Dear Church Family & Friends ~

Remember playing leap frog when you were a kid? The premise is that one kid vaults over another and another until he/she successfully ‘leaps’ to the finish line. That probably sounds daunting to us now (since we are grown-ups)!

2020 is a Leap Year. That is not shocking news, of course, but consider what that means: one extra day this year. Now that is good news! Are we not always wishing, hoping and praying for more time? Well, here it is!

How will we spend the extra 24 hours? February 29, the official leap day this year, is on a Saturday. Will you do something special? Celebrate? Skip the usual Saturday routine?

I was thinking of some of those phrases we hear about taking leaps. “Take a leap of faith” first comes to mind: meaning, don’t jump into something too quickly; consider all avenues before you make a decision. “One small step for man, one giant leap for mankind”, Neil Armstrong’s famous words spoken when he landed on the moon.

Great phrases. Wonderful words. Then there are the words of Matthew 17: 20: He said to them, “Because of your little faith. For truly I tell you, if you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there (take a leap!),’ and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you.”

When we play and participate in life through our faith, all kinds of possibilities open up for us. Let God lead the leaps we take!

In Christ’s Love,

Pastor Debra

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS
Monday thru Thursday
9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The Office is closed Fridays!
MEMBER INFORMATION
Please consider calling or sending a card to someone who is celebrating a birthday or anniversary.

Ryan Chase Wagner, son of Jessica & Jimmy Wagner & little brother of Zachary & Declan, was born January 14, 2020.

2019 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
The 2019 financial statements will be available for you to pick up beginning Sunday, February 2.

FEBRUARY Birthdays
1  Beverly Porter
2  Albert Bruch
4  Janet Konkolics
21 Gloria Hurley
23 Autumn Desthers

FEBRUARY Anniversaries
5  Susan & Frank Olshefski
11  Elda and Sterling Bruch, Jr.
22 Dana & Jeremy Reaser

HOSPITAL INFORMATION
Please remember to let the church office know if you or a member of your family is admitted to the hospital. The hospitals do not notify the church when a member is admitted.

SPONSORS
The flower and bulletin sponsor sheet is posted. The cost is $35 and you may use the signup sheet or call the church office to sponsor the flowers and bulletins. Consider sharing the flowers with someone who is in the hospital or unable to attend worship.
MUSIC MINISTRY
CHOIR REHEARSALS
Thursdays @ 7:15 pm
Sundays @ 9:45 am

CHOIR REHEARSALS
Thursdays @ 6:15 pm

Calling all Wanna-be and Are-already Chimers!
Our Church Chime Choir rehearsals have resumed on Thursday evenings at 6:15 p.m. We welcome anyone interested in learning a truly easy musical instrument while hanging out with some fun people every week. All you need to know are primarily colors (pink, blue, and occasionally yellow) and your left hand from your right. The best part is you don’t need to sing to ding! For further information, contact Barbara Hoyle at 610-739-1190.

The Prayer Shawl Ministry at St. Thomas meets the fifth Sunday of the month following worship. The next meeting is Sunday, March 29th. The group welcomes anyone who has an interest in knitting or crocheting, a novice or a veteran knitter/crocheter. To date, this ministry has produced more than 500 shawls! If you or someone you know could benefit from a prayer shawl, please contact Pastor Debra or the church office.

"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.”
John 15:12

... To all those who contribute to & help with the Breakfast Café.
... To all those who serve as ushers, greeters, door monitors and acolytes.
... To all those who are contributing to the Giving Tree.
... To all those who teach Sunday School.
... To all those who contributed to Bethany Children’s Home – Helping Hands. We have concluded this outreach.
FEBRUARY WORSHIP FOCUS

FEBRUARY 2 – St. Thomas Junior Singers
Scripture: Micah 6: 1-8, Matthew 5: 1-12
Sermon: Beatitudes... Really?
For Children: Happy, Happy, Happy!

FEBRUARY 9 – Scripture: Psalm 112: 1-10, Matthew 5: 13-20
Sermon: Salt & Light
For Children: Shine Your Light!

