

Sunday Morning
Worship Time
Every Sunday
Starting at 10:30 am



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The St. Thomas Newsletter is published monthly except for July and August. Submissions are due by the 20th of the preceding month. Send submissions to pr@stthomasunited.ca.

Minister's Message: Reverend Tracy

Marj Aucoin and I visited Harold and Tess Ashley on Orange Shirt Day, September 30, 2025, and every person we came into contact with gave us compliments on our bright, orange shirts. It was humbling to have support for what the orange shirts represent and the work of reconciliation we continue to do as we evolve as caring and compassionate children of God.

During that visit, I was reminded that I haven't kept up with my morning devotion of reading Richard Rohr's Centre for Contemplation email that lands in my inbox faithfully every day. After a month of reading and taking in this renewed spiritual practice, it's given me pause and challenges me every day to keep stretching and growing my spirituality if I am to remain relevant in the world.

The words that have resonated with me this past month include the need for both priest and prophet. Priests to keep the tradition (popular) and prophet to challenge tradition (unpopular). The other is the fact that we have no choice as to the tradition we're born into; however, that doesn't mean we have to settle for that tradition as we grow, mature, and critically think.

The daily reminders nurture me while giving me a reset that allows me to wonder about how and why I'm doing things the way I'm doing them. Is whatever "it" is life-giving, death-dealing, or a mix of both? If the tradition is life-giving, then it is my joy to live it out as priest. If it's death-dealing, can it be salvageable? If not, and I continue to participate in it, I'm participating in that same harm. Out of those traditions that refuse to evolve and get better, there is opportunity for new spiritual traditions to be born. I just need the courage to be the prophet and challenge.

Continued...

St. Thomas continues to be community within a living tradition that deserves to expand and change as we expand and change. God encourages us to help make that happen for good while still celebrating all that our tradition has given us. Tradition, like us, has growing edges. It's exciting to dream of new dreams and it's comforting to do so within the traditions we hold so dear.

Thank you to Harold Ashley for being my contemplative partner this last month. May we continue to share long into the future.

Worship at St. Thomas - Cathy Rivard

Clocks will go back one hour as we start the month of November. Our Remembrance Sunday will be held on [November 9, 2025](#), and on [November 16, 2025](#), retired minister Eva Stanley will share a message on "Gratitude" as part of our continuing theme of Stewardship at St. Thomas. Reverend Marion will lead the Reign of Christ, Hanging of the [Greens](#) service on [November 23 2025](#), and we will begin the season of Advent on [November 30, 2025](#). Please join us on Sundays, either in person, or online.

Upcoming Services for November, 2025.

November 2

Blessings and Woes - those that come before us.

Reverend Tracy
Scripture:
Luke 6:20-31

Music:
Orchestra, Kari Orosz.

November 9

Remembrance Sunday.

Reverend Tracy
Message: Paul Bercier
Scripture:
Matthew 5:1-10

Music:
Youth Choir, Adult Choir, Kari Orosz.

November 16

Gratitude.

Reverend Tracy,
message Eva Stanley
Scripture:
Passages taken from the books of Matthew and Mark

Music:
Children's Choir, Strummers, Kari Orosz.

November 23

Reign of Christ, Hanging of the Greens.

Reverend Marion
Scripture:
Luke 23:33-43

Music:
Adult Choir, Kari Orosz.

November 30

Advent 1 Hope

Reverend Tracy
Scripture:
Matthew 3:1-12

Music:
Maple Leaf Brass, Kari Orosz

Gift Cards - Richard Taylor-Kerr

Can you believe we are in November already, where has the year gone. We have fundraised just under \$7000 through the sale of gift cards so far this year. Excellent work St. Thomas! Please continue to buy cards and help us to blow past the goal of \$8000 for the year. We have gift cards available in \$50s and \$100s for Safeway/ Sobey's, Co-op, and Superstore. Payment is by e-transfer, cash, or cheque (payable to St. Thomas United Church). Safeway/Sobey's and Superstore cards can be used in any of their affiliated stores across Canada. Co-op cards can only be used in Calgary. The best way to order cards is to e-mail fundraising@stthomasunited.ca. Cards will be ready for you on the following Sunday. We can also make arrangements for pickup. Thank you for supporting this important fundraiser. Every purchase helps, no matter how small.

