

The CELEBRATION of the GOSPEL

September 29, 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.

WORDS of WELCOME

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Guests, friends, members, welcome to worship! We are glad you are here. Please feel free to participate in ways that you feel led and comfortable or just observe, if you prefer. We welcome your presence among us.

INTROIT

✠ CALL to WORSHIP

Caleb Doan

What will God accomplish among us in this *time*?
We come seeking Sabbath rest and renewal.

What will God accomplish among us in this *place*?
Gathered together, we offer our praise and thanksgiving.

What will God accomplish among us in our *hearts*?
Open our hearts in love to hear Your voice inviting us into deeper relationship with You and each other, as You bring healing and wholeness to our lives.

Confident of God's work among us at all times and in all places, let us worship God as one people.

Free from the clamor of the world, may we find renewal through this time of worship. Amen.

✠ HYMN of PRAISE

Near to the Heart of God

UMH 472

A PRAYER TO SLOW DOWN

**Slow me down, Lord.
Ease the pounding of my heart by the quieting of my mind.
Steady my hurried pace with a vision of the eternal reach of time.**

Give me, amid the confusion of the day, the calmness of your everlasting grace.

Break the tension of my nerves and muscles with the soothing breath of the Holy Spirit.

**Help me to know the magical, restoring power of sleep.
Teach me the art of taking minute vacations...**

of slowing down to look at a flower, to chat with a friend, to read a few lines from a good book.

Let me look upward into the branches of the towering oak and know that it grew great and strong because it grew slowly and well.

Slow me down Lord, and inspire me to send my roots deep into the soil of your enduring grace, so that I may feel your presence with me now. Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE

Let It Breathe on Me

UMH 503

**Let it breathe on me; let it breathe on me;
let the breath of the Lord now breathe on me.
Let it breathe on me; let it breathe on me;
let the breath of the Lord now breathe on me.**

LISTENING to GOD'S WORD

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

And the Father Will Dance

Chancel Choir

SCRIPTURE

Exodus 20:8-11

⁸ Remember the Sabbath day and treat it as holy. ⁹ Six days you may work and do all your tasks, ¹⁰ but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God. Do not do any work on it—not you, your sons or daughters, your male or female servants, your animals, or the immigrant who is living with you. ¹¹ Because the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and everything that is in them in six days, but rested on the seventh day. That is why the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PRAYER for RENEWAL

by John Winn

**O God, light the dark corners of our minds.
Warm the cold places in our hearts.
Fill the empty chambers of our spirits.
Heal the brokenness in our lives. Amen.**

SERMON

“Lighten Up”

Pastor Lane

RESPONDING to GOD'S GRACE

PRAYERFUL MEDITATION

Slow Me Down

Special Music

OFFERING OUR TITHES and GIFTS to GOD

FWS 2128

During the offering, the congregation will sing together:

Come and Find the Quiet Center

**Come and find the quiet center in the crowded life we lead,
find the room for hope to enter, find the frame where we are freed:
Clear the chaos and the clutter, clear our eyes that we can see
all the things that really matter, be at peace, and simply be.**

**Silence is a friend who claims us, cools the heat and slows the pace,
God it is who speaks and names us, knows our being, touches base,
making space within our thinking, lifting shades to show the sun,
raising courage when we're shrinking, finding scope for faith begun.**

**In the Spirit let us travel, open to each other's pain,
let our loves and fears unravel, celebrate the space we gain:
There's a place for deepest dreaming, there's a time for heart to care,
in the Spirit's lively scheming there is always room to spare.**

✠ 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 of the PEOPLE

Pastor Deirdré

As prayers and petitions are offered our response will be:

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.**

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

Take Time to Be Holy

UMH 395

✠ BLESSING and SENDING FORTH

✠ POSTLUDE

Let Us Now Depart In Thy Peace

Chancel Choir

Don't forget to pick up a yellow grocery bag on your way out and bring it back next week for Grocery Bag Sunday.

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.

WORSHIP SERIES

Today Pastor Lane concludes her sermon series, "Renewal: Reflections from Pastor Lane's Renewal Leave." She will share some of the insights and blessings she experienced during her renewal leave. Next Sunday, we will begin a new stewardship themed series, "Take Care."

