

SMALL GROUPS

Study: "Old Testament Prophets 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: "Pilgrimage into the Last Third of Life"

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 10:00 am
Began June 7th
Cost: \$15.00 Includes workbook
Where: Adult Classroom
Leader: Donna Henson - 409-621-6210

FPU Class Fall Session

Study: Financial Peace University / Dave Ramsey STARTS SUN SEPT 9TH
When: Sunday's 5:00 pm
Where: Sanctuary
Leaders: David & Christie McKnight
coach@dobetterwithmoney.com
Cost: Approximately \$120

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

Worship Attendance		
Worship 7/1/18	9:30	86
Worship 7/1/18	11:00	59
Worship 7/8/18	9:30	79
Worship 7/8/18	11:00	36
Worship 7/15/18	9:30	81
Worship 7/15/18	11:00	54
Worship 7/22/18	9:30	79
Worship 7/22/18	11:00	57
Worship 7/29/18	9:30	111
Worship 7/29/18	11:00	50

FRIDAY, AUGUST 10TH

7:00-8:30 PM

IN THE ST. JOHN'S CAFE



Pot Luck Dinner

bring your favorite dish

make sure to label any spicy hot dishes

DINNER WITH FRIENDS

EVERYONE IS INVITED!!!

The Monitor

August 2018

A Word From Our Pastor



ST. JOHN'S
A United Methodist Congregation

It's hard to believe that the kids will be going back to school in a couple of weeks. The summer is coming to a close, even though the heat will probably stick around for a while longer like a house guest wearing out their welcome. As teachers, school administrators, bus drivers, support faculty and of course the kids begin to get ready to go back to school, we too are getting ready for the fall. Isn't it interesting that as the earth begins to prepare for rest, we encourage growth and learning. As the kids go back to school to continue their growth in education, we too at St. John's are beginning new small groups and learning opportunities so that we can continue to grow in our knowledge and love of God. So, as the days get shorter, we add more things to our days. It seems counter to what we should be doing. If we truly listened to the rhythm of the earth, we would be vacationing and resting in the winter months, and then getting ready for new growth in the spring. Yet, that isn't the way it is.

The scripture tells us that there is a time for everything in Ecclesiastes 3:1-8. What season of life are you in right now? Some of us are spiritually in a season of spring. Those of us that are in a season of growth, are learning new things, feel new energy, maybe even feeling God's nearness in prayer and study like never before. And then some of us are in a season of winter. Those of us that are being called into a season of rest feel the fatigue of continued demands and expectations and it feels like it takes more energy to accomplish things. These days call for more rest and less movement. We may even criticize ourselves for the things that aren't getting done. And question why there may be less energy to get things done. There may even be some sadness that goes along with this season. And maybe even a sense of loss.

Just as the earth has its rhythm of seasons and our culture has its own rhythm, we too have our own rhythm and timing. All of us are experiencing life at different paces. And we have different experiences along our spiritual journey. Some of us come to Christ at a very early age, while some of us find Christ waiting with open arms later in life. Whatever season we may be in, God loves us. Amazingly. Tremendously. Though we encounter God's love in a myriad of places, the expression of that love is concentrated in the life of the church. It is here we truly find a miracle. When all of these individuals that are marching to the beat of their own rhythm in a world that is beating out its own rhythm on a planet that lives out, yet another completely different rhythm. What we find in the church, the Body of Christ, is a safe place to experience and explore the rhythm of God. Seasons will always come and go, but one thing will always remain the same: The rhythm of God leads to more than an average life. It leads to abundant living and even to resurrection. Whatever season you may be in right now, seek out the rhythm of God. And one of the best places to find it is within your church home. St. John's will be offering all kinds of opportunities to experience God's amazing love in the weeks to come.

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

ST. JOHN'S UMC CRAFT FAIR & FALL FESTIVAL
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 6TH, 2018
10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Vendors, Craft Booths, Food, Fun, Games, Hayride, Bake sale & More!!!

Vendors - Contact Kim Bourgeois at kimbougeois@hotmail.com
(Space rental \$20.00 / +\$5.00 for table / + \$5.00 for Electricity)

Baked Goods needed for bake sale - sign up sheet available to help

Donated Crafts Needed for St. John's Booth - Contact church office for details

Donations of Fall Decorations needed - Collection box available in ministry area
(Donations needed by Sunday, September 23rd)

Stewardship Report

2018 Tithe & Offerings	
(funds we have collected compared to what was budgeted)	
YTD Income Received as of July 31st	\$ 253,556.11
YTD Projected Income as of July 31st	\$ 250,280.92
YTD Income difference as of July 31st	\$ 3,275.19
Surplus/-Deficit	

ADULT DISCIPLESHIP

As the Minister of Discipleship and Connections, I'll be inviting everyone to find a bible study to join where you can learn and grow in your faith. I'll also be offering plenty of opportunities for you to find a place to serve. Let me know if you are interested in any of the following opportunities:

A Place to Grow—Small Group Study for Senior Women on Tuesdays at 10:00 AM

If you are looking for an opportunity to grow in your faith walk and happen to be a woman over the age of 60, then consider joining the study group that meets at Dianne Ho-Gland's house on Tuesday mornings at 10 AM. Their current study, Pilgrimage into the Last Third of Life, invites participants to dig deeply into the realities of this stage of life and realize that God continues to offer a life full of purpose and opportunities for spiritual growth. Contact Dianne Ho-Gland at d.hogland@yahoo.com for more information.

