



St. Thomas Lutheran Church

October 2019

XXXXI, Issue 10

News from the Council

Meet Our New Interim Pastor on September 29

Between our two services, we'll hold a meet-and-greet in Heritage Hall with Pastor Darby Lawrence, our new interim pastor. Pastor Darby has just moved to Bloomington from Rochester, Minnesota. He has served Lutheran parishes in Minnesota and Illinois for 27 years. Now he will pastor St. Thomas as we begin the process of choosing and calling a new pastor.



Call Committee Slate from the STLC Council

Council met on Sunday, September 15, and chose our slate of six nominees for the Call Committee. We started with a lengthy list of well-qualified people and the decision was difficult. We voted with six criteria in mind, considering what we believed to be several of the most important priorities of our congregation: representation of young families, representation of retired members, commitment to diversity and inclusive community, lay leadership (both in the congregation and in the community), commitment to liturgical worship, and commitment to Christian education. We believe that all six of these individuals would well serve the congregation on the Call Committee, and we unanimously recommend them to the congregation. Council's slate is (in alphabetical order):

Sacha Arterberry
Liz Gaskins
Peter Iversen
Gayl Laughman
Kristin Marsh
Lindsey Smith

Special Congregational Meeting to Elect the Call Committee

On Sunday, October 20, immediately following the second service, we will hold a special congregational meeting to elect the six members of the Call Committee. The ballot will include the six candidates put forward by the council, as well as any nominees from the congregation (Please see the article below). This will be the only item on the agenda, and we will do everything to make the process go as smoothly and quickly as possible. **Please plan to stay/return and vote!** Members of the call committee will be the people receiving names of pastoral candidates from the synod, interviewing each, and helping to decide if that person is the best choice for our congregation. They will play a vital role in our transition process to calling a new pastor. **Your vote is important.**



Prayers and Best Wishes to Our Confirmands

Congratulations to our young adults who are completing the requirements for our confirmation program at St. Thomas Church. They have engaged in class work, retreats, memorization, and service to the congregation and community. Truman Daleke, Koral Dimick, Sarah Goldsworthy, and Matthew Schacht will be confirmed at 11:00 worship on Reformation Sunday, October 27th. May God continue to bless them with wisdom, growth in faith, and a spirit of joyful service to the Lord, the Church, and all creation.



LOOKING for Youth and Adults to serve as Crucifers

We are looking for additional youth and adults to add to our list of volunteers already serving as Crucifers for "festival" worship services. The "festival" services during the church year include Reformation, All Saints, Christ the King, Christmas Eve, Transfiguration, Palm Sunday, Easter, and Pentecost. Volunteers can serve as both crucifer/server within the service or choose to be crucifer only. The Crucifer is asked to robe for this volunteer position. Training is provided by Karen Rohlfing, a member of the Worship Committee.

As a Crucifer, you play an important role in the service by carrying the Cross in the procession and recession of worship leaders reminding us of the sacrifices of our Lord.

Regardless of your level of interest, if you would like to learn more about this important way of serving, please visit with or email Susan Krieg at susank@stlconline.org; Gayl Laughman @ g.a.laugh@comcast.net. Thank you for giving this important role in worship at St. Thomas your consideration.

From the Worship Committee

INTERESTED IN THE HISTORY OF ST. THOMAS?



The archival area of the education office has been cleared! (Grateful thanks to the clean-up crew!). Now there is no excuse left for filing the vast amounts of things collected that should be filed away.

If anyone is interested in helping with this task, or, if you simply are interested in seeing something of what has been happening at St. Thomas recently or in the past, we'd love to have you join us. For either or both, please let me or Susan in the office know. The filing will begin this fall. Call me at 812-606-6045 or 812-339-4733, or email me at smithg@indiana.edu, or simply talk with me at church some Sunday soon!

Thank you! Betty Smith



Youth Group

"What have the youth been up to?" The Youth Group met for a movie night and discussion in early September. We viewed the film, "The Hate U Give" and discussed the implications of racism and violence in our society. We brainstormed together how we can each make a difference in our community. Later in September, we volunteered for a service project with Hoosier Hills Food Bank, repacking food. Thank you to Stephanie Hulett for organizing our service project!

