



November, 2016

Address

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Pittstown, NJ 08867-0348
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Rector

The Rev. Canon Carol Horton
rector@stthomasepc.org
(908) 735-9559

Parish Administrative Assistant

Anita Campbell
Mon & Thurs: 10:00am - 1:00pm
Wednesday: 10:00am - 2:00pm
secretary@stthomasepc.org
908-996-4091

Service Schedule

8:00am Eucharist
10:00am Eucharist with music
9:45am Childcare and Church School

Mid-week Services

Wednesdays at 12:15pm
(no service on November 23)

Commemoration of All Faithful Departed (All Souls') - Nov 2

Holy Eucharist at 12:15pm

All Saints' Sunday - Nov 6

Prayers in the churchyard following
the 8:00am and 10:00am services
and Evensong Service at 5 pm
followed by covered dish supper
and special program

THANKSGIVING DAY

Thursday, Nov 24

Holy Eucharist with hymns at 10:00am

Office Hours

Please call the office to arrange for a
home visit or to make an appointment.

St. Thomas Episcopal Church

To worship, to nurture, to serve, together in Christ

From the Rector:

November 2016

"I sing a song of the saints of God, patient and brave and true..."

— #293, Hymnal 1982

I did not grow up with much awareness of saints. It was when I became part of the Episcopal Church that I discovered the variety and abundance of the saints of God. There are the famous Saints – Mary, of course, and Matthew, Mark, Luke, John and other apostles; priests, abbots, abbesses; martyrs and evangelists; warriors, kings, queens and all the rest who, by their words, and actions somehow lived exemplary lives or died defending the name of Christ in one way or another. As this children's hymn tells us, "one was a doctor, and one was a queen and one was a shepherdess on the green ..." It may seem a little precious and quite sentimental, but it gets a little darker in the next verse, "...one was a soldier and one was a priest, and one was slain by a fierce wild beast..." The second verse ends with the words, "...and there's not any reason, no, not the least, why I shouldn't be one too." The last verse seals the deal, "...and I mean to be one too." At which point Father Watters, my home parish priest, would tilt his head slightly and ask, "Oh really ... willing to be slain by a fierce wild beast? Really?" and then the little, knowing smile and the shrug that reminded us to be careful what we asked for or blithely declared ourselves ready to undergo.

November offers us a great number of Saints and saints – 17 in all, not to mention All Saints Day on November 1, and the Commemoration of All Faithful Departed on November 2, both of which cover the whole lot of apostles, martyrs, warriors, poets, angels and archangels: those whose names are known to us, and those whose names are known to God alone. The named days throughout the month include bishops, popes and other clergy, abbots and abbesses, scholars and authors, kings, queens and one apostle, Andrew, to round out the month. They range from the 6th through the 20th century – you can find them in our monthly calendar, and find more information about them in a variety of sources online and in books.

There are others who may not have a designated day on the calendar, but give regularly of themselves for the benefit of God's people in ways small and large. Look around you; think of people you know, have met, or have heard about. The things they do make a difference – and the things we do and say and live make a difference every day.

The last verse of this hymn:

*"They lived not only in ages past, there are hundreds of thousands still,
the world is bright with the joyous saints who love to do Jesus' will.*

*You can meet them in school, or in lanes, or at sea, in church, or in trains,
or in shops or at tea,"* (or any place familiar in our own modern times)

"...for the saints of God are just folk like me, and I mean to be one too."

Really? God helping, Really. God helping...

Peace and blessing,
Carol+

Wardens

Amanda Fuhro
908-735-5602

Lynn Logg
908-995-4794

Vestry

Tracey Bergstrand
973-979-1594

Fran Brunelle-Iuzzolino
908-217-8571 (cell)
908-387-1000 (office)

