



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

# STEEPLE NOTES

MARCH 2020

## Farewell from Pastor KP

Dear St. John's,

I write today with deep appreciation and gratitude for the time that I have been able to spend with you and to share with you that I have received a new Pastoral Appointment.

Bishop Robert Schnase has appointed me the new Pastor of The Journey United Methodist Church in Kyle, Texas. My new appointment will begin March 8, 2020. My last Sunday with you at St. John's will be March 1.



Pastor KP

It has been my privilege to serve as one of your pastors. I thank you for your encouragement, your love, and your support during my time at St. John's. The experiences we have shared together have connected us in many ways; however, with this transition, I move from being one of your pastors to being a friend who serves another church within the Rio Texas Conference.

Please know that you will be in our prayers as Beth and I make this transition and we would welcome your prayers for our family as well.

Again, I thank you for your love, acceptance and generosity during our time at St. John's UMC.

Peace, Pastor Kenneth "KP" Polk

## Be in Worship This Sunday! *First Sunday in Lent*

Pastor KP will preach at both services on March 1, using Mark 1:9-13. All who desire a closer walk with Jesus are invited to the Lord's Table this Sunday to be served Holy Communion.



## 6-Week Lenten Study Lunch Series Begins March 4

Please plan to participate in a one-hour lunch and study of Rev. Adam Hamilton's book titled "The Way--Walking in the Footsteps of Jesus," beginning Wednesday, March 4, and continuing Wednesdays from noon-1 p.m. through April 8.

Holy Communion will be served at the conclusion of each program. Please come and bring family members, friends, and work colleagues.

The 6-week series will be held in the Community Life Building, and everyone is invited to attend. Books are \$10 each and can be ordered online or through the church office.

Sponsoring the first three luncheons will be the CCI Sunday School Class (March 4); church staff (March 11); and United Methodist Men (March 18). United Methodist Women will sponsor the April 1 luncheon. Additional hosts are sought for the March 25 and April 8 luncheons.

Please call Robin Swope in the church office, 991-4342, if you or your church group are interested in being a host.

A love offering basket will be available for donations to offset the cost of the meal.

## March 13 Deadline for Church Groups To Request Funds from Foundation

St. John's Foundation Directors will soon distribute 2019 earnings to support Missions (local, national, and internationals), Youth and Children Needs, and Church Needs. **Request for Funds** forms are available in the church office and are due by **noon, Friday, March 13.**

All groups and committees in the church are eligible to apply for funds for specific projects/missions.

Information was emailed earlier this month. For additional information, contact Sue Hoyt at 991-7785 or [suehoyt@aol.com](mailto:suehoyt@aol.com). (See related Foundation stories on Page 3.)



**It's Time to Reset Those Clocks!**  
"Spring forward" one hour on Saturday night, March 7, before bedtime so you'll be on time for church on Sunday, March 8, the start of Daylight Saving Time.

## An Important Appeal from St. John's Finance Committee

Your Finance Committee has been hard at work, in concert with Trustees and the Staff Parish Relations Committee, to adopt a balanced budget for 2020.

We are very close to adopting a budget that has significant and painful cuts that will impact ministry and staffing in significant ways, and we still find ourselves at a point where we have a significant deficit based on projected income. We would like to make one more appeal to the congregation to consider whether your planned giving could be increased. We estimate that if every family or individual who normally gives to the church could increase their annual giving for 2020 by an average of \$400, we could balance our budget for 2020. We are aware that for some it is just not possible to get to that level, and for some it is possible to perhaps do more.

Hopefully we can all prayerfully consider what is possible and we are able to close that gap. Please be in prayer for the members of these committees as they serve in challenging circumstances.

## FROM OUR PASTOR

### Preparing, Refocusing Our Relationship with Jesus

Lent is traditionally a time of preparation. In the early church, it was a time to prepare to be baptized and over time it has also become a time to refocus our relationship with Jesus. My hope and prayer for us is that it is both.

I hope you will join us as you are able each Wednesday for Lenten luncheons. We will be sharing in a study of the book "The Way" by Adam Hamilton. Several groups are using the book for their seasonal study and I will be using this book to guide our Lenten sermon series. I see this as an opportunity to spend time in scripture and reflection so that we may be singularly focused on the ways of Jesus as they relate to our lives now.