October 6 – 5:30 – 7:30 pm: Board Game Night at STLC! Bring your favorite board game.
October 20 – 5:30 – 7:30 pm: Youth Group at STLC!

Education

We are actively looking for Adult Forum topics for this year! If you have an idea or are interested in presenting, please contact Amy Balcam at (928aab@gmail.com).

Adult Forum

October 6 – Saving Jesus Redux starts! Lesson #6

“Saving Jesus Redux” will continue to meet on alternating Sundays, starting October 6. Lessons #6 and #7 are available to pick up in the narthex or the office.

October 13 – No class (Fall Break)

October 20 – Saving Jesus Redux

October 27 – Diane Legomsky – Bloomington Refugee Network

The Bloomington Refugee Support Network: Doing their Best to Serve Refugees, Asylum Seekers, Dreamers, and other Immigrants in Monroe County and across the Country

On October 27, Diane Legomsky, head of the Bloomington Refugee Support Group will present an adult forum that will update us all on the activities of the group in the Bloomington area. As you know, the number of refugees at the national level has been reduced dramatically, and especially when it relates to the refugees we were supposed to receive in Bloomington (from Syria and the Congo). However, the group has been helping out with refugees in the community and in Indianapolis, providing information to gatherings across the city and trying to keep the interest alive in the face of the stalled process at the national level. The activities of the network include educating the public, researching and developing resources for immigrants; helping clients obtain needed resources, advocating for increased resettlement of refugees in the country and in Bloomington; fundraising; and raising public awareness, interest and commitment for refugee resettlement.



Spiritual Growth Groups – *What are they, anyway?*

- † Opportunities to join together under common interests with spiritual purposes: studying scripture, growing in faith, and helping to support a mission in the community.
- † Revitalized, flexible, and meaningful ways to keep learning.

Why join?

- † Enjoy the company of people who share your interest.
- † Grow spiritually, while helping others do the same.
- † Expand your circle of friends.
- † Connect faith and life.
- † Celebrate mutual gifts.

Spiritual Growth Groups Fair will take place on **October 6th**, **between services and after late service**. Come explore existing groups and bring any ideas you have for new groups. Our Spiritual Growth Groups have been very active this past year!



Women's Book Club will be meeting at Amy's house (3853 S. Mill Stone Way, Bloomington) on **October 7th**, from **6:30 – 8:00 pm**. We will be finishing up Brene Brown's "An Altar in the World". Feel free to bring a treat to share!



God's Work, Our Hands Sunday

On September 8, from 2:00-4:00 pm twelve St. Thomas members gave some "elbow grease" to support New Hope for Families. At the early childhood center (The Nest) stacks of cleaning cloths and spray bottles filled with soapy water or Simple Green had been readied for our eager hands to tackle some deep cleaning. Post-it notes stuck on the tiny tables and chairs, play equipment, kitchen cabinets, and walls, identified items needing a more thorough cleaning. As we cleaned we admired the high quality wooden tot-sized furniture that filled the small but cozy rooms. It truly felt like a space that held a lot of love for its little tots.

At one of the homes that provides emergency housing, a wooden walkway in disrepair was replaced with pavers. Some yard clean-up was also accomplished. A fun time was had by all!



The Need is Real

Can't make rent. Need help with my electric bill. My electricity is going to be disconnected (and I have children). These are the common needs we hear in the church office. We take referrals from the Shalom Center and Salvation Army and St Vincent de Paul to further assist people that come to them seeking aid. So far this year we have helped an average of 2.5 people per month. Did you know that contributions to the Pastor's Discretionary Fund are welcome at St. Thomas? If you would like to aid folks who are experiencing hard times, just note "Pastor's Discretionary Fund" on your check. Thank you!



From around the Bloomington Community...

