



Sunday, September 29, 2019

10:00 am

Theme: Stewardship Campaign Week 1

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:** Hymn Sing, Kari Orosz

**Welcome to our Livestream Worship Service**

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

**Greeting One Another & Announcements**

**Christ Candle Lighting**

**Introit:** *Dust and Ashes Touch Our Face* (v.2 & Refrain)

**VU# 105**

**Call to Worship**

**Ministry of Music:** *Youth Choir*

**Opening Prayer:** *Holy Creator, who moved in the beginning; continue to move in our lives. Move us towards your presence that inspires and sustains. Help us to be active and involved in the work you began and the work that we are called to continue as your people and your community we pray. Amen.*

**Opening Hymn:** *God Weeps* (vv.3 & 4)

**MV# 78**

**Scripture:** *Genesis 1: 26-31*

**Ministry of Music :** *Orchestra: Anthem: Duet: Denis Watson & Dmitri Berko. Perhaps Love by John Denver*

**Children's Time**

**Minute for Stewardship:** *Cathy Rivard*

**Message**

**Hymn:** *When Painful Mem'ries*

**MV# 74**

**Invitation to Open Hands**

**Opportunity to Open Hands**

**Offertory Hymn:** *Forty Days and Forty Nights* (v.5)

**VU# 114**

**Offertory Prayer:** *Holy Creator, who calls forth mountains and springs water to the land, we revel in the wonder of your work. For all that we have been given we give you thanks and offer a portion of those blessings back to your work in this your world and in this your community. Accept what we offer that together we might continue to reshape the world around us. Amen.*

**Call to Prayer:** *Jesus, Remember Me* (2x)

**VU# 148**

**Pastoral Prayers & Prayer of Jesus**

**Closing Hymn:** *There Is Room for All*

**MV# 62**

**Commissioning**

**Benediction**

**Postlude:** *Kari Orosz*

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

## CALLED TO SERVE

**Volunteers Needed for Nursery Supervision During Service:** Babies and toddlers can be brought into and left in the Nursery while the parent attend the service. **Volunteers** comfortable with infants and toddlers will supervise these children for approx. one hour. One volunteer per 3 children. **Please sign up** on the **green sign up poster** on the **window of the Nursery Room**. Please plan to be at the room about 10 mins before church begins, even though many times, the children arrive after the children's story. Thanks! - Hospitality Committee.

Have you thought of the **Veteran's Association Food Bank** when shopping lately? Their needs this month include: toiletries like shampoo; conditioner; deodorant; toilet paper; tissue and cleaning products like Windex; Mr. Clean; Magic Eraser; SOS pads, etc. Perhaps these are new ideas for you. Let's see how many we can collect. Thank you. -Loree Irving

**Avenue 15 Dinner:** Please join us on one of the following dates to make a dinner for the homeless youth at Avenue 15 (938 – 15<sup>th</sup> Ave SW) at 3 pm on the Sundays of: Oct 20th, Nov 10th, Dec 15th, or Jan 12th. It takes approximately 3 hours to prepare and eat the meal. Staying to share in the meal is encouraged but not required. Any donations of unused makeup, toiletries, feminine hygiene products, condoms, stuffed animals and gently used, clean clothing is much appreciated. For more information or to donate your items contact Hope Cochran at 587.581.2619 or hopeco7@gmail.com

## DÉCOR COMMITTEE



So many thanks to the fun, energetic, imaginative and steady working volunteers who transformed our church from summer to autumn (NOT WINTER.... We will have a second summer in October—November) . Again, thanks to Lynn Tonkin, Pat Usher, Heather Worton, Diane Latter, Betty Ann Murray and Lori Weller.

## UPCOMING

### JUNIOR YOUTH SUNDAY

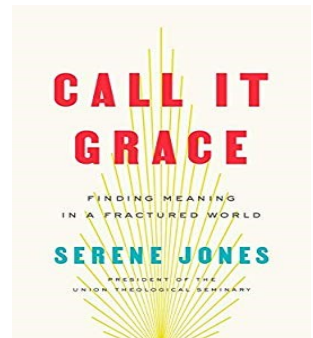
On **Sunday, Sept 29<sup>th</sup>** during the service, there will be a special program geared towards children in grades 4 – 6. It will be lead by one of the Junior youth leaders. The children will start the morning in the service and then leave for their program when the rest of the Sunday school and the senior youth group leaves. Friends are always welcome.

