

The CELEBRATION of the GOSPEL

September 23, 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 Zach Isenhower

The voice of God gathers us in this day;
The presence of God come to us in mystery and silence.
The voice of God brings new life out of destruction;
The presence of God brings hope from despair, and growth through our difficulties.

We give you thanks that you do not leave us alone,
but seek to make us whole.

Help us to see the unseen work of your presence in the unfolding of our lives, and to heed the gentle guidance of your Spirit, that we may know the joy you give your people. Amen.

✠ HYMN *of* PRAISE UMH 469
Jesus Is All the World to Me

PSALTER UMH 824
Psalms 103:1-18

SUNG RESPONSE: As far as the east is from the west, so far the Lord removes our sins from us.

Bless the Lord, O my soul! And all that is within me, bless God's holy name!

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all God's benefits,

Who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases,
Who redeems your life from the pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy, who satisfies you with good as long as you live so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

SUNG RESPONSE

The Lord, who works vindication and justice for all who are oppressed, has made known God's ways to Moses, God's acts to the people of Israel.

The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

The Lord will not always chide, nor harbor anger for ever.

The Lord does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities.

For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is the Lord's steadfast love toward the faithful;

As far as the east is from the west, so far does the Lord remove our transgressions from us.

As a father shows compassion to his children, so the Lord shows compassion to the faithful.

For the Lord knows our frame, and remembers that we are dust.

SUNG RESPONSE

As for mortals, their days are like grass; they flourish like a flower of the field; for the wind passes over it, and it is gone, and its place knows it no more.

But the steadfast love of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting upon the faithful, and the righteousness of the Lord to children's children, to those who keep his covenant and remember to do his commandments.

✠ 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

CHILDREN'S MOMENT Barbara Benton

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
Celebrate the Lord of Love

SCRIPTURE Zach Isenhower
James 3:13-4:8a

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 Deirdré

RESPONDING

✠ HYMN *of* FAITH UMH 465
Holy Spirit, Truth Divine

PRAYERS *of the* PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 & GIFTS *to* GOD

✠ DOXOLOGY

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.

UMH 95

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 648, vs. 1 & 4
God the Spirit, Guide and Guardian

✠ BLESSING & SENDING FORTH

✠ POSTLUDE

The flowers on the altar are given in celebration of Kathy King's birthday, by her father, George Schneider.

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. We will wrap up the series next week with a reading from James 5:13-20.

HURRICANE FLORENCE RECOVERY

If you would like to donate to recovery efforts in North and South Carolina, there are a number of ways to do so. You can write a check to St. John's with Hurricane Florence in the memo line, go to our website and click on Give Now, or go to the Louisiana Conference website (www.la-umc.org/Florence). All donations will be sent to the North and South Carolina UMC conferences as they respond and assist those affected by the hurricane and flooding.

Mark Your Calendar

COME MEET OUR NEW YOUTH COORDINATOR

TODAY is Amy Fine's first Sunday at St. John's as our new Coordinator of Youth Ministries. Amy will be at both worship services and at Coffee Time so come say hello. She will also be with our Youth Group from 4 - 6 p.m. with a "Meet and Greet" starting at 5:30 for youth and parents/guardians.

JOINING DAY IS COMING SEPTEMBER 30

If you've been thinking about joining the church, we'd love to welcome you officially to St. John's on Joining Day - September 30! The invitation to join will be given before the final hymn and we invite everyone forward to join together.

That same morning, we will host a "Sharing St. John's" reception in Pastor Lane's office at 10 a.m. for newcomers and those interested in learning more about the church.

BATON ROUGE DISTRICT CHARGE CONFERENCE

The Baton Rouge District district-wide Charge Conference will be held **Sunday, September 30** at 2:30 p.m. in the sanctuary of Broadmoor UMC, 10230 Mollylea Dr. Along with accomplishing the work required of the Charge Conference there will be a service of leader dedication for those who are elected to leadership at this Charge Conference (this includes St. John's clergy and lay leaders for 2019). We encourage everyone to attend this important gathering of our district.

38TH ANNUAL GOLF CLASSIC

The 38th Annual Golf Classic, benefiting the Methodist Children's Home of Greater New Orleans, will be held on **Monday, October 1**, at the Beau Chene Country Club in Mandeville. A registration form can be downloaded and printed from our web site www.stjohnsbr.org.

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.

MISSIONS FAIR

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.

FALL BLOOD DRIVE

St. John's is holding a blood drive on **Sunday October 21**, 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The OLOL Bloodmobile will be in the parking lot on the side of the Family Life Center. Please consider participating if you are able to donate.

