



**St. Thomas Episcopal Church  
Ministries  
2025-2026**

**Enclosed is a list of all our current ministries at St. Thomas.  
We would love to have you join one of these great groups!**

**If you would like to sign up to join a ministry or would like more information, please email [stthomaschurch@tom1604.org](mailto:stthomaschurch@tom1604.org) to be connected with a Ministry Leader.**

## **Children's Ministry**

### **Children's Ministry Volunteers needed!**

Volunteers Needed:



- 10:00am Children's Church Teachers – must be 18 years old, willing to complete Safe Church Curriculum required by the Diocese, willing to submit a background check required by the Diocese, attend training on curriculum/lesson preparation and serve one Sunday per month (during the 10:00am service)

- 9:00am Children's Chapel Teachers – must be 18 years old, willing to complete Safe Church Curriculum required by the Diocese, willing to submit a background check required by the Diocese, attend training on curriculum/lesson preparation and serve one Sunday per month (during the 9:00am Discipleship Hour)



- Children Helpers – must be currently in 6<sup>th</sup> grade or higher, willing to attend a Youth Safe Church training and serve one Sunday per month (during the 10:00am service)

- Substitute Nursery Workers

We invite your child to join our Children's Church program on Sunday mornings at 10:00am. Children ages three through 5th grade are invited to come up to the altar for the children's sermon and then follow our Children's Minister, Kellie Phares, to a classroom down the hallway in our education wing. After the exchange of the peace, children are ushered back to their seats. Also, join us for Children's Bible Study Sundays at 9:00am in the Christian Education Wing.

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## **Youth Ministry**

The St. Thomas Youth Group is for students in middle or high school. Youth Group participates in different activities throughout the month. Each group activity has a time for youth to connect to God and each other. Youth Group is offered to students' 6<sup>th</sup> grade and up! Visit [www.tom1604.org/youth/](http://www.tom1604.org/youth/) for the current Youth Group schedule. Interested in being a Youth Ministry volunteer? All volunteers must be 18 years old, willing to complete Safe Church Curriculum required by the Diocese, and willing to submit a background check required by the Diocese.



## Music Ministries

“Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness” Psalm 96:9

### *Adult Music Ministries*

The St. Thomas Parish Choir is an adult choral ensemble comprised of parishioners who work alongside professional section leaders. The Choir assists in leading worship for the primary service every Sunday and for special holy days. The group sings a wide variety of musical styles from Gregorian chant to newly composed music. The goal of the Parish Choir is to enhance our liturgical celebrations with beautiful music that reflects the liturgical seasons and the lectionary readings, helps worshipers connect with the Holy Spirit, and feeds the mind as well as the soul. Basic music reading skills and a commitment to regular attendance is required. Rehearsals are on Wednesdays, 6:30pm-8:00pm.



The St. Thomas Handbell Choir enhances our liturgy with musical offerings throughout the year and on special occasions. This group of volunteer musicians practice weekly utilizing a set of handbells cast by Schulmerich bell company. Basic music reading skills and a commitment to regular attendance at rehearsals. Rehearsals are on Tuesdays, 6:00pm-7:00pm.

### *Children’s Music Ministry*

St. Thomas Children’s Choir – Ages Kinder– 6<sup>th</sup> grade  
Rehearsals Wednesdays, 4:30pm-6:00pm

*“Make your life a song to God; sing loud and strong and clear.  
Make your life a song to God for ev’ryone to hear.  
Jesus will put the melody into your heart.”*

Children’s Choir is a wonderful opportunity for children to learn to read music, sing and play instruments, and participate in musical games. During rehearsals we learn to read music, sing and play instruments, play games, and do music worksheets. The rehearsal times become a joyful time of praising God together. The Children’s Choir sings at the 10:00am service once a month to share their music in worship.





