

St. Thomas Lutheran Church Newsletter

Date: November, 2025
Pastor: Pulpit Supply by SC Synod
Address: 215 St. Thomas Church Rd.
Chapin, SC 29036
Office: 803-345-2993
Web: www.stthomaschapin.com



Pastor Hagerty writes...

From our family to our loving church family (from 2006 to 2025) Thank you for your love, support, and faithfulness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ! May God continue to bless y'all!!!! - **Pastor Larry**



CHURCH COUNCIL***President***

Don Hill

Vice President

Christy Brasington

Secretary

Debbie Morell

***Youth and Children's
Ministry***

Sandi Martini

Christian Education

Beth Bedenbaugh

Worship and Music

Fred Falls

Property

Lacy Derrick

***Evangelism and
Outreach Ministry***

Gale Smith

***Stewardship and
Finance***

Don Hill

Cemetery

Christy Brasington

STAFF***Pastor***

Pulpit Supply by SC
Synod

Director of Music

Ginny Lindler

***Administrative
Assistant***

Sharon Dickert

Sexton

Tina Dyches of
Genie in a Bucket

LEADERS***Treasurer***

Jennifer Wicker

***Memorial Recording
Clerk***

Sharon Dickert



ELCA



St. Thomas
Lutheran Church

Church Council Minutes

October 12, 2025

Called to order in the Parish Hall by President Don Hill at 11:01 am.

Opening Prayer by Pastor Hagerty

Check Roll: Pastor Hagerty, Don Hill, Fred Falls, Beth Bedenbaugh, Lacy Derrick, and Christy Brasington

Absent: Gale Smith, Deb Morell, and Sandi Martini (who resigned last month).

Pastor's Report

We continue to provide weekly worship resources to the congregation. They include:

1. In-person worship services are held at 10:00 am on Sundays.
2. YouTube worship videos have been filmed and edited by Emory Bedenbaugh. Through September 14th, we have done 243 videos. We are reposting videos from Year C, 2022.
3. On-line bulletins and sermon transcripts in pdf format are emailed to the church family and hand-delivered to 23 household locations.
4. Worship video links are being emailed to our church family and posted on our website of: www.stthomaschapin.com. They are also posted to our St. Thomas Facebook page and boosted to the Chapin area.
5. We had Holy Communion by intinction on October 5th. We had Holy Communion at the altar rail on September 28th for our Homecoming service. Senior Seminarian Zachary Lindler was our preacher.
6. Our average in-person worship attendance for August was 70. We averaged 31 views per

week on YouTube for our pre-recorded and re-posted Sunday worship videos.

Other activities include:

1. Confirmation class and Sunday School classes continued to be held today at 9:00 am.
2. Mary Hill and Payton White will be confirmed at our October 19th worship service.
3. Our Young at Heart (YAH) seniors' group will meet on Tuesday, October 21st at 11:30 am for fellowship and a luncheon.
4. A baby shower for Haley Wicker and Austin Merchant took place in our fellowship hall on Saturday, October 4th.
5. Pastor Hagerty submitted his Retirement Announcement on August 26th, which was his 68th birthday. Pastor's last Sunday will be October 26th and his last day as Pastor of St Thomas will be October 31st.
6. Pastor was asked to help arrange for pulpit supply preachers. He arranged for Pastor Kevin Ogilvie to supply on November 2nd and Pastor Mark Bredholt to supply on November 9th. Pastor has already sent the bulletins for these two pastors, along with lists of instructions. Don Hill arranged for Rev. Rick Carter, Assistant to the Bishop, to supply on November 16th and he will attend our council meeting following worship.
Since the council meeting, Pastor secured Rev. Carroll Robinson to be our supply pastor on December 21st and Christmas Eve. Rev. Robinson is a retired pastor who lives in Irmo.
7. There will be a Drop-In reception for Pastor Hagerty on October 26th from 11 am to 1 pm in our fellowship hall to recognize his nineteen (19) years of service to St Thomas.

8. We have been encouraged by Pastor Rick Carter to proceed with Church Fuel and to work on their "two-page plan" exercise. This will help us to begin to articulate who we are as a church. This will be helpful to our self-study, which is a necessary part of the call process.

Treasurer's Reports

The Consolidated Fund Activity Report shows that we ended the month of September with a current operating fund balance of **\$ 77,405.73.**

Our current operating fund expenses during the month of September were **\$ 13,626.68.**

Our September receipts were **\$ 11,198.49.**

We are still off to a very good start after the first nine (9) months of 2025.

