

The CELEBRATION of the GOSPEL

SEPTEMBER 9, 2018 at 8:30 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

✠ SONGS of PRAISE

Come and Find the Quiet Center

FWS 2128, vs 1

**Come and find the quiet center
in the crowded life we lead,
find the room for hope to enter,
find the frame where we are freed:
Clear the chaos and the clutter,
clear our eyes that we can see
all the things that really matter,
be at peace, and simply be.**

Make Me a Channel of Your Peace

FWS 2171, vs. 1 & 4

**Make me a channel of your peace.
Where there is hatred, let me bring your love.
Where there is injury, your pardon, Lord,
and where there's doubt, true faith in you.
Make me a channel of your peace.
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
in giving of ourselves that we receive,
and in dying that we're born to eternal life.**

✠ CALL to WORSHIP

Phil Slicker

We believe, O Lord,

**that you have not abandoned us to the dim light
of our own reason.**

We believe O Lord,

**that you have revealed in Holy Scripture
what is necessary for us to live and practice.**

We believe, O Lord,

**How noble and excellent are your precepts, how sublime
and enlightening the truth, how persuasive and strong
the motives, how powerful the assistance of your Holy
Spirit. We believe, O Lord, Help our unbelief, for our
delight shall be in your statutes, and we shall not forget
your Word. Amen.**

✠ SONG of RESPONSE

More Like You

FWS 2167

**More like you, Jesus, more like you.
Fill my heart with your desire
to make me more like you.
More like you, Jesus, more like you.
Touch my lips with holy fire
and make me more like you.**

**Lord, you are my mercy. Lord, you are my grace.
All my deepest sins have forever been erased.
Draw me in your presence. Lead me in your ways.
I long to bring you glory in righteousness and praise.**

GROWING

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Pastor Lane

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 2:1-13

Phil Slicker

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

“Mercy Triumphs”

Pastor Deirdré

RESPONDING

✠ HYMN of FAITH

The Servant Song

FWS 2222

✠ 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.**

✠ SHARING the LOVE & PEACE of CHRIST

OFFERING OUR TITHES & GIFTS to GOD

Shine, Jesus Shine

Chancel Choir

✠ DOXOLOGY

**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!**

UMH 94

✠ 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

Merciful 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 mercy 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

FWS 2241

The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve

✠ BLESSING and SENDING FORTH

✠ POSTLUDE

After the service, all are invited to the Family Life Center for refreshments.

*The flowers on the altar are given by Lisa and Rob Westfall
in loving memory of Sadie Bodden DeLee.*

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. The scripture reading for next week is James 3:2-12.

HEAVENLY HASH

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, October 3**. We'll be serving supper from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. You can arrive as your schedule permits.

DAYS FOR GIRLS WORK DAYS

The UMW is sponsoring work days to make 75 additional kits for the Days for Girls project. These kits will contain reusable feminine hygiene products for girls in developing countries who are missing school because of a lack of available products. We will meet in the FLC from 9 a.m. to noon for the two remaining sessions on **Saturday, September 15, and 22**. 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 or check out their website at www.daysforgirls.org.

VOLUNTEERS IN MISSION TO CUBA

During the month of September, participants in the VIM-Cuba mission 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. These scarce items 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.

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 MARY MARTHA CIRCLE

The UMW Mary Martha Circle will meet **Tuesday, September 11**, at 7 p.m. in the parlor. Our program will be presented by Beth Forester. All women are invited to attend.

IMPORTANT CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

On **Thursday, September 20**, 6 p.m. in the library, the Church Council will meet with items of importance to all of St. John's: discussion and approval of paperwork for the Charge Conference and discussion of the future of our rental properties. Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend the meeting.

THE WALK CELEBRATION BREAKFAST

A celebratory breakfast, recognizing all of those who have supported The Walk three-year campaign, will be held on **Saturday, October 6** at 9 a.m. in the Family Life Center. Invitations are going out this week. Please RSVP by Monday, September 24 to office@stjohnsbr.org or 225-766-4594.