As for preparation, we have 13 confirmands who are nearing the end of that process. They are preparing to be confirmed April 19, the Sunday following Easter.

As preparation for the next season of the ministry of SJUMC, 25 leaders from a cross section of our church gathered this past Monday night to receive a presentation from Mark Meyer who is the Director of Church Revitalization for the Unstuck Group. Unstuck Group works with the Rio Texas Conference of the United Methodist Church and with churches who may find they have slipped into a place in their organizational life where they are assessing their way forward toward a healthier future.

We know that when something seems like it might be unhealthy in our life, we stop to assess what's going on. A doctor may give us a standard series of tests but will ultimately view the results through a lens of experience and wisdom to help us outline our next steps—the path that will help us see the vision we have for our lives and then come into reality.

That can be a good metaphor for the Unstuck process. We are considering entering into a 6 to 18-month process that will help us assess our ministry's health today, clarify the vision God's given us for the future, and create the structure and action plans to see it through.

It is amazing that nearly every year at the beginning of Lent I can find myself at a crossroads in my life or vocation. I believe the church, both our local church and the global church, are at such a moment. It is critical that we prepare to be in concert with God's Holy Spirit as we navigate a changing landscape. I pray that we will all observe a Holy Lent defined by prayer, scripture reading (The Sermon on the Mount, y'all!), sacrifice, self-denial and union with God's Spirit.

Peace! Pastor Wade

## MARCH & APRIL SERMON SERIES

6-WEEK SERMON SERIES FOR  
MARCH AND APRIL 2020 based  
on the book "The Way" by Adam  
Hamilton

Week 1: Baptism and Temptation  
3/8 *The Jordan River and the  
Wilderness*

Week 2: The Healing Ministry  
3/15 *Capernaum*

Week 3: Proclaiming the Kingdom  
3/22 *The Mountains*

Week 4: Calming the Storm  
3/29 *The Sea of Galilee*

Week 5: Sinners, Outcasts, and  
the Poor  
4/5 *Samaria*

Week 6: The Final Week  
4/12 *Jerusalem*

# St. John's Foundation To Meet March 25

By Sue Hoyt, President

The Board of Directors of the St. John's Foundation will meet on **Wednesday, March 25, at 6:30 p.m.** in the Conference Room of the Administration Building to distribute the 2019 earnings, which represent four percent of the average of the past three years of earnings.

Directors voted to make this distribution in accordance with the Investment Policy guidelines. Their action followed a report of the Foundation Account by Frost Bank wealth advisors at a February 5 meeting.

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.

To be eligible for the funds, groups in the church are invited to submit *Request for Funds* forms by **noon Friday, March 13, 2020**. Forms are available and due in the church office. (See related story on Page 1.)

Among other items on the agenda of the Foundation meeting is the future use of the 502 Miramar Place property owned by the Foundation.

## Foundation Creates Joy and Bill McNair Undesignated Fund

At its February 5 meeting, as an expression of appreciation for the \$25,000 legacy gift, St. John's Foundation directors named the Undesignated Fund the **Joy and Bill McNair Undesignated Fund**. Earnings will be used for Church Needs.

Directors also passed a motion that to have a fund named for a person, the gift must be a minimum of \$50,000. However, all gifts are welcome; those less than \$50,000 may be added to an existing account. Accounts are named for Children and Youth, Missions, and Church Needs.

Officers were also elected at the meeting: Susan H. Hoyt, President; David Michaelsen, Vice-president/Treasurer; and Susan H. Hoyt and Jean Shivers, Acting Secretaries.



## Rocket Launch at St John's

The children at the Reading Orienteering Club launched their Saturn V rockets with 100 tricky words. The children spent six weeks searching for 100 words that they either could not read, could not spell, or did not know the definition for. We call them simply tricky words, said Elaine Clanton-Harpine, then we go and learn those words. The rockets become teaching tools to encourage the children to learn new words. Building vocabulary is essential for effective reading, reading fluency, and for comprehension.

The unit for January and February has been on outer space, and the Saturn V moon rocket gave us wonderful information to read and learn about. We naturally also added alligators to our lunch site because they have alligators at Cape Kennedy. Yes, the alligators captured words too.

