

THIS WEEK AT ST. THOMAS

Sunday, Sept. 10 Community Time After Each Service

10:00 am Worship

Monday, Sept. 11

9:30 am AM Fitness
12:30 pm Bridge
6:15 pm Sparks
7:00 pm Orchestra

Tuesday, Sept. 12

1:00 pm Prayer Shawl Knitters
4:15 pm Karate
6:00 pm Brownies
6:30 pm Pathfinders
7:00 pm Building & Property Comm. Meeting
7:00 pm Drum Circle

Wednesday, Sept. 13

9:30 am AM Fitness
10:30 am Cooking With Friends
1:00 pm Art Group
7:00 pm Wed. Night Book Club
7:00 pm Youth Choir

Thursday, Sept. 14

9:00 am Quilting
1:00 & 2:30 pm Healing Touch
4:15 pm Karate
5:45 pm Sparks
6:00 pm Children's Choir
6:00 pm Strummers
7:00 pm Sunday School Meeting
7:15 pm Adult Choir

Friday, Sept. 15

9:30 am AM Fitness
6:30 pm Youth Group
7:00 pm Sewing Group

© 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

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

100 Hawkwood Blvd. NW Calgary AB T3G 2S9 -
office@stthomasunited.ca - www.stthomasunited.ca

Worship Services

Sept. 10: Welcome Back
Sept. 17: The Zambia Team
Sept. 24: Reconciliation
Oct. 1: World Communion
Oct. 8: Thanksgiving

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. LGBT2S 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)



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 start to get to know one another.

Ministers: Rev. Tracy Robertson, Rev. Justin McNeill

Office Manager: Sandra Dusoswa

Music Team: Pam Bazinet, Barb Robertson, Dick Worton, Erin MacLean-Berko

Accompanists: Kari Orosz, Kloria Wen

Youth Leaders: Andrew Taylor-Kerr, Kirsten Carr, Matt Taylor-Kerr

Sunday School & Nursery Coordinator:

Erin MacLean-Berko

Email: office@stthomasunited.ca

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

Sunday, September 10, 2017
10:00 am

VU = Voices United MV = More Voices

Prelude: Kari Orosz – "By the Grace of God" – by Katy Perry and Greg Wells

Welcome to our Livestream Worship Service

Acknowledgement of Treaty 7 Land

Greeting One Another & Announcements

Introit: *And on This Path* MV#8

Christ Candle & Silence

Call to Worship

Opening Prayer

Blessing of the Backpacks

Hymn: *Come In, Come In and Sit Down* VU#395

Scripture: *Psalm 139:7-12*

Ministry of Music: *The Adult Choir* – "Make This Church a Welcome Place" – by Raney/Williams

Message: "Hot Seat" with Tracy & Justin

Hymn: *Seek Ye First the Kingdom* VU#356

Minute for Mission: "A Vibrant Youth Program"

Invitation to Open Hands

Opportunity To Open Hands

†Offertory: *Open Our Hearts (2x)* MV#21

†Offertory Prayer

Call to Prayer: *We Are Pilgrims (v.1)* VU#595

Pastoral Prayers & Prayer of Jesus

†Commissioning & Benediction

Hymn: *We Have This Ministry* VU#510

Postlude

St. Thomas UCW News: Our coupon books are back and have been selling for the past few Sundays. QUICK... get yours now. **Fair Trade Coffee** orders will be taken on **Sun. Sept. 17 and Sun. Sept. 24**. Time to replenish your stock. Excellent coffee to savour whilst eating toast and Wanda's preserves!! Our September meeting will be held on **Mon. Sept. 18 at 7pm** in the Lounge. This is our "get together evening of visiting and telling about our summer adventures". Bring stories and pictures/mementos. Questions? Need a ride? Contact Wanda Veer at 403-239-5964 or wandaveer@shaw.ca.

