

**SMALL GROUPS**

**Study: "Psalms For Today"**  
 Hosted by Sunday Morning Small Group  
 When: 9:30 am  
 Where: Adult Classroom  
 Leader: Golden Shook

**New Study: "Serving from the Heart: Finding Your Gifts and Talents for Service" 4-week Adult Study**  
 Hosted by: The Late Sunday Morning Small Group  
 Began Sunday, July 3rd  
 When: Sunday's at 10:45 am  
 Where: Adult Classroom  
 Leader: Gary Potter

**Study: "If God Has a Refrigerator, Your Picture is On It"**  
 When: 10:00 am  
 Where: Dianne Ho-Glands home in Texas City  
 Leader: Dianne Ho-Gland

**New Study: "Serving from the Heart: Finding Your Gifts and Talents for Service" 4-week Adult Study**  
 Hosted by: The Tuesday Evening Small Group  
 Began Tuesday, July 5th  
 When: Tuesday's at 7:00 pm  
 Where: Adult Classroom  
 Leader: Robin Bartholomew

**NEW GriefShare Group**  
 Began Thursday, June 16th  
 13 week course  
 When: Thursday's 6:30 pm  
 Cost: \$15.00 Includes workbook  
 Where: Adult Classroom  
 Leader: Donna Henson - 409-621-6210

**New Study: SPIRITUAL GIFTS EXPRESS CLASSES**  
 "Serving from the Heart: Finding Your Gifts and Talents for Service" 2-week Adult Study  
 Led by Pastor Stephanie  
 Wednesday, July 20th & 27th  
 When: 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm  
 Where: Adult Classroom & Thursday Mornings, July 21st & 28th  
 When: 9:30 am - 11:30 am  
 Where: Adult Classroom

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



Jason & Connie Hayley  
 5017 Allen Cay  
 Texas City, TX 77590



# The Monitor

July 2016



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

## A Word From Our Pastor

Have you ever felt empty? Numb? Or maybe so exhausted like you couldn't move another muscle? How about the feeling of the rising tide of anxiety that chases away much needed sleep? Or maybe you've been so overwhelmed that fear sets in, and even though there is so much to do, you can't move a muscle and nothing gets done? I've felt like all of these at one time or another. I think of these moments as dry bones moments. The moments when my soul is parched and dry and I feel that my voice is so weak that God may never hear it. It's in these moments I remember the miracle that Ezekiel witnessed. In Ezekiel 37, God asked, "Can these bones live?" Sometimes in our lives we want to answer that question with a loud 'No!' and allow hopelessness to taunt us. In the midst of a hopeless situation, Ezekiel answers, "O Lord God, you know." It seems that Ezekiel didn't have any answers in his crisis either, yet he believed that God did have the answers. And in that hope born out of belief, Ezekiel witnessed hopeless dry bones come to life with the fullness of healthy muscle, ligaments, and flesh. The resurrection was complete.

There are precious times, when we get to witness dry bones come to life. Sometimes, we get to feel the sensation of our own bones coming to life. God recreating us, giving us new strength, new imagination, new hope, new life! Even when we don't have the answers, God not only has answers, God has ways to bring us back to living streams of water that quenches the thirst of our souls and brings us back to life and a resurrection of our hope for not only tomorrow, but hope sufficient to carry us through today. God's faith present Spirit dwelling within us is sufficient for abundant life, here, now, today. God says, "I will put my Spirit within you and you shall live... (Ezekiel 37:14)"

