

TOWER TALK

July 18 and 19, 2009

The St. Thomas Nursery & Parents' Day Out Parents' Day Out

We are currently enrolling children for the St. Thomas Parents' Day Out. Reserve your space now. Parents' Day Out will start September 8 and runs through May. The program will meet on Tuesdays from 9-1:00. Please contact Anne Thompson by e-mail—athompson@stthomasop.org or 913-231-9101 if you have any questions or would like additional information.

We will soon be hiring caregivers for the Parents' Day Out program. If you are interested or know of anyone who might be interested please contact Anne Thompson at 913-231-9701 for information.

Nursery

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

St. Thomas Pastoral Care is committed, in the name of Christ, to offer ministries of compassion and caring to people with spiritual and personal needs. We have key ministries that are available to our St. Thomas community. When there is a need or a commitment to become an invaluable part of any one of these ministries, please contact the church; or, in need of a clergy person, please contact the church office at 913-451-0512. A member of the clergy will contact you.

Holy Communion and friendly chats provided by our **Eucharistic Visitors** following our Sunday Services. Contact: Sally Morris at 913-829-9272.

Meals and refreshments provided by **St. Martha's Guild**—comforting meals for those just home from the hospital or for a bereaving family; refreshments provided after a funeral or memorial service. Contact: Susan Strom at 913-244-6402.

Respite Care given to caregivers of ill loved ones who may need a "break" in their day. Contact: Charlotte Brotherson at 913-441-9262.

Transportation provided to & from church and to personal appointments. Contact: Phil Childress at 913-492-6191.

Guild of the Christ Child is for mothers and newborns in our church and in our community. The guild provides layettes for all newborns in the parish and for those in need in health care facilities in Johnson County. Contact: Tracy Ferren at 913-851-8350.

Starting Points for life's toughest transitions; (i.e.—moving into assisted living/caring for an elderly family member, an adult child, etc). Contact: Leila Potts at 913-492-4169.

Eucharistic Visitors

St. Martha's Guild

Respite Care

Transportation

Guild of the Christ Child

Starting Points

OUTREACH MINISTRIES EPISCOPAL HUNGER RELIEF NETWORK A Ministry of Episcopal Community Services

**Culinary Cornerstones'
Student Expo & Graduation
Saturday, August 15, 2009
Founders' Hall at Grace & Holy Trinity Cathedral
6-7 pm Food Expo, 7-8 pm Graduation**

Come enjoy the graduates' tasty treats and gourmet cuisine!

Questions? cyoung@episcopalcommunity.org or 816-474-6524.

- HOST -

**(Hospitality Outreach of St. Thomas)
Part of JoCo IHN—a ministry to homeless families**

OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES

- July 19**-School supplies/donations collected at STA
- July 26**- School supply packing immediately following the 10:45 service—see article below
- Aug 1-9**:30-1 Community Pantry at St. Paul's, 18th & Washington, KCK
- Aug. 23-30** HOST Week – New location-1st Christian Church Olathe, 200 E. Loula, Olathe
- Aug. 29**- Breakfast at St. Paul's, St. Paul's, KCK- help cook, serve breakfast
- Sept. 12**- 3rd Annual IHN Golf Tournament- Deer Creek Golf Course—more information below

School Supplies

This is the second year St. Thomas will be involved with helping Commanche Elementary School with school supplies for grades K thru 6. We are anticipating the need of five children per grade, for a total of 35. A list of needed supplies and a sign-up sheet is posted on the hallway bulletin board. The sign-up sheet will be on a per-child basis, with needed supplies varying by grade level. If you would prefer to help financially, a check in any amount may be made out to St. Thomas and marked "Commanche School Supplies."

We plan a school supply packing day at St. Thomas on **July 26** with supplies due at Commanche Elementary School on July 27. Please help the children in this important ministry. If you have questions, please contact Denis and Ellen Peters, 681-8642.

The 3rd Annual IHN Golf Classic will be held on Saturday, Sept. 12, 2009, at Deer Creek Golf Course. Player spots fill up quickly, and we continue to need sponsors, prize donations and volunteers to work at the tournament. Pick up a brochure from the bulletin board, or contact Lucky or Suzanne Hicks at 913-768-0940 for more information or to volunteer!



Altar Flowers

Would you like to remember a special occasion, anniversary, birthday, or memorial? Your special day can be recognized with altar flowers and announced in the newsletter. The sign-up calendar is on the bulletin board down the hallway past the office. If you sign up on a date during the week, your special day will be recognized the following weekend. You will receive a letter with a form in the mail (or e-mail) about a month in advance asking for details about your commemoration. The suggested donation for flowers is \$35.00. Please return the form with your check to the office or place it in the offering plate a week or more before the date you signed up.

Join our E-mail List Online! St. Thomas the Apostle offers visitors and parishioners the option to join our e-mail list to receive announcements, weekly newsletters, invitations, etc. You can register online through our website, www.stthomasop.org on the home page. Look for **“Sign up for our E-mail Newsletter”** and click on **“Go”** which will take you to our registration page in our e-mail program.

