

## SMALL GROUPS

**Study: "The Parables For Today"**  
Hosted by Sunday Morning Small Group  
When: 9:30 am  
Where: Adult Classroom

**NEW Study: "Come As You Are Not"** starts Sunday 7-9-17  
Hosted by: The Late Sunday Morning Small Group  
When: Sunday's at 10:45 am  
Where: Adult Classroom  
Leader: Gary Potter

**Study: "All the Places to Go...How Will You Know?"**  
10-week Adult Study  
Hosted by: The Tuesday Morning Small Group  
When: Tuesday's at 10:00 am  
Where: Dianne Ho-Gland's home in Texas City  
Leader: Dianne Ho-Gland

**Study: "Creed"**  
Hosted by: The Tuesday Evening Small Group  
When: Tuesday's at 7:00 pm  
Where: Adult Classroom  
Leader: Robin Bartholomew

**NEW GriefShare Group**  
Began Thursday, June 1st  
13 week course  
When: Thursday's 6:00 pm  
Where: Adult Classroom  
Leader: Donna Henson

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

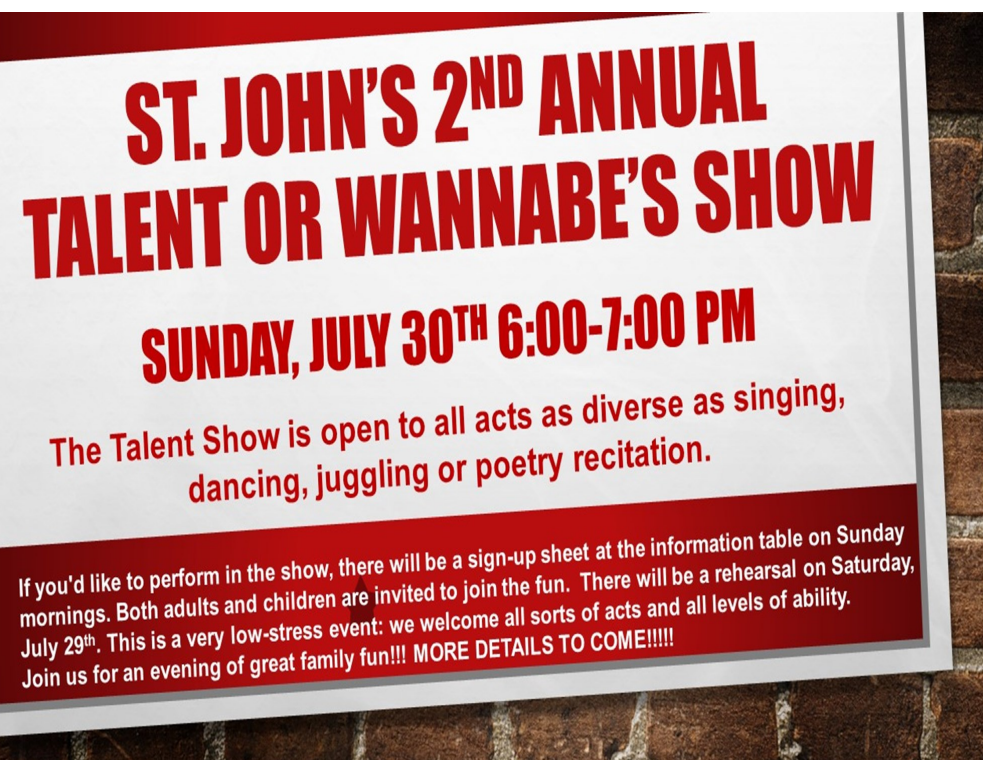
Worship Attendance		
Worship 6/4/17	9:30	81
Worship 6/4/17	11:00	49
Worship 6/11/17	9:30	80
Worship 6/11/17	11:00	42
Worship 6/18/17	9:30	86
Worship 6/18/17	11:00	52
Worship 6/25/17	9:30	108
Worship 6/25/17	11:00	50

## Registration is now open!!!



### VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Join us where you can discover your strength in God!!  
St. John's Vacation Bible School  
July 23rd-28th  
9:00am-12:00pm  
4 years old-completed 5th grade  
Register here:  
<http://2017.cokesburyvbs.com/stjohnsumcoftc/>



## Stewardship Report

### Building Loan Update:

Our current balance is \$22,598  
HOW CAN YOU HELP? PRAY...PLEDGE TODAY...GIVE!

