



SAINT THOMAS TIDINGS



April 2022



Prayers of The People

Pray for anyone who suffers from any kind of grief, trouble or illness especially **Alex, Fr. John, Bill, Dawn, Nick, Elanor, Tina, Nancy, Kaz, Michael, Janna, Nana Jo, Chris, Tyler S., Gilbert, Bob, Diane, Sharron, Marty, Gayle, Gus, Patricia K., Tim and Alec: Deliver them from their distress.** Pray for those serving in our armed forces especially, **Fr. Tony, Mitchell, Emily, Steven, Chelsey, the 200th Red Horse Squadron and the 393rd U.S. Air Force Bomb Squadron. Protect, guide and comfort them and bring them home safely.**

A Message From Pastor Beverly: Easter Symbols

Have you ever wondered about Easter Bunnies and Colored Eggs? Legend tells us that the Easter Bunny is a folklore symbol of Easter, brought to this country by German Lutherans in the 1700.

The original legend of the Easter bunny is unknown but one theory is that the symbol of the rabbit stems from a pagan festival, celebrated every spring. It honors fertility goddess, Eostre. Her symbol was a rabbit, known for their energetic breeding, they have traditionally symbolized fertility.

Eggs represent new life. Decorating eggs for Easter dates back to the 13th century. For hundreds of years, abstaining from eating eggs during Lent was part of the churches tradition, so on Easter morning eggs were on the menu for breakfast.

In the 19th century Russian high society started exchanging ornately decorated eggs—even jewel encrusted eggs. Thus the Fabergé Eggs became popular in the home of the Czar. Thus we have an Easter Bunny bringing colored eggs on Easter Morning. Blessings as we enter this Easter Season. May the light of Christ shine brightly on you.



Announcements

Community Tenebrae Service on Good Friday at St. John's Lutheran

Tenebrae, which translates from the Latin as “darkness” is a traditional service held Good Friday. It is a service of prayers and hymns, commemorating Christ's crucifixion. This service culminates when a series of candles are progressively extinguished until the sanctuary is dark and the congregation leaves in silence. This year's community Good Friday, Tenebrae service will be held at St. John's Lutheran Church at 7:00 PM.

Holy Humor Sunday, April 24th

Please join us on Sunday April 24th for *Holy Humor Sunday*. Also known as *Bright Sunday*, this day of joy and laughter dates back to the early church, when Christians would celebrate Christ's resurrection with picnics and parties. This April 24th Pastor Beverly will share a special humorous message in honor of the day.

Community Meal

Last month, we served 117 meals at our community meal. Thanks to all who provided their labor and resources to make this possible. Our next community meal will take place on Thursday, April 21st. The menu will be Beef Stroganoff.

Knitting Ministry

Last month, Pastor Beverly delivered eight shawls and lap blankets to the oncology unit at Magruder hospital. The knitting ministry would like to provide them with another ten. If you would like to come and help, they will be meeting on Tuesday April 5th on 19th. All skill levels are welcome and supplies will be provided. Please contact the church office if you have any questions.

Ladies Night Out

This month, the ladies will be meeting at JJ's in Marblehead at 4:30 on Thursday, April 28th. Please contact the office if you would like to go, so Sue can make a reservation.

Operation Food On The Table Needs Your Help!

Last year, this ministry provided our community with 7500 free meals and nutritious snacks. We hope to continue this ministry into the future. However, due to the continual rise in food costs, we need to increase our funding. Please consider making a contribution to this vital ministry.

9:00 AM Services begin Sunday, April 3rd!!

Vestry Meeting Summary

Here is a summary of the minutes from the March 2022 vestry meeting.

Treasurer's Report:

Funds were transferred from the investment account to the checking account in February 2022. The gas bill for February was very high this year possibly due to fuel price increases and unusually cold weather. Values in the investment account reflect a drop in the stock market.

