

The CELEBRATION of the GOSPEL

August 26, 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.

UNITING WITH GOD

GREETING *and* ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT

✠ CALL to WORSHIP Morgan Dynes

Dig deep for the courage that comes from the Lord.

We will be strong and courageous, for the Lord, our God, is with us wherever we go.

Dare to face your brokenness, your anxieties, and your fears.

We will be strong and courageous, for the Lord, our God, is with us wherever we go.

See all your potential and rest in the assurance that you are enough.

We will be strong and courageous, for the Lord, our God, is with us wherever we go.

Come worship the Lord without fear, for you are accepted, loved, and set free.

Thanks be to God for the courage that comes to us in unexpected ways along the journey of faith.

✠ HYMN of PRAISE UMH 660

God Is Here

MISSION MOMENT - CUBA MISSION TEAM Susan Johnston

✠ PSALTER

A Psalm of Courage

*A Modern Psalm written by John Hammersley
www.psalmsolife.com*

Do not be frightened or worried:

for I am your God and I'm always beside you.

**Be determined and confident:
since you are mine I will always support you.**

I am the God of love who moves on gently:

leading you on, drawing you into all that is new and lovely.

All you need is available now:

let me carry you and bear you along in safety.

I am the Lord of love who comes to you in quietness:

there's no need for struggle or panic,

**for I died for you in the cruelty of torture:
how can I let you suffer alone?**

I am the Spirit of love to direct you tenderly:

I hold your hand and I will not hurry you.

**We will go on together into tomorrow:
for I am with you and I won't let you go.**

Be not afraid for I am with you:

I shall never abandon you wherever you may fall.

**Only be strong and very courageous:
for you are mine and I will always love you.**

✠ GLORIA PATRI

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Amen.**

GROWING TOGETHER

CHILDREN'S MOMENT Darlene Dickson

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.

ANTHEM Chancel Choir
Let There Be Peace on Earth

SCRIPTURE Morgan Dynes
Joshua 1:1-9

¹After the death of Moses the servant of the Lord, the Lord spoke to Joshua son of Nun, Moses' assistant, saying, ²"My servant Moses is dead. Now proceed to cross the Jordan, you and all this people, into the land that I am giving to them, to the Israelites. ³Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given to you, as I promised to Moses. ⁴From the wilderness and the Lebanon as far as the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, to the Great Sea in the west shall be your territory. ⁵No one shall be able to stand against you all the days of your life. As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will not fail you or forsake you. ⁶Be strong and courageous; for you shall put this people in possession of the land that I swore to their ancestors to give them. ⁷Only be strong and very courageous, being careful to act in accordance with all the law that my servant Moses commanded you; do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, so that you may be successful wherever you go. ⁸This book of the law shall not depart out of your mouth; you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to act in accordance with all that is written in it. For then you shall make your way prosperous, and then you shall be successful. ⁹I hereby command you: Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

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 Pastor Lane
"Courage to Face the Future"

RESPONDING WITH LOVE

✠ HYMN of FAITH UMH 534
Be Still My Soul

PRAYERS of the PEOPLE Pastor Lane

Holy One, You call us to live in this world as courageous bearers of hope, standing in the face of all that seems to contradict your Gospel and demean life.

Let us be brave.

Generous God, You have given us all that we have.

While the world will tell us we need more, help us to show that the greatest gift of all is Your presence at the center of our lives.

Let us give thanks.

As tensions and divisions grow in our nation, this world, and in your church, save us from false expectations and internal strife; from holding onto old hurts and resentments, and from self-serving actions, instead of living a life of love.

Let us be loving.

We rejoice at the saints among us and those who have gone before us, who have modeled courageous faith, reminding us that true discipleship is risky and radical in the face of a world held hostage by greed, love of power, and denial.

And now, we name aloud those who we admire for their faithful courage, both living and deceased...

Let our praise to you be characterized by our willingness to take risks for the sake of your mission, our pursuit of peace and justice, and our openness to your guidance in our lives.

Let us glorify God!

We need you to go with us on this journey. Grant us clear vision, courageous hearts, and persistent steps, as together we pray...

THE LORD'S PRAYER UMH 895

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

OFFERING OUR TITHES *and* 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.**

BOLDLY WE GO

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 472
Near to the Heart of God

✠ BLESSING *and* SENDING FORTH

✠ POSTLUDE

The flowers on the altar are given by Susan Johnston in memory of Jere Johnston on his birthday August 27.

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 (see insert).

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.

SO LONG AND BON VOYAGE - MORGAN

Today is our summer ministry intern, Morgan Dynes' last Sunday here at St. John's. Morgan will be spending the fall semester studying in England. Morgan has been an important part of our church life as she led the youth, shadowed our pastors, and participated in leading worship. We will miss her. She will be in the Narthex after worship so you will get a chance to say good bye.

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."

HAPPENING AT ST. JOHN'S

Sunday, August 26

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*
4:00 p.m. YOUTH GROUP - NEW TIME, Worthy Residence
7:00 p.m. Alleluia Ringers, *Sanctuary*

Monday, August 27

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*
6:30 p.m. AA Meeting, *FLC-E*

Tuesday, August 28

8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market, *FLC*
8:15 a.m. Worship in the Market, *FLC*
1:30 p.m. Staff Meeting, *Pastor's Office*
2:00 p.m. Reading Connection, *Library*
4:00 p.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, *Parlor*
4:30 p.m. Wellness Covenant Group, *Library*

Wednesday, August 29

10:00 a.m. Spanish Refresher, *Library*
4:30 p.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, *FLC-A*
6:30 p.m. Choir Practice, *Choir Room*
6:30 p.m. Alpha Bells, *Sanctuary*

Thursday, August 30

8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market, *FLC*
8:30 a.m. Holy Folders, *Library*
6:30 p.m. Lay Leadership Committee, *Library*
7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts, *FLC*

Friday, August 31

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

Saturday, September 1

12:00 p.m. AA Meeting, *FLC-C*

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS:

Ushers: *Zach and Kristine Isenhower, Bill and Jane Metcalf*
Host: *Mary Martha Allen*

CHURCH STAFF

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



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ST. JOHN'S
United Methodist Church

Glorifying God. Feeding People. Making Disciples.



August 26, 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.