



A Community of Faith With a Place for You!
A place to belong... A place to believe... A place to become!

STEEPLE NOTES

SEPTEMBER 2019



SEE YOU TUESDAY, SEPT. 3

It's time for the United Methodist Men's "all-you-can-eat Pancake Supper" set Tuesday, September 3, in the Community Life Building from 5-7 p.m. Invite your family, neighbors, and friends to come enjoy fellowship and a delicious supper of pancakes, sausage, coffee, and juice! Tickets are \$15 for a family and \$5 for individuals. Tickets are available for purchase at the door. Proceeds will benefit various missions supported by UMM.

Around the Church

Pumpkins and Pumpkin Patch

A couple thousand pumpkins will arrive on October 5, and St. John's will need all hands on deck to help unload. Pumpkin sales will follow, as well as storytelling for school groups. Watch for more information on volunteer opportunities!

Upcoming Classes:

- Beginning September 22 during the Sunday school hour, Pastor KP will lead a 6-week class studying the book "Reckless Love" by Tom Berlin. Participants will learn how loving the people around us will renew our faith and give us a new experience of loving God.
- Also beginning September 22, the College & Careers Class will resume meeting during the Sunday School hour.
- A 6-week study led by Pastor Wade will begin October 29. *A Disciple's Path* will focus on what it means to follow Jesus Christ in the path of discipleship, with a special emphasis on what this means to us as followers in the Methodist tradition.



Blessing of the Backpacks--In both of the August 25 worship services, children, youth, and educators heading back to school received special blessings and tags to place on their backpacks. Children's Director Hanna Patton-Elliott and Pastors Wade Lindstrom and KP Polk provided special liturgy for the annual back-to-school recognition. (See additional photos on Page 9.)

Sept. 15 Is "Welcome Back to Church" Sunday; Let's Reconnect!

Let's reconnect with St. John's after a long, hot summer by being in worship on Sunday, Sept. 15. Some of our members have been traveling, others recovering from medical issues, and still others with various personal and work commitments that kept them away. We will enjoy fellowship between the two services, and receive information on all the outreach activities, Bible studies, and ministry activities planned this fall. A continental breakfast will be available from 10:15-10:45 a.m. in the Community Life Building. Everyone is invited!



CONFIRMATION CLASS BEGINS THIS FALL

Students in Grades 7-12 are encouraged to register on the church website for Confirmation classes that begin September 29. Please read Pastor Wade's pastoral column on page 2 for an overview of the program.

From Our Pastor

Spotlight on Confirmation Class

By Pastor Wade Lindstrom

September begins a busy season at St. John's UMC. Schools are moving into full swing. We will be celebrating Back to Church Sunday on September 15, to which we are encouraging all to invite friends and neighbors as well as folks you haven't seen in a while back to church. Pumpkin Patch, Fall Festival and Trunk or Treat are in planning stages and will be a big part of our October.

A significant event in the life of any Methodist Church is confirmation.

Confirmation is an opportunity for students in 7th grade and up to respond to the grace of God, as acknowledged in baptism, and to promise to live as a person of faith. The key to confirmation is learning and preparation.

This year we are inviting students who have not been confirmed and are in grades 7-12 take this journey together. We are calling this year's confirmation process "Confirmation con queso."

Beginning September 29, 2019, these students will gather at Kiko's Restaurant for 12 meetings to be scheduled throughout the Fall and Spring semesters, with confirmation Sunday tentatively scheduled for April 26, 2020.

Meeting dates will be provided at an organizational parent/student meeting Sunday, September 22, at 2:00 p.m. in the Conference Room in the Administration Building, where participants and parents will be provided with schedule, materials and set expectations of the confirmation process.

Our 12 Sunday afternoon meetings will be scheduled from 3:00-4:45p.m. Meetings will be led by Pastor Wade and/or Pastor KP Polk. We plan to hold six Sunday sessions in the Fall semester and six Sunday sessions in the Spring semester. Our meetings will be conversational and fun.

Confirmation is not just a class. Our students will be expected to be fully engaged in the life of the church through worship, service, and the involvement of other ministries. Confirmands will not be alone in this journey. Along with their fellow classmates they will have a mentor, pastors, and other key adults to guide them. They will be encouraged to ask questions and seek answers.

Along with regular scheduled group meetings students will also meet regularly with mentors. We will also schedule several site visits to other houses of worship to experience a variety of worship experiences and to deepen our own education and understanding of our neighbors.

Prospective confirmands may register online at: <https://www.sjmethodist.com/confirmation/>

If you have questions, please contact Pastor Wade at 361-960-4021.



Holy Communion will be served this Sunday, September 1, in all worship services. The table is open to all who desire a closer relationship with Jesus.

SEPTEMBER

SERMON SERIES

September 1 – Guest Preacher:
Rev. Steve Stephens

September 8 – Bible Stories –
(Pastor KP)

September 15 - Bible Stories –
A Shepherd to a King
1 Samuel 17:32 (Pastor Wade)

September 22 - Bible Stories--
How to Sing Without Singing
Psalm 137 (Pastor Wade)

September 29 - Bible Stories –
Rebuilding the Walls
Nehemiah 3:28–29 (Pastor Wade)

CHURCH NURSERY OPEN EVERY SUNDAY

St. John's Nursery is located in the Community Life Building (CLB). Our professional nursery staff is available every Sunday from 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. for newborns to Kindergarten.

Outreach Team Moving Full Speed Ahead

All Church Members Invited To Participate, Share God's Love

By Carolyn Scrivano-Martin
Outreach Team chair

We want our church to be in the community, helping others, and sharing God's love! Be part of it!

