

ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT GROUP TO BEGIN IN APRIL—

Starts April 8—St. Thomas will begin an Alzheimer's Support Group sponsored by the Heart of America Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association. The group will meet every second Sunday from 4-5:30pm in the Assembly Room.

ST. THOMAS @ SPORTING KC

Sunday, May 27, at 5:00

Join your St. Thomas friends on Sunday, May 27, to watch Sporting take on the Columbus Crew! Tickets are \$35 per person and are limited. Sign up in the Narthex and see Barbara McCall for payment, or visit our Sign Up Genius in the weekly email, or by scanning the QR code in the Narthex

SOLOS DINING OUT - Important Meeting:

Our group leader, Mary Scott, passed away in December, and I know she would want Solos Dining Out members to continue meeting once a month at one of the many outstanding Johnson County restaurants, enjoying great food and each other's company! SO...

Solos Dining Out will have a short organizational meeting Tuesday, **April 10, at 5:30pm** at St. Thomas the Apostle Church in Parish Hall 1.

We will discuss the splitting of our very large group into 2-3 smaller groups and each new group will need a group leader. A leader of a small group must be a member of St. Thomas the Apostle church. If you are a member of Solos Dining Out and not a member of our church that is fine. It is just that the leader of the group needs to be a member of St. Thomas. We will also split and join into the new smaller groups at this meeting—that way we can exchange contact information.

After this meeting we will go out to eat together either as one very large group or as 2-3 newly formed smaller groups.

If you want to be a Solos Dining Out small group leader, please let me know by either calling or emailing me. My contact information is listed below. **Please come!**

Deep peace—Sue Strom
913-244-6402
kcsuejazz@hotmail.com
susanstrom15@gmail.com

Articles for Tower Talk and our email update are due by NOON every Monday. Articles will run for two weeks unless notified otherwise. Send info and articles to Meribeth Risebig—mrisebig@stthomasop.org or call 913-451-0512.

CHILDREN & YOUTH

"GOD AND ME" CHILDREN'S PROGRAM AT ST. THOMAS

Cub and Girl Scouts and all other interested children in grades 1-3
Sundays - April 8, 15, 22, 29

6-7pm in the Assembly Room

Cost is \$20 (includes program workbook, certificate, "God and Me" medal and supplies)

This April all children in grades 1-3 are invited to participate in the "God and Me" religious emblem program associated with the Scouting program. John McCall, Charter Organization Representative for Cub Scout Pack 3241 of St. Thomas Church, will be leading this 4-part series. While this is a goal for children in Scouting, the program is open to ANYONE. Sessions will be held from 6 to 7pm on Sunday evenings in the Assembly Room beginning April 8 and continuing through the 29th. If any parents would like more information or to sign their child up for the program, please contact John McCall at jmccall07@gmail.com.

TEX-MEX FIESTA SILENT AUCTION & DINNER

Please mark your calendars for **April 28** for the Tex-Mex Fiesta Silent Auction and Dinner that will support the youth group's mission trip to Houston this summer. In the coming weeks we will have more information and be selling tickets for the event.



We are also starting to take donations for the silent auction. Do you have a business or hobby that can donate goods or services for our silent auction? Please contact Mthr. Kelly if you do!

SAVE THE DATE! GRADUATION SUNDAY IS MAY 6

Are you a recent graduate? Do you know someone who is? Send us their name! St. Thomas will be recognizing all recent graduates (high school, college, trade school, etc.) on **Sunday, May 6**. Help us by sending the name of any recent graduates to Mthr. Kelly—kdemo@stthomasop.org.

EPISCOPALIAN'S LITTLE INSTRUCTION LIST

13. Trust in God; faith is a process of life.
14. Believe in the power of prayer; and then pray.
15. You may be the only Episcopalian someone will ever meet. Know how to describe your church.
16. See to it that your church is actively practicing outreach to the poor and needy.
17. Remember that every church argument has another side, and you may not have heard that side.

