

The Words of St. Thomas

December 2007

St. Thomas Episcopal Church
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Words from the Rector

Congratulations St. Thomas!

This month we celebrate our 100th anniversary as a parish and as a part of the Diocese of Kentucky. We have seen two world wars, a great depression, scientific inventions that changed our world, a new millennium and now we stand on the edge of a great future. Our celebrations this year were held in remembrance of those who brought us to this centennial, and we also celebrate the anticipation for the coming years.

Each Sunday at the celebration of the Holy Eucharist, we pray these words over the bread and the wine: "Do this in Remembrance of Me." The act of "remembrance" is not merely recalling events from the past. It is an invitation to enter into God's time where past and future comes together in the climax of this moment. The events of yesterday and the hopes for tomorrow find their meaning in the events of today. At the Eucharist we enjoy the benefits of Christ's work while on earth and worship with all people throughout time in his great gift. It is this reality of past, present and future coming together that gives us grace to enter into each day's tasks. This is where we find ourselves as a parish as we enter a new era of ministry. Our theme for the coming year sums up this truth as we are **BUILDING TOGETHER ON A CENTURY OF FAITH!**

Our celebration is just the starting point of the good things God is doing through us as a people of God in this community!

Happy 100th Birthday!
Fr. Mike

Volunteers of the Month Colleen and Father Jim Wilson



It was a pleasure interviewing Colleen and Jim Wilson. Jim was raised in Denver, Colorado and received his degree from the University of Colorado. He then went to Seabury-Western Seminary in Evanston, Illinois. Jim's background includes four generations of Episcopalians. His great grandmother came from Ireland to America.

Colleen was raised Methodist and became interested in the Episcopal Church through her roommate while working as a nurse at Evanston Hospital.

She met Jim at the Chapel at the Seminary. She was confirmed in St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Evanston. They were married in 1964.

From 1965 to 1975 Jim served several parishes in Colorado – Assistant at St. Paul's, Lakewood; Vicar at St. Paul's – Lamar; and Church of the Messiah – Las Animas. He returned to Denver in 1975 and was in the residential real estate business for 20 years. He also served as a non-parochial associate at two parishes.

In 1995 they moved to Louisville when Colleen took a position as Director of the Jewish Hospital Transplant Program. Jim assisted the Rev. John Allen at St. Thomas from 1996-98. He was asked to be Vicar of Holy Trinity, Brandenburg, which he did for 8 years. He retired in 2006 and is a Supply Priest in this Diocese.

Colleen and Jim have two children – Stephen and Sarah. The Wilsons have two grandchildren, Christian and Grace, of whom they lovingly speak.

Jim's hobbies include gardening, stamp collecting, reading, volunteer work and being a "house husband". Colleen's hobbies include reading, sewing, crafts, baking and cooking.

The following was the answer given when asked how St. Thomas fills their needs – Jim said "I feel it is a Christian commitment". Colleen said "We visited several churches and thought St. Thomas was the kind of parish we would enjoy. I feel very much at home here". Even when Jim was at Brandenburg, Colleen attended there once a month and came to St. Thomas the other three Sundays.

Jim helps as a Supply Priest at St. Thomas. He also helps with the Boy Scouts and is on the Endowment Committee, which is being developed. Colleen is Co-Chairwoman of the Health & Ministry Team, Chairwoman of the Bazaar; Healing blankets, a Reader and a Chalice Bearer.

Jim's goals for St. Thomas include paying off our debt. "Then we should consider a Building Program. St. Thomas has a bright future and the community building is completely inadequate." Colleen would like to see programs developed for all age groups.

St. Thomas can count their blessings to have this fine couple in our midst - a retired priest and his wife who takes such an active role. We are happy to honor both of you!

- Evelyn Mudd

St. Thomas Centennial Wine

Those who still wish to purchase the St. Thomas commemorative Centennial Wine need to do so soon. It will only be available through December 31. However, if you want delivery for Christmas, orders MUST be placed by December 10. Remember the wine would make great holiday gifts and a great addition to your holiday meals and entertaining. Order blanks are in the narthex and can be put in the collection basket, or you can place your order by calling Rita Osborn-Young at 266-6253. Checks should be made out to Turtle Run Winery and payment is needed at the time of your order.

