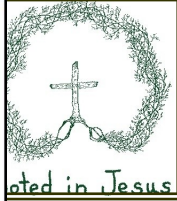


# St. Thomas' Anglican Church



## WEEKLY E-NEWSLETTER

March 3rd and 4th , 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



## Weekly Notices



**Lenten coin folders** are available at the back of the church. Please take one as a part of your Lenten journey.

There will be a **Mother's Union Meeting** on Tuesday, March 6th @ 7:00 p.m. in Haddon Hall—everyone welcome.

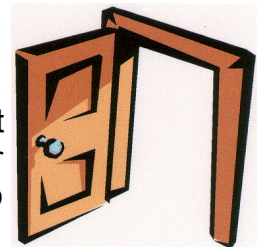
Those who wish to help beautify the church for Easter with **Easter lilies** may drop them off at the church before 10:00 a.m. on Holy Saturday, April 7th.



**Mission to Seafarers** accepts donations of magazines, warm men's clothing, and pop cans. Donations may be dropped off in the bin in the entranceway or taken to the Seafarer's Centre. Further information is available on the poster on the bulletin board, or from our representatives, Margaret Irwin and Garry Barker.

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

We at St. Thomas like to think of ourselves as an **inviting church**...but are we? When was the last time you invited someone to one of our four weekly services? Let us all remember often to invite someone we love to something we love.



There will be a **10th Annual Silent Lenten Retreat** on Saturday, March 24th from 9:00—3:30 @ St. Luke's Anglican Church, led by the Anglican Sisters of Saint John the Divine. The cost is \$25/person. To register, call Levina Collins @ 807-887-2708, or email [levinacollins@sympatico.ca](mailto:levinacollins@sympatico.ca). See the poster on the bulletin board for more details.

## Weekly Notices continued...

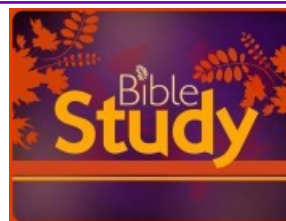
**World Day of Prayer Service** will be this Friday, March 2nd @ 2:00 p.m. at Broadway United Church. The country of focus this year is Malaysia, and the theme is 'Let Justice Prevail.'

Donations of **Canadian Tire Money** will be welcomed with thanks, to help defray the cost of property maintenance. A container is situated in the vestibule, or you may drop it off to the church office.

**Flowers are not provided by the Altar Guild during Lent**, but those requested by the Parish Family are most welcome. If you wish to arrange for flowers, please sign the 'flower chart' in the entry on the stairwell going downstairs.

### LENTEN PRAYER

Heavenly Father, as we continue in the Season of Lent, let us look upon this time as one of grace and not gloom. Knowing that Christ has died and risen once for all, takes away our despair and gives us hope. May the gospel imperative from Matthew be etched on our hearts and minds: "Do unto others whatever you would have them do to you." (Matthew 7:12a). Before we speak or act, may we seriously ask ourselves ... "Is this how I would want someone to treat me?" Help us to extend to others the kind of love, concern, and mercy that You always have for us. In Jesus Name, I pray. Amen.



**A new Lenten Book Study** begins Wednesday, March 7th 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.

*Flipper Flanagan's*  
*Flat Footed Four*

WITH SPECIAL GUESTS: THE GRUMPY GRAMPAS

IN CONCERT AT ST. THOMAS' ANGLICAN CHURCH  
IN SUPPORT OF THE NEW AUDIO VISUAL SYSTEM

ST. THOMAS' ANGLICAN CHURCH  
(1400 EDWARD STREET SOUTH)  
THURSDAY, MARCH 8TH, 2012  
TIME: 7:00 - 9:00PM \$10.00 ADVANCE \$12.00 DOOR

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT:  
CORAN'S MUSIC CENTRE, ST. THOMAS' CHURCH, J.B. EVAN'S,  
COLOSIMO'S MUSIC CENTRE - LIMITED SEATING  
FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL: 623-3608  
OR VISIT  
WWW.FLIPPERFLANAGAN.COM OR WWW.STTHOMASANGLICAN.ORG

POSTER BY WWW.SUPERIORIMAGES.CA

**Advance tickets are available in the Parish Office or from Pastor Doug or Garry Barker.**

I love that expression — “Do the math!” It’s helped me on more than one occasion to look with more ‘realistic’ eyes. People are often surprised when I tell them how nervous I am when I sing and play. But I’m getting better and my fear is less intense than it used to be. God has helped me ‘do the math’ so to speak. Let me explain.

Years ago, I played the music for the Evening Service at another church we were attending. Each week I would fret so much about it that I would become nauseous and have trouble breathing. During the service, I would get ‘the look’ from someone whenever I played a wrong note. After the service, others would complement me on a job well done, but all I would remember were the wrong notes I had played. Eventually, I couldn’t handle it anymore and I quit playing at that service. Sadly, I didn’t ‘do the math.’ I had played a few wrong notes, yes—but I had also played hundreds of right notes. My near-sightedness had gotten in the way of seeing the far scope of what God was wanting for me.

