



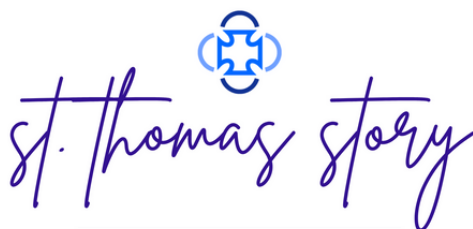
Seasons

at

ST. THOMAS



PET BLESSING 2019



WE ALL HAVE A STORY.
WHAT'S YOURS?



ALL SAINTS SUNDAY 2012

THE ST. THOMAS STORY

Did you know that the St. Thomas nave and chapel were built in 1972? The beautiful spaces where we worship were consecrated on October 1, 1972, a half-century ago.

Some among us were present that day and have been part of everything St. Thomas has done since then.

Many from that 1972 congregation have moved to other places or gone to glory. They are part of the past but also part of the present, for they laid the foundation for who we are today.

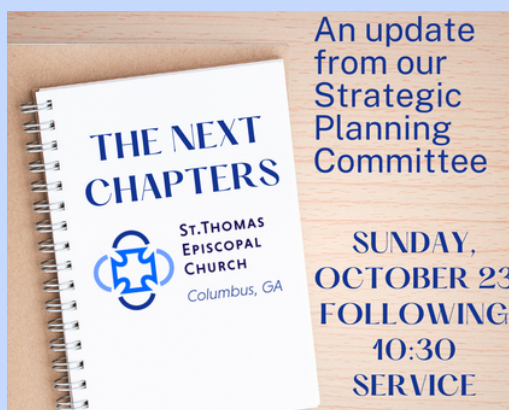
Most of us have joined since then. We are part of the present but also part of the future, for our actions in this time determine who St. Thomas will be for years to come.

We are celebrating the St. Thomas story over the next few months - all that has been, all that is now, all that we hope will be, and all that God desires that is beyond our vision. We invite you to hear the story, tell the story, and help us continue the story.

Thank you for being part of the St. Thomas Story!

Blessings,
Grace

The Next Chapters: An update from our Strategic Planning Committee



Join us for a BBQ lunch (prepared by the St. Thomas men's group) and a presentation about the work of our Strategic Planning Committee. The committee consists of former vestry wardens and treasurers. They were charged at our Annual Meeting in January with exploring staffing and programming needs to support the continued growth of the congregation, finding ways to make our campus more accessible to all, and examining our overall stewardship of our property. They will share some frameworks that have grounded their discussions and some ideas that this process has generated. Let us know you're coming using the QR code in this newsletter, on our website at stthomascolumnbus.org/upcoming-events, or by contacting the church office. Childcare provided during the meeting.

WORSHIP

MANY VOICES

October 2 - Rev. Grace

October 9 - Rev. Cindy Cox Garrard

October 16 - Rev. Roxane Gwyn

October 23 - Rev. Meg Olive-Allison

Sermons in October



Sermons in October: *Many Voices*

We'll hear from different preachers throughout the month of October (while Rev. Grace takes some time off).

The Hope to Which We Are Called

CELEBRATING
ALL SOULS & ALL SAINTS



The Commemoration of the Faithful Departed (All Souls)

Wednesday, November 2,
5:30 pm

Join us in the columbarium (or chapel in case of rain) for a brief Eucharist in thanksgiving for all who have come before us in the faith. We will read aloud the entire necrology and bless the ground of the columbarium.

Remembering the Faithful Departed

One of our customs at St. Thomas is to remember in this season those who have gone before us in the faith. To add a name to our necrology (a list of names of those who have died), please complete the form on the website or email to office@stthomascolumnbus.org by Friday, October 28. We will read all of these names aloud on Wednesday, November 2 at the 5:30 All Souls Eucharist and on Sunday, November 6 at the 8:30 All Saints' Sunday Eucharist. We will read the names of those who died in the last year at the 10:30 Eucharist. Names added do not have to be members of St. Thomas.

