



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

# STEEPLE NOTES

OCTOBER 2021



## World Communion Sunday, October 3

United Methodists and all Christians around the globe will celebrate World Communion Sunday this Sunday, October 3. This observance was begun in 1936 in the Presbyterian Church and since then has become an international ecumenical celebration of Christian unity.

Communion will be served at St. John's in both the 9 a.m. and 11:17 a.m. services, and the service will be a time for remembering that around the globe--in different languages, with different traditions and customs, and in various forms of liturgy--the Lord's Supper is celebrated as we remember both the night of Jesus' betrayal and his sacrifice.

A special offering will be collected to fund scholarships for those attending seminary around the world (see related story on Page 3). At both the traditional and contemporary worship services, there will be a display of items (both religious and non-religious) representing countries around the world and world unity.

## Help Unload Pumpkins This Sunday

By Glenda Sanders, Leadership Board Chair

While unloading pallets last Saturday, literally a dozen neighbors stopped and gave us a thumbs up or shouted & honked from their cars they are so happy the Pumpkins are coming! Some even said they will come help on unloading day.



Our pumpkin patch gives us a huge opportunity to be in ministry with the neighborhood and to share the Good News!

St. John's United Methodist Church's annual pumpkin patch is back on **October 5-October 31** with thousands of pumpkins and gourds for sale. We will be open Sundays through Fridays from 12 noon to 7:00 pm and on Saturdays from 10 am to 7 pm. Admission is free. Buy your pumpkin(s) here to benefit the Children's Ministry. We will feature pumpkins of all sizes, shapes and colors! Free photo spots! Pet friendly (on a leash, please)!

**Unloading of Pumpkins - Sunday, Oct 3 at 12:30 pm.** Contact **Tonya Claunch** 361-688-5657 for information. Remember sunscreen, cap, gloves...and dress cool. Ice will be available. Bring your own drink container. If you can let us borrow large ice chests, call Tonya. Donation of cases of bottled water are needed by Oct. 2 so they can be iced down in the Community Life Building. Looking for kitchen help to set out food & drinks (Brisket provided at discounted price by **Salty Oak**) for volunteers unloading pumpkins.

**Sales Table.** Contact **Robyn Cobb** (361-960-4017) to volunteer at sales table, or add your name to a sign up sheet. Sign Up Genius is available online.

**Disposal of broken pumpkins.** Thank you to **James and Theresa Cass** for helping by picking up broken pumpkins weekly for their farm animals. To volunteer for daily monitoring of broken pumpkins, contact **Chris Garcia** 361-244-4193.

(Story continues on Page 2)

### WAFFLE BREAKFAST THIS SATURDAY...Community Event Invitation

*King High School Waffle Football Fundraiser*  
9 a.m. to 12 noon, St. John's UMC Community Life Building; \$8 per person.  
*Terrific meal/great fellowship.*  
Contact **Tonya Claunch** at 361-688-5657

*if you'd like to purchase ticket(s) in advance. Tonya is willing to deliver tickets and pick up payments; purchases at the door on the day of the fundraiser may be limited.*  
*Help support our King athletes.*

# MESSAGE FROM PASTOR WADE

## Let's Keep the Faith As We Climb Out of the "Pit"

I recently read an article (which I cannot find now that I'm looking for it) about how to carry off some kind of annual ministry funding campaign this fall to insure our solvency for 2022. The author was discussing theme ideas. The themes sounded something like this: "turning the corner," "the light at the end of the tunnel," and "a new beginning." The author finally settled on "keeping the faith." Another way to look at the idea for moving out of the pandemic era in the church might be more like "clawing our way out of a deep pit."



Pastor Wade Lindstrom

In the Bible, "pit" is used in both Greek and Hebrew for a variety of, well, holes. More specifically, pit refers to some kind of depression in the earth, either purposefully crafted or naturally occurring. Biblically speaking, a pit is often used to kill or trap someone or something. "The Pit" can be the dwelling place for evil, the home of Satan, or the place where the dead dwell. It can also refer to the source of plagues. It is often used metaphorically for the place of death, depression, hopelessness or despair. We sometimes use the word metaphorically even today. In my opinion, this pandemic is the pits. And I really am ready to climb out of this hole!

The article helped me to see that when one has entered the pit, no matter how deep or dark it may be, we must keep the faith. In the grand sweep of history, the Christian Church has had many ups and downs. Crusades, plagues, religious wars, non-religious wars for political purposes only, reformations, witch trials, racism, misogyny, homophobia, Islamophobia, ant-Semitism, slavery.

And yet we persist. We continue. The Church is of God and it will be forever. As so many before us have done, we have descended into the pit and now, scratching and clawing, we are making our way out.

It is much easier to descend than to climb. Going downhill is easy, with skis on it's actually fun. Especially if you like the thrill of speed! I really thought that September 2021 would be the time we could say farewell to the COVID pandemic. But it appears that climbing out of this one will be an ongoing challenge.

I am almost never a pessimist, I take to heart the idea of "keeping the faith." The Christian Church has had many highs and many lows over many centuries. And it still persists. Not only does it persist, it thrives.

The same can be said for any local congregation. When we finally ascend from the pit, things will look different in the light of a new day and we will have the choice to call it bad or call it good. When that day comes, I hope we will look for the good. In the meantime, let's keep the faith!

--- Pastor Wade



## PUMPKIN PATCH

(continued from Page 1)

### Artists & Creative Crafters.

Looking for artists to paint or decorate special pumpkins to be used as door prizes or sold. We are planning some craft workshops for Saturdays, October 9 and October 16 from 10am - 11am. Contact **Glenda Sanders** 361-946-9508 cell or text.

**Photo Spots.** Let us know if you can help to decorate one of the three photo spots. We have hay bales, scarecrows, and miscellaneous decorations! We just need creative hands.

**Storytime.** We are scheduling storytime for school groups upon request. Special storytimes will be running in 30-minute increments from 3:30 pm - 5:30 pm on Fridays, Oct. 22 & Oct. 29 and on Saturdays, Oct. 23 & Oct. 30 from 10 am - 12 noon. Contact **Glenda Sanders** 361-946-9508 cell or text if you want to help.

### SPECIAL THANKS

**Hay Bales.** Thank you to **David Ocker** for locating hay bales and delivering!

**Pallets.** Thank you to **Vic Veit of MG Building Materials** for donating 100 pallets and delivering! Thanks to **Glenda Sanders, Bruce Hamende, Tonya Claunch, Darron Bergstrom, and Danna Sharpe** for spreading the pallets last Saturday. **Lowes** donated an additional 30 pallets that **Bruce and Darron** picked up and unloaded.

