

# The CELEBRATION of the GOSPEL

August 11, 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

✠ CALL to WORSHIP

Sing a new song to the Lord!

**Let the whole earth sing to the Lord!**

Sing to the Lord; bless God's holy name.

**Each day proclaim the good news that God saves.**

Publish the glorious deeds among the nations.

**Tell everyone about the amazing things God does.**

For great is the Lord!

**Great is the Lord and worthy of our praise! Amen.**

✠ HYMN of PRAISE

*Open My Eyes, That I May See*

UMH 454, vs. 1-3

## LISTENING to GOD'S WORD

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

*Morgan Dynes*

*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

*Luke 12:32-40, Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16*

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

"It Isn't Easy"

*Rev. Larry Norman*

## RESPONDING to GOD'S GRACE

✠ HYMN of FAITH

*For the Healing of the Nations*

UMH 428

✠ PRAYERS of the PEOPLE

Most Holy God,

we are a people who need you in your fullness – as Creative Father, Redeeming Son, and Sustaining Spirit.

Our lives have complications and pain, our world has war and despair.

But we were made in your image, and

your Spirit was breathed into us that we might experience hope in your goodness.

There are situations that make it hard to be aware of that goodness.

We pray now for those whose lives are affected by the negativity in these circumstances:

When bombs and terrorist and military attacks kill and injure innocent people around the world . . .

*(pray in silence)*

When storms and hurricanes are so strong they destroy even the homes designed to withstand them . . .

*(pray in silence)*

When political battles bring out pettiness over issues too important for bickering . . .

*(pray in silence)*

When our hearts ache, hurt by broken relationships and unmet expectations . . .

*(pray in silence)*

When we are exhausted emotionally from illnesses in ourselves or those we love . . .

*(pray in silence)*

When we are overwhelmed by loneliness and isolation even though you are always with us . . .

*(pray in silence)*

Gracious and Merciful Lord,

our church is working to hear the words of your Spirit.

Our desire is to learn what and who you are calling us to be in your world.

We call out to you that we might have the courage to give

to you whatever burdens we entered with today so that our hearts and minds can be open to you, to your Word, and to your Spirit – your Ruach\* – the same life-giving breath from the first of creation.

Christ challenges us to know you, God,

as one who would search us out if we are lost.

But we must also know that when we are not the “one,”

we are members of the 99 waiting together for your guidance.

So it is together that we use our breath to pray the words

Christ taught us ...

**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,  
forever. Amen.**

OFFERING OUR TITHES and GIFTS to GOD

*Let There Be Peace on Earth*

✠ 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 who 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 581, vs. 1, 2, & 4

*Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service*

✠ BLESSING and SENDING FORTH

✠ POSTLUDE

## 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.*



The journey to a deeper faith life can be summed up in three words: Listen, Love, Leap! God is constantly speaking to people, but too often we struggle to hear and discern the message. Our summer series calls us to quiet our thoughts and hearts and listen to what God has to say. Our obedience to this simple discipline opens our hearts to LOVE God and neighbors in deeper and more holy ways. Join us as we continue to open our hearts and minds to God's surprising Word, as we Love (Sundays in July) and Leap (Sundays in August).

### MARY MARTHA UMW CIRCLE

The Mary Martha UMW Circle will meet on **Tuesday August 13** at 7 p.m. in the parlor. All women are invited to attend.

### FALL BIBLE STUDY

We will be offering two sessions of Disciple Fast Track Bible study this fall on "The Prophets." This 12-week study includes sessions on the Old Testament Major and Minor Prophets (except Daniel). The study will begin on **Monday, September 9**; you may choose to attend at 10 a.m. or 6 p.m. Please use the registration form in today's bulletin to register.

