

# *St. Thomas Reformed Church*



St. Thomas, U. S. Virgin Islands  
Founded 1660

**May 20, 2018**

*All are Welcome*

*In the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ*

# Pentecost!

“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”  
Acts 1:8

## “ We Gather In God’s Presence...”

### Prelude Music

*(Please take time to prepare for worship and silence electronic devices)*

### Greeting and Ministry Updates

### Call to Worship

Our help is in the name of the Lord who made heaven and earth!  
**Amen!**

### Introit

“Wind Upon the Waters”

Haugen

Wind upon the waters, voice upon the deep  
Rouse your sons and daughters, wake us from our sleep  
Breathing life into all flesh, breathing love into all hearts  
Living wind upon the waters of my soul

### Prayer

### \*Hymn

‘Let Every Christian Pray’  
*See insert*

LAUDES DOMINI

### Pentecost Prayer # 240

### Congregational Response # 259

‘Spirit of the Living God’

Iverson

### Celebration

“Days of Elijah”

Mark

*Latonya Standifer, soloist /Combined Choirs /Dance Ministry*

These are the days of Elijah declaring the Word of the Lord  
And these are the days of Your servant Moses, righteousness being restored  
And though these are days of great trials, of famine and darkness and sword  
Still we are the voice in the desert crying, prepare ye the way of the Lord

Behold He comes, riding on the clouds shining like the sun, at the trumpet call  
Lift your voice, it's the year of Jubilee and out of Zion's hill, salvation comes

And these are the days of Ezekiel, the dry bones becoming as flesh  
And these are the days of Your servant David  
Rebuilding a temple of praise; and these are the days of the harvest  
The fields are as white in the world, and we are the laborers  
In Your vineyard declaring the Word of the Lord

## Children's Message

**\*Hymn**

'Breathe'  
*See insert*

*Barnett*

*(Students and teachers are excused to Christian Education classes.)*

**This is the air I breathe; this is the air I breathe  
Your holy presence living in me  
This is my daily bread; this is my daily bread  
Your very word spoken to me**

**And I, I'm desperate for You  
And I, I'm lost without You  
This is the air I breathe...**

**...To Hear God's Word...**

**Scripture**

**Ezekiel 37:1-14**

*P 791*

**Message**

**"Disaster Response"**

**...And Respond with Gratitude**

**Offering**

**Offertory**

“Come Alive (Dry Bones)”  
Grace King, soloist

Daigle/Farren

Through the eyes of men it seems there's so much we have lost  
As we look down the road where all the prodigals have walked  
And one by one, the enemy has whispered lies, and led them off as slaves

But we know that you are God, Yours is the victory  
We know there is more to come that we may not yet see  
So with the faith you've given us we'll step into the valley unafraid

As we call out to dry bones, come alive, come alive  
We call out to dead hearts, come alive, come alive  
Up out of the ashes let us see an army rise  
We call out to dry bones, come alive

**\*Doxology**

**Pastoral Prayer & the Lord's Prayer**

**\*Hymn**

‘O Spirit of the Living God’  
See insert

FOREST GREEN

**\*Benediction**

....*Depart in peace*



## GIVING THANKS:

### Leading Worship Today:

|              |   |
|--------------|---|
| Ministers:   | All the people of the church                  |
| Preaching:   | Pastor Jeff Neevel                            |
| Music:       | Chanelle Schaffer                             |
| Greeters:    | Mary Howe, Robin Marsella and Sally Whitehead |
| Head Ushers: | Dr. Adam Flowers and John Woods               |
| Audio:       | Steve Marsella and Henry Ong                  |

**A warm welcome to our visitors.** You are invited to complete the visitor registration forms at the end of the pew or on the back table.

**Welcome** on this day of Pentecost! May the Spirit of the living God fill your hearts in worship this morning.

**Welcome** to Jim & Ruth Burge and Bob & Julie Lindeman (repeat workers) who are staying in our Retreat Center and working alongside MBW with hurricane relief! We also welcome Jose Cruz, outreach Director from VIHFA, the emergency home repairs organization. Case workers will be available to talk about the program immediately following today's service.