A Place to Serve—Planning Team for the 60th Anniversary Celebration for St. John's

St. John's first worshiped together on Sunday, October 5, 1958. Sixty years later, we plan to celebrate our anniversary on Sunday, October 7, 2018. The tentative plans include worshiping together in one Sunday morning service followed by a pot-luck dinner. We welcome your ideas for this day of celebration. If you would like to serve on the planning team, let me know. If you love church history, we are also looking for someone to convert the print version of our history to a digital copy. We have a fascinating story that we'd love to update for this 60th anniversary.

There are so many more ways to grow and serve at St. John's. Check out the website, the rest of this newsletter, the back of the worship bulletin, or give me a call. We'll chat about what might be a good fit for you.

Grace and peace,
Rev. Cindy Riddick

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

August's 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. **They are in need of the following items:** pastas, canned meats, oatmeal and cereal, toilet paper and paper towels and anything else you find a good deal on!!!! There will be a collection box set up in the ministry area. You can drop off your donations in the church office Monday-Thursday 8:30-4:30, or on Sunday mornings. **There is also the opportunity to serve:** Every Friday Susan's Market gets a delivery truck with items for the pantry and they need help unloading it and stocking the pantry. Please see Michelle at UFA Friday's at 10:00 am to help.

Good Samaritan Ministry Work Day

Our next work day will be on

Saturday, September 29th 8:30 am - 12:30 pm.

Anyone interested in working with this ministry is invited to attend.

You can sign up to help at the information table.

If you would like to volunteer or if you know someone in need of help from this ministry please contact

Ingrid Clark at 409-655-5348 x100 or via email at IClark@stjohnsumctc.org for more information.



Please see our "Getting Plugged In" brochure for a detailed list of Missions & Outreach opportunities.

Fresh Fire!!!
Ingrid Clark, Director of Missions & Administration

CHILDREN'S & YOUTH



As I continue my articles of gratitude, I am so thankful for the following two that help out at our Sunday School. It's a little bit exciting to write this article because it makes me so happy to write about two great kids! Donald Hutchison and Carly Treybig are such great help during Sunday school. Both of them help out in our 1st-3rd grade Sunday School class. Carly comes to Sunday School with such a great attitude. Even on the Sundays that she's a little tired, she still has a smile on her face and is happy to help out. Carly helps with our crafts and helps Cindy with the lesson. Donald is such a great help during Sunday School as well. He steps up and takes initiative to help the kids. He works hard passing out crafts or snacks for the kids. The kids love being around him. Donald likes to come off a little shy but the kids get him talking and laughing. Cindy has told me how grateful she is to have Donald and Carly in her class. Thank you Donald and Carly for helping out with our Sunday School class.

Jessica Dean
Director of Children's Ministries



I can't believe it's August already! Where did the summer go? It may be coming to a close but this sure was a busy and fun summer in the Foundry. We had a fantastic week at Lakeview for summer camp, two great mission trips: UM ARMY and SUMMIT, and almost all of our youth volunteered at VBS. We also had a day trip to the Strand, a night trip to Pleasure Pier, and 70's, 80's, and 90's themed Wacky

Wednesdays with karaoke, movies, and trivia! And of course we had a lot of laughs participating in the church Talent Show. But the fun isn't over just yet! We have 2 more events to round out the summer. The District Wave Pool event next Wednesday night is a great chance to play in the waves and reconnect with friends from camp. That following Sunday, August 12 will be our end of Summer Party. We will play games, enjoy some cool treats, look back on a great summer, and begin looking ahead to a new school year and an exciting fall schedule for the Foundry. If you participated in any of our summer events (youth and adult volunteers) make sure you don't miss the party and see if you can spot yourself in our end of summer slide show. I also want to take this opportunity to thank all of our volunteers that helped supervise and drive to all of our many events this summer. I especially want to thank Ingrid Clark and Sheila Treybig for joining us for our mission trips and Jill Gonzales for volunteering with the junior high at camp. Without all of you many of our events wouldn't happen. Thank you for sacrificing your time and energy for these kids and helping make a difference in their lives.

Peace and Blessings,

Mae Diaz de Leon
Youth Director

FUSION

MERGING SCRIPTURE WITH LIFE

WEDNESDAYS 6:30-7:45

STARTS WEDNESDAY SEPT 12TH

This fall we will be studying the Gospel of John during Fusion. Out of the four Gospels, the Gospel of John stands out. This gospel is definitely not like the others. So much so that it almost wasn't included in the Bible! It was too scandalous! And now, it is one of the most beloved of the four Gospels. Yet, have you ever wondered why it is so different? Why does Jesus seem so different in the Gospel of John compared to the other gospels? And if the Gospel of John is so different, is there any historical accuracy to the book? We will address these questions, the cultural context of the book, and how the Gospel of John impacts our understanding of Jesus in our lives during Fusion: where scripture and life merge for a deeper understanding.