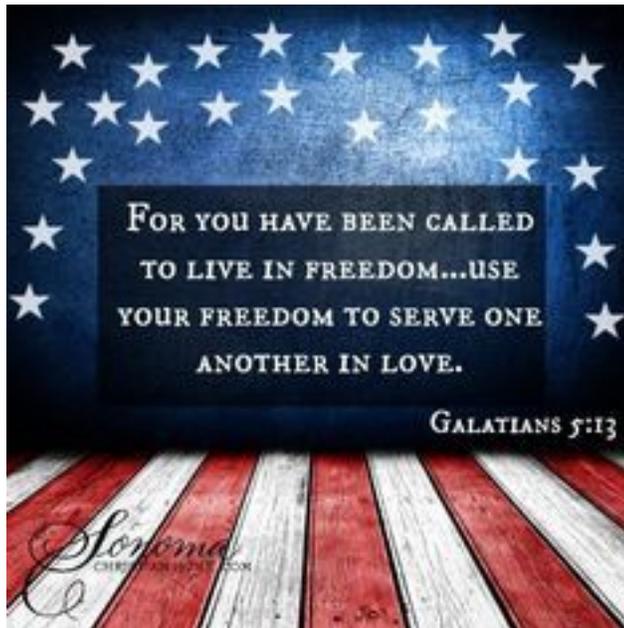




# THE SALTY SAINT

JULY/AUGUST 2020



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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, as indeed everything else surrounding, is in the midst of an unparalleled period in at least its recent history.

Pandemic. No church, at least in the typical sense and no church activities. Social distancing, face coverings and importantly, an interruption in the typical pattern of giving and financial support. My compliments to those of us who signified our financial support by pledging in the 2020 budget year. This source of funds has allowed us to maintain a degree of financial strength that we enjoyed before the current dilemma, but as time goes on will not be adequate to fund all normal church activities. I encourage all to remember our church and its ongoing financial needs as we try to regain a sense of normalcy (whatever that will mean) in the future.

The church has received funding totaling \$11,277.00 under the CARES Act, passed by the Congress and signed into law by the President earlier in the year. The funds will assist the church in meeting its payroll and pay monthly utilities for a period of time. These funds will help mollify but not erase our potential budget shortfall.

The church has established an online option through which members and others may make contributions. This option may be accessed by visiting the church's website, or by accessing each member's REALM account (talk to Barbara if you are interested in establishing your REALM account).

Through June 24<sup>th</sup>, total receipts received from all sources were \$105,114.01 or 44.23% of budget expectations. At the halfway point in the budget year, this percentage should be 50.0% or greater. Pledge receipts received totaled \$81,226.12 or 46.18% of budgeted amounts. Non-pledge contributions totaled \$4,160.00 or 16.00% of budgeted amounts. This percentage should hopefully also be at 50.00% or greater to maintain a healthy budget. Plate cash received totaled \$664.20 or 16.10% of the budgeted amount.

Through the period, a total of \$56,902.02 has been expended for operating purposes.

Please review the chart below for detailed information.

	2020 Budget Results	2020 Budget Estimate	2020 Budget Remaining	Actual % of Budget Realized
Beginning Cash From Prior Year	\$12,810.00	\$175,875.00	-0-	100.00%
CARES Proceeds	\$5,530.64	\$11,227.00	\$5,696.36	49.26%
Pledges	\$81,226.12	\$175,875.00	\$94,648.88	46.18%
Non-Pledge Receipts	\$4,160.00	\$26,000.00	\$21,840.00	16.00%
Plate Cash	\$664.20	\$4,000.00	\$3,355.80	16.10%
Endowment	-0-	-0-	\$7,200.00	0.00%
Prior Year Pledge Paid 2020	\$525.00.	XXXXXXXXXX	(\$525.00)	0.00%
Misc Income	\$500.00	\$195.50	\$304.50	39.10%
Checking/Savings Account Interest	\$16.55	\$50.00	\$33.45	33.10%
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$105,114.01</b>	<b>\$237,662.00</b>	<b>\$132,547.99</b>	<b>44.23%</b>

[X] = No Budget Estimate



## Amazon Smile Update

We recently reported a donation of \$25.56 to the St. Thomas Episcopal Church Endowment Trust Fund from the AmazonSmile Foundation as a result of the AmazonSmile program. A new message reports donations of \$91.27 for the most recent quarter. Keep on shopping and make sure you are on AmazonSmile with St. Thomas listed as your charity to receive the donation. It adds up!

## Vestry Nominations

The Vestry is ready to receive Vestry nominations for 2021. We are seeking nominations early this year since the Junior and Senior Wardens are rotating off, and it is important for new Wardens to spend time during the fall with current Wardens to ensure a smooth transition in 2021. Please contact anyone on the Vestry if you are interested in serving on the vestry or if you want to suggest someone.



