

St. John's UMC

focus

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | AUGUST 2018

Spotlight on Pat Clark - Part 2

by Carolyn Henry, Pastoral Care Coordinator

In the July newsletter, I told you about Pat Clark's early life as a Paramount Theater wardrobe, and how she'd rubbed shoulders with the likes of Hollywood stars such as Gary Cooper and Ray Milland. But her career, and her life, took a drastic change after the war ended and she gave birth to her first son, Gary (named after Gary Cooper), in 1948.

Gary was born with mental disabilities, and just as she had done with the theater wardrobe business, Pat threw herself into learning everything she could about this situation. Pat went to school to learn how to help such children, so that she could not only help Gary, but other children as well. She worked with a group of other parents, and taught them how to help their children also. Eventually, after schools were integrated, an empty school building became available and Pat and her group used this in setting up their school, which they ran for many years.

Pat was about ready to retire when she received a call from MHMR who asked her to come work for them. She ended up working for MHMR for 8 years, from age 60 to age 68.

Pat believes that God used the situation with Gary for good, and that because of it she was able to learn and train on how to help children with mental disabilities, and has helped many, many children during her long career.

Pat and Gary love having visitors at their lovely apartment home. But please call first as Pat is a busy lady.



Church Events

- Aug 3rd Quilt Pictures
- Aug 4th Landscape Work Day
- Aug 7th Church Office Closed
- Aug 7th Staff Planning Retreat
- Aug 11th UMW Luncheon
- Aug 12th Backpack Sunday
- Aug 18th USA Dance
- Aug 19th Children Choir Pool Party
- Aug 19th Emmaus 3rd Sunday at FUMC
- Aug 26th Promotion Sunday
- Aug 26th Church Under the Bridge
- Aug 27th Single Board Meeting
- Aug 29th Wednesday Night Activities Resume

KID'S CORNER

by Kathryn Price, Children's Ministry Director

"Mission Possible VBS" was a wonderful week of learning, loving and helping others. A **HUGE** "Thank you" to all the adults and youth who gave so willingly of their time, talents and energy to make this camp work so well. A special appreciation to those who had just come home from a week of their own mission trip. St. John's is blessed to have so many people of all ages who care so much for the children.

Coming up in August, as another school year begins, is **Backpack Sunday!** Last year we distributed 51 filled backpacks to four Georgetown elementary schools. Can we beat that this year? The supply lists are already out, so head



for your nearest Walmart, Target or HEB and begin donating backpacks and supplies. Bins will be available in the Fellowship Hall and other locations around the church.

We will close out the summer with **Promotion Sunday on August 26th**. Plan to attend and support our kids as they formally move into the next stage of their spiritual growth.

For with God nothing will be impossible.
Luke 1:37

CHURCH UNDER THE BRIDGE

We will be going to Church Under the Bridge on Sunday, August 26th to feed and clothe the homeless in Austin. We need donations of toiletries, men's summer clothes, shoes, socks. We **DO NOT** need any women's clothing at this time. If you feel led to join us, meet in the Family Life Center at 7:30 AM and we will leave the church by 8:30 AM. We will return in time for the 11:00 AM service. We are blessed beyond measure by this beautiful community of faith and we pray you will join us as we minister to those in need.



Ok all you HGTV fans, we need your help on August 4th from 8 to 12 p.m. Please call Christine in the office and let us know you will be here that Saturday. Don't worry, we won't harass you, it just gives us an idea of how many folks we will have and what jobs could possibly be completed in the designated time frame. Coffee, Water and Donuts will be provided.

Please bring your own gardening tools (rakes, shovel, clippers, loppers, gloves and anything else you can think of)

Thank you in advance for signing up! This will help us beautify the fabulous property with which we have been entrusted.



~John 4:13-14~

“Jesus answered, ‘Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks from the water that I will give will never be thirsty again. The water that I give will become in those who drink it a spring of water that bubbles up into eternal life.’”

Pastor’s Pen

by Reverend Darren Walker

It was my first river trip. Some friends of mine and I were going to spend two days canoeing on the river. Everything we were going to need, bedrolls, food, water, bug spray, whatever, we had to carry with us. Planning ahead, I took two six packs of Dr. Pepper.

We had a great time. The scenery was great. We talked and laughed, swam and had a cook out on the beach. It was hot. We were sweaty. At the end of the trip, we were exhausted and I was dying of thirst. Those twelve cans of Dr. Pepper lasted about a day. What I failed to realize was even though those sodas were liquid, they were a poor substitute for what my body really needed, water.

When we got home, all I wanted to do was drink water. Glass after glass was not enough. I started eyeing my friend’s pool. Finally, I was so full of water; I could hear it sloshing around inside of me. Then I just lay on the floor for a while and was miserable. The lesson I learned that day was there are times when water, plain water, is the only thing that will do. (The second lesson was when your friends have to carry their own water; they really don’t want to share a lot of it with the knucklehead who didn’t bring any water.)