The Wise Women of St. Thomas United Church

Travel Stories - Wanda Veer

Oh my goodness. This could be a two or three page essay here. We've lived too long, travelled a lot, and always have glitches.

Here's how it plays out in our house: I make lists, plan ahead, make more lists, pack, attempt to finish all the "to do" things before we leave, make our third list, finally pack trying to anticipate every possible weather phenomenon, and then close the front door. Phew! Now for some well deserved holiday time. We are sure we have prepared for any eventuality. Wrong! Here's some of the very memorable glitches.

2001-09-11: We were scheduled to fly home from Houston, Texas that day. Wondered why the weather channel kept talking about planes being rerouted into Chicago. This is before we were comfortable carrying cell phones, so our family at home were frantically trying to contact us. We ended up staying in Houston for a week before being able to secure an Air Canada flight home. The Americans, amidst their grief, treated us very well. Fascinating to be in the USA during this time.

Houseboat Holiday: Years ago we owned a houseboat timeshare. We invited two sets of Stan's cousins to join us for a week on the beautiful Shuswap Lake. I organized all the food, sent them lists of what to bring, and off we went. We stopped in Canmore for lunch. I had this niggling in my brain that something was wrong. Had I received confirmation that this particular week was the correct week? I couldn't remember. So, I phoned, these were the days when real people answered business phones. And NO, OUR WEEK STARTED THE FOLLOWING SUNDAY! How do I tell these cousins that we had to return home, unpack, and start again next week. But I did, and the cousins said, well, OK, see you next week! And they did, and it was grand.

We have taken wrong turns, stayed at amazing hotels and resorts, stayed at dismal motels, forgotten credit cards, forgotten medications, had items stolen, missed planes, and taken the wrong train going the wrong way. But we survived and LOVE to remember these glitches. Funny, the trips that were almost perfect are forgettable.

However we are always delighted to return home to this amazing country, our family, and our friends. It's exciting to connect again with our St. Thomas community. Clearly, God has taken charge of many of our outings. Hope your travels are safe, fun, imperfect, and blessed.

Travel Stories - Ruthann Watson

Bathrooms say a lot about a culture. Away from home, this most basic and common aspect of human existence takes on immense importance and can have significant ramifications, adding hours to journeys and decreasing time spent with the tour guide.

When I was very young, Eaton's and The Bay had lounges adjacent to the Ladies Rooms appointed with comfortable armchairs, where female shoppers could meet and even (gasp) have a cigarette. Smaller stores saw no reason to provide conveniences, even for paying customers, the most desperate, often being directed to a cubby behind the mop and bucket. Service stations with clean accessible washrooms were almost unknown, especially for women, again, the grubby little corner room with the cleaning supplies.

Continued...

Parks Canada administrators assumed that an outhouse every few hundred meters was sufficient for the outdoorsy types. Rural church boards evidently viewed toilets as drains on funds and square footage.

The advent of travel for the common people has strained ancient infrastructure to the limit. Purchasing a few trinkets does not offset the cost of re-plumbing castles or World Heritage sites. Bush toilets and squatty potties don't mesh well with aging travelers from western countries, and we're not used to paying for convenience, or toilet paper. And the whole issue of facilities for the homeless is seemingly unresolvable, especially when complicated with drug use and safety issues.

I'm sure we all have recited the Dua, a Muslim prayer of gratitude for bodily health:

"All praise is to Allah, Who has removed discomfort from me and granted me relief".

In this season of Thanksgiving, may we be thankful for the luxury of facilities.

Travel Misadventures - Maureen Dodd

Many of our travel misadventures (ie: first-world problems) share the theme of 'lost.' Lost in translation, lost in a warren of medieval streets, lost in the countryside, lost on a train, lost in an airport. Although we didn't have to wander for forty years, like Moses and his crew, it sure felt like we had at the time.

