

Children & Youth

- **Christmas Pageant THANK YOU!**

Thank you and congratulations to our amazing St. Thomas children who once again blessed us with a beautiful telling of the Nativity Story at our Family Christmas Eve Service!! Many thanks as well to the parents who supported this endeavor with assistance at practices, donations to our pizza party, costuming, corralling kiddos, moving set pieces, assisting with music and more!

- **Celebrating Our Children & Youth!**

We know your kiddos are up to GREAT THINGS! We want to hear and celebrate with them! Please brag away! Email any special news about your child or youth to Barbara—bmccall@stthomasop.org or Kelly—kdemo@stthomasop.org so that we may add it to our newsletters!

- **SAVE THE DATES!!**

- Summer @ St. Thomas 2023 Camp Schedule**

- Episcopal "Mega Camp" (exiting 3rd Graders - HS Seniors): June 4-10

- 6th-8th Grades "Reaching Out to the Community": June 12-16
 - High School (9-12) "Reaching Out to the Community": June 19-23

- Vacation Bible School (Preschool-6th Grade): June 25-29 (Sun-Thur)

- 3rd-6th Grade "Reaching Out to the Community": July 10-14

- Youth Mission Trip (Grades 6-12): July 17-21

- Arts Camp (Grades 1-6): July 24-28

- *Mega Camp registration begins in January through the Episcopal Diocese of Kansas Youth Ministry.

- **St. Thomas Camp Priority Registration begins MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20!

Community Outreach

Comanche Elementary Caring for Kids Ministry

- **Mobile Food Pantry**

Volunteers Needed **Jan. 14**

Comanche Elem, 8200 Grant Ave, Overland Park

Time: 11:30am—2:00pm

More info and volunteer signups: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0A4CA9AC2FA1FA7-mobile2>



You're invited!

- **RETHINKING JUSTICE WORKSHOP**

Learn about Johnson County's response in facing serious community problems and how we can work for justice.

Tuesday, Jan. 17, 7-8:30pm
Heartland Community Church, 12175 S Strang Line Rd, Olathe

Saturday, Jan. 21, 9-11:30am
Heartland Community Church



For more information and to register, scan the QR code or go to <https://www.thegoodfaithnetwork.org/rethinking-justice>. Questions? Contact Rev. Laura Guy—laura@thegoodfaithnetwork.org.

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

*In loving memory of Chris
Wilson—Robin, George, Carter,
Kelsey, and Alli Phillips*



Click here to sign up for Altar Flowers:
<https://stthomasop.breezechms.com/form/62c72c>



Worship Services

**The First Sunday after Epiphany: Baptism of Our Lord
January 7 & 8, 2023**

Saturday—5:30pm

Sunday—8:45 & 11:00am

Children's Chapel (for ages 3-10) is during both services.

Nursery Care for children ages 6 mon. thru 4 yrs—8:15am—12:15pm.

Coffee hour fellowship after each service in Parish Hall 1.

All services are live-streamed and available to watch afterward on www.youtube.com/c/stthomasop and www.facebook.com/stthomasop

Sunday Christian Education

- **Adult Forum**

10:00am in Parish Hall 2

All are welcome to join us!

- **Preschool-Elementary "Godly Play/Godly Explorers"**

9:45-10:45am—Preschool thru 5th grade in Education Wing

All Children are invited to celebrate the arrival and gifts of the 3 Wise Ones at our **EPIPHANY PARTY in the Assembly Room** during the Sunday School Hour (between the services)!

- **Youth Christian Education**

*Middle and High School Sunday School and Giving Project will resume on January 22 following Miqra Weekend for grades 6-12 (Jan. 14-16).

Next Week

Saturday, Jan. 7: K2K Mtg, 10am-12pm PH 2; Holy Communion, 5:30pm

Sunday, Jan. 8: Holy Communion at 8:45 & 11am; Coffee Hours after each service in PH 1; Sunday School 9:45am Educ Wing; Adult Forum, 10am in PH 2; Youth homework session, 5:15pm PH 1, 2; Youth Group, 6-8pm PH, K

Monday, Jan. 9: Thom's Helpers, 10:30am-1:30pm PH 1 & K; Westmont Board Mtg, 6:30pm PH 1; LGBTQ+ Mtg, 6pm Asbly Rm

Tuesday, Jan. 10: PEO mtg (Roller), 10am, PH 2; Lexington Park HOA mtg, 6pm PH 1, 2; Sword Guild practice, 7-9pm PH 3 or Asbly (TBD); Sacred Ground Sm Grp, 7pm Zoom

