



# *St. Thomas Lutheran Church News*

*November 2013  
XXV, Issue No. 11*

## *Thanks!*

As October slowly moved along, I began to get the sense that there was something special happening. No, it wasn't that the beauties of autumn were sneaking into my awareness, first as color along the edges and then as a full-on display.

It had more to do with the mail—both snail and electronic. Cards and messages started to appear, with kind and appreciative sentiments. Where were all those requests for theological reflection on a needling problem? Where were the requests for help with some pastoral concern?

In their places were phrases like these:

“Thank you, thank you.. for taking care of us?”

“Just a note to let you know how grateful I am.. for your thoughtful sermons, for your careful attention to how we treat the earth...”

“Thank you for all you do for the congregation...”

“You are appreciated all year long.”

“Thank you for all you've taught us.”

And there was some really evocative original artwork—poignant and cute.

Sometimes I'm not so fast on the uptake, I guess. It only slowly started to occur to me that something was behind this flurry of positive reinforcement. I googled “pastor appreciation” and there it was. October, several websites noted, is “Pastor Appreciation Month.” The riddle was solved. But the effect remained.

It was delightful to have those words and cards and verbal and gift expressions of thanks. How unexpected—yes, I really hadn't gotten it through my sometimes-thick skull that October has this emphasis. And how delightful.

So, thank you for your kindnesses. And thank you all for permitting me the joy of serving you here at St. Thomas.

Grace and peace,  
Pastor Lyle

# November Adult Forum Schedule

November 3, Culture of Conversation, Sanctuary: Join Pastor Lyle for an open conversation about the ministries and missions of St. Thomas. Feel free to bring questions and/or concerns.

November 10, Take What You Need, Conference Room: Colleen Montgomery needs your help with her internship project! Come to the conference room to prepare to work on preparations to share God's love with IU campus this coming finals week.

November 17, Mission Committee Forum, Conference Room: Stepanka Korytova, PhD and adjunct faculty at Indiana University, will be presenting a forum about human trafficking, one of the world's most pressing human rights issue.

November 24, Take What You Need, Conference Room: Colleen Montgomery needs your help with her internship project! Come to the conference room to work on preparations to share God's love with IU campus this coming finals week. \*\*This will generally be the same program as November 10<sup>th</sup>.

Internship is marked with lots of rites of passage. Honestly, the whole process is full of milestones. First comes endorsement with our candidacy committees to get the go-ahead to even do an internship. Next we fill out paperwork and attempt to fit our entire personality and faith journey onto one page (double-spaced, no less) for potential supervisors to read. Then for those who are not geographically restricting (most people, but not me), there is a speed dating/match making process to pair hopeful interns with internship sites.

Once we get to our ministry sites, there are even more rites of passage. First sermon, first time teaching, turning in a learning contract, first committee meeting, first time totally forgetting something, the list goes on. However, the internship project is one of the defining elements of the whole experience. The purpose of this project is to develop some type of program that is new to congregation, which has the possibility for sustainability, works on my growing edges, and involves participation by others.

I have developed an evangelism program called "Take What You Need". This month, I invite you to come to an adult forum on either November 10<sup>th</sup> or November 24<sup>th</sup> to participate in my project. We'll be decorating small stones with encouraging words to give to IU students during finals week to give them a representation of God's love for them and our prayers for them. Additionally, we'll be working on writing short faith stories to be shared on postcards to give students the options of having more information about our ministry at St. Thomas and LCM at IU. My hope is to offer a graceful and encouraging message to the students during a time of stress. I look forward to working with you on this project and spreading God's love.

Peace,  
Colleen Montgomery  
Pastoral Intern



# Youth Ministry Update

As we start the month of November and with Thanksgiving fast approaching, I felt a need to focus on our families. So, youth group is hosting a family game night on Sunday, November 10<sup>th</sup> at the usual time of 5:30-7:30pm, although we may run longer. It will be a time for all our youth group families to have a chance to get to know each other better through a meal and fun games. I ask that each family attending bring their family's favorite board game and dish to share. I will be in touch with each family about the food and games they will bring. This also means that your younger children not yet in youth group are also welcome to attend. It is a family event!

