

The CELEBRATION of the GOSPEL

SEPTEMBER 16, 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

This Little Light of Mine

**This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!**

**Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine
Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine
Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!**

In Our Lives, Lord FWS 2150, vs. 1 & 4

**In our lives, Lord, be glorified, be glorified.
In our lives, Lord, be glorified today.**

**In your world, Lord, be glorified, be glorified.
In your world, Lord, be glorified today.**

✠ CALL to WORSHIP Jim Sandifer

The voice of God gathers us this day;

The warmth of God brings us together as one people.

So we come, with both joy and sorrow in our hearts,

With both words that love and words that hurt,

With kindness and with selfishness,

With doubt and with faith.

So may we bring the fullness of our lives to God,
who accepts us all.

**May we worship well this day in our hearts, with
our words, and through our actions. Amen.**

✠ SONG of RESPONSE

Breathe on Me, Breath of God

UMH 420, vs. 1

**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.**

GROWING

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Heather Durham

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 3:2-12

Jim Sandifer

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

“The Power of Our Words”

Pastor Lane

RESPONDING

✠ HYMN of FAITH

Pass It On

UMH 572

✠ CALL to RECONCILIATION

What are folks saying about us?

Do they mention our kindness, or how hard we are on others?

Do they speak of our love, or about our selfishness?

God invites us to follow Jesus and reflect him in our lives.

Join me, as we confess how we have not done so,

as we pray together, saying,

✠ PRAYER for FORGIVENESS

**All we need to do is open our mouths, Teacher of hearts,
to show that we give our tongues free rein.**

We claim we love others, but speak bitter words to them.

**We think we are good and gracious people, but hurl labels
at those we do not like, or those we fear.**

**We are quicker to speak of judgment for others,
rather than being voices for justice.**

**But with your gracious mercy, Tender-hearted God,
you can put out the wildfires of bitterness sparked
by our words.**

**You can stop the words on the tips of our tongues
and transform them into whispers of peace and love.**

**You can open our ears so that we can hear all that our
Teacher of grace and hope, Jesus Christ, has to share
with us, in these moments and all the moments to
come. 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

✠ 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!

✠ 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

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

FWS 2129

I Have Decided to Follow Jesus

✠ 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 J. R. Madden and Daphne Grady.

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 3:13-4:3, 7-10.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE MEETING

There will be a meeting of the Congregational Care Team at 12:15 p.m. **TODAY** in the parlor. We invite everyone who might be interested in supporting our families and individuals who are homebound no matter the cause. Our Congregational Care Team provides care for the congregation, by the congregation. Come see what this is all about, no commitment necessary, and have lunch with us.

A NIGHT OF HUMOR

TONIGHT at 6 p.m. in the FLC, the UMW invites you to come enjoy "A Night of Humor" with Rev. Connie Saison as she presents her comedic ministry that is well known through out the Louisiana Conference.

FAST TRACK BIBLE STUDY

The Fast Track Disciple Bible Study for fall 2018 will begin **Tuesday, September 18** in the library from 6 - 7:30 p.m. Mike Allen is the facilitator for this 12-week study of Genesis and Exodus. The study manual is \$20. Contact the office if you would like to participate in the study.

IMPORTANT CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

On **Thursday, September 20**, 6 p.m. in the FLC, 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.

DAYS FOR GIRLS WORK DAYS

The remaining session in this series of Days for Girls workdays will be on **Saturday, September 22** in the Family Life Center from 9 a.m. to 12 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.**

JOINING DAY IS COMING SEPTEMBER 29

If you've been thinking about joining the church, we'd love to welcome you officially to St. John's on Joining Day - September 29th! The invitation to join will be given before the final hymn and we invite everyone forward to join together.

We also will host a "Sharing St. John's" reception for newcomers in Pastor Lane's office at 10 a.m. that morning for those interested in learning more about the church.

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 went out this past week. Please RSVP by Monday, September 24 to office@stjohnsbr.org or 225-766-4594.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Our annual Missions Fair will be **Sunday, October 7**. If you or a group have a mission or outreach that you would like to highlight, please call Susan Johnston at 773-9563.

