



St. Thomas Lutheran Church News

July, 2015

XXVII, Issue No. 7

Busy-ness

It seems I'm still waiting for the summer down time.

Often, come the end of May, things slow down around here. Yes, there are still folks rotating in and out because of vacations. Yes, our education programming is lessened a bit, though Vacation Bible School and the study of Islam have extended related opportunities well into June. And yes, some committees take a break in June and/or July.

However, things still seem to be popping around St. Thomas. I'll try a list, just to clear my head:

- The Building Committee has been hard at work dealing with construction estimates, contracts, and purchases related to our recent capital campaign. You'll read more about this elsewhere in this newsletter.
- The St. Thomas Community Garden continues to expand as time and good weather permit a small group of faithful workers to build and tend.
- The Property Committee has accomplished several significant projects in May and June. The berm around the sanctuary was given a "haircut." The large tree stump in the area inside the expanded community garden fence was ground down to make way for new garden beds.
- The Property and Worship Committees cleared out the Storage Room and Youth Room/Kitchenette, moving and sorting a massive amount of furniture, liturgical decorations, and maintenance items into Heritage Hall to prepare for upcoming construction.
- The Council accepted a bid, recommended by the Building Committee, for the major construction portion of our plan for use of capital campaign funds.
- Several folks from St. Thomas (six!) attended the Indiana-Kentucky Synod assembly in Indianapolis (June 5-7).
- A dedicated few have been moving plants from the patio gardens affected by the construction to plots set aside in the community garden in order to preserve them. These will be transplanted into new beds when construction is completed.

Whew! And construction has yet to begin.

Withal, we know that these are good things. We know that God is with us, urging us on to new and faithful things. And we rejoice in the blessings that we both have and share.

May the Holy Spirit continue to bless this place of mission and ministry. And may we all find times and places of rest and renewal in the midst of our busy-ness.

Grace and peace,

Pastor Lyle



From the associate pastor's desk, . .

This past month I celebrated six months of ordained ministry! It is hard to believe that I have been at St. Thomas for almost two years now, serving in a variety of roles. I'm thankful for the time we've had and for the ways the Holy Spirit is moving us into the future. I wanted to share a little bit about what it means for me to be newly ordained pastor in my first call.

As a first call pastor, I am expected to participate in what's called First Call Theological Education. This is an ELCA-wide program that supports newly rostered leaders in their new roles and fosters the habit of life-long continuing education. There are three components to this program that I will participate in for three years. Very trinitarian!

The first component is first call colleague group. There are two groups for the Indiana-Kentucky Mission Territory, and I participate in the southern group. We meet roughly once month for mutual support and edification. This is a chance for us to get insight into our growing edges and bond as new colleagues. I had the pleasure of hosting several of these gatherings and showing off the incredible lunch buffets that Bloomington offers.

The second component is annual retreats. There are two retreats – one that is for all of Region 6 of the ELCA (Michigan, Indiana, Kentucky, Ohio) and one that is synod specific. So far I have attended one of each. These are great ways to make connections with folks beyond my colleague group, get to know the synod leadership, and continue to grow in the arts of ministry.

The third and final component is my own personal continuing education goals. I'm still working on developing what I might like to pursue in a more focused manner. Finally being done with seminary and structured learning has been very freeing. However, I do find that I miss some of the academic rhythms. I'm in prayer this summer about what would be best for me to spend some concentrated time learning about.

Again, I'm grateful for the ways you have welcomed me as your pastor. I continue to hold all of you and your families in my prayers as we grow together in Christ.

Peace,

Pastor Colleen



Special Visit from Oaks Indian Mission Youth

On Saturday, July 11, St. Thomas will be host to 9 youth and 3 leaders from the Oaks Indian Mission in Oaks, Oklahoma as they travel to Detroit for the ELCA Youth Gathering. Their pastor, Meredith Harber, is a dear friend of Pastor Colleen, and Liz Gaskins is the president of the Mission's board.

We will host a pitch-in meal at 6:30pm on Saturday evening and they will join us for worship on Sunday morning. This is a special opportunity to get to know sisters and brothers who share in this important mission. Details are below.