Youth group is scheduled to meet on Friday, November 15<sup>th</sup> for Shakes 'n Convos, following school. I really hope our youth will be able to be there. It has been awhile since we all got to enjoy this monthly event. If you have a youth who wishes to attend but is not driving yet, please don't hesitate to contact me about rides.

One final bit of youth-related news for this month is the start of Sunday Church School for the High School class. The class will begin meeting on November 3<sup>rd</sup> during the education hour in the youth room. We have an amazing series this year, but I am still short of some faithful volunteers to help lead the class. As you may or may not know I also lead the confirmation class, and I cannot be in two places at once. So, below is a list of the dates in along with a short description of the lesson for the Sundays. I am more than willing to go over the materials with anyone interested in walking with our youth for even a single Sunday!

<u>Date</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Lesson</u>
11/03	God: Faith Is A Quest	Images of God
11/10	God: Faith Is A Quest	Kataphatic v. Apophatic
12/01	Religion: Spirituality Is Not Enough	Reclaiming Religion
04/06	Bible: A Book Like No Other	Uses and Abuses
04/27	Church: An Imperfect Family	Why Go to Church?
05/04	Church: An Imperfect Family	What is Church?
05/11	Church: An Imperfect Family	Who is Church?

With Peace,  
Karl Teskey



## Congratulation to Our Confirmand

The congregation congratulates Nicholas Gordon May on completing the requirements for our confirmation program at St. Thomas Church. He has engaged in class work, retreats, memorization, and service to the congregation and community. Nick presented his confirmation testimony at worship on Reformation Sunday, October 27<sup>th</sup>.

May God continue to bless Nick with wisdom, growth in faith, and a spirit of joyful service to his Lord and the Church.

# *Congregational Meeting – November 17 Following the 11:00 A.M. Worship Service*

Our Fall Congregational Budget Meeting is set for Sunday, November 17<sup>th</sup> following the late service that day. Regular worship services will be held at 8:30 & 11 am . The annual budget meeting will be at 12:30 in the Sanctuary. The 2014 budget is the only item on the agenda. We expect the meeting to be brief and no luncheon will follow.



## *Community Thanksgiving Service*

The congregations at the corner of Smith and Third—Congregation Beth Shalom, University Baptist, and St. Thomas—are joining together for a common celebration of Thanksgiving!

Here are the basics:

Date: Tuesday, November 26, 2013

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Where: St. Thomas

The Worship Committee will be organizing the hospitality that follows.

Note: Those who would like to be a part of the choir should arrive at 6:30 p.m. in order to practice the anthem.



## *Pr. Lyle to be one of the featured speakers at Spirit & Place Festival*

Spirit & Place Festival: Risk 2013

NOV 1-10

Nov 7 at 7 pm

Climate Risks: Envisioning a Clean Energy Future for Indianapolis

Epworth United Methodist Church

Location: 6450 Allisonville Road, Indianapolis

Concerned about the risk of climate change and the impact of coal fired power plants on Indy's future?

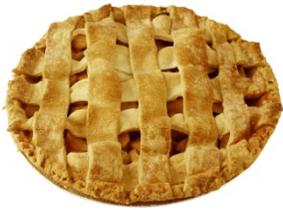
Speakers will include Mary Anne Hitt, national director of the Sierra Club's Beyond Coal Campaign; Rev.

