

The CELEBRATION of the GOSPEL

APRIL 29, 2018 at 8:30 A.M.

Welcome to All

All are invited to to participate in any of our activities, and to become a part of this community of faith and love.

✠ Please stand as you are comfortable. **Bold** indicates congregational response.

GATHERING IN GOD'S PRESENCE

GREETING and ANNOUNCEMENTS

✠ SONGS of PRAISE

Bind Us Together FWS 2226

**Bind us together, Lord, bind us together
with cords that cannot be broken.**

**Bind us together, Lord, bind us together, Lord,
bind us together in love.**

**There is only one God, there is only one King;
There is only one body, that is why we sing.**

We Are God's People FWS 2220, vs. 1 & 3

**We are God's people, the chosen of the Lord,
born of the Spirit, established by the Word.**

Our cornerstone is Christ alone, and strong in Christ we stand;

O let us live transparently and walk heart to heart and hand in hand.

**We are the body of which the Lord is Head,
called to obey Christ, now risen from the dead.**

God wills us be a family diverse, yet truly one;

O let us give our gifts to God & so shall God's work on earth be done.

✠ CALL to WORSHIP David Henson

Come to the house of the Lord. Come with your prayers,
your presence, your gifts, your service, and your witness.

**We bring the gift of prayer to this house. We raise
to God our hopes and our fears,
our wounds and our triumphs.**

We bring the gift of our presence, being together in worship
and fellowship, work and witness.

**We bring the gift of our resources, given freely
from our hearts to be used in service to God.**

We bring the gift of service, commitment of our time and
talents to serve God by working in God's world.

**We will go into the world witnessing
about God's love and grace, which we
experience together today.**

✠ SONG of RESPONSE

Breathe on Me Breath of God UMH 420

**Breathe on me, Breath of God,
fill me with life anew,**

**that I may love what thou dost love,
and do what thou wouldst do.**

ENGAGING TOGETHER

CHILDREN'S MOMENT Sarah Prevot

Parents may accompany their children to the altar if desired.

Ushers will pass out folders during the Children's Moment. Please register your attendance. If you have any joys or concerns please fill out a prayer card found in the left pocket of the folder and place it in the offering plate.

SCRIPTURE

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

David Henson

This is the Word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

PRAYER for ILLUMINATION

Based on Psalm 19:14

**May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
be acceptable in thy sight, thou who are my strength and my
redeemer. Amen.**

SERMON

"Engaging Through Your Service"

Pastor Julia

✠ HYMN of FAITH

The Servant Song

FWS 2222

✠ PRAYER of CONFESSION

Deirdre Halliburton

**In your holy presence, O God, we mourn our divisions,
acknowledge our fearfulness, and admit our shameful
silence in the face of injustice.**

**God, who in Christ reconciled all flesh and dismantled
the divisions of race, class, and creed, forgive the
smallness of our vision and our lack of concern.**

**Spoil any pleasure we enjoy at the expense of another.
Awaken within us that still small voice, and inspire us
to engage our lives in acts of service and love.**

Hear now our silent prayers for peace and reconciliation...

(a time for silent prayers and confession)

✠ WORDS of ASSURANCE and PARDON

Hear the good news:

Christ died for us while we were yet sinners;
that proves God's love toward us.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

**In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!
Glory to God. Amen.**

✠ SHARING the LOVE and PEACE of CHRIST

OFFERING OUR TITHES and GIFTS to GOD

✠ DOXOLOGY

UMH 94

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God,
all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Praise God, the source of all our gifts!

Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!

Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

SHARING IN THANKS

✠ CALL to the TABLE

Gather us in, Lord.

Gather us with bread that tells of our community.

Gather us with wine that tells of our salvation.

And by your Spirit make us one in purpose, mind, and heart.

Gather us in, Lord, for we are better together.

✠ THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

UMH 15

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we
praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest. (3x)

Blest is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest. (3x)

The congregation is seated and the institution of the Lord's Supper is recalled.

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we
offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice,
in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Hosanna in the highest. (3x)

The pastor invokes the present work of the Holy Spirit and concludes:

All honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and for ever.

Amen. Amen. Amen.

