



# St. Thomas Lutheran Church News

St. Thomas Lutheran Church is a Christ-centered community that lives, shares, and celebrates God's grace with all people!

## January 2026

XLVIII Issue 1

### From the Senior Pastor

Every year, just being New Year's Day, Anne Lamott shares an anti-diet piece she wrote several years ago. It begins with a conversation with her therapist, whom Anne has just told she intends to start a diet. Her therapist responds, "Oh, that's great honey. How much weight are you hoping to gain?" Now, I'm not writing a piece about diets, but about resolutions, in general. So often, we set resolutions that are unkeepable, filled with self-judgement that, when we fail, only lead to more judgement. I am, generally, a resolution skeptic, but, more and more, I think I am grateful for the potential resolution-setting-season provides for self-reflection.

Admittedly, many of us (me, I'm definitely talking about myself!) set resolutions based on societal and cultural expectations for how we look and act. This is becoming a riskier endeavor, given what we know about the algorithms that surround us every day. Searching health information sends us down rabbit holes of increasingly dubious science. As evidence, teen girls new to social media will be exposed to pro-eating-disordered content within days of adopting a new platform.

Yet, setting a resolution can begin with self-reflection, with a deeper-than-normal look at our actions and how they affect ourselves and others. One tool that might be helpful in this regard is Ignatian Examen. At its heart, the

### What the Senior Pastor is Reading

*Yarn Harlot: The Secret Life of a Knitter* by [Stephanie Pearl-McPhee](#)

Hear me out. I didn't title the book, and, yes, it is a *knitting book*, of all things. This book, though, probably ranks extremely high on books I talk about to others. It taught me to "sit and have a think" about tricky problems. And that something as complicated as an Aran knit sweater (one of those beautiful sweaters from Ireland) is really, truly just a series of two stitches—how many other things in life are similarly reducible? And then, there is this line, "You never leave the brokenhearted." It is a light read, but, given all the heartbreak in the world, don't we sometimes need an invitation to appreciate our own lives?

Examen allows for regular reflection of our days, what we do, say, think—and how these things draw us closer to or further from God and one another. Examen begins and ends with God: praying for God’s presence and placing the day to come into God’s hands.

To be honest, I am often tempted to reduce Examen to “how can I be a better person?” This question turns me back to those cultural and societal expectations; it turns me toward what others think of me and away from God’s love for me. When I attend more carefully to the beginning and end of the practice—to God’s presence with me, past, present, and future—I am much more likely to find the resolve necessary to be a better neighbor, a better friend, a better parent, spouse, and pastor—or, at least, more present to my own life.

Perhaps, if you are inclined to set a resolution, it might be helpful to reflect that January 1, the kick-off of resolution season, is set squarely in the season of Christmas. Ask yourself, will this resolution reflect God-with-us more clearly in my life? Will it reveal more clearly God’s presence in my life? Will it help me dwell better with my neighbors, in the spirit of the God who dwells with us?

Beloved, surely God is transforming the world and transforming you and me to be more Christ-like. But, please, do not lose sight of the fact that God’s comes among our lives *as they are*, and not in the social-media-hazed perfection we imagine they might be. Whoever you might dream yourself to be in 2026, remember you are a Beloved Child of God always.

In peace,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pr. Adrienne".

Pastor Adrienne

One more thing—I am always happy to meet with you! You can schedule an appointment to meet with me [here](#) or by [contacting the church office](#).

## From the Pastor of Youth and Christian Nurture

As I sit here, in my office in front of my computer writing this article, I think about all those who have gone before me so that I could be in this place.

I consider the long lines of Becks, Wilmasherrs, Loesches and Portells who made me who I am.

I consider those who raised me in the faith - not just my parents, but Sunday School teachers, pastors, mentors, camp directors, youth ministers, and more who taught me that I am a beloved Child of God and nothing can change that.

I consider the theologians and authors who have provided encouragement and insight along my way.

I consider the men (and women) of the Reformation who dreamed of a church that clearly proclaimed a Gospel which would set us free.

I consider the women of the ELCA and predecessor bodies who forged a path so I could say yes to this call to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament.