Gene Budsock
908-735-9976

Kevin Kapples
908-996-3019

Pat Neil
908-730-0114

Roger Prince
908-735-9709

Lori Ann Wolfe
732-710-2053

Treasurer

Roman Chiminec
treasurer@stthomasepc.org
908-995-2675

Music Director

Richard McIntyre
macwnj@yahoo.com
908-213-6619

Assistant Organist

Jan Davis
908-689-1222

Altar Guild

Please contact the Rector

Acolytes

Mary Nemec
mnemec@ptd.net
908-996-7955

Church School

Michelle Wagner
wagners88@comcast.net
908-735-4015

Youth Group

Antonia Mattei
908-782-3777

Michelle Wagner
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Childcare

For more information,
please call 908-996-4091

Newsletter

Maria Markovich
mmarkovi@ptd.net
908-229-3515



FILL THE SILLS! November 13, 20, 24 & 27

Part of our Thanksgiving at St Thomas includes an ingathering of non-perishable foods and other supplies for the food pantries in Clinton and Flemington. St Thomas has wide, deep window sills, and our goal is to “Fill the Sills” with items which will then be delivered to the food pantries as part of their ongoing outreach to those in need in our various communities.

The list is below. Please consider bringing one or more items with you to church **November 13, 20, 24 (Thanksgiving Day) or 27** to help Fill the Sills. Items will be delivered to Clinton and Flemington food pantries the first week in December.

Food Pantry Needs: baking ingredients (flour, sugar, baking powder, baking soda, extracts, nuts, chocolate chips, etc.), rice and pasta, juice (individual packs and half gallon bottles), mayonnaise, mushrooms (canned or jarred), soups, and other non-perishable foods. Also bathroom tissue, both laundry and dish detergents, moisturizer, toothpaste, toothbrushes and soap are items needed throughout the year. New socks and underwear (packaged) are also welcome – all sizes: men, women and children.

PRAYER LIST UPDATE

Part of our ministry and mission at St Thomas Church is to pray for those in need in times of illness, natural disaster or any other difficult circumstances. We accept names for the prayer list from parishioners, and ask that parishioners help us keep the prayer list up to date by notifying the church office when prayers are no longer needed or requested. Our prayer list has become very long, which is fine, but we want to be sure that it is up to date and as accurate as possible on an ongoing basis.

Here’s how you can help:

We will begin a new prayer list on the First Sunday of Advent, November 27. You can keep a loved one or family on the new prayer list by **contacting Anita in the church office by November 21**. Please either call the church office at 908-996-4091, or contact Anita via email at secretary@stthomasepc.org.

Please include the following information:

- Your first and last name
- The first name of the individual, or the last name of the family you would like to have included on the prayer list

Names will be kept on the prayer list for 8 weeks, and *then will be removed unless we hear otherwise from you*. Of course, there will be exceptions for those with chronic illness or other concerns – just let Anita know. Many thanks for your help with this.

*O God, the strength of the weak and the comfort of sufferers:
Mercifully accept our prayers, and grant to your servants the help of your power, that any sickness may be turned into health, and suffering find consolation and healing; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen*



REMINDER

Clocks change on Sunday, November 6 – Fall Back One Hour!

Commemoration of all Faithful Departed (also known as All Souls Day, November 2)

"In the New Testament, the word 'saints' is used to describe the entire membership of the Christian community, and in the Collect for All Saints' Day the word 'elect' is used in a similar sense. From very early times, however, the word 'saint' came to be applied primarily to persons of heroic sanctity, whose deeds were recalled with gratitude by later generations.

"Beginning in the 10th century, it became customary to set aside another day -- as a sort of extension of All Saints -- on which the Church remembered that vast body of the faithful who, though no less members of the company of the redeemed, are unknown in the wider fellowship of the Church. It was also a day for particular remembrance of family members and friends.

"Though the observance of the day was abolished at the Reformation because of abuses connected with Masses for the dead, a renewed understanding of its meaning has led to a widespread acceptance of this commemoration among Anglicans, and to its inclusion as an optional observance on the calendar of the Episcopal Church." -- *Lesser feasts and Fasts*

This year, the names of those to be remembered will be read on **WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 2, during the weekly Eucharist at 12:15 pm**. Please submit in writing the names of those you would like to have remembered on that day to the church office **by Monday, October 31**. Forms are available in the gallery at St Thomas, or email your list of names to secretary@stthomasepc.org. Gifts to the Memorial Fund or the Building Fund in memory of loved ones are also appropriate, and welcomed at this or any time.