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. 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.

HAPPENING AT ST. JOHN'S

Sunday, September 16

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. Congregational Care Team, *Parlor*
4:00 p.m. Youth Group, *Jefferson UMC*
6:00 p.m. UMW Presents "A Night of Humor," *FLC*
7:00 p.m. Alleluia Ringers, *Sanctuary*

Monday, September 17

9:00 a.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, *Parlor*
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, *Parlor*
5:00 p.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, *Parlor*
6:30 p.m. AA Meeting, *FLC-E*

Tuesday, September 18

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, *Library*
6:00 p.m. Fast Track Bible Study, *Library*

Wednesday, September 19

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

Thursday, September 20

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

Friday, September 21

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

Saturday, September 22

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

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Ushers: *Darren and Chris Stubbs, Donnie and Susan Lambert*
Host: *Chris Stubbs*

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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@stjohnsbr

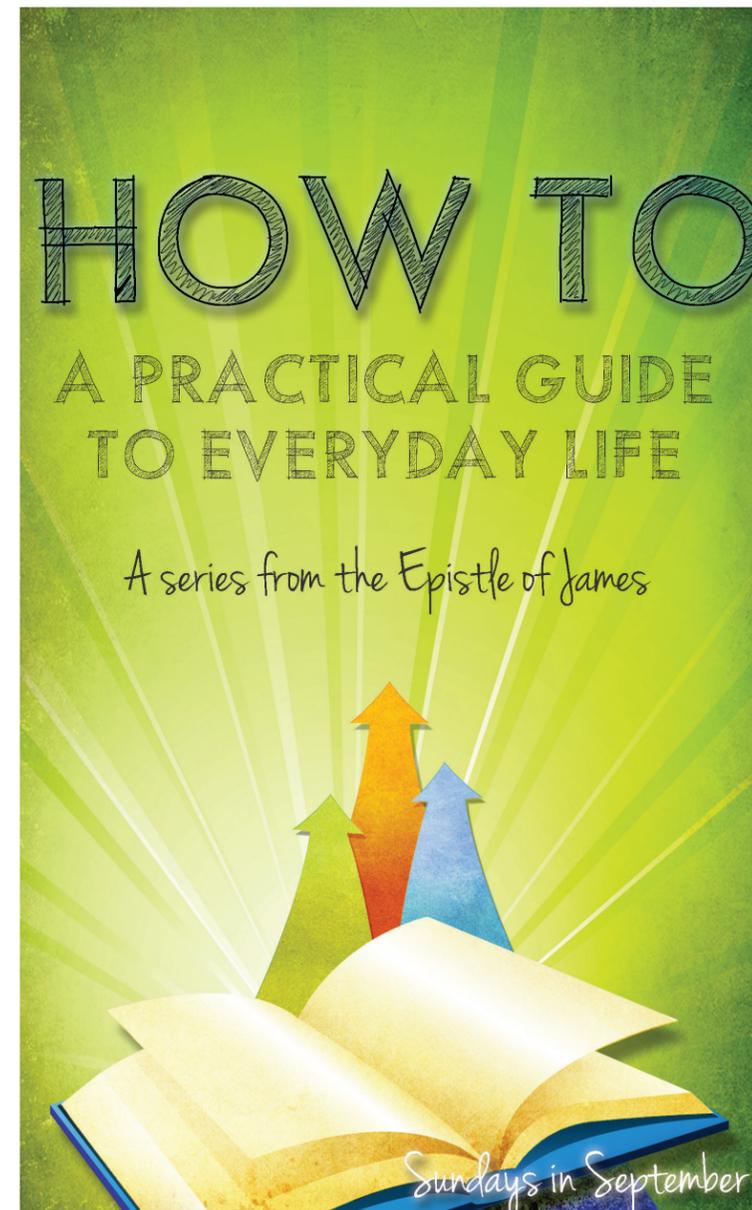
Give online: <http://bit.ly/sjumcgive>



ST. JOHN'S

United Methodist Church

Glorifying God. Feeding People. Making Disciples.



September 16, 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.