

SMALL GROUPS

Study: "The Ten Commandments For Today"

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

Study: "The Story"

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 Began Sun, Jan 14th

Study: Financial Peace University / Dave Ramsey
When: Sunday's 5:00 pm
Where: Sanctuary
Leaders: David & Christie McKnight

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

Worship Attendance		
Worship 1/7/18	9:30	75
Worship 1/7/18	11:00	53
Worship 1/14/18	9:30	85
Worship 1/14/18	11:00	42
Worship 1/21/18	9:30	96
Worship 1/21/18	11:00	40
Worship 1/28/18	9:30	86
Worship 1/28/18	11:00	44

**Saint John's United Methodist Church
Operating Budget for 2018**

2018 BUDGET FOR ST JOHN'S UMC TEXAS CITY

PROJECTED INCOME		429,053.00
EXPENSES		
	Finance	
	ADMINISTRATION EXPENSE	10,150.00
	APPORTIONMENTS	40,486.00
	LOCAL CHURCH EXPENSE	
	Stewardship	250.00
	Total Finance	50,886.00
	LOCAL CHURCH PROGRAMS	
	Adult Ministry	1200
	Congregational Care	2300
	Evangelism	3000
	Grow Team	1000
	Mission/Outreach	3450
	Worship/Music	10,900.00
	Children Ministry	5,250.00
	Youth Ministry	5,200.00
	Total LOCAL CHURCH PROGRAMS	32,300.00
	SPRC	
	Total Personel Expense	280,043.00
	Trustees	
	Church Equip	2,500.00
	Church Repairs	6,000.00
	Church Utilities	26,600.00
	Insurance	25,310.00
	Janitor Supplies	1,750.00
	Trailer Maintance	60.00
	Total Trustees	62,220.00
	Total Expense	425,449.00
	Net Ordinary Income	3,604.00

Stewardship Report

2018 Tithe & Offerings (funds we have collected compared to what was budgeted)	
YTD Income Received as of Jan 31	\$ 30,046.80
YTD Projected Income as of Jan 31	\$ 35,754.42
YTD Income difference as of Jan 31 Surplus/-Deficit	-\$ 5,707.62

The Monitor

February 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 Lovel

Find us on Facebook @
stjohnsumctexascity

A Word From Our Pastor

As we enter into the season of lent, I can't help but think about how this season came about. Did you know that the season of Lent came about as a response to a pagan holiday called Carnival? During the season of Carnival the winter spirits would be driven out and the darkness being driven out by the coming light. It was a festival that celebrated fertility and the earth coming to life again. It was also a time that the winter stores of food were coming to an end before the earth began to produce. So, it was a time for most people to enjoy the end of the winter stores. They knew that they were getting close to a time of leaner days, while they waited for the first spring produce. This became a time known as the time before fasting as all the remaining stores of lard, butter, and meat would be eaten before it all went bad. So there were days of gorging, before the days of fasting. This became a communal celebration called Carnival. As early as the year 325, the church was trying to end these festivals because they had become an act of rebellion on the part of the people with excess eating, drinking and debauchery.

As the pagans were eating their winter stores so that it wouldn't go bad knowing that there would be a time of scarcity at hand, the Christians were getting ready to observe a season of repentance and fasting. For Christians, the 40 days of Lent represents a time we reflect on Christ's time in the wilderness as he faced temptation. As time went on, the church found that it was easier to absorb Carnival into their own practices, rather than eliminate it. Mardi Gras or Fat Tuesday became the culmination of Carnival. And now Christians, near and far, eat as many pancakes they can the day before Ash Wednesday, which is the first day of Lent.

In the midst of winter, we wait for the light to come. And that light brings new life. But unlike the ancient pagans, we look for a different kind of light. The Gospel of John tells us, not what this light is, but who,

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it."

Grace and Peace,
Stephanie Hughes
Rev. Stephanie Hughes



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

As your Missions Director I will be providing direction, opportunities, and encouragement for the congregation to participate in the mission of St. John's UMC & the United Methodist Church as a whole: To glorify God and make disciples by connecting people to Christ across all boundaries. My battle cry is "No Limits!" It is incumbent upon us to reach out to the least and the lost, to be the hands and feet of Jesus in a hurting world, sharing the love of Christ wherever we go!