Kay Leager, Senior Warden, 2020 [kayleager@gmail.com](mailto:kayleager@gmail.com)  
Jack Piland, Junior Warden, 2020 [jackpiland@yahoo.com](mailto:jackpiland@yahoo.com)  
Ginger Morrison, 2020 [gingergmorrison@gmail.com](mailto:gingergmorrison@gmail.com)

Betty Eschenbauch, 2021 [blesch504@yahoo.com](mailto:blesch504@yahoo.com)  
Joe Tomaini, 2021 [jtomaini@hardequityjoe.com](mailto:jtomaini@hardequityjoe.com)  
Tom Chuman, 2021 [ltchuman@gmail.com](mailto:ltchuman@gmail.com)

Barbara Craig, 2022 [Barbarac145@embarqmail.com](mailto:Barbarac145@embarqmail.com)  
Hutch Stewart, 2022 [hutchstewart145@gmail.com](mailto:hutchstewart145@gmail.com)  
Robert Tankard, 2022 [no1Tank@yahoo.com](mailto:no1Tank@yahoo.com)



## Bill Pruitt/St. Thomas Scholarship Fund

By Betty Pruitt

BCCC is planning on restarting classes in August. We will be receiving our recommendations for fall semester students soon. Please consider the scholarship fund so we can help these students reach their goals.

Thank you!  
 Susan Simpson  
 Jack Chesson  
 Mark Tomlinson  
 Betty Pruitt

# Church News

### Email Updates

As we enter our fourth month of the Coronavirus pandemic, the uncertainties persist, and things change every day. Most of us have a love/hate relationship with email, but it continues to be the best way to communicate with the congregation about the inevitable changes that occur. The best laid plans can be affected by weather or new health directives; our primary concern will always be for the safety of our parishioners. Please read all your emails from St. Thomas; we try to keep them at a minimum but the goal is to keep everyone informed!



### Upcoming Birthdays

#### July

- 1 – Ray Bergevin
- 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
- 30 – Frank Steinbeck

#### August

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

## Sr. Warden's Column

— by Kay Leager

As we enter the fourth month of the COVID-19 pandemic, we are still unable to gather for in-person worship or most of the other activities of normal parish life. The number of cases in North Carolina, including Beaufort County, have increased, and we are still in Phase 2 of the reopening plan. This does not appear to be changing any time soon. The Pastoral Letter from Bishop Skirving will be provided with the Salty Saint.

Our one attempt at an outdoor service in June was rained out, but we did record an online service when Bishop Scott Benhase visited. (He has since accepted a call as 1/2 time vicar at another parish). The Vestry is researching enhanced recording equipment so that we can provide more online worship services. This will enable us to have supply priests come to St. Thomas and record services, probably not every Sunday, but hopefully once or twice a month until we have a rector who can provide them regularly. We will probably not plan any more outdoor services until the weather cools down. In the meantime, we are still benefitting from the weekly online services that St. Peters generously shares with us, in addition to Rev. Jim Horton's sermons, for which we are grateful.

The Vestry will meet with Rev. Mollie Roberts, Canon for Diocesan Life and Leadership, in July. She has been at the Diocese of East Carolina since May 1 and is still settling into the position and becoming acquainted with all the parishes, many of whom are without clergy. Hopefully she can help us identify how to proceed in calling an interim or permanent rector.

It is especially difficult to be without a spiritual leader in these times of health crisis and racial tension. We could all use some help in dealing with unsettling news and channeling our anxiety into healthy and constructive actions. Bishop Skirving plans to renew the Diocesan Commission on Racial Reconciliation and provide various resources for parishes to use even during suspension of services, to start the discussion on how each parish can be a positive agent of change in their community. We can expect some communication from the Diocese in the coming weeks, possibly including some suggested reading that we could discuss together in Zoom meetings or small safely distanced groups as a start. We need our faith community in times of uncertainty.

Vestry nominations usually take place in the fall, but without a rector we need to get an early start this year. Vestry members Jack Piland (Junior Warden), Ginger Morrison and Kay Leager (Senior Warden) will be rotating off the Vestry. We would like to identify new Wardens during the fall so that they can spend time with current Wardens and be fully prepared for their new roles at the beginning of 2021. Some of our parishioners have Vestry experience, either at St. Thomas or other parishes, and they are especially needed at this time. Please contact someone on the Vestry if you are interested in serving, especially in a Warden position, or if you would like to nominate someone.