*May the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace,
and may light perpetual shine upon them.*

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY is NOVEMBER 6

Holy Eucharist at 8:00 and 10:00 am services will be followed by prayers in remembrance and thanksgiving for the faithful departed buried in St Thomas churchyard.

EVENSONG and All Saints Covered Dish Supper

Evensong or Evening Prayer (BCP 61 or 115) is one of the Daily Offices of the Church, and traces its roots to the offices of early monastic communities. The seven "offices," or times set aside for prayer, were combined into two (Morning Prayer and Evening Prayer) for the first Book of Common Prayer in an effort to make prayer a part of daily life as much as possible. As the name indicates, Evening Prayer is to be offered in late afternoon or early evening as a way of marking the time between the work of the day and the events of the evening. The service is short – less than forty-five minutes with music – and includes prayer, scripture, hymns and, often, special music.

Plan to join us at 5:00 pm on Sunday, November 6, for Evensong to mark All Saints Day. Special music will be provided by St Thomas Choir and music director, Richard McIntyre.

Evensong will be followed by a covered dish supper in the parish hall. **A special addition this year will be a presentation by Bob Schmidt**, who focused his Eagle Scout project in 1990-91 on those buried in the churchyard surrounding St Thomas Church. Many of the stones dated from the 18th century, and were difficult to decipher due to age and erosion. Bob used local, county, state and diocesan records and other sources to put together a catalogue of names and other information about those buried in the churchyard. This document is archived with the county, state and Diocese of New Jersey as well at St Thomas, and has been a great resource for those seeking genealogical information over the years, or just curious about St Thomas history. Bob will be with us to share his memories and documentation about the project and what he discovered. This will be a time for the parish and friends to gather, share a meal, and enjoy being together before the start of another work week. Bring a dish to share. All are welcome -- old, young and in-between!

THANKSGIVING DAY Service will be held on Thursday, November 24 at 10:00 am

Whether over the river and through the woods, or down the road around the corner, St Thomas Church is a wonderful place to celebrate Thanksgiving Day. While the turkey is roasting, or you are waiting to head out for dinner, consider attending **Holy Eucharist at St Thomas at 10:00 am on Thanksgiving day**. Then a stroll around the garden, and a look out over the beautiful hills of Hunterdon County will be a good way to continue thanking God for the bounty of all creation before you head out to other festivities (and football).

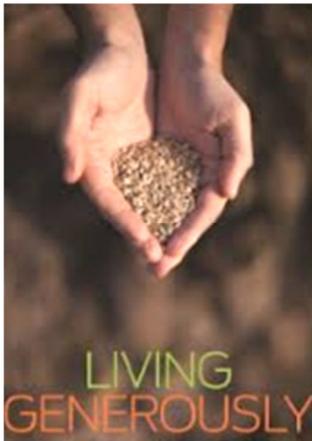
ADVENT BEGINS ON SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27!!!

The four weeks before Christmas are the season of **Advent**. Advent means *to come*. During these four Sundays, the church prepares for the coming of Christ, both as the child in a manger of the first coming, and the judge of the world at the second coming. This is an active waiting, a time of preparation and prayer, and special devotion.

Advent invites us to *seek out* some time and space for quiet in the midst of our busy lives. Perhaps it will mean turning off the phone(s) or computer(s) for a half hour every day so that you can hear the quiet. Perhaps it will mean getting up a half hour earlier than anyone else in the house, or staying up a bit after everyone has settled for the night. This quiet time is active time – it is a time when we can listen to our hearts and allow the wonder of the season to find a place in our lives once more. The Christ who is always present with us is coming to the world once more; we are called to be prepared, to be ready and waiting to receive him, to provide our small bit of light so that the world may be filled with the light of his coming. We do that best not by running around making a lot of noise, but by being quiet, and waiting... and putting a candle in the window of our hearts. Check the Sunday bulletin and weekly eblast for more information about events and offerings for Advent.

At St Thomas, Advent is also a time when we recognize and give thanks for the members and ministry of St Thomas' **Altar Guild**. These dedicated members see to the linens, candles, sacred vessels and vestments that are used in our worship each week. They work mainly behind the scenes, washing, ironing, polishing, removing wax from linens – all so that our worship is beautifully and reverently offered to God. We will be recognizing and commissioning Altar Guild members on Sunday, November 27, and will have a training session at the convenience of the members.