### LOOKING AHEAD

**Trunk or Treat! Sunday, October 31,** (Halloween), 5pm - 7 pm in the front parking lot of the church. Contact **Leslie Albrecht** at 361-537-7199. See story on Page 8!



## Blood Drive Set Sunday, October 17

Calling all blood donors and prospective donors! The final on-site Blood Drive for 2021 at St. John's is scheduled on Sunday, October 17, in the church's front parking lot. Hours will be 8 a.m. until 1 p.m. Plan to use the Coastal Bend Blood Bank's online reservation system to reserve your time.

### At a Glance... OCTOBER CHURCH CALENDAR

Saturday, October 2: Richard King High School football fundraiser (see announcement on Page 1)

Sunday, Oct. 3: Unloading of pumpkins for Pumpkin Patch (12:30 p.m.), lots of volunteers needed; see story on Page 1.

Tuesday, Oct. 5-Oct. 31: Pumpkin Patch is open for sales, special photo ops, and other activities, culminating on Sunday, Oct. 31 (Halloween), Trunk or Treat, 5-7 p.m. in the front parking lot (see story on Page 8)

Tuesday, Oct. 12: 6:30 p.m., Combined Worship Team meeting, CLB (Chris Garcia)

Wednesday, Oct. 13: 1 p.m., Shepherding Care Fall homebound gifts assembly in Room 2 of the Admin. Bldg. (Judi Edwards, chair)

Sunday, Oct. 17: Distribution of Fall Homebound gifts distributed after worship; Bloodmobile in front parking lot from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. (See story at top of this page)

Tuesday, Oct. 19: Leadership Board Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Conference Room (Glenda Sanders, chair)

Sunday, Oct. 24: St. John's 2022 Stewardship Campaign begins

\*\* The month of October is recognized by the UMC as "Pastor Appreciation Month."

## October Sermons & Pulpit Guests

October 3, 2021 – New Testament Stories – “Hour of Darkness”– Wade

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY; Scripture: Matthew 27:45-56

October 10, 2021 – New Testament Stories – Guest: Vanessa LeVine

October 17, 2021 – New Testament Stories – Guest: Austin Mertz

October 24, 2021 – New Testament Stories – “Paul and Jerusalem”

Scripture: Acts 21:1-17 (Pastor Wade)

October 31, 2021 – New Testament Stories – “Witnessing Through Paul”

Scripture: Acts 26:19-29 (Pastor Wade)

November 7, 2021 – New Testament Stories – “Resurrection is Life”

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY; Scripture: John 20:1-2, 11-15 (Pastor Wade)

## How Your Gift on World Communion Sunday Supports Scholarships Around the World

*“Together, Our Reach Is Beyond Measure”*

We are called to reach out to all people and to model the diversity of all God's children. Your gifts on World Communion Sunday (October 3) supports racial and ethnic students in achieving their educational goals while also transforming communities. Fifty percent of the offering provides scholarships to graduate students from the United States and other countries. Thirty-five percent supports ethnic scholarships for undergraduate seminary students, and 15% funds in-service training programs for racial and ethnic persons.

For this Sunday's special offering, you may place your cash gift (loose change or currency) or your personal check in the special offering envelope provided in the offering plate, or you can leave the envelope or your gift at the altar rail. Please support this special World Communion Sunday offering.



# Four Things Methodists Believe About Communion

By Tom Fuerst, Lead Pastor, Bluff City Church Memphis, TN

NOTE: Recently I followed the story of the Catholic Church debates over whether President Joe Biden should be allowed to receive Communion because of his position on abortion. In light of their debates, I'm sharing with Bluff City Church four things we, as United Methodists, believe about Communion. (*This article appeared online 6/21 at MinistryMatters.com*)

## 1. Methodists believe Communion is God's gift, not the church's gift.

Methodists should never debate, as the Catholic church currently is, whether some individuals should be permitted access to the Table. Deciding who deserves to receive communion is beyond the job description of the church.

The origins of Communion begin with God's gracious character revealed in Christ. It does not begin or end with the church. This means the church does not get to refuse anyone the privilege or participating in God's gift. We did not create communion. We, therefore, do not get to limit Communion. We do not even "take" Communion. We receive Communion. And our job is to help others also *receive* it. The church is a recipient of grace. We do not own grace. We do not restrict grace.

## 2. Methodists believe that in Communion God folds the past and future into the present.

This belief begins not with the nature of time, but in the nature of *God*. The past, present, and future all collapse in on each other because we worship a God who transcends time and makes one community out of all of us. God's presence has been given to the people of God in all times and places. The past, present, and future are *God's eternal now*. As God was present in the Exodus, so God is present now. As Jesus is present in the future new creation, so Jesus is present now.

This presence, in fact, is not a symbolic presence. It's a *real* presence. The God of all time has folded all moments into this moment and given us not symbolic presence but God's active, passionate, attentive presence.

But there's more.

In Communion, the church *literally* participates in the Exodus story, the liberation of God's people from the bondage of Egypt, sin, and death. That past event is brought into the present.

In Communion, the church literally participates in the *future* resurrection and redemption of all things. That is, Communion brings God's future restoration and new creation into the present such that we are *present* in the *future*. When we celebrate Communion, we celebrate with all the saints who have gone before us in death and also await God's restoration of all things. Your family members who have passed on in death are *present* in the Communion moment.

This also means that Communion makes us present to other believers who are also presently alive and receiving Communion. We are participating in divine grace as a Communion with believers in China, Russia, Taiwan, Afghanistan, and Palestine.

## 3. Methodists believe the Table is open to everyone.

Our language is that we have "an Open Table." No one is restricted from the Table. No one is too unworthy because no one was worthy to begin with.

Will unworthy people receive Communion if we leave it open to everyone? Well, yes. But unworthy people receive Communion even when the Table is "closed" because *no one* is worthy to receive Communion.

Jesus celebrated the Passover meal with Judas, who was soon to betray him. Jesus washed Judas's feet that same night. Jesus knew beforehand that Judas would betray him, yet he was not kept from divine grace. If Jesus can wash Judas's feet and receive him at the Table, who are we to restrict anyone from the Table?

