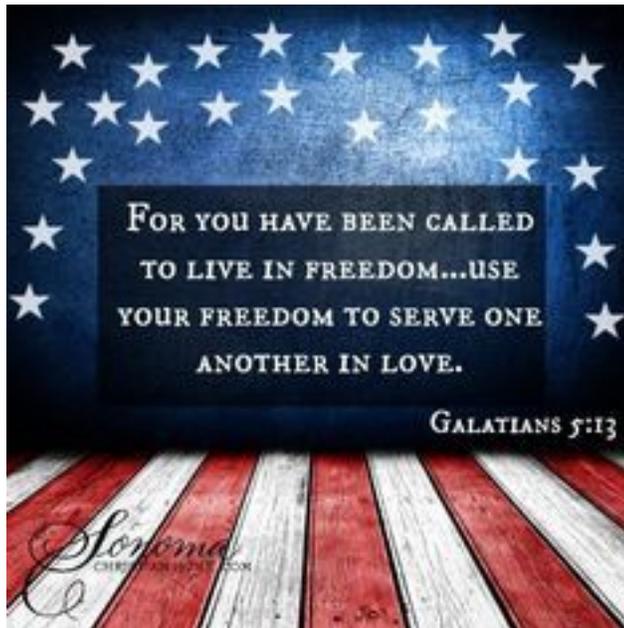




THE SALTY SAINT

JULY/AUGUST 2021



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Lord God Almighty, in whose Name the founders of this country won liberty for themselves and for us, and lit the torch of freedom for nations then unborn: Grant, we beseech thee, that we and all the people of this land may have grace to maintain these liberties in righteousness and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

GOING TO THE HOSPITAL?
Having an outpatient procedure?

Please call or email the office to let us know. We really, really want to pray for you, visit you, and support you and those you love, but we cannot do that unless you tell us first.

The Treasurer's Corner

by Mickey Cochran, Treasurer



St Thomas continues in good financial condition, despite the lingering effects from the recent Covid unpleasantness. The continuing stable financial condition continues to rest upon the shoulders of those many faithful parishioners who annually pledge their financial support and fastidiously fulfill such pledges. Thankfully the Covid-era restrictions under which the church operated for several months have largely been lifted and church activities are beginning to resemble those of pre-Covid days. With two Sundays left in the month of June, the church has received 67.51% of the amounts of financial support pledged for the year which is 17.51% ahead of the pro-rata amounts anticipated in the current budget. Other sources of financial support continue to lag far below budgeted levels however, these shortfalls being offset at present by the less than anticipated operating expenditures. In the short term the church is fine financially.

At my request, the Vestry, at its June meeting authorized a second Treasurers position in order to assure seamless handling of the financial matters of the church. The Vestry then appointed David Moretz to fill this position, his appointment to run through December 31, 2021. From that point, the Vestry appoints the Treasurer(s) on a calendar year basis and the present incumbents will serve thereafter at the pleasure of the Vestry.

Below is the financial summary of activities for the year to date.

	YTD Actual Results	2021 Budget Amount	2021 Budget Remaining	% of Annual Budget Used
Beginning Cash From Prior Year	\$0.00	\$32,000.00	\$32,000.00	0.00%
Current Year Pledges	\$111,166.00	\$164,677.00	\$53,511.00	67.51%
Non-Pledge Receipts	\$5,490.00	\$20,000.00	\$14,510.00	27.45%
Prior Year Pledges (Pd. This Year)	\$0.00	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	0.00%
Misc. Receipts	\$694.67	\$500.00	(\$194.67)	138.93%
Plate Cash	\$354.00	\$2,000.00	\$1,646.00	17.70%
Endowment	\$0.00	\$7,200.00	\$7,200.00	0.00%
TOTALS	\$117,704.67	\$226,412.00	\$108,707.33	51.99%

[X] = No Budget Estimate

Through the period, a total of \$39,816.64 has been expended for annual operating expenses, 17.65% of total anticipated expenses.



Bill Pruitt/St. Thomas Scholarship Fund

The Scholarship Committee received the good news that one of our scholarship students from Beaufort County Community College, Kendall Watkins, recently passed her nursing board exams and is now an R.N. Kendall has received seven job offers before accepting a position at Vidant Hospital in Greenville. She has even added more to her “life story” with her recent wedding. Our congratulations to Kendall, on the successful launch of her nursing career, and to her new husband and her family!

