

SMALL GROUPS

Study: "The Ten Commandments For Today"

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

Study: "JESUS?"

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

Study: "Life Lessons with Max Luccado The Book of Psalms"

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

GriefShare Group

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

FPU Class Spring Session Starting Sun, Jan 14th

Study: Financial Peace University / Dave Ramsey
When: Sunday's 5:00 pm
Where: Sanctuary
Leaders: David & Christie McKnight
Register at: <https://www.fpucentral.com/classes/1052129/registration>
Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend this class.

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

SERVE

Up Coming Meetings

Finance Committee Meeting
Tuesday, January 23rd,
At 6:00 PM
in the Church Office.



Board of Trustee Meeting
Thursday, January 25th,
At 6:00 PM
in the Church Office.



Ad Council Meeting
Thursday, January 30th,
At 6:00 PM,
in the Cafe.



Stewardship Report

Year End Tithe's & Offerings (funds we have collected compared to what was budgeted)	
2017 Year End Income	\$432,952.47
2017 Projected Income	\$374,549.00
2017 Year End Income Surplus/-Deficit	\$ 58,403.47



Worship Attendance		
Worship 12/3/17	9:30	86
Worship 12/3/17	11:00	42
Worship 12/10/17	9:30	89
Worship 12/10/17	11:00	40
Worship 12/17/17	10:30	121
Worship 12/24/17	10:30	106
Worship 12/24/17	5:00pm	165
Worship 12/24/17	7:00pm	76
Worship 12/31/17	10:30	98

The Monitor

January 2018



ST. JOHN'S
A United Methodist Congregation



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
Inviting People to
Experience Amazing Love!

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

A Word From Our Pastor

Happy New Year! As I look back on my calendar for 2017, there are very few days that don't have something written in the little square. Most days were filled in with church and community events, meetings and family appointments. It was a busy year!

In 2017, we added Mae Diaz de Leon to our staff and Jessica Dean is back being full time in the children's ministry. Both ministries are going strong and we are seeing new young faces. It's very exciting! We are also raising funds for an additional playground. We cannot expand the Mother's Day Out program without it. In order to expand even one more day, we need to be a licensed program and the one large obstacle in our way from receiving the license an additional playground for the smaller children. This is a great opportunity to invest in the future of children at St. John's UMC. Not only does it help build a playground, but it gets us one step closer to our goal of having a full time preschool.

Right after the New Year, we added another part time position to our staff. Alice Blanton is coming on board to be our book keeper. We are very blessed to have someone of her caliber. She is more than qualified with her accounting and auditing background. Ingrid Clark has been taking care of the financials for us for a long time and we are grateful to her. Ingrid is shifting focus to lead out and organize mission opportunities for St. John's. She will continue to assist the ministries as she has done in the past, but she will now have a new focus on mission. Ingrid Clark is now our Missions Director and Ministry Assistant. Please, welcome Alice and congratulate Ingrid when you see them.

And in the midst of change, we look to Christ to lead us into a new year filled with new opportunities, goals and challenges. As Paul wrote, "Let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer or 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." (Hebrews 12:1-1) I encourage you to keep your eyes on Christ and what matters most, praying always for the ministry at St. John's UMC.

Grace and Peace,

Stephanie Hughes
Rev. Stephanie Hughes



The book of Exodus has everything that would make a blockbuster hit packed with action and adventure. It is the story about a man who had it all and loses it all after a moment of brief insanity. After being brought up in Pharaoh's court, Moses escapes into the wilderness after he murders an Egyptian slave master. Yet, Moses cannot stay in his own personal wilderness. He is called back to the very place he once ran from by the God his Hebrew birth mom had told him about so long ago. Please, join me as we journey through the book of Exodus on Wednesday night Fusion, where scripture and life merge for deeper understanding, starting January 24th.

MISSION

"Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can, as long as ever you can." -John Wesley

My heart is full and I could not be more excited to be stepping into this new role as Missions Director! I just love the quote from John Wesley about doing good and it is a guiding force for me when it comes to missions! Missions has been a huge part of my life for as long as I can recall and it is truly a passion for me to be able to serve others. I was initially drawn to St. John's back in 2008 because of the heart for mission that this church has. From our UTMB Sandwich ministry, to our ministry to Pregnancy & Planning Center, packing shelves at UFA, collecting canned good for the food pantry, giving fresh vegetables from our community garden to the food pantry at UFA, Angel Tree and building ramps for those in need. I was very excited when we started Good Samaritan Ministry as a joint effort between St. Johns UMC and First UMC Texas City. We partnered to form a group that has gone out and helped church members and others in our community with yard work, minor home repairs and maintenance. Missions is in the DNA of St. John's and I LOVE IT!!! Moving forward I look toward working with the Ministry Team to continue bringing our members information about the work, of not only what the United Methodist Church as a whole is doing but also about mission opportunities here in our local community. It is my hope that we will continue to respond to each need as they arise through our prayers, stewardship, our time, our talents, and our resources! I will be seeking to do my part to fulfill our mission of Inviting People to Experience Amazing Love by helping to meet the physical and spiritual needs of all people in our community in the name of Jesus Christ. Jesus instructed us to care about the physical needs of the people he described as, "the least of these" (Matthew 25:31).