FEBRUARY 16 - Scripture: Deuteronomy 30: 15-20, Matthew 5: 21-37
Sermon: Moses Says: Don’t Mess It Up!
For Children: Bible Boy

FEBRUARY 23 – Joyful Noise Offering
Scripture: Ex. 24: 12-18, 2 Peter 1: 16-21, Matthew 17: 1-9
Sermon: Chocolate & Transformation
For Children: Beloved!

FEBRUARY 26 – Ash Wednesday
Imposition of Ashes & Family Eucharist

FEBRUARY 2
GREETER.............................Mesha Lyons
USHERS.........................Mesha Lyons, Dana Reaser
Jean Stauffenberg, Elaine Taylor
ACOLYTE............................Jacob Lyons
FLOWER SPONSOR...............Roger Porter
COUNTING TEAM..Karen Jaindl, Dana Reaser

FEBRUARY 9
GREETER.............................Gloria Hurley
USHERS.........................Carol & Matt Ford,
Gail & Joe Malocheski
ACOLYTE............................Claire Erdman
FLOWER SPONSOR...............Sponsor Needed
COUNTING TEAM...............Sponsor Needed
Brenda Miller,
Elaine Taylor, Kim Brutschea-training

FEBRUARY 16
GREETER.............................Keith Jaindl
USHERS.........................Dave & Becky Brown,
Kim & Courtney Hartzell
ACOLYTE............................Abby Dieterich
FLOWER SPONSOR...............Sponsor Needed
COUNTING TEAM............Sponsor Needed
Jason Dutt, Larry Hillegass

FEBRUARY 23
GREETER.............................Karen Peters
USHERS.........Jana Dieterich, Melanie Rasich,
Brenda & Kenny Miller
ACOLYTE............................Kyle Kullman
FLOWER SPONSOR...............Sponsor Needed
COUNTING TEAM............Dave Hay, Diane Wilt
Beginning in 2020, the Joyful Noise collection will continue on the last Sunday of the month and will be distributed quarterly to the following groups to help support their work in the church and community.

1<sup>st</sup> Quarter: Christian Education
2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter: Property
3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter: Music
4<sup>th</sup> Quarter: BES

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**PRAYER BOX**

We have an intentional way to pray for our St. Thomas Family. Prayer was important to Jesus and it is important to us. Our Prayer Box is located on a table near the card rack. Please remember to select a name of one of our church family members to pray for this week.

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**USHER DUTIES**

As a reminder for those who volunteer as ushers:

Please select one of the ushers each Sunday to keep an eye on the light board in the sanctuary at the beginning of worship to let any late arrivals in. Two of the four ushers will be asked to monitor the side door and the door at the ramp. Please arrive by 9:45 a.m. when you are an usher. Also, please wear the “usher” tag so visitors and members can identify you if help is needed. Thank you.

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**CHRISTIAN ED FUND RAISER UPDATES**

$242.00 was raised with the WAWA Coupon fund raiser.
$181.50 was raised with the Used Book & Bake Sale fund raiser.
Thank you for your support in these fund raisers.
A friend in Jesus

In the Bible, Jesus shares what it means to be a true friend.

Directions: Use the heart key to fill in the missing vowels from John 15:14, 17, NIV.

“Y__ __ r my fr__nds f
y__ d wh t c__mm nd. __

Th s s my c__mm nd:

L_v__ ch th r.”

JOHN 15:14, 17, NIV
THE GIVING TREE - A Year-Round Donation Practice
The tree is on the bulletin board along the information hallway. Items to donate or monetary items to help cover church expenses are on snowflakes/envelopes on the board. Monthly envelopes have been posted.

*Monthly amounts are listed on each envelope.*

*This is the amount the church pays for the service.*

*Any amount you’d like to contribute to the service is appreciated.* Please take the envelope or ornament item off the board that you’d like to donate and return it to church. Envelopes may be placed in the offering plate. Items may be placed in the bin by the church office.

Thank you for already making selections from the tree. Please check the tree often.