## Welcome Team

The St. Thomas Welcome Team serves Sunday morning during the 8:00am & 10:00am services. This group of volunteers helps us grow the church. Sunday mornings, members of this team work together to connect new visitors to St. Thomas. If you are someone who loves meeting new people, this is the right ministry for you!

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## Video Production Ministry

Each week St. Thomas live streams our Sunday morning 10:00am service through YouTube. We are looking for volunteers to help with this production. Volunteers are asked to arrive by 9:15am on Sundays to set-up for the live stream. This includes turning on the video equipment, balancing the audio, and preparing the program for live streaming. We will train all those interested in helping, no prior filming/streaming experience required!



## Community Outreach Ministry

The Community Outreach Ministry at St. Thomas extends our faith outside the church. This ministry is dedicated to helping our community through God's love. The Community Outreach Ministry helps to support several non-profits in San Antonio, including Christian Assistance Ministries, Magdalena House, The Food Bank, Women's Story Book Project, and West Avenue Compassion. Members of this ministry serve meals at Haven for Hope, deliver groceries to the Food Pantry at Santa Fe Episcopal Mission Church, furnish school supplies during back-to-school season, support the annual Christmas Angel Tree and host clothing drives for different agencies.



The Community Outreach Ministry also has an ongoing relationship with Harmony Hills Elementary School. Meetings are on the first Tuesday of the month from September through May.

## United Thank Offering

The United Thank Offering (UTO) is a ministry of The Episcopal Church for the mission of the whole church. Through UTO, individuals are invited to embrace and deepen a personal daily spiritual discipline of gratitude. UTO encourages people to notice the good things that happen each day, give thanks to God for those blessings and make an offering for each blessing using a UTO Blue Box. UTO is entrusted to receive the offerings, and to distribute the 100% of what is collected to support innovative mission and ministry throughout The Episcopal Church and Provinces of the Anglican Communion. Your pennies, nickels, and dimes + go a long way...

## St. Thomas Healing Ministry



The St. Thomas Healing Ministry is dedicated to the Christian Healing Ministry in our community. Members meet to study scripture, learn how to offer healing through prayers and laying on of hands, and study books on Christian healing and prayer. On Sunday mornings, the St. Thomas Healing Ministry provides prayers of healing in the St. Thomas chapel (located to the left of the altar). We encourage everyone in need of additional prayers to visit a prayer minister in the Chapel.

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## Altar Guild

The Altar Guild Ministry is responsible for setting up services at St. Thomas to include those held on Sundays, baptisms, funerals, other weekdays, and holy days. Setting up entails: filling candles, setting out vessels and linens for communion, altar and gospel books, offering plates and hymn boards, and polishing, when needed. We also clean up after each of these services. Those who volunteer to serve on the Altar Guild are asked to serve one week each month as a member of a team. Teams meet on Saturday mornings at 9:00am, for about an hour, to prepare for the Sunday services and work together as a team to cover other weekday services.



## Acolytes



The Acolyte Team assists the clergy with worship, acting as a Server, Crucifer, or Torch Bearer. Everyone in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade and above (nine years old) is welcome to become an Acolyte. Acolytes are an integral part of our Holy Communion Services. Not only do they assist our clergy, but they also enhance the overall experience during a service. Training is held as needed.

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## Greeters

Greeters are very important at St. Thomas! They are the first people you see when you come in the doors and the last people on your way out. We are always looking for new friendly volunteers who love to connect with people. Greeters are there to welcome guests, greet each person with a smile, pass out Sunday morning bulletins and offer guidance to anyone who may have a question.



## Ushers



Ushers are people who help to ensure a smooth Sunday morning service. Ushers help with guiding guests to seats, greeting people as they walk in the sanctuary, holding open the sanctuary doors, collecting the offering and guiding the congregation during communion. The duties usually include greeting people as they arrive for the service, assisting people with special needs, and collecting the offering.



