETTER

March 10th and 11th , 2012

**Come and worship with us on:**

Thursday—10:00 a.m.—Quiet Communion

Saturday—5:00 p.m.—Contemporary Communion

Sunday—8:30 a.m.—Holy Communion

Sunday—10:30 a.m.—Holy Communion & Sunday School

**DON'T FORGET TO MOVE YOUR CLOCKS FORWARD, OTHERWISE,  
YOU'LL MISS CHURCH THIS SUNDAY**



## Weekly Notices



Those who wish to help beautify the church for Easter with **Easter lilies** may drop them off at the church before 10:00 a.m. on Holy Saturday, April 7th.

**Mission to Seafarers' Fundraising Dinner** will be April 30th. Tickets are available from our reps, Margaret Irwin and Garry Barker. Further details are on the poster in the entry.

The next **A.C.W. meeting** will be this Tuesday, March 13th @ 1:30 p.m. in Haddon Hall.

We at St. Thomas want to be an **inviting church.** Is there someone you might invite to one of our four weekly services? Let us invite someone we love to something we love.

Please support the **bake sale** for **Camp Gitchigomee** on Friday, March 30th from 9:30 a.m. —2:30 p.m. at Victoriaville. St. Thomas' and St. Stephen's are hosting this year.

### Highlights from the February 19th Advisory Board Meeting:

- First meeting of the new Board.
- New members welcomed and oriented to new roles and purpose.
- A team-building/visioning retreat day has been set.



**St. Patrick's Day Irish Roast Beef Supper**  
following the 5:00 p.m. service on  
**Saturday, March 17th**

**Hosted by the Mother's Union**  
(Free will offering)

**Please join us for the service and supper.**

**And wear green!**

**MENU:**  
Roast Beef  
Mashed Potatoes  
& Gravy  
Carrots  
Tossed Salad  
Green Dessert

**Yummy!!!**

## Weekly Notices continued...

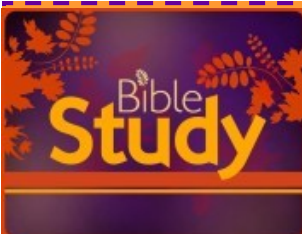
ST. THOMAS' INCOME - 2012				
Month	Monthly Income	Year-to-date Income	Compared to Monthly Needs	Year-to-date Compared to Needs
January	\$14,086.85	\$14,086.85	-\$1,614.00	-\$1,614.00
February	\$13,674.30	\$27,761.15	-\$2,026.00	-\$3,640.00
March				
April				
May				
June				
July				
August				
September				
October				
November				
December				
Monthly Basic Financial Needs				
Payroll	\$8,000.00			
Apportionment	\$4,100.00			
Insurance	\$1,100.00			
Utilities	\$2,500.00			
<b>Total Basic Needs:</b>	<b>\$15,700.00</b>			

St. Thomas did very well last year to put its financial house in order and to begin 2012 without any debt. We are grateful to those among us who financially support the church, both generously and regularly. Of course, the financial needs of the church are ongoing and it is important for all of us to share this responsibility.

Parish Executive is committed to providing monthly summaries, comparing our monthly income to our basic financial needs.

Please prayerfully consider your level of giving and help St. Thomas to be a healthy, growing church.

*"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." ~ Matthew 6:21*



A new **Lenten Book Study** has begun Wednesdays, from 7:00—9:00 p.m. in the Education Centre. This is a 5-week study of the book *"God: The Rumours Persist! Signs of Faith in a Skeptical World"* by former Anglican Bishop Bill Hockin. Please consider making this a part of your Lenten journey, and register with Pastor Doug (623-3608). Cost is \$15.00.

Some people are givers, while others are takers. We all know someone who has made us feel encouraged, and we also know someone who has made us feel defeated. Memories of friends who build us up, as well as foes who tear us down, can stay with us for a lifetime. As Christians, we are called to help people feel better about themselves, not discouraged or hopeless. Ephesians 4:29 says, *"Let everything you say be good and helpful, so that your words will be an encouragement to those who hear them."*

Building healthy relationships in our homes, our places of work, and our church, is an extension of our relationship with God. When we extend kindness and appreciation to every person we meet, God will do the same for us. Our words have the power to put a spring in somebody's step, or stop them in their tracks. They can lift somebody out of defeat and discouragement or cause them to give up and become depressed. Our words can propel someone to victory or cause them to stumble and fall. If we were to choose today to live as though this were our last moment on earth, we would, "love more deeply, forgive more readily, give more generously, and speak more kindly." ~ Joe Stowell.

Simple acts of kindness can build trust and respect. And as Pastor Joel Osteen says, it can be as simple as ... "smiling at people, acknowledging them, being friendly, complementing people, and being pleasant to them in ordinary circumstances."