To be continued... (from "The Fond du Lac "Clarion", via "The Trinitarian", Vero Beach, FL)

TOWER TALK

March 31 & April 1, 2018



CELEBRATION SUNDAY BRUNCH & EASTER EGG HUNT

Sunday, April 8 - **Children's Easter Egg Hunt at 10am*

All are welcome to join in the fun as we celebrate our Risen Christ with some Easter fun! Brunch will be offered following both services, and everyone is encouraged to sign up to bring an item to share in the narthex or on our Sign Up Genius (which you can access via the weekly email or by scanning the QR Code on the poster in the Narthex with your phone. KIDS...We've got LOADS of Easter Eggs that will need to be found! Join Ms. Barbara in the Narthex at 10am to start your search! (Egg Hunt will be held outside - weather permitting).

Easter Egg Help Wanted: It takes lots of goodies and trinkets to fill all those eggs...if you would like to donate a bag of individually wrapped *non-chocolate* candies or small trinkets (little party favors, erasers, stickers, tattoos, etc....think "Dollar Bin" at Target!), please deliver them to the marked bucket in the Narthex or to the Education/Music Office anytime through Palm Sunday! If anyone would like to assist with filling eggs, please contact Barbara McCall, 913-909-7318 or bmccall@stthomasop.org to arrange to pick up a bag of eggs to fill. (These are GREAT community service hours for kids who need those for school - and a letter of verification IS available!)

INVITE/WELCOME/CONNECT (IWC)

ST. THOMAS NEWCOMER LUNCH—APRIL 22

Are you new to St. Thomas church? We want to welcome you to our faith community by inviting you and your family to our next Newcomer lunch on Sunday, April 22, at 12:15pm in Parish Hall 2.

Come learn more about our St. Thomas leadership, staff, ministries and outreach opportunities. We look forward to seeing you then.

For more information or if you can attend the lunch, please contact **Jean Adam** at 913-530-9097 (cell) or jean_adam2004@yahoo.com.

OUTREACH

THE FOOD PANTRY AT ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, KC,KS. MANY THINGS ARE HAPPENING AT THE PANTRY!

Two of them are very important to the Pantry's future.

After many years being under the umbrella of St. Paul's Episcopal Church in KCK, the pantry is now under the leadership of NourishKC (formerly ECS). A few steps were taken in late 2017 with formal transition in 2018. The pantry will remain at St Paul's and everything at the pantry remains the same; just the financial and formal leadership moved to NourishKC. The pantry will become a model of what other pantries under NourishKC will be able to accomplish.

The other change will be bulk food donations. As of April 1, 2018, the pantry will no longer be able to break down bulk items of any kind, including food, soaps, sugar, TP, etc. All items must be sealed in original wrappings. The USDA has set up new guidelines that the pantry must follow or it can be shut down. Any items that are broken down must be broken down in a "clean room" per the USDA. The pantry advisory committee is looking at different options as we move forward with this hurdle.

The pantry is open twice a week— Wednesday and Saturdays. All volunteers are welcome, no experience necessary and children can volunteer as long as parents stay with them at all times. Wednesday pantry hours are 12:00 - 2:30pm and Saturday hours are 10:00am - 12:30pm, but with both shifts please arrive 30-60 minutes earlier to help set up. **Saturday, April 14, 2018 is St. Thomas' turn to volunteer at the pantry.** Please come and join us. The pantry is open from 10am-1pm but we need everyone there at 9:00am to get assigned a job and help unload the ECS van with donated food from Whole Foods. We will need help with sorting food, stocking shelves, shopping with the neighbors and checking in neighbors. Questions? contact Donna Fye [913-963-5815](tel:913-963-5815) or djfyee@gmail.com.

What the pantry needs: jelly, skillet dinners, baking mixes, bars of bath soap, canned spinach, small bottles of cooking oil (can be found at Dollar General), canned meats and with the new USDA rules any small containers/packages of coffee, sugar, flour, dish soap, rice, pasta, dry beans. All items can be placed in the red wagons in the Narthex.

CONNECTING COMMUNITIES—APRIL 14

Meet at St. Thomas at 9am

Giving Project is a way to connect something you are passionate about with your service to an organization, a community, or a church.

Our Giving Project gives Middle School age youth the opportunity to volunteer their time. We will be working with different organizations throughout the community to help them find volunteers.

Olivia Rimmer & Emma Gordon

OUTREACH, CONT.

