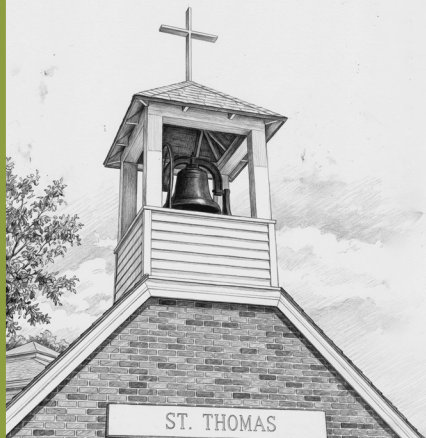




The Builder

July 19, 2026

• Engaging • Empowering • Sending • Serving
Growing as a community in Jesus Christ

St. Thomas Lutheran Church

17007 Q Street Omaha, NE 68135

402-894-2040 STLC.org



Sabbatical Summer Sermon Series

Sabbatical is not just a season of rest; it's a season of growth for the whole church!

Our Sabbatical Summer Sermon Series continues. We've learned about:

- May: "The Importance of Sabbath"
- June: "Radical Hospitality"

Don't miss the rest!

July theme: "Outward-Facing Church"



Youth Mission 2026

Thank you to all who contributed to make this mission possible!

Read about their trip at

STLC.org/Blog



Photos will be posted on our [Facebook Page](#)

Join us Sunday, September 13 for the Youth Mission presentation at both worship services.



St. Thomas Merch Shop is back!

Get your St. Thomas apparel!

Through Wed, July 22 - order online

T-shirts, polos, sweatshirts, and more! Adult and youth sizes. Additional details & link to the Merch Shop at

STLC.org/Merch.



Blood Drive

Saturday, August 1

8:00 am - 1:00 pm, Community Life Center



American Red Cross

Come roll up your sleeves to help save lives as we sponsor an American Red Cross Blood Drive!

With someone in the U.S. needing blood approximately every two seconds, blood products must be constantly replenished. Would you please consider giving a gift of life?

Sign up today!

- Sign up to give blood at rcblood.org/3VliEEB All donors at our blood drive will be entered into a raffle for 2 Husker football tickets for the September 12 game vs. Bowling Green!
- Sign up to volunteer at STLC.org (set up, reception, canteen, tear down, or provide treats).



Thank you for your life-saving gift!

All Ministry Teams Quarterly Meeting

Monday, August 3 - 6:00 pm - Fellowship Hall

Our church couldn't do what we do without the work of our Ministry Teams!

Each Team meets monthly and all teams join together quarterly for dinner, fellowship, and communication regarding goals and current work for our church & community.

You're invited to join a Ministry Team!

Learn more & sign up at STLC.org/Ministries.



St. Thomas Lutheran Church

Summer Choir

July 19

Singers of all ages are invited to sing in this intergenerational choir! Bring the kids, grandparents, and all of your family, friends, and neighbors! Come share your gift and meet new friends who share the love of singing!

We'll sing at the 8:30 am Traditional Worship once in each of the summer months with one rehearsal before each.

Upcoming Schedule:

- Sunday, July 19 · 7:55 am Warm-up (Music Room)
· 8:30 am Sing during Worship (Sanctuary)
- Wednesday, Aug. 12, 6:30 pm - Rehearsal (Music Room)
- Sunday, Aug. 16 · 7:55 am Warm-up (Music Room)
· 8:30 am Sing during Worship (Sanctuary)

Questions? Contact Jason Horner, STLC Director of Music Ministries, at JHorner@stlc.org.



Can you read music? Bass clef?

If so, join the St. Thomas Ringers! We're in need of a low (large) bell player for the fall of 2026.

NO EXPERIENCE IS NECESSARY!

Anyone interested will need to be able to read bass clef and basic music notations like rhythms and dynamics. Training available on these specific bells.

If you or someone you know might be interested, please contact Jason Horner at JHorner@stlc.org or call the church office 402-894-2040.

