



St. Thomas Lutheran Church News

*August 2015
XXXVII Issue 8*



Dear STLC Community,

What an incredible year! I have appreciated all the ways each of you has contributed to my learning and development as a minister of the church. Perhaps even more so, I have appreciated the relationships we have formed together. For years to come I will hold in my heart fond memories of shared conversations, prayers, songs, studies, meals, visits, and experiences. My time at St. Thomas has shaped me in ways known to me now, as well as ways that will probably be revealed in years yet to come.

I am thankful for the many opportunities to preach, teach, and practice the arts of ministry with different age groups. My interests in Earth care and sustainable living have deepened significantly from my participation with the garden and ecojustice studies. I have learned from being involved with conversations about the Capital Campaign. I have been enriched by the incredible musical talent within this community. I have enjoyed connecting with the Lutheran Campus Ministry students and walking with them on their journey this year. I have been nourished by meaningful worship and profoundly gratifying spiritual conversations. I have been challenged to grow, and seek, and trust, and try new things. I have been formed... and I have been supported and encouraged by this community every step of the way.

Thank you for opening your sanctuary and your hearts to me. I give thanks to God for our time together, I pray for your continued ministry in this place and I will miss you next year.

With much gratitude,

Marissa Tweed
Pastoral Intern

*Marissa's last Sunday will be August 16th
There will be a farewell reception
between Services
And following the 11:00 Service
(yes, 11:00) We return to our regular worship
schedule on the 16th*

All Things Education for 2015-2016!

After a summer of adventures near and far, it is almost time for our students to return to school and enter into the rhythms of the academic year. For us at St. Thomas, this means beginning a new season of intentional faith formation. As a community of Christians, we are fed in our faith through worship, prayer, personal devotion, relationships, and shared learning. The pastoral staff and education committee have been prayerfully discerning and preparing during these summer months. This newsletter contains lots of details about ways you and your families can engage your faith this coming school year. Please take a few minutes to read them all over, and pray about the ways God is calling you to share, learn, and grow in your faith.



Sunday School 2015-2016

All families are invited to attend our Sunday School Kick-Off on Sunday, August 23 at 9:45am. Location dependent on building construction.

Come meet your teachers and classmates and learn about our mission project!
Activities and refreshments for all ages!

Regular Sunday School and confirmation classes begin on Sunday, August 30 at 9:45am. Please note: high school classes will begin in November after confirmation.

This year's teachers are:

Sunday School Coordinator: Rev. Kelli Skram

Godly Play: Debbie Nixon, Sharon Fawbush, Tish Llewellyn

1-3: Cindy Ohslund, Stephanie Hulett

4-6: Dana Barron, Christiana Redman, Ronna Papesh

Confirmation (7-8): Pastor Colleen Montgomery, Pastor Lyle McKee

High School: Peter Iversen

Teachers: Don't forget we have teacher training for all new and returning teachers Monday, August 17, 6:30pm OR Saturday, August 22, 10am. Please plan on attending one of the sessions.

Ways you can support this ministry: Pray for our students and teachers, faithfully bring your children/grandchildren to class, serve as teacher or substitute, serve on the education committee

Youth Group

The St. Thomas Youth Group is for our 7th-12th grade students. We gather twice a month for fellowship, service, and learning. Pastor Colleen is the primary leader, but the more families and other adult leaders are involved the more our youth will thrive. The fall schedule is below.

Ways you can support this ministry: Pray for our youth and their families, faithfully bring your children to our gatherings, FEED US (Pastor Colleen is always looking for adults to bring us dinner), serve as a leader/chaperone

Sunday, August 23 – Volunteer at MCUM's Each One, Feed One Campaign, 3-6pm at MCUM

Sunday, August 30 – Youth Group at St. Thomas, 5:30-7:30pm

Sunday, September 20 – Youth Group at St. Thomas, 5:30-7:30pm

Sunday, October 4 – Youth Group at St. Thomas, 5:30-7:30pm

Sunday, October 18 – TBD – CROP Walk

Sunday, November 1 – Dinner Church and Family Game Night – 5:30-7:30pm

Sunday, November 15 - Youth Group at St. Thomas, 5:30-7:30pm

Sunday, November 24 – Advent Family Dinner

Sunday, December 20 – Youth Group Caroling Night

Adult Faith Formation

There are many ways for adults to engage in learning about their faith. Some of the opportunities are listed below.

