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St. Simon's on the Sound Episcopal Church

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Fort Walton Beach, FL 32548
(850)244-8621

Office Hours: Mon-Thurs. (9-4) / Fri. (9-12)

www.stsimons-fw.org

e-pistle

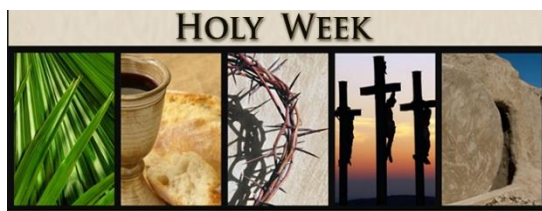
April 6, 2017

Our Mission: We seek to create a Christian community of love, acceptance, and unity in order to glorify God through worship and ministries.

DEADLINE for article submission is Tuesday noon to office@stsimons-fw.org.



1. Holy Week Schedule 2017



[To view the UPDATED schedule, click here!](#)

2. Outreach Project for the Entire Family

Egg Hunt @ Children's in Crisis

On Saturday, April 15th from **2:30pm – 3:30pm**, St. Simon's will be hosting an Easter Egg hunt at Children's in Crisis for all the kids at CIC. We are looking for volunteers of all ages to come help hide the eggs and or help the kids look for eggs. We will meet at CIC at 2:00 pm to hide the eggs, the hunt will begin at 2:30pm followed by some games and fun. We would love to have you and your family volunteer! If you are interested or have questions please contact Ansley Walker at educ@stsimons-fwf.org or 850-545-1003.

3. Annual Easter Egg Hunt

St. Simon's Annual Easter Egg hunt will be on Sunday, April 16th between the 8:00am and 10:30am service, **beginning at 9:15 am and ending by 9:50am** at Sound Park** (next to Rick's Crab Trap). All children in fifth grade and below are welcome to come hunt! Please plan to park at the church and walk down to Sound Park. Middle and High schoolers are encouraged to come at 8:30 am to come help hide the eggs. We are still collecting plastic eggs and individually wrapped candies, please drop them off to the Church office Mon- Thursday 9-4 or Friday 9-12. If you have questions or need additional information please contact Ansley Walker educ@stsimons-fwf.org or 850.545.1003.

****Please note: if it is raining we will move the Easter Egg Hunt to inside the Church Parish Hall and Sunday School classrooms.**

4. Single Friends

Single Friends will meet **8 April 2017** for a Dutch treat lunch at **Noon** at **Bay Cafe** (233 Alconese Avenue). Anyone who is single or living alone is invited. Although reservations are not needed please let Barbara Bethea (babethea@aol.com or 850-582-7011), if you are coming so the restaurant will know how many to prepare for.

5. Monday Book Group

The Monday Book Group will meet on April 12, 2017 at noon in Fr. Jack's Soup Kitchen. **Please note this change of place for this month only.** We will be discussing *Dispatches from Pluto: Lost and Found in the Mississippi Delta* by Richard Grant. Two New York City transplants buy land and make a home in this very unique place. The couple hunt, grow their own food, and meet lots of interesting characters. This book is a New York Times Bestseller and winner of the Pat Conroy Southern Book Prize. Bring a lunch or snack and join us for good discussion. Please call JoAnne Connell (850-240-3051) with questions.

6. April Dining Out

The April Dining Out will be at Clemenza's at Uptown Station Wednesday, April 26, 5:30 P.M. Stephanie Mefford is the hostess. Please call 651-1042, 496-1052 or email stephaniemefford@live.com for a reservation by Monday, April 24 so we can let the restaurant know how many are coming.

7. Annual Rummage Sale



Spring is here!

As my grandmother would say "It's time to clean out closets, cabinets, storage rooms, garages, and get rid of needless stuff."

Please join us in the fellowship and fun preparing and selling hidden treasures!!

Bring your "stuff" to the Parish Hall from Monday, April 24th through Thursday, April 27th from 9:00am – 4:00pm.

NO RUMMAGE SALE ITEMS TO BE BROUGHT ON SATURDAY, APRIL 22ND AND SUNDAY, APRIL 23RD!

Please NO large appliances, exercise equipment, or mattresses. *Something New!* We've added a plant sale on the porch. Please bring plants from your garden and gardening items.

Lunch will be provided for our wonderful "workers," and you may shop 'til you drop!

The sale is from 9:00am – 5:00pm on Friday, April 28th and from 9:00am – 12:00noon on Saturday, April 29th.

Tax forms will be available.

If you have any questions, please contact Joan Bomar at (850)240-4945. Many Thanks!

8. Episcopal Night at the Ballpark

Episcopalians from across the diocese are invited to attend a Pensacola Blue Wahoos game on **Friday May 12**. Advance tickets are \$25 and include seating in the Winn Dixie Party Deck and all you can eat burgers, hot dogs, and sodas from 5:30 to 7:00. Our Bishop is throwing out the first pitch!