To that end I am looking to partner with the Texas 4B Disaster Response Network. They are offering Hurricane Harvey survivors free assistance with rebuilding their homes. They are planning to rebuild 1000 homes from March 10-24th. By partnering with Eight Days of Hope, to bring in skilled carpenters, electricians, and volunteers together to conduct rebuilding efforts over the next 1-2 years but the 2 weeks in March will be the initial blitz. If you or someone you know is in need of help rebuilding, you can sign up at <http://4bresponse.org/> using the link that reads "Request to Rebuild." The Texas 4B Disaster Response Network is a non-profit organization of churches that serves the area between the Beltway and Galveston Beach and Galveston Bay to Brazoria County. This is a huge opportunity to help in the recovery efforts. Please consider volunteering to help. They ask for a minimum of 3 days commitment but you can work all the days. You don't have to pay for anything just have reliable transportation to get yourself to the assigned work sites.

I am hoping to get a group from St. John's together to work on a local site possibly in Dickinson. Please contact me in the church office if you are interested in working on this project.

In addition we are designating February as our month to collect new hats, gloves, socks and underwear for children and adults for our pending mission trip in December. I will be returning to Mexico and want to bring a team and supplies from St. John's. This past December we were able to sponsor sending 60 blankets. Please join us in helping the "least of these." Please share your blessings and donate! You may bring donations to the Mission Donation area near the front office. Please contact me at 409-655-5348 or via email at IClark@stjohnsumctc.org for more information.

Fresh Fire!!!
Ingrid Clark

FAT TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER



FEBRUARY 13TH
6:00 PM - 7:30 PM

AT ST. JOHN'S UMC
8200 25TH AVE N
(At the corner of 25th Ave N &
N. Amburn Rd in Texas City, TX)

PLATES WILL BE BY DONATION

"All are from the dust,
and to dust all return."

Ecclesiastes 3:20, ESV



Ash Wednesday Service

February 14th at 6:00 pm

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!!!



The month of February celebrates so many things. The beginning of lent happens, its Black History Month, and we celebrate Valentine's Day. I don't know if you all know this but I got married later in life than all my friends. My friends were getting married in their early to mid 20's. Mike and I didn't even meet until I was 28. I wasn't like a "normal" single girl who hated the holiday. I was never an anti-valentines girl. I don't think it was created by hallmark to make money. I think it's a special day to spend with your love ones. I knew someday I'd have a valentine so I didn't bother me at all. The thing that I loved and still love about Valentines is that I love the decorations. You probably know this by now but I love the color red. I love when Christmas or valentine's day comes around because there is so much red everywhere. There is something about the color red that makes me so happy and cheerful. If you've seen my purse, office, house, or clothing, there is always something red going on there. My heels I wore to my wedding were red. The wonderful Houston Rockets are a red team but it's just coincidence that I love a red team, which I'm not complaining about. Every morning at work I drink out of my red coffee cup. I don't know what it is, but the color red just makes me so happy! I know that there are many things that the Bible tells us about true happiness. Here are just a few things that will help you: Walk humbly (Micah 6:8), put God first always (Luke 9:23), be satisfied (1 Timothy 6:6), be compassionate and show mercy (Ephesians 4:32), be at peace (Romans 12:18) and see the positives in life (John 16:33B). I pray that you find happiness is Jesus Christ!

Jessica Dean



February is always jam-packed with holidays and events and this year is no exception. Our youth have a few events this month as well. February 11th is Scout Sunday. All youth involved in any kid of scouting program are encouraged to wear their uniforms to church were we will recognize them and offer a special prayer over them. The following Tuesday, the 13th, is shrove Tuesday! You know what that means: PANCAKES! Please join us for pancakes, bacon, and sausage and make a donation to help the youth and children's ministries. The money raised helps the kids pay for church camp and missions trips this summer. The very next weekend we are taking a small group to a winter church camp retreat at Carolina Creek. Please join me in praying for a fun, safe, and uplifting experience for everyone on this trip. As you can see we have a lot going on in the youth group at St. John's. This whole year will be filled with fun and exciting events. In order to provide the best experience for our youth we are looking for a few more volunteers to help with the youth. We would be glad to have help 1 Sunday night a month or more if you would like. We also need volunteers for summer camp and our junior high and senior high mission trips. Working with the youth is a very rewarding experience and a great way to stay young at heart. If you are interested, please contact me at church or by email.

Peace and Blessings,
Mae Diaz de Leon