

Annual Report - 2020





ANNUAL MEETING INFORMATION



AGENDA

Sunday, January 31, 2020

Call to Order	The Rev. M. Jonah Kendall
Appointment of Clerk	Judi Fuller
Approval of Minutes - 2020	Judi Fuller
Bylaws	Laurie Ahern
Sr. Warden Report	Rebecca Waycott
Junior Warden Report	Brad Musbach
Annual Giving for 2021 Report	Janet Schaumburg
Playhouse Report with budget	Brett Moellenberg
Presentation and Approval of 2021 budgets	Tom Benson
Nominating Committee Report	Brad Musbach
Election of Vestry/Delegates	The Rev. M. Jonah Kendall
Rector's Report	The Rev. M. Jonah Kendall
Doxology and Adjournment	Joel Bejot

St. Thomas Episcopal Church
Sun Valley, Idaho

Annual Meeting
January 26, 2020
10:45 a.m.

The meeting was called to order by the Rev. Rob Gieselmann at 10:45 a.m. in the sanctuary of the church.

Judi Fuller was appointed Clerk for the Annual Meeting.

There were no additions to the agenda offered from the congregation present.

Janet Schaumburg moved and Jima Rice seconded that the minutes from the 2019 Annual Meeting be approved as written. The motion passed.

Rebecca Waycott, Senior Warden, reported on the changes during the past year:

- * Father Ken's departure was anticipated and the congregation prepared to say goodbye,
- * The vestry prepared to take the next steps in the search for a new rector,
- * The mid-year hiring of Kathleen Bean as the new Associate Rector,
- * The ordination to the priesthood in July of Wayne Hedberg Schmidt and Kathleen Bean,
- * The Rev. Rob Gieselmann's appointment as our Interim Priest,
- * The decision to take this opportunity to remodel the rectory,
- * The establishment of a new method of communications with the parish through a weekly email update,
- * The departure of Todd and Georgia Stewart,
- * The establishment of a Capital Campaign to fund renovation of the rectory and, hopefully, the offices, and
- * Monthly reports to the vestry from various ministries at St. Thomas

Brad Musbach, Junior Warden for the past year, reviewed the improvements and repairs during that time: the renovations at the rectory, motion-sensor lights in the bathrooms, the long-planned replacement of the boiler system, and refinishing the teak patio furniture.



ANNUAL MEETING INFORMATION



Tom Benson, Treasurer, recapped the year's financial activity. Despite several un-anticipated expenses when the 2019 budget was set (hiring of a second clergy person, Fr. Ken's departure, extraordinary snow removal expenses, shortfall in the Playhouse income), we ended the year with a loss. This operating shortfall was softened by using more of the annual anonymous gift than usual and using surplus funds being held in various funds.

Brett Moellenberg, Managing Director of St. Thomas Playhouse, reported that 2019 brought the Chamber Award to Playhouse as the "Best Non-profit of 2019." He noted the concern for attendance at the June day camp and the reduced fund-raising results during the year. Based on last year's results, they are focused on improving the play selections for the day camps and focusing on their fund-raising efforts. He also pointed out that Playhouse will always come at a cost to the church, but they are working hard to keep that as low as possible.

Tom Benson presented the proposed 2020 budgets for the church and playhouse operating costs. The financial challenge for the coming year is to keep income up to match the expanded clergy/staff level. Costs other than salaries have stayed in line. After a few questions, Wendy Jaquet moved and Margie Gould seconded to accept the budgets as presented. The motion passed.

Claudia McCain, Chair of the Nominating Committee, noted the numerous suggestions that have been submitted for consideration for vestry and convention seats.

- * Vestry: Laurie Ahern, Art Dahl, Helen Morgus
- * Convention Delegates: Art Dahl, Bobbie Dahl, Mardi Shepard, Connie Hoffman, Ellen Sanders and Joel Bejot.
- * Convention Alternates: Lisa Strait, Patty Sloan, Linda Bergerson, Mike Menser.

Margie Gould moved and Marylyn Pauley seconded the approval of the slate as presented. The motion passed.

Tom Benson, on behalf of the Search Committee chair, Heather Black, reported on the status of the search process. Currently the committee is compiling a Parish Profile which should be ready by the end of February. At that time it will be reviewed by the Bishop and then posted as part of the public advertisement for the Rector's position. Applications will be received and reviewed for 5-6 months.

Rebecca Waycott and members of the vestry presented details of the rectory renovation and the Capital Campaign.

- * The current rectory was purchased for \$547,000 in 2000.
- * \$150,000 has been spent over the past 20 years on maintenance and minor repairs to it.
- * A general remodel is a good use of church funds not only to create a better living space, but to bring the value of the property up to current market rates.
- * Inspection of the home revealed that most of its systems were outdated or well-worn and in need of replacement.
- * The story boards showed the proposed reconfiguration of the spaces.
- * A progress board for the Capital Campaign revealed that over \$400,000 has already been pledged with an additional \$100,000 matching grant offered. All future donations will be applied to this matching grant.
- * It has been more than 20 years since the church held a Capital Campaign.
- * The vestry and committee have 100% participation record and are hoping the congregation will do the same. Pledge packets were distributed.
- * There will be an open house for all members of the congregation in late-February to see the progress.

As Interim Priest, Rob encouraged everyone to trust in the grace of God to lead us through this period of transition. He also expressed his pleasure in serving as our interim priest and leader of the staff.

The Rector's Cross was presented to Linda Bergerson for her remarkable service to the church, serving in many ministries for many years.

There being no further business, Fr. Rob asked Joel Bejot to lead all gathered in the Doxology.

There being no further business, the meeting be adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Judi Fuller, Clerk



2020 IN REVIEW



Senior Warden Report by Rebecca Waycott

Reflecting on St. Thomas in 2020, all of us can feel very good about the overall well-being of our church as well as our many accomplishments throughout the year. 2020 began with St. Thomas in a transition period guided by The Rev. Rob Gieselmann as Interim Rector while the Rector Search Committee was well into the Search process. Additionally, we were in the midst of an ambitious Capital Campaign to remodel the rectory and church offices. Things were going along well when the pandemic hit the Wood River Valley hard in mid-March. As you all know, our personal lives, as well as our religious practice as members of St. Thomas, changed dramatically with the stay-at-home orders and rules for social distancing, masks, and the confusing jumble of information and recommendations. All of a sudden, the church building was shut down, and the staff and Vestry started developing plans and opportunities for safely worshiping together. The staff has shown its true talents this past year, adjusting to an ever-changing reality and honing their skills at bringing us good worship experiences both in person and virtually. Their creativity, willingness to learn new skills and hard work have been truly impressive. Additionally, we, the members of St. Thomas, have been very supportive of all the endeavors throughout the year both financially and through involvement in our many ministries.

Below is a brief but impressive list of our accomplishments in 2020.

- ◆ Development of inventive ways to worship safely together including:
 - indoor services with appropriately distanced seating
 - in person services in the SV Festival Field
 - in person Eucharists both in the patio and on the labyrinth
 - top-quality virtual services
- ◆ Weekly or bi-weekly email blasts keeping us all informed about events at ST
- ◆ Successful completion of the Capital Campaign
- ◆ Remodel of the offices at St. Thomas
- ◆ Remodel of the Rectory
- ◆ Calling The Rev. Jonah Kendall to be our new Rector
- ◆ Goodbye service and reception for our Interim Rector, Rob
- ◆ Welcome service and reception for our new Rector, Jonah, his wife, Caty, and children - Scout and Beau
- ◆ Successful Stewardship Campaign for 2021
- ◆ Initiation of Ketchum Community Dinners Curbside
- ◆ Three beautiful outdoor Eucharists in the parking lot on Christmas Eve

I would like to thank all of you for your support and participation throughout 2020. We could not have completed the year nor started 2021 so successfully without you.

Lastly, I want to once more warmly welcome the Kendall family to St. Thomas and our Valley. We are thrilled that you are here and look forward to having many opportunities in the not-too-distant future to spend time in person and get to know you all better.



2020 IN REVIEW



Junior Warden Report by Brad Musbach

2020 was difficult for so many people and in so many ways, but thanks be to God, I can report good news.

The headliner is of course the completion of the Rectory remodel. We are blessed to have a beautiful home for the Kendalls and for future rectors and their families. We had a great team that worked together for sixteen months to complete the project. Special thanks go to Rebecca Waycott and her unbelievable contributions. Without her leadership and commitment, I'm not sure how we would have done it. I would also like to thank Liz Hickey (and family) for her hard work and numerous volunteer hours, David Caldwell, Tim Carter, Craig Johnson, and Allison Paige.

The second major project was the office remodel. The St. Thomas staff worked together to come up with the plan and Liz led the project. It took a lot of hard work and effort from the entire staff, but another successful remodel was completed.

We accomplished several other smaller projects as well:

- ◆ carpeting the choir loft stairwell to reduce noise,
- ◆ addition of motion sensor lights around the outside of the church for safety and security,
- ◆ shingle replacement on the church roof, and
- ◆ clean up behind and underneath the back patio and walkway.

The last three years as Junior Warden have been a pleasure. It has been an honor to serve with so many great people, learn more about St. Thomas, develop new relationships, and continue my spiritual journey. We are lucky to have such a great administrative staff working hard to make St. Thomas a special place for our congregation and our community. Judi has been especially helpful, and her wealth of knowledge made my job much easier. Thank you all for your support and your generosity that made these improvements possible.

