The Celebration *of the* Gospel

September 30, 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 — Amy Fine

We will walk this day with you, O God, and you will walk with us,
gathering us into a community that prays for one another in all things.
We will walk this day with you, O Christ, and you will walk with us,
calling us to follow you, helping us to set aside all which holds us back.
We will walk this day with you, O Spirit, and you will walk with us,
healing us in our deepest wounds, calling us to pray for others.
We walk this day and all our days together, for we are a family of faith,
though we may wander, God sends us out, side by side, to serve the world with glad hearts.

✞ Hymn *of* Praise — UMH 500

Spirit of God

Growing

Children's Moment — Amy Fine

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

O God, Our Help In Ages Past

Scripture — Amy Fine

James 5:13-20

13 Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. 14 Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. 15 The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven.

16 Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective.

17 Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. 18 Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

19 My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, 20 you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

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

"A Faith That Prays"

Responding

✞ Hymn *of* Faith — UMH 454

Open My Eyes, That I May See

✞ Prayer *of* Confession

Patient Lord,
we know that you call us to service, but we often feel inadequate.
We love to make excuses for not doing something or for doing something half-heartedly.
Remind us again of your loving and guiding presence.
Forgive us when we wander from the trust.
In your word you teach us how to live, and you show us what it means to be in Christian community.
You remind us again and again that a living faith includes faithful actions and deeds.
Turn us again to you, serving joyfully and confidently.
In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

(a time to offer personal confession to God.)

✞ Words *of* Assurance & Pardon — *from James 5*

We have confessed our sins to one another, and to God, and we believe that prayer is powerful and effective.
In that belief, I declare to you, in Jesus Christ we are healed and forgiven.
In Jesus Christ, <u>you</u> are healed and forgiven.
Thanks be to God! Amen.

✞ 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.

Prayers *for* Healing & Wholeness

May grace and peace be yours in abundance in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord. *(2 Peter 1:2)*

We have come to lift up our brothers and sisters before the Lord that they might receive healing.
Let those who seek God's healing open their hearts to the Spirit of the Lord.

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.
The Lord forgives all our iniquity, and heals all our diseases.
The Lord redeems our lives from the pit, and crowns us with steadfast love and mercy.
God satisfies us with good as long as we live so that our youth is renewed like the eagle's.

Those who desire to receive anointing, laying on of hands, and prayer are welcome forward at this time.

The kneeler rail is also open and available for you to pray

Prayer After Anointing

Almighty God,
may the power of your indwelling presence bring us comfort in our suffering and make us whole.
When we are afraid, give us courage.
When we feel weak, grant us your strength.
When we are afflicted, increase our hope.
When we are lost, offer us your guiding light.
When we are lonely, bring others to our side.
And when death comes, open your arms to receive us into your mercy.
In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. 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 352

It's Me, It's Me, O Lord

✞ Blessing & Sending Forth

✞ Postlude

The flowers on the altar are given by Aileen and Henry Pine in loving memory of Travis T. Morgan and Tracey T. Morgan.

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.

OCTOBER STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN & SERMON SERIES
"KEEP OUR VISION GROWING"

God's vision for St. John's is that we be known as a center for feeding people spiritually and physically in our community. We live that out by sharing our gifts through worship, witness and service so that others will know God and become disciples of Jesus Christ. Our October worship series, "Keep Our Vision Growing," will take a look at three ways we grow our vision – through gratitude, grace, and generosity. Join us Sundays in October as we "Keep Our Vision Growing," by honoring the past, serving the present, and providing for the future.

PICK UP GROCERY BAG

Don't forget to pick up a grocery bag to use for next week's Grocery Bag Sunday. We appreciate any and all donations, but the items the pantry is in need of this week are breakfast items, soup, side dishes, and household products. THERE IS ALSO A NEED FOR PLASTIC GROCERY BAGS; PLEASE BRING US YOURS. They can be brought to church Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

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.

THANK YOU FROM VIM-CUBA

Thank you St. John's! It is with gratitude that we tell you we have exceeded our goal for vitamins, etc., to be brought with us to Cuba. The monetary donations that were received will be used to purchase other medical supplies needed by the visiting nurse.

UMW RUTH CIRCLE

The UMW Ruth Circle will meet **Tuesday, October 2** at 9:30 a.m. in the parlor. Pastor Deirdré Halliburton will present a program "Reflections of the Holy Land." All women are invited to attend.

HEAVENLY HASH / FAITH FORMATION

Heavenly Hash will be **Wednesday, October 3** from 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. in the FLC. Immediately following Heavenly Hash, for those who would like to stay, we will have a Faith Formation devotion from 6:30 - 7 p.m. in Classroom C of the FLC.

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 FLC. Today is the last day to RSVP to office@stjohnsbr.org or 225-766-4594.

MISSIONS FAIR

Our annual Missions Fair will be **Sunday, October 7** in the FLC beginning with Coffee Time and continuing through the Sunday School Hour (9:30 - 10:45 a.m.). 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.

