

Children & Youth

- **Summer Camp Registrations Are Open!**

** Links to register can be found in your weekly "Connecting with You" email and a QR code is located on the display board in the lobby!**

Episcopal "Mega Camp" (incoming 4th graders-college freshmen: June 4-10 (at Camp Wood YMCA in Elmdale, KS)

"Reaching Out to the Community" for incoming 6th-9th grades: June 12-16

"Reaching Out to the Community" for incoming 9th-college freshmen: June 19-23

"Reaching Out to the Community" for incoming 3rd-6th grades: July 10-14

Vacation Bible Camp—"Be who you are called to BE!" (Preschool-6th grade): June 25-29, 5-8pm (Sun-Thur)

Youth Mission Trip for incoming 6th-college freshmen: July 16-22. Contact Rev. Kelly Demo kdemo@stthomasop.org

Arts Camp for incoming 1st-6th grade: July 24-28, 9am-3pm

- **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!

Worship Services

April 29 & 30, 2023

Saturday—5:30pm

Sunday—8:45 and 11:00am

Children's Chapel (program geared toward ages 3-10) is available during both Sunday services.

Nursery care is available on Sunday for children ages 6 mon. thru 4 yrs from 8:15am—12:15pm.

** Join us for coffee hour after each service in the Parish Hall.**

If you are unable to attend any of the services in person, you are invited to join us online. 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**
9:45am in Parish Hall 2
- **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 High School "Giving Project" - Basement Asbly Rm

Donations to St. Thomas

To make a donation to St. Thomas, click on this link or scan the QR code: https://tithely.give_new/www/#/tithely/give-one-time/1377886. You can also visit the St. Thomas website—<https://stthomasop.org>—and click on the "Donate" tab.



Coming Very Soon!

- **Senior Graduation Sunday**

Next Sunday, May 7

Congratulations! We want to celebrate all of our St. Thomas friends who are graduating from *high school, college or grad school!* We will honor them next Sunday during the services and afterward with receptions in the Parish Hall. Graduates will also be featured on the St. Thomas Facebook page.

Please reach out to Mthr. Kelly Demo if you or someone you know is graduating—kdemo@stthomasop.org

This Week's Featured Group

- **St. Thomas Mom's Group**

Next meeting Tues, May 2 from 5-6:30pm
Room 137 in the Education Wing—Childcare provided

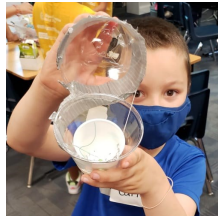
Calling all moms of kids at any age or stage for a time of prayer, study, support and camaraderie! Contact Katie Birchfield (katie.birchfield87@gmail.com) or Liz Knights (elizabethknights523@gmail.com) for more information!

Outreach

- Comanche Elementary Caring for Kids Ministry Partners in Community. . . Making a Difference!

Outreach Opportunity

Help Comanche Elementary fund scholarships for "Camp Invention" - a weeklong summer camp that allows kids to dive into STEM (science, technology, engineering, math). For the last 4 summers Comanche has hosted and fully funded (\$260) each of the campers with the help of community and faith-based partners and gracious donors. Please consider donating **\$25, \$50, or if you feel so called - a full (\$260) scholarship donation** using the QR code on right. There is also a link in your weekly email.



- Kansas to Kenya—ministry of the Episcopal Diocese of Kansas **K2K Benefit**—Saturday, May 13

Silent Auction / Local African Entertainment / Dinner catered by *A Taste of Africa*. Cocktails at 6:30pm; Dinner at 7:30. \$75 per person; \$500 per table. Purchase Tickets using this link—[K2K Benefit](#)—or via the QR code on right. For questions contact Fran Wheeler (913) 226-0540 or fwheeler@stthomasop.org



- Mobile Food Pantry Volunteers Needed**

May 13, 11:30am—2pm

Comanche Elementary, 8200 Grant Ave, OPKS

Click the QR for more info and volunteer signups. A link is also found in your weekly email.

- Afghan Resettlement Ministry

Family Needs Lawn Mower

With spring upon us, one of our Afghan families is in need of a lawn mower. If you have, or know of someone who has, a used lawn mower (that is in working condition) and would like to donate it, please contact Jan Summers (janws1244@gmail.com) or Linda Bemis (lsbemis@comcast.net).



Next Week

Sunday, April 30: Holy Communion 8:45am and 11:00am in Nave; Children and Youth Christian Ed, 9:45am Educ Wing; Adult Forum, 9:45am PH 2; PH 1, 2, 3 reserved for family reception, 5-7pm; Youth homework session, 5:15pm, Asbly Rm/Outside; Youth Group, 6-8pm Asbly Rm/Outside

Monday, May 1: Thom's Helpers, 10:30am-1:30pm PH 1 & Kitchen; Prayer Shawl Sm Grp, 7:30pm PH 1

Tuesday, May 2: Mom's Grp, 5-6:30pm Rm 137/Nursery; Sword Guild, 7pm PH 2; Contemplative Prayer Sm Grp, 7pm Nave

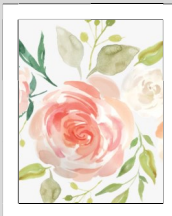
Wednesday, May 3: Thom's Helpers, 10:30am-1:30pm PH 1 & Kitchen; Wednesday Study Grp, 10:30am Asbly Rm; Staff mtg, 1:30pm PH1 or Lobby; Children's Choir practice, 5pm Nave; Praise Band practice, 6:30pm in Nave; Choir Rehearsal, 7:30pm Nave

Thursday, May 4: Explorers Sm Grp, 7pm PH 2; Sword Guild, 7pm PH 3

Friday, May 5: Thom's Helpers, 10:30am-1:30pm PH 1 & Kitchen; SCA, 7pm PH 1

Saturday, May 6: Prayer Shawl Sm Grp, 10am PH 1; Diocesan Youth Commission, 10am-2pm PH 2; Holy Communion, 5:30pm Nave

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



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

In honor of Beth Loeber Elswick on her birthday (April 30)

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 news. You can sign up on the bulletin board by the office, give us a call, or sign up using this QR code.

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



Save these Dates!

- Senior Graduation Sunday—** Sunday, May 7

All graduates will be honored during services and with receptions afterward in the Parish Hall.



- Kansas to Kenya (K2K) Fundraiser Dinner** Saturday, May 13, 6:30-9pm at St. Thomas

More information included herein and in your weekly Connecting with You email.

- Red Cross Blood Drive** Tuesday, May 16, 10am-3pm

Give hope this spring—Give blood! To make an appointment click the QR with your camera, call 1-800-733-2767, or go to or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter [StThomasEpiscopal](#) to schedule.



- Summer Kickoff—Pentecost!** May 28

- Newcomer Lunch**

For new members and visitors!
Sunday, June 11 at Noon
Parish Hall 2

SOLAR NEWS:



We are entering the time of year when solar energy will operate optimally. Our energy production will dramatically increase with longer daylight hours, a higher sun path, and fewer clouds. Here is a general report on our solar panels:

Since the end of October, the solar panels have generated 39 Megawatt hours of energy, equivalent to reducing CO2 emissions by 60,054lbs or 454 trees being planted. During the billing period from March 15-April 15, our panels provided 8.4 megawatts of energy, and we only needed to draw 2.4 megawatts from Evergy. Our bill for that month was \$1200 less than last year at the same time.