

## Children & Youth

### • SUMMER @ St. Thomas 2024: Register Today!

St. Thomas Summer Camp Registration has begun!



Our camp dates are:

\* **EDOK Mega Camp**: June 2-8

\* **Middle School "Reaching Out to the Community"**: June 10-14

\* **High School "Reaching Out to the Community"**: June 17-21

\* **Vacation Bible Camp**: June 23-27 (EVENINGS with Dinner)

\* **Mission Trip**: July 7-13

\* **3rd-6th grades "Reaching Out to the Community"**: July 22-26

\* **Arts Camp**: July 29-August 2

### • 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!

## "When will I get my 2023 Contribution Statement?"

2023 Year-End Contribution Statements were emailed and put in the mail this week. You should be receiving yours very soon!

## Donating to St. Thomas

Give online securely via the QR code or visit the St. Thomas website—<https://stthomasop.org> and click on the "Donate" tab.



## Outreach Opportunity

### • Food Pantry at Comanche—Volunteers Needed

Next 2nd Saturday—Feb 10, 11:30am  
Comanche Elementary, 8200 Grant Ave, OPKS

Scan the QR for more info and volunteer sign-ups. A link is also found in your weekly email.



### • Caring for Kids – Comanche Elementary

Contributions needed by Thurs, Feb. 8

St. Thomas will be hosting a Potato Bar dinner for 45 teachers and staff at Comanche Elementary during their February Parent/Teacher Conference night.

Anyone able to help by bringing potato toppings and desserts and with setup and cleanup may sign up on the bulletin board in the Narthex or by clicking the QR code.



## Join a Music Group! Upcoming Music Events

### • Children's Choir

Will Sing on **Feb 11** at the 8:45am service

**Apr 21, 8:45am**: Opportunity to sing "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" musical!

### • Chancel Choir

Will sing "The Messiah" on Palm Sunday, **Mar 24, 11am** service. Rehearsals begin Feb. 7, 6:30-8:30pm.

### • Youth Musicians Wanted:

Youth singers/instrumentalists for church service Preludes starting **Feb 11**. Perform your festival or contest pieces! \*\*

**Coming April 21**: "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat". Rehearsals start Thurs, Feb 22 at 6:30-7:45. \*\*

\*\* Sign up Now by contacting Julieanne Stapleton, Director of Music—[jstapleton@stthomasop.org](mailto:jstapleton@stthomasop.org) \*\*



## Worship Services

Saturday, 5:30pm  
Sunday, 8:45 and 11:00am

Join us for Coffee Hour in Parish Hall 1 after both services.

Children's Chapel: (geared toward ages 3-10) is available during both services on December 31.

Nursery: Nursery care is available on Sunday for children ages 6 months thru 4 yrs from 8:15am -12:15 (or conclusion of the 11am service).

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)



### • Wednesday, Jan 31, 7pm, in the Parish Hall Potluck Dinner at 6pm

Hear about the life of the church during 2023, what our leaders have to say, and the future of St. Thomas!

*There will be a potluck dinner before the meeting. Meat will be provided. You are invited to bring a side dish or dessert!*

## Save these Dates!

- **Annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper**

Tuesday, February 13, 5-7pm

This is a FUN parish wide event hosted by the Youth Community. \$6 a person or \$25 for a family of 5 or more!

- **Lenten Word Study Series begins in February**

Wednesdays, Feb. 21 and 28; March 6,13, and 20

The votes are in! The words with most votes were Forgiveness, Mercy, Discipline, Lament, and Charity. Stay tuned for more information!

- Invite Welcome Connect (IWC) is for ALL!

- **Newcomer Lunch is Sunday, March 3, at 12pm**

**Invitation**—We all like to be invited to something special. St. Thomas is that special place where we can all "Come, Grow, Serve: Make a Difference." Ways to Invite:

*"I love our church home. Have I told you about St. Thomas? Maybe you'd like to join me next Saturday or Sunday for worship service"*

IWC Team

## A Special Thank You to our congregation

*The St. Thomas the Apostle staff would like to express our gratitude for your generous Christmas gifts this holiday season. Your kind support filled our hearts with the joy of the season and reminded us all how blessed we are to share our faith with you. We look forward to walking through the doors of St. Thomas each day and absolutely love what we do. God gives us all gifts and talents which are meant to be utilized and shared as a church family. We look forward to visiting with you and letting you know how truly thankful we are.*

*With sincere thanks—The St. Thomas the Apostle Staff*

## Sunday Christian Education

- **Adult Forum**

Parish Hall 2, 10:00am

Join us in the journey of the book, "The Creative Act: A Way of Being" by Rick Rubin. We will connect it with scripture and the unique calls in our lives.