Confirmation and Reception into the Episcopal Church

Sunday, December 11, 4 pm at the Cathedral of St. Philip
Sunday, January 22, 3 pm at St. Thomas

When you join St. Thomas as a member, we also invite you to take the next step and be either confirmed or received by our bishop. *Baptism* makes us Christian. *Confirmation* marks a mature, public commitment to the vows of baptism. *Reception* is for those who were confirmed previously in another tradition but now desire to be part of the Episcopal Church. In these liturgies, our bishop prays for the Holy Spirit to work within you, and we celebrate that we are all part of an Episcopal community that is larger than St. Thomas. The St. Thomas Choir will sing at a service for the whole Diocese on Sunday, December 11 at the Cathedral of St. Philip in Atlanta. We invite all to be part of that service, even if you've been confirmed or received before. We will carpool together. Or, if you prefer not to go to Atlanta, Bishop Wright will join us here on January 22 at 3 pm for a service for congregations in this region. Fill out the form online to let us know which service you plan to attend.



The St. Thomas Story: Fall 2022 Pledge Campaign

Join us throughout November as we celebrate the St. Thomas Story and consider how we will support the work of the congregation in 2023. Pledge packets will be distributed *November 13* and mailed *November 14*. Please return pledge cards by *November 27*, the first Sunday in Advent. Join us for a Thanksgiving Dinner on November 20 to give thanks for all of God's gifts, including the gift of St. Thomas.

St. Thomas Choir

The St. Thomas Choir is thrilled to be back at full force and singing during the 10:30 worship service.

Rehearsals are on Wednesday evenings at 6:45 and Sundays at 9:30. No audition required. Happy to welcome new participants.



FORMATION & FELLOWSHIP



Pet Blessings

Saturday October 1 at 4 pm
Red Frame Stage at Lakebottom Park
&

Sunday, October 2 from 1 to 2 pm
Drive up at St. Thomas Episcopal Church

All creatures and people welcome!



Pet Blessings

Two options this year:
Saturday, October 1
Outside at 4 pm

Bring a chair or blanket and join us outside at 4 pm at Lakebottom Park at the red frame stage on the south side. We'll have a brief service of prayer and thanksgiving, after which our clergy will bless pets and their families. Then stay for a concert in the park at 5 pm organized by Donna Dooley. See below for more info.

Sunday, October 2
Drive up from 1 to 2

For pets and people who prefer to stay in the car, drive up from 1 to 2 on Sunday under the St. Thomas Day School awning.

At both blessings, all pets will receive a St. Francis medal. Pet and human treats will also be shared!

Tiny Stage Concert

Saturday,
October 1, 5 pm
Red frame stage
in Lakebottom
Park



St. Thomas member Donna Dooley has organized a series of tiny stage concerts at Lakebottom this year, supported by Midtown, Inc. The next, on October 1, features St. Thomas parishioners Tristan Dempsey, cello, and Delilah Farrow, vocals, as well as other musicians. Bring a chair, blanket, and snacks if you like and enjoy beautiful music outside. Or come to the Pet Blessing and then stay for the concert.

ALSO STREAMED ON THE SCHWOB FACEBOOK AND YOUTUBE CHANNELS

Schwob Philharmonic

Paul Hostetter
The Ethel Foley Distinguished Chair for Orchestral Activities

OCTOBER 2, 2022 AT 4:00PM
LEGACY HALL,
RIVERCENTER FOR THE ARTS



Harris:
Swift Currents and Eddies (World Premiere) Celebrating the Barbara C. and Clifford J. Swift III Director's Chair

Wienlawski:
Concerto for Violin No. 2
Dexter Mott, violin

Falla:
Three Cornered Hat, Suite No. 2
Enluis Montes Olivar, conductor

Korngold:
Violin Concerto in D major
Sicong Chen, violin

Tchaikovsky:
Romeo and Juliet Overture/Fantasy



supported Historic Columbus and the Columbus Museum so that future generations would not forget our history. They established an endowed scholarship for string instrument students at the Schwob School of Music in 2015. Through the establishment of this endowed faculty chair the Swifts have ensured the Schwob School will always have the exceptional leadership it needs to flourish as one of the top tier music schools in the country. They also gave a generous gift to St. Thomas last year which launched our strategic planning process focused on helping St. Thomas thrive for years to come.