Parish Register 2020

MARRIAGES

October 4, 2020

Kari Eileen Thurman and Derek Allen Schatz

October 11, 2020

Lauren Bixby Mensing and Matthew Logan Mahoney

BAPTISMS

June 29, 2020

Lindsay Kavanagh Brick

Born: March 12, 1988

June 29, 2020

Alexander Patrick Brick

Born: December 6, 2018

July 11, 2020

Harrison Carroll Sarda

Born: September 7, 2019

August 13, 2020

Henley Mehen Ziebarth

Born: January 21, 2020

BURIALS/MEMORIAL SERVICES

June 15, 2020

Galen L. Hanselman

Departed: May 6, 2020

June 11, 2020

Heather Jane Langley-Evans

Departed: June 1, 2020

July 2, 2020

Anna Bradley Brown Taucher

Departed: June 17, 2020

August 2, 2020

Richard M. Brooks

Departed: July 18, 2020



Annual Giving Campaign

by Bill Craig and Janet Schaumburg, Co-chairs of the Stewardship Committee

This year's Stewardship Campaign theme Faith Filled Generosity proved to be prophetic as you, our parishioners, stepped up in a big way with pledges totaling \$ 559,480 - so far! This is over our initial goal of \$550,000.

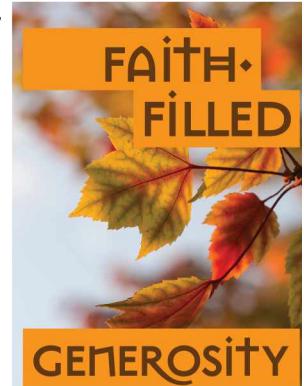
We are so grateful. This level of pledging allows the many and various ministries and programs at St Thomas to continue (yay!) while the staff also looks to the future and what's next!

In terms of donors, 161 families and individuals have made pledges. This is a 17% dollar increase from last year with 50 pledges showing an increase and 25 new pledges being received which were significant in the church being able to budget their whole suite of ministries and programs for another year.

The committee members were, the Rev. Kathleen Bean as clergy oversight, Christine Kraatz, Patience Ziebarth, Mary Colhoun and Bill and Janet along with the supporting team of all the staff of St. Thomas who brought their energy and creativity to a whole new approach to the pledge campaign by using video and pushing out information through emails vs in person, in church, presentations. We were also able for the first time to allow pledging on-line. The guidance and support from the Vestry was also critical to the success of this campaign. Senior Warden, Rebecca Waycott and Treasurer, Tom Benson, brought their insights, experience, voices and work ethic which were invaluable to the success of the campaign.

It was a pleasure and privilege for us to serve as co-chairs this year and we recommend the experience to any of you who might be interested. It was a delight to work so closely with the church staff. We feel even more connected to this wonderful church family.

Don't forget, it's never too late to pledge. So, if you have not yet had a chance to do so, please reach out to the church office or enter your pledge on-line on St Thomas' website. Every dollar makes a difference and we are so very grateful to you. Thank you all for supporting St Thomas and providing a base for it to not only survive but to thrive!



Investment Committee

by Roger Gould

The US stock market had an unexpectedly good 2020, even with the issue of the economy slowing down earlier in the year caused by the pandemic. Sectors of the market did underperform, notably the Value stocks, but the S&P 500 Index was paced by five of the Large Capitalization Growth stocks such as Apple, Alphabet, Facebook, Netflix, and Google.

The St Thomas Endowment, while participating in the equity market strength, owned some of the above stocks, yet did underperformed the Index due to a focus on more traditional Value and dividend paying stocks. Our domestic equity portfolio returned +13% compared to the S&P 500's 18.4%. Fixed income lagged their benchmark due to a focus on shorter maturities relative to the index. Areas that outperformed their Index and did well were International (+8.1%), Emerging Markets (+25.2 %), and the Inflation protection portfolio (+4.7%).

Total return for the Restricted Endowment for 2020 was 8.4% compared to the Benchmark's 12.5%.

The portfolio continues to be structured conservatively with a target of 60% Equities and 40% Fixed Income. The Restricted Endowment finished the year with a total value of \$557,013 and is managed by Mercer/ClearRock Capital.

The Operating Reserve and Unrestricted Portfolios are only invested in short term Fixed Income securities and total \$338,553 as of year-end. These short term portfolios returned +3.6% for the year with very limited interest rate risk. The weighted average maturity is approximately 1.5 years and the annual current yield is 1.7%.



2020 IN REVIEW



St. Thomas Playhouse by Brett Moellenberg

Playhouse

Our 19th season at St. Thomas Playhouse was cut short due to the pandemic. We began our year with a fantastic Girlfriend Lunch at The Limelight Hotel and performed for thousands of valley youth during our Children's Theater Tour before we had to shut down the majority of our operations. While our stage time was cut short, Playhouse had a robust year of fundraising; and, we thank so many of our supporters for helping us get through the year. Playhouse also said goodbye to our outgoing Committee Chair, Page Klune and welcomed Calista Carter as our new Committee Chair.

Media

Our media operation at St. Thomas grew exponentially in 2020. Out of necessity, the pandemic gave many of us the opportunity to envision how the church could operate in a digital fashion during the majority of 2020. Our achievements included unveiling a new website, creating over 100 videos, enhancing our social media and learning countless new skills. The entire staff at St. Thomas committed to making sure our communications would flourish during this time, and we are poised to take our knowledge and skills into the future.

2021 St. Thomas Playhouse Budget

	Budget 2020	Actual 2020	Proposed 2021
ADMINISTRATION			
Income	25,000	31,614	25,000
Expense	90,000	64,630	71,000
Net	65,000	33,016	46,000
GIRLFRIEND LUNCH			
Income	18,600	14,357	17,000
Expense	9,350	8,057	6,000
Net	9,250	6,300	11,000
CHILDREN'S PLAYHOUSE TOUR			
Income	6,000	4,330	0
Expense	5,140	4,178	0
Net	1,140	152	0
COMPANY B			
Income	36,800	2,000	22,750-33,950
Expense	28,450	84	17,825-23,850
Net	8,350	1,916	4,925-10,100
SPACC			
Income	41,500	500	0
Expense	37,300	583	0
Net	4,200	83	0
SUMMER THEATER PROJECT			
Income	9,600	0	9,125
Expense	13,680	0	14,725
Net	4,080	0	5,600
COMPANY B - 2			
Income	47,500	9,429	23,000-49,745
Expense	25,385	186	22,500-29,350
Net	22,115	9,243	500-20,395
FAMILY MAIN STAGE PRODUCTION			
Income	23,200	640	27,969-32,969
Expense	28,025	1,669	32,854
Net	4,825	1,029	4,885-115
COMPANY B - WINTERIZED			
Income	5,550	118	5,550
Expense	3,725	228	3,725
Net	1,825	110	1,825
PROFIT/LOSS	27,025	16,627	38,235-8,165



FINANCIAL REPORTS



Treasurer's Report by Tom Benson

The coronavirus pandemic had a significant impact on our 2020 actual operating results and we have attempted to accurately factor in its likely ongoing impact in preparing our 2021 budget. As described in more detail below the continuing generosity of our parishioners together with the receipt of funds under the Federal Government's Cares Act have helped us weather this difficult period.

2020 Financial Performance

Income – Total church income was \$54,000 below budget. The shortfall is due almost entirely to lower plate offerings and facility use income. These income categories are largely driven by visitors to St Thomas, new members and weddings and thus were lower than anticipated due to the need to suspend all indoor worship services and events. On a very positive note income from pledges, unpledged grants and the anonymous grant collectively came in on budget. Thanks to all of you for continuing to give generously to St Thomas.

Rector Expenses – Due to uncertainty about when we would be able to call a new Rector the budget assumed a full year with an interim priest. The actual results include the costs related to Father Rob's interim ministry and compensation for Father Jonah subsequent to his arrival in September.

Compensation Costs – Church staff costs were \$35,400 above budget. The increase in costs was due to a decision made by Vestry to have Sarah Gorby and Brett Moellenberg spend additional time working on church matters once it became clear that due to the pandemic St Thomas Playhouse (STP) could not operate its usual theater ministry programs and the church staff needed more resources to produce quality virtual and outdoor worship services. The reallocation of hours reduced what otherwise would have been a larger loss for STP.

Program Expenses – These expenses were \$10,400 lower than budget as higher costs related to producing outdoor and virtual worship services were more than offset by savings arising from the need to curtail many of our normal programs and ministries in response to the pandemic.

Church Operating Expenses – This broad category was on budget as higher than budgeted repairs and maintenance costs and credit card charges were offset by savings in cleaning costs and utilities. To help the church staff work more effectively from home during the pandemic the Vestry reimbursed staff \$4,700 for purchases of new laptops and other technology which was not anticipated in the budget.

St Thomas Playhouse (STP) – STP's net deficit for the year which we account for as Ministry Outside the Congregation Expense was \$11,200 lower than budget as the reallocation of staff hours to church needs more than offset the shortfall in budgeted net contribution margin from theatrical productions.