I consider the faithful members of St. Thomas Lutheran Church who planted this church in Bloomington, who built and maintained this space and this congregation, and who had the grace to call me to serve as pastor here.

I consider the Kiikaapoi, Kaskaskia, and Myaamia tribes and all who have stewarded the land our church is built on.

I am overwhelmed by God's grace as I consider all who went before me to lay the foundation for who I am and the work I am called to do. And I pray for grace that I may also lay the foundation for others, that they may be fully themselves, knowing God's grace and love in their own lives.

I invite you to join us on **Saturday, January 3** for our annual retreat as we explore *Spiritual Genealogies*. We will have time to work together and connect while we explore our webs of faith as well as time for individual, quiet contemplation. See the announcement on page 11 for more information about the retreat and how to register. I hope you will join us as we give thanks for all who have gone before us and consider how we lay a foundation for those who will come.

Your partner in ministry,



Pastor Lecia

## New Space to Play in 2026

For many years, our congregation has been committed to welcoming children and their families. We provide spaces for young children to play in the nursery and, during worship, in the Prayer Pond. We provide worship aids including worship bags, fidgets, and children's bulletins. Caring adults provide thoughtful Sunday School and Vacation Bible School lessons; children are taught to sing, and their worship leadership is applauded. Celebrating this tradition, we are excited to announce a new addition to our outdoor space - a natural play space for children and families!

This new outdoor play space will give space to support the growth, joy, and fellowship of our youngest members. It will be an outward signal to our community that we live, share, and celebrate God's grace with children.

In keeping with our values, this play space will be created using natural and recycled materials. It will give children space to explore and enjoy the natural world. By putting the space to the west of the community garden, children will be protected from the road without having to create a barrier to play. It will be a safe, welcoming space for children to play, laugh, and build friendships.

Through designated memorial gifts, we are able to move forward with the design and implementation of this project in the coming months. We've sought input from families with children and reputable playground designers. We will share the proposed design with our members and friends in mid-winter. Once the playground is complete, we look forward to celebrating together with a special dedication and play day.



## From the Finance Committee

*We are grateful to those who have made additional gifts to support our congregation and its ministries. Please note that gifts offered for specific ministries or mission partners are held in our congregation's restricted funds for their specified purpose and do not affect the general fund nor our congregation's daily expenses.*

Financial status at the end of November (91.67% of the year):

	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>2024</b>
<b>Income</b>	\$410,105.32	87.04%	81.24%
<b>Expenses</b>	\$432,201.14	91.60%	91.09%
<b>Net Income</b>	-\$22,095.82		-\$45,398.67

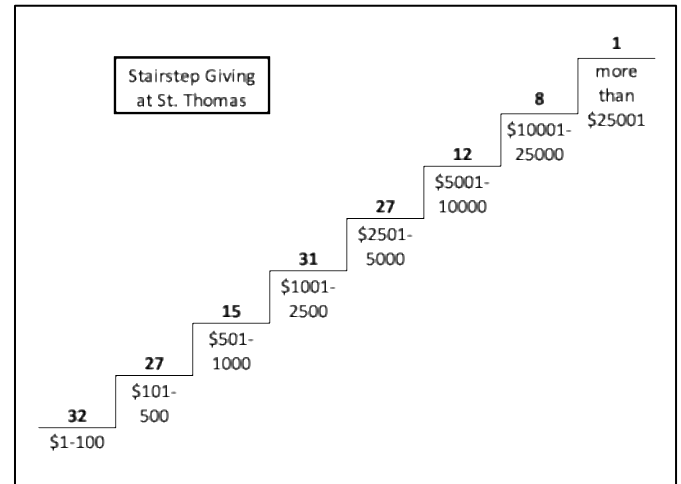
Click [here](#) to give to St. Thomas.



## In These Times: Stewardship Pledge Campaign

For 2026, our budget assumes approximately \$490,000 in expenses, based on our need and congregational giving patterns. To date, 70 households have pledged over \$312,000 toward our goal. Thank you!

In 2025, we received gifts from 154 households. This chart shows annual household giving in our congregation. We recognize each household has a unique capacity for generosity. While some givers appreciate the challenge to be more generous, know that every gift advances the ministry and mission of our congregation. Thank you.