Ringers rehearsals resume Tuesday, August 25 at 7:00 pm in the Music Room (220).

For more information about St. Thomas Ringers visit STLC.org/Ringers.

Coffee Connection

9:30 am each Sunday
Fellowship Hall

You're invited to enjoy coffee, cookies, & conversation with your STLC family! All are welcome!



August 1, 2026

At Covenant Presbyterian Church
15002 Blondo Street
Omaha, Nebraska

**Jason Horner &
Kevin Boesiger**
Festival Choir Conductors

Concert at 7:00 pm

FREE! Open to the public

(a freewill offering will be taken)

For more information contact:
Kevin Boesiger
KevinB@covenantomaha.church
(402) 489-9000, ext. 101



Music Ensembles

All adults and high school students are invited to join!

[St. Thomas Ringers](#)

Tuesdays, 7:00pm

Resumes August 25

[New Life Choir](#)

Wednesdays, 7:15pm

Resumes in late August

[St. Thomas Brass](#)

Resumes in October

Learn more at STLC.org/MusicEnsembles.



What kind of reader are you? Slow and steady, a fast reader, and do you love fiction or nonfiction?

The church Library has everything you need! Books for young and old, and puzzles! We have many books by Adam Hamilton, new books for the middle schooler, and tons of nonfiction and popular fiction books.

Stop by and check out books anytime. Check out as many as you want and bring them back when you are finished. All are welcome at the church library!

Stop by the **LJ COFFEE CAFÉ**

Monday, July 20 - 9:00-11:00 am
Library (upper level, Room 214)

We will read a story to your little one while you enjoy fellowship and a cup of coffee!





We hope you'll join us!
GOAL: 150 volunteers

Scan to
sign up!



Saturday, August 8

You're invited to join us for a few hours of serving our local community together!
All ages are welcome!

SCHEDULE:



8:30 am - BREAKFAST

Enjoy a meal and catch up with friends! Build-your-own breakfast burrito, pastries, coffee, juice, and water will be provided.



9:15 am - PRAYERS & SEND-OFF

We'll share the different service activities and close with a prayer before sending everyone out to their sites.



11:30 am - SERVICE CONCLUDES

All activities will wrap up by 11:30 am.

SERVICE EVENTS:

Service Event for aged 8+

- ☐ Heartland Kids Against Hunger Meal-Packing (30 needed)

Service Events for aged 12+

- ☐ COPE (Christian Outreach Program- Elkhorn) (minimum 12 needed) (organize food & clothing for distribution)
- ☐ Access Period- Assemble feminine hygiene product kits. (on site) (20 needed)
- ☐ Heartland Hope Mission, West O location (20 needed)
- ☐ Decorating & planting flower pots with residents at Mosaic Intermediate Care Facility (5-6 needed)
- ☐ STLC projects & neighborhood clean-up (10 needed)

Service Events for all ages:

- ☐ Tie fleece blankets for YES & Open Door Mission (on site) (space for 32)
- ☐ Assemble Lutheran World Relief Personal Care Kits (on site) (5-10 needed)
- ☐ Cards for First Responders (age 8 & under) (on site)



O.W.L. Events

O.W.L. (Older Wiser Lutherans) are members and friends of St. Thomas ages 55+. Friends are welcome at all events!

"Writing the Last Chapters of Your Life"

A presentation by Pastor Kim McSheehy from Immanuel Pathways Southwest Iowa

Sunday, July 26

11:15 am, Fellowship Hall

Immanuel believes all people should grow and age with dignity, safety, and wellness. To help fulfill this vision, you are invited to join Pastor Kim McSheehy to explore "Writing the Last Chapters of Your Life." With guided exercises to define your values and beliefs, you'll be equipped to share with family what matters most to you as you age.

