

The CELEBRATION of the GOSPEL

September 8, 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

Pastor Lane

Let us rejoice, for morning has dawned. A new day has been born, and we are newly alive to enjoy it.

We see the beauty of God's creation and the wonder of belonging to God's family.

We remember those whose love has shaped our own lives and those whose struggle for justice has been unsleeping even in nighttimes of loneliness.

We gather in this place to worship God, to share our prayers and gifts and to pledge ourselves to God's work in the world.

May God bless us, so that what we do in this time may be honest, sacred, and filled with hope. Amen.

✠ HYMN of PRAISE

Seek Ye First

UMH 405

LISTENING to GOD'S WORD

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Carrie Poynot

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

The Church Within Us

Chancel Choir

SCRIPTURE

Jeremiah 18:1-11

¹This is the word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord: ²"Go down to the potter's house, and there I will give you my message." ³So I went down to the potter's house, and I saw him working at the wheel.

⁴But the pot he was shaping from the clay was marred in his hands; so the potter formed it into another pot, shaping it as seemed best to him.

⁵Then the word of the Lord came to me. ⁶He said, "Can I not do with you, Israel, as this potter does?" declares the Lord. "Like clay in the hand of the potter, so are you in my hand, Israel. ⁷If at any time I announce that a nation or kingdom is to be uprooted, torn down and destroyed, ⁸and if that nation I warned repents of its evil, then I will relent and not inflict on it the disaster I had planned. ⁹And if at another time I announce that a nation or kingdom is to be built up and planted, ¹⁰and if it does evil in my sight and does not obey me, then I will reconsider the good I had intended to do for it.

¹¹"Now therefore say to the people of Judah and those living in Jerusalem, "This is what the Lord says: Look! I am preparing a disaster for you and devising a plan against you. So turn from your evil ways, each one of you, and reform your ways and your actions."

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

"In the Potter's Hands"

Pastor Deirdré

RESPONDING to GOD'S GRACE

✠ HYMN of FAITH

Have Thine Own Way, Lord

UMH 382

PRAYERS of the PEOPLE

As prayers and petitions are offered our response will be:

Pastor Lane

For this we pray to the Lord.
Lord, hear our prayer.

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,
forever. Amen.**

OFFERING OUR TITHES and 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 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

The Lily of the Valley

FWS 2062

✠ BLESSING and SENDING FORTH

✠ POSTLUDE

The flowers on the altar are given by Maxine and Buddy Gossom in celebration of the birthday of their daughter, Gayle.

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.

2019 SILENT AUCTION AND PULLED PORK LUNCH

The 2019 Silent Auction will be held **Sunday, September 15** from **8 a.m. to 3 p.m.** in the Family Life Center. (Please note the change in time.) If you have an item for the auction, you may bring them to the church office during the week or to Room B in the FLC on Sundays. Check out the Friday Newsletter for suggested items to donate. For more information contact Beth Forester at 225-405-9324. Tickets are now on sale for a pulled pork lunch that will be held in conjunction with the Silent Auction. Tickets are \$8 for a BBQ pulled pork sandwich, cole slaw, potato chips, brownie, and a drink. Make checks to St. John's with pork lunch in memo.

FALL BLOOD DRIVE

Our fall Blood Drive will take place **Sunday, September 15** from 8 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Please consider participating in this very worthy cause. If you are planning to donate blood, it is recommended that you eat first. You will also need to bring a picture I.D. (and reading glasses, if you need them). Any healthy person over the age of 17 is eligible (16 with a parent's consent).

OPEN MINDS CLASS - NEW STUDY STARTS TODAY

The Open Minds Sunday School Class is inviting everyone to join them in the Christian Believer Bible study that is being adapted for the Sunday school hour. The class meets in FLC-C at 9:45. If you were a member of the 2007 study you may want to use this as a refresher.

