

**SMALL GROUPS**

Study: *"The Life Of Jesus For Today"*

Sunday Morning Small Group  
When: 9:30 am  
Where: Adult Classroom  
Leader: Golden Shook

Study: *"Mastering Our Passions"*

Hosted by: Late Sunday Morning Small Group  
When: 10:45 am  
Where: Adult Classroom  
Leader: Gary Potter/409-938-0607

Study: *The Story*

Starting Monday, September 14th

Hosted by: Monday Night Small Group  
When: 6:30 pm  
Where: Adult Classroom  
Leader: Tony Aguilar  
taguilar1300@aol.com / 409-770-3776

New Study: *The Life and Writings of Dietrich Bonhoeffer (4 Week Study)*

Hosted by: Tuesday Morning Small Group

Started Tuesday, September 1st

When: 10:30 am  
Where: Adult Classroom  
Leader: Dianne Ho-Gland 409-945-4039

Study: *"The Call" by Adam Hamilton*

Hosted by: Tuesday Night Small Group  
When: 7:00 pm  
Where: Adult Classroom  
Leader: Andy Lailhengue at texascitylaura@yahoo.com

FPU Class

Starting Sept 13th, 2015

Study: Financial Peace University / Dave Ramsey  
When: 5:00 pm  
Where: Sanctuary  
Leaders: David & Christie McKnight  
info@mcknightvideo.com



Pick up a list of available ministry opportunities off the information table.

**SERVE**

**Administrative Council**

On Tuesday, August 18th we had our 3<sup>rd</sup> Qtr Ad Council meeting for 2015 and as the current chair I am so pleased to see all that God is doing in the life of our church.

Now, that phrase – "all that God is doing in the life of our church" – might seem trite and overused. But in our case it's true. There are lots of great things happening at St. John's. Here's a very abbreviated recap of the meeting, which lasted from 6:00 to just after 7:30:

First, we ate. Well, DUH. Ad Council meetings almost always start with a potluck dinner. Don't threaten Methodists with a good time! After a devotional and approval of last meeting's minutes came the reports from individual team leads.

Finance reported that even though summer is typically the season where church expenses are high and income low, we are doing better than expected.

The Trustees reported on the replacement of outside lights and repair of some cracked drywall.

Staff-Parrish Relations reported that we are looking for a full-time multi-talented Youth Director.

Pastor Stephanie related how the "Meet the Pastor" meetings had been progressing.

The Grow Team reported on the success and growth of small groups.

The Experience Team reported how "Experience" is everything a guest experiences at St. John's.

Finally, the Lay Leader report batted clean-up and knocked it out of the park, reminding us of what stewardship looks like.

I encourage everyone to attend the next Ad Council meeting which is scheduled for October 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm.

See you there!

David McKnight  
Ad Council Chair

Tithe & Offerings	
2015 Income Received YTD	\$278,072.08
2015 Budgeted Amount YTD	\$284,281.99
2015 Income YTD Surplus/Deficit	-\$ 6,209.91

Worship Attendance		
Worship 8/2/15	9:30	105
Worship 8/2/15	11:00	47
Worship 8/9/15	9:30	102
Worship 8/9/15	11:00	58
Worship 8/16/15	9:30	109
Worship 8/16/15	11:00	61
Worship 8/23/15	9:30	104
Worship 8/23/15	11:00	58
Worship 8/30/15	9:30	106
Worship 8/30/15	11:00	98

**The Monitor**

September 2015



**ST. JOHN'S**  
A United Methodist Congregation



8200 25TH AVENUE NORTH  
TEXAS CITY, TX 77591  
409-655-5348

**Sunday Worship Services**

9:30 am—Contemporary

11:00 am—Traditional

Checkout the calendar at [www.stjohnsumctc.org](http://www.stjohnsumctc.org)  
Inviting People to Experience Amazing Love!

Find us on Facebook @ [stjohnsumctcexascity](https://www.facebook.com/stjohnsumctcexascity)

**A Word From Our Pastor**

As many of you have noticed, we are looking to fill a full time staff position. This position will lead the youth program, collaborate and assist the praise team, and assist with media support. This job has been posted in many places, but the best way to promote this job opening is through word of mouth, so please help get the word out.