My worst lost in translation moments actually came in English-speaking countries. On the first day that we moved to Texas, our one-year-old was getting fretful and hungry, so we asked the very Texan real estate agent where we could eat. She replied, "Well bless his little heart, I'm fixin' to go right across the street there to that buffet. All y'all can pitch to your wind, so everyone will be happy." (Pitch to your wind is Texan for all-you-can-eat.) Why are other culture's idioms so perplexing?

My first attempt to purchase train tickets in England was terrifying. I had two toddlers with me so asked for three tickets to London. The agent said 'Single?' Um – no – there are three of us. He said again 'Single ticket?' and I counted us up and said, Nope, there are still three of us. Finally, an exasperated man in the line (queue) behind me shouted "he means a one-way ticket." Oh. Who knew English is such a hard language?

We were lost in the Frankfurt airport with Pat and Stu Robbins. We had a connecting flight to Venice but it had taken so long to get through Customs that we were frantically scurrying down several halls before finding the correct one. We had no boarding passes for the next flight, as a whimsical agent in Calgary said we could get them in Frankfurt. Pat and Stu had their boarding passes, and Stu was able to convince Security to let us all through. We got to our gate as the door was closing. Then I left my purse on the plane when we landed in Venice. And our luggage never arrived. Two days without eyeliner; that is a true travel hardship. But we were grateful that none of us collapsed from all the sprinting.

We were lost several times walking the Camino de Santiago, when we missed the shells marking the trail. It seemed like every time we had to retrace our steps, we had to go uphill. That must be some kind of life metaphor.

Continued...

The commonality in all these adventures was that we always found someone willing to help. No matter what language any of us spoke, smiling, pointing, and drawing maps on the back of boarding passes were universal symbols of kindness. Except, of course for the finger-pointing between spouses as we assigned blame for the situations.

I try to keep Sydney Carter's hymn in mind on any journey: *Give me courage when the world is rough; keep me loving though the world is tough.*

May you find kindness and show kindness in all your journeys.

Faith Formation - Gayle Wilderman

Sunday School has been underway for a couple of months now. Online registrations have been encouraged as Ashley is trying to go paperless as much as possible. Ashley will be away Sunday November 9, 2025, and Gayle will be substituting. Between 5 and 20 students show up on a week-to-week basis. It is helpful to let Ashley know if you are bringing visitors to Sunday School. Everyone is welcome, and the enthusiasm and activity are contagious if you visit or help the Sunday School.

[November 23, 2025](#), the Sunday School kids will be "Hanging the Greens" and helping decorate the church. Regular Sunday School, with its connection to Tracy's message will continue through November. Advent plans are underway as well. The Nativity story will be acted out and filmed, and each week the theme or topic that is being covered will be supplemented by a video skit.

[November 29, 2025](#), Parents' Day Out, is occurring again. Parents can take 4 hours out to shop, go for a coffee with a friend or spouse, or just read a book. Meanwhile, the same pattern as usual will occur: a craft in the morning, snack, games, lunch, and then a movie. Lastly everyone goes home with their craft. The kids really enjoy it.

Messy Church is done for this year but mark your calendars for [January 30, 2025](#).

Please remember our wonderful library. Fiona has arranged some interesting books on the display table in the Narthex. And there are lots of good books, including those that profile LGBTQ stories and Indigenous life.

If you love kids and want to volunteer to help with Sunday School, let us know.

The Faith Formation committee is small, but mighty. If you are at all interested in joining, we would love to have you! Faith Formation members: Library: Fiona, Elaine G., Sheila H.; Ashley Dressler, Myrna M. Reverend Marion Martin, Sharon R., Marie V., Gayle Wilderman.

Fall Fair - Theresa and Amy Smith

We are looking for donations of baking for the St. Thomas Fall Fair. Please bring your baking to the Church main floor either Friday, [November 7, 2025](#), between 6:00 and 8:00 or Saturday, [November 8, 2025](#), at 9:00 am or later. We look forward to having lots of yummy treats to sell.

