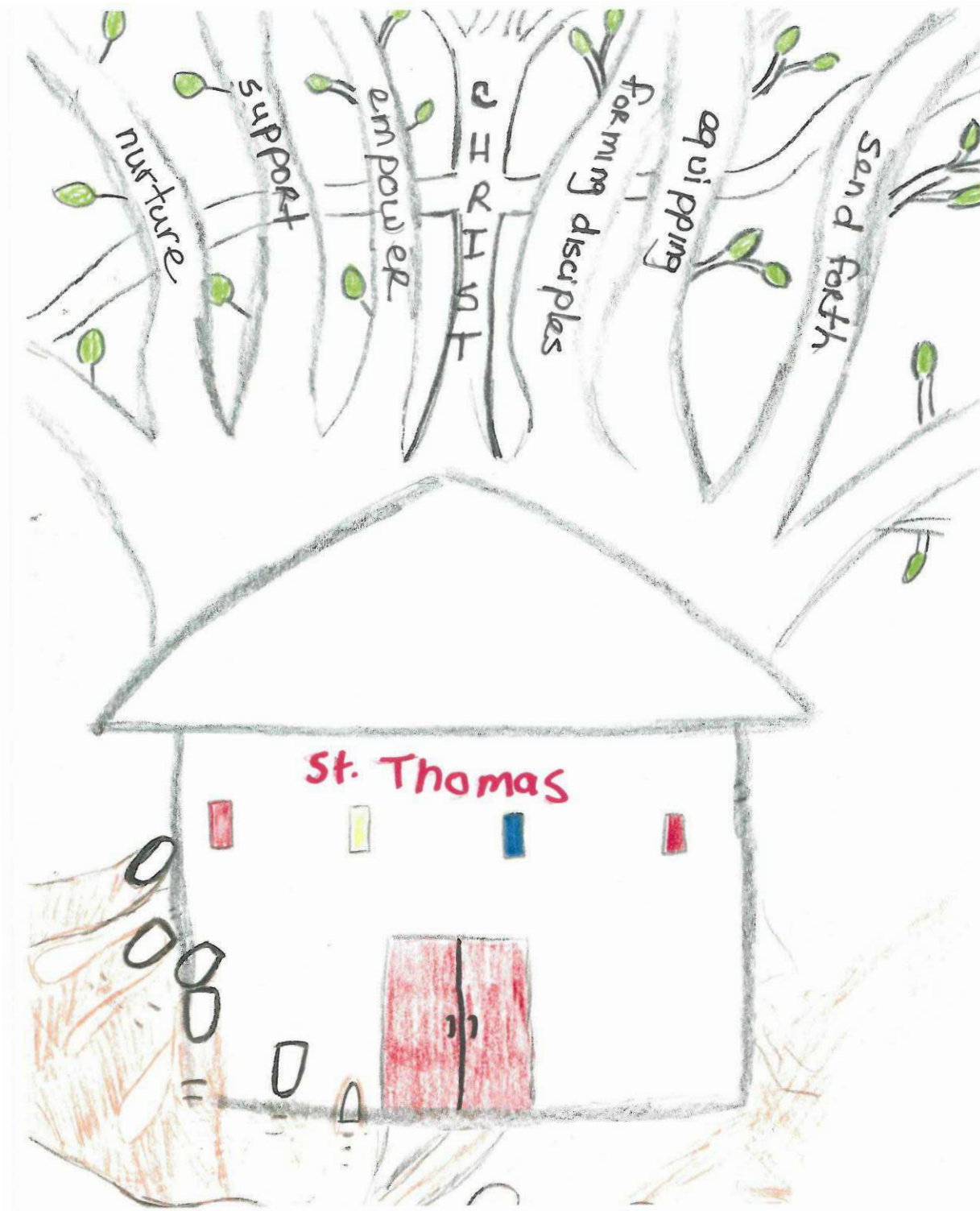




THE CANTERBURY TALES

Volume XXXX-XXII ST. THOMAS OF CANTERBURY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

May 2012



drawing by Lauren Lent



Friends,

This is an exciting time at St. Thomas! One obvious change is that we recently welcomed Fr. Mark into our community. But there are also a number of other things happening right now, too!