Join us for Cupcakes and Conversation at the **Monroe County CASA** office (201 N. Morton) on October 22nd from 4:30-6:30 p.m. Stop in for a sweet treat and learn more about what's happening at CASA! Monroe County CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) provides advocacy for children that are involved in abuse or neglect cases in the Monroe County court system. Join us for delicious cupcakes, talk to current CASA volunteers and learn more about what it's like to advocate for a child. For more information call 812-333-CASA or visit www.monroecountycasa.org.
~Amber Shride, Monroe County CASA Resource Development Coordinator

Stages Bloomington— of which several STLC youth are a part— has two wonderful, family-friendly productions coming up! Enchanted Tales is a Halloween performance and games event – great for kids – on October 24-27, at 222 W. 2nd Street. Aladdin & the Wonderful Lamp will be held at the Waldron Theater from November 8-10. Natalie Schacht will be part of the November 8th (7 pm) and November 9th (2 pm) cast! For more information, check out the Stages website (www.stagesbloomington.org) or talk to Natalie Schacht.

A Note in response to our Art REsale

Dear All,

On behalf of the Bloomington Refugee Support Network, I would like to convey our deepest gratitude for your generosity in including us in your beautiful fundraiser. The pieces were all lovely (and, between all of you and me, if my husband weren't there, I probably would have bought everything! 😊 -- Just kidding, he also thought it was an incredible display, and is so very appreciative as well).

At the BRSN, we are always struggling to meet as many of the needs and requests as possible for immigrant families that come to Bloomington. Your contribution has enabled us to supplement the attorney fees for one of these families, to the point where the family now has sufficient funds for their attorney. (Without an attorney, there is virtually no chance of receiving asylum.)

Thank you again, so much, for your generosity and kindness.

Take good care,
Diane Legomsky, Chair,
BRSN

Pipes Spooktacular at St. Thomas



The annual Pipes Spooktacular will be held Friday, October 25, 7:00pm at St. Thomas. Sponsored by the IU Organ Department and the Bloomington chapter of the American Guild of Organists, the Spooktacular is a family-friendly event featuring spooky organ music, costumes, candy, and even singing pumpkin carols! Wear your best costume and come early for a good seat – the Spooktacular has become one of Bloomington's most popular Halloween traditions!



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|-------|-----------------------------------|-------|---------------------------------------|
| 10/4 | Bailey Arnold | 10/20 | Tim Smith |
| 10/5 | Dan Rademacher | 10/21 | Lynn Coyne, Isaac Wyatt |
| 10/6 | Walt Wood | 10/22 | Robin Hershberger |
| 10/9 | Leah Iversen, Frank
Nierzwicki | 10/24 | Debbie Selk, Noah Smith |
| 10/10 | Charlene Braun | 10/26 | Shirley Minge, Jerry Smith |
| 10/12 | Randy Nye | 10/27 | Karen Cline |
| 10/13 | Kathy Zellers | 10/28 | Sharon Fawbush |
| 10/14 | Bob Cutter, Nancy
Chadburn | 10/29 | Rey Kante, Rachel Bourkland, Nina Ost |
| 10/16 | Beth Berns | 10/30 | Tish Llewellyn |
| 10/17 | Susan Lehr, Mary
Sasse | 10/31 | Stephanie Hulett, Eric Klimpke |
| 10/18 | Paul Leber, Jan Sinn | | |
| 10/19 | Marta Deibert | | |
- ANNIVERSARIES:**
Rance & Sharon Fawbush 10/6, 46 years
David & Debbie Nixon 10/14, 30 years
Mike & Jaydene Laros 10/23, 48 years

Unsubscribe from this list or update your preferences by emailing: susank@stlconline.org