Also, many of you have been wondering how this will impact Jessica Dean's position as Family Ministries Director. Once the position is filled, Jessica will focus on continuing to grow the children's ministry full time. She has done a phenomenal job at her current position and has expanded the children's and youth programs beyond the capabilities of one person. We are very blessed to have her. Please let her know how much you appreciate her when you see her!

I also encourage you to pray as we move forward to hire for the new staff position. Pray that the right person applies for the job and we have the eyes to recognize it. And that God is preparing them for the work with gifts and talents that fit the job. Many of you have expressed that you think that the youth and children's ministries are very important and want to see an investment made into these ministries. My hope is that everyone will see that this is an investment in both youth and children's ministries and in the contemporary worship service. With you, I trust that God will answer our prayers. God is faithful, always.

"And my God will fully satisfy every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus. To our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen." -Philippians 4:19-20

Grace and Peace,

*Stephanie Hughes*

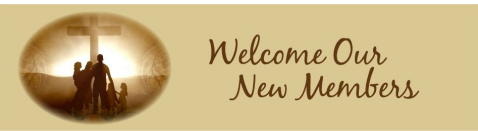
Rev. Stephanie Hughes



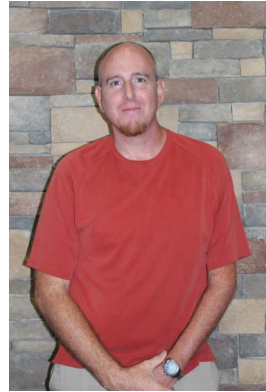
**Lunch/Fundraiser**

In order to raise needed funds to assist those in need, United Faith Alliance and Mainland Children's Partnership are hosting a community-wide event to honor all local pastors. This is the second annual event to honor our pastors in the community and will be held Sunday, September 13th at the Doyle Center from 1-3 pm. You can help! We need the following:

- ◆Purchase tickets and attend the event to show your church spirit and support for Pastor Stephanie.
  - ◆5 people to decorate tables.
  - ◆Desserts (cakes, pies, cookies and lots of them!)
  - ◆Help serve the day of the event.
- Contact the church office to get involved 409-655-5348.



Jason & Eydie Harvey  
618 29th Ave N  
Texas City, TX 77590



Maac Hughes  
9705 Blue Bonnet Dr  
Texas City, TX 77591



Pam Syers  
1410 W. Houston Dr  
Texas City, TX 77590

## INVITE

Please see our "Getting Plugged In" brochure for a complete and detailed list of Outreach & Missions opportunities.

### A Word From Our District Superintendent

Dear Sunday Hub Churches,

I am excited about making Bishop Huie's last visit to the South District a celebration of her ministry and leadership. As you may know, Bishop Huie is retiring next summer after decades of ministry and 12 years as our Bishop. We want to say "Thank You" in a big way. Last week the cabinet met and together expressed a desire to raise over 1 million dollars for the Emerging Leaders' Endowment Fund as a tribute to Bishop Huie's leadership. This fund enables the Texas Annual Conference to offer: 1) The Texas Youth Academy benefitting high schoolers in our conference discerning their call to leadership and ministry, 2) The College Pastoral Internship Program providing college students the opportunity to serve alongside a pastor in a church for the summer and "try pastoral ministry on" for a couple of months to see how it fits, 3) The Ambassador's Scholarship for incoming pastors that helps to address some of the debt incurred through seminary tuition (every year I have the privilege of recommending several young pastors to the committee for this area of debt relief and it thrills me that we as a conference can address this), and 4) The Advancing Pastoral Leadership Program that develops pastors after ordination for a lifetime of pastoral ministry. These four programs have positioned the Texas Annual Conference well for the future in their encouragement of the ecology of call.