DINNER THEATER: "THE KING OF MERITORIA"

Rehearsals begin for "The King of Meritoria" **THIS AFTERNOON** at 2:30 p.m. in the FLC. The cast has been set, backstage volunteers are busy getting scenery designed, and costumes are being selected. The play still needs props so if you have any of the following to loan, please contact Guy Johnson at 766-7931: 2 small tables, 4 chairs and/or low stools, 2 benches, basket for fruit.

LECTIONARY LADIES RESUMES

The Lectionary Ladies Bible study resumes **Monday, September 9** at 3 p.m. in the parlor. The study group uses the Revised Common Lectionary for 2019. If you are interested in joining the group just come to the parlor with your Bible. All women are invited to attend.

MANNA BAGS

Our youth will be putting together manna bags and are asking for donations of the following: toothbrushes, small tubes of toothpaste, small waters, adult socks, trail mix or nuts, small boxes of raisins, band-aids, face cloths, napkin & plastic silverware, granola bars, fruit cups, little boxes of cereal, small packs of crackers or cookies, etc. There will be blue tubs in the narthex and the admin building for your donations.

DAYS FOR GIRLS IN SEPTEMBER

The UMW is sponsoring 3 more work days to make 100 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 these personal items. 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: 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; no slider, please), or cash to purchase fabric. Contact Joyce Perry (978-2206) for more information.

CREATION CELEBRATION & PET BLESSING

There will be a brief meeting on **Saturday, September 14** in the FLC, Room E, at 9 a.m. to begin the planning of "Creation Celebration and Pet Blessing" scheduled for Sunday, October 6, 4 - 6 p.m. We are hoping to plan a wonderful, fun afternoon for our whole church family. If you're willing to help, contact Pastor Deirdre at pastordeirdre@stjohnsbr.org.

GOOD GRIEF!

The 'Good Grief' ministry is starting back up very soon! Please come for the initial meet + greet + planning gathering on **Tuesday, September 17** at 5:30 p.m. in the parlor. Together we will shape the future of this help group and provide a healing touch to those who are grieving. Questions? Contact Susan Johnston (225) 773-9563 or sbjohnston@gmail.com.

FALL WORK DAY - SEPTEMBER 28

Trustees have scheduled a fall work day for **Saturday, September 28**, 8 - 10:30 a.m. We will have two teams - one working at the parsonage and one at the church trimming hedges along the back parking lot.

HAPPENING AT ST. JOHN'S

Sunday, September 8

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*
2:30 p.m. Play Rehearsal, *FLC*
7:00 p.m. Alleluia Ringers, *Sanctuary*

Monday, September 9

9:00 a.m. Ladies Covenant Group, *Parlor*
10:00 a.m. Fast Track Bible Study, *Library*
3:00 p.m. Men's Covenant Group, *Library*
3:00 p.m. Lectionary Ladies Bible Study, *Parlor*
3:00 p.m. The Shepherd's Market, *FLC*
4:30 p.m. Ladies Covenant Group, *Parlor*
6:00 p.m. Fast Track Bible Study, *Library*
6:30 p.m. AA Meeting, *FLC-E*

Tuesday, September 10

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*
6:30 p.m. Financial Peace University, *Library*
7:00 p.m. UMW Mary Martha Circle, *Parlor*

Wednesday, September 11

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, September 12

8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market, *FLC*
10:00 a.m. Companions in Christ, *Library*
6:00 p.m. Opening Doors, *Library*
6:00 p.m. Lay Leadership Meeting, *Parlor*
7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts, *FLC*

Friday, September 13

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

Saturday, September 14

8:30 a.m. Prime Timers Breakfast, *Essen Piccadilly*
9:00 a.m. Days for Girls, *FLC*
12:00 p.m. AA Meeting, *FLC-C*

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Ushers: *Zach and Kristine Isenhower, Bill and Jane Metcalf*
Host: *Barbara Lively*

CHURCH STAFF

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ST. JOHN'S
United Methodist Church

Glorifying God. Feeding People. Making Disciples.



September 8, 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.