

Children & Youth

• Celebrating Our Children & Youth!

*** Congratulations to Oliver Epp who was chosen for a program at his school where he is a peer mentor to a student with special needs. Well done, Oliver!!*

*** Congratulations also go out to Madeleine Stewart who got the highest grade for reading in the Blue Valley district for her grade AND was recently invited to join ECKMEA orchestra!*

*** Finally, a big shout out to Liam Stewart who is a National Merit Semi-Finalist!!*

• Acolyte Training is now October 22, 12-3pm

Current acolytes and any youth in 3-12th grade who would like to be an acolyte is strongly encouraged to join us. If you can't attend but want to be an acolyte (or are already) please contact Mthr. Kelly at kdemo@stthomasop.org.

HELP WANTED

• Nursery Caregiver (18+)

Seeking caregiver for members ages 6 months through 4 years on Sunday mornings & occasional other hours. \$15- 20 per hour + paid training. If you know someone who may be interested, please contact Barbara McCall, at bmccall@stthomasop.org or 913-909-7318.

Position is also advertised on Care.com, Indeed.com, Nextdoor.com and through Jo Co Comm College. If you know of other outlets (neighborhood social media or places to post community boards), please reach out to Barbara.

Join a Music Team!

- (Adult) Choir, Wed, 7-8pm
- Praise Band, Thurs, 6:30-7:30pm
- St. Thomas Children's Choir, Thurs, 5:15-6pm
- Youth Team, Sunday night at Youth Group, 6-8pm



Questions? Contact Julieanne Stapleton, Director of Music—jstapleton@stthomasop.org

Sunday Morning Christian Education

• Adult Forum

9:45am in Parish Hall 2

Grab a cookie and beverage from Coffee hour and join in on some interesting topics.

• Godly Play—Preschool thru Elementary:

This week, we are returning to our circles during the Education Hour!

- * Preschool-Kindergarten: Rm 143/144 (across from Nursery)
- * 1st/2nd/3rd Grades: Rm 133/134 (where ofc & educ halls meet)
- * 4th/5th Grades: Rm 137 (on left from the "T" intersection)

• Youth Christian Formation Groups:

- * Middle School - "Path to Confirmation" in Assembly Room (East end of the Educ. Hall).
- * High School - "The Giving Project": "Mark Ash" Youth room (Basement - east end of Ed. Hall)

Altar Flowers

• Flowers on the altar are given to the Glory of God and...

in thanksgiving for another wonderful year—Njedika Umeh and Efrain Rojas



Welcome/Connect Events—Coming Soon!

• Nov. 11 & 12 - Ministry Fair, Halls 1, 2, 3

Be sure to attend to see all the ministries we offer at St. Thomas and how we serve our parish members as well as our community.

• Nov. 12 - Newcomer Lunch in Asbly Room

All new members and visitors are invited to attend a lunch to learn more about St. Thomas and we can learn more about you.



This Weekend

• Saturday, October 7

Holy Communion, 5:30pm

• Sunday, October 8

8:45 & 11:00am: Holy Communion

Coffee Hour after both services, PH 1

9:45am: Adult Forum with Bishop Bascom, Children/Youth Sun School

6-8pm: Youth Group in Nave, Parish Hall, Narthex

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

Nursery Care: for children ages 6 mon. thru 4 years on Sundays. However, we are experiencing a staffing transition, so this service may be unavailable. Please see the nursery door or bulletin board for information about Nursery availability, and remember, *all of God's Children at any age are welcome in our worship services!*





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

• Welcome to Bishop Bascom this Weekend!

The Rt. Rev. Cathleen Bascom, Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Kansas, is visiting St. Thomas this weekend and will be preaching & presiding at all services. She will also be leading Adult Forum on Sunday morning at 9:45am in Parish Hall 2.



October Dates to Remember


- **New: *The New Testament You Never Knew* – Bible Study**
Begins Thursday, Oct 12, 10:30-12, Asbly Rm
Contact: Sheryl Roller sljroller@gmail.com or Susan Strom susanstrom15@gmail.com
- **Food Pantry at Comanche**
2nd Saturdays—Oct 14, 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. 
- Kansas to Kenya Ministry (K2K) / Diocese of KS
K2K Charity Golf Tournament
Sunday, Oct 15, 4pm, at Falcon Valley Golf Course in Lenexa
Fundraiser for Agatha Amani House in Kenya, a safe home for abused women. Register with the QR code or in your weekly email. 
- **No Place Like Home screening**
Thursday, Oct 26, 7pm, Parish Hall 2
St Thomas will host a screening of this film about the challenges for acceptance & compassion that LGBTQ people face. Creators of the film will be there also. Please join us!
- **Fall Women's Retreat**
Oct 28, 9am-4pm, at Tall Oaks Conf Ctr
Register via the QR code or with a link found in your weekly emails. Questions? Mthr. Kelly Demo—kdemo@stthomasop.org 
- **Trunk or Treat is October 29, 2-4pm**
Join St Thomas youth to pass out treats (1:45) to the little ones. Bring a friend for goodies and fun!
- **Parish Hayride**
Nov. 5, 5-8pm, at Sharpe's in Bucyrus KS
Register via the QR code on right. 

