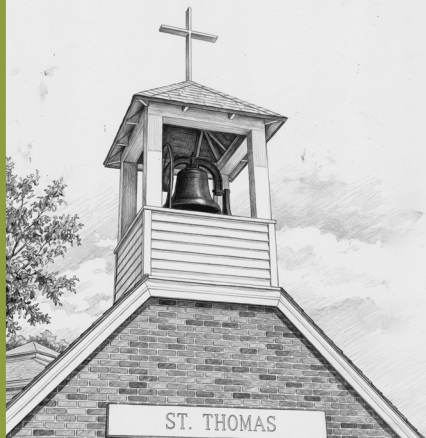




The Builder

September 6, 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



REGISTER THE KIDS! NURSERY - GRADE 9!

All on one registration form at
STLC.org/KidsRegistration



*Children's & Youth Programs begin
the week of September 6 (see pg. 2)*

Nursery

STLC Kids Sundays

STLC Kids Midweek
(formerly called WAM)

- Choristers

- Resonate

- Bible Study

- Christmas Program

STLC Kids Milestones

- First Bible Class

- First Communion

Confirmation (Grades 6-9)

STLC Kids Sundays Leaders
(Grades 6-12 help PreK-Grade 5)



Life Groups Hosts Needed!

We are kicking off a new year of Life Groups and are in need of hosts!

If you enjoy people, organizing gatherings, and keeping everyone in the loop, then you would make a great host!

If you'd be interested in leading a Life Group, please contact Pr. Heidi at HYoungquist@stlc.org.

Learn more about Life Groups at STLC.org/LifeGroups.

Youth Mission 2026

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

Read about their trip at
STLC.org/Blog.



Youth Mission Presentation

Sunday, September 13 - at both worship services

Come hear about all that our youth learned, experienced, and accomplished!

FREE - Jo-on-the-Go Espresso & Smoothie Bar Sunday, September 13 - 8:15 -10:15 am



As a thank-you from Youth Mission, **Jo-on-the-Go** will be on site serving classics, sugar-free & signature lattes, fruit smoothies, frappes, and espresso-free options. FREE to you, courtesy of Youth Mission!



First Weekend Food Drive September 6

Please deliver non-perishable food items (**no fresh** fruits/vegetables/bread, please) and toiletries to the Outreach Center (Room 204). Benefits Project Hope.

Details at STLC.org/FirstWeekendFoodDrive

SAME GREAT CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS ** NOW WITH SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT NAMES! **

They're all "STLC Kids". Some kids attend on Sundays. Some kids attend on Wednesdays.
Some kids attend both! All kids are invited! All kids are welcome!

Sign up your kids today at STLC.org/KidsRegistration!



STLC Kids Sundays

- [Nursery](#)
- [STLC Kids Sundays](#)

STLC.org/KidsSundays

STLC.org/KidsMidweek



STLC Kids Midweek

(formerly known as WAM)

- STLC Kids Midweek- [Choristers](#)
- STLC Kids Midweek- [Resonate](#)
- STLC Kids Midweek- [Bible Study](#)
- STLC Kids Midweek- [Christmas Program](#)

STLC Kids Milestones

- STLC Kids Milestones - [First Bible Class](#)
- STLC Kids Milestones - [First Communion](#)

REGISTER THE KIDS! NURSERY - GRADE 9!

All on one registration form at STLC.org/KidsRegistration



- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • STLC Kids Sundays • Nursery | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • STLC Kids Midweek- Choristers • STLC Kids Midweek- Resonate • STLC Kids Midweek- Bible Study • STLC Kids Midweek- Christmas Program | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • STLC Kids Milestones - First Bible Class • STLC Kids Milestones - First Communion • Confirmation • STLC Kids Sundays Leaders |
|--|--|---|

Children's Programs

STLC Kids Sundays (Age 3-Grade 5)



Sundays **Begins September 13**

10:00 - 11:00 am (Room 100)

Details & registration link at STLC.org/STLCKids.

STLC Kids Midweek (Grades 1-5)



Wednesdays **Begins September 9**

5:45 - 6:10 pm - Choristers (Room 220)

6:10 - 6:30 pm - Resonate (Room 220)

6:30 - 7:30 pm - Bible Activity (Room 100)

Details & registration link at STLC.org/KidsMidweek.

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!

Youth Programs



Confirmation (Grades 6 - 9)

September 9 & 23 - 6:45 - 8:45pm

October 2026 - April 2027:

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

Details & registration link at STLC.org/Confirmation.

High School Youth (Grades 9-12)

September 16 & 30 - 6:45 - 8:45pm

October 2026 - April 2027:

2nd & 4th Wednesdays - 6:45 - 8:45pm

Details at STLC.org/HighSchoolYouth.

