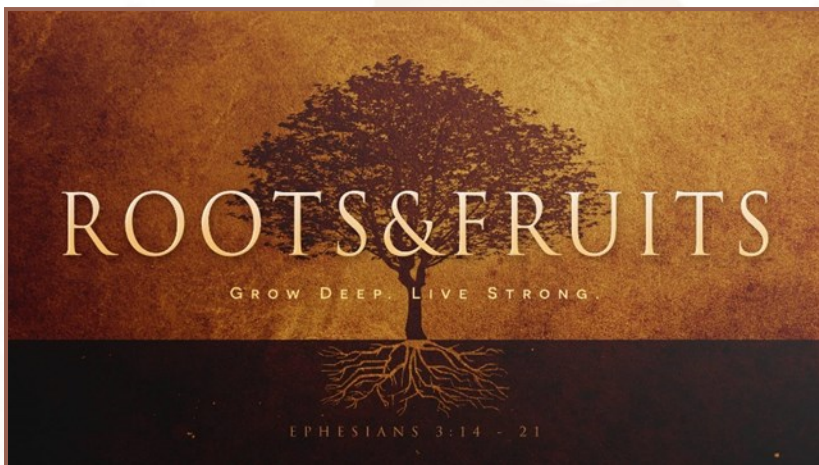


Triumph Newsletter

NOVEMBER 2021



God cares deeply about growing healthy church communities that nurtures our faith in Christ. In fact, much of the New Testament addresses life in and among the community of believers. As a church, is there anything better than seeing our people healthy, growing, and producing kingdom fruit? If this is true, then how do we get there?

Roots & Fruits is a 3-week sermon series designed to help answer these very questions. Please join Pastor Abi this month as we explore Ephesians 3:14 – 21 more deeply. Using the same agricultural imagery that Jesus so often used, our November Sermon Series will help you discover the process of discipleship that leads to a fruitful life in Christ. Let's grow deep and live strong together!

November 7

All Saints Sunday & Holy Communion*

Rooted in Christ

Ephesians 3:14 -21, Col. 2:6 – 7

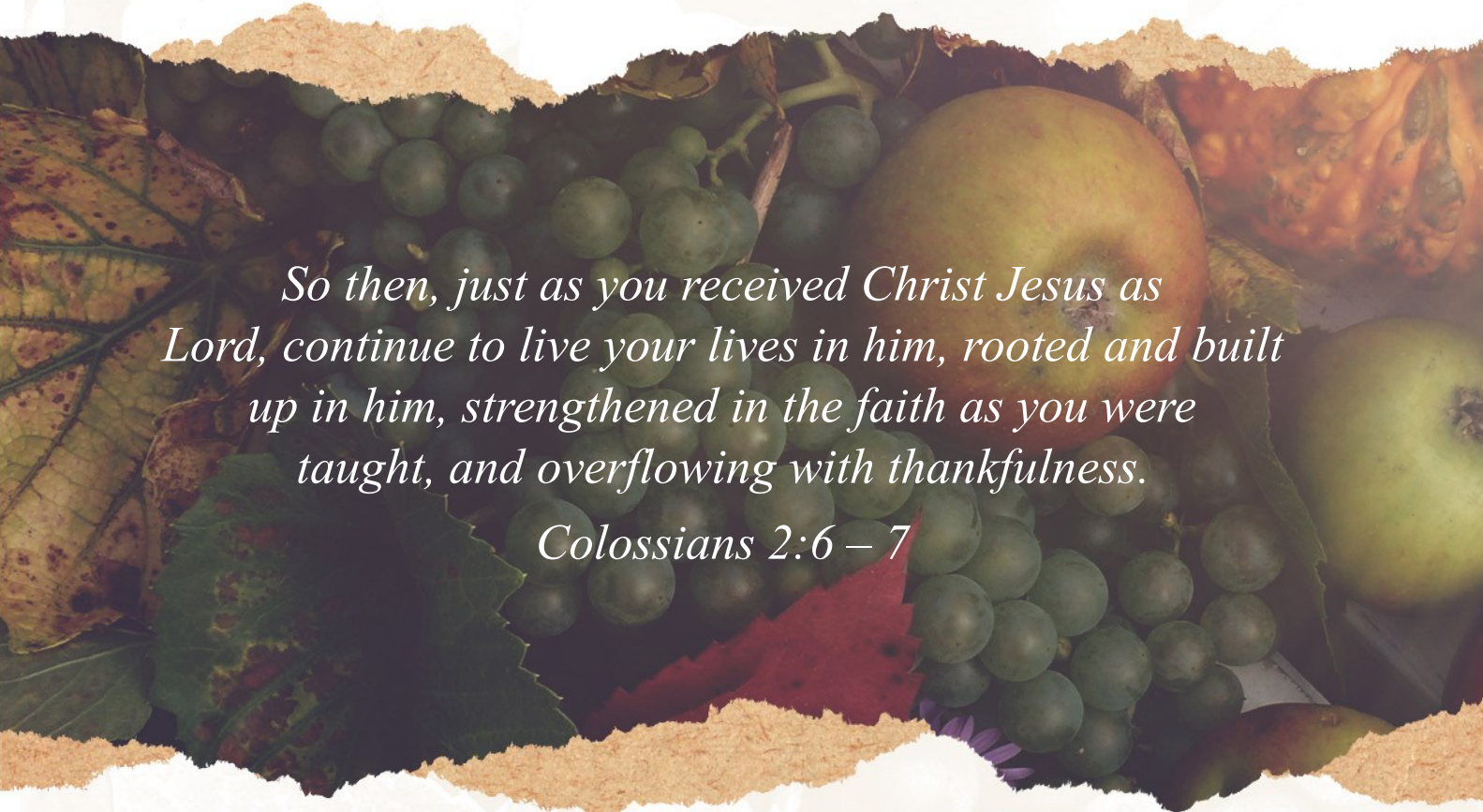
*Please remember to bring your "Greater Than" pledge card to worship. The congregation will have an opportunity to lay their sealed pledges on the altar when we come forward for Holy Communion.