CONGREGATIONAL CARE MEETING

There will a meeting of the Congregational Care Team **TODAY** at 3 p.m. in the Library. This ministry offers care to all in our church family experiencing a time of need including hospital visits, home communion, writing care notes, and many more. If you have been a part of this important ministry or would like to join, please plan to attend today's meeting. Contact Pastor Deirdré at 225-939-1425 or pastordeirdre@stjohnsbr.org for more information.

SHEPHERD'S MARKET T-SHIRTS AND HATS

Shepherd's Market t-shirts and hats will be available after worship as long as the supply lasts. Pick them up along with a yellow shopping bag.

UMW RUTH CIRCLE MEETING

The Ruth Circle will meet **Tuesday October 1** at 9:30 a.m. in the parlor. Betty Sandifer will present a program "I Am the Light, Connecting Our Stories." All women are invited to attend.

DINNER/DESSERT THEATER: "A CROWN FOR A KING"

Join us for two performances of the original play, "A Crown for a King, written by Guy Johnson. The play is great for all ages and features a multi-generational cast from St. John's.

Friday, October 18: tickets are \$12 in advance, with a limited number of available for \$15 at the door. Dinner will be served at 6 p.m., and curtain will be at 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, October 19: tickets will be \$10 in advance, with a limited number available for \$12 at the door. Dessert will be served at 2 p.m., and curtain will be at 2:30 p.m.

Contact office@stjohnsbr.org or call 225-766-4594 to purchase tickets. See you at the show!

NEW "INSIDE" ST. JOHN'S NEWSLETTER COMING

In mid-October, we will launch a new mid-week email that will include prayer requests, birthdays, anniversaries, celebrations, and other St. John's family news. It will be in addition to our Friday e-newsletter, and geared towards our active members and friends of St. John's. If you would like to receive this new weekly email, please complete the insert in your bulletin and place it in the offering plate.

CHARGE CONFERENCE & MEAL RESERVATION

St. John's will take part in a cluster Charge Conference, along with 13 other Baton Rouge churches, at **Jefferson UMC on Sunday, October 20** at 4 p.m. One new feature for this year's Charge Conference is a catered meal, compliments of the Methodist Children's Home (MCH). During the meal, there will be a presentation about MCH's exciting plans for a state-of-the-art residential facility, currently under construction in our district.

Along with the meal and the business portion, there will be worship, as well as a time for conversation with the District Superintendent. The entire event (including dinner) will last less than 2 hours. A reservation is required for the free dinner hosted by the MCH. If you are able to attend the meal, please RSVP to Lynn Cooper, in the church office by Monday, September 30.

CREATION CELEBRATION & PET BLESSING

Join us for a Creation Celebration and Pet Blessing on **Sunday October 6** from 4 to 6 p.m. We'll meet near the bell tower to enjoy an outdoor worship experience and fellowship under our beautiful oak trees.

Bring your pets of all types as well as a pet photo for the St. John's Pet Gallery, which will be on display throughout October. We'll have snacks (for people and pets) and activities for kids. Children, those without pets or those who cannot bring their pet, are welcome to bring a stuffed animal. Bring your own lawn chairs if you can. (Animals need to be up to date on shots and on a leash or in a carrier.)

We're still looking for volunteers to help make this community-wide event a success.

Donations Needed: We are in need of donations and have set up a Donation Board in the Narthex. If there is an item you can donate, please take it off of the board and return it by October 6. There are blue tubs in the Narthex and the Admin Building. We are also in need of picnic-type food covers; if anyone has any we can borrow please contact Pastor Deirdré at 225-939-1425 or pastordeirdre@stjohnsbr.org.

