



St. Thomas United Church
Open Hands – Open Hearts – Open Minds

Welcome to Worship!

St. Thomas United is an open, affirming, accepting, and child friendly faith community. With children present we expect noise and movement, so there's no need to leave the Sanctuary when it happens. If parents feel more comfortable with their children in nursery care, we have a nursery for babies & children under 3 years of age – just follow the posted signs.

We hope that your worship experience will feed you and challenge you on your faith journey.

Please talk to a greeter or the folks wearing an "Ask Me" badge if there's anything you are unsure of or have a question about.

There are Hearing Assistance Sets available. Ask a greeter or Ask Me person to get one.

We project everything you will need to participate in worship. You will also find hymnbooks in your seats if you'd prefer to use them.

Newcomers – please fill out one of our Communication Cards. This is our first opportunity to be in touch with you so that we can begin to get to know one another.

Ministers: Rev. Tracy Robertson,
Rev. Justin McNeill

Office Manager: Sandra Dusoswa

Music Team: Pam Bazinet, Barb Robertson,
Dick Worton, Erin MacLean-Berko

Accompanists: Kari Orosz, Kloria Wen

Youth Leaders: Heather Robertson,
Eden Middleton, Caitlin Hornbeck

Sunday School & Nursery Coordinator:
Erin MacLean-Berko

Office Email: office@stthomasunited.ca

Sunday, October 14, 2018

10:00 am

**Theme: Loving Our Neighbour
Living Our Mission Locally**

VU = Voices United

MV = More Voices

Prelude: *Kari Orosz - "Great Is Thy Faithfulness"*
- Thomas Chisholm

Welcome to our Livestream Worship Service
**Acknowledgement of Treaty 7 & Region 3
Land**

Greeting One Another & Announcements

Introit: *Come, Children, Join to Sing (vv. 1&2)*
VU#345

Christ Candle & Silence

Call to Worship

Opening Prayer

Opening Hymn: *Spirit, Open My Heart* MV#79

Scripture: *Matthew 25:31-46*

Ministry of Music: *The Children's Choir-"Called by
Earth and Sky" - Pat Mayberry*

Children's Time

The Message

Hymn: *When I Needed a Neighbour* VU#600

Minute For Stewardship: *Erin MacLean-Berko -
Brown Bagging for Calgary's Kids*

Invitation to Open Hands

Opportunity to Open Hands

Offertory: *We Sing Thanksgiving (chorus only 2x)*
- Don Uhrynizw and Arlene Gray

Offertory Prayer

Call to Prayer: *And When You Call for Me (2x)*
MV#96

Pastoral Prayers & Prayer of Jesus

World Communion

Hymn: *Let Us Build a House* MV#1

Commissioning

Benediction

Postlude

Junior Youth Group Social Event: Junior Youth Group welcomes all children in grades 4, 5, and 6. They meet monthly for an evening of games and community building. The next social event will be on **Friday, Oct 12 at 6:30**. Volunteer leaders are Sam Abel, Evangeline Robertson, and Matthew Worton. All youth attending are requested to fill out a registration and waiver form the first time they attend during a school year. Forms are available at <http://stthomasunited.ca/Junior-Youth-Group.aspx> or at the meeting. Friends are always welcome but must bring a completed registration form so we have emergency contact information.

Junior Youth Sunday Morning: On **Sunday, Oct 14** during the service, there will be a special program geared towards children in grades 4 – 6. It will be led by one of the Junior Youth Leaders. The children will start the morning in the service and then leave for their program when the rest of the Sunday school and the Senior Youth Group leave. Friends are always welcome.

ADmazing Savings Book Fundraiser: (Formerly called the Student Union Coupon Pack). For many years, the UCW has sold these coupon books and used the funds raised to support a number of initiatives. Now that the UCW has folded, the Youth Group is selling these books instead. Cost \$25. They contain coupons for Co-op, M&M Meats, and many local attractions and restaurants. For this year only, there is a free app that allows you to download your coupons and use them from your phone. Books will be on sale Sunday mornings while quantities last or can be purchased through Sandra in the Office.

On Sunday, October 21 the Youth Group is participating in an awareness and fundraiser walk and run called “Outrun the Stigma” in support of Distress Centre Calgary. Outrun the Stigma is an annual 5k walk or 10k run that aims to reduce mental health stigma. Distress Centre Calgary provides 24/7 crisis support, professional counselling, and 211 referrals that connect callers to community and social services, all at no cost. If you are interested in supporting us and helping us reach our fundraising goal, you can search up our team “St. Thomas Youth” on the Calgary page for Outrun the Stigma or speak with one of the Youth Leaders for more information! <https://secure.e2rm.com/registant/TeamFundraisingPage.aspx?teamID=832288&langPref=en-CA>.