New members are always welcome to join in this ministry: please speak with Carol+, Pat Neil, Maria Markovich or Denise Buczek for more information.



Stewardship – Being A Conduit For God's Blessings

by Fran Brunelle-luzzolino

Each month our newsletter includes a stewardship article. I notice that most months we go to great lengths to share how stewardship is about so much more than money, and of course it is. Stewardship is about developing this precious gift of life that has been given to us. It's about loving and serving our creator, and helping each other become the best we can be. But...it's also about money. Why are Christians so reluctant to talk about money? How many times have we heard 1 Timothy 6:10 quoted -- "*For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.*" And of course let's not forget the story of the rich man and Lazarus from Luke 16:19-31. But don't these things have more to do with a person's attitude and character than they actually do about money? I think it's incredibly important to study what the Word of God says on the subject. There is an abundance of information in the Scriptures to be

considered on the subject of wealth and money.

Let's start with the call of Abraham in the book of Genesis. Genesis 12:2-3 -The Lord had said to Abram, "Go from your country, your people and your father's household to the land I will show you. I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you."

Clearly the reference to "all peoples on earth will be blessed through you," is referring to relationship with God and salvation being opened to the gentiles through the death, sacrifice and resurrection of Jesus Christ. But what about the part that says Abraham himself will be a blessing? I find it interesting that one chapter later the bible says that Abraham was rich in cattle, gold and silver. Abraham was rich. However, his attitude was entirely different than that of the rich man described in Luke 16. We know this because when he had become overwhelmingly blessed to the point where the land couldn't handle both he and his nephew Lot's animals, Abraham suggested that they should split up. He told his nephew that he had first choice of the land. Abraham said, "if you go right, I'll go left, and if you go left, I'll go right." Lot chose the lushest land and they separated. It's interesting that immediately after this event, God reiterated his promise to Abraham.

It wasn't only Abraham that was rich. The promise was evident throughout history. Consider the following:

(continued on page 5)

STEWARDSHIP (continued from page 4) “Then Isaac sowed in that land, and received in the same year a hundredfold: and the LORD blessed him. And the man waxed great, and went forward, and grew until he became very great: For he had possession of flocks, and possession of herds, and great store of servants: and the Philistines envied him.” Genesis 26:12-14

“And he died in a good old age, full of days, riches, and honor: and Solomon his son reigned in his stead.” Chronicles 29:28 on the death of King David “And King Solomon passed all the kings of the earth in riches and wisdom.” 2 Chronicles 9:22

“Notwithstanding *Hezekiah humbled himself for the pride of his heart, both he and the inhabitants of Jerusalem*, so that the wrath of the LORD came not upon them in the days of Hezekiah. And Hezekiah had exceeding much riches and honor: and he made himself treasuries for silver, and for gold, and for precious stones, and for spices, and for shields, and for all manner of pleasant jewels; Storehouses also for the increase of corn, and wine, and oil; and stalls for all manner of beasts, and cotes for flocks.” 2 Chronicles 32:26-28. Notice the connection to Hezekiah’s attitude.

The promise to Abraham was not only that the Christ would come through his bloodline, but also that he would personally be blessed AND be a blessing. So what does this have to do with us today? Galatians 3:29 tells us that, **“If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham’s seed, and heirs according to the promise.”** The New Testament is full of similar references. Consider the following: “The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God’s children. Now if we are children, then we are heirs -- heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.” Romans 8:17

So why is all of this important and what in the world does it have to do with stewardship? **Very simply, you cannot give what you do not have.** I think we let our fear of “evil money” prohibit us from receiving God’s best and therefore having the ability to BE a blessing to those God puts in our path.

