



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

# STEEPLE NOTES

OCTOBER 2019

## World Communion Sunday Unites All Methodists

On Sunday, October 6, St. John's UMC and Methodist churches around the world will join other Christian churches and congregations to celebrate **World Communion Sunday**. The intent of the annual observance is to focus Methodists on the universal and inclusive nature of the church and to remember that as communion is served, we are "all united in Christ and with one another across time and space." The Communion table is open to all.

As part of St. John's observance of World Communion Sunday, there will be a table display of religious articles and other objects symbolizing the unity of Methodists from all parts of the world. If you have something made or purchased from another country (a cross, small nativity, coins or currency, art), please plan to display it. Call Chris Garcia, Lay Leader, if questions.



**Packery Flats Beach Cleanup**--A team from St. John's UMC participated in the Sept. 21 Texas Land Office Beach Cleanup. Thanks to the St. John's team for their participation. (See related story and photos on Page 4.)

## Getting Ready for Pumpkins ...

The month of October is under way...and that means a couple thousand pumpkins (or more) in all shapes and sizes will fill St. John's annual Pumpkin Patch. Come help unload the pumpkins this Saturday morning, Oct. 5, (anticipated arrival time is 9 am) and grab some breakfast fare before hand!

On Sunday, October 6, plan to attend a meeting (following the Pumpkin Patch Ribbon Cutting after the 11:17 worship service) to help plan the Fall Festival, scheduled Saturday, Oct. 19, from 4-7 p.m. Volunteers are needed for all booths and activities. Email Hanna Patton for more information.

Lots of volunteers are needed to man the Pumpkin Patch. Volunteers can use Sign-Up Genius to schedule their volunteer time--<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/>--or call the church office. "Trunk or Treat" (in the church parking lot) is Halloween night, Oct. 31, from 5-7 pm. You can decorate your vehicle or donate candy!



## Considering Our Gratitude, Generosity, and Planned Giving

In the church year, October is the time that we turn our focus toward leadership and funding the mission for the following year. Our leadership development and nominations team is hard at work preparing to staff our leadership committees and teams for 2020, and our finance team is preparing to look at funding ministry and mission.

To that end, we will set aside three Sundays in October and November to consider our gratitude, generosity, and planned giving so that we can plan our year for 2020. During those weeks, our pastors will preach and teach on topics of generosity, gratitude, and giving. We will also hear testimony from

(Continued on Page 4)

# From Our Pastor

## Consider the Walk to Emmaus as a Once-in-a-Lifetime Experience

By Pastor Wade Lindstrom

The strength of any church is primarily determined by the growth of leaders and the commitment of its members. The Walk to Emmaus is an invitation for a journey with Christ, an experience of Christian spiritual renewal that begins with a three-day short course in Christianity.

The Walk to Emmaus is a once in a lifetime experience designed to inspire, challenge, and equip local church members to answer the specific call that God has placed on their lives that is to be answered and lived in their homes, churches, communities, and places of work.

I will be serving as one of five spiritual directors for Men's Walk #2008, November 7-10, at Queen of Peace Retreat Center here in Corpus Christi. I typically only work on these retreats when I have people from my church along with us, so that we can learn and grow together.

Who should go to Emmaus?

Emmaus is open to members of any Christian denomination. Emmaus is for the development of Christian leaders who:

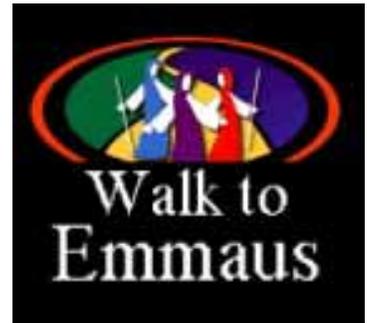
- Are members of a local church
- Have a desire to strengthen their spiritual lives
- May have unanswered questions about their faith
- Understand that being a Christian involves responsibility
- Are willing to dedicate their everyday lives to God in an ongoing manner

If you are a man and you have never attended a Walk to Emmaus, I invite you to give yourself this special gift and come let us share the experience together.

If you have attended one, I urge you to make yourself available to sponsor one of our friends on their walk. This particular Walk to Emmaus is for men; however a Women's Walk is also on the horizon (Spring of 2020), and all ladies are invited to participate in that Walk.

The best way to grow a church that is committed to changing the world is for each of us to grow in our commitment and calling to change our world. Please see me, Pastor KP, or anyone who has attended a Walk to Emmaus so that we can answer your questions and help set you on a path to grow in your journey with Christ. (Additional information appears at top right on this page.)

Peace, Wade



Men's Walk #2008, Thursday evening, Nov. 7, through Sunday afternoon, Nov. 10, at Queen of Peace Retreat Center at 1200 Lantana Road, near the Lantana and IH 37 intersection.

For registration information and details about this 72-hour experience of Christian spiritual renewal, visit the Coastal Bend Emmaus website at: [www.coastalbendemmas.org](http://www.coastalbendemmas.org)

Downloadable documents include the pilgrim application, guide for sponsors, Pilgrim/Team Scholarship information, and more.