15th Annual Wild Game Dinner Wednesday, **November 28 at 6 pm**. The dinner menu will include: Lasagna – MOOSE or DEER or BEEF, also gluten-free lasagna, salad and buns, plus a selection of super scrumptious desserts! So, please mark your calendars and plan to join us. Your hosts (again): Barb and Bill Cousens at bcous@shaw.ca or 403-239-5422. Watch for more details in the future.

Hymn Sing: The music committee decided to try having a hymn sing for 15 minutes prior to the first service of each month. The first one will be on **Sunday, Oct 7**. There will be paper and a basket available to drop off your requests. There will be time to sing about three of the requested hymns.

Staff Meetings: Please note that every **Monday from 10 am to 11 am** we have our weekly staff meeting. We would very much appreciate your understanding during this hour, and look forward to touching base with you before or after the staff meeting.

Healing Touch will be offered in the Sanctuary by appointment on the first Tuesday evening (7 pm and 8 pm) of each month.

Drumming Circle will be offered the second Tuesday evening of the month from 7-9 pm. Registration is required and will be limited to 30 people.

Welcome Back Knitters: The Prayer Shawl Knitting Group meets on Wednesdays from 1:00-2:30 pm in the 2nd floor Lounge. All are welcome to join in. Please direct any questions to: Sandra Burgess (403-701-3479).

Office Hours: Regular office hours are Monday to Thursday 8:30-3:30, Fridays 8:30-12:30.

Sign Up for St. Thomas Announcements and E-Letters: Want to know what's going on? Sign up for announcements by filling out a Communication Card or calling the office at (403)241-0366.

Avenue 15: Our Sunday dinners at the shelter for homeless youth have started up again. We are looking for volunteers for the following dates: **October 21, November 18, December 16, 2018 and January 20, 2019.** If you are unable to help make dinner, we are always looking for items for donation to the shelter, such as toothbrushes, feminine hygiene products, condoms, makeup, gently used clothing, teddy bears, and sample size/hotel shampoo, conditioner, and soaps. All undergarments, toiletries, and makeup **MUST BE NEW.** If you have any questions or donations, please contact Hope Cochran at 587-581-2619 or hopeco7@gmail.com.

Veterans Food Bank: Changes are coming for the Food Bank. There will be a transition from the existing one run by the Legion's Poppy Fund charity to one run by veterans themselves. We don't know exactly when this will take place, but the need for food donations will continue as usual. Please remember our veterans when you are shopping. We definitely have some catching up to do. Thanks everyone!

Quilting for Others: Join us to make compassion quilts for charity and congregants. No experience necessary. Our quilts are generally made from scraps, so if you are unable to join us, we are always looking for donations of 100% cotton material, thread, or batting. For more information or to donate items, please contact Hope Cochran at 587-581-2619 or hopeco7@gmail.com.

October Birthday Sunday: Will be October 21. Join us along with the Stewardship Fair folks following the service. Please contact Wanda Veer if you are able to make and/or serve cakes. Thanks. wandaveer47@gmail.com. 403-239-5964.

The church looks wonderful just like harvest and Thanksgiving (unlike our exterior world). Thank you to our decorating crew under the leadership of Lori Weller.

Wanda's Preserves: Lots of jellies and jams and pickles for you to try. I will be selling preserves October 7, 14, and maybe the 21st also.

New! Wednesday Afternoon Book Club: The first meeting of this book club will be on **October 17** at 1 pm in the Sanctuary. The book will be 'Three Things About Elsie', by Joanna Cannon (same as October evening book) and Rachel will lead the discussion. Come prepared to suggest other books to read together. Everyone welcome.

Sunday School: All funds collected for the Sunday School offering this year will be going towards "Brown Bagging for Calgary's Kids", a local charity that supplies lunch for over 4,400 children in Calgary. \$2 provides a child with a healthy lunch, made from fresh ingredients. We hope you will support this new initiative!

Calgary Olympics 2026 Presentation: Saturday, October 27, breakfast at 8:30, presentation at 9:00 am. MOST (Men Of St. Thomas) is inviting the entire St. Thomas congregation for breakfast and a presentation in the Sanctuary by Scott Hutcheson, Chair of Calgary 2026 (the Calgary Olympic bid committee). With the plebiscite coming in November this is a very timely opportunity to hear from the committee heading up Calgary's potential bid. We will have some light breakfast items and snacks available, as well as coffee and tea. We hope you will join us for this event. RSVP to the office so we can make sure to have enough food on hand.

St. Thomas' Paths to Reconciliation Team is looking for more members! If you have an interest, questions, or ideas about the subject of creating right relations between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples, please contact either Elaine Gray (sarahegray@telus.net), Anett Chicomny-Pon (anett@shaw.ca), or Rev. Tracy Robertson (tracyrobertson@stthomasunited.ca).

Alberta & Northwest Conference Living into Right Relations Standing Committee will be hosting a gathering entitled "Boost for the Journey II: Moving Forward with Reconciliation". This will be held at Kamp Kiwanis (35 minutes west of Calgary) from **Friday October 26 - Sunday, October 28**. Registration deadline is October 12. If you would like more information about the conference and/or a copy of the registration form, please contact Elaine Gray (sarahegray@telus.net).

