

ST. JOHN'S

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



The Explorer

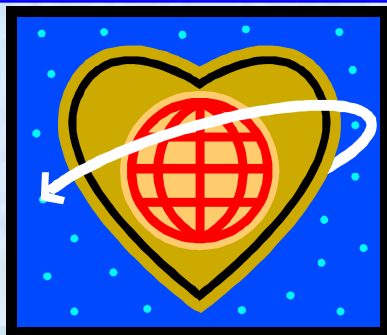
Volume 6, Issue 22

Website: <http://www.stjohnslubbock.org>

November 3, 2011

Trunk or Treat!





*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
- 11:45 a.m. University meal
- 5:30 p.m. United Methodist Youth

1501 University Avenue
Lubbock, Texas 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
- Dir. of Music Ministries: Andrew Kreckmann
- Organist: Clint Barrick
- Business Manager: Dennis Howard
- Facilities Supervisor: Cedric Robins
- Childcare Director: Trisha Castillo
- 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 always feel sad and a little uncomfortable when fans boo the other team. When the opposing team is really losing it may be fun to sing "shah nah nah, hey hey hey, goodbye," but it also sad to have someone make fun of another, even if they are the opponent. Making fun of someone is always a little shaky.

However, I change my mind when it comes to Halloween. The first Halloween began as a spoof against evil, making fun of death, laughing at its lack of power. The hallowed eve of All Saints Day is a time to look death in the eye and thumb our nose. It is a time for children to play "scary" and win by coming out on the other side with a bag full of candy.

That is what we did last Sunday afternoon. Cars with all sorts of decorations and themes surrounded our parking lot. People (especially mommas and daddies) dressed us in funny and scary costumes. Trunks were full of "treats". Children from the church and from the neighborhood came for the fun experience and went home with a bag full of candy. It was really a great time with lots of people. If you missed it, David has posted a poster board full of pictures of the event. Be sure to find them to see the fun and creativity.

And don't miss the point of the event. The resurrection of Christ is a hope that God has given to us. We have no longer been overcome with evil (death), but have overcome evil with good (life).

Grace and Peace

Archie

Lectionary Scripture Readings

**November 6: Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25; Psalm 78:1-7;
I Thessalonians 4:13-18; Matthew 25:1-13**

**November 13: Judges 4:1-7; Psalm 123 or 76;
I Thessalonians 5:1-11; Matthew 25:14-30**

From the Editor: Thank you to David Cameron, Archie Echols, Tess Jackson, Craig Rutherford, Donna Echols, Leslie Cranford, Ginny Riggs, Daniel Echols, Nancy Clopton, Joylyne Harris, Mary and Darrell Vines, Jeff Watson, Marilyn and Bobby McMillan, and Larry Howard for their submissions. This newsletter would never happen without you and the information you share about what's happening at St. John's and to our fellow St. Johners. Thanks as always to Leilani Fillhard and the Merry Mailers! Sometimes getting the newsletter from me is like pulling teeth, but like dentists they just pull and smile!

Next newsletter deadline: November 11.

Later! mrt

Looking Ahead



Consecration Sunday and Celebration Luncheon

November 6
10:30 a.m. Worship Service
11:45 a.m. Luncheon

Church Council

Monday, November 7, 5:30 p.m., Room 122

Trustees Meeting

Tuesday, November 8, 5:30 p.m., Room 122

United Methodist Women

General meeting, Wednesday, November 9,
9:30 a.m., in Room 122. Donna Chandler
presents a program on "Pledge Service."

Prayer vigils against the Death Penalty

5:45 p.m. in the parking lot
Wednesday, November 9 (Hank Skinner)
Wednesday, November 16 (Guadalupe Esparza)

Soul Sisters tour the South Plains Food Bank,

Thursday, November 10, at 5:30 p.m.
See page 6 for more information!

TTU Football Game Parking Fundraiser

Saturday, November 12
Support the youth ministries at St. John's!

The **Prayer Shawl Ministry** will be selling
scarves and mini-stockings on Sunday, November
13, to benefit the Tuesday Food Voucher program!



Funday for Retirees!

Wednesday, November 16,
9:00 a.m. Fun and fellowship in
the Garden Room! Games, food,
and a devotion by David
Robertson. The meal is \$5. Please
RSVP by Monday, November 7,
4:30 p.m., by calling 762-0123.

Finance Committee meeting

Thursday, November 17, 6:00 p.m.

UMW Bake Sale

Sunday, November 20
All proceeds go to Missions!
We will do the holiday baking and
you will get the compliments!!!

