

HELP NEEDED
CHILDREN'S CHURCH VOLUNTEERS

It is time once again to replenish and refresh our ranks of Children's Church Volunteers.
Our Children's Church Volunteers are individuals who...

- are at least 16 years of age and have been attending St. Thomas for at least 1 year
- are trained or are willing to become trained in the Safeguarding God's Children program as prescribed by The Episcopal Church and The Episcopal Diocese of Kansas
- Have a desire to be a positive role model and to share the Gospel with children
- offer their time - approximately 1 hour per scheduled week, plus initial training in the Fall - to familiarize themselves with the planned scripture reading (provided by the Director of Children's Ministry), and lead our children's liturgy during the lessons, Gospel reading and Sermon of the Sunday Service
- make sure to input their preferred service times and Sundays "off" (YES! You get to choose your service AND put in the days you need off!) on a bi-monthly basis in our online Ministry Scheduler program

Sharing the Gospel with children is an amazing path to personal formation when we, as adults, familiarize ourselves with the scriptures to be shared, consider the same questions that children ponder (suggested by the Director of Children's Ministry), and listen to the insights that children share during their time in Children's Church. Our goal is always to schedule two Children's Church volunteers per week (one to lead and one to offer support and encouragement to children), but we need many more volunteers to achieve this goal. Safeguarding Training and Children's Church Volunteer Training/Refresher Training will be offered on multiple occasions during August and early September. We will also gladly accept any youth ages 13-15 willing to participate in training as Children's Church "Assistants" to work along with a trained adult. For more information or to begin the process of discerning a personal call to volunteer as a Children's Church volunteer, please contact Heather Bradley-Geary at hbgeary@yahoo.com or Barbara McCall at bmccall@stthomasop.org.



JOIN OUR ACOLYTE TEAM!

When Jesus washed the feet of his disciples he showed us what it meant to be a servant leader. The ministry of acolyting is the epitome of servant leadership. We welcome all youth who will be entering 3rd grade through high school to be a part of our acolyting team.

There will be an acolyte training meeting on Sunday, August 25. This training is for all new AND current acolytes. There will be a session between the services **starting at 9:45 AND one after the 10:45 service**. We will meet in the sanctuary.

Please talk to Mthr. Kelly Demo if your young person would like to join our acolyte team.

IT'S TIME TO PITCH IN! We need voices to fill in the ranks of pipes-----vocal pipes. If you would be willing to practice with us during the hour before worship, we would sure enjoy the help this summer. **WE NEED YOU!**

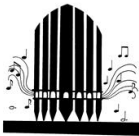
Rehearse at 8:10 for the 8:45 service
9:55 for the 10:45 service

NOTES ON NOTES

Dr. Beth Elswick, Director of Music Ministries

The Lord's Prayer is found in the gospel lesson. This prayer has inspired many composers. *Vater unser im Himmelreich* is the chorale tune by Martin Luther, later arranged by Telemann as a chorale prelude. Luther wrote the paraphrase of *The Lord's Prayer* in 1538. Luther wrote one stanza to each of the seven petitions and framed it with opening and closing stanzas.

Another well-known setting of this text is the solo version by Albert Hay Malotte (1895-1964). Malotte was a Boy Scout, an Episcopal choir boy, well-educated organist, WWII Captain, pilot, golfer, USO troop entertainer, and boxer. He even boxed with Jack Dempsey. He later wrote film scores for Disney, earning Academy Awards for both *Ferdinand the Bull* and *The Ugly Duckling*.



**Flowers on the Altar are
Given to the Glory of God and**

*In thanksgiving for our 57th
wedding anniversary—from
Jim and Mary Birkhead*

*In loving memory of Lynn's
mother Maureen Fuller—from
Dan, Lynn, and Breanna
Elman*



TOWER TALK
JULY 27 & 28, 2019

Christian Education this Sunday

Adult Forum will conclude the summer series with the video "The Work of the People." Class begins at about 10am in Parish Hall 2. Adult Forum will not meet during August and Sept. 1, but will resume on Sunday, September 8. See you then!

Sunday School Summer Break

Thank you to everyone who joined in our Summer Sunday FUNdays "Creation Celebration" this year! We had a wonderful time exploring the Creation story and talking about ways we will answer the call to care for our planet. Our Sunday School programming will now be on it's "Summer Break" while Ms. Barbara, Mother Kelly and our amazing volunteers regroup and reset for our 2019-20 Sunday School Program Year which will begin on Sunday, September 8. We wish all of our children & youth a happy and safe final few weeks of their summer vacations and all the best as they head back to school in August! See you again on September 8!

ARTICLES FOR THE NEXT "APOSTLE" NEWSLETTER ARE DUE THIS SUNDAY. This will be the Back-to-School issue. Send your news, in-depth articles, and reports of your ministry to Rosemary Abbott—strgzr622@att.net—or you may place them in her mailbox in the Communication Room.

SAVE THE DATE!!
BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS AND
"HOMECOMING SUNDAY"
SUNDAY, AUGUST 18

Join us on the first Sunday after school starts for our annual Blessing of the Backpacks and celebration as we welcome all of our families back from their summer adventures! Students of ALL AGES and Educators (nursery school/preschool through graduate school, tech school, etc.) are welcome to bring their bags/backpacks and come forward for a special blessing during each of the Sunday Services on August 18.