COMANCHE COMMUNITY COOKOUT EVENT

When: Thursday, April 5, 2018

Community Event 6pm -7:30pm

Volunteer times vary 4pm-8pm

Where: Comanche Elementary, 8200 Grant Ave. OPKS



Volunteers Needed! St. Thomas and other organizations will again host the Annual Community Cookout event for children and families of Comanche Elementary. There will be a variety of community info booths and activities for the kids with the hopes of growing the relationships between the families and staff of Comanche and the organizations within the school's community.

We will be providing the burgers, hotdogs, desserts, and drinks and volunteers will be needed with setup/cleanup, grilling, providing dessert, and serving. If you are able to help, please sign up via SignUp Genius (linked on the Weekly email Update), or on the sign-up sheet posted on the bulletin board in the narthex. Contact: Deacon Fran Wheeler - fwheeler@stthomasop.org

HOST WEEK FOOD & SUPPLIES NEEDED

St. Thomas members help care for situationally homeless families and single women without children by donating food and supplies for meals.

We have our St. Thomas volunteers for April Host week but still need donations of Food and Supplies. The list of items needed is on the bulletin board next to the St. Thomas office. Items should be brought to church by **April 8 prior to the 10:45 service.**

Please mark items IHN. Place FROZEN items in the freezer; perishables in the refrigerator; NON-perishables in the IHN tub near the coat rack. Signs are on the appliances and tub.

Thank you for your donations which help our St. Thomas IHN ministry!

K2K BENEFIT (Kansas to Kenya) - Sat., April 14, 2018

Cocktails 6:30pm • Dinner 7:30pm

Join us for a fun-filled evening at St. Thomas featuring: Silent Auction • African Entertainment • Dinner catered by A Taste of Africa, benefitting: Agatha Amani House, a shelter for women of domestic violence/ Osbourne Library in Maai Mahiu & St. Nicholas Library in Nakuru / Ngeya Primary School, and other various projects.

Tickets: \$75/person or \$500/table and may be ordered by calling the Diocesan Office at 1(800) 473-3563 or at (785) 235-9255. Or you can order online at: <https://edok.formstack.com/forms/k2k2018>.

Kansas to Kenya is a ministry of the Episcopal Diocese of Kansas that works with other organizations to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals in Kenya. Contact: Joe Bob Lake—jlake10@kc.rr.com or Deacon Fran Wheeler—fwheeler@stthomasop.org.

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR



Sunday, April 1

- 6:00 AM Easter Sunrise Service-Apostle's Garden
- 8:45 AM Holy Communion-Nave
- 9:45 AM Choir Practice-Nave Loft
- 10:45 AM Holy Communion-Nave
- 5:00 PM Easter Service (incense at this service)

COFFEE HOURS
AFTER EACH
SERVICE IN PH 1

Monday, April 2: Church Office closed

- 9AM-1PM Parents Day Out-Nursery, Rm 145
- 10:30-1:30 Thom's Helpers-PH 3, K
- 7:00 PM Mom's Support Small Grp-PH 3
- 7:30 PM Prayer Shawl Small Grp-PH 1

Tuesday, April 3

- 9AM-1PM Parents Day Out-Nursery, Rm 145
- 1-4 PM Actor's Choice mtg-Asbly
- 7:00 PM Sword Guild-PH 2

Wednesday, April 4

- 9AM-1PM Parents Day Out-Nursery, Rm 145
- 9:30 AM Coffee Small Grp-Rm 137
- 10:30-1:30 Thom's Helpers-PH 3, K
- 10:30 AM Wednesday Study Grp-Asbly
- 5:00 PM Children & Youth Choir rehearsal-Asbly
- 6:45 PM Praise Band practice-Nave
- 7:30 PM Choir practice-Nave

Thursday, April 5

- 9AM-1PM Parents Day Out-Rms 144,145
- 5:30-7 PM Comanche Cookout-Comanche Elem. School
- 7:00 PM Classics Men's Small Grp-Asbly; EfM-Rms 133-134; Sword Guild-PH 2

Friday, April 6: 10:30-1:30 Thom's Helpers-PH 3
7 PM Jr. High Retreat-all church/rooms TBD;
SCA-Asbly

Saturday, April 7: all day-9 PM - Jr. High Retreat-all church/rooms
TBD; 5:30 PM Holy Communion-Nave

Asbly = Assembly Room in Education Wing; K = Kitchen;
Educ Wing = Education Wing | PH = Parish Hall