



Seasons

at

ST. THOMAS



VBS 2022



PENTECOST 2022

SUMMER OF SERVICE

You may have heard about **Phase I** of our strategic planning process - a proposal to improve accessibility on our campus by creating a driveway closer to the doors, adding parking spaces and a covered drop off near the chapel, and creating an accessible altar rail and choir area in the nave. Those plans are being refined over the summer. We hope to have detailed designs ready to share with you by the fall.

Now it is time for **Phase II** of our strategic planning process - focused on **outreach**. We gather for worship to be sent out into the world, to love and serve the Lord by loving and serving our neighbors. St. Thomas has a long history of loving service in our community: Wynnton Neighborhood Network food pantry and utility assistance, a thriving partnership with Brewer Elementary, partnership with CVEM and East Carver Heights, Path to Shine and soccer and FANN, computers for students at Msalato Theological College in Tanzania, care for the environment, and more.

We also serve through the work of our parishioners. Many among us work and volunteer with nonprofits that make a difference in our community. On Sunday mornings this summer, parishioners will share about these organizations. We are also scheduling times to volunteer together. Our **Summer of Service** will culminate in an outreach discernment afternoon on Sunday, August 6, a time to pray and explore together how to deepen our impact on the community around us.

God is calling us in this season to look both inward and outward - to Love God, Love Every Person, Learn **AND SERVE** Together. What a gift it is to have so many ways of serving and making a difference.

Blessings,
Rev. Grace

Listen, Learn & Discuss

Sunday morning formation conversations for youth and adults hearing several current partners as well as parishioners connected to other agencies or ministries explain their work and answer these two questions:

What needs do you see being met in unexpected ways in our community?

&

What needs do you see that aren't being met in our community?



Collect & Share

We're asking ministry leaders to let us know what needs they have that we might be able to meet by collecting items this summer. We'll be intentional with our asks and offer a variety of giving options.

Serve Together

We will also learn by touring and serving this summer. We're planning service opportunities and tours for children, youth, and adults.

See more info on page 9!

LOVE GOD: WORSHIP



Sermons this Summer *Theology on Stage*

Rev. Grace has wanted to do this for years, and the time finally seems right. Sermons this summer will use favorite musicals from stage and screen to illuminate the wisdom and truth of the scriptures for the day. We won't watch or sing songs from the shows during worship, of course, but you will hear references in sermon illustrations. Here's the list!

June 4 - Trinity Sunday - *Annie*

June 11 - *Godspell*

June 18 - Juneteenth and Father's Day! Rev. Roxane is preaching on this day.

June 25 - *Pippin*

July 2 - *Fiddler on the Roof*

July 9 - *Yentl*

July 16 - *Les Mis*

July 23 - *Come from Away*

July 30 - *Jesus Christ Superstar*



Children's Chapel during 10:30 service

Children are invited to follow the petite cross to the parlor during the sequence hymn. Chapel leaders offer the Gospel in a child friendly atmosphere using *The Sunday Paper*. Children return for Holy Eucharist at the Peace.



Contemplative Healing Service

*3rd Sundays,
June 18, July 16
5 pm, in the Chapel*

Settle in. Embrace the quiet. Receive the healing. Pray. Hear the words of Jesus and of the Psalmist. Share the space. Eat the bread and drink the wine. Pray. Feel the Spirit. Embrace the quiet.

Bring your burdens, bring your joy, bring your longings and your wondering, bring your devotion. Bask in the quiet presence of Christ and one another.



Wednesday Evening Eucharist

5:30 to 6 in the Chapel

Our Wednesday evening Eucharist continues on Wednesdays at 5:30 in the Chapel through May and June. Those who wish are invited to go out to dinner together following the service.

May 24 - Country's

May 31 - Speakeasy

June 7 - Mr. Pizza

June 14 - Jarfly

June 21 - Lemongrass

June 28 - El Carrizo

We will evaluate in June whether to continue to meet in July. Our regular Wednesday schedule will resume in August.