After each service we will enjoy a potluck of your favorite summer dishes, and our annual WATER SLIDE for the kids! So don't forget your swim gear! :)



COMANCHE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
SUPPLY COLLECTION

Comanche Elementary is a school in the Shawnee Mission school district that we have supported with various ministries over approximately the last 10 years. Comanche is a Title One school with an 86% rate of students on free and reduced lunches of which 44% are ELL Students. The school also has a high count of families being deported and often times one parent is left behind to care for the family. In many cases families are doubling up in the same household, and many children are considered latch key kids as they are left home alone after school. Comanche Elementary has asked St Thomas to again reach out to about 50 Comanche students by assisting with their needs for backpacks and school supplies.

Beginning Saturday, July 6, we will have a school supply request available in the Narthex. Please prayerfully consider selecting some of these requested items by purchasing them and then dropping them off in the trunks located in the Narthex area. **Items will be collected through Sunday, July 28. There will be an all-parish school supply packing party on Sunday, August 4, between the 8:45 and 10:45 services** and invite you to come join in the fun. During this time we will fill the 50 backpacks with school supplies, engage in wonderful fellowship, and enjoy a complimentary continental breakfast while we pack! Come; make a difference in the lives of others in our community.

Deacon Fran Wheeler—fwheeler@stthomasop.org



IHN HOST WEEK SIGN-UP SHEETS IN NARTHEX
NEEDED: VOLUNTEERS, FOOD AND SUPPLIES

Our St. Thomas Host week serving situationally homeless families and single women will be **August 18-25**. The IHN guests will stay evenings and overnight here in our church, sleeping in classrooms converted to sleeping rooms. With help from our support congregations we will also provide all meals.

Sign-up sheets are on the display board in the narthex.

Trained volunteers needed for evening/nighttime, qualified drivers.

Untrained volunteers (families welcome!) needed for Set-Up August 18 and Take-Down August 25.

Laundry volunteers (bedding only) needed after August 25.

Food, supplies and some bedding items needed by August 18.

We are blessed by the opportunity to serve others.

Interested in learning more about IHN? Contact one of our St. Thomas coordinators: Dola McNown 913 526 3573 OR dolamcnown49@gmail.com or Margaret Walkenshaw 913 302 2018 or mwalkenshaw@kc.surewest.net; Connie Snider, laundry coordinator, at 913 913 709 1431, conniesnider@hotmail.com

INVITATION TO ADULT MISSION TRIP

St. Thomas Episcopal Church would like to invite Episcopalians from across the diocese to join us for an adult mission trip to San Antonio, Texas to help ministries that are addressing the border crisis. The available trip dates will be September 14-22 but you do not need to stay the entire week. We will be working at the bus stop where families who have just come from the border are dropped off for their next destination and staffing an overnight shelter. Other possible work sites will be packing backpacks for families who are traveling, a shelter for women and babies, and a possible trip to see the detention camps along the border. If you are interested or would like more information please email Rev. Kelly Demo at kdemo@stthomasop.org. **Deadline to sign up for the trip is August 16.**

FROM GUILD OF THE CHRIST CHILD—

A HUGE THANK YOU for all the items donated to fill layette bags. We met our goal of filling the pack-n-play. Thanks to all of our very generous parishioners. You all are AMAZING!

Suzie Bowden



HEARING DEVICES IN PLACE

SOUND MEMORIAL IN PROGRESS

Our hearing assisted devices needed work! The earlier system was nearly two decades old and no longer compatible with current regulations and needs. After doing some research and study we identified a solution.

The new system includes new packs that can utilize both a small speaker and a loop device for those who have hearing assisted devices with a T-Coil switch. The Williams Sound system includes Neckloop Telecoil Couplers and also an FM receiver with speaker.

This will add a number of options for people to utilize. This is an important part of making our services as accessible as possible. The total cost of the new system with installation is just under \$2000.00. **If you would like to make a contribution to fund this project please place a check in the offering plate with "sound memorial" in the memo line.**



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

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

This Saturday, July 27

8AM-11PM SCA Event—all church except Nave during service and LL
5:30 PM Holy Communion

This Sunday, July 28

8:45, 10:45 Holy Communion-Nave
9:45 AM Choir Practice-Nave loft
10:00 AM Adult Formation-PH 2
6:30 PM Girl Scout camp registration pickup-PH 2

"Coffee Hours"
after each
service in PH 1

Monday, July 29

9AM-1PM Parents Day Out-Nursery, Rm 145
10:30-1:30 Thom's Helpers-PH 1, K
1:30 PM St. Thomas Staff Mtg-PH 2

Tuesday, July 30

9AM-1PM Parents Day Out-Nursery, Rm 145

Wednesday, July 31

9AM-1PM Parents Day Out-Nursery, Rm 145
10:30-1:30 Thom's Helpers-PH 1, K

Thursday, Aug. 1

9AM-1PM Parents Day Out-Nursery, Rm 145
7:00 PM Sword Guild practice-PH 2; SCA-PH 1

Friday, Aug. 2

10:30-1:30 Thom's Helpers-PH 1, K

Saturday, Aug. 3

10AM-5PM Comanche Backpack stuffing setup-PH 1, 2, 3
5:30 PM Holy Communion-Nave

Sunday, Aug. 4

9:30-1:30 Comanche Backpack stuffing-PH 1, 2, 3

Asbly = Assembly Room in Education Wing; K = Kitchen; Narthex = Lobby
Educ Wing = Education Wing; PH = Parish Hall; Nave = Sanctuary

To view the church calendar go to our website, www.stthomasop.org, and click on *Calendar* on the upper right side.

****To hold a meeting or event at St. Thomas you must first clear the date/time/space with Meribeth in the church office. ****

