

ST. THOMAS LIFELINES

VOLUME 32, No. 10

OCTOBER 2025

Dear St. Thomas Family,

I am going to state the obvious: we are a small congregation. We have an average weekly attendance of a bit less than 40. We have a limited number of programs that we can offer our members. We don't have a big budget that allows us to fund a lot of fancy bells and whistles to attract the attention of the multitudes. But all of this is OK. We have a heart for Christian service and outreach to our community.

We may be small, but we contribute a great deal in terms of time, talent, and treasure offered by our members to various local ministries in our community. This allows us to serve in a variety of ways and join forces with other like-minded folks in the Christiansburg area to have a profound and positive effect on those in need. Working with established organizations is a smart way for a small congregation like ours to do Christian ministry.

We have a long-standing relationship with several partner organizations like the Montgomery County Emergency Assistance Program (MCEAP), for which we collect non-perishable items for their food pantry, which we bring to our alter on Hospitality Sundays. Some members have also volunteered at the MCEAP Thrift Store and Home Store.

This time of year, we collect peanut butter and canned fruits to donate to the Montgomery County Christmas Store, which helps hundreds of our neighbors with extra food and other items during the holidays. The Christmas Store provides an atmosphere of dignity, privacy, and abundance that it is hoped offers a experience of the joy of the season.

During the school year we collect snacks for the local "backpack program" that sends students home with food for the weekend and over breaks. It is hoped that this provides some relief to our neighbors who are not always food-secure. We have for many years also participated with To Our House, a local outreach organization that provides shelter and food during the winter months in Christiansburg. This ministry is in partnership with our friends at Our Saviour Lutheran Church.

More recently a group of St. Thomas members have formed a cooking team that participates with Room at the Table (RATT) which is a ministry that provides hot meals to go once a week at Christiansburg Presbyterian Church. The supplies for these meals are funded through the outreach budget of St. Thomas.

This year at our annual St. Francis Blessing of the Animals, we are collecting donated pet food that will be donated the Montgomery County Animal Care and Adoption Center. Our ministries extend even to our four-footed friends.

Our building is also an important ministry of St. Thomas. Three times a week we host Narcotics Anonymous meetings. This is a very well established ministry and we have offered a secure and comfortable place for the important work of recovery.

At St. Thomas we have much to be thankful for and especially for the Spirit of love that guides us in our common lives together.

Yours in Christ,
Mark



Daughters of the King

On Sunday, Sept. 7, Ruth Ashworth was installed into the Daughters of the King.

Pictured above from left to right: Kathleen Fowler, Kathryn Pollard, Ruth Ashworth, Jane Carper, and Mary Stuart Cosby.

Also pictured Kathryn and Irma Pillsbury.



Backpack Program

The latest packing party was held in the gym at Life Pacific University in Christiansburg. Thanks Joel and Sue Hagen and Tom Bland for helping!

100 bags are being distributed between two schools—CPS & CHS.

In September we collected 18 boxes of granola bars!

Dear Members,

Thankyou for your continued support for our Backpack Program here at Christiansburg Primary. Danielle always delivers with a smiling face.

We appreciate your collection efforts and put them to wonderful use. We are currently serving 65 students here at the primary school.

Warmly,
Crystal Fentress



We feel blessed that you all share your giving hearts with our school.

We would like to thank all the parishioners at Saint Thomas Episcopal Church for their generous donation to our meal ministry.

A special thank you to Danielle's team who prepare 110 meals every second Tuesday. We have 5 teams that help serve our community. All the helping hands are so greatly appreciated!

We have so much to be thankful for!

Christiansburg Presbyterian Church Sponsors the Room at the Table Program.

Blessings to all!



At the June Vestry meeting, the Vestry voted to support the RATT program financially by covering the cost of the food purchased for the meals our team puts together for the second half of the year, approximately \$300 per month. Danielle presented our donation of \$1800 at the September team leader meeting.

Guest Musician

On Sunday, Sept. 28, we had a guest cellist, Gregory Driscoll, play during the service. Gregory is a student in the music program at Virginia Tech and Marie Painter's neighbor.



Food Bank Sunday

On the first Sunday of the month we collect donations of non-perishable food items for the food bank. Donations are taken to MCEAP later in the week. Food donations can be put in the baskets at the entrance to the church. If you would like to make a monetary donation, be sure to mark "Food Bank" on your check or envelope.

In September we collected 24 items and \$55.

Anniversaries

Birthdays

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1 Robert Gibson | 4 Greg & Bev Moulse |
| 2 Vera Small | 15 Bob & Joanne Stauffer |
| 12 John Priddy | 22 Jim Chamberlain & Cindy Ptak |
| Paul Stalvey | |
| 16 Natalie Miller | |
| 20 Fr. Mark Frazier | |
| 21 Akan Ndem | |
| 22 Amy Frazier | |
| 31 Graham Swinfen | |



Thank You Kroger Shoppers!