St. John's Outreach Team has been planning ways to connect with TAMU-CC students, partner with Montclair Elementary School (located directly behind the church), support Timon's Ministry in Flour Bluff, perform beach clean-up, and continue its assistance at Wenholtz Women's House.

Thanks to all church members for donating school supplies and backpacks! Your generosity will help students at Montclair as well as kids served through Timon's Ministry.

On Friday, Aug. 23, our church groups worked together to provide breakfast for Montclair Elementary School teachers. Thanks to our United Methodist Men and all those involved in Outreach for that special event.

Several volunteers from the 11:17 service also helped students at TAMU-CC move into their campus housing last week.

We are inviting the students to help with our outreach events and to come to our first monthly free college student dinner on Wednesday, Sept. 19, at 6 pm in the Community Life Building. Can you help?

See more OUTREACH Team news on Page 12



Rawley Martin, Gerri Cason, and Pastor KP Wade helped TAMU-CC students move into their new housing

Upcoming Outreach Events:

1. Free college student dinner, Wednesday, Sept. 18; Need volunteers to cook, clean, and greet.
2. St John's is forming a beach clean up team. Event 09.21.19. More details to come. Great volunteer opportunity! Robyn Cobb is organizing info for this event.
3. Reach out to the homeless by taking food and sharing love/respect. More details to come. If you want to be part of this outreach, talk to Pastor KP or Carolyn Scrivano-Martin.
4. If you know a homebound, elderly, or disabled person who needs help with small home repairs or house/yard clean up, let Pastors Wade or KP know their name(s), contact info, and specific needs. If you want to volunteer to help with this ministry, let one of us know.
5. Wenholtz Women's House has been a great outreach ministry. We will continue to support the women living there who are working so hard to create a better life. We will keep the church updated about future projects and how volunteers can help these hardworking women.

If you know of anyone, church member or not, who would like to help others by volunteering, please share their contact info with one of the Pastors or with Carolyn Scrivano-Martin. If you want to volunteer, let us know!

Congratulations!



Congratulations to Gracie Orta for completing a Director Credential Course! Gracie has been working at the St. John's Children's Learning Center (CLC) since 1999! We are so happy for her!

The staff is excited about the new school year ahead and is getting ready for our students.

We still have a spots available in some of the classrooms for the Fall. Please call Adela Garcia at 361-991-4780 for more information.

St. John's Foundation To Meet September 4 To Distribute Funds

By Sue Hoyt, President

The Board of Directors of the St. John's Foundation will meet on Wednesday, September 4, at 6:30 p.m. in the Conference Room of the Administration Building to distribute \$10,274.90, which is an additional two percent of the 2018 earnings.

Directors voted to make this additional distribution to meet the Investment Policy guidelines after the increased growth of the Foundation Account now being managed by Frost Bank wealth advisors.

These funds will be distributed proportionately to Missions (local, national, and international), Youth and Children Needs, and Church Needs in accordance with the wishes of those who set up the legacy accounts in the Foundation.

Groups in the church have been invited for the past month to submit *Request for Funds* forms to be eligible for these funds. The deadline for those requests was August 30.

Other items on the agenda of the Foundation meeting are an update on the JoAnne Wilshusen Life Insurance Policy bequeathed to the Foundation and a proposal to open a Money Market Account or purchase a Certificate of Deposit at Frost Bank for the \$39,981.53 rental income from the Miramar parsonage now being held in a non-interest bearing account.

Those serving on the Foundation Board include Sue Hoyt, President; Dave Michaelson, Vice President and Treasurer; Connie Haralson, Secretary; and directors Carolyn Pence, Karen Carden, Chris Garcia, Darron Bergstrom, xxxxxx.

Directors are urged to be in attendance for this important meeting.

St. John's Food Pantry News



Volunteers had a great month at the Food Pantry. It was good to see so many familiar faces and to realize what a difference St. John's makes to those in need.

Thanks to your generosity, we were able to give out lots of freezer pops in July and August. With the temperature so hot and humid, we are sure those freezer pops were enjoyed.

We continue to help over 100 families and 300 individuals each month. Prayers for Alfredo who is undergoing triple bypass surgery. Thanks to Maria and her daughter who brought homemade tamales to thank us for all we do.

As you shop in the coming weeks, please note that the Food Pantry could use the following items to help those who need assistance:

Pasta—any kind (16-ounce packages)

Canned corn

10-ounce cans of Soup

Your financial gift...in any amount...helps us purchase items that might not be available from the Food Bank.

Color of Altar Paraments Reflect Church Seasons

When you worship in the Sanctuary, you have noticed the different liturgical colors used for the altar cloth, pulpit scarf, and Bible bookmark. The colors used for the paraments throughout a 12-month period reflect the seasons of the Methodist church calendar.

However, throughout the year, the liturgical color of WHITE is used on Communion Sundays and for funerals and baptisms.

RED paraments from Pentecost Sunday (June 9) through this past week will be replaced by GREEN paraments beginning Sunday, Sept. 8, to mark the season of Kingdomtide. Kingdomtide stresses the principles of God's Kingdom on earth and our social responsibility as members of the Kingdom. The symbol for Kingdomtide is a triangle, signifying the Trinity: God as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Following Kingdomtide will be the season of Advent (December 1) with BLUE altar paraments.

Camp Sharigan Set Sept. 16-20; Volunteers Needed!

By Elaine Clanton Harpine

On September 16, the *Camp Sharigan* Project will return to St. John's UMC. And on September 23, we will begin a free year-long program for children in the Corpus Christi area.

Camp Sharigan will kick-off the year-long program with Camp Sharigan. The camp will be held every day, Monday through Friday, September 16-20, from 4-6 p.m. at St. John's UMC. *Camp Sharigan* teaches reading, writing, spelling, comprehension, and reading fluency.