### ONE-DAY MISSION TO ST. MARK'S

St. John's next mission to St. Mark's will be a one-day mission on **Sunday, August 25**. For those of you who could not go on the three-day mission this will be an excellent opportunity to participate. The Meal Preparation Team will be leaving St. John's at 5:30 a.m. in order to get the meal ready to serve after the worship service. Others may join the mission at 9 a.m. to help with worship and serve the meal. For more information on the meal prep contact Kathleen Adams at 921-2664. While there is no cost to participate, **ALL VOLUNTEERS must register** with Rev. Larry Norman at 933-1881.

### DINNER THEATER?

On **Sunday, August 18**, at 3 p.m., there will be an organizational meeting in the parlor to evaluate interest in a Dinner Theater at St. John's. Help make it happen! We will need actors, costumes, set constructors, backstage personnel—all are needed. There are twelve acting parts: six women and six men, ranging in age from youth to middle age.

Scripts and descriptions of the characters will be available. If you have an interest in helping with any part of the play, please come to the meeting; no acting experience is necessary. For additional information contact Pastor Deirdre or Guy Johnson (225-766-7931).

### DAYS FOR GIRLS IN SEPTEMBER

The UMW is sponsoring 3 more work days to make 50 additional kits for the Days for Girls project. These kits will contain reusable feminine hygiene products for girls in third world countries who are missing school because of a lack of available products. We will meet in the Family Life Center on consecutive Saturdays, **September 14, 21, and 28** from 9 a.m. – noon. Sewers and non-sewers are needed. Donations needed: hotel or travel-size soap (most needed); new, girls cotton panties size 10, 12, or 14 in dark to medium colors, solids or flowers, no characters or animals; new colored washcloths, gallon freezer Ziploc bags (zipper only), or cash to purchase fabric. Contact Joyce Perry (978-2206) for more information.

### REFRESH!

The Board of Discipleship has planned a Youth and Children's Ministry Conference that will be held **September 6 & 7 (or 8)** at the Wesley Center. Refresh! is a conference that will provide new ideas and renewed energy to those who devote so much to ensure the next generation (our children) is nurtured in the Christian faith. If you are involved in St. John's Children's or Youth Ministries and are interested in attending, please contact Pastor Deirdre.

### SCHOOL SUPPLIES

School began this week for most children. The deadline for donating school supplies is tomorrow, August 12. Thank you so much for responding to our appeal, your donations are much appreciated.

### SOLES 4 SOULS

The Soles 4 Souls mission project (collecting new and gently worn shoes in all sizes) is in full swing! There are blue tubs in the narthex and in the hallway of the Admin Building to place your donations. Please have all donated shoes at the church by August 31.

## HAPPENING AT ST. JOHN'S

### Sunday, August 11

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*  
7:00 p.m. Alleluia Ringers, *Sanctuary*

### Monday, August 12

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

### Tuesday, August 13

8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market, *FLC*  
8:15 a.m. Worship in the Market, *FLC*  
10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting, *Pastor's Office*  
2:00 p.m. Reading Connection, *Library*  
4:30 p.m. Wellness Covenant Group, *Library*  
4:30 p.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, *Parlor*  
6:00 p.m. Emmaus Board Meeting, *FLC-A*  
7:00 p.m. Mary Martha UMW, *Parlor*

### Wednesday, August 14

10:00 a.m. Spanish Class, *Library*  
4:30 p.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, *FLC-A*  
6:30 p.m. Alpha Bells, *Sanctuary*  
6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir, *Choir Room*

### Thursday, August 15

8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market, *FLC*  
6:00 p.m. Trustees Meeting, *Library*  
7:15 p.m. Finance Committee Meeting, *Library*  
7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts, *FLC*

### Friday, August 16

6:30 a.m. Men's Prayer Group, *Parlor*  
8:30 a.m. Holy Folders, *Library*

### Saturday, August 17

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

### WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Ushers: *Kathleen Adams, Amy Fine, Fran Anderson, Scott Durham*  
Hosts: *Marilyn and Richard Damberg*