The link will allow you to register yourself and any others who will join you, and to purchase your ticket(s). Price goes up to \$32 on April 15. 200 total tickets are available so don't delay!

<http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?oeidk=a07edvtef9m882c6c49&llr=xdck94bab>

9. Handbell Choir

The handbell choir will be practicing on **Thursday nights at 7 pm**. If you read music, we would like to have a few more members. Playing bells is an enjoyable activity for those who love music. If you would like to play bells but do not read music, a beginners' class may be started. Please contact **Lynda Cast (organist) for more information**.

10. Lectionary Bible Study

The **Lectionary discussion group has started up again**. This group is facilitated by Jennifer Lee and will focus on the Gospel lesson for the following week. They will meet every **Tuesday at 1:30 in the Fellowship room located across from the library**. There is no preparation work or homework

and you need not attend every week. Hope you will join us! Everyone is most welcome!



1. From Van Fuller, Senior Warden & Stewardship Chair

Stewardship Update. Our parishioners and attendees made our 2017 stewardship campaign a resounding success with pledges amounting to \$535,400. Please remember that your pledged amount is for calendar/tax year 2017. This represents a 13% increase in pledges from 2016 and equates to about a \$100,000 projected increase in income for 2017. The finance committee will assess the parish's financial position and recommend any changes to the Vestry. Thank you for your prayers for the campaign, thank you for prayerfully sharing your treasure, and praise God for providing for the needs of the church!

2. Invitation to the Apocrypha



Thursday Mornings: April 27 – May 19, 2017 from 9:00 – 10:30 am in the Parish Hall.

PLEASE SIGN UP FOR THIS CLASS OFFERED BY DEACON CLELIA IN THE CHURCH OFFICE.

3. Plastic Easter Eggs and Candy Needed!

Plastic Easter eggs and individually wrapped candies are needed for St. Simon's Easter Egg Hunts next month! Eggs and candy may be dropped off at the Church office, by **Maundy Thursday, April 13th**. If you have any questions, please contact *Ansley Walker* at educ@stsimons-fwb.org or 850-545-1003.

4. Helping Our Partner School

As you walk through the atrium, you will hopefully notice a brightly colored box marked SCHOOL SNACKS. This box serves as a collection point for individually packaged snack items like raisins, cheese

crackers, pretzels and fruit roll ups. Snacks collected in this box are regularly delivered to our partner school, Elliot Point Elementary. The snacks are always welcomed. They're always needed.

School staff need these snacks. They need them because too often, students come to school without breakfast. They need them because too often, students come from homes where there's not enough food. They need them because, without them, caring teachers are digging into their own pockets to ensure that students don't go hungry at school. Hungry students don't do well in school. They can't stay focused. They struggle to learn. The Outreach Commission has made a commitment to help address this ongoing need for snacks in our partner school. We, in turn, need your help. Try making it a habit to regularly place something in the SCHOOL SNACKS box. Do it because you care about kids. Do it because you care about our schools. Do it simply because your big heart wants to have a part in helping to shape little minds.



5. Meeters & Greeters Needed!

Please sign-up to be a meeter/greeter as we start-up our new Front Door Ministry. Teams will be set-up according to service times and will rotate on a 4-6-week schedule. There is a sign-up sheet in the Atrium. PLEASE JOIN US!!! For questions, contact Elle Estes at (850) 830-0170 or elleestes5@gmail.com.

6. UTO Box Update

Spring ingathering for UTO will be on April 23rd, and envelopes for your checks will be available in the pew racks.

If you are able to take your coins to the bank and have them converted into paper money, that will help with the handling on the boxes.

Grab UTO box and every time you think of something you are thankful for during Lent, put some money in it. We will gather the boxes after Easter.



What is UTO?

United Thank Offering is ministry of the Episcopal Church for the mission of the whole church. Through UTO men, women and children nurture the habit of giving daily thanks to God. These prayers of thanksgiving start when we recognize and name our many blessings. Those who participate in UTO discover that thankfulness leads to generosity. UTO is entrusted to promote thank offerings, to receive the offerings, and to distribute the monies to support mission and ministry throughout the Episcopal Church.

From small coins, come big things. Be thankful in all things!

For more information, [click here!](#)

7. Requesting Input from Ministries on Nave Ceiling Renovation

We have started a work plan for the Nave Ceiling Renovation project that is currently scheduled to begin in May. This project will require us to completely move out of the Nave for approximately 2 months while work is underway. During this time all worship services, weddings, memorials, etc. will be held in the Chapel or Parish Hall. We need to get input, concerns and issues from our key ministries to be sure that we don't overlook anything in our preparation work, and that we have a well thought out and comprehensive project plan put together. In addition to the internal work, we will also have construction related restrictions that will reduce parking spaces, as well as change what doors may be used to access the church. Please contact Steve Larson, Parish Administrator to learn more about the project and to be sure your ministries needs are considered during this important project.