There are 28 spaces available, and registration is required. If you know of a child in first through third grades who needs help, give us a call. Contact me at 361-867-8040 or the church at 991-4342.

We will need 10 workers. You do not need to be an expert or a teacher. If you can read at the third grade level you can work this program and help a child learn to read. Middle school, high school, college students, parents, and seniors are all invited to come help a child learn to read.

The second part of the Reading Program is the **Reading Orienteering Club**.

Beginning on Monday, Sept. 23, the *Reading Orienteering Club* program will get underway. Those sessions will be scheduled from 4-6 p.m. at St. John's on Mondays and Thursdays through the Fall. We will continue to need volunteers for the Reading Orienteering Club.

Yearlong Program Begins Sept. 23



Can You Spare 2 Hours a Month To Help a Child Learn to Read?

All materials are provided, and you really can walk in, sit down, and go to work with a child. A training program for those who are interested in volunteering will be conducted at 4 p.m. Monday, September 9, in the Community Life Building at St. John's UMC.

For more information or to volunteer, please call Elaine Clanton Harpine, Ph.D., at 361-867-8040 or email clantonharpine@hotmail.com

Also, interested folks can check my free reading blog for up-to-date information and research on reading: www.groupcentered.com

**If you teach a child to read, you really can
change the world.**



Church Women United-Corpus Christi

invites you to attend ... Church Women United will meet on Friday, Sept. 6, 2019, at St. Peter's by the Sea UMC, 1541 Waldron Road. (Meeting begins with continental breakfast at 9:30 am, followed by greetings, announcements, and the 10 a.m. program. The event ends about 11:15 a.m. For additional information, contact Glenda Sanders, CWU President at sanders.glenda@att.net. The program is titled:

"Teaching At-Risk Students to Read--The Camp Sharigan Method" by Elaine Clanton Harpine, Ph.D.

If you teach a child to read, you can change the world.

Upcoming Dates of CWU Meetings ((all meetings begin at 9:30 am):

Friday, Oct. 4, El Divino Salvador Presbyterian, 2202 Belton St.

Friday, Nov. 1, Grace United Methodist Church, 11222 Leopard; "**World Community Day**"

Friday, Dec. 6, St. John's United Methodist Church, 5300 S. Alameda

In addition, you are invited to bring donations of new or gently used children's books to the Sept. 6 **Church Women United** meeting. The books will be placed in *Free Little Libraries* located at St. John's UMC and other sites in the Corpus Christi area.



UMW "A Heart Like His" Tea Draws Great Crowd and Outstanding Support



Sincere thanks to everyone who supported the United Methodist Women's "A Heart Like His" Tea on August 3 in the Community Life Building. More than 96 attended, and over \$2,500 was raised for missions for at-risk women, children, and youth. Thanks to everyone who bought tickets, brought items for the Silent Auction, and made purchases!

Among the 96 attending were several children ages 4 and older who were seated at their own special table, manned by college students DJ Adams and Ashley Pattillo. This was the first year that UMW invited "Little Gents" to join the "Little Ladies," and the children's presence was well-received.

UMW CALENDAR

Friday, Sept 6: Church Women United, St. Peter's by the Sea, 1541 Waldron Rd.; 9:30 am. Speaker: "Teaching At-Risk Children to Read" by Elaine Clanton Harpine, PhD.

Monday, Sept 9: Naomi Quest, Fellowship Hall; 6 p.m., "Women Speaking Truth from the Ground Up" by Anita Harris

Tuesday, Sept 10: Ruth Circle, Fellowship Hall; 9:45 am

Friday-Saturday, Sept 20-21
Lay Servant Basic and Advanced Training, St. John's CLB

Friday-Saturday, Sept 27-28: Rio Texas Conference UMW Meeting in McAllen, TX

Friday, Oct 4: Church Women United, 9:30 am, El Divino Salvador Presbyterian Church, 2202 Belton St.

Saturday, Oct 12: Coastal Bend District UMW, 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m., St. John's UMC Community Life Bldg.; Speaker: Becky Harrell Wright, General Board of Global Ministries Missionary

LOOKING AHEAD:

Friday, Nov. 1: Church Women United at Grace UMC, 11222 Leopard, "World Community Day"

Friday, Dec. 6: Church Women United, hosted by St. John's UMC; 9:30 am gathering.



(From top left and clockwise) The Kelsey Memorial UMM table; children's table with little girls and gents; UMW members help with refreshments; children on stage.

During the program, Chris Garcia and Glenda Sanders shared the history and words of Clara Swain, the first medical missionary who was sent to India to provide medical care for women. The children also were featured on stage.

Special thanks to all the hostesses who decorated their tables with their own dishes and glassware and to all UMM and church members who provided sandwiches, scones, deviled eggs, and desserts.

Proceeds from the program booklet advertising also provided funding for missions. Special thanks to our advertisers--The Mirador, Jewels, Wilson Calhoun/David Shaffer, Attorney at Law, Carden Enterprises, Children's Learning Center, CCI Sunday School Class, Friendship Class, Kim Jalufka Hohle, Jack's Dinner Bell, Jeannie's Specialties, Luker Energy, Morgan Street Seafood, Pest Control Services, P.O.E.T.S. Restaurant, Bryan Thompson of Edward Jones, United Methodist Men, and John Zimmerman, Realtor.

St. John's To Host Training for Lay Servants Sept. 20-21

Lay Servant Ministries is a program offered by the United Methodist Church for adults and older youth who feel they are being called to leadership service, care-giving ministry, or witness of the Spoken Word.