We want to thank each of our volunteers who come so faithfully each week. We could not help the children learn to read without you. We are very pleased to have university students coming from TAMUCC each week, and a special thank you to Judy and John Edwards for making the rockets possible.

We are now exploring coral reefs and learning about the ocean creatures that live near the coral reefs.



We still need volunteers. If you would like to join us, come and bring a friend.

We meet from 4:00 to 6:00 PM every Monday and Thursday, but you may volunteer to work from just 4-5 or 5-6 p.m. For more information, contact Elaine at 361-867-8040 or at [clantonharpine@hotmail.com](mailto:clantonharpine@hotmail.com)



## Ruth Circle's UMW Lent Project

# Help a Family Change Their Life!

### UMW CALENDAR

#### No UMW Executive Team meeting schedule in March.

Wednesday, March 4: **Styles for Mission Luncheon**, FUMC; sold out!

Friday, March 6: **Church Women United** – 9:30 am at Kelsey Memorial UMC; “World Day of Prayer” (carpool at 9 a.m.); program highlights the country of Zimbabwe and its struggles.

Tuesday, March 10: **Ruth Circle**, 9:45 a.m., “The Homeless in Corpus Christi.”

Wednesday, March 18: **Naomi Quest**, 6 p.m., Fellowship Hall; “Caring for the Homeless.” Learn to make a NO SEW tote bag out of a t-shirt. Bring scissors and a used but clean t-shirt, any size. Refreshments by Nancy Busby.

Wednesday, April 1: Lenten Study Luncheon hosted by UMM; save the date and watch for details.

Friday, April 3: Church Women United, 9:30 a.m., Grace Presbyterian Church, “April Showers for CPS Rainbow Room.”

During Lent, UMW's Ruth Circle would like to raise enough money to help a family living in poverty change their life. How?

Through Heifer Project International's Empowering Women Project. Heifer Project is training women throughout the world to start up a small agricultural business. Ruth Circle plans to help a family wishing to raise chickens.

Heifer Projects states, “If you change a woman's life, she will share her knowledge with her sisters, daughters and friends. She will Pass on the Gift of training and livestock. She will become a force for positive change in her community. And she will, most importantly, find a way to break herself and her family free from hunger and poverty. Women are often the most vulnerable. Building real skills and social capital can help lift them and their families out of poverty.”

One example from Heifer Project showing how our donation will help is: “In Mexico, Heifer trainings helped Georgina Pérez learn the best ways to care for her new chicks. Soon the chicks were growing faster and laying more eggs than her family could eat. Next, Heifer connected her with a national restaurant chain. Now, with the income she earns from selling eggs, she can provide for her family like never before. Her children can have nutritious meals and the chance to go to school. Her business is thriving, and her family is too!”

There are donation boxes and information scattered throughout St. John's buildings. Ruth Circle hopes that you, your family, your Sunday school class, or other group or organization will join with us to help a needy family build its own agricultural business which will enable them to overcome poverty and have a brighter future. Donations will be received through Easter Sunday on April 12.

For more information, contact members of UMW Ruth Circle or Elaine Clanton-Harpine at 361-867-8040 or [clantonharpine@hotmail.com](mailto:clantonharpine@hotmail.com).



(At left): Ruth Circle member Evalynn Bunk holds a Heifer International information packet as Joyce Zimmerman, Annie Hatfield, and Mary McAlister look on. (Above) Ruth Circle poses for a group photo after its February meeting that acquainted them about the Heifer Project. They invite other St. John's small groups and Sunday School classes to support the project.

# St. John's UMC Prayer List



**Hospital/Rehab:** Betty Collins, Charlene Hardy, Margaret Earle, Tom Niskala

**Grieving:** Family of Anita Schwein (mother of Julie Fomenko); Family of Jim Heslep; Family of John Polk

Our Church  
President Trump  
US Military  
World Leadership  
CC Metro Ministries  
Phillip Balderas  
Joe Barrera  
Alicia Bargas  
Cable Best  
Buff Betz  
Robin Blue  
Melissa Brownlee  
Tyler Brownlee  
Jennifer Brye  
Evalynn Bunk  
Margo C.  
Jeff Caravantes  
Marcia Caravantes  
Samuel & Annette Carter  
Margo Chapman  
Josh W. Cox