Pastoral Care - Marj Aucoin

One of the practical programs our Pastoral Care team leads is our visiting program. Our congregation is aging, and as such, it is our collective responsibility to make sure that no one gets missed. We don't want to hear that someone stopped coming to church and then fell through the cracks.

Pastoral Care is a team that regularly touches base with numerous people. We can't do it alone, so we count on you. Even though we fly under the radar, we often hear about happenings with congregants from you, the congregation. Why? Because everyone in our congregation takes our Mission Statement seriously: Open Hands, Open Hearts, Open Minds. St. Thomas has a really strong sense of community.

Many folks want to have a regular visitor so that they stay current with church events and this is where you, the friendly visitor, comes in. Often it is a senior who is no longer able to come to St. Thomas, and we care for everybody. Are you interested in being a visitor or having a visitor? We are your people. So, are you ready and willing? Would you like to be a visitor for St. Thomas? We will teach you! No worship or praying is involved, just friendly conversation and connection. We are running a training session after the service on [November 16, 2025](#).

Come and learn what it takes to be a "Friend to Friend" visitor, how often to visit, what to expect, and who to talk to on the Pastoral Care team. We would love for you to join us!

Any questions? Contact any of the Pastoral Care team: Reverend Tracy, Marj, Betty, Jan, Louise, Heather, Diane, Cathy, and Richard.

Fall Fling - Elaine Taylor-Kerr

A lot of fun was had by all who attended the Fall Fling. A huge thank you to Carol Rix who organized this event, shopped for food and beverages, prepared the food, and put a huge amount of effort into marketing this event and selling tickets. A huge thank you to 'The Turbines' who volunteered their time to provide the music. Also thank you to those who helped with setup, food prep, ticket taking, bar tending, and clean up. This event raised \$1955 for St. Thomas' operating fund.

June and July, 2025, Birthdays



Hospitality - Wanda Veer

Antiques Lunch & Learn: [September 21, 2025](#). A great success. Thanks to all the participants, 16 of you, for sharing your treasures and your stories. Fascinating stuff. And to Todd who manages our sound system. We have many folks who are willing to do this again. Watch the Bulletin for updates.

Birthday Sunday: Will be held on [November 30, 2025](#).

Celebration Cards. Elaine Gray has passed on these duties to Sharon Ramraj-Thompson, who kindly volunteered for the job. Huge thanks to Elaine, and welcome to Sharon. Many folks appreciate getting a card the old fashioned way to celebrate their special day.

Upcoming Fundraiser: [January 24, 2026](#). Chili Cook Off. Plans are being put in place for this. A ticket will provide chili samples, voting privileges, entertainment, prizes, but we need folks who are willing to cook up a large batch of chili; we'll pay for the ingredients. Please contact any of the Hospitality group if you are willing to participate.

Coffee Making: There are no excuses for not helping out with this. It's a great way to connect with the congregation, and one of our Hospitality team will assist you. Sign up now!

Your Hospitality Team: Wanda Veer, Chair; Elaine Gray, Cindy Huisson, Sherrill Knight, June Powell, Carol Rix, Kathleen Stonehouse, Marina Theron, Jane Wittstock, and Sharon Ramraj-Thomson.

August and September, 2025 Birthdays

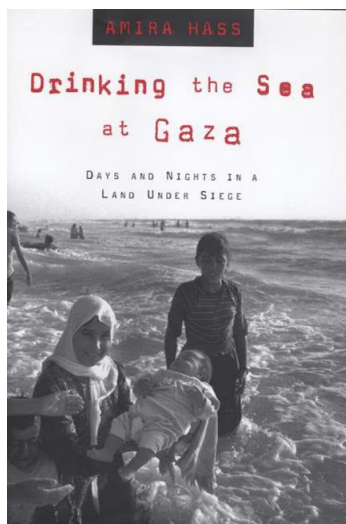


St. Thomas Book Club - Rachel Murray

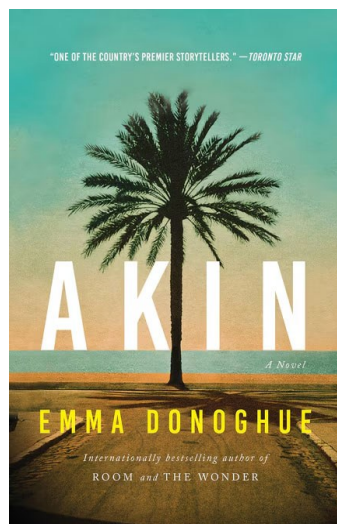
For more information contact Rachel at rachelmurray@shaw.ca

