



SAINT THOMAS TIDINGS



July 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., Bob, Sharron, Marty, Gus, Patricia K., Alec, Debbie, David, Terry and Judy: 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, the 983rd Engineer Battalion and the 393rd U.S. Air Force Bomb Squadron. Protect, guide and comfort them and bring them home safely.**

A Message From Pastor Beverly: The Gospel as Fairy Tale

In the previous two newsletters, I wrote about the Gospel as Comedy and Tragedy. This week I want to end this series by writing about the Gospel as a Fairy Tale. I'm guessing that you are wondering how the Gospel can be seen as a Fairy Tale because fairy tales always begin with: "Once Upon a Time" and end with "Happily Ever After."

Perhaps the place to begin is with the beginning of a Fairy Tale: "Once upon a time", which refers to a time beyond all time, a time that is different than our clock time. A time that is without a beginning or an end. Does that sound familiar? The Gospel, the story of Jesus, began with God, in God's time which is very different from our time. It is without a beginning or an end.

Have you noticed that in Fairy tales there is always some type of transformation: The ugly duckling becomes a great white swan, the frog becomes a prince, the wicked queen gets her just reward? In fairy tales, goodness is pitted against evil, love against hate, and darkness against light. In the Gospel, many people have their lives transformed because of God's power in this world: Saul into Paul, The Samaritan women at the well, Jonah, and the Ethiopian to name just a few. And I would be remiss if I left out Jesus' 12 disciples and the women who followed and supported him. Their lives drastically changed because of the Gospel.

Like the fairy-tale world, the world of the Gospel is often a dark world. The Christ child was born at night, his last meal at night, and in the garden the dark shadows of the guards crept silently close. The meeting of the darkness and the light is what the Gospel is about, with the light triumphing in the end, just as in fairy tales.

And who are the ones that live "happily ever after"? We are of course. Happily, because we have the love of a God who sent his son to die for us so that our sins would be forgiven and that we could live happily here and happily in the next life as well. Where God is absent there is darkness and emptiness in the world, but often in the depths of that darkness God comes into our world in very extraordinary ways. He comes to unlikely people like Sarah and Abraham, Pilate, and Job. He comes to bring light into the darkness with a tale that is too good to be true. Yet it is true, because it transforms the lives of the people who hear it.

Announcements

Knitting Ministry

If you would like to come and help, they will be meeting on Tuesdays, July 5th and 19th at 1:00 PM. All skill levels are welcome and supplies will be provided. Please contact the church office if you have any questions.

Ladies Night Out

Location: Cleats 8801 E. Harbor Rd Lakeside-Marblehead

Date: Thursday, July 21st.

Time: 4:00pm

Operation Food On The Table Needs Your Help: Date: Wednesday, July 6th. We will begin packing bags promptly at 1:00 PM.

Don't forget our 9 AM Service Time!!

Vestry Meeting Summary



Birthdays:

Bob Keller- 5th
 Gary Good- 6th
 Linda Lamberjack- 13th
 Lee Anne Caswell- 14th
 John Reinheimer- 21st
 George Douglass- 27th
 Anne Butcher- 28th

Anniversaries:

Bob and Kim Keller- 4th
 Ron and Helen Uebbing- 6th

**4-Ingredient No-Churn Chocolate Ice Cream:**

You will need:

Sweetened condensed milk- 1 can
 Heavy whipping cream- 2 cups
 Cocoa Powder- 3tbsp then add to flavor as desired
 Vanilla Extract- 1tsp
 Sea Salt (if desired to enhance the flavor and sweetness and to help keep it soft)- 1/8tsp

Add the cocoa powder to a saucepan along with 3 tablespoons of water. Heat on low, stirring consistently until much of the cocoa powder has dissolved. Remove from heat and add a small amount (about 1/3 cup) of heavy cream to the saucepan and stir well until the cocoa powder has completely dissolved and you're left with a creamy chocolate syrup. Transfer the chocolate mixture to a blender along with the remaining ingredients. Blend on low speed just until combined. Avoid over-blending so that you don't create too many air pockets, as this will result in an icy texture. After, transfer the chocolate mixture to a freezer-safe container and freeze 3 to 4 hours or until completely frozen. Once you're ready to enjoy the ice cream simply take it out and scoop!

St. Thomas of India

Situated on the South coast of the Indian sub-continent between the Arabian Sea and the Western Ghant mountains, Kerala with its lush humid climate is an ideal place for growing spices. This feature has attracted traders to its shores for millennia.

Tradition dictates that Thomas the Apostle, also known as "Doubting" Thomas first set up his ministry to India in 52 AD. He began his work by converting the Jewish sailors, who traveled to India in search of spices. Then, he began preaching to the local inhabitants, establishing seven and a half churches along the way. The half church was just a cross erected on a hill in Arapally, where Thomas had converted 64 families.

After ministering to the people of Kerala, Thomas went on to preach in other parts of Indian. However, his legacy lives on in the liturgy spoken in Syriac, a dialect of Aramaic and myriad churches, which bear his name

(Sources: Zachariah, P (2016). *The surprising early history of christianity in india.* Smithsonian, Wikipedia (2022). *St.thomas christian denominations* https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Saint_Thomas_Christian_denominations).

Here is a summary of the minutes taken at the June 15, 2022 vestry meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Year-to-date contributions are up this month mostly due to a large contribution from a single contributor. A multi-month transfer was made from the investment principal. Investment values are down considerably compared to year end 2021.

Pastor's Report: Rev. Beverly has been performing at-home communion service as well as last rights for a resident of Otterbein retirement community. The knitting ministry continues to produce lap blankets for the hospital oncology unit. Rev. Beverly also participated in the first of three in a series of webinars on gun violence. However, the first webinar did not cover church security.

Old Business:

Food-on-the-Table ministry: Larry Janes reported that the man, who was tearing into the food bags has not been seen recently.

The issue of replacing the hall-way windows leading up to the sanctuary was tabled as Bill Moon, Jr. Warden, was not in attendance at the meeting.

The nursery, who will supply a tree to replace the one that died in front of the church will likely wait till fall and cooler weather to replace it.

New Business: No new business was discussed at the meeting.



In-Person and Virtual Worship with Eucharist
 9 AM in Saint Thomas' Sanctuary or Live on
 Facebook and Saint Thomas PCOH YouTube

Contact Information
Phone Number: 419-734-3404
Email: saintthomaspcoh@gmail.com