

# St. John's UMC

## *focus*

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF FELLOWSHIP JULY 2018

## Make a Joyful Noise!

by Catherine Bartoli

Summertime and the singin' is easy! Yes, the Chancel Choir will be taking a break from singing in worship in July, but you will still hear music in the sanctuary. I'm busily arranging for solos and ensembles so that our worship services will be enlivened by inspiring sounds. St. John's is very blessed to have a variety of musicians who generously give of their talents to the church, and I'm sure there are even more that I haven't yet met. The Choir will resume rehearsals in August.

The Everyday People Praise Band continues through the summer, providing uplifting contemporary music for the 9:45 a.m. service. I have been very impressed with not only their musicianship, but their energy and their love for serving God through music.

I look forward to meeting the

Children's Choir in August, also, as we continue their musical training and involve them in leading the church through their music. In addition, I will be directing the St. John's Ringers handbell choir, and will enjoy getting to nurture my inner ding-a-ling!

If you like to sing, regardless of your training or lack thereof, or if you play an instrument or are interested in any of the choirs – Children's, Chancel, St. John's Ringers – please drop me a note at [choirdirector@stjohnsumc.cc](mailto:choirdirector@stjohnsumc.cc) or call me at the church at (512) 863-5886, Ext. 30. I would love to hear from you and see how we can involve you in the musical life of the church.

Thank you very much to all those who have graciously welcomed me to St. John's because you have made me feel very welcome, indeed.

Make a joyful noise to the Lord!

## Summer Wesley Value Meal

Our Summer Wesley Value Meal is Wednesday, July 18th from 5:15 PM - 7:00 PM. This is a great time during the summer for our church family to come together in fellowship and fun. There will be a sing-a-long; games for all ages, including 9-Square, bean-bag toss, sidewalk chalk and much more. We will also have an epic snowball fight at the end of the night. Come join the fun and let someone else cook for you!



*I will sing to  
the LORD  
as long as I live.*

Psalm 100:33, NIV

## Church Events

- July 4<sup>th</sup> - Office Closed
- July 9<sup>th</sup> – Harvest Fest Meeting
- July 18<sup>th</sup> – Summer Wesley Value Meal with Epic Snowball Fight!
- July 21<sup>st</sup> – USA Dance
- July 23<sup>rd</sup> – Single Board Meeting
- July 24<sup>th</sup> - Lunch with the Pastor at Wesleyan Estrella
- July 24<sup>th</sup> - Agape Meal at Wilco Juvenile Center
- July 29<sup>th</sup> - Combined Worship Service in Sanctuary with Brunch

# Time of Prayer

by Rev. Darren Walker

Do you believe in the power of prayer? If you say “Yes,” what do you believe that power to be? Is prayer a special kind of begging? Is it a vote to change God’s mind? Is it like a magic incantation to force God into doing things our way? I think most of us can agree none of this is prayer, even though we too often act as if this is what is really going on.

At its basic, prayer is a conversation with God, a time for talking and a time for listening. In the process, it is not so much

God who is changed as it is we who are opened to change. We have been praying for God to help us be the church God wants us to be. As a result, more people are asking questions about how we can make a difference. More people are offering to help make a difference. Our church is growing in our faith and our impact for Christ. These are wonderful things.

Wonderful things often mean change. Change is hard. Sometimes we get frustrated or angry, disappointed or defensive

as we deal with the differences happening to and around us. However, we are not helpless in the midst of change. We get to choose how we will respond. Instead of anger, we can choose understanding. Instead of frustration, we can choose forgiveness.

The reason why what we are doing is hard is because we want to make a real difference. We want to make Disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. Most “real things” require hard work and sacrifice because most “real things” are truly worthwhile.

~James 5:16~

*“For this reason, confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of the Righteous person is powerful in what it can achieve.”*



# Backpack Sunday

by Kathryn Price

**August 12** has been chosen for “Backpack Sunday”. Due to your generosity, we were able to fill and deliver over 50 backpacks to children at four elementary schools in Georgetown last year.

Supply lists will be forthcoming as soon as the schools release them. We will have them posted and bins available soon.

The Saturday before (Aug. 11) volunteers will be needed to organize and fill the backpacks. Please let Kathryn know if you will be able to help.



# Thank you Tucumcari, NM

The youth had a great week in Tucumcari, NM June 17-23 and are now home with great stories and wonderful memories.

We want to thank not only the adults who came on mission trip with us, but also Ken Sommerville, Valerie Duncan, Chris Jorgensen, and Phyllis Hilliard, who came as relief drivers for our tired adults. We appreciate your love and support.

# Agape Meal

by Melissa Barhydt

As some of you know, St. John’s has been participating with other community members in hosting/serving a catered dinner for a group of young men and women who are residents of The Williamson County Juvenile Services Center.

We will be hosting the dinner on **Tuesday night, July 24<sup>th</sup>, 2018** at the Williamson County Juvenile Services Center located at 1821 SE Inner Loop, Georgetown. We will serve approximately 140 young people and their families and approximately 40 staff members of the Juvenile Services Center.

This is not an opportunity for publicity or kudos. It is simply an effort to encourage these young people that even though they may have made a mistake or stubbed their toe, they are loved, their life is not over and lots of opportunity awaits them.

(I know that but for the grace of God I could have ended up in trouble and my life could have been a whole lot different.)

This idea was brought to us in an emailed video of an effort such as this in a homeless shelter (<http://devour.com/video/prank-it-fwd/>).