Hosanna in the highest. (3x)

THE LORD'S PRAYER

UMH 895

SHARING the BREAD and CUP

- ♦ All are welcome to partake in Holy Communion.
- ♦ Communion will be served using the ancient means of "intinction." When broken bread is placed in your hand you may dip it lightly into the cup and thereby receive both elements at the same time.
- ♦ Gluten-free communion is offered to anyone who desires it; when you come up to the altar, let the server know you would like the gluten-free elements.
- ♦ You are invited to stay at the chancel for prayer as long as you desire.

PRAYER after RECEIVING

God of grace,

**We hear your call to generous living in the way you meet our
needs each day, and in this holy meal, which we shared with
Christ and one another. Having received so much, we offer all
we have, our time, talents, and treasures for your kingdom.
Direct our lives as we reach out to our neighbors, sharing our
gifts through worship, witness, and service so that others will
come to know you and become disciples of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

DEPARTING TO SERVE

INVITATION to CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

*We joyfully welcome all those whose wish to become members of St. John's
and invite you to come forward during the singing of the closing hymn.*

✠ HYMN of DISCIPLESHIP

FWS 2129

I Have Decided to Follow Jesus

✠ BLESSING and SENDING FORTH

✠ POSTLUDE

*After the service, all are invited to stay for refreshments
in the Family Life Center*

Welcome to St. John's!

Welcome to worship! We are glad you've joined us and hope you feel at home here. Whoever you are, wherever you are on your faith journey, you are welcome.

Children of all ages are welcome in worship. However, if you or your child would prefer, nursery care is available in the Administration Building next door; an usher can escort you. Children's bulletins and sermon sacks are available from an usher.

Our ushers are happy to assist you in any way. Restrooms are in the Narthex.

Thank you for being here.

OUR CURRENT SERMON SERIES

"Engage: Walking the Discipleship Pathway"

This sermon series focuses on the five membership "vows" in The United Methodist Church: Prayers, Presence, Gifts, Service, and Witness. Our Confirmation Classes are preparing to take these vows (or renew these vows) on Confirmation Sunday, May 20. We must Engage in order to connect and grow with the body of Christ. Our series wraps up next Sunday with the theme of "Witness," and we look forward to the witness our youth will make in worship as they lead our services. Our guiding scripture will be Psalm 139.

NEW YOUNG ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

A Sunday School class for young adults is forming soon. There will be a "Meet and Greet" on **Sunday, May 6** at 10 a.m. in Room 202 (Youth Office) of the Admin Building. If you would like more information on the class, please contact Molly Means at mollygilmore16@gmail.com, otherwise just meet us on May 6 in Room 202.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



Dates for Vacation Bible School have been set - **Monday, June 25 through Friday, June 29** from 9 a.m. -11:30 a.m. VBS is for ages 4 through those children who finished 5th grade this school year. Registration information and forms will be available soon, but mark your calendars for this special time in the lives of our children.

CONFIRMATION CLASSES CONTINUE

Please continue to encourage our youth confirmands on this part of their faith journey by writing them a note and placing it in their mailbox located in the narthex. Confirmands are Olivia Caputo, Devin Dickson, Grace Idikwu, Carissa Murray, Lydia Rahkawi, Kaylie Williams, and adult helper and confirmand, Christina Sasse.

UMW RUTH CIRCLE

The Ruth Circle will meet on **Tuesday, May 1** at 9:30 a.m. in the parlor. Judy Koonce and Pat Lively will present a program on "Sacred Spaces of Nurturing." All women are invited to attend.

ASP SPONSOR BOARD

A sponsor board for the youth and adults who will be participating in the ASP Mission trip will be available on **Sunday, April 29** and **Sunday, May 6**. Sponsorships are \$10 per slot, each participant having 2 slots per day. Checks should be made out to St. John's UMC with ASP in the memo line. Each sponsor will receive a note from the person they sponsor. On both Sundays, the board will be in the narthex prior to the 8:30 a.m. service and before and after the 11 a.m. service and in the FLC during coffee time. If you have any questions, please contact Barbara Lively at 225-229-6675.

