

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.



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

Regular Wednesday rehearsals will start on **Sept. 4.**
8:45 Praise Band—6:30-7:15pm. The praise ensemble is composed of a vocal ensemble accompanied by an acoustic band. The band folders reflect the liturgy of the church, and the styles range from gospel to pop/rock and blues.

10:45 Traditional Choir—7:30-8:15pm. Although we sing mainstream hymnody and traditional anthems, we have also sung gospel and spiritual hymns, and even twentieth-century works with synthesized electronic accompaniment and new notation. The choir tackles major works with brass or chamber accompaniment.

If you have any questions please get in touch with the Director of Music, Dr. Beth Elswick. belswick@stthomasop.org or 816-392-7906.



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

- * *In loving memory of Dennis and also thankful for our many blessings—from The Staley family*
- * *In celebration of our 48th wedding anniversary—from Ron & Rosemary Abbott*
- * *In celebration of our 35th wedding anniversary—from Bill & Anne Kidder*

You can sign up on the Flower Calendar on the bulletin board by the office, send an email to stthomas@stthomasop.org, or give us a call 913-451-0512. Let us know the weekend you prefer and what you'd like to include in the weekly Tower Talk and email update.

TOWER TALK

AUGUST 3 & 4, 2019

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! :)

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.

Christian Education classes to resume Sept. 8

Adult Forum classes will not meet through August and Sept. 1. On Sept. 8 it will begin at about 10am in Parish Hall 2. See you then!

Sunday School Summer Break

Our Sunday School programming will be on its "Summer Break" while Ms. Barbara, Mother Kelly and our amazing volunteers regroup and reset for our 2019-20 Sunday School Program Year. 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!

outreach @ volunteer @ donate

COMANCHE ELEMENTARY PACKING PARTY
THIS SUNDAY, AUGUST 4
BETWEEN THE 8:45 AND 10:45 SERVICES
PARISH HALL

Please 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!

HELP NEEDED FOR IHN HOST WEEK
SET-UP AND TAKE-DOWN

Families and children can help with this! Inflating air mattresses, putting supplies & linens in classrooms, moving blue chairs & TV to Assembly room.

Set- Up- **Aug. 18**, Following 8:45 Service
Take Down- **Aug. 25** Following 8:45 Service

Food/Supplies- A few items are also needed - SEE LIST.

Please sign up and help with this ministry that provides care for situation-ally homeless families and women in our community.

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



CALENDAR OF EVENTS—
AUGUST, SEPTEMBER, OCTOBER

SUN, AUG. 4	COMANCHE BACKPACK STUFFING, 9:30-1:30
SAT, AUG. 10	SECOND SATURDAY RECEPTION, 6:30
SUN, AUG. 18	BLESSING OF BACKPACKS DURING SERVICES / POTLUCK FOLLOWING!
	YOUTH GROUP BEGINS, 6-8PM
AUG. 18-25	HOST WEEK AT ST. THOMAS
SUN, AUG. 25	ACOLYTE TRAINING AFTER SERVICES
WED, SEPT. 4	CHOIR REHEARSALS RESUME, 6:30-8:15
SUN, SEPT. 8	“RALLY DAY” - SUNDAY SCHOOL & ADULT FORUM RESUME
SEPT. 14-22	ADULT MISSION TRIP TO SAN ANTONIO
THURS, SEPT. 19	COMANCHE COOKOUT, 5:30-7
SUN, OCT. 6	BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS
SAT, OCT. 26	MINISTRY FAIR, 6:30-7:30
SUN, OCT. 27	MINISTRY FAIR, 9:30-12:30
SUN OCT. 27	TRUNK OR TREAT AND BBQ COOK-OFF, 5-7PM

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

THE WEEK AHEAD

This Saturday, Aug 3

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

This Sunday, Aug 4

8:45, 10:45 Holy Communion-Nave
9:30-1:30 Comanche Backpack Stuffing-PH 1, 2, 3
9:45 AM Choir Practice-Nave loft

“Coffee Hours”
after each
service in PH 1

Monday, Aug 5

10:30-1:30 Thom's Helpers-PH 1, K
1:30 PM St. Thomas Staff Mtg-PH 2
6:30 PM Girl Scout camp registration pickup-PH 2
7:30 PM Prayer Shawl Small Grp-PH 1

Tuesday, Aug 6

7AM-7:30PM Jo Co Elections-PH 1
9AM-1PM Parents Day Out-Nursery, Rm 145

Wednesday, Aug 7

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

Thursday, Aug. 8

7:00 PM Classics Men's Small Grp-Asbly;
Sword Guild practice-PH 2

Friday, Aug. 9

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

Saturday, Aug. 10

10AM-2PM Ultreya/Cursillo gathering-PH 1
1-4 PM God & Games Small Grp-Sullivan home
2:30-4:30 PH 1, 2 reserved for Honaker party
5:30 PM Holy Communion-Nave
6:30 PM 2nd Saturday Reception-PH 1

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. ****

