



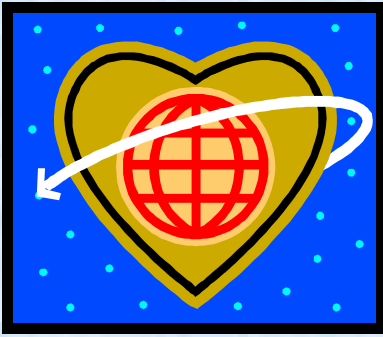
Thank you, Bob and Donna Albin!

Recipients of the 2008 C.C. Perryman award



The C.C. Perryman Award by Darrell Vines

C.C. Perryman taught the members of St. John's how to be dedicated committee chairs, responsible evangelists, enthusiastic church school members, and leaders in the community. Mr. Perryman taught at Texas Tech after having taught drawing classes at Lubbock High School. He was probably one of the charter members of St. Johns when First United Methodist Church sponsored St. John's as a "missionary" congregation. He and other faculty members worked diligently to ensure that the congregation grew and matured. Names of those folk can be found in hymnal dedications, named scholarships, and significant bequests. Mr. Perryman was an enthusiastic member of the Methodist Men's Organization and encouraged the good cooking, good programs, lively discussions, and good fellowship with each other. Currently the United Methodist Men honor men and women who have the characteristics of Mr. Perryman in their church leadership roles. Please note the display on the wall of the hall that shows the folk who have been honored by being selected as recipients of the Perryman Award.



*Open hearts,
Open arms,
Open minds*

*With open hearts, open arms and open minds,
we welcome you to St. John's United Methodist
Church and invite you to join our community
of faith, for a day, a week or a lifetime.*

**Weekly Sunday
Opportunities**

- 8:15 a.m. Holy Communion
- 9:00 a.m. Fellowship Time
- 9:15 a.m. Sunday School Hour
- 10:15 a.m. Fellowship Time
- 10:30 a.m. Worship Service
- 5:30 p.m. United Methodist Youth
(Senior High)

1501 University Ave.
Lubbock, TX 79401
806-762-0123
fax: 806-762-0130

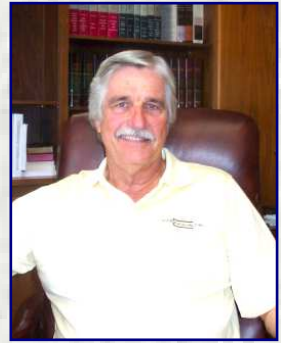
**Email: openminds@stjohnslubbock.org
Web: www.stjohnslubbock.org**

Saint John's Staff

- Senior Pastor: Archie Echols
- Associate Pastor: Daniel Echols
- Associate Pastor: Ann Akin
- Pastor Emeritus: Ted Dotts
- Minister of Christian Ed.: David Cameron
- Business Manager: Dennis Howard
- Facilities Supervisor: Cedric Robins
- Childcare Director: Trisha Castillo
- Youth Summer Intern: Matt Bell
- Admin. Asst./Editor: Mary Ruth Thurmond

**If you know of any St. John's church
members going into the hospital,
please contact the church office at 762-0123
or openminds@stjohnslubbock.org.
If you have changed your phone #, home or
e-mail address, call the church office.**

PASTOR'S NOTE



I get to do something I am excited about. I have agreed to be a counselor at elementary camp this week at Ceta Canyon.

When I was growing up I spent a week or two every summer with either Aunt Minnie in Roaring Springs or Aunt Nannie in Plano. I am the youngest of all of the grandchildren of my mother's ten brothers and sisters; therefore, there were lots of cousins and second cousins for me to play with and lots of adults to watch over me. My mother's extended family was a big part of my sense of security and belonging. They were a strong positive influence on my life.

That is the way I look at church camp. Our children get to go off for a week every summer to be with our church's extended family. There are lots of Christian cousins from other churches to play with. There are lots of adults that act like church aunts and uncles to help guide and protect. It is an experiential statement that we are all God's children and a part of the family of God.

