



THE SALTY SAINT

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2021

Welcome to our new Rector

The Vestry and Search Committee are pleased to announce that St Thomas Bath has elected The Rev Copeland D Johnston to be our new Rector. His tenure will begin on September 15, 2021. His first worship service will be September 19, 2021. This service will be held at 9:00 am and a meet and greet will be held after the service.

Your Vestry and Search committee after many months of diligently seeking the best person to lead our Parish unanimously voted to call Father Johnston. The Rev Canon Roberts and The Rev Bishop Skirving endorsed our selection and wish us well on our new journey together.

We are grateful to Rev Jim Horton, Rev Bob Hudak, Rev Polk Culpepper, Rev Katherine Mitchell, and Larry McAvoy for their dedicated service to St Thomas over the past twenty months.

As we welcome Father Johnston and enter this phase of our spiritual life together, we pray that the entire Parish will unite to make this transition unified with unconditional support and respect.

In Your Service,

The Vestry

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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



Patrick Henry, of Revolutionary War fame, is supposed to have said “Now is the time for all good men to come to the aid of their country.” To slightly shift the setting in which these sentiments were expressed, now is the time for all who are collectively at St. Thomas Church, Bath to renew their commitment to the continued success of this venerable old place. St. Thomas still maintains it’s much sought after financial stability, even in view of the recent unpleasantness of the COVID era and the month’s long period of being without its Rector (and church organist). But church finances have been adversely affected. Sources of revenue from many church services and activities have been less than those in prior years. Going forward, it will take the very best efforts of its members and supporters to ensure that St Thomas continues to thrive and maintain its longstanding place in the life of Bath and surrounding areas.

The many church families who annually pledge their financial support remain the cornerstone of the financial success the church enjoys. Through August, with one Sunday remaining, pledge receipts received total 76.92% of the amounts pledged for the year, a full ten percent above the prorata amount anticipated in the annual budget for the first two thirds of the budget year. However other sources of anticipated receipts have fallen significantly behind hoped for amounts. Overall, the church has received 60.43% of receipts anticipated for the first two thirds of the budget year, some seven percent below budgeted amounts.

Total expenses paid through the period were 40.63% of budget expectations.

See additional information below.

	YTD Actual Results	2021 Budget Amount	2021 Budget Remaining	% of Annual Budget Used
Beginning Cash From Prior Period		\$32,000.00	\$32,000.00	\$0.00
Current Year Pledges	\$126,663.00	\$164,677.00	\$38,014.00	76.92%
Non-Pledge Receipts	\$8,636.31	\$20,000.00	\$11,363.69	43.18%
Prior Year Pledges (Pd. This Year)	\$0.00	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
Misc Receipts	\$709.12	\$500.00	(\$209.12)	141.82%
Plate Cash	\$787.00	\$2,000.00		
Endowment	\$0.00	\$7,200.00	\$7,200.00	\$0.00
TOTALS	\$136,814.48	\$226,412.00	\$89,597.52	60.43%

[X]= No Budget Estimate



Backpack Pals

The Backpack Pals will begin providing meals for qualifying students at Bath Elementary and Northeast Elementary on Sept. 13th this school year. We pack nonperishable individually wrapped food items for the students to take home on Fridays.

The benefits of providing meals over the weekend are: improved behavior, improved attendance, and academic achievement. The cost of providing these meals is about \$200 a year per child. We thank you for your very generous support in the past and ask for your support again this school year. Donations can be sent to the church office and please note that they are for BPP.