Sunday Bible Study – A group meets each Sunday in room 11 to read and discuss the Bible.

Adult Forum – A rotating schedule of presentations are scheduled each month. If you would like to lead a forum, contact Pastor Colleen.

Book of Faith – This group meets every other Monday evening during the school year and works through an eight week unit on a book of the Bible. The first fall session will be Monday, September 14, 7pm.

Spiritual Growth Groups – There are a variety of small groups focused on a particular interest or demographic. Current groups include:

- Monday Bible Study – A group meets most Mondays during the school year. Contact Jan Ellis for more details.
- Locavores – A group interested in eating local and in sustainable agriculture practices.
- Lively Older Lutherans – Our retired group that gathers for fellowship throughout the year.
- Iona Prayer – A group that engages in prayer from the Iona Community in Scotland.
- Men's Group – A group of men who gather monthly to discuss a topic.
- Pub Theology – Pastor Colleen leads a monthly discussion on a lectionary reading. Open to young adults, 22+ older.
- Living History – A group that works to record our congregational history and stories of members.

Ways you can support these ministries: Attend one or more of these lively groups, keep all teachers and students in your prayers, lead an adult forum, start a new spiritual growth group

Again, I pray that you and your families will experience God's presence in these many and varied faith formation opportunities. If you have any questions, comments, or ideas please let me know! I'm always open to getting coffee, sharing a meal, or simply meeting in my office to talk.

Peace,
Pastor Colleen



Calling all quilters!

Pastor Colleen is looking for a few faithful quilters who would like to help design and create a special quilt to be used during children's sermons. The cement floor can be chilly in the winter months, and a quilt would provide warmth and help add to the ritual of gathering for the sermons. If you're interested, let Pastor Colleen know!

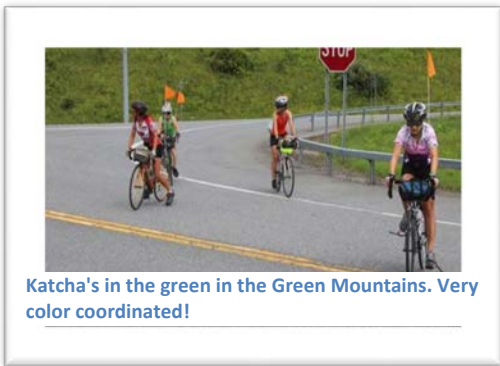
Sister Parish News

Please continue to pray for our sisters and brothers in Chichipate, Guatemala. There have been widespread protests in the capital surrounding corruption charges that reach to the highest level of government. At the same time, the government is touting new mining efforts in Chichipate's back yard as a way toward national economic development, but the mining companies have had historically poor human rights records as they push indigenous populations out of their way to claim their land and mineral rights.

But in our communications, there isn't a hint of this calamity. The saints of Santo Domingo de Guzman church ask simply to get to know us better. This feels a little like we are living an epistle where there is the threat of persecution all around, but the focus is on Christ and our relationships with each other.

For more information about Sister Parish, please visit them online at <http://sisterparish.org> and follow them on Facebook as well!

Mark Your Calendar
Return to Fall Schedule
August 16th
With services at
8:30 & 11:00



Congrats to Katcha Papesh!!!

Katcha participated in the deCycles 2015 bicycle trip from Bloomington to Nova Scotia, 1700 miles. She was one of about 60 students from ages 12 to 22 riding in this year's event. The three week trip ended on July 12th. Below are just a couple of clips from their daily journals:

---86-miles. 14.9-mph average. Fastest downhill speed 55-mph. Partly sunny, high 70s, no rain!! Yippee! Slight tailwinds.
Terrain: Rolling, mountain climbs in Green Mountains of VT.