New members welcome! Meets every second Wednesday of the month at 6:30 pm on Zoom.

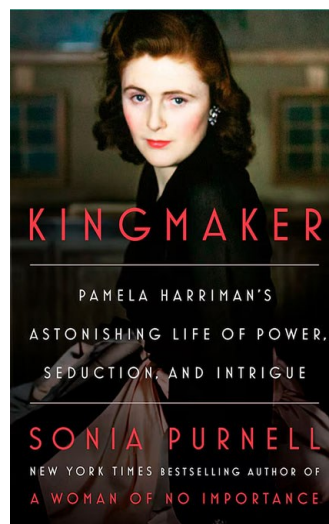
Meets every second Wednesday of the month at 6:30 pm on Zoom. This year's book choices are:



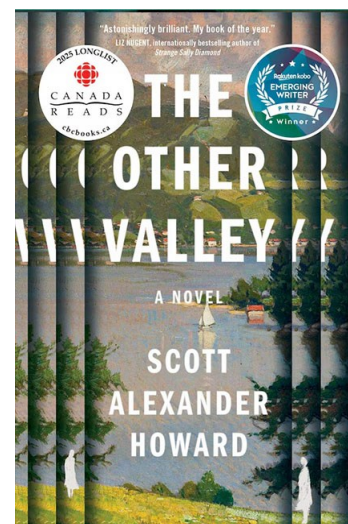
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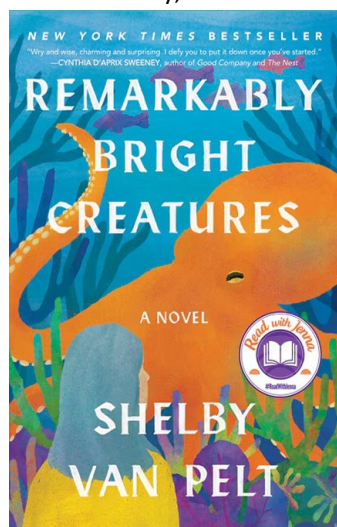
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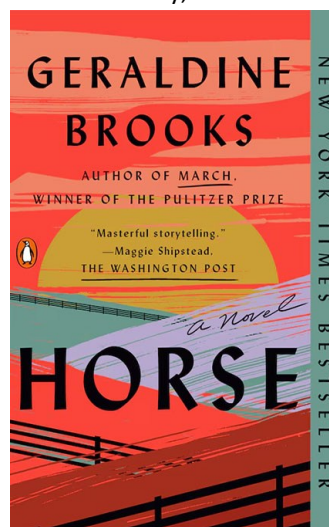
February, 2026



March, 2026



April, 2026



May, 2026

Rev. Dr. Kimberly Heath - An Introduction

In this inaugural address, the 45th Moderator of The United Church of Canada introduces herself as a minister of 26 years, a follower of Jesus, and a leader committed to meeting the challenges of the world and the church today. Moderator Heath finds strength in learning to trust the river of God's lifegiving, transforming love, which she has seen ripple through communities and out into the world. Her promise is to be deeply rooted in faith, bold in following Jesus, and daring in standing with courage in places of injustice. Watch her video here: https://youtu.be/vTDDlw7_jhg?

Youth News

Junior Youth Group

The children continue to have a lot of fun together getting to know each other, doing some crafts and playing active games.

The Junior Youth Group is an energetic group of children in grades four, five, and six. We plan to have monthly in-person events this school year. We will also be continuing the collaboration with Symons Valley for some joint events. If you know of a child who will be in this age range this school year who would be interested in joining in and who isn't already on the email distribution list, please email junior-youth@stthomasunited.ca to be added to the list.

