

# children & youth news

## Celebrating our Children & Youth

We have so many talented youth who are in marching bands, and as that season is coming to a close we want to congratulate all our youth including:

- MK Mullen, Colin Palmer, Asher Demo, Henry Revare, and Jonah Grapp for their amazing halftime shows and a successful 2019 season. A special shout-out to seniors Mac (Drum Major) and Colby McArthur for their multiple award winning show! Good luck at Nationals!!
- Good luck also goes out to Micah Geary as he has been chosen to play at this Friday's varsity football playoff game for Olathe Northwest!
- Congratulations also goes out to Zoe Green who has only had three goals scored against her as goalie all season! Her team went on to win the championship and guess who was presented the game ball? That's right! Way to go, Zoe!!
- And congratulations to Graham Revare as he receives his Eagle Scout award on Sunday!

If your child or youth has a celebration (got in a play, won an award, aced a test, whatever!) please let Mother Kelly or Ms. Barbara know so we can all celebrate with you!

### Notes from the Church Office

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](mailto:mrisebig@stthomasop.org) or call 913-451-0512.

To view the church calendar go to our website, [www.stthomasop.org](http://www.stthomasop.org), and click on Calendar on the upper right. \*\*To hold a meeting or event at St. Thomas please clear the date/time/space with Meribeth.\*\*

### Notes on the Notes

"Let Songs of Praise Begin" is an anthem composed by a Kansan composer. Gordon Young (1919-1998) was born in McPherson, Kansas. He was educated at Southwestern College (Winfield Kansas) and the Curtis Institute and later received his Doctor of Sacred Music from Southwestern. He published over 800 works, and many of his compositions have become standard church literature. We have many of his pieces in our choral library at St. Thomas.—Dr. Beth Elswick, Dir. of Music Ministries

### This Sunday: Sunday School, Youth, Adult Forum

9:45am—Children/Youth in the Education Wing  
10:00am—Adult Forum will meet in Parish Hall 2

Over the next few weeks Adult Form we will take a listen to some important work on Gratitude. The films contain conversations inspired by Diana Butler-Bass' book *Grateful: The Transformative Power of Giving Thanks*. In her book Diana not only offers us an opportunity for a personal and systemic transformation, but welcomes us into her own personal journey with gratitude. My hope and prayer is that these films lead you into a deeper truth in your spiritual growth and inspire you to move outward into the world with the kind of generosity and gratitude that defies systems of scarcity and brings healing to the world.

### The Bible Challenge 2 The Bucket List: Impossible Dream?

Some folks think of a bucket list as a wish list, an impossible dream. What if things on your bucket list became goals? When we have a goal the next thing to be done is to create a plan for achieving that goal. With The Bible Challenge 2, we have created a reading plan that will help you read the entire Bible in only 15 minutes per day! The **One Year Bible** has 4 scripture readings for each day: Old Testament, New Testament, Psalms, and Proverbs. Open the **One Year Bible** to each day's date and spend about 15 minutes reading! That's all there is to it! (And if you don't have a 15 minute block of time, you could read it in 4 shorter periods.)

Sign up today. We'll order **One Year Bibles** (a \$12 voluntary donation) for those who request one and begin reading January 1.

### Cookies! Cookies! Cookies!

Now it's time for Cookies; lots and lots of Cookies! Start looking through your cookie recipes and look for Yummy, HEAVY cookies. Please bake 4-6 dozen cookies. We also like brownies and baked goods; but mostly cookies! Please sign up on the Cookies Sale signup sheet on the bulletin board.

**Scrumptious Cookies Sale—Saturday, December 7, 2019 9am - 4pm**

# Coffee

We are looking for more volunteers to help with Coffee Hour after the 8:45 and 10:45 services. Food and beverages are already provided; we just need assistance in brewing the coffee, setting out the morning refreshments and help with cleanup. If you're interested, please sign up on the volunteer signup sheet located on the bulletin board.

# TOWER TALK

## NOVEMBER 9 & 10, 2019



### Veterans Honored This Weekend

During all worship services this weekend we will express gratitude to those who have served our country through the armed forces and in other ways. We will ask all veterans to stand and be recognized during each service.

### Newcomer Lunch - This Sunday, November 10

New members and visitors are invited to attend our next Newcomer lunch this Sunday at 12pm in Parish Hall 2. We would like to welcome you at the lunch and introduce you to the staff, clergy, and leadership of St. Thomas as well as other new members.

### Free Thanksgiving Dinner

Thanksgiving means the expression of gratitude, especially to God. What better way to celebrate here at St. Thomas than by coming to church for a Thanksgiving meal. We will be serving a traditional meal with all the trimmings on Thanksgiving Day from 12:30-3pm in our Parish Halls. No need to cook; just come and enjoy some food and fellowship whether you will be alone or have the whole family for the holiday. We will be offering our meal to others in the community that want to come and eat with us. What a wonderful way to reach out to the community and offer food on such a special day by breaking bread (and turkey legs) with each other. We can use some help all day long or for a couple of hours with cooking, serving, or clean up. Look for a sign-up sheet in the Narthex and a link in your Weekly Email Update. Come whenever you can for as long as you can to either eat, help or both.

Any questions contact Donna Fye 913-963-5815 [djfyee@gmail.com](mailto:djfyee@gmail.com).

***Psalm 107:9*** For he satisfies the longing soul, and the hungry soul he fills with good things.

HOST WEEK UPDATE

There are currently 3 families in IHN plus 1 single woman. The families include 4 children. IHN anticipates another family will enter the Network very soon. We still need individuals for Host Week setup, takedown and laundry. These positions do NOT require IHN training and are a good opportunity for youth or families to help. A few food items and new blankets are also needed.