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CHURCH TEAM MEETINGS
BES Shelter Meeting ~ Sunday, February 2 following Worship
Christian Ed Meeting ~ Tuesday, February 4 @ 6 pm
Care Team ~ Sunday, February 9 following Worship
Finance Team – Tuesday, February 11 @ 6:30 pm
Elder Meeting ~ Sunday, February 16 following Worship
Governing Board Meeting ~ Monday, February 17 @ 6:30 pm

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SOCIAL MEDIA – Check out St. Thomas with Social Media!
- Don't forget to visit our Website – stthomasuccbeth.com
- Like us on Facebook – St. Thomas UCC
- Follow us on Instagram – st.thomas.ucc
- Check out Pastor Debra's blog at in-plain-sight.blog
BREAKFAST CAFÉ

The Breakfast Café opens at 8:30am on Sunday mornings. There is no charge, though donations are accepted and appreciated. The following Team is in charge of the café on:

February 23rd – Christian Ed

CHRISTIAN ED MEETING

Teachers and parents are invited to attend the Christian Ed Meeting on Tuesday, February 4 at 6 p.m.

FEBRUARY SHOO FLY PIE SALE

Tuesday, February 11, 2020 ~ 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

To Order: Place your order on the message board next to the church office, or call the church office at 610-868-9167

Cost: $8.00 each

*Please place your order by Wednesday, February 5!*

Pie Baking Work Schedule

Wednesday, January 29: 9 a.m. – Pie Shell Rolling & Crumb Making
Monday, February 3: 9 a.m. – Pie Shell Rolling & Crumb Making
Monday, February 10: 9 a.m. – Pie Baking
Tuesday, February 11: 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. – Pie Pick-up

BIBLE BOY

Mark Your Calendars!

Bible Boy returns Sunday, February 16!

DEADLINE INFO –

The “Good Newsletter” is a collection of material submitted to the church office and is published by the church. Please also refer to the weekly worship bulletins to keep updated on what is happening at St. Thomas. Please submit information for the March newsletter by February 15th.
ELDERS & SECURITY TEAM MEETING
The Elders & Security Team will meet on Sunday, February 16 following worship

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21ST @ 6:00PM

Please join us for an evening of fun, food, & fellowship! Bring your family and friends and your favorite game and dessert!

Christian Ed will provide some exciting group game opportunities, air hockey, hot dogs, chicken nuggets, french fries, & bottled water!

This is an RSVP event. Please sign up on the bulletin board by Sunday, February 15th.

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE
February 26 at 7 pm
Family Service & Eucharist

LENT STUDY
Join us on a Lenten journey with five essential spiritual practices that are rooted in Jesus’ own walk with God and taught throughout the New Testament. Each of these practices is intended as part of our daily walk with Christ while also being an essential part of growing together in the church. Join us as we study The Walk, by Adam Hamilton. Please use the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board if you plan to attend.

- 6:30pm Tuesday, February 25
- 6:30pm Tuesdays, March 3, 17, 24, 31
- 6:30pm Tuesday, April 7
ASH WEDNESDAY
Wednesday, February 26, 2020
at 7 p.m.

FIRST SUNDAY in LENT
Sunday, March 1, 2020
at 10:15 a.m.

VISION STATEMENT
To be a safe place where we Encourage, Equip, Engage, Educate and Empower, in God’s love, Christ’s mission and ministry.

CONTINUING MINISTRY 2020
Resource Persons
We print this information so that members and friends of St. Thomas will know who to contact with questions, concerns, and ideas pertaining to the ministry of St. Thomas.
The following persons serve as resource and contact persons:
Pastor
Rev. Debra K Hess
Office: 610-868-9167
Cell: 610-739-4926

Church Office
Karen Jaindl – 610-868-9167

Governing Board
President – David Hay
Vice President – Nancy Musgnung
Co-Treasurers – Matt Erdman, Karen Jaindl
Recording Secretary – Karen Peters
Financial Secretary – Karen Peters
Members – David Anthony, Kim Brutschea, David Hay, Keith Jaindl, Nancy Musgnung, Karen Peters, Melanie Rasich, Amy Rohrbach, Diane Wilt

Elders you may also contact
Laurene Blair, Matt Erdman, Donna Hoffman, Gloria Hurley, Karen Jaindl, Brenda Miller, Kenny Miller, Michael Shay, Elaine Taylor, Diane Wilt