So if you need me this week I will be playing uncle (or more likely grandpa) with our children from other United Methodist Churches. What a wonderful sense of security and belonging and positive influence our extended church family has on us all. Thanks be to God.

Grace and Peace,

Archie

Lectionary Scripture Readings

July 31: Genesis 32:22-31; Psalm 17:1-7; 15;
Romans 9:1-5; Matthew 14:13-21

August 7: Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28; Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b;
Romans 10:5-15; Matthew 14:22-33

From the Editor:

Thank you to Darrell, Mary, and Vic Vines for going far beyond the call of duty in my time of need! Thanks also to VelvetLee Finckbone, Archie Echols, David Cameron, Jean Shannon, Cindy Martin, Donna Echols, Craig Rutherford, Deborah Bratcher, Gloria Hille, Kathryn Zetterstrom, Andi Cooley, and Quinn Ankrum for submitting articles, photographs, information, etc., for this issue. As always, thanks beyond measure go to the Merry Mailers!!! Do you have a favorite prayer or poem to share? Tell me about what keeps you involved at St. John's. Any group wishing to submit an article (and/or photos) about itself would be welcome. If I have forgotten to include an event, please forgive me, but do let me know about it! I need constant reminders and re-reminders.

Next newsletter deadline: August 4.

Later! mrt

Looking Ahead!



All-Church Potluck
Sunday, July 31

Children's Musical:
The Rock Slinger and His Greatest Hit
Rehearsals, August 1-5
Dinner and Presentation, Friday, August 5

Roundup 2011
Commit—Practice—Revive

through a variety of workshops designed to enrich your spiritual journey and equip you for service in the church.

Saturday, August 6, 9:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m.,
at First United Methodist Church, Lubbock.

Register on the website: www.nwtxroundup.org.
Registration cost: Until August 1, \$30; after deadline, \$35.
Lunch included. Childcare available.
Call FUMC Lubbock at 763-7252.

Funday for Retirees

Wednesday, August 17,
9:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Games, devotion, and lunch (\$5)
Reservations for meal appreciated.
Please call 762-0123 by
4:30 p.m., Monday, August 15.

**The James G. Allen and Louise Hodges
Memorial Arts and Lectureship Series
presents Texas Tech University's
Botticelli Quartet & Friends performing
Vivaldi's *The Four Seasons***

on Friday, August 26, at 7:30 p.m., in the sanctuary.
FREE to the public. Mark your calendars now!

Rally Day
Sunday, August 28

Pieces of our Hearts Women's Retreat
September 16-17, Mercy Retreat Center,
Slaton, Sponsored by Soul Sisters,
led by Sarah Mulkey. (See page 4 for more!)

News from the Missions Committee

Prayer Vigil

On Wednesday, August 10, we will have another prayer vigil in protest of the death penalty. This vigil is for Martin Robles. The prayer vigil will be from 5:45-6:15 p.m., in the parking lot. Later in August there will be two more vigils: Tuesday, August 23 (Randall Mays), and Tuesday, August 30 (Ivan Cantu).

Thoughts about the Death Penalty from Deborah Randolph Bratcher

Mark Anthony Stroman was killed by the people of Texas at 8:53 p.m. CST on July 20, 2011 for the murders of Vasudev Patel, a Hindu Indian immigrant, and Waqar Hasan, a Muslim Pakistani. He also shot and partially blinded Raisuddin (Rais) Bhuiyan, a Muslim Bangladeshi. There are six children now without fathers and two widows, one who now runs the family business where he was murdered. Rais Bhuiyan went on to complete his education and works as an IT specialist and is married. He became an American citizen last year, and in practicing Islam, chose the path of forgiveness and non-violence as he has waged a campaign to save the life of Mark Stroman.

