

**SMALL GROUPS**

**Study: "The Apostles Creed For Today"**

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

**Study: "Jesus Apprentice: Doing What Jesus Did"**

Hosted by: The Late Sunday Morning Small Group  
Began Sunday, Sept 18th  
When: Sunday's at 10:45 am  
Where: Adult Classroom  
Leader: Gary Potter

**New Study: "Jesus Apprentice: Doing What Jesus Did"**

Hosted by: The Tuesday Morning Small Group  
Began Tuesday, Oct 4th  
When: Tuesday's at 10:30 am  
Where: Dianne Ho-Gland's Home in Texas City  
Leader: Dianne Ho-Gland

**New Study: "All The Places To Go: How Will You Know"**

Hosted by: The Tuesday Evening Small Group  
Began Tuesday, Oct 4th  
When: Tuesday's at 7:00 pm  
Where: Adult Classroom  
Leader: Robin Bartholomew

**NEW GriefShare Group**  
Began Thursday, Oct 4th

13 week course  
When: Thursday's 5:45 pm  
Cost: \$15.00 Includes workbook  
Where: Adult Classroom  
Leader: Donna Henson - 409-621-6210

**FPU Class Fall Session**  
Began Sept 12th, 2016

Study: Financial Peace University / Dave Ramsey  
When: Monday's at 7:00 pm  
Where: Adult Classroom  
Leaders: David & Christie McKnight  
info@mcknightvideo.com  
Register at: www.stjohnsumctc.org

**Dates For Up Coming Meetings**

- ⇒ October 12th - 6:30 pm - Grow Team Meeting (Adult Classroom)
- ⇒ October 13th - 6:30 pm - Leadership Meeting (Adult Classroom)
- ⇒ October 18th - 6:00 pm - Trustee Meeting (Café)
- ⇒ October 18th - 6:00 pm - Finance Committee Meeting (Church Office)

**Ad Council**

Meeting will be on Tuesday, October 25th at 6:00 pm in the Café.

All members are invited to attend to hear about what is happening in the ministries of St. John's.



**MARK YOUR CALENDAR!!!**  
**The Annual District HUB Charge Conference**  
 Sunday, November 6th at 4:00 pm here at St. John's UMC.  
 You will have an opportunity to meet our District Superintendent Rev. Kip Gilts. We will be conducting Annual Charge Conference business and some local church. All members are encouraged to attend this important meeting.

**Building Loan Update:**

Our current balance is \$93,500.  
 That's \$15,600 a month or \$3,500 a week to pay it off!  
**HOW CAN YOU HELP? PRAY...PLEDGE TODAY...GIVE!**  
 We've estimated that we will have a shortfall of \$45,500 and if we had 25 households give an extra \$70 a week for the next 6 months, we will be able to pay off the loan by our goal of Easter 2017!

| YTD 2016 Tithe & Offerings      |            |
|---------------------------------|------------|
| 2016 Income Received YTD        | \$ 292,712 |
| 2016 Budgeted Income YTD        | \$ 321,990 |
| 2016 Income YTD Surplus/Deficit | -\$ 29,277 |

| Worship Attendance |       |    |
|--------------------|-------|----|
| Worship 9/4/16     | 9:30  | 89 |
| Worship 9/4/16     | 11:00 | 61 |
| Worship 9/11/16    | 9:30  | 81 |
| Worship 9/11/16    | 11:00 | 36 |
| Worship 9/18/16    | 9:30  | 92 |
| Worship 9/18/16    | 11:00 | 42 |
| Worship 9/25/16    | 9:30  | 67 |
| Worship 9/25/16    | 11:00 | 53 |

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

**The Monitor**

October 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](http://www.stjohnsumctc.org)  
 Inviting People to Experience Amazing Love!

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

**A Word From Our Pastor**

October is finally here! I'm excited, because the weather is changing. Fall is my favorite season, though it may be the shortest season in this area. I enjoy watching the leaves change colors and the cooler breezes. The air even smells crisper. It's changing into the open window weather when the crisp air flows through the house and the curtains fly about around the windows. It brings back childhood memories of doors mysteriously slamming because of the air movement in our little house and my parents doing their best to assure me that we didn't have ghosts in the house.