2017 Tithe & Offerings (funds we have collected compared to what was budgeted)	
2017 Income Received as of June 30th	\$ 220,770.86
2017 Projected Income as of June 30th	\$ 187,274.50
2017 Income as of June 30th Surplus/-Deficit	\$ 33,496.36

# The Monitor

July 2017



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

## A Word From Our Pastor

There has been much in the local papers about hurricane preparedness. All the signs are there that we are in the beginning of the Gulf hurricane season. This isn't anything new for me. I grew up in Bridge City. I remember the excitement of evacuating as a small child. At that time I didn't understand the dread on my parent's faces like I do now. Back then I just thought it was a fantastic adventure and an excuse to do something out of the ordinary. In my naivety, I just likened it to a last minute vacation! But then, I was the kid that loved it when the lights would go out. When the house was completely dark, except for the small candles and my dad's old lantern, I liked to pretend that I lived in the days of Abraham Lincoln. I'd grab a book and get as close to the lantern as possible. I'd wonder what it would be like to live without the amenities of electricity or running water. I may have been a pioneer at heart!

Hurricanes are unpredictable. When storms rage in the Gulf, it takes a very educated guess as to what it's going to do. Will it turn into a hurricane? Where will it hit? Will it gain strength or begin to die down before it hits land? When this happens, people begin to scramble to make the best decisions. Should they stay and hunker down or leave town? When preparing for hurricanes, we are preparing for the unknown.

Life can be unpredictable. The storms of life can rage and we can be unprepared for the outcome. These storms can leave us devastated, while we try desperately to pick up the fragments left behind from a tragic loss. There is only one way to prepare for the unpredictability of life and that is to draw close to God. Scripture describes God as our shelter and our hiding place. In the midst of an unpredictable life, God's love for you is steadfast and faithful, never wavering. The Psalmist wrote, "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea; though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult. (Psalm 46:1-3)"

As we prepare for the waters to roar and foam in the Gulf, continue to prepare yourself for the ups and downs of life by drawing close to God through prayer, study and worship. And God will be your shelter in every storm that life brings.

Grace and Peace,

*Stephanie Hughes*  
Rev. Stephanie Hughes



8200 25TH AVENUE N.  
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 @  
stjohnsumctexascity







JULY MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

INVITE/Outreach: Community Garden Ministry

St. John’s hosts the Texas City Community Garden located to the west of the church building. We are in our sixth growing season. The vegetables we grow are given to United Faith Alliance for distribution to the folks who come to the food pantry for assistance. We are very fortunate for the great volunteers that help keep the garden running. However we need some additional help!

When: Friday mornings from 8:00-9:00 am is the regular weekly working day in the garden  
Contact: Cindy Riddick / 409-750-3203  
We need people: 3+ for weeding (can be done anytime on any day) / 2+ for harvesting

Do You Have Extra Produce? We have low-income families and elderly on fixed incomes that would greatly appreciate your extra produce! Just drop them by the church office by Thursday’s and the Friday Community Garden Crew will be glad to take them to UFA on Friday when we deliver the harvest from the garden. **Happy Gardening and Thank you!**

UFA SUPPLIES COLLECTION

Monthly collection for UFA Susan’s Market, a client-choice food pantry located in the building that houses the UFA offices at 2000 Texas Ave in Texas City.  
For more information or to volunteer, please call UFA at 409-643-8243.  
  
Help us fill the pantry shelves!!!  
Drop off non-perishable food and toiletry items in the ministry area.  
Shopping list are available!!!

