

THIS WEEK AT ST. THOMAS

	Community Time After Each Service
Sunday, Jan. 7	
10:00 am	Worship
11:00 am	Copyright Meeting
Monday, Jan. 8	
1:00 pm	Bridge
5:30 pm	Worship Committee Meeting
6:15 pm	Sparks
7:00pm	Orchestra
7:00 pm	M&O Committee Meeting
Tuesday, Jan. 9	
1:00 pm	Prayer Shawl Knitters
4:15 pm	Karate
6:00 pm	Brownies
6:30 pm	Pathfinders
7:00pm	B&P Meeting
7:00pm	Faith Formation Meeting
Wednesday, Jan. 10	
9:30 am	AM Fitness
1:00 pm	Art Group
7:00 pm	Youth Choir
7:00pm	Wed. Night Book Club
7:00pm	YAC Meeting
Thursday, Jan. 11	
9:00 am	Quilting For Others
1:00 pm & 2:30 pm	Healing Touch
4:15 pm	Karate
5:45 pm	Sparks
6:00 pm	Children's Choir
6:00 pm	Strummers
7:15 pm	Adult Choir
Friday, Jan. 12	
9:30 am	AM Fitness
6:30 pm	Youth Group
7:00 pm	Jr. Youth 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

Jan. 7: Epiphany Sunday
 Jan. 14 : The gift of Gold/kingship
 Jan. 21 : The gift of Frankincense/priesthood
 Jan. 28 : The gift of Myrrh/Jesus as Saviour

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.

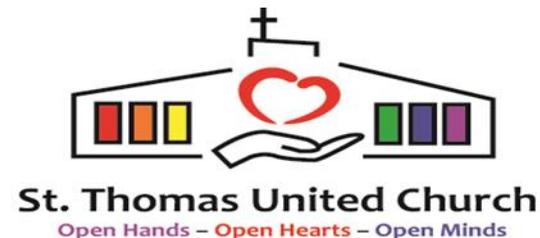


The United Church of Canada

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)



100 Hawkwood Blvd. NW Calgary AB T3G 2S9 -
office@stthomasunited.ca - www.stthomasunited.ca



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 start 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: Andrew Taylor-Kerr, Kirsten Carr, Heather Robertson

Sunday School & Nursery Coordinator:

Erin MacLean-Berko

Office Email: office@stthomasunited.ca

(A full version of this morning's liturgy is available – just ask a Greeter or Ask Me host.)

Sunday, January 7th, 2018

10:00 am

Theme: Epiphany Sunday

VU = Voices United MV = More Voices

Prelude: Kari Orosz - "Many Meetings"

– by Howard Shore

Welcome to our Livestream Worship Service

Acknowledgement of Treaty 7 Land

Greeting One Another & Announcements

Troait: *I Am the Light of the World (v. 1)* VU#87

Christ Candle & Silence

Ministry of Music: *The Youth Choir*

Call to Worship

Opening Prayer

Hymn: *Arise, Your Light Is Come* VU#79

Scripture: *Matthew 2:1-12*

Ministry of Music: *The Adult Choir*

Children's Time

The Message

Hymn: *A Light Is Gleaming* VU#82

Minute for Mission: *Displaced People*

Invitation to Open Hands

Opportunity to Open Hands

†**Offertory:** *We Three Kings (v. 1)*

†**Offertory Prayer**

Call to Prayer: *Bathe Me in Your Light (v.1)* MV#82

Pastoral Prayers & Prayer of Jesus

Hymn: *Jesus Came Bringing Us Hope* MV#33

†**Commissioning & Benediction**

Postlude

Labeller & decorating helpers needed : Urgently require someone to make up new labels for the freshly cleaned kitchen cupboards & drawers. Decorating helpers needed to change out Christmas to Winter, **Thursday Jan.11, 9:30 – 11:30.** Contact Lori for these tasks: wellerkd@shaw.ca 403-239-1705.

Advance Care Planning & Personal Directives: If you were unwell, and unable to speak for yourself, do those you are close to know your wishes for health care and personal decisions? Advance care planning is the process of thinking about, talking about, and documenting your wishes for health care if you are unable to speak for yourself. This session will provide information on Advance Care planning and the role of Personal Directives. **Session led by Alberta Health Services Advance Care Planning Goals of Care Educator. Please sign up by calling the church office or contacting Marjorie marj123@shaw.ca**

M&O is collecting small or travel size toiletries to be donated to the youth at Avenue 15. If you wish to participate in this initiative please give your donations to Hope Cochran or any other member of M&O. These small necessities are very much appreciated by the young people at the shelter.

2018 Contribution Envelopes are ready for pickup in the Narthex. If you do not currently use envelopes and would like some, add your contact information to the list in the Narthex. If you are converting to PAR, envelopes have not been issued for you. Note that you will be issued a new contribution number. If you have old boxes of envelopes at home, please throw them out, as your old envelope number may have been re-assigned to someone else. If you no longer wish to receive envelopes, let the office know and you will be removed from the list.