---Penny Austin arranged showers at the local pool. Veteran adult rider Doug Snow declared a deCycles Snowday and paid for everyone's supper at a local Chinese buffet. That went over bigtime! You can win hearts on deCycles trips through their stomachs. Doug intimately knows that food can make a big difference on a bike trip.

---There were only 3-flats today after yesterday's record 26-flats in the all-day rain. Two riders fell down going up the hill. Not sure how that happened. Better uphill than down. We are staying in a charming New England Congregational church in downtown Brattleboro. Bedtime is 10:30pm. Hope the weather is good again tomorrow.

Congrats Katcha! What an accomplishment!

August Birthdays

8/2 Ron Brown

8/7 Bruce Colston, Lucille Ricketts

8/12 Evelyn Niemeyer

8/16 Gretchen Moehlmann

8/20 Jennifer Garl

8/23 Alex Nixon

8/24 Ben Eichmiller

8/25 Rebecca Dilger

8/29 Doug Bauder, Marie Briddell,
Debbie Nixon, Cindy Ohslund,
Dorothy Soudakoff

8/31 Leila Watters

Each One, Feed One

MCUM's annual **Each One Feed One** Food Drive is almost here! This year's event will be held August 21-23 during move-in weekend at area grocery stores, including **Kroger, Marsh, Bloomingfoods, Lucky's Market, and Hometown IGA.**

Over 200 volunteers are needed during this three-day food drive that restocks our pantry shelves after the summer, a time of traditionally slow donations. Volunteers are primarily needed to collect donations at area grocery stores (**store volunteers**) and to coordinate store and volunteer activities (**drivers and riders**). Individuals, families, and groups are all welcome to participate!

St. Thomas Youth Group will be helping out on Sunday, August 23 from 3 -6 pm

August Anniversaries

Peter & Leah Iversen 8/2/2008 7 years

Brian & Gail Bourkland 8/7/1993 22 years

John & Marilyn Harder 8/9/1958 57 years

Jim & Marti Doering 8/5/1985 30 years

Kem & Mary Hawkins 8/15/1970 45 years

Robert & Lisa Shetterley 8/23/2003 12 years

Kent & Barb Unger 8/27/1967 48 years

Max & Shirley Mingee 8/28/1971 44 years

August food Items for MCUM

Cooking Oil

Sugar

Ramen Noodles

Non-food items

Adult toothbrushes, children's toothpaste

Toilet bowl cleaner

Our mailing address is:

St. Thomas Lutheran Church, ELCA

3800 East Third Street

Bloomington, IN 47401

www.stlconline.org

There is a lovely new marble bench in the Prayer Garden. The gift is given in loving memory of Edith Unger. Our thanks to Kent and Barb Unger for making the arrangements.

If you wish to Unsubscribe from this list or update your preferences please email: kayehill@stlconline.org

August -September Volunteers 2015

AUGUST 2 AUGUST 9 AUGUST 16 AUGUST 23 AUGUST 30 SEPTEMBER 6 SEPTEMBER 13

8:30 AM 8:30 AM 8:30 AM 8:30 AM 8:30 AM 8:30 AM 8:30 AM

DEACON	Marissa Tweed	Kris Stewart	Ashley Ahlbrand	David Rohlfing	Kathleen Boggess	R Hershberger	Kris Stewart
LECTOR	Barb Unger	Dana Barron	ML Nierzwicki	N Montgomery	David Rohlfing	Lynn Coyne	Judy Bush
ACOLYTE	Madelyn Shupe	Natalie Schacht	Joel Arnold	Lilly Rademacher	E Goldsworthy	Zach May	A Goldsworthy
SERVER	ML Nierzwicki	Judy Bush	Jean Brown	Kathleen Boggess	Gene Laughman	Barb Unger	Martha Selk
USHERS	G/G Laughman	F/ML Nierzwick	D/D Nixon	L/U Coyne	J/M Doering	G/G Laughman	F/ML Nierzwicki
GREETERS	R/J Brown	D/K Boggess	L/U Coyne	Evelyn Niemeyer	M/J Laros	M/C Braun	K/B Unger
NURSERY	Tiffany Shupe	Misty White	Pauline Caldwell	Susan Krieg	Tiffany Shupe	Misty White	Susan Krieg
CRUCIFER							