Dana D'Amore  
Mike Dailey  
K. Davidson  
Patricia Davis  
Rhys Earle  
Nicki Fischer  
Judy Forbes  
Elizabeth Gallaway  
Julian Gallaway  
Adela Garcia  
Robert Garza  
Brenda Glover  
Pam Glover  
Grace  
Fay Haggerty  
Charlene Hardy  
Alicia Hernandez  
Klara Hernandez  
Kathryn Heslep  
Jimbo  
Michael Jinnette  
Hydie Johnson

*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 someone or return someone to the prayer list.*

**[Emergency messages to Pastor Wade---960-4021]**

Jack Johnson  
Stacia Johnston  
Phyllis Jones  
Ann Jordan  
Linda Jordan  
Marta Juarez  
Margaret K.  
Mimi Keen  
Jim & Jill Kelly  
Charlotte Kunc  
Randy L.  
Tommy Lewis  
Laura Mosley  
Rasheedah Mosley  
Judi Oestreich  
Roma Onwiler  
Chris Oxley

Mike P.  
Dolores Pace  
Jack Pace  
Pat  
Kade Polk  
Pat Ponton  
Kelly R.  
Dottie Ramella  
Lillian Grace Reyna  
Lynne Richards  
Sherry Rizzo & Family  
Julian Rodriguez  
Lupe Rodriguez  
Rilla Roots  
Kelly S.  
Linda S.  
Sandy

Fay Sassman  
Anita Schwein  
Ivan Shaver  
Lyneve Shaver  
Morgan Skidmore  
Susan Skidmore  
Richard & Angela Strong  
Charles Teas  
Terry & Marie  
Dorothy Tullos  
Victoria  
Marla Warfield  
Davris White  
Betty Wilson  
Beverly Wilson  
Mary Lee Woodson  
Roseann Zammiello

## St. John's Food Pantry News



Happy March...from your Food Pantry volunteers!

We have had a great two months of the new year. We had more people come in the month of January than any other month last year with the exception of November.

We helped Anna who is in a shelter and trying to get a job and saw our friend LJ who has been under the weather but is back on his feet again. We had several people like Francisco and Alicia who took advantage of the nurse and health department health checks.

We appreciate all your help and support. Your St. John's Food Pantry is a much needed assistance for the community.

For March: We need the following items:

- 1 pound packages of Pinto Beans
- 1 pound packages of Pasta (any kind)
- Cans or plastic jars of spaghetti sauce

As always, your financial gifts to the Food Pantry...in any amount...is sincerely appreciated to help supplement supplies not available through the Coastal Bend Food Bank. If you want a receipt for your donation, please let the church staff know.

## UMW Supports Work of Matthew 25: Ministries

*"Caring for a Needy World With The Things We Throw Away"*

As one of its continuing mission projects, St. John's UMW provides clean, sorted, and packaged pill bottles to the Matthew 25: Ministries. The organization then includes the pill bottles along with medical supplies to send to developing countries.

If you would like more information about this ministry, you can look up the organization at [m25m.org](http://m25m.org).

We would like to thank our church community for helping us with this ongoing ministry. You can bring clean amber-colored bottles (labels removed, please) to the church office. There is a box designated for the collection.

Thank you, Anita Harris  
St. John's United Methodist Women

**Tasks:**

- Dig hole for pump
- Replace outdoor carpet in front of Sanctuary
- Replace tile and paint in Administration building bathrooms
- Clean up courtyard
- Power washing sidewalks & courtyard
- Window cleaning
- General cleaning – bathrooms, baseboards, etc.
- \*Power washers needed

# Easter is coming! Let's spruce up for Spring!



Church-wide Cleanup

**9 am -- 2 pm, Saturday, March 14, 2020**

*Breakfast for volunteers provided by UMM  
between 8-10 am*

Call/email Robyn Cobb to volunteer or with questions  
361-960-4017; [racobber@gmail.com](mailto:racobber@gmail.com)

SPECIAL NOTES: Trustees' Chair Bruce Hamende needs at least three men to help dig the hole for the new pump and help lay the new carpet on the Sanctuary porch. Also, power-washing equipment is needed if you can furnish.

