

**SMALL GROUPS**

**Study: "The Ten Commandments For Today"**

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

**New Study: "JESUS?"**

Hosted by: The Late Sunday Morning Small Group  
Starts: Sunday, October 8th  
When: Sundays at 10:45 am  
Where: Adult Classroom  
Leader: Gary Potter

**Study: "At the End of the Day: How Will You Be Remembered"**

14-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

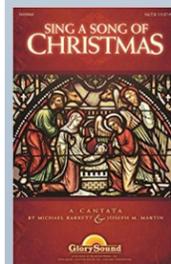
**NEW GriefShare Group**

When: Thursday's 6:00 pm  
Cost: \$15.00 Includes workbook  
Where: Adult Classroom  
Leader: Donna Henson - 409-621-6210

**GriefShare Surviving the Holidays**

Thursday, November 16th  
At 6:00 pm  
Cost: \$5.00 Includes workbook  
Where: Adult Classroom  
Leader: Donna Henson - 409-621-6210

**TRADITIONAL MUSIC MINISTRY**



**COME JOIN THE FUN!!!!**

It's time to start preparing for the Christmas Cantata. Come and join the Chancel Choir as they begin rehearsals for this years cantata

**"Sing A Song Of Christmas"**

Anyone interested in singing in the cantata is encouraged to come to rehearsal every **Wednesday at 7:30pm** in the choir room.

Please contact Dr. James Heffel for additional information.



Dave Ramsey "Smart Money" presentation offered for FREE!  
This event will be from 7:00 pm until 9:30 pm on Tuesday, November 7 in the sanctuary.

Dave Ramsey's 7 Step Plan to dump debt & build wealth will be streamed live as it happens from Phoenix, AZ. This is a high-energy event that is both funny and practical. 70% of Americans live paycheck to paycheck. You will leave motivated, with the tools to break that cycle and win with money. Even if you are handling money well, someone you know needs this information. Everyone in the community is invited; the entire event is free, there will be door prizes, and childcare is provided. Please register online at <https://goo.gl/cnKxqS>

**Stewardship Report**

2017 Tithe & Offerings (funds we have collected compared to what was budgeted)	
2017 Income Received as of October 31st	\$ 360,317.90
2017 Projected Income as of October 31st	\$ 312,124.17
2017 Income as of October 31st	\$ 48,193.73
<b>Surplus/-Deficit</b>	

**Worship Attendance**

Worship 10/1/17	9:30	78
Worship 10/1/17	11:00	42
Worship 10/8/17	9:30	80
Worship 10/8/17	11:00	46
Worship 10/15/17	9:30	77
Worship 10/15/17	11:00	48
Worship 10/22/17	9:30	80
Worship 10/22/17	11:00	36
Worship 10/29/17	9:30	91
Worship 10/29/17	11:00	49

**The Monitor**

November 2017



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

**A Word From Our Pastor**

The weather is finally beginning to change. And then it changes back. It can't seem to make up its mind. I always tell people, if you don't like our weather, just stick around, it'll change. It is often like that in our faithfulness to our spiritual disciplines. We will begin anew with such fervor like the wind picking up, blowing through the trees and kicking up dust and dirt. We'll set time aside for prayer and devotion. We'll renew our dedication to church attendance, serving and giving. We'll join a new Bible study. And then it begins to taper off. Our discipline begins to wane as other things begin to take priority again, like the wind dying down after a storm until it is completely still.

The holidays are coming! There will be new priorities as we begin to prepare for the Thanksgiving Feast and Christmas. There doesn't seem to be enough time for everything. But think about this? What keeps you going? What fills and delights your soul? What keeps you calm in the midst of the storm? Most likely it is your faith. Your relationship with God. Yet, this is the first thing that slips through our fingers when we get busy. Why is that? Why is it that something so very important for the health of our soul can be so very illusive?

Do yourself a favor this year... keep your time with the King of Kings and Lord of Lords sacred this holiday season. Don't let it slip through your fingers. Treasure it. Keep it safe. Guard it well. The richer your relationship with God is, the more wonderful your holidays will be. You'll be focused on what truly matters, as the Holy Spirit leads and guides you through the craziness of the holidays to places of quiet rest and peace. May our holidays truly be bright with the light of Christ and filled with powerful moments of peace.

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



**MARK YOUR CALENDAR!!!**

The Annual District HUB Charge Conference  
Sunday, November 12 at 3:00 pm  
at McKinney Memorial UMC  
1607 Nashby St, La Marque, TX 77568.

You will have an opportunity to meet our District Superintendent Rev. Vincent Harris. We will be conducting Annual Charge Conference business. All members are encouraged to attend this important meeting.



