

TOWER TALK

February 13 and 14, 2010

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Feed

Tuesday, February 16, 6-8 p.m.

The Youth are sponsoring this event—the money will go toward the Youth and their Summer Mission Programs Mission Trip and ROTC.

\$5 per plate, \$10 for family
Our Dixieland Band will be there!

Ash Wednesday, February 17th

Services at 7 a.m., Noon, and 7 p.m.

"Happy Birthday Prayer Shawl Ministry" More Prayer Shawls were Blessed on February 7, 2010

Our Small Groups "Prayer Shawl Ministry" has just celebrated its first anniversary! We are so grateful to have twelve dedicated ladies who prayerfully create gorgeous shawls for the critically ill or grieving. Bless you all for answering the call to be a part of this wonderful ministry.

Mtr. Kelly blessed more shawls last weekend and to date we have created forty-five shawls, given twenty-seven to those in need and have eight requests to be filled.

A form is available in the church office should you have a friend or family member whom you would like to receive a prayer shawl. There is no charge for this ministry.....just return the filled out request form to the office. We'll see that a beautiful shawl is presented in your behalf.

Any questions about this ministry....please call Linda Manuel, 438-7407 or Sharon Moorhead, 851-1899.

This Week at St. Thomas

Sunday, 02/14/2010

8:00 AM Praise Band Practice –nave
8:45 AM Holy Communion
9:50 AM Choir Practice-loft
Sunday School-all classrooms
Adult Formation-Asbly Rm
10:45AM Holy Communion
6:00 PM AA-Asbly Rm
7:00 PM Youth Group-LL/Rm 137
EFM-Rm 133/134

Asbly Rm =
Assembly Room

Monday, 02/15/2010

1:30 PM Staff Mtg-Asbly Rm
5:30 PM Yoga-Asbly Rm
7:00 PM Explorers-Rm 134

Tuesday, 02/16/2010

9AM-1PM Parents' Day Out-Nursery
6:00 PM Shrove Tues Pancake Feed-narthex/nave

Wednesday, 02/17/2010

ASH WEDNESDAY

7:00 AM Ash Wednesday service
Noon Ash Wednesday service
4:00 PM Children's Choir-nave
5:30 PM Yoga-Asbly Rm
7:00 PM Ash Wednesday service
IHN Development Mtg-Rm 137
8:00 PM Adult choir-nave loft

Thursday, 02/18/2010

11:00 AM Bible Study-Asbly Rm
6:30 PM Eagle Scouts-all rms available

Friday 02/19/2010

Rector's Day Off
7:00 PM SCA-Asbly Rm

Saturday, 02/20/2010

9:30 AM Prayer Shawl Ministry-Rm 137
5:30 PM Holy Communion

For a listing of more dates, go online to the website (www.stthomasop.org) and click on "Calendar." You may also refer to the calendar on the bulletin board in the main hallway next to the office. To add a mtg. or event to the calendar, contact Meribeth in the church office, 451-0512 or calendar@stthomasop.org.

Adult Formation Offerings during Lent!

Sunday Morning Adult Forum

9:50—10:35 a.m.

February 21 - March 28

Join the conversation as we explore the themes of Sabbath, Reconciliation and Prayer each Sunday morning from February 21 through March 28. This class will connect with the evening offerings on Sundays and Wednesdays during Lent. What does it mean for the modern person to take intentional time to rest and focus one's life? How do we do this in a 24/7 culture? How do I pray? Does it matter? Will God answer me? What does it mean to reconcile in a divided culture? How does one reach out? We will explore these questions from the standpoint of scripture and our traditions in the Episcopal church. This class meets in the Assembly Room.

Sunday Evenings

Soup supper at 5:30, classes at 6:30

February 28- March 28

Adult Offering: Connecting our faith to film and music. Beginning February 28 through March 28 we venture through some of the most profound works that highlight the human desire to connect with God and understand our place in the universe. This class meets in the Assembly Room.

Youth Offering: The youth will take time each week to learn about the Passion in each Gospel Lesson. This will help them as they prepare to lead the congregation in an Agape Meal as part of our Maundy Thursday worship during Holy Week. All youth are invited to attend and participate.

Children's Offering: The children will learn the story of Holy Week in ways they can understand. Exploring what events took place through a children's stations of the cross. Each week they will work on crafts and other projects to help them connect with the story of Jesus.

Wednesday Evenings

Wednesday Evenings with the Rabbis

7– 8:30 p.m. on February 24, March 3 and March 10

We will have the opportunity to have two of distinguished Rabbis with us for a time of teaching and conversation. This class will meet in the Assembly Room.

Alan L. Cohen, Rabbi Emeritus of Congregation Beth Shalom in Kansas City. Alan Cohen served as Beth Shalom's senior rabbi from 1989 – 2008. Since leaving Beth Shalom, he has become Director of Interreligious Affairs at the Jewish Community Relations Bureau (JCRB)/American Jewish Committee (AJC), working with clergy of all faiths to strengthen relationships and expand interfaith learning opportunities in Kansas City. He also serves as an Assistant Chaplain in the Spiritual Wellness Department at St. Luke's Health System. Rabbi Cohen will join us on **February 24 and March 3** to explore the origins and meaning of Sabbath keeping and reconciliation in the Jewish Tradition.