## 4. Methodists believe Communion even works grace into the lives of non-Christians.

Even non-Christians can participate in the Communion moment. They may not become Christians *that exact moment*, but they do, nevertheless, participate in grace. And that grace can lead them to conversion. When we say our Table is "open," we mean that no one — not a Buddhist, not a Muslim, not an Atheist, no one! — is kept from the Table. Communion is the moment when all of us, undeserving as we may be, find God's grace given to us in tangible ways. The church doesn't own Communion, so we don't even get to restrict it to those inside the church. The God of all creation has gifted it, through Jesus, to all of creation.



**Can We Get Some Applause?** After 50 years in operation, one of St. John's primary Air-Conditioning Units is being replaced! And the cost is no small matter! \$19,000. Thanks to Bruce Hamende and the Trustees who kept the old unit going....and thanks to the Leadership Board for authorizing the new purchase! (The photo at left shows how a crane hoisted the equipment over the roof to its designated location.)



Ladies in the Seekers Class enjoyed their monthly gathering recently to celebrate those who had a birthday in August. Pictured around the table are (left) Camille, Marti Veith, Shelley Veit, Glenda Sanders, Danna Sharpe, Robyn Cobb, Connie Hahn, and Hollie Boehmer.

## CCI and Friendship Sunday School Classes Winding Up Study of Book of Acts

Only six more chapters to go for the members of the CCI and Friendship Sunday School classes to finish up its study of the Book of Acts.

Following the conclusion, Judi and John Edwards will teach the class for two Sundays (October 17 and Oct. 24), sharing photos and commentary of their "50th Anniversary Trip to the Holy Land." Many of the cities they visited were mentioned in the Apostle Paul's second and third missionary journeys captured in Acts.

## Seekers Sunday School Update

The Seekers Sunday School class is currently using "The Book of Joy: Lasting Happiness in a Changing World" as our guide to study and discussion. The book is compiled by author Douglas Abrams from his participation in a weeklong series of interviews with Archbishop Desmond Tutu and His Holiness the Dalai Lama during a celebration of the Dalai Lama's 80th birthday in 2015.

The two spiritual leaders offer insights into finding joy in our lives, point out obstacles that people encounter in their search for joy, and provide suggestions and "joy practices" for use by readers in their own search for joy. In addition to reading and studying the book, we are using scripture and other texts, as well as some video format.

We are approximately halfway through this study and have geared our timeline in such a way to allow us to discuss topics at a leisurely pace. We welcome anyone who wishes to join the class at any time.

## Traditional Worship Service

Special thanks to Acolyte Xander Nguyen (in white robe) and Hollie Boehmer, who served as liturgist. At far right: Leslie Albrecht plays the flute, with Music Director Kim Bryce accompanying her for special Offertory music.





"perceived" in the 1st paragraph.



## Heartfelt Thanks from the Garza Family

#GarzaBrothersKidneyTransplant



Robert and Mario are pictured the Sunday that Robert was released from the San Antonio hospital.

By Cathi Garza

Robert & Mario Garza successfully underwent a kidney transplant on Wednesday, September 15.. They are brothers born 14 months apart, Mario being the elder. Robert was placed on a transplant list for approximately 2 years due to End Stage Renal Disease. Several family members attempted to become Robert's donor and for various reasons were ruled out. It was necessary for Robert to begin PD Dialysis in March of this year. During this time, his brother Mario applied to become Robert's donor. He was accepted and continued to pass through the screening process.

This summer both were finally approved for transplant. However, in June the transplant center contacted both brothers and explained that Mario had three arteries to his kidney while Robert had only one. They asked if the brothers would be interested in participating in the Exchange program also known as a paired kidney exchange. In a nutshell, this means that another pair of recipient/donor that would be a "better match" for both would be paired with Robert & Mario. This is the method they pursued. Within a short time a match was made and the 4 people involved agreed on an early September transplant. They did not meet each other but may be given the opportunity down the road if they would like to do so. Either way, two people have new kidneys and there are two heroes that donated.

Mario lives in Florida and flew in to San Antonio for the transplant. He was released from the Methodist Hospital - Specialty & Transplant the following day but had to wait until the following Saturday to return home due to the risk of developing blood clots due to the pressure involved in flying. He is doing very well and says every day is better than the day before. Robert was released from the hospital the following Sunday and returned home. He will be going to the clinic in San Antonio every other week for the next couple of months, then once per month for about 6 months. He is recovering well at home. He asks for continued prayers as his body adjusts to the anti-rejection meds and the new kidney.

The family sends heartfelt thanks to everyone that took part in the parade the Sunday preceding the transplant, for the cards and letters that have been sent this past month, and for the Seekers Class once again providing delicious meals the past two weeks. We are blessed to be a part of such a loving, Christian community and appreciate everyone! God is good. All the time!



## New Learning Opportunity:

### *"Church Beyond the Walls"*

By Pastor Wade Lindstrom

Pastor Wade's invitation remains open to church members who want to participate in an 8-week course utilizing a resource developed by him and three other clergy titled **Church Beyond the Walls**.

The class utilizes a daily workbook/journal that helps participants learn new terminology, inspire the imagination with full-color graphic design work, and provoke new missional practices naturally.

One purpose for this resource is for it to be a field guide for starting mission together. Some of you are ready to go and have friends that want to go with you. The booklet is free and we plan to dive right into it as both spiritual formation and missional practice. Remember, this is just a toe-in-the-water experience toward beginning to building lifelong habits. Some of you may just thank each other and move on. Others may decide to formalize the missional community and continue together to go on mission together. There is no failure here, just a chance to create your own incarnational community.

Please call or email Cathy McRorey in the church office if you are interested in participating--361-960-4021; catherine.sjmethodist@gmail.com.

elled words: Under About the Liberation heading, the 3rd paragraph. Then under Criticisms heading,

## Schism in the Church – Liberationists

By Rick Darst, Church Member and Laity Delegate to the Rio Texas Annual Conference



Rick Darst

In this fourth report on the Schism within the United Methodist Church we cover **Exiting Liberationists**. In the September issue of SteepleNotes, we finished a two-part article on Traditionalists.

At the other end of the theopolitical spectrum, but in some ways mirroring the Traditionalists, are **Liberationists** who are planning to exit the denomination. This is a fairly small group of US United Methodists, mostly associated with the Liberation Methodist Connexion, but a number serve as General Conference delegates, making it a notable position.

