



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 Administrator: Vacant

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

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

Sunday, June 16, 2019

10:00 am

Theme: Father's Day and National Indigenous
Peoples Day (June 21st)

VU = Voices United

MV = More Voices

Prelude: *Kari Orosz* - "Blackbird"

by Paul McCartney

Welcome to our Livestream Worship Service

**Acknowledgement of Treaty 7 & Region 3
Land**

Greeting One Another & Announcements

Christ Candle Lighting

Introit: *Morning Has Broken* (vv 1,3) VU#409

Call to Worship

Opening Prayer

Opening Hymn: *Would You Bless Our*

Homes and Families VU#556

Scripture: *Psalm 100:1-5*

Ministry of Music: *The Adult Choir*

"Sisi Ni Moja" by Jacob Narverud

Family Story Time

Message: *"Cultivating Gratefulness"* - Cathy Rivard

Hymn: *God of the Sparrow* VU#229

Minute for St. Thomas: *"Paths to Reconciliation"*
- Elaine Gray

Invitation to Open Hands

Opportunity to Open Hands

Ministry of Music: *Solo—Isabella Dressler*

- "Candle on the Water" by Helen Reddy

Offertory: *Grateful (Chorus Only)* MV#182

Offertory Prayer

Call to Prayer: *Spirit, Open My Heart (refrain 2x)*

MV#79

Pastoral Prayers & Prayer of Jesus

Hymn: *Each Blade of Grass* MV#37

Commissioning

Benediction

Postlude

UPCOMING

Décor Committee: Changing to summer hues on **Thursday, June 20** from 9:30-11:30 am. Eight volunteers needed and that would be terrific. Please call or email, Lori Weller at leweller@shaw.ca or 403-239-1705. Thanks.

The Affirming Group at St. Thomas is planning a fun, family-friendly event on Saturday, **June 22 from 9 am to noon**. Weather permitting, we will be painting the retaining walls of the church in rainbow colours and are inviting any and all to come, with brushes in hand, to help out. We will provide the paint and some snacks. Spread the word!

Wanda's Preserves: This is such a busy church...yeah!!!...that I have a hard time fitting in preserves sales. I plan to have preserves at church on **June 23**, and possibly June 30. Thanks for your support. Wanda Veer

June 23: Birthday Sunday, following the service!

Primetimers: Everyone is invited to join us for our last Coffee and a Chat (and some treats!) before we break for the summer months. It will be held **Tues. June 25 at 10 am** in the Narthex. A reminder: if you agree, please bring your own cup. We can store it at the church. Please call Jan Campbell if you would like to donate a treat for our table.

CHILDREN & YOUTH

Summer Camp at St. Thomas July 22-26: **Camp Caravan** runs from 9 am – 4 pm and costs \$125/child (financial assistance is available). Details at <https://andychurch.org/campcaravan/> or call 403-259-4080.

Camp Kasota West: Camp Kasota West is a United Church camp on Sylvan Lake near Red Deer. Please see the newsletter for more information.

OUTREACH

Veterans Food Bank: Let's remember to fill up our Veterans Food Bank box before we head out on holidays this summer. Thank you!

Right Relations Circle at Hillhurst United: The Right Relations Circle of Hillhurst United Church meets regularly on the 4th Tuesday of the month. All are welcome. For more info contact: right.relations@hillhurstunited.com.

A HUGE thank you from Hope Cochran: details found under "Bouquets"

CALGARY ALLIANCE FOR THE COMMON GOOD

The Calgary Alliance for the Common Good (CACG or Alliance) has announced that it is holding a **Founding Assembly on Thursday, October 17** at 7 pm at Knox United Church. This is where the membership of the Alliance will declare the establishment of the collective Alliance as a force for common good. At that Founding Assembly, all of the delegates of St. Thomas will be invited on stage to show their support and state, as a group, why we are a part of CACG. We invite you to participate in this assembly as it is essential that we, as St. Thomas, have a large group attending. We want to demonstrate to the numerous City Councillors, MLA, and MPs at that Assembly, that many of their constituents are a part of this group. The more people we have attending, the more the politicians will realize we are a large voice of the people and we will have a much better chance of negotiating powerfully with these political leaders.

We invite you to participate in this Assembly on Thursday, October 17. We are also looking for your feedback, questions, and support for our membership with the Calgary Alliance for the Common Good. Please talk to Karen Kavanagh 403-286-8073 or karenkavanagh80@gmail.com or any member of the Outreach team.

ONGOING

Correspondence Club: Whatever the reason, writing a letter to someone helps you to be heard. We meet every 2nd and 4th Monday night from 7—8:30 pm. All welcome.

Hey, all you people, come and join our **AM Fitness and Fun** group. Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings in the Mountainview Hall from 9:30 am to 10:30 am. Give it a try!

AFFIRMING GROUP

Pride Parade is Sunday, September 1st starting at 11 am. *There are many ways you can show your support:* Prior to Parade Day you can **bake Rainbow Oatmeal Cookies** that will be given away at the Pride Parade Booth on Prince's Island after the parade. If you are interested, please sign up on the sheet in the narthex, take a recipe, and bring the baked cookies, individually packaged, back to the church freezer. **Walk in the parade** in the Affirming Churches group, following the St. Thomas banner. You need to be in place by 10 am. If you still want to attend church that day, Knox United will be offering a short but sweet service from 9 am – 9:30 am. You can take a turn at the **Affirming Churches booth**, on Prince's Island, after the parade and talk to people who are interested in more information about Affirming Ministries. You need to sign up in advance with Karen Kavanagh at karenkavanagh80@gmail.com.

Pride Parade is a great way for St. Thomas to show its commitment to being an Affirming Congregation and welcoming to all.