This Fall's program will be held at St. John's UMC on Friday evening, Sept. 20 (6:30-8:30 pm) and all day Saturday, Sept. 21, (9 am-5 pm),

The training is sponsored by the Coastal Bend District, and attendees will represent churches in the District or in the Rio Texas Conference. The cost is \$25 and includes all materials, including a study book, plus Saturday lunch.

The Basic Lay Servant Course is titled "Leading and Learning" and provides a good foundation for those just beginning the Lay Servant training.

The Advanced Course is titled "Leading in Prayer" and designed for those who have already taken the Basic Course and want to maintain their designation as a Lay Servant and continue strengthening their skills.

Deadline to register is September 6. To register, fill out the registration brochure available in the church office and return it with your \$25 check to the Coastal Bend District UMC at 32510 Gollihar Rd, Corpus Christi, TX 78415. You can also email the form to linda@coastalbendumc.org.

Thanks to Our 2018-2019 "Grand Pals" ...and a Call for More!

There's a quiet intergenerational and very tangible connection between children and youth at St. John's that includes more than a dozen church volunteers called "Grand Pals" who write notes of encouragement, remember birthdays, and celebrate highlights in the lives of almost 20 youngsters in our congregation.

Throughout the school year, the volunteers pen and mail from 5 to 8 cards...and all have indicated they love this treasured opportunity to connect and communicate.

If you are interested in learning more about this ministry, please contact Mable Pippin, who helps pair adults with one or more children or youth (pre-school through Grade 12).

"We would love to increase the number of Grand Pals so that more children and youth could be served," said Mable. "And parents who would like to add one or more children in their family to the Grand Pals program are cordially invited to do so." Please call or text Mable at 361-945-0169 or email her at Mable.pippin@gmail.com.

Parents interested in having their child assigned a "Grand Pal" can leave contact information with Cathi McRorey, church receptionist.

ADULT BAPTISM



Logan Robinson, active in St. John's UMC college ministry and ministries and outreach projects for almost three years, was baptized on August 17 during the 11:17 worship service. Logan recently graduated from Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi and is relocating to Austin.

SEPTEMBER 2019 MEETINGS

Church members who serve on the following committees and teams are encouraged to attend meetings that are scheduled. If questions, please call the church staff.

Traditional Worship: Tuesday, Sept. 3
6:30 pm - Conference Room

St. John's Foundation: Wednesday, Sept. 4
6:30 pm - Conference Room

Nomination (formerly called Lay Leadership): tentative meeting set Thursday, Sept. 5; 6:30 pm - Conference Room

Outreach: Thursday, Sept. 12
6:30 pm - Conference Room

Kitchen Team: Monday, Sept. 16, 2 pm - CLB

Finance: Monday, Sept. 16
6:30 pm - Conference Room

Trustees: Thursday, Sept. 19
6:30 pm - Conference Room

SPPRC (tentative): Tuesday, Sept. 24
6:30 pm Conference Room

Smiles & Handshakes Welcome Guests!

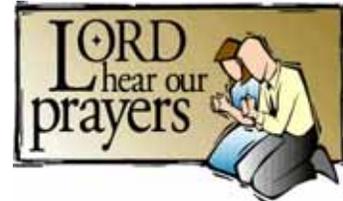
A small contingent of St. John's members faithfully greets guests each Sunday morning under the bell tower. Working alone or in pairs, they arrive about 8:40 a.m. on their designated Sunday to extend hospitality to everyone, but especially to visitors who may be on our campus for the first time. Can you help? Call Pastor Wade at 991-4342 to volunteer.

OUR PRAYER LIST

Hospitalized: Melissa Brownlee

Rehab: Janine Sanborn, Lyneve Shaver, Darlene Duncan, Dottie Ramella, Ross Ford (Clarie Quall's son-in-law)

Grieving: Family of James W. Collins, Family of Eric Doughty



Our Church
President Trump
US Military
World Leadership
El Paso, TX
CC Metro Ministries
Paula Arrambide
Audrey
Phillip Balderas
Joe Barrera
Otis Bell
Buff Betz
Courtland Boren
Tyler Brownlee
Margo C.
Gloria Caravantes
Jeff Caravantes
Marcia Caravantes
Earl G. Carter &
Family
Margo Chapman
Christain
Jim Collins Family
Anne Compton

Josh W. Cox
Josh W. Cox
Robert & Kathy Cox
Janae Cubellis
Mike Dailey
Tonya Delk
Margaret Earle
Shelly and Richard
Edwards
Bill Everett
Nicki Fischer
Judy Forbes
Rose Garza
Pam Glover
Charlene Hardy
Jack Johnson
Phyllis Jones
Ann Jordan
Linda Jordan
Margaret K.
Mimi Keen
Nicole Keris
Arleen Kilsby
Jerry King

Ken Kinne
Charlotte Kunc
Randy L.
Robert Longoria
Rogerio Lopez
Marshall
Jeanne Mayes
Ally McElya & Family
Colin McGlinchy
Anna Neese
Judi Oestreich
Roma Onwiler
Chris Oxley
Mike P.
Debra Phillips
Debra Potts
Kelly R.
Alva Rodriguez
Joe Rodriguez
Lupe Rodriguez

Aaron Rooney
Rilla Roots
Jesse Ruiz
Kelly S.
Linda S.
Fay Sassman
Ivan Shaver
Jenna Singleton
Morgan Skidmore
Rachel Stone
John Thurston
Nancy Tyler
Louise Wagner
Jerry G. Weatherford
Faye Wilkins
Beverly Wilson
Mary Lee Woodson
Yvette & Family
Roseann Zammiello
Gail Zaruba

Please pray for those who are on the Prayer List. If you have someone you want to add or remove from the list, please call the church office at 991-4342. Emergency messages to Pastor Wade--960-4021.

