

**Calling all amature chefs!!**

We want YOU...for the Vacation Bible School KITCHEN KREW!!

Sunday, June 26 through Thursday, June 30 approximately 4:30-6:30pm

Vacation Bible School will return to a more "normal" format this year including the tradition of enjoying dinner together each night before our programming begins. We are looking for some helpful hands (ages 15 and up) to prepare and serve our nightly simple, kid-friendly meals. While we love having our helpers each night, we know that's not always easy - so we do take on helpers who can only help on certain evenings. Contact Barbara McCall (bmccall@stthomasop.org) to sign up!

**Eagle Scout project: Kelsey Phillips**

Hi fellow members of St. Thomas! My name is Kelsey Phillips, and I am currently working on my Eagle Scout project. For my project, I have decided to partner with Great Plains SPCA Animal Shelter to handmake dog toys for them. **In order to make the toys I am in need of t-shirts and tennis balls.** They can be used or new. If you'd be able to donate that would be hugely appreciated. There is a donation bin out in the narthex to collect any donations you may have. If you have any questions feel free to call or text me at 319-333-8476 anytime! A big thanks from myself and the animals!

**"Summer Sundays" during the Education Hour**

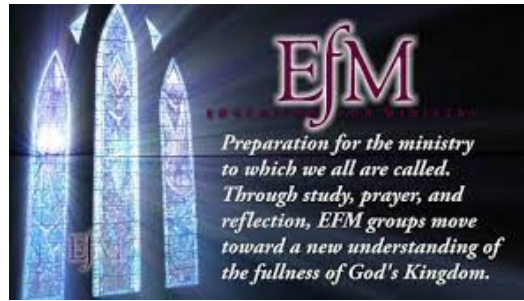
9:45-10:45am in the Education Wing. All are welcome!

**Celebrating Our Children & Youth**

We know your kiddos are up to GREAT THINGS! We want to hear and celebrate with them! 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.

**VBS and Arts Camp Registrations Still Open!**

Click here for more information and to Register for VBS (June 26-30) and Arts Camp (July 25-29): <https://stthomasop.org/summer-st-thomas-2022/>



**EDUCATION for MINISTRY**

Lay people face the difficult and often subtle task of interpreting the richness of the church's faith in a complex and confusing world. They need a theological education that supports their faith and helps them to connect that faith to their lives. Education for Ministry

The EFM program provides people with an opportunity to discover how to respond to the call to Christian service and carry out their ministries.

Education for Ministry is a four-year program from the Episcopal Seminary of the University of the South in Sewanee, TN. In the first year we read and study the Hebrew Scriptures (Old Testament). The second year we read and study the Christian Scriptures (New Testament). The third year covers the church history. And the fourth year is theology with some philosophy.

In all years we learn to think theologically through reflection, with the goal to apply what we learn. If we learn to think theologically, we then hope to live theologically and live Christ's ministry in God's world today.

If you are interested and want to learn more, contact Ray Wheeler at [ray.wheeler60@gmail.com](mailto:ray.wheeler60@gmail.com) or 913-269-0542

**Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God and...**  
*In thanksgiving for Breanna's 18th birthday. You are our precious gift from God! from Lynn and Dan Elman*

# Tower Talk

June 18 & 19, 2022

## Our Worship Services

Saturday, 5:30pm  
Sunday, 8:45 and 11:00am  
(Masks are optional)

Children's Church (for children ages 3-10) is offered during the "Liturgy of the Word" at the 8:45 and 11:00 services.

Nursery Care is available for children ages 6 months through 4 years from 8:30am until after the 11:00 service.

All services are live-streamed and available to watch afterward: [www.youtube.com/c/stthomasop](https://www.youtube.com/c/stthomasop) and [www.facebook.com/stthomasop](https://www.facebook.com/stthomasop)

Adult Forum - will meet in Parish Hall 2 starting at 10am.

## Sunday Christian Education

Adult Formation—10am in Parish Hall 2

Children's Sunday School "Summer Sundays" 9:45-10:45am in the Education Wing.

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## Neighborhood Group Signup

If you have not yet signed up to be involved in a St. Thomas neighborhood group there is still time! You can either sign up at church (where you can even find your house on the map and stick a pin in it) OR you can fill out this breeze form—<https://stthomasop.breezechms.com/form/656f0c> to let us know you are interested! Neighborhood groups are a great way to get to know and reconnect with other St. Thomas folks. Everyone is encouraged to join! Starting later in the summer the neighborhood anchors will contact everyone who has signed up and plan get togethers.

**Saturday, June 18:** Prayer Shawl Sm Grp, 10am PH 1; Holy Communion, 5:30pm Nave

**Sunday, June 19:** Holy Communion, 8:45 and 11:00am Nave; Christian Education schedule on front page.

**Monday, June 20:** Senior High ROTC, 9am meet in PH, then to locations; Thom's Helpers, 10:30am-1:30pm PH 3/Kitchen; AA Fellowship, 6:30pm LL

**Tuesday, June 21:** Senior High ROTC, 9am meet in PH, then to locations; Contemplative Prayer Sm Grp, 7pm Nave; Sword Guild practice, 7-9pm PH 2

**Wednesday, June 22:** Senior High ROTC, 9am meet in PH, then to locations; Thom's Helpers, 10:30am-1:30pm PH13 Kitchen; Staff mtg, 1:30pm Lobby or PH 1; AA Fellowship, 7:30 LL

**Thursday, June 23:** Senior High ROTC, 9am meet in PH, then to locations; Mental Health Awareness mtg, 7pm PH 1; Classics Men's Sm Grp, 7pm PH 2; Sword Guild, 7pm PH 3; Al-Anon Family Grp, 7pm LL

**Friday, June 24:** Senior High ROTC, 9am meet in PH, then to locations; Thom's Helpers, 10:30am-1:30pm PH 3/K; AA Fellowship, 8pm LL

Church office hours: Mon.— Thurs. 9am to 5pm; Fri. 9am to Noon

All meetings and events must be cleared with Meribeth in the church office. [mrisebig@stthomasop.org](mailto:mrisebig@stthomasop.org) or 913-451-0512.

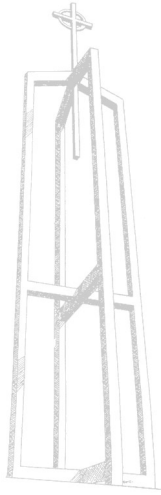
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*Dear Members of St. Thomas,*

*There are not enough words to tell you how we feel. You were with us in thoughts, phone calls, visits and prayers from the beginning of our journey. We asked for two meals and received two weeks worth. The reception was full of love and cookies. We asked for music at Jerry's memorial and received beautiful piano music from Dr. Elswick accompanied by Meribeth's oboe and Barbara's beautiful voice. Fr. Gar was with us every day and sometimes twice a day. Deacon Fran gave Jerry his last communion. Mother Kelly administered his last rites. Joining St. Thomas 35 years ago was the best faith decision we ever made. Thank you for your love.*

*The Family of Jerry Snider*

*Connie, Cori, Jeremy and the 6 grandchildren of the "cool" grandpa.*



## Outreach

**Mobile Food Pantry**  
**Next Volunteer Opportunity: July 9**  
**Comanche Elementary 8200 Grant Ave,**  
**Overland Park, KS**  
**Time: 11:30am—2:00pm**



Additional information and volunteer signups for June 11 through August 13, 2022 may be found here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0A4CA9AC2FA1FA7-mobile2>

**Caring for Kids—Comanche Elementary Outreach Opportunity: Partners in Community...**

### *Making a Difference!*



**This summer, Comanche Elementary is excited to offer Camp Invention** for their students. This is an amazing STEM oriented week of learning and leadership building for the students that is provided through the nonprofit National Inventors Hall of Fame® (NIHF). Students who have attended in

the past have loved it!

The registration cost to attend this camp can be quite costly for students and their families, and though the school has funding to support 8 students, there is a need for additional scholarship support. We invite you to prayerfully consider supporting this program with a **\$25, \$50 or if you feel so called, to a full scholarship donation.** A \$245 donation supports a full scholarship for one child to attend the program. Please know that *your gift in any amount will make a difference for the students.*

Below is a link to learn more about the program. It contains a short one-minute video along with donation information. Please take a moment to check it out.

<https://app.mobilecause.com/vf/CampInvention/team/CKS330410622>

Outreach cont. in next column

## Scraps KC School Supply Community Service Opportunity

Scraps KC is in GREAT NEED of volunteer workers to sort school supplies for their upcoming teacher distribution event. This week, our Middle School "Reaching Out to the Community" campers supported this effort and learned that over 17,000 pounds of school supplies were donated at the end of this past school year, and MANY HANDS are needed to sort, clean and prepare it all for redistribution. This work is available to ALL AGES, families, etc and takes place at Country Club Christian Church on Ward Parkway in Kansas City, Missouri.

CLICK HERE to sign up:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080d4bafae23a6fe3-school>

## JULY IHN HOST WEEK- Volunteer Signup in Narthex

St. Thomas Host week serving situationally homeless families and single women will be July 17-24, 2022. As an IHN Host congregation, St. Thomas will convert our classrooms to provide shelter during evenings and overnight. IHN trained volunteers will be present at all times providing support to our IHN guests. Untrained volunteers are needed for setup and take-down of classrooms.

JoCo IHN consists of 36 congregations of many different denominations. The families and women we serve are not required or pressured to profess faith or attend services at any church.

We also wish to thank the families and individuals who donated items for 2 single women who recently moved into an apartment. Both were part of IHN and had received shelter here at St. Thomas. The ladies worked hard at jobs and saved money to be able to return to independent housing. They expressed their appreciation for the wonderful household items and gift cards.

To volunteer for Host week, please see the signup sheet on the Narthex display board or contact one of our coordinators with questions: Dola McNown [dolamcnown49@gmail.com](mailto:dolamcnown49@gmail.com) 913 526 3573 or 913 541 9226; Margaret Walkenshaw 913 302 2018 or 913 897 4766 [mwalkenshaw@kc.surewest.net](mailto:mwalkenshaw@kc.surewest.net); Connie Snider, laundry coordinator, at [conniesnider@hotmail.com](mailto:conniesnider@hotmail.com) 913 709 1431

## Thank You!

*The Kansas 2 Kenya Steering Committee wishes to thank the St. Thomas parish for the tremendous support given to K2K at the recent Annual Fundraiser. Ticket sales were at an all time high and St. Thomas members, as in the past made up a large part of the attendees. The K2K fundraiser committee set a goal of \$30,000 and that goal was met! This result exceeded past years by a large margin primarily due to the participation and generosity of members of St. Thomas. Thank You, Thank You, Thank You!*