Music Director
J. Christopher Malocheski – 610-868-9167 or 570-709-9474

Prayer Resource Person
Diane Wilt – 610-691-3841

Christian Education
Kim Hartzell

Email Address
St. Thomas UCC ~ stthomasunited.churchofchrist@rcn.com

Web Sites
St. Thomas ~ stthomasuccbeth.com
Penn Northeast Conference of the U.C.C. ~ www.pnec.org
United Church of Christ, Cleveland, Ohio ~ www.ucc.org

Pastoral Care
Please call the staff through the church office, 610-868-9167, or contact Pastor Debra, 610-739-4926, if you or family members are in need of Pastoral Care.
**MARCH**  
(weather permitting)

Joyful Noise Offering - last Sunday of the month  
Chime rehearsals Thursdays at 6:15  
Choir rehearsals Thursdays at 7:15  
Shelter – 2nd & 4th Wednesdays

March 1 – Shelter Meeting, **Communion**  
March 8 – Care Team meeting  
March 16 – Governing Board, 6:30pm  
March 29 – Prayer Shawl Meeting

**APRIL**

Joyful Noise Offering - last Sunday of the month  
Chime rehearsals Thursdays at 6:15  
Choir rehearsals Thursdays at 7:15  
Shelter – 2nd Wednesday

April 5 – Shelter Meeting  
April 9 – Maundy Thursday service, 7pm, **Communion**  
April 10 – Good Friday service, 7pm  
April 12 – Easter w **communion**  
April 20 – Governing Board, 6:30pm

Snow, sleet or severe weather in the forecast? Call the church office or visit [www.wfmz.com](http://www.wfmz.com) to find out if a worship service or church activity is cancelled.

**NOTE:** Regular Sunday Events: 9 a.m. – Confirmation & Sunday School Classes  
9:45 a.m. – Choir Rehearsal, 10:15 a.m. – Worship  
★ Not all events/activities have been scheduled. Please check the calendars each month for updates!
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SUNDAY</th>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
<th>FRIDAY</th>
<th>SATURDAY</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:30 am Breakfast Café</td>
<td>9 am – Confirmation &amp; Sunday School</td>
<td>9 am – Pie Shell Rolling &amp; Crumb Making</td>
<td>6 pm – Christian Ed Meeting</td>
<td>6:15 pm – Chime Rehearsal</td>
<td>7:15 pm – Choir Rehearsal</td>
<td>Church Office Closed</td>
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<td>9 am – 1 pm – Shoo Fly Pie Pick-up</td>
<td>6:15 pm – Chime Rehearsal</td>
<td>7:15 pm – Choir Rehearsal</td>
<td>Church Office Closed</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td>9:45 am – Choir 10:15 am – Worship Following Worship – Shelter Meeting</td>
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<td>6:15 pm – Chime Rehearsal</td>
<td>7:15 pm – Choir Rehearsal</td>
<td>Valentine’s Day Church Office Closed</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:15 am – Worship Following Worship – Care Team Meeting</td>
<td>6:30 pm – Governing Board Meeting</td>
<td>9 am – Confirmation &amp; Sunday School</td>
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<td>7:15 pm – Choir Rehearsal</td>
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<td>6:15 pm – Ash Wednesday Service</td>
<td>6:15 pm – Chime Rehearsal</td>
<td>7 pm – Ash Wednesday Service</td>
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<td>7:15 pm – Choir Rehearsal</td>
<td>Church Office Closed</td>
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<td>7 pm – First English Service</td>
<td>6:15 pm – Chime Rehearsal</td>
<td>7:15 pm – Choir Rehearsal</td>
<td>6 pm – Game Night</td>
<td>Church Office Closed</td>
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<td>7:15 pm – Choir Rehearsal</td>
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<td>7</td>
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<td>9:45 am – Choir 10:15 am – Worship Following Worship – Elders &amp; Security Team Meeting</td>
<td>6:15 pm – Chime Rehearsal</td>
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<td>10:15 am – Worship Following Worship – Elders &amp; Security Team Meeting</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Mission Statement
To welcome all people into a growing spiritual Community, proclaiming God’s word to the world.
Confirmation & Sunday School ~ 9 a.m.
Sunday Worship ~ 10:15 a.m.