If you interested in helping with this visit, here are some ways to get involved:

- Pitch-in set up
- Pitch-in clean up
- Donate breakfast on Sunday morning
- Lend air mattresses, sleeping bags, cots, and hand towels for use on Saturday night

Questions? Contact Pastor Colleen



Discussion of the Pope's Encyclical

You are invited to a conversation on the Pope's just-released encyclical letter on the environmental crisis, *Laudato Si', mi' Signore* ("Praise to you, my Lord"), Wednesday evening, July 1 from 6:00-8:00 PM in Rm. 16/17. Bring a salad-bar item to share. The evening will include a brief presentation of the "high points" of the document, but those wishing to read the full text will find it at http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/encyclicals/documents/papa-francesco_20150524_enciclica-laudato-si.html.



July Youth Group Events

Tuesday, July 14, 7pm – Movie night! See email for more details

8th-9th Grade Confirmation Day of Service – See email

Mark your calendars...

2015 Sunday School Kick-off: August 30th, 9:45am!





VBS 2015: *Splash into God's Word*

This year's theme for Vacation Bible School at St. Thomas was *Splash into God's Word*. From June 14th-June 18th kids learned, played, crafted, imagined, and splashed their way to fun-filled, spirit-led discovery about God. Each day focused on a beloved water story from Scripture. Each day had a color assigned to it and participants and volunteers were invited to dress up in the color of the day. Each day began with a meal together, included an opening and closing, a bible story segment, a craft or science project, and time set aside for

games. We had a blast!

- **Day 1: Noah (Red)** - We learned about the rainbow and how God keeps God's promises. We made a marble paint craft and played animal-themed games.
- **Day 2: Jonah (Yellow)** - We learned that God is with us where ever we go, even inside the belly of a fish. We had our pictures taken and put them inside "belly of a fish" picture frames we made.
- **Day 3: Walk on Water (Green)** - We learned that Jesus walks with us, even and especially in times of fear and uncertainty. We traced our feet to make colored magnets that say, "Jesus Walks with me."
- **Day 4: Woman at the Well (Blue)** - We learned about living water through science experiments like raisins in seltzer water and white carnations in water colored with food coloring.
- **Day 5: Lydia (Purple)** - We learned about Lydia's purple cloth business and that her entire household was baptized after they heard the good news from Paul. We crushed plants to make our own dye and then painted with it.

Each night began with a delicious dinner and ended with a yarn blessing: everyone received a piece of yarn for each day to remind them of the stories, the fun, and the connection we have to one another as God's children.

We also spent some time talking about the ELCA World Hunger Campaign, Walk 4 Water. This project is the same one that the ELCA Youth Gathering will be raising money for next month in Detroit. We invited children and families to contribute to this campaign during VBS and on Sunday. Because of your generosity we raised \$282 - That's enough for almost 200 feet of an irrigation canal! Well done!! If you'd like to learn more about Walk 4 Water please see this video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AftOMnWfBDo>

A huge thank you to all the volunteers who not only made VBS possible, but made it so memorable for everyone involved. Thank you for sharing your time and your talents with this important ministry.

Enjoy the pictures!

Marissa Tweed



Sister Parish News

On May 18th, we received news from our sisters and brothers in Chichipate, Guatemala. Clara and Santiago send greeting from their community:

Clara- Thank you to our brothers and sisters for inviting us [to visit Indiana]. We hope to be able to return the favor in the future. You have opened your doors to us and we will do the same for you. Your needs are different from ours and sometimes we do not know how to act because we have no point of reference. Sometimes we do things without knowing in what we are failing in. But the purpose of the delegation is that our brothers and sisters from Chichipate can go there and return to let us know in where we are failing and succeeding.

Santiago- I had the opportunity to visit in 2005 with Virginia. I have seen the changes in the relationship over the years. I thank you for the support you have given us. You never have failed in coming to visit us and telling us to keep forward. The increased participation of the women is going to help the overall church and community. The communication little by little is improving and people are understanding that Sister Parish is more than just projects. I see the change in the communication and support that is being offered by Sister Parish. Thank you for continuing to be linked with us.