Mark was once a member of an Aryan Brotherhood and belonged to a white supremacist prison gang. He has a long criminal history of burglary, armed robbery, and theft and suffered from mental illness. He was preceded in death by his sister, who died during the September 11 terrorist attack, and his parents, who died in years following. He is survived by his four children. The courts refer to his crimes as hate crimes. Mark once referred to his crimes as "passionate and patriotic". Now he calls them "just plain stupid" and is deeply touched by Rais' forgiveness and support. That night we gathered along with many others in Dallas and Huntsville in vigils to bear witness to all of this with many persons from all over the world.

Out of love and forgiveness the world got a little smaller and strangers became my friends... Rais Bhuiyan, Genifer Kaye, Linny Meakins, Laurence Meylemans, Mark Harvey

When I began attending the prayer vigils here at St. John's, it appealed to the rebel protester in me. I thought it would be a place for my advocate, activist voice. Standing on the corner of 15th and University in the heat with a poster, singing *Amazing Grace*, or hearing the ringing of the bell at each stage of the execution of a human being by my home state of Texas is not always a comfortable place to be, but The People of Faith Against the Death Penalty, Lubbock, an interfaith group (Cont. on page 6.)

Acolytes Wanted!

Students entering fourth or fifth grade this fall are invited to join Acolytes this summer. See Mrs. Hille for enrollment and making appointment for training. Students entering third grade this fall will be invited to join Acolytes in August.

**Summer Rotation
Sunday School Schedule**

For children completing Kindergarten through Grade 4
(Fifth-graders are meeting with Junior High for the summer.)

Peacemakers (July 24-August 28)

Main Idea: Throughout the Bible we read stories of people who tried to bring peace and justice to all of God’s people. Their stories inspire us and help us learn how to be peacemakers today.

Bible Verses:

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.” Matthew 5:9

“Let justice roll down like waters.” Amos 5:34

Objectives: Children will have the opportunity to

- ◆ Explore how, even in Bible times, being a peacemaker often took courage and skill
- ◆ Learn that peacemaking is based in fairness, justice, equality, and love
- ◆ Make a commitment to being peacemakers in their own homes, schools, and communities

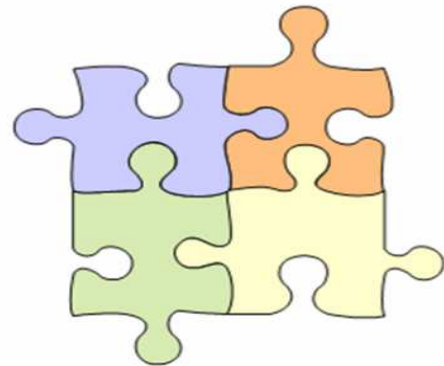


Happy August Birthdays! The Nurture and Care Committee has requested that we publish each month’s birthdays. If you are not listed, please call the church office and tell us your birthday. **(We promise that we won’t ask for the year!)**

- | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Aug 1 Ani Larsen | Aug 16 Renee Hester |
| Aug 2 Craig Rutherford | Aug 17 Bryant Sanchez |
| Aug 3 Molly McCollum | Aug 18 David Lamb-Vines |
| Aug 6 Chandler Dickey | Brianna Williamson |
| Lucille Sedgwick | Aug 19 Leilani Fillhard |
| Aug 7 Donna Chandler | Sue Sprouls |
| Aug 8 Meredith Abbe | Aug 23 Cameron Dunn |
| Jonathan Krebs | Aug 24 Max Gonzales |
| Melba Rickman | Aug 25 Banner Owen |
| Aug 9 Michael Byrd | Annette Reasoner |
| Nick Dragga | Aug 26 Laura Arnold |
| Aug 10 Mary Bailey | Collin Couch |
| Aug 15 Kylie Boyd | Aug 30 Zach Goodwin |
| Peggy Martin | Aug 31 Ted Dotts |
| Evan Phillips | |

