

Children & Youth

- **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 Camp—"Called to BE!" (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!

- **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!

- ****REMINDER: NO YOUTH GROUP or STUDY HOUR on SUPER BOWL SUNDAY!**

Women's Retreat

- **SAVE THE DATE!**

St. Thomas Spring Women's Retreat
Saturday, March 25
8:30am-1:00pm

Join us for a time of reflection, renewal and relationship building at this one-day spring event! We will welcome energy artist, Jancy Pettit, as our retreat leader. Lunch will be included and childcare available! Stay tuned to our weekly newsletters and e-news for more information & a signup!

Save|THE|Date

Community Outreach

Johnson County Interfaith Hospitality Network

- **Help Needed for Host Week
February 12 through 19**

Our guests will be here this week! Please pray for the families and single women who are staying here with us, and for all the volunteers who help to feed them and ensure their comfort.

* **We still need a few Trained Volunteers.** Trained volunteers are those who have attended a 2-hr IHN training session. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0A4CA9AC2FA1FA7-ihnhost2>



* **Take-down volunteers (no training needed)** are also needed for Feb. 19 at 7:30am. Volunteer will help get classrooms ready for Sun. School and Chapel. A few food items are needed and can be brought to church on Feb. 12. Sign up here to volunteer or donate food:



<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0a4ca9ac2fa1fa7-ihnhost3#/>

Volunteers and donors can sign up or text/email Dola at dolamcnown49@gmail.com or 913 526 3573 or 913 541 9226.

Johnson County Interfaith Hospitality Network

- **from Vicki Dercher, Exec Director of JoCo IHN**

As of January 9, 2023, JoCo IHN has worked together to lift up and empower 500 children. These 500 little souls would not have had a bed on which to lay their head, or food to nourish their bodies.

As of today, JoCo IHN has lifted up and empowered a total of 870 individuals, 500 of which are children, and 92 are single women. YOU have worked together to provide 55,919 bednights, as well as 167,757 meals.

We are all so very blessed to be able to walk alongside our guests as they travel their journey back to stability.

Blessings, Vicki Dercher



Worship Services

The Sixth Sunday after Epiphany
February 11 & 12, 2023

Saturday—5:30pm

****Second Saturday Social—after the service****

Sunday—8:45 & 11:00am

****SUPER BOWL SUNDAY—Wear your Chiefs (or Eagles—"All Are Welcome" as we say) gear and join us for a group photo after each service****

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.

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

The readings during the Season of Epiphany focus on the calling of the disciples and the beginning of Jesus' ministry. We will dive in a little deeper to understand these important moments in scripture and just what Jesus was up to in those early Gospel encounters.

- **Preschool-Elementary "Godly Play/Godly Explorers"—9:45-10:45am**
Preschool thru 5th grade in Education Wing

- **Youth Christian Education**

9:45-10:30am—Middle School - 6th-8th Grades in Asbly Rm
High School "Giving Project" - Basement Asbly Rm

This Sunday: Join the St. Thomas "Middle" Men's Group (30's-50's-ish) in Parish Hall 3 from 9:45-10:45 for fellowship and planning of future gatherings and activities!

Shrove Tuesday & Lenten Offerings

- **St. Thomas Shrove Tuesday Pancake Feed!**

Tuesday, Feb 21
5-7 PM

The Youth of St. Thomas invite you to “shrive” with them! Join us in the Parish Hall for the annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper that will also include sausages and fruit. Dinner is by freewill donation and proceeds will go to our Youth Summer Fund.

- **Lent Beginnings 2023: Intergenerational Anglican Rosary (Prayer Beads) Workshop**

Sunday, February 26, 9:45-10:45am
Parish Hall 1 & 2

Join us for a "new twist" on our Lent Beginnings formation offering on the first Sunday in Lent, as we take a deeper dive into ONE prayer practice through the study and creation of Anglican Rosaries and Chaplets (Prayer Beads). Barbara McCall and Martha Lamoy, candidate for ordination through BISHOP Kemper School for Ministry, will offer learnings on the history, structure and practice of this special tradition with options and teaching to suit all ages and abilities. No cost to join.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

