



# St. Thomas Lutheran Church

April 2017  
XXXIX, Issue III



## Holy Week & Easter

April 2 Evensong: Service at 4:30 PM  
 April 13 Maundy Thursday: Services at Noon & 7 PM  
 April 14 Good Friday: Services at Noon & 7 PM  
 April 15 The Great Vigil: Service at 8:30 PM

April 20 Festival Worship Services at 8:30 and 11:00 AM  
 Easter Breakfast Served in Community Hall beginning at 9:30 AM



## Living Waters

It was a great honor and pleasure to visit with our mission partners at Living Waters Lutheran Church in Cherokee, North Carolina in February. What a blessing it is to have this now long-standing relationship.

The opportunity arose because our sabbatical grant included funds for a week at the John C. Campbell Folk School (creating an Arts & Crafts style bookcase). The class, usually offered in the summer, was available in February this year. The school is only about an hour from Cherokee; so Marie and I stopped in Cherokee for the weekend prior to the class. We visited the church, toured the food pantry we help to support, dropped off food and cash donations, and enjoyed worshipping with the community on Sunday, February 19<sup>th</sup>.



After many months of dealing with health issues, Pastor Jack was only able to return to worship leadership a couple of Sundays before we arrived. I was pleased to be able to preach, giving him a bit of a break. And we thoroughly enjoyed meeting everyone, being treated to a song and lesson by the children, and sharing a splendid pitch-in meal afterwards.

You will see in the pictures a few familiar faces (Liz Gaskins was there too). We were amazed at how well organized the food pantry is (note the picture). And it was touching to be a part of the final circle, during which there were many prayers for those who were suffering in the families of those present.

Our mission partnership is creating mutual benefits. Our relationship of love and trust builds up the Body of Christ in many ways through sharing, caring, prayer, and deepened understanding. May God continue to bless the work we do together.

Grace and peace,

Pastor Lyle



## Computer Lab

The Computer Lab in Chichipate is up and running!

Thanks to the generosity of members of St. Thomas, our Sister Parish of Santo Domingo de Guzman in Chichipate, Guatemala has been able to set up a new computer center. The computers occupy the other half of the building they have used for the “Typing School” for many years—also made possible through our contributions.

The Computer Lab was assembled last summer and students are now engaged fully in receiving instruction—as the photographs show.

These efforts are very important to the community. The government requires students going on to post-secondary education to have these skills. Typing was sufficient until recently, and the school we helped to establish helped untold hundreds of community members continue their education. Now computer skills are required, and this mission initiative is making that possible for new generations of students.

Please keep the people of Santo Domingo de Guzman Parish in your prayers as they continue their educational and economic development efforts.



Blessing of the Computer Lab



## Check Out the “New” Mission Board

The next time you’re headed toward the kitchen or Sunday School rooms, please stop a moment and take a look at the Mission Committee’s new postings. We have several photographs from our Sister Parish in Chichipate, Guatemala, of their new computer lab that St. Thomas helped to fund. We also have some new informational sheets to help you contact your legislators (state and national) about current issues of interest and to suggest some websites and Facebook pages (all non-partisan organizations, many faith-related) on the topics of creation care, immigration and refugees, and voter participation.



## New Member Classes

Classes for people who are considering uniting with St. Thomas will begin on Sunday, April 23 following the late worship service (12:30 – 1:30 p.m.) in the Conference Room. The sessions will provide Lutheran perspectives on scripture, the sacraments, worship, and the Church, as well as offer information about opportunities to learn and serve at St. Thomas. We’ll set a time for receiving new members as we near the end of the classes.

If you are already a member, you are also welcome to attend. It’s a good refresher if you haven’t attended in a while. Bring your questions!



## The Church as Sanctuary

In light of recent concerns related to immigration, many churches are reaffirming the principle of sanctuary. There are traces of this principle in the Old Testament, and it arises from the concept of the church as a holy and inviolable place. The church has occasionally been called upon to provide a place of sanctuary for those persons who are being sought out in ways the church considers unjust.

At its meeting in February, the Congregation Council decided to affirm sanctuary both to educate our members and to acknowledge the holiness of congregational space. Here is the statement: “St. Thomas Lutheran Church, as a sacred space of refuge for persons in need, affirms the historic principle of sanctuary. The congregation also affirms its right, at its discretion, to offer sanctuary to refugees who present compelling cases.”



## Sabbatical News

As noted in earlier newsletters (October, 2016; February, 2017), we have been granted a \$50,000 Clergy Renewal Grant from Lilly Endowment. This will fund renewal activities for Pastor McKee and for the congregation, including all costs associated with pastoral service and worship in Pastor McKee’s absence.