## In These Times: 5000-Hour Volunteer Challenge



Thank you to everyone who pledged volunteer hours, who committed to the challenge, and who requested help finding places in our community to serve. Beginning Sunday, November 30 (the start of the liturgical year), anonymously submit your volunteer hours [using this form](#) or scan this QR code (which will be on the bulletin board outside the office). Did your whole family volunteer together? Combine everyone's hours and submit the form once—we want to keep it simple for you!

## In These Times: 5000-Hour Volunteer Challenge FAQs

Does volunteering at church count?

Yes! You can count your volunteering hours as you see fit. St. Thomas will be providing opportunities throughout the year for folks to get involved volunteering.

When do we start?

We started November 30, at the beginning of the liturgical year. We picked this day not to be confusing, but so that we'll be wrapping up our year at next year's Annual Budget Meeting, giving us ample time to celebrate our accomplishment!



Something great happened while I was volunteering, who do I tell?

That's awesome! We do want to hear about what you're up to. When you submit your hours, occasionally you'll be asked if you want to share more. Let us know what you're doing and how it's going. But if something amazing or interesting (or difficult) happens while you're volunteering, [send Pr. Adrienne an email](#) to let her know.



## Celebrating Our Ministry

### Advent Mini-Retreat

Community Hall was full for our annual Advent mini-retreat. Participants decorated bags for our lunch packing program, formed play-doh into images that reminded them of God, engaged with poetry, crafted Advent wreaths, picked up Advent devotionals, and enjoyed a light breakfast. Thank you to our planners and participants.



### Advent Choir Concert

The choir lead celebrations of the Advent season with a concert featuring a setting of Luther's Christmas Hymn, "From Heaven Above to Earth I Come" by Johann Schelle and C.P.E. Bach's *Magnificat in D Major*. Afterwards, the congregation threw a reception to thank the musicians which featured family nativities from around the world. Thank you to everyone who contributed to the concert and reception.



## Children's Christmas Program

The children of the congregation presented "A Light in the Darkness," a program written by some of our young people, under the direction of Melissa DeGraaf, which explored the Christmas story (as our young folks understood it) in the light of places in the news, including Gaza, Ukraine, and Guatemala. Thank you to Melissa and our young people for sharing this powerful story.



## Advent Craft Fundraiser for Sister Parish

For two weekends in December, we navigated through blustery winter weather to present our second annual craft fundraiser to raise money for our next Sister Parish delegation to Guatemala.

We started with lovely, traditional handmade items purchased by our recent delegation from the artists in Chichipate. Also, St. Thomas is blessed to have members who enjoy making a wide range of beautiful things that fall into the categories of both arts and crafts. Their willingness to donate their time and talent to this cause is an important part of this mission. We celebrate the gifted artisans who helped with this project from both Chichipate and Monroe County.



On behalf of the Mission Committee and the congregation, we offer our heartfelt thanks!  
*from Suzanne Halvorson and Carol Seaman*



## Food and Household Collections

Grateful hearts received the items from our collection shelves. Two full bins went to [the Backpack Buddy program at Community Kitchen](#). Four bins full of household items went to [New Hope for Families](#). Two more bins full went to [Pantry 279](#) to help feed folks in our community. The students at Rose House always enjoy the snacks we collect for them too. It is always fun to deliver items St. Thomas folks have donated. But now, the shelves are empty again! Here is a reminder that there is an [Amazon Wish List](#) for items appropriate for all our collections. No need to bother with lugging things in through the snow! The link can be found at the top of the [Mission Tab on St Thomas's website](#). Also on the Mission Tab you will find a list of the items we collect year-round. Many people are helped and touched by your generosity!

## Spreading Christmas Joy by the Numbers

St. Thomas parishioners brought Christmas joy to 20 children in 5 families in [Pantry 279's Christmas gift program](#). 36 St. Thomas households bought gifts for children aged 3 - 17 who each had 5 presents from us under their tree on Christmas



morning. A half dozen intrepid wrappers festooned the presents with paper and bows. Overall, the Pantry matched 1603 children (568 families) with volunteer Santas and held an extra toy day for families who didn't get signed up in time to "shop" for their children. The Mission Committee thanks everyone in the congregation who took part in helping to meet the significant need in our community this Christmas.