Rabbi Jacques Cukierkorn, was born in Sao Paulo, Brazil, and ordained at Hebrew Union College (Cincinnati, Ohio). He hails from a line of Hasidic Polish rabbis who emigrated to Brazil in 1929. His maternal grandfather came to Uruguay in 1930 where he became one of the founders of that Jewish community. Rabbi Cukierkorn is the spiritual leader of the New Reform Temple in Kansas City where he is committed to Classical Reform Judaism. He also serves as Vice-President of the [Society for Classical Reform Judaism](http://www.classicalreform.org) and as former President of the [Rabbinical Association of Greater Kansas City](http://www.rabbinical.org). He will join us on **March 10** to lead us in a discussion of spiritual practices and prayer.

- OUTREACH AT ST. THOMAS -

EPISCOPAL HUNGER RELIEF NETWORK A Ministry of Episcopal Community Services

News from St. Paul's

Pantry tee shirts are now available at St. Paul's. Various sizes, white logo on maroon, \$10 donation. A volunteer meeting will be held Saturday, March 6, at 4 PM in the Pantry. Then at 5:30, all are welcome to join the Community Supper and Eucharist upstairs in St. Paul's dining room.

Thanks to all who attended St. Thomas Cafe and brought food for the pantry. It's greatly appreciated!

Backsnack Program

This is a reminder that we still need helpers to clean the backsnacks—Sundays through Wednesdays. This is a program for children in need of food over the weekends at Comanche Elementary School in Overland Park. We give all supplies and assistance if needed. Call Denis or Ellen Peters at 913-681-8642.



*As often as you did it for one
of my least brothers, You did
it for me.*

- Kansas City Hospice & Palliative Care -

Support Grieving Families

Volunteers needed to co-facilitate groups for children and adults, utilizing writing, art, music and discussion. Groups consist of children of similar age or adults with similar loss. Support group curriculum is pre-designed. Volunteers work in teams of two and commit to facilitate a 16-week group that meets during evening hours at Solace House, 80th & State Line Rd. A 2-day training is provided on Saturday, March 6 and 13, 2010. For more information and to set up your pre-training interview, please contact Kathy Fetters at 816-276-2640.

Share the Simply Gifts of Compassion, presence and Time with Those Facing Serious Illness

Support patients and their families during their journey through illness. Stay with a patient while the caregiver takes a break or spend time conversing, reading aloud, helping with light household chores or be a supportive presence during the patient's final hours. Special skills by attorneys, beauticians, massage therapists, pet therapists and notaries are always helpful. Be matched with a patient and family in your neighborhood after completing the 3-day training. Kansas City Hospice has scheduled the next training for the following weekdays, April 5, 7 & 14, 2010. For more information, contact Kathy Fetters at 816-276-2640.



Articles for "Tower Talk" are due by **NOON EVERY MONDAY**. Articles will only run for a duration of two weeks unless notified otherwise. Send info and articles to Meribeth by e-mail mrisebig@stthomasop.org, put a note in her box in the Communication Room, call her at 913-451-0512, or hand it to her directly.

If your e-mail address has changed recently, you've just gotten e-mail, or if you'd like to join our e-mail list online, please register this information on the special sheet on the signup bulletin board in the main hallway.

*Church office hours are
9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through
Thursday, and 9 a.m. to
Noon on Friday.*



The St. Thomas Nursery

The nursery offers TLC to all children from birth through 3 years of age. The nursery is open every Sunday from 8:30 to 12:00 and for most all parish events. If you have questions or concerns, please contact Anne Thompson @ 913-231-9701 or athompson@stthomasop.org.

FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY #2

Join St. Thomas in the 2nd session of FPU! This exciting, life-changing course is back.

Free previews will be held on Thursday, February 18 at 7 pm and Sunday, February 21 at 1 pm.

Classes will start on February 28 and run until May 30, 2010.

Class times will be 1-3 pm in the Assembly Room.

If interested in joining or being a leader please contact:
Jason & Emily Barnes or Dan & Lynn Elman

The Rt. Rev. Dean E. Wolfe, *Bishop of the Diocese of Kansas*; The Rev. Gar Demo, *Rector*; The Rev. Kevin Schmidt, and The Rev. Edwin Sisk, *Associated Priests*; The Rev. Barbara Adam, *Deacon*; Ann Clements, *Director of Children's Ministry*; Dr. Beth Elswick, *Director of Music Ministry*; Katie Knoll Lenon, *Director of Youth Ministry and Small Groups*; Anne Thompson, *Director of Nursery*; Meribeth Risebig, *Administrative Assistant*

The Vestry: Sue Elliott, *Senior Warden* 913-302-2086; Bob Beeler, *Junior Warden* 913-239-8914; Deb McArthur, *Clerk of the Vestry*; Brian Geary, *Finance Chair*; Kathy Townley, *Treasurer*; Emily Barnes; Judy Dutra; Brad Eldridge; Holly Farkes; Karen Leftwich; John McCall; Kim Palmer; Jeff Rapp; Jan Summers