Kendall received financial support from the St. Thomas / Pruitt Scholarship program in 2019 and 2020. During the fall of 2020 Kendall sent a note of appreciation to those at St. Thomas. In her note she said, “By awarding me the Bill Pruitt/St. Thomas Episcopal Scholarship you have lightened my financial burden which allows me to focus more on the most important aspect of school, learning.”

As Kendall embarks on the next phase of life she will be continuing her education at ECU to earn her BSN degree. She wrote to us about the impact of our scholarship and her future plans, “Your generosity has inspired me to help others and give back to my community. I hope that one day I will be able to help students achieve their goals just as you have helped me. I am forever grateful for the continued support you have given me. May God bless you.”

The Scholarship Committee thanks those who have enabled us to support the students from BCCC. With your continued support we look forward to sharing more success stories such as Kendall’s.

Thank you!

The Scholarship Committee
Betty Pruitt
Sue Brown
Susan Simpson

Sr. Warden's Column

— by Ric Miller

After eighteen months without a Rector and fourteen months of Covid lockdown it is certainly nice to almost return to normal Sunday services. We are very fortunate to have several supply Priests that are giving their time and talents to help us through this time of transition. Thanks to all of you for attending the services and showing your appreciation to these fine Priests. Our average attendance for April and May was 25 at 9am and 33 at 11am. June attendance is increasing but we still have several LOST SHEEP wandering around somewhere. How about make an effort to find them and ask them to return.

The Bishop issued new guidelines on June 1 and the Vestry approved his recommendations. We have returned to singing (thanks to Sylvia for her leadership), passing the peace, etc. We will continue to only offer bread during Holy Eucharist until further notice. We may offer a coffee social in the future with some restrictions to include only packaged foods, etc. More info will follow.

At the June Vestry meeting it was decided to discontinue the weekly collection appeals for the Salvation Army, Martha's, Pet Pantry, and Back Pack Pals. Participation has been very weak and the items donated are not always useful to the organizations. We would encourage cash donations instead. Just note the organization on the memo line of your check. Also, these same groups are supported through our outreach contributions each year.

Congratulations are in order for our own Larry McAvoy who was appointed as a Licensed Lay Preacher and Worship Leader by Bishop Skirving. We are blessed to have Larry lead us in Morning Prayer Services whenever supply Priests are not available. If you have not attended a Morning Prayer service with Larry you have missed some wonderful messages.

Some sad news to report is that Patti and Frank Phelps are moving to the mountains of NC in late June and Mary Ellen and Rick Adams are moving to the Chapel Hill area in July. They will be sorely missed and can never be replaced. Our whole hearted thanks for their unselfish service to St Thomas over the years and our best wishes for their happiness in their new homes.

In your service

Ric



Upcoming Birthdays

July

- 3 – Jimmy Latham
- 5 – Tim Smith
- 8 – Sue Sitterson
- 11 – Scott Ellis
- 12 – Lee Radford
- 13 – Allison Smith
- 14 – Thelma Gene Piland
- 17 – Sara Jo Manning
- 18 – Chase Tomaini,
Cole Tomaini
- 22 – Ike Baldree
- 25 – Rodney Lawrence,
Bob Sutter
- 27 – Gail Moretz
- 29 – Comer Griffin,
Rick Adams

August

- 1 – Gib Ash
- 4 – Gail Kenefick
- 6 – Ric Miller
- 7 – Chuck Satterfield
- 10 – Joe Davis
- 19 – Barbara Craig
- 20 – Noonie Crabtree
- 22 – Jane Ellen Baker,
David Moretz
- 24 – Sylvia Sutter
- 30 – Roy Williams

A Blast from the Past

—by Patti Phelps

We're moving into the 20th century with this history update. It is my last blast from the past and I'm so glad I've brought you these articles from our founding in 1734. Please feel free to contact a member of the history committee if you want to check out the Wilson Angley book from which I have borrowed so heavily. You can also read it digitally by clicking on this website.