OWL Lunch Bunch

*Meets the first and third Thursdays of each month
12:00 noon - 2:00 pm, Fellowship Hall
Bring a lunch and friends!*

A Word from the Bishop

- ELCA Presiding Bishop Yehiel Curry - [America at 250: Holding gratitude and humility](#)
- NE Synod Bishop Rev. Scott Johnson - [July Reflection](#)

Read more:

- [ELCA.org/news-and-stories/all](#)
- [NebraskaSynod.org/news](#)



Nebraska Lutheran Outdoor Ministries

Carol Joy Holling Camp Fundraiser

Quilt Auction

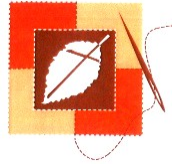
Saturday, July 25 - 9:00am - 5:00pm

27416 Ranch Road, Ashland, NE

Bring your family and friends to the 38th Annual Quilt Auction to benefit Carol Joy Holling Camp! The day promises good food, great fun, and lots of beautiful quilts donated by friends of camp. Rain or shine, the day will go on!

Included in the auction are quilts made & donated by the Women of St. Thomas, and Elaine Gregory.

See the event schedule & preview quilts at [NLOM.org/quilt-auction](#).



New Member Orientation

Are you or someone you know looking for a church home? Welcome home! We invite you to join our church family!

New Member Orientation is an informal gathering that offers an opportunity for Pastor David and Pastor Heidi to connect with you, to hear your story, and to share a bit more about the community of St. Thomas Lutheran Church. We'll explore what we believe, who we are as a Lutheran community, and, for those who are interested, the process of formally joining as a full participant in our mission. Childcare is available upon request.

Our next session will be held (need only attend one of the two New Member Orientations offered):

- **Sunday, August 9, 11:15 am**, Fellowship Hall: New Member Orientation
- **Wednesday, August 12, 6:00 pm**, Fellowship Hall: New Member Orientation
- **Sunday, August 23, during 10am Contemporary Worship**: New Members will be received into membership.
- **Sunday, August 23, 11:15 am**, Fellowship Hall- A light luncheon to welcome our New Members.

RSVP: If you are interested in attending this orientation and becoming a member of our church family, please email the church office at office@stlc.org or simply call the church office at 402-894-2040.

Questions? Please contact Pastor Heidi Youngquist at HYoungquist@stlc.org.



The Outreach Corner

A monthly article from the Outreach Ministry Team.

July Ministry Feature: Dana Village

Dana College, located in Blair, Nebraska, was founded in 1896 and affiliated with the Lutheran Church. Several members of St. Thomas Lutheran are alumni of the school. Financial issues started affecting the school in and around the turn of the century and caused the school to close in 2010.

In the past few years, an effort has been made to turn the campus into a facility to house youth aging out of foster care as well as low-income elderly individuals. This has turned into a huge success with 73 apartments (formerly dormitory rooms) now occupied. Plans are in place to remodel another 120 more.

A few interesting facts:

- 1) Dana Village is affiliated with Lutheran Family Services which provides guidance and financial support.
- 2) In 2025, 179 youth aged out of foster care in Nebraska.
- 3) Aging out is linked to homelessness, unstable housing, mental health challenges, lower educational attainment, and employment instability. Many are incarcerated soon after aging out. Some are trafficked.
- 4) Over 1,600 Nebraskans ages 13 - 24 are unsheltered.
- 5) In addition to providing housing, Dana Village staff assist residents in finding jobs, education, and counseling.
- 6) Dana Village was the only organization mentioned in the Nebraska Foster Care Review Office's 6 Recommendations for Strengthening Outcomes and is listed as a model for others.
- 7) St. Thomas Lutheran has provided support to Dana Village via:
 - a. Monthly meals for the residents of Dana Village with STLC members serving and visiting with residents.
 - b. Funds to help furnish two of the apartments.
 - c. We have pledged tithing 10% of the Imagine More Initiative to help financially support Dana Village. Through 2025 we have contributed \$87,832.
 - d. Partially due to our support, Dana Village has been able to complete the fundraising for the gym on campus, a facility used by many Blair youth sport teams.

Thank you for your financial support of the Imagine More Initiative.