Bottom Line – Prior to special items the 2020 operating results show a net loss of \$69,600 versus a break-even budget. This figure does not include an additional one time cost of \$26,300 arising from the search process and the costs to move Father Jonah and his family to Sun Valley. The church was blessed to qualify for a loan of \$69,200 from the Federal PPP Program which will technically be forgiven in 2021. The benefit of the forgiveness is included in the 2021 budget.

2021 Budget Highlights

The 2021 budget assumes that we are able to begin to return to a more normal worship schedule and restart many of our church ministries sometime in the second half of 2021. St Thomas Playhouse has also developed their budget assuming that they will be able to restart some form of theater programs in the summer of 2021. As we expect the pandemic to continue to impact us for much of the year the budget shows a net operating deficit of \$51,800. The expected forgiveness of the PPP Loan the church received in 2020 will be accounted for in 2021 resulting in a net bottom line income of \$17,400.

Once again a special thank you to our members who have collectively increased their pledges for 2021. Your continuing generosity has been instrumental in helping us maintain our talented staff and continue to provide high quality worship services and other essential ministries during the pandemic.

Finance Committee

I am pleased to announce that the Vestry has recently formed a Finance Committee to help oversee our financial operations including the church endowment funds. Thank you to John Ashton and Roger Gould for agreeing to be a part of the committee.

	2000 Budget	2020 Actuals	Proposed 2021 budget
Income			
4000 · Assessable Income			
4001 · Plate Offerings	75,000.00	36,959.98	45,000.00
4003 · Pledge Offerings	530,000.00	513,346.74	575,000.00
4021 · Contribution - Endowment ¹	14,692.39	14,817.47	15,500.00
4020 · Unpledged Grant	80,000.00	93,114.00	80,000.00
4022 · Anonymous Grant ²	47,000.00	47,000.00	47,000.00
4025 - Transfer from Fund(s)	30,000.00	30,000.00	15,000.00
Total 4000 · Assessable Income	776,692.39	735,238.19	777,500.00
4500 · Non-Assessable (NA)			
4505 · Prior Year Carryover	-1,053.03	-1,053.03	
4520 · Event Income	500.00		
4521 · Facility Use	18,000.00	7,352.00	12,000.00
4525 · Special Offerings	1,500.00		
4528 · Misc. Income	0.00	100.00	
Total 4500 · NA Income	18,946.97	6,398.97	12,000.00
Total Income	795,639.36	741,637.16	789,500.00
Expense			
5000 · Expenditures			
5010 · Rector Expenses			
5011 · Compensation			
5011a - Cash Stipend	33,218.38	95,000.00	
5011b - Health Ins. Benefit	6,518.82	33,189.84	
5011c - SS/SECA		9,445.83	
5014 · Pension Premium	7,351.92	25,206.64	
5016 · Cont. Educ/Conferences		0.00	
5019 · Sabbatical Allowance		0.00	
5022 · Rector Business Expenses	0.00	140.42	2,500.00
Total 5010 · Rector Expenses	0.00	47,229.54	165,342.31
5020 · Associate Rector (AR)			
5021c - AR Cash Stipend	45,213.00	45,213.00	45,213.00
5021b - AR Health Insurance	11,142.36	10,875.18	18,088.96
5021a - AR Pension	8,138.34	8,138.28	8,138.34
5021d - AR Business Expenses	500.00	211.18	500.00
Total 5020 · AR Expenses	64,993.70	64,437.64	71,940.30
5020a - Interim Priest	113,463.00	81,478.60	0.00
5030 - Compensation			
TOTAL staff wages	189,806.24	209,684.74	191,477.42
5043 · FICA & Medi (7.65%)	14,520.18	19,608.19	14,648.02
5044 · Staff Pensions (9%)	14,886.71	17,002.14	17,056.31
5045 · Staff Medical Ins.	21,427.28	29,755.53	26,333.57
Total 5030 · Compensation	240,640.40	276,050.60	249,515.32
5050 · Program Expenses			
5052 · Worship Expenses			
5050b - Altar Supplies	2,368.62	2,000.00	
5050c - Altar Flowers	336.07	1,000.00	
5050d - Musicians	3,691.33	3,800.00	
5050e - Vestments	281.45	300.00	
5050f - Outside Contractors	2,150.00	2,000.00	
TOTAL	2,000.00	8,827.47	9,100.00
5053 · Nursery Care	1,500.00	333.14	850.00
5054 · Children's Christian Education	2,300.00	1,169.00	1,800.00
5056 - Supply Choir Director			0.00
5057 · Hospitality & Fellowship			
5057a - Annual Parish Picnic		500.00	
5057b - Receptions	340.68	500.00	
5057c - Coffee Hours	325.47	300.00	
5057d - Annual Meeting	33.02	0.00	
5057f - Name Tags	169.30	200.00	
TOTAL	4,000.00	868.47	1,500.00

5059 · Music Supplies/Choir	4,465.00	2,130.29	2,050.00
5060 · New Member Ministry	500.00	156.25	500.00
5062 - Green Team	250.00	-20.00	200.00
5063 · Pastoral Care Comm.	200.00		
5064 · Stephen Ministry	1,000.00	-140.20	
5066 · Family Ministry	1,000.00	1,150.24	800.00
5067 · Supply Organist/Pianist	2,300.00	750.00	900.00
5069 · Visiting Priests	500.00		0.00
5070 · Staff/Volunteer Training	2,000.00	95.53	500.00
5071 · Events	500.00		
5074 · Vestry	1,000.00		1,000.00
5075 · Stewardship	250.00		0.00
5076 · Youth Christian Education	2,500.00	2,027.94	2,300.00
5077 · Adult Christian Education			
Adult Ed classes	1,000.00		500.00
Education for Ministry (EfM)	500.00		
Total 5050 · Program Expenses	27,765.00	17,348.13	22,000.00
5080 · Church Operating Expenses			
5032 · Audio/Visual System		2,039.09	500.00
5034 · Bookkeeping	16,250.00	16,187.42	16,250.00
5041 · Cleaning Staff	24,000.00	15,895.00	16,000.00
5051 · Advertising	3,500.00	4,103.84	3,500.00
5055 · Convention Delegates	1,000.00		1,000.00
5061 - Books/educational material		330.97	250.00
5064 - Professional Account. & Audit	1,900.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
5068 · Subscriptions	500.00	549.90	500.00
5082 · Cleaning Supplies	2,000.00	4,389.49	2,500.00
5083 · Computer/Copier	10,000.00	7,687.08	7,500.00
5084 · Insurance	12,000.00	11,188.25	13,500.00
5085 · Lawn/Garden Care	5,000.00	5,510.42	5,000.00
5086 · Office Supplies	3,000.00	1,919.75	2,000.00
5086a · Kitchen Supplies	1,000.00	342.66	350.00
5087 · Repairs/Maintenance	19,000.00	23,686.85	17,000.00
5089 · Telephone/Internet	5,000.00	6,413.30	6,000.00
5090 · Utilities/Garbage Removal	18,500.00	12,736.62	12,000.00
5092 · Website	1,250.00	1,198.00	1,250.00
5093 · Communications		1,032.89	1,000.00
5094 · Snow Removal	6,000.00	4,345.85	5,500.00
5095b - Emp. Tech. Reimbursement		4,641.82	0.00
5096 · Bank & Merchant Charges	6,000.00	8,752.28	9,500.00
5097 · Postage	2,000.00	2,606.96	2,500.00
6517 - Flowers/Gifts	500.00	212.55	500.00
Total 5080 · Operating Expenses	138,400.00	137,770.99	126,100.00
8000 · Rectory Operating Expenses			
8002 · Lawn Care	1,500.00	4,351.13	3,500.00
8002b - Snow Removal	1,000.00	495.00	1,000.00
8003 · Misc.	700.00	674.00	700.00
8004 · Repairs & Maintenance	0.00		500.00
8006 · Utilities	6,000.00	3,227.83	6,000.00
Total 8000 · Rectory Expenses	9,200.00	8,747.96	11,700.00
6510 · Ministry Outside Congregation			
6511 · Diocesan Assessment	163,105.40	153,319.22	163,275.00
6513 - STP Grant	30,000.00	18,830.25	25,000.00
6515 · Clergy/Discretionary Outreach	1,000.00	900.00	1,000.00
6516 · Special Offerings	1,500.00		
6523 - Episcopal Relief & Dev.	5,436.85	5,146.66	5,442.50
Total 6510 · Outside Ministry	201,042.25	178,196.13	194,717.50
Total 5000 · Expenditures	795,504.35	811,259.59	841,315.42
OPERATING INCOME/LOSS			
OTHER INCOME (PPP Loan)		-69,622.43	-51,815.42
OTHER EXPENSES (Search costs)		26,343.80	
NET OPERATING PROFIT/LOSS	135.01	-95,966.23	17,384.58

¹The Spending Policy for St. Thomas Endowment Fund authorizes an annual distribution of monies from the Fund equal three percent (3.0%) of the most-recent three-year moving average of the market value of the Fund as calculated as of December 31 each year. Monies so determined (the "Annual Distribution") may be transferred, in whole or in part, to the Operating Account(s) of St. Thomas Church for any purpose as approved by the Vestry. From time-to-time, the Vestry may determine that any or all of the Annual Distribution is not required for operating purposes and, therefore, is not to be transferred to the Operating Account(s) (the "Non-Transferred Annual Distribution"). Any such Non-Transferred Annual Distribution shall be reinvested in the Fund.

