



# St. Thomas Lutheran Church

**January 2017  
XXXIX, Issue 1**



## **Hot Dish Heaven Parish Dinner – Remembering our Reforming Roots**

**Friday, January 13 in Heritage Hall ~ Doors open @ 5:30**

**Meal & music ~ Prayers and blessings ~ Dessert and coffee**

**Everyone at St. Thomas was nurtured in the faith by someone else** – a parent, a godparent, a pastor, a friend, a teacher. Who are your faith teachers? On Friday, January 13, we're continuing our observance of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation with a pitch-in dinner to honor and celebrate the people who helped to shape your faith.

### **What to bring?**

- ✓ **Bring an appetizer, main course dish, a salad, or dessert** that honors someone who shaped your faith. It could be a recipe that reflects your ethnic heritage, a family favorite, or a special dish your grandmother made only when you visited.
- ✓ **Bring plates and tableware** for your household – we'll take care of drinks, cups, and napkins.
- ✓ We'll also have display tables in the narthex for memorabilia and you're invited to bring along **an item that has special meaning for you** as you consider your faith heritage – maybe a confirmation Bible, a gift from a godparent, or a cross that hearkens to a significant event or person.
- ✓ **Want to share your recipe?** Index cards and a basket to place them in are available in the narthex or if

you prefer you may bring your recipe the night of the event.

*We hope this evening will bring you many blessings as we remember our Reformation roots. We look forward to this time of fellowship with each of you. Since Apostolic times, Christian faith communities have been known by our sharing of food—among ourselves, with our communities, and with the world. Let's celebrate this heritage of generosity together!*

*The St. Thomas Reformation 500 Committee*



## **Heads Up Regarding Worship Cancellations**

We understand that a few people did not get the word about the 8:30 a.m. worship service being cancelled on December 18. *We hope that all those who were affected will accept our humble apologies.*

The reason for the cancellation was that we anticipated an icy parking lot. Out of an abundance of caution, we did not want anyone to take unnecessary risks. We have a contract with a company that clears our parking lot of snow when it reaches two inches. We do not have similar options when icing occurs. As Sunday morning arrived, the roads were mostly in good shape, but the parking lot remained slick into the mid-morning hours. By that time, salt spread on walks and some portions of the lot, and the sun, had done their work.

Contacts were made in the following ways: emails, phone calls to those we knew did not have email, posting with WFIU, posting on Facebook, sharing on Facebook, and posting on our website.

Worship is rarely cancelled at St. Thomas. This is the first time in at least 13 years. As already noted, this is true mostly because ice is unusual in Bloomington.

**IN THE FUTURE:** If you see/hear on Saturday evening or Sunday morning that ice (or heavy snow) is or is likely to be a problem, please check your email, phone messages, Facebook, or our website for possible cancellations. Email is likely the best option.

If you would like a phone call regarding future cancellations, please contact the office. If you have other suggestions, please let us know.

Your Congregation Council



## **Be Still and Know that I Am God**

After the busy-ness of Advent preparations for the Nativity of our Lord, Epiphany is perhaps a welcome opportunity for reflection on this gift of Jesus, the child who is God incarnate.

We may in these days take time to settle into silence. Sit quietly. Relax. Embrace inactivity. Put the rush out of mind and heart. Take a couple of gentle, slow and deep breaths. Become aware of your breathing—an ancient way to move into a more contemplative state.

Take a moment to pray. Ask God's blessing on your day, on those you love, on those you know who are in need. Let the light of Christ dwell in you richly.

For it is this light that we honor on Epiphany. The light has come. The star has appeared. And God in Christ is revealed to the world as a divine presence permeating all things and shining as a light on all creatures and in every heart.

Mathew (2:1-12) tells of the visit of the magi from the East who traveled to Bethlehem in search of the newborn king. They followed the light of a star. And they found the one in whom we know the great good news of God's light illumining us. Epiphany challenges us to know that light intimately, to recognize it in all creatures, and to engage it in all our encounters.

"This little light of mine. I'm gonna let it shine."

May the light of Christ shine in our hearts, sparkle in our words, gleam in our actions, and illumine the world so much in need of this light.

"Be still, and know that I am God!" (Psalm 46:10)

"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path" (Psalm 119:105)

Grace and peace,  
Pastor Lyle



## Living the Questions 2.0

The third and final unit of "Living the Questions 2.0" begins on Tuesday, January 24 at 7:00 pm. Living the Questions is an open-minded alternative to studies that attempt to give participants all the answers, creating an environment where participants interact with one another in exploring the best of today's theological thought. Living the Questions 2.0 features 35 of today's leading religious voices.

