

The CELEBRATION of the GOSPEL

September 2, 2018 at 11 A.M.

Welcome to All

All are invited 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

GREETING *and* ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT

✠ CALL *to* WORSHIP Seab Young

Every generous act of giving is a tribute to God’s love for us.

Lord, let us be people of generous and abundant gifts for others.

Be ready to listen and slow to react in anger.

Lord, prepare us to be peaceful people.

Keep your hearts and spirits ready to serve the Lord.

Lord, open our hearts to hear and respond to your Words of Life by living lives of hope and peace. Amen.

✠ HYMN *of* PRAISE UMH 174

His Name is Wonderful

SACRAMENT *of* BAPTISM

James Carter Eichelberger

*Son of Sarah and Kerry Eichelberger
Great grandson of Pat and Cade Carter*

COMMENDATION

Members of the household of faith, I commend to your love and care James Carter, whom we this day recognize as a member of the family of God. Will you endeavor so to live that he may grow in the knowledge and love of God, through our Savior Jesus Christ?

With God’s help we will so order our lives after the example of Christ, that James Carter, surrounded by steadfast love, may be established in the faith, and confirmed and strengthened in the way that leads to life eternal.

HYMN *of* BLESSING

Welcome to the Family

Welcome to the family, we’re glad that you have come to share your life with us, as we grow in love, and may we always be to you what God would have us be, a family always there, to be strong and to lean on.

LISTENING

CHILDREN’S MOMENT Ben Hartman

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

James 1:17-27

Seab Young

¹⁷ Every good gift, every perfect gift, comes from above. These gifts come down from the Father, the creator of the heavenly lights, in whose character there is no change at all. ¹⁸ He chose to give us birth by his true word, and here is the result: we are like the first crop from the harvest of everything he created.

¹⁹ Know this, my dear brothers and sisters: everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to grow angry. ²⁰ This is because an angry person doesn’t produce God’s righteousness. ²¹ Therefore, with humility, set aside all moral filth and the growth of wickedness, and welcome the word planted deep inside you—the very word that is able to save you.

²² You must be doers of the word and not only hearers who mislead themselves. ²³ Those who hear but don’t do the word are like those who look at their faces in a mirror. ²⁴ They look at themselves, walk away, and immediately forget what they were like. ²⁵ But there are those who study the perfect law, the law of freedom, and continue to do it. They don’t listen and then forget, but they put it into practice in their lives. They will be blessed in whatever they do.

²⁶ If those who claim devotion to God don’t control what they say, they mislead themselves. Their devotion is worthless. ²⁷ True devotion, the kind that is pure and faultless before God the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their difficulties and to keep the world from contaminating us.

The Word of the Lord.
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 Pastor Lane

“Everyday Saints”

RESPONDING

✠ HYMN *of* FAITH UMH 712, vs. 1 & 3

I Sing a Song of the Saints of God

✠ PRAYER *of* CONFESSION

**God of justice and righteousness,
Your call beckons to us:
to live faithful lives, to turn from wickedness,
to walk in your ways;
yet it is so easy to turn aside:
to speak a thoughtless word, to ignore those in need,
to strike out in anger, to forget your ways.**

Forgive us.

Implant your word in our hearts, and cleanse us from all evil.

By the power of your love, save our souls, that we might faithfully serve you. Amen.

(a time for silent prayers and confession)

✠ WORDS *of* ASSURANCE & PARDON

Every good and perfect gift is from God, including the gift of forgiveness and grace. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

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

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

✠ SHARING *the* LOVE & PEACE *of* CHRIST

OFFERING OUR TITHES & GIFTS *to* GOD

✠ DOXOLOGY UMH 95

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

✠ 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.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

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.

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.

THE LORD’S PRAYER UMH 895

SHARING *the* BREAD *and* CUP

- ♦ *All are welcome to partake in Holy Communion.*
- ♦ *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.*

PRAYER *after* RECEIVING

**Bountiful God,
we give you thanks that you have refreshed us
at your table by granting us the presence of Christ.
Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another,
and send us forth into the world in courage and peace,
rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. 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 UMH 671

Lord, Dismiss Us With Thy Blessing

During the hymn, we invite you to bring forward The Shepherd’s Market grocery bags.

✠ BLESSING & SENDING FORTH

✠ POSTLUDE

The flowers on the altar are given by Morgan Dynes to St. John’s for your love, kind words, and support toward me this summer.

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.

SEPTEMBER WORSHIP SERIES

"HOW TO...A PRACTICAL GUIDE TO EVERYDAY LIFE"

The epistle of James is one of the most practical books in the Bible. This short letter takes a no-nonsense approach to life. For James, our faith is to be expressed outwardly and practiced in community. He is straightforward and direct, with a call to put our faith into action. Join us each Sunday in September as we discover how to live out our faith in Jesus Christ as we study the epistle of James.