Our YTD income for 2025 through the month of September is **\$175,039.43**

Our income through the month of September in 2024 was **\$154,627.30.**

The September 2025 consolidated activity report includes the following designated fund totals:

Capital improvement fund: **\$11,460.39**

Sanctuary enhancements fund: **\$20,684.58**

Social Ministry / Outreach Fund: **\$756.37**

STLC Youth Fund: **\$3,442.28**

JLB Endowment Principal
Balance: **\$83,674.39**

JLB Endowment Interest
Balance: **\$27,553.94**

JLB Loan Balance: **\$24,910.63**

We discussed the scatter garden and the monies that are available. Next year, we will have a cemetery line item within our current operating fund.

Stewardship and Finance

Christy noted that Pastor has been summarizing the Treasurer's reports for council. This information has been made available to the congregation via the church council minutes. Since pastor will be gone, Don will request that the Stewardship and Finance Committee takes over the communication of our financial status to the council and the congregation.

Proposed Church Budget

Council has reviewed our proposed budget over the past month. Council voted to present this budget to the congregation at our November 23rd congregational meeting. Here are the eight (8) major 2026 budget changes:

- \$5,000 due to decrease in hours for the administrative assistant
- + \$3,000 due to 10 pct salary increase for director of music
- + \$5,000 due to increase in treasurer salary (in line with hours required)
- + \$1,000 for parking lot maintenance
- + \$3,100 for our ground's maintenance contract
- + \$500 for our in-reach and VBS
- \$1,140 for youth (the designated youth acct has over \$3,000)
- + \$1,355 for electricity, sewer, and garbage (cola increase)

Approximately \$7,000 overall increase (3%) over 2025.

Cemetery

Flags were ordered for Veterans Day.

Christian Education

Beth Bedenbaugh reported the following:

1. Mary Hill and Payton White will be confirmed on October 19th at 10 AM; they will then move up to the high school class taught by Beth Bedenbaugh.
2. No Sunday School on December 14th due to cantata practice.
3. We need a teacher for the 4th through 6th Sunday School class. Students are Jaycee and Elizabeth Wicker and Michael and Christopher Lindler.

Property

1. Repair the caulking for the stained glass by entrance and back wall in Parish Hall. – thanks to council for approving the quote from Shenandoah Restoration Inc. Recap, the repair cost is \$1,748.00. Plans are to reuse the existing protective glass on the windows, but if it can't be used, the cost to replace would be \$1,005.00 for transom and \$1,875.00 for Jesus in the Garden. Contract was signed 10/8. Work starts late October or early November and should take a week to complete.
2. Drainage of church gutter lines- Meet with Alex Metts 10/9. Using a cable camera, the line was clogged on the back left drain of the church, 3 feet in and could not go any further. Going from the end drain, the camera was able to go 13 feet before clogging, which is thought to be where the corrugated pipe was added to the original drain line. Ron is to dig out the corrugated pipe and then Alex will bring the camera back to see if it can go further. The plan is to try to figure out the problem before digging. More to fol-

low on this project. Thank you to Alex Metts for donating his time and equipment to help find the problem.

3. Mailbox door was fixed.
4. Spray handle on the cemetery side kitchen sink has been unclogged and is working.

Outreach and Evangelism

Our next meeting will be on 10-15-2025 at 6:00 pm.

1. The Life Vac discussed at our last meeting has been purchased and placed in the kitchen of the fellowship hall.
2. We will discuss where to place the bracket for the AED in the cry room at our next meeting.
3. Sign-up sheet for Game nights has received a few more signatures. We will discuss further at our October 15th meeting.
4. Where to place the budget for upkeep of our new AED is still to be decided.

Children's and Youth Ministry

1. Youth may be involved with the placement of the veterans' flags in the cemetery, Elizabeth to talk to Christy about it.
2. The youth will also participate in the Wreaths across America on December 13th.

Worship and Music

The committee is involved with the supply pastors and will stay involved with the interim pastor when that person is named. We appreciate the offer of Zachary Lindler

to lead worship on November 23rd and November 30th. The plan for December 7th will be made during the next worship and music meeting. As mentioned earlier in Pastor's report, Rev. Carroll Robinson is to be our supply pastor on December 21st and Christmas Eve. Rev. Robinson is a retired pastor who lives in Irmo.

Old Business

1. Don has been approached by several people who are interested in being on the call committee. We also need to get volunteers to serve on church council. A person cannot serve on both. Our updated constitution does allow some options for outgoing council members to stay on council for an additional year. Council will review those provisions in the constitution in order to clarify how many volunteers are needed for the 2026 council and how many volunteers are needed for the call committee.
2. Rick Carter is the Assistant to the Bishop who is assigned to help St Thomas. He will meet with council on November 16th after worship. Beth noted that some current members of the council will not be on council in 2026. Don noted that this means we need to be intentional about being in dialogue with Pastor Carter after we meet with him on November 16th.

New Business

1. Pastor had been opening the church every Sunday. We will now have the keeper of the keys open the church. Fred has it for November and December and usually arrives by 8:30 am.
2. The keeper of the keys needs to check

the thermostat when they arrive. On cold mornings, the HVAC system needs to be set on heat. The system is programmed to reach 70 degrees by 2:30 am so that the pipe organ will be in tune by the time our worship begins.