FLOWERS							
BREAD/WINE	Bev Lingvai	Chris Ogan	C/K McDonald	Vicki Polansky	G/L Hitchcock	E Niemeyer	D/K Boggess
COUNCIL CO	John Bush	Cindy Gallien	Dean Arnold	S/M Eichmiller	John Bush	Dean Arnold	S/M Eichmiller
	Charles Sweet	Dean Arnold	Dennis Baurle	Maren Foley	Ashley Alhbrand	Ashley Alhbrand	Dean Arnold
ALTAR GUILD	Bev Lingvai	Cindy Gallien	Barb Unger	Bev Lingvai	Shirley Mingee	Cindy Gallien	Evelyn Niemeyer
	Jean Brown	Charlene Braun	Pauline Caldwell	Charlene Braun	Susan Lehr	Susan Lehr	Betty Smith

AUGUST 2 AUGUST 9 AUGUST 16 AUGUST 23 AUGUST 30 SEPTEMBER 6 SEPTEMBER 13

10:15 AM 10:15 AM 11:00 AM 11:00 AM 11:00 AM 11:00 AM 11:00 AM

DEACON	Marissa Tweed	R Hershberger	Lyman Hitchcock	Gary Ingersoll	Julia Bourkland	M O'Connor	Betty Smith
LECTOR	Peter Iverson	K McDonald	Maren Foley	Carol Seaman	Ashley Ahlbrand	Chris Ogan	Jennifer Garl
ACOLYTE	Leah Knipstein	M Bourkland	Sam Polansky	Birch Foley	Nina Daleke	Kenna Demick	Sophia Watters
SERVER	Gary Ingersoll	Ruth Rives	Stephanie Biehn	Charles Sweet	Lyman Hitchcock	Chris Ogan	Sandy Arnold
USHERS	D/S Arnold	Ohslund/McDonald	Baurle/Filiatrault	Kaye Hill	P/L May	D/S Arnold	Ohslund/McDonald
GREETER	C/K McDonald	M O'Connor	C/M Foley	Katie Anderson	Marie Briddell	Karen Blaisdell	Deb Moore
NURSERY	Haley Garl	Kim Filiatrault	Lauren Wright	Margaret Harder	Cindy Ohslund	C Redman	Haley Garl
CRUCIFER							

August 2015

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 Property Co 10 am
2 Worship @ 8:30 & 10:15	3 Community Band 7 pm	4 U Club Yoga Worship Co 6:30 pm PREN Home Owners Assoc 7pm	5 Mission Co 6:45 pm SIDHDIS 7:00 pm	6 Education Co 7:00 pm	7	8
9 Worship @ 8:30 & 10:15 Acolyte training 11:30	10 Community Band 7 pm	11 U Club Yoga 10:00	12	13 Finance Co 6 pm	14	15 Back Forty Work day 10 -2 LCM Board 10:30 K Isaacson wedding
16 Return to Fall Schedule Worship @ 8:30 & 11:00 Farewell Reception for Marissa	17 Bible study 1 pm Teacher training 6:30 Community Band 7 Spinners Weavers 7	18 U Club Yoga 10:00 Men's Group 7 pm	19	20 Choir Practice 7 pm	21	22 Teacher Training 10 am
23 Worship @ 8:30 & 11:00 Instillation of SCS Teachers SCS Rally Day 9:45 am	24 Community Band 7 pm	25 U Club Yoga 10:00	26	27	28	29
30 Worship @ 8:30 & 10:15 Education Hour 9:45 am Youth Group 5:30 am	31 Community Band 7 pm					