



Sunday, June 23, 2019

10:00 am

Theme: Freedom and Faith

VU = Voices United

MV = More Voices

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.)

**Prelude:** *Kari Orosz - "Hands" by Jewel Kilcher*

**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:** *I Am a Child of God* MV#157

**Scripture:** *Galatians 3:23-29 - Pauline Watson*

**Ministry of Music:** *Solo - Sophia Block "Reflection" from Mulan by Matthew Wilder and David Zippel*

**Family Story Time**

**Message:** *"Deep-Down Questions" Rev. Tracy*

**Hymn:** *Many Are the Lightbeams* VU#588

**Minute for Mission:** *"Migrants Are Not Stereotypes"*

*- Pauline Watson*

**Invitation to Open Hands**

**Opportunity to Open Hands**

**Offertory:** *We Give You But Your Own* VU#542

**Offertory Prayer**

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

MV#79

**Pastoral Prayers & Prayer of Jesus**

**Hymn:** *In Christ There Is No East or West* VU#606

**Commissioning**

**Benediction**

**Postlude**

## UPCOMING

**The Affirming Group** at St. Thomas is planning a fun, family-friendly event on Saturday, **June 22 from 9 am to noon**. RAIN OR SHINE, we will be painting rainbow colours on large pieces of wood that we will attach to the retaining walls. If it's raining, we will paint in the Sunday School area. Come on our, with brushes in hand, to help out. We will provide the paint and some snacks. Spread the word!

**Wanda's Preserves** will be for sale in the foyer the 23rd and possibly the 30th.

**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!

## 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.

### 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. Sign up, 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. Contact Karen Kavanagh at karenkavanagh80@gmail.com for more details.

**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 *June, July, and August 2019 newsletter*, for complete review of this helpful position. Contact Lori for more details at [leweller@shaw.ca](mailto:leweller@shaw.ca) or 403-239-1705.

### 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.

**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.

### 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**. These are kids who are homeless and struggling - many with mental health issues. 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, donations, and the incredible 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 starting in September 2019.

## **A VERY SINCERE THANK YOU**

We would like to thank the people of St. Thomas most sincerely for the support that you have given us.

As you may well be aware, Pat had had problems with her health over the last few years. She had a series of mini strokes over time. In early February, she had another stroke and we took her into Foothills where they assessed her over the next five weeks and concluded that she needed 24 hour care. Fortunately, we managed to get her into Bow View Manor where she received wonderful care. For years, I knew that she didn't want to go into long-term care. Suffice it to say that she felt the compassion and dignity with which the staff treated people and she never once complained. In spite of excellent care, she declined.

Thank you to those who visited her in hospital and/or Bow View Manor. Visits with people were important to her and meant a lot.

Thank you to those who were able to come to the Celebration of Life. It truly captured who she was. There was a great cross section of people which reflected her diverse interests and involvement.

A special thanks to those who made the Saturday Celebration of Life and the reception so fitting for Pat. They both captured her humour and her seriousness, her religious and irreligious sides, her tolerance and intolerance, but most of all, your sincerity. The whole thing made St. Thomas proud. There were a lot of people from outside the Church who were impressed by the openness and welcoming nature of St. Thomas. Thank you for all you have done to make this part of our journey that little bit easier to walk.

Shalom,

Stu and the family

## 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 the residents enjoy their 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? Commitment is 1.5-2 hours/month. For more information speak to Loree Irving at 403-286-6308 or the Bethany at 403-284-6000 or 403-284-6004.

**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](mailto:right.relations@hillhurstunited.com).

**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 takes place most Thursdays from 9:45 am—2:15 pm. If you would like more information, please contact Claire Huene (program co-ordinator) by e-mail at [sidebyside@vapc.ca](mailto: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).

**Weekly Farmers' Market** at Robert McClure United Church (5510—26 Avenue NE) every Friday from 3 pm to 7 pm June 14—September 27, 2019.

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*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.*

# Seniors' Wellness Day

100 Hawkwood Blvd. NW



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

Everyone Welcome!

Come throughout the day  
and check out booths and  
resources!

**Saturday**  
**September 28, 2019**  
**9:00 am to 3:00 pm**  
**Lunch Included**  
**FREE!**

## Resource and Information Booths:

Alberta Health Services, Aging and Driving, Alzheimers Society, Calgary Alliance for the Common Good, Carewest, Driving Miss Daisy, Home Care Assistance, Kerby Centre, Matching Seniors and Students, Meals on Wheels, Veterans Assistance

## Retirement Living *options* from:

Arbour Lake, Bow View Manor, Chartwell, Edgemont, Evanston, Rocky Ridge, Sage Hill, Valley Ridge

## End of Life *options*:

Alberta Health Services, Calgary Cooperative Memorial, Death Doulas, Hospice Calgary, Medical Assistance in Dying

## Presentations and Food

9:30 am—Alzheimers Society

11:00 am—Alberta Health Services (home & memory care, personal directives, green sleeves, and other funded resources)

12 noon—free lunch

1:30 pm—Aging and Driving



# THIS WEEK AT ST. THOMAS

## Sunday, June 23

|          |   |
|----------|---|
| 9:00 am  | Youth Breakfast                         |
| 10:00 am | Worship                                 |
| 11:00 am | <b>Community Time following worship</b> |
| 11:00 am | Music Committee Meeting                 |
| 3:00 pm  | Martin Recital                          |
| 5:30 pm  | Tsai Recital                            |

## Monday, June 24

|         |                     |
|---------|---------------------|
| 1:00 pm | Bridge              |
| 7:00 pm | Correspondence Club |

## Tuesday, June 25

|          |                   |
|----------|-------------------|
| 10:00 am | Primetimers       |
| 4:15 pm  | Sentenashi Karate |

## Wednesday, June 26

|         |            |
|---------|------------|
| 7:00 pm | Cool Choir |
|---------|------------|

## Thursday, June 27

|         |                   |
|---------|-------------------|
| 4:15 pm | Sentenashi Karate |
| 6:00 pm | Strummers         |

## Friday, June 28

|         |                     |
|---------|---------------------|
| 1:00 pm | Muslim Prayer Group |
| 7:00 pm | Sewing Group        |

## Saturday, June 29

|         |                   |
|---------|-------------------|
| 8:30 am | Sentenashi Karate |
|---------|-------------------|

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

Summer Office Hours are in effect. Please call ahead to be sure someone will be in the office.

### Today's Service

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



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

100 Hawkwood Blvd. NW Calgary AB T3G 2S9

## Worship Services

|            |  |
|------------|--|
| June 23:   | Freedom and Faith                      |
| June 30:   | Follow Me                              |
| July 7:    | Strummers Stampede Service & Breakfast |
| 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                  |



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](http://www.united-church.ca))

## STAYING CONNECTED

Office Phone: 403-241-0366

Email: [office@stthomasunited.ca](mailto:office@stthomasunited.ca)

Website: [www.stthomasunited.ca](http://www.stthomasunited.ca)

Twitter: [https://twitter.com/st\\_thomas\\_yyc](https://twitter.com/st_thomas_yyc)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/st.thomasunitedchurch/>

Livestream: <https://livestream.com/StThomasUnited> to watch services online.

Sign Up for St. Thomas Announcements and e-Letters:  
Fill out a Communication Card