Please stop by the Welcome Table and pick up a copy of the “2017 Sabbatical” brochure. We hope it will answer any questions you may have about the program.



# Adult Forums

April 2: Iona Group meets in the Conference Room

April 9: The Mission Committee - videos from our Sister Parish in Guatemala and discussion.

April 16: Easter Breakfast

April 23: TBD



## Reformation treasures at the Lilly Library!

The Lilly Rare Book Library at IU has unique materials from the time of Martin Luther and his contemporaries, including Bibles, other books, and music scores. The Reformation 500 committee has arranged for a special tour of these materials for St. Thomas folk and their friends on Tuesday, April 4 from 12:15 to 1:15. The closest public parking is the pay lot at IMU; if you need to arrange a ride, please speak with Dawn Bakken or Pamela Smith. Please sign-up on the poster in the narthex.



## Easter Brunch



How many centuries does it take to have the BEST EASTER BRUNCH EVER in Lutheran history?

If you guessed 5 you might be right! Come Sunday, April 16<sup>th</sup> from 9:30 – 11 am, and you will taste an heirloom quiche recipe, homemade baked goods and caffeine (hello darkness, my old friend!) all run by St. Thomas Youth. We can always use your support – please check-out the sign-up board in the Narthex for ways to contribute to the feast.

*Youth families, plan to be at church Saturday, April 15<sup>th</sup> from 1 – 3 pm to help prep for the gathering. Keep posted for details on Easter Sunday participation.*



## Easter Flowers

Please sign-up on the chart in the narthex. Donations of any amount are welcomed and will provide flowers for the sanctuary on Easter morning and for the church gardens. If you would like to purchase a lily and take it home after the 11 a.m. service, the cost is \$10.00. Please write “lily” on the envelope. All who would like to contribute may sign up **NO LATER THAN PALM SUNDAY, April 9th**, so that flowers can be purchased in adequate time. Envelopes are provided and may be placed in the offering plate.



# Annual Program Meeting

The Annual Program Meeting of the Congregation is scheduled for Sunday, April 30<sup>th</sup> following the 11:00 worship service. Please make plans to attend.

Committee reports for the previous year will be presented. Election of council members is also on the agenda. Missy Eichmiller is the only person finishing her term that is leaving Council. Cindy Gallien, Sam Eichmiller, and Ashley Ahlbrand have agreed to serve a second 3 year term. We are very thankful for their dedicated service to the congregation and to those who are willing to serve a second term. Members who are currently standing for election are Dawn Bakken and Mark Carpenter. We are seeking a 3rd candidate. If you are interested in serving the church in this way, please contact the church office or Dean Arnold.



## On April 29, March to Protect the Earth's Climate

On April 29, people will gather in Washington, D.C. and many sister cities across the United States in support of national research and policy to reverse the effects of global warming and create a clean and safe environment for all people. Indianapolis will host one of the sister marches, beginning at 11 a.m. in Veterans' Memorial Plaza downtown. If you would like to join other members of St. Thomas in the march, please contact mission committee member Dawn Bakken ([debakken@msn.com](mailto:debakken@msn.com)). We may be able to join other groups from Bloomington in sending a busload of marchers up to Indy for this important day. More information will be forthcoming in early April.



## Come, Let Us Sing to the Lord!

Mark your calendars! On Sunday afternoon, May 7, at 4pm in the Sanctuary, the Adult Choir will present its annual Spring Concert. The program will feature Felix Mendelssohn's *Psalm 95*, John Rutter's *Te Deum*, and several smaller works, all centered around both the Book of Psalms and the Reformation. Joining the choir will be musicians from the Jacobs School of Music. We hope you will join us as we praise God through music.

### Spring Choral Concert

St. Thomas Adult Choir

May 7, 2017

4:00 pm

Sanctuary, St. Thomas Lutheran Church



**Calling all gardeners...** Spring is officially here and summer won't be far behind. Mark your calendars for the ECHO plant sale on May 14 and 21, then head out to your garden. Is catmint encroaching on your columbine? Are rose campion "volunteers" taking over your garden bed? Are you starting a flat of marigolds and have some to spare? The ECHO plant sale would love to have starts and extras of perennials, annuals, herbs, vegetables, and houseplants. Or maybe there's a bare spot in your garden that could be filled with ECHO plants. And don't forget—May 14 is Mother's Day! All proceeds go to support ECHO (Ecumenical Concerns for Hunger Organization) and its mission of combating world hunger through agricultural innovation and education.