SPECIAL THANKS

The family of Jim Collins is so grateful to Pastor Lindstrom for his visits, prayers, and support over the past several weeks. Special thanks and appreciation also for Chris Garcia's guidance and the support of the Bereavement Team in hosting the lovely reception following Jim's memorial service.

As longtime members of St. John's, we also express our gratitude to our fellow members for their prayers and expressions of love and concern during Jim's illness.

Blessings to all of you.

—Betty Collins

MEMORIAL GIFTS

Financial gifts given in memory, in celebration of, or in honor of family members, friends, and ministries are placed in St. John's UMC Memorial Fund. Current funds include Building, Choir, Youth, Scholarship, Worship, Bereavement/Care and Concern, Food Pantry, and Undesignated for general church needs. Your gift, in any amount, is sincerely appreciated. Be sure to designate which fund should receive your gift. Gifts to the Memorial Fund also may be given anonymously.

In loving memory of Jim Collins, husband of Betty and father of Jimmy and Martha, a gift to the Bereavement Fund from Mrs. Ronald Fox.

Also in loving memory of Jim Collins, a gift to the Bereavement Fund from Mrs. Betty Collins and gifts to the Youth Fund from Chris Garcia and from a Collins Family member.

In loving memory of LaVerne Johnson Pearce Schilling, an undesignated memorial gift from her sister-in-law, LaVerne S. Pearce of New Braunfels, TX.

Also in loving memory of Jim Collins, an undesignated gift from John and Joyce Zimmerman.

Blessing of the Backpacks

(Continued from Page 1)



Children, youth, and educators attending the 9 a.m. worship service participated in the annual "Blessing of the Backpacks" on August 25.

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Ben Pallotti
- 4 Suzy Shepard
- 6 Jerry Harrison
- 7 Anna Steehler, Collin Thompson, Craig Thompson
- 8 Karen Felts
- 9 Melanie Albrecht, Carrie Darst
- 10 Mariah Delk
- 11 Christie Roberts
- 12 Beverly Wilson
- 13 Robert Hardy
- 15 Bill Harpine
- 17 Cathy Hurst
- 18 Gloria Caravantes
- 19 Natalie Albrecht, Amanda Spencer, Dalton Ware
- 20 Kristin Carden, Karen Teas
- 21 Debra Phillips
- 24 Arlo Elliott, Ivan Shaver
- 27 Madilynn Ocker, Stephen Shaffer
- 30 Allen Hatcher, Ernie Pena, Leroy Steinocher

If you are missing from the September birthday list or note any errors in the listing, please call the church office, 991-4342.

St. John's Volunteers Needed for Meals

St. John's would like to restart its Care Ministry by recruiting some big-hearted people to form a small team to coordinate meals for church families who are sick, just home from the hospital, new moms, etc.

These team members would not be responsible for preparing the meals (unless, of course, they want to), but would make calls to fellow church members who are able to furnish and deliver meals. The church office already has a list of prospective chefs!

If you feel called to this care ministry, please contact the church office or email Robin Swope at robin.sjmethodist@gmail.com.

Be a Donor--Give the "Gift of Life"



DID YOU KNOW?

--More than four million Americans would die each year if not for blood donors.

--In Corpus Christi alone, more than 120 people a day are needed to donate blood in order to maintain the blood supply.

St. John's UMC is so grateful to have regular blood donors give "the gift of life" whenever the Coastal Bend Blood Center schedules its mobile unit at our church campus. Thank you so much for your servant hearts and your support to donate blood "so that others may live."

Here are the Sunday dates for the next three blood drives at St. John's UMC:

BLOOD DRIVE DATES

October 6, 2019

December 1, 2019

January 26, 2020

Church member Dana Pallotti has coordinated the blood donor program for many years and can answer question you might have.

Update from the Trustees

By Robyn Cobb, Secretary

FALL WORK DAY SET! SAVE THE DATE: NOV. 9

The St. John's Board of Trustees has scheduled a fall work day for Saturday, Nov. 9, 2019. Please save the date and plan to help.

Trustees maintain a comprehensive list of repairs for all church facilities, including both parsonages, some of which will be addressed on the Nov. 2 work day.

All church members can help identify concerns and needed repairs they have noted around the campus.

Please share your list before the work day with Trustees' chair Bruce Hamende or secretary Robyn Cobb.

Churchwide participation is needed to have a successful day of repairs and cleanup. Many thanks to those who participated in the work day last spring!

The St. John's Board of Trustees has scheduled a fall work day for Saturday, November 9, 2019. (See story at left). Church trustees are tasked with keeping church facilities and grounds in good shape, and the group meets regularly.

Here are some topics and areas of concern being addressed:

- Due to the excessive and ongoing heat this summer, the church's air conditioning system (numerous units in a number of buildings) has received extensive work thanks to the diligence and dedication of Bruce Hamende. Trustees are looking into purchase of remotely-controlled thermostats which allow more refined timing of unit control and make it possible for individuals to turn systems on to meet the needs of events.

- The Board of Trustees has submitted a grant application to the Ed Rachal Foundation to fund the purchase of a new, large, digital electronic sign for Alameda Street. This sign will make it possible for church staff to change messages from inside the office via computer. This electronic sign will replace the marquee that was damaged by fire in early June.

- The Bell Tower has been repaired from all electrical storm damage.

- Trustees have been reviewing quotes on flooring replacement (vinyl planking and carpet squares) for the Administration Building.

- With approval from Trustees, a local girl scout troop installed a "Share a Book Little Library" in front of the Scout Hut on Parade Street.

Trustees also recently approved replacing the carpeting on the Sanctuary building porch.

As of the end of June, Trustees had spent approximately 35% of their budget, staying well below the Finance Committee's suggested cap of 41%. Although this 35% expenditure did not include AC repairs, the AC work has been paid for with unspent balances from 2018 for insurance payments.