Please join us
in a day of happy beginnings when we
Kathryn Dawes Zetterstrom
and
Jeffrey Phillip Kendall
together with you our family and friends
share in joyful celebration of love
at our marriage
on Saturday, the sixth of August
Two thousand and eleven
at eleven-thirty in the morning
St. John’s United Methodist Church
1501 University Avenue
Lubbock, Texas

Reception following



Pieces of our Hearts Women’s Retreat
at the Mercy Center, Slaton, led by Sarah Mulkey. The cost is \$68 which includes room and all meals. Registration is Friday at 5:00 p.m., and dinner is at 6:00 p.m. The event ends Saturday at 4:00 p.m. Transportation is available. Registration deadline is August 28. For more information contact Donna Echols: godfatherdae@aol.com or 806-577-8372.

Child of Blessing, Child of Promise

Claire Viola Ankrum
Baptized July 17, 2011

Pictured from left to right:
Ken and Angela Haas, godparents;
Chris and Quinn Ankrum, parents;
and Irene Doody, grandmother;
and of course, Claire Viola Ankrum.

Welcome to St. John's, Claire!



From Soul Sisters and the hand of Andi Cooley

The Thursday night small group has been studying patience.
Donna Echols shared that she carries a pack of cards to entertain herself.



Strengthen Your Faith through Bible Study

Disciple Bible Studies this Fall
starting Wednesday, September 14

Make a deeper connection to the Psalms
Short-Term Disciple Study of the Psalms

This study is an ideal experience for adults who are interested in the practice of prayer and worship, and would like to connect the practice of prayer with the Scriptures.

Make a deeper connection to the world of the Psalms so that these well-known scriptures can help you give voice to all aspects of your human experience—joy, faith, uncertainty and sorrow.

Ten Wednesdays from 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Facilitator: Mary Ruth Thurmond

Cost: \$12.00 for study book

Do you struggle with reading through the Bible?

Disciple I Bible Study:

Becoming Disciples through Bible Study

DISCIPLE aims at transformation, not just information, and calls for participants to submit themselves to examination by Scripture, to put themselves under the power of God’s Word, and to be changed by God’s Word. DISCIPLE invites persons to bring their experiences and struggles to the Scripture.

During the course of 34 weeks, the class will move through the biblical stories of Creation in Genesis to the New Jerusalem in Revelation.

Thirty-four Wednesdays from 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Facilitator: Rev. Bill Todd

Cost: \$40.00 for study book

BOTH STUDIES are appropriate for persons with little prior Bible experience, require daily reading of the Bible, and start Wednesday, September 14. For more information or to pre-register, please call the church office (762-0123).

Thoughts about the Death Penalty (cont. from page 3)

of citizens that meet together for worship, prayer, and taking social action have come to feel it’s a good place to be each time the State of Texas takes a life.

By nature I’m a curious researcher and I enjoy writing, so I took the job of communicator for our group. I joined several newsgroups on several websites concerned with abolishing the death penalty. When doing some work on the Amnesty International site I found a petition posted by Bhuiyan. I signed the petition and googled him because I was intrigued.

Bhuiyan created *an international campaign* to help save the life of Mark Anthony Stroman. He suffered, survived, overcame many personal obstacles, and forgave Mark. Recently Rais attempted to exercise his rights as a victim of a crime in the state of Texas, but he did so much more. He traveled to five European nations, held press conferences, spoke to parliaments, took action against drug companies, wrangled with Texas governmental bureaucracy, started a website, **World Without Hate**, and an international social group on *Facebook* numbering so far **2,598** persons, worked with Rick Halprin, an SMU professor and death penalty activist, and more, to save the life of one man. He inspired a documentary and a massive pilgrimage from Dallas to Huntsville to participate in a vigil. In a final effort, Rais Bhuiyan sued Governor Rick Perry seeking to exercise his rights as a victim to visit his perpetrator. At the Travis County Courthouse Rais made a profound statement that questioned the intent of the criminal justice system in Texas, “why are victims rights taken seriously only when they are seeking retribution for the pain they have suffered and why are they ignored when they are pleading for mercy and forgiveness?” Then we learned that the jury was unaware that the surviving family members did not support the death penalty. That would have changed at least one juror’s mind.