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



Building Committee Report

On Wednesday, May 27, the Building Committee received two bids for Phase 2 construction. As a reminder, this will replace the roof over the west end of the building between the new and old narthex areas, add storage north of the Youth Room, create a drive-up to the west of the patio, remove the existing Storage Room south of the new narthex, add a patio south of the new narthex connecting the narthex to the Prayer Garden, seal and re-stripe the parking lot, and add a circular window in the west wall of Heritage Hall.

The bids were from Strauser (\$250,800) and Weddle Brothers (\$196,200). After consulting with our architect to be certain that the bids took all specifications fully into account, the committee recommended the lower bid to the Council. The Council then approved the Weddle Brothers bid at its meeting on June 14. As soon as the state signs off on the construction documents, we will schedule construction, which will likely begin in early July.

The committee has also ordered a new range, which is slated to be installed by the end of June (finally). Other kitchen equipment is being sought, especially a new dishwasher (or two) and new ovens.

The water heaters too remain on the committee's agenda. Three contractors are currently making assessments and preparing estimates for a variety of approaches to dealing with the problems we need to address. These are two. One is being sure that hot water is quickly available at all sink locations; currently it can take two or three minutes. The other is our desire to reduce energy usage.

Plans for new flooring in Community Hall and repair or replacement of broken moveable wall panels are also beginning to take shape.

There is much to do, and suggestions are welcome. Please keep the committee in your prayers.

LCM Yard Sale Thanks

The Lutheran Campus Ministry Staff and Board of Directors extend a huge THANK YOU to everyone from St. Thomas who donated items for the LCM yard sale held on May 30. Thanks also to the St. Thomas staff for being so supportive and flexible. Finally, a special thanks to all who helped with yard and bake sale preparations and those who helped out on sale day, including Ashley Ahlbrand, Dawn Bakken, Pauline Caldwell, Jan Ellis, Kim Filiatrault, Haley Garl, Kaye Hill, Gayl Laughman, Gene Laughman, Meredith Lutz, Craig McDonald, Kathy McDonald, Cindy Ohslund, Jim Pankow, Claire Repsholdt, Andrew Rusch, Natalie Schacht, Charlene Wheeler, and Richard Zellers. We had a very successful sale, thanks to *all* of you! Your collective efforts will help fund our outreach to students on the IU campus during the upcoming academic year.



Welcome New Members

On May 31st we received seven new members. Check out their bios and photos posted in the narthex.

JoAnne Namy – Has lived in Bloomington since 1970. She has two grown daughters Laura and Tanya. JoAnne has recently retired from the IU Kelly School of business where she was an adviser to incoming freshman.

Erin Wyatt, with children Molly (age 7) and Ike (age 5) – Erin and husband Steve have lived in Bloomington for 10 years. Erin is currently a full time PhD student majoring in nursing and a minor in gender studies. Erin and Steve are expecting a baby boy in August.

Gretchen Moehlmann, with children Ila (age 4) and Arno Risner (age 6) – Gretchen and husband Jonathan Risner moved to Bloomington from North Carolina two years ago. Gretchen is a teacher at Jackson Creek Middle School. Jonathan is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese at IU.



A Word of Thanks

Thank you to the crucifers, on behalf of the worship committee, for their service during the past year. They do a wonderful job of keeping track of when it is their Sunday to serve, or getting substitutes when the need arises. Thanks to Dave Belbutoski, Dean Arnold, Sarah and Tim Climis, Jim Halvorson, David Ellies, Barb and Kent Unger and Charles Sweet. These folks serve during both the late and early services on festival Sundays. They also help with communion on the Sundays when they are crucifers. Please know that you are appreciated!

If you would like to serve in this way, please let Karen Rohlfing, Gayl Laughman, Pastor Lyle, Kaye Hill or Susan Krieg know. They will be happy to add you to the list! We will miss having Sarah and Tim help us since they have moved to Duluth. (Lucky Duluth!!) That means we have two empty spots. Training is short, easy and available, so feel free to volunteer. You should be high school age or above and able to carry our processional cross. We'd love to have your help. Crucifers, I will be getting a schedule out for 2015-16 so you'll have plenty of time to decide when you'd like to serve. Thanks, again!



