

SMALL GROUPS

New Study: "Psalms For Today"
 Starting Sunday, January 10th
 Hosted by Sunday Morning Small Group
 When: 9:30 am
 Where: Adult Classroom
 Leader: Golden Shook

New Study: "Sermon On The Mount"
 (12 week study)
 Starting Sunday, January 10th
 Hosted by: Late Sunday Morning Small Group
 When: 10:45 am
 Where: Adult Classroom
 Leader: Gary Potter

New Study: "Presenting the Book of Revelation through Art and Music"
 12-week Adult Study
 Starting Monday, January 11th
 When: 6:30 pm
 Where: Church Office
 Leader: Rev. Stephanie Hughes

New Study: "If God Has a Refrigerator, Your Picture is On It"
 Starting Monday, January 11th
 Hosted by: Monday Night Small Group
 When: 7:00 pm
 Where: Adult Classroom
 Leader: Tony Aguilar

NEW Study: "Broken and Blessed" (6-week study)
 Starting Tuesday, January 19th
 When: 10:00 am
 Where: Dianne Ho-Gland's home in Texas City
 Leader: Dianne Ho-Gland

New Study: "Mastering Our Passions" (4-week study)
 Hosted by: Tuesday Night Small Group
 Began Tuesday, January 5th
 When: 7:00 pm
 Where: Adult Classroom
 Leader: Andy Lailhengué at

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

SERVE



Up Coming Meetings

Grow Team Meeting
 Tuesday, January 12th,
 At 6:00 PM in the Cafe



Board of Trustee Meeting
 Tuesday, January 12th,
 At 6:00 PM
 in the Church Office.



Invite Team Meeting
 Monday, January 18th,
 At 6:00 PM
 in the Cafe.



Finance Committee Meeting
 Tuesday, January 19th,
 At 6:00 PM
 in the Church Office.



Ad Council Meeting
 Tuesday, January 26th,
 At 6:00 PM,
 in the Sanctuary.



Year End Tithe & Offerings	
2015 Year End Income	\$417,157.56
2015 Projected Income	\$426,428.98
2015 Year End Income Surplus/Deficit	-\$ 9,255.42

Worship Attendance					
Worship 12/6/15	9:30	78	Worship 12/20/15	10:30	174
Worship 12/6/15	11:00	48	Worship 12/24/15	5:00pm	155
Worship 12/13/15	9:30	64	Worship 12/24/15	7:00pm	86
Worship 12/13/15	11:00	57	Worship 12/27/15	10:30	121

The Monitor

January 2016



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
 Inviting People to
 Experience Amazing Love!

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

A Word From Our Pastor

Happy New Year! This is the time of year when people traditionally make new resolutions. Many people make promises to themselves that they will lose weight, go on diets or eat healthier, begin exercise regimens, or quit a bad habit. Many resolutions come in the form of a goal. We are able to obtain some goals and others remain allusive and we may eventually give up on them.

The Apostle Paul talks about setting and pursuing goals in his letter to the Philippians. He writes, "Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus (3:12-15)." His goal was to gain Christ and to gain the righteousness that can only be found in faith. The apostle understood that this was a lifetime goal that wasn't to be taken lightly. This goal, to gain Christ, was to be the ultimate priority to be pursued with great passion.

When we think about our own goals, is this one of them? To pursue Christ and the righteousness that can only be found in faith? Are you pursuing a relationship with Christ with passion? With all that you are, heart, mind, soul, and strength? The Apostle Paul reminds us to throw off anything that will hinder us from reaching our goal. In his letter to the Hebrews, he writes, "Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God (12:1-2)."

As we look to the new year that lies ahead of us, and the goals that are set before us, may we run the race worth running. May we pursue the one goal that is life changing and life giving. May we gain more and more of Christ and the righteousness that is found in faith with every new day that passes.

