



WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS
and UPCOMING EVENTS
for the week of
December 6, 2020

We are a Christ-centered community that
lives, shares and celebrates God's grace with
all people!

ST. THOMAS EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

3800 East Third Street
Bloomington, Indiana 47401
Phone: (812) 332-5252
Rev. Adrienne Meier, Pastor
pastoradrienne@gmail.com

December 6, Second Sunday of Advent



We continue with our virtual worship service. The service will be available on YouTube at 11:00 a.m. Sunday.

You may use this link to access the service:

<https://www.youtube.com/c/StThomasLutheranChurchBloomington>
or access the link from the St Thomas website (stlconline.org).

Virtual Narthex - December 6, 10:10 AM

<http://bit.ly/virtualnarthexnov1>

St. Nicholas Zoom Party- December 6, 4:00 PM

There are a great number of celebrations throughout the season of Advent that we often gloss over, one of them is the Feast of St. Nicholas. In lieu of our traditional Advent Dinner, we're having a celebration on Zoom on St. Nicholas Day. Here is a link to a fun packet of ideas – like crafts, stories, facts, and recipes for kids and grown-ups – to celebrate the season of Advent and this fun feast:

<https://bit.ly/stlcstnickresources>

Then join us on Zoom at 4pm to hear stories, craft, and enjoy fellowship with your St. Thomas friends. This is an **intergenerational event**, which means everyone is welcomed to attend. Kids and their families can pick up a craft kit per kid beginning Monday, November 30 outside the east door. The link to join us is: <https://bit.ly/stlcstnick>



Advent Prayer at Noon

On Wednesdays during Advent join Pr. Adrienne for 15 minutes of prayer at noon on Zoom. After taking prayer requests, we'll move through a simple, spoken liturgy of prayer for ourselves and our world. Pr. Adrienne will leave the Zoom room open afterwards for anyone who would like a little time to catch up. Follow this link each week to join in:

<https://bit.ly/stlc2020adventprayer>



Advent Midweek Services

The first two chapters of Luke's gospel can be compared to a Broadway musical, with characters breaking into song at seemingly random times. These songs, though, are filled with hope and a longing for a renewed world. Our Advent Midweek services, which will premiere on YouTube at 7pm on Wednesdays, will center around these songs: Mary's Magnificat, Zechariah's Benedictus, Simeon's Nunc Dimittas, and the angel chorus's Gloria. We will hear the songs both chanted and set as a hymn featuring our talented staff musicians. Candidly, when we recorded our first service, nothing in technology went according to plan, but the liturgy, music, and message carried us into a hope we had been longing for. We present these services to you, that you, too, might be held by this Advent message of hope. St. Thomas's YouTube channel can be found at this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/c/StThomasLutheranChurchBloomington>

Call for Pictures: Participate in Christmas Eve worship! Send a picture of your family holding lit candles. During the singing of Silent Night, we will see the faces of one another and be able to lift each in prayer. Upload your picture by noon December 15 to

<https://bit.ly/stlxcmasphotos>

Christmas Eve services and events: Information available in the December newsletter and on the St. Thomas website.

<https://stlconline.org/>

At their Zoom meeting on December 12, the **Fiber Arts Spiritual Growth Group** will welcome Kathleen Boguess's granddaughter Ella (age 10), who'll demonstrate a making a personalized gift octopus out of a toilet paper tube! If you have young crafters at your house, we warmly invite them to watch Ella's demonstration and give it a try. Kits for the craft will be available starting December 7 in the covered bin at the east door of the church. Kids will also need scissors, glue, and markers to assemble the kit. Here's the Zoom link - we'll also post it on the church Facebook page on Saturday morning.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89007658188?pwd=L3F2MTQ1cTUzT0czNjFPZWZhyMORBdz09>

Want to join our St. Thomas email prayer chain?



Do you have prayer requests? Contact Susan Colston skcolston@aol.com for further information.