Mission Endowment Fund Call for Proposals

The Mission Endowment Fund provides funding for special projects at St. Thomas Lutheran Church, local outreach, and missions beyond the local community. Distributions from the endowment are made quarterly and are for programs or projects not already supported by the congregation's budget. Any member of St. Thomas may submit a proposal by completing the paper or electronic forms available from the church office. If you have a project in need of funding, please submit an application by one of the quarterly deadlines: before the first day of February, May, and August, and November. If you have questions, please contact the office or David Daleke, Chair of the Mission Endowment Fund Committee.



Hog Roast Thanks!

Millions of thanks to everyone who participated in the St. Vincent de Paul annual Hog Roast & Beer Garden! The food was wonderful, the entertainment was fabulous, and the weather (aside from one brief storm!) was great! Thanks to your generous support, St. Vincent de Paul raised \$14,400, which will provide much needed financial support for our neighbors in need throughout the summer and fall. Again, many, many thanks!

Add these new addresses to your directory:

Pr. Colleen Montgomery

585 E Graham Place

Bloomington, IN 47401(beginning 7/5/15)

Gretchen Moehlmann and family

1250 E Tylers Turn (47401)

812-318-1601

JoAnne Namy

3629 Kingsbury Ave (47401)

Erin Wyatt and family

601 N Grandview (47408)

812-345-0539

Correction to Curt Knudsen's phone #

812-361-9424

July Anniversaries

7/1	Jeff Schacht & Kelli Skram	20 years
7/2	Tim & Sarah Climis	4 years
	Mike & Whitney Raver	4 years
7/5	Leif & Amanda Madsen	2 years
7/12	Sam & Missy Eichmiller	29 years
7/18	Lyman & Gloria Hitchcock	56 years
7/26	Dean & Sandy Arnold	29 years

MCUM Needs for July

Food Items: Applesauce

Canned Beans (black, kidney, pinto),

Canned Veggies (carrots, potatoes, greens)

Puddings & Jell-o mixes

Non Food Items:

Household Cleaners – window, bathroom, floor

Denture cleaning supplies, women's deodorant

News from the Congregation

Our best wishes for Emily Garl and Jonathan Kagemann, who are to be married on July 12th

Congrats also to Emily who has just completed her graduate degree from IU in speech language pathology.

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Meg Garl graduated from Bellarmine University with a nursing degree. She has a position at Kosair Children's Hospital in Louisville KY in pediatric oncology

Sarah Isaacson who just graduated from IU has a teaching position in Indianapolis.

Hannah Wood recently graduated from IU and is in Rwanda serving in the Peace Corps for the next two years.

WE SAY FAREWELL TO:

Kem and Mary Hawkins – Kem has just retired from Cook INC and they are moving; summers will be spent in Michigan and winters in Florida.

Tim, Sarah and baby Gregory Climis have moved to Minnesota.

Laurie and Hannah Ringquist have moved to Wisconsin. Daughter Rachel is already there attending the University of Wisconsin.

