

SMALL GROUPS

Study: "Life Lessons with Max Lucado: The Book of Genesis"
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

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

GriefShare Group
NEW TIME
When: Thursday's 10:00 am
Starting June 7th
Cost: \$15.00 Includes workbook
Where: Adult Classroom
Leader: Donna Henson - 409-621-6210

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



CHANGE for CHANGE

Filling a baby bottle helps moms & babies throughout Galveston County!

Please plan to pick up a Baby Bottle next week on Mother's Day!

A baby's life may depend on it!



TAKE A TATOR Baked Potato Bar



FUNDRAISER

FOR YOUTH & CHILDREN'S CAMP AND UM ARMY SCHOLARSHIPS

DATE: SUNDAY, MAY 20TH

WHERE: ST. JOHN'S CAFÉ

TIME: 12:00 PM Till we're out of food!




Please join us in creating a St. John's 2018 Cookbook

If you have any questions, please contact:
Robin Bartholomew (409) 771-2664
Dianne Ho-Gland (409) 945-4039
Pam Welch (409) 770-7551

Recipes are due no later than Saturday, June 30th

The Monitor

May 2018



ST. JOHN'S
A United Methodist Congregation

A Word From Our Pastor

What an exciting time at St. John's UMC! I catch myself thinking or saying it out loud quite often. This past month, we celebrated Easter together, witnessing four confirmands, Chase Busby, Mollie Diaz de Leon, Tucker Ferree, and Leah Lillie, claim their faith as their own. One of those confirmands was baptized along with his mother and younger sister. And two confirmands had their families join the church alongside of them. What a testament of faith to the risen Lord as we watched these families proclaim their faith and join the church. The following Sunday we came together to worship and to witness the baptism of Taylor Click. For each of these individuals and for all that have been marked by the baptismal waters, we are changed. Our love for Christ changes us and moves us for the work of Christ. To follow Christ is to lead to Christ.

This past month we have thought about what it means to be a follower of Jesus and how that impacts our leadership. We looked to the words and leadership style of Martin Luther King, Jr. In a time when there was a great deficit of equality in a nation that was founded on the belief that all people are "created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness," King's prophetic voice brought a new consciousness to the disparity caused by racism. Even in the face of danger, King held tight to Christ's teaching of love and forgiveness and his understanding of Christ's command to love one's enemy influenced all that he said and did. His words continue to challenge us today to rise up against injustice and represent Christ with great courage in every aspect of our life: with family, with coworkers, with friends, with strangers, and even with enemies. We are all leaders. And we should all be following Christ and leading to Christ.

And then we heard from one of our own leaders, Gary Scoggin. He gave us an update on where we are as a congregation and where we are headed. What does our future look like and what can impact it both positively and negatively. Moving forward, unity in Christ is extremely important. The friendships we have forged in Christ at St. John's remain in Christ and our loyalty to Christ and one another leads us to a bright future. And with the presence and power of the Holy Spirit we continue to be a beacon of light in our community. Together we follow Christ and we lead to Christ.

Last week, we heard from a more creative leader. One that stirred our imaginations. We journeyed with the disciple Peter as he followed Jesus and learned what it meant to lead back to Jesus. We witnessed Peter's struggle to forgive himself for his mistakes and his betrayal. But in order to be the best leader, he had to trust that forgiveness from Christ was even for him. The spirit of love and forgiveness will always lead us back to Christ. We are challenged to follow Christ and to lead to Christ by the Spirit of Christ.

"And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him" – Colossians 3:17

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
Inviting People to
Experience Amazing Love!

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

SPRC ANNOUNCEMENT

The SPRC and I are pleased to announce the hiring of a new part time Minister of Discipleship and Connections. Most of you will be excited to welcome back Cindy Riddick for this position. Cindy is an Ordained Deacon in the United Methodist Church and has been serving Bay Harbor UMC for the past several years. St. John's is Cindy's home church, so many of you already know and love her. Those of you that do not yet know Cindy will soon find that she is a faithful disciple of Jesus, relies on the Holy Spirit for inspiration, a very dedicated and hard worker, and has the most beautiful peace-filled countenance. She will be a huge blessing to St. John's UMC. We will be welcoming Cindy back to St. John's on June 1st.

Grace and peace,
Stephanie

MISSION/OUTREACH

"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



Here are current Opportunities to be of service to our community and to provide HOPE...We need your help to serve our neighbors!

Manna Bags – St. John's UMC's Mission to the Homeless & those in need of food in our community. During the month of April, please bring canned meats (with pull tab tops), such as Vienna sausage, single serve tuna, ham or chicken, and single serve fruits, such as applesauce, raisins, mandarin oranges, etc., jello or pudding, crackers, individual small snack bags (i.e. Oreos, crackers) jerky, wet wipes and small bottles of water. We will use these items to make Manna Bags that can be handed out to anyone that comes to the church for assistance and also we will make extra for you to take to hand out to people you see in our community that need them. We hope to make 50 bags. Please drop off items in the bin in the Mission area.