²The Anonymous Grant (Line 4527) is a gift we receive each summer in the amount of \$47,000. This annual donation is part of a twenty-year, one million dollar gift begun in 2009. There are no restrictions on the use of this money, although the vestry prefers to place it in long-term funds when possible. 2021 will be the 13th year of this grant.

St. Thomas Fund Balances - as of December 31, 2020

Operating	14,663.09	Labyrinth	3,753.34
Capital Improvement Fund	137,500.91	Memorials	7,059.27
Columbarium	15,798.46	Organ	4,812.77
Community Urgent Needs	8,020.05	Property, Buildings, & grounds	2,625,608.38
Designated Gifts	4,024.00	Sabbatical Fund	7,924.33
Education Fund	10,774.91	The Bilkey Memorial Fund	20,126.49
Endowment (total)	734,605.09	The St. Thomas Playhouse Fund	-18,830.25
Families	3,094.30	Youth Ministry Development	14,249.02
Haiti (total)	-1,305.00	TOTAL	3,595,473.89
Ketchum Community Dinner Curbside	3,594.73		

Lector Ministry by Claudia McCain

Throughout the year our Lectors give living voice to the word of God through reading scriptures and prayers for church services. The Episcopal Church requires that Lectors receive training, through which they are licensed, in order to participate in reading for services at St Thomas and other Episcopal churches. Typically, our church offers training twice a year. On January 11th, Rev. Kathleen and Claudia McCain conducted a class for license renewal, as well as those interested in becoming a lector. Currently, we have a wonderful group of approximately 26 trained Lectors at St Thomas!

Since the onset of COVID restrictions in March, the Lector Team has graciously been adapting to the many changes the church has been going through. From Zoom recorded services, to Festival Meadow live services, to restricted services in the church, to videoing readings and participating in outdoor services on the Labyrinth in frigid temps, they have been flexible as they learned amended formats for each presentation. It seems they are earning their halos!

I am grateful for all the Lectors who so willingly share their time and talent. Their gift of self is a blessing to all of us.

Good-bye to Outgoing Vestry Members

We would very much like to thank the outgoing Vestry members, each of whom has served on the Vestry for 3 years. During half of their tenure, St. Thomas was in a transition stage between rectors, and all three members stepped up to the plate in their vestry involvement during this busy period. Serving during this period, they as vestry members were also part of the Search process participating in the final interviews with the rector candidates and making the decision to call Jonah as our rector.



Lisa Leach - Lisa has been an engaged vestry member with particular interest and service with St. Thomas Playhouse where she has served as a committee member. →



← Brad Musbach - Brad served as Junior Warden for the past 3 years, and what busy years those have been with the rectory remodel, the church office remodel and many other smaller projects around St. Thomas. He also served on the Executive Committee of the Vestry.



Tim Price - Tim has been a thoughtful and dedicated vestry member who often had insightful comments and questions regarding our discussions and decisions. He also brought a younger perspective, which was much appreciated. →

Nominations to the Vestry (2021-2024)



Gretchen Boe - I moved to Sun Valley from Seattle in 1998 to be here with my family, son, daughter, their spouses and three grandchildren. What an amazing experience it has been. They were babies when I arrived and now they're going off to college. I joined St Thomas and shortly thereafter the babies were baptized there. I've had many great experiences and met wonderful people at St Thomas. I sang in the Choir for years and also Caritas Chorale. I'm presently a member of the Columbarium Committee, the Pastoral Care Team, and just recently was on the Rector Search Team which was a very wonderful and rewarding experience. I look forward to serving on the Vestry.

Janet Schaumburg - Janet and her husband, Bill Craig, have been full time members of St. Thomas (and are so happy to be here!) for the last year and a half when they moved to Ketchum full time after summering here for several years. Janet is a 4th generation Idahoan, and spent a good deal of her youth hiking and camping in the Sawtooths. She was raised in Hansen, Jerome and Moscow where she graduated from high school and stayed to attend the University of Idaho earning her B.S. in Mining Engineering. She is retired, having had a career primarily focused in project management. At St Thomas, Janet has found an enriching church home. She has been active in the hospitality group and she and her husband were co-chairs for this year's Annual Giving Campaign. Janet and Bill belonged to St. Martin's Episcopal Church in Houston prior to their move to Ketchum. Janet was active in various ministries including being a leader in one of six Altar Guild groups, a member of the leadership team for the women's Christian Life Studies, a group of 350 women from over 30 different churches who met weekly for bible study. She co-chaired the Joy of Giving Market, raising over \$100,000 during this annual fund raiser event for Outreach. Janet also served as President of ECW (Episcopal Church Women) representing over 4500 members with oversight responsibilities for a wide variety of monthly programs including spiritual speakers, luncheons, Easter and Christmas family celebrations, to name just a few. Janet sees St. Thomas as a delightful combination of caring people led by a creative, dedicated clergy and staff and looks forward to serving this wonderful parish.



Margot Shuford - My husband, Robert and I, are thrilled to have found St. Thomas as our church home! A life-long Episcopalian, as a child I was a member of St. Matthew's in Bedford, New York and then as a teenager at St. Luke's in Atlanta, Georgia. Robert and I joined our neighborhood church in Atlanta, St. Anne's Episcopal, when we got married and were active members there for twenty-five years. I was an active Sunday school teacher, served as a Eucharistic Minister and Lector, and also served on the vestry of St. Anne's. Robert and I have a twenty-four year old daughter, Anna, who works as a preschool teacher in Atlanta. The three of us have been visiting Sun Valley (and visiting St. Thomas!) since my parents moved here part time in 1996. Robert and I decided in 2015 to join them and bought a house in Hailey. In 2019 we decided to live here full time and became members of St. Thomas. I have enjoyed volunteering as a Godly Play teacher, assist on the Taize committee, and Robert and I are chairing the St. Thomas Newcomers Committee. We are loving the wonderful St. Thomas community, and I would be honored to serve on the vestry.

Nominations for 2021 Diocesan Convention Delegation

Each year, the Idaho Diocese of the Episcopal Church holds a convention; this year the convention will be held November 12-14, 2021. Site to be determined.

The nominees for delegates to Convention are: Art Dahl
Connie Hoffman

Bobbie Dahl
Ellen Sanders

Sara Gorby
Richard Waycott

The nominees for alternate delegates to Convention are:

Mardi Shepard
Robert Shuford

Patty Sloan
Brad Musbach

In addition, the Rector, Senior Warden and Junior Warden serve as non-elected delegates.



Rector's Report

by the Rev. M. Jonah Kendall



Signs of New Life

Dear Friends,

In the Gospel of John Jesus says, "Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit" (John 12:24). Although about his impending death and resurrection, these words of Jesus also capture a foundational truth about the way of God. God always creates new life out of death.

This past year these words were for us at St. Thomas no mere biblical maxim, but a known reality. 2020 was, as the pundits have said time and time again, an unprecedented year. A year in which we faced the reality of the COVID-19 Pandemic in our daily lives and in our spiritual lives as well, as churches everywhere were forced to reimagine themselves. At St. Thomas this meant dealing with the suspension of in-person worship, and so the loss of our central act as a community of faith, as well as the challenge of navigating a search process and welcoming a new rector. Yet, "like a grain of wheat that falls to the earth and dies", but goes on to "bear much fruit," St. Thomas not only met its challenges, but went on to welcome several signs of new life.

These signs of life were evident in many aspects of our parish life. In the absence of a rector, the Vestry assumed its new-found leadership and thrived. The Search Committee faithfully fulfilled its charge. The rectory and the church office were renovated. A new rector arrived. The staff of St. Thomas developed innovative ways to provide weekly worship, keep the congregation connected and informed, as well as continue the daily functioning of the parish's administrative affairs. Here I would like to extend a special thank you to our staff, Judi Fuller, Kathleen Bean, Sara Gorby, Brett Moellenberg, Liz Hickey and Joel Bejot, as well as to our Senior Warden, Rebecca Waycott, and the Chair of the Search Committee, Heather Black. You all have done an amazing job!

Yet, the greatest sign of new life emerged, and is still emerging, amidst God's longstanding call for St. Thomas to be a village church. And these signs of new life were evident in 2020 as St. Thomas was less a church in a village, as it was a church that served its village in relevant and vibrant ways. This was made particularly evident in the following four areas:

Ketchum Community Dinners Curbside (KCDC)

This year St. Thomas took over the leadership of the Ketchum Community Dinners from the Church of the Bigwood. Renaming it Ketchum Community Dinners Curbside, St. Thomas established a weekly curbside meal pick-up ministry that during the pandemic not only safely and effectively fed others, but provided an opportunity for members of this parish, and our larger community, to serve the needs of our Wood River Valley community.

Thank you to Liz Hickey, Sara Gorby and Helen Morgus for making this happen. As a result of their efforts, we now have a weekly outreach offering extended from our very own church doors.

Outdoor Worship

In addition to developing virtual services, St. Thomas began worshipping this year outdoors. In the Summer and Fall we made use of Festival Field. This Fall and Winter we've worshipped in front of the Church. And since the beginning of ski season, we're holding a weekly prayer service at Baldy.