As part of this performance, Dr. Scott Harris, Director of the Schwob School, composed a world premiere overture/fanfare entitled *Swift Currents and Eddies*, a wonderfully fun and bright work full of energy. St. Thomas parishioner, Paul Hostetter will conduct the Schwob Philharmonic. Join the community to say thank you to Bobsie, remember Clifford, and enjoy some beautiful music.

Thanksgiving Dinner

Sunday, November 20, 5 pm

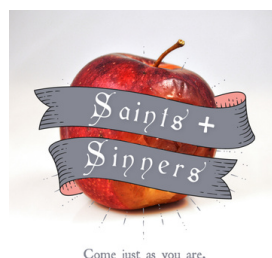
This beloved tradition returns! Join us for a St. Thomas Thanksgiving Dinner to give thanks for God's many blessings. Seth will prepare turkey, dressing, sides, and dessert, plus a vegan option. We will share a liturgy of thanksgiving around our tables. No Wednesday Eucharist or Wednesday activities on November 23 in honor of the Thanksgiving holiday.



Saints & Sinners Resumes!

Now on 1st THURSDAYS

Join Saints & Sinners for a brief Eucharist, fellowship, and potluck lunch on Thursday October 6 at 11:15. Following Eucharist at 11:30, the group will share a potluck lunch in the Parish Hall following the service. Bring a dish to share! Everyone is welcome to join!



FORMATION & FELLOWSHIP



Challenges WE Face as a part of the Worldwide Anglican Communion

Sundays, 9:30 - 10:15 am, Library & on Zoom

WE are part of the worldwide Anglican Communion – over 85 million of us in more than 165 countries. What challenges do WE face as we deal with

ministry in and around Columbus, yet part of that much larger family?

The structure for this series is provided by a set of “Calls” – basically “Challenges” – considered at the Lambeth Conference, July 26-August 8 this year, involving 650+ Bishops from the Anglican Communion. The Lambeth Calls propose the Anglican Communion’s agenda of concerns for the coming decade – and it is wide-ranging! Our focus in this series is what this might look like in the life and ministry of St. Thomas Church in the greater Columbus area.

Coming up:

- 9/25 - Rev. Grace: Overview of the Anglican Communion
- 10/2 - Rev. Grace: The Challenges of Anglican Identity and of World Mission & Evangelism
- 10/9 & 10/16 - Denny Clark: The Challenges of Human Dignity (including issues of sexuality & gender) and of Safe Church
- 10/23 - Brian Schwartz: The Challenges of Science & Faith and of Environment & Sustained Development
- 10/30 - Gayla Tillman from GIPL (Georgia Interfaith Power & Light): Responding in Georgia to the Challenge of Environment & Sustained Development
- 11/6 - The Challenge of Discipleship
- 11/13 - Denny Clark: The Challenges of Christian Unity and of Inter-Faith Relations
- 11/20 - The Challenge of Reconciliation (especially relating to Racial Reconciliation)

St. Thomas Book Group

Friday, September 30, 11 am, Library

The discussion will focus on *In the Year of the Boar and Jackie Robinson* by Bette Bao Lord. This charming book is the story of an immigrant child in the 1940's and the way that baseball, the Brooklyn Dodgers, and the great Jackie Robinson help her to adjust to life in her new home, the United

States of America. We will also discuss our plans for a Zoom call with author Julia Spencer-Fleming, on Thursday, October 13, in the St. Thomas library at 2 pm.