Unit III is entitled "Call to Covenant," The first session considers "A Kingdom Without Walls."



## January 2017 Adult Forum

**January 1:** No faith formation programming

**January 8:** No Adult Forum

**January 15:** Caring for God's Creation in These Times of Change, by Dr. Ben Brabson

"Christian concern for the environment is shaped by the Word of God spoken in creation, the Love of God hanging on a cross, the Breath of God daily renewing the face of the earth."

- Caring for Creation: Vision, Hope, and Justice

As an IU climate scientist and member of our Trinity Episcopal Church Creation Care Committee here in Bloomington, I am moved by the strong Lutheran Caring for Creation document identifying the need to care for our precious earth. Starting with recent scientific developments in our changing climate, I will discuss the impacts of these changes and several responses to these changes that we Episcopalians and you Lutherans are implementing. For example, both of our churches have reduced our climate

changing greenhouse gases (and substantially reduced utility bills!) by installing solar panels on our church roofs.

I'd also like to exchange ideas with you about other ways that our congregations are caring for God's Earth, and in the process, caring for each other. Involving our young folks in the process is an important part of this caring.

January 22: Culture of Conversation, Sanctuary: Join Pastor Colleen for an open conversation about the ministries and missions of St. Thomas.

**January 29:** TBD



## From Pastor Colleen

There will be no faith formation or education hour programming on Sunday, December 25<sup>th</sup>, 2016 or January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017. Regular formation will return on Sunday, January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 9:45am.

Thanks to Catharine Radmacher for all the creativity and hard work that she poured into the 2016 Christmas Play, A Mary Carol. Thanks also to Melissa de Graaf for leading the music and Justin Rust for playing the piano. Additional thanks to all the Sunday School leaders, Stephanie Hulett, Rev. Kelli Skram, Sandy Arnold, and all the parents for their efforts to make this year's program special.



## Youth Group Schedule 2017

January 8, 2017, 5:30-7:30pm - Regular youth group at St. Thomas. We'll have our annual Epiphany party!

Saturday, January 21, afternoon - Youth group outing. Details TBD

Sunday, January 29, 5:30-7:30pm – Regular youth group at St. Thomas.

Sunday, February 5, 5:30-7:30pm - Regular youth group at St. Thomas

Sunday, February 19, 5:30-7:30pm - Regular youth group at St. Thomas

Tuesday, February 28, 5:30-7:30pm – Shrove Tuesday Dinner & 60 Second or Less Talent Show.

March 5, 5:30-7:30pm - Regular youth group at St. Thomas

March 19, 5:30-7:30pm - Regular youth group at St. Thomas

April 2, 5:30-7:30pm - Regular youth group at St. Thomas

Saturday, April 15 – Easter Brunch Work Day

April 16 – Easter Brunch



## Dreams for our Community: Extending the Legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Sunday, January 8, 2017, at 4 PM,  
St. Mark's United Methodist Church  
100 State Road 46 Bypass, Bloomington

Join more than a dozen faith communities as we come together to celebrate and continue the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. And yes, the date is correct. The congregations involved didn't want this celebration to be in conflict with other community Martin Luther King, Jr. Day events.



## The Fierce Urgency of Now: Time to Choose

Sunday, January 15, 2017, 5-7 p.m.  
Buskirk Chumley Theater

The movie "Time to Choose" shows climate problems and solutions. Nine local groups will share their strategies. *Carrie Newcomer* will lead us in song. A *light dinner* is provided.  
*Free*, with RSVP and ticket ([choosejan15.wordpress.com](http://choosejan15.wordpress.com))

*2017 Year End  
Record Keeping*



## *January Birthdays*

1/5 Tim Kirsch, Ryan McKee  
1/10 Paul Smith  
1/12 Phil May  
1/16 Jim Doering  
1/17 Sandy Arnold  
1/20 Dean Arnold  
1/23 John Isaacson  
1/25 Susan Krieg  
1/28 Linus Mundy, Paula Ionescu

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

## *MCUM January Food Needs*

### **FOOD ITEMS:**

Canned chili, tuna, chicken, salmon  
Hamburger Helper  
Canned vegetables  
Jelly & pancake syrup

### **NON FOOD ITEMS:**

Toilet Paper  
Shampoo & Conditioner

If you wish to Unsubscribe from this list or update your preferences please email: [kayehill@stlconline.org](mailto:kayehill@stlconline.org)