Prayers of the People

The Book of Common Prayer instructs us to pray every Sunday for the Universal Church, the Nation and all in authority, the welfare of the world, the concerns of the local community, those who suffer and those in any trouble, and the departed (see page 383). The Prayer Book provides several examples of ways to pray together, but it does not require a particular form. As an experiment in this season, our Prayers of the People on Sundays will be introduced with references to the scriptures for the day, letting our prayers flow from the readings. Let us know what you think!



Zoom Evening Prayer

*Tuesday and Thursday from
5:30 to 5:45 or so on Zoom*

We will continue to gather on Tuesdays and Thursdays online at 5:30 throughout the summer. Join us for a brief time of prayer in the evening. The link is available on our link tree.

Parish Hall Service

If you find yourself looking for a different way to participate in the 10:30 service, consider joining a small group in the Parish Hall where the live stream is shown. Coffee, snacks, and plenty of room to move freely are available. Those worshipping in the Parish Hall are invited to the nave for Communion if you wish.

LOVE GOD: WORSHIP



The Day of Pentecost Sunday, May 28

Wear red and celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit in the early church and among us today! We will thank Denny Clark, our Parish Theologian, for his ministry of teaching. Denny and his wife Toni are retiring to Nebraska, and this will be his last Sunday with us. We will also thank Michelle Folta and Nathan Smock for leading music so capably and beautifully while Rick McKnight has been out on disability leave. A variety of musicians will join us for summer choir and the summer season until Rick is able to return.



Trinity Sunday & Welcome Sunday

Sunday, June 4

Trinity Sunday celebrates the threefold relationship of love that Christians confess as God: the Trinity of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. What a wonderful time to welcome newcomers and new members to St. Thomas! Join us at 9:30 in the parish hall for a **Welcome Breakfast** - including a time for Q & A with Rev. Grace and Rev. Roxane. Also on this day, at both the 8:30 and 10:30 services, we will **welcome and bless new members of St. Thomas**. That afternoon, at 4 pm, a **Service of Confirmation and Reception** takes place at the Cathedral of St. Philip in Atlanta. To join St. Thomas, fill out the form on the website at StThomasColumbus.org/joining-st-thomas/. If you would like to be confirmed or received on June 4, contact Rev. Grace.

We also pray for those who have asked for prayers but wish them to be private. This list is totally confidential to the Prayer Group. Confidentiality and regular commitment to gathering are oaths the group takes seriously.

The St. Thomas Prayer Group meets on Monday mornings at 11:30 on Zoom. Nicole Ceccato, Donna Sharp or Roxane can offer more information and answer questions. Find the link to join the group on our LinkTree.



Summer Music

Worship in the Episcopal Church follows a seasonal pattern, with different music and liturgy for Lent and Holy Week, Advent, etc. But what about summer?

The Season after Pentecost is sometimes called 'Ordinary Time.' The liturgical color is green to represent growth and vitality. The St Thomas Choir takes a break from rehearsing on Wednesdays during the summer. Beginning June 4, all are invited to join the **Summer Choir**. Gather at 9:50 on Sundays in the choir room to rehearse hymns and other music for the 10:30 service. This is a good time to try out singing with the choir to see how you like it!

We also use the summer as a time to showcase other **musicians within the parish**. If you play the piano, guitar, oboe, cello, violin, trumpet, or any other instrument, Rick would love to talk with you about playing for a summer Sunday.

For June 18, Father's Day and Juneteenth weekend, we want to have a choir loft full of **men to lead the singing** that day. All who identify as men are invited. Meet in the choir room at 9:50 for a brief rehearsal.

Finally, Rick invites you to help **choose hymns** for the summer. Do you ever think 'Oh, I wish we could sing that hymn?' Now is your chance! Send Rick a note and he will try to include it in one of our summer Sundays - he will let you know which week. If you can tell him why you like a certain hymn he would love to know that as well. Feel free to use the "doodle cards" in the pew rack.



Prayer Group

The St. Thomas Prayer Group is a small gathering of parishioners who has met weekly for over 20 years. We have the desire to pray with holy intention, using a format for inclusive prayers. We meet to offer all kinds of prayers, including Prayers of the People shared on Sunday mornings at St. Thomas.