October is also a time we reflect on stewardship in the church. A temperature is taken to see how we are doing as a whole and as individuals in the spiritual discipline of stewardship. As the body of Christ, are we supporting our church and ministries, so that it has the resources to be effective in our community and participate fully in the kingdom of God? Are we being good stewards of our own resources so that we can support St. John's with our prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness?

I am excited as I look back on the year and see what we have accomplished this year. Our annual ministries had more participation this year, such as Vacation Bible School and Back to School Bash. We have tried new things like handing out water and popsicles at the Kite Festival. And we launched a new ministry – Wednesday Night Fusion. These are just a few of our accomplishments. Yet, even with these accomplishments and so much more, our attendance and giving is lower than it has been in the past. This doesn't constrain our current ministry too much, but it does impact our vision for the future. And it begs the question: Are we content as we are? As I listen to many members and feel God's tug on my own heart, the answer is a resounding No! We want to invest in the lives of children and youth. We want to be a faithful witness in our community and be a helping hand in the spirit of mission. We want to make more disciples of Jesus Christ. And we all know this takes energy, volunteers, staff, funding, and so much more. We have a building to pay off, a gap in the budget to fill, and lots of opportunity to get involved inside and outside the church walls. God has called us to participate in bringing the kingdom of God into the world around us. And God is faithful. We can do all of this and so much more with God's Spirit working through us and strengthening us (Philippians 4:13)!

Grace and Peace,

*Stephanie Hughes*

Rev. Stephanie Hughes

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR AND JOIN US

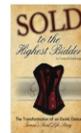
### women's ministry

LUNCH EVENT...SAVE THE DATE!!!!

Saturday, OCTOBER 15<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 Am-12:30 PM  
@St. John's UMC, Texas City 8200 25<sup>th</sup> Ave N  
(at the corner of 25<sup>th</sup> Ave N & N. Amburn Rd)



Guest Speaker will be  
Teresa Richenberger,  
Speaker & Author of



Tickets are \$10.00 each or \$60.00/table of 7  
to raise funds for church camp and also  
to raise funds and awareness to support Rahab's Retreat

## FUSION

MERGING SCRIPTURE WITH LIFE

WEDNESDAYS 6:15-8:00

### Honoring the Past... Building the Future

WOW! The congregation of St. John's continues to amaze me with its generosity and faithfulness. October 5th marks the 58th Anniversary of this wonderful church and I must say I am honored to have been a part of this wonderful church family the past 8 years. The past 8 years, I have watched and walked along side you all as we've helped our members and neighbors rebuild from Hurricane Ike, and it was with bravery and determination that we pulled ourselves up from the smoldering rubble of the fire in 2009 and kept moving forward to the things that God had called the people of St. John's to do - Make disciples! We wandered in the dessert of Mall of the Mainland only to be hit by a tornado!!! We picked ourselves up and kept moving forward...We held our heads high with hope as we broke ground for the new church building in 2011. The building we worship in today may look vastly different than the one we left behind but it's with joy that we celebrate the culmination of the hard work of so many that has brought us to the 58th Anniversary of this amazing church!

It has been extremely gratifying to hear how much this church has meant over the years to members as well as clergy whom have served here. In my short time here there has been 7 pastors, 6 contemporary worship leaders, 4 youth directors, 2 children's directors and a partridge in a pear tree...just kidding! Needless to say it's been a journey! The writer of the book of Hebrews reminds us, as Christians, to "run with perseverance the race that is set before us..." (12:1). Our journey of faith is not a sprint; indeed it is a marathon. So it is with full confidence in the people that make up St. John's United Methodist Church, that I ask you all to prayerfully consider your plans to financially support this church's ministries in the coming year through regular, planned, proportional giving. In about a week all members will receive a packet containing important information and a pledge of giving card to be returned on or by Sunday, October 30th, Commitment Sunday. Please ask God how much of what He has given to you needs to be kept by you, and how much He would ask you to return to the ministry of St. John's so that the mission can continue. Looking forward, I am excited to be celebrating the future that God is building through the faithful people of St. John's!