## January - February 2017 Volunteer Schedule

	JANUARY 1	JANUARY 8	JANUARY 15	JANUARY 22	JANUARY 29	FEBUARY 5	FEBUARY 12
	9:30 AM	8:30 AM	8:30 AM	8:30 AM	8:30 AM	8:30 AM	8:30 AM
DEACON	Kris Stewart	Gail Seegert	David Rohlfing	Lindsey Smith	Kris Stewart	Gail Seegert	Kathleen Boggess
LECTOR	Judy Bush	Dana Barron	Mike Laros	Del Newkirk	Pauline Caldwell	David Ellies	Kent Unger
ACOLYTE	L Rademacher	E Goldsworthy	Madelyn Shupe	Max Arterberry	Zach May	Joel Arnold	Natalie Schacht
SERVER	Charlene Braun	Shirley Mingee	Barb Unger	David Ellies	Jean Brown	Martha Selk	Del Newkirk
USHERS	Kaye Hill	L/U Coyne	G/G Laughman	J/M Doering	D/D Nixon	F/ML Nierzwicki	L/U Coyne
GREETERS	Arterberry	Mary Sasse	Evelyn Niemeyer	K/B Unger	D/L Newkirk	G/G Laughman	Bob Cutter
CRUCIFER							
FLOWERS					Kaye Hill		
BREAD/WINE	M/J Laros	R Hershberger	M/C Braun	D/S Arnold	T/J Garl	Charles Sweet	J/B Smith
COUNCIL CO	Ashley Ahlbrand	Tom Sinn	Cindy Gallien	Tom Sinn	S/M Eichmiller	S/M Eichmiller	Dean Arnold
		Kim Filiatrault	Charles Sweet	Dean Arnold	Charles Sweet	Dennis Baurle	G Moehlmann
ALTAR GUILD	Jean Brown	Shirley Mingee					
	P Caldwell	Betty Smith					
	JANUARY 1	JANUARY 8	JANUARY 15	JANUARY 22	JANUARY 29	FEBUARY 5	FEBUARY 12
	9:30 AM	11:00 AM	11:00 AM	11:00 AM	11:00 AM	11:00 AM	11:00 AM
DEACON	<i>One Service at 9:30 am</i>	Claire Repsholdt	Gary Ingersoll	Lyman Hitchcock	Robin Hershberger	Ashley Alhbrand	Mark Carpenter
LECTOR		Deb Moore	Kari Esarey	Kim Filiatrault	Marie Kosakowski	Vicki Polansky	Jerry Smith
ACOLYTE		Truman Daleke	Sophia Watters	Sam Polansky	M Bourkland	M Knipstien	Nina Daleke
SERVER		Katie Anderson	G Moehlmann	Kathy McDonald	Sharon Fawbush	Ruth Rives	Sandy Arnold
USHERS		McDonald/Ohslund	Baurle/Filiatrault	P/L May	D/S Arnold	Kaye Hill	McDonald/Oshlund
GREETER		Gretchen Holthaus	Marie Kosakowski	Kari Esarey	T/J Sinn	B/J Smith	Deb Moore
CRUCIFER							



# 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>1</b> One Service at 9:30 am 	<b>2</b> <b>Church Office Closed</b> Community Band 7pm	<b>3</b> UClub Yoga 10am Altar Guild 5:30 pm Worship Com. 6:30 pm	<b>4</b> Mission Co 6:45 pm Swing or Jazz Band 7:00 pm	<b>5</b> Adult Choir Rehearsal 7 pm	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> Worship at 8:30 & 11:00 Education Hour 9:45am MLK celebration at St. Marks 4pm Youth Group meets 5:30 pm	<b>9</b> Community Band 7pm	<b>10</b> UClub Yoga 10am	<b>11</b> Swing or Jazz Band 7:00 pm	<b>12</b> Adult Choir Rehearsal 7 pm	<b>13</b> Hot Dish Heaven 5:30 pm	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> Worship at 8:30 & 11:00 Education Hour 9:45am IONA group 9:45 am Congregation Council 12:30 pm	<b>16</b> Community Band 7pm	<b>17</b> UClub Yoga 10am	<b>18</b> Swing or Jazz Band 7:00 pm	<b>19</b> Finance Co 6:00 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal 7 pm	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> Spinners & Weavers 8:00 am Bach Rehearsal 2:00 pm
<b>22</b> Worship at 8:30 & 11:00 Education Hour 9:45am Bach Cantata 2:30 pm	<b>23</b> Community Band 7pm	<b>24</b> UClub Yoga 10am Living the Questions 7:00 pm Lace Guild 7:00 pm	<b>25</b> Swing or Jazz Band 7:00 pm	<b>26</b> Adult Choir Rehearsal 7 pm	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> Worship at 8:30 & 11:00 Education Hour 9:45am Youth Group meets 5:30 pm	<b>30</b> Community Band 7pm	<b>31</b> UClub Yoga 10am				