Grace and Peace,

Stephanie Hughes

Rev. Stephanie Hughes



OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

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



Lay Readers

Lay Readers Needed

Lay readers are needed each Sunday during morning worship and at special services throughout the year. A copy of the reading is provided well before the service. If you feel called to actively participate in our weekly worship, you may want to consider being a lay reader. Those who actively participate in the worship service find it to be quite rewarding. If you want to lay read, please see Rev. Bill Jobe and he will run through the easy instructions for lay reading, and put you on the schedule. Sign up sheet is available at the information table.



ushers & greeters

Ushers & Greeters Needed

Our team of dedicated and hospitable ushers and greeters are committed to welcoming everyone who enters the doors of our church. This is a very important ministry for our church. We need your help to continue to be the inviting and hospitable church we are known to be. Adults and youth of all ages are asked to commit to serving in this important ministry once every 4 weeks. All that is required is a desire to be a good ambassador for St. John's and serve the church. If you are interested please contact Christie McKnight at 713-376-8044 or sign up at the information table.

Sound & Media Ministry Needs You!



We are looking for individuals who are interested in serving the church on Sundays by helping to run our multimedia show. If you are interested in signing up, please drop by the sound booth on Sunday morning and speak with Ed Young, he will be able to give you information about joining the team. Or you can sign up at the information table. (Training will be provided).

EXPERIENCE



Bill & Bailey Martin
12407 9th St
Santa Fe, TX 77510

FOUNDRY YOUTH

COMING IN JANUARY 2016—
4th WEDNESDAY YOUTH NIGHT!!!!
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27TH

We are starting a Wednesday Night Youth program.
This will start off as the last Wednesday of every month
5:00 pm - 7:30 pm
with a time of fellowship, worship and learning.



GROW

A Word From Our Director Of Contemporary Worship & Youth Ministry

First I want to say how proud I am of our youth group! Our first Sunday of 2016 together was our Youth Service Day where we collected aluminum cans from the Mitchells and went out to the garden and helped spread mulch. The youth worked hard to do this service, and I love the hard work that they put in. Our next service day is slated for Palm Sunday. **We will be collecting 8 oz bags of Pinto Beans and White Rice from now until Palm Sunday.** On that day, we will be boxing them up to donate to a local food bank. Our goal is to fill the trailer. If you have a service project that the youth can do, please contact me so we can put it into our plans. This next month we will be focusing on "Prayer" in Foundry Sunday Nights. We will also be implementing our first Wednesday Night Worship Service. This will occur every last Wednesday of every month for the rest of the school year.

Dead to Sin!
Cameron Losoya

Our New Sunday Night Youth Schedule:

4:00-4:30 – All Arrive
4:30-5:00 – Dinner
5:00-6:00 – lesson
6:00-7:30 – Games and parent Pick-up

Upcoming events:

Jan 22 – Last day to sign up for Midwinter
Jan 27 – Foundry Youth Live
Feb 7 – Superbowl Party at the church
Feb 19-21 – Ignite Midwinter

Ignite Midwinter at Lakeview is just around the corner. Parents, if your youth (grades 7-12) would like to go, please let Cameron know before January 11 by 4:30 PM. The cost is \$100, (Scholarships available). The dates will be February 19-21.

Music Ministry Opportunities

The **Chancel Bells** rehearse on Wednesdays
from 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm
The **Chancel Choir** rehearse on Wednesdays
from 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

The **Praise Team** rehearse on Thursdays from
7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

A Word From Our Director Of Children Ministries

Well, I have to say that I am happy 2015 is over with. 2015 was a crazy year. I know I have lived a nice, comfortable life but this is definitely been a doozy of a year. I think that having never experience major loss in my 32 years of life, I got to experience A LOT of it in 2015. My sweet grandpa passed away in the spring. Although it was a blessing that he is no longer suffering, it was definitely a major deal of 2015. I think about my grandpa almost every day and I pray a lot for my grandma. I know that she misses him dearly. My sweet dog, Nattie, crossed the puppy rainbow in the sky. That was such a hard, hard decision to make but it was definitely necessary. She was around for an awesome ten years. She brought us so much joy. She was so silly and crazy. I miss her so much and think about her often. And lastly, as some of you know, I've had some health problems that will hopefully be resolved at the first of the year. So many crazy things have happened but I find that I am so much stronger than I ever thought I could be. I know that I would never have been able to handle this on my own. I have done some extra leaning on God this past year. I know that He's the only one who would ever helped me through this. I have also surrounded myself with a strong group of family, friends and I have a strong husband who was there for me through my ups and downs. I'm excited for 2016. I'm excited to see all the amazing things in store. I pray that you all have an awesome 2016!!

See you on Sunday,
Jessica Dean