## Help Feed the Cookie Monster Backpack

A current focus of Church Women United is gathering supplies for children being placed in foster homes. In the next couple of weeks, you will see a blue "Cookie Monster" backpack in the narthex. It would be appreciated if we could fill that backpack with new or gently used items such as stuffed animals, socks, underwear, pajamas, blankets, toothbrushes, and books to comfort a 4-5 year old boy. If we collect more than needed for one child, we could start a second or third backpack and the extras could be for another boy or a girl. Please look around and see if you have anything to contribute (maybe another backpack) or purchased items you could donate. Bless you for your generous contributions to those who are less fortunate.

As CWU is part of MCUM, it has been brought to our attention that the food pantry is in need of paper grocery sacks. If you have extras, please bring those and deposit them in or near the food donation baskets behind the welcome table.

In other CWU news, an ecumenical worship service celebrating May Friendship Day is scheduled for Friday, May 5<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 am in the Bell Trace Meeting Room. The program will be followed by fellowship and lunch (\$5.00 will be collected at the door for the luncheon). Please call Carol Peterman at 812-323-7823 to make your reservation. Put this on your calendar now so you can be part of this ecumenical community. For more information, contact Gail Seegert at [gmseegert@comcast.net](mailto:gmseegert@comcast.net).



## SPRING INTO ACTION WITH Monroe County United Ministries

Please join us for a fun-filled afternoon featuring lunch, silent and live auctions, a keynote address delivered by Senator Mark Stoops, and a chance to make an impact for Monroe County's low-income families Sunday, April 30, at Monroe County Convention Center

Doors will open at 12 pm for silent auction browsing. The formal program, featuring a special announcement, will begin at 12:30.



Judy Bush has tickets for two tables of 8 – \$25 for adults and \$15 for children under 12. Please contact her at [jatully@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jatully@sbcglobal.net) or 812-545-3100. Funds raised from this event will provide high quality childcare for low income families and basic needs assistance to those in crisis.

This year our congregation may contribute a basket for the silent auction which will be a unique way to contribute to MCUM. If you would like to work with other members of the congregation in creating a St. Thomas basket for auction, please let Judy know.

In 2015 MCUM provided affordable care to 152 children, distributed enough food to make over 49,248 meals, provided preschool children with 75% of daily nutritional requirements and annual health screenings, offered stabilizing case management to 2,484 families, prevented 61 households from eviction or utilities shut-off, distributed 10,276 toiletries and household cleaners. MCUM is one of only eight childcare centers in Monroe County accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), but is the only center in Monroe County that is licensed and accredited that primarily serves low-income families.

### *April Birthdays*

4/3 Max Arterberry, Marti Doering, Tom Sinn  
4/4 Irene Fogleman  
4/5 Lynn Brown, Carole Kirsch, Koral Dimick  
4/7 Nancy Mathews  
4/10 Craig McDonald  
4/11 Lyra Dimick  
4/12 Sam Eichmiller  
4/13 Charlotte Thompson-Klimpke  
4/14 Susan Goldsworthy  
4/15 William Foley  
4/16 Suzanne Halvorson, Zach May, Mary Peters  
4/17 Lillian Rademacher  
4/18 Judy Bush  
4/20 Kelli Skram  
4/22 Sophia Lipe  
4/25 Sonja Dorr Binder  
4/26 Truman Daleke  
4/30 Missy Eichmiller

### *April Anniversaries*

Ron & Cindy Ohslund 4/3 27 years  
Paul & Yvonne Leber 4/19 19 years

#### **MCUM Food Pantry Needs for April:**

Mixed canned fruit, assorted canned fruit (no pineapple please)  
Dry beans

Closet needs: window, bathroom, and floor cleaners

Men's & women's deodorant

#### **Our mailing address is:**

St. Thomas Lutheran Church, ELCA  
3800 East Third Street  
Bloomington, IN 47401  
[www.stlconline.org](http://www.stlconline.org)