COLLEGE STUDENTS EXAM SURVIVAL BAG

Every year St. John's UMW puts together an "Exam Survival Bag" for college students who are taking final exams. These bags include things such as money (for doing laundry, buying lunch, etc.), microwave popcorn, cheese crackers, single packs of cookies, snack size candy, energy bars, to name a few. If you would like to donate items to help fill the bags, please bring them to church on Sunday or during the week. There will be a blue tub in the narthex and Admin. hallway for your donations.

JOB OPPORTUNITY - SUMMER MINISTRY INTERN

St. John's is pleased to announce a part time, 13-week summer ministry internship designed for young adults who are exploring a vocation in ministry. The internship seeks to prepare young people to hear God's call to ordained ministry by placing them in the context of a ministry setting and allowing them to shadow a clergyperson. Deadline to apply is May 7, 2018. All who might be interested in the position should send an inquiry cover letter, resume, and references to jobs@stjohnsbr.org. For more information go to our website, www.stjohnsbr.org/announced.

YELLOW GROCERY BAG SUNDAY

Don't forget to pick up a Yellow Grocery Bag on your way out of worship. Next **Sunday, May 6**, is Grocery Bag Sunday when we fill the bags to help fill the shelves in The Shepherd's Market. Many, many thanks for your generosity.

HAPPENING AT ST. JOHN'S

Sunday, April 29

8:00 a.m. Praise Team, *Sanctuary*
8:30 a.m. Worship Service, *Sanctuary*
9:45 a.m. Sunday School, *Campus Wide*
11:00 a.m. Worship Service, *Sanctuary*
12:15 p.m. Congregational Care Team, *Parlor*
4:00 p.m. Confirmation Class-Youth, *Parlor*
4:00 p.m. Confirmation Class-Adults, *Library*
5:00 p.m. Youth, *FLC*
7:00 p.m. Alleluia Ringers, *Sanctuary*

Monday, April 30

9:00 a.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, *Parlor*
3:00 p.m. Lectionary Ladies Bible Study, *Parlor*
3:00 p.m. Men's Covenant Group, *Parlor*
3:00 p.m. The Shepherd's Market, *FLC*
5:00 p.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, *Parlor*
6:30 p.m. AA Meeting, *FLC-E*

Tuesday, May 1

8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market, *FLC*
8:15 a.m. Worship in the Market, *FLC*
9:30 a.m. UMW Ruth Circle, *Parlor*
4:30 p.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, *Parlor*
4:45 p.m. Wellness Covenant Group, *Library*

Wednesday, May 2

5:00 p.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, *FLC-A*
5:30 p.m. Heavenly Hash, *FLC*
6:30 p.m. Alpha Bells, *Sanctuary*
6:30 a.m. Chancel Choir, *Choir Room*

Thursday, May 3

8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market, *FLC*
8:30 a.m. Holy Folders, *Library*
10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting, *Pastor's Office*
10:00 a.m. Companions in Christ, *Library*
6:00 p.m. Trustees Meeting, *Parsonage*
7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts, *FLC*

Friday, May 4

OFFICE CLOSED
6:30 a.m. Men's Prayer Group, *Parlor*

Saturday, May 5

12:00 p.m. AA Meeting, *FLC-C*
5:45 p.m. Emmaus Gathering, *FLC / Sanctuary*

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Ushers: *Jim and Theresa Sandifer, Aileen Pine, Billie Bourgeois*
Host: *Chris Stubbs*

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Lane Cotton Winn
Lead Pastor
pastorlane@stjohnsbr.org

Deirdre Halliburton
Director of Discipleship & Connection
deidrehalliburton@stjohnsbr.org

Carrie Stephens
Director of Music Ministries
carriestephens@stjohnsbr.org

Lynn Cooper
Administrative Assistant
office@stjohnsbr.org

Bill Putzig
Custodian
billputzig@stjohnsbr.org

Pastor Julia Puac-Romero
Associate Pastor
pastorjulia@stjohnsbr.org

LeAnn Davis
Manager of Finance & Facilities
leann@davis@stjohnsbr.org

Jeff Beck
Coordinator of Youth Ministries
jeffreybeck@stjohnsbr.org

Terry Byars
Accompanist
terrybyars@stjohnsbr.org

St. John's United Methodist Church
230 Renee Drive | Baton Rouge, LA 70810
www.stjohnsbr.org | 225-766-4594