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### SERMON SERIES:

#### October 6-Nov. 3

October 6 – Changing the World, Part 1

October 13--Changing the World, Part 2

October 20--Gratitude and Generosity, Part 1

October 27--Gratitude and Generosity, Part 2

November 3--Gratitude and Generosity, Part 3; All Saints Day, Holy Communion, Consecration Sunday.

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# St. John's UMC Foundation Disburses Additional \$10,274.90 of 2018 Earnings

By Sue Hoyt, President

At a called meeting on September 4, the directors of the St. John's United Methodist Church of Corpus Christi Foundation, Inc., disbursed an additional 2 percent (**\$10,274.90**) of the 2018 earnings, which are invested in Frost Bank.

All groups and individuals in the Church were invited to complete *Request for Funds* forms for the monies. These earnings were distributed to the various ministries/missions according to the guidelines of the legacy gifts. Requests totaling **\$22,606.07** were received for the **\$10,274.90** available.

## CHURCH NEEDS

A total of **\$10,906.42** requests were submitted for the **\$5,014.30** available amount for **Church Needs**. Awards were made as follows: \$500 as a Christmas Bonus to the Church Administrative Assistant, \$500 as a Christmas bonus to the Church Receptionist, and \$4,014.30 to the Trustees to repair the Sprinkler system in the Community Life Building.

## CHILDREN/YOUTH

A total of **\$7,999.65** was requested under the **Children/Youth** category, for which **\$2,105.44** was available.

Awards made were as follows: \$550 to the Youth Group for Mid-Winter

Retreat expenses, \$732.67 to the Youth Group toward the \$799 cost of an Air Game Set, and \$822.77 to offset the cost of supplies and some staff compensation for the Camp Sharigan project.

## MISSION FUNDS

A total of **\$3,700** was requested for the **\$3,155.16** of Mission Funds.

Missions receiving the funds were as follows: \$600 to Same Boat Ministries of Venezuela (an international mission) and \$500 to UMCOR U.S. Disaster Response and Recovery—Advance #901670 (a National mission).

The following local missions were also awarded funds as follows: \$300 to the St. John's Food Pantry for Christmas Holiday food items, \$600 to the Salvation Army of Texas, \$600 to Mission of Mercy Texas, and \$555.16 to Corpus Christi Metro Ministries.

Donations to the local missions will be awarded on Coastal Bend Day of Giving (November 12) to qualify for matching funds.

Foundation directors are pleased with the earnings in the Investment account and with the requests from the various groups in the Church.

Brochures on the Foundation are located around the Church; members are encouraged to consider leaving a legacy gift to the Foundation by either adding to an existing fund or creating a new account in a person's name.

## OTHER BUSINESS

In other business, Directors voted to invest the \$39,981.53, of rental income from the Miramar property in

Certificates of Deposit and a Money Market account at Frost Bank in order to earn interest on these funds.

Currently the monies are earning no interest in a trust account belonging to the church. The Miramar property has been leased to the Church for \$1 a year while it is being used as a parsonage and is under the care of the Trustees of the church.

These rental funds are to be used only for upkeep and major maintenance of the parsonage. Request for funds are to come from the Trustees and must be approved by the Board of Directors of the Foundation.

The 2019 earnings of the Foundation account will be awarded in early 2020.

The Foundation will hold its annual meeting in conjunction with the Church Charge Conference scheduled Monday, October 28. The financial statement will be presented and three new directors will be elected for a three-year term to replace those whose terms on the Board are expiring.

The Board wishes to thank the three Directors whose terms are expiring for their service: Karen Carden, Connie Haralson, and Carolyn Pence.

Any St. John's member who is interested in serving on the Foundation Board is invited to contact Sue Hoyt (991-7785 or [suehoyt@aol.com](mailto:suehoyt@aol.com)).

Members with financial backgrounds are especially encouraged to place their names in nomination but all members are welcome to be considered.

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**Church members are encouraged to consider leaving a legacy gift to the Foundation by either adding to an existing fund or creating a new account in a person's name.**

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# September Outreach/Mission Review

By SJUMC Outreach Committee

**Timon's Ministry:** As part of SJUMC's continuing outreach to Timon's Ministry, two giant bags of soap, shampoo, deodorant, toothpaste, razors/shaving cream, hygiene kits and work gloves were delivered to Timon's. These items, along with bath towels, have been identified as the most needed. If you would like to contribute any of these items, a donation box is in the CLB lobby near the Outreach/Missions Table.

**Wenholz House for Women:** Jewels Boutique (owned by SJUMC member Suzy Bergstrom) recently raised over \$1,000 through a fundraiser for Wenholz House for Women! Working off a "wish list" from director Lisa Rizzo. Outreach Committee members delivered a brand new large-capacity clothes dryer, shower curtains/bathmats for two bathrooms, extra-large frying pan, kitchen tablecloth, and kitchen rug. A huge THANK YOU goes out to Suzy Bergstrom for the generous donation!