Charge Conference, Monday, December 5

WONDERFUL WEDNESDAYS

The meal is served from 5:30-6:00 p.m. Cost: \$5.00.
Reservations are required. Please call 762-0123 by 4:30 p.m.,
Monday, register weekly on the worship registration pads,
or sign up for a standing reservation.

November 9: Green chili chicken lasagna, fruited bacon salad,
fruit tray, green beans, brownies

November 16: Ham/Turkey and trimmings, dressing,
green bean casserole, salad, pumpkin and pecan pie

Catering is provided by Celebration Catering.

Weekly opportunities

Children's crafts, Children's/Youth Handbells,
Children's Handchimes, Children's Choir
Chrismon Workshop, Prayer Shawl Ministry

Other classes this November

Grief

November 2, 9: Rev. Archie Echols, facilitator

Celebrating Advent in the Home

November 2, 9: David Cameron, facilitator

AIDS Awareness

November 2, 9: Vince Gonzales, facilitator

Twelve Days of Christmas and Holiday Recipe Swap
November 16

Koinonía=Communion



Koinonia is a new adult Sunday
school class. As our name implies
we strive to form deep
communion and care for one
another. We explore all aspects of
the Christian life with open hearts
and minds. Class members take
turns facilitating discussion from a
variety of resources. Our members
are mostly young and middle-aged
couples, but everyone is welcome
to the newest class at St. John's!

Koinonia Class
Facilitated by Daniel Echols
Room 224
9:15-10:15 a.m.

**Christmas:
the good, the bad, & the ugly:
an Advent study for adults
by Richard B. Wilke**

Four Sundays of Advent
November 27-December 18
9:15-10:15 a.m.
Room 215
Facilitated by David Cameron

**There are still spots left
for the Holiday Work Day
at the
South Plains Food Bank!**

Help prepare Christmas box distributions

Saturday, December 10
9:00 a.m.–12:00 noon
at 4612 Locust Ave.

Sign-up by contacting David Cameron or by
signing the volunteer sheet in the office.

**Speaking of Christmas, there will be no
Sunday School on Sunday, December 25,
and only the 10:30 a.m. worship service.**



**On New Year's Day 2012, we will have an
all-church breakfast at 9:15 a.m., in the
Garden Room (instead of Sunday
School)!**

New Ministry Opportunity!

We need persons willing to help deliver St. John's mugs to first time visitors. Please contact Craig Rutherford. The mugs are on order and we will begin as soon as they arrive. This is a job everyone is qualified for!



Sustaining HOPE

An Invitation from HOPE Shalom
Wednesday, November 9
12:00 noon-1:00 p.m.
2005 Ave. T (Sharing space with Asbury UMC)

Please join us in celebrating what God has been doing to bring new excitement and hope in the Heart of Lubbock through HOPE Community of Shalom! Your lunch is provided.

Please RSVP by Wednesday, November 2, at 762-0829, text 470-0134, or e-mail silvia@hopeshalom.org.



**Please vote for
HOPE Community of Shalom**

You can be the one that puts HOPE Community of Shalom over the top to win \$10,000 in the Community Rewards program of City Bank. Just think how much help that could give us! It could help repair our compressor so that we will have air conditioning in the education wing next summer or it could help us repair the stained glass windows in our sanctuary. The rules have changed this year, giving us a much better chance to win.

All you have to do, starting Sunday, November 6 through Friday, December 16, is go to www.citybankonline.com and choose HOPE Community of Shalom. You can vote once a day from each computer you use, whether at home or at work. It may also be possible to vote from a cell phone if it can access the web. Votes may come from outside Lubbock, outside Texas and even outside the U.S., so please ask everyone you know to help! It's not much effort and it could make such a big difference.

If you would like daily reminders, e-mail your request to hopeshalomlubbock@gmail.com and I will send you daily reminders.

Thanks for your help! Nancy Clopton
Executive Director, HOPE Community of Shalom

Welcome, Marie, Emmett, and Michael!

Marie Cox and Emmett and Michael Jordan have come from Norman, Oklahoma, and joined St. John's on October 23, 2011. Michael is a professor at Texas Tech in the Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Social Work. His specialty is socio-cultural anthropology. Marie works for the University of Oklahoma's College of Continuing Education, managing federal grants for substance abuse prevention. Marie enjoys horseback riding, and Michael likes to visit historical sites. They both enjoy hiking and reading. Michael says that they were attracted to St. John's because of its commitment to social justice, its ministries, and its traditional service. We are so glad that you are here!



Calling All Adult Sunday School Classes!

Highlight your class in the church paper! We invite each Sunday School class to take a picture of your class, and write an article containing the history, description and curriculum being studied at the time. Picture and article need to be given to Mary Ruth Thurmond in the church office by the deadline listed. The picture and article will be sent out in the church paper the following week. If you have any questions, feel free to contact either Mary Ruth Thurmond or David Cameron. Use this opportunity to highlight your class and invite others to join you!