LOVE EVERY PERSON: FELLOWSHIP & WELCOME



ST. THOMAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

**GOD
MADE
YOU
FABULOUS**



Pride Festival

June 3, 9 am- 4 pm

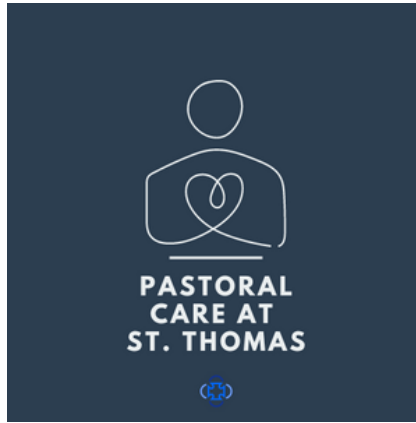
St. Thomas will participate in the annual COLGAY Pride Festival on June 3rd. We will have a booth at the event with water, stickers, and activities for children. We participate in this event to share God's love with all people and show our support for families of all kinds. Volunteers are needed to staff the booth from 9 AM - 4 PM. Please sign up on our website to participate. For questions about this event, contact Taylor Mack.



Swag Shop

Bright shirts and hats for summer - perfect for VBS and or Pride in June. Order by May 22 at 2 pm and your order will be ready for pickup at the church on Sunday, May 28. Orders placed after that can be shipped to your home or picked up at ThreadMob.

Have an idea for St. Thomas Swag you don't see in our store? Let us know!



Pastoral Care

A note from Rev. Roxane

"I give you a new commandment," Jesus tells us, "that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another." Friends, I invite you to show this love, to care for one another, in a couple of simple ways:

TRANSPORTATION- As our parish grows, so does the need to provide our church friends with ways to get to church, ways to meet counseling, rehab, and medical appointments, and sometimes just a way to get out of the house for a bit of time in a beautiful space.

It's time for us to create and maintain a solid system for tending to these needs. If you would like to help ponder the creation of this ministry and/or play an active part, contact Rev. Roxane

MEALS- St. Thomas members often provide simple meals for a household when a parishioner comes home from the hospital or during times of grief or transition. A new system for organizing this ministry is being formulated. Contact Rev. Roxane if you would like to continue or start providing meals for our parishioners during a short-term crisis.

Seth's Breakfast Muffins



The delicious muffins Seth and Wilson bake on Sunday mornings are surprisingly easy. So many people have asked Seth for the recipe he decided to share it here.

- 1 lb ground sausage. Browned and cooled.
- 1 cup heavy whipping cream
- 1 cup cheddar cheese
- 4 eggs
- 1 cup Bisquick

Preheat oven to 350°

Mix in one ingredient at a time to the sausage. Scoop into muffin cups or a heavily greased muffin pan filling them 2/3 - 3/4 full. Bake for 20 minutes.

STORYCORPS

ONE SMALL STEP

StoryCorps at St. Thomas!

Created by StoryCorps, *One Small Step* is an effort to remind the country of the humanity in all of us, even those with whom we disagree. The initiative brings strangers with different political views together to record a 50-minute conversation—not to debate politics, but to learn who we are as people. Audio recordings of each interview are archived at the Library of Congress.

St. Thomas will serve as an interview site from July 10 - 14. We're asking folks to consider signing up and to help us recruit participants from a variety of political, socio, and economic backgrounds. Look for more information to come!

Follow #letstalkColumbus. Sign up at onesmallstep.storycorps.org/stthomascolumnbus



Come just as you are.

Saints & Sinners

June 1

Due to VBS, Saints and Sinners will go out for lunch on this day rather than meet in the parish

hall. There is no gathering in July due to the Independence Day holiday. Contact Carole Hill or the church office for more information.

LOVE EVERY PERSON: FELLOWSHIP & WELCOME



St. Thomas Day School

Summer Camps - We still have a few spots left. Camps are \$125 each and are Monday-Friday, 9-1.

Dates are:

June 5-9 Happy Camper
June 19-23 Wild Wild West
June 26-30 Water Park Fun
July 10-14 Out of This World

Registration continues for the 2023-2024 School Year.