CHURCH CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER

Sunday, September 1: Worship Services at 9 a.m. and 11:17 a.m., with Holy Communion; 7 p.m. *Thy Kingdom Come* service in Fellowship Hall

Monday, September 2: Labor Day Holiday observed; church office closed.

Tuesday, September 3: UMM Pancake Supper, 5:30-7 p.m., CLB (see story, Page 1)

Sunday, September 15: "Welcome Back to Church" event

Friday/Saturday, September 20-21: Lay Servant Training (see story on page 1)

OCTOBER

Sunday, October 6: Worship services, Holy Communion; anticipated arrival of pumpkins for St. John's Pumpkin Patch

NOVEMBER

Sunday, Nov. 3: All Saints Day worship services with Holy Communion and remembrance of church members who died in the faith over the past 12 months

Saturday, Nov. 9: Trustees' Church Work Day (see story above)

Sunday, Nov. 24:: Decorating worship areas for Advent and Christmas

Thursday, Nov. 28: Thanksgiving Day; church office will be closed on Thursday and Friday, Nov. 28-29, for Thanksgiving.

LOOKING AHEAD: Sunday, December 1: First Sunday in Advent

NEWS FROM STUDENT MINISTRIES

By Leslie Albrecht, Director

30 Hour Famine-Kelsey Memorial UMC

Starting at 12:30pm on Friday, August 23, four of our youth and I had nothing to eat until Saturday, August 24, at 6:30pm. We began our "famine" individually, then met with the youth at Kelsey to learn more about *Just Hunger*. We learned that each day 25,000 people die from hunger-related issues.

For the duration of our experience, we had nothing but water, apple juice, and sugar-free gum. This helped us to understand what many people live with daily. We watched videos about Marie, a 14-year-old from the Democratic Republic of Congo who had to give up going to school in order to stay home and help care for her family while her mother was in the hospital. We were given alter egos for the experience some of whom had health issues which we had to be constrained by for our games and activities.

When our 30 hours was up, we broke our fast by taking Communion. I'm very proud of Daniel, Emma, Evan, and Natalie for having the courage to try this experience.



Candles representing how many people die every 15 minutes from hunger related issues.

REMINDER:

4 Corners on Sundays, 12:30-2:30 pm in the Youth Building.

All Youth welcomed!



On Sunday, August 25, our youth went with Flat Jesus to pray at the schools members attend. Due to weather and time constraints, we missed a couple of middle schools but we were able to offer prayers for a safe school year at Miller, Ray, Carroll, Moody, King, London, Veterans Memorial, Flour Bluff, Haas, and Adkins. We will be adding Baker and St. James soon. (At left, a picture of Flat Jesus taking the wheel in the Moody parking lot. (Yes, we were parked!)

August 25 also was our annual blessing of the backpacks in both worship services. This year the youth also received a beaded bag clip to remind us to keep all of our campuses in prayer. White beads remind us of God's love and presence in our daily lives. Colored beads represent the different campuses.



Upcoming Events

Saturday, September 21: Joining the Outreach Committee to help clean up the beach (Time TBA)

Sunday, September 22: Parent/Student meeting at 2 pm for Confirmation Class. Confirmation is open to anyone in grades 7-12. (Please register at <https://www.sjmethodist.com/confirmation>)

Saturday, September 28: District Youth Rally at Camp Zephyr. Event is free. We will leave the youth building at 8:15 am and return by 5 pm. T-shirts are available for purchase for \$12. **Registration is due Sept. 8. Please let Leslie know by September 7 if your youth will be attending and if they will be purchasing a shirt, I will need to know the size.**

Sunday, September 29: "Confirmation Con Queso" with the pastors at Kiko's Restaurant at 3:00pm (please register at <https://www.sjmethodist.com/confirmation>)

MORE OUTREACH NEWS

(continued from page 3)

Breakfast for Montclair Teachers

About 40 Montclair Elementary School teachers and staff were treated to a tasty breakfast, prepared by United Methodist Men, on August 23 in the Community Life Building. Tables were festively decorated and dozens and dozens of cookies, furnished by more than 15 church volunteers, were waiting to be bagged and enjoyed later by the guests. In addition, backpacks and school supplies were shared with the school, with Pastor Wade reminding the faculty that if additional help is needed for students without supplies “to just call us and we’ll be glad to assist.”



Decorated tables welcomed the Montclair guests; Christian Schomaker was among the UMM members who cooked and served: volunteers prepared a table full of cookies for the teachers to enjoy.



Pictured at Timon’s Ministry in Flour Bluff are (l-r) Connie Hahn, Gerri Cason, Dr. Blair and nursing staff, Pastor KP, and Kae Berry.

Backpacks for Timon’s Ministry

On August 19, Pastor KP, Gerri Cason, and Connie Hahn visited Timon’s Ministry which serves low-income residents in the Flour Bluff area. They delivered backpacks, school supplies, hygiene items, towels, and food pantry supplies.

Ms. Kae Berry, Director, provided a tour of the facility including a medical/dental clinic, kitchen/dining room that serves lunch Monday-Friday, laundry room, and clothing store. Staff members were very grateful and thanked everyone at St. John’s for the generous contributions.

St. John’s Outreach Team invites church members to continue collecting soap, shampoo, deodorant, toothpaste, and razors for Timon’s on a regular basis.

If you would like to help with this mission project, look for a donation box on the Missions table in the Community Life Building.

SENIOR ADULT MINISTRIES

Chairsercise -- Every Tuesday and Thursday at 10 am ; Room 1, Admin. Bldg.