Any questions or anyone interested in more information can contact Anne Mears 252-923-1873 or annemears804@gmail.com



Upcoming Birthdays

September

- 3 – Susan Stewart
- 7 – Ginger Morrison
- 11 – Bill Monroe,
Linda Thornton
- 13 – Mark Batton,
Dot Batton
- 22 – Harry Wetmore
- 25 – Kay Leager
- 26 – Betty Wheeler
- 29 – Linda Baldree

October

- 1 – Mike Baker
- 3 – Jim Bowman,
Mike Farschon
- 21 – Vicki Tomaini
- 26 – Kathy Sutter
- 29 - Carole Deaton
- 30 – Jack Whichard

Literacy Committee



The Literacy Committee is proud to share the following. Each 2nd grader in both the Bath Elementary School and Northeast Elementary School will be receiving 3 books to keep as their own this year. The Vestry was so kind to agree to our request. We thought we would need more money than we spent. However, due to the shopping expertise of Susan Tankard as well as her diligent detective work she was able to purchase the books for half (\$360.00) of what we expected. On another note our reading volunteers are still waiting on a decision from the school board to see if we will be able to volunteer this year because of Covid.

Sincerely,
Susan Tankard, Allison Smith, Kay Leager, Barbara Craig, Ric Miller,
Judi Miller

Flower Guild

The STEC Flower Guild held their luncheon for the first time in two years in July. The group was able to gather to enjoy fellowship and laughter over a summer luncheon and business meeting.

GOOD NEWS:

The flower guild continues to grow! We have had three new members join us to share their creativity. We welcome Lou Mallard, Ginger Morrison, and Betty Pruitt.

Kudos to **Jack Piland** for continuing to raise zinnias for the use of the group to beautify the church.

This strong group continued to bring life to our tiny parish through a world pandemic. Many parishioners and visitors enjoyed being in the presence of our church during a troubling time.

The flower guild has a link on the St. Thomas webpage that is filled with photos from previous creative inspirations throughout the years. To find these photos on the website, click on **Ministries** tab, select **Sunday Worship**, scroll down to **Flower Guild**, and choose the **hyperlink** in blue lettering. WOW! You will be able to see all the beautiful altar arrangements at St. Thomas!

SUMMONS:

Consider providing altar flowers in honor and memory of a loved one. The process is simple. Complete the form located in the Noe building or the STEC website and submit to Barbara in the church office, Susan Tankard or Kay Leager. Order your flowers from a local florist for delivery on the Friday prior to your selected date. We will take care of getting the information in the bulletin and daily watering and care during the week.

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Ric Miller
Senior Warden
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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



From the Sr. Warden

Twenty Two months without a rector complicated by fourteen months of Covid restrictions has taken a toll on our membership and attendance but we have survived. We still mourn the loss of several of our Parishioners and miss many who have relocated to other areas.

A hardy thanks to all of our loyal parishioners and a wonderful group of visiting Priests for their commitment to St Thomas over this trying period.

As an old song goes “Happy Days Are Here Again “. Our new Rector Father Copeland Johnston will join us on September 15th and we look forward to growing our membership and spiritual life together.

Please make a special effort to join us at 9:00 on Sunday September 19th for Father Johnston’s first service followed by a meet and greet reception to give him a big St Thomas welcome.

I would like to give special recognition to the search committee (Betty, Susan, Gib, Allison, Buddy, LaRue, & Larry) for their many months, days, and hours of unselfish service to find the person that the Holly Sprit has lead us to call as our next Rector and Spiritual Leader.

United together the best days of St Thomas are just beginning.

Thanks Be To God

Ric

St. Francis Sunday October 3rd

St. Francis Sunday is October 3rd.

The service, conducted by Rev. Copeland Johnston, will be followed by our traditional pet blessing

All pets are welcome!

St Francis, who founded the Catholic Church's Franciscan order, lived in Italy during the late 12th and 13th centuries. He is remembered for his generosity to the poor and his willingness to minister to the lepers. He is remembered for his love for animals and nature. St Francis died at Portiuncula, Italy on October 4, 1226.

Pope Gregory IX pronounced St Francis a saint in 1228. The pope also laid the foundation stone for the Basilica of St Francis in Assisi, Italy.



St. Thomas Note Cards On Sale NOW!

6 cards and envelopes
\$10



2 design choices:

St. Thomas painting by Dr. Billy Jones

OR

The 2021 Easter Cross photo by Madison Tankard

Available after each service on Sundays or email
susietank@gmail.com with your order.

Proceeds support the St. Thomas Flower Guild