Christmas Gifts for Zachary Taylor Elementary Students

We are asking our St. Thomas family to purchase Christmas gifts for children from Zachary Taylor Elementary, our school next door. The Christmas gift lists will be located in the narthex of the church with all the details necessary to purchase the requested gifts. If you are unable to go shopping or would prefer just to donate money for the gifts needed, please see Kim Lager.

All gifts must be returned wrapped to the church by Sunday, Dec. 16th. Thank you for all your generous donations during this Christmas season.

Endowment Committee

Planning is under way for the creation of a permanent endowment for St. Thomas Church. The endowment will provide the opportunity for St. Thomas to secure its financial future. A proposal will soon be presented to the Vestry for approval. More complete details will be available at the Annual Meeting in January.

Habitat for Humanity Update

The Episcopal Habitat House is coming right along on schedule. Our fellow partners St. Francis in the Fields, St. Mark's, Wells Fargo, the Jewish Community, St. Andrews, and St. Paul's have been a wonderful group and we all work extremely well together!

Scott Calvert, the Administrative Committee Chair at St. Francis, has asked if we (St. Thomas) would be interested in joining with them again next year (2008) to build another house. They have already secured a roof-raising date and will gladly accept whatever amount we can raise by then. Is the parish interested in participating in this Outreach every year instead of every two years? Habitat for Humanity is a great opportunity to help people in need, participate in fellowship with others in our community, and learn home improvement skills. It is truly a rewarding and relaxing experience to work on these homes.

Holiday Bazaar Update

A big "THANK YOU" to everyone who helped make the Holiday Bazaar a success.

It looks like we will make somewhere around \$1,200 for the Health Ministry Program. Thank you!

~Colleen Wilson and the Health Ministry Team

Our own Steve Gardner has been asked to consider becoming a House leader for Habitat. Our prayers are with him- we know he would be a great addition to the Habitat family.

The House dedication is set for Saturday Dec. 8th at 11:00 am. Please come down and join in; you can see where your donations are going! There are still many odds and ends to do on the house, so work will be going on Friday, Nov. 30th, Saturday, Dec 1st, and Friday, Dec. 7th. Thanks to everyone who generously gave of their time, talent, and treasure.

St. Thomas Bridge Club

ST. THOMAS BRIDGE CLUB met on Thursday, November 15th in the Fellowship Hall. The Kirklands - Susie and Bill - were host/hostess for the afternoon. Congratulations to our first place winner - Aleece Stanton. We seldom have repeat winners - everyone has a chance to win! On Thursday, December 20th, the Bridge Club will have their Christmas luncheon at Martini's Restaurant (Summit Shopping Center) at 11:15 a.m. and then come to the Fellowship Hall by 1 pm to play their usual game of Bridge.

December Anniversaries

Happy Anniversary to:

Laurel & Nii-Nii Armar	12/15
Lucy & George Boyd	12/16
Sandra & Howard Simpson	12/20
Donna & Larry Starr	12/22

Note from the Editor

Please consider writing a guest column for the upcoming Community Corner section of our newsletter. The topic is up to you, some suggestions include an essay about volunteerism experiences; a book or movie review; a favorite recipe. And contributors do not have to be grown-ups, so kids please consider writing an article.

Articles should be about 200 words. E-mail submissions to wordartciles@bellsouth.net by the 20th of the month.

~ Laurel Armar

December Birthdays

Happy Birthday to:

Donovan Bentley	12/20
Pete Eichhorn II	12/07
Beverly Farrell	12/29
Hannelore Goldberg	12/14
Peggy Hausman	12/21
Michael Hayden	12/21
Matthew Johnson	12/13
Ryan Johnson	12/13
Kris Krueger	12/21
Kim Lager	12/16
Jennifer Lausterer	12/07
Nicolas Lusardo	12/19
Mira Morton	12/06
Willard Patterson	12/22
Kyle Pitsenberger	12/17
Tom Pitsenberger	12/26
Harvey Roberts	12/19
Tom Roseberry	12/14
Larry Starr	12/17
Brenda Strange	12/07
Richard Thompson	12/26