Please bring your empty ink cartridges to our recycling box in the “Communication Room.” We also recycle cell phones, and the newspaper and magazine recycling container is located on the east side of our parking lot. The recycling project is one way you can help earn \$\$\$ for St. Thomas. Thank you for your continued support!



St. Thomas Prayer Chain... St. Thomas communicates prayer requests via an automated phone system called “Phone Tree.” If you have a prayer request for the prayer chain, please call Mary Birkhead. Her phone number is 888-7641. At that time you may also indicate to Mary if you would like your name to be included on the prayer list during the weekend services and she will let the office know.

There are now 60 parishioners on our prayer chain call list. If you would like to participate in this important ministry and be added to the prayer chain to receive calls, call the church office, 451-0512.

E-Mail Addresses for St. Thomas Staff

Rosemary Abbott, Editor of “The Apostle”: mrse71@kc.rr.com
 Ann Clements, Director of Children’s Ministry: aclements@stthomasop.org
 Fr. Gar Demo: gdemo@stthomasop.org
 Dr. Beth Elswick, Director of Music Ministry: belswick@stthomasop.org
 Katie Knoll Lenon, Director of Youth Ministry & Small Groups: kklenon@stthomasop.org
 Meribeth Risebig, Administrative Assistant: mrisebig@stthomasop.org
 Anne Thompson, Director of Nursery: athompson@stthomasop.org
 Calendar Scheduling: calendar@stthomasop.org

The next “Apostle” deadline is August 2. It will be the Fall issue and will arrive in mailboxes sometime the last week of August.

Bridge 2009

The sign-up sheet for July 31 is on the bulletin board by the office. We’ll be playing at the home of Mark & Beth Anderson, 10260 Farley. Will we see you there?

General Convention Meeting for the Diocese announced

General Convention meets every three years and includes people from every diocese of the Episcopal Church. It is considered the governing body of the church. This meeting is currently in session and will conclude this weekend. If you are interested in hearing more about this please consider attending this meeting next week: A panel of General Convention deputies from the Diocese of Kansas will speak to the Northeast Convocation meeting on Saturday, July 25 at 10 a.m. in the parish hall at St. Michael’s, 6630 Nall Ave., Mission. There will be time for questions. Everyone is welcome to attend.



Sunday, 07/19/09

8:00 AM Praise Band Practice-nave
 8:45 AM Holy Communion
 9:50AM Choir Practice-loft
 Summer Sunday School-classrooms
Adult Forum will resume in August!
 10:45AM Holy Communion
 6:00 PM AA-Asbly Rm (Rule 62 Men’s Group)

Monday, 07/20/09

5:30 PM Yoga-Asbly Rm

6:30 PM AA-LL (Overland Park Fellowship)

7:00 PM Explorers-Rm 133

8:00 PM AA-LL (Overland Park Fellowship)

Tuesday, 07/21/09

Missionpalooza-St. Paul’s in KCMO

6:30 PM Antioch Women’s Group (AA)-LL

7:00 PM IHN Development-Asbly Rm

Pathway to Hope (families), Rm 133/134

Pathway to Hope (Survivors), Rm 137

Wednesday, 07/22/09

Missionpalooza-St. Paul’s in KCMO

1:30 PM Staff Mtg-Asbly Rm

5:30 PM Yoga-Asbly Rm

6:30 PM Antioch Women’s Group-LL

7:00 PM Praise Band Practice, nave

8:00 PM AA-LL (Overland Park Fellowship)

Thursday, 07/23/09

Missionpalooza-St. Paul’s in KCMO

7:00 PM Men’s Group-Asbly Rm

Al-Anon Family Group-LL

Friday, 07/24/09

Missionpalooza-St. Paul’s in KCMO

Rector’s Day Off

8:00 PM AA-LL (Overland Park Fellowship)

Saturday, 07/25/09

Missionpalooza-St. Paul’s in KCMO

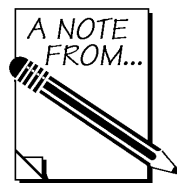
10:30 AM Antioch Women’s Group-LL

5:30 PM Holy Communion

8:00 PM AA-LL (Overland Park Fellowship)

LL = Lower Level
 Asbly Rm =
 Assembly Room

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.



Please contact Meribeth Risebig in the church office if you would like to schedule a meeting or event at the church. You can check the calendar online first to see what dates and rooms are available (www.stthomasop.org) then contact Meribeth at 451-0512 or e-mail her at calendar@stthomasop.org.

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.

Can You Give Me a Lift?

I am in need of someone to assist me with lifting heavy boxes full of books from the church, into and out of the car, and into the post office so they can be shipped off to an outreach source. There are also several boxes that need packing. If you can help during the last week of July or first week of August, please call me. The boxes have been taking up space and it will be nice to get them into the hands of those who can distribute the books to people who can use them.

Meribeth Risebig, 451-0512, X221.

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; Weldon Fate, *Junior Warden* 913-402-6855; Emily Barnes; Bob Beeler; Ted Bemis; Judy Dutra; Brad Eldridge; Brian Geary; Jim Kahlfeldt; Deb McArthur; Jan Summers; Mary Lynn Swafford; Kathy Townley, *Treasurer*; Jack Swafford, *Co-Treasurer*; Beth Anderson, *Clerk*