Outreach Opportunity: We will be hosting a food drive at Kroger in Texas City to benefit Susan's Market at UFA. It will be **Saturday, May 19th 9:00 am-12:00 pm**. We will have a signup sheet available for anyone who wants to volunteer. We need 2 people per hour shift so a total of 8 people, however the more the merrier!!! Look for the signup sheet at the table just outside the sanctuary.

Monthly Mission Opportunity: 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. We need **Tuna-12 oz cans, Boxed Mac & Cheese, Pasta and Pasta Sauce, and Toiletries (razors, shaving cream, bath soap, toothpaste, tooth brushes) the whole month of MAY. You can drop off your donations in the bin in the Ministry area.**

Don't forget to bring your blanket for the "Blanket Project!" Also please be in prayer about joining the team going to Mexico to the Albergue, El Elohe children's shelter in Galeana, Nuevo Leon, Mexico. The cost of the trip is \$250.00. You must have a valid passport to go on this trip. Youth age 14th and up & adults are encouraged to come on this trip, it will be a life changing experience! Please contact Ingrid Clark at 409-655-5348 or via email at IClark@stjohnsumctc.org for more information.

Fresh Fire!!!
Ingrid Clark

GROW



As I continue to highlight our awesome volunteers in children's ministry, this month I want to highlight Rebekah Christman! Bekah has been helping out on Sunday mornings for quite some time now. She faithfully shows up and helps Miss Betty in the 4th, 5th and 6th grade class. She does an amazing job in filling in where needed. If we have a teacher out of town or sick, she is willing to jump in and teach that class. Bekah is very passionate about kids and does an excellent job of teaching them and helping them grow in Christ. Bekah has also filled in at our Mother's Day Out when teachers can't make it. I very rarely get a no from Bekah when I ask her for a favor. She has helped with Vacation Bible School many times and always does such a great job. Rebekah is such an important and vital part of our Children's Ministry and I truly appreciate her commitment to St. John's!

It's that time of year again!! Camp at Lakeview is just around the corner! Camp is for kids who just finished 2nd grade-12th grade. If you have a child/grand-child that's in 2nd-12th grade and are interested in sending them to camp this important information for you: We will be headed to camp on **June 17th-23rd**. You can register at <https://lakeviewsummercampregistration.campbrainregistration.com/>. If you registered last year, it SHOULD be an easy process. You should be able to sign in and update your information, then register your kid for this year. If this is your first year, I'd recommend getting started now. It's a lengthy process to sign up and can be a little stressful. If you have any questions or want to have someone walk you through the sign up process, let me know and I can meet with you. I wish it was easier but it's not, I'm sorry.

You must be registered for camp by May 20th. Please don't wait until the last minute. Camp is \$400 per child. We have and will have a few fundraisers to help cover the cost of camp. There is also scholarships available but you **MUST apply for the scholarships through Lakeview**. The sooner that you apply for a scholarship the better. When they run out of funds, they are out. After scholarships are awarded to you, please let Mae or I know and we can update your account with the church. We will let you know by **May 23rd** how much you owe and you will pay the church by **May 27th**. When registering, please click "Pay by Check" and the church will send a check to camp as a whole. You will make your payments for camp directly to St. John's for camp registration. **Don't pay Lakeview on the website. Money will go through St. John's.** If you have any questions at all, please call Mae or I. We will help you out and walk you through the process. Camp is fun and we would like for all kids to attend! We can work with you on getting the funding. **Please don't let money stop your kid from attending we always have ways to help get them there!!!** We always need adults to come as well, so if you have some time off in the summer and like to attend, please let us know!

Jessica Dean



Summer is almost here! Registration for camp and mission trips are underway. The deadline for UMARMY and SUMMIT is May 18th. The deadline for summer camp at Lakeview is May 20th. Don't wait until the last minute to register. Also, we are still in need of adult volunteers to accompany us on both the Senior High and Junior High mission trips. The church covers the cost for adults to attend. Please contact me if you may be interested. The fundraisers for camps have all been going well. The Dinner, Magic Show and silent auction was a great success. We raised just over \$2700.00!!! Thank you all for your generosity! We could not have all the great activities for our youth and children's program with out you all! I am so proud of the youth for all the work they put into the event. We have 1 more fundraiser coming up this month. May 20th will be the Take a Tater lunch sale. Our youth and kids will be selling baked potatoes with all the toppings immediately following church service. Enjoy a delicious lunch and help send our kids to summer camp. Camps are not the only thing we are doing this summer. We have a fun and jam packed summer planned this year. June 3rd will be our summer kick-off party. Any youth entering 6th-12th grade is welcome to join us as we celebrate the end of the school year and the start of the summer. For any additional information please feel free to contact me at mdiazdeleon@stjohnsumctc.org.

Peace and Blessings,
Mae Diaz de Leon



There are many creative ways to journal thoughts and prayers. St. John's is hosting a spiritual journaling retreat facilitated by Neva Young on **Saturday, May 19 from 9am-12pm**

You're invited to spend some time getting creative in expressing thoughts, scripture and prayers and making new friends. Cost: \$10.00 per person. You can pay the day of the retreat. Please RSVP by calling 409-655-5348 so we can be sure to have enough supplies for everyone.