St. Thomas recently received a \$5,000 Meacham Fund grant from the diocese for congregational development! The grant program offered through the diocese is designed to help a project that fosters a congregation's identity and purpose, or the organizational dynamics that strengthen and further the church's mission. The diocese intends that the grant funds will be used as seed money for a new venture or expansion of a ministry that furthers the church's mission. At St. Thomas, our mission statement reads as follows: A faith community in the Episcopal tradition which nurtures, supports, and empowers the disciples of Jesus Christ.

As part of the grant program, members of vestry submitted a grant proposal to the diocese in February. The title of the grant proposal was "St. Thomas – Embracing our Mission" or "STEM." The rough-draft visual (shown on the front cover) was prepared by Lauren Lent, one of our teenage members, and submitted with the grant request. It depicts St. Thomas (being held by the hands of God) with a tree growing out of it. The bottom of the tree is our STEM (beginning to embrace our mission) with the branches being our mission and vision once they have taken root. Off of the branches are leaves which represent all of us going out into the world to serve as disciples of Christ.

Our hope is that the visual will help everyone at St. Thomas to inwardly digest our mission. Just as a stem nurtures, supports, and empowers the fruit and leaves of the tree, it is our mission at St. Thomas to nurture, support, and empower our tree's "fruit" and "leaves," namely, the disciples of Jesus Christ that we have formed.

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The \$5,000 grant that St. Thomas received was the maximum amount available under the Meacham Fund grant program. These funds have been placed in a separate account and will be used exclusively in connection with the STEM program. Although the funds must be used for the STEM program, we have some flexibility in the specific ways we spend the money in connection with the STEM program. We have not made final decisions on how those funds will be used. However, we have some general ideas. These include events to connect St. Thomas with the Greendale community, visuals that help promote our mission, teaching and learning about renewal, demographics research into local community of Greendale, and so on.

We have also created a new non-vestry position to oversee the function of congregational development. The Congregational Development (CD) liaison will be responsible for overseeing and measuring the success of our project and report back to leadership on where we are, how we are doing, and what our next steps need to be. The CD liaison will have a vision team to work with that will consist of the CD liaison, two members of vestry plus two members at large. The vision team will be responsible for designing and implementing processes to help the leadership and congregation open themselves to Scripture, to each other, and to God's voice, so that the people can take hold of the vision and live it. I am grateful to Liz Lent for agreeing to take on the new CD liaison role. Please join me in welcoming Liz to her new role at St. Thomas!

Dave Luetzgen, Senior Warden

Greendale 75th Anniversary

Like strolling down memory lane? The village of Greendale is publishing a special edition newspaper in celebration of their 75th Anniversary. St. Thomas has been a vital part of the community and we would like to be included in this edition! Share your memories of St. Thomas from 1988 til present. You can either write them down or just tell me.

Thanks! Mary Seppala





FINANCIAL REPORT

Income/Expense: March, 2012

Income \$ 9,939.22
Expense \$ 11,705.14
Deficit -\$ 1,765.92

Income/Expense: YTD 2012

Income \$39,047.48
Expense \$45,121.18
Deficit -\$ 6,073.70

Liability Accounts

Total Outstanding on Line of Credit: \$32,000.00
Total Outstanding on Diocesan Loan: \$27,001.21
Total Deficit: \$59,001.21

BL Yoga, LLC



Summer 2012

Yoga Schedule with Barb Labisch, RYT

BL Yoga, LLC (414) 305-8561

tlabisch@wi.rr.com

St. Thomas of Canterbury Church

7255 W. Grange

Greendale

Mondays: 7-8 pm

June 4th-July 9th 2012

(The fall session will begin Sept. 10th)

Cost: \$6/class

Buy a 10-class punch card for \$50!

Blocks and straps provided. Please bring your own mat.

~Namaste~

"May the spirit in me honor the spirit in you."



Celebrate
what matters 2012

Milwaukee, WI

OCT 5, 2012 TO OCT 6, 2012

You've never seen Women of Faith like this before!

We all experience good times and bad days, triumphs and tragedies. But no matter what life throws at you, this is what matters: God loves YOU. (Always has. Always will.) You're invited to be part of a very special celebration. Compelling stories, Bible-based teaching, world-class music, unstoppable inspiration, and a few surprises combine for an experience like no other. God loves you! And that means there is always a reason to celebrate.

Our soul waits for the LORD; He is our help and our shield. For our heart shall rejoice in Him, because we have trusted in His holy name. Psalm 33:20-21 NKJV

My friends and I from St Thomas will be attending for the third year. It has been great fun and has brought us closer to one another as a church community, as well as building stronger friendships. I strongly urge you to go to the website, www.womenoffaith.com and watch the video, see the line-up, and order your tickets! There are standard and premium seats, along with discounts for 10 or more people.