This Week's Calendar

- Sat, Oct 7:** Prayer Shawl Sm Grp, 10am, PH 1; Asbly Rm reserved for Welsh Grp, 1:30-3:30pm; Funeral—Mary Birkhead, 1pm, Nave; Reception, 2-4pm, PH 1; Holy Communion w/Conf, 5:30pm, Nave
- Sun, Oct 8:** Holy Communion, 8:45am (w/Confirmation), and 11:00 in Nave; Coffee Hours after each service, PH 1; Adult Forum, 9:45am, PH 2; Children/Youth Sunday School 9:45am, Educ Wing; Confirmation Class, 4-5pm, Asbly Rm; Youth Group, 6-8pm, Nave, PH, Narthex
- Mon, Oct 9:** Thom's Helpers, 10:30am-1:30pm PH 1 & Kitchen
- Tues, Oct 10:** PEO Officer, 8-10am, PH 3; PEO mtg, 9-11:30am, PH 2; PEO mtg, 11am-1:30pm, PH 1; Walking the Mourner's Path, 6:30-8pm, Narthex; Sword Guild practice, 7pm PH 2
- Wed, Oct 11:** PEO mtg, 8:30am-12:30pm, PH 2; Staff meeting, 10am, Lobby; Thom's Helpers, 10:30am-1:30pm, PH 1 + Kitchen; Wed. Study Grp, 10:30-12, Asbly Rm; Voice Lessons, 2-3:30pm, Asbly Rm; Chancel Choir practice, 7-8pm, Nave
- Thurs, Oct 12:** New Testament Bible Study, 10:30am, Asbly Rm; PEO mtg, 12:30-3pm, PH 2; Children's Choir Practice, 5:15-6pm, Nave; Praise Band practice, 6:30pm, Nave; Young Adult Sm Grp, 7pm, PH 1; Classics Men's Sm Grp, 7pm, PH 3; Sword Guild, 7pm, PH 3
- Fri, Oct 13:** Thom's Helpers, 10:30am-1:30pm in PH 1 & Kitchen
- Sat, Oct 14:** Stonehaven HO mtg, 9am-1pm, PH 2; Prayer Shawl Sm Grp, 10am, PH 1; Comanche Food Pantry, 10:30am; Choir/Band party, 5-9pm, Julieanne Stapleton's; 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 or 913-451-0512.

St Thomas to Host IHN Guests

- Interfaith Hospitality Network of Johnson County (IHN)
Volunteers Needed for IHN Host Week
October 29 through November 5
Trained volunteers can sign up for positions via the QR code or with the link in your weekly email. Questions? Dola McNow 913-526-3573/dolamcnown49@gmail.com; or Margaret Walkenshaw 913-302-2018/mwalkenshaw@kc.surewest.net 

Small Groups meeting next week

- **LGBTQIA+ Alliance** will not hold an October meeting on the regular scheduled date.
Instead they will be representing St. Thomas at a booth at the Johnson County Pride in the Park event on **Oct. 8, 10am-1pm**. It will be held at Sar-Ko-Par Trails Park, 87th St Pkwy & Lackman Rd in Lenexa. Please come join us!
- **Prayer Shawl Small Group**
Saturday, Oct 7, 10am-12pm, PH 1
This group knits prayer shawls together which are blessed during special services at St. Thomas and are given to those who are ill or have lost a loved one. Contact: Sue Strom susanstrom15@gmail.com
- **Classics Men's Small Group**
Thursday, Oct 12, 7-8pm, in PH 3
Open to retired and semi-retired men, and meets for monthly conversation and Bible Study. Conversations range over many topics. Contact: Tom Meyers tmeyers922@gmail.com
- **Young Adult Small Group**
Thursday, Oct 12, 7pm, in PH 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

Thank You

Thank you to all the wonderful St. Thomas folks who sent cards and prayers and supported our family in the loss of my mother. We are thankful to be part of such a warm and comforting community. - Laura and Sonne Bond

I would like to thank the entire St. Thomas community for surrounding me and my family with so much love and support these past few weeks after the passing of my father. The cards, food, calls, texts, and encouragement have all been so lovely. Thank you! - Mthr. Kelly