**TAMU-CC:** Outreach Committee members recently manned an information table at the Island University to advertise outreach and mission opportunities at SJUMC and to promote our first College Dinner Night on Sept. 18. A number of students stopped by to see what we're all about! Four students attended the dinner and enjoyed homemade lasagna, salad, French bread, and desserts. Monthly dinners are planned to reach out to area college students who might like to help with mission projects or are looking for a church home.

**Adopt-a-Beach Cleanup:** On Sept. 21, Robyn Cobb supervised church volunteers taking part in the Texas General Land Office's Adopt-a-Beach Cleanup. Our 8-member crew worked to clean the beach at Packery Flats.



Janice Cagle and Pastor KP helped man the display table at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi to share information about St. John's UMC and invite college students to the Sept. 18 dinner. (Below) Carolyn Scrivano-Martin, Mable Pippin and others help serve the meal.

By Carolyn Scrivano-Martin, Outreach Chair

*Outreach has been busy! Served meals to the homeless at South Bluff Park, reached out to TAMU-CC students, and helped with Packery Channel Beach Clean-up. We hope to continue to serve the homeless and to work toward engaging college students in community outreach. If you would like to help with monthly outreach to TAMU students, let me or Pastor KP know. In October, our focus will be helping Children's Ministries with Pumpkin Patch and Trunk or Treat **Please sign-up to help. All talents needed!***

(At right: College students are served dinner by Carolyn Scrivano-Martin and other Outreach members. Below: Lisa Rizzo, director of Wenholz House for Women, checks out one of several gifts delivered; the new clothes dryer was really appreciated!)



# Food Pantry Has Busy Month

## Food Bank Shares Information about Product Availability

By Cathi McRorey, Receptionist

We had a great month at the food pantry in September! Thank you all for your love and support of your St. John's Food pantry. We have been very busy....one day we beat our all-time record for number of people in one day: 28. We have been giving out a lot of food.

We had been having trouble getting canned vegetables in for several months now and will be out of our supply this week. We got a letter from the Coastal Bend Food Bank detailing how they get their food. I am including it in this article as it is good and interesting information.

### \*\*\*\* From the Coastal Bend Food Bank: Product Available for Agency Orders-CBFB

*We have received concerns from our agencies regarding the lack of product; specifically, can goods, in inventory for orders. Your concerns are valid and have been heard. We are aware of the issues that cause the inventory to be low and would like to share them with you.*

*We have 3 sources of can goods: USDA, Retail stores and Food Drives.*

*\* Retail store donations supply us with product removed from store shelves due to torn labels, dents in cans or boxes and discontinued products. This product is sorted, inspected and boxed for orders when received.*

*\* USDA product offerings. The food bank is assigned a budget to purchase USDA food items that are offered to us.*

*\* USDA Bonus Loads are items the government has in abundance and offers to food banks. These items are usually dried fruits, nuts, dairy products, fruit juices, frozen chicken and pork.*

*\* USDA Trade Mitigation Loads are products that were previously purchased by other countries, but were refused due to Trade Tariffs. This product is offered to food banks.*

*USDA offers are also subject to cancellation due to availability of the committed products. Our cancellation rate year to date is 35% of the 124 trailer loads ordered.*

*Retail Store donations are averaging about 94% perishable products with dry/can goods being 6% of total donations.*

*Unfortunately, our inventory on canned goods is always lower during the late summer months. Our main source of canned goods is food drives. November and December bring us holiday food drives and builds our inventory up to levels that will fill agency orders possibly through June of 2020.*

*We hear your concerns and are working hard to fill your needs.*



We were blessed by HEB and the Coastal Bend Food Bank with 5 free boxes of cereal. We have been out for several weeks on cereal too. The St. John's Foundation was very generous and donated money to help us with food for holiday meals. Thank you so very much!

**For the month of OCTOBER, we can use the following items:**

- One pound packages of Pasta—any kind
- 10 to 15 ounce cans of any type of vegetables: peas, green beans, corn, diced tomatoes, etc.
- Boxes of cereal or oatmeal

The people we meet are genuinely grateful for the help and support they receive from the St. John's Food Pantry.

Hermalinda asks for prayers as she will have to have surgery next month on her back. LJ thanks us for coffee...he loves to come drink a cup and visit. Samuel always has a smile, and we talk about family history and genealogy.

So many people with so many stories and backgrounds! We are blessed by them as they are blessed by us.

## 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 Pat Hein, sister of Connie Hahn, a gift to the Scholarship Fund from Chris Garcia.

In loving memory of Jim Collins, husband of Betty and father of Jimmy and Martha, an undesignated gift from Patricia Boyd.

## Considering Our Gratitude...

(Continued from Page 1)

members in our church family, and all of this will culminate on Sunday, November 3, as we consecrate our gifts in each worship service.

Please be in prayer as we all prepare for this seminal time in the life of the church. Pray that the abundance that God has gifted each of us with will extend into the mission and ministry of this church as we change the world one heart at a time.

# Camp Sharigan Project in Full Swing

The Camp Sharigan Project is in full swing. The reading program, based at St. John's UMC, began its twice-a-week sessions (Mondays and Thursdays, 4-6 p.m.) on Sept. 23 in the Community Life Building. The program will continue through the school year.