Wednesday, Jan. 11: PEO mtg (Henricks), 10am PH 2; Thom's Helpers, 10:30am-1:30pm PH 1 & K; Wednesday Study Grp, 10:30am Asbly Rm; Staff mtg, 1:30pm Lobby or PH 1; Children's Choir, 5:00pm Nave; Praise Band, 6:30pm Nave; Choir Rehearsal, 7:30pm

Thursday, Jan. 12: Apocrypha Bible Study, 9:45am Zoom; PEO mtg (Searce), 10-11:30 PH 2; Young Adult Sm Grp, 7pm PH 1; Sword Guild, 7pm PH 2; Classics Men's Sm Grp, 7pm PH 3; Online Small Group, 7pm Zoom

Friday, Jan. 13: Thom's Helpers, 10:30am-1:30pm PH 1 Kitchen; PH 1, 2, 3 setup for wedding luncheon Jan 14; Wedding rehearsal, 5-6pm Nave; Neighborhood Grp, 5:30-8:30pm PH 1

Saturday, Jan. 14: Wedding 11:30am Nave; Wedding Lunch 12:30-3pm PH 1, 2, 3; Holy Communion, 5:30pm; 2nd Saturday Reception, 6:30pm PH 1

Meetings, activities, and events must be cleared with Meribeth in the church office. mrisebig@stthomasop.org or 913-451-0512.

WE WANT TO THANK YOU

The outpouring of your generosity for clergy and staff this Christmas was quite amazing! Even though it is a tradition, we are still surprised to receive such gifts! We are so grateful to be working with a congregation that is so supportive of the staff. Your support and love enables us to do our part in the ministries here at St. Thomas. We thank you from the bottom of our hearts! God Bless—from the entire Staff & Clergy

Apostle's Garden Memorial Brick Sign-Up

- **Buy a MEMORIAL BRICK**

Remember your loved ones by having an engraved memorial brick placed in the Apostles Garden.

You can place your order online—

<https://stthomasop.breezechms.com/form/6eb315>

or fill out a form located in the narthex and turn it in to the office. We'll keep you informed with a timeline.




Spiritual Growth

- **Wednesday Study Group**

Join us as we discuss/watch videos of well-known theologians, writers, and clergy.

Wednesdays, 10:30 to Noon in the Assembly room

Everyone is welcome to come to our Wednesday Study Group to watch videos of well-known theologians, writers, and clergy. Lively discussions follow! We love to learn and converse about the topics presented., and there are no reading assignments!



Looking ahead to Lent! Do you know someone who has an interesting story to tell? Might they be good for our Lenten speaker series? We are currently scheduling speakers for our Wednesday Lenten luncheons so if you have ideas talk to Mthr. Kelly!

St. Thomas Annual Meeting

- **WEDNESDAY, January 25, 7pm**

Hear about the life of the church during 2022, what our leaders have to say, and the future of St. Thomas!

Attention: Leaders, Coordinators, Directors, and Chairs of all St. Thomas Ministries: Annual reports will be **due before January 16**. You are all encouraged to write an account of activities and interesting info about your ministry or ministries in 2022! Meribeth Risebig, mrisebig@stthomasop.org or 913-451-0512, X102

Vestry Nominations Open

The Vestry, along with the Rector of the parish share in the work of vision and oversight of the congregation. The Vestry is made up of 12 elected members. To qualify for the Vestry a person must be 18 years of age, a communicant in good standing, regular in attendance and a contributor of record for the last 12 months. Vestry members serve for 3 years. The Vestry meets on the 4th Monday of each month, and in addition, helps lock and unlock the church on the weekends. The Vestry holds a retreat each year, usually in February, to set goals and reflect on the work of the parish. Each member serves as a liaison to the ministries of the congregation and help from time to time with special projects.

This year Mike Pickett, Donna Kopp, Vance Lamb, and Kari Wold will conclude their terms in January. If you would like to have your name put forward for nomination, or would like to nominate someone else, please be in contact with any of these people who comprise the nominating committee of the Vestry.

Mike Pickett — mcpicketts2@gmail.com

Donna Kopp - Dlk5798@aim.com

Vance Lamb - vancehl@yahoo.com

Kari Wold - kariannawold@gmail.com

Either of the Wardens or Fr. Gar:

George Phillips— hawkdcmmba@gmail.com (Senior Warden)

Bruce Henricks—bwh23md@gmail.com (Junior Warden)

Fr. Gar—gdemo@stthomasop.org