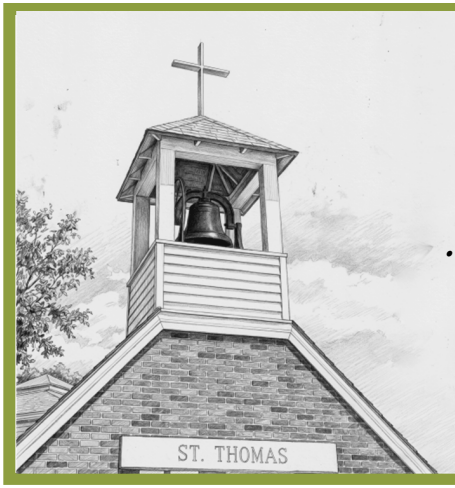


The Builder

November 8, 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

COMMITMENT SUNDAY

COMMITMENT SUNDAY

Please prayerfully consider your gifts for the coming year.

On ***November 15***, you will be invited forward to place your both your Time & Talent Commitment Card and your Financial Commitment Card on the altar.

Unable to attend Commitment Sunday? visit STLC.org/Stewardship2027 for alternate ways to submit your commitment cards.

STEWARDSHIP
Our Duty & Delight

Thanksgiving Eve Worship

Wednesday, November 25

7:00 pm - Community Life Center & Livestream

Pie Fellowship following worship (Fellowship Hall)
Please donate pies! Bring to Fellowship Hall on Nov. 25



Details & link to livestream at STLC.org/ThanksgivingEve.

Celebration of Beth Holly's Retirement

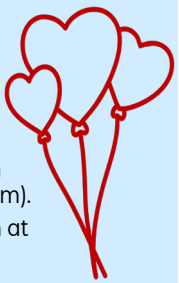
Card Shower & Cake Reception

Sunday, Nov. 15 - 2:00 pm (Community Life Center)

Join us as we say *"Well done, Faithful one"*, and shower her with cards of love and gratitude for her many years of service to our church family.

Everyone is invited to bring cards and well wishes to place in a basket at the reception.

- Baskets will be available for cards outside the worship spaces.
- Cards can be dropped off in the church office during office hours (M-F, 9am-3pm).
- Cards can also be mailed to the church at 17007 Q Street, Omaha, NE 68135.



YOUTH MISSION TAILGATE

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 25
6:00 - 6:45 PM - FELLOWSHIP HALL

Youth Mission will serve smoked wagyu brisket sliders and tacos for you and your family and friends to enjoy, along with toppings chips & dip, and fruit & veggies. Gluten-free options available.

Your free-will donation will benefit Youth Mission 2027.

STLC.org/Tailgate

Join our church family!

Attend our new member orientation session on

Sunday, November 8

11:15 am (Room 221)

Childcare available upon request. Details at STLC.org/Join. Email the church office at office@stlc.org to let us know you will be attending!

See additional details on page 6.

New Member Orientation



STLC KIDS

Children's Programs

STLC Kids Sundays (Age 3 - Grade 5)

Sundays
10:00 - 11:00am (Room 100)
Details & registration link at STLC.org/KidsSundays.

STLC Kids Midweek (Grades 1 - 5)

Wednesdays
~~5:45 - 6:10 pm - Choristers (Room 220)~~
~~6:10 - 6:30 pm - Bearcats (Room 220)~~
Christmas Program Rehearsals
5:45 - 7:30 pm thru Dec. 11
~~6:30 - 7:30 pm - Bible Activity (Room 100)~~
Details & registration link at STLC.org/KidsMidweek.

STLC Kids Milestones

- First Bible Class - For Grades 3-5
- First Communion - For Grade 4 & older

REGISTER FOR CHILDRENS' PROGRAMS!

All on one registration form at STLC.org/KidsRegistration.