In addition to providing a way for parishioners to safely worship in-person, these outdoor offerings have increased our visibility and presence in Ketchum. We often get onlookers and inquiries from people passing by. On Christmas Eve cars stopped to observe and participate, and there were crowds of people that stopped and joined in our carols from across the street. As a neighbor of mine said after Christmas, "What you all are doing outside is brilliant! I may be coming by soon."

Continued on following page



Associate Rector's Report

by the Rev. Kathleen Bean

In the morning sow your seed, and at evening do not let your hands be idle; for you do not know which will prosper, this or that, or whether both alike will be good.

Ecclesiastes 11:6

This year has certainly been one for sowing seeds of all kinds and waiting to see which would prosper. As we found ourselves in March adapting overnight to the realities of the pandemic we shifted from traditional in person worship to online, and learned how to stream Morning Prayer on Facebook three days a week. In June we moved to restricted in person worship, then outdoors "in the field," then back to St. Thomas' labyrinth and courtyard for Eucharist, and finally took over the parking lot for a sanctuary on Christmas Eve. We've braved single digit weather on Sunday mornings. Through it all I would say that the challenges of sorting all this out could not compare to the joy and energy the staff brought to continuing to find ways to offer opportunities to praise God together in community. It's a year we will never forget!



One ministry that arose during the lockdown was our Group Facilitators, established by Interim Priest Rob to help keep the community connected. Facilitators were assigned to stay in touch with particular church members via phone, text and email, and to keep clergy informed of any illness or needs among the parish. This has been identified by many in the broader Church as a "best practice" and will be ongoing as we continue to navigate restrictions on gathering.

Some ministries adapted well to the new virtual world, including Sister Joyst. This weekly gathering for silent prayer and sharing our journeys successfully moved to Zoom in April and, if anything, has made it even easier to come together. The newly formed Newcomers Committee established a visible presence through the Visitor's Hub at our outdoor worship services this summer and we look forward to creating a virtual "hub" on the website in early 2021.

I am delighted to be working with our new rector, Jonah. By late fall we agreed on a division of responsibility based on our natural gifts and callings that has me acting as lead for ministries related to Worship, Pastoral Care and Hospitality. Those will be my focus in the coming year.

As always, I am so grateful to be among you and sharing our journeys together, come what may. Your love and support are the water and sunshine that help our seeds of ministry grow! May God bless you all this year.

Communications

This year St. Thomas' communications took a giant leap forward. Not only did we develop exceptional virtual services and a weekly e-newsletter, but, in great thanks to Brett Mollenberg, we produced videos to communicate about our common life in engaging ways. This was of great value during our Stewardship campaign. Looking ahead, the development of our communications positions us well to showcase our life together to the wider Wood River Valley community .

Children and Youth

While our traditional children and youth offerings were compromised by the pandemic, signs of new life for these ministries have emerged. Our youth are leading monthly online worship services. We held two outdoor gatherings, a smores cookout at Trail Creek and Trunk-or-Treat Halloween party. Planned for the children, youth and families of our parish, these events ended up attracting people from our larger community. Given their success, we are planning to continue offering event-oriented offerings for service and fellowship.

Yes, 2020 was an unprecedented year. Yet, as we found, God is faithful. As Jesus said, "Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit." Friends, in our challenges we met not the end, but, thanks be to God, new signs of life for St. Thomas the Village Church of Ketchum.

In Christ,
Jonah+



Book Group

by Laurie Ahern

St. Thomas has been home to the only open Book Club in the valley for many years. Members do not need to be members of the church to belong. This has resulted in a visible outreach into our community. Of course, during this past year the Book Club has had to pivot from in-person meetings to zoom meetings. We did manage to have one in person meeting on the church patio in September. We had been averaging between 15-20 at our in person meetings, but now are having 6-9. The entire membership still receives our updates and follows along from a distance. Our hope is that we will return to in-person meetings later this year and will continue to be a home for readers in the valley.

Our Winter/Spring 2021 selections:

- 1/11 *American Dirt* by Jeanine Cummins
- 2/8 *Ordinary Grace* by William Kent Kruger
- 3/8 *The Choice* by Dr. Edith Eger
- 4/12 *The Red Lotus* by Chris Bohjalian

Please contact Laurie Ahern for any questions:

lahern1681@gmail.com or 206-850-3974

Altar Guild

by Mary Malkmus

It is the job of the Altar Guild members to attend to all the “behind-the-scenes” tasks that make our church services run smoothly, thus providing a meaningful worship experience for all. We are the priest’s liturgical partner. We work in pairs, preparing the altar for all services, including baptisms, weddings and funerals.

We have a wonderful team of dedicated volunteers. Thank you all: Betsy Ashton, Beverly Boas, Lynne Campion-Waddell, Catherine Carley, Vickrie Cutler, Lise Holt, Barbara Shelton, Mary Ann Syms, Chris Vik, Patience Ziebarth, Mary Colhoun, Sheila Witmer and Karen Robideaux. A special thanks to those volunteers (you know who you are) who have pitched in extra duties during this unusual year.

We are always looking for new members to join us in this meaningful work. If this kind of service to St. Thomas appeals to you, please contact:

Mary Malkmus at 208-622-3949.

Acolyte Ministry

by Mardi Shepard

As the acolyte scheduler for the past 6 years, I would like to give a huge round of applause to the many parishioners who served this very important ministry. Their commitment and enthusiasm demonstrates a true community spirit that St. Thomas strives for. My thanks of to Heather Black, Eavan Brown, Ragna Caron, DyDy and Doug Cleven, Ida Belle Gorby, Carter Hickey, Karley Johnston, Bob Kesting, Lizzie Loving, Mary Malkmus, Helen Morgus, Ann Scales, Mary Ann and Chris Syms, Phebe Thorne, and Lilly Whitesell. All of you serve faithfully and continue to be there at any time to make sure the calendar is covered. My thanks to all of you.

We serve during Sunday services, either on the Festival Field on Sun Valley Road or on the Labyrinth at St. Thomas. We also serve at holy day services and funeral and memorial services.

Jonah, Kathleen, and I always encourage new members to join this most important ministry. If you feel that you can commit to one Sunday a month, this could be your opportunity to give of yourself to a ministry that is so rewarding. I hope that all members of the congregation will consider this opportunity. Never too young, never too old!

You may contact me at mardi.shepard@gmail.com, 208-720-7631, or call the parish office, 208-726-5349.



Adult Education Committee

by Don Liebich, Chair

As you might remember, the St. Thomas Adult Education program began 2020 with a series on “Rescuing Sacred Texts” and making these ancient texts relevant in the 21st century. Neal Collins led two sessions on “Christianity Before Constantine” in which we examined what the church looked like before it became an arm of the Roman Empire. In early March we participated in a community event in conjunction with the Sun Valley Museum of Art discussing the themes of the play “The Niceties” which looks at who gets to write history and the implications for race relations. Then Covid19 arrived and everything stopped.

As we look forward to 2021, we are planning to build on the popular “Rector’s Discussion Class” that Father Jonah has been holding on Tuesdays at noon. We would like to keep that session going in the New Year as the Adult Education class until the spring, when we hope to be able to meet outside on the more normal schedule. We have a list of topics to offer, but we’re also interested in what you have been thinking about and might want to explore more deeply regarding theology, the bible, social issues, or general religious issues. So, put on your thinking cap and let us know what topics might interest you for Adult Ed.

Columbarium

by Heather Black

The Columbarium Committee was unchanged this year in its membership. Sally Horn has been serving as its chair with Heather Black substituting when needed. Sally’s tenure on the committee has expired and Heather Black is currently acting chair, until a new committee member can be appointed to the position. The committee wishes to thank Sally for her leadership over the last three years. In 2020 our committee was mostly dormant due to the pandemic. The Rev. Kathleen Bean will be working with and advising the Columbarium Committee going forward.

As of year’s end, the balance in the Columbarium fund was \$15,798.46. This is down from last year’s report as it was decided between the Columbarium Committee and the Vestry to transfer \$20,000 from the Columbarium Fund to the Church Operating Fund. The columbarium requires little for maintenance/upkeep and we have no need to purchase a new block of niches for some time, so it was deemed wise to make this transfer.

In 2020, 3 regular niches and 1 large niche were sold. Yet to be sold are 43 niches, 9 large niches and 69 nameplates. As of March 2020, the committee implemented a price increase on it’s offerings to the following: Nameplate \$500, niche \$1,500 and large niche \$2,500. Once a Columbarium space has been reserved and purchased, there is no additional expense or annual maintenance fees. All purchases are non-refundable.

In the fall of 2019 a sign saying “Columbarium” was purchased and was to be affixed on the archway to the columbarium area in the spring of 2020. With pandemic distractions, this installation has been postponed until the spring of 2021.

The famous “Hole In The Wall Gang” party was cancelled due to Coronavirus concerns and state and local health guidelines, but we hope to revive the festivities in the summer of 2021. This gathering, typically held in July, is meant to be a celebration of life party for those who are current niche or nameplate holders while we are still here to enjoy our “niche neighbor’s” company!

Please visit the columbarium, which is being seasonally and beautifully maintained by committee member Bev Boas. If you have any questions on the process for making a niche or nameplate reservation/purchase, please call and speak with Judi Fuller in the church office.





Children's Ministry

by Liz Hickey

The new year and new resolutions start a year with hope and joy. The year 2020 brought us many unexpected surprises. A pandemic hit the world early in 2020 and changed the landscape of everything. While this changed landscape is still with us as you read this, all has been approached with that Episcopalian spirit of Hope and Joy.