Although we will not meet in November, we do plan to meet in early December, date and time to be announced. The book that we will discuss is *The Christmas Letters* by Lee Smith.

We are making plans for gathering in January, 2023. We will also participate in The Big Read sponsored by the Chattahoochee Valley Public Library in February.

The Saint Thomas Little Library

The Little Library is located in the rear of our campus near the entrance to the Wynnton Neighborhood Network. This small structure contains books donated by members of our church, as well as friends and patrons of the WNN. The library offers books at no charge. Anyone interested may take a book or books home to read. We appreciate a return of the books, but that is not necessary if one wishes to use the Little Library. The box contains novels and works of nonfiction, as well as children's books and Bibles. Some are new books; others are previously owned. The Little Library is sponsored by the Saint Thomas Book Group and we encourage donations of books in good condition. Everyone is welcome to enjoy the Saint Thomas Little Library.

Anyone with questions regarding the Saint Thomas Book Group and/or The Little Library may contact Sonya Boyd.



St. Thomas Excursions

A new offering
led by Rev.
Roxane Gwyn

Two opportunities
this fall for us to
gather, learn, and
enjoy!

**Food Mill
Tuesday
October 11
at noon**

Meet at The Food Mill in Columbus for a delicious healthy lunch and a presentation about this multifunctional food pharmacy that is working to eliminate barriers leading to food insecurity and diet-related illnesses in our community. Sign up online or with Rev. Roxane by October 3 to order your meal.

**Step Afrika! at
RiverCenter
Saturday
November 19
at 7:30 pm**

This performance blends modern dance styles, art forms, percussive music, songs, storytelling, humor, as well as audience participation. *Step Afrika!* is one of the top ten African-American dance companies in the US. Sign up online or contact Roxane by October 16 to receive our group discount.

FORMATION & FELLOWSHIP



Wednesday Evenings

Simple Eucharist in the Chapel usually celebrating the saint of the day	5:30
Dinner Served in Parish Hall (RSVP by Monday evening.) Boxed meals available on the buffet after 6:15.	5:30-6:15
Children's Activities	6:15-7:15
Youth Activities	6:15-7:15
Prayers Around Tables	6:20
Journey Groups One group for parents ends at 7:15.	6:30-7:30 OR 6:30-7:15
St. Thomas Choir Practice	6:45-8:30

Wednesday Activities Continue

through November 16

Note from Seth in the Kitchen: This season brings many things to look forward to in the kitchen including Wednesday dinners, beet pesto pasta, pumpkin alfredo, and my homemade meatloaf. We'll also have a one-of-a kind cookie creation at the Pet Blessings and a Thanksgiving Dinner with turkey, dressing, and fixings.



Ministry Scheduler Pro

Meg is looking forward to rolling out this scheduling tool at St. Thomas. Beginning in October we will use this tool to schedule many of our server and volunteer positions at St. Thomas including Vergers, Acolytes, LEMs, Pew Card volunteers, WNN Shoppers, and more! Look for instructions from Meg soon on how this will work and look forward to a smoother process for scheduling!



St. Thomas Pictorial Directory

Coming soon! We're waiting on the last bit of pricing info from the local printer and we can't wait to share this directory with you. Look for a link soon to order your directory online!



My St. Thomas Story Videos

We are planning a video project later this year to help share the St. Thomas story more widely, and we need your help. Use your smartphone's camera to shoot a short video. Aim for 30-45 seconds per question. Answer just one or all three!

- How does St. Thomas help you love God?
- How does St. Thomas help you feel loved and love others?
- How do you learn and serve?

Scan the QR code for tips on filming. Contact the church office if you'd like someone to film you!



St. Thomas Men's Group

St. Thomas Men's Group plans to gather this fall for food, drinks, and fellowship. Dates coming soon! To connect with this group, contact Paul Hostetter and look for announcements in our email newsletter.