Bradley Center
1001 N Fourth Street
Milwaukee, WI 53203
Friday: 7pm – 10pm
Saturday: 9am – 5pm

Grandpa Dick Murdoch
with his 5 generations.





Outreach Agency for May/June

The outreach agency that is our focus for May and June is the Haiti Project. This is a Diocesan-based project supporting a partnership with the rural village of Jeannette, Haiti. The points below are taken from the website: <http://www.haitiproject.org/>

About the Haiti Project -- 90% of our budget goes to Haiti to help those in need -- especially those living in the small, rural village of Jeannette.



- **We are partners.** We are committed to working in partnership with St. Marc's Church in Haiti to reach out and help the community in Jeannette. Our goal is Haitian self-reliance.
- **We value education.** We are committed to helping Haitian teachers provide the best possible education at St. Marc's School.
- **We value people.** We are committed to finding a sponsor every student in Jeannette. Each student has one sponsor, and we encourage sponsors to develop a meaningful relationship.
- **We are responsive to the needs of the community.** We are committed to working with the people of Jeannette to have access to drinkable water, basic healthcare, sustainable food.

Keep informed: [Join our email newsletter](#) - Just 6 times a year. Topics include fighting hunger and poverty, clean drinking water, economic development, medical treatment and education in Haiti.

Diocese of Milwaukee - Haiti Project

804 E. Juneau Ave
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Project Coordinator:

Elizabeth van der Weide
elizabeth@haitiproject.org

Submitted by Joy Becker
Vestry Liaison to Outreach



Spring Cleaning? Remember Hope House!

We are continuing to collect new or gently used items for Hope House through the month of May. This is an agency that serves the homeless in Milwaukee, too, though its focus is mainly women and families, rather than men. (You can find out more about them via their website: www.hopehousemke.org/) In years past, we have collected bedding and towels for them, and they are still looking for these items. In addition, they are looking for items from their wish list, taken here from their website. If you have any of these items to donate, please place it in a bag and label it for Hope House, and place it in the bin in the closet in the Narthex.



Irons	Baby Diapers
Cleaning supplies	Alarm Clocks
Quart size plastic bags	Backpacks
Bath towels	Bus Tickets
Wash cloths	Gift Cards – Target, Walmart, Pick N Save, Payless, etc...
New pillows	Twin Size Sheets & Comforters
Men & Women's Deodorant	Toasters
Shampoo & Conditioner	Coffee Pots
Silverware	Coffee
Dishes	Acrylic Paints
Pots & Pans	Vegetable Seeds
Kitchen Towels	Single Serving Size Lunch Items
Tupperware	Flash Drives

A Message On Pastoral Care

Hi, I'm Joan Lamson, the Vestry Liaison for Pastoral Care at St. Thomas. I'd like to personally invite anyone interested in finding out what we're all about to contact Fr. Mark, or my co-chair committee people, Tammy Wyman and Liz Lent. We're excited about looking at new ways to better serve our church family at St. Thomas. We would also like to set up training for people interested in becoming Lay Eucharistic Visitors. This ministry keeps us in-touch with our home bound parishoners by visiting them and bringing them communion.



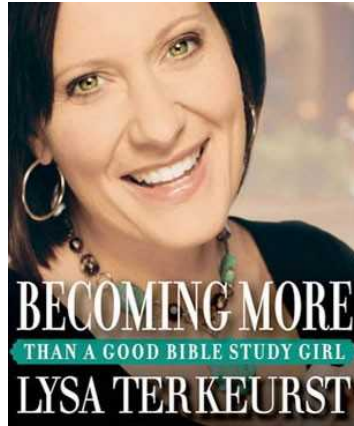
We look forward to hearing from you, and God Bless.

Thanks, Joan Lamson



Next Women's Bible Study...
Becoming More Than a Good Bible Study Girl

By Lysa Terkeurst



This is a 6 week session that will begin May 8th.
We are changing it up a bit and moving to Tuesday evenings for the first 3 sessions.

Mark your calendars for May 8, 15, and 29.

Those who participate will determine the final 3 dates to meet in June.

Participants will need to purchase the book and participants guide.

If you have any questions, please contact Gayle Radavich. 418-4717