### PATHS TO RECONCILIATION

Our next Lunch & Learn is after the service on **Sunday, Sept 29<sup>th</sup>**. Lunch will be served from approximately 11:30 am. Restorative Justice is very topical these days, with the recent opening of the Calgary Indigenous Court. At Noon we'll be screening a 45 minute film called ***Three Feathers***, based on the graphic novel of the same name by Richard Van Camp. When harm is done, justice must heal. After committing a crime that devastated the innocence of their small community, three young men are sent to live on the land for nine months to explore the power of restorative justice. The Elders they live with reconnect them to a life that was taken from them long ago, but it is up to the boys to acquire the humility needed to return home and face their past. This event is free though donations towards expenses would be appreciated.

### FAITH FORMATION

**Our Fall Book Study and Discussion** begins **Monday, Sept. 30<sup>th</sup>**, 1:30-3:30 pm in the Lounge. We will read "*Call It Grace*", by Serene Jones and discuss how her life journey might shed light on our own. Further details in the September newsletter, page 11. Contact Elizabeth Morton, 403-474-3861 if you are interested, or just show up!



## 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**

**Sept. 29<sup>th</sup>**. Thank you for supporting this initiative.

**SAVE THE DATE:** on **Saturday, Nov. 2** the Outreach Team will be hosting a unique experience **'The Rich Person/Poor Person Dinner'** as a fundraiser for the membership fees for **Calgary Alliance for the Common Good**. This dinner is an opportunity to personally experience the economic diversity of Calgary. Tickets go on sale Oct 6<sup>th</sup> at \$25 per person.

## 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. Note that with Oct 14th being a holiday, we will be meeting on Oct 7th instead. 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!

**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](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](mailto:office@stthomasunited.ca).

# FUNDRAISING

## ***Grocery Gift Cards***

We are selling grocery gift cards as a fundraiser for St. Thomas. We buy the cards in bulk at a discount and sell them to you at face value. If you buy a \$100 gift card, it costs you \$100 and it will buy \$100 worth of groceries. Cards for Safeway/Sobey's, Co-op and Superstore will be available in \$50 and \$100 denominations. Payment is by cheque (made out to St. Thomas United Church), cash, or e-transfer to [fundraising@stthomasunited.ca](mailto:fundraising@stthomasunited.ca). Cards will be available the **first Sunday** of each month. For Autumn 2019, they will be available **Oct 6, Nov 3, and Dec 1**. With your ongoing participation it is hoped that the sale of Grocery Gift Cards will be a meaningful St. Thomas fundraiser. For further info, or to pre-order your cards, contact Richard Taylor-Kerr at [fundraising@stthomasunited.ca](mailto:fundraising@stthomasunited.ca)



## ***Coupon Books***

The youth group is selling the ADmazing coupon books again this year. They are \$25 each and will be for sale each Sunday before and after the service. You can also stop by the office to pick one up during office hours.



## ***Outrun the Stigma***

On Sunday, Oct. 6 the youth group is participating in Outrun the Stigma, which is an awareness and fundraiser walk 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 at no cost. We chose to participate in Outrun the Stigma because the awareness and support that this event creates is incredibly important to the communities we are part of and the communities around us. If you are interested in supporting us, sponsoring a youth, 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! Thanks! Heather Robertson, Eden Middleton and Caitlin Hornbeck.

## BEYOND ST. THOMAS

### ***Orange Shirt Day: Monday, Sept 30th***

Canadians wear orange in support of children and communities affected by the Indian Residential School System. Orange Shirt Day is reminder to all Canadians of the need to fulfill the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's 94 Calls to Action.

### ***14th Annual Sisters in Spirit Vigil: Friday, Oct. 4th, 11:30 am-1:30 pm***

October 4th is a day where we honour the lives of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (MMIWG). The violence experienced by Indigenous women and girls in Canada is a national tragedy. We must take the time to give thanks to the families who are our reason for demanding continued action. Family members, Indigenous community members, and concerned citizens gather for a vigil every Oct. 4th to honour the memory of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls. Vigils take place in many communities across Canada as well as internationally. These gatherings serve to raise awareness and to provide support to families who have lost a loved one. Join us in honouring missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls. "Silent No More" peace march and rally beginning at 11:30 am by Stephen Avenue Mall & 3rd St SW with a march to Olympic Plaza at noon for the official ceremony. Activities include: drumming, speakers, honour songs, traditional ceremony and open mic; bring your drums, shawls, rattles and noisemakers. For more information please call: (403) 531-1970 Ext. 200 or email: [awotaan@awotaan.org](mailto:awotaan@awotaan.org).