St. Thomas members receive a 10% discount on tuition (as do military families). We have openings in our 3 year old class and Pre-K class ONLY. Classes begin August 9.

The Day School is currently **looking for 4-5 Teacher Assistants** to help in our classrooms for the 2023-2024 School Year. Duties include assisting the Lead Teachers with daily schedules. Pay is on a August - May schedule, with opportunities to make additional money during the summer with our 4 camps.

Hours are 8:30-1:30 Monday-Friday. Teacher Assistants need to be loving, kind adults who work well with children and other adults. Training is paid for by the school.

Please contact Kym Futch, Director of the Day School if interested 706-324-1268.

Rev. Grace is looking for a volunteer to assist with school Chapel on Wednesdays from 9:30 to 11, especially when she is out of town. Contact Rev. Grace for more information.



St. Thomas Book Group

The Saint Thomas Book Group will meet near the end of the Summer, time and date to be announced later. The convener does encourage anyone who wishes to attend the discussion to obtain a copy of the selection, *The Stranger in the Lifeboat* by Mitch Albom. This novel is entertaining and thought provoking. For more information, contact Sonya Boyd, or contact the church office and we will put you in touch with Sonya.



St. Thomas Little Library

The Little Library is available to all St Thomas parishioners, clients of the WNN, members of the AA and NA groups who meet at St. Thomas, and all who stop by. It is located at the entrance to the Wynnton Neighborhood Network at the rear of the St Thomas building. The Saint Thomas Book Group supports the Little Library and invites anyone to donate gently used or new books for children, teens, or adults. Bibles are welcome.



June Excursion

June 2, 2 pm

Goodwill Industries of the Southern Rivers Inc. (GoodwillSR) serves 50 counties in west Georgia and east Alabama. It's one of our region's top employers, providing free career services like job coaching, training, and GED prep. The primary goal of Goodwill SR is to

provide individuals with the skills and job placement services they need to ensure advancement opportunities and sustainable careers.

These programs are made possible through the donations that are sold at Goodwill retail stores.

You're invited to join us behind the scenes at GoodwillSR on Friday, June 2 from 2:00-4:00 pm to learn about everything Goodwill does in our community!

St. Thomas parishioner Mitch Grossman, Vice President of Operations at GoodwillSR, will lead us through a tour of the career center and the back of the retail store. He and his colleagues will give us insight into their e-commerce operation and the wide-ranging mission of the organization.

No cost, but sign-up is important. Contact Roxane to sign up!



LEARN TOGETHER



LIVING INTO GOD'S DREAM

St. Thomas Episcopal Church
VBS 2023
 TUESDAY, MAY 30 - FRIDAY, JUNE 2
 8:45-11:45 AM
 AGES 4 YEARS OLD TO FIFTH GRADE

I am: beloved ♡ brave
 compassionate ♡ ready

Registration:
stthomascolumnbus.org/VBS

VBS - Living Into God's Dream!

Tuesday, May 30 - Friday, June 2
8:45 - 11:45, children 4 years through 5th grade

Gather together for a journey of Living Into God's Dream. Recognize that all of God's people are made in God's image and are worthy of love. Learn to value diversity and differences as beautiful and intended by God. God invites us to partner with God to make the world a better, more loving place by being beloved, brave, compassionate and ready to live into God's dream of a beloved community.

Thursday, June 1: I Am Compassionate!

Ruth 1:16-18, 2:11-12 - Ruth's Compassion Connects Us
We can see things through the eyes of others!

Friday, June 2: I Am Ready!

James 2:1-4, 8-9, 14-17 - Love Your Neighbor
We can be the hands and feet of God!

Tuesday, May 30: I Am Beloved!

Genesis 1:27-28, Revelation 7:9
Different is beautiful!

Wednesday, May 31: I Am Brave!

Genesis 37, 41-45 - Joseph and His Brothers
We can face hard things!

We're collecting items for WNN's foodbank during VBS. They've specifically asked us to collect canned fruit and canned tomatoes. The parish is invited join in this collection!