The next event for the 2025/2026 school year will be held on [November 7, 2025](#), at Symons Valley United Church (38 Kincora Rise NW). The December event will be held at St. Thomas on December 5, 2025. Sam and Elaine look forward to seeing you there!

Youth Group (Grades 7 to 12)

The Youth Leaders of St. Thomas and Symons Valley United Churches are excited to invite you to Youth Group! Youth Group is for everyone who is in grades 7-12. For the most part we meet on Friday evenings or Sunday afternoon for our social event and at service on Sunday morning. The Youth Leaders will send out an email every Monday to let you know what activities will be taking place that week. Our social events typically last two hours and include activities such as charades, crafts, and movie nights. Sunday mornings are focused on faith discussion, learning more about various scriptures, or exploring social justice issues. Friends are always welcome! A Zoom link can be provided for Sunday mornings if you would like to join us virtually! If you are interested in joining us and aren't currently receiving our weekly emails, please reach out and send us an email at youth@stthomasunited.ca or call the church office to be added to our mail-out list!

What is Happening this Month?

Here are the events we currently have planned for November.

Sundays

[November 2, 2025 - Movember](#): To kick off the month we will be discussing the significance of 'Movember' in its relation to men's health, both mental and physical.

[November 9, 2025 - Remembrance Day](#): As our Sunday closest to Remembrance Day we will take this day to pay respect to both the fallen and our veterans.

[November 16, 2025 - Peace in the World](#): Unfortunately despite best intentions following the conclusion of WWI and WWII our world is not yet at peace. We will use this Sunday to acknowledge ongoing wars in our world and discuss potential opportunities with respect to capacity and possibility to take part in creating a more peaceful future.

[November 23, 2025 - Hanging of the Greens](#): At St. Thomas we will join the rest of the congregation in the service to celebrate 'Hanging the Greens'. At both churches, it will be an intergenerational service.

[Continued...](#)

November 30, 2025 - Advent, Hope: This Sunday will mark the official start of Advent; a time of year where we discuss the lead up to the birth of Jesus Christ.

Fridays:

November 7, 2025 - Ice-Skating: For our first Friday of the month join us for an offsite activity: ice skating. We will be ice skating in the Olympic Oval at the University of Calgary. Admission will be around \$5.00 per youth. Youth are encouraged to bring their own equipment, however equipment can be rented for a little over \$7.00. If affordability is a concern, please ask for assistance. We would love to have you there, do not let money prevent you from taking part.

November 14, 2025 - Dungeons & Dragons: Join us at Symons Valley for a Dungeous and Dragons oneshot night! Dungeons and Dragons is a table-top role-playing game where participants are immersed in a fictional world where their actions will help determine a story's course of events. Youth leaders will help in providing supplies, such as character sheets, dice, etc, however if youth want to bring their own they are welcomed to do so.

November 21, 2025 - Naked Faith: This month's service is down south at Southwood United Church. Naked Faith is a monthly alternative worship service designed for youth and young adults, but all are welcome. Dinner is provided at 6:00 pm and the service follows shortly after. Finally, youth grades 7-12 are invited to play games until 10:30 pm.

November 28, 2025 - Video Game Night: On this Friday night we hope youth will join us for video games at St. Thomas. This will also be our Sr. High stay-late, so we invite all youth grades 10-12 to stay with us until 10:00 pm. Youth are welcome to bring their own party games from home, and controllers if they so desire. We ask that youth look out for the weekly announcement so they bring equipment compatible with the consoles we end up using; most likely a Nintendo Switch.

Upcoming:

Christmas Sleepover: We will be hosting the Christmas Sleepover at St. Thomas United Church for the second year in a row, during the weekend of **December 19-21, 2025**. A form with further details should be brought out sometime this month, so youth interested in attending should keep an eye out.

