

children & youth news

Save
the
Date

Calling all high school seniors and anyone who will be graduating with any degree this year! We will be celebrating our **Senior Sunday on April 26**. Parents, if you have a senior whom you would like to celebrate please send their photo and a short bio (what they did in high school, what their future plans are, and if they are getting a degree what that is) to Mthr. Kelly Demo at kdemo@stthomasop.org.

ATTENTION, ST. THOMAS CHILDREN & YOUTH! STA SUMMER CAMP PRIORITY REGISTRATION ENDS SUNDAY!!

We will open registrations to the public on Monday! "Early Bird" pricing remains in effect through March 15. ** Parents of students entering 3rd-5th grades: Be advised that Elementary ROTC is already at 2/3 capacity! This camp will fill early! If you want your child to have a space, you need to sign up ASAP!

SAFEGUARDING GOD'S CHILDREN SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23 NOON-3PM IN PARISH HALL 2

In 2019, The Episcopal Church and The Episcopal Diocese of Kansas implemented an updated list of recommended "best practices" for the safety of clergy, staff, volunteers and participants engaged in ministry within Episcopal parishes. The Safeguarding God's Church program meets the training expectations for individuals engaged in ministry with adults. This includes, but is not limited to, Lay Eucharistic Visitors, Vestry, Special Needs Ministries, Small Group Ministries, etc. An on-site "Safeguarding God's Church" training will be offered for those involved in these ministries, and is open to anyone who would like to know more about The Episcopal Church's policies on safety in ministry with adults. The training is scheduled from Noon to 3pm, but may not take that full amount of time. A light lunch will be provided. For those who need the training, but cannot attend on this date, an on-line training is available that will meet the requirements, though on-site training often includes additional information through discussion and supplemental materials that can be very beneficial. To help us prepare for our training please follow the link provided which asks for basic information that will allow us to properly record your participation:

<https://forms.gle/pWn1mGdjAM8EL9k27>

For questions or more information, please contact Barbara McCall at bmccall@stthomasop.org or 913-909-7318.

Children & Youth cont. in next column

CONGRATULATIONS GO OUT TO...

- Garrett Seyler for TWO state qualifying swim times at the Sunflower League Regional Swim Meet!
- Ian Gordon who achieved a personal record at that same meet!
- Zoe Green for learning how to do both double turns and pencil turns in dance!
- Coco Seyler who learned how to do the splits in dance AND to Colby and Mac for their hilarious attempts at doing the same thing!

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MEMORY BRICKS



We offer you the opportunity to personalize our 5"X8" brick pavers "in thanksgiving for," or "in memory of," or "in honor of" (or other appropriate wording) to honor some special person(s) or events in your life. Each brick will hold three lines of 15 characters each (characters include spaces and punctuation marks). The cost per brick is \$40 payable to *St. Thomas Church*. On the memo line please write "Apostle Garden Brick."

The Memory Brick Program is ongoing and there are forms in the Narthex if you wish to participate. Place the form in the offering plate or turn it in to the office. (A minimum of four bricks at a time is needed to process an order. Thank you for your patience!)

2020 PARISH OUTINGS/EVENTS SURVEY

Help us plan our all-parish outings & events for 2020! Fill out the brief survey to let us know what activities most interest you/your family! The survey link is also in your Weekly Email or go to

<https://forms.gle/zjdsJS8kqcwjJbtr8>



TOWER TALK

February 15 & 16, 2020

St. Thomas Scouting Sunday is NEXT SUNDAY

All members and former members of scouting organizations are encouraged to wear their uniform or unit t-shirt to be recognized during each service. You will be invited to join in the processional at each service, and will be called forward during the announcements for a special blessing and small token gift. If you are serving in a worship ministry that morning, you may choose to wear your scouting uniform in lieu of regular vestments that day.

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Shrove Tuesday Pancakes

February 25, 5-7pm



You are invited by the youth of St. Thomas to join us for our annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper! We will be serving all kinds of pancakes along with sausage and all the fixings! Gluten free pancakes will be available as well. Suggested donation is \$5 per person/\$20 per family. We will also have crafts and games for the kids. See you there!

ASH Wednesday, February 26

Join us for an Ash Wednesday Service as we prayerfully enter into the season of Lent.

7 am, Noon, 6 pm – Imposition of Ashes
The 6:00 service will include a Children's Liturgy

7 pm – Imposition of Ashes
and Holy Communion

Nursery care will be offered during the 6:00 and 7:00 services—for children birth through age 3.

Christian Education this Sunday

Children & Youth Sunday School

All Pre-school through elementary Sunday School classes will have their Valentine's "Serving Others Sunday" and party in the Assembly Room from 9:45-10:30 am

"My Faith/My Life" Confirmation Class, 9:45am

Adult Formation—10:00am in Parish Hall 2 (middle section). Grab a cup of coffee or tea and join in! Led by clergy at St. Thomas.