How then do we reconcile New Testament scriptures like Luke 12:33, “Sell what you have and give alms,” with Luke 6:38, **“give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again.”**

What if it’s all in the attitude? What if we’re simply supposed to be conduits that blessing flows through... “we give thee of Thine own.” Consider the surrounding verses quoted above from Luke 12: 25-34 “And which of you by worrying can add one cubit to his stature? If you then are not able to do *the* least, why are you anxious for the rest? Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; and yet I say to you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. If then God so clothes the grass, which today is in the field and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will He clothe you, O you of little faith? And do not seek what you should eat or what you should drink, nor have an anxious mind. For all these things the nations of the world seek after, and your Father knows that you need these things. **But seek the kingdom of God, and all these things shall be added to you. Do not fear, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom.** Sell what you have and give alms; provide yourselves money bags which do not grow old, a treasure in the heavens that does not fail, where no thief approaches nor moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

So “sell what you have,” was prefaced with trust your creator, he knows what you need. If Christians around the world really believed this, would we have hunger or homelessness in the world? If we really believed this, would each of us not give more? As for me, I shamelessly ask for the blessing of God on my life, so that I can BE a blessing. Every day I ask God to open my eyes to the people I should help. Lynn Logg has a chalkboard at work that she updates with inspirational quotes on a weekly basis. This week’s quote pretty much sums up how I feel about asking for God’s blessing so that I can BE a blessing:

Pray so BIG & so often that when God meets you at Heaven’s gate,

He smiles and says, “Kid, you’ve kept me VERY BUSY!”

As you consider your 2017 St Thomas pledge, may you ask for and receive Abundant Blessings and in turn –Give Abundantly!

2016-2017 YOUTH GROUP SCHEDULE

November 20 -- Campfire & Manhunt (gaga, if rain)

December 3	Help at the Tricky Tray	February 4-5	Lock-in at St Thomas Hoagie Sale
December 16-17	Trinity Cathedral Lock-In & Stop Hunger Now	March 12	Bowling
January 29	5 th Sunday	April 2	Gnome in Your Home
January 29	Tubing at Blue Mountain	April 30	5 th Sunday
		May 7	Trust theme Day
		June 4	Milkshake Mayhem & Gaga

St Thomas' Seventh Annual Tricky Tray is Saturday, December 3 Let's Keep Those Baskets and Ads Rolling In!

ELECTRONICS! Our Grand Prizes are almost always in the electronics categories -- tablets, phones, laptops, head phones, GADGETS. When we can get our hands (legally☺) on these items, it's always a good thing. Please consider donating to the electronics fund. Donna Kapples is coordinating the electronics purchases, so check with her if you're planning on donating something. Or just drop a check in the offering plate with "ELECTRONICS" on the memo line.

Baskets & Gift Certificates & Ads - Oh My! Most of the businesses we are approaching are businesses that we have supported over the years. Rather than getting anxious about asking for a "donation," try and focus on the fact that you are simply asking them to support your church as you've supported their business. Try this...."I've been shopping/dining/playing golf here for a while -- I would like you to consider supporting my church's 7th annual Tricky Tray." Keep in mind; *we are not looking for a basket and an ad from any one business owner* -- although that would be nice...

Looking for basket ideas? Consider a neat presentation -- like a "Kitchen Essentials" presented/wrapped in a colander. Or a crock pot cook book presented in a crock pot! Or ask around for ideas at coffee hour -- and remember -- you can create your own basket, or bring the donation to St Thomas and we'll make the basket (*please label the basket with your name & contact# & \$ value -- and alert someone before leaving goods*). Here are some ideas:

BASKETS !

- ☀ Alcohol/Wine
(*MOST popular*)
- ☀ Chocolate
(*2nd most popular*)
- ☀ Games for kids
- ☀ Baby basket
- ☀ Puzzles
- ☀ Cupcake theme
- ☀ Beer theme
- ☀ Sports team theme
- ☀ Coffee theme
- ☀ Movie lovers
- ☀ Cooking essentials
- ☀ Mani/Pedi/Spa
- ☀ BBQ lovers
- ☀ Picture frames

GIFT CERTIFICATES!