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

Christmas Program

All 1st - 5th grade students are invited to participate!

Rehearsals begin October 14 - 5:45pm

as part of **STLC Kids Midweek**.

Details & sign up at STLC.org/KidsMidweek.



Music Ensembles

All adults and high school students are invited to join!

[St. Thomas Ringers](#) Tuesdays, 7:00pm

[New Life Choir](#) Wednesdays, 7:15pm

[St. Thomas Brass](#) Resumes October 7

Learn more at STLC.org/MusicEnsembles.

Care Ministry

The Care Ministry Team is focused on providing prayer and care to congregation members in need of support.

The Prayer Team is a group of trained volunteers who regularly and faithfully pray for those who have requested prayer, either for themselves, or for those they care about.

The Care Visitor Team consists of trained volunteers who offer compassionate, one-on-one visits to individuals in need of support and encouragement. Whether you are facing surgery, hospitalization, recovering from illness, homebound, or living in a care facility, our Care Visitors are available to walk alongside you during this season of life, helping to ensure that no one has to face difficult circumstances alone.

Learn more at STLC.org/CareMinistry.

Request prayer at STLC.org/PrayerRequest.

Request a care visit at STLC.org/CareVisit.



Free Blood Pressure Screenings
1st Sunday of each month
Sunday, September 6 - 9:30am
(outside the Fellowship Hall)

Stop by for a free blood pressure check offered by congregation member and Registered Nurse, Sara Randolph.



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 rehearse Tuesdays at 7:00 pm in the Music Room (220). For more information about St. Thomas Ringers, visit STLC.org/Ringers.

COMPANIONS *in Christ*

Are you seeking to deepen your faith in God? Are you interested in joining a spiritual journey of fellowship with others?

Companions in Christ (CiC) is a small group that meets weekly throughout the academic year for learning, fellowship, and prayer practice.

If you are interested, please attend one of our information meetings:

- *Thursday, Sept. 10 - 7:00 pm (Sanctuary)*
- *Sunday, Sept. 13 - 9:30 or 11:15 am (Sanctuary)*

Want to learn more? Please email Pastor Heidi at HYoungquist@stlc.org or speak with Certified Spiritual Directors Greg Schuerman or Pat Gregory. STLC.org/CompanionsInChrist.

Bible Studies

Women's Bible Study

Meets the 2nd Tuesdays, 6:30pm in Room 202.
For details, please contact Kelley Miller at KMiller@stlc.org.

Women's Bible Study - *Begins September 9* **Grace's Place**

Meets Wednesdays, 9:30-11:00 am in Room 225.
Details at STLC.org/GracesPlace.

Men's Bible Study

Meets Thursdays, 6:30am in the Fellowship Hall.
Details at STLC.org/MensBibleStudy.





O.W.L. Events

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

Cloisters on the Platte: Stations of the Cross tour

- **Sunday, September 20**
- **We will gather at STLC and plan to leave for the Cloisters at 1:15.**
- **Location: 22579 Fishery Rd. Gretna, NE 68028**

(Suggested donation: \$10 per person to cover the cost of an audio tour device to enhance the visit.)

Details & **RSVP** at STLC.org/OWL.

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!*

Tip Top Thrift Shop Needs Volunteers!

Volunteer help is needed at TipTop Thrift Shop located at 5910 Maple Street in Benson.

STLC supports TipTop by donating gently used clothing and household items. Tiptop Thrift Shop is 100% volunteer run and proceeds go to Youth Emergency Services (YES) STLC also supports.

Volunteers times available:

Thursday mornings, 10am - 1 pm
Saturday afternoons, 1pm - 4 pm

Duties include sorting clothing to sell, displaying clothing and household items, accepting donations, and helping customers.

If interested or if you have questions please contact Carol Stuhr 308-440-8098 or Vickie Glock 402-630-0259.



Coffee Connection

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

9:30 am each Sunday

September 6 - Fellowship Hall

September 13 - October 18:

Coffee Connection will be offered in both the Fellowship Hall and Room 120 (*lower level near the CLC*).

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!

Divorced? Separated? You don't have to go through this alone. DivorceCare is an on-going support group providing a safe place to share your situation and find hope and healing.

DIVORCE
Care



The current session meets:

- **Mondays thru December 7**
- **6:30-8:00 pm, Room 223**
- **No meeting on Monday, Sept. 7 (Labor Day)**

Complete details and link to registration at STLC.org/DivorceCare.



The Outreach Corner — A monthly article from the Outreach Ministry Team

For September, we'd like to raise awareness of and say thank you for
Servabration: Neighbors Serving Neighbors
held on Saturday, August 8.