Lyle McKee, chair of Hoosier Interfaith Power and Light; and IUPUI climate scientist Kathy Licht

This free event is part of the Spirit and Place Festival. To learn more and register to attend visit

[www.spiritandplace.org](http://www.spiritandplace.org)

# 2013 Thanksgiving Pies:



It's an LCM-IU tradition. Ease some of the burden of your Thanksgiving dinner preparations. Once again LCM-IU students are making *apple* and *pumpkin* pies for you to serve at your holiday gathering. Check your Sunday bulletin soon for order forms. Pricing this year has not changed: your first pie is \$15 with each subsequent pie being only \$10. If you do not need pies this year you can support this project with donations of (or cash for) supplies. In particular, each year we

especially need donations of:

- Pumpkin filling (large cans)
- Apples (Granny Smith, Honey Crisp or McIntosh)



Other needs include:

- Aluminum Pie Pans
- Vegetable Shortening, Evaporated Milk
- Eggs, Flour, Sugar, Cinnamon

Look for more information at worship in the coming weeks. Thank you! We look forward to providing for your pie-baking needs again this year!



## Taking Faith Home Advent Dinner



Where: St. Thomas Lutheran Church

When: December 1<sup>st</sup>, starting at 5:30pm

Take a break from your busy lives to enjoy the fellowship that surrounds a meal at the start of this Advent season. While you're here your family can make an advent wreath and help decorate the church entrance windows. Parents, you can also learn about easy ways to take your faith out of the church and bring it back home.

The night will kick-off at 5:30pm with a meal provided by St. Thomas; who can say no to a free meal? Childcare will also be provided during the event, if needed. Each family can create an advent wreath, and learn where this lovely tradition came from. Painting the church windows to resemble stained glass is an old St. Thomas tradition that the youth group wanted to bring back to celebrate the advent and Christmas seasons with all of the St. Thomas families.

Wondering what the easy ways to bring your faith back home are? We would love to share not only how to bring your faith home, but also how to make church more of a home. The program *Faith 5: Holding Your Family Together* is based around 5 simple steps to connect church to home every night. We will be introducing the Faith 5 program during this event, with more in-depth coverage of the steps to follow on later dates.

“What happens to children who check in with their parents every night before going to bed? What happens to a family that shares highs and lows, scripture, talk, prayer and blessing most every night of their lives? What are the psychological, sociological, neurological and theological benefits a child receives when they are given such consistent, intentional care before drifting off to sleep

each night? How might a simple, five-step faith practice change a child, a family, and a world?"

- Dr. Rich Melheim; *Faith 5: Holding Your Family Together*



## *Stewardship Responsibilities Served Through Renewable Energy*

As the season is changing and we consider stewardship responsibilities, let's review our church's adventure with renewable energy this year. When approaching Third Street on Smith road from the south you will see 104 solar panels on the roof. They are designed to produce more than half of the power for the building. Our neighbor Beth Shalom has 88 solar panels facing west. Trinity Episcopal on Kirkwood and the Unitarian Universalist church on the bypass near IU stadium also have solar power.

Charts above the mailboxes near the kitchen show monthly comparisons with last year. Performance has been as expected, offsetting most of our electricity use for summer months when solar output is greatest. With net metering our surplus power on sunny days goes into the grid for our neighbors to use and we get power from the grid at night. The system has no batteries. The two inverters on the wall by the mailboxes change solar direct current to alternating current that is used by the building.

Savings on electric bills will pay off the bank loan in a few years and then we will have free power for decades. The solar system makes 35,000 kilowatt hours (kwh) annually, comparable to the amount of power used by three or four typical homes. After 25 years it is expected to be making nearly 30,000 kwh. Inverters will need to be replaced but the solar cells will continue making electricity for a half century or more.

While we are making most of our power, we are also trying to use less. A few things we have learned about energy conservation can be applied at home. If you notice the several thermostats throughout the building, a little sign shows setpoints of 62 for heat and 80 for cool except when occupied. Most days when the outside temperature was above 80 degrees, the actual temperature inside was below 80 and the air conditioner was not running.

Buildings have thermal inertia. We feel the air temperature, but everything else, the floor, walls and furniture, is near the same temperature. All of that mass provides a moderating effect to the daily up and down of outside weather.