From June 1 to August 30, 24 households contributed \$92.32 through the Community Rewards program! Join the program and link your rewards account to St. Thomas (Eu541).

Trex Update

In September we collected 70 lbs. of plastics for the Trex recycling. We need 317 lbs. to reach our goal of 1000lbs.

Please remember pet food bags are not accepted.

Hospitality Sunday

Join in fellowship and enjoy some refreshments after church on the first Sunday of the month. Everyone is invited to bring a dish of finger food to share!

The next hospitality Sunday is October 5.

Christmas Store Collection

This month we are continuing our collection of cans of fruit and jars of peanut butter for the Montgomery County Christmas Store. The need is great and your contributions are much appreciated. A bin is in the parish hall for donations.

Red Cross Blood Drive

St. Thomas is hosting a Red Cross blood drive on Saturday, October 11, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Please sign up and encourage others to sign up, too! Reservations can be made using the Red Cross app or on the Red Cross website: www.redcrossblood.org. Contact Joel (joelbhagen@gmail.com) or Sue (smchagen@gmail.com) for more information.

SERVER SCHEDULE

	5	12	19	26
Altar Guild	Karen Bronaugh Gail Leist	Ruth Ashworth Lora Beeken	Ruth Ashworth Lora Beeken	Kathleen Fowler Kathryn Pollard
Announcements	Danielle Bland	Jane Ellis	Bill Kennan	Harvey Leist
Chalice Bearer	Bill Kennan	Mark Priest	Danielle Bland	Landon Cairns
Lay Reader	Jennifer Miller	Bill Kennan	Jennifer Miller	Mark Priest
Ushers	Kathleen Fowler Joe Straub	Bill Kennan Chris Witt	Joe Straub Chris Witt	Harold Ashworth Joel Hagen
Zoom Operators	Joel Hagen	Joel Hagen	Mark Priest	Mark Priest

Contact Us: mystthomasoffice@yahoo.com, 540-382-4365

Website: <https://stthomaschristiansburg.org>


Volunteer: <https://stthomas.ivolunteer.com>

Email List Signup: <http://eepurl.com/gxP6Dj>

Ways to give to St. Thomas

Along with the Sunday collection plate, donations and contributions can be mailed to the church, paid through online banking, or made through PayPal using the link on our website.

OCTOBER 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal 8pm NA	2 1pm Watercolor Class 7pm Evening Prayer on Zoom	3 8pm NA	4 3pm Tom Bernard Funeral
5 The 17th Sunday after Pentecost Hospitality & Food Bank Sunday 10am Holy Eucharist in person & on Zoom 11:20am Adult Forum 3pm Blessing of the Animals	6	7 7pm NA	8 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal 8pm NA	9 1pm Watercolor Class 7pm Evening Prayer on Zoom	10 8pm NA	11 10am-2pm Red Cross Blood Drive
12 The 18th Sunday after Pentecost 10am Holy Eucharist in person & on Zoom 11am Worship Committee Meeting 11:20am Adult Forum	13	14 7pm NA	15 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal 8pm NA	16 10:15am DOK 1pm Watercolor Class 7pm Evening Prayer on Zoom	17 8pm NA	18
19 The 19th Sunday after Pentecost Loose Plate Offering → Rector's Discretionary 10am Holy Eucharist in person & on Zoom 11:20am Adult Forum 11:30am Vestry	20	21 7pm NA	22 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal 8pm NA	23 1pm Watercolor Class 7pm Evening Prayer on Zoom	24 8pm NA	25
26 The 20th Sunday after Pentecost 10am Holy Eucharist in person & on Zoom 11:20am Adult Forum	27	28 7pm NA	29 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal 8pm NA	30 1pm Watercolor Class 7pm Evening Prayer on Zoom	31 8pm NA 	

Zoom Information for Sundays

Join from a computer:

[https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81739544575?](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81739544575?pwd=M1g3eHNhaURDdFIQ1BPTGNEN3NPDz09)

pwd=M1g3eHNhaURDdFIQ1BPTGNEN3NPDz09

Join from a Telephone: Dial +1 646 931 3860 and Enter

Meeting ID 817 3954 4575 and Passcode 845478 .

Zoom Information for Thursdays

Join from a computer:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89544248014>

Meeting ID: 895 4424 8014

Join from a Telephone: Dial +1 309 205 3325 and Enter

Meeting ID 895 4424 8014.

If you need to meet with Fr. Mark,
please feel free to contact him at

276-791-3175 or

frazimw9@gmail.com.