**Congratulations** to XYGers who are graduating from High School. May the Lord bless them and all our other graduates!

|                  |                 |                  |
|------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Jordan Bunn      | Isabella Hawkes | Anthony Smith    |
| Julia Cassinelli | Maggie James    | Solana Suazo     |
| Shaw Clements    | Karson Kendall  | Talisse Thompson |
| Harry DeHaas     | Keegan Mays     | Alex Whitter     |
| Grant Farrell    | Seidon Nemeth   | Silas Wisehart   |
| Nalani Figueroa  | Cameron Newton  | Melia Scott      |

**Next Sunday** will bring our **Sunday School classes** to a close for this year. Come and celebrate the gifts of our teachers and administrators!

**A Women's Bible Study** will begin on Thursday, May 24th at 6:15 pm at Billie Hodges' home. It is a 6 week DVD study on Open Doors: "All the places to go; How will you know?" by John Ortberg.

**Both bathrooms** are available in the Undercroft.

## CALENDAR

|               |  |   |
|---------------|--|---|
| TODAY         | 9:00 - 9:45 a.m.<br>10:00 a.m.<br>10:20 a.m. | Café in the Pavilion<br>Sunday Worship<br>Christian Education |
| Tues., May 22 | 11:30 - 1 p.m.                               | Salvation Army Lunch  |
| Thurs. May 24 | 6:15 - 8 p.m.                                | Women's Bible Study (Hodges' home)                            |
| Sat., May 26  | 11:00 - 2:30 p.m.                            | Bethlehem House Lunch   |
| Sun., May 27  | 9:00 - 9:45 a.m.<br>10:00 a.m.<br>10:20 a.m. | Café in the Pavilion<br>Sunday Worship<br>Christian Education |

### Next Week's Lectionary Scripture Readings

- Isaiah 6:1-8
- Psalm 29
- Romans 8:12-17
- John 3:1-17

### PRAYER REQUESTS\*

#### ◆ Graduates!

For Health, healing and well-being

- ◆ Benjamin Salas
- ◆ Alisande Donahue
- ◆ David Schaffer
- ◆ Robert deJongh
- ◆ Hannah Upp, Georgia Ann Murphy and all those missing since Irmaria
- ◆ STRC Prison Ministry and all those involved. Pray this week for An Wu who asks, "God help me. God give me direction in my life. Have a new life. Have a new relationship with God".

\*If you would like prayers added to our Sunday prayer list please contact Pastor Jeff at [mail@stthomsreformedchurch.org](mailto:mail@stthomsreformedchurch.org) or call the church office at 340-776-8255.

**STRC Church APP available!** Includes the morning bulletin and scripture passages. Download free and follow STRC on your smartphone! Also, send your prayer requests directly to Pastor Jeff!

### Salvation Army Helpers this week

Mac Davis, Tom Baily and Joe Tulis

**Summer Camp** (for children ages 5 to 13) will run from July 9th to August 3rd at Magens Bay. Registration is now open. Forms are available on our website. Please get your forms in as soon as possible since spaces fill up quickly.

**STRC Summer Camp Positions available** (*Please contact Dawn in the church office if interested in applying*):

**Swim Staff:** Must be 16 years or older, be a strong swimmer, will work with Ms. Rachel teaching Swim and supervising Free Swim

**Junior Counselor:** Preferably 16 or older, will work as an assistant to Group Leaders and Teachers

**Counselor:** Must be 18 or older, will be responsible for individual groups  
All positions require a valid Health Card and a letter from school attending attesting to their being a current student. Or submit a copy of their diploma if already graduated.

### **Consistory meeting highlights:**

- \* Receiving quotes on a new and improved sound system
- \* Discussion of Sunday School times and need for teachers - to be continued at Summer Staff retreat.
- \* Receiving quotes on more shade for Pavilion area.
- \* Receiving quotes for deep cleaning of Sanctuary.
- \* Following up on Clean Water, Solar and Parking Lot Gate projects
- \* Lengthy discussions about staffing. Praying for discernment in adding additional staff to STRC, celebrating the gifts of Melissa Rogati, Rebecca McDonnell and Nicole Jackson who are retiring

### **Music & Arts Updates**

**We are very thankful** to all who contributed their talents to make our service this morning a celebration of the Holy Spirit among us: the Adult and Children's Choirs, the Dance Ministry, Latonya Standifer, Grace King, Steve Richman, and Noel Regalado.