Hillhurst United Church: The Right Relations Circle of Hillhurst United Church meets regularly on the 4th Tuesday of the month. All are welcome. To find out more about events concerning the Indigenous community in Calgary, you may add your email address to their mailing list by either contacting Helena Lamb at right.relations@hillhurstunited.com or by signing up using the sheet on the Mission & Outreach notice board in the St. Thomas Narthex.

Upcoming events at Hillhurst United Church: (more info at right.relations@hillhurstunited.com.)

Our October Right Relations Circle meeting has a special guest for the first hour (6:00-7:00 pm; note time change). He is well-known Indigenous author and educator Bob Joseph; bring a friend and listen to what this man has to teach us. His recently published book, "The 21 Things You May Not Know About the Indian Act: Helping Canadians Make Reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples a Reality", has been on the Calgary Herald's Best Seller list.

Date: **Tuesday, October 23, 2018 from 6:00-7:00 pm**

Location: Hillhurst UC, 1227 Kensington Close NW, Calgary

Wordfest Presents A Tribute to Richard Wagamese: In March 2017, the world lost Richard Wagamese, whose powerful columns in the Calgary Herald gave many their first true insights into Indigenous culture. Wordfest is honoured to be presenting his posthumous novel, Starlight, hosted by CBC Radio's Shelagh Rogers.

Date: **Saturday October 13 from 3:00 - 4:30 pm**

Location: DJD Dance Centre 111 - 12 Ave SE, Calgary

Cost: \$20

More info / tickets: <https://wordfest.com/session/a-tribute-to-richard-wagamese/>

Please Note: We do Livestream most Worship Services. Here is the link with info: https://youtu.be/wel_ZSaZpdU.

From Paths to Reconciliation: Please join us after the service on October 28 for the next event in our Lunch & Learn series. We are very fortunate to have Chantal Stormsong Chagnon come to speak with us about Medicine Wheel Teachings. These teachings are based on the four directions: the Eastern doorway represents the Spiritual aspect of a person, the Southern doorway represents the Emotional aspect, the Western doorway represents the Physical, and the Northern doorway represents the Mental. Chantal is a Cree Ojibwe Métis educator with roots in Muskeg Lake Cree Nation, SK. She is passionate about building awareness and sharing understanding of aboriginal culture, spirituality, & social justice. Lunch will be served in the Sanctuary; donations to help cover costs would be appreciated.

Primetimers: Our next Coffee Party will be held Tuesday, November 13, 2018, at 10:00 am in the Narthex. Everyone is welcome to attend. If anyone is interested in hosting it, please contact Jan Campbell 403-909-7402.

Any announcements, advertisements, or requests for non-church related products, services, or donations to organizations contained in this bulletin/newsletter should not be interpreted as recommendations, endorsements, or permissions by St. Thomas United Church.

THIS WEEK AT ST. THOMAS

Community Time After Each Service

Sunday, October 14

10:00 am Worship
11:30 am Legacy Giving Workshop

Monday, October 15

9:30 am AM Fitness
1:30 pm Comstock Celebration of Life
7:00 pm Orchestra

Tuesday, October 16

9:00 am Quilting
4:15 pm Karate
6:30 pm Brownies
6:30 pm Pathfinders

Wednesday, October 17

9:30 am AM Fitness
10:00 am Mandarin Ladies Group
1:00 pm Open Art Studio
1:00 pm Prayer Shawl Knitting
1:00 pm Book Club
6:15 pm Sparks/Brownies
7:00 pm Youth Choir
7:00 pm Cool Choir
7:00 pm Executive Council

Thursday, October 18

9:00 am Quilting for Others
4:15 pm Karate
6:00 pm Strummers
6:00 pm Children's Choir
7:15 pm Adult Choir

Friday, October 19

9:30 am AM Fitness
6:30 pm Youth Group
7:00 pm Sewing Group

Check the digital sign in the Narthex for location of activities.

Please feel free to take a bulletin with you after Worship.

Today's Service

Thanks to everyone who helped make this Worship service a reality.

Worship Services

October 14: **Loving Our Neighbour —
Living Our Mission Locally**

October 21: **Loving Our Neighbour -
Inviting Generosity**

October 28: **Loving Our Neighbour -
Giving Thanks**



Through our gifts we commit ourselves to live out the mission and ministry of the church. Please give generously to the Mission and Service Fund to make this possible.



St. Thomas is an Affirming Ministry within The United Church of Canada. LGBTQ2 people are whole people and full members in this community of faith.

The United Church of Canada



St. Thomas is proud to be part of the United Church of Canada which ministers to close to 3 million people in 3,500 congregations across the country. (For more information about the United Church visit its website: www.united-church.ca)

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