Register today at StThomasColumbus.org/VBS



Pentecost Party

May 28th, 9:30 am

You are invited to the Children's Formation End of Year Party on Sunday, May 28th at 9:30am in the Outreach Center. We will be celebrating the end of another wonderful formation year as well as the birthday of the Church (Pentecost) with treats and games. After the party, children will process into the church waving "tongues of fire" and doves that they will have prepared during their lesson time using recycled materials (their idea).

Episcokid Summer Fun!

Ms. Erin is working on planning a couple of Episcokid Excursions this summer. Want to host a gathering at your home or have a suggestion of a place or community event to attend? Let us know!



Summer Sunday Stories

Starting June 4th, children will be meeting in the Outreach Center at 9:30am. We will be inviting special guests to come and share a simple bible story. Following the story, the children can rotate to different centers where they can use a variety of materials and supplies to retell the story. We encourage members of our congregation to sign up to lead a session this summer.

Volunteers Needed!

Volunteers are needed to help lead chapel and Shine Time in the fall. Please contact erin@stthomascolumnbus.org if you are willing to help.



Children and Youth Save-the-Dates!

- **August 13** - Backpack Blessing Sunday
- **August 13** - Youth Back to School Luau in the afternoon
- **August 16** - Wednesday night programming resumes
- **September 10** - Acolyte Training
- **October 6-8** - Happening
- **October 20-22** - New Beginnings
- **November 10-11** - Overnight Lock-in @ Annual Council

Children & Youth Parent Meeting

July 30

Parents of Episcokids and Thommies are encouraged to attend this meeting to discuss upcoming events for children, youth, and families. Ms. Taylor and Ms. Erin will provide more information about new opportunities in our programming for the coming school year and welcome feedback from families.

LEARN TOGETHER



No Youth Sunday School for Summer

Youth will not meet separately for Sunday morning programming through the summer but are encouraged to volunteer with Episcokids Shine Time, attend adult formation, or sing with the summer choir.

Lunch & Games at the Rectory

June 11th, noon-2

Join Rev. Grace for lunch and board games at the rectory on Sunday, June 11! This is a wonderful opportunity to connect with the St. Thomas clergy and enjoy some fun indoors this summer. Rev. Grace has LOTS of games but feel free to bring your favorites. RSVP at StThomasColumbus.org/youth

The Start of ECM

We are thrilled to share that Taylor Mack has been invited by the Diocese of Atlanta to serve as Campus Missioner to CSU. When the Diocese learned that Taylor and St. Thomas created a campus organization and started a ministry with students over the past school year, they wanted to offer their support.

Beginning in August, Taylor's work as Campus Missioner will be part of her work with youth and young adults at St. Thomas. She will spend 10 hours a week with the campus ministry, leading at least one campus event each week and being available to meet with students. She will continue to spend about 20 hours a week with St. Thomas youth ministry. The remaining 10 hours will be with other young adult ministries through St. Thomas. The campus ministry will include students at CSU as well as other area schools and college-age young adults who are not attending school.

Taylor has excelled in her work with St. Thomas so far. We are so pleased that the Diocese recognizes her leadership ability and wants to support this ministry. She will attend a gathering of Episcopal young adult ministry leaders this summer.



Youth Mission Trip

July 23-28

This summer, a group of our high school youth will travel to Charlotte, NC to participate in CROSS Missions. CROSS is a unique urban outreach program committed to crossing over boundaries that divide us, crossing out stereotypes that judge us, and keeping Christ's love as our focus. We invite parishioners to pray for the students and chaperones as they embark on this journey in July.

Youth Car Wash

July 2, starting at 9:15

The annual youth car wash will take place on July 2nd starting at 9:15 AM. Give your cars a much needed spa day while you enjoy Sunday School and Eucharist. Donations will go to CROSS Missions, the urban outreach program in Charlotte, NC where our youth will be serving in July.

Teens & Tweens Pool Party

July 9, 1 pm

Teens and Tweens are invited to Nathaniel and Elyse Dahlgren's house for a pool party! This is the perfect opportunity to catch up mid-summer with some fun in the sun. Visit the youth page on our website for more information and to RSVP.