## Church Calendar

### MARCH 2020

Sunday, March 1: First Sunday in Lent with Holy Communion observed in both worship services at 9 a.m. and 11:17 a.m.; Farewell Reception, 10:30-11 a.m. for Pastor KP in the Community Life Building, hosted by SPPRC Committee.

Wednesday, March 4: 12 noon to 1 p.m., Lenten Study Luncheon, with Holy Communion in the Community Life Building. (See story on Page 1)

Sunday, March 8: Worship services at 9 a.m. and 11:17 a.m.; *Thy Kingdom Come* heavy metal service at 7 p.m. in Fellowship Hall.

*March 9-13: Corpus Christi ISD Spring Break*

Friday, March 13: Deadline for church groups to submit funding request forms to the St. John's Foundation. (See stories on Pages 1 and 3)

Sundays, March 15, March 22, and March 29: Worship services, 9 & 11:17 a.m.

Sunday, March 29: Fifth-Sunday Churchwide Supper, 5 p.m., Community Life Building. (See story on Page 11)

### APRIL 2020

Wednesday, April 1: Lenten Study Luncheon, 12 noon-1 p.m., with Holy Communion. (See story on Page 1)

Sunday, April 5: Palm Sunday worship services at 9 a.m. and 11:17 a.m.; special play at 10 a.m. in the Community Life Building. (See story on Page 7)

## SENIOR ADULT MINISTRIES

**Chairercise:** Tuesdays and Thursdays ~ 10 am ~ AB Room 1

**Bridge:** Tuesday, March 3, 17 & 31 ~ 1 pm ~ AB Room 1

**Mexican Train:** Wednesday, March 4 & 18 ~ 1 pm ~ AB Room 1

**Wednesday Bible Study:** Wednesdays at 10:45 a.m., Conference Room; "24 Hours That Changed the World," by the Rev. Adam Hamilton

### March 7 Lay Servant Training

St. John's laity are invited to participate. **Saturday, March 7, Lay Servant Classes:** basic and advanced (God's Mission, Our Journey); 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; register online at the Coastal Bend District website and receive location details; \$25 per person, includes study book.

# Outreach Activities

By Carolyn Martin, Outreach Chair



We served about 40 people at South Bluff Park and delivered extra hot dogs to homeless people in nearby areas. Clothing was also provided to individuals we served. The church also provided Valentine's bags to the children residing at Bokenkamp. Outreach is planning future meals for the homeless, an egg hunt targeting involvement of families from the neighborhood, and a family oriented beach clean up team in April. More news coming about donations that will be needed for the Easter egg hunt.



## There Is Still Time To Register for April 17-19 Women's Retreat

**Friday-Sunday, April 17-19, 2020 Women's Retreat:** for lay and clergy women, at First United Methodist Church, Corpus Christi; Keynote speaker is Rev. Dr. Katharine Rhodes Henderson. Dr. Henderson is from Auburn Seminary, a multifaith leadership development and research institute that equips bold and resilient leaders of faith and moral courage to build communities, bridge divides, pursue justice, and heal the world. Register and pay: <https://coastalbendumc.org/district-womens-retreat.html>.



## Save the Date and Plan to Join Us On Palm Sunday, April 5, at 10 AM

By Elaine Clanton-Harpine

We have an all new Easter play this year and it is scheduled for Palm Sunday at 10 AM in the Community Life Building. The play this year is titled: He's coming! Riding on a donkey!

The cast is set, music, singers, lights, sound—all we need is you. Plan to join us and bring a friend.

The play focuses on a poor family in Jerusalem, struggling to make ends meet. The family survives partially by selling goods to travelers who have come to Jerusalem for the Passover. The family becomes excited when they hear that Jesus has arrived in Jerusalem.

They rush out to join the crowd, but then return with varying views on what His arrival in Jerusalem actually means.

The family members represent views that are actually still prevalent today among the followers of Jesus.

While researching for the play, I continuously encountered biblical scholars who described the political scene in Jerusalem when Jesus arrived.

In thinking about the political turmoil that existed in biblical time, I reflected upon the political turmoil that is plaguing our country today. I think the words of Jesus were as appropriate then as they are today. The play focuses on the

teachings from the Sermon on the Mount. Plan to join us for the play.