- **Lenten “Last Word” Speaker Series—begins March 1!**

Please join us each Wednesday of Lent from Noon to 1pm for our “Last Word” Speaker Series. We will gather in the Parish Hall for a light soup lunch and then move to the Nave to hear our speaker. These lectures will be livestreamed as well. Please sign up below to bring soup or bread, or to help with setup/cleanup.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0A4CA9AC2FA1FA7-lenten1>

Speakers include:

March 1: Tim Bascom (author, director of the KS Book Festival)

March 8: Bishop Susan Candea (Bishop, ELCA Central States Synod)

March 15: Charanjit Singh Hundai (leader in the local Sikh community and interfaith activist)

March 22: Wallace Smith (author, Senior Pastor—First Baptist Church of Overland Park)

March 29: Anne Kniggendorf (freelance writer and author of Secret Kansas City)

St. Thomas Small Groups

- **“Middle”men’s Small Group**

Sunday, February 12
9:45-10:45 AM
Parish Hall 3

Calling all men in their 30’s, 40’s and 50’s! Join this new small group for men navigating the joys and challenges of balancing faith, family and fun in Middle Life.

Contact John McCall for information -
jmccall07@gmail.com or (913) 449-7738

- **Classics Men’s Small Group**

Meeting Times: 2nd & 4th Thursdays
7-8pm in Parish Hall 3

This group is open to retired and semi-retired men, and meets at the parish for monthly conversation and Bible Study. Conversations range over many topics. Contact Tom Meyers for information: -
tmeyers922@gmail.com or (913) 685-4780.

Next Week

Sunday, Feb 12: 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; “Middle”Men’s Group 9:45am PH 3

Monday, Feb 13: Thom’s Helpers, 10:30am-1:30pm PH 1 & Kitchen; Neighborhood Anchor Mtg, 6:30pm, YaYa’s Bistro; AA OP Fellowship—LL 6:30pm

Tuesday, Feb 14: PEO Mtg (Roller), 10-11am PH 2; Reclamation Clubhouse Grp, 1pm, PH 2 (Josh Lyman); Sword Guild practice, 7-9pm PH 2

Wednesday, Feb 15: 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; Pinehurst HOA, 6pm, PH 1; Praise Band, 6:30pm, Nave; Choir Reh, 7:30pm, Nave

Thursday, Feb 16: Apocrypha Bible Study, 9:45am Zoom; PEO (McCall) 7pm, PH 1; Sword Guild, 7pm PH 2; Classics Men’s Sm Grp, 7pm PH 3

Friday, Feb 17: Thom’s Helpers, 10:30am-1:30pm PH 1 Kitchen; SCA, 7pm PH 1; AA OP Fellowship—LL, 8-9pm

Saturday, Feb 18: Prayer Shawl Grp, 10am, PH 1; Holy Communion at 5:30pm, Nave

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

Newcomers and Visitors

- **I’m New!**

The Invite/Welcome/Connect team will host a Newcomer lunch on Sunday, Feb. 26 at Noon in Parish Hall 2. We invite all new members and visitors to attend the lunch, learn more about St. Thomas and meet other new members. Please contact Linda Bemis if you can attend or need more information. 913-220-8246 (cell)

lsbemis@comcast.net

Lay Eucharistic Ministry

- **Lay Eucharistic Visitors** take communion to shut-ins, primarily people in assisted living facilities/homes, hospitals, and others who cannot be with our parish family for service due to illness or special circumstances.

Next LEV Training Classes:

Part 1 - Saturday, March 4, 10:30am-12noon (PH3)

Part 2 - Saturday, March 18, 10:30am-12noon (PH3)

Part 3 - Saturday, March 25, 10:30am-12noon (PH3)

If you are interested in becoming a Lay Eucharistic Visitor and would like to attend the training, or would like to hear more about this ministry, please contact Deacon Fran Wheeler. Email:

fwheeler@stthomasop.org

Thank You!

An enormous thank you to everyone who came to the reception on Jan. 29 in my honor, for all the cards and gifts, for your words of appreciation and well wishes as I move into this retirement phase. The retirement “purse” was such a blessing—thanks to all of you for contributing toward that.

At present it feels like I’m on holiday, but actually have been getting some things done that I could never get around to before. I will start working part-time on Feb. 13, so will probably see some of you on occasion.

*What a great 25 years at St. Thomas!
Meribeth*