Elaine Clanton-Harpine, reports "the children are working hard and searching for new words to learn, matching words to their vowel sounds, reading, and spelling,." They are also writing their own stories and practicing oral reading by presenting a puppet play each week.

Thank you to everyone who has volunteered to work with the children. Volunteers are still needed to help the children learn to read. For more information, contact Elaine at 361-867-8040 or at [clantonharpine@hotmail.com](mailto:clantonharpine@hotmail.com).



## Give Blood on Sunday, Oct. 13! Give the "Gift of Life"



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."

The blood mobile will be in the front parking lot from about 8 a.m. to 1 pm.

### **Tentative Blood Mobile Dates:**

**December 1, 2019**

**January 26, 2020**

Did you know that St. John's has participated in the Coastal Bend blood donation program for many years and that several of our members donate blood each and every time the blood mobile visits St. John's (about every 6 weeks).

**THANKS TO ALL THOSE AT ST. JOHN'S UMC WHO SUPPORT THIS MINISTRY.**



## About 80 United Methodist Women Expected at Annual District Meeting

The 2019 Annual Meeting of the Coastal Bend District United Methodist Women will be held Saturday, October 12, in the Community Life Building at St. John's UMC.

Registration begins at 9:30 a.m., with the meeting called to order at 10 a.m. by Bertha Castaneda of Kelsey Memorial UMC, District president. The meeting theme is "Dance and Celebrate!" Robin Blue from St. John's UMC will provide music at the gathering.

The meeting includes lunch and will conclude at 2 p.m. Approximately 80 UMW members from throughout the Coastal Bend District are expected to attend.

Keynote remarks titled "Women United for Change--150 Years in Mission" will be delivered by Becky Harrell Wright, General Board of Global Ministries Missionary.



Becky Harrell Wright



### UMW CALENDAR

#### OCTOBER

Friday, Oct 4: Church Women United, 9:30 am, El Divino Salvador Presbyterian Church, 2202 Belton St. (carpool at 8:55 from St. John's UMC)

Monday, Oct. 7: 1 p.m., UMW Executive Team Meeting, Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, Oct. 8: 9:45 a.m., Ruth Circle, Fellowship Hall; program on UMCOR's disaster relief efforts.

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

Monday, Oct. 14: Naomi Quest, 6-7:30 pm, Fellowship Hall; program by Carole Salsberry; refreshments by Glenda Sanders

#### NOVEMBER

No Circle Meetings in November

Friday, Nov. 1: Church Women United at Grace UMC, 11222 Leopard, "World Community Day" (carpool at 8:55 am from St. John's)

Monday, Nov. 4: 1 p.m., UMW Executive Team Meeting, Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, Nov. 12: 6 p.m., Combined Meeting of all St. John's UMW; eat-out to be announced; election of 2020 officers

#### DECEMBER

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

## Ruth Circle Elects Officers for 2020

Ruth Circle of UMW met on September 10 and elected new officers: Elaine Clanton-Harpine, president; Evalynn Bunk, treasurer; Judi Edwards, secretary; Evalynn Bunk and Joyce Zimmerman, communications/calling; Louise Wagner, Joys and Concerns; and Annie Hatfield, past chairman and program assistance.

The next program will be Tuesday, Oct. 8, at 9:45 am. The program will be on UMCOR's disaster relief efforts for hurricane victims. Everyone is invited to attend.

Circle members are collecting hygiene kits to bring to the meeting. This project is open to the St. John's congregation. (Please go to Page 13 to review the list of items being collected.



Ruth Circle Officers for 2020: (Standing, l-r) Joyce Zimmerman, Annie Hatfield, Elaine Clanton-Harpine, Louise Wagner, Judi Edwards; (seated) Evalynn Bunk.

In November, our focus will turn to the homeless here in Corpus Christi and what we can do to help.

For December, we will have a special Christmas luncheon and discuss Heifer Project Intl's Empower Women Project. Our Christmas gifts will be to those in need.

Anyone interested is invited to each and every Ruth Circle meeting.

# Youth Enjoy a Busy September--Yardwork, Beach Cleanup, District Youth Rally!

By Leslie Albrecht  
Director of Student Ministries

September brought several opportunities for us to be the church.

Several of our youth joined the mulching party for the Sept. 15 Back to Church Sunday. Thanks to Evan, Malia and Natalie for waking up early on a Saturday to help with this project.

A change of plans on September 15 provided us a chance to work on homework. I am amazed at how much students today have to do. It was great seeing them all working and helping each other, while they compared notes on whose teachers were the best or worst.

Saturday, September 21, found Daniel, Natalie, and me joining Robyn Cobb, Pastor KP and Beth Polk, and Hollie and Scott Boehmer, to participate in the Packery Flats Adopt-A-Beach cleanup.