We invite each Sunday school class to set up a table in the CLB to tell others about their class. We also encourage everyone to invite someone new to come and join you on April 5<sup>th</sup>. Breakfast breads will be served after the play, and there will be time for fellowship.

If you wish to participate in the Palm procession, please contact Elaine Clanton-Harpine at 361-867-8040 or at [clantonharpine@hotmail.com](mailto:clantonharpine@hotmail.com). All ages are invited to participate. Costumes are available.



## ***THY KINGDOM COME* Service Has Changed Its Schedule:** **Second Sunday Evening of the Month** **7 pm--Fellowship Hall**

***Thy Kingdom Come* worship service has changed its schedule to the **SECOND** Sunday evening at 7 pm in 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 UMC at 5300 S. Alameda 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. For more information, call David Pallotti or Harley Mathews.

## **Adult Sunday School Updates** **News from the Seekers Class**

The Seekers Class finished up the 6-week study on the 23rd Psalm which they enjoyed. They will begin a new 4-week study on Sunday, March 15, titled "This Is the Day: Reclaim Your Dream. Ignite Your Passion. Live Your Purpose" by Tim Tebow.

On March 1, the class will not meet in order to attend a farewell reception for class member Beth Polk and Pastor KP Polk. On Sunday March 8, Pastor Wade Lindstrom will speak to the class on what will be happening at the General Conference this year. We hope to have great attendance in the weeks ahead.

The class enjoyed its annual Valentine Dinner party on February 15 at the home of Benny and Gerri Cason. The dinner was catered by Salty Oak BBQ, and lots of fun games pursued.

Two other social events include a going-away party for Beth and KP on February 29 at the Cason home and the monthly birthday gathering on February 27 to celebrate the February birthdays of Joyce Hamende, Connie Hahn, Karen Carden, and Hollie Boehmer.

The Seekers Class helped with the Valentines and Hot Dogs on February 9 at South Bluff Park providing lunch, clothing, and fellowship to some of the city's less fortunate.

The class also purchased two futons's to donate to the Youth/FLOCK corner of the Community Life Building. "We are working towards making an inviting and personal area for our youth to sit in during worship and use for meetings at the church," said Cathi Garza.

The Seekers invite YOU to join them in class each Sunday upstairs in the Fellowship Hall at 10:15 a.m.



Enjoying the Seekers Class Valentine Dinner were (standing, l-r) Marianne Robert, Robin Blue, Gerri Cason, Janice Cagle, Phil Sims, Robyn Cobb, Joyce Hamende; (seated) Beth Polk, Carolyn Martin, and Shelley Veit.

**Word to word Class--**The Word to word Sunday School class is one of those small study groups John Wesley spoke of frequently as being the "life-blood" of the church. We not only study the Bible in-depth, but also discuss how that can affect our daily lives. Finding just the right combination of The Word and daily living is one of the great solved mysteries when living in the Kingdom of God. Please come join us, have a cup of coffee and find out what studying God's Word is all about in your life. Bring your Bible and meet with us for a Spirit-filled experience, bringing a newness in your life. We meet in Room 2 of the Admin. Bldg. each Sunday, 10:15-11 a.m.

**CCI Class--**The class continues its study and discussion of the UMW Social Principles. The class meets in Room 1 of the Admin. Bldg. from 10:15-11 a.m. every Sunday and would welcome your participation!

# STUDENT MINISTRIES

By Leslie Albrecht

February found our youth with a new name. All of our activities outside of Sunday School will now be FLOCK. This is an acronym for **Fledgling Leaders of Christ's Kingdom**.

We needed an identity that we could use whenever we were together. In the past we had 4 Corners (Sunday youth gathering), Poolside Bible Study (Summer Wednesday evenings) and then there were various outings we took as a group which didn't fall into any of the aforementioned activities. Now whenever we gather, we will FLOCK. We will be using a flamingo as our mascot.

FLOCK would like to thank the Seekers class for their generous donation to our "nest" in the 11:17 service. We now have plenty of room for our growing FLOCK.

Our FLOCK travelled to South Bluff Park with the Outreach Team for Hot Dogs and Valentines. It was great to be able to do mission work as a group for the community's homeless while being included in the larger mission of the church. I have spoken with the Outreach Committee about other opportunities for our youth.