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

Confirmation (Grades 6 - 8)

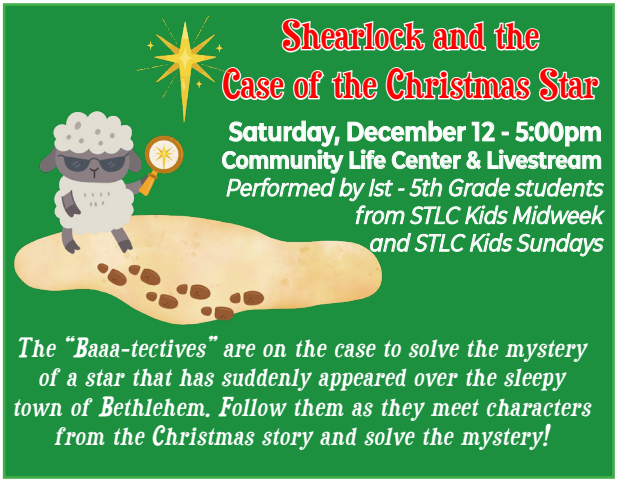
Through April 2027
1st & 3rd Wednesdays - 6:45 - 8:45pm
Details & registration link at STLC.org/Confirmation.

High School Youth - Grades 9 - 12

Through April 2027
2nd & 4th Wednesdays - 6:45 - 8:45pm
Details at STLC.org/HighSchoolYouth.

Youth Mission 2027:

Learn more at STLC.org/YouthMission.



Giving Tree



Benefitting
LFS: Foster Families, Kinship Children, and Dana Village Youth.

Visit the Outreach Center to select an ornament from the tree.

1. Select one or more ornament(s) from the Giving Tree.
2. Record which ornament(s) you selected on the sign-out sheet.
3. Purchase the item(s) listed. Gift receipts appreciated. *Please place gifts in a gift bag. DO NOT WRAP*
4. Deliver gift(s) with the ornament(s) attached to the Outreach Center.

GIFTS ARE DUE FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4

Monetary gifts are also accepted.
Visit STLC.org/GivingTree for details.

Thank you for your generosity and for sharing Christmas joy!

Help Decorate St. Thomas for Advent!

Sunday, Nov. 22 - 11:00am
Communilty Life Center

Saturday, Nov. 28 - 10:00am
Sanctuary



St. Thomas Music Ministry

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	Wed, Dec. 9 & 16 Tues, Dec 22 Play Christmas Eve - 5:30pm

Learn more at STLC.org/WorshipMusic.

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!
Details at STLC.org/OWL.

O.W.L. Older Wiser Lutherans

Bible Studies

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

Men's Bible Study
Meets Thursdays, 6:30 am in the Fellowship Hall.
Details at STLC.org/MensBibleStudy.

Men Who Love Spaghetti

Men's Dinner Group
All men are welcome! Bring friends!
Monday, November 16 - 6:00pm
(Forest's Game Time Pub & Grill
15350 Weir St. 68137)
Upcoming dates & details at STLC.org/MenWhoLoveSpaghetti.
or find them on Facebook: "Men Who Love Spaghetti."

St. Thomas Lutheran Church Est. 2007

Coffee Connection

9:30 am each Sunday
Fellowship Hall

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

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), which STLC also supports.

Volunteers times available:

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

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 team meets at 1:00pm on the 1st & 3rd Tuesdays each month @ STLC for knitting/crocheting and fellowship.

Details at STLC.org/PrayerShawlMinistry.

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.

The current session meets:

- **Mondays thru December 7**
- **6:30 - 8:00 pm, Room 223**

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

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/Outreach.

STLC School Book Readers

Each month during the academic year we partner with OPS Title 1 Schools to read to and give new Scholastic books to K - 3rd grade students to encourage reading at school and at home. This year we will serve at Jackson, Benson West, and Bancroft Elementaries.

Join the School Book Readers!

Please prayerfully consider sharing your time. If you are interested, please contact Anita deFreese at ajdefreese76@gmail.com.

Donate to purchase School Books for School Kids!

Details & ways to contribute at STLC.org/SchoolBooks.

Thank you for your generosity!



The Outreach Corner

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

This month, we'd like to raise awareness of Heartland Hope Mission, a local faith-based organization committed to serving the working poor with love and compassion. In addition to providing a week's supply of food, clothing, and hygiene items, they also provide services that promote self-sufficiency to help break the cycle of poverty and empower individuals and families to improve their lives. They offer bible studies and prayer and have two Omaha metro locations: 20th & U Streets and 155th & Industrial Road. Learn more at HeartlandHopeMission.org

Food Drive to Benefit Heartland Hope Mission

Throughout the month of November, the STLC Outreach Ministry Team is coordinating a food drive to benefit those served by Heartland Hope Mission.