PLEASE SEE THE SIGN UP SHEETS ON DISPLAY IN THE NARTHEX OR EMAIL DO-  
LA. Dola McNown 913 526 3573 OR [dolamcnown49@gmail.com](mailto:dolamcnown49@gmail.com) or Margaret  
Walkenshaw 913 302 2018 or [mwalkenshaw@kc.surewest.net](mailto:mwalkenshaw@kc.surewest.net); Connie Snider,  
laundry coordinator, at 913 913 709 1431, [conniesnider@hotmail.com](mailto:conniesnider@hotmail.com)

Caring for Kids – Comanche Elementary “Operation Rudolph”

**When:** Friday, December 13  
**Time:** 3:30pm – 5:30pm  
**Where:** Tomahawk Ridge Community Center  
11902 Lowell Ave. Overland Park, KS 66213



The Overland Park Police Department will be holding their annual “Operation Rudolph” Event on 12/13. This event sponsors children from Overland Park and Shawnee Mission School Districts for a day of Christmas shopping. Overland Park Police officers will take 5 students from each school shopping at Target, and they each will be provided with Target Gift Cards so that they may shop for Christmas gifts for their families.

**Volunteers are needed** to assist during shopping day at Tomahawk Ridge Community Center with craft activities, snacks, and gift wrapping for the kids. If you are interested in helping out, please contact Sgt. Richard Breshears with the Overland Park Police Department by phone (913) 895-6287 or by E-mail at [richard.breshears@opkansas.org](mailto:richard.breshears@opkansas.org)

(Note that for student safety a short background check is required with all volunteers.)

Blood Drive  
St. Thomas Episcopal Church

Saturday, November 16, 2019  
8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Please call 1-800-RED-CROSS (1-800-733-2767 or visit [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) and enter: StThomasEpiscopal to schedule an appointment.

Thank You

To the Prayer Shawl Ministry: Thank you for making me a gift of your beautiful prayer shawls. Sara and I are both so blessed to be members of St. Thomas. Thank you again and always! Tom Meyers

Our deepest thanks for your most recent donation of \$2,000.00. Two things thrill us about your recent gift. One is your generosity and the other is your continued support and faith in our mission. Your generous donations provide the financial and moral support needed to continue our mission. We truly appreciate your ongoing partnership with us in our commitment to empower homeless families and single females in our community. Vicki Dercher—Director of IHN

Laughter Yoga Workshop  
Nov 23, 6:30pm, in Parish Hall 1

The workshop will be conducted by Maurine Pachter, a certified Laughter Yoga leader. Maurine leads the program at Village Shalom and works with preschool children around the KC area. For all ages! Laughter Yoga allows you to let yourself go and involves the physical and the spiritual. If you are interested in attending or have any questions, please contact Maurine at 816-437-1926 or email [mssunshine07@hotmail.com](mailto:mssunshine07@hotmail.com).

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

- In loving memory of Suzanne Manoogian Lehnertz. She listened to her heart above all the other voices—from Jay Lehnertz
- In thanksgiving for our church home, St. Thomas, where we are surrounded with love; and in memory of my sister, Margaret Hayes—from Ted & Linda Bemis
- Celebrating a happy birthday (11/11) to our granddaughter, Olivia. Forever seven earthly years old, and celebrating her 3rd birthday in heaven—from Geoff and Nancy Williams

THE WEEK AHEAD

This Saturday, November 9

- 12:30-3PM Actor’s Choice-PH 1
- 1-4 PM God & Games Small Grp-Sullivan home
- 5:30 PM Holy Communion
- 6:30 PM Second Saturday reception-PH 1

This Sunday, November 10

- 8:45 AM Holy Communion
- 9:45 AM Children & Youth Sunday School-Educ Wing
- 10:00 AM Adult Formation-PH 2
- 10:45 AM Holy Communion
- 12-2 PM Newcomer Lunch-PH 2
- 2-4 PM Girl Scout mtg-PH 1
- 6-8 PM Youth Group-PH 1, 2, 3, K

“Coffee Hours”  
after each  
service in PH 1

Monday, November 11

- 10:30-1:30 Thom’s Helpers-PH 1, K, Rm 137
- 1:30 PM Staff Mtg-PH 2
- 6:30 PM Journeymen-Asbly
- 7:00 PM Outreach Team mtg-Rm 134

Tuesday, November 12

- 2-3 PM Walking the Mourner’s Path-PH 3
- 2:30-5 PM Asbly reserved for Voice Lessons
- 6:30 PM Westmont Board mtg-Nave
- 7-8 PM Sword Guild-PH 2

Wednesday, November 13

- 10:30 AM Wednesday Study Group-Asbly
- 10:30-1:30 Thom’s Helpers-PH 1, K, Rm 134, 137
- 5:30 PM Girl Scout mtg-Asbly
- 6:30 PM Walking the Mourner’s Path-PH 3
- 6:45 PM Praise Band rehearsal-Nave
- 7:00 PM EfM-Asbly; Science Small Grp-Rm 137
- 7:30 PM Adult Choir rehearsal-Nave

Thursday, November 14

- 7-9 PM Classics Men’s Small Grp-Asbly; Sword Guild practice-PH 2

Friday, November 15

- 10:30-1:30 Thom’s Helpers-PH 1, K
- 5:00— Women’s Retreat-Heartland Ctr, Parkville MO
- 6-8 PM PH 1 reserved for Peggy Henricks-PH 1, K
- 7:00 PM Explorers Small Grp-PH 2

Saturday, November 16

- 8AM-3:30PM Women’s Retreat-Heartland Ctr, Parkville MO
- 8AM-1PM Blood Drive-PH 2, 3
- 10-12 Prayer Shawl Small Grp-PH 1
- 5:30 PM Holy Communion

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