The first Sunday of each month Flock meets at 12:30-2:00 in the Youth Building and works on homework. I love that I have a great group who are concerned about their school assignments and can get and give help on some of their tougher subjects.

Confirmation con Queso is progressing well. There is plenty of time for serious discussion but Pastor Wade always makes sure to provide some fun activities that tie into those. Confirmation is coming up later this spring. Please continue to hold our confirmands and their mentors in your prayers.

An in-house mission event took place on the 16<sup>th</sup> with FLOCK helping clean up and reorganize the prayer chapel near the Sanctuary.

Pastor KP and I had been talking about how great it would be to have that space available for personal or small group prayer so we made it happen. With the addition of candles to that space it is important to remember that if you light a candle during your prayer time, please extinguish it when you leave. When we host prayer vigils the candles may remain lit as long as there is someone present at all times.

There are also prayer cards available for you to fill out and leave, these will be picked up and turned in to the office on Wednesdays and Sundays. If you have a prayer request that needs a faster response, please contact the church office.



February 23 was the last Sunday of the month so we let off a little steam with a nerf war. I felt a little like Julius Caesar waiting in my office (base for those who needed a break) when the entire FLOCK came in, surrounded me, and then pelted me with nerf darts. I am blessed to lead a group who will let me join in the fun.



# St. John's United Methodist Men



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

Thanks to everyone who supported the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper on February 25. Your support is sincerely appreciated.

UMM will sponsor the Lenten Luncheon on Wednesday, March 18. The menu will be vegetable lasagna with salad and bread; tea and lemonade.

On Saturday, March 14, from 8-10 am, UMM will sponsor a Lenten breakfast for all church members. There will also be a church work day following the breakfast. Everyone is encouraged to attend. (See story on Page 6)

**UMM Officers:**

- President - Jim Falwell
- Vice President - Jack Pace
- Treasurer - Darron Bergstrom
- Secretary - Gary Schwartz

## MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Leslie Albrecht, Larry Patton
- 2 Curtis Miles, Kathy Tunnell
- 3 Kathryn Heslep
- 4 Mary-Elizabeth Blue, Mrs. Robin Smith
- 5 Corina Alegria, Donna Sheffield
- 7 Annie Hatfield, Timothy Keener, Steve Luker
- 12 Bruce Hamende, Carolyn Olevitch
- 13 Grant Haralson
- 14 Christian Waldrop
- 15 Skylar Carden, David Hearn
- 16 Gabrielle Shaffer
- 18 Marilyn Henderson
- 19 Ann Jordan
- 20 Daisy Espino
- 22 Robert Lewis
- 24 Abbigail Thompson
- 26 Bill Smith
- 28 Sam Straub
- 29 Gaylene Burleson, Zachary Cason, Scott Garza
- 30 Rick Darst, Halsey Fusselman

**NOTE:** If you are celebrating a birthday this month but your name is not listed, OR if your name is included incorrectly in this list, please call the church office at 991-4342 so that church records can be corrected.



**11:17 SERVICE**  
Pastor Wade Lindstrom talks with children attending the 11:17 contemporary worship service recently about his sermon topic.

## Donations to Scholarship Fund Are Appreciated!

By Marianne Robert, Scholarship Committee Chair

A reminder to church members that contributions in any amount are welcomed by the St. John's Scholarship Committee. St. John's has a long tradition of presenting scholarships to graduating high school seniors who plan to continue their post-secondary education.

You can send a financial gift to the church bookkeeper, indicating it is for the Scholarship Fund. Or you can place your gift in an offering envelope during a worship service and indicate on the outside of the envelope that the gift is for the Scholarship Fund.

Scholarship applications will be due in the church office on May 1, 2020.



**UMW TRAINING IN INGLESIDE**--Four officers of St. John's United Methodist Women (l-r)--Annie Hatfield, Spiritual Director; Glenda Sanders, Treasurer; Karen Van Kirk, Secretary; and Carole Salsberry, President-- traveled to Ingleside UMC to attend the February 22 training sponsored by the Coastal Bend District UMW. Annie and Carole led workshops. Earlier this month, St. John's UMW hosted the annual "A Call to Prayer and Self-Denial" service in the Community Life Building and learned about several missionaries who are serving women, youth, and children around the world. Four other UMC churches also were represented at the service.