- ☀ Spas
- ☀ Doggy Day Care
- ☀ Pet grooming
- ☀ Round of golf
- ☀ Gym membership
- ☀ Restaurants
- ☀ Lawn Care
- ☀ A Christmas Tree
(*lots of tree farms around!*)
- ☀ Mani/Pedi
- ☀ Florist
- ☀ Photographers

ADS – TARGET YOUR

- ☀ Home/Auto Insurance Agent
- ☀ Accountant
- ☀ Financial planner
- ☀ Attorney
- ☀ Architect
- ☀ Dentist
- ☀ Doctors
- ☀ Contractors
- ☀ Plumber
- ☀ Electrician
- ☀ Photographer
- ☀ Dry Cleaner
- ☀ Carpet Cleaning
- ☀ Chimney Sweep
- ☀ HVAC guy
- ☀ Roofing dudes
- ☀ Driveway Paving guys
- ☀ Patio Design people
- ☀ Pest Control
- ☀ Siding
- ☀ Solar Panel people

PARISH REGISTER

Thank You

To those who sing in our choir each week (there's room for you, too),

and to Richard McIntyre for music that enhances our worship and our lives;

To all our teachers, helpers, parents, youth and children who make our Sunday School and Youth Group a tremendous experience for our young people, and for all of us;

To our Sunday school and youth for the terrific dog biscuits and catnip treats on St Francis' day;

To all who baked cookies, and to our youth for boxing and sending the cookies and other goodies for our college students;

To our acolytes, who are truly awesome; To all our coffee hour volunteers;

To those who donate flowers each week, read lessons, care for the altar, or serve as acolytes, ushers or Eucharistic Ministers;

To the members of St Thomas' finance committee, our counters, and Roman Chiminec, treasurer, for their dedication and service;

To those who have been painting, gardening, and overseeing projects that keep our building and grounds beautiful, safe and welcoming -- including Greg Cooper, who treated the benches and memorial garden plaque with wood preservative;

To Lynn Logg, Fran Brunelle, Mark Iuzzolino, and all who have been part of the Stewardship at St Thomas program throughout the year, and especially in October;

To all who are working so hard to make this Seventh Annual Tricky Tray a huge success, and to all who have donated or will donate baskets and items for the event; and

To all who quietly do so much for our life together.

Happy Anniversary

Nov 10 Melanie Bracken & Joe Preston

Nov 13 Linda & Michael Ubry

Nov 20 Maria Markovich & Greg Shutske

Nov 21 Diane & James Delany

Nov 27 Denise & Ed Buczek

Nov 1 Julia Rinehart

Nov 5 Linda Ubry

Nov 6 Sylvain Trubert

Nov 7 Garrett DiRienz

Nov 9 David Eichorn

Nov 10 Jan Davis,
Andrew Niebuhr

Nov 14 Marjorie Mikuta

Nov 19 Charlotte Kelly

Nov 21 Patricia Bielcik

Nov 22 Gene Budsock

Nov 24 Jose Santos

Nov 29 Robert Ader

Anthony Cordasco

Nov 30 Bruce Kemmerer

Happy Birthday



Since I retired, I now believe that God is my manager and I want to work for Him every day by doing good deeds. Every night when I pray to Him, I tell him I want to be a set of his hands on Earth and do good deeds for him. And every day I try to do something nice, like helping an elderly person through a door, or picking up something they drop -- and when it rains I walk on the road in front of our house and pick up all the earth worms that go out onto the road so I save their lives. These are little things but still good to do. And right after I decided I wanted to do good deeds for God, I saw an ad in our local paper where a Flemington singing group called the Silver Belles and Beaus wanted new singers to join them. They do nice good deeds for elderly and sick people, so I joined them recently. We meet once a week to practice the Christmas songs we will be singing every Thursday in December to entertain those who are living in local nursing homes. And I wrote this little poem:

I worked for 40 years and had 2 good careers. I was laid off, not fired so now I am retired.

I still have the strong needs to daily do good deeds. So every night I pray and then to God I say:

"Dear God I work for you, That makes my life so true. Please always let me be your hands on earth for you.

So daily I can do some more good deeds for you."

-- Julie Gerow

About twenty people from the building committee, vestry and the rest of the parish had a productive meeting with architect Susan Rochelle following the 10 am service on September 25. Susan was able to answer a number of questions about her design proposal for church hall expansion, although some details about general layout as well as door and window placement were brought up which remain open for discussion as we proceed with this project. We are currently in contact with the Alexandria Township zoning officer to determine what the township will require from St Thomas in terms of permits, a variance, and a site plan.