After seeing frost on the pumpkins, please dress for comfort. The sanctuary will be warmer on Sunday but short sleeves are not recommended unless you prefer brisk weather. When the building has been at 62 for hours, the indoor air will get warmer more quickly than the furniture. Sweaters and scarves are welcome for worship. When the wind chill is below zero, 62 may feel nice as you come through the door.

# *"Ask Me Anything!" Community Night of Sharing*

We warmly invite you to participate in an Inter-Faith get-to-know-you / "Ask Me Anything!" community night of sharing. This effort began from conversations between two neighbors, Dan Enslow (Bahá'í) and Dave Baer (the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints). We hope you'll come and join us for this evening of fun and faith!

Come learn more of various faiths around us! It will be an evening of food, fun, thoughtful conversation, and great companionship. We'll encourage everyone to wear name tags with a message:

"RAHIM -- I'm Muslim. Ask Me Anything!"

"JOHN -- I'm Bahá'í. Ask Me Anything!"

"KRISTER -- I'm Lutheran. Ask Me Anything!"

"LAWRENCE -- I'm Jewish. Ask Me Anything!"

"DAN -- I'm Baptist. Ask Me Anything!"

"KIM -- I'm Buddhist. Ask Me Anything!"

"ANDREI -- I'm Mormon. Ask Me Anything!"

"ACHALA -- I'm Agnostic. Ask Me Anything!"

"SUSAN -- I'm Not Religious. Ask Me Anything!"

"CHARLES" .....

Favorite foods from various faith communities will help break the ice and grease conversation. It is hoped that participants will be prepared to consider questions on various points of doctrine, policy and community culture. Everyone is expected to remain respectful and relevant. We hope it will be an evening of fun and understanding, warm with new and old community friends, made more rich by diverse tastes, cultures, histories, and beliefs.

Date/Time: Saturday, November 9, 2013, 7:00-8:30PM

Location: 2411 E 2nd St, Bloomington IN 47401, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (Mormons)

Dave Baer, Home 812-331-6970, [dbaerhome@gmail.com](mailto:dbaerhome@gmail.com)

Dan Enslow, Cell: 812-325-2936, [danens1863@sbcglobal.net](mailto:danens1863@sbcglobal.net)



## *Stewardship Reminder*

If you haven't already, please complete and return your "Time and Talent" sheet and your pledge card for 2014. Additional copies are available in the narthex. Many thanks to members who have already turned in the forms.

## *All Saints Sunday*

On All Saints Sunday (November 3<sup>rd</sup>), we will remember in prayer those who have joined the Church Triumphant over the past year. We will remember Lori Rowold, Pamela Hitchcock, Bob Burt, Ron Berg, Bill Willems and Joan Burt. Those in attendance at worship that day will have the opportunity to add the names of family and friends for inclusion in our prayers.

## Do you have furniture you're not using -- or are thinking of replacing?

Consider donating it to the Society of St.  
Vincent de Paul.

SVdP volunteers will pick it up and make  
it available to those in need.

Also sought:

~ Appliances and Televisions

~ Mattresses and Box Springs

~ Bed Frames

For information call:

Gene Laughman 320-0400

Jim Pankow 876-5664

or

SVdP Recorded Message Line 961-1510

## November Birthdays

11/1 Lyle McKee, James Hummel

11/4 Mitchell Allen, Dana Barron  
Jacob Crouch, Nick May

11/7 Kathleen Boggess, Susan Colston

11/12 Lyman Hitchcock, Kris Stewart

11/15 Jane Warner

11/16 Ron Ohslund

11/17 Shelby Crouch

11/19 Chris Smith

11/20 David Polansky

11/22 Kaye Hill

11/23 Martha Seaman

11/25 Hannah Ringquist

11/27 Gail Bourkland

11/29 Jim Halvorson

11/30 Michael Laros, Natalie Schacht

## November Pantry Needs For MCOM

Food: canned fruit (no pineapple)