## Caroling, Caroling

Thank you to our carolers who visited nine St. Thomas members and friends at home to spread Christmas cheer.



## Sister Parish Scholarships

Thanks to the congregation's generosity we surpassed our \$5,000 goal to provide one year of scholarships to attend secondary school for children in Chichipate, Guatemala. St. Thomas has committed to providing scholarships for at least three years as part of our on-going relationships with Iglesia de Santo Domingo de Guzman.



## Welcome Table Lunches

Thanks go to the many hands that came to pack 140 lunch bags and bake cookies for the Welcome Table where the unhoused come for a warm breakfast and a to-go lunch bag on Sundays at First Christian Church. Once a quarter St Thomas participates in this ministry with Thrivent grant funds and volunteers. Our next date is February 7.



## Welcome, Child of God!

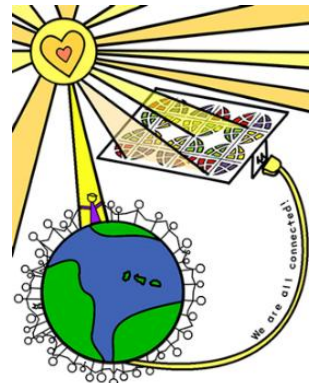
St. Thomas celebrates with Marianne Miller during her baptism on December 28.



## Creation Care Calling

While enjoying our early winter snow and cold weather, you may not have noticed the church building is more comfortable with attic insulation recently added above the office and east wing of the building. We now have reduced heat loss through the ceiling. Also the high efficiency cold weather heat pump operating at a low speed to maintain constant temperature is warming the east hallway and bathrooms.

Likewise with the natural ocean gulf stream heat pump transferring heat from the equator to the Arctic, the climate of western Europe



will become colder as the melting Greenland ice sheet disrupts the Atlantic circulation of warm water from the equator north to the Arctic with cold water returning in a loop back to the equator.

If you want to learn more about the benefits of heat pump clothes dryers, water heaters, and cold climate heating, the city has the [Bloomington Energy Works](#) program which offers free energy audits and provides educational opportunities on the benefits of energy efficiency and clean energy projects.

*from the Creation Care Committee*

### **Thank You From Pastor Adrienne, Pastor Lecia, and the Church Staff**

We are deeply grateful for your seasonal expressions of caring and appreciation for our work among you. We pray that each of you will be richly blessed throughout Christmastide and in the New Year!



## **Upcoming Events**

### **Funeral Service for Jerry Smith**

A funeral service will be held at St. Thomas on **Saturday, January 24 at 11 a.m.** with visitation starting at 10 a.m. and a luncheon to follow the service. His obituary may be viewed [here](#).

### **Epiphany Hymn Bracket**

Everyone has a favorite hymn or two, but which hymn will reign supreme? Through the season after Epiphany vote for your favorite hymns to advance through the bracket to final. The winner will get an encore performance after Easter! Voting begins January 11.

## Epiphany Retreat

As 2026 opens before us, join us for a half-day retreat to begin the new year with the presence of God and purpose. This year, we will explore our Spiritual Genealogies, giving thanks for those who have gone before us and considering those who will come next. This retreat is for adult, teen, and middle school-aged members and friends of St. Thomas. You can come along or invite a friend. We will gather in Heritage Hall on **Saturday, January 3, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.**; a light breakfast and snacks will be provided. Please sign up at the Welcome Desk or [by emailing Pastor Lecia](#).

## Come Together: News from the Outreach and Community Care Committee

### **Student Grab and Go Brown Bag Lunch, Sunday, January 11.**

Our first lunch cart of 2026! Sign up on the Welcome Desk for details on the donations we need to feed hungry students as they begin their semester.