Grace and Peace,

*Stephanie Hughes*

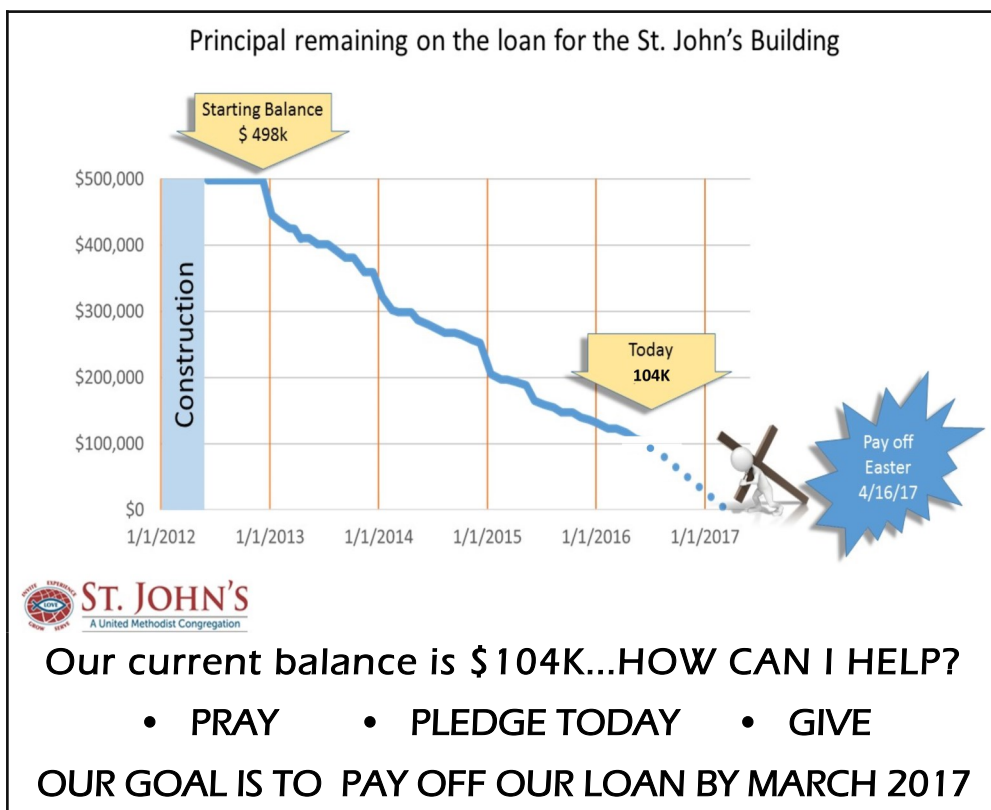
Rev. Stephanie Hughes

## Up Coming Meeting

**Ad Council Meeting**  
 Tuesday, August 2nd,  
 At 6:00 PM, in the Café.



## Capital Campaign Update:



**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 @ [stjohnsumctcascity](https://www.facebook.com/stjohnsumctcascity)

## Worship Attendance

Worship 6/5/16	9:30	98
Worship 6/5/16	11:00	48
Worship 6/12/16	9:30	85
Worship 6/12/16	11:00	43
Worship 6/19/16	9:30	105
Worship 6/19/16	11:00	50
Worship 6/26/16	9:30	80
Worship 6/26/16	11:00	40

YTD 2016 Tithe & Offerings	
2016 Income Received YTD	\$ 199,635.13
2016 Budgeted Income YTD	\$ 214,660.00
2016 Income YTD Surplus/Deficit	-\$ 15,024.87

# PRAYER

Join Us!!!  
 Sunday, July 17th,  
 24th & 31st  
 Mini Sermon Series  
 on Prayer



## OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

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

### JULY MISSION OPPORTUNITY

The whole month of July we will be collecting items to support UFA/Susan's Market, a client-choice food pantry located in the building that houses the UFA offices at 2000 Texas Avenue in Texas City. For more information or to volunteer, please call UFA at 409-643-8243.

Pantry items needed: -Peanut Butter -canned meats -beans -cereal -evaporated/powdered milk - spaghetti/macaroni -spaghetti sauce -canned fruit -breakfast/cereal bars

You can drop off your donations in the bin in the Ministry area to the right of the sanctuary.

Please also sign up to serve at the UFA KROGER FOOD DRIVE Saturday, July 16th at the Texas City Kroger. We need a minimum of 2 volunteers per 1 hour shift but would like 3-4 volunteers per shift.