Remember to pray for **The Walk**.
"...for we walk by faith, not
by sight." - 2 Corinthians 5:7
(NRSV) #sjthewalk



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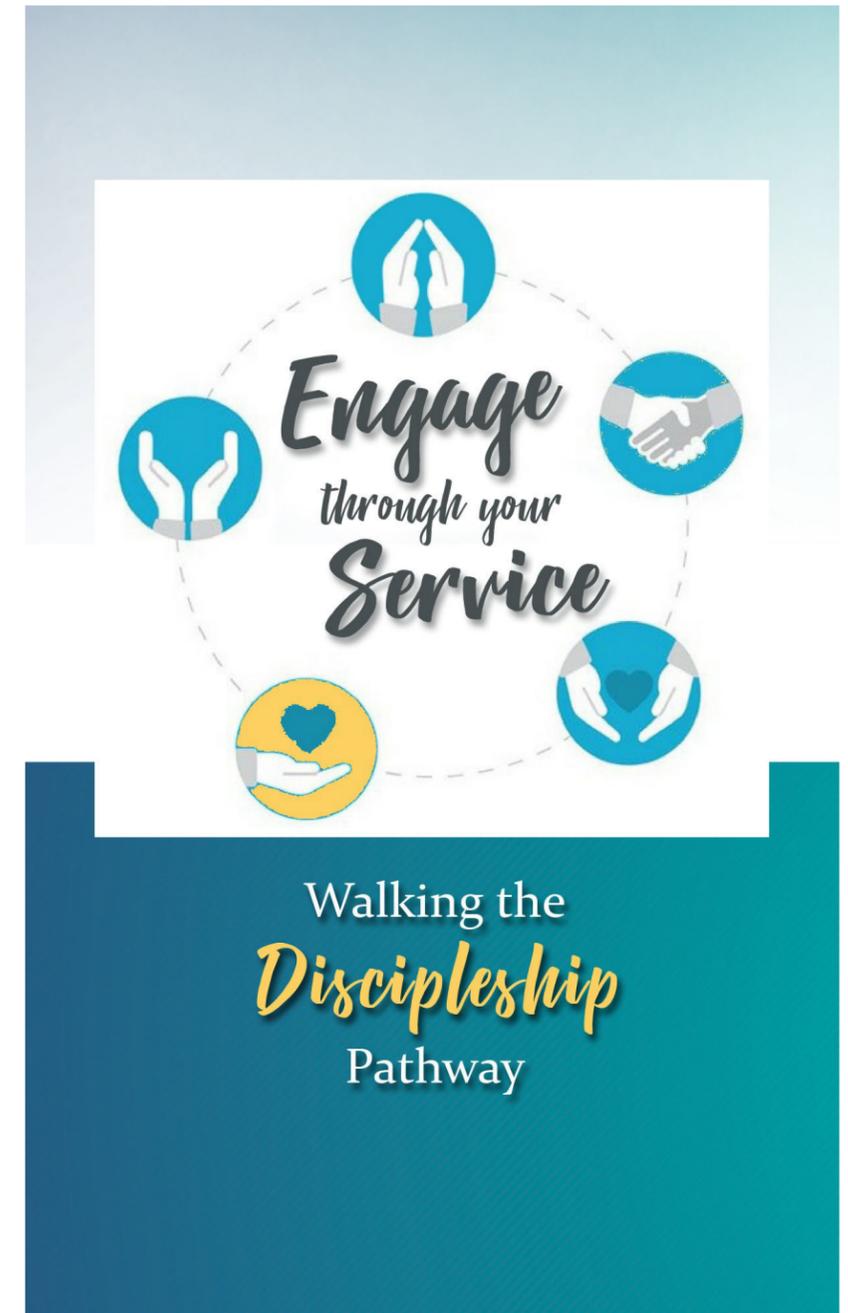
Give online: <http://bit.ly/sjumcgive>



ST. JOHN'S

United Methodist Church

Glorifying God. Feeding People. Making Disciples.



Walking the
Discipleship
Pathway

April 29, 2018

8:30 a.m. *Worship Service*

We are a Christian community called to share our gifts through worship, witness and service so that others will know God and become disciples of Jesus Christ.