SERVE TOGETHER



TAP 2023 • June 26-30, 2023

TAP 2023: Rockin' Around the Rainbow:

Dance a rainbow! Sing a rainbow! Paint a rainbow! Come rock around the rainbow and make new friends as we recreate our TAP rock garden using the hope and promise of the rainbow!

We're inviting children ages 6-11 to attend TAP, an interfaith, intercultural arts program sponsored by Chattahoochee Valley Episcopal Ministry. Here's what you need to know!

Time: 8:45 a.m. to Noon

Date: June 26-30

Place: Rankin Arts Center, 1004 Broadway

A Celebration will be held for families of TAPPERS Thursday, June 29 at 7 p.m.

For more info or to register see cvemjubilee.org/tap/



Striving for Justice

CVEM's Striving for Justice is partnering with St. Thomas' Creation Keepers and Trinity Episcopal Church to bring you Current Revolution, a series of short films from the American Resilience Project that explores the transition from fossil fuels to renewables with a focus on national security, economic prosperity, and environmental justice. These films show how the nation can embrace smart policies and investments that support grid modernization through distributed renewable energy generation and ensure that the transition is just and sustainable. This will be June 25, 2023, July 23, 2023, and August 27, 2023. All conversations begin at 6:00 p.m. for light refreshments and programming at 6:30 p.m. We will meet at : Trinity Episcopal Church 1130 1st Avenue Columbus, GA.

Creation Keepers - Save-the-Date!

The Green Summit hosted by Creation Keepers and Georgia Interfaith Power & Light -
Saturday Sept 30

Don't miss a chance to collaborate on the important intersection between our faith and climate disruptions.



WYNNTON
NEIGHBORHOOD
NETWORK

Support for WNN Food Bank

June is our month!

WNN FOOD BANK desperately needs your

support. The need for food is so great. Cars start lining up as early as 8AM to be sure they are one of the 25 served when the doors open at 10AM. At present that is the number that can be handled, but with your help we can feed more.

June is the month St. Thomas is asked to contribute to the Food Bank.

Canned goods are especially needed from the congregation. Each Individual or family that comes to WNN is given canned goods of soup, meat, tomato sauce, fruit, beans, corn, green beans and mixed vegetables. That is 8 cans per family, times 25 people served per day, times 5 days would be 1000 cans needed per week. Also dry goods of cereal, rice and pasta; that is 3 items, for 25 people per day, times 5 days which is 375 items per week. These are the items most asked for from the congregations. It is a wonderful help if the canned goods are purchased and given to WNN. It is helpful if the canned goods are bought in flats of 12 at places like Aldi or Wal-Mart. (This greatly helps the volunteer staff of WNN to keep from having to shop for these items each day to restock the shelves for the next day.) All staff at WNN are volunteers from 8 congregations: 6 Protestant churches and 2 Jewish congregations. St Thomas has at least 20 volunteers who work as greeters, on the computer, in the pantry and as shoppers. If you are interested in volunteering, your time would be greatly appreciated.

Cash donations are very much appreciated as well. WNN uses the cash donations to provide meat, milk, butter, toilet paper, detergent pods and soap. Fresh fruits and vegetables are purchased when available. Utilities assistance is also provided once a year per guest. In the past, Feeding the Valley was able to supply WNN with USDA Food - canned goods, mac and cheese, rice, as well as frozen meat. As a partner with FTV, we are able to purchase such items at 19 cents per pound to offset their shipping and storage costs. Unfortunately, Feeding the Valley's inventory is very low due to multiple reasons, which forces WNN to shop retail and pay high grocery prices. We are hopeful this situation will improve but it is our reality for now.

WNN Food Bank thanks you for any help you can provide giving food and assistance to the families and individuals who desperately need your help.

Jo Cates, St. Thomas liaison with WNN

SERVE TOGETHER



EAST CARVER HEIGHTS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

This summer East Carver Heights will celebrate 10 years starting as Soccer In the Streets in 2013 and then Boxwood Soccer. We are excited to have a reunion with our former volunteers and players on Saturday July 29th. If you would like to help plan or attend, please let us know. We are now planning summer soccer camp for July 5, 6 and 7 at the Boxwood Recreation soccer fields. We would like sponsors this year for t-shirts for the players.