Safeguarding God's Children

Safeguarding is an important training to protect children, youth, and our church family as a whole. Children and youth volunteers are required to complete Safeguarding God's Children. Lay Eucharistic Visitors, Vestry, and staff are required to complete Safeguarding God's People. Each training is completed in 2 parts: (1) online modules which you can complete at home on your own time and (2) a virtual workshop with diocesan leadership on a scheduled day and time. The upcoming workshops are listed below. Contact the office or look for the link to register in our newsletter or on the QR code.

- Safeguarding God's Children Training via Zoom - Tuesday October 18, 6:30-8:30 pm
- Safeguarding God's People Training via Zoom - Saturday, October 22, 10 am - noon



QR CODE!

Use the camera on your smart phone to scan the QR code to sign up for events.

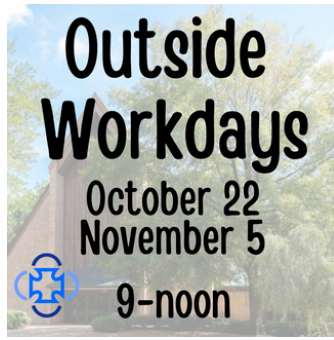
SERVE



Help the Hooch Cleanup Day

Saturday, October 1, 8:30-11:30

We are looking for 20 people to help clean-up Lakebottom Park as part of this community-wide clean up day. Wear a St. Thomas t-shirt if you have one. Sign up at on our website to let us know you're coming. Families welcome!



St. Thomas Work Days

Saturday, October 22 and November 5 9 to noon

Join our property committee for a couple mornings of outdoor work. There are jobs for all ages and abilities. Many hands make light work!



Striving for Justice - CVEM

4th Sundays from 6:30 to 8 pm on Zoom

Every month on the 4th Sunday, CVEM hosts "Striving for Justice," a virtual conversation about a timely issue of justice. Conversations center around a particular film/video available to all with internet access. Find info about how to register for the conversation at cvemjubilee.org/racial-justice/. September begins a look at immigration issues.



WYNNTON NEIGHBORHOOD NETWORK

WNN Food Pantry

WNN has seen a tremendous increase in the numbers of households seeking food assistance, up 23% over the previous year. Utility assistance is also up 26% over the previous year. We are grateful for all of the volunteers who serve, shop, and donate to support this ministry.

Sadly, while demand for food is up, supplies of surplus and government food are down. As a result, WNN is relying more heavily than in the past on shopping and donations of food.

October is one of the months when St. Thomas provides extra assistance for WNN. Grocery carts will be in the narthex all month. Please fill them with cereal, soup, canned meats, canned fruits and vegetables, pasta, peanut butter - anything you can find and share.

WNN Unity Service

St. Paul's UMC November 13, 6 pm

Join volunteers and supporters of Wynnton Neighborhood Network for a celebration of our unity and service together. An offering will be received to support the work of the Network.

Floating Classroom Field Trip

Saturday, October 22, 1:45-4 pm

West Point Lake (4418 Roanoke Road in LaGrange)

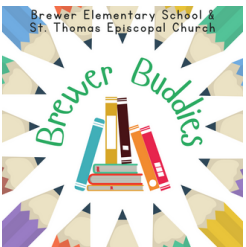
Take a fall boat ride and learn about our Georgia watershed on "Miss Sally," a floating classroom. This event is sponsored by Chattahoochee Riverkeepers and Georgia Interfaith Power and Light. Up to 35 people can attend. Lifejackets are provided. Sign up at stthomascolumnbus.org. If you'd like to make a \$15 contribution to cover the cost, you may do so when you register. Directions will be sent once you sign up. Families welcome!



Brewer Reading Buddies

Tuesdays in October, 9-10 am

Brewer Reading Buddies begins a new year of reading with first grade students at Brewer Elementary on October 4. Volunteers are invited to come read for one or two thirty minute blocks. To sign up contact Meg in the church office or use the QR code to let us know you're interested in learning more.