Please consider signing up for one of our monthly Dana Village Meals, usually the fourth Monday of each month. Learn more and sign up at STLC.org/DanaVillageMeals.

Learn more about Dana Village at onelfs.org/housing/dana-village/.

Outreach Center

Upper Level, Room 204

Reach out to those in need.

- **Project Hope, Inc.** - *First Weekend Food Drive*
- **Prayer Shawl Ministry** - *Prayer Shawls for anyone in need.*
- **Tip Top Thrift Shop** - *New or gently-used clothing and small household items to benefit Youth Emergency Services*
- **Heartland Hope Mission**
- **Lutheran Family Services**
- **Lions Recycle for Sight** - *usable used eyeglasses*
- **Ronald McDonald House** - *pop can tabs*

Learn more at STLC.org/OutreachCenter

Prayer Shawl Ministry



Prayer Shawls are located in the Outreach Center (upper level, Room 204).

Please take a shawl if you or a loved one are in need of a tangible reminder that you are surrounded by the love of God and by the prayers of others.

Interested in joining? The Prayer Shawl Ministry team meets in the Fellowship Hall for knitting, crocheting, and fellowship at 1:00 pm on the 1st & 3rd Tuesdays of each month.

Details at STLC.org/PrayerShawlMinistry.

Children's Programs

Resume in September.



STLC Kids - Age 3 - Grade 5
Sundays - 10:00 am (Room 100)

Details & registration link at STLC.org/STLCKids.

WAM (Worship Arts & Music) Grades 1-5

Wednesdays -

5:45 - 6:15 pm- Choristers (Children's Choir) (Room 220)

6:15 - 7:30 pm- Resonate/Chimers & Bible Activity

Details & registration link at STLC.org/WAM.



Youth Programs

Resume in September.



Confirmation - Grades 6 - 9

Meets 1st & 3rd Wednesdays - 6:45 - 8:45 pm

Details & registration link at STLC.org/Confirmation.

High School Youth - Grades 9 - 12

Meets each Wednesday - 6:45 - 8:45pm

Details at STLC.org/HighSchoolYouth.

Youth Mission: Learn more at STLC.org/YouthMission.

Nursery

The Nursery is available

8:15 am - 11:15 am each Sunday!

Located on the lower level in the
Children's Ministry area off of Room 100.

For easier check-in, register at STLC.org/KidsRegistration.

Children are always welcome in worship!



Back-to-School Sunday

August 9

During 8:30 & 10am Worship



Blessing: We will take a moment to pray for all those heading back to school- students, teachers, counselors, administrators, and support staff.

Backpack Blessing: All students are invited to bring their backpacks for the blessing.

STLC.org/BackToSchoolSunday

All adults are welcome to join us in serving Kansas City residents in need of a helping hand!

Adult Mission Trip
September 13 -16, 2026
Kansas City, MO



Why go on an Adult Mission Trip?

- Make a difference in the lives of others in the name of Jesus.
- Develop meaningful friendships that last.
- The joy of being together.
- Tasks are tailored to your skills.
- Accomplishing something bigger than self.
- It's just fun!

Questions? Please contact Dave or Anita deFreese or call the church office at (402) 894-2040.

Details also at STLC.org/AdultMissionTrip. Share the page and invite your friends to serve too!

ADULT SMALL GROUPS

Study Service Support Fellowship

All are invited!

Details on these and other small groups at STLC.org/SmallGroups

Women's Bible Study (monthly, Tues. evenings): Meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm in Room 202 (upper level). For details, please contact Kelley Miller at KMiller@stlc.org. *(Resumes in the fall)*

Women's Bible Study (weekly, Wednesday mornings): 9:30am - Please visit STLC.org/GracesPlace for details. *(Resumes in the fall)*

Men's Bible Study (weekly, Thurs. mornings): Meets Thursday mornings during the academic year at 6:30 am in the Fellowship Hall. Details at STLC.org/MensBibleStudy. *(Resumes in the fall)*

DivorceCare - On-going support group. Mondays, 6:30 pm. (Room 223) STLC.org/DivorceCare *(Resumes in the fall)*

Women of St. Thomas - Sewing Ministry.
2nd Mondays - 2:00pm & 4th Mondays - 7:00pm (*Room 225*).