July Birthdays

7/2 Joshua Melton, Renee Steele

7/3 Janet Ellis

7/9 Tim Garl, Liam Raver

7/11 Naomi Sveholm

7/12 Pauline Caldwell

7/14 Samuel Polansky

7/15 Audrey Knipstein,
Mitchell Knipstein, Sophia
Watters, Misty White

7/19 Carl Ziegler, Kari Isaacson

7/21 Shari Rogge-Fidler

7/22 Ute Coyne

7/24 Marian Baughman

7/27 Jaydene Laros, Dawn Smith

7/30 Natalie Johnson

7/31 Hannah Wood

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

JULY - AUGUST VOLUNTEERS

	JULY 5	JULY 12	JULY 19	JULY 26	AUGUST 2	AUGUST 9	AUGUST 16
	8:30 AM	8:30 AM	8:30 AM	8:30 AM	8:30 AM	8:30 AM	8:30 AM
DEACON	Kathleen Boggess	R Hershberger	David Rohlfing	Kris Stewart	Marissa Tweed	Gail Seegert	Gail Seegert
LECTOR	Kris Stewart	Pauline Caldwell	Karen Rohlfing	Kent Unger	Barb Unger	Dana Barron	ML Nierzwicki
ACOLYTE	Lilly Rademacher	Natalie Schacht	E Goldsworthy	A Goldsworthy	Madelyn Shupe	Natalie Schacht	Joel Arnold
SERVER	Kent Unger	Shirley Mingee	David Ellies	Mary Sasse	ML Nierzwicki	Judy Bush	Jean Brown
USHERS	F/ML Nierzwicki	D/D Nixon	L/U Coyne	J/M Doering	G/G Laughman	F/ML Nierzwick	D/D Nixon
GREETERS	Shirley Mingee	Bob Cutter	G/G Laughman	David Ellies	R/J Brown	D/K Boggess	L/U Coyne
NURSERY	Pauline Caldwell	Misty White	Susan Krieg	Pauline Caldwell	Tiffany Shupe	Misty White	Susan Krieg
CRUCIFER							
FLOWERS		Kaye Hill	L/U Coyne	B/C Gallien			
BREAD/WINE	L/A Madsen	T/J Garl	G/G Laughman	Bev Lingvai	Mary Sasse	Chris Ogan	C/K McDonald
COUNCIL CO	Maren Foley	John Bush	Cindy Gallien	S/M Eichmiller	John Bush	Cindy Gallien	Dean Arnold
	Charles Sweet	Dennis Baurle	Charles Sweet	Dennis Baurle	Charles Sweet	Dean Arnold	Dennis Baurle
ALTAR GUILD	Jean Brown	Bev Lingvai	Ute Coyne	Evelyn Niemeyer	Bev Lingvai	Cindy Gallien	Barb Unger
	Pauline Caldwell	Carole Kirsch	Gail Seegert	Mary Sasse	Jean Brown	Charlene Braun	Pauline Caldwell
	JULY 5	JULY 12	JULY 19	JULY 26	AUGUST 2	AUGUST 9	AUGUST 16
	10:15 AM	10:15 AM	10:15 AM	10:15 AM	10:15 AM	10:15 AM	10:15 AM
DEACON	M O'Connor	Julia Bourkland	Gary Ingersoll	Ashley Ahlbrand	Marissa Tweed	Lyman Hitchcock	Lyman Hitchcock
LECTOR	Peter Iversen	Deb Moore	M O'Connor	Lyman Hitchcock	Debbie Selk	Kathy McDonald	Carol Seaman
ACOLYTE	Kenna Dimick	Sophia Watters	Mitchell Knipstein	Monet Lahn	Leah Knipstein	M Bourkland	Sam Polansky
SERVER	Kathy McDonald	Haley Garl	Carol Seaman	David Daleke	Gary Ingersoll	Ruth Rives	Stephanie Biehn
USHERS	Hill/Owens	Ohslund/McDonald	Baurle/Filiatrault	P/L May	D/S Arnold	Hill/Owens	Ohslund/McDonald
GREETER	C Wheeler	T/J Garl	Margaret Harter	L/A Madsen	C/K McDonald	M O'Connor	C/M Foley
NURSERY	Kim Filiatrault	Margaret Harter	Cindy Ohslund	C Redman	Haley Garl	Kim Filiatrault	Lauren Wright
CRUCIFER							

July 2015

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 Pope Francis encyclical 6-8 pm	2	3	4 Property Co 10 am
5 Worship @ 8:30 & 10:15	6 Church Office Closed Community Band 7 pm	7 U Club Yoga 10:00	8	9	10	11 Back 40 Work Day 10 -2 pm Oaks Indian Mission Youth 6:30 pitch-in
12 Worship @ 8:30 & 10:15 Groundbreaking Ceremony 10:15 am Congregation Council 11:30 am	13 Community Band 7 pm	14 U Club Yoga 10:00	15	16	17	18
19 Worship @ 8:30 & 10:15	20 Community Band 7 pm Spinners/Weavers 7 pm	21 U Club Yoga 10:00	22	23	24	25
26 Worship @ 8:30 & 10:15	27 Community Band 7 pm	28 U Club Yoga 10:00	29 Friday Musicale Board 9:30 am	30	31	