Mr. Bhuiyan says that Islam teaches that if you save one human life it is the same as saving the entirety of humankind. He has inspired many with his compassionate campaign and taught many about forgiveness and he has brought many people from many nations together in friendship. For this, I am sincerely grateful to have become a small part.

Please come join us at our prayer vigils. Watch for announcements of execution days in the bulletin, in openminds email or the Explorer. *All* are welcome.

UMW August Events

The Dorothy Manning Circle meets at 6:30 p.m., Thursday, August 25, at Cattle Baron Steak and Seafood Restaurant, 82nd and Quaker.

The UMW Planning Session will be Wednesday, August 31, 9:30 a.m., in Room 122.

Soul Sisters 2011 Schedule

Tuesday, August 16: **Movie night** (*The Help*)

Saturday, August 20, 9:30 a.m.: The Saturday small group will meet in Room 212.

Tuesday, August 30, 7:00 p.m.: Shelly Gonzales will lead the lesson on “Character.” Location TBA.



The Prayer Shawl Ministry and Chrismon Workshop are back at the church in August. All welcome! Please join us!!!

IT TAKES A VILLAGE

New on the prayer list: Andrew Azab and family, Adam Dunn and family, Frances Marshall and family, Dorey Schmidt, Natalie Bueno Vasquez, and TaSheva Davis.

Andrew Azab lost his uncle this week. **Linda Dunn**, mother of **Adam Dunn**, died Sunday, July 10. Services were Thursday, July 14, in Dallas. **Vernon Overstreet**, brother of **Frances Marshall**, died Thursday, July 14. His service was Monday, July 18, in Arlington.

Are you handy? Share your talents with St. John's! In the past we have offered help fixing things for our older or homebound members. If you would like to serve in this important ministry, please call the church office at 762-0123.

VBS Wrap-up from VelvetLee Finckbone! Thank you to everyone who helped us to put on Shake it Up Cafe Vacation Bible School. It was a huge success again. This year's goal was to reach 100 kids. We had 97 kids walk through our doors at some point during VBS, with a daily attendance of 81 kids. This is an increase in both total and daily attendance of about 10 kids. I strive to make VBS just a little larger every year, and we have accomplished this goal two years in a row; but, to me, even if we only reach one child, it's all worth it. We could not pull off such accomplishments if it were not for the help of wonderful volunteers and a wonderful staff who supports us. Special thanks to: Shelly Gonzales, Dwight Finckbone, Wendy and Lance Dixon, Allison, Charlotte and Emily Sessom, Matt Bell, Katie Setterbo, Monya and Kyle Castle, Margie Sorley, Michelle Anderson, Priscilla Cervantez, Tess Jackson, Megan and Dominique Comiskey, Janette Scott, Nancy Robinson, Cheryl Hall, Sandy Goodloe, Craig Rutherford, Mary Bailey, Lucille Sedgwick, Elizabeth Schmidt, Isaac Echols, David Cameron, Christine Teaff, Amy Rubio, Tyson Lemasters, Donna Chandler, Margie Robertson, Manda Klein, D'Aun Tavenner, Gloria Hille, Bea Martin, Tooley Wilkinson, Brianna and Madison Teaff, Danny and Joey McCarty, Kamen Williamson, Tiffany Chandler, Jordyn Buck, Wendy Thompson, Ester Moses, Shannon Washburn, Maria Rodriguez, Cecilee Echols, Roy Goodloe, Asa Wood, Griffin Kennedy, Abebe Hunt, Haley Ott, Noah Rubio, Nathaniel Montes, Brenda Hays and family, Mackenzie and Joe Nuckolls, Jess DuBard, and Mary Ruth Thurmond. Thanks also to the Asbury/Hope Shalom Kids Cafe program for bringing lunch everyday, and First Methodist for letting us borrow artwork/decorations. A huge thank-you goes to the Endowment Committee for its financial support of VBS. I am terribly sorry if I left anyone off this list. It was very exciting to see so many new faces helping this year. I am looking forward to next year, and hope you all will volunteer again. Blessings to you all!