November 14

Rooted in Community

Eph. 3:14 -21, Heb. 10:23 – 25

Beginning on Sunday, November 14 we will resume offering Holy Communion weekly at the 11:00 am service. Also, this Sunday marks the recognition of the Veteran's Day holiday on Thursday, November 11. A virtual display will be featured in our Narthex, special music during service, and appropriate decorations around the flag pole and main entrance.



So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.

Colossians 2:6 – 7

November 21

Celebrating a Year of Fruitful Ministry

Psalms 1:1 - 3, Habakkuk 3:17 – 19

Between services, we plan to host Charge Conference in Fellowship Hall with special treats to mark the last day of the Christian calendar and anticipate a new year of dynamic and vital ministry together. All are invited to attend, celebrate and give thanks for what God has accomplished through St. Thomas in 2021.

Thank You from Sudley Elementary

Sudley Elementary School

9744 Copeland Drive • Manassas, VA 20109

703.361.3444 • FAX 703.331.0316 • <http://sudleyes.pwcs.edu>

Kevin Conroy, Principal

Christopher Stone, Assistant Principal

September 24, 2021

Jhenny Michalek
St. Thomas Food Pantry
8899 Sudley Road
Manassas, VA 20110

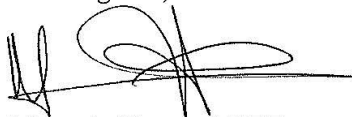
Dear Ms. Michalek,

On behalf of everyone at Sudley Elementary School and our families, we would like to thank you for your generosity and commitment to our community.

Some of our families struggle to meet basic needs and face hunger daily. A mom of one specific family, who we began supporting at the beginning of this school year and who had previously been served by another local pantry, was overcome with gratitude and happiness. She expressed immense appreciation after receiving several food baskets from your organization, over time, that have included fresh produce and dairy. She stated, "My kids love eating fresh fruit and it's been great having it for them to snack on, instead of processed food!" Another family stated, "I feel blessed having fresh vegetables to cut up to put in a healthy, home-cooked meal for my family." This is just a tiny view into the impact your food pantry and work are having on the lives of families in our community and we cannot thank you enough for your generous assistance.

Once again, we would like to express our gratitude. We are thankful for your partnership in helping families in need. Your generosity makes a real difference in the lives of our families.

Kind regards,



Manuela Hawes, MSW
School Social Worker

October Car Show & Sock Hop

Cars, Music, Food & Fun!




Thank you to Joe Steen for arranging a successful partnership with the Kena Shriners Car Club to host this great event!

Trunk or Treat 2021



Thanks to the Children and Youth Ministry teams and all our volunteers for a successful outreach event. We were able to welcome over 650 friends from our community!





*Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have,
for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.*

Hebrews 13:16

Endowment Giving

Barry Barger, Permanent Endowment Committee Chair

Our recent articles have focused on the four recognized categories of **Permanent Endowment Funds** (Missions Funds, Property Funds, General Endowment Funds and Scholarship Funds). Within these articles, there has been a consistent emphasis on the fund's income being used to support the needs, missions and ministries of our church. The income from the fund is always derived from the accumulation of appreciation, interest and dividends. We wish to share with you a success story of the use of endowment income.