Bridge -- Tuesdays, September 3 and 17, at 1 pm ; Room 1, Admin. Bldg.

Mexican Train (Dominoes) -- Wednesdays, September 4 and 18, at 1 pm ; Room 1, Admin. Bldg.

Wednesday Bible Study -- 10:45 a.m., Conference Room; “You Can Begin Again” by Joyce Meyer. All are welcomed!



THY KINGDOM COME Welcomes You!

You are invited to attend *Thy Kingdom Come* worship service every first Sunday at 7 pm in the Fellowship Hall

Come out for some heavy worship as we celebrate together the message of grace and hope in Jesus Christ. This unique service hosted at St. John's includes passionate worship, scriptural sermons, communion of the body, and always a space for restoration. Make time this month to see what God is doing with *Thy Kingdom Come* at St. John's!

Please enter through the Parade Street entrance.

Vacation Bible School

About 30 youngsters had an amazing time at St. John's VBS this summer! Over a three-evening event, they learned about Amos, Enoch, and Lydia as they followed the LEGO Movie and learned to become Master Builders for God!

Children's Director Hanna Patton-Elliott says "thank you so much to all of the volunteers that helped in the myriad of ways required to make VBS a success." Church volunteers did a great job preparing the three evening meals, and St. John's Youth participation was sincerely appreciated.



St. John's United Methodist Men

Breakfast and Fellowship....every Wednesday morning, 6:30 a.m., Fellowship Hall

Everyone's invited to the Tuesday, September 3, UMM all-you-can-eat Pancake Supper! 5:30-7 p.m. Tickets are \$15 for family and \$5 for individuals.

You can buy your ticket(s) this Sunday from any UMM member, or you can purchase tickets at the door. Invite your family, friends, neighbors, and work colleagues to join us! Proceeds will benefit UMM's mission projects.



Hungry for Bible Study, Christian Community, Fellowship?

Adult Sunday School Classes Welcome You

Word to word

The final curtain of Job has dropped and we move on! September 15 will be the beginning of the study on the Epistle of Hebrews. This Bible Study is a series on the Permanence, Sufficiency, Preeminence and Superiority of Jesus Christ!

It is about the God who is here, the One who speaks. He is the God of promise and fact. Jesus is the fulfillment of the Old Testament; all that came before pointed to Him. He is the Ultimate Word of God!

Why study Hebrews? Because to understand contemporary problems, we must realize the Jews by birth and converts to Christianity were under persecution and harassment from their synagogue, friends, and family and it would get worse. What better way to understand our current, hurting world? What better way to solve the struggles we all have today. Life comes at us hard and fast and when we are not prepared by the development of our faith, we will fail at the deployment of our faith and our call and opportunities and suffer needlessly as a result.

Come study with us in Room 2 of the Administration Building, 10-11 a.m. each Sunday. By the way, we have good coffee! (Sherrie Johnson)

CCI Class

The CCI (Contemporary Christian Issues) Class has completed its study of 1 Samuel and will begin 2 Samuel in early September to learn about King David's reign.

Come join us in Room 1 in the Admin. Building from 10:15 a.m.-11 a.m. You'll be cordially welcomed...and just like the Word to word class, we've got coffee ready for you to enjoy! (Chris Garcia)

In recent months, the CCI class has said farewell to Bob Irwin, Pat and Bill Moellendorf, Cindy McCormick, and Anna Neese...all of whom have relocated to live closer to family. We miss them but treasure their friendship and involvement in the life of St. John's.

Seekers Class

The Seekers Class is doing a driving tour of the Holy Land, reports Bruce Hamende. Using a video series titled *Drive Thru History*®, the study explores the amazing lives of the very first Christians. Beginning in Jerusalem and using the Book of Acts as a roadmap, the Seekers will travel the Mediterranean region to share the people, places, and events that launched the Christian faith.

You will be cordially welcomed by the Seekers Class.



The Friendship Class, the first adult class formed at St. John's UMC in 1956, meets each Sunday at 10:15 a.m. in the Conference Room.

Friendship Class

The Friendship Class is finishing its study on "Conversations With Jesus" and will start on studies of Moses and Paul. The books that will be used are written by Adam Hamilton--"Moses In the Footsteps of the Reluctant Prophet" and "The Call, The Life and Message of the Apostle Paul."

College and Careers Class

This class will resume meeting during the Sunday School hour on September 22, according to Pastor Wade.

Couples in Christ--No information furnished this month but the group meets at 10:15 am Sundays in Room 4 in the Admin. Bldg.

WALK TO EMMAUS UPDATE

If you have participated in a Walk to Emmaus, please be in prayer for Women's Walk #2007 which is set Sept. 12-15. Lift up in prayer the 33 pilgrims plus the more than 50 other men and women who are serving on the team. You also can sign up for the 72-hour prayer vigil at:
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0445A9AA29A3FDo-womens>

Come to the 5th Sunday Churchwide Supper

When? Sunday, Sept. 29, 2019
 Where? Community Life Building
 Time? 5 p.m.

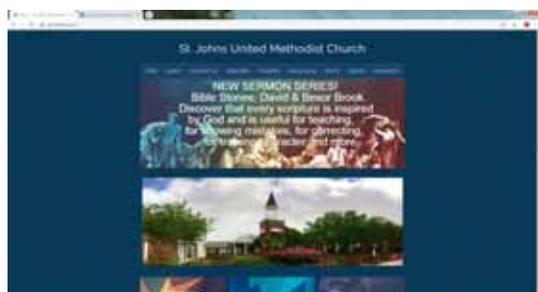


It's a potluck meal...and the food items furnished by church families and friends are tasty! To ensure a good spread and variety, please consider the following:
 Last names A-I, bring Salads and Vegetables.
 Last names J-R, bring Desserts
 Last names S-Z, bring Meats and/or Casseroles

Can You Help? The Fifth Sunday Supper is sponsored by the Fun, Food and Fellowship Committee. If you can help set-up or clean-up, please call Evalynn Bunk at 946-4504.