And on Saturday, September 28, Aidan, Alexa, Christian, Daniel, Emma, Evan, and Wyatt were bound for Camp Zephyr to attend the Coastal Bend District Youth Rally. The day included worship, communion, games, food, and the recognition of those youth who had been through or were beginning the Confirmation process. Aidan, Christian, and Evan were yolked with a wooden cross and prayed over by the group. This was followed by the traditional DQ stop on the way home.

On Sunday, September 22, a great group of parents and students met to learn about Confirmation con Queso. This year will find our confirmands meeting at Kiko's through the fall and spring. This past Sunday, September 29, was the first meeting of Confirmation con Queso. Pastor Wade provided the chips and queso while contemplating "Why Confirmation? B-I-B-L-E."

## Upcoming events include:

October 5: Unload the pumpkins for St. John's Pumpkin Patch - breakfast will be at 8:30 and the pumpkins are set to arrive at 9 am. We will work until they are all unloaded.

October 19: Fall Festival and Haunted House at St. John's UMC-- we will spend the morning getting ready for the event in the afternoon.



Thanks to Daniel for taking the photo above at the Zephyr painted wall! The other photos capture the Youth Rally, the mulching at the church, and the beach cleanup (page 1 photo).



October 31: Trunk or Treat – 5-7pm in the church parking lot. Please bring donations of non-chocolate candy or cash donations to use toward purchase of candy. Last year we had a lot of chocolate donated and it was very melty by the time we got to hand it out.

## 11:Teen (aka 4 Corners) 12:30-2 pm

October 6: Join us we escape from Pharaoh

October 12: Begin setting up for Haunted House (checking batteries, taking inventory, drawing up the "blueprint")

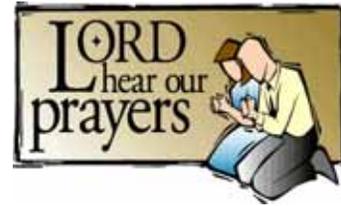
October 20: Finish getting the building back to normal after Haunted House

October 27: TBA

# OUR PRAYER LIST

**Hospital/Rehab:** Melissa Brownlee, Janine Sanborn, Dottie Ramella, Lyneve Shaver, Ivan Shaver, J. Robin SmithRoss Ford (Clarie Quall's son-in-law)

**Grieving:** Family of Dr. Charles Votzmeyer



Our Church  
President Trump  
US Military  
World Leadership  
CC Metro Ministries  
Audrey  
Phillip Balderas  
Joe Barrera  
Buff Betz  
Patti Boggess  
Melissa Brownlee  
Tyler Bronlee  
Margo C.  
Gloria Caravantes  
Jeff Caravantes  
Marcia Caravantes  
Earl G. Carter &  
Family

Margo Chapman  
Christain  
Marjorie Codney  
Collins Family  
Anne Compton  
Josh W. Cox  
Mike Dailey  
K. Davidson  
Tonya Delk  
Rudy DeLeon  
Doughty Family  
Darlene Duncan  
Margaret Earle  
Bill Everett  
Nicki Fischer  
Judy Forbes  
Ross Ford  
Pam Glover

Shanghee Hall  
Hamende Family  
Charlene Hardy  
Charlie Higgenbotham  
Ryan & Alex Hubbard  
Jack Johnson  
Phyllis Jones  
Ann Jordan  
Linda Jordan  
Margaret K.  
Mimi Keen  
Uncle Keith  
Krystal  
Charlotte Kunc  
Randy L.

Jeanne Mayes  
Colin McGlinchy  
Judi Oestreich  
Roma Onwiler  
Chris Oxley  
Mike P.  
Kelly R.  
Dottie Ramella  
Joe Rodriguez  
Lupe Rodriguez  
Aaron Rooney  
Rilla Roots  
Kelly S.  
Linda S.  
Fay Sassman

Ivan Shaver  
Lyneve Shaver  
Jenna Singleton  
Cissy Smith  
John E. Thompson  
Brad Tigner  
Brandon& Sara  
Tucker  
Louise Wagner  
Faye Wilkins  
Beverly Wilson  
Mary Lee Woodson  
Lane Zamora  
Roseann Zammiello  
Gail Zaruba

*Please pray for those who are on the Prayer List. After 30 days, names on the prayer list will be removed. Please submit another prayer card or call the church office at 991-4342 if you would to add or return someone to the prayer list. [Emergency messages to Pastor Wade---960-4021]*

## *Remembering the Saints on Sunday, Nov. 3*

All Saints Day is a time to remember the saints...those who have died in the faith in the past 12 months and now represent "the great cloud of witnesses" identified in the book of Hebrews. On Sunday, November 3, in both the 9 a.m. and 11:17 worship services, the names of Martha George, Keith Wilson, Pat Steinocher, James W. Collins, and Laverne Pearce Schilling will be lifted up.

In addition, St. John's members and guests will also have the opportunity to light votive candles for friends and loved ones they have lost.