O.W.L. (Older Wiser Lutherans) - Members & friends ages 55+.
"Lunch Bunch" - 1st & 3rd Thursdays, 12:00pm (*Fellowship Hall*).
Special events scheduled throughout the year.

Prayer Shawl Ministry - Knitting & Crocheting Ministry.
1st & 3rd Tuesdays, 1:00pm (*Fellowship Hall*).

Novel Ideas - Ladies' book discussion group.
4th Tuesdays, 7:00pm (*Offsite*).

First Friday Fixers - Facility maintenance ministry.
Meets 1st Friday of each month, 9:00am - noon (*STLC*).

Men Who Love Spaghetti - Men's dinner group. Meets monthly at area restaurants. STLC.org/MenWhoLoveSpaghetti

Please
pray for....



Unless otherwise requested, all prayer requests will appear in publications for two weeks.

To add a friend or loved one to the prayers, visit STLC.org/PrayerRequest

Alex Lopez - friend of Jason & Ashlee Olson
 Wendy - friend of Kelly Pugh
 Diane Schick - sister-in-law of Allegra Sorensen
 Julie Hudson - former St. Thomas member
 Jeriann Leary - friend of Sue Chastain
 Hudson Davis - grandson of Janine McCauley
 Jamie Brenaman - daughter-in-law of Dale & Margie Rennerfeldt
 Tom Patterson - cousin of Whitney Patterson-Kock
 John Zurek - friend of Greg Schilling
 Dale Rennerfeldt
 Angie Ratekin
 Terry Hurlbert
 Sam McCoy
 Dave Matsumura
 Tootie Rohde
 Ava Kock
 Anita deFreese

Dana Village Meal

Monday, July 27

You're invited to help serve a meal to the residents of Dana Village in Blair, NE! Volunteers will also be engaging with the residents, talking with them about their well-being, employment, schooling, and other topics that may bring opportunity to provide guidance and support.

- 4:45 pm - Carpool from STLC
- 6:00 pm - Dinner served on the Dana Village campus in Mickelsen Hall at [2876 Angels Share Drive, Blair, NE 68008](http://2876AngelsShareDrive.com).

Interested in serving?
 RSVP at STLC.org/DanaVillageMeals.

Learn more about Dana Village
 at onelfs.org/housing/dana-village/.



Worship Servers

Sundays	July 19	July 26
Assisting Ministers		
8:30 (S)	Gary Chesley	Pete Jensen
10:00 (CLC)	Lori Schilling	Julie Grantham
Acolytes & Communion Assistants		
8:30 (S)	Eden Elsasser Zoey Marsh	Hailey Witzke Ava Kock
10:00 (CLC) Acolytes	Kiera Brown Brody Pfaff	Abi Clausen Landon Turnbull
10:00 (CLC) Comm. Asst.	Colton Bowcott Zach Bowcott	Leah Jacobsen Reese Jacobsen
Ushers		
8:30 (S)	Pete Jensen Bob Sall	Dan Miller Doug Wragge
10:00 (CLC)	Dan Berlau Gordon Harnisch Matt Riedlinger Tyler Scherr	Gordon Harnisch Matt Riedlinger Tyler Scherr TBA
Welcome Hosts		
8:30 (S)	Linda Scholz	Allegra Sorensen
10:00 (CLC)	Janet Voelker / Abby Jacobsen	Cathie / Greg Schmit
Slide Advancers		
10:00 (CLC)	Joan Heath	Joan Heath
Livestream Operators		
10:00 (CLC)	Jason Horner	Tim White
Sound System Operators		
10:00 (CLC)	Chris Levine	Todd Anderson
Coffee Connection Servers		
9:30	Gordon & Shelly Harnisch	Jim & Jane Cotton
Coffee Connection Bread Bakers		
9:30	Kathy Mainelli / Kandi Dolesh	Sandy Seim
CLC Set-up - Volunteers Welcome!		
9:00	Cub Scouts	Youth and Family Ministry & Volunteers

It takes a number of people to help make meaningful worship and fellowship experiences. We are very grateful for all who serve each Sunday, and we welcome all who want to serve! If interested, please contact Jason Horner, Director of Music Ministries, at JHorner@stlc.org.