Class	Paper Deadline
Animus	November 11
Fellowship	November 25
New Beginnings	December 9
Open Door	January 6
Shepherd	January 20
Sine Nomine	February 3
Koinonia	February 17

Meet the Aldersgate Class!

(Pictured from left to right: Rob Scott, Diane Cole, Deborah Bratcher, Bill Todd, Sandy Goodloe, Marilyn McMillan, Joy Lawson, Mary Vines, Darrell Vines, and James Simpson)

Aldersgate Class meets in Room 122 and offers a discussion format, using a variety of resources. The class sometimes tackles controversial issues, such as Adam Hamilton's *Confronting the Controversies*, which is concluding on November 6. Outreach projects include the Heifer Project, Habitat for Humanity, Meals on Wheels,



and Vacation Bible School. Class member ages range upward from 45 years. The adult singles and couples in the class enjoy reading, studying and very actively discussing books by contemporary theologians and spiritual leaders. Beginning November 13, Aldersgate Class members will study *The Return of the Prodigal* by Henri Nouwen. Visitors are always welcome, and anyone wishing to join the upcoming study is invited to call Mary or Darrell Vines, 281-6482, for information about securing *The Return of the Prodigal* at a reduced price.

Please help our church kitchen by collecting **Grundig Bonus Stickers** from United Supermarkets now through March 6, 2012.

With enough bonus stickers, we can get Grundig small kitchen appliances for free.

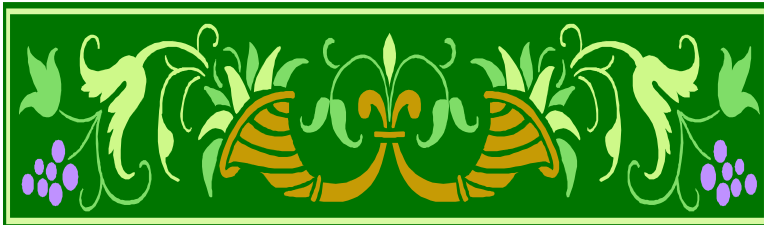
Bonus stickers can be placed in the manila envelope on the volunteer desk in the office.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!



Soul Sisters

Tour the South Plains Food Bank on Thursday, November 10, 5:30 p.m.: Meet at the South Plains Food Bank, 4602 Locust Ave. Donna Chandler will speak about feeding the poor and giving hope at the South Plains Food Bank. Nursery provided along with supper. Please RSVP to the church office (762-0123) if you are coming and if you will bring children! Also, feel free to bring a sack of boxed or canned foods if you want. There is no fee for this event.



Brunch/Ornament Exchange on Saturday, December 3, at 9:30 a.m., in the Garden Room. Please bring an ornament to exchange (under \$10) and also bring an ornament to tell about: antique, unusual, sentimental, decoration detail, etc. If you can, please bring hygiene items for the Food Voucher program clients. Nursery available. Please RSVP to the church office (762-0123).

UMW November Events



The general meeting is Wednesday, November 9, at 9:30 a.m., in Room 122. Donna Chandler leads the program on "Pledge Service."

The UMW bake sale will be Sunday, November 20!

Happy 30th Anniversary, United Methodist Men!



The St. John's chapter of the United Methodist Men is celebrating its 30th anniversary. Congratulations, Men!

Stewardship
by Jeff Watson

In my formative years, the life examples of my parents and a few others gave rise to understanding the role I have in extending care to those before me. As a young professional nurse, I was fortunate to have a mentor who echoed and built on those foundational teachings by offering this advice, "Be generous to those in need, because they are in need." She helped me to understand that my profession required me to use every resource available, including personal resources. This elder nurse, who happened to be named Florence, taught many valuable lessons, but none so precious as a spirit of generosity.

Caring for those before us takes on different forms. In all cases, however, the outward appearance of caring is rooted in stewardship. It has been said that stewardship is every decision made after saying, "yes" to the invitation to follow Christ. In my personal experience at St. John's, I have found a consistent spirit of generosity, meeting known needs and those that go unspoken, but not unheard. If the definition of stewardship is sustained generosity, then you, St. John's, are a wonderful witness to this discipline and these familiar words from John Wesley:

Do all the good you can
By all the means you can
In all the ways you can
In all the places you can
At all the times you can
To all the people you can
As long as ever you can.

IT TAKES A VILLAGE

Thank you for fixing the playground! It is great for the kids and parents. My children are so excited!—A joy shared from one of the pew cards.

New on the prayer list: The family and friends of Connor Mercer, Annie Avary, Winfield Davenport, Jack North, Glenda Boverie, Ben Alexander, Pat Cantrell, Jeff Watson and family, Shotti Burton, and Jennifer Hendrick. Connor Mercer is the young man from Wolfforth who died in an accident on Saturday, October 30. Jeff Watson lost his aunt last week.

From Larry Howard: Cole Turner is a 3-year-old with leukemia. His father, Jody, is looking for childcare as both he and his wife work. They would prefer someone who has kept a child with leukemia in the past. The doctors are saying Cole shouldn't go into daycare as his immune system is weaker. Jody's work number is 743-5791.

TENANT WANTED: Share private residence with disabled person. Complete master suite with studio/office space. Lots of closet space. Totally accessible. Nicely furnished or unfurnished. Access to shared kitchen/dining room/living area. Covered parking. Safe, close-knit neighborhood. No children or pets. Rent negotiable for individual or couple willing to share in assistance. Ideal for senior or disabled person needing 24-hour assistance. References, background check required. 806-790-3190.



The important thing is not to stop questioning.
Curiosity has its own reason for existing.
One cannot help but be in awe
when he contemplates the mysteries of eternity,
of life, of the marvelous structure of reality.
It is enough if one tries merely to
comprehend a little of this mystery every day.
Never lose a holy curiosity.



Albert Einstein



Coming up at Youth!

This Sunday, November 6: Special time! 5:20 p.m., Snack supper will be provided by the Comiskey family in the Garden Room, then leave (ASAP) for the Corn Maize. 7:00 p.m., Return to church and parents pick up youth.

Saturday, November 12: TTU football game parking lot fundraiser. Please go online to <http://stjohnslubbock.org/ttu-game-day-parking.aspx>. We could use a couple more parents, and a couple more youth to stay and help take down chains, flags and signs.

Sunday, November 13: 5:30 p.m., Snack supper provided by the Reeves family. UMY Huddle time facilitated by Paige and Robert Wood.

Parents, we need a volunteer to plan and host the UMY Christmas party. Contact David Cameron (762-0123 or dcameron@stjohnslubbock.org).

Church Calendar

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS!

Consecration Sunday, November 6, 2011

8:15 a.m. Communion Service
 9:15 a.m. Sunday School Hour
 10:30 a.m. Worship Service
 11:45 a.m. Celebration Luncheon
 5:20 p.m. UMY to Corn Maize

Monday, November 7, 2011

5:30 p.m. Church Council
 5:30 p.m. Literacy Lubbock
 7:30 p.m. Scouts
 8:00 p.m. Broad Highway AA

Tuesday, November 8, 2011

8:45 a.m. Staff Meeting
 12:45 p.m. Sanctuary time for FV clients
 1:30 p.m. Tuesday Food Vouchers
 5:30 p.m. Trustees meeting
 5:30 p.m. Legal Clinic

Wednesday, November 9, 2011

9:30 a.m. UMW general meeting
 5:30 p.m. Wonderful Wednesday
 5:45 p.m. Prayer vigil (Hank Skinner)
 6:15 p.m. Theology Group
 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir rehearsal

Thursday, November 10, 2011

9:30 a.m. Quilters
 5:30 p.m. Soul Sisters tour Food Bank
 5:30 p.m. Literacy Lubbock

Saturday, November 12, 2011

TTU Football Game Parking Lot Fundraiser

Sunday, November 13, 2011

8:15 a.m. Communion Service
 9:00 a.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry sale
 9:15 a.m. Sunday School Hour
 10:30 a.m. Worship Service
 11:45 a.m. University meal
 5:30 p.m. UMY

Monday, November 14, 2011

5:30 p.m. Literacy Lubbock
 7:00 p.m. LUNA general meeting
 7:30 p.m. Scouts
 8:00 p.m. Broad Highway AA

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

8:45 a.m. Staff Meeting
 12:45 p.m. Sanctuary time for FV clients
 1:30 p.m. Tuesday Food Vouchers
 7:00 p.m. PFLAG

Wednesday, November 16, 2011

9:00 a.m. Funday for Retirees
 5:30 p.m. Wonderful Wednesday
 5:45 p.m. Prayer vigil (Guadalupe Esparza)
 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir rehearsal

Thursday, November 17, 2011

9:30 a.m. Quilters
 11:45 a.m. League of Women Voters forum
 1:30 p.m. Merry Mailers
 5:30 p.m. Literacy Lubbock
 7:00 p.m. South Plains Astronomy Club

Friday, November 18, 2011

12:00 p.m. Medici Circle



Daylight Savings Time Ends!

This Sunday, November 6, marks the end of Daylight Savings Time. Please set your clocks **BACK** one hour and enjoy an extra hour of sleep!



*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

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