

# RENEW MY SPIRIT

CHECK-IN & PRAYER REQUESTS VIA QR CODE →



As summer rolls with full schedules