

*The* **CELEBRATION of the GOSPEL**  
**February 9, 2020 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

WORDS of GRACE *Rev. Lane Cotton Winn*  
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 *Alleluia Ringers*  
*Canon*

✠ CALL to WORSHIP *Rhonda Tucker*  
God said, "Let there be light."  
**And there was light.**  
Jesus said, "I am the light of the world."  
**And the light shone in the darkness.**  
Jesus said, "You are the light of the world."  
**And our light shall not be quenched.**

✠ HYMN of PRAISE *UMH 206*  
*I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light*

PSALTER *UMH 833*  
*Psalm 112:1-9*

SUNG RESPONSE  
**Light rises in darkness when justice rules our lives.**

Praise the Lord.  
Blessed are those who fear the Lord,  
who greatly delight in God's commandments!  
**Their descendants will be mighty in the land;  
the generation of the upright will be blessed.**

Wealth and riches are in their house,  
and their righteousness endures for ever.  
**They rise in the darkness as a light for the upright;  
they are gracious, merciful and righteous.**

It is well with those who deal generously and lend,  
who conduct their affairs with justice.  
**For the righteous shall never be moved;  
they will be remembered for ever.**

SUNG RESPONSE

They are not afraid of evil tidings;  
their hearts are firm, trusting in the Lord.  
**When they see their adversaries,  
their hearts are steady, they will not be afraid.**

They have distributed freely, they have given to the poor;  
**their righteousness endures for ever;  
their horn is exalted in honor.**

SUNG RESPONSE

## LISTENING

CHILDREN'S MOMENT *Heather Durham*

*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 *Heather Durham*  
*Matthew 5:13-20*

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*  
"State of the Church"

*The flowers on the altar are given by Maxine and Buddy Gossom to honor the birthday of their daughter, Elizabeth.*

## RESPONDING

SPECIAL MUSIC *Chancel Choir*  
*The congregation will join the choir in singing the chorus.*

*Shine, Jesus, Shine, FWS 2173*  
**Shine, Jesus, shine, fill this land with the Father's glory,  
blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire;  
flow, river, flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy,  
send forth your word, Lord, and let there be light.**

OFFERING OUR TITHES and GIFTS to GOD *Alleluia Ringers*  
*Joseph's Lovely Garden*

✠ 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.**

PASTORAL PRAYER *Pastor Deirdre*

THE LORD'S PRAYER *UMH 895*

## 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 133*  
*Leaning on the Everlasting Arms*

## 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.*

### YOUTH SHARE SALE

The Youth have begun selling shares of stock to help fund their 2020 summer mission trip to Nashville, TN. City Service Mission (CSM) will immerse our youth into a variety of hands-on service opportunities in an urban setting that are unique to that city. Youth will be selling shares before and after both worship services **today** and **February 16**. Each share is \$10.

### UNITY IN THE COMMUNITY

The children, staff, and families of Charlie Thomas Head Start Center are joining us for a special morning of worship and celebration in the sanctuary on **Saturday, February 15** at 10 a.m. There will be lots of singing, dancing and showcasing talents. Please come and welcome our neighbors! Following the service, the UMW will host a simple lunch in the gym where all can gather for food and fellowship. **Help is needed to hand out programs and direct people to seating in the sanctuary and afterwards to the lunch in the FLC.** If you can help, contact Betty Schroeder (939-6981 or drbschroeder@att.net).

### FAST TRACK BIBLE STUDY

Guy Johnson will be teaching The Letters of Paul (Disciple Fast Track), beginning **Monday February 10** at 10 a.m. in the library. The study book costs \$20, scholarships are available. To register, fill out the form in this week's bulletin and put in the offering plate. If paying by check, write Bible Study in the memo line.

### DAYS FOR GIRLS

The next work day for Days for Girls will be **Saturday February 22**, 9 a.m. – noon. Sewers and non-sewers are needed. We also need a few donations: (1) new girls cotton panties (briefs), solids or flowers, no characters or animals in sizes 10, 12, or 14, (2) new colored washcloths, (3) Gallon Freezer Ziploc Bags, (No sliders), or 4) cash to purchase fabric. For more information contact Joyce Perry at 763-6613 or joyce.perry@cox.net.

