



# St. Thomas Lutheran Church

3800 East Third Street  
Bloomington, IN 47401  
812) 332-5252

[stlconline.org](http://stlconline.org)

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

Rev. Adrienne Meier  
Pastor

IN COVENANT WITH

Lutheran Campus Ministry  
at Indiana University  
314 Rose Avenue  
Bloomington, IN 47401  
812) 333-2474

UPDATE 10/21/21:

The perpetrator was arrested. This was not intended as a hate crime but was the work of a person who was both homeless and mentally ill. Of course, how this *feels* matters deeply--a marginalized community will always receive vandalism as an act of inhospitality. We have before us an opportunity to redouble our efforts to affirm the ministry of the ICOB and to stand against not just hate, but against the fear we have against our neighbor--our Muslim neighbor, our immigrant neighbor, our homeless neighbor

October 20, 2021

Dear Members and Friends of St. Thomas,

On Monday night, October 18, the Islamic Center of Bloomington was vandalized. St. Thomas Lutheran Church condemns this act of destruction and refuses to be a bystander to hate. The Islamic Center of Bloomington is an important faith partner in our community. Today, we surround them with prayers for peace and promises of support as they repair what was damaged and as we, together, restore fractured trust and hospitality. This act of hate serves as a reminder that Islamophobia—and its partners, racism and xenophobia—infect and affect us all. The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's statement "Freed in Christ: Race, ethnicity, and culture," is instructive. Hate "robs [us]...of authentic relationships" and "undermines the promise of community." We have sent a letter of support to the Islamic Center of Bloomington, and will inform the congregation of coming opportunities to partner with the Islamic Center to fix what was broken and look with hope for a safe, peaceful future together.

In Peace,  
Rev. Adrienne M. Meier  
pastor  
on behalf of the Executive Council