HAPPENING AT ST. JOHN'S

Sunday, September 9

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*
12:15 p.m. Christian Formation, *Parlor*
4:00 p.m. Youth Group, *FLC*
7:00 p.m. Alleluia Ringers, *Sanctuary*

Monday, September 10

9:00 a.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, *Parlor*
2:00 p.m. Reading Connection, *FLC-A*
3:00 p.m. The Shepherd's Market, *FLC*
3:00 p.m. Lectionary Ladies Bible Study, *Parlor*
3:00 p.m. Men's Covenant Group, *Library*
6:30 p.m. AA Meeting, *FLC-E*

Tuesday, September 11

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*
4:00 p.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, *Parlor*
4:30 p.m. Wellness Covenant Group, *Choir Room*
6:00 p.m. Emmaus Board Meeting, *FLC-A*
7:00 p.m. Mary Martha UMW, *Parlor*

Wednesday, September 12

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

Thursday, September 13

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

Friday, September 14

OFFICE CLOSED
6:30 a.m. Men's Prayer Group, *Parlor*
8:30 a.m. Food Bank Delivery, *FLC*

Saturday, September 15

9:00 a.m. Days for Girls, *FLC*
12:00 p.m. AA Meeting, *FLC-C*

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Ushers: Carol Gordon, Susan Johnston, Randy Thayer, Sandra Kuykendall
Host: Bobbi Marino

CHURCH STAFF

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

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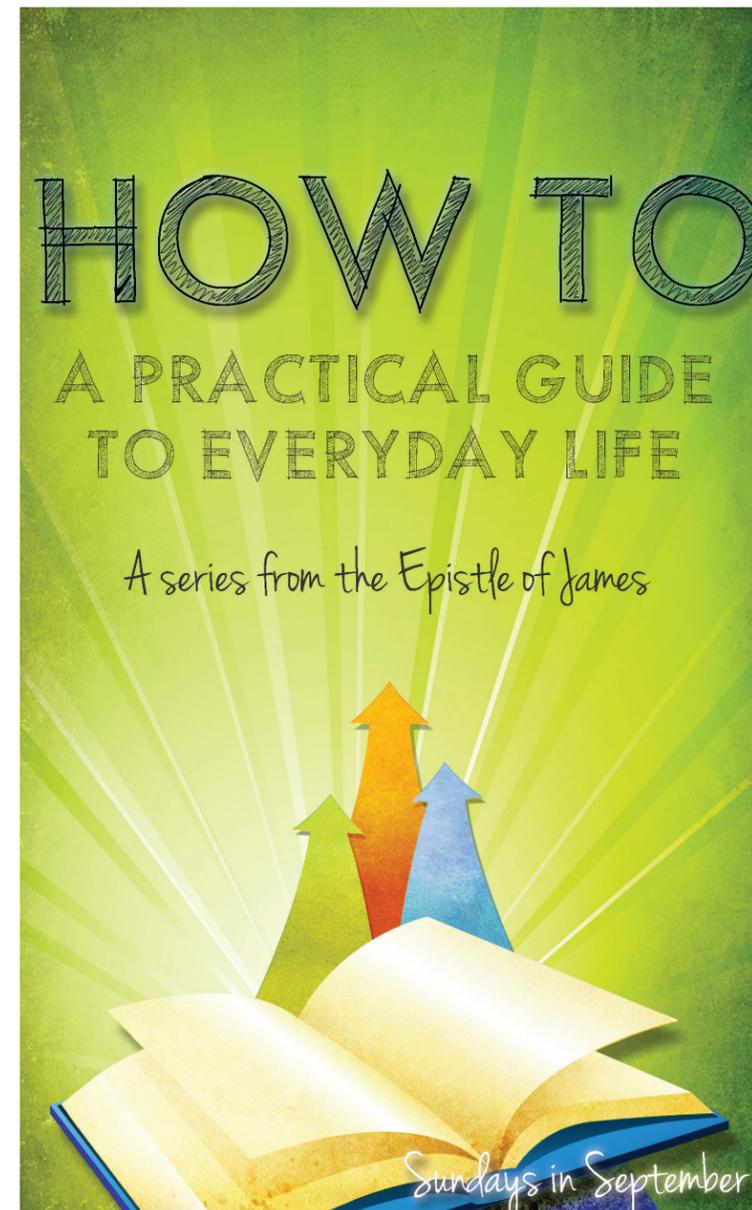
Give online: <http://bit.ly/sjumcgive>



ST. JOHN'S

United Methodist Church

Glorifying God. Feeding People. Making Disciples.



September 9, 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.