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR



# St. John's UMC 6th Annual

## Family Fun Night

Will be, Thursday, July 21<sup>st</sup>  
from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm.

Swimming and family fun at the Nessler Pool/Water Park.  
The pool has been reserved for St. John's use only.  
Life guard provided by the pool.  
Hot dogs, chips, drinks & something sweet.

**EVERYONE IS INVITED!!!!**  
Bring a friend &  
come out and join the fun.

Contact Jessica Dean for more  
Information at 409-655-5348.



Registration is open for VBS!!!

You can register your child  
and/or register as a volunteer here:  
[http://2016.cokesburyvbs.com/  
stjohnsumcoftc/](http://2016.cokesburyvbs.com/stjohnsumcoftc/)

July 25th-29th  
9:00am-12:00pm

Come ride the wave with us.....  
Serving Pre-K through 6th grade  
(Lunches will NOT be served this year)



July 31st ... 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Activity

Come and join us for a  
"Sing Along Ice Cream Social"  
6:00 pm in the sanctuary.

We will sing Christian songs from  
the past, that many of us  
grew up with.

It will also be Hawaiian Shirt  
Sunday in the morning —  
This Sunday follows the VBS  
theme of "Surf Shack" so wear  
your Hawaiian shirt/dress  
and join in the fun!!!

## GROW

### A Word From Our Director Of Contemporary Worship & Youth Ministry

"You delight in showing mercy, and mercy triumphs over judgement."

- Mercy, words and music by Bethel Worship.

This was the main song for the week at High School camp this week. The whole week was about Walking by Faith, and not by sight. It was wonderful seeing our youth having fun in all the aspects of camp. I got to see some of them square dancing, songwriting, playing basketball and paint wars, and even on the platform singing the songs that they wrote for worship! How cool is that? Seeing God work in these kids' lives, is one of my favorite parts of ministry.

We leave for UM ARMY on Sunday, we will be headed to Kilgore, Texas. Throughout the week, we will be working on houses, worshipping, and fellowshiping together.

Also, we have 2 youth going to Chrysalis this year (so far). I am incredibly excited for them and pray that God will work in their lives, and hope that you will be in prayer as well.

On July 31<sup>st</sup>, we hope you join us for our 5th Sunday Family night. Throughout the month, we will be compiling a list of top 5 Hymns and top 5 Contemporary songs. YOU, the congregation, will be choosing the songs. We want to know what are your favorite song. Make sure to get your votes in by July 24<sup>th</sup>.

Dead to Sin!  
Cameron Losoya  
409-916-1031

### A Word From Our Director Of Children Ministries

Well, summer is in full swing. It's hot and yucky outside. Our VBS them is very appropriate for this time of year. We are inviting the kids to come in and cool off at our very own Surf Shack: Catch the Wave of God's Amazing Love. I can't wait for Vacation Bible School to begin! We will have this entire church looking like the beach. The kids will learn about how God Creates, God Helps, God Loves, God Calms and God Sends. The kids get to explore the Old Testament and New Testament while learning how much God loves each and every one of them. Vacation Bible School is one week where kids get to experience the Amazing Love that St. John's has to offer. Kids come excited to learn and have fun! We always need adults to help!! I encourage each and every one of you guys to step out of your comfort zone and volunteer. Like I said, the entire church is transformed into a Surfers paradise. We need people to make this work!! Please consider helping out at our VBS!! You won't regret it!

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR!!!!

July 14<sup>th</sup>-The Peanuts Movie in the Treehouse 6:00pm

July 18<sup>th</sup>-Safe Sanctuary Training 6:30-7:30

July 21<sup>st</sup>-Family Fun Night 6:30-8:30

July 24<sup>th</sup>-VBS Decorations set up 2:00pm

July 25<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> - VBS: Surf Shack-9:00-12:00

July 28<sup>th</sup>-VBS Kids Program 6:00pm (Cookies and lemonade to follow)

See you soon,  
Jessica Dean