

## Children & Youth

**Youth group is starting up on Aug 15 from 6-8pm.** Dinner is included and all 6-12th graders are welcome.

**Acolyte Training** will be **August 22 from 12-2** and it is for ALL acolytes and anyone who wants to become one.

**Children's Church** will be offered as an option to our EpiscoKids during BOTH Sunday Services. Children's Church is a short liturgy open to all children but with programming geared towards ages 3-8 (older children may join as "helpers" if they wish) that includes songs, a children's take on one of the lectionary stories of the day, creative movement and time with friends. This offering takes place during the "Liturgy of the Word" at each service. Children are "invited to follow the cross to Children's Church" right before the first reading and return to their families at the Passing of the Peace. Children's Church is never a requirement, and when a child feels ready to begin worshipping with their family fully in "big church" that is something we honor and celebrate!

\*Due to the ongoing pandemic and increased Covid numbers in our community we do ask that children attending Children's Church wear masks.

### **Children's Church and Sunday School Leader Opportunities!**

Do you have a passion for sharing the Good News with children? Do you find joy in the things children say and the observations they make? Are you looking for a new way to form your own personal faith, coming closer to Jesus through the eyes of a child? Then we've got the ministry for you!

Our Children's Church and Sunday School ministries are looking for caring individuals who are interested in the work of sharing the Gospel with our youngest Episcopalians! We have MANY ways to engage in this holy work through sharing stories and ideas, and exploring what each story means to us as individuals and as a church family. If you feel called to this type of work give Ms. Barbara a shout at [bmc-call@stthomasop.org](mailto:bmc-call@stthomasop.org) or 913-909-7318 and we'll chat about what this ministry might look like for YOU.

### **Congratulations to Children & Youth**

Email any special news about your child or youth to Barbara—[bmccall@stthomasop.org](mailto:bmccall@stthomasop.org) or Kelly—[kdemo@stthomasop.org](mailto:kdemo@stthomasop.org) so that we may add it to our newsletters!



## **TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALLGAME!!**

**KC Monarchs vs. Houston Apollos**  
**Saturday, August 28, 7:00pm**  
Infield Reserve Tickets = \$17 each

PURCHASE TICKETS HERE:

<https://stthomasop.breezechms.com/form/c646dc>

Join your St. Thomas Friends for some outdoor fun and a celebration of the legacy of the KC Monarchs and the Negro Leagues at Community America Ballpark!

**\*\*Please submit ticket requests and payment by August 15 to be included in our group!**

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### **Introducing... Old Testament...**

Led by Sheryl Roller and Susan Strom, this study will take a brief look at each book of the Old Testament. We will use Tremper Longman III's book *Introducing the Old Testament: A Short Guide to its History and Message* (available at Amazon).

Even though the lives of the people of the Old Testament were very different from ours, their personal "challenges" are not so different from our own.

The Old Testament underpins the New Testament. By getting a better understanding of the Old Testament, it will deepen our understanding of the gospels and of Jesus.

This will be a Zoom group, meeting Thursday mornings from 9:45am - 11:00am. Each class will include conversation, videos and discussion. Our first meeting will be Thursday, August 26. Sign up email or phone to Sheryl ([sljroller@gmail.com](mailto:sljroller@gmail.com)) or Susan Strom (913-599-4169; [kcsue-jazz@hotmail.com](mailto:kcsue-jazz@hotmail.com)).

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### **Alert: Antioch Entrance Closed through Wednesday, August 18**

Concrete replacement at the entrance on Antioch (west) has been completed. It will need to dry and cure through Wednesday, August 18. Until then, please use the drive off 123rd Street instead.

Thank you!

# TOWER TALK

**AUGUST 14 & 15, 2021**

## ***The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost***

**Sat, 5:30pm**—Holy Communion in Nave  
**Sun, 8:45am**—Holy Communion—Nave  
**Sun, 9:00am**—Online service (pre-recorded)  
**11:00am**—Holy Communion in Nave

Masks are required for all indoor services.

The 5:30 and 11:00 services will be live-streamed and available to watch afterward on both YouTube and Facebook.

[www.youtube.com/c/stthomasop](http://www.youtube.com/c/stthomasop) and [www.facebook.com/stthomasop](http://www.facebook.com/stthomasop)

Visit our website <https://stthomasop.org> for service information for the weekend services. To watch services LIVE click here:

<https://stthomasop.org/livestream/>

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### ***This Sunday, August 15—Blessing of Backpacks/Back to School Sunday!***

Students and Educators of all ages are invited to bring forward their backpacks/school bags/devices/whatever you need to succeed for a special blessing at each of our Sunday Services. Our annual parish picnic with yard games, sidewalk chalk, WATER SLIDE (sprinkler and splash pools for the little ones!) will be from 10am to 2pm! We cannot wait to welcome all of our families back to church as our students and teachers begin a new school year! See you then!

### ***End of summer music good-byes***

As the summer comes to an end some of our musicians are moving to music positions and educational opportunities. If possible, please say good-bye to our young professionals as they move away from St. Thomas.

Val Mathenia and James Keller's last Sunday was August 8. We have appreciated their music for four years.