FALL FEST DONATIONS

The 2018 Fall Fest will be held **Saturday October 27** from 4 - 6 p.m. on church grounds. VOLUNTEERS are needed to help set up, run, and take down the games. We also need candy and small party favors for prizes. Donations will be accepted (checks can be made out to St. John's UMC, with fall fest in the memo line). Please contact Pastor Deirdré (pastordeirdre@stjohnsbr.org or 939-1425) if you are able to help in any way.

Happening at St. John's

Sunday, September 30
- 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*
- 10:00 a.m. Sharing St. John's, *Pastor Lane's Office*
- 11:00 a.m. Worship Service, *Sanctuary*
- 4:00 p.m. Youth Group, *FLC*
- 7:00 p.m. Alleluia Ringers, *Sanctuary*

Monday, October 1
- 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, October 2
- 8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market, *FLC*
- 8:15 a.m. Worship in the Market, *FLC*
- 9:30 a.m. UMW Ruth Circle, *Parlor*
- 1:30 p.m. Staff Meeting, *Pastor's Office*
- 4:30 p.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, *Library*
- 4:30 p.m. Wellness Covenant Group, *Parlor*
- 6:00 p.m. Fast Track Bible Study, *Library*

Wednesday, October 3
- 10:00 a.m. Spanish Refresher, *Library*
- 4:30 p.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, *FLC-A*
- 5:30 p.m. Heavenly Hash, *FLC*
- 6:30 p.m. Faith Formation, *FLC-C*
- 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice, *Choir Room*
- 6:30 p.m. Alpha Bells, *Sanctuary*

Thursday, October 4
- 8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market, *FLC*
- 8:30 a.m. Holy Folders, *Library*
- 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts, *FLC*

Friday, October 5
- OFFICE CLOSED
- 6:30 a.m. Men's Prayer Group, *Parlor*

Saturday, October 6
- **9:00 a.m. The Walk Celebratory Breakfast, FLC**
- 12:00 p.m. AA Meeting, *FLC-C*

Worship Assistants:

Ushers: *Jane Rassi, Maureen Robertson, Carrie de la Fuente, Nico de la Fuente*
Hosts: *Richard and Marilyn Damberg*

Church Staff

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THE WALK

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

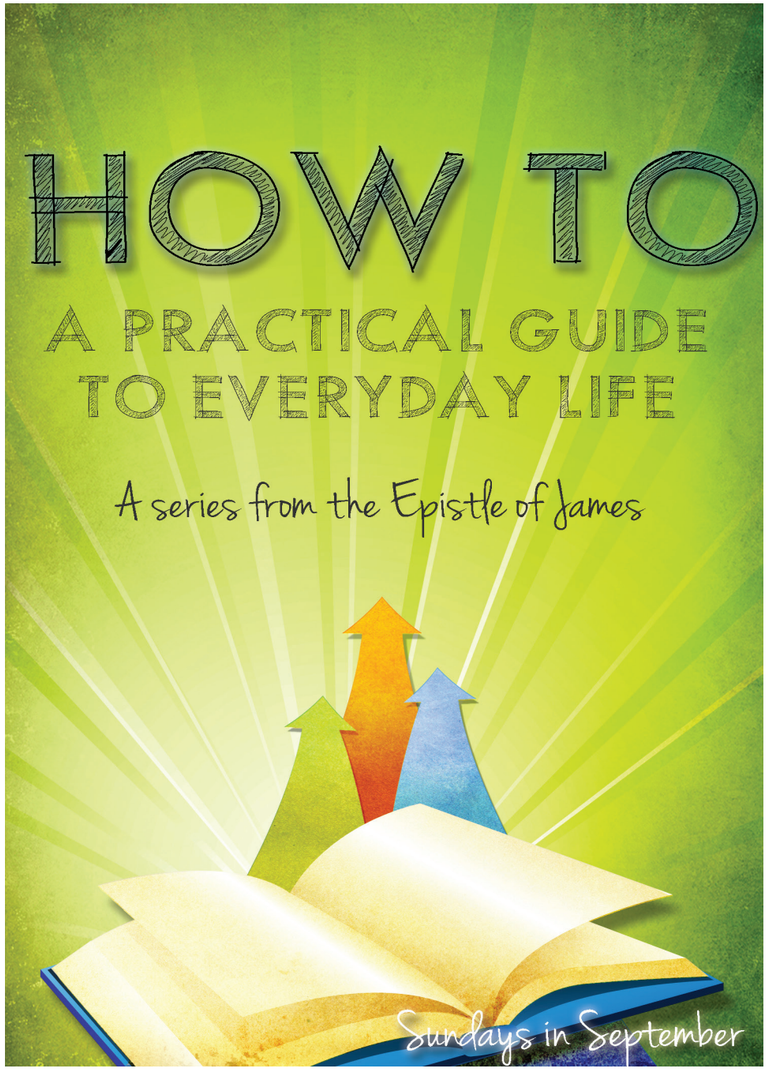
Check in on Facebook: facebook.com/stjohnsbr

Follow us on Twitter: @stjohnsbr

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

ST. JOHN'S
United Methodist Church

***Glorifying** God. **Feeding** People. **Making** Disciples.*



September 30, 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.