Coffee Check in: As a monthly tradition we typically host a coffee check-in. This gives youth the opportunity to get coffee, hot chocolate, or maybe a sweet treat while getting an opportunity to have more personal / focused conversations with youth leaders. At the moment a date and location has yet to be selected, so stay tuned!

Purdy's Fundraiser: We love getting to do cool things with the youth, so this year until **November 25, 2025**, we will be adding a Purdy's fundraiser to help raise funds for youth related costs. Those interested in being involved will find the link down below! Something to keep in mind for those wanting to get some Christmas shopping done. <https://fundraising.purdys.com/2176031-132096>

Continued...

New Outreach Project: We are excited to announce that we will be starting a new project! In collaboration with Fish Creek Shared Ministries youth and young adults will be collecting mittens, gloves, hats, scarves, and blankets for individuals struggling with being unhoused. No one should have to face Calgary's cold winter without protection. In late December we hope young adults or youth accompanied by a parent, accompany us downtown to hand them out and listen to people's stories.

Uncharted - February 14-16, 2026: Youth ages 16 -17 are invited to a retreat at Camp Chief Hector in Kananaskis, Alberta for a time centered on personal discovery, contemplative faith, and meaningful connections; all in a place of inclusive welcome and joy. We will welcome youth, ages 16–17, from United Church of Canada places and spaces across BC, The Yukon, and Alberta! It will be hosted by the region's First Third Ministries, and bursaries are available. Registration is currently available and will close **December 31, 2025** and is limited to 40 participants. For more details and registration go to: <https://www.firstthirdministry.ca/>



Foothills United Thrift Store: Elaine Taylor-Kerr

Clothing Donations

Foothills United collects used clothing for their sales. They are in need of donations of gently used clothing. Donations can be dropped off at Foothills United between 9:00 am and noon Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday but please call the office ahead if you are coming at 403-288-5632. If you have clothing to donate but are unable to get to Foothills, please contact Elaine Taylor-Kerr.

Volunteer Opportunities

Foothills United runs a Thrift Store as part of the outreach to the community and as a fundraiser, open from 1:00 pm – 6:00 pm on the first and third Thursday of the month plus one Saturday of the month. They could really use more volunteers to help with the sales. For more information or to volunteer, please contact either Reverend Marion or Elaine Taylor-Kerr.

Music News - Elaine Taylor-Kerr

All of the musical groups are looking forward to another year of making music together. New members, regardless of skill level, are always welcome in all groups.

Upcoming Special Music Presentations and Events:

November 23, 2025: Cocoa and Carols following the service – a chance to enjoy singing some of your favorite Christmas Carols

November 30, 2025: Maple Leaf Brass will provide the music for this service

December 14, 2025: Children's and Youth Choirs' Christmas Musical

December 24, 2025 8:00 pm service: Adult Choir Canata will be the message for this Christmas Eve service

Group	Practice Time	Ages	First Fall Practice	Contact
Children's Choir	Thursdays 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm	ECS – Grade 6	Sept 4	Kate Power childrens-choir@stthomasunited.ca
Youth Choir	Wednesdays 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm	Grade 6 – University	Sept 3	Barb Robertson barbrob@telus.net
Adult Choir	Thursdays 7:15 pm – 9:30 pm		Sept 4	Pam Bazinet pmbazinet@shaw.ca
Orchestra	Mondays 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm		Sept 15	Dick Worton dworton@telusplanet.net
Strummers	Thursdays 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm		Sept 4	Ron French rondifrench@telus.net
Strummers Outreach	Tuesdays 1:00 pm - 3:00pm		Sept 2	George Zirotf gzirotf@shaw.ca

Adult Choir

As November approaches, we are well into our music for Remembrance Day and Christmas. Songs for both of these occasions are lovely. The melodies and the messages are meaningfully intertwined.

More and more research supports the thought that singing is very good for your health. It is a social activity and it involves breathing, reading, and making beautiful harmonious sounds with friends. Consider giving it a try!

As always, new members are welcome. If you are interested in singing, come on out on a Thursday evening and give us a try. You do not need to be able to read music. You just have to love to sing! Pam Bazinet: pmbazinet@shaw.ca

Youth Choir

Youth Singers Wanted.