Our beautiful church shut down in mid-March under uncertain skies. Ever since then St. Thomas has been learning and growing our offerings to adapt to our ever-changing needs. Two days before the Wood River Valley quarantined for a month, Children, Youth and Family Ministries hosted our second TGIF2 (Thank Goodness Its Family Friday) Service. We gathered, prayed, made music, and broke actual bread. Afterwards, the children and volunteers cooked Brunswick Stew for our CYF fundraiser. Little did we know that the soup would end up feeding many parishioners who either couldn't get to the store or were too afraid to during the lockdown.

The start of the spring was the time of growth. St. Thomas began offering online services, learning Zoom, construction on the staff offices and Sara and Liz started sending videos to remind everyone – “We are all in this together”. The Godly Play Stories were live on Facebook, CYF emails reached many with games and humor, and we got used to watching St. Thomas services in our pjs. We offered craft bags for children and families to pick up, we offered Easter treats for pick up, tie dyed masks and Sara and Liz became a staple for greeting families and visitors, either online or outside the church.



During the summer months and into the fall St. Thomas gathered and worshiped in the Festival Meadows Field. Even through smoky skies and chilly mornings we celebrated with a new spirit. We created Glorious Gatherings for children and youth to craft, pray and sit social distanced. They flew kites, served popsicles and shared smiles under masks. All while reminding us we are resilient and hopeful. While we missed Grand Days of Summer, our Godly Play continued on Facebook and in our emails. Our strong storytellers Dydy, Helen, Margot, Art, Sara and Liz shared the stories of the Ark & the Tent, Exodus, Ezekiel, and Jeremiah. We offered a few pop-up sidewalk chalk

“art walks” for children, parishioners, and anyone wanting to share with us. Several times CYF handed out popsicles to the community to spread goodwill, love and support during a challenging time.

Once the leaves started falling in the valley, we welcomed our new priest Jonah Kendall and his family! It was the hope and joy we needed heading into the fall and winter season. Jonah blessed the children's backpacks and shared stickers saying, “You Are Loved!” Just as we were getting used to Zoom meetings, mask wearing, abbreviated school schedules, and socially distanced outings, St. Thomas moved services out on the labyrinth and Sunday School moved to the courtyard as Glorious Gatherings. We continue to gather 3-6 children on any given Sunday. We have gained a few new families too. In October we offered a CYF smore's family gathering on Trail Creek. It was a huge success, and we are planning more outings once a month starting January. We also offered a Trunk-O-Treat for families to come trick-o-treat socially distanced and safely outside. It was such a joy to see our families and parishioners come together to decorate their vehicles and share their treats!

This holiday season was different in a way - but it did not lack any of the spirit. We still asked families to read and light candles during the season of Advent, just in a virtual way. We still hosted our Christmas Nativity Pageant at the 4 pm service but this year it was outside. The children dressed in their costumes and as true professionals marched down the outside snowy ramp to share the story of the Christmas. Simply put – it was Beautiful. I was so proud to be a part of the service and its magic.

Thank you to all of the Sunday School storytellers and Doorpersons. We look forward to seeing more of you in 2021 and having more fun with the children of St. Thomas. St. Thomas will continue to grow and change in 2021. How could it not? But we are good at change. We have learned to grow. We learned a lot from 2020. I know that we will continue to grow and save space for those when they are ready. We at St. Thomas love to share our hope, our love and our joy.



Community Labyrinth

by Maryanne Whitcomb & Kathleen Bean

In 2001, members of St. Thomas, the W.R. Jewish Community, and others worked together to fund and build the labyrinth that graces the upper patio of the church today. The design is identical to that laid in the floor of Chartres Cathedral in France around the 13th century.

Walking the labyrinth can be a very fruitful spiritual practice, because its twists and turns remind us of the journey of faith, and of life. There are times when walking the labyrinth that we find ourselves praying, as Thomas Merton did, "My Lord God, I have no idea where I am going..." Yet the path leads us to the center, where we can reflect and give thanks, and then invites us to look outward, and follow the path again to the beginning of the journey.

This past year the labyrinth welcomed visitors to walk its paths as it always does, though it was not prudent to have organized groups walk together because of the difficulty of social distancing. Instead, the labyrinth became home to Restoration Yoga during the summer months; it offered a safe gathering place for pastoral meetings; and in late fall we cleared the snow, brought in heaters and welcomed worshippers for Sunday and Thursday Eucharists.

When it is safe to do so in 2021, it is our hope to offer guided group walks for the community. Until that time, you are always invited to walk the labyrinth as you are moved. We ask only that you walk with members of your household – and if you should encounter others – please await their departure before you proceed.

In these times, more than ever, contemplative time spent walking the labyrinth holds many possibilities for direction, solace and peace.

Community Outreach Committee

St. Thomas has always been good at serving. It's what we do as Episcopalians - we give and serve and love. In that spirit, St. Thomas has formed a Community Outreach Committee.

Late in the Summer of 2020, we were approached by Church of the Bigwood to see if St. Thomas would be interested in taking over the Ketchum Community Dinner program. Since we were and still are in the Pandemic and we saw need in the valley - Ketchum Community Dinner Curbside was born. We serve free take and bake meals to anyone who is in need on Wednesday evenings at 5 pm. KCDC started with serving 34 dinners and have grown to an average of 50 with numbers reaching in the 80's on occasion on a Wednesday night. KCDC serves so many different families and individuals. A broad range of people, including those who have been affected by the pandemic and financial strains. Many who are embarrassed, depressed and always thankful. We occasionally get the curious passer bys that ask what we are doing and donate to our outreach.

In January, St. Thomas delivered lunches from Perry's to St. Luke's and Ketchum Fire Department to support our health care workers. In honor of Epiphany, our season of love and light, we reached out to feed and love the ones who care for us during this busy time.

As the Valley grows, so will our need to feed and love. We are hopeful we can continue this Outreach as long as there is a need. Again, serving is what we do best.

If you have any interest in sharing your gifts with the Community Outreach Committee please contact Helen Morgus.





Bible Study Group by Art Dahl

St Thomas Bible Study meets with Father Jonah every Wednesday at 12:30 for one hour. The focus is on the Scripture for the coming Sunday. Each Scripture passage is read aloud and discussed. The purpose is three-fold. First, to consider possible interpretations of each passage. Second, to apply the teachings to the world we live in today. And third, to explore what they suggest for us as individuals. The discussion is fluid and open and Biblical expertise is not necessary. Presently meetings are on ZOOM but face-to-face will resume when conditions allow.

Come, all are welcome. Contact Father Jonah or Art Dahl for further information.

Flower Guild by Betsy Ashton

The past year has been quite different, to say the least, for the Flower Guild. COVID shut us down beginning in Lent when traditionally we have no flowers on the altar anyway. When worship resumed in a reconfigured church, we had beautiful arrangements in free standing holders. COVID forced the Church to close again and then, thanks to our dedicated and innovative staff, we initiated outdoor services on the vacant lot next to Our Lady of the Snows. Until winter shut that down, we were able to use lovely fresh, mostly garden flowers to grace the alfresco altar. Now, with constant frigid weather, we have had only greens at our outdoor services on the labyrinth - and we are approaching Lent once again!

Our major endeavor this year was to decorate the outside of the Church for the Christmas season, the inside being closed to all. The Flower Guild put up fresh garlands and wreaths to make a festive statement for Christmas - on an extremely cold morning, I might add!

Thanks to all who continue to financially support the Flower Fund as we navigate our way through these strange times. Let's keep our fingers crossed that we can be back inside and have the beautiful Easter flower display we all love.

Please feel free to contact me with comments and/or suggestions. Our wonderful volunteers are anxiously awaiting to put their skills to use once again!
Betsy Ashton taadah@ashton.fm or 208.309.5092.

Eucharistic Visitors by Bobbie Dahl

Traditionally, Eucharistic Visitors take Holy communion to those parishioners of St. Thomas, who wish to receive the sacraments but are home bound or hospitalized. After the COVID pandemic started, the Eucharistic Visitor program had to be put on hold.

In late summer, St. Thomas was able to procure individual communion vessels where each communicant could administer the consecrated wafer and wine themselves. Because of this, the Visitors have been delivering the needed vessels to those individuals who received Home communion before the pandemic. Later the Visitor, either by FaceTime or telephone, offers the Home Communion service, and the communicants take the sacraments at the appropriate time. This has worked out well.

Green Team

The Green Team is a St. Thomas ministry that endeavors to advocate, educate and articulate protection of the environment. The Team intends to develop ministries and projects that are faithful and effective in promoting environmental stewardship and the sanctity of creation.

Because of COVID restrictions, we were unable to celebrate Earth Day at St. Thomas this year. We did have a Fall cleaning of our section of Highway 75 with our friends from Emmanuel Church in Hailey. In September we again celebrated the Season of Creation, along with religious communities from around the world. Each Sunday we focused on the forest, land, rivers, wilderness and St. Francis.

We had an information table at each service with up-dated recycling information, and postcards promoting voting with God's creation and sustainability in mind. The Team members have also been involved in our local Climate Action Committee's efforts to encourage Ketchum, Hailey, and Sun Valley governments to support its sustainability initiative.