- **Christian Ed for Children & Youth—9:45am**

- \* 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" in the "Mark Ash" Youth room (Basement - east end of Ed. Hall)

## This Week's Calendar

**Sun, Jan 28:** Nursery 8:15-12:15; Holy Communion at 8:45 and 11:00am, Nave; 9:45am: Sun School, Educ Wing; Coffee Hour; 10:00am: Adult Forum, PH 2; Youth Grp, 6-8pm, Nave/PH/ Narthex

**Mon, Jan. 29:** Thom's Helpers, 10:30am-1:30pm, PH 1/Kitchen/Sacristy

**Tues, Jan 30:** Organ practice, 10am-12; Sword Guild, 7pm, PH 2

**Wed, Jan 31:** Staff Mtg, 9:30am, Narthex; Thom's Helpers, 10:30am-1:30pm, PH 1/Kitchen/Sacristy; Wednesday Study Grp, 10:30am-12, Asbly Rm; Voice lessons, 2-4pm, Asbly Rm; Annual Mtg, 6pm dinner/7pm meeting, Parish Hall

**Thurs, Feb 1:** Bible Study: "Grace in the Rearview Mirror", 10:30-12, Asbly Rm; Music lesson, 4:00-4:45pm, Asbly Rm; Children's Choir, 5-6pm, Nave; Praise Band, 6:30-7:30pm, Nave; Explorers Sm Grp, 7pm, PH 2; Sword Guild, 7-9pm, PH 1

**Fri, Feb 2:** Thom's Helpers, 10:30am-1:30pm, PH 1/Kitchen/Sacristy; Organ Practice, 10:3am-12pm, Nave; SCA, 7pm, PH 1

**Sat, Feb 3:** Women's Grp, 9-10am, Asbly Rm; Prayer Shawl Sm Grp, 10am-12pm, Asbly or Narthex; Nancy Johnson funeral, 2pm; Holy Communion, 5:30pm, Nave

*Please contact Justin Smith to schedule your meeting or event — [jsmith@stthomasop.org](mailto:jsmith@stthomasop.org) or 913-451-0512.*

## Connecting Weekends!

**For the next two weekends we will highlight ways you can get connected to the larger St. Thomas community.**

- ⇒ Weekend of **Jan. 20/21** Neighborhood Groups - Find out what they are about and which one you belong to!
- ⇒ Weekend of **Jan. 27/28** Small Groups - Find out what groups we have and where you might want to plug in!

## Next Week: Small Grps & Study Grps

- **Prayer Shawl Small Group**

Sat, Jan 27, Asbly or Narthex; Mon, Feb 5, PH 1 or Narthex (Saturdays, 10am-12; 1st Mondays, 7:30-9pm)

Together we knit, crochet, or weave prayer shawls, hats, and 8" squares. Free knitting & crochet lessons every Saturday. Contact Sue Strom for lesson details, and on giving a prayer shawl. (913) 244-6402 or [susanstrom15@gmail.com](mailto:susanstrom15@gmail.com)

- **Study Group: "The Jesus Fatwah"**

Wednesdays, 10:30am—12, in Asbly Rm

"The Jesus Fatwah" (Love your Muslim neighbors as yourself). Contact: Jan Summers [janws1244@gmail.com](mailto:janws1244@gmail.com)

- **Study Group: "Grace in the Rearview Mirror"**

Thursdays, 10:30am-12 in Asbly Rm

Brokenness, Belonging, and the Beauty of God. Click on the QR code for more information. Contacts: Sheryl Roller [sjiroller@gmail.com](mailto:sjiroller@gmail.com) or Susan Strom [susanstrom15@gmail.com](mailto:susanstrom15@gmail.com)



- **Explorers Small Group**—Thurs, Feb 1, 7pm in PH 2

Explore the Scripture and the world around us. Contact: John McNown [johnmcnown44@gmail.com](mailto:johnmcnown44@gmail.com)

- **Women's Group**—Sat, Feb 3, 9-10am, Assembly Rm

For women in their 30s, 40s, and 50s. We explore our relationship with and connection to God. Contact: Emily Wilson [ewilso28@gmail.com](mailto:ewilso28@gmail.com)

- **LGBTQIA+ Small Group**—Sunday, Feb 4, 1:00pm

The tour of Save Inc's LGBT homeless youth shelters had to be rescheduled due to weather conditions. All are welcome! If interested Contact: John Pfannes [john.pfannes@att.net](mailto:john.pfannes@att.net)