Servabration gathered 118 members and guests to serve our community. The event was sponsored by the Congregational Life, Outreach, and Invite Ministry Teams.

Together we packaged 6,000 meals for Heartland Kids Against Hunger, assembled hygiene kits with *Access Period*, built 136 *Lutheran World Relief* Personal Care Kits, and made 20 fleece blankets for *Youth Emergency Services*. Teams also helped residents with flower pots at *Mosaic* in Omaha, tackled projects around our church grounds, and supported *Heartland Hope Mission*.

Special thanks to the Congregational Life Ministry Team for making and serving breakfast for our crew! Donations of materials and Thrivent Action Team funds by members and the St. Thomas's Community Impact fund helped make the event possible.

Thank you to everyone who gave their morning to serve our neighbors — what a beautiful picture of "not to be served, but to serve" (Matthew 20:28)!



Be still, and know that I am God! - Psalm 46:10

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

Meets the 2nd Tuesdays, 6:30 pm in Room 202. For details, please contact Kelley Miller at KMiller@stlc.org.

Women's Bible Study (Begins September 9)

Meets Wednesdays, 9:30-11:00 am in Room 225. Details at STLC.org/GracesPlace.

Men's Bible Study

Meets Thursdays, 6:30 am in the Fellowship Hall. Details at STLC.org/MensBibleStudy.

DivorceCare

Meets Mondays, 6:30-8:00 pm, Room 223. Details and link to registration at STLC.org/DivorceCare.

Women of St. Thomas - Sewing Ministry

Meets 2nd Mondays, 2:00pm & 4th Mondays, 7:00pm in Room 225

O.W.L. (Older Wiser Lutherans) - Members & friends ages 55+

OWL Lunch Bunch meets 1st & 3rd Thursdays, 12:00pm in the Fellowship Hall. Special events listed at STLC.org/OWL.

Prayer Shawl Ministry - Knitting & Crocheting Ministry

Meets 1st & 3rd Tuesdays, 1:00pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Novel Ideas - Ladies' Book Discussion Group

Meets 4th Tuesdays, 7:00pm, off site.

First Friday Fixers - Facility Maintenance Ministry

Meets 1st Friday of each month, 9:00am at STLC.

Men Who Love Spaghetti - Men's Dinner Group. Meets monthly

at area restaurants. Details at STLC.org/MenWhoLoveSpaghetti



What kind of reader are you? Slow and steady? A fast reader? Do you love fiction or nonfiction?

The church Library has everything you need! Books for young and old as well as 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!



LJ COFFEE CAFÉ

Meets on the third Monday of each month - 9:00-11:00 am

Next meeting Monday, September 21
Library (upper level, Room 214)



Outreach Event

Join us in service to our community!

Saturday, October 3
9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Come spend a Saturday morning at the Heartland Hope Mission South Omaha Pantry! (2021 U Street)

Details & sign up at STLC.org/OutreachEvent

We look forward to serving with you!



St. Thomas Lutheran Church

All Ministry Teams Quarterly Meeting

Monday, October 5 - 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.

A Word from the Bishop

- ELCA Presiding Bishop Yehiel Curry - August 2026: [A Call to be Trusted Messengers in this Election Season](#)
- NE Synod Bishop Rev. Scott Johnson - [September Reflection](#)

Read more:

- ELCA.org/news-and-stories/all
- NebraskaSynod.org/news



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.

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

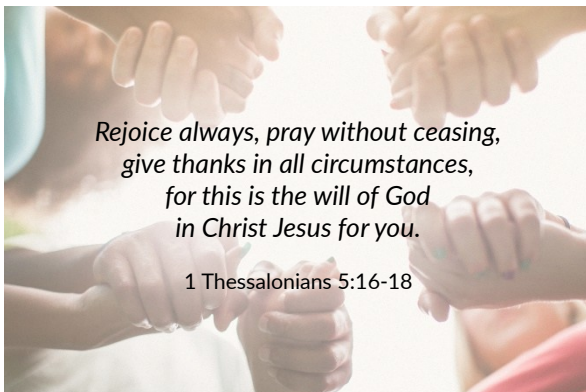
Learn more at STLC.org/OutreachCenter



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
 Cathy Chapman - friend of Greg & Lori Schilling
 Neil Larson - brother of Lori Schilling
 Matt Hartman - son of Dennis & Rachel Hartman
 Penny - great granddaughter of Lonnie & Diane Ehrhardt
 Dale Rennerfeldt
 Angie Ratekin
 Terry Hurlbert
 Sam McCoy
 Dave Matsumura
 Tootie Rohde
 Beth Holly
 Hillary Horner
 Joan Whitlock