3. Christy suggested that council members email their reports to all of the other council members in advance of our November 16th council meeting. This will enable us to have more time to

focus on council positions and potential members of the call committee.

Pastor left the meeting at 12:18 pm to allow council to plan a reception for Pastor.

Respectfully submitted,

Pastor Larry Hagerty and Deb Morell

WE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

If you have a name which you would like to have listed, please indicate by filling out a pew card or by calling the church office. Names will then remain on the prayer list for four weeks, unless we are notified to extend the time. Thank you.

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • STLC, Staff, Pastor & their families • SC Synod, Bishop, Staff & their families • Zachary Lindler (prayers for his senior year at seminary) • Mary Nichols (dementia / Laurel Crest Community, West Columbia) • Joe Epting (continued kidney dialysis treatments) • Dr. Janet Roberts-Crump (recovery from foot surgery) • Betty Koon (Harbison Shores) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Melverta Sandel (rehab at Wellmore in Lexington) • Greg Rennhack (pancreatic cancer / brother of Andy Rennhack) • John Swygert (liver cancer / home healthcare) • Francis Shealy (recovery at home following rehab) • Judy Derrick (health issues) • Family of Mayor Al Koon (who died on October 17th) • Christopher Lindler (recovery from orthopedic surgery) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clay Falls (recovery from surgery and hospitalization) • Clark Emory Bedenbaugh and family (born on October 21st / son of D'Arcy and Emory Bedenbaugh) • G.B. Slice (health issues / brother of Margaret Epting) • Bobby Kinard (health issues with kidneys / cousin of Holly Wesinger) |
|--|--|--|

WELCA NEWS:

THANK YOU! Thank you to **ALL** who helped in any way with the Pastor and Tracey's Retirement Reception. It was a lovely event honoring them and their family. Thanks to Elizabeth Hill for creating and mailing out the invitations. Thanks to those who set up and decorated on Saturday morning. Thank you to all who donated and provided food and drink. Thank you to Susan Waites for the beautiful flowers. Thank you to all who helped the day of the event with refilling trays, making punch, serving punch, cutting cake, "un"decorating / clean-up, etc....

Thanksgiving Pound Cakes: We will be providing pound cake slices again for the community Thanksgiving meal. The sign up sheet will be out **SOON!** Look for it on the narthex table. We need 14 cakes to get the number of slices we need, so please sign up! Cakes have to be turned in (to the kitchen) by Monday, November 24 at 5. We will be packaging up the slices that evening at 7. Come join us!

Save the date: WELCA Christmas ornament party December 11. **ALL** women of the church are invited! Put it on your calendar. More information later!

HOW TO ORDER A PRINT OF OUR CHURCH

If you liked the Pastor and Tracey's painting of our church, here is the information on how to contact the artist to order and how much it will cost.

\$30 for 8x10

\$45 for 9x12

\$60 for 11x14

If you want to order a print, you need to contact the artist, Lisa Alberghini, in **ONE** of these two ways. She will guide you from there.

TEXT 864-350-2648

EMAIL lisa_alberghini@yahoo.com



Thanks to all who supported Wreaths Across America this year! I'm excited to say that we have sponsored wreaths for all 65 of our veterans. Please join us on Saturday 13 December at 1:30 here at the STLC cemetery. We'll need family, friends, neighbors and members of the congregation to help place wreaths on each headstone. Please join us to celebrate and honor our veterans during this patriotic and notable ceremony.

- Rick Rennebaum

Mark your
calendars for
our Cantata
on Sunday,
December
14th at 10 am.

A catered
Advent
Brunch will
follow
the worship
service.

LARGE PRINT

EXCEL
PLUS

A Song A Son A Savior

The GLORY & HOPE of CHRISTMAS

MARTY PARKS

lillenas



November Pantry Needs

Boxed pasta, dry / canned beans, jam / jelly (plastic jars),
grits, canned meats, soups (all sizes / varieties), syrup,
canned peas, cookies / other snacks
always need toiletries, dish soap, laundry detergent
& cleaning supplies!

Thank you so very much for your generous support!

Alecia Klauk directorwcc@sc.twcbc.com

In Christian Service in November

Lay Readers:

2 Deb Morell
9 Bill Sandel
16 Holly Wessinger
23 Susan Waites
30 Fred Falls

Greeter: Deb Morell

Usher: Deb Morell

Keeper of the keys:

Fred Falls

Altar Flowers:

2 Janet Tapp
9 Christy Brasington
16 Deb Morell
23 Margaret Epting
30 The Rennhacks

MEMORIALS

Given to the glory of God and in loving memory of:

Jack & Linda Derrick by Patricia Cullum

Donnie Slice by Brenda Slice

Marge Gray by John P. Gray

Lee Wessinger by Janet Tapp

Rothell Derrick by Nell Derrick



Altar Flowers Flower Chart is posted on the Cry Room door and has dates available in November and December. If you would like to put flowers in the church in honor or memory of someone, ***please sign up*** and ***indicate one or two flower arrangements beside your name.*** Thank you!