I have a great hairdresser! When I leave her shop, I feel like a million bucks, and not just because she does a good job but because of who she is and what she says. Her clients are from every walk of life—from the well-to-do to those who struggle financially. She calls them all "sweetie." She makes you a cup of coffee or tea when you first arrive, and if there's something else you want, she'll send her husband out to get it for you. My hairdresser is in constant, severe pain from fibromyalgia, and yet she always puts her clients first. She fell the other day and said that her whole life didn't pass before her eyes when she went down but the faces of all her clients did. She said, "All I could think was, who will do their hair if I get hurt?" She loves her job because she loves the people she serves. She has learned that it's a privilege to make priceless and encouraging deposits in the lives of other people.

Pastor Joel Osteen, in his book—*Become A Better You*—says that "the first thirty seconds of a conversation will determine the next hour. So when you have something sensitive to talk about, when you have something that has the potential to cause conflict or problems, always start positively...Make sure that you've thought about how you're going to start the conversation, and be aware of your tone of voice. Watch your body language. Keep a pleasant expression, and choose to discuss the matter in love...Studies show that it takes five positive charges to override one negative charge. In other words, before you correct someone, make sure you have already given that person five complements. Sadly, the correction-to-complement ratio is nearly opposite in our society today. We hear five things we're doing wrong to every one thing we're doing right. No wonder our relationships are not what they should be! ... and, if you must confront someone about a matter, deal with him or her in private if at all possible, and always do your best to protect the person's dignity."

Sometimes when we're going through a difficult time, we tend to dwell on our problems and focus on our own needs. But this is the worst kind of 'prison' we can put ourselves in. God made us to be givers. When we reach out to others, even when we're hurting ourselves, we experience peace and freedom. Let us not miss the miracle of the moment. Small gestures of love and kindness can make a huge difference in our lives. We are imitating God most closely when we give. As John Bunyan, author of the classic *Pilgrim's Progress* said, "You have not lived today until you have done something for someone who can never repay you."

**Lesley Joy McClure**



The Sunday School teacher was trying to talk to her class about the Bible. She told them that it was a collection of manuscripts which form the scriptures of the Christian religion. She went on to explain that the Bible was filled with **beautiful** stories of love. Like the love that Jacob had for his son Joseph when he made him a **beautiful** and richly ornamented coat of many colors. She told the class that the Bible also had **BIG** heroes in it, like David, who fought the mighty Goliath, and saved his people. She concluded by saying that even after all these years, the Bible still continues to **fascinate** and to inspire its believers because it is the Word of God.

Little Sally asked the teacher, "What do you mean by **fascinate**?" So the teacher asked her class to use the word 'fascinate' in a sentence to help Sally understand.

Molly put up her hand and said, "My family went to my grandpa's farm and we all saw his pet sheep. It was fascinating!" "Thank you Molly," said the teacher, "but can anyone else use the word 'fascinate' instead of fascinating?"

Billy said, "My family travelled to China, and we were fascinated by so many people." "Well, that was good Billy," said the teacher, "but can anyone else just use the word 'fascinate' and relate it to what we've been talking about in the Bible?"

Little Johnny raised his hand. The teacher hesitated because she had been burned by little Johnny before. She finally decided there was no way he could damage the word 'fascinate' so she called on him.

Johnny said, "My aunt Gina has a coat of many colors with ten buttons on it, but she is so **big and beautiful** that she can only fasten eight."

The teacher sat down and cried.

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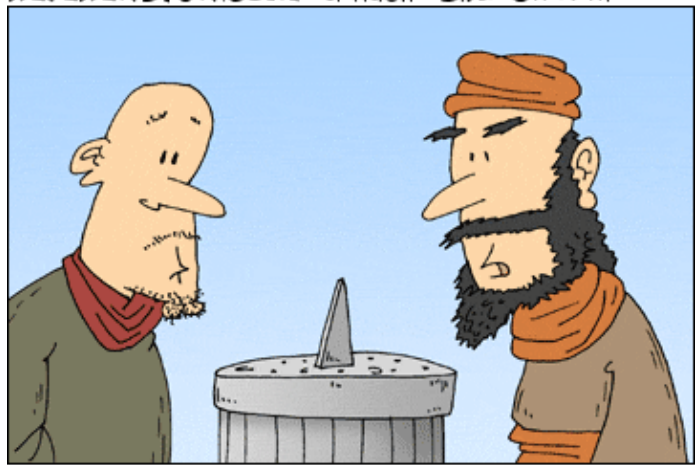


Thanks to Radical Drew Poppleton

12-26-2001

ONE HAND BUZZER AND ONE TICKED OFF DEACON LATER, AND GEORGE WAS SERIOUSLY RETHINKING HIS DECISION TO LET LITTLE JOHNNY HELP GREET

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Thanks to Rev. Ralph Crowell

02-28-2005

HOW DO WE SET THE TIME ON THIS?

On Sunday, the first day of daylight saving time, a sleepy-eyed congregation watched the young pastor ascend the pulpit in the church. Not looking too wide-eyed awake himself, he began, "As you all know, we lost an hour last night because of daylight-savings time. I don't know which hour you lost, but I lost the hour in which I usually write my sermon."

He returned to his seat and continued the service.