The 2017-18 coupon books have arrived! Please stop at the table in the Narthex on Sunday and check them out, or contact Lois at 403-239-6818 to have one put on hold for you. Buy them early and save early. Remember that half of the book cost is profit for UCW, which in turn is donated back to St. Thomas and other worthy causes. Thanks for your continued support!

Wanda's Preserves: Glorious crab apples and fruit this year. Just amazing what heat, sunshine, and NO HAIL does to our fruit crops. I will be selling preserves and pickles several Sundays in September and October. Thank you everyone for your donations of fruit, honey, vinegar, and JARS. I am now accepting jars of any size and shape. Proceeds go to the Kitchen Fund. 2017 donation to date is \$825.00.

Day trip to Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump September 16: We are doing a day trip and guided tour to Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump on Sat. Sept. 16. We will be car-pooling from the church, leaving at 9am. Our guided tour is from about 11:30 am–2pm and we will be returning to the church around 4:30pm. We must know how many are planning to join us by Sun. Sept. 10 and there is a sign-up sheet on the M & O Board in the Narthex. Head-Smashed-In is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and is proven to be older than the pyramids in Egypt. Please join us to learn about the Wonders in our backyard. For more information, please contact Karen Kavanagh at karenkavanagh80@gmail.com or 403-286-8073.

August 13, 2017: >1,500 participants raised **\$6.7 million dollars** for the Alberta Cancer Foundation! We know it is more than just 1,500 participants. We also know it is people like you. **Team 4 All** of **9** members raised just **\$47,200.26!** Come and join us in 2018. **Team 4 All** already have 3 new people! The ride continues ...
David Robertson, david.j.robertson@shaw.ca, 403-547-3123
<http://www.conquercancer.ca/goto/Team4All2018>; <http://www.conquercancer.ca/goto/DavidRobertson2018>

Youth Group : The Youth Leaders are looking forward to another action-packed year with the St. Thomas Youth Group. The first social event will be on **Sept. 8** from 6:30–9:30pm. All youth in grades 7 – 12 are welcome. Friends are always welcome as well. The first Sunday morning meeting will be on Sept. 10. For further information email youth@stthomasunited.ca.

Hot Seat Sunday, Sept. 10: Have you ever had a burning question about life, faith, God, the Bible, or what we do at church? Now is the time to ask your questions and hear Tracy and Justin's take on the answers! We can't promise to know or have the answers but this is the chance to ask your questions and see where the conversation takes us next. Please join us as we explore the burning questions of our community.

Sunday, September 10 is Welcome Back to Church day! Immediately following the service, the MOST group will be hosting a BBQ in the Mountainview Hall and upper parking lot to welcome everyone back after summer holidays. Please come and join us for some burgers, and dogs, and good times!

Junior Youth Group: There will be a special program for children in grades 4 – 6 on **Sept. 10** during the service, led by one of the Junior Youth Group Leaders. Junior Youth Group is for children in grades 4 – 6. The first social event will be on **Sept. 22** from 6:30– 8:30pm.

Surplus Furniture: The church has the following surplus furniture available FREE to anyone interested: In the upstairs Lounge: 2 desks with file pedestals, in the Shed: 1 office chair, 1 black bookcase suitable for basement or garage storage, 1 desk. If you are interested please contact the office or David Blackadar (dcblackadar@outlook.com), by Sun. Sept. 17.

Primetimers: Join us **Sept. 12 at 11am**, for a picnic at Baker Park. Bring your own bag lunch. Coffee and dessert will be provided. Bring a chair, a hat, and a coffee mug if you don't like paper cups. We will have games such as Bocci Ball and string golf. If the weather is poor, we will meet at the church. Call Marlene at 403-861-3910 or Marj at 403-239-3197, for more information.

Drumming Circles: On the 2nd Tuesday of every month, 7-9pm. The next drumming circle is **Sept. 12**. To register: complete a communication card or call the office at 403-241-0366.

