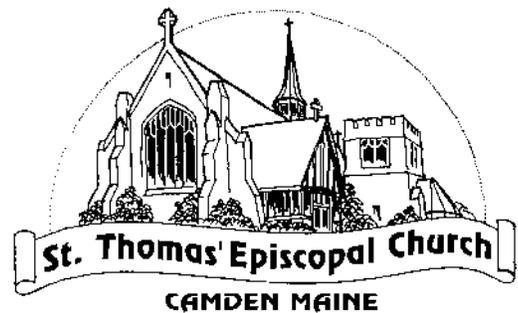


S T . T H O M A S '
Tidings

Sunday, December 2, 2018
The First Sunday of Advent

We welcome all who enter these doors, especially those who enter for the first time or after a long absence. Everyone is welcome! All are welcome to receive the Bread and Wine at this altar. **Members of our prayer ministry are available in the Chapel during Holy Communion to pray with you about any need or thanksgiving.**



The Rev. Lisa Smith Fry, Rector
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7:30 Service Coffee Hour

Please join us at Coffee Hour after the 7:30 Service. The Christmas Fair items will be on display and available to purchase. Stop by for a cup of coffee, a treat and a second chance to shop!

Food Pantry Weekend

A reminder that this Sunday, December 2 is our week to collect for the area food pantry. As you prepare for the holidays, please consider making an extra donation to help families in our community. Donation envelopes are in the pews, and baskets for donations of non-perishables are located in the Wood St. entry area. Thank you for your generosity during the holiday season!!

New Rector's class begins this Sunday, Dec 2

The Rector's class begins again this Sunday at 9:00 in the conference room. We will be watching a video series about the phenomenon of everything in the church and world being in an upheaval every 500 years. Watch a video discussion with Phyllis Tickle and friends as they discuss the latest upheaval, called The Great Emergence. Then we'll have our own discussion. All are welcome.

In-Gathering Sunday

Our In-Gathering Sunday will be next week, December 9th. Thank you to those who have already returned their pledge cards in support of St. Thomas'. To date we have received 20 pledge cards totaling \$52,300. Please send your pledge cards in as soon as possible. This church can't run without your support. Additional Stewardship Brochures can be found in the Narthex and Sun Room.

Calling all Angels

Our St. Thomas' Community is once again partnering with the Knox County Homeless Coalition/Hospitality House to provide Christmas gifts for our neighbors in need.

The Angel Tree is up in the Sunroom. This year we have included several adults, hoping that the gift of giving will be extended to all our neighbors, young and old alike.

In the Spirit of Christ's exhortation to "Love your neighbor as yourself," we can open our hearts and be an Angel to a family in need.

There is a sign up sheet for each Angel that should be filled in. All gifts should be returned to St. Thomas', wrapped with their Angel attached identifying which family member they are for by Friday, December 7.

Blessings,
St. Thomas' Outreach Coalition

Christmas Eve Children's Pageant

Exciting news! There will be a children's pageant again this year during the December 24th Christmas Eve Service at 4.30pm. Rehearsals will start this Sunday December 2nd during the Sunday school classes at 9-10 am and continue every Sunday leading up to Christmas. As part of our Advent activities the children will be selecting and fixing costumes, practicing songs and hymns to be sung during the pageant and rehearsing in the church. All children are welcome and encouraged to participate.

For further information about the pageant and rehearsals, please contact Rachel Bickham at troyandrachelb@hotmail.com.

Outreach Meeting

Outreach Committee will be meeting the first Tuesday, December 4 at 5:00 pm in the Conference Room.

Today's Music

Advent I

December 2, 2018

We usher in the beginning of the liturgical year (Advent I) with beloved hymns and music. Each week we will sing one stanza of *O come, O come, Emmanuel* (Hymn 56). We enter worship singing **Charles Wesley's** text (published in 1758), *Lo! He comes with clouds descending*. John Wesley matched this text in 1765 with this tune attributed to **Thomas Olivers** (English, 1725-1799) who was one of Wesley's preachers. Olivers was orphaned at age four and was passed from relative to relative: consequently he received little guidance or supervision. He was forced to leave town due to scandalous conduct; wandered and finally wound up in Bristol where he was converted after hearing George Whitefield preach. And the rest, as they say, is history. Olivers is the author of the stirring hymn, *The God of Abraham praise* (Hymn 401).

Sleepers, wake! (Hymn #61) is known as the King of Chorales. **Philip Nicolai** (German, 1556-1608) wrote both text and tune while pastor in Westphalia during a devastating epidemic that claimed more than 1300 people between 1597-1598. Nicolai's parsonage overlooked the church graveyard where each day there were as many as thirty interments. The text makes sense especially in that context. Today I play pieces based on this chorale by **Alec Wyton** (English, 1921-2007) and **Johann Gottfried Walther** (German, 1684-1748)

The prelude title, *Adoro devote* is the tune for the hymn we sing during communion, *Humbly I adore thee*. This com-

munion text has been attributed to **Thomas Aquinas** (c.750-821) and we have been singing it paired with the French processional tune since the 18th century. The prelude is by **Sam Batt Owens** (American, 1928-1998) who was an outstanding church musician (57 years), professor (36 years) and composer (268 pieces published).