**Worship
Servers**

This Week at St. Thomas...

■ Sunday, July 19

- 8:30a Traditional Worship - Summer Choir sings (Sanctuary)
- 9:00a CLC Set-up (Cub Scouts)
- 9:30a Coffee Connection (Fellowship Hall)
- 10:00a Contemporary Worship - with Kids' Time (Community Life Center or Livestream)

■ Monday, July 20

- 9:00a [LJ Coffee Cafe](#) (Library, upper level Room 214)
- 6:30p [Council](#) (Room 225)

■ Tuesday, July 21

- 10:30a Staff Meeting (Room 221)
- 1:00p [Prayer Shawl Ministry](#) (Fellowship Hall)
- 2:00p [High School Hang-Out](#) (Scooters - 180th & Q)

■ Wednesday, July 22

■ Thursday, July 23

- 6:30p [Praise Team Rehearsal](#) (CLC)

■ Friday, July 24

■ Saturday, July 25

- 9:00a [Camp Carol Joy Holling Quilt Auction](#) (27416 Ranch Road, Ashland, NE)

■ Sunday, July 26

Servabration sign up closes

- 8:30a Traditional Worship (Sanctuary)
- 9:00a CLC Set-up (Youth & Family Ministry & Volunteers)
- 9:30a Coffee Connection (Fellowship Hall)
- 10:00a Contemporary Worship - with Kids' Time (Community Life Center or Livestream)
- 11:15a [OWLS](#): Presentation by Pastor Kim McSheehy - "Writing the Last Chapters of Your Life" (Fellowship Hall)

Ways to give your offering



[STLC.org/GiveOnline](https://stlc.org/GiveOnline). Make one-time or recurring contributions from your checking/savings account or debit/credit card.

[Venmo.com/STLCOmaha](https://venmo.com/STLCOmaha). Add a comment to designate where your contribution is to be used.

Text the amount to (877) 362-7992. Default is General Fund. Add a specific fund, such as: *Youth Mission Trip, Sabbatical, or Imagine More.* (i.e., 30 Youth Mission Trip)

Offering Box Place cash or check in the offering box.

Mail your contributions to 17007 Q St, Omaha, NE 68135

Utilize your bank's bill-pay service to set up recurring or one-time contributions.

Upcoming Events

- July 27 [Dana Village Meal](#)
- Aug 1 [Blood Drive](#)
- Aug 1 Covenant Choral Festival Concert - 7:00pm
- Aug 2 Pastor David returns (cake receptions)
- Aug 3 All Ministry Teams Quarterly Meeting, 6pm, FH
- Aug 8 [Servabration: Neighbors serving Neighbors](#)
- Aug 9 [Back-to-School Sunday](#) with Backpack Blessing
- Aug 9 [New Member Orientation](#) - 11:15am
- Aug 12 [New Member Orientation](#) - 6:00pm
- Aug 23 [New Members Received](#) - during 10:00am worship

Join us in worship & fellowship each week!



- 8:30 am - Traditional Worship (Sanctuary)
- 9:30 am - Coffee Connection (Fellowship Hall)
- 10:00 am - Contemporary Worship (Community Life Center or Livestream)

St. Thomas
Total Offering
Year-to-Date

Through June 30, 2026

Actual	Budget
566,812	543,810

Website [STLC.org](https://stlc.org)

St. Thomas Lutheran Church



Facebook [STLC.org/Facebook](https://stlc.org/Facebook)

St. Thomas Lutheran Church Omaha



YouTube [STLC.org/YouTube](https://stlc.org/YouTube)

STLC Omaha