Although the group is defined by its views on sexuality, like Traditionalists, Liberationists' top issue is currently leaving the denomination. Unlike Traditionalists, however, they are less focused on the Protocol as a means to do so. Like Traditionalists, they are ambivalent or hostile to what happens to the denominational structures they are leaving.<sup>1</sup>

### About the Liberation Methodist Connexion (LMX)

The Liberation Methodist Connexion describes themselves as a grassroots denomination of former, current, and non-Methodist faith leaders working on the unfolding of the kingdom of God. They intentionally invite the full participation of all who are living out their God-given identities and expressions, including but not limited to:

Gender expressions and sexual identity, religious or non-religious backgrounds, heritage/nationality/ citizenship/ immigration status, races and ethnicities, size, physical and/or mental age, incarceration status, living with HIV and any other chronic medical conditions, socio-economic/ housing status, monogamous and non-monogamous, hair color or styles, tattoos/piercings/body art, mental/physical ability or disability, use of drugs or education level...<sup>2,3</sup>

“If you visit the LMX website,” said Mark Tooley, President of the Institute on Religion and Democracy, “you can read for yourself about beliefs and policies. As a transparency requirement, I acknowledge being friends with one of the LMX Collaborators for many years. I did not consult with this person in preparation of this report.”

### Criticisms of the LMX movement

The LMX movement has come under criticism for their beliefs and agenda. Some of those critiques have included

**Editor's Note:** In the mid-1970's, language was added to the United Methodist Book of Discipline (one of the Doctrinal documents that governs the United Methodist Church (UMC)) that required that the UMC would not permit ordination of LGBTQ persons as UMC clergy nor for UMC clergy to conduct same-sex marriages. These prohibitions have become contentious since that time to the point that the UMC will likely negotiate a separation in the upcoming 2022 General Conference of the United Methodist Church. The General Conference is an international conference that has been postponed in 2020 and 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

For the past 3 months, Rick Darst, one of St. John's lay delegates to the Rio Texas Annual Conference, has researched the topic and selected writings from respected theologians and others to try to explain the expected action that seems to be set to happen at the 2022 General Conference of the UMC.

The article this month, titled "Liberationists" is the fourth article on the anticipated Schism within the United Methodist Church (UMC).

that they are perceived to be minimizing if not altogether dismissing theological doctrine in favor of political activism and identity politics. They have been criticized by some for their perceived propensity to stir up controversy in order to divide and conquer centrists in the United Methodist Church.

### “Progressives and Remaining Liberationists”

There is a significant block of United Methodists in the United States and Europe who plan to remain in the United Methodist Church and whose top priority remains changing UMC policy to allow for the ordination of LGBTQ+ individuals and same-sex marriages. Reconciling Ministries Network and The Liberation Project are expressions of this group, and Progressive concerns are also included in *UMC Next and Out of Chaos: Creation*.

For many Progressives, anti-racist work is also a significant issue, although for Progressives in the United States, racism is understood in predominantly US-centric rather than global terms. Progressives and remaining Liberationists are open to other issues, and some individuals are also part of other groups advocating for institutional reform, unity, and/or regionalization. For many Progressives, however, these other issues continue to be interpreted through the lens of their impact on human sexuality.

### Citations

1. [A New Era in United Methodist Politics: New Parties — Christmas Covenant](#)
2. [Home - Liberation Methodist Connexion \(thelmx.org\)](#)
3. ... indicating omission. Omissions are either duplication of existing thought, wording not clearly to the point of the article, or areas where UMC as a unit agrees on (Christ, Trinity, the 10 Commandments, loving our God, loving each other, etc.)

# News from the Coastal Bend District

(website: [Coastalbendumc.org](http://Coastalbendumc.org))

## Kudos To a New Podcast

Four District clergy, included Pastor Wade, joined together to design a Podcast that would help them be connected and “be the church” during the pandemic. Pastor Wade’s cohorts included Rev. Tom Tarver, Rev. John Fletcher, and Rev. Brad DeHaven. The podcast is called “Almost Perfect,” and can be found on Facebook or on the web at: [www.almostperfectpodcast.com](http://www.almostperfectpodcast.com).

## Advanced Lay Servant Class Set

Lay Servant Training (Advanced Course: “Leading Worship”) is scheduled virtually on Saturday, November 6, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. The class is designed for lay servants, newly appointed pastors, worship teams, lay people who help with worship, as well as those who want to know more about worship and the design of worship in the United Methodist Church. The textbook to be used, titled “Worshiping with United Methodists,” is available at Cokesbury or Amazon. To register with the District office, go to [Coastalbendumc.org](http://Coastalbendumc.org) and click on Ministries-Lay Servants.

## “Time To Heal” Book Study Begins On-line on October 6

The Rev. Dr. Karen Boehk, who serves as assistant to the District Superintendent of the Coastal Bend District, will lead an online Bible Study from 10:30 a.m. to 12 noon, beginning Wednesday, October 6. She has selected the book “A Time To Heal” by J. R. Briggs and says “it offers a hope-filled vision for how everyday Christians can join with God in the healing of our world...” Contact Linda Morrow, Director of District Ministries, for more information or to register: [Linda@coastalbendumc.org](mailto:Linda@coastalbendumc.org)

## Pathways Conversations/Perkins School of Theology--Expert tools to help churches minister to young Christians

Free learning/discussion webinars (free and online, live lunch-hour learning seminars) from Timothy Circle and SMU Perkins School of Theology, funded by the Texas Methodist Foundation: Designed for lay people and clergy and designed to help connect with and support teens and young adults.

Oct. 14--first webinar “how Congregations Can Connect With Youth and Young Adults.” Oct. 28 second webinar “Creating FLOW to form Intergenerational Relationships.” Nov. 11 third webinar, “Can Every Person at Our Church Have a Ministry or Calling?” Visit: [www.timothycircle.com/live-learning](http://www.timothycircle.com/live-learning)



## Trunk or Treat Calling all cars! Calling all cars!

We will be hosting Trunk or Treat this year on Sunday, October 31, from 5-7pm in the front parking lot of St. John’s UMC.

If you are interested in providing your decorated trunk (or truck bed) please contact Leslie at [Leslie.sjmethodist@gmail.com](mailto:Leslie.sjmethodist@gmail.com) or call/text 361-537-7199.

We will also need candy donations so be on the lookout for candy drop-off points starting Sunday, October 10. If your Sunday school class or group would like to man an information table, let me know. Keep an eye out for more information and plan to participate in this fun neighborhood mission outreach.