### **60-Plus Group: Lunch, Sunday, January 11, 12:30, Community Hall.**

Outreach and Community Care is hosting a lunch for all those interested in forming a 60-Plus group. We'll share a meal and then begin to organize small talking circles and think about a monthly meeting time for the whole group. We'll have sign-up and suggestion sheets out to start thinking about interests and possible activities. **Please sign up on the Welcome Desk or RSVP to committee chair Dawn Bakken so we know how much food to order!**



**Every Odd Month Event: Pizza and Game Night, Saturday, January 17, 5:30 p.m.** This year, on the third Saturday of every odd month, we'll be hosting a casual get-together at St. Thomas. In January, it's pizza and game night in Community Hall. We'll have pizza, an ice cream sundae bar, and drinks, as well as games for families and adults. **Sign up on the Welcome Desk so we can order enough pizza!**

## Getting Involved Fair

Looking for ways to engage with our church community and share your gifts? The Getting Involved Fair is a perfect opportunity to explore how you can be a part of St. Thomas's mission to live, share, and celebrate God's grace with all people! Visit the fair before and after worship on **January 25**. At the fair you can learn about the ministries and committees that support our congregation's life together, discover opportunities to serve in ways that match your skills and abilities, and add your name to our involvement lists for specific tasks or projects, even if committee work isn't your preference. Whether you're ready to take an active role or simply explore the possibilities, there's a place for everyone to contribute.



# Christian Nurture

## Sunday School resumes on January 4.

Upcoming in the Adult Forum

- January 4: Epiphany Bible Study
- January 11: Eliot Smith – Continued Conversation about Christian Nationalism
- January 18: Jayme Beneker (from IK Synod) – Asset Mapping and Disaster Preparedness
- January 25: Getting Involved Fair (no class)

## High School Youth

Connect with each other and caring adults over coffee. On **Sunday, January 4**, high school students are invited to get coffee at Verona Coffee House (3105 S Sare Rd.). You can meet the group at STLC at 9:45 a.m. or join us at Verona. Please make sure you have a completed Student Information Form for this school year.

On **Sunday, January 18**, we will welcome Student to Student for conversation 9:45 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. between services. Student to Student is a group of high school students from Beth Shalom who visit with other groups of students to share their experiences of Judaism and what being Jewish means to them.

Save the date for our next coffee gathering on **Sunday, February 1** and afternoon gatherings on **Sundays, February 8 and April 12**.

## 5th-8th Grade Youth

After worship on **Sunday, January 25**, all 5th-8th grade students are invited to join Pastor Lecia for lunch and games. We will meet from **12:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.** for make your own gourmet grilled sandwiches. Bring a favorite board game to share. Please let [Pastor Lecia](#) know if you plan to attend by Wednesday, January 21.

## Prayer at Noon on Zoom

Rest, prayer, and worship are practices that build the sanctuary within. On **Wednesday, January 7**, join Pr. Adrienne for Prayer at Noon on Zoom [here](#) for a quiet twenty minutes of prayer and support.



## Worship at Redbud Hills & Bell Trace

St. Thomas members and friends at Redbud Hills are invited to join us in the chapel for worship on **Monday, January 12 at 10:15 a.m.** Members and friends at Bell Trace are invited to join us in the Chapel for worship on **Monday, January 19 at 9:45 a.m.**



## Pastor's Bible Study

Join the pastors for Bible Study on the upcoming Sunday readings on Monday afternoons at 1 p.m. in the Conference Room. There is no need to prepare ahead. We read the text together and explore what interests us and what it means for us today. Questions encouraged!

- **January 5:** Isaiah 42:1-9; Psalm 29; Acts 10:34-43; Matthew 3:13-17
- **January 12:** Isaiah 49:1-7; Psalm 40:1-11; 1 Corinthians 1:1-9; John 1:29-42
- **January 19:** Isaiah 9:1-4; Psalm 27:1, 4-9; 1 Corinthians 1:10-18; Matthew 4:12-23
- **January 26:** Micah 6:1-8; Psalm 15; 1 Corinthians 1:18-31; Matthew 5:1-12
- **February 2:** Isaiah 58:1-12; Psalm 112:1-9 [10]; 1 Corinthians 2:1-12; Matthew 5:13-20



## Ministry Opportunities for Getting Involved

### Burrrrr! Winter Items Collection

Let's support [B-SWERS, Bloomington Severe Emergency Winter Shelter](#), with a collection of thick warm socks and soft tasty snacks. This shelter provides a warm, safe place to sleep for individuals who do not have shelter during severe winter weather. Many members of St. Thomas volunteer to open the shelter, greet the guests and even stay overnight. We've heard first-hand accounts of how people come in from the dark with wet, cold, frozen feet. Imagine how nice it would be to have warm socks and a snack waiting for them. The collection of socks and snacks will begin on **Sunday, January 11**. Please provide, as able, soft snacks that are individually wrapped with no crunchy nuts, and warm socks for both men and women in all sizes.



