

Children & Youth

- **St. Thomas Arts Camp is THIS WEEK!**
Monday-Friday, 9am-3pm
** Showcase 3-4pm on Friday (families invited!)

We've saved a spot for YOU! Visit www.stthomasop.org and click "Summer@St. Thomas" to find a link to register. Or just click the QR code or reach out to Ms. Barbara at bmccall@stthomasop.org or 913-909-7318.



- **SAVE THE DATE!!**
Back to School Bash & Backpack Blessings
Sunday, August 13

A special blessing/gift will be offered during the 10am service for students of all ages/levels of education; and there will be much fun to be had after church! Stay tuned for more details!



- **This weekend, flowers on the altar are given to the Glory of God and...**

In loving memory of Maureen Fuller, beloved mother to Lynn, Dan, and Bre Elman.

In loving memory of Dennis Staley—from Phil & Erin, Jana & Bobby, and all of the grandkids.

Would you like to commemorate a loved one, special event, or celebration with altar flowers? You can sign up by scanning this QR code or by entering your name on the flower chart outside the church office.



Sunday Christian Education

- **Kids' Summer Sunday Stories**
11:00am in Parish Hall
Children may grab their goodies from the Brunch, then join Ms. Barbara and Ms. Addy at designated tables in PH 2 for a fun activity or step outside to play while parents either join us (you are more than welcome) or enjoy fellowship with other adults in the parish while we entertain the kiddos. :)
- **Adult Forum will resume in September**
Please be on the lookout for announcements about opportunities throughout the summer for guest speakers.

Theological Program starts in Sept

- **Education for Ministry (EfM)**
Unique 4-Year program in theological education
Classes to start in September
This international program has assisted thousands to discover and nurture their call to Christian service. Small, mentored groups provide the framework for understanding life and shaping actions as Christian faith is deepened. For more information and if you are interested in joining the classes contact Ray Wheeler at 913-269-0542 or ray.wheeler60@gmail.com

Good News from Jo Co Interfaith Hospitality Network

- **United Way Recognition of Jo Co Interfaith Hospitality Network (IHN)**
Message below from United Way—for ALL IHN congregations!
Congratulations! We are excited to share that JoCo IHN has been selected as a recipient of the 2023 United Way Impact 100 grant. As evidenced by the competitive selection process, United Way of Greater Kansas City considers you to be amongst the 100 most impactful organizations affecting positive change in our community based upon current needs.



St. Thomas has been an IHN congregation since 2003 and a Host congregation since 2018.



This Weekend

- **Saturday, July 22**
Holy Communion, 5:30pm
- **Sunday, July 23**
9:00am: Coffee Hour in Parish Hall 1
10:00am: Holy Communion
11:00am: Parish Brunch / Kids' Summer Sunday Stories—Parish Hall 1, 2
Children's Chapel (program geared toward ages 3-10) is available during the Sunday service.
Nursery care is available on Sunday for children ages 6 months thru 4 yrs from 9am-11am (conclusion of the 10am service).
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




Brunch Help Welcome on Sundays!

Brunch is offered each Sunday after the 10am services.

Can you help us continue the hospitality offered at St. Thomas? We invite you to help with setting up, serving, and cleaning up. You can sign up by scanning the QR code on the right or in your weekly "Connecting with You" email.



Outreach

- **Interfaith Hospitality Network Training (IHN)**
Wednesday, July 27, 6:30-8:30
St. Andrews Christian Church, 13890 W 127th St, Olathe
Trained volunteers must attend **one** IHN training session. Training is **Free** and no registration required. Those attending must be on time and remain for the end of the program to be considered trained. Trained volunteers are also encouraged to attend as a refresher.
St. Thomas will “host” IHN guests on **August 13-20, 2023**. Trained volunteers can sign up via the QR code on right or in the “Connecting” email this week. Questions? Contact Dola McNown 913 526 3573 or Margaret Walkenshaw 913 302 2018.
- **Caring for Kids—Comanche Elementary School Supply Drive**
**** Please remember to return your backpacks filled with school supplies by July 30.
Thank you for supporting Comanche Elementary’s students and for making a big difference in the lives of others! Questions? Deacon Fran Wheeler - fwheeler@stthomasop.org
- **Learn More about Immigration Ministries!**
August Speaker Series—Sundays after the 10am service
We’ll be holding a series of talks by local immigration experts and St. Thomas Immigration Ministries team members. Hear about the challenges faced and the successes achieved by our immigrant neighbors. The speaker schedule can be found in your weekly “Connecting with You” email or the QR link on right. Also, keep an eye out for new opportunities to serve our neighbors - in September!
- **Mobile Food Pantry Volunteers Needed**
August 12, 11:30am—2pm
Comanche Elementary, 8200 Grant Ave, OPKS
Scan the QR for more info and volunteer signups. A link is also found in your weekly email.