# St. John's UMC Prayer List



Please pray for those on our prayer list. If you have someone you want to add or remove, please call the church office @ 361-991-4342 or email Catherine McRorey @ catherine.sjmethodist@gmail.com. Prayer concerns will be removed after 30 days unless staff is notified to keep individuals on the list.

**Grieving:** Family of Mary Lee Woodson (sister of Suzy Shepard); Family of Joanne Hedrick; Family of Ella Clarie Qualls; Family of Nilda Garcia; Family of Annette (friend of Karen Felts)

**Hospital/Rehab:** Matt Thompson (son of Betty and Bryan); Jennifer Staiger; Dorothy Tullos, Betty Sebring, Vangie Nevarez

**Recovering at Home:** Robert Garza; Mario Garza; Ron Waldrop (Houston); Iris Brayton (cousin of Louise Wagner), Jan DeCovic (Pastor Wade's mother), Jeffrey Zammiello (brother of Mike Zammiello); Dan Chapa (friend of Harley and Amanda Mathews)

Our Church  
 Our Nation's Leaders  
 US Military  
 World Leadership  
 Afghanistan  
 St. John's CLC  
 All Teachers & Students  
 All Healthcare Workers  
 CC Metro Ministries  
 The Wenholz House and director Bruce Armstrong  
 All Who Are Battling COVID  
 Revival of Church Membership  
 Betty Allen (Glenda Sanders' mother)  
 Sally Alvarado & Family (San Antonio)  
 Katherine Anderson  
 Travis Anderson  
 Cathy Barber  
 Cassie Barber  
 Catie Bauer  
 Robin Blue  
 Tyler and Melissa Brownlee  
 Greta Brooks  
 Phyllis Busby (sister of Nancy)  
 Valerie Caldwell  
 Jeff Caravantes  
 Marcia Caravantes  
 Sharon Cassidy  
 Rene Cervantes  
 Dan Chapa

Margo Chapman  
 Mildred  
 Betty Collins  
 Norma Conyers  
 Cox Family  
 Josh, Kristi & Clayton Cox  
 Robert Cox  
 Josh Cox  
 The Crumpler Family  
 Lina Crumpler  
 Dana D'Amore  
 Diamond (Elk City, OK)  
 Dillon  
 John & Judi Edwards  
 William Everett (Betty Thompson's brother)  
 Jan Flewelling & Family (Houston)  
 Cooper Floyd  
 Judy Forbes  
 Robert Garza  
 Amy Glasson  
 Pam Glover  
 Bob Goodner & Family  
 Dawn Gordon (new Rio Grande Valley teacher)  
 Leonard Hahn (father of Carole Salsberry)  
 Grant Haralson  
 Marilyn Henderson  
 Russell Higgins  
 JoAnne Hight  
 Jo Ann Holland  
 Hopkins Family

Kelli Huey and her daughter Kaylee  
 Cathie Huhn  
 James Hunter  
 Elene Johnson  
 Hydie Johnson  
 Stacia Johnston  
 Phyllis Jones  
 Ann Jordan  
 Candy Keiper  
 Aundrea Montuori Keim (Glenda Sanders' niece)  
 Anna Matt  
 Tommie Mercer  
 Lily Major-Hunter  
 Anna Matt  
 Mildred  
 Lee Navarro  
 Judi Oestreich  
 Kenneth Oestreich  
 Todd Olson  
 Roma Onwiler  
 Dolores Pace  
 Jack Pace  
 Mike Pace  
 Mary Palmer

Scott Parker (Marsha De La Garza's brother)  
 Debra Patterson  
 Roger Pigott  
 Purdy Family  
 Jenna Purdy  
 Dottie Ramella  
 Amie Ramsdell  
 Betty Rasmussen  
 Mary Lee Ress  
 Anthony Robinson  
 Summer & Jacob Ramos  
 Rilla Roots  
 Todd Rumfield  
 Tavian Salas  
 Charles Sanders  
 Fay Sassman  
 Gary Schwartz  
 Ivan & Lyneve Shaver  
 Dr. Shaw  
 Tom Shearer  
 Suzy Shepard  
 Sam Shivers  
 Robert Siguero  
 Susan Skidmore

David Skidmore  
 Teresa Skidmore  
 Staiger Family  
 Richard & Angela Strong  
 Terry & Marie  
 Patrick Taber  
 Charles Teas  
 Earlene Thorne  
 Lucas and Joel Toutloff  
 James Van Horn  
 Kimbo Ward  
 Richard and Sonya Warren  
 Davris White  
 Greg Wilshusen Sam & Sue Windsor  
 Harley & Betty Wilson (Jean Shivers' brother-in-law)  
 Family of Mary Lee Woodson  
 Roseann Zammiello

**Calling Choir Members  
 and Others Who Love To Sing!**

**Traditional Music Director Kim Bryce invites all interested singers (choir members and others!) to meet him in the Sanctuary at 8:30 a.m. every Sunday to review hymns and practice music to be sung during worship. Call Kim at 361-834-7713 if you have questions.**

**The Celestial Bells bell choir has resumed practice every Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary.**



## Rio Texas Conference UMW Annual Meeting October 8-9 in New Braunfels

The Rio Texas Conference United Methodist Women 7th Annual Meeting is scheduled October 8-9, 2021, at FUMC New Braunfels. The theme is "Determined, Persistent, Still Standing."

Attendees can participate in person or attend the Saturday Business Meeting only virtually. Registration was required for both. Contact the Rio Texas UMW website for details.

Mission Project items are needed for Southside Community Center, a UMW National Mission Institution—children's underwear (all sizes); men's shoes, pants, and shirts (all sizes). Even if UMW members from Corpus Christi and the Coastal Bend cannot attend, please consider helping with the mission project.

### ALLELUIA

Lord, call us into the church.

Call us in often, and teach us the old words and old songs with their new meanings.

Lord, give us new words for the words we wear out.

Give us new songs for those that have lost their spirit.

Give us new reasons for coming in and for going out into our streets and to our homes.

As the house of the Lord once moved like a tent through the wilderness, so keep our churches from being rigid.

Make our congregation alive and free.

Give us ideas we never had before, so that alleluia and gloria and amen are like the experiences we know in daily living.

Alleluia! O Lord, be praised! In worship and in work, be praised!

(This prayer's author is unknown, but church organist Marcia Caravantes shared this copy to be included here.)

