

What is your hope for St. Thomas United Church?

To offer a safe welcoming space for parents to raise their children with progressive values.

To have a larger volunteer base, as well as our staff.

Focus our needs/wants. It's not what you believe, it's what we do.

To continue a thriving community and place of worship.

1. Growth of services, outreach, young population
2. Services, Classes, Speakers on stages of life, stages of family, stages of well being, Bible study.
3. Wholistic outlook: diet and nutrition; lifestyle; interaction; healthy church; sex

Bring in new younger people; programs in the evening where people can get involved for those of us who are working.

1. Reduce stewardship to one service.
 2. Keep the music program thriving.
 3. Move children's storytime to Sunday School. Keep kids in service for participation in full singing experience.
 4. Singing - choose songs that the group can learn and sing with confidence.
 5. Reduce land acknowledgment and affirming declaration to short statements or once a month.
 6. Ask young people what we need to cause more young people to come. Hire a marketing firm. Focus groups of our people.
 7. Get guest speakers on topical items. Advertise on Instagram and other social media toward young people.
 8. Advertise to people with accessibility issues that we can help. Facebook.
- Maintain our service.

My hopes for St. Thomas are that we get more young people attending, we continue fighting for inclusivity, and we become a support for more people in the world who need that community.

Have more children, youth, and young adults in our congregation.
Have more younger (20-50) people who can take over committee membership as a lot of the committees have people in their 60s-80s.
Offer programs that can attract others to our church - some in the evenings.

My hope is to grow the church into being more community involved. Also, hope to increase more younger folks to come and stay too.

Attract new Canadians, especially from war-torn countries.
Attract more children and young adults.
More Bible study small groups.
Take pressure off of the Reverends.
Guest speakers.

Strong music program.
Outreach in the community.

Continue being welcoming!
Continued strong music program for all ages.
Strong, active youth group.
Strong Sunday school.
Outreach to neighbourhood - what do "they" want?
"Coffee group" for "Moms" in the neighbourhood.
Activities for seniors in the community (the wider neighbourhood).

Bilingual service – French
Food Bank?

More diversity. Youth. Young Families. Diverse backgrounds. Opportunities for all.
Maintain our involved positives: music, strong messages, affirming.
Mentorship Program.

1. Growth in youth programs
2. Community welcome events.
3. More outreach for the elderly, e.g. home visits, transportation to church services.
4. Church services at different time or on different days.

To see more intergenerational activities and dialogues between different generations.

Family days in a few Sundays and sharing thoughts.

Mentorship between generations / story circle.

Classes for those who are new in a church.

Thriving Sunday school.

Large choir program.

More “outreach” programs.

Financial stability.

Community outreach at schools in Hawkwood, Dalhousie, and Ranchlands where we could volunteer to assist in mental health and assist where needed to have a presence in the school.

Find out why people leave.

Focus on the family - babies, marriage, marriage enrichment, “kids are worth it”.

Church to do more in community, food banks, maybe a project.

More money.

Service connection to grief, illness, faith, family problems.

Continuing to support our community.

More small group opportunities.

What can we do to attract 25-35 year olds who have young children to feel this is the place for them.

Passion project for all to be involved.

More outreach.

What are the needs of Hawkwood? Parents day out. Tears and tea for first day of daycare / school.

Do crew - outreach through odd jobs.

Focus on 50s, 60s, 70s demographic.

Keeping people connected, in person activities for all age groups.

I hope children will attend and feel cared for in our church.
I hope youth will feel church is a safe and confidence breeding place for them.
I hope the church has fun and interesting activities that attract all ages.

Continued existence.

Attracting people (Increase rental groups? Community partnerships?)

Youth (robust programming, outreach)

Music (theatre? would drama bring in more people?)

Connection and opportunities for social time (lonely / isolated people)

A shift to younger people becoming the “core” of St. Thomas as a church community.

A stronger focus on what it means to live as a Christian in today’s society.

Advertise using lawn signs (like karate / nursery school)

Choirs, fitness, youth group.

Balance in endeavours to serve those are here and those we are looking for.

Balance between liberal / conservative / ndp.

No politics.

Wider demographic - age.

More learning opportunities in scripture.

More opportunities for integration with new people

Pairing newbies with seasoned attendees.

Programs in evening or weekend instead of just daytime stuff.

That we grow in numbers.

That we continue with our outreach work and probably increase said outreach.

I hope more people become aware of the existence of St. Thomas United and of the existence of affirming and inclusive churches in general, and finally find their home.

I hope that the joy of St. Thomas continues to reach more people who then spread that joy to others. That the music continues to expand with dance and praise bands and concerts and cafés.

That St. Thomas will have a long, healthy life.

We (St. Thomas) will reach out to families, young people, and people in our neighbourhood.

Will continue to be open, caring, welcoming, accepting.

STUC becomes a centre for progressive theological education.

Theological basis for action - the context and roots of the scriptures.

Promote biblical literacy from a progressive perspective.

My hope for St. Thomas is to see continued growth and stability within the congregation. Also continued outreach to community groups (care homes, youth, etc.)

To remain essentially the same with our values and culture intact, while discerning how best to introduce new folks to the congregation.

Financial stability.

Increased outreach to surrounding communities.

ESL classes.

Coffee group; young parents.

Something for seniors.