<http://digital.ncdcr.gov/cdm/ref/collection/p16062coll6/id/9620>

In 1913 the church started keeping a guest register (which we still do today) and by the mid 1920's the flow of visitors had swollen considerably. In fact in 1925 over 5,000 visitors were entered in the register, the most famous was Edna Ferber who wrote *Show Boat*. These visitors were one of the important aspects of growing interest in the historic church. St Thomas became a pilgrimage for Episcopalians, often led by Bishop Darst. Bishop Darst was the facilitator of an effort to restore and preserve the church which was in serious disrepair. Bishop Darst's leadership led to the Diocese elevating the church to a diocesan parish which included vestry members from beyond the parish. The Rev Brent Drane in Edenton instigated the return of the Garcia silver chalice after 180 years.

Bishop Darst and the many influential citizens of eastern NC had hoped to raise enough money for the restoration to "its original appearance" by the anniversary of its building in 1934. Sadly this wasn't possible. The good news is that the Rev ACD Noe was hired in 1936. Father Noe was one of 4 brothers who became Episcopal priests, plus his son became a priest. He served St Thomas, Trinity and Zion until his retirement. I have many interesting stories about this fascinating man and his family but there isn't room for them in this issue.

The scope of work was daunting: removing the Victorian furnishings which were incompatible with the original Georgian design and most seriously repairing the bulging side walls and stabilization of the foundation. This work was declared impossible by some who recommended tearing down the walls but a group of local men under the direction of self taught architect, Robert Davis, took on the task. If you're interested in the details of the reconstruction I suggest you see Wilson Angley's book, pages 136-147. His book has many interesting details about the tile floor, graveyard, Glebe House, pews, the pulpit, the windows (Victorian replace with the present style Georgian), doorway on side, altar rail, slave gallery, windows above the gallery.

On November 3, 1941 Bishop Darst observed a "Restoration Pilgrimage" to St Thomas to celebrate the completion of the project. Thankfully the Rev Noe's dedication extended beyond the rebuilding to a commitment to the parish. The membership grew every year until his retirement in 1953 and after his retirement he continued to offer occasional services.

We are so fortunate to have over 300 years of people who cared about St Thomas and managed to overcome hurricanes, wars, pestilence, poverty to keep this building and the congregation alive. We follow their footsteps into the future.

Upcoming Services

July 4th – HE - Rev. Jim Horton – 9 & 11 am
July 11th – HE – Rev. Bob Hudak – 9 & 11 am
July 18th - MP – Larry McAvoy – 9 am
July 25th – HE – Rev. Jim Horton – 9 & 11 am

August 1st – To be determined
August 8th – To be determined
August 15th - To be determined
August 22nd –To be determined
August 31st – To be determined

***MP – Morning Prayer**
***HE – Holy Eucharist**

Martha’s Food Distribution



St. Thomas Episcopal Church
 PO Box 257
 Bath, NC 27808
 Office: 252-923-9141
stthomasbath@gmail.com
www.StThomasParishNC.org

Ric Miller
 Senior Warden
 ricandjudi@gmail.com
 cell: (252)531-7447

Barbara Owens
 Parish Administrator

2021 Vestry

Ric Miller, *Sr. Warden*
 Robert Tankard,
Jr. Warden
 Mickey Cochran,
Treasurer Clerk
 Barbara Craig, *Clerk*
 Betty Eschenbauch
 Joe Tomaini
 Tom Chuman
 Becky Enzor
 David Moretz
 Buddy Conner

Ministry Chairs

Fritz Morrison, *Outreach*
 Betty Eschenbauch,
Altar Guild
 Susan Tankard
 & Kay Leager,
Flower Guild
 Dick Haar,
Endowment Fund
 Barbara Owens,
Communications

Communication Ministry

*This committee is responsible
 for the Salty Saint, weekly
 Fishnet and the website.*

Barbara Owens
 KayLeager

Backpack Pals Update

—by Ginger Morrison



The BPP program will begin again when the school year starts this fall. The Beaufort County administrative office assured us that the needs of the students we serve would be handled by them during summer school and they would welcome the return of our service in the fall.

I am happy to report that Anne and Bruce Mears will be the coordinators of the BPP program beginning with this school year. The Mears will bring fresh eyes, educational experience and enthusiasm to this important program. With their leadership, BPP can only get better.

It has been my pleasure to coordinate the program for the last three school years. The BPP Committee is a very dedicated group of people who consistently go above and beyond to do our part for STEC in keeping the hungry students at Bath and Northeast Elementary nourished during the weekends. I thank the committee members and the congregation for their continuing support of this valuable service.