Prayers for those with health and safety concerns: Nina Ost, Anne Smith, Bruce Herlin, Carole Kirsch, Tim Kirsch, Roger Sasse, Paula Ionescu, Erica Marer, Bev Hanna, Liz Caemmerer, Audrey Alpers, JoAnne Namy, Deborah O'Brien, and Casey-Marie.

New Hope for Families

Your support has helped them to continue to provide shelter and vital services for local children and families who are in crisis during the pandemic.

Immediate Needs

- Toilet paper
- Disinfecting wipes
- Digital thermometers
- Over-the-counter children's pain reliever, cold & flu medicine
- Twin sheet sets and comforters
- Pillows
- Kroger gift cards
- Checks made out to St. Thomas Lutheran Church with New Hope for Families in the memo line.

Donation of goods delivered directly to New Hope for Families is by appointment only. Please call their office at (812) 334-9840 to make arrangements. Continued gratitude for the prayers and generosity shared by this congregation.

Chats with Pr. Adrienne

Join Pr. Adrienne for one-on-one conversations in the narthex or on Zoom. Individuals, or couples or families who all live together, are welcome to sign up for these chats. There is no agenda, but is a way for you to share a bit of yourself and your life with Pr. Adrienne and for her to introduce herself to you. Please wear a mask. Sign up at this link: <https://calendly.com/pastoradrienne/chats-with-pr-a> or call the church office.



Offerings may be mailed to the church or given by setting up online giving from our website [here](#) Look for the green Donate to St. Thomas button on the website homepage.

Online Shopping for Fair-Trade Gifts & Goodies: It's that time of year again! St. Thomas' Sister Parish committee invites you to do some [holiday shopping](#) to help fund future delegation trips between Chichipate, Guatemala and Bloomington, Indiana.

You'll find past favorites - such as chocolate bars and Christmas decorations - and much more through [this online sales event](#). Help us surpass our sales goal of \$1000 by Christmas, which will enable us to earn an even higher commission while also supporting the mission of SERRV, an international fair-trade nonprofit established in 1949. It's a win-win-win!



[Use our custom web link](#) to see all SERRV's handcrafts and order items that will be shipped directly to you. (Check that you see St. Thomas in an orange banner at the top of the page to ensure your order is being applied to this fundraiser.) Please also share [this custom web link](#) with anyone you know who would appreciate SERRV items and enjoy supporting Sister Parish!

If you would like help making an order, please contact Kaye Hill at kayehill48@gmail.com. She may not be sitting behind a table in the narthex this year, but she and her team are on the job!

Supporting our Missions through Amazon Smile

- Invitation from Ronna Papesh

If you are unable to shop locally, I invite you to designate one of our St. Thomas mission partners as a recipient at smile.amazon.com. Katcha and I designated **Sister Parish, Inc.** as our charity, and would appreciate others doing so as well. Once you have selected a charity, you only need to confirm you see the word "smile" in the address bar as you are making purchases at Amazon to generate funds for your

designated mission. I know of other St. Thomas members who designated **LuMin** (Lutheran Campus Ministry Board – Bloomington IN), **Lutheran Hills Camp** (Lutheran Outdoor Ministries Indiana/Kentucky), **MCUM** (Monroe County United Ministries), and other missions listed on the St. Thomas website. So, if you are already shopping on Amazon, please consider shopping on Amazon Smile instead to support our missions.

COVID status: We are in Phase 1

Building: Locked, please call to be admitted to the building for your appointment.

Staff: Working from home or the office.

Small Groups: Meet online. Small groups of less than 10 may meet at the church *at the discretion of the staff* and following all safety protocols.

Small groups may also meet outside following physical distancing and other safety protocols.

Worship: Virtual

New Address for Lyle McKee and Marie Fleming:
3641 E Tamarron Drive Bloomington 47408-2822.

January Newsletter deadline: Monday, December 21.
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