## United Methodist Women of Coastal Bend Hold Annual Meeting, Elect Officers for 2022

The Coastal Bend District United Methodist Women met in Port Lavaca on September 11 to elect officers for 2022, approve a budget, recognize members and units, and observe a Candleburning in honor and memory of individuals including John Zimmerman, Evalynn Bunk, Beverly Wilson, Jo Anne Wilshusen, and Jason Sanders.

Special thanks to Leticia Castaneda Ornelas of Asbury UMC for delivering a wonderful message to the 40 UMW members present from several churches, including St. John's. The new president of the Coastal Bend UMW is Kathy Anderson of FUMC-Portland. St. John's UMW members Chris Garcia and Carole Salsberry will continue to serve on the Board.



Leticia Ornelas (above); Kathy Anderson (at right); Coastal Bend UMW members recognized; special thanks to Bertha Castaneda of Kelsey Memorial for serving as President.



## St. John's UMC Food Pantry News

St. John's Food Pantry had a great month this September. Our pantry traffic has increased and we are now averaging 9 or more people each day. This is still a bit down from what we did pre-COVID where we were averaging 15-18 clients per day, but we are happy to see some of our regular clients return while also meeting some new friends.

We so appreciate your support of this ministry. We get many who come to us that have never had to ask for assistance and now find themselves in a bind. It is hard to humble yourself and ask for help. We are blessed to be able to offer love, reassurance, and hope to those who come, and some ask for prayers too! We recently got some Keebler chocolate graham cracker pie crusts. These will be great to give out for the upcoming holidays. We just need filling for them.

We can use: Canned green beans Canned pie filling  
Boxed pudding mix (big box) Boxed Dream Whip topping mix

We will also accept donations of hygiene items: Bar soap, toothpaste, toothbrush, plastic comb, deodorant, shampoo, etc. Travel sizes are welcomed!

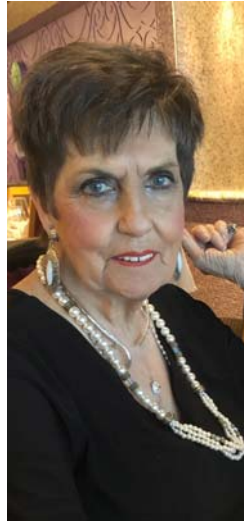
Thank you so much for all your donations and support of St. John's Food Pantry. If you know of someone in your own family or in your neighborhood (78412 zip code) who needs food, encourage them to stop by the church on Wednesdays or Thursdays from 9 a.m.-noon to get registered and complete some required paperwork. Each Pantry client receives about three bags of groceries, including canned goods, rice, pasta, dried beans, cereal, and more.

## OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Laurie Bryce
- 2 Vilma Lozano
- 4 Frank Olevitch, Sue Rees
- 5 Jack Johnson
- 7 Jennifer Ainsworth, Ann Herrmann, Larry Oliver, Diana Shaffer, Seth Thompson
- 10 Sam Windsor
- 11 Barrett Roberts, 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
- 21 Barbara Benton
- 22 Judi Oestreich, Danna Sharpe
- 23 Carole Salsberry, Jean Shivers
- 24 Valda Jensen
- 25 Candi Jinnette
- 29 Taylor Cason, Ronald Waldrop
- 31 Janae Cubellis, Jim Falwell, Kristina Thompson

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

## In MEMORIAM: *Mary Lee Woodson*



Mary Lee Herndon Woodson, a member of St. John's for more than 20 years, died September 18, 2021. A Celebration of Life service was held at St. John's UMC on September 25, with family and friends in attendance. Pastor John Smith of Island in the Son UMC officiated. A reception was held in the Community Life Building following the service.

Mary was the sister of Suzy Shepard, also a longtime church member. Mary graduated from Ray High School in 1961 and married her high school sweetheart, John, that same year, and both began their collegiate career. Mary graduated in 1965 from Texas A&M-Kingsville. Mary was a caregiver for John for nearly 30 years on their small ranch in Ben Bolt. Survivors include two daughters, Sheri Euresti and Rachell Sabo, two grandsons, sister, and several nieces and nephews. Memorial gifts in memory of Mary Lee may be given to the Bereavement Fund at St. John's UMC.

Special thanks to Bereavement Team members and others who helped with the reception and provided emotional support for both the Woodson and Shepard families.

### Special Note:

The St. John's Bereavement Team helped coordinate and assist with five funeral receptions within an 8-week period. Special thanks to Connie Hahn who helped coordinate three of the events in late August and September and to all those who furnished desserts plus set-up and clean-up help. Is God calling YOU to be a part of St. John's Bereavement Team? If yes, give Connie Hahn a call.



Pictured above: Members of the Bereavement Team helping with the Woodson reception included (l-r) Joyce Zimmerman, Mable Pippin, JoAnn Holland, Annie Hatfield, Marsha De La Garza, Darlene Duncan, and Chris Garcia.

At left: Suzy Shepard poses with Louise Wagner, Karen Van Kirk, Marcia Caravantes, Annie Hatfield, and Joe Bowen.





# St. John's United Methodist Church Financial Condition

SJUMC 2021 Financial Condition Year to Date (8/31/2021)

Prepared by Darron Bergstrom, Finance Chair,  
and Pastor Wade Lindstrom

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**Estimated Income.....\$754,613.84**

**Actual Income.....\$720,297.61**

**Difference.....-\$34,316.23**

**Budgeted Expenses.....\$720,187.44**

**Actual Expenses.....\$670,661.75**

**Difference .....-\$49,525.69**

**Apportionments Due for 2021.....\$47,939**

**Apportionments Paid YTD.....\$16,000**

**Apportionments remaining to be paid...\$31,939**

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The Table above is a simple snapshot of the financial condition of the church so far in 2021 (as of August 31, 2021). There are several things that should come to our attention:

1. Financial Giving in 2021 is down \$34,316.23 from our giving estimates.
2. \$120,300 of our income came from a Federal PPP Loan (which has since been forgiven), due to COVID income losses. Without the funds from this federal loan, we would be over \$64,000 behind our income projections. This is particularly concerning since these types of loans are not likely to be available in 2022 and therefore we will need to plan carefully for next year.
3. On the plus side, we have been careful to limit our spending in 2021 and so our Actual Expenses have totaled \$49,525.69 less than our estimates, which is great!
4. What makes all of this more challenging is that we have not been able to pay 100% of our apportionments to the United Methodist Church for several consecutive years, and as we approach the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter of 2021 we have only paid just under a third of our obligation to the United Methodist Church. Below is a short explanation of how and why we pay apportionments and where the money goes. As 2021 progresses, our Leadership Board has made it a priority to make every attempt to pay 100% of our apportionments this year, to the tune of an additional \$31,939. This effort will be the major thrust of our Thanksgiving and Christmas special giving.

