



Sunday, August 25, 2019

10:00 am

Theme: **Calgary Alliance for the Common Good**

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: Halyna Kinasevych

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

Prelude: *Kari Orosz*

Welcome to our Livestream Worship Service

Acknowledgement of Treaty 7 & Region 3 Land

Greeting One Another & Announcements

Christ Candle Lighting

Introit: *Let Us Build a House* (vv 1&4) **MV# 1**

Call to Worship

Opening Prayer: *O God, when we come, bound by the world, speak your liberation to us. When we come, burdened by life, teach us how to laugh again. When we come, weighed down by anxiety, give us a new rhythm to follow. Smooth our crumpled living, that we might move confidently into life with you. Amen.*

Opening Hymn: *All Who Are Thirsty* **MV# 4**

Scripture: **Luke 13:18-21**

Ministry of Music : *Kari Orosz*

Children's Time

The Message: *Calgary Alliance for the Common Good*

Hymn: *When Jesus the Healer* **VU# 358**

Invitation to Open Hands

Offertory Hymn: *For the Gift of Creation* **VU#538**

Offertory Prayer: *Surprising, delighting God, you give us much, and we return a portion. Bless our gifts. Send them out: to delight and bless your world; to heal and renew; to lift up and celebrate. With thanksgiving for all that you make possible, amen.*

Call to Prayer: *Take, O Take Me as I Am* **MV# 85**

Pastoral Prayers & Prayer of Jesus

Hymn: *Like a Healing Stream* **MV# 144**

Commissioning

Benediction

Postlude

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

UPCOMING



Pride Parade is on 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**: Sign up, take a recipe, and bring the baked cookies, individually packaged, back to the church freezer.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

- **Walk in the parade** following the St. Thomas banner. Be there by 10 am. Contact Karen Kavanagh at karenkavanagh80@gmail.com for more details.



- **Volunteer** - Pride Festival & Parade is supported by over 500 volunteers, of which they are still short **approximately 200 folks**. Volunteers do not need to

have pro-serve certification, though it is an asset.

Register to Volunteer at <http://bit.ly/2KDjTf2>

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

Seniors Wellness Day

Sat. Sept 28th 2019, 9 am - 3 pm (Lunch Included)

Come and check out booths, resources and great speakers!

Booths include AHS; Home Care Assistance; Assisted Living & Seniors Residences; Driving Miss Daisy; Carewest; Veterans Assistance; CACG and many more. **Please call 403-241-0366 to register**

UPCOMING

The Calgary Alliance for the Common Good (CACG or Alliance) is holding a Founding Assembly on **Thursday, Oct 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.

Please come, show your support and demonstrate to the numerous City Councillors, MLA, and MPs at that Assembly, that many of their constituents are a part of this group. Please talk to Karen Kavanagh 403-286-8073 or karenkavanagh80@gmail.com or any member of the Outreach team.

CHILDREN & YOUTH

Nursery and Sunday School Volunteers are needed. If you can help, please contact Erin MacLean-Berko at erinmacberko@gmail.com. We are running very short of Sunday school volunteers for and June. Please considering giving your time, or we will only be offering minimal classes.

BOOK CLUB

Get ready for the Sept Book Club by reading "*Becoming*" by Michelle Obama



START UP DATES TO REMEMBER

- * AM Fitness, Sept. 4
- * Choirs:
 - Adult Choir Advance, Sept. 7
 - Children's Choir, Strummers, Adult Choir, start Sept. 5
 - Youth Choir, starts Sept. 4
- * Jr. Youth Group, Sept. 20
- * Marathon Bridge, Sept. 26
- * Orchestra, Sept. 9
- * Pride Parade, Sept. 1
- * Primetimers, Sept.17
- * Quilting for Others, Sept. 12
- * **Sunday School Registration & Blessing of the Backpacks, Sept. 8**
- * Tuesday's Grace Quilters, Sept. 17
- * **Welcome Back to Church Sunday and BBQ, Sept. 8. Volunteers to help with the BBQ are needed.** Sign up in Narthex.
- * Youth Group, Sept. 6

HOSPITALITY

BIRTHDAY SUNDAYS: Everyone has a birthday! Everyone should celebrate! Everyone likes cake! So we have a Birthday Sunday once a month. Usually the last Sunday in the month, but these dates are sometimes adjusted depending on what else is happening in this very busy and active church. We will be sending around a sign up sheet. If you are able to bring a 9 x 13 cake, OR, if you aren't a baker, you can sign up for serving the cake. This popular event sponsored by your HOSPITALITY TEAM.