The Choir sings **Carl Haywood's** (American, b. 1949) arrangement of the spiritual, *Steal away*. Like many spirituals, the text has a double meaning: the sweetness of death as release/encouragement for a slave to run away. There is also the great message of hope in God's justice/impending change. Don't think too much, though; just let the music wash over and through you.

We go forth into the world singing the lively tune, *Richmond*, by **Thomas Haweis** (English 1734-1820) with the text by **Philip Dodderidge** (English, 1702-1751). The postlude by **Gerald Near** (American, b. 1942) is based on the tune in our hymnal (#63), *Verbum supernum prodiens*. The music lives up to the title: listen for when I play the tune on the trumpet!

Jane Schroeder
Minister of Music

Prayer List

Please pray for those members of this parish and others who are in special need: Marya Allen, Ron, Andrew, Joanne Scott, Tiffany Andrews, Seana Roubinek, Pat Olds, Carolyn Morris, Janan Vaughn, Rosalind Clarke, Amy, Gordon Gushee, Susan, Martha, Jean Harper, Abby Neal, Mary, Jeremiah Swett, Dustin, Maxine, Katherine Davis.

What's Where

Our Sunday School and Nursery rooms are located past the sun room. Turn right. The *Blue Room* is the Nursery & *Godly Play*; the *Yellow Room* is the *God, the Bible and Me* classroom. Restrooms are located down the right aisle, past the Chapel, at the end of the corridor on the left side. Additional rest rooms are located in the basement (down the same corridor, via the stairway on your left). The Conference Room is past the sunroom, take the right corridor to the end and turn left.

This Sunday December 2, 2018 First Sunday of Advent

Jeremiah 33:14-16

Psalms 25:1-9

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

Luke 21:25-36

7:30 am: Celebrant and Preacher: The Rev. Lisa Smith Fry ; **Eucharistic Minister:** Sandy Lyle; **Lectors:** Sandy Lyle, Jan Lyle; **Prayers of the People:** Pat Ayers; **Usher:** Jan Lyle

10:00 am: Celebrant and Preacher: The Rev. Lisa Smith Fry; **Crucifer:** Freya Johanson; **Eucharistic Minister:** Jacqueline Recht; **Lectors:** Youth Readers; **Prayers of the People:** Youth; **Acolytes:** Hettie Bickham, Lola Black; **Ushers:** Jim Ebbert, Lucy Ebbert

Next Sunday December 9, 2018 Second Sunday of Advent

Baruch 5:1-9

Philippians 1:3-11

Luke 3:1-6

Canticle 16

7:30 am: Celebrant and Preacher: The Rev. Lisa Smith Fry ; **Eucharistic Minister:** Pam Bardon; **Lectors:** JoAnne Ryan, Terry Mello; **Prayers of the People:** Edmund Hartt; **Usher:** Paul Holman

10:00 am: Celebrant and Preacher: The Rev. Lisa Smith Fry; **Crucifer:** Will Robbins; **Eucharistic Minister:** Roy Gilley; **Lectors:** Millie Crocker, Kathryn DesMarderosian; **Prayers of the People:** Bill Freeman; **Acolytes:** Lily Robbins; **Ushers:** Joan Bennett, Bill Freeman

Meetings and Events are subject to change. St. Thomas' welcomes the use of its facilities for meetings and events. Please contact the Parish Office before scheduling any event. A detailed building calendar can be viewed in the office copier room.

Calendar

Sunday, December 2
First Sunday of Advent
7:30 am—Holy Eucharist, Rite I
(Coffee Hour follows)
8:30 am—Choir Rehearsal
9:00 am—Christian Education Classes
10:00 am—Family Friendly Eucharist, Rite II
(Coffee Hour follows)
5:15 pm—Centering Prayer—Chapel
6:30 pm—AA meeting—Basement

Monday, December 3
9:00 am—Christmas Fair Cleanup
6:30 pm—AA meeting—Parish Hall

Tuesday, December 4
9:00 am—Xi Gong—Green Room
2:00 pm—Staff Meeting
5:00 pm—Outreach Committee—
Conference Room
5:00 pm—Buildings and Grounds—
Finance Office (Sun Room
alternate location)
6:30 pm—AA meeting—Basement

Wednesday, December 5
9:30 am—Eucharist Service with Healing—Chapel
10:15 am—Fellowship—Conference Room
11:00 am—Bible Study—Conference Room
6:30 pm—AA meeting—Basement
7:00 pm—VoXX

Thursday, December 6
9:00—3:00 Fresh Start—Rector
4:00 pm—Pastoral Care Meeting
5:00 pm—Choir
6:30 pm—AA meeting—Basement

Friday, December 7
6:30 pm—AA meeting—Basement

Saturday, December 8
6:30 pm—AA meeting—Basement

Sunday, December 9
Second Sunday of Advent
In-Gathering Sunday
7:30 am—Holy Eucharist, Rite I
8:30 am—Choir Rehearsal
9:00 am—Christian Education Classes
10:00 am—Holy Eucharist, Rite II
(Coffee Hour follows)
5:15 pm—Centering Prayer—Chapel
6:30 pm—AA meeting—Basement