## What can you do?

1. Pray that God would continue to see us through these challenging times, both personally and corporately as a church. Prayer can cover a myriad of ills.
2. Accept the gratitude of the Leadership Board and Staff of the church for all you have been able to contribute in 2021. Despite financial challenges, you have made it possible to weather an extremely tough year.
3. If you find you are behind in your giving and you have the ability and the desire to catch up, we encourage you to do that in order to help SJUMC finish strong this year.
4. If you find that you can provide some second mile giving to help us reach our financial goals and pay our obligations, we will be further grateful for your dedication and help.
5. If you are unsure about what Apportionments actually are, please read the following summary.

## Apportionments and Church Giving

One of the unique and defining factors of the United Methodist Church is that we are Connectional. One way we show this connection is through apportioned giving. Apportioned giving is a term which describes how the money you give to your church each week is divided and distributed throughout the United Methodist Church. Through you and your support of apportioned giving, we are able to participate in the ministry and mission of the United Methodist Church both locally and around the world.

## Apportionments are fuel for ministry.

Apportionments are fuel for ministry. They enable us to share the concerns of many people. When we work together as God's children and pool our giving, we are able to see the word 'apportionment' not as a constricting budget item but as a vehicle bringing God's grace into our churches, our conference, and beyond.

When you give to your local United Methodist Church, your giving is divided into many pieces, and travels to many different places. It generally goes to support three significant areas: your church, the General and Jurisdictional Church Funds, and the ministries of the Rio Texas Conference.

## 92% of your giving stays in your church.

The largest part of your giving (about 92%) stays in your church, supporting and upholding its ministry and mission.

## About 2% of your giving goes to the General and Jurisdictional Church Funds

(Story continues on Page 13)

# St. John's Financial Condition

(continued from Page 12)

A smaller portion of your giving (about 2.0%) travels to fund ministries in the Southeast and around the world through the General and Jurisdictional Church Funds:

- World Service Fund, Ministerial Education Fund, Episcopal Fund, Black College Fund, Interdenominational Cooperation Fund, Africa University Fund, General Administration Fund, and Jurisdictional Mission and Ministry Fund.

## About 6% of your giving goes to support the ministries of the North Georgia Conference

And finally, another part of your giving (about 6%) travels to support the ministries performed by the boards, committees, commissions, agencies, and the staff of the North Georgia United Methodist Conference. Your giving goes to support the areas listed below:

- Conference Benevolences
- Ministerial Support
- Conference Administration
- Pension and Benefits Apportionment
- District Ministries
- Coastal Bend District Causes

You could accurately say that apportioned giving functions as the local United Methodist Church's tithe to the global United Methodist Church, though it is not quite 10% of our operating budget on average.

## A Final Request about things relating to money...

Every Sunday and throughout each week we receive funds from members and regular attenders at St. John's UMC. Once a week a group of two people gather in the church office to count and account for the funds received.

Our Financial handling of these monies requires that two unrelated members of the church count these funds and prepare them for our bookkeeper to deposit them into our accounts.

Currently we only have about three people who volunteer to do this. We really could benefit from having 6-10 people volunteer to be available for this task each Monday or Tuesday, the time and day is flexible. It doesn't take a long time (maybe an hour) and the more people we have, the easier it is to schedule the two persons we need while being sensitive to everyone's schedule.

If you would be willing to offer yourself once or twice a month, please call Cathy McRorey in the church office at 361-991-4342. We will schedule a training session prior to your scheduled week! Thank you all in advance!

--Darron Bergstrom, Finance Chair

## Your Tithes & Offerings Support Our Church Ministries

**Remember John Wesley's three rules: Do no harm. Do good. Stay in love with God. Stewardship, discipleship, and commitment to building God's kingdom help us "stay in love with God."**

**If you made a pledge for 2021, please stay current if possible. And as summer comes to a close and schools are in session, we all are encouraged to keep up with our tithes and offerings.**

**Remember, there are four ways to give: in person, by mail, online through the church website, or by phone text. Many church members, guests, and friends find using the text option is easy to do. Using your cell phone, just text the \$ amount you want to give to 361-541-6512. Click on the link that pops up on your phone and follow the instructions. If you have previously set up your giving this way, just text the amount and hit send.**

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR FAITHFULNESS.**

*See story on St. John's Financial Condition on Page 12*

## 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 Funds, including Building, Choir, Youth, Scholarship, Food Pantry, Worship, Care/Concern/Bereavement, and Undesignated for general church needs. All gifts, in any amount, are sincerely appreciated. Gifts may be given anonymously, if desired.

In loving memory of Mary Lee Herndon Woodson, sister of Suzy Shepard, gifts to Care/Concern/Bereavement from the CCI and Friendship Sunday School Classes, and from Chris Garcia.

In loving memory of Clarie Qualls, gifts to the Food Pantry from Louise Wagner and the CCI Sunday School Class; an undesignated gift from Judi Jones of Jasper, GA.; and a gift to the Building Fund from Carolyn Pence.

In loving memory of Nicki Davis Fischer, a gift to the Food Pantry from Louise Wagner; undesignated gifts from Mary Frazier of Bedford, TX, and from Carmen and Mark Hockmuller of Corpus Christi; and a gift for landscaping from Nicki's cousin, Mrs. Gwen G. Newkirk of Helena, AR.

In loving memory of Otis Bell, Annie Hatfield's brother, gifts to the Food Pantry from Louise Wagner and from Darlene Duncan.

In loving memory of Evalynn Bunk, a gift to the Food Pantry from Louise Wagner.

In loving memory of Beverly Wilson, gifts to the Food Pantry from Louise Wagner and Keri Jacobs of Silver Spring, MD. (Beverly's niece), and an undesignated gift from Patricia K. Boyd of Houston, TX.

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## St. John's United Methodist Men



**Mission: To help men grow in Christ, so others may know Christ.**

### Wednesday Morning Breakfast

Please join us for breakfast every Wednesday morning at 7 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Bring your own breakfast/coffee and be blessed with fellowship and a short devotional.