Baking mixes & pie crust mixes

canned veggies (esp. green peas &  
potatoes)

soups – veggie, tomato, cream of  
dried beans and peanut butter

Cleaning Closet Items: underwear –  
men's sizes 32-36

Tub socks for winter

## Wedding Anniversaries

11/26 Gary & Helen Ingersoll 47 yrs

11/27 Darrell & Kathleen Boggess 42 yrs

11/27 Jerry & Betty Smith 59 yrs



NOVEMBER 2

## *Mark Your Calendar for Advent & Christmas*

- Dec 1 First Sunday in Advent  
"Taking Faith Home" Advent Dinner 5:30 pm
- Dec 4 Wednesday Advent Worship at noon & 7 pm
- Dec 8 Second Sunday in Advent  
Hanging of the Greens after 11:00 Service
- Dec 11 Wednesday Advent Worship at noon & 7 pm
- Dec 15 Third Sunday in Advent  
Hanging of the Chrismons at both Services  
Children's Christmas Pageant at 11:00  
Choir's program of Music & Food for Advent &  
Christmas 4:00 pm
- Dec 18 Wednesday Advent Worship at noon & 7 pm
- Dec 22 Fourth Sunday in Advent  
Christmas Caroling at 5 pm
- Dec 24 Christmas Eve Worship at 4 pm and 8 pm
- Dec 29 One Service at 9:30 am
- Jan 4 Epiphany of Our Lord (*return to two services*)

## *Holiday Bell Ringers*

The Salvation Army is looking for volunteer bell ringers. The season starts in mid-November and runs through Christmas Eve. You may visit [www.registertoring.com](http://www.registertoring.com) to sign-up. You may also contact Peter Iversen at 812-336-4310 extension 102. A minimum of two hours volunteer time is requested. Locally the Salvation Army provides a food pantry, assistance with rent, utility bills, prescriptions, clothing, and youth programming.

Unsubscribe from this list or update your preferences by emailing:

[kayehill@stlconline.org](mailto:kayehill@stlconline.org)

## *Iona SGG Invites You*

The Iona Spiritual Growth Group would like to invite the congregation to a time of reflection and prayer at church on Wednesday, November 20 from 4 pm until 8 pm. We will offer prayers on the hour and half hour with time for silent reflection in between. At 7 pm we would like to share a prayer service, most likely one from Phillip Newell/Ghost Ranch. Please watch for more information in the weekly bulletin or contact Shari at [rogfid@gmail.com](mailto:rogfid@gmail.com) or 334-8212.

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



NOVEMBER 2

# NOVEMBER 17

	NOVEMBER 3	NOVEMBER 10	NOVEMBER 17	NOVEMBER 24	DECEMBER 1	DECEMBER 8	DECEMBER 15
	8:30	8:30	8:30	8:30	8:30	8:30	8:30
<b>DEACON</b>	Kris Stewart	Kris Stewart	Kathleen Boggess	C Montgomery	David Rohlfling	Gail Seegert	David Rohlfling
<b>LECTOR</b>	Judy Bush	Lynn Coyne	Robin Hersberger	Walt Wood	Gail Seegert	Mike Laros	Kay Isaacson
<b>ACOLYTE</b>	E Goldsworthy	Madelyn Shupe	A Goldsworthy	Gretchen Wheeler	E Goldsworthy	Natalie Schacht	Joel Arnold
<b>SERVER</b>	Shirley Mingee	Mary Sasse	David Ellies	Charlene Braun	ML Nierzwicki	Barb Unger	Judy Bush
<b>USHERS</b>	G/G Laughman	F/ML Nierzwicki	D/D Nixon	L/U Coyne	J/M Doering	C/S Retrievi	G/G Laughman
<b>GREETERS</b>	Kay Isaacson	J/J Bush	Bob Cutter	M/J Laros	L/U Coyne	B/R Wheeler	Mary Sasse
<b>NURSERY</b>	Misty White	Pauline Caldwell	Misty White	Susan Krieg	Pauline Caldwell	Tiffany Shupe	Misty White
<b>CRUCIFER</b>	David Ellies						