Boxwood Soccer teams Our teams had another successful spring soccer season. Our 6-8 year olds learned and played with joy. Our 8-10 year old team made it to the playoffs. Our 10-12 year old team won their fourth consecutive league title and made it to the finals of the Georgia State Rec Cup. The 12-14 year old team won another league title and also brought home their second consecutive Georgia State Cup Championship!!! It was great to see John and Vicky Partin at the State Cup tournament. They have been coming to our games and supporting our teams for the past ten years.

Path to Shine – Columbus received a donation from Suzanne Burdeshaw that will allow us to send some students to camps this summer! We are so thankful.

The Boxwood F.A.N.N. will be back at the Boxwood Recreation Center in May. LaShanda Porter and Marie Brown are helping to recruit seniors for the new Director, Loretta Tolbert's senior programs. We would love donations of prizes for bingo.

Coming Dates:

July 5,6, & 7: Summer Soccer Camp
July 18: Soccer registration Due
July 29: 10 year reunion
August 1: Fall soccer practice begins
September 9th: Fall soccer Season begins

Hopes

Margo Easterbrook has been supporting our older kids who play for another team. We are concentrating our efforts this summer to start a team for our middle and high school players.

Thank you St Thomas for sponsoring our soccer community. We are making a difference!



Listen, Learn & Discuss

We are finalizing the schedule for Sunday morning conversations with current St. Thomas Outreach partners and parishioners who have a connection to other agencies and ministries. Join us to hear from

Malinda Shamburger - CVEM, **Robert Wadkins** - Direct Services, **Greg & Lisa Herring** - East Carver Heights, **Neil Richardson** - Safehouse, **Melissa Buice** - Stewart Community Home, and others we will add including Diocesan ministries and Global Connections.

Collect & Share

Sometimes serving looks like giving financial gifts or items to support the work of others. We will offer several opportunities to collect items for ministries in our area. For example canned goods for WNN (particularly fruit and tomatoes during VBS), men's clothing for SafeHouse, supplies for Stewart Home and more.

Serve Together

Serve a meal at SafeHouse or Circles in Columbus, see the kitchen at Direct services, pack food boxes at Feeding the Valley, build a bed with Sleep in Heavenly Peace, take water and snacks to soccer camp, and more! We're hoping to learn by touring and serving this summer. Stay tuned for details about these opportunities and others!

THIS WE BELIEVE



In Lent and Easter seasons, our Journey Groups studied the Nicene Creed, a statement of faith we confess together in worship almost every Sunday. A sermon series during Lent and Easter, titled *This We Believe*, also focused on the Nicene Creed. Since the 4th century, when it was written by two councils of bishops, the Nicene Creed and the earlier Apostles' Creed have summarized the core of Christian doctrine for churches around the world.

The work of summarizing what Christians believe did not stop in the 4th century, however. As an example, The Episcopal Church added questions to our Baptismal Covenant when the Book of Common Prayer was revised in 1979 (see page 304). These were a modern way of summarizing what we believe the Christian life looks like when we live out our hope in God.

In the final week of Journey Groups, Denny Clark, our Parish Theologian, shared another recent summary of Christian faith. It was developed in 1968 by the United Church of Canada, the largest Protestant Christian group in Canada and is widely used in their worship. Titled "A New Creed," it was not written to replace the Apostles' or Nicene Creeds but to act as a supplement to these statements of faith. It has been revised a few times. The latest version is below.

Several people who participated in Journey Groups asked if we might share this statement of faith and meditate on it together over the summer, as another way of expressing our hope in God. Feel free to use this in your prayers at home or in discussion with others as you consider what you believe and how your faith shapes your life.

Note - the picture below is from the website where A New Creed is published

We are not alone,
we live in God's world.

We believe in God:
who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus,
the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others
by the Spirit.

We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church:
to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us.

We are not alone.
Thanks be to God.



A New Creed (United Church of Canada, 1968; rev. 1980, 1995)

<https://united-church.ca/community-and-faith/welcome-united-church-canada/faith-statements/new-creed-1968>