Brewer Partnership

St. Thomas is hosting a table of 8 for the Chamber of Commerce Partnership in Education (PIE) Kickoff Event on October 6. Margo Easterbrook, Lisa Herring and Martha Mullinax will be joining Principal Pat Woodall and other Brewer Partners for the Breakfast Program.

EAST CARVER HEIGHTS

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Boxwood Soccer started its 8th season this fall and is fielding four teams. Check the Friday "Celebrations & Sorrows" email from the church office for soccer schedules and cheer on the teams when you can!

Path to Shine matches students who need help with reading and math with trained volunteer mentors who meet weekly during the school year. For more information on becoming a mentor, contact Lisa Herring. Snacks are also needed each week and are provided by volunteers.

Find out more about these ministries and more at eastcarverheights.org

EPISCOKIDS



Shine Time!



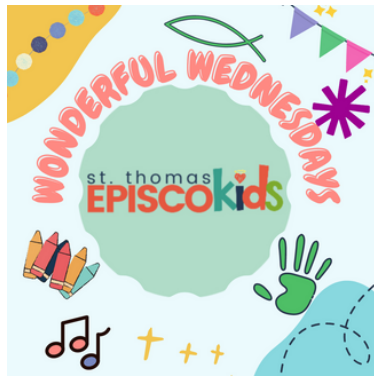
Sundays,
9:30 - 10:15



Shine Time Sundays

9:30-10:15 in children's rooms & outreach center Join Ms. Erin and friends each Sunday, for Shine Time! We gather in the Children's Wing for Bible Stories from Whirl Curriculum.

- 10/2: Deborah
- 10/9: Elijah and Elisha
- 10/16: Esther
- 10/23: Daniel
- 10/30: Jonah
- 11/6: All Saints Sunday
- 11/13: Sing to the Lord (Psalm 98)
- 11/20: Christ the King Sunday
- 11/27: First Sunday in Advent



Wonderful Wednesdays

Wednesdays, 6:15 - 7:15

October -

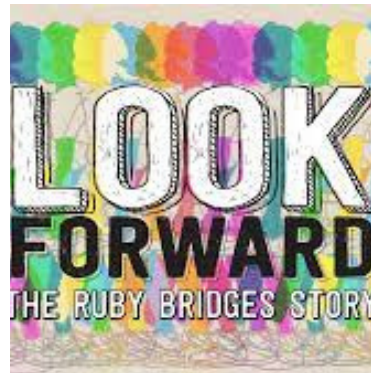
Rediscovering Episcopal Traditions: Episcokids 101

- 10/5: Old Testament and New Testament Stories
- 10/12: Baptism - Understand that we are welcomed into God's family, just like Jesus
- 10/19: Communion - Understand that we eat bread and drink wine, just like Jesus did
- 10/26: Promises - Explore promises that we made to God

November - Love Well On Purpose: Biblical Hospitality for Children

Our children were created in the image of God. God is love. Thus, even small children have the capacity to love well on purpose. Join us as we explore the ways that children can practice biblical hospitality with others.

- 11/2: Cookies In a Jar for friends and family
- 11/9: Decorate food donation bags for Wynnton Neighborhood Network Food Bank distribution
- 11/16: Blessings Party: Gratitude Activities that Give Back



Look Forward: The Ruby Bridges Story

Saturday, October 8, 11am, Springer Opera House

Join Ms. Erin and friends for a new play premiere about a true story featuring Ruby Bridges. She was an extraordinary 6-year-old who helped shape history when she became the very first African-American sent to first grade in an all-white school - changing America forever. Set in New Orleans in 1960, Ruby befriends students and teachers and lives out a faith that tells her to stand firm. Look at the world through Ruby's eyes and discover the true promise of America. Tickets can be purchased at springeroperahouse.org. All ages welcome!