Pastor's Report:

The knitting ministry completed and delivered eight lap blankets to the Magruder oncology department. The community Good Friday (Tenebrae) service will be held at St. John's Lutheran Church this year April 15th at 6:00 PM. Pastor Beverly and Sue will be working on a new St. Thomas Brochure. Sue will be absent for two week starting April 1st following foot surgery. Bob's shoulder surgery is scheduled for April 18th.

Old Business:

Caulking and painting will be part of the continuing work to be completed on the bell house. AT Emmett will be coming out to install an external outlet to this structure. Estimates will be obtained for plexiglass for the stained glass windows in the sanctuary and new windows for the ramp going up into the sanctuary. Fill dirt is needed around the steps and sewer and the gutters will need periodic cleaning.

Following a discussion with Bill Powell, Diocesan Canon of the Ordinary, it was clarified that city has no claim on the church's columbarium. It was proposed that St. Thomas vestry should put together an estimate for moving the columbarium and revisit this estimate annually to determine the best time for a move.

New Business:

A survey will be written and sent out to food pantry recipients to get feedback on whether this ministry is meeting the needs of the community. St. Thomas vestry will be applying for a new NCMAC grant so that they may continue in this important outreach ministry.

April Birthdays

Cindy Bolte – April 2nd



Look with favor we pray on your servant as she begins another year. Strengthen her trust in your goodness, all the days of her life.

Wedding Anniversaries

John & Gerri Bolte – April 4th



May your home be a haven of blessing and peace.

Send us your special day, so we can include you.

April Recipe: Carrot Coconut Mini Muffins

Here is something fun and easy for your Easter brunch.

Ingredients:

- 1 ½ cups AP flour
- 1 tsp baking powder
- 1/2 tsp baking soda
- 1/2 tsp kosher salt
- 1/2 cup unsweetened coconut flakes
- 1 cup grated carrot
- 1 medium firm sweet apple peeled and grated
- 2 large eggs
- 1tsp vanilla extract
- 1/4 cup vegetable oil
- 1/2 cup honey

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. 2. Place first seven ingredients in a bowl and stir to combine. 3. Place remaining ingredients in a separate bowl and stir to combine. 4. Add dry ingredients to wet and stir to combine being careful not to over stir. 5. Place 1 Tbsp batter in greased mini muffin tins. 6. Bake 15 minutes. 7. Remove from oven. Allow to cool 1-2 minutes before removing muffins from pan. 8. Remove from pan. Serve (Source: [welicious.com/27-easter-recipes/](https://www.welicious.com/27-easter-recipes/)).

Why is Easter a "Movable Feast?"

Have you ever wondered why Christmas is always on December 25th, but the date of Easter changes every year? From the earliest days of the Church, Easter has always been the most important feast on the calendar. However, unlike Christmas, which falls on the same date, Easter falls on a different date every year. This is because it is associated with a day of the week, Sunday, the day Christians believe Christ was resurrected.

Traditionally, the Last Supper was believed to be held during the Jewish Spring festival of Passover, which celebrates the Israelites escape from Egypt. Passover begins with the Seder, a ceremonial meal held at Sunset on the 14th day of the Lunar month of Nisan. Like Christmas, it could fall on any day of the week.

Tradition held that Jesus was resurrected on a Sunday, three days after his crucifixion. Therefore, unless Passover always fell on a Friday, using it to set the date for Easter was impractical. In 325 A.D., the Council in Nice decided that Easter would be celebrated on first Sunday after the full moon immediately following the Vernal Equinox, (March 21st or the first day of Spring). That means it would occur around the time of Passover, but not always sync with it.

This year, the first full moon after the Vernal Equinox falls on Saturday April 16th, so Easter will be celebrated the following day on Sunday, April 17th. That is how the date for Easter is determined and why it is referred to as "The Movable Feast." (Source: <https://blog.library.villanova.edu/2015/04/04/easter-a-movable-feast/>).

Sunday Service with Eucharist

9 AM in the church or on Facebook (SaintThomasPC) or YouTube (Saint Thomas PCOH Livestream)

Contact Information

Address: 214 E. 2nd St. Port Clinton, OH 43452
Phone: 419-341-9961 Email: