

## Children & Youth

### Celebrating Children & Youth!

\* *Simon Koppenhaver, 8, recently placed first in his division at the Annual Georgia's Chicken Run at Deanna Rose Children's Farm. It is an achievement he has chased since he was three years old. Way to go, Simon!!*

\* *Elliot Koppenhaver, 7, was recently honored to be nominated by his school to participate in Shawnee Mission School District's Student Success Program. He will receive a personal coach that will help develop his individual talents and encourage growth in needed areas all the way through high school graduation. He was judged to be a good use of this resource due to his empathy, kindness, willingness to help others, and natural leadership abilities. You are a rock star, Elliot!!*

Keep 'em coming, friends! Email any special news about your child 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 feature in Tower Talk and each month's Children & Families Newsletter!

### Altar Flowers

You are invited to share your special events with the congregation by making a donation to the flower fund for altar flowers. A beautiful arrangement to commemorate thanksgivings or remembrances will be displayed and noted in the weekly updates. You can sign up on the bulletin board by the office, give us a call, or sign up using this link:

<https://stthomasop.breezechms.com/form/62c72c>

Let us know the weekend you prefer and what you'd like to include in the weekly updates. More than one person/family may sign up on a given weekend. Information is needed *at least a week before* the date you choose. Suggested donation is \$50.

When you sign up in advance you will receive an email or phone call about a month in advance asking for details about your commemoration.

## Christian Education

### The Apocrypha? What is it About?

The Old Testament apocrypha, located between the Old and New Testaments in some Bibles, adds more information to our favorite Biblical stories about Esther, Solomon, Jeremiah, Daniel, Ezra, and Manasseh. The Apocrypha also contains more information about the history and trials of Israel during the time between the testaments.

Susan Strom and Sheryl Roller will oversee a study of Invitation to the Apocrypha by Daniel J. Harrington, S.J. (available on Amazon). Participants will also need a copy of the Apocrypha. Our first meeting will be in-person at St Thomas on Thursday, Sept 8, at 10am. Subsequent meetings will be on Thursdays via Zoom from 9:45-11:15. Discussion leadership will be shared. Call Sue 913-244-6402 or Sheryl 913-908-4130 to sign up or if you have questions.

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### Music Programs Begin Wednesday, September 7

If you like to sing and can learn new music, consider joining one or both of our music groups! If you have any questions, contact Dr. Beth Elswick, 913-742-8758 or [belswick@stthomasop.org](mailto:belswick@stthomasop.org).

Praise Band Rehearsal—6:30pm in the Sanctuary  
Choir Rehearsal—7:30pm in the Choir Loft in Sanctuary

### Contact Us

St. Thomas the Apostle Episcopal Church  
12251 Antioch Rd, Overland Park, KS 66213  
913-451-0512

email address: [stthomas@stthomasop.org](mailto:stthomas@stthomasop.org)  
Visit us on the web: [www.stthomasop.org](http://www.stthomasop.org)  
Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/stthomasop](https://www.facebook.com/stthomasop)  
YouTube page: [www.youtube.com/c/stthomasop](https://www.youtube.com/c/stthomasop)



## TOWER TALK

August 27 & 28, 2022

### Worship Services this Weekend



**Saturday, 5:30pm**  
**Sunday, 8:45 and 11:00am**

Children's Chapel (for children ages 3-10) is offered during the "Liturgy of the Word" at both 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)  
[www.facebook.com/stthomasop](https://www.facebook.com/stthomasop)

## Sunday Christian Education

**Children/Youth** are on their Summer Break as we prepare for the start of the 2022-23 program year. Classes will resume on Sunday, September 11. Children's Chapel will continue to be offered during both Sunday services on a weekly basis.

**Adult Forum** is also on Summer Break and classes will resume on September 11.

**Confirmation classes** for youth and adults will begin on Sun, Oct. 2. If you or your youth are interested you may contact: Mthr. Kelly (8-9th gr) [kdemo@stthomasop.org](mailto:kdemo@stthomasop.org) or Fr. Gar (adult) [gdemo@stthomasop.org](mailto:gdemo@stthomasop.org)



**Saturday, Aug 27:** Holy Communion, 5:30pm Nave

**Sunday, Aug 28:** Holy Communion 8:45 & 11:00am Nave; Coffee Hours after each service in PH 1;

Youth Group, 6-8 PH 1, 2, K

**Monday, Aug 29:** Thom's Helpers, 10:30am-1:30pm PH 1; AA Fellowship, 6:30pm LL

**Tuesday, Aug 30:** Sword Guild practice, 7-9pm PH 2

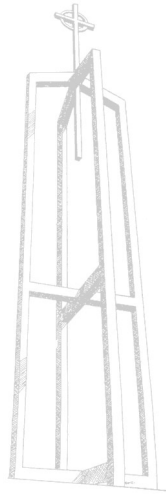
**Wednesday, Aug 31:** Thom's Helpers, 10:30am-1:30pm PH 1 Kitchen; Staff mtg, 1:30pm Lobby or PH 1; AA Fellowship, 7:30 LL

**Thursday, Sept 1:** Explorers Sm Grp, 7pm PH 2; Sword Guild, 7pm PH 3; Al-Anon Family Grp, 7pm LL

**Friday, Sept 2:** Thom's Helpers, 10:30am-1:30pm PH 1, 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.



**FUTURE DATES at St. Thomas:**

Sunday School and Adult Formation will take a break in August through September 11.