This Week’s Calendar

Saturday, July 22: Prayer Shawl Sm Grp, 10am PH 1; Manuel Anniversary Reception, 2pm, PH 1; Holy Communion, 5:30pm Nave

Sunday, July 23: Coffee Hour, 9-10am in PH 1, 2; Holy Communion 10am in Nave; 11am: Parish Brunch in PH 1; Kids’ Summer Sunday Stories, Parish Hall 2

**** Youth Arts Camp! Mon-Fri, 9am-3pm in Parish Hall 1, 2**

**** School Supply Drive through July 30—boxes in Narthex**

Monday, July 24: Thom’s Helpers, 10:30am-1:30pm PH 1 & Kitchen; Finance Committee mtg, 5:45pm, PH 1 or Online; Vestry mtg, 6:45pm PH 1 and/or Zoom

Tuesday, July 25: Sword Guild practice, 7pm PH 2

Wednesday, July 26: Staff meeting, 9:30am, Lobby; Thom’s Helpers, 10:30am-1:30pm location TBD + Kitchen; Wednesday Study Grp, 10:30am-12, Asbly Rm; Voice Lessons, 2-3:30pm, Asbly Rm;

Thursday, July 27: PEO Mtg, 12-3pm, Asbly Rm; Bartram Neighborhood Grp, 6-7pm, Tanners on 119th St; Young Adult Sm Grp, 7pm, PH 1; Classics Men’s Sm Grp, 7pm PH 3; Sword Guild practice, 7pm, PH 2; Online Sm Grp, 7pm, Zoom

Friday, July 28: Thom’s Helpers, 10:30am-1:30pm in PH 1 & Kitchen; Arts Camp Showcase, 3-4pm, Nave & PH 1; Setup for Sat. SCA Event, 6-9pm, all church

Saturday, July 29: SCA “Feast of Eagles” event, 8am-10:30pm, all church; Women’s Sm Grp, 9-10am, Starbucks on Antioch

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

Giving Online to St. Thomas



You can give online securely and conveniently by scanning the QR code or visit the St. Thomas website—
<https://stthomasop.org>—
and click on the “Donate” tab.

Small Groups meeting

- **Groups meeting on Thursday, July 27**
Online Small Group
7pm, Zoom
This group seeks to enrich and deepen connection the St. Thomas community and the Episcopal Church. Monthly on the 4th Thursday. Contact: Clare Stern Burbano - stern.clare92@gmail.com
- **Young Adult Small Group**
7-8pm in Parish Hall 1
Young adults meet for support and friendship to see where God is leading them in life. Contact: Tim Pullin pullin.tim.a@gmail.com
- **Classics Men’s Small Group**
7-8pm in Parish Hall 3
Retired and semi-retired men meet at the parish for monthly conversation and Bible Study. Contact: Tom Meyers tmeyers922@gmail.com
- **Women’s Small Group**
Saturday, July 29, 9am @ Starbucks, 127th & Antioch
A gathering of women interested in developing connecting with other women in our church and surrounding communities. The main demographic of this group is women in their 30s, 40s and 50s. Contact: Mthr Kelly Demo kdemo@stthomasop.org

Parish Directory

Thank you all for your participation in the photo directory event. The turnout was wonderful and we received positive feedback!

If you missed this event, no worries! Please plan on participating in the next photo event to be held in late summer or early fall. We want to give everyone the opportunity to have fresh pictures taken for the directory. Thank you again! - Justin