

FROM THE PASTOR

Hey Church,

Mark your calendars for Sunday, October 17th for a Sunday School hour Pumpkin Palooza! Instead of having our normal Sunday school hour, we are asking everyone to meet in Wendt Hall to enjoy some Fun, Fellowship, and a great mission opportunity!

Activities will include stuffing over 400 Halloween bags with goodies to surprise the kids at Smith Elementary and Bridge Academy, a contest to share our favorite pumpkin treats, and a pumpkin decorating table for the kids.

We will let you know more as we get closer, but for now I need your help to collect as much candy as we can possibly gather...400 bags is a lot of treats!

So, pick out your favorite pumpkin treat recipe, grab a few bags of candy while you are getting the ingredients together, and prepare to reconnect as a church family for some good works and good fellowship.

It's Pumpkin Palooza time!

Pastor Jeff

NEED THIS WEEK

Trick or Treat: We are providing each student at Smith Elementary with a bag of goodies for Halloween. If you would like to donate, please drop off candy by Wednesday, October 13 in the Church Office. We will need LOTS of candy to fill 400 bags. Don't worry about dropping off too much candy. Any leftover candy will be passed along to the Smith Christmas Store.

FOCUS THIS WEEK

Bulletin: Please visit the link below for a printable copy of this week's bulletin or view the PDF attached to this email – [September 26](#).

MISSIONS & OUTREACH

Church Afghans: If you'd like to purchase an afghan with a picture of the church, please stop by the church office to purchase. The afghans are \$40 each. The proceeds all help the women's L.I.F.T. (Ladies in Fellowship Together) group support various ministries.

Smith Santa Shop: The Smith elves need your help to prepare for the Christmas store. Please see the list of items needed below. All donations can be dropped off in the church office.

- Playing cards
- Long lipstick
- Fuzzy socks (Christmas colors preferred)
- Fun men's socks
- Nail polish (regular size bottles)
- Small and medium Christmas bags
- LARGE shopping or reusable bags
- 16oz/1pint glass or plastic jars with lids
- Medium sturdy size boxes
- Bubble wrap

ADULTS

Reminder: Please help to keep us informed. If you know of someone in the hospital or who is ill, please call the church at 281-342-6631, or email the church at church.office@stjohnsumc-richmond.org.

Sunday School: Everyone is invited to join us for Sunday School at 9:45am!

- Age 4 through 3rd grade meet in room 302 (downstairs)
- 4th grade through 6th grade meet in room 403
- 7th grade through 12th grade meet in room 407
- Lamplighters meet in room 408 (Library)
- Come As You Are meet in room 402 (virtual and in-person option)
- Good News meet in Wendt Hall
- Sojourners meet in room 401

Women's Book Club: Our book to read and discuss in October is *Moment of Lift* by Melinda Gates. Copies of this book, from the Fort Bend County Library system, are available at the church in the workroom for you to sign out. Remember to return the copy when you finish, so another person can sign it out. Discussion will be on Saturday, October 9 in room 105 at 9:30.

Healing Hearts: This group is a widow/widower (members and nonmembers) support group. The goal of the Healing Hearts Fellowship is to provide a place, time, and means for meeting with other people who have met the "New Reality" of being a widow or widower. Healing Hearts meets twice a month, on the first and third Thursdays at 10:30am. If you have questions, please contact the church office.

Lay Servant Academy: Our in-person Lay Servant Academy is back! There are two remaining opportunities on October 23 and February 5, all of which will be held at Faith UMC in Richmond. Each session will be a ONE-DAY class on a Saturday. Click [this link](#) to register for any of the dates/classes you'd like. If you have any questions, please contact Claire Kincannon at 281-499-3700. We hope to see you there!

Hospitality Time: Please sign up to bring goodies one Sunday during your birthday month! (For example, if your birthday is in August, please sign up for one of the Sundays in August.) We ask that your contribution be in the Gathering Room (105) by 9:15am on your chosen Sunday. **Everyone is welcome to join us for Hospitality Time in the Gathering Room.** Please click [here](#) TODAY to sign up!

Online Worship: You can view worship services online on our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/stjohnsumcrichmond>) or <http://stjohnsumc-richmond.org>. Live worship is Sunday at 11am on our Facebook page. After the live service, the video can be viewed on our Facebook page or the website anytime.