Several years ago, Mike and Carolyn Keith established the General Donald R. Keith Endowment Fund to honor Mike's father. Last year this fund was repurposed by the Keiths so as to support SEMPER K9 Assistance Dogs, which trains rescue dogs at no cost to assist disabled service members who are in need. Recently, a distribution of income from the fund in the amount of \$4,000 was made to SEMPER K9 for the period from November 1, 2020 to April 30, 2021. Our committee, will shortly review the next distribution for May 2021 through October. General Keith's legacy will continue to bless others for many years to come.

We thank the Keiths for their generosity and applaud SEMPER K9 Assistance Dogs for their exceptional dedication to their work. We praise God that He has provided these resources!

Would you like to know more about **Endowment Fund** giving? Please contact me through the church office. I look forward to hearing from you!

May His peace and blessings be with you always!

United Methodist Women

Annual UMW Christmas Party

Save the Date: Friday, Dec 3rd for our annual Christmas Party. We are still finalizing details so stay tuned! As you start thinking about the Gift Exchange, this year, we are requesting that the gifts do not include food or items with a scent. Items should have a value of \$15 to \$20.

Virtual December Mini Bazaar – Online Nov 28 – Dec 13

Thank you for supporting our Virtual Bazaars in October and December, allowing us to continue our support of local and international missions including CareNet, ARC of Greater Prince William, Rising Hope UMC, our own Food Pantry and several Missionaries.

For our December bazaar, we are bringing back Christmas crafts and Peanut Brittle. There also may be a limited amount of RADA items still available.

To see the items available, Go to <https://photos.app.goo.gl/SRZkkLU7vdBy3PDJ6>

Click on the photos to enlarge and read the information. To place an order, email item number from photo to Chair.STUMW@gmail.com. We will respond with a pickup receipt. Curbside pickup will be from 5-6 pm on Tuesday, Dec 14th by the carport at the Parsonage House. Please have exact change for cash payments or make checks out to **St. Thomas UMW**. We will bring your order to your car.

RADA Cutlery Sales

With Christmas just around the corner, we have just what you need, from Pie Servers & Knives to Vegetable Peelers & Cutting Boards! Go to <https://radafundraising.com/?rfsn=4803461.2b654e> to access the UMW account. Alternatively, you can access the account at Radacultery.com/fundraising. Scroll to the very bottom of the page and select "Support a Fundraiser". Then enter "St. Thomas" and the "20110" zip code. Click on "St. Thomas UMW Women" to enter our order area. Either way will ensure that the STUMW receives credit for your purchase. There may also be a limited number of RADA items available to purchase through December's online bazaar.

*All proceeds go to missions.
We are blessed to be a blessing. Gen 12*

News from the Kitchen

We are thankful for our many volunteers who give their time and talents in helping us on Tuesdays. Whether you are picking up curbside or dining in we couldn't do it without them. Let's show our appreciation to them this month by saying thanks.

Our November menus are:

Nov. 2

Garden Salad

Bacon Cheeseburger

Cheese Curds

Seasoned Fries

Dessert: Bread Pudding w/ Vanilla Sauce

Kid's Entrée: Same as Adults

Cookie of the Month: Gingerbread

Nov. 9

Caesar Salad

Meat Lasagna

Mixed Veggies

Bubble Bread

Dessert: Cannoli

Kid's Entrée: Spaghetti and Meatballs

Cookie of the Month: Gingerbread

Nov. 16

Thanksgiving Feast

Roast Turkey

Mashed Potato/Gravy

Cornbread Stuffing

Green Beans

Rutabaga

Cranberry Sauce

Fresh Bread

Dessert: Pumpkin Pie

Kid's Entrée: Same as adult meal

Cookie of the Month: Gingerbread

Nov. 23

No Tuesday Night Dinner this week. Enjoy your Thanksgiving!

Nov. 30

Orange Chicken

Buttered Rice

Broccoli and Cheese

Cinnamon Roll

Dessert: Tapioca Pudding

Kid's Entrée: Corn Dog Nuggets

Cookie of the Month: Gingerbread

Please note that while we make every effort to serve the menu items listed each month there may be times when something is not available and we have to make a substitution.

We are looking forward to our 21st Christmas Day Dinner next month. We would like to invite you to look at our board beginning November 16th and see if there is something you could donate to help us with that meal.



Children's Ministry

Kristi Swanson

We have had a lot going on in the Children's Ministry! On the heels of Trunk or Treat, we are starting a new month with Grow Curriculum, the Tweens are kicking off the giving season by packing USDA food bags in the Food Pantry, and we are already gearing up for the Christmas season.