Deep down inside, I felt that I wasn’t good enough, or worthy enough, or holy enough to be playing and singing in church, so that must be why it’s not working out for me. And so, I stepped back from doing what God was calling me to do. In retrospect, I now know that this was wrong. God had given me a gift, but I had allowed fear to take over. I was listening to the wrong voices, and the worst one was my own voice pulling me down. I had to change on the inside before change would happen on the outside. I had yet to understand the challenging and convicting words in the book of James: “It is sin to know what you ought to do and then not do it.” (James 4: 17). I hadn’t ‘done the math’.

Pastor Joel Osteen says, *“You may be trying to live in victory, trying to be successful...But you are negative toward yourself. You don’t feel good about who you are. You’re constantly dwelling on your past hurts and pains. Until you are willing to let go of those offenses and start focusing on your new possibilities, they will tie you down right where you are. You cannot have a bad attitude toward yourself and expect to have God’s best. Quit focusing on what you’ve done wrong. God has already rolled away your reproach—your shame, embarrassment, failures, and setbacks. God has done His part. Now you must do your part. Let it go so you can go into your Promised Land. Start thinking, feeling, and speaking positively about yourself...Declare affirmations such as ‘I have a bright future. I am gifted. I am talented. People like me. I have the favor of God.’”*

So, the next time we feel God calling us to do something, let’s not feel disqualified because of our past, but let’s believe that we’re forgiven and restored and that God has a new plan for us. Let us shake those feelings of timidness and insecurity and believe that God is ordering our steps. We must believe with all our hearts that God has gifted us, chosen us, equipped us, and anointed us to do His work. When doubt and fear rear their ugly head, just ‘do the math’ and say, “Here I am Lord, I’m ready and available!”

**Lesley Joy McClure**



As the elderly lady shook the pastor's hand on her way out the door, she said, "I may not be seeing you for awhile pastor, I'm leaving for my new home." "Oh," said the pastor. "I know you haven't been feeling well lately, are you going into a nursing home?" "No," said the rather frail woman, "I'm going on a cruise ship." The pastor seemed a little bewildered, so the woman explained:

"The average cost for a nursing home is \$200 per day. I have checked on reservations on the cruise ship, and I can get a long term discount and senior discount price of \$135 per day. That leaves \$65 a day for:

1. Gratuities which will only be \$10 per day.
2. I will have as many as 10 meals a day if I can waddle to the restaurant, or I can have room service (which means I can have breakfast in bed every day of the week).
3. The cruise ship has as many as three swimming pools, a workout room, free washers and dryers, and shows every night.
4. They have free toothpaste, free soap and free shampoo.
5. They will even treat me like a customer, not a patient. An extra \$5 worth of tips will have the entire staff scrambling to help me.
6. I will get to meet new people every 7 or 14 days.
7. T.V. broken? Light bulb need changing? Need to have the mattress replaced? No problem! They will fix everything and apologize for my inconvenience.
8. Clean sheets and towels every day, and I don't even have to ask for them.
9. If I fall in the nursing home and break a hip I will be on Medicare; if I fall and break a hip on the cruise ship they will upgrade me to a suite for the rest of my life. And here's the best part!
10. If I want to see South America, the Panama Canal, Tahiti, Australia, New Zealand, Asia, or anywhere else I may want to go, the cruise ship will have a ship ready for me.

So don't look for me in a nursing home pastor, just call shore to ship. And don't forget, when I die, they'll just dump me over the side at no charge."

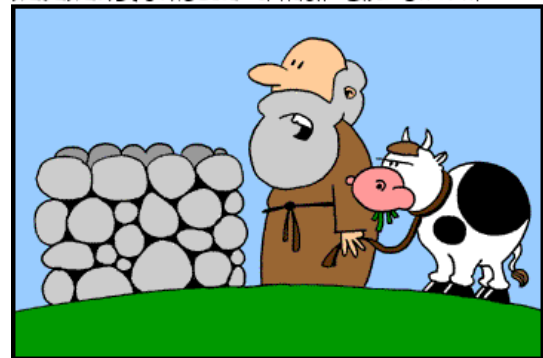
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Thanks to Mikel Rice (See Genesis 6-8)

07-11-2007

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07-03-1998

I'VE BROUGHT A FATTED CALF AS YOU REQUESTED, BUT I'M BEGINNING TO GET A BIT CONCERNED ABOUT YOUR HEALTH ... SO FOR NEXT TIME I WOULD LIKE TO SUGGEST THE SLIMMED CALF OR PERHAPS FISH

When my brother, Shay, was very young, he always walked up to the church altar with my mother when she took communion. On one occasion, he tugged at her arm and asked, "What does the priest say when he gives you the bread?" Mum whispered something in Shay's ear. Imagine his shock, many years later, when he learned that the priest doesn't say, "Be quiet until you get back to your seat."