8. Fr. Jack's Kitchen

Father Jack's kitchen could really use more socks and hotel size toiletries. If you have any of these items please place them in the basket in the atrium. Thank you in advance! -Jennifer Lee

9. Altar Flower Dedications

If you would like to make a dedication for Altar Flowers in the Sunday Bulletin, please fill out an Altar Flower Order Form (found in the pew, office &

online) and drop it in the plate. *Please call the office if you have any questions.*

Christian Education & Spiritual Formation

1. Christian Education & Sunday School

Christian Education classes are back in full swing! These classes take place weekly through the end of May. We hope you will join us as we have something for the entire family, ages 3 through adults! The nursery will also be open during this time for children 6 weeks to 3 years old. **Contact Ansley Walker** at educ@stsimons-fwb.org if you have any questions or need additional information.



2. Parent's Morning Out Update

We are no longer charging for the weekly Parent's Morning Out. This service will continue until the end of the school year and will be re-evaluated by the Vestry on whether this childcare service will continue onto the new school year.

Our Parent's Morning Out, is weekly childcare for children ages 6 weeks to 5 years old, and is open to St. Simon's families and the community on **Wednesday mornings**. Parents may drop their children off beginning at 9:00 a.m. and pick them up by 12:00 p.m. If you have any questions, contact **Amber Smith – Nursery Director at 244-8621.**

OUTReach

1. Supporting our Military Members

If you have someone deployed who would enjoy receiving a note, you may submit the name and address to Outreach at office@stsimons-fwb.org.

2. Donate to St. Simon's – FREE!

Want to help St. Simon's just by shopping on Amazon? The AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from your eligible AmazonSmile purchases. This is the easy link to use

to order and let St. Simon's receive a portion of the proceeds: <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/59-1052160>.

Pastoral Care

1. Let Us Know

If you or a member of your family is hospitalized or in need of pastoral care, please call **244-8621**.

2. St. Simon's Counseling Center

Hurting? Or in need of someone to talk with? Everyone is welcome, call **244-8448** for an appointment with one of our two Licensed Mental Health Counselors.

3. Bereavement Support Group

St. Simon's hosts a Bereavement Support Group on **Wednesdays** from **11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.** in the Fellowship Room. For information or to register, contact **Christopher Keown at 862-1069**.

4. Depression & Bipolar Support

The Depression & Bipolar Support Group meets every **Tuesday** from 7:00-8:30 p.m. in Room 207 at St. Simon's. For more information contact **Lexxy** at Lexxy500kTorri@gmail.com or at **850-833-5019**.

PARISH CALENDAR

April 7 – April 15, 2017

Friday – April 7		Office Closes at Noon
10:00 a.m.		Hawthorne House Eucharist
7:00 p.m.		NAR-ANON
Saturday – April 8		
9:00 a.m.		Flower Guild (Team 1)
3:00 p.m.		Teelie Fitzgerald Funeral
5:00 p.m.		Palm Sunday Liturgy
Sunday – April 9		
8:00 a.m.		Palm Sunday Liturgy
9:30 a.m.		Choir Rehearsal
10:30 a.m.		Palm Sunday Liturgy
11:30 a.m.		Choir Rehearsal
12:00 p.m.		Fr. Jack's Kitchen
5:00 p.m.		Youth Group
6:00 p.m.		GA Meeting
Monday – April 10		
1:00 p.m.		Knitters' Guild Meeting
6:00 p.m.		Holy Eucharist
7:00 p.m.		AA Group
Tuesday – April 11		
9:00 a.m.		Morning Prayer
1:30 p.m.		Lectionary Bible Study
6:00 p.m.		Holy Eucharist
7:00 p.m.		Bipolar Support Alliance
7:00 p.m.		Dancing Dolphins Square Dance
7:00 p.m.		Food Addicts in Recovery
Wednesday – April 12		
9:00 a.m.		Parent's Morning Out
10:30 a.m.		Rector's Bible Study
11:00 a.m.		Bereavement Support Group
12:00 p.m.		Cursillo Reunion Group
1:30 p.m.		Finance Meeting
6:00 p.m.		Holy Eucharist
Thursday – April 13		
9:00 a.m.		Food Addicts in Recovery
10:00 a.m.		ECW Board Meeting
10:00 a.m.		Westwood Eucharist
6:00 p.m.		Maundy Thursday Service
7:00 p.m.		Watch over reserved sacrament (All Night)
Friday – April 14		Office Closes at Noon
12:00 p.m.		Good Friday Liturgy
6:00 p.m.		Good Friday Liturgy
7:00 p.m.		NAR-ANON
Saturday – April 15		
8:15 a.m.		Brief Prayer Service
9:00 a.m.		Flower Guild (Team 2)

THE RT. REV. RUSSELL KENDRICK, BISHOP

THE REV. J. DAVID KNIGHT, RECTOR

THE REV. CLELIA P. GARRITY, DEACON

ST. SIMON'S ON THE SOUND EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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