### **Lay Eucharistic Ministers (LEMS)**

Our Lay Eucharistic Ministers, (LEMS) are important participants in our worship. They read the scriptures for the Sunday services including the Old Testament reading, the Epistle, the Prayers of the People, and sometimes the spoken Psalm. In addition to the readings, the LEMS participate in the Holy Communion. The Holy Communion is celebrated every Sunday. LEMS are the welcoming hosts of the Holy Communion and assist the clergy by bearing the chalice and serving the wine at the altar rail. LEMS are required to attend a training session and become licensed.

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### **The Order of the Daughters of the King**



The Order of the Daughters of the King (DOK) is a women's Order of Prayer and Service, to the church, community and the world. We pray daily and study the Bible. Our Epiphany Chapter, the chapter of St. Thomas, serves the Parish at funeral receptions and other church receptions. Our chapter also meets monthly for prayer, study and fellowship. New members are always welcome to our Order. There is a seven-week training course in the Fall, to learn about the Rules of Prayer and service. Women interested can speak to any of the Daughters for more information of our chapter. Our monthly meeting dates and times are posted in the weekly Thursday Notes.

### ***Junior Daughters of the King***



Junior Daughters of the King (JDOK) provides young women ages 7 to 21 with the opportunity to grow in their love and knowledge of Jesus Christ while serving their church and community. Junior Daughters make a promise, or pledge, of daily prayer and service. They meet under the guidance of a senior Daughter. Junior Daughters grow in their relationship to Jesus Christ through personal and group prayer and Bible study. They also serve their church and community through outreach projects.

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### **Men's Meat Burning**

The Men's Meat Burning (MMB) group is a faithful group that meets on the third Thursday of each month for dinner. A member of the MMB volunteers to be the host and provides beverages, sides, and dessert. The remaining members bring their choice of meat to grill at the host's home. It is an evening of fellowship, faith, and food! All men are invited, and we encourage bringing friends.



## **Sewing Group – A Gathering of Friends**

All ages and interest are invited! The Sewing Group meets the second Saturday of the month from 9:00am to 3:00pm in the Parish Hall. Feel free to come for just a part of the day or stay the entire time. Activities vary. This group is a gathering where you can meet new friends while enjoying the craft of your choice. Quilting, crocheting, embroidery, knitting or anything else you want to do.



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## **Ladies, Let's Have Lunch**



Ladies Let's Have Lunch meets the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month at 1:00pm. This is a great opportunity to meet up with old friends, make new friends, and enjoy getting together with each other. We would love you to join us. An email reminder is sent out the week of the lunch with the restaurant we will be gathering at. If you are interested in receiving reminder emails about these lunches, please contact the church office. Location announced in the "Thursday Notes". All adult women are welcome!

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## **Men's Traveling Lunch Bunch**

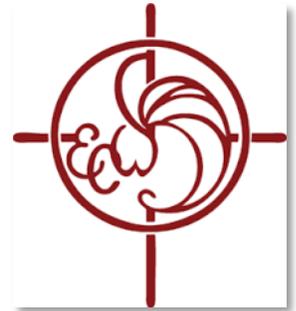


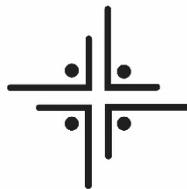
The Men's Traveling Lunch Bunch is a group of men who gather for food and fellowship weekly. Each week (Tuesdays at 11:30am) this ministry gathers at a local restaurant for fellowship. Location announced in the Thursday Notes email. All adult men are welcome!

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## **Episcopal Church Women**

Episcopal Church Women (ECW) is open to all the women. It provides an opportunity to connect through worship, service, sharing of our gifts, and fellowship. We support United Thank Offering, Altar Guild, Daughters of the King, and other women's ministries. We are about Connections! We meet monthly for a quick check-in where we offer coffee, tea and a bite to eat. Meetings are short, informative, informal, and children are welcome. See you soon...





ST. THOMAS EPISCOPAL  
CHURCH + SCHOOL

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