## SAVE THE DATE-- SUNDAY, MARCH 29

Methodists love food and fellowship!

Mark your calendar for the next "Fifth Sunday All-Church Covered Dish Supper" on Sunday, March 29, at 5 p.m. in the Community Life Building. Be thinking of a special food dish (meat, casserole, salad, vegetable, dessert) to prepare or purchase and share with others!

The Food, Fun & Fellowship Team needs volunteers to ensure a successful event. Please call chair Evalynn Bunk and tell her you'll be a part of this fun group.



Future Fifth-Sunday suppers will be May 31, August 30, and November 29.

## MARCH 2020 MEETINGS

**Traditional Worship**--Tuesday, March 3 @ 6:30 pm - Conference Rm

**Outreach**--Thursday, March 12 @ 6:30 pm - Conference Room

**Kitchen Team**--Monday, March 16 @ 2 pm - CLB

**Finance**--Monday, March 16 @ 6:30 pm - Conference Room

**Trustees**--Saturday, March 21 @ 9 a.m. in the Conference Room

**SPPRC**--Tuesday, March 24 @ 6:30 pm - Conference Room

**Foundation**--Wednesday, March 25 @ 6:30 pm - Conference Room

**CLC Board** --Monday, March 30 @ 12 noon - Conference Room

### SPECIAL EVENTS:

#### Open Communion at the Mirador

Thursday, March 19 @ 10:30 am in the Mirador Chapel. (Every third Thursday of the month.) Contact: Judi Edwards

#### Confirmation con Queso

Sunday, March 8 & 22, meetings for the 2020 Confirmands from 3 - 5 pm @ Jason's Deli on Airline. Contact: Pastor Wade Lindstrom

## 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, Care/Concern/Bereavement, 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 Heslep, husband of Kathryn, undesignated gifts to the Memorial Fund were given by Joyce Zimmerman, Lucille Hight, Rita Lawhon, and Molly and Robert West of Helotes, TX.

Also in loving memory of Jim Heslep, a gift to the Youth Fund from Chris Davis Garcia and a gift to the Building Fund from Gaylord & Sue Hoyt.

In loving memory of John Zimmerman, husband of Joyce, undesignated gifts to the Memorial Fund were given by Scott and Elaine Wilshusen of Glen Rose, Tx; Frank and Janet Luckay; Alice Ann and Jerry Fischer, and Deanna and Tom Weilert of Dallas.. Also a gift to the Food Pantry was received from the CCI Sunday School Class.



Calling all interested singers and musicians! Please visit with Choir Director Kim Bryce and learn more about singing in the Sanctuary Choir, playing bells with the Celestial Bells, or sharing your musical talent in other areas. Help us grow the Choir!

### STATE OF THE CHURCH

**STATE OF THE CHURCH statistics will resume as soon as the 2020 Budget is completed by the Finance Committee.**

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

## CHURCH ATTENDANCE

|   | FEB 2020 | FEB 2019 |
|---|----------|----------|
| 9 a.m. (Traditional)                            | 81       | 87       |
| 11:17 a.m. (Contemporary)                       | 75       | 70       |
| Sunday School                                   | 76       | 90       |
| Visitors  | 22       | 20       |
| Thy Kingdom Come<br>(monthly, 2nd Sunday, 7 pm) | 18       | 20       |

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



Have you looked at our flags out by our sign? Have you ever wondered who takes care of our flag?

St. John's UMC has a wonderful neighbor, Bill Mills, who has taken care of our flags for years. He doesn't ask us for anything and does it out of a sense of pride and patriotism. Bill has replaced our flag when needed. After our sign burned and there was no electricity and therefore no way to light the flag at night, Bill bought a LED light that would work so our flags are properly displayed at night. Bill brings to the office official notifications on raising and lowering the flags to half-staff and why. We are very grateful for his time, dedication, and friendship. Thank you, Bill!

## LOOKING AHEAD:

### BLOOD MOBILE DATES FOR 2020

April 26, June 28, August 23, October 18, and December 13

Thanks to all the blood donors who gave blood on Feb. 2.  
The Corpus Christi community appreciates your commitment to ensuring that blood is available for those who need it.

## 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 Class, 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

**Brian 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

**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 APRIL 2020 issue is Friday, March 27.

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