The Faith Formation series, *This is the Story*, will continue every Sunday from 11:30-12:30 in the lounge, beginning January 14th through to February 18th, from 11:30 to 12:30. On January 14th we will conclude our reading of the first creation story, and we will begin the story of Adam and Eve on January 21.

Confirmation Classes are being held on the last Sunday of each month after church (as of Sept. 24). Anyone interested in becoming a member of St. Thomas United Church is encouraged to commit to participating in the classes on the following dates: Jan. 28, Feb. 25, Mar. 25. Confirmation Sunday will be Easter - April 1.

Junior Youth Sunday Morning: On Sunday, January 21 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.

Junior Youth Group Social Event: Junior Youth Group is for grades 4 - 6 preteens. They meet once a month for fun and community building. The children are encouraged to bring their friends. The next Junior Youth Group is on Friday, January 12 at 6:30. They will be joining the Senior Youth Group for 'Winter Olympics'. Please bring warm clothes as parts of the evening will be outdoors (weather permitting). 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 on the website at <http://stthomasunited.ca/Junior-Youth-Group.aspx> or at the Church.

12th Night Concert: The annual 12th Night concert will be at Hillhurst United at 7:00 pm on January 7. Several NW Calgary United Churches will get together to sing a couple of their Christmas anthems interspersed with Christmas carols. Our Adult and Youth Choirs will be participating. Refreshments will follow.

Camp Kasota West: Camp Kasota West is a United Church camp on Sylvan Lake near Red Deer. They offer week long residential camping experiences in July and August for children who have completed grades 1 – 9. They also offer counsellor in training weeks for youth who have finished grades 9 – 11 and sailing camps for youth who have finished grades 8 – 11. The rates are very reasonable. An early bird discount of \$40 applies to registrations received by March 24. For further information see www.campkasotawest.com

United Church Observer It is time to renew your subscription (or place an order for one) to the Observer magazine. The yearly subscription for 11 issues costs \$25.00(only \$2.25 per issue). To order or renew, please submit \$25 in cash, or by cheque made payable to St. Thomas United Church, in an envelope labelled "The Observer". Envelopes can be placed in the collection plate or delivered to Sandra in the Office. Deadline for ordering is Fri. Jan. 19. If you no longer wish to receive the magazine, please let me know, and I will remove your name from our list. If you have any questions, please contact Jan Campbell.

The 2018 United Church of Canada Calendars are only \$5.25; get yours before they are gone.

Adopt A Family The Mission and Outreach Committee would like to thank everyone for their generosity in making this a much happier Christmas for all of our 'Adopted Families'.

A Moment of Peace: A meditative service is held every Monday morning at 10:45am and the last Monday evening of each month at 5:30pm. Services will begin again as normal on January 8th, 2018

Healing Touch will be offered in the Sanctuary by appointment on the first Tuesday evening (7pm and 8pm) and the second Thursday of each month (1pm and 2:30pm) until July.

Drumming Circle will be offered the second Tuesday evening of the month from 7-9pm, February until July.

The Nursery on Sunday mornings is a very important part of St. Thomas' hospitality and if you feel called to provide some care for our youngest people, please contact Erin MacLean-Berko (and you're paid \$10/Sunday too!).

August 13, 2017: >1,500 participants raised **\$6.7 million dollars** for the Alberta Cancer Foundation! We know it is more than just 1,500 participants. We also know it is people like you. **Team 4 All** of nine members raised **\$47,200.26!** Come and join us in 2018. **Team 4 All** already have four new people! The ride continues...David Robertson, david.j.robertson@shaw.ca, 403-547-3123 <http://www.conquercancer.ca/goto/Team4All2018>; <http://www.conquercancer.ca/goto/DavidRobertson2018>

The Calgary Drop-In Centre has begun its 'Frosty Bites' campaign. They give out clear plastic bags filled with items such as gloves, toques, socks, lip balm, and hand cream. The kits also contain an info sheet on frostbite. Their goal is to have zero cases of frostbite this year. If you'd like to donate any of these items to the DIC, please leave them in the HUGS (Hats, Underwear, Gloves, Socks) box. Thanks! Elaine Gray

Building Sacred Bridges: Sponsored by the Habitat for Humanity Interfaith Clergy Leadership Team. Looking for that special gift for loved ones? How about a memorable interfaith musical experience? Inspiring works by Muslim, Sikh, Christian and Jewish faith groups including an interfaith children's choir, and a faith band. **Sat. Feb. 10** at Knox United Church or **Sun. Feb. 11** at Beth Tzedec Synagogue. 7pm. Reserve tickets at www.habitatsouthernab.ca/bsb or "Building Sacred Bridges" Facebook page. For more information contact Melinda-Rae(melindaraelyse@altig.com)

The 'Right Relations Resource' is a monthly newsletter compiled by Hillhurst United Church, highlighting events that are coming up in the near future concerning the Indigenous community. This newsletter is available by email; there are a few copies of the latest edition on the table in the Narthex if you'd like to pick one up to see what it's like.

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.

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.