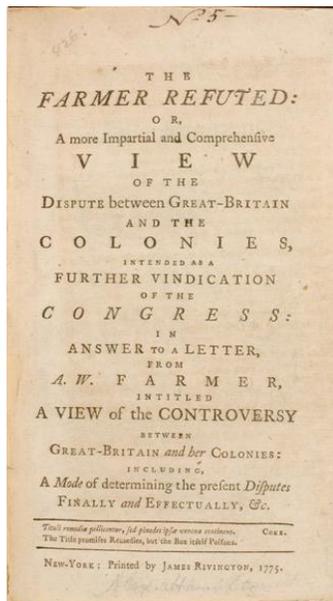
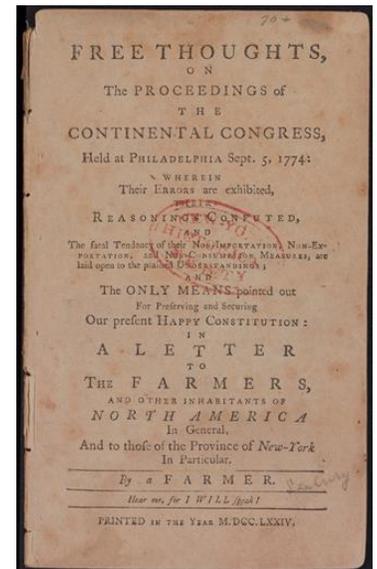
**Building Committee
Update**

- Greg Shutske

Samuel Seabury, Samuel Provoost ... and Alexander Hamilton

At first glance it may seem curious to see those three names together. Seabury was our first Episcopal Bishop, Provoost our third, and of course Alexander Hamilton, still gracing the \$10 bill, was Secretary of the Treasury under George Washington, and a principal author of *The Federalist Papers* (1787).

To understand their connection we must explore Samuel Seabury's pre-revolutionary politics. Although his first parish was Christ Church in New Brunswick, NJ, (1754-1757) he moved to Jamaica, Queens NY (1757-1766) and then to Westchester, The Bronx (1766-1775) and became very active in Loyalist politics. In 1774, under the pseudonym A.W. Farmer, he wrote two pamphlets: *Free thoughts, on the proceedings of the Continental Congress, held at Philadelphia Sept. 5, 1774: wherein their errors are exhibited, their reasonings confuted, and the fatal tendency of their non-importation, non-exportation, and non-consumption measures, are laid open to the plainest understandings: and the only means pointed out for preserving and securing our present happy constitution...* and *The Congress Canvassed: Or, An Examination into the Conduct of the Delegates, At their Grand Convention...*, predicting economic ruin for the colonies if they insisted on a trade war with Great Britain.



Alexander Hamilton, only a 17 year-old college student at what is now Columbia University (King's College then!), responded in *A Full Vindication of the Measures of the Congress, from the Calumnies of their Enemies...* Seabury, as Farmer, responded with *A View of the Controversy...* (1775), and Hamilton responded with *The Farmer Refuted...* He was wonderfully vitriolic – “(A view of the Controversy) has been the source of abundant merriment to me. The spirit that breathes throughout is so rancorous, illiberal, and imperious; the argumentative part of it is so puerile and fallacious; the misrepresentation of facts so palpable and flagrant; the criticisms so illiterate, trifling, and absurd; the conceits so low, sterile, and splenetic, that I will venture to pronounce it one of the most ludicrous performances which has been exhibited to public view during all the present controversy.” [And some think modern politics is splenetic!]

There the interchange ceased, although the exchange is in the current Broadway musical *Hamilton*. Although Seabury had written under a pseudonym, his politics were well known, and Patriots arrested him in 1775. Upon his release he was prevented from returning to his Living, and for a while was chaplain to British forces on Long Island. At the end of the war he moved to Connecticut, and in 1783 was nominated to go to England to be ordained Bishop. As described last month, English Bishops would not ordain him without a pledge of allegiance to the Crown, and he was eventually ordained in Scotland in 1784.