Advent Bags:

We will be offering one of my family's most treasured traditions starting November 14, Advent Bags. Bags will be distributed in Sunday School, Nursery, at SCC and will be available at the Welcome Desk. Every year we help many families have a more merry Christmas with these bags. For anyone who hasn't participated before, each family fills one bag with a variety of seasonal items as well as food and toiletries, following a



calendar of suggested donations. Once the bag is complete, we collect them in the narthex for distribution to families in need, particularly those who visit our food pantry. We hope you will participate and share your joy with another family. Bags should be returned to the narthex by December 12.

Family Advent Night:

Save the date for our annual Family Advent Night on November 28 from 4:00-6:00pm. There will be plenty of Christmas-themed activities for the whole family! We will decorate cookies to take home, but we are not serving dinner this year.

Be on the lookout for more information about our annual Christmas Pageant, coming up on December 19. We are going to create a fantastic performance, incorporating virtual contributions as well as in-person participation from the kids of our church. We look forward to celebrating with you!



Student Ministry

By Pastor Arum



November is full of special events and programs! The PACK will start November with a Worship Day on November 7. On the following weekend, our students will go on a two-days-one-night Mission & Busch Garden Trip. It will be our first out-of-town trip since the pandemic hit. We covet your extra prayers for the safety of our students and adult leaders and for the meaningful experiences and fellowship during the trip!



2019 Friendsgiving with the PACK

On the third Sunday of the month, on our Small Groups Day, we will get together with one of the adult small groups for “Friendsgiving” day. Each year, our students have had an opportunity to get to know the adults in our church and have fellowship with them. We continue this tradition this year, too. And as a mission project of the month, our Students will help out with the Family Advent Night event on Sunday, November 28. Our students are always a big help at the Children’s Events and they are good role models to our younger children on how to serve and love our community.

Here are the highlights of The PACK Nights in October!



Our Youth Band is growing! We had two more members in the band on our Worship Day. We talked about “Who God Says We Are” and learned from Psalm 129 that we are fearfully and wonderfully made by God!

On our Fun Day, we had a glow party with hundreds of balloons and glow sticks!



On our Small Groups Day, we talked about Spiritual Gifts. Each one of us are uniquely created by God, and God has given us significant gifts! On the photo, our students are taking the Spiritual Gifts Test on the phone – this is the only time Pastor Arum allowed them to use their smart phone! And our students were divided into the middle school group and the high school group to have a further discussion with the result.



Our students helped the Trunk or Treat event on October 26 as the mission project of the month. We hosted a trunk as a group and helped as the candy refill attendants and the parking attendants. It's a perfect mission project – serving our community while having so much fun!

Older, Wiser, Livelier Seniors

Twenty-one OWLS (Older, Wiser, Livelier, Seniors) enjoyed an outing at Belle Vita Restaurant in Manassas on October 22. It was wonderful to be together again, now that we are fully vaccinated and able to socialize. This was the first time some of us have seen each other in over a year. There were a few newcomers, who are always welcome. It was a very enjoyable afternoon of fun, food, and fellowship. Watch for upcoming information about our November outing. Remember, OWLS is open to any and all who are 55 and above.



St. Thomas
United Methodist Church

8899 Sudley Road, Manassas,
Rev. Abi Foerster, Senior Pastor
Rev. Arum Kim, Associate Pastor

stthomasumc.org

703-368-5161

Newsletter Deadline:

15th of the month

Please email all articles to both:

samantha.bouquet@stthomasumc.org

receptionist@stthomasumc.org

Upcoming Events

- Nov 7 All Saints Day & Veterans Day Observance
- Nov 7 Baptism Class
- Nov 9 Dorcas Circle
- Nov 12 Kids Care 2
- Nov 14 Advent Bags Distribution
- Nov 21 Charge Conference
- Nov 25 Thanksgiving Day
- Nov 26 Church Office Closed
- Nov 28 Family Advent Night

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|---|--------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|---|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 Jane Amsturz Hank Heuser | 4 | 5 | 6 Debbie Barnard Kennedy Alexander |
| 7 | 8 Kimberly McGregor | 9 Joe Workman | 10 Jackie Pearson Daniel Ometz | 11 | 12 | 13 Alicia Hamilton Bryant Alexander |
| 14 Janel Weed | 15 Comfort Adjei | 16 | 17 | 18 Dick Crompton Jill Guice | 19 | 20 |
| 21 | 22 Theresa Thompson Jeff Thornton | 23 | 24 Lee Becker Nailey Norman | 25 | 26 Brenda Farrar | 27 Karen King |
| 28 Tammy Fick Jeffrey Barlow Cindy Enke | 29 Steve Verosko | 30 Nick Kinnear | | | | |