If every congregation in the Texas Annual Conference gave \$4 per member between now and the end of 2016 we would meet the million dollar goal for this endowment. The District Leadership Team expressed a desire to present a check for The Emerging Leaders Endowment Fund to Bishop Huie on September 27. Is your congregation able to commit to this effort with a pledge of \$4 per member by December 2016 and will you give the first installment of that gift now so that we can present Bishop Huie with a check between \$25,000 - \$50,000 on September 27 (this would translate to \$1/member)? If so, please make send a check to "The South District" with "ELE" on the memo line. Encourage your congregation to commit \$4/member as a gift to Emerging Leaders Endowment Fund in honor of Bishop Huie. If you are able please give the first installment of that gift now by sending a check for \$1/member to "The South District" with "ELE" on the memo line. It is my desire to be able to tell Bishop Huie that the check we present to her on September 27 is made up of contributions from all 52 churches of the South District. Thanks you all in advance for leading the way.

Sincerely,  
Kip Gilts, South District Superintendent

## GROW

### "Financial Peace University"

September 13 kicks off Financial Peace University for the 6<sup>th</sup> time at St. John's.

Why in the world would we offer the same class, over and over? I hope to answer that question in this article. FPU is a series of Baby Steps based on sound principles (many from Proverbs). These steps form a complete, biblically-based financial plan. You complete Step One before moving on to Step Two, and so on. By Step Seven you've paid off the house, built wealth, and are giving like crazy. You only buy FPU once, but can go through as many times as you want. The first time you take it maybe you're on Step One, and the second time you take it you're on Step Four and can pay more attention to that.

FPU also teaches a lot about insurance, about buying and selling real estate, and mortgages. If we're focused on paying off the Kohl's credit card the first time through, then "what to look for in car insurance" is just not on our radar. That's OK; you'll get it the second time through. Maybe you were newlyweds the first time through and now that you have kids, you want to dive deeper into the College Savings lesson. There is value in taking the class more than once.

But the main reason we offer FPU 2x a year is this: people in our community need it. Next time you're in a worship service, look down your row. Seven people on that row of ten are living paycheck to paycheck. Maybe that's you. Maybe it's your adult children. Maybe it's a coworker, friend, or relative. **Come to the first week of FPU for free.** Bring someone who needs it. Decide then if it's for you. Check the church website for details and cost, or call David at 713-594-0884 or Christie at 713-376-8044 with questions.

### A Word From Our Director Of Family Ministries

Can you believe that I have been here for three years? Sometimes it feels like the time has flown by and other times it feels like "Just three years?" Other times I feel like I have been a part of this church for years and years and years. Mike and I love calling St. John's our church home. You all have been such great supporters of us while we dated and after we got married. You gave us advice, invited us over for dinner and so much more. You have been such encouragers and cheerleaders for both Mike and I. I know Mike is very encouraged when you ask him about his job and tell him where he should eat when he's in Denver or Dallas or whatever city he visits for his job. He loves to tell you about his work adventures. Many of you have reached out and cared for us during hard times like when my grandpa passed away. We truly appreciate you all. By now, most of you have seen that we are looking for a youth person. I'm not leaving. You can't get rid of me that quick. As much as I love this job, it's become too big for just me. In case you didn't know, that is AWESOME! Our kids and youth group have grown so much that I can't do it alone. Thank you so much for making this possible. I know that God has great things in store for St. John's. I can't wait to see how God uses St. John's for Texas City. Thank you for taking a chance on me and letting me be part of this!

See you on Sunday,  
Jessica Dean

### Fall Calendar:

Sept. 6<sup>th</sup>-No Youth Group-Labor Day

Sept. 13<sup>th</sup>-Fall Kick Off

Jr. High-4:00-6:00-Study: Epic Old Testament Stories by David Lynn

High School-5:00-7:00-Study: A four Week study called Am I Happy? By Sean McDowell

October 11<sup>th</sup>-Foundry Youth to Dewberry Farms-10:30-8:00pm

November 29<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Sunday: Not So Talented Talent Show-No Youth Group

December 6<sup>th</sup>-Foundry Youth Christmas Party

December 13-Children's Christmas Program-No Youth Group

December 20<sup>th</sup>-No Youth

December 27<sup>th</sup>-No Youth