HAPPENING AT ST. JOHN'S

Sunday, September 29

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*
2:00 p.m. Dinner/Dessert Theater Rehearsal, *FLC*
3:00 p.m. Congregational Care Team, *Library*
5:00 p.m. Youth Group, *FLC*
6:00 p.m. Alleluia Ringers, *Sanctuary*

Monday, September 30

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, October 1

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*
10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting, *Pastor's Office*
4:30 p.m. Wellness Covenant Group, *Library*
4:30 p.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, *Parlor*
6:30 p.m. Financial Peace University, *Library*

Wednesday, October 2

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, October 3

8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market, *FLC*
10:30 a.m. FIT Meeting, *Parlor*
7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts, *FLC*

Friday, October 4

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

Saturday, October 5

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

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Ushers: *Richard and Marilyn Damberg, Penny Kemler, Will Halliburton*
Host: *Richard and Marilyn Damberg*

CHURCH STAFF

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

Lynn Cooper
Administrative Assistant
office@stjohnsbr.org

Amy Fine
Coordinator of Youth Ministries
amyfine@stjohnsbr.org

Bill Putzig
Custodian
billputzig@stjohnsbr.org

Rev. Deirdré Halliburton
Associate Pastor
pastordeirdre@stjohnsbr.org

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

Carrie Poynot
Director of Music Ministries
carriepoynot@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

Check in on Facebook:
[facebook.com/stjohnsbr](https://www.facebook.com/stjohnsbr)

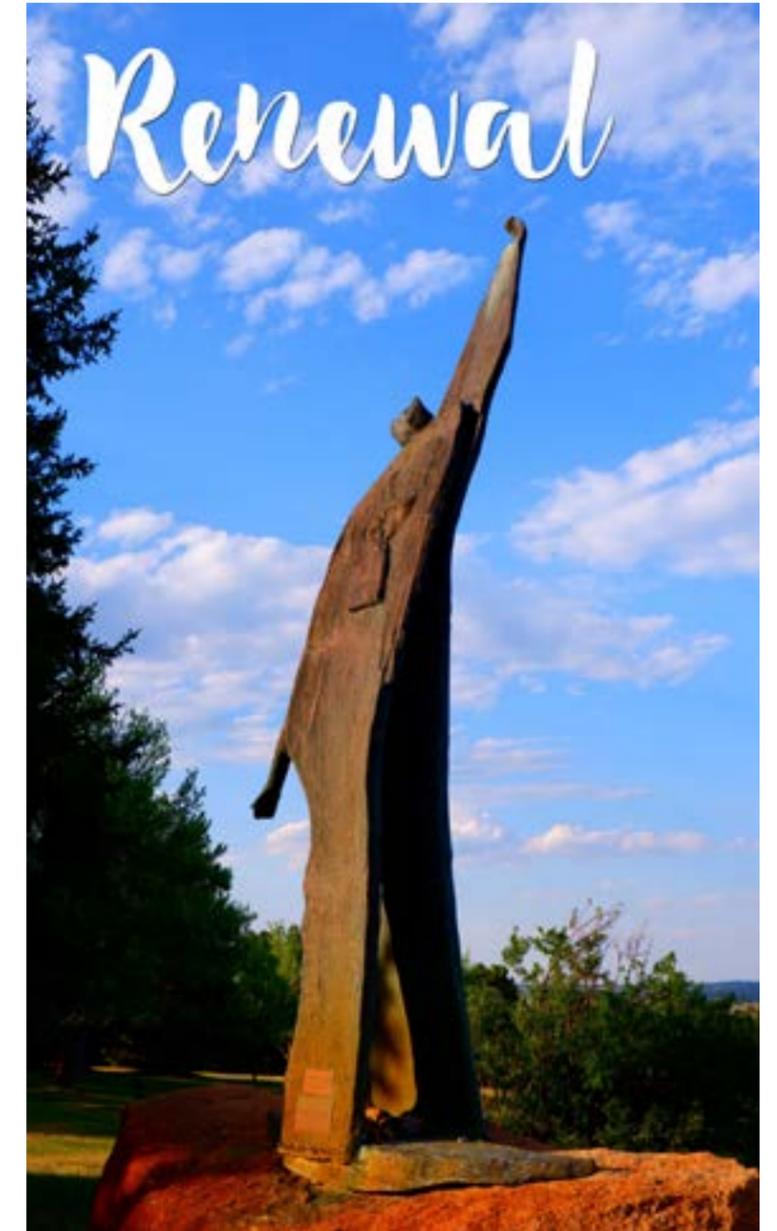
Follow us on Twitter:
[@stjohnsbr](https://twitter.com/stjohnsbr)

Give online: <http://bit.ly/stjohnsgive>



ST. JOHN'S
United Methodist Church

Glorifying God. Feeding People. Making Disciples.



September 29, 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.