Coming Up at Youth!

Sunday, July 31: Sr. High UMY

Wednesday, August 3, Jr. High UMY Huddle Time

Friday, August 5, All-UMY activity

Contact Matt by calling or texting (241-6430), e-mailing (bell.matthew@mcm.edu), or on Facebook!

Church Calendar

Sunday, July 31, 2011

- 8:15 a.m. Communion Service
- 9:15 a.m. Sunday School Hour
- 10:30 a.m. Worship Service
- 11:30 a.m. All-church potluck
- 12:30 p.m. Sager Brown orientation
- 5:30 p.m. Sr. High UMY

Monday, August 1, 2011

- 8:00 a.m. Children's musical rehearsal
- 5:30 p.m. Church Council
- 5:30 p.m. Literacy Lubbock
- 7:30 p.m. Scouts
- 8:00 p.m. Broad Highway AA meeting

Tuesday, August 2, 2011

- 8:00 a.m. Children's musical rehearsal
- 8:45 a.m. Staff Meeting
- 12:45 p.m. Sanctuary Time for FV Clients
- 1:30 p.m. Food Voucher Program

Wednesday, August 3, 2011

- 8:00 a.m. Children's musical rehearsal
- 5:30 p.m. Jr. High UMY Huddle Time
- 6:00 p.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry
- 6:00 p.m. Chrismon Workshop

Thursday, August 4, 2011

- 8:00 a.m. Children's musical rehearsal
- 9:30 a.m. Quilters

Friday, August 5, 2011

- 8:00 a.m. Children's musical rehearsal
- 6:00 p.m. *The Rock Slinger and his Greatest Hit* (dinner and presentation)

Sunday, August 7, 2011

- 8:15 a.m. Communion Service
- 9:15 a.m. Sunday School Hour
- 10:30 a.m. Worship Service
- 5:30 p.m. United Methodist Youth

Monday, August 8, 2011

- 12:00 p.m. Education Committee
- 5:30 p.m. Literacy Lubbock
- 7:30 p.m. Scouts
- 8:00 p.m. Broad Highway AA meeting

Tuesday, August 9, 2011

- 8:45 a.m. Staff Meeting
- 12:45 p.m. Sanctuary Time for FV Clients
- 1:30 p.m. Food Voucher program
- 5:30 p.m. Trustees meeting
- 5:30 p.m. Legal Clinic

Wednesday, August 10, 2011

- 5:45 p.m. Prayer vigil (Martin Robles)
- 6:00 p.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry
- 6:00 p.m. Chrismon Workshop
- 6:15 p.m. Theology Group
- 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, August 11, 2011

- 9:30 a.m. Quilters
- 1:30 p.m. Merry Mailers



Upcoming at St. John's!

All-church potluck: This Sunday, July 31, right after worship! Take a summer break to feast and fellowship with your church family. Meat and bread will be provided. Please bring a favorite side dish or dessert to share.

The Rock Slinger and his Greatest Hit is the children's musical this year. Dinner and presentation is Friday, August 5.



*St. John's United Methodist Church
Mission Statement*
The mission of St. John's United Methodist Church is to worship and serve God with open hearts, open arms, and open minds. To respond to this calling, we will nurture each other in the Christian faith, we will work so that all people can experience God's love, and we will examine critically and respond prayerfully to the difficult issues that face us.



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

St. John's United Methodist Church
1501 University Ave.
Lubbock, TX 79401
(806) 762-0123

THE EXPLORER

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