Worship Volunteers October 6 - November 17, 2019

	OCT 6*	OCT 13	OCT 20	OCT 27*	NOV 3*	NOV 10	NOV 17*
	8:30 AM	8:30 AM	8:30 AM	8:30 AM	8:30 AM	8:30 AM	8:30 AM
ASST MINISTER	R Hershberger	Kris Stewart	Lindsey Smith	Kathleen Boggess	David Rohlfing	Natalie Schacht	R Hershberger
LECTOR	Barb Unger	Judy Bush	Matt Marsh	Letty Newkirk	Karen Rohlfing	Kent Unger	David Ellies
ACOLYTE	Sophia Rust	Audrey Knipstein	Lilly Rademacher	Molly Wyatt	Audrey Knipstein	Matthew Schacht	Noah Smith
SERVER	Mary Sasse	Karlyn Grise	John Bush	Kent Unger	David Ellies	Gene Laughman	Letty Newkirk
USHERS	G/G Laughman	L/U Coyne	Newkirk/Strentz	G/G Laughman	F/ML Nierzwicki	J/M Doering	L/U Coyne
GREETERS	D/L Newkirk	G/G Laughman	David Ellies	M/C Braun	Mary Sasse	C/S Arterberry	Shirley Mingee
CRUCIFER				Kent Unger	David Ellies		
FLOWERS	G/G Laughman	Sonja Dorr Binder	L/U Coyne	Betty Smith	David Ellies		Kris Stewart
BREAD/WINE	G/G Laughman	Sonja Dorr Binder	M/M Smith				
COUNCIL CO	K Boggess	T/M Smith	D/A Balcam	G Moehlmann	Jennifer Garl	D/L Newkirk	Pauline Caldwell
ALTAR GUILD	Ashley Ahlbrand	Ronna Papesh	Frank Nierzwicki	Sam Eichmiller	Tom Sinn	Ronna Papesh	Frank Nierzwicki
	G Moehlmann	Dean Arnold	Liz Gaskins	Ashley Ahlbrand	Ashley Ahlbrand	G Moehlmann	
	Evelyn Niemeyer	Mary Sasse	Cindy Gallien	Barb Unger	Barb Unger	Shirley Mingee	Cindy Gallien
	Gail Seegert	Betty Smith	Charlene Braun	Mary Sasse	Margaret Harter	Betty Smith	Jan Sinn
	OCT 6	OCT 13*	OCT 20*	OCT 27*	NOV 3*	NOV 10*	NOV 17
	11:00 AM	11:00 AM	11:00 AM	11:00 AM	11:00 AM	11:00 AM	11:00 AM
ASST MINISTER	Gail Seegert	Amy Balcam	Debbie Witt	Mike Witt	Lyman Hitchcock	Ashley Ahlbrand	Gail Seegert
LECTOR	Jerry Smith	Kari Esarey	Gail Seegert	Kathy McDonald	Sandy Arnold	Jennifer Garl	G Moehlmann
ACOLYTE	Kenna Dimick	Noah Smith	Sophia Watters	Max Arterberry	Sam Polansky	Nina Daleke	Irene Fogleman
SERVER	Betty Smith	G Moehlmann	Sandy Arnold	*	*	Margaret Harter	Kathy McDonald
USHERS	Filiatrault/Baurle	Hill/Arnold	McDonald/Ohslund	Hill/Arnold	Filiatrault/Baurle	McDonald/Ohslund	P/L May
GREETER	Nancy Chadburn	J/B Smith	G Moehlmann	Karen Rohlfing	Kari Esarey	R/N Nye	Jan Sinn
CRUCIFER				*	*		

October 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 10:30 AM UClub Yoga 6:30 PM Worship Comm.	2 9:30 AM Friday Musicale Board	3 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	4	5 4:30 PM Haley Garl wedding
6 8:30 & 11:00 Worship 9:45 Sunday School; Saving Jesus Redux 9:30 Spiritual Growth Group Fair	7	8 10:30 AM UClub Yoga	9 6:00 PM St Vincent de Paul	10 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 6:00 PM Finance Committee	11	12 9:00 AM Garage Clean-out 10:00 AM Garden Work Day
13 8:30 & 11:00 Worship 9:45 Sunday School; Women's Bible Study 12:30 Council Mtg 2:30 Bach Cantata	14	15 10:30 AM UClub Yoga 3:00 PM Stone Belt Spiritual Support Training	16	17 5:00 PM Stone Belt Spiritual Support Training 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	18	19
20 8:30 & 11:00 Worship 9:45 Sunday School; Saving Jesus Redux 12:00 Special Congregational Meeting Youth Group	21	22 10:30 AM UClub Yoga 4:30 PM Earth Care	23 6:00 PM St Vincent de Paul	24 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	25 7:00 PM Pipes Spooktacular	26
27 Reformation 8:30 & 11:00 Worship Confirmation @ 11:00 9:45 Sunday School	28	29 10:30 AM UClub Yoga	30	31 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	**Daylight Savings Time ends at 2:00 AM Sunday morning Nov 3. Adjust your clocks so you don't miss church. ☺	