Worship Servers

Sundays	September 6	September 13
Assisting Ministers		
8:30 (S)	Regina Mendenhall	Stephanie Beals
10:00 (CLC)	Pete Jensen	Kylie Killion
Acolytes & Communion Assistants		
8:30 (S)	Jake tenBensel Paige tenBensel	Brisa Adams Natalie Benson
10:00 (CLC) Acolytes	Maddy Oliver Grace Allen	Carter Akers Colton Bowcott
10:00 (CLC) Comm. Asst.	Spencer Corbitt Ben Hottovy	Ben Alexander Peyton Friesen
Ushers		
8:30 (S)	Pete Jensen Tom Schwarten	Pete Jensen Tom Schwarten
10:00 (CLC)	Gordon Harnisch Paul Weber Sandy Weber Dan Berlau	Dan Berlau Matt Riedlinger Paul Weber Sandy Weber
Welcome Hosts		
8:30 (S)	Jean Ewing	Patty / John Pecoraro
10:00 (CLC)	Mary Nordstrand / Janet Voelker	Cathie Schmit / Janet Voelker
Slide Advancers		
10:00 (CLC)	Kelly Pugh	Kelly Pugh
Livestream Operators		
10:00 (CLC)	Pete Thompson	Pete Thompson
Sound System Operators		
10:00 (CLC)	Todd Anderson	Chris Levine
Coffee Connection Servers		
9:30	Jim & Jane Cotton	Gordon & Shelly Harnisch
Coffee Connection Bread Bakers		
9:30	Kathy Mainelli / Kandi Dolesh	Sandy Seim
CLC Set-up - Volunteers Welcome!		
9:00	Property Ministry & Volunteers	Boy Scouts

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, Sept 6 - First Weekend Food Drive

- 8:30a Traditional Worship (Sanctuary)
- 9:00a CLC Set-up (Property Ministry & Volunteers)
- 9:30a Coffee Connection (Fellowship Hall)
- 9:30a Free Blood Pressure Checks (outside Fellowship Hall)
- 10:00a Contemporary Worship (Community Life Center or Livestream)

■ Monday, Sept 7 - Church Office Closed

- 6:30p [Property Ministry](#) (Offsite)

■ Tuesday, Sept 8

- 10:30a Staff Meeting (Room 221)
- 2:00p [High School Hang-Out](#) (Scooters - 180th & Q)
- 6:30p [Women's Monthly Bible Study](#) (Youth Room - 202)
- 7:00p [St. Thomas Ringers](#) (Room 220)

■ Wednesday, Sept 9

- 9:30a [Grace's Place](#) (Room 225)
- 5:45p **STLC KIDS MIDWEEK** (Rooms 220, 100)

- 6:45p [Confirmation](#) (Community Life Center)
- 7:00p [Companions in Christ](#) Info Meeting (Sanctuary)
- 7:15p [New Life Choir](#) (Room 220)

■ Thursday, Sept 10

- 6:30a [Men's Bible Study](#) (Fellowship Hall)
- 11:30a Finance Ministry (Offsite)
- 6:30p Praise Team Rehearsal (CLC)

■ Friday, Sept 11

■ Saturday, Sept 12

■ Sunday, Sept 13

Youth Mission Presentation

8:15a-10:15a Jo-on-the-Go Espresso & Smoothie Bar - FREE

- 8:30a Traditional Worship - Choir sings(Sanctuary)
- 9:00a CLC Set-up (Boy Scouts)
- 9:30a Coffee Connection (Fellowship Hall)
- 9:30a Coffee Connection (Room 120)
- 9:30a [Companions in Christ](#) Info Meeting (Sanctuary)
- 10:00a Contemporary Worship (Community Life Center or Livestream)
- 10:00a **STLC KIDS SUNDAYS** (Room 100)
- 11:15a [Companions in Christ](#) Info Meeting (Sanctuary)

Ways to give your offering



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

[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.

St. Thomas
Total Offering
Year-to-Date

Through July 31, 2026

Actual	Budget
\$553,632.97	\$563,574.69

Website [STLC.org](#)

St. Thomas Lutheran Church



Facebook [STLC.org/Facebook](#)

St. Thomas Lutheran Church Omaha



YouTube [STLC.org/YouTube](#)

STLC Omaha



Upcoming Events

- Sep 13-16 [Adult Mission Trip](#)
- Sep 16 [High School Youth Group](#) begins - 6:45pm
- Sep 20 [OWL Event - Cloisters on the Platte](#)
- Sep 28 [Dana Village Meal](#)
- Oct 3 [Outreach Event](#) - 9a-1p - Heartland Hope South O
- Oct 7 [St. Thomas Brass](#) rehearsals begin - 8:15pm

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)