Trunk or Treat

Sunday, October 30, 4-6 pm, front parking lot Get your Halloween costumes ready and invite your family, friends, and neighbors to join us for an evening of fellowship and trunk or treating. Prizes for costumes, decorated trunks and dressed up pets will be awarded. We will also be blessing costumes just in time for Halloween. Please bring canned food to donate as we fill carts for the Wynnton Neighborhood Network Food Pantry.

This annual gathering is fun for our entire church family and there are a variety of ways to participate. Children love visiting decorated car trunks and collecting candy in the Parish Hall parking lot. We need lots of cars participating so please consider signing up. You can find fun and easy decorated trunk ideas on Pinterest but don't feel like you have to even decorate! Your attendance, passing out candy and prizes is all that is required. No candy with peanuts or scary costumes please! If you are not able to attend Trunk or Treat and would like to donate candy, please drop it off in the donation basket in the church office. Be on the lookout for an online sign-up form!



Children's Chapel

Sunday morning, during 10:30 Sunday worship

Children are invited to follow the petite cross to the parlor before the Gospel reading. Chapel leaders offer the Gospel Lesson in a child-friendly atmosphere using *The Sunday Paper*. Children return for Holy Eucharist at the Peace.

YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS



116TH ANNUAL COUNCIL Youth Overnight @ Annual Council

November 11-12

Middle and high school students from across the Diocese of Atlanta are invited to an overnight event at Holy Innocents' Episcopal Church. We kick-off with dinner and games Friday night and conclude with a youth-led worship service Saturday morning. This is a chance to build friendships with youth from across the diocese. Taylor will provide transportation and chaperone.



WNN Service Night

November 16

In preparation for the holiday food distribution at WNN, the St. Thommies will pack grocery bags on November 16. We will meet in the Outreach Center after dinner. This service project may extend past our usual ending time of 7:15.

Columbus River Dragons Game

November 18, 7:30 pm

The St. Thommies join Trinity youth at the Columbus Civic Center to see the River Dragons face off against the Port Huron Prowlers. Email Taylor by November 4 to reserve a ticket.



Coffee Shop Talks

First Tuesdays, 6 pm

Join the St. Thomas Young Adults for Coffee Shop Talks the first Tuesday of each month at Iron Bank Coffee Co. where we will explore topics related to faith and the challenges young adults face today.



YACT Pumpkin Painting Party

October 22, 1 pm

Young Adults are invited to gather at St. Thomas for a Pumpkin Painting Party on Saturday October 22. Pumpkins and decorating supplies will be provided along with light refreshments. Join us for an afternoon of fall fun!

Young Couples Socials

Dating, engaged, or married couples in their 20s and 30s will gather each month for an evening of fellowship. Couples may host a gathering in their home or at a local restaurant. Contact Taylor if you'd like to host.

Taylor and Jeremy Mack will host the September Social at their home with a cookout and outdoor games.

Sunday Coffee Convos

9:30-10:15, Youth Room

Make sure to stop by the youth room Sunday mornings 9:30-10:15 for coffee, tea, and snacks. This is a time for youth to relax and socialize while engaging in thought-provoking conversation topics

Happening 76 at Camp Mikell

October 14-16

Happening is a renewal weekend designed for 9th - 12th graders and led by teen peers. This event brings together high school youth from across the diocese to talk about faith and share in the unconditional love of Jesus Christ. Taylor will provide transportation for those attending.



Wonderful Wednesdays for Youth

5:30-6:15 dinner,
6:15-7:15 activities

Join the St. Thommies each week for faith, fun, and fellowship. Each Wednesday is a little different. Youth have the opportunity to dive into thoughtful conversation about scripture and life, participate in community-building activities, and enjoy games in our youth room and courtyard.



Chattahoochee Valley EYC Night

October 19

On the third Wednesday of each month, youth from Trinity Episcopal Church and other parishes in the greater Columbus area will join the St. Thommies for a night of fellowship and fun. The teens will get to know each other with team building activities and thoughtful discussion. We want to build a strong Episcopal Youth Community in the Chattahoochee Valley Area.