Thank you for your contributions to benefit those served by Heartland Hope Mission!



FOOD DRIVE

Collection ends November 29
to benefit Heartland Hope Mission
Would you please donate needed items?

- Peanut Butter
- Pasta
- Pasta sauce (no glass containers)
- Macaroni & cheese
- Canned corn
- Soup

Please place donations:

- **in the blue bins** marked Heartland Hope Mission
- **in the Outreach Center** (upper level, Room 204)

Monetary donations are also accepted.

- STLC.org/GiveOnline - In the drop-down menu, select "Heartland Hope Mission".
- Venmo.com/STLCOmaha - Comment "Heartland Hope".
- Make checks payable to St. Thomas Lutheran Church (memo: Heartland Hope). Place in an offering box or mail to 17007 Q Street, Omaha, NE 68135.
- Place cash in an envelope marked with Heartland Hope Mission and your name. Place in an offering box. Envelopes are available at the offering boxes.

Details at **STLC.org/FoodDrive**.

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
Please visit STLC.org/GracesPlace for details on this study.

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.
2nd Mondays - 2:00pm & 4th Mondays - 7:00pm *(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 scheduled throughout the year.

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 - noon *(STLC)*.

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

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.

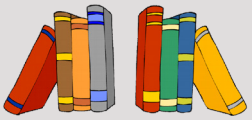
A Word from the Bishop

ELCA A Word from the Bishop

- ELCA Presiding Bishop Yehiel Curry - October 2026: All Together in One Place: A Healthy Patriotism.
- NE Synod Bishop Rev. Scott Johnson - November Reflection.

Read more:

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



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, November 16

Library (upper level, Room 214)

Details at STLC.org/LJCoffeeCafe.



New Member Orientation

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.

Our next session will be held:

- **Sunday, November 8, 11:15 am,** Room 221: New Member Orientation
- **Sunday, November 22, during 10am Contemporary Worship:** New Members will be received into membership.
- **Sunday, November 22, 11:15 am, Fellowship Hall:** A light luncheon to welcome our New Members.

Details at STLC.org/Join. If you are interested in attending the orientation and becoming a member of our church family, please call the church office at 402-894-2040.

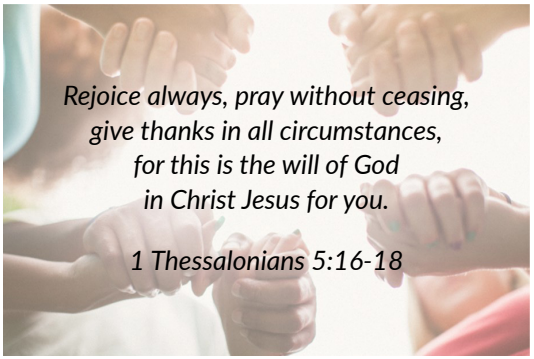
Questions? Please contact Pastor Heidi at HYoungquist@stlc.org.



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*
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*
Matt Hartman - *son of Dennis & Rachel Hartman*
Penny - *great granddaughter of Lonnie & Diane Ehrhardt*
Jason Mayer - *nephew of Kathy Mainelli*
Beckett Parr - *friend of Steve Hetzel*
Ron Friehe - *brother of Mary Friehe*
Dale Rennerfeldt
Angie Ratekin
Dave Matsumura
Joan Whitlock
Jolene Christensen
Katie Huff