# MOST WANTED

## Kid-Friendly Items

Providing Meals for Kids in Need

<b>SINGLE SERVING CEREALS</b> 	<b>MICROWAVABLE MEALS</b> 	<b>FRUIT &amp; VEGETABLE CUPS</b> 
<b>GRANOLA BARS</b> 	<b>PEANUT BUTTER &amp; JELLY</b> 	<b>CUPS OF SOUP</b> 
<b>100% JUICE BOXES</b> 	<b>TOOTH PASTE &amp; BRUSHES</b> 	<b>SNACKS</b> Raisins Fruit Snacks Goldfish

POP TOP CANS & MICROWAVABLE CUPS PREFERRED  
LOW SODIUM • LOW TRANS FAT • SUGAR FREE • NO GLASS

EXPERIENCE



We give thanks for all that God has already given you and we welcome you in Christian love. As members together with you in the body of Christ and in this congregation of The United Methodist Church, we renew our covenant faithfully to participate in the ministries of the church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness, that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.



Kathie Bryant



June Simpson



Beth Stinson



Isaac & Mae and Mollie, Devon, Eleanor

GROW



Sometimes we worry about whether or not we have made the right decision or just wonder how we got into a certain situation or place in our lives. Other times things happen and there is just no denying that God had a hand in it. Everything fell into place just so that there was no denying that this is where I am supposed to be right now. The entire congregation has been so welcoming and supportive. Myself, as well as my husband and children, are so excited to be a part of the St. John’s family.

I was born and raised in Galveston. I grew up in the Methodist church and have volunteered with the youth beginning immediately after I graduated high school. Along with being the youth director at St. John’s, I am also a 6<sup>th</sup> grade science teacher here in Texas City.

I am thrilled to be taking on this new adventure with the youth and I hope they are as well. We have serval events planned throughout the summer and we have gotten off to a good start. Events like Monday Madness and Whopping Wednesdays allow us to have fun with each other and build strong friendships. Sunday nights at youth group we enjoy fellowship with each other but also explore our faith and our relationship with Jesus Christ. If you are a youth in grades 6 -12 check out all of our upcoming events on the church calendar or just come by The Foundry. We will be glad to have you!

Peace and Blessings,  
Mae Diaz de Leon

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



Fourth of July is such a fun holiday! We get to hang out with our friends and family, eat great bbq and watch awesome fireworks. Mike and I watched our nephews, Nolan and Caleb, over fourth of July. On July 3rd, we went to the League City pre-independence day fireworks. We weren't sure what the event was so we scoped it all out. There were a lot of cars so we decided to park at this parking lot to watch the fireworks. We went and got ice cream, then sat in the back of the car to wait for the festivities to begin. It took the boys all of 3 minutes to finish their ice cream, then we had another 45+ mins waiting for the fireworks. The kids were restless, it was hot, and we were getting frustrated with trying to entertain them in a parking lot. We took turns playing tag and I-spy. All I kept thinking was we have no idea where these fireworks are going to be shot off. They are going to be far away, they are going to be behind a tree or we were just wasting our time waiting for them to be a disappointment. But then they finally happened. With a two year old and a four year old, it felt like we had waited hours for the fireworks. They were totally worth the wait! They were just across the field from us, they were huge and bright, they were loud and awesome and we were so close, we could smell the fireworks and feel the heat. It was totally worth the wait! It was one of the best fireworks I have ever experienced! Sometimes in life, we worry about what's going to happen, we think that we are going to be disappointed and we just don't want to wait. But God has great plans for our lives! He's in control but we try to take the plans into our own hands. In Jeremiah 29:11, God tells us that he knows the plans for our lives. Plans to prosper and not harm us, plans to give us hope and a future. If we just wait on the Lord, even if it seems a little longer than we want or plan, God will reward us!

See you soon,  
Jessica Dean

Up Coming Dates...Mark Your Calendar:

July 20th - Family Night at the Nessler Water Park 6:30 pm - 8:30pm  
July 24<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>-Vacation Bible School-Hero Central