As you've heard we are debt free! Your generosity has blessed the ministries and mission of St. John's. In the first two weeks of November we will celebrate our annual stewardship campaign. You will have the opportunity to turn in your pledge card on November 12 during worship or you can drop it by the office anytime. For some, this time of renewing our dedication to service and generosity is a joyful celebration. For others, it is a time of frustration and confusion. Where ever you may be or however you may feel about it, its ok. There are practical reasons why we do this. For example, it helps us forecast the budget for the coming year. There are spiritual reasons why we do this. God has blessed us to be a blessing. This is a joyful thing! This blessing is a part of a legacy that has been passed down from one generation to the next. So, keep in mind that it is a time to celebrate the gifts that have been passed down from us from generations past and it is a time to remember that we are responsible as caretakers for that legacy in our trust that is to be passed onto the generations to come. Our investment in the present ministries of St. John's propels us forward into a bright strong future for future generations. One day, the responsibility we hold to support St. John's will belong to another. The legacy that has been entrusted to us will be passed on lighting the torches of new generations that will continue to show Christ's amazing love in our surrounding community.

**Jesus Loves the Little Children...**

**PLAYGROUND**

Make your donations to: **St. John's UMC PLAYGROUND CAMPAIGN**

**DONATE TODAY!**

Your gift of any amount will make a difference!!!

- \$30,000.00
- \$25,000.00
- \$20,000.00
- \$15,000.00
- \$10,000.00
- \$5,000.00

You Can Help Us!

Who will you honor with an engraved brick?  
You have the opportunity to have your name or that of a loved one commemorated in St. John's Prayer Garden.

Perhaps you would like to...

- Honor the person who first introduced you to Jesus Christ
- Create a permanent memory at your church home for yourself, parent, child/children or grandchild/grandchildren
- Show your patriotism with a brick for someone who has served or is serving our nations military

St. John's has always placed a high priority on ministries that reach children. In order to expand our Mother's Day Out program, and prepare for a future preschool, regulations require that we provide a new separate playground. With every brick you sponsor, you will have the satisfaction of supporting and expanding our Children's Ministry while permanently honoring a loved one.

**We are now taking orders for pavers for pavers!!!**

We are trying to raise about \$28,000.00 to cover the cost of a new playground outside our children's space.

In order for us to be able to expand our MDO program or even have a pre-school, the state minimum standards require a separate playground space for smaller children.

To that end we are looking to build the new playground in the spring of 2018.

We have 140 pavers available, each paver is \$225.00.

Won't you sponsor a paver today to help us meet our goal?

Please contact Ingrid Clark in the church office at 409-655-5348 or pick up an order form on Sunday to place your order today!!! Orders are due by Sunday, November 19th

so we can get the pavers back and placed in the prayer garden by Christmas.

What a great Christmas gift it would be to get our playground fully funded!!!

**GROW**



**TREEHOUSE KIDS**

November has come again. Man, hasn't the year flown by? I can't believe we are already planning Christmas events going on at St. John's. Before this crazy season gets under way and Thanksgiving is here, we need to remember that being thankful is not a day but a way of life. A person that is not thankful each and every day is not truly thankful on Thanksgiving day. We need to be thankful for the great blessings of life each day. The blessing of having family and loved ones around us is truly something to be thankful for. We have homes, televisions in most rooms, electronic games, air conditioning, food in the fridge, and more clothes than needed. This is just a partial list but you get the idea. We have been blessed. Many of us have learned how blessed we are after the storm. The greatest blessing is the gift God sent in the form of His Son who died on the cross for our sins. We can be thankful on "Thanksgiving Day" because we are thankful each day of our lives.

Jessica Dean



When you think about November the first thing most people think of is Thanksgiving. Thanksgiving is all about food and giving thanks for all of the blessings in our lives. First and foremost, I am so thankful to God for the blessing of my family. I am also thankful this year for my new position as Youth Director at St. John's. And I am so grateful for all of the support I have received from the congregation and all the friendships that my whole family have found here. Thanksgiving is also a time to reach out and be a blessing to others who are not as fortunate. I am so proud of the community service that our youth have done this year and excited for our next opportunity. We will be volunteering at Fatima to assist in meal prep for their annual Thanksgiving Dinner for the community. I hope that all of the youth will join us for this fun and rewarding service opportunity. All youth grades 6th – 12th are also invited to join us Sunday nights in the Foundry from 4-6. We have a lot of exciting Holiday events coming up and you don't want to miss out.

Peace and Blessings,  
Mae Diaz de Leon

**Fall Dates for Youth Activities**

- Wednesday, Nov. 22nd - Foundry Youth Volunteer prepping for Community Thanksgiving Meal
- Sunday, Nov. 26th: No Youth Group



**The Community Thanksgiving Meal**

Thursday, November 23rd,  
11:00am and 1:00pm  
at Our Lady of Fatima in the Kukral Center  
1600 9th Ave N, Texas City

St. John's is responsible for providing: 10 Large pans of Sweet Potatoes and 30 pies/cakes/desserts for the Community Thanksgiving Meal. We also need all the volunteers we can get from our church this year to help with the clean up after the meal. There will be boxes set up to collect canned goods and brown paper bags for the food bags that will be given out the day of the meal. We will also need frozen turkeys (no larger than 14 pounds) between November 1st-10th.

**WE WANT YOUR COATS!!!**

Please bring clean, gently worn or new coats, jackets and windbreakers to the St. John's Church Office. There will also be a collection box set up in the café for donations. Coats, jackets and windbreakers will be given away free of charge to those in need at the Community Thanksgiving Meal.