<b>FLOWERS</b>		J/R Steele	Seaman family	Arnold family		B/R Wheeler	Carol Seaman
		Warner family	Biehn & Daleke				
<b>BREAD/WINE</b>	D/S Arnold	T/J Garl	Debbie Moore	Pauline Caldwell	K/B Unger	J/B Smith	Beverly Lingvai
<b>COUNCIL CO</b>	John Bush	Karen Rohlfling		Karen Rohlfling	John Bush		
			Tim Climis		Dawn Bakken	Ruth Rives	
<b>ALTAR GUILD</b>	Ute Coyne	Bev Lingvai	Ute Coyne	Barb Unger	Jean Brown	Bev Lingvai	Barb Unger
	Pauline Caldwell	Charlene Braun	Marilyn Harder	Betty Smith	Charlene Wheeler	Pauline Caldwell	Marilyn Harder

	NOVEMBER 3	NOVEMBER 10	NOVEMBER 17	NOVEMBER 24	DECEMBER 1	DECEMBER 8	DECEMBER 15
	11:00	11:00	11:00	11:00	11:00	11:00	11:00
<b>DEACON</b>	Ashley Ahlbrand	Naomi Sveholm	Ashley Ahlbrand	C Montgomery	Betty Smith	Betty Smith	Sarah Climis
<b>LECTOR</b>	Maren Foley	Sarah Climis	Kathy McDonald	Vicki Polansky	Haley Garl	Deb Moore	Sandy Arnold
<b>ACOLYTE</b>	Nina Daleke	R Bourkland	Zach May	Katcha Papesh	Nick May	M Bourkland	Lilly Rademacher
<b>SERVER</b>	Kathy McDonald	Katie Anderson	Sarah Climis	Ruth Rives	M O'connor	Stephanie Biehn	Gary Ingersoll
<b>USHERS</b>	D/S Arnold	P/L May	D Owens/K Hill	Filiatrault/Baurle	McDonald/Ohslund	D/S Arnold	P/L May
<b>GREETER</b>	Karl Teskey	Debbie Moore	J/B Smith	M O'Connor	Katie Anderson	Jane Warner	Karen Blaisdell
<b>NURSERY</b>	Kim Filiatrault	Cindy Ohslund	J/MK Hajos	Haley Garl	Lauren Wright	Jamie Crouch	Jane Warner
<b>CRUCIFER</b>	Tim Climis						

**COMMUNITY  
FOOD DRIVE**



**MONTH of NOVEMBER**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 Property 10:00
3 Worship @ 8:30 & 11 Edu Hour @ 9:45 Culture of Conversation New Members 12:30	4 Biblestudy 1pm Book of Faith 7:00 Community Band 7:00	5 U Club Yoga 10:00 Worship Co 6:30	6 Mission Co 6:45	7 Finance Co 7 Youth Musicians 6:00 Choir Rehearsal 7:00	8	9
10 Worship @ 8:30 & 11 Edu Hour @ 9:45 New Members Locavores 10:00 Congregation Council Friday Game Night 5:30	11 Community Band 7:00	12 U Club Yoga 10:00	13	14 Youth Musicians 6:00 Choir Rehearsal 7:00	15	16 Bach Rehearsal 12:30
17 Worship @ 8:30 & 11 Edu Hour @ 9:45 Adult Forum 10:00 Bach Cantata 2:30	18 Biblestudy 1 pm Community Band 7:00 Spinners/Weav ers 7 pm	19 U Club Yoga 10:00	20 Iona Prayer 4 – 8 pm	21 Youth Musicians 6:00 Choir Rehearsal 7:00	22	23
24 Christ the King Worship @8:30 & 11 Iona SGG 10:00	25 Book of Faith 7:00 Community Band 7:00	26U Club Yoga 10:00  Interfaith Thanksgiving Worship 7 pm	27	28  Church Office Closed	29 Church Office Closed	30