The six choir members are doing an amazing job, even singing in three parts some of the time. They would love to have some more vocal support and anyone in Grade six to university is invited to join us.

We sing at the Remembrance Day service, and are preparing for our Christmas musical *Carol of the Belles*

For further information please contact: Barb barbrob@telus.net

Children's Choir

As the choirs prepare for our upcoming Christmas musical, we are hoping for some help! Our show is set in the 1950's and we are looking for a couple of specific props to borrow: a rocking chair, a 1950's-style telephone, and a restaurant/hotel bell. Nothing precious or valuable, just old fashioned-looking. We could also use support with poodle skirt sewing and other costume sourcing, set ideas/design, and prop-making. If you have a bit of time to spare and some skills/talents in these areas, please connect Kate at church on Sundays or email:

Kate Power: childrens-choir@stthomasunited.ca

Orchestra

The Orchestra has had a good start to the year. We played once in October and will be playing in November and December. The Orchestra is a wonderful group of people and we are always eager to welcome new members. We rehearse Monday evenings from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm. Players of any level are welcome.

Dick Worton: dworton@telusplanet.net

Strummers

The Strummers will be practicing on Thursday evenings at 6:00 pm in the Library. They practice for both church services and outreach concerts. A subset of the group also practices on Tuesdays at 1:00 pm to learn extra music for their outreach program. They plan to sing for worship services and at various seniors' residences. New members are always welcome.

If anyone is interested in joining, please contact Ron French: rondifrench@telus.net

Other Opportunities for Soloists and Instrumentalists

If you would like to share your talents as a singer or instrumentalist during the offering time, as a prelude or postlude, or when one of our regular groups is not available to provide an anthem, there are lots of opportunities to do so. This invitation is open to people of all skill levels. It would be particularly fun to have some children play the piano or another instrument, for example. If you are interested, send an email to music-team@stthomasunited.ca or talk to Elaine Taylor-Kerr.

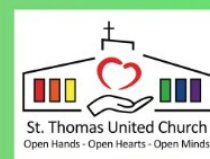
ST. THOMAS UNITED CHURCH FALL FAIR AND PRE-CHRISTMAS MARKET



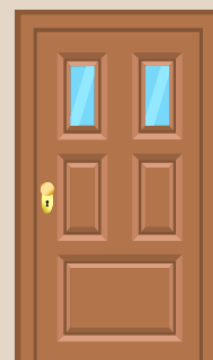
**November 8: 10 am - 2 pm and
November 9: 11:30 am - 1:30 pm, 2025
at St. Thomas United Church:
100 Hawkwood Blvd NW.**



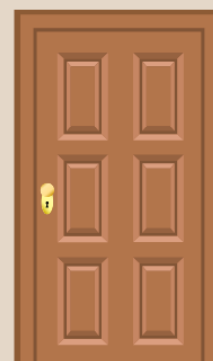
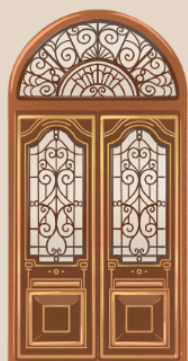
**With Over 20 different Vendors:
Clothing, Fashion, Baking, Crafts, Knitted Goods
Artisanal Foods, Christmas Gifts**



Are you called to be a visitor for the church? Training for our friend-to-friend visitors program will take place after church on November 16, 2025, in the Mountainview Hall. Learn what to expect, how often to visit or call, and when/what to report. Questions? Contact Reverend Tracy.



St. Thomas United Church Friend-to-Friend Visitors Program



Palestine Land Exercise

Experience 100 years of
history in 2 hours

Wednesday November 12, 7:00-9:00pm

St. Thomas United Church

100 Hawkwood Blvd NW, Calgary

Register for this free event:



<https://luma.com/6543jwcc>

**Justice in education
leads to justice in thought and action**

The Palestine Land Exercise has been developed and curated especially for church presentations by the United Network for Justice and Peace in Palestine and Israel (UNJPPI)