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

## April 2017 Volunteers

	APRIL 9	APRIL 13, Noon	APRIL 14, Noon	APRIL 15	APRIL 16	APRIL 23	APRIL 30
	*8:30 AM	Maundy Thurs	Good Friday	Holy Saturday	Easter 8:30 AM	8:30 AM	8:30 AM
ASST MINISTER	Kathleen Boggess	M O'Connor	Gary Ingersoll	David Rohlfig	R Hershberger	Gail Seegert	Lindsey Smith
LECTOR	Mike Laros	Pauline Caldwell	Betty Smith		Gail Seegert	David Ellies	Kent Unger
ACOLYTE	A Goldsworthy				Erica Goldsworthy	Matthew Schacht	Madelyn Shupe
SERVER	David Ellies				Kent Unger	Del Newkirk	Mary Sasse
USHERS	F/ML Nierzwicki			Hill/Seaman	D/D Nixon	L/U Coyne	Gallien/Namy
GREETERS	Mary Sasse				B/K Unger	Evelyn Niemeyer	D/L Newkirk
CRUCIFER	David Ellies			Charles Sweet	Kent Unger		
FLOWERS					K Hill	J/J Bush	F/ML Nierzwicki
BREAD/WINE	D/K Boggess	B/C Gallien		Katie Anderson	Chris Ogan	D/L Newkirk	C/K McDonald
COUNCIL CO	Ashley Ahlbrand				Tom Sinn	S/M Eichmiller	Tom Sinn
	Dennis Baurle				Dean Arnold	Dennis Baurle	Ashley Ahlbrand
ALTAR GUILD	Cindy Gallien	Shirley Mingee			Jean Brown	Gail Seegert	Barb Unger
	Jan Sinn	Jan Sinn			Pauline Caldwell	Betty Smith	Charlene Braun
	APRIL 9	APRIL 13, 7:00	APRIL 14, 7:00		APRIL 16	APRIL 23	APRIL30
	*11:00 AM	Maundy Thurs	Good Friday		Easter 11:00 AM	11:00 AM	11:00 AM
ASST MINISTER	David Rohlfig	Kris Stewart	Lyman Hitchcock		Ashley Ahlbrand	Mark Carpenter	Claire Repsholdt
LECTOR	G Moehlmann	Debbie Selk	Gloria Hitchcock		Chris Ogan	Sacha Arterberry	Sharon Fawbush
ACOLYTE	Truman Daleke	Sam Polansky	Joel Arnold		Birch Foley	M Bourkland	M Knipstein
SERVER	Dean Arnold	Martha Selk			Nina Daleke	Chris Ogan	Stephanie Biehn
USHERS	Kaye Hill	G/G Laughman	J/M Doering		McDonald/Ohslund	Baurle/Filiatrault	P/L May
GREETER	J/R Steele				L/A Madsen	T/J Garl	Marie Kosakowski
CRUCIFER	Dean Arnold				Nina Daleke		



# April 2017

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

						<b>1</b> Property Co 10:00 Garden Work Day 10 am
<b>2</b> Worship at 8:30 & 11:00 Education Hour 9:45 am Evensong 4:30 pm	<b>3</b> Mission Co 6 pm Community Band 7pm	<b>4</b> UClub Yoga 10 am Lilly Library Trip 12:15 Worship Com. 6:30 PRE Boot Camp 6:30	<b>5</b> Friday Musicale 9:30 Lenten Service Noon & 7	<b>6</b> Girl Scouts 4pm Finance Co 6pm PRE Boot Camp 6:30 Adult Choir Rehearsal 7	<b>7</b> Student Recital 4 pm	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b> Worship at 8:30 & 11:00  Education Hour 9:45 am Congregation Council 12:45 pm	<b>10</b> Community Band 7pm	<b>11</b> UClub Yoga 10am PRE Boot Camp 6:30	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> Maundy Thursday  Service at noon & 7 pm	<b>14</b> Good Friday  Service at noon & 7 pm	<b>15</b> Holy Saturday  The Great Vigil of Easter 8:30 pm
<b>16</b> Worship at 8:30 & 11:00  Festival Worship Easter Breakfast at 9:30 am	<b>17</b> Community Band 7pm Spinners/Weavers 7 pm	<b>18</b> UClub Yoga 10am PRE Boot Camp 6:30	<b>19</b> Swing Band 7 pm	<b>20</b> Adult Choir Rehearsal 7 pm PRE Boot Camp 6:30	<b>21</b> Student Voice recitals at 4 & 7 pm	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b> Worship at 8:30 & 11:00 Education Hour 9:45 am Student Recital 2 pm & 6 pm Piper Society 4 pm	<b>24</b> Community Band 7pm	<b>25</b> UClub Yoga 10am PRE Boot Camp 6:30 Lace Guild 7 pm Student Recital 8 pm	<b>26</b> Jazz Band 7 pm	<b>27</b> Adult Choir Rehearsal 7 pm PRE Boot Camp 6:30	<b>28</b> Student Voice Recital 7 pm	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b> Worship at 8:30 & 11:00 Education Hour 9:45 am Annual Program Meeting 12:30						