**YOU ARE NEEDED!** There are so many opportunities to serve God. Check out these volunteer activities and prayerfully consider how you might participate:

- Greeting guests and church members under the Bell Tower before the 9 a.m. and 11:17 worship services
- Helping set up elements for Holy Communion, or serving as a liturgist during a worship service
- Providing help in the church office; working with the Food Pantry on Wednesdays and Thursdays
- Preparing a meal or helping with transportation as needed for special Youth projects
- Participating in the Church Work Day on November 9
- Sharing your time and talents with the Outreach/Mission team



## BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Laurie Bryce
- 2 Vilma Lozano
- 3 Ed Betts
- 4 Frank Olevitch, Sue Rees
- 5 Jack Johnson
- 7 Jennifer Ainsworth, Ann Herrmann,  
Larry Oliver, Diana Shaffer, Seth  
Thompson
- 10 Sam Windsor
- 11 Earl Jones, Betty Sebring
- 12 Roy Staiger
- 13 Jeff Blue, Jonathan Bryce, Pastor  
Wade Lindstrom
- 17 Gerri Cason, Steve Lewis
- 18 Robert Garza
- 20 Elizabeth Balderas, Lynn Bridges,  
Sheryl Calhoun, Logan Lankford
- 22 Judi Oestreich, Dana Sharpe
- 23 Carole Salsberry, Jean Shivers
- 24 Valda Jensen, Patricia  
Moellendorf
- 25 Candi Jinnette
- 29 Taylor Cason, Ron Waldrop
- 30 Nathan Lankford
- 31 Janae Cubellis, Jim Falwell,  
Kristina Thompson

If your name is missing from the October list or if you note any error in the listing, please call the church office, 991-4342.



### Fifth-Sunday Churchwide Supper Sponsored by Fun, Food and Fellowship Team--

On Sunday, Sept. 29, about 60 church members, families, and friends gather in the Community Life Building to share a meal and enjoy a fun "icebreaker activity with prizes!" Pictured above are doorprize winners (l-r) Adam Mathews, Tammy Tuttle, Judy Falwell, Jean Shivers, Sam Windsor, Liam Thompson, Nancy Busby, and John Edwards. Thanks to Pastor Wade for furnishing gift cards and other neat items. Thanks to everyone who furnished food and helped with set-up and clean-up.



The next Fifth-Sunday supper will be planned in late December or early January. If you would consider serving on the Fun, Food, and Fellowship Team, please let Evalynn Bunk, chair, know.

(Left) The supper crowd gathers to fix their plates!



## SAVE THE DATE: Saturday, Nov. 9 Fall Work Day

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. 9 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. Be watching for more information from the Trustees.



Skit Presentation--The youth drama team participated in a skit titled "The Good Seed" last Sunday in the 11:17 worship to illustrate Jesus' parable of the sower and the seed. The team is open to all children and youth, and practice is held every Sunday.

**SAVE THE DATE!** Saturday, December 14, in the Community Life Building. A Christmas play titled "Breakfast in Bethlehem--the Nativity Story" will be presented following a pancake breakfast that begins at 9 a.m. Admission will be free. All ages are invited to audition for the play. For more details about the play, contact Elaine Clanton-Harpine.

## OCTOBER 2019 MEETINGS

**Traditional Worship:** Tuesday, October 1 - 6:30 pm - Conference Room

**11:17 Worship:** Wednesday, October 2 - 6:00 pm - Community Life Building

**Outreach:** Thursday, October 10 - 6:30 pm - Conference Room

**Trustees:** Thursday, October 17 - 6:30 pm - Conference Room

**Kitchen Team:** Monday, October 21 - 2 pm - Community Life Building

**Finance:** Monday, October 21 - 6:30 pm - Conference Room

**SPPRC:** Tuesday, October 22 - 6:30 pm - Conference Room

**CLC Board Meeting:** Monday, October 28 - 5:00 pm - AB Room 2

**Church Council/Charge Conference:** 6:30 pm, Monday, October 28 - Conference Room

## Annual Charge Conference Set Monday, October 28

St. John's UMC will hold its Annual Charge Conference at 6:30 p.m. Monday, October 28, in the Community Life Building.

All church members are encouraged to attend as important church business will be addressed, including election of lay members to leadership roles and approval of various reports and recommendations.

During the meeting, the St. John's Foundation Board of Directors will present its annual financial report and elect three new members to serve on the Board.

Following the conclusion of the Charge Conference, St. John's Church Council will hold its final quarterly meeting of the year. Chair Bryan Thompson will preside. All members of the Church Council are urged to attend both meetings.

## 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.**



# St. John's United Methodist Men

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

Meet a wonderful group of United Methodist Men as they gathered for a recent Wednesday morning breakfast in Fellowship Hall. Thanks, William Har-pine, for taking this photo!



UMM Officers:  
Bryan Thompson, Pres.  
Jim Falwell, Vice Pres.  
Darron Bergstrom, Treasurer  
Gary Schwartz, Secretary



UMM has been busy. The photo at left shows the stair rails installed by Rick Darst and Gary Schwartz for Marcia and Gloria Caravantes. It is solid, as the posts are set 2 feet in the ground. They did a great job.

We also held our annual after Labor Day pancake supper followed by cooking for the Montclair teachers a few days later.

Upcoming will be our pie sales for Thanksgiving. Details and delivery dates will be announced.