### ***Sisters in Spirit Memorial Feast & Commemoration: Friday, Oct. 4th, from 5-9 pm***

Come and join our gathering for all people to commemorate the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls following the Sisters in Spirit Vigil. Come hear the stories, wisdom, and perspectives of Indigenous Women. This event is co-sponsored by Awo Taan, Hillhurst United Church, the consortium of United Church Right Relations committees, the McDougall Stoney Mission Society, the Urban Indigenous Circle and the Stoney Nakoda Nation. Hillhurst United Church, 1227 Kensington Close SW. For More Information, contact: [right.relationships@hillhurstunited.com](mailto:right.relationships@hillhurstunited.com)

## BEYOND ST. THOMAS

### ***Indigenous Voices Showcase: Wednesday, Oct. 16th from 7:00 - 8:30 pm***

Hosted by Shelagh Rogers, with Shane M. Chartrand; Cherie Dimaline; Alicia Elliott; Harold R. Johnson, and Richard Van Camp. The multi-genre standard bearers of contemporary Indigenous writing and cuisine, thanks to the participation of Chef Shane M. Chartrand (each guest will be welcomed with a taste from his new cookbook *tawâw*) — come together to share their current work and engage in a wide-ranging conversation with The Next Chapter's Shelagh Rogers. At Patricia A. Whelan Performance Hall, Central Library, 800 - 3rd Street SE. Cost: \$30 + tax For more information and for tickets: <https://wordfest.com/2019/event/indigenous-voices-showcase-2/>

### ***The Calgary Alliance for the Common Good: Founding Assembly, Thursday, Oct 17th 7 pm***

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 at Knox United Church 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 contact Karen Kavanagh at 403-286-8073 or [karenkvanagh80@gmail.com](mailto:karenkvanagh80@gmail.com) or any member of the Outreach team.

### ***Wordfest Presents Bob Joseph - Oct. 22nd, 5:00-6:15 pm***

Shelagh Rogers, host of CBC Radio's The Next Chapter, sits down with Bob Joseph to talk about the Indian Act, and why every Canadian needs to understand its repercussions if reconciliation with Canada's Indigenous Peoples is to become a reality. Every business and community leader and every Calgarian, young or old, needs to hear this highly sought-after public speaker who has generously distilled a very broad and difficult topic into a practical vision for moving forward. The Hillhurst Right Relations Circle will be attending this event instead of having their usual Circle. Location: Patricia A. Whelan Performance Hall, Central Library, 800 - 3rd Street SE. Cost: \$20 + tax For more info and for tickets: <https://wordfest.com/2019/event/wordfest-presents-bob-joseph/>

# THIS WEEK AT ST. THOMAS

## Sunday, Sept 29

8:30 am Youth Group Breakfast  
10:00 am Worship  
11:00 am Lunch & Learn  
1:00 pm Rights Relations Network  
6:30 pm Twelve Step Group

## Monday, Sept 30

9:30 am AM Fitness  
1:00 pm Bridge Club  
1:30 pm Book Study  
7:00 pm Orchestra

## Tuesday, Oct 1

9:00 am Quilting  
4:15 pm Karate  
6:15 pm Girl Guides

## Wednesday, Oct 2

9:00 am Wilbury Gang  
9:30 am AM Fitness  
10:00 am Maple Leaf Brass  
1:00 pm Prayer Shawl Knitters  
1:00 pm Open Art Studio  
6:00 pm Sparks & Brownies  
7:00 pm Youth Choir  
7:00 pm Cool Choir

## Thursday, Oct 3

9:00 am Quilting for Others  
4:15 pm Karate  
6:00 pm Strummers  
6:00 pm Children's Choir  
6:30 pm Pathfinders  
7:15 pm Adult Choir

## Friday, Oct 4

9:30 am AM Fitness  
1:00 pm Al Medinah Islamic Assembly  
6:15 pm Youth Group  
7:00 pm Friday Night Sewing Group

## Saturday, Oct 5

9:00 am Chinese School  
2:00 pm Karate

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/)

**Check the digital sign in the Narthex for location of activities.  
Please feel free to take a bulletin with you after Worship.**

## Worship Services

Sept 29: Stewardship Campaign Kick-Off  
Oct 6: Stewardship Campaign #2  
Oct 13: Stewardship Campaign #3  
Oct 20: Stewardship Campaign #4  
Oct 27: Stewardship Campaign #5  
Nov 3: A Little Bit of Faith  
Nov 10: Remembrance Sunday  
Nov 17: Children's Sunday  
Nov 24: Basic Income Calgary



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.

Today's Service

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

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