### REDISCOVERING THE ART OF CONVERSATION

**Save the Date: Friday evening, March 6 and Saturday morning, March 7.**

How do we have difficult conversations about things that really matter to us in a way that respects the dignity of others and self, even when we do not agree? This question will set the tone for our time in this learning experience, led by Rev. Dr. Craig Gilliam. Registration fee of \$25 includes a light supper Friday night and breakfast pastries Saturday morning (please put conversation in memo line of check). You may register by using the insert in today's bulletin or online at <http://bit.ly/artstjohns>. A nursery will be provided both days.

### "THE GOD WE CAN KNOW" LENT WORSHIP AND STUDY SERIES

In the Gospel of John, Jesus gives us the "I Am" sayings, meaningful metaphors such as "I am the bread of life" and "I am the light of the world," to reveal his mission and purpose. One by one, the "I Am" sayings of Jesus not only grab our imagination about Jesus' identity, they also help us to experience God, who spoke the first "I am" to Moses.

This Lent our sermon series will be inspired by the "I Am" statements in scripture and a book called *The God We Can Know*, by Rev. Rob Fuquay. Classes and Small Groups are encouraged to use the book and the accompanying DVD and guidebook during Lent to continue the learnings. Join us for this insightful worship and study series as we learn more about the God we can know and as we seek to answer Jesus' question to us, "Who do you say I am?"

### ST MARK'S MISSION

The 2020 dates for the St John's Mission to St Mark's UMC and N. Rampart Street Community Center are **April 17-19** and **September 27**. The three day mission to New Orleans in April will include repairs and maintenance of the community center and Church and two overnight stays, as well as serving the homeless meal on Sunday. The September date is one day at which time we will only prepare and serve the meal on Sunday. For more information contact Larry Norman at [lduckn@aol.com](mailto:lduckn@aol.com) or 225-933-1881.

## THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

**Sunday, February 9**  
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*  
6:00 p.m. Alleluia Ringers, *Sanctuary*

**Monday, February 10**  
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. Ladies Lectionary Study, *Parlor*  
3:00 p.m. The Shepherd's Market, *FLC*  
6:30 p.m. AA Meeting, *FLC-E*

**Tuesday, February 11**  
8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market, *FLC*  
8:15 a.m. Worship in the Market, *FLC*  
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. UMW Mary Martha Circle, *Parlor*  
7:30 p.m. AA Meeting, *FLC-E*

**Wednesday, February 12**  
10:00 a.m. Spanish Class, *Library*  
3:00 p.m. VIPS Everybody Reads, *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, February 13**  
8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market, *FLC*  
7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts, *FLC*

**Friday, February 14**  
6:30 a.m. Men's Prayer Group, *Parlor*  
8:00 a.m. Food Bank Delivery, *FLC*  
8:30 a.m. Holy Folders, *Library*

**Saturday, February 15**  
10:00 a.m. UNITY IN THE COMMUNITY  
12:00 p.m. AA Meeting, *FLC-C*

## CONNECT WITH ST. JOHN'S

**TEXTING:** St. John's sends out timely reminders about church events via text message. Email the office ([office@stjohnsbr.org](mailto:office@stjohnsbr.org)) requesting that you be signed up for the texting service.

**FRIDAY NEWSLETTER:** Our Friday Newsletter keeps you up to date about all the happenings around St. John's, including worship information, special events, and service opportunities.

**INSIDE ST. JOHN'S EMAIL:** This new email is in addition to our Friday e-newsletter, and geared towards our active members and friends. It includes prayer requests, birthdays, anniversaries, celebrations, memorial and funeral announcements, and other St. John's family news.

*This email will **not** be sent to you unless you request it.* If you would like to receive this new weekly email, fill out the form that can be found in the Narthex or the hallway of the Admin Building; you may also contact Lynn in the church office at 225-766-4594 or [office@stjohnsbr.org](mailto:office@stjohnsbr.org).

 Like us and check-in on Facebook: [facebook.com/stjohnsbr](https://facebook.com/stjohnsbr)

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

### WORSHIP ASSISTANTS:

Ushers: *Joyce Perry, Mary Jo Brook, Tommie Reinhardt, Deidra Matthews*

Host: *Rhonda Tucker*

### CHURCH STAFF

**Rev. Lane Cotton Winn**  
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**ST. JOHN'S**  
United Methodist Church

*Glorifying God. Feeding People. Making Disciples.*



February 9, 2020

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.*