## 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.

## SENIOR ADULT MINISTRIES

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

**Bridge** -- Tuesdays, Oct. 1, 15, and 29, at 1 pm ; Room 1, Admin. Bldg.

**Mexican Train (Dominoes)** -- Wednesdays, October 2, 16, and 30, at 1 pm ; Room 1, Admin. Bldg.

**Wednesday Bible Study** -- 10:45 a.m., Conference Room; "How to Pray Aftger You've Kicked the Dog" by Terry Teykl. All are welcomed!

## You Are Invited To Help Support the Mission Project from St. John's UMC Ruth Circle

Continued from Page 7

Your support of church mission projects is sincerely welcomed. Assembly of hygiene kits used by UMCOR for disaster relief efforts will be handled by Ruth Circle members. You are invited to supply one or more of the items needed for the hygiene kit. Please visit with a member of the UMW for additional details.

### Hygiene Kit Materials

- · **1 Hand towel**
  - o 15 x25 inches to 17 x 27 inches
  - o Kitchen, cleaning, and microfiber towels not acceptable
- · **1 Washcloth**
- · **1 Toothbrush**
  - o Adult size only
  - o *Do not remove from original packaging*
- · **6 Adhesive bandages**
  - o ¾ inch to 1 inch-size; common household Band-Aids
- · **1 Bath-size soap**
  - o 3 oz. and larger sizes only; No Ivory or Jergens soap due to moisture content *Do not remove from original packaging*
- · **1 Comb**
  - o Comb needs to be sturdy and longer than 6 inches long; No pocket combs or picks, please; Rattail combs and combs without handle are acceptable with a minimum of 6 inches of teeth
- · **1 Metal nail file or nail clippers**
  - o No emery boards, please
- · **1 plastic bag**
  - o One-gallon size sealable bag only
- · **\$1.00 to purchase toothpaste**

### Important Notice

All items must be new.

## Coastal Bend Day of Giving Is November 12; Contributions Are Matched To Benefit Local Non-Profits!

St. John's UMC as well as church members and our St. John's Foundation have participated for several years in the Coastal Bend Day of Giving.

Donations to one or more of the dozens of non-profit agencies selected by the Coastal Bend Community Foundation are matched 100%, thus providing much needed funds to provide services to those living in our region.

The 24-hour online matching fundraising campaign offers donors a unique opportunity to make gifts to nonprofits in a seven-county service area.

For details on how to participate, access this website:

[www.coastalbenddayofgiving.org](http://www.coastalbenddayofgiving.org)

# Hungry for Bible Study, Christian Community, Fellowship?

## *Sunday School Classes & Special Groups Welcome You*

### **Word to word Class**

As we continue our study of Hebrews, we are finding new meanings of the Scripture. It is said we don't really learn the Bible well until we teach it! That's also true for the learner because until we pause the busy lives we lead, we cannot hear God's Word.

Come join us for the study and a cup of coffee. We welcome all ages and the only book we study is the Bible. We meet in Room 2 of the Admin. Building, 10-11 am each Sunday. (Sherrie Johnson)

### **CCI Class**

The CCI (Contemporary Christian Issues) Class is studying 2 Samuel and King David's 40-year reign as King. We anticipate finishing the study by late October, and we then will enjoy an Advent Study.

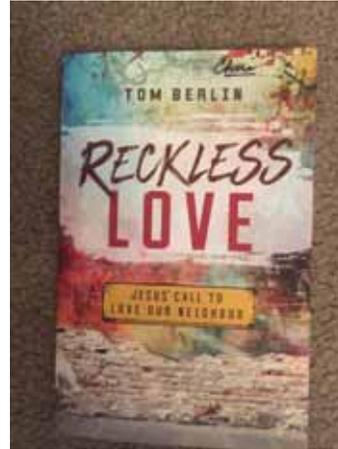
Come join us in Room 1 in the Admin. Building from 10:15 a.m.-11 a.m. You'll be cordially welcomed...and just like the Word to word class, we've got coffee ready for you to enjoy! (Chris Garcia)

### **Friendship Class**

The Friendship Class has begun its study of Moses and Paul. The books that will be used are written by the Rev. Adam Hamilton--"Moses In the Footsteps of the Reluctant Prophet" and "The Call, The Life and Message of the Apostle Paul." Nancy Busby teaches the Friendship Class.

### **Seekers Class**

The Seekers Class is meeting in the Youth Building for the study titled "Reckless Love," which Pastor KP Polk is teaching. Join them there from 10:15-11 am Sundays through the month of October.



Come join this group for this special 6-week study.

More than 30 youth and adults enjoyed the first session, led by Pastor KP, of a 6-week class studying the book "Reckless Love: Jesus' Call To Love Our Neighbor" by Tom Berlin. Participants are meeting in the Youth Building at 10:15 Sundays. "We are learning how loving the people around us will renew our faith and give us a new experience of loving God," Pastor KP said.

### **New Study Coming**

Beginning Tuesday, October 29, Pastor Wade Lindstrom plans to lead a 6-week study titled "A Disciple's Path." The study 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.