- Sept 7 Music rehearsals begin
- Sept 11 Back to Sunday School/Adult Formation
- Sept 25 Newcomer Lunch, Noon
- IHN Host Week begins at St. Thomas
- Oct 2 Confirmation classes begin (adult & youth)
- Blessing of Animals, 4pm
- Oct. 29/30 Ministry Fair
- Oct 30 Trunk or Treat & Chili Cook-Off, 5-7pm
- Nov. 5 Women's Retreat
- Nov. 5/6 Stewardship & All Saints Weekend
- Hayride for all! 4:30-7pm
- Nov. 24 Thanksgiving Day Dinner in Parish Hall!
- Dec. 3 Annual Cookie Sale

**Outreach**

**Johnson County Interfaith Hospitality Network IHN Host Week at St. Thomas starts Sept 25**

St. Thomas Host week serving situationally homeless families and single women will be September 25-Oct 2, 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 also needed for setup and takedown of classrooms. SIGN-UP SHEETS FOR TRAINED VOLUNTEERS ARE ON THE NARTHEX DISPLAY BOARD. You can also help by signing up to furnish some food and supplies.

For more information about IHN: <https://jocoihn.org>

**IHN Annual Dinner/Auction September 29**

The 11<sup>th</sup> annual JoCo IHN dinner/auction will be held on Thursday, September 29, 2022. This special fundraiser will occur in person at Fiorella's Event Center, 9000 W. 137<sup>th</sup> St. in Overland Park. Tickets for this magical evening will be \$100.00 per guest; a link to register is available on the website: [www.jocoihn.org](http://www.jocoihn.org). Don't miss this great opportunity to support our local program that serves homeless families and single women. Come and enjoy a delectable barbeque buffet, drinks and dessert; bid on amazing silent/live auction items as you help provide for our homeless neighbors in Johnson County.

Margaret Walkenshaw, JoCo IHN Auction Committee

**Afghan Families Ministry Calling Potential English Tutors**

Join the St. Thomas ELL Team (English Language Learning), providing instruction to our Afghan families in their homes. Help our friends increase their English vocabulary and comprehension, while growing your own appreciation of another culture. Training, lesson plans and enthusiastic partners provided. Want to know more? Contact Susan Carman at [smcarm@aol.com](mailto:smcarm@aol.com) or Laura Bond at [royaljay@aol.com](mailto:royaljay@aol.com).

**Red Cross Blood Drive Results**

Last Tuesday at St Thomas 20 units of blood were collected from 19 donors. There were 2 first time donors.

The next blood drive will be Tuesday, September 20, from 10am-3pm. Use this link sign up now:

<https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/find-drive>

**You can help save a life!**

Outreach, cont.

**Kansas to Kenya—Partner of Diocese of KS Annual K2K (KS to Kenya) Charity Golf Tournament to support Agatha Amani House**

Grab a foursome or come ready to be paired in fours and enjoy a 9-hole scramble with cash bar and prizes. Sunday, October 2, 4 pm, at Falcon Valley Golf Course in Lenexa. All ages and skill level are welcome to join. Entry fee is \$100 per individual or \$400 per 4-person team.

If you cannot attend, please consider a donation. Individual hole sponsorships are available for \$50.

More info and a sign-up is available here:

<https://episcopal-ks.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/EMICharityGolfTourney2022.pdf>. Contact Mike Eakins

with any questions at 913-707-8218.

If you are unfamiliar with Kansas to Kenya, learn more via this link:

<https://episcopal-ks.org/global-partnerships/kenya/>



**Many Thanks**

**Heartfelt thanks from the Adam Family**

*Dear St. Thomas Family -*

*We are so grateful and humbled by everyone who volunteered to help make Barbara Adam's Celebration of Life a loving tribute. Thank you to Father Gar, Mother Kelly, Deacon Fran, Meribeth & the office volunteers, Beth & the choir, the altar guild, those who served during the service as well as the ushers. In addition, we thank Tracy Ferren for arranging the gorgeous flowers, Dola McNown and team who organized the reception, those who made food, served and cleaned up after the reception.*

*We would also like to thank those of you who have sent cards, lifted our family in prayer and love. Barbara was a person who tried to live out her faith on a daily basis. Her celebration of life was a beautiful gathering that she would have loved.*

*Peace to all- The Adam Family  
Blair, Jean, Spencer & Hayden  
Abby & Tim Pullin*