Blessings,  
Ingrid Clark

This Is A FREE Event!!!  
Invite your family & friends and join  
us for this awesome performance!!!

## THE MAN FROM ALDERSGATE

BJ JOHNSTON AS JOHN WESLEY

Experience the life and times of John Wesley, the man who rode over  
250,000 miles to bring spiritual renewal to England and America!

by playwright Brad L. Smith

### DATE/TIME:

Tuesday, November 1st  
6:30 PM

### PLACE:

St. John's UMC  
8200 25th Ave N  
Texas City, TX  
(corner of 25th Ave  
& N. Amburn Rd)

"...this dramatic presentation  
was a breath of fresh air..."  
Guy Hughes, Pastor, Church at Northshore

"Awesome performance;  
and a fitting tribute to an  
extraordinary person."  
Steve Tadlock, Media/Communications Pastor



## GROW

### A Word From Our Director Of Children Ministries

October is here. The weather is a little nicer. We don't have the high humidity and the high heat that our lovely state of Texas likes to bring us. Yet, I'm already preregistering for UM Army, getting camp dates set up, picking out VBS curriculum, setting up Big House for our Jr. Highers and yes, thinking about ways to improve Back to School Bash. As much as I'd like to avoid thinking about Back to School Bash, school supplies are stuck in my brain! When I see a good deal, I can't pass it up! Recently I found that manila paper was just five cents at Walmart. Yes, you read that correctly. FIVE CENTS!!! I was so excited because it's the hardest thing to find when summer rolls around. It's either too expensive or not easy to find. At the request of my Facebook post, asking people to buy paper...We now are the proud owners of 800+ packages of manila paper (Just FYI, that only comes to about \$40. So crazy!) You all are so good to me and to St. John's. For years to come, we will not run out of paper! I can guarantee that! Back to School Bash is such an important ministry of our church! Reaching the children of our community, giving them a great, fresh start to a new school year with new school supplies makes all the difference in the world! But this big event is not a cheap event. So we are having a Chili Cook Off on November 12<sup>th</sup>. This event will be to raise money for Back to School Bash. Please come and support our event. We will be asking for donations in the amount of your choice and everyone will get to enjoy some great chili!! I really would like to thank you all for your support for our kids! St. John's loves children and youth. I love working for a church that makes the kids such a priority!

### Foundry Youth Sundays:

6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade will meet from 4:30-6:00

9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade will meet from 5:00-6:30

4:30-5:00 will be Jr. High lesson time that will be taught by Pastor Stephanie

5:00-5:30 will be combined hang out time

5:30-6:00 will be dinner brought by those who sign up for dinner

6:00-6:30 will be Sr. High lesson time that will be taught by Pastor Stephanie

### Wednesdays:

6:15-6:50 is family dinner

7:00-worship song or 2 until the announcement to release the kids and youth from the service.

Youth will be learning Generation Change which is the youth version of Financial Peace University taught by David and Christie McKnight. Here is a youtube clip about the class: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3RJc51E2UyQ>

### Mark your calendars:

Dewberry Farms trip will be on Oct. 9<sup>th</sup>. We will leave the church at 10:45, stop to eat lunch on the way and then head to the farm for a fun afternoon. Cost will be \$20 plus money for food and extra stuff going on there. We will need drivers to take the kids so if you are interested in driving, please let Jessica know as soon as possible. The website for Dewberry Farms is dewberryfarm.com. The group package we will get is Rascal's Fun Pass. It shows you all the different things that come with that package.

### Fall Dates for Children & Youth Activities

Sunday, Oct. 16th- Children's Sunday & Third Graders Bibles are given out

Monday, Oct. 31st-Trunk or Treat

Wednesday, Nov. 23rd - Foundry Youth Volunteer prepping for Community Thanksgiving Meal

Sunday, Nov. 27th: No Youth Group

If you have any questions, please contact Jessica or Stephanie.

See you soon,  
Jessica Dean