### Property Committee Work Days

Help our co-chairs Jim Ward and Ian Bensberg with manual tasks such as decluttering, painting, occasional cleaning, or tasks that require special expertise such as electrical, plumbing, or drywall work. Join a work day on the second & fourth Saturdays every month. Please contact [Jim](#) or [Ian](#) if you'd like to participate or have any questions, comments, or suggestions.



## Altar Flowers

Flowers bring the beauty of creation to our worship. To reserve an arrangement, contact the church office [via email](#) or sign the sheet on the bulletin board by the coat room by Wednesday each week. The Flower Guild makes the arrangements, and you may take the flowers home after the second worship service and then return the vase later. Each arrangement costs \$20, with "flowers" in the check memo line.

## Prayer Chain

The Swiss theologian Hans Urs von Balthasar once said, "the most we can do through genuine prayer, is to make as much room as possible, in ourselves and in the world, for the kingdom of God, so that its energies can go to work." We invite you to be part of a little group making room in the world for God to work in people's lives. When prayer requests come, we receive an email and pause to pray. Occasionally we receive an update about those we hold in prayer. If you are interested in joining us, [email](#) Susan Colston.

## Prayer Requests

Martin Luther said, "Pray, and let God worry." When something worries you, others can carry you along in prayer. Send requests for prayer to Susan Colston [via email](#).



# Lutheran Campus Ministry at IU

When the students at Rose House return from the nearly month-long break between the fall and spring semesters our focus will be on intellectual wellness: curiosity, critical thinking, and creativity. Starting the new year with puzzles, problem solving, and theological discussions, our hope is to continue to cultivate a space where we can learn, laugh, and grow deeper in faith together.

This year we are again blessed with the opportunity to be present at the **Winter Student Involvement Fair on campus to be held on Wednesday evening January 14**. Many students who attend this event often have had difficulty connecting with organizations in the fall or have just transferred into IU Bloomington. It is a gift to be present and share with prospective LuMin students how God is working in, with, and through our community. If you know of a student at IU who is searching for more ways to get involved in campus life, please encourage them to attend.

May God bless you all in this new year with peace, hope, and possibilities.

Peace,

[Pr. Amanda Ghaffarian](#) (She/Her)

Rose House LuMin Campus Minister

Rose House LuMin Announcement:

At the request of the students, Bible Study and Brunch will be moving this spring from the first Thursday of the month to **the first Friday of the month**. Dates for the Spring 2026 semester will now be: February 6, March 6, April 3, and May 1. At present the time will remain the same: doors open at 9:45 a.m. with Bible Study and Brunch from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. This is an open invitation to both students and community members to join us in food, fellowship, and faith exploration. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Amanda at [lutheran@iu.edu](mailto:lutheran@iu.edu).



## Caring for Our Neighbors

The final event for **Healing Racism Together** is an event with Milagros Phillips at the Unitarian Universalist Church on **Sunday, January 18 from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.** It doesn't matter if you came to the presentation in September, or if you joined any of the book groups. It is for anyone who would like a chance to ask questions about race-related matters, what keeps us up at night, or how we can take action. It will end with small groups to discuss possible actions and share resources. See flyer on next page.

BLOOMINGTON MULTIFAITH ALLIANCE  
FAITH FOR RACIAL EQUITY  
PRESENTS

# HEALING RACISM TOGETHER

**SUN, JAN 18, 2026 @ 3-5 PM**

Racial conditioning is both individual and collective, as is healing. Join an empowering conversation with Milagros Phillips, author of "Cracking the Healer's Code: A Prescription for Healing Racism & Finding Wholeness."

Bring your questions regarding race-related matters, what keeps you up at night, and ideas for how we can take action to heal racism.

Given where we are as a nation, gathering together for healing is more important than ever.