HAPPENING AT ST. JOHN'S

Sunday, September 23

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, *FLC*
5:30 p.m. Youth/Parent "Meet & Greet" with Amy, *FLC*
7:00 p.m. Alleluia Ringers, *Sanctuary*

Monday, September 24

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

Tuesday, September 25

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 26

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 27

8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market, *FLC*
8:30 a.m. Holy Folders, *Library*
11:00 a.m. VIPs: Everybody Reads Training, *Library*
7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts, *FLC*

Friday, September 28

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

Saturday, September 29

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

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS:

Ushers: Rhonda Tucker, Mary Jo Brook, Tommie Reinhardt, Frances Anderson
Host: Joyce Perry

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)
www.stjohnsbr.org #sjthewalk

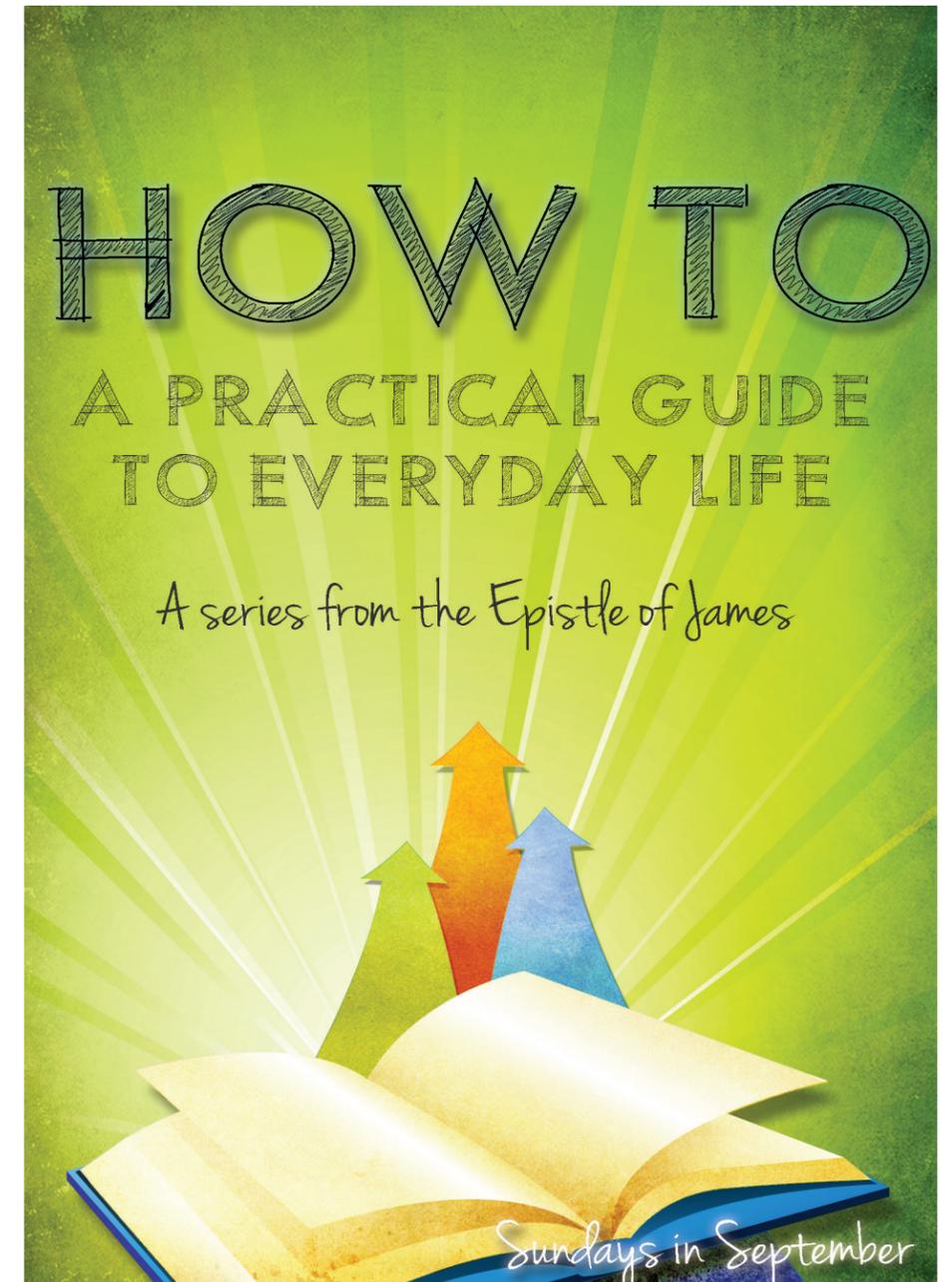
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ST. JOHN'S
United Methodist Church

Glorifying God. Feeding People. Making Disciples.



September 23, 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.