

The CELEBRATION of the GOSPEL

June 2, 2019 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 With GOD

BELL TOLL

The tolling of the bell invites you into a time of centering and stillness.

GREETING and ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT

What Does the Lord Require of You

Chancel Choir

† CALL to WORSHIP

Come, let us rejoice in the freedom that is ours.

It was there in the beginning, from the Alpha of time.

The very heavens proclaim the glory of the One in whom freedom is found.

The foundation of freedom is the righteousness and justice of God.

Freedom knows no bounds; it reaches across all eternity to the Omega of time.

We come to share in this spirit.

The one who reveals freedom's fullness is coming soon.

Come, Christ Jesus, come.

† HYMN of PRAISE

Hail to the Lord's Anointed

UMH 203

ENGAGING GOD'S WORD

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Pastor Deirdré

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

Acts 16:16-34

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

"Freedom to Soar"

Pastor Lane

RESPONDING to GOD'S GRACE

† HYMN of FAITH

Stand By Me

UMH 512

† PRAYER of CONFESSION

God of grace and love, here is our prayer:

Have mercy on us for the wrong we have done.

Show us where our service is needed.

Help us set aside our prejudice and bias.

Fill us with a longing to know you better.

Forgive us our lukewarm responses.

Kindle in us passion for your work.

Set us free from sin and fear.

Send us out to be your people.

This we pray in the name of Jesus, our liberator, our guide, and our Savior. Amen.

† WORDS of ASSURANCE and PARDON

Siblings in Christ, let us proclaim the Good News:

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Liberated by love, we are set free to love and serve others.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

† SHARING the PEACE and LOVE of CHRIST

May God's peace be always with you,

and also with you.

WORDS of WITNESS

Kathy King

OFFERING OUR TITHES and GIFTS to GOD

Folk Hymn Tapestry

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

† CALL to the TABLE

Make Us One

Make us one, Lord, make us one;

Holy Spirit, make us one.

Let our love flow so the world will know we are one in you.

FWS 2224

† THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

UMH 18

Our sung communion responses are from
The Faith We Sing Hymnal #2275

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

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 at the station on the right.

♦ You are invited to stay at the chancel for prayer as long as you desire.

PRAYER AFTER RECEIVING

**Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery
in which you have given yourself to us.**

**Grant that we may go into the world set free by your
Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of
Jesus Christ our Lord, 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

I'll Fly Away

FWS 2282

During the hymn, we invite you to bring forward
The Shepherd's Market grocery bags.

† BLESSING and SENDING FORTH

† POSTLUDE

The flowers on the altar are given by Tom Burch
in memory of Martha Bourland Burch.

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 in the Narthex.

Our ushers are happy to assist you in any way. Restrooms are in the Narthex.

Thank you for being here.

RUTH CIRCLE UMW

The Ruth Circle will meet **Tuesday, June 4** at 9:30 a.m. in the parlor. Pat Lively will present our program "Women As Pastors and Leaders in the Church: Triumphs and Struggles." All women are invited to attend.

FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT

Family Movie Night, Friday June 7, 5 - 7 p.m. Faith, Family, and Formation presents a night of fellowship, hamburgers on the grill, and a movie! Come see Pixar's "Inside Out," said to be creative, clever, heartfelt, and beautifully animated. Good fun for the whole family. Hamburgers and all the fixings will be provided. Please bring a dessert to share.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Louisiana Annual Conference, June 9 - 12. Pastor Lane, Pastor Deirdré, John Toney, and Bobbi Marino will represent St. John's at the Annual Conference in Shreveport; Danielle Blackwood and Mari Walker are serving as district delegates and many of our retired clergy will be attending as well. We celebrate that Pastor Deirdré will be commissioned during the Celebration of Ministry service on Monday, June 10.

We will be celebrating Pastor Deirdre's commissioning as a provisional elder at a reception during coffee time on June 16; everyone is invited! We will also be starting our summer worship series Listen, Love, Leap that invites us to open our hearts and minds to God's surprising Word.

VBS IS COMING SOON!

VBS - Power Up, Raise Your Game - June 24 - 28, 9 a.m. - noon. Registration for VBS has begun. Forms are available on our website (www.stjohnsbr.org), in the narthex, and in the hallway of the Admin Building. Children aged 4 years through those completing 5th grade are eligible to attend. Invite your friends and neighbors also.

Volunteers Needed. Forms are available in the narthex for you to sign up to be a volunteer during Vacation Bible School, **Monday, June 24 - Friday, June 28, 9 a.m. - noon.** You might want to volunteer to help with decorating and set up, be a group leader (two adults per group), our photographer, kitchen helper (making snacks for the kids) or to bring snacks for the volunteer break room, "Stop 'n Go." Please contact Pastor Deirdre if you have any questions.