### UMM Card Ministry

Know anyone needing a word of encouragement, a get-well message, a congratulatory note, happy birthday wishes? The United Methodist Men will send a greeting card expressing appropriate sentiments, and all for free! Access the SJUMC website and fill out the form. Gary Schwartz, Secretary, handles all correspondence.

2021 officers are Robert Garza, President; Darron Bergstrom, Treasurer; Jim Falwell, Vice President; and Gary Schwartz, Secretary

<https://www.sjmethodist.com/umm-card-request/>

**BELONG BELIEVE BECOME**

**SECOND SUNDAYS 7PM**

**THY Kingdom  
COME** 

**FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA:**

**TKCMINISTRIES**

**THY KINGDOM COME**  
heavy metal worship service

**Second Sunday of the Month**  
**Sunday, October 10, 7 p.m.**

**FELLOWSHIP HALL;** use Parade Street entrance. Call Adam Mathews at 361-558-5291 or David Pallotti for more information.

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**THANK YOU!**

**SPECIAL THANKS... to Carolyn Martin and her team of dedicated landscapers, tree trimmers, and weed pullers who have spent several hours, including a couple of Saturdays over the past three weeks, tidying up the church campus. If you want to be part of this terrific ministry, let the church staff or Carolyn know about your interest.**



# YOUTH NEWS

By Leslie Albrecht, Director of Student Ministries

What time is it? Pumpkin Time!

FLOCK will be helping unload pumpkins this Sunday, Oct 3, after the 11:17 a.m. service. Pastor Wade said it was okay to wear grungy pumpkin unloading clothes to church. Lunch will be provided

Mark your calendars now to join us for Trunk or Treat on Sunday, October 31, from 5-7pm in the church parking lot. Costumes are encouraged but not required.

Over the next month, we will be spending time brainstorming and planning. Everyone is so busy that rather than try and have one session I'm going to have multiple opportunities for students and parents to give input into how we will structure our FLOCK going forward.

Be thinking of things you would like to see us do, studies you might be interested in, and timing for our group get together.

Please be sure and check out our band app regularly. If you don't know what this is, reach out to me at: Leslie.sjmethodist@gmail.com, and I can help you get set up.



## Youth Sunday School

Don't forget that the FLOCK (students in Grade 6-12, plus recent high school graduates) meets for Sunday School at 10 a.m. in the Youth Building.

## Children's Sunday School

Sunday School for children in Kindergarten through Grade 5 is back in the swing. Becca Maestas will meet with children at 10 a.m. every Sunday in the classroom above Fellowship Hall. Thank you, Becca.



Playing 9Square in the CLB at a Youth lock-in a few weeks ago was fun!

A special birthday hat was worn by three youth who celebrated birthdays recently: Levi Delk, Max Schomaker, and Natalie Albrecht.



## ***LOOKING AHEAD TO ALL SAINTS DAY--SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7***

*All Saints Sunday will be observed on Sunday, November 7, at both worship services. The congregation will recognize church members who passed away during 2020 and 2021. Church members also will be able to recognize other dear friends and family members by lighting small candles on tables in the worship areas. Holy Communion will also be served.*



Interested in Playing Bridge  
or Learning To Play?  
Check out the Tuesday Bridge group  
at St. John's!  
Tuesdays, October 5 and 19  
12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.  
(please note new time).  
Group meets in Room 1,  
St. John's Administration Bldg.



**Reminder**

**ONLINE WORSHIP  
CONTINUES!**

Join fellow worshippers on Sunday mornings at 10:50 a.m. for the 11 a.m. online worship service. Great sermon, beautiful music, and video clips.

Tune in at 10:50 a.m. to enjoy online chat with fellow church members and friends near and far:

<https://sjmethodist.online.church/> or  
<https://www.facebook.com/SJUMC>

Special thanks to Adam Mathews, Pastor Wade, and others for their work with on-line worship.

**SAVE THE DATE!**

*Tuesday, November 9, is annual Coastal Bend Day of Giving. There are approximately 50 participating charities this year. In 2020, over \$3.3 million was raised, helping to provide basic needs throughout the Coastal Bend. Be watching for more information so that if you plan on making a donation to your favorite charity, you can maximize your gift which will be matched by local donors.*

*For more information, visit Coastal Bend Community Foundation at [www.coastalbenddayofgiving.org](http://www.coastalbenddayofgiving.org)*

**St. John's United Methodist Church**

5300 S. Alameda, Corpus Christi, TX 78412

**Rev. Wade Lindstrom**, Senior Pastor

([wade.sjmethodist@gmail.com](mailto:wade.sjmethodist@gmail.com); 361-960-4021)

**Leslie Albrecht**, Director of Student Ministries

**Barbara Benton**, Bookkeeper

**Kim Bryce**, Traditional Music Director

**Marcia Caravantes**, Organist

**Brian & Tonya Claunch**, Sunday/Weekend Custodians

**Adela Garcia**, Children's Learning Center Director

**Adam Mathews**, Worship and Online Technician/TKC

**Cathy McRorey**, Administrative Assistant

**Ben Seskin**, Weekday Custodian

**Sharon Staiger**, Nursery Director

**CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION**

Location: 5300 S. Alameda, Corpus Christi, TX 78412

Church Telephone: 361-991-4342

Church FAX: 361-991-1840

E-mail Address: [st.johnsumccc@gmail.com](mailto:st.johnsumccc@gmail.com)

Website: [www.sjmethodist.com](http://www.sjmethodist.com)

**OFFICE HOURS:** Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.; Thursday, 9 a.m.-noon; closed Friday.

**FOOD PANTRY:** Wednesdays and Thursdays, 9 a.m.-Noon.

**CHILDREN'S LEARNING CENTER:** Open 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Call Director Adela Garcia at 991-4780 if questions. The Center is enrolling new attendees. Call for information.

**WORSHIP SERVICES:** Two worship services every Sunday-- Traditional service at 9 a.m. in the Sanctuary and Contemporary service at 11:17 a.m. in the Community Life Building. Holy Communion is served on the first Sunday of each month at both services. *Thy Kingdom Come* heavy metal worship service is held monthly on the second Sunday at 7 p.m. in the 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 and Facebook. Printed copies are also available at the church. Deadline for the NOVEMBER 2021 issue is Friday, October 29. Editor: Chris Garcia, 991-2784 or 244-4193  
Email: [garciachris1714@gmail.com](mailto:garciachris1714@gmail.com)



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