HEAVENLY HASH RESUMES

We're revamping Heavenly Hash for the fall, and will be offering a Wednesday night supper **ONCE A MONTH** on the **FIRST WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH**. Mark your calendars for **Wednesday, September 5**. We'll be serving supper from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. You can arrive as your schedule permits.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH OPPORTUNITIES

One of St. John's core values is Spiritual Growth. Beginning in the month of September we will have three different ways to grow in our spiritual life through prayer, reading the Bible, and faith formation. We hope you will find one that works for you:

- 90 Day Bible Reading Challenge began **Saturday, September 1**
- Monthly Faith Formation begins **Wednesday, September 5** at 6:30 p.m.
- 6-week study on prayer begins **Wednesday, September 12** at 6:30 p.m.

SAVE THE DATE - DAYS FOR GIRLS BEGINS SOON

The UMW is sponsoring 3 more work days to make 75 additional kits for the Days for Girls project. These kits will contain reusable feminine hygiene projects for girls in developing countries who are missing school because of a lack of available products. We will meet in the FLC on **Saturday, September 8, 15, and 22** from 9:00 a.m. to noon. We can use YOU! Sewers and non-sewers are needed to cut fabric, iron, sew, serge, apply snaps, insert drawstrings, and assemble kits. **All are welcome.** If you would like more information contact Joyce Perry at 763-6613 or joyce.perry@cox.net. Check out their website at www.daysforgirls.org.

VOLUNTEERS IN MISSION TO CUBA

Volunteers from St. John's will be members of two VIM (Volunteers in Mission) teams on a mission to Cuba from October 22 to November 2. During the month of September, they are asking for donations of vitamins (NO gummies, please), over the counter medicines such as ibuprofen, anti-diarrheal, laxatives, ointments, etc., (NO gel caps, please) and band-aids to help supply the traveling nurse at the Havana Methodist Conference Center with these scarce items that are distributed throughout the country. There will be a blue tub in the Narthex and in the Admin Building for your donations. For more information contact Susan Johnston at 773-9563.

YOUNG ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

The Young Adult Sunday School class is extending an open invitation to all young adults to join them for an interesting and timely class on the weekly scripture reading from the worship service. They meet in room 202 of the Admin Building from 10 - 10:45 a.m.

UMW PRESENTS "A NIGHT OF HUMOR"

St. John's UMW invites everyone to join them on **Sunday, September 16** at 6 p.m. in the FLC as Pastor Connie Saizon presents "A Night of Humor." Rev. Saizon is known to many in the Louisiana Conference through her ministry of "Travelin' Light."

UMW RUTH CIRCLE

The UMW Ruth Circle will meet **Tuesday, September 4**, at 9:30 a.m. in the parlor. Judy Koonce will present "A Day of Bread in the Time of Jesus." All women are invited to attend

HAPPENING AT ST. JOHN'S

Sunday, September 2

GROCERY BAG SUNDAY

- 8:00 a.m. Praise Team, *Sanctuary*
- 8:30 a.m. Worship Service, *Sanctuary*
- 9:30 a.m. Coffee Time, *FLC*
- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School, *Campus Wide*
- 11:00 a.m. Worship Service, *Sanctuary*
- 7:00 p.m. Alleluia Ringers, *Sanctuary*

Monday, September 3

OFFICE CLOSED

THE SHEPHERD'S MARKET CLOSED

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

Tuesday, September 4

- 8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market, *FLC*
- 8:15 a.m. Worship in the Market, *FLC*
- 9:00 a.m. UMW Ruth Circle, *Parlor*
- 1:30 p.m. Staff Meeting, *Pastor's Office*
- 4:00 p.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, *Parlor*
- 4:30 p.m. Wellness Covenant Group, *Library*

Wednesday, September 5

- 10:00 a.m. Spanish Refresher, *Library*
- 3:00 p.m. VIPs: Everybody Reads Training, *Library*
- 4:30 p.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, *FLC-A*
- 5:30 p.m. Heavenly Hash, *FLC*
- 6:30 p.m. Faith Formation, *Location TBA*
- 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice, *Choir Room*
- 6:30 p.m. Alpha Bells, *Sanctuary*

Thursday, September 6

- 8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market, *FLC*
- 8:30 a.m. Holy Folders, *Library*
- 6:00 p.m. Board of Trustees, *Library*
- 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts, *FLC*

Friday, September 7

OFFICE CLOSED

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

Saturday, September 8

- 8:30 a.m. Prime Timers Breakfast, *Essen Lane Piccadilly*
- 9:00 a.m. Days for Girls, *FLC*
- 12:00 p.m. AA Meeting, *FLC-C*