CHILDREN & YOUTH SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL

In June and July our children who have completed K - 5th grade will combine into one class. **We are still in need of teacher volunteers for those two months.** Each Sunday requires 3 volunteers. This is an excellent way to "get your feet wet" by testing the waters as a Sunday school teacher, so to speak. You may sign up for one Sunday or multiple Sundays. Bring a friend to join you! The materials we use are very helpful in spelling out just how the lesson is taught. For more information, contact Pastor Deirdré.

SUMMER ONLINE GIVING

Though you may have a different routine during the summer, the ministries of St. John's continue going strong. It's easy to forget about your financial commitments to the church when you are busy or away. One easy way to *not* forget is to *not* have to remember! Setting up recurring scheduled giving is the way to do this. You can set up a weekly, monthly, or make a one-time gift and not have to worry if you wrote that check. Online giving can be accessed through our website www.stjohnsbr.org and clicking on Give Now. We accept credit cards and debit cards.

PASTOR LANE'S RENEWAL LEAVE

Pastor Lane will be on renewal leave from June 17 to September 3. During this time she will be stepping back from the day to day operations of the church to rest, refocus, and re-energize. According to the *United Methodist Book of Discipline*, clergy who have been in full-time ministry for at least six years may take a spiritual renewal leave of up to 6 months to model Jesus' rhythm of ministry, where the Lord "withdrew from the crowds" to engage in a deliberate season of prayer and renewal. While she is away, Pastor Deirdre will assume clergy responsibilities, with the support of our Ministry Intern, Morgan Dynes, our capable staff, and occasional guest preachers. Please do all you can to help during this season through your prayers, attendance and support.

HAPPENING AT ST. JOHN'S

Sunday, June 2	8:00 a.m. Praise Team, <i>Sanctuary</i> 8:30 a.m. Worship Service, <i>Sanctuary</i> 9:30 a.m. Coffee Time, <i>FLC</i> 9:45 a.m. Sunday School, <i>Campus Wide</i> 11:00 a.m. Worship Service, <i>Sanctuary</i> 4:00 p.m. Youth Group, <i>FLC</i> 7:00 p.m. Alleluia Ringers, <i>Sanctuary</i>
Monday, June 3	9:00 a.m. Ladies Covenant Group, <i>Parlor</i> 3:00 p.m. The Shepherd's Market, <i>FLC</i> 3:00 p.m. Men's Covenant Group, <i>Library</i> 4:00 p.m. Ladies Covenant Group, <i>Parlor</i> 6:30 p.m. AA Meeting, <i>FLC-E</i>
Tuesday, June 4	8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market, <i>FLC</i> 8:15 a.m. Worship in the Market, <i>FLC</i> 9:30 a.m. Ruth Circle UMW, <i>Parlor</i> 4:30 p.m. Wellness Covenant Group, <i>Library</i> 4:30 p.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, <i>Parlor</i>
Wednesday, June 5	10:00 a.m. Spanish Class, <i>Library</i> 4:30 p.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, <i>FLC-A</i> 6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir, <i>Choir Room</i> 6:30 p.m. Alpha Bells, <i>Sanctuary</i>
Thursday, June 6	8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market, <i>FLC</i> 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts, <i>FLC</i>
Friday, June 7	6:30 a.m. Men's Prayer Group, <i>Parlor</i> 8:30 a.m. Holy Folders, <i>Library</i> 5:00 p.m. FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT, FLC
Saturday, June 8	8:30 a.m. Prime Timers Breakfast, <i>Essen Piccadilly</i> 12:00 p.m. AA Meeting, <i>FLC-C</i>

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS:

Ushers: *Fran Anderson, Mary Jo Brook, Deidra Matthews, Scott Durham*

Host: *Richard and Marilyn Damberg*

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Lane Cotton Winn
Lead Pastor
pastorlane@stjohnsbr.org

Lynn Cooper
Administrative Assistant
office@stjohnsbr.org

Morgan Dynes
Summer Ministry Intern
morgandynes@stjohnsbr.org

Carrie Poynot
Director of Music Ministries
carriepoynot@stjohnsbr.org

Bill Putzig
Custodian
billputzig@stjohnsbr.org

Rev. Deirdré Halliburton
Associate Pastor
pastordeirdra@stjohnsbr.org

LeAnn Davis
Manager of Finance & Facilities
leanndavis@stjohnsbr.org

Amy Fine
Coordinator of Youth Ministries
amyfine@stjohnsbr.org

Terry Byars
Accompanist
terrybyars@stjohnsbr.org

St. John's United Methodist Church
230 Renee Drive | Baton Rouge, LA 70810
www.stjohnsbr.org | 225-766-4594

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ST. JOHN'S
United Methodist Church

Glorifying God. Feeding People. Making Disciples.



June 2, 2019

11:00 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.