Many thanks to the faithful members of this Ministry: Linda Bergerson, Red Bloedel, Susie King, Marylyn Pauley, and Patty Sloan, Richard Waycott, Pat Davies and Suzy Orb, Molly! Goodyear and Rev. Kathleen Bean.

We are looking forward to being able to meet again in person! If you would like to join this Team, call Mary Malkmus at (208) 622-3949.

Family & Youth Ministries

by Sara Gorby

January 2020 started off with an **Epiphany Pageant Tableau** on the chancel with Joel playing beautifully to set the tone for the Season. As the weeks passed, we began the **TGIF²** (Thank Goodness It's Friday Family) service on Friday late afternoons which included drum circle gathering, the Word, an interactive sermon/reflection and communion with rustic pottery and artisan bread. We offered one TGIF in January and another in March before we were closed down with stay-at-home orders. These services were small in number but mighty in spirit. We look forward to bringing them back when we are able to meet in-person indoors.

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper and Talent Show was a wonderful time for fellowship, and we had a large group for dinner and incredible talent of the parish to usher us into our Shrove Tuesday liturgy with burying the Alleluias.

During **Lent** we had an artistic project where we painted acrylic on muslin in purples and pinks to express our Lenten repentance, hopes, and dreams. While we were not able to hang them as intended in the sanctuary, I hung them outside my balcony at home for the community to enjoy.

During our stay-at-home orders, I connected with many families and had them contribute to videos to stay involved. Videos included ringing bells for Easter, flowering the Cross, Earth Day Sunday, Honoring High School Seniors, Mother's Day, and Sidewalk Chalk Art Walk. I also began sending out a weekly (instead of quarterly) e-news for CYF (Children, Youth & Family Ministries). The e-news included fun and uplifting videos, calls for submissions of video content, and updated information about church activities. Liz and I both created fun stuff for the video and did video greetings.

Youth stayed connected via weekly zoom for about 6 weeks in the spring until it became clear that more time on the computer was not welcomed. Young people were involved in summer outdoor services with set-up, clean-up and readings. Several young people assisted with distribution of **Ketchum Community Dinner Curbside**. Our youth received **care-packages** in the mail filled with treats and a note in October. We had a meet-and-greet with Jonah on the courtyard with pizza, soda and get-to-know-you time.

During the summer we had several weeks of sidewalk chalk art walk set-up at St. Thomas. We offered popsicles twice as a time to catch up and be creative. With Tyia Wilson as our yoga guide, we offered **Liberation Yoga** on the labyrinth from mid-July through mid-October. It was very well received with 6-15 people each Thursday evening. It was a time to focus on how we can free ourselves from what holds us back from connecting to our body, heart and mind.

In September and October, we offered **Courtyard Crafts** outdoors as another way to stay connected. Tuesday afternoons after school 8-10 children gathered on the courtyard and made Episcopal rosaries, pet treats for Blessing of the Animals, decoupage wooden prayer boxes, and fall wreaths.

In September, we gathered children and youth at the back of the field during the outdoor services. In October we transferred back to St. Thomas for a group meeting called the **Glorious Gathering**. This is a combined effort with Liz and me to gather children and youth for check-in, reflection, connection, activity, and fun. We have assembled sidewalk chalk prayers of the people, Thanksgiving cards for the Senior Connection, Thanksgiving baskets, snow angels, walking field trips to the Our Lady of the Snows Catholic Church to see the Nativity scene and Lucy Loken park for an Advent prayer circle, and glittered pinecones to make ornaments with our Christmas prayers.

We also had two other great gatherings: **S'mores & More service** with communion and s'mores outdoors at Boundary Campground. People were pleasantly surprised to get communion after months of not receiving communion. We also offered **Trunk-or-Treat** in our parking lot on Halloween. Parishioners decorated the back of the cars and handed out candy. It was a great afternoon!

In November, we had our first **CYF Virtual Service**. The young people participated in a service to share with our community. We shared a second one in December. These have been a great way to be together/apart safely and also feel united in worship.

During **Advent** we mailed table tents from the Salt & Light Project to each family. These were a wonderful at home opportunity for families to reflect during the season of waiting.

Continued on next page

Hospitality Committee

by Lisa Strait

The 2019/2020 Hospitality Committee, like every other committee, was fraught with change this year. COVID-19 wreaked havoc on our usual calendar, but we managed to do what we could during restricted times.

In January we gave our Annual Meeting breakfast, and it was a great success. In February, we hosted a reception for the Rectory Open House. In March, we had our Stone Soup luncheon. After that, things were markedly different. Through the late spring and summer hospitality opportunities were limited as our services were either by reservation indoors or held outside in the field. We were able to provide some offerings for the bishop's visit and when Jonah came for his first sermon. We also provided dinner for Jonah's family when they first came to town.

Though limited in scope, our enthusiasm remains high, and we all look forward to a more normal iteration of the Hospitality Committee.



Newcomer's Committee

by Margot and Robert Shuford

The St. Thomas Newcomers Committee was formed in early 2020 under the direction of and with much support from Kathleen Bean. We began the year with great energy with an enthusiastic committee who had many fresh ideas for welcoming visitors and new members to St. Thomas. We were honored that Kathleen passed the baton to us to head this new committee as relative newcomers ourselves! St. Thomas is such a warm and welcoming community, which we were blessed to experience firsthand, so we were excited to take on this new role.

We began by assigning each committee member as a Shepherd to a new member, and they reached out by phone to welcome them. We plan to continue and expand this Shepherd program when we can safely meet in person.

One of the most exciting things that happened was the creation of The Visitors Hub with great help from Sara and Liz. We set up the Hub, a designated gathering spot for visitors and new members, outside the indoor services as well as on the field during outdoor services. We are working to add an easily accessible and informative Visitors Hub to the church website and also revising the Welcome Bags for visitors to make them more user friendly.

We are thankful for an enthusiastic committee: Walt McKew, Lindy Brewer, Mike Menser, Tim Price, and Lisa Leach. And as we all want St. Thomas to continue to be a warm and welcoming place for all visitors and new members, we welcome all who would like to serve on our committee. All it takes is a friendly smile!

Continued from previous page

We have tried to keep many **St. Thomas traditions**, including giving our mother's flowers on Mother's Day. Flowers were left outside St. Thomas for people to pick up. We had beautiful tie cookies for Father's Day at the field service. Instead of selling Wagon Days chili while folks enjoyed the parade outside St. Thomas, we sold chili at the field service and added cool St. Thomas ball caps. We gathered food and Christmas gifts for Thanksgiving Baskets and the Giving Tree via an online signup. The most treasured of traditions the Nativity Pageant happened in two forms. One was in-person on Christmas Eve in the parking lot at the 4:00 service which included Birdie, the Hickey's black Lab, as a sheep. The second, a video montage of the past ten years photos from the Nativity Pageants with eight young people narrating the story and pictures from Heather Black, Becky Smith, Liz Hickey and Sara Gorby. It was a very special year indeed.



Music Ministry

by Joel Bejot

What a year it has been! From the first couple “normal” months of the year, to lockdown, to “it will be over by Easter, surely,” to our pastoral transitions, this past year has taken a lot of faith. As always, I am full of gratitude over the creativity and generosity of the people of this parish. Through the past few months, I feel as if a sense of steadiness has taken over the church, even as larger cultural upheaval is happening. What follows are my thoughts and some data regarding each of my roles and programs.

Music Director: Through the course of the pandemic thus far, this role has changed drastically. In March, when we went all virtual, I arranged for music in our virtual services with mostly myself as the musician. In the summer, when we emerged to outdoor/indoor worship, I directed soloists, some paid, some volunteer, to lead our worship services. In the fall, when we settled on only the virtual worship having music, I restarted the handbell choir, and recruited four professional singers from around the country to be a part of our choir. Recently, I have re-engaged the adult choir, with parts filmed separately at St. Thomas. I imagine 2021 to be a somewhat backwards version of 2020: virtual music in the winter/spring, live music in the park in the summer, and choirs restarting in the fall.

The biggest technical thing I have learned this year is how to film and edit virtual choir videos! It has been a pleasing challenge to keep myself working toward new goals, as well as to keep the singers of St. Thomas engaged. I have also learned to lean into our faith tradition - hosting live-streamed Morning Prayer has been very steady for my own faith life. And receiving communion for the first time after months without was a very moving moment.

Organist: In 2020, I played for all of the worship services where there was music. This included organ in January through mid-March and piano/keyboard for virtual and live services for the balance of the year. I hope to restart practice for an organ recital as soon as we are allowed to gather for concerts again.

Choirs: Unfortunately, the pandemic has been terrible for choirs across the world. Most have shut down completely, and of those that remain, only a few people are allowed to participate at once, greatly spread out across their respective spaces. Of all the choirs of St. Thomas, only the adult choir, with help from our quartet, is currently engaged. A few volunteers have sent videos to me remotely for months, and many have been filmed a couple of times at St. Thomas. I plan to film the choir twice monthly going forward. I also hope to restart our dormant groups as soon as it is safe to do so.

Handbell Choir: The handbell choir has been a bright spot for us. Since it’s ringing, not singing, we have been able to meet weekly, socially-distanced, since late summer, and have recently filmed a few Christmas carols for the church. The bells belong to St. Michael’s in Boise, and they have been recalled by them. As of this writing, the next steps for our group have not been decided.

