

## 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](mailto: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](mailto:bmccall@stthomasop.org) or Kelly—[kdemo@stthomasop.org](mailto:kdemo@stthomasop.org) so that we may add it to our newsletters!

## This Week's Featured Group

- **Online "Way of Love" Small Group**

Next meeting Thurs, May 25 from 7-8pm

This group seeks to enrich and deepen connection the St. Thomas community and the Episcopal Church. This year, it is my hope that each member of the group sees how God is moving not only in their individual lives but also the broader community. I also hope members of this group come to know how their gifts and graces in life contribute to the flourishing of the Church and proclamation of the Gospel. Monthly on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday. Contact: Clare Stern Burbano - [stern.clare92@gmail.com](mailto:stern.clare92@gmail.com)

## Worship Services

May 6 & 7, 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](https://www.youtube.com/c/stthomasop) and [www.facebook.com/stthomasop](https://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, scan the QR code: You can also visit the St. Thomas website—<https://stthomasop.org>—and click on the "Donate" tab.



## This Sunday!

- **Senior Graduation Sunday**

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

- **Music for trumpet and organ**

11:00 am service

Come hear "Here I Am, Lord" and "My Spirit Be Joyful". Guest trumpeter Matt White with Beth and Jim Elswick.

## Farewell Reception Sun, May 28

We are so grateful to Beth Elswick for her years of service to St. Thomas as our Director of Music Ministry! She is retiring at the end of this month. Please come to a farewell reception on **Sunday, May 28, after the 10:00 service in the Parish Hall @ St. Thomas.** We will have some light snacks and wish Beth the very best as she transitions to her next chapter in life! If you would like to contribute to a farewell purse, you can make a donation to St. Thomas with "Beth farewell" in the memo line.



## Outreach

- Interfaith Hospitality Network of Johnson County  
**IHN Training at St. Thomas**  
Wednesday, May 10, 6:30-8:30pm

Please consider attending to retrain and refresh. Full and timely attendance is required to be considered a trained volunteer. No RSVPs are necessary! As always, thank you all for ALL you do to lift up and support IHN!



- 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](mailto: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.

## Prayer Chain Sign-up

- **How do I make a Prayer Request?**

In our [Prayers of the People](#) during services we read aloud names of those to be prayed for. We invite you to add to this list by contacting the church office 913-451-0512 or [stthomas@stthomasop.org](mailto:stthomas@stthomasop.org). Give us your name and the name of the person(s) you request prayers for, and we will include it during services. They will be included for three weeks unless notified otherwise.

For an immediate prayer you may make a request through one of our messengers or the office for the [St. Thomas Prayer Chain](#). Deb McArthur ([themcarthur4@gmail.com](mailto:themcarthur4@gmail.com) or 913-620-2426); or Diane Monteen ([monteendiane@gmail.com](mailto:monteendiane@gmail.com) or 913-268-7788). If leaving the information on their phones, please include your phone number in case they have any questions.

## Next Week

**Sunday, May 7:** Senior Graduation Day. Holy Communion 8:45am and 11:00am in Nave; Children and Youth Christian Ed, 9:45am Educ Wing; Adult Forum, 9:45am PH 2; Youth homework session, 5:15pm, PH 1, 2; Youth Group, 6-8pm PH, Kitchen

**Monday, May 8:** Thom's Helpers, 10:30am-1:30pm PH 1 & Kitchen; Outreach Committee Mtg, 5:30-6:30pm Asbly Rm; LGBTQIA+Alliance, 7-8pm PH 1

**Tuesday, May 9:** PEO mtg, 10am PH 2; Sword Guild, 7pm PH 2;

**Wednesday, May 10:** 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 11:** PEO mtg, 10-11:30am PH 2; Young Adult Sm Grp, 7pm PH 1; Classics Men's Sm Grp, 7pm PH 3; Sword Guild, 7pm PH 2

**Friday, May 12:** Thom's Helpers, 10:30am-1:30pm PH 1 & Kitchen; SCA, 7pm PH 1

**Saturday, May 13:** Prayer Shawl Sm Grp, 10am PH 1; K2K Fundraiser Dinner/Auction, PH 1, 2, 3, Kitchen & Narthex reserved 12-11pm; K2K Dinner 6:30-9pm PH 1, 2, 3; Holy Communion, 5:30pm Nave; 2nd Saturday Reception, 6:30pm PH 1

*Meetings, activities, and events must be cleared with Justin Smith in the church office. [jsmith@stthomasop.org](mailto:jsmith@stthomasop.org) or 913-451-0512.*



### Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God

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. If needed someone will contact you several weeks prior.



## Save these Dates!

- **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

Come to give blood by May 19 and receive a \$10 e-gift card to a merchant of your choice! 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](http://RedCrossBlood.org) and enter [StThomasEpiscopal](http://StThomasEpiscopal) to schedule.



- **Summer Kickoff—Pentecost!**  
May 28

- **Newcomer Lunch**  
For new members and visitors!  
Sunday, June 11 at Noon

## Volunteers Needed

- **K2K Volunteers**  
We need volunteers to help with setup, cleanup, and spotting/running at the K2K Auction on Saturday, May 13th. Please contact Deacon Fran Wheeler if you are able to help with this event. [fwheeler@stthomasop.org](mailto:fwheeler@stthomasop.org) or 913-226-0540.

### 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.