Together with the Ministry Team I will be organizing special mission projects such as making flood buckets, or hurricane relief, and quarterly mission opportunities through Good Samaritan Ministry. Local mission trips via UM ARMY and possible international mission trips to places like the Albergue, El Elohe a children's shelter in Galeana, Nuevo Leon, Mexico. American missionaries built it to provide food, shelter, and a Godly environment for children needing a place to live while getting an education. There are now children ages 10 to 17 attending school there. Each year mission teams pack vans full of badly needed household, school and other essential supplies and visit the Albergue as well as surrounding villages blessing them with gifts, the word of God and food. I was very fortunate to have attended this trip in December for a second year with a group from Alvin UMC and it was a huge blessing to me, and I look forward to hopefully sharing the experience with you all!

Fresh Fire!!!
Ingrid Clark

ATTENTION!!! ATTENTION!!!

We are in need of individuals who are interested in serving the church on Sundays by helping to run our multimedia show and or the sound board. If you are interested in signing up, please drop by the sound booth on Sunday morning and speak with Ingrid Clark or David McKnight. (Training will be provided).



— JOIN THE WORSHIP TEAM —



The Contemporary Praise Team is looking for musicians! If you have experience playing keyboard, guitar, or bass with a band please consider sharing your talent with the rest of us on Sunday mornings! Contact David or Randy for more information and to set up an audition.

We are now taking orders for ALTAR FLOWERS for 2018.

If you would like to place flowers in the Sanctuary for a Sunday service in memory of or in honor of someone, please call Ingrid Clark at 409-655-5348 to reserve your date. Cost is \$45.00 per Sunday and for each arrangement.



GROW

We are still taking orders 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 130 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!!!



Happy 2018!! We are off and running into the new year! So many great things happened in 2017. Our Mother's Day Out doubled in size. We went from 2 classes to 4 classes. We went from 4 teachers to 7 seven teachers. It has been so fun to watch all 40 kids come in each Monday and Wednesday! I was worried that they would not be happy to come back from the Christmas break but we had kids running, I mean RUNNING into their classes. They were so excited to be back! We helped the most kids with our Angel Tree this year than we have in the past! 116 kids were given clothes and toys for Christmas! Our Adult Sunday school room looked like Santa's workshop with all of the gifts! I tried to count how many gifts we gave out. My estimate was 64 gift bags, 245 wrapped presents, 11 bicycles and 1 tricycle. You guys are amazing!! Our VBS had over 100 kids at it! We had kids EVERYWHERE! Our VBS could not be the success that it was without the help of our 30+ adult volunteers and 20+ youth volunteers. Our Sunday School numbers have been increasing and our kids are learning about God and their passion is just infectious. We take up an offering every Sunday. They get to pick where the offering goes. In 2017, Galveston County Animal Resource Center was where they picked. I delivered \$92.74 to them, made up of mostly quarters. The kids picked MD Anderson Cancer Center for 2018. Their generous hearts motivate me to give more as well! As 2018 continues, our children's ministry will grow more and more. Our Vacation Bible School will be July 23rd-27th. Rolling River Rampage is the theme. We are working towards getting a full time preschool at St. John's. The one thing holding us back is that we need a playground for the younger kids. We received an AMAZINGLY generous, anonymous donation of \$20,000 towards our playground and have also raised a little over \$2,000.00 selling pavers. So we will begin working on finishing our requirements for certification! 2018 is going to be an awesome year! I can feel it!

Jessica Dean



January is a time for new beginnings and fresh starts. I am excited to be starting the year here at St. John's. 2018 is already off to a great start for myself, my family, and the youth of St. John's. There is so much to look forward to in the Foundry this year. There are already a bunch of events planned and a few small changes as well. There will be a Youth Parent and Volunteer meeting Sunday, January 28th at 4:00 pm in the Foundry. Parents as well as current and prospective volunteers are invited to join us for the night to see what we have planned this coming year. One of the things we will be talking about is that we are starting a Youth Sunday School class. We will have our own worship time and Bible lesson each Sunday morning in the Foundry during the 9:30 church service. Our first class will be February 4, 2018. New events calendars for the spring will also be handed out at the meeting. Summer camp information will also be given. I hope to see all the youth, parents, and volunteers there January 26th. If anyone is interested in volunteering with the youth this year this is a great time to see what it is like. You may also contact me at mdiazdeleon@stjohnsumctc.org for more information. Happy New Year from the Foundry!

Peace and Blessings,
Mae Diaz de Leon