Prayer Shawl Knitting is starting **Tues. Sept. 12** at 1pm in the Narthex.

Healing Touch starting Thurs. **Sept. 14**. For more info, see poster and pamphlet in the Narthex. To book an appointment please call the church office.

Veteran's Food Bank – As we approach the end of gardening season, here are some ideas for the Food Bank: canned vegetables (especially green beans), mixed veggies, and corn; pork n' beans and mixed beans; and canned fruits including mandarins, peaches, pears, pineapple, and apple sauce. Of course, pudding cups, Jell-O, cookies, candy, and popcorn are always welcome.

Quilting For Others meets every Thurs. morning (9am-12pm) in the Mountainview Hall starting **Sept. 14**, to make quilts for charitable organizations and/or members of the Congregation. Approximately 20 quilts per year are made from fabrics donated. You do not need to know how to quilt but if you can sew a straight line or hand stitch, you are needed. We are happy to mentor inexperienced quilters in the quilt-making process. We hope to see some new faces join us! If you are interested and want more information, please call Hope Cochran at 587-581-2616.

Sign-up for Sunday School teachers will be available mid-August, online and in the Narthex. All parents whose children attend Sunday school must fill a minimum volunteer requirement. A volunteer orientation/social will be held on **Sept. 14**, 7-7:30pm (kids from choir are welcome to hang out!) If you have questions, email Erin erinmacberko@gmail.com.

Avenue 15: We have our fall dates booked: **Sun. Sept. 24, Oct. 15, Nov. 12, and Dec. 17**. It would be great if you are able to spare a few hours to help us make dinner. For more information, please contact Hope Cochran at 587-581-2619

The KAIROS Blanket Exercise is a workshop that explores the nation-to-nation relationship between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples in Canada. Blankets arranged on the floor represent land, and participants are invited to step into the roles of First Nations, Inuit, and later Metis peoples. The workshop helps us understand how the colonization of this land impacts those who were here long before settlers arrived. It engages our minds and hearts in understanding why the relationship between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples is often broken, and how we can take action together. This exercise will be guided by a KAIROS trained facilitator as well as an Indigenous Elder. For those with allergy concerns, please note there will not be a smudge ceremony held in the room. A simple supper will be served following the exercise (vegetarian & gluten free options available). What's better than breaking bread together?? All are welcome (suggested for 12 years & up). Please spread the word! When: **Sat. Sept. 23, 1 - 5 p.m.** Where: Mountainview Hall (upstairs) Cost: Donations appreciated. RSVP to office@stthomasunited.ca

If you are single and attending St. Thomas, we are hoping you could call the office and provide us with an emergency contact (name and phone number). This person will only be contacted in case of emergency, and only by the Minister and/or Chair people. No contact names will be shared publicly.

Dates to Remember: * Youth Group, Sept. 8,* Sunday School Registration & Blessing of the Backpacks, Sept. 10, * Orchestra, Sept. 11,* Prayer Shawl Knitting, Sept. 12,*Drum Circle, Sept. 12,* Quilting for Others, start Sept. 7,* Tuesday's Grace Quilters, start Sept. 19,* Welcome Back to Church Sunday, Sept. 10,
* UCW Meeting, Sept. 18,* Primetimers, Sept. 12,* Jr. Youth Group, Sept. 22

Confirmation Classes will be held on the last Sunday of each month after church beginning in September. Anyone interested in becoming a member of St. Thomas United Church is encouraged to commit to participating in the classes on the following dates: 2017: Sept. 24, Oct. 29, Nov. 26, 2018: Jan. 28, Feb. 25, Mar. 25. Confirmation Sunday will be Easter - April 1

Office Hours: Regular office hours are Monday to Thursday 8:30-4:30, Fridays 8:30-12:30.

Please Note: We do Livestream most Worship Services. Here is the link with info: https://youtu.be/wel_ZSaZpdU.