Prayers of The People
Pray for anyone who suffers from any kind of grief, trouble or illness especially Art, Russ, Fr. John, Bill, Jean, Marion, Carol, Charline, Dawn, Sheri, Nick, Eleanor, Nicholas, Tina, Nancy, Alison, Kari, Michael, Janna, Krystal, Lily, Robyn and God. Deliver them from their distress.
Pray for those serving in our armed forces especially. Casey, Nicholas, Jim, Trevor, Aaron, Christine, Alan, Mitchell, Emily, Steven, Chris, the 209th Red Horse Squadron and the 393rd U.S. Air Force Bomb Squadron. Protect, guide and comfort them and bring them home safely when their work is done.

A Message from Pastor Beverly

2020 is here, so let me wish everyone, “A very blessed New Year”. It has been a wonderful year for St. Thomas and “Thank You” for your support this last year. We changed some parts of the service, we added some parts to the service, we added some new services and I hope we didn’t confuse you too much.

The Worship Committee put together a “Hymn Service”, which included requests from you for your favorite hymns. They took your favorites and incorporated them into a special service. We hosted the Thanksgiving Community Worship Service this year which included a Community Choir organized and directed by Sandy Giangrande. The Community Choir sang the prelude: “Autumn Carol” with 3 handbell ringers and the Offertory Hymn: “Thanks Be to You, O Lord.” We did a special service of “Lessons and Carols” on December 29th which included 6 readers and special music by members of the congregation. I explained the history of “Lessons and Carols” and gave a brief history of one of our favorite Christmas Carols: “O Little Town of Bethlehem”.

A number of people from St. Thomas participated in the “Longest Night” Service hosted by Firelands Presbyterian Church. Pastor Beverly did some readings, Sue Hejhal sang, “All through the night” and Tyler Rodriguez played “Carol of the Birds” on his cello.

During Lent we change to Rite 1 beginning on Ash Wednesday, and continue until Easter. On Wednesday’s at noon during Lent we walked the Stations of the Cross with Jesus.

We were blessed this summer to have Deacon George Douglass with us. He was a blessing to St. Thomas and everyone is missing him while he is away for the winter. We look forward to his return in April.

Service time for the winter months, October through April, was changed to 10:00. 9:00 service time will return for the summer months. It has been an exciting year with many positive changes and additions. I hope you are looking forward to the next.

Announcements

Community Meal Information
Last month’s community meal cost $149.24, which provided a total of 111 meals (71 served at the tables and 40 carry-outs). The cost per meal was $1.35. $102.00 was donated to cover the cost of the meal, bringing the total net cost down to $47.24. Next month’s meal will be held on Thursday, January 16th and the menu will be roast pork and sauerkraut.

Flower Chart
The new flower chart is posted on the kitchen door in the Guild Hall. Please sign-up on the chart if you would like to donate and dedicate flowers. Be sure to include any special dedications you would like mentioned in the bulletin.

January Ladies Night Out
The next Ladies Night Out will be held on Tuesday, January 28th at 4:30 PM at McCarthy’s Pub in Port Clinton. There is a sign-up sheet in the Guild Hall kitchen. Please sign up so that Sue may call McCarthy’s and let them know we are coming.

Vestry Meeting Information
Here is a summary of the November 2019 vestry meeting. Investments are up around $7K over this time last year. Contributions are running behind budget, but up over the same time last year. The date for the annual meeting was also set for January 12, 2020.

Rev. Beverly reported that a Christmas carol service was being planned for December 29th. She also suggested that we resume wearing nametags during services to aid newcomers. She reported that Ed Kuck’s condition is deteriorating and he is no longer eating. The greens will be hung on December 22nd. Replacement windows for the Guild Hall would run about $1000 each. This project will wait until Spring along with replacing Bob’s shed. Prices for columbarium niches are surprisingly competitive for this area. Repairing and rehanging the big bell is a future project.

Joke in the month of stewardship
A little girl asked her grandmother why people put money in collection plates. The grandmother explained that all we have comes from God and what people give is only returning some of it back to God. The little girl replied, “Well, if God needs more money, why doesn’t he just make more?”

January Birthdays
Debby Barnes – January 4th
Mike Mabee – January 19th

Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives. Please let us know the date of your birthday or anniversary so that we may include it in future editions of the newsletter.
Recipe of the month

The cabbage crop is harvested during January in the Southern part of the United States. That means grocery stores will have a cheap and plentiful supply of this vegetable, which is rich in Potassium, Vitamin C as well as a good sources of Folate and other nutrients. Try this recipe to take advantage of this nutritious and plentiful winter vegetable.

Sautéed Cabbage and Bacon

Ingredients:
- 6 strips uncooked bacon
- ½ red onion, sliced
- 8 cups shredded green cabbage (about 2 pounds)
- 1 T Worcestershire sauce
- ½ t cayenne pepper (optional)
- Salt and Pepper

Heat a skillet over medium heat. Add bacon and cook for about three minutes, stirring occasionally until the bacon is almost crisp. Add red onion and cook one for minute or until the onion is soft. Add cabbage, Worcestershire sauce and cayenne pepper. Cook three more minutes. Season with salt and pepper and serve warm (Recipe from Food and Wine Magazine).

Answer to question about December recipe: The missing ingredient from last month’s fruitcake recipe is alcohol. The reason it is not included as an ingredient is because the recipe was published in 1939, which was during Prohibition, when alcohol was not legally available.

Contact Information
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Service Time and Office Hours
Sunday Service: 10:00 AM
Office Hours: Mon, Wed, Fri 10:30 AM - 2:30 PM

Meet Yuma the Lab, Our Greeter Dog

My name is Yuma, and I am an English Labrador Retriever. My full name is Johnny Yuma’s Winsome Diva, but I just go by Yuma. I was born on July, 26, 2017, at Winsome Labradors breeding center in Holly, Michigan to my mother, Violet and my father, Fargo. I stayed at the center with my mother and father until I was eight weeks old. Then, I was adopted by the Rodriguez-Hejhal family of Port Clinton, Ohio and I still live in Port Clinton to this day.

Here is how I got my name. Each family member, Sue, John and Tyler, wrote down two names and put them into a hat. Then, when they came to pick me up, they drew one of the names out. Yuma was the name that was drawn. John chose the name Yuma, but he didn’t tell anybody until it was drawn out of the hat. So, it was a surprise to everyone except him, when my name was chosen. Some of the other possible names included Diva, Leah, Asokah, Anakin Skywalker’s, apprentice, and Cortana, the name of a computer in a video game.

Now you can find me at my home or at Saint Thomas Church office, where I greet all visitors with enthusiasm. Stop by and visit me sometime.

Yuma lounges on the sofa in the living room at her home on Hayes Avenue in Port Clinton.