All the while Samuel Provoost, some 13 years younger than Seabury, was watching with some concern. Although he declined to serve as a delegate to the Continental Congress (1774) he was on the other side of the Revolution to Samuel Seabury. Provoost was a stellar linguist, fluent in Hebrew, Greek, Latin, French and Italian, and obviously felt he should be Bishop instead of Seabury. Indeed he was so exercised he couldn't bring himself to refer to Seabury by his proper name, and always used 'Cebra' in his writings. Provoost was ordained Bishop in England three years after Seabury, and was determined to exclude Seabury from any important role in the Church. He helped ensure that the fourth American Bishop (James Madison, Bishop of Virginia, cousin of the 4th President) was ordained in England so that Seabury was not involved. Indeed Seabury only participated in the consecration of one Bishop – Thomas Claggett – and even then as one of four rather than three officiating Bishops. Provoost participated in six ordinations, but only Seabury has a feast day in the Church Calendar, so perhaps had the last laugh. Fortunately most subsequent Bishops have been less fractious!

Thanks be to God.

~ Roger Prince

November 2016 at-a-glance

CLOCKS 'fall' BACK on Nov 6

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 <i>Commemoration of All Faithful Departed</i> Holy Eucharist 12:15 pm Choir practice 7:15 pm	3 <i>Richard Hooker, Priest</i>	4	5
6 CLOCKS BACK Pentecost 25 ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY Ingathering, blessing of Pledge Cards HE 8 & 10am, services followed by prayers in the churchyard Church School & Childcare 9:45am EVENSONG at 5 pm , followed by covered dish supper & special program	7 <i>Willibrord, Arch. of Utrecht</i>	8 Don't forget to VOTE	9 Mid-week Service 12:15 pm Choir practice 7:15 pm	10 <i>Leo the Great, Bishop of Rome</i>	11  VETERANS DAY	12
13 Pentecost 26 FILL THE SILLS HE 8 & 10am Church School & Childcare 9:45am	14 <i>Consecration of Samuel Seabury</i>	15	16 <i>Margaret, Queen of Scotland</i> Mid-week Service 12:15 pm Choir practice 7:15 pm	17 <i>Hugh, Bishop of Lincoln</i> Vestry meeting 7:00 pm	18 <i>Hilda, Abbess of Whitby</i>	19 <i>Elizabeth, Princess of Hungary</i>
20 Pentecost Last CHRIST the KING FILL THE SILLS HE 8 & 10am Church School & Childcare 9:45am Youth Group Campfire-Manhunt	21 DECEMBER Newsletter Submissions due	22 <i>Clive Staples Lewis, Spiritual Writer</i>	23 <i>Clement, Bishop of Rome</i> <u>No</u> midweek service Choir practice 7:15 pm <i>(check Email for choir updates)</i>	24 Thanksgiving Holy Eucharist 10:00am 	25	26
27 Advent 1 FILL THE SILLS HE 8 & 10am Church School & Childcare 9:45am Comm. Altar Guild	28 <i>Kamehameha and Emma, King & Queen of Hawaii</i>	29	30 <i>St Andrew the Apostle</i>			

IF YOU CANNOT SERVE ON YOUR SCHEDULED DATES, PLEASE FIND A REPLACEMENT AND NOTIFY THE OFFICE.

Date	Euch Minister	Reader	Acolyte	Usher	Coffee Hour
Nov 6	8- 10- D. Buczek	8- 10- J. Davis	10- M. Kapples	8- 10-	8- 10- Wolfe
Nov 13	8- 10- J. Davis	8- 10- D. Buczek	10- G. DiRienz	8- 10-	8- 10- Testa
Nov 20	8- 10- L. Logg	8- 10- L. Mikuta	10- A. Wolfe	8- 10-	8- 10- Walker
Thanksgiving	10- T. Bergstrand	10-	10-	10-	---
Nov 27	8- 10- D. Kapples	8- 10- K. Kapples	10-	8- 10-	8- 10-

FLOWERS

Nov 6	Wagner
Nov 13	Walker
Nov 20	Cooper
Nov 27	Advent

ALTAR

P. Neil, L. Grieme
L. Grieme, J. Pragdat
D. Buczek, H. Budsock
M. Markovich, D. Buczek

COUNTERS

G. Budsock (+I)
A. DiRienz (+I)
G. Budsock, K. Testa
K. Kapples (+I)

CLEANING

Markovich/Shutske