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Brown Leather Jacket

Someone is missing their brown leather jacket. If you took it home by mistake please return it and take your **black** leather jacket instead, hanging in the coat area with a note attached.

Notes on Notes—

Beth Loeber Elswick, Director of Music Ministry

Our brains love hearing new music, only to recognize or deduce that something sounds familiar. Likewise, we love hearing a familiar hymn set in a new and creative framework. Hymn arrangers study texts, meter, syllables per phrase, rhyme scheme, and chord progressions. They also love the interchangeable nature of some texts and tunes. *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross* is a versatile lyric. In fact, the tune that I learned as a child, *Hamburg*, is a different melody than *Rockingham*, the one in the *1982 Hymnal*. I certainly knew the text, *When I survey the wondrous cross*, but I was introduced to a new melody with a different meter and harmonies. I love both hymn tunes. Hymnody is fun. Did you know our hymnal includes four different settings of *Psalms 23*?

The early Pilgrims were glad that the hymn tunes and texts were recyclable. The organist/ harpsichord player only needed to know eleven tunes to be able to accompany the entire 150 Psalms in the Bay Psalm Book, the first book published in North America, Cambridge Massachusetts, in 1640. **(How could I not be overjoyed? The first book published was a hymnal, and the organist only needed to know 11 tunes!)**

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. Thank you!

outreach * volunteer * donate

HOST WEEK Prayer Request & Donation Deadline

IHN guests are staying here at St. Thomas this week. We currently have 2 families with children and a single female. IHN guests will have dinner, spend the evening and sleep overnight in our building. We ask prayers for all those we serve as well as the volunteers from St. Thomas, Church of Jesus Christ, First Christian of Olathe and Overland Park First Assembly of God.

Thank you to all the volunteers and members of St. Thomas the Apostle. With the help of many in the parish, We Make a Difference.

**** FOOD & SUPPLY REMINDER - ALL ITEMS ARE DUE BY NOON THIS SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16. ****



**FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR ARE
GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD AND...**

*in thanksgiving for The Rev. Kelly Demo's
Birthday—from Gar, Riley, and Asher*

Flowers on the altar beautify the sacred space of our church and are a gift to God and those who attend our worship services. The Flower Guild prepares the arrangements weekly, always using fresh flowers.

You can sign up on the Flower Calendar on the bulletin board in the hallway by the office, sign up on the link provided in your weekly email, send an email to the church—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. More than one person or family may sign up on a given weekend. Information is needed at least a week before the date you sign up. Suggested donation is \$50.

When you sign up in advance you may receive a letter or email about a month in advance asking for details about your commemoration.

THE WEEK AHEAD...

This Saturday, February 15
5:30 PM Holy Communion

This Sunday, February 16
8:45 AM Holy Communion
9:45 AM Sunday School for Children & Youth-Educ Wing; Choir Practice-Nave Loft
10:00 AM Adult Formation-PH 2
10:45 AM Holy Communion
5:00 PM Youth Group-PH 1, 2, 3, K; HOST Week-Educ Wing, K

Monday, February 17
HOST Week-Education Wing, K
10:30-1:30 Thom's Helpers-PH 1, K
11:30-2:30 Staff Mtg-PH 2
6:30-9 PM Westmont Neighborhood Mtg-PH 1

Tuesday, February 18
HOST Week-Education Wing, K
12:30 PM IWC mtg-PH 1
2:30-6:30 Voice Lessons in Nave
7-8 PM Book Club-PH 1; Contemplative Prayer Small Grp-Nave

Wednesday, February 19
HOST Week-Education Wing, K
9:30-10:30 Coffee Small Grp-Rm 137 PH 1
10:30-1:30 Thom's Helpers-PH 1, K
10-12 Wednesday Study Group-Asbly
6-8 PM Pinehurst Estate mtg-PH 1
6:45 PM Praise Band reh-Nave
7:00 PM EfM-St. Aidan's Church this week
7:30 PM Adult Choir reh-Nave

Thursday, February 20
HOST Week-Education Wing, K
7:00 PM Classics Small Grp-Asbly; Sword Guild-PH 2

Friday, February 21
HOST Week-Education Wing, K
10:30-1:30 Thom's Helpers-PH 1, K
7-9 PM SCA-PH 1; Explorers Small Grp-PH 2

Saturday, February 22
HOST Week-Education Wing, K
1:30-3:30 K2K Mtg-PH 2
5:30 PM Holy Communion

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

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

**"Coffee Hours"
after each
service in PH 1**