Dear People of Saint Thomas,

We are overwhelmed by the outpouring of love as we celebrated our final Sunday with you and Larry's 19 years of serving this beautiful church. We were so happy to have a joy-filled time together after the service. Thank you to those of you who made the reception special. Thank you to you all for your kindness, thoughtful gifts, generosity, and love, not only as our time with you comes to a close, but also throughout our over 19 years together.

I struggle to put into words what you mean to me, but the one word that keeps coming to mind is Home. Since 2006, you have been the church home where our children grew as young women. We have laughed together and cried together; we have sung together, cooked and cleaned together, and eaten A LOT! We have read scripture and deliberated the message for us as followers of Christ. Most importantly, though, we have worshipped our Lord and Savior together.

You will always be my church family and home. God's love for us and our love for God tie us together. Blessed be the tie that binds!

Your sister in Christ,

Tracey Hagerty

FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST

We will meet at Palmetto Roads on ***November 13th at 8:30 am.*** All are invited to come and share in this Dutch Treat time of good food and fellowship.



1 Lisa Derrick (Ronnie)
 3 Nickie Powell
 4 Zachary Lindler
 5 Joe Derrick
 Gary Metts
 9 Martha Derrick
 Howard Lindler
 10 Parker White
 11 Colie Metts
 12 Christopher Powell
 14 Joe Shealy
 15 Mac McCaslin
 16 Toni Kleckley



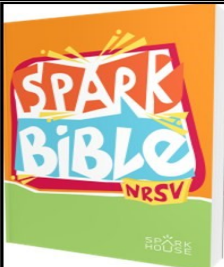
17 Elizabeth Wicker
 Jaycee Wicker
 20 Rhonda McCartha
 23 Patricia Cullum
 24 Ciel Englert
 Lucas Powell
 25 Scarlett Ann Powell
 Justin Rowland
 26 Bryan Lindler
 Andy Rennhack
 29 Harold McCaslin
 30 Janice Lindler

14/1998 Allen & Janet Tapp
 29/1975 Michael & Betty Rowland
 30/1991 Todd & Beth Bedenbaugh
 30/1974 Bill & Christy Brasington



Sunday School and Confirmation classes resumed on August 10th.
 Classes run from 9:00 am to 9:45 am for:

- 1) Adults, using the Scripture Readings of the day;
- 2) Youth (9th–12th), using "ELCA Faith Lens"
- 3) Confirmation (5th–8th), using Here We Stand; and
- 4) Kids 4th grade and younger, using Spark curriculum.



ELCA FAITH LENS

**A Record of Our Faithfulness
Through 10/31/2025**

2025 Budgeted income	\$ 227,024
2025 Monthly need	\$ 18,919
2025 Actual income	\$ 188,048
Monthly avg income	\$ 18,805

+++++

Worship Attendance

Date	In-Person Attendance	# of On-line Views
Oct 5	55	25
Oct 12	56	30
Oct 19	73	46
Oct 26	108	N/A

October Worship Service Averages

In-Person Attendance	=	73
On-line YouTube views	=	34
Combined total	=	107

**Giving is a basic
spiritual practice.**

It's important for us all to engage in it according to our ability, because giving is one of the ways that God comes down to us. Giving is included in a list of basic spiritual practices that also includes prayer, corporate worship, Scripture study, silence, and service.

We give thanks for your generous giving in support of our ministry of Word and Sacrament here at Saint Thomas. Please continue to give generously in proportion to how God has blessed you.

Thanks!!!

**God's peace,
Pastor**



Young *at* Heart



Please join us on Tuesday, November 18th at 11:30 am for lunch and fellowship. Lunch provided / menu TBA. We look forward to seeing you there!



St. Thomas
Lutheran Church

215 St. Thomas Church Road
Chapin, SC 29036

STLC Newsletter
November 2025

Forwarding Service Requested

Pastor

Pulpit Supply by SC Synod

Director of Music

Ginny Lindler

Administrative Assistant

Sharon Dickert

Council President

Don Hill

Council Vice President

Christy Brasington

Council Secretary

Debbie Morell

Treasurer

Jennifer Wicker

Memorial Recording Clerk

Sharon Dickert

Church Office Hours

Monday-Friday:
8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Pulpit Supply

SC Synod Office
803-765-0590

Church Phone: (803) 345-2993

Office email: sttom215@yahoo.com

Web: www.stthomaschapin.com

In Case of Emergency:

Council President
Don Hill
703-744-5341