Be watching for more information about time and location.

### **Confirmation Classes Under Way**

Several youth in grades 7-12 met with Pastor Wade on Sunday, Sept. 29, at Kiko's Restaurant to begin their journey toward Confirmation. Pastor Wade will be pairing each of the prospective confirmands with a church member who will serve as a mentor, providing encouragement and sharing their own faith journey with the confirmands.

### **College and Careers Class**

Pastor Wade Lindstrom is teaching this class and hopes to draw more college students and others in this age group.



# CHURCH CALENDAR

**OCTOBER**

\* Throughout the month, the Confirmation Class will be meeting.  
 \* On Mondays and Thursdays, 4-6 p.m., Camp Sharigan reading program continues

Sunday, Oct. 6: Worship services at 9 a.m. and 11:17 a.m., Holy Communion; ribbon cutting for St. John's Pumpkin Patch at conclusion of 11:17 worship, followed by Fall Festival planning meeting (details from Hanna Patton-Elliott, Children's Director)  
 Saturday, Oct. 12: United Methodist Women District Meeting, 9:30 am-2 in the Community Life Building  
 Sunday, Oct. 13: Coastal Bend Blood Bank will be in front parking lot to receive blood donations, 8 a.m.-1 p.m.  
 Sundays, October 13, 20, and 27: Stewardship Focus in both worship services.  
 Monday, Oct. 28--Annual Charge Conference, 6:30 pm, followed by Church Council meeting  
 Tuesday, Oct. 29--Study titled "A Disciple's Path" to begin, with Pastor Wade leading.

**NOVEMBER**

Sunday, Nov. 3: All Saints Day worship with Holy Communion and remembrance of church members who died in the faith over the past 12 months; Consecration Sunday will be observed.  
 Saturday, Nov. 9: Trustees' Church Work Day...plan to help (contact Robyn Cobb or Bruce Hamende for details)  
 Sunday, Nov. 24: Worship teams will help coordinate decorating the worship areas for Advent and Christmas; plan to help!  
 Thursday, Nov. 28: Thanksgiving Day; church office will be closed on Thursday and Friday, Nov. 28-29, for Thanksgiving.

**DECEMBER**

Sunday, December 1: First Sunday in Advent; Holy Communion

**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**

	SEPT 2019	SEPT 2018
9 a.m. (Traditional)	75	93
11:17 a.m. (Contemporary)	67	72
Sunday School	65	95
Visitors	12	16
<i>Thy Kingdom Come</i> (monthly, 1st Sunday, 7 pm)	22	15

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. Our pastors, staff, prayer team, and homebound team want to lift up your name in prayer and schedule a visit if you would like.

	AUG 2019	2019 YTD
<b>Budgeted Receipts</b> (2019 Budget: \$542,738)	\$ 45,228.17	\$ 361,825.33
Pledges Made	\$ 32,440.67	\$ 259,525.33
Pledges Paid	\$ 28,488.50	\$ 253,167.18
Pledges + or (-)	( \$3,952.17)	( \$ 6,358.15)
Gifts Received	\$ 37,268.36	\$ 347,056.51
Apportionments Paid (Total 2019 apportionments: \$65,161)	\$ 3,370.93	\$ 31,707.66
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.		

**UNITED METHODISTS ARE:** Involved, committed, diverse, open. A people who try to be accepting, caring, hospitable, and inclusive. Family and community oriented. A people who are concerned about those beyond their communities, around the world. Active in mission, responsive. A people who love music, church suppers, and a sense of community. Initiators, with a history of creating ministries related to education, health, employment, and other issues. A people who like to tell the story of God's redeeming grace.

## OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE

# Volunteers Needed for Meals

St. John's has restarted its Care Ministry to coordinate schedules and recruit individuals to prepare occasional meals for church families who are sick, just home from the hospital, new moms, etc.

Mable Pippin, a member of the CCI Sunday School class, has stepped up to help get the ministry going. Several meals already have been provided.

If you feel called to this care ministry, please contact the church office at 991-4342 or email Robin Swope at robin.sjmethodist@gmail.com so that you can get plugged in.



### CHURCH WOMEN UNITED

Church Women United is an ecumenical group, and St. John's is one of many churches participating. Glenda Sanders of St. John's UMW currently serves as CWU president.

#### UPCOMING MEETINGS:

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

**Friday, Nov. 1,** 9:30 am, Grace UMC, 11222 Leopard;  
"World Community Day"

**Friday, Dec. 6,** 9:30 am, St. John's UMC, 5300 S. Alameda (program to be announced)

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

### FOR ALL AGES

#### Children:

Preschool (3 yrs to Kinder)--Courtyard Classroom

1st and 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade: Upstairs Fellowship Hall

3<sup>rd</sup>–5<sup>th</sup> Grades: Room 4 Upstairs

#### Youth Sunday School:

6<sup>th</sup>–12<sup>th</sup> 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

# 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 NOVEMBER 2019 issue is Friday, October 25.

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Email: garciachris1714@gmail.com



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