**Special thanks** to CJ Oleari, Desiree Francis, and Felipe Ayala for the Sanctuary decorations.

**NO rehearsals** today or this coming week--Adult Choir resumes on Thursday May 31st and the Children's Choir on Sunday June 3rd.

**The last day of** Sunday School will be on May 27. Nursery for ages 2 and under will continue through the summer. Activity Time for children ages 3-10 will begin on June 3. Parents, please sign up to lead a week or two of Activity Time on the list in the back of the sanctuary. Lessons will be provided or you can feel free to create your own! (For our older 2 year olds who began Sunday School early this year due to the lack of nursery space following the storms, they are free to attend Activity Time rather than go to the nursery and maintain the “habit” of Sunday School over the summer.)

**Looking for ways to SERVE** but don't know just how? Please consider becoming a prayer partner to one of our visiting youth coming from Michigan to work in the ongoing recovery efforts in the Territory for the week of June 21 -29, 2018. Sign-up sheets located in the back of Church. Feel free to ask Nicole Jackson or Vicky Christian for more information.

## **STRC Staff**

Pastor: Rev. Jeffrey Neevel

Minister of Music & Arts: Chanelle Schaffer

Executive Office Administrator: Dawn Wheatley Comissiong

Retreat Center Coordinator: Maria V. Gomez Christian

Youth Ministry Coordinator: Nicole Wheatley Jackson

Christian Education Directors: Melissa Rogati & Rev. Rebecca McDonnell

Maintenance Supervisor: Charles Edwards

Security: Carl Griffin & John Paul Sperlich

Website Manager and Graphic Designer: Phyllis Carrozza

## **Contact Information**

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**STRC “APP” free from iTunes and Google Play**

**Like us on Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/stthomasreformedchurch/>

## O Spirit of the Living God

1. O Spir - it of the liv - ing God, thou  
 2. Blow, wind of God: With wis - dom blow un -  
 3. Teach us to ut - ter liv - ing words of  
 4. So shall we know the power of Christ who

light and fire di - vine, de - scend up - on thy  
 til our minds are free from mists of er - ror,  
 truth which all may hear, the lan - guage all may  
 came this world to save; so shall we rise with

church once more, and make it tru - ly thine.  
 clouds of doubt, which blind our eyes to thee.  
 un - der - stand when love speaks loud and clear,  
 him to life which soars be - yond the grave,

Fill it with love and joy and power, with  
 Burn, wing - ed fire! In - spire our lips with  
 till ev - ery age and race and clime shall  
 and earth shall win true ho - li - ness, which

righ - teous - ness and peace; till Christ shall dwell in  
 flam - ing love and zeal, to preach to all thy  
 blend their creeds in one, and earth shall form one  
 makes thy chil - dren whole, till, per - fect - ed by

hu - man hearts, and sin and sor - row cease.  
 great good news, God's glo - rious com - mon - weal.  
 fam - i - ly by whom thy will is done.  
 thee, we reach cre - a - tion's glo - rious goal!

1 Let ev - ery Chris - tian pray, this day and ev - ery  
 2 The Spir - it brought to birth the church of Christ on this  
 3 On - ly the Spir - it's power can fit us for this

day, come, Ho - ly Spir - it, come! Was  
 earth to seek and save the lost: God  
 hour: Come, Ho - ly Spir - it, come! In -

not the church we love com - mis - sioned from a -  
 nev - er has with - drawn, since that tre - men - dous  
 struct, in - spire, u - nite, and help us see your

bove? Come, Ho - ly Spir - it, come!  
 dawn, the gifts at Pen - te - cost.  
 light: Come, Ho - ly Spir - it, come!