Worship Servers

Sundays	***November 8***	***November 15***
Assisting Ministers		
8:30 *(S)*	Gary Chesley	Marty Oleson
10:00 *(CLC)*	Greg Salton	Julie Grantham
Acolytes & Communion Assistants		
8:30 *(S)*	Dashiell Wortman Wyatt Wells	Carter Akers Colton Bowcott
10:00 *(CLC)* Acolytes	Brisa Adams Natalie Benson	Ben Alexander Peyton Friesen
10:00 *(CLC)* Comm. Asst.	Elisa Adams Aubrey Dolesh	Lakelee Bell Emma Dumpert
Ushers		
8:30 *(S)*	Dave Chastain Tom Schwarten	Pete Jensen Doug Wragge
10:00 *(CLC)*	Dan Berlau Chris Fogland Dan Fogland TBA	Gordon Harnisch Matt Riedlinger Dan Berlau Tyler Scherr
Welcome Hosts		
8:30 *(S)*	Sue Chastain	Linda Scholz
10:00 *(CLC)*	Stephanie Beals / Janet Voelker	Cathie / Greg Schmit
Slide Advancers		
10:00 *(CLC)*	Joan Heath	Kelly Pugh
Livestream Operators		
10:00 *(CLC)*	Tim White	Jason Horner
Sound System Operators		
10:00 *(CLC)*	Chris Levine	Todd Anderson
Coffee Connection Servers		
9:30 *(FH)*	Carrie Rosenberry	Jon & Lindsey Benson
Coffee Connection Bread Bakers		
9:30 *(FH)*	Darleen Farwell	Judy Oleson
CLC Set-up -Volunteers Welcome!		
9:00 *(CLC)*	Boy Scouts	Cub Scouts

Thank you so much for sharing your time and talent! We are very grateful for all who serve each Sunday, and we welcome all who want to serve!

Worship Servers

It takes a number of people to help make meaningful worship and fellowship experiences.

Are you interested in serving? Please contact Jason Horner, Director of Music Ministries, at JHorner@stlc.org.

This week at St. Thomas...

Sunday, Nov 8
- 8:30a Traditional Worship - Choir sings (Sanctuary)
- 9:00a CLC Set-up (Boy Scouts)
- 9:30a Coffee Connection (Fellowship Hall)
- 10:00a Contemporary Worship (Community Life Center or Livestream)
- 10:00a **STLC KIDS SUNDAYS** (Room 100)
- 11:15a New Member Orientation (Room 221)
- 11:30a Stewardship Small Group Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

Monday, Nov 9
- 2:00p Women of St. Thomas (Room 225)
- 6:00p Congregational Life Ministry (Room 221)
- 6:30p DivorceCare (Room 223)

Tuesday, Nov 10
- 10:30a Staff Meeting (Room 221)
- 2:00p High School Hang-Out (Scooters - 180th & Q)
- 6:30p Women's Bible Study (Youth Room - Rm 202)
- 7:00p St. Thomas Ringers (Sanctuary)

Wednesday, Nov 11
- 9:30a Grace's Place (Room 225)
- 5:45p **Christmas Program Rehearsal** (Room 100)
- 6:45p High School Youth Group (Youth Room - Rm 202)
- 7:15p New Life Choir (Room 220)

Thursday, Nov 12
- 6:30a Men's Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)
- 11:30a Finance Ministry (Offsite)
- 6:30p Praise Team Rehearsal (CLC)

Friday, Nov 13

Saturday, Nov 14

Sunday, Nov 15 - Commitment Sunday
- 8:30a Traditional Worship - Handbells play (Sanctuary)
- 9:00a CLC Set-up (Cub Scouts)
- 9:30a Coffee Connection (Fellowship Hall)
- 10:00a Contemporary Worship (Community Life Center or Livestream)
- 10:00a **STLC KIDS SUNDAYS** (Room 100)
- 2:00p Card & Cake Reception for Beth Holly's retirement (Community Life Center)

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 September 30, 2026

Actual	Budget
682,674	724,596

Upcoming Events

Nov	**22**	New Members Received - during 10:00am worship
Nov	**25**	Youth Mission 2027 Tailgate - 6:00pm
Nov	**25**	Thanksgiving Eve Worship - 7:00pm
Nov	**25**	Pie Fellowship - 8:00pm
Nov	**29**	Advent Begins
Dec	**2**	Advent Contemplative Prayer - 6:30p
Dec	**2**	Midweek Advent Worship - Evensong - 7:00p

Join us in worship & fellowship each week!
- **8:30 am** - Traditional Worship (Sanctuary)
- **9:30 am** - Coffee Connection (Fellowship Hall)
- **9:30 am** - Coffee Connection (Room 120l)
- **10:00 am** - Contemporary Worship (Community Life Center or Livestream)

Website STLC.org
St. Thomas Lutheran Church

Facebook STLC.org/Facebook
St. Thomas Lutheran Church Omaha

YouTube STLC.org/YouTube
STLC Omaha