## **Sr. Warden's Column cont'd**

In his weekly syndicated newspaper column Rabbi Marc Gellman recently offered a series of “comforting psalms for troubling times.” Rabbi Gellman and Monsignor Tom Hartman together published a column entitled “The God Squad” for many years until Father Hartman’s death in 2016, so now Rabbi Gellman writes alone, often sharing memories of his dear priest friend. He called for readers to submit their favorite comforting psalm. One reader suggested Psalm 121: “I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help. My help cometh from the Lord, which made heaven and earth. He will not suffer thy foot to be moved: he that keepeth thee will not slumber. Behold, he that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep. The Lord is thy keeper: the Lord is thy shade upon thy right hand. The sun shall not smite thee by day, nor the moon by night. The Lord shall preserve thee from all evil: he shall preserve thy soul. The Lord shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in from this time forth, and even for evermore.” Rabbi Gellman commented, “Faith can offer up some very complicated and obscure reasons to believe, but Psalm 121 distills the reason to believe into the most simple proposition, ‘Mountains are big, but God is bigger than the mountains.’”



## Staff Vacation Schedule

**Kay Leager will be on vacation from August 2 – 9. If you have any needs or concerns, please contact the church office by phone or email.**

St. Thomas Episcopal Church  
PO Box 257  
Bath, NC 27808  
Office: 252-923-9141  
[stthomasbath@gmail.com](mailto:stthomasbath@gmail.com)  
[www.StThomasParishNC.org](http://www.StThomasParishNC.org)

Kay Leager  
Senior Warden  
[kayleager@gmail.com](mailto:kayleager@gmail.com)  
cell: (919)227-6354

Barbara Owens  
Parish Administrator

### 2020 Vestry

Kay Leager, *Sr. Warden*  
Jack Piland, *Jr. Warden*  
Mickey Cochran,  
*Treasurer Clerk*  
Betty Eschenbauch  
Joe Tomaini  
Tom Chuman  
Ginger Morrison  
Barbara Craig  
Robert Tankard  
Hutch Stewart

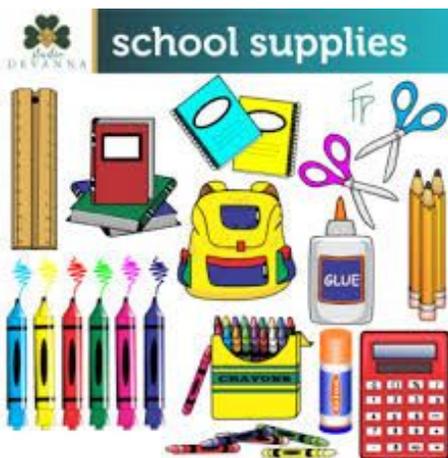
### Ministry Chairs

Fritz Morrison, *Outreach*  
Betty Eschenbauch,  
*Altar Guild*  
Sue Brown & Sharon Britt,  
*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  
Joe Tomaini



## SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Stores will soon have school supplies for school year 2020-2021.

School starts August 17th. St. Thomas will be collecting supplies for Northeastern Elementary and Bath Elementary.

More information on what is most needed and required will be announced soon.

Thank you.

Ginger Morrison

## **THANK YOU TO THE BACKPACK PALS COMMITTEE AND STEC SUPPORTERS**



### **WE DID IT! WE FED HUNGRY CHILDREN.**

The 2019-2020 school year began with the Backpack Pals Program(BPP) providing food for weekends for a total of 22 children in need at Bath and Northeastern Elementary Schools. That number of children served by BPP quickly rose to 27 needy children and eventually to 34 children in need. That number represents the largest number of students ever served by BPP.

Committee members quickly and willingly adapted to the purchasing, packing and delivering of additional food to meet the growing need. Then in March 2020, Beaufort County schools were closed, because of the Coronavirus pandemic, for the rest of the school year. Committee members immediately became concerned about how the needy students would get food. The Beaufort County Schools administrative offices quickly took action to fill the gaps. Feeding sites were established for both schools during the school week. Extra meals were sent home on Fridays to address weekend food needs.

With the school system doing such an efficient job of addressing the nutritional needs of the children BPP had been serving, BPP donated the remaining food in the pantry and the money for the remaining school year, minus a start-up fund for BPP for the 2020-2021 school year, to Martha's in Belhaven. Martha's thrift store was closed but Martha's was still doing a monthly food distribution. We felt that by providing food and funds to Martha's we were indirectly impacting the children BPP had been serving.

We do not know what the coming school year will look like, but our committee is poised to address the weekend hunger needs at Bath and Northeastern Elementary Schools.

We welcomed Becky Enzor, Anne Mears and Bruce Mears as new members to our committee this year. Other BPP members include Rick Adams, Pat Axness, Jack Chesson, LaRue Chuman, Carter Deaton, Barbara Craig, Henry Mallard, Lou Mallard, Fritz Morrison, Ginger Morrison, Ruth Petersen, TG Piland, Betty Pruitt, Susan Simpson, and Sylvia Sutter.

THANK YOU to this group of volunteers and the many parishioners of STEC who have donated food and money to this program.

**YOU ARE THE BEST!!!!!!**

**By: Ginger Morrison**