ST. THOMAS VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Wanted: Volunteer Kitchen Supervisor— Come on board to help keep the kitchen areas of St. Thomas clean and tidy. Please see the bulletin board in the Narthex, or read the article in the summer newsletter (out in June), for complete review of this helpful position. Contact Lori for more details at leweller@shaw.ca or 403-239-1705.

New Leadership: Our new Chair of Executive Council is Linda Bouchard, and of the Affirming Group is Evangeline Robertson! Welcome to you both!!

Leadership Opportunities at St. Thomas: We still have two teams needing help: Faith Formation and Finance. Please contact Rev. Tracy or Rev. Justin if any of these opportunities call to you.

BOUQUETS

A HUGE thank you from Hope Cochran to all the volunteers who came out this past year (Sept. '18 to June '19) to make suppers for the homeless youth at **Avenue 15**. Our congregation is so supportive of the many initiatives that Outreach takes on – by way of donations of money or time. Often, there are only two or three youth on site to sit down to dinner with us so we never know if the meal really gets eaten or not. The social workers assure us again and again that it *ALL* gets eaten. These are kids who are homeless and struggling - many with mental health issues.....how could you not be if you are homeless and still trying to finish school and no longer have the support of your family? But whether the youth are there to eat with us or not, the feedback I've had is that the youth have said how much they enjoy it “when those church people come to make dinner”. That says it all for me!!

So thank you so, so much for all your hard work, support, and donations of toiletries and clothing and the incredible Western hospitality and compassion we exude each and every time we go out in the world to help others. I look forward to having more of you come out to help with a dinner in the next year. Stay tuned for dates and times for suppers starting in September 2019.

Thanks to all of you who donated to Colour to Conquer Cancer this month! In total, we raised \$404.70 for this worthy cause. Erin, Evangeline, and Rev. Tracy will be 'rainbowing' their hair NEXT WEEK. Thanks again!

BBQ: HUGE thanks to all of you who helped out at the BBQ last week, especially Men Of St. Thomas (MOST), Erin, Kari, Dmetri, and Mike.

BEYOND ST. THOMAS

Naramata Centre: Naramata Centre is a conference and retreat centre of the United Church of Canada. See <https://www.naramatacentresociety.org/> for program and accommodation descriptions, and to register. Registration is ongoing.

Protestant Communion Service at Bethany: How would you like to help out (1.5-2 hours) with the mini church service held once a month at Bethany Calgary, the long-term care facility (916 – 18A Street NW), just south of North Hill Shopping Centre? As a volunteer, you could porter the residents from their rooms to the chapel and then help them hold hymnbooks, etc., or you could help with the service by reading scripture or prayers prepared by the minister and/or by serving communion. The residents greatly value the church service and would hate to lose it due to a lack of volunteers. For more information speak to Loree Irving at 403-286-6308 or the Bethany at 403-284-6000 or 403-284-6004.

Side by Side Program: Side by Side is a volunteer-run day program for people with dementia, and has been offered free of charge at Varsity Acres Presbyterian Church (VAPC) since 2015. The program includes a variety of activities, and takes place most Thursdays from 9:45 a.m. until 2:15 p.m. We have a lot of fun at Side by Side, and we are always looking for more volunteers!!If you would like more information, or would like to come and visit on a Thursday to check things out, please contact Claire Huene (program co-ordinator) by e-mail at sidebyside@vapc.ca, or through the VAPC office at (403) 288-0544.

Healing Touch Level 1 courses offered June 22-23 (contact Betty Minifie at 403-474-7399).

STAYING CONNECTED

Twitter: We now have a new way to stay engaged with the goings-on at St. Thomas. Come and say hi. Go to https://twitter.com/st_thomas_yc.

Office Hours in June: Due to staffing changes, we will have limited office hours - Tuesdays through Thursdays from 9 am to 2 pm. Please call ahead to be sure someone will be in the office.

Please Note: We Livestream most Worship Services. Please go to <https://livestream.com/StThomasUnited> to watch them online.

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 contacting the office at (403)241-0366 or office@stthomasunited.ca.

Note: 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 permission by St. Thomas United Church.

THIS WEEK AT ST. THOMAS

Sunday, June 16

10:00 am
11:00 am
3:00 pm
6:00 pm

Worship
Community Time following worship
Cheung Recital
Tentative - Nagy Recital

Monday, June 17

All Day
1:00 pm

EDNS Preschool
Bridge

Tuesday, June 18

All Day
9:00 am
4:15 pm

EDNS Preschool
Tuesday's Grace Quilters
Karate

Wednesday, June 19

All Day
1:00 pm
1:00 pm
1:00 pm
6:45 pm

EDNS Preschool
Book Club
Open Art Studio
Prayer Shawl Knitters
Cool Choir

Thursday, June 20

All Day
9:00 am
4:15 pm
6:00 pm
7:15 pm

EDNS Preschool
Quilting for Others
Karate
Strummers
Adult Choir

Friday, June 21

All Day
11:30 am
1:00 pm
6:00 pm
7:00 pm

EDNS Preschool
Sportball
Naked Faith **set up only**
Naked Faith Supper
Naked Faith Worship

Saturday, June 22

8:30 am
9:00 am
10:30 am
6:00 pm
8:30 pm

Karate
Rainbow Colours - Painting Outside
Williams Recital
Smith Recital
Happy Feet Dance Group

NOTE: For a detailed and up to date calendar, please check out our website at stthomasunited.ca/what-we-do/calendar/

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

June 16: Father's Day
June 23: Freedom and Faith
June 30: Follow Me
July 7: Strummers Stampede Service
July 14: The Good Samaritan
July 21: Martha & Mary
July 28: Prayer
August 4: Wordly Things
August 11: Thieves & Treasure
August 18: The Cause of Division
August 25: Sabbath Healing



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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