Taizé: Taizé went all virtual this year, and I filmed a few singers in evening sessions in November. I’m thankful for the support this service receives.

Other: I played for a couple of the numbers at the Girlfriend Lunch for St. Thomas Playhouse. Since the rest of their season was cancelled, my usual roles with them were cancelled as well.

Looking Forward: I’m looking forward to the vaccine enabling groups to gather indoors again, and restarting our dormant ministries. I’m also looking forward to seeing what we as a parish and a nation have learned from this unique experience. Thank you all very much for the opportunity to live and work here. It has been a challenging year, but I’m sure I have learned many things which will serve me well in the future. I appreciate all your support for me and my family.

Pastoral Care Team

by Maryanne Whitcomb & Marylyn Pauley

The St. Thomas Pastoral Care Team enjoyed a smooth transition during the summer months, with Interim Rector, Father Rob Gieselmann, transferring oversight to newly-called Father Jonah Kendall and with the continued support of our Associate Rector, the Reverend Kathleen Bean. In mid-Fall, Kathleen became the official liaison to the Pastoral Care Team. She regularly attends its monthly meetings and assists and guides the resultant follow-up actions.

MISSION STATEMENT: Since the last Annual Report, the Pastoral Care Team has finalized its Mission Statement. It reads as follows:

The St. Thomas Pastoral Care Team, under the guidance and direction of clergy, offers spiritual support for those who are in need within the congregation. The team membership includes laypersons within the church who feel personally called to offer and provide loving, confidential Christ-centered care in countless ways.

The Team serves St. Thomas parishioners, their families and friends through prayer. Notes of encouragement, phone calls, and when needed, occasional local transportation, simple errands, and meals are elements of the team's out-reach of support for St. Thomas parishioners. Team members also support each other as they perform this ministry.

The Pastoral Care Team maintains a current Parish Prayer List for those who express a need for our prayers, either for themselves or another person. This prayer list is prayed by a member of the team each day of the week. The list is updated quarterly by calling the contact persons for those on the list.

In light of the Covid-19 Pandemic, the Pastoral Care Team has continued to meet monthly online on the Zoom platform. Face-to-face in-person visits with parishioners on the prayer list have been curtailed during this difficult time.

LOOKING TO 2021: Current members of the Pastoral Care Team are: Gretchen Boe, Jeanne Cassell, Connie Hoffman, Pat Jorgensen, Marcia Liebich, Marylyn Pauley, Elaine Phillips, Patty Sloan, and Maryanne Whitcomb. Anyone wishing to express a need for pastoral care, for themselves or for a family member or friend, is invited to contact clergy or any one of the Pastoral Care Team members directly. Further, in addition to its own work, the team looks forward in the coming year to occasionally referring people to other caring ministries at St. Thomas such as Eucharistic Visitors, Shawl Ministry, Stephen Ministry, or to the St. Thomas clergy.

Garden & Grounds

by Kaye Kearns

Thank goodness the St. Thomas GARDEN was healthy and beautiful last year! It was nice to have something in 2020 that wasn't impacted by the pandemic. What a calming and hopeful sign to see the anticipated perennials and shrubs spring up, leaf out and flourish in contrast to the unpredictable virus.

Our biggest project in 2020 was cleaning up and enhancing the landscape at the newly remodeled rectory. After the unavoidable construction damage to the gardens close by the house, a team of volunteers came in to clean up, amend the soil, replant and top dress the beds. The project also included pulling out overgrown shrubs and replacing them with new plants and ground cover. It was wonderful to see the landscape back in shape, adding an accent to the charming remodeled rectory. Everyone was really excited to complete the finishing touches and welcome the Kendall family to their new home!

Ushers

by Robert Shuford

We are grateful to have 19 full time ushers currently serving at St Thomas. Each usher is wonderful about sharing their time and talents during our services. All ushers pitched in this year when church services were revised and usher responsibilities were also revised. We were grateful for the Ushers' help both at the limited attendance indoor services as well as those held outdoors in the field. Your presence helped people feel safe and welcomed. Thank you!

Most importantly, we owe a huge thank you to Mike Menser who has spearheaded the Usher team so effectively. Mike moved to Florida this fall, and his presence at St. Thomas will be very much missed. Thank you, Mike!

If you would like to serve as an Usher, please contact Robert Shuford at robert@shufordpartners.com. We welcome all!



Stephen Ministry

by Maryanne Whitcomb and Sabrina Roblin

MISSION: To train and supervise lay caregivers to provide Christian care to those hurting, troubled or in need.

VISION: We serve as Christ to one another by offering quality on-going care to members of St. Thomas Church and others in need in the community

HISTORY: The first group of Stephen Ministers was trained and commissioned in 2018. Since then, four more were trained and commissioned. To date since 2018, the Stephen Ministers have cared for 11 (eleven) parishioners – several of the relationships lasting for two years and more.

THE YEAR 2020: With the church in transition mid-year and complications of the pandemic, there have been no more Stephen Minister relationship matches made – nor have any new trainings been conducted. However, the group has continued its bi-weekly meetings on Zoom video conferencing that have included supervision and continuing education. Further, the Stephen Ministers have been developing creative ways to continue care in a safe fashion, both for themselves and their care receivers.

THE TEAM AS OF DECEMBER:

Stephen Minister Leaders: Sabrina Roblin, Marcia Liebich, Maryanne Whitcomb

Stephen Ministers – currently active: Three mentioned above plus Margie Gould, Don Liebich, Rebecca Waycott

The good news is that three of the above have concluded their 2020 relationships and thus are currently available for new matches – Sabrina Roblin, Maryanne Whitcomb and Don Liebich. Please speak with either Jonah Kendall or Kathleen Bean to explore further any interest you might have in receiving care – or – in serving as a Stephen Minister in the coming year. If a small group expresses willingness, a new training class may be conducted in 2021, via a means that is determined to be both safe, effective, and rewarding.

Taizé

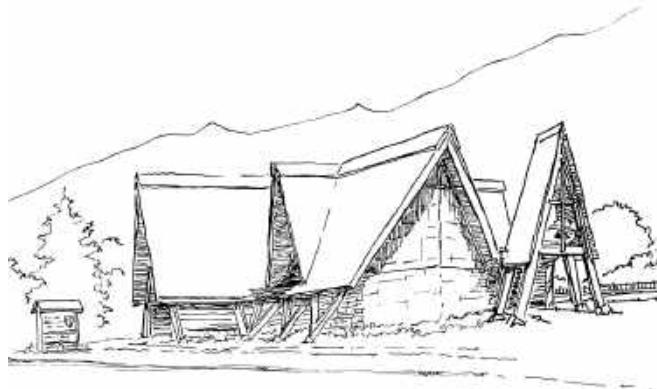
by Maryanne Whitcomb and Rev. Kathleen Bean

As with all the traditional services at St. Thomas during the pandemic, the beloved Taize service (first held at St. Thomas in 1994) was adapted creatively in 2020 to make it available online. During earlier live in-person services, held Wednesday evenings in Winter at 5:30 PM, each person would be given a lighted votive candle to hold throughout the service and then return to the altar before leaving the sanctuary in silence. This Fall, the staff and a small group of laypersons, met, safely distanced, to record and film the several elements of Taize worship: prayers, psalms, and Taize style musical chant. The resultant service, which included a silent meditation, was visually quite stunning and received enthusiastic reviews by many in attendance.

One of the advantages of the on-line presentation – both on Facebook and the church website – was that attendance broadened considerably, growing from an average of 18-20 in earlier years to more than triple that number this year. Not only were St. Thomas members able to attend from home, but several friends and family, outside the area, heard about it on social media and joined in the worship. Another plus, because the services remained live each week, numerous people were able to view the service at a day and time more convenient for them - with some even viewing more than once in a week. Attendees were encouraged to assemble a small altar at home to enhance the experience, and, it is learned, that many enjoyed doing so. The last Taize service in 2020 was on December 16th. Services resume on January 6th, weekly through February 10th of the new year.

LOOKING FORWARD 2021 - The hope of the committee is that Taize worship can return in-house to the sanctuary next Winter. However, ways will be explored to continue to make it available to homebound, non-residents, and members of other congregations - continuing to heighten the broader reach that was established via the virtual presentation this Winter.

St. Thomas Episcopal Church



Bishop	The Rt. Rev. Brian Thom
Rector	The Rev. M. Jonah Kendall
Associate Rector	The Rev. Kathleen Bean
Vestry Officers	Rebecca Waycott, Senior Warden Brad Musbach, Junior Warden Tom Benson, Treasurer Judi Fuller, Clerk
Additional Vestry Members	Laurie Ahern, Alison Burpee, Art Dahl, Lisa Leach, Helen Morgus, Tim Price, Sabrina Roblin
Administration	Joel Bejot, Music Director and Organist Judi Fuller, Parish Administrator Sara Gorby, Children, Youth & Family Director & Playhouse Education Director Liz Hickey, Children's Ministry Coordinator Brett Moellenberg, Playhouse Managing Director and Electronic Media Coordinator

ST. THOMAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

201 SUN VALLEY ROAD PO Box 1070
SUN VALLEY IDAHO 83353
(208) 726-5349

admin@stthomassunvalley.org
www.stthomassunvalley.org - www.stthomasplayhouse.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/StThomasSunValley