### CHURCH STAFF

**Rev. Lane Cotton Winn**  
*Lead Pastor*  
(on renewal leave until September 3)

**Lynn Cooper**  
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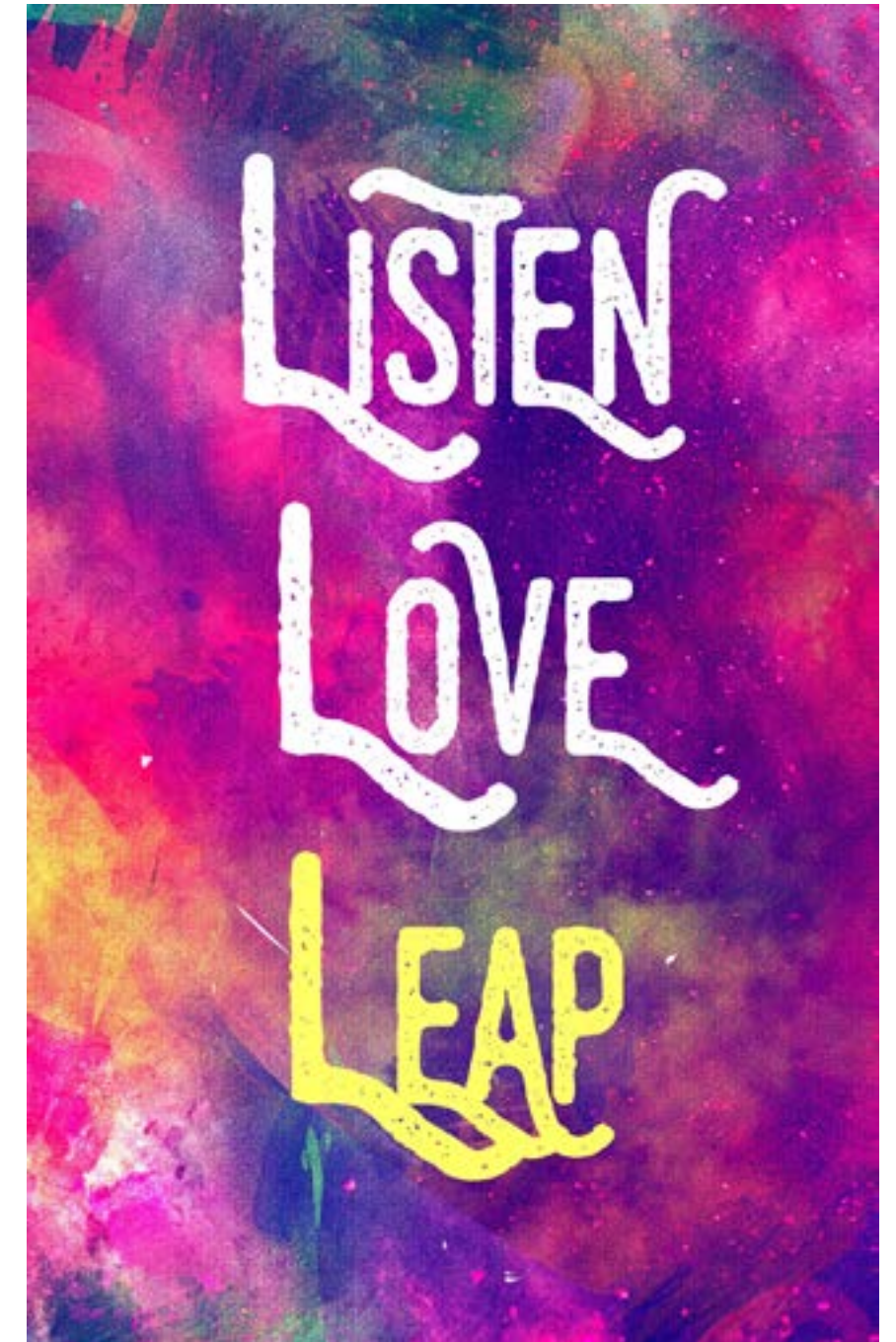
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**ST. JOHN'S**  
United Methodist Church

*Glorifying God. Feeding People. Making Disciples.*



August 11, 2019

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.*