Josiah Sprankle will play the August 14, 5:30 service. Following the service you'll be able to hear Josiah perform a short recital with a freewill offering as a celebration of his talents which he has shared. His recital includes the following works:

*15 Inventions* BWV 787 - BWV 801 by Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750); *Ballade No. 1* in G minor (1835) by Frederic Chopin (1810-1849)



**Saturday, Aug 14:** Comanche Mobile Food Pantry in morning; Holy Communion, 5:30pm Nave

**Sunday, Aug 15:** Blessing of Backpacks Sunday—both services; Holy Communion, 8:45am; Online Worship, 9am; Holy Communion, 11:00am Nave; Vaccine Clinic, 12-3pm PH 1, 2, 3; Music Lessons 3—4pm Nave

**Monday, Aug 16:** Organ reserved for practice, 10-11am; Thom's Helpers, 10:30am-1:30pm PH & K; Westmont Neighbors mtg, 6:30-9pm PH 1; AA, 6:30pm LL

**Tuesday, Aug 17:** Organ reserved for practice, 10-11am; Contemplative Prayer Sm Grp, 7pm Nave; Sword Guild practice, 7pm PH 2

**Wednesday, Aug 18:** Organ reserved for practice, 10-11am; Thom's Helpers, 10:30am-1:30pm PH & K; Staff mtg, 1:30pm Lobby; Music recording TBA, 5:30pm Nave; Pinehurst Estates mtg, 6pm PH 1; AA Fellowship-7:30pm LL

**Thursday, Aug 19:** Organ reserved for practice, 10-11am; Young Adult Small Grp, 7pm PH 1; PEO mtg, 7pm Asbly Rm; Al-Anon Family Grp, 7pm LL

**Friday, Aug 20:** Organ reserved for practice, 10-11am; Thom's Helpers, 10:30-1:30 PH & Kitchen; SCA, 7pm PH 1; AA, 8pm LL

**Saturday, Aug 21:** Prayer Shawl Sm Grp, 10am PH 1; Holy Communion, 5:30pm Nave

**Church office hours: Mon— Thurs 9am to 4pm; Fri 9am to Noon**

**Please schedule all meetings and events with office.**

To hold a small group meeting or gathering at St. Thomas we ask that you clear the date/time/space with Meribeth in the church office to eliminate any conflicts. If you decide NOT to meet at the church let her know that as well. 913-451-0512 or email [mrisebig@stthomasop.org](mailto:mrisebig@stthomasop.org).

**Articles for Tower Talk are due by NOON every Monday.**

Articles will run for two weeks unless notified otherwise. Send info and articles to [mrisebig@stthomasop.org](mailto:mrisebig@stthomasop.org), or call 913-451-0512.



**Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God and...**

**in thanksgiving for God's blessings of 55 years of marriage, 2 great children and their spouses, 6 almost perfect grandchildren, and 1 great grandson. And the friendships at St. Thomas—from Jerry & Connie Snider**

## Outreach at St. Thomas

### Covid Vaccine Clinic at St. Thomas This Sunday, Noon-3



We know many of you have already been vaccinated—please spread the word with anyone. Let us do our part in the fight against COVID-19!

You do not need an appointment; no ID is needed. This clinic will be staffed by the Johnson County Health Department.

Child Watch ■ Kids Waterslide (12-2) ■ Snacks ■ Gift Cards while supplies last! ■ The Pfizer vaccine will be offered—1st or 2nd dose—**ALL ARE WELCOME.**

### Let Thom's Helpers shred for you!

Shredding is an ongoing project of Thom's Helpers. If you have documents that need to be shredded they can definitely do that for you.

You may bring documents in plastic or paper bags, or boxes - not containers that need to be returned. All your documents are kept locked up and secure until shredding time. Also, the three commercial shredders being used are considered to be very secure.

Bring your shredding to church any Mon/Wed/Fri between 10:30-1 while Thom's Helpers are here and they'll unload it from your car!



### You're Essential! Give Blood at our next Blood Drive

**Tuesday, August 24, 2021 10am to 3pm**

Call 1-800-Red cross (1-800-733-2767) or visit [Red-CrossBlood.org](http://Red-CrossBlood.org) and enter: StThomasEpiscopal to schedule an appointment OR scan the QR code at right to schedule.



## Words for a Divided World

Eliza Griswold, Pulitzer Prize Winner

Co-sponsored by the Kansas Book Festival and the Episcopal Diocese of Kansas



**Wednesday, September 1, 7pm  
Grace Cathedral, Topeka  
Free and open to the public**

Griswold writes frequently for *The New Yorker* on faith and politics (and also happens to be the daughter of former Presiding Bishop of The Episcopal Church, Frank Griswold). All are welcome to this free, public event. It promises to be a lively evening!

Eliza Griswold is the author of the Pulitzer Prize-winning *Amity and Prosperity* which recounts the true story of how fracking shattered one Pennsylvania town and how one resident brought it to light. She also wrote *The Tenth Parallel: Dispatches from the Fault Line Between Christianity and Islam*, which won the 2011 J. Anthony Lukas Book Prize. Her latest book, "If Men, Then," a darkly humorous collection of poems, explores the world's fracturing through the collapse of the ego, embodied in a character named "I"—a soul wrestling with itself in the face of an unfolding tragedy. Her translations of Afghan women's folk poems, "I Am the Beggar of the World," was awarded the 2015 PEN Award for Poetry in Translation, and her original poetry won the 2010 Rome Prize from the American Academy of "Art and Letters in Rome." Griswold has held fellowships from the New America Foundation, the Guggenheim Foundation, and Harvard University. Currently a Distinguished Writer in Residence at New York University, Eliza Griswold lives in New York with her husband and son.

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### Orders for Memory Bricks Now Being Taken

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. A minimum of four bricks at a time is needed to process an order, and **at this time we need 2 more orders.** Please contact the office to place your order!

