

Subject: Alice Cooper & Schools out...

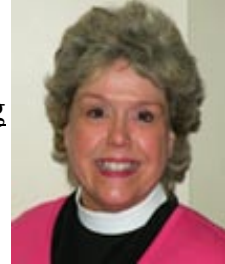
St. Thomas
Episcopal Church
Founded 1938

*We are a spiritual community
in an academic environment.
We seek to be family
to a mobile and dynamic community.*

for SUMMER!!!

Sabbath---Not just for Sundays

Wayne Muller writes in his wonderful book, Sabbath: Restoring the Sacred Rhythm of Rest, "Prayer is like a portable Sabbath, when we close our eyes for just a moment and let the mind rest in the heart. [W]e can be stopped by a bell, a sunset, a meal, and we can pray." But, I would add, first we have to allow space in our lives to be stopped by that bell, sunset, or meal. I am preaching to myself here as well my friends!



Surely there is no culture on earth busier than Americans! Lives full of work, family, school responsibilities and activities piled on top of activities. We have access to news and weather twenty-four hours a day. Our technology makes it possible to trick ourselves into thinking we are "multi-tasking" when really what we are trying to do is fill our daily hours with too much.

In such a frenzied life it is easy to lose the meaning of Sabbath and deep rest. And when we lose an understanding of Sabbath, time set apart to be still, it's easy to lose the "communion power" of prayer too.

If we see prayer as something more than just asking God for things we want, then we can begin to re-claim the deep Sabbath notion of prayer. For in prayer what we really are after is relationship, communion with God. And, like in any relationship, we must spend time with the other. We must listen more than we talk! We must, "let the mind rest in the heart." Allow yourselves to be stopped this day. Begin a practice now of taking time just to be. Taking time to breathe deeply and let the presence of God wash over you and give you Sabbath time, even on a random weekday!

Peace,
The Rev. Rhoda S. Montgomery

What's New this Summer

People

St. Thomas has many new faces in our parish today. Many of these newcomers say they choose to attend St. Thomas because of the "kindness and welcoming nature of St. Thomas!" We would like to welcome with a BIG Howdy to the family of Brandy & John Stuart, Pamela Stewart, Erik & Katy Scott, Drew & Sarah Schneider, Bob Schiffauer, Molly Ralls & children, Jason & Patty Pulnik, Franco & Janet Marcantonio and family, Paula Harper, Bess McDowell, Craig & Kelli Hollinger and family, Claire Odom, John Dougan, Ben & Mackie Bobo White, Marycela Baron and any others that choose to attend....WELCOME!!!

St. Thomas Camp!

Not Sunday School, but St. Thomas Camp during Sunday School time slot (9:30 am-10:15 am)...Rhoda has hired some College Girls to be our "Episcopals" and help with the children this summer, but need a parishioner (with Safeguarding!) to help guide these new helpers...you don't have to be a parent of these youngster! Some ideas for St. Thomas camp could be....do a craft with the children, play on the playground, watch a video with them in Youth Room, play games, dance, whatever you would like to do to entertain them, thus giving parents an opportunity to attend the Adult Classes. Please contact the church office or sign up in church narthex bulletin board if you're willing to help.

ONE SERVICE

July 3rd @ 10:30, as we celebrate and honor the police and firemen and women of BCS...potluck luncheon following.

It's Music to our Ears....

We've always felt that music is a wonderful way to worship in church. Choir members, instrumentalists and soloists get to worship in weekly practice as well as during Sunday services. We are an extension of the musical collaboration between our rector, Rhoda Montgomery, and our choir director/organist, Bonnie Harris-Reynolds, and we aid the congregation in their singing.

Through generations of prayerful choices by clergy and church musicians, we have a wealth of beautiful music in our Hymnals. From medieval to contemporary eras, all the great composers, as well as those of lesser renown, wrote - and write - church music for every part of Christian life and the church liturgical year, from settings of Scripture to hymns of praise. Anthems and Mass settings add to the riches.

When Bonnie Harris-Reynolds suggested the addition of a Zimbelstern to the organ at St.Thomas Episcopal Church in memory of my late husband, Zoltan J. Kosztoinyik and Beth Hostetler's husband, Robert L. Hostetler, we felt it was a wonderful opportunity. This set of bells makes music of a happy style even more sparkling and brings joy to children and adults alike.

The Zimbelstern is indeed a joyous, delightful sounding addition to our music program at St. Thomas! Grateful thanks to Penelope, and to Beth Hostetler and her children, Renee and Gregg, for this generous and joyful gift to St. Thomas! We will enjoy the magical sounds of our enchanting Zimbelstern for many years to come, and each time we hear it, we'll be thinking of Zoltan and Bob, both of whom were great music lovers and supporters in our community!



SUMMER DREAMING.....

From book study, to workshop opportunity to Vacation Bible Camp there are lots of ways to explore how God can speak to us through our dreams.

Thursday evenings at 6:30 Lesley Johnson leads a book discussion on Natural Spirituality: Recovering the Wisdom Tradition in Christianity. The group meets in the library on the 2nd floor of the ministry center. Contact Lesley for more information: lesleylynnjohnson@gmail.com

June 11, Early Summer Night's Dream - a workshop on Dreams and Christian Spirituality at St. Andrew's featuring our own Aneya Elbert.

St. Andrew's, 9-noon. We have two wonderful guest speakers: The Rev. John Price of Palmer Memorial in Houston will present ways a person can find meaning to one's dreams. And, Aneya Elbert of St. Thomas, an experienced facilitator, will lead a guided labyrinth walk. The event is free, lunch will be provided following the workshop. RSVP to office@standrewsbcs.org, 822-5176 by June 7th.

Vacation Bible Camp June 20 to 24th at St. Thomas...DREAMS AND THE SAGA OF JOSEPH. JOIN US NIGHTLY FOR ADULT AND CHILDREN LESSONS AND ACTIVITIES. Dinner is served nightly at 5:30-6:15 pm. To register please go to [VBC Registration Form 2011](#) and it should take you to the form; otherwise, there are plenty of forms in the church narthex.

Joyful Spring at St. Thomas



DATES to Remember

Freaky Friday on June 3rd from 11:30-1:00 at U Paint It with Rev. Rhoda
\$15 (scholarships are available) includes Chick-Fil-A lunch and pottery item to paint
All kids welcome and a few creative parents to help! Contact Rev. Rhoda or the church office to sign up or for more information

June 4th-Safeguarding God's People with Thom Holt...for all those who work one-on-one with adults.

June 15th-Jordan Smith, our new youth director, arrives.

June 17th-Freaky Friday @ Gatti-town at 11:30....join Rev. Rhoda and Jordan Smith. All rising 5th through 12th graders are invited to join our new youth minister Jordan Smith and Rev. Rhoda at Gatti Town Friday June 17th 11:30 to 1:30. Pizza! Games! Fun! Cost is \$5 (five) . Please call or email the church office to sign up.

June 20th-24th-Vacation Bible Camp



June 26th-St. Cecilia Consortium concert 7:30 @ St. Thomas

JULY 3rd-"Independence Day Celebration!" ONE SERVICE @ 10:30 honoring policeman and fireman from Bryan College Station....followed by a potluck lunch after church and activities during the Sunday School hour for the entire Parish. Families and their kids will participate in this together.

July 29th-Aug 2-Youth Mission trip to feed and help those in need in the greater Houston area.

[Forward email](#)