So, we ask you to search your heart and see if this is something that you’d like to be a part of. We need donations, 50 volunteers, and folks with a loving spirit who would like to encourage some young people to move forward.

Thank you for your consideration. Please let the church office know if you are available to volunteer on Tuesday, 7/24 from 4:45-8:00pm to visit and serve these young people.

# Harvest Fest Quilt History

By Bridget Hancock

For our 60<sup>th</sup> Harvest Fest, we would like to document our history of Harvest Fest quilts by making a digital display and photo album of them. To accomplish this, we need photos of the quilts and all information that can be remembered about them.

First, we would like any information you have about the quilt. If there is a sewn in tag, you may send us a picture of it, if it has any additional information. We would also like the following information, to the best of your recollection:

- The year made or purchased.
- The original purchaser, who it was gifted to, and who owns it now.
- The pattern, if known.
- Any other information: quilters who worked on it, type of fabric, etc. Any information that adds to the history of the quilt would be great.

For photos, we would like 3 horizontal photos of the quilt. First, an overall photo of the quilt, either on a bed or hung over something that shows off its beauty. Second, a closer photo of another portion, possibly a focal point or the border. Third, a close photo of two squares, side by side, showing the detail work. These photos can be emailed to the address below.

If you would like us to take your photos, we will have a photography day at the church to take pictures for you. Meet in the Fellowship Hall on Wednesday, July 11<sup>th</sup> between 9am and noon. But please let us know ahead of time, so we'll know how many people and quilts to expect. Or, if you can't make it that day, you can drop your quilts off at the office ahead of time. For further information, contact Bridget Hancock at 512-630-1000 or email [harvestfest@stjohnsumc.cc](mailto:harvestfest@stjohnsumc.cc).



# Spotlight on Pat Clark

by Carolyn Henry

Pat Clark and her son Gary moved to Georgetown in 2006, after the death of Pat's husband Richard. For many years Pat and Gary were faithful members of St. John's, always sitting near the front row at the 8:30 service. Now that Pat has given up driving, they no longer attend but definitely have St. John's in their hearts.

Recently I had a very interesting conversation with Pat. She told me about growing up in the San Fernando Valley. Unfortunately Pat's mother was killed in a freak hunting accident when Pat was 14, so she went to live with an aunt. She began taking care of some children of a nearby neighbor, who worked for Paramount Theater. The neighbor got Pat a job there too. She started out doing body makeup, but didn't like it, so she got a job at a nearby restaurant as a hostess. There she met various Hollywood stars, directors and producers. She went to school at night to learn about the wardrobe business, and eventually worked at Paramount in that department. She told me that Cecil B. DeMille used a megaphone to yell at the various actors and actresses on the set. Once after an episode of yelling she was just standing there with her mouth open, when she felt a friendly hand on her shoulder. It was none other than the great Gary Cooper, trying to console a young wardrobe. He said "Well, he's at it again" Another time she was waiting for a bus to take her to the USO, when Ray Milland drove up in his big Cadillac and offered her a ride. She accepted, but always the lady, she climbed into the back seat. She said Ray laughed all the way to the USO.

Pat ended up working at the Paramount for 4 years during the war. To learn about her later life, check August newsletter for Part 2.



# Announcements

- The Wesley Value Meal is on hiatus for the summer. Our next Wesley Value Meal will be July 18th from 5:15 PM - 7:00 PM. We will have a sing-a-long, food, games for all ages, and end the evening with an epic snowball fight! Come join the family for fun, food, and fellowship!
- August newsletter articles are due to Michelle at michelle@stjohnsumc.cc by Friday, July 20<sup>th</sup> 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

June- Avg 173

July- Avg 174

### 2017

June- Avg 213

July - Avg 168

## June Financials

### Period ending 6/30/2018

Income	\$261,486
Expense	\$240,461
Total	\$21,025

# PRAYER CORNER

## Prayer Team Note

By Martha Arizpe

I found this poem in the newspaper years ago. I recently googled it and Dale Wimbrow is listed as the author. I keep a copy on the fridge.

The Man in the Glass (printed in paragraph form to save space):

When you get what you want in your struggle for pelf\*, And the world makes you king for a day, Then go to the mirror and look at yourself, And see what that man has to say. For it isn't a man's father, mother, or wife, Whose judgment upon him must pass, The fellow whose

verdict counts most in life, Is the man staring back from the glass.

He's the fellow to please, never mind all the rest, for he's with you clear to the end, And you've passed your most dangerous, difficult test, If the man in the glass is your friend. You can fool the whole world down the pathway of years, And get pats on the back as you pass, But the final reward will be heartache and tears, If you've cheated the man in the glass. (\*pelf - middle English term for money)

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

## Wednesday, July 4<sup>th</sup>

The church office will be closed for the 4th of July holiday. Have a safe and Happy Independence Day.

## Wednesday, July 18<sup>th</sup>

Our Summer Wesley Value Meal will be held from 5:15 PM -7:00 PM. We will have food, a sing-a-long, games for all ages, and an epic snowball fight to end the night! Come join the summer fun!

## 4th Wednesday of the month

If you would like to join the Pastor and visit with our residents at the Wesleyan Estrella for lunch on the 4th Tuesday of any month, please let Christine or Michelle know so they can reserve your spot.

## ST. JOHN'S UNITED METHODIST WOMEN



### MISSION SERVICE TRIP

at the WESLEYAN at SCENIC on:

WEDNESDAY, JULY 11, 2018 @ 10:00 A.M.

A BIRTHDAY PARTY FOR THE RESIDENCE

We will see you there!