## **MAIN SPEAKER:** **MILAGROS PHILLIPS**

has spent more than 30 years consulting, designing, and facilitating strategic race literacy and race healing programs to enhance Diversity Equity & Inclusion initiatives. She has touched thousands of lives with her signature Race Demystified program, a compassionate approach to healing from racial conditioning.

Learn more at [milagrosphillips.com](http://milagrosphillips.com).

## **UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH**

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Event Updates:

[firstuc.online/Healing-Racism](https://firstuc.online/Healing-Racism)



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FOR MORE INFORMATION:  
[INFAITHVOICESFORJUSTICE.ORG](http://INFAITHVOICESFORJUSTICE.ORG)



The [Traveling University](#) spring schedule is on the way! The Traveling University is a group of retired faculty who provide public lectures on topics of civic interest free of charge. Scott Russell Sanders is the first featured speaker of 2026. His talk, titled Common Wealth: Living in a Shared World, will celebrate the gifts of nature and culture that support and enrich our lives, show how these shared riches are under assault by those who wish to exploit them for personal or corporate gain, and encourage us to defend them is on **Sunday, January 11, 2026 at 3 p.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Bloomington**. The complete spring schedule can be found [on our website](#).

Due Date for **printed** Weekly Announcements: Wednesdays.  
Due Date for **emailed** Weekly Announcements: Thursdays.

Due Date for **February Newsletter** Articles: **Monday, January 19.**

Unsubscribe from this list or update your preferences by emailing:  
[parishadmin@stlconline.org](mailto:parishadmin@stlconline.org)

# January 2026

## St. Thomas Lutheran Church

### Regular Sunday Schedule\*

8:30 a.m. Worship/Livestream Worship

9:45 a.m. Sunday School & Adult Forum

11 a.m. Worship

\*see each Sunday for additional events

### Staff Out of Office

**Pastor Adrienne**

**Monday January 12**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>All dates and times are subject to change.</b> <b>Please confirm via the online church calendar:</b> <a href="https://stlconline.org/about/news/">https://stlconline.org/about/news/</a>				1 <b>Office Closed</b>	2	3 9 am Epiphany Retreat
4	5 1 pm Pastor's Bible Study 7 pm Mission Committee Meeting	6 <b>Office Closing Early</b> 6:30 pm Worship Committee Meeting	7 12 pm Prayer at Noon on Zoom	8 5:30 pm Brown Bag Choir Dinner 7 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal	9	10 10 am St. Thomas Piecemakers 10 am Property Committee Work Day
11 <b>Baptism of Our Lord</b> 9:30 am LuMin Grab & Go Lunch 9:45 am GPS Grief Support Group 9:45 am GPS Healing after Religious Harm 12 pm LuMin Grab & Go Lunch 12 pm 60-Plus Luncheon	12 10:15 am Worship at Redbud Hills 1 pm Pastor's Bible Study	13 1:30 pm Altar Guild Meeting 7pm Finance Committee Meeting	14	15 5:30 pm Brown Bag Choir Dinner 7 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal	16	17 5:30 pm Pizza and Game Night
18 9:45 am GPS Grief Support Group 12:30 pm Council Meeting 2:30 pm Bach Cantata Project	19 <b>Office Closed</b> 9:45 am Worship at Bell Trace 1 pm Pastor's Bible Study	20	21	22 5:30 pm Brown Bag Choir Dinner 7 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal	23	24 10 am Visitation for Jerry Smith Memorial 11 am Memorial for Jerry Smith 12 pm Luncheon after Memorial
25 <b>Getting Involved Fair</b>	26 1 pm Pastor's Bible Study	27	28	29 5:30 pm Brown Bag Choir Dinner 7 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal	30	31

## ST. THOMAS EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Bloomington, Indiana 47401  
Office Hours 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
Phone: (812) 332-5252  
[stlconline.org](http://stlconline.org)

*Partners in ministry with*  
**Lutheran Church of  
the Living Waters**  
Cherokee, North Carolina

*Linked with*  
**Sister Parish**  
Iglesia Santo Domingo  
de Guzman, Chichipate  
Parish of San Pedro, El Estor,  
Izabal, Guatemala

*In covenant with*  
**Lutheran Campus Ministry  
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**St. Thomas Lutheran Church and LCM-IU  
are Reconciling in Christ Ministries**

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