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS:

Ushers: *Fran Anderson, Harriet Walters, Guy Johnson, Derrick Hill*
Host: *Kathleen Adams*

CHURCH STAFF

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

Lynn Cooper
Administrative Assistant
office@stjohnsbr.org

Carrie Stephens
Director of Music Ministries
carriestephens@stjohnsbr.org

Bill Putzig
Custodian
billputzig@stjohnsbr.org

Rev. Deirdre Halliburton
Associate Pastor
pastorjulia@stjohnsbr.org

LeAnn Davis
Manager of Finance & Facilities
leanndavis@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

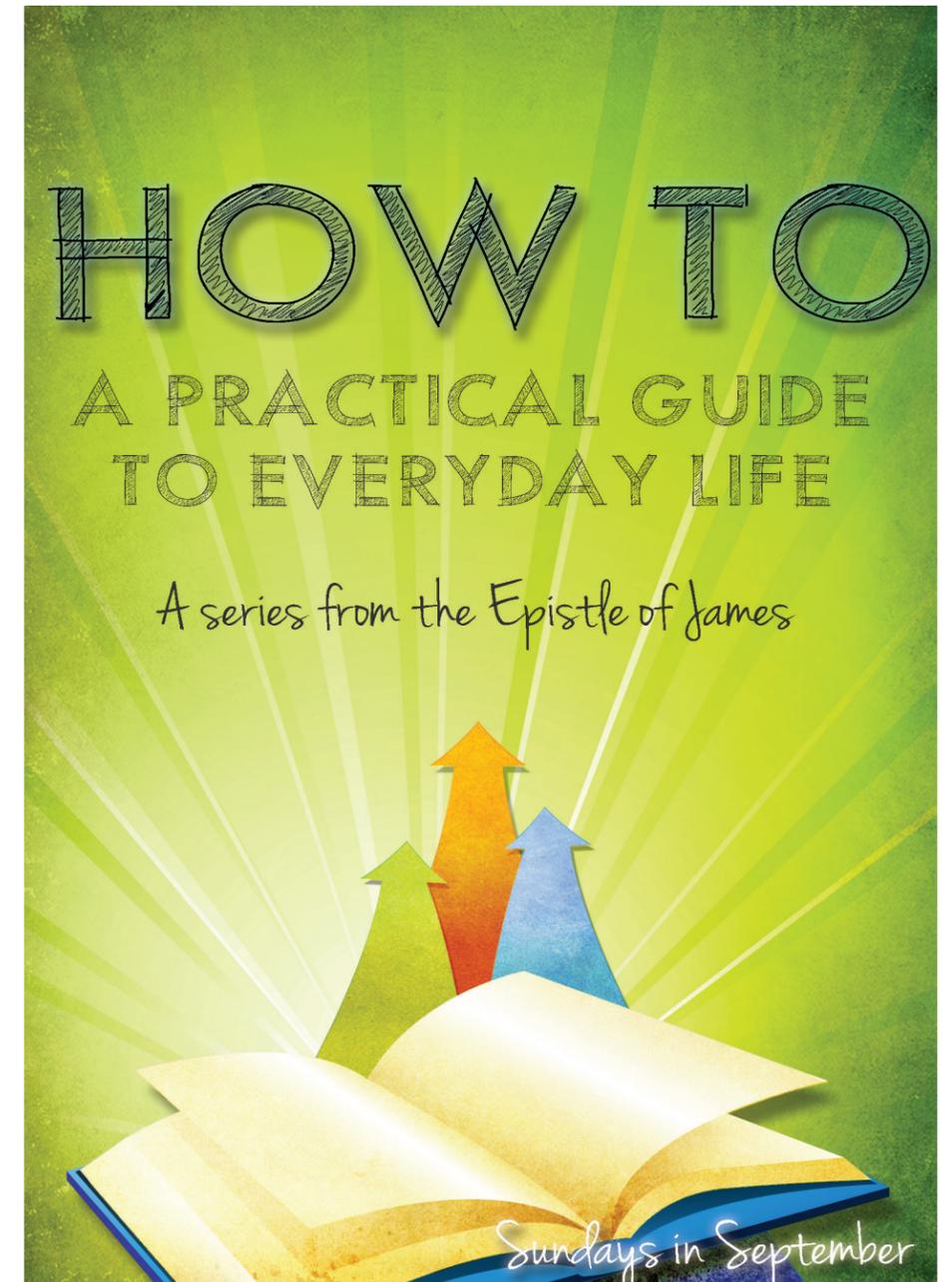
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ST. JOHN'S
United Methodist Church

Glorifying God. Feeding People. Making Disciples.



September 2, 2018

11 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.