Church Has New Host for Website

By Cathy McRorey, Receptionist



Did you know that St. John's has a new host for our website? We switched our web host site from Faith Connectors to Sharefaith a few months ago. Sharefaith has more design templates we can use anytime we want a fresh look. It will also give us the ability to add videos to our website that we previously were not able to do. Sharefaith also has PowerPoint backgrounds, bulletin and newsletter templates, as well as Sunday School curriculum for kids. The flexibility we have with this new host is great and it gives us many more options than we had with our old web host. We have now added online giving and under the youth tab is a registration form for confirmation. Check it out at www.sjmethodist.com.

NEW OPTION.....TEXT TO GIVE:

You may text the amount you would like to give as your offering to St. John's UMC at: 361-541-6512. Click on the link sent to your phone and follow the instructions. If you are already registered, you may just text the amount. If questions, contact the church bookkeeper, Barbara Benton.

CHURCH ATTENDANCE

	AUGUST 2019	AUG 2018
9 a.m. (Traditional)	82	98
11:17 a.m. (Contemporary)	75	78
Sunday School	83	100
Visitors	19	18
<i>Thy Kingdom Come</i> (monthly, 1st Sunday, 7 pm)	23	27

Let's worship our Lord and Savior every week unless illness or travel prevents it. If you are absent because of illness or hospitalization, please ask a family member or friend to let the church know by calling 991-4342.

STATE OF THE CHURCH

	JULY 2019	2019 YTD
Budgeted Receipts (2019 Budget: \$542,738)	\$ 45,228.17	\$ 316,597.17
Pledges Made	\$ 32,440.66	\$ 227,084.62
Pledges Paid	\$ 29,074.00	\$ 224,678.68
Pledges + or (-)	(\$3,366.66)	(\$ 2,405.94)
Gifts Received	\$ 40,608.23	\$ 309,788.15
Apportionments Paid (Total 2019 apportionments: \$65,161)	\$ 3,710.50	\$ 28,336.73

Thank you for supporting St. John's ministries with your tithes and offerings. St. John's members and guests may call the church bookkeeper at 991-4342 to discuss additional giving opportunities for 2019.

AROUND THE CHURCH...

What do these four church members have in common... other than a love for God and a strong commitment to St. John's?

They all are nursing foot or leg injuries. Wishes for healing and recovery to (l-r) Cathi Garza, Tonya Delk, Cindy Straub, and Larry Patton.



SUNDAY SCHOOL

FOR ALL AGES

Children:

Preschool (3 yrs to Kinder)--Courtyard Classroom

1st and 2nd Grade: Upstairs Fellowship Hall

3rd-5th Grades: Room 4 Upstairs

Youth Sunday School:

6th-12th Grades: Youth Building

Adult Sunday School:

CCI, Admin. Bldg., Room 1

College & Careers, Admin. Bldg., Room 3

Couples in Christ, Admin. Bldg., Room 4

Friendship, Conference Room

Seekers, Upstairs Fellowship Hall, Room 3

Word to word, Admin. Bldg., Room 2

CALLING ALL YOUTH

If you are in Grades 5 through 12, we want YOU to participate in St. John's youth group. Please send Student Ministries Director Leslie Albrecht your name and contact info so that she can share the youth calendar and details about the exciting events and activities planned this school year.

leslie.sjmethodist@gmail.com

(Church office) 361-991-4342 X 109 or (cell) 361-537-7199

St. John's United Methodist Church

Rev. Wade Lindstrom, Senior Pastor

(wade.sjmethodist@gmail.com)

Rev. Kenneth "KP" Polk, Associate Pastor

(kp.sjmethodist@gmail.com)

Leslie Albrecht, Director of Student Ministries

Barbara Benton, Bookkeeper

Kim Bryce, Traditional Music Director

Marcia Caravantes, Organist

Bryan Claunch, Sunday/Weekend Custodian

Adela Garcia, Children's Learning Center Director

Cathy McRorey, Receptionist

Hanna Patton-Elliott, Children's Director

Ernie Pena, Custodian

Sharon Staiger, Nursery Director (Attendant: Tonya Delk)

Robin Swope, Administrative Assistant

OFFICE HOURS: 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Monday through Thursday;
9 a.m.-noon on Friday.

FOOD PANTRY, 9 a.m.-Noon, Wednesday and Thursday

CHILDREN'S LEARNING CENTER: 361-991-4780

CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION

Church: 361-991-4342; FAX: 361-991-1840

E-mail Address: st.johnsumccc@gmail.com

Website: www.sjmethodist.com

SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

9:00 a.m. Traditional Worship (Sanctuary)

10:15 a.m. Sunday School

11:17a.m. Contemporary Worship (Community Life Bldg.)

7:00 p.m. Thy Kingdom Come (first Sunday only)
(Fellowship Hall)

INFORMATION ABOUT STEEPLE NOTES

Steeple Notes, a monthly publication of St. John's United Methodist Church, is emailed to members and guests as a PDF document and is published on the church website. Printed copies are also available at the church. Deadline for the OCTOBER 2019 issue is Friday, September 27.

Editor: Chris Garcia -- home, 991-2784; cell, 244-4193
Email: garciachr1714@gmail.com



Email: st.johnsumccc@gmail.com

Web: www.sjmethodist.com

Facebook: [facebook.com/SJUMC](https://www.facebook.com/SJUMC)

Twitter: [@stjohnmethodist](https://twitter.com/stjohnmethodist)