INTRODUCTION



My name is Halyna Kinasevych. I am a prairie gal who loves gardening, folk music, cycling and travel. My life partner (that would be the one with less hair in the photo) and I are recent empty nesters though we have a dog and cat who still vie for our attention. After raising our two boys

and working for many years in government and non-profits, and I am very pleased and excited for the opportunity to serve St. Thomas' vibrant church community as your new Office Administrator. I look forward to supporting Ministers Tracy and Justin and the Council and Committee members in the administrative aspects of the church's mission. You can reach me via phone or email or feel free to drop into my office during our regular office hours.

OUTREACH

Outreach Committee is having a **clothing drive** to help Calgary families who find themselves in less fortunate circumstances prepare for winter. Our main focus is for winter coats and warm clothing that is clean and in good condition. We also request gift cards that can be used to purchase winter boots. We will accept clothing for all ages. Donations will be sorted and sent to: BowWest; Avenue 15; Mennonite Central Committee; Women In Need Society and The Walk In Closet which accepts business clothing to help women reenter the workforce. **Please bring your donations to St Thomas on September 15, 22 & 29.** Thank you for supporting this initiative.

ST THOMAS VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Wanted: Volunteer Kitchen Supervisor: Come on board to help keep the kitchen areas of St. Thomas clean and tidy. You sign on for a month and periodically check on tidiness of fridges, freezers, cupboards, and labeling of goods left in same. (Please see the bulletin board in the Narthex, or read the article in the summer newsletter for complete review of this helpful position.) Contact Lori if interested or for more info. 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 Tracy or Justin if any of these opportunities call to you.

ONGOING

Correspondence Club: Whether it be for activism, information, or just plain fun, writing a letter to someone helps you to be heard. We meet every 2nd and 4th Monday night from 7:00 - 8:30 pm in the Lounge or Library. All ages are welcome.

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

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!

BEYOND ST. THOMAS

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.

Compassion Fatigue: The High Cost of Caring:

Saturday, October 19th 9 am – 1 pm

Caring too much can hurt. When caregivers focus on others without practicing healthy care giving they are at risk for developing “**Compassion Fatigue**”. Come and learn how it is possible to practice healthy self-care while continuing to care for others. What is Compassion Fatigue? What are the causes? What is healthy care giving? Breaking the Compassion Fatigue cycle. Developing authentic, sustainable self-care practices. Presented by Rev. Kerri Kroeker at Symons Valley United Church Cost is \$55.00 for CPCA members, \$70.00 for non-members

This event is open to everyone. Refreshments provided. For more information or to register visit <https://cpcassoc.ca>, contact Karen at 403-253-7946 or email events@cpcassoc.ca

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.

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 permissions by St. Thomas United Church.

THIS WEEK AT ST. THOMAS

Sunday, Aug 25

10:00 am Worship

Monday, Aug 26

1:00 pm Bridge
5:30 pm Worship Committee
7:00 pm Correspondence Club

Tuesday, Aug 27

4:15 pm Karate
5:00 pm Stewardship Meeting
6:00 pm BowWest Comm Resources

Wed, Aug 28

10:00 am Maple Leaf Brass

Thursday, Aug 29

4:15 pm Karate

Friday, Aug 30

1:00 pm Al Medinah Islamic Assembly
Prayer Service
7:00 pm Sewing Group

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

We give great thanks to all who participated in making today's worship service a reality.

Worship Services

Aug 25: Sabbath Healing
Sept 1: Pride Sunday
Sept 8: Welcome Back Sunday
Sept 15: Transformation
Sept 22: Wrestling with God
Sept 29: Stewardship Campaign Kick-Off
Oct 6: Stewardship Campaign #2
Oct 13: Stewardship Campaign #3



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 www.united-church.ca

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