Jesus told us He is the Living Water. What that means to me is we need Jesus, not something like Jesus. We need Jesus. No matter what we try to substitute, it is never enough. There have been times in my life when my life was not what it should have been. Those were times when Jesus had been left out of my life and something else had become more important. I was unhappy and miserable.

Jesus is not some miracle tonic guaranteed to fix your problems immediately. Jesus has promised to be a constant source of Life and Joy. However, we have to include Him. Just like the water my body craved on that long ago river trip, our spirits’ crave Jesus. Nothing and no one else will do. Do not sabotage yourself by refusing to accept this gift of Living Water. Accept it. Enjoy it. Share it with others. Unlike regular water, the more we share the Living Water of Christ, the more there is to go around.



There’s Music in the Air

by Catherine Bartoli, Director of Music

I feel I have barely settled in here at St. John’s and already it’s off to the races! Plans are in place for resuming the various musical ensembles of the church, and I want to share a few things with you.

Since I am now taking on the St. John’s Ringers, the Wednesday night rehearsal schedule has been tweaked a bit. Here is what we’ve come up with:

Wednesday evening schedule starting August 29

- 5:45 p.m. Children’s Choir Rehearsal – Pool party August 19!!
- 6:30 p.m. St. John’s Ringers Rehearsal
- 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

On Sunday, August 19 at 3:00 p.m., we will be having a **Children’s Choir Pool Party!** Doug Davis and Denise Evers have generously offered to host this kick-off event for us. The choir is open to children from Kindergarten through Fifth Grade, and we’re going to have a GREAT time. We would like to have one parent for each child at the party, so please RSVP to Catherine at choirdirector@stjohnsumc.cc or call the church office.

Children’s Rehearsals will begin on August 29th. Please let me know if this 5:45 p.m. start time works for you, and if we need to make an adjustment, we can. After helping a little bit with VBS, I’m really looking forward to getting to know the St. John’s kids better.

Chancel Choir gears up on August 8 and will meet from 7 to 8:15 p.m. until August 29th when we move to 7:30 p.m.

St. John’s Ringers will resume rehearsals on August 22nd starting at 6 that week, before changing to 6:30 p.m. on August 29th.

If you have an interest in singing or ringing, please drop me a line.

O sing to the Lord a new song!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The Wesley Value Meal is back on Wednesday, August 29th from 5:15 PM - 7:00 PM. Be on the lookout for weekly menus in your online newsletters and other fun activities happening on Wednesday nights. Bring your family and friends and let us cook for you!
- September newsletter articles are due to Michelle at michelle@stjohnsumc.cc by Friday, August 17th at 12:00 PM.
- If there is an emergency on the weekend, please contact one of the staff members. Their phone numbers are in the directory for your convenience.
- If you are coming on campus during office hours, please check in with a staff member so we know you are here. This is for your safety in case of any emergency. Thank you for your consideration.

Average Attendance for 2018

2018
July - Avg 132

2017
July - Avg 165

June Financials

<u>Period ending 6/30/2018</u>	
Income	\$303,095
Expense	\$282,175
Total	\$20,920

PRAYER CORNER

Prayer Team Note

by Martha Arizpe, Prayer Team Chairperson

The month of August is very important in our family. The first few days are the wedding anniversaries of Hubby's little brother, my little brother, and us, and this year the grand total of these three marriages is 121 years! Hard to fathom. And knowing these six people as well as I do, I know that one secret to a successful marriage is just.....keep going. Don't give up, don't give in, and be grateful every single day that there is one person on this earth who sees you as you truly are,

and loves you anyway. God sees you and loves you in this way, also, but God will never leave you. A human person has the option of walking out. If you have, by God's grace, found someone who is sticking it out with you for the long haul, then you get down on your knees and give praise and thanks to God for this HUGE BLESSING. The Arizpe's and the Johnson's do just that every single August. (Other times too, but definitely in August.)

If you have a prayer request or a blessing in your life you want to share, please e-mail prayerteam@stjohnsumc.cc or fill out a prayer/blessing request card at service on Sunday mornings.

UPCOMING EVENTS

August Events

There are so many things starting up in August that we can't list them all! Wednesday night choirs, Wesley Value Meal, Backpack Sunday, Church Under the Bridge and so much more! Watch your weekly newsletters for more information!

September Events

Financial Peace University is coming back Tuesday, September 11th - November 6th! If you missed it the first time around, you have another chance to get the financial peace you need! We will also be hosting a Generation Change (FPU for Junior & Senior High students) for our youth and their friends from Wednesday, September 12th - November 7th! Be on the lookout for registration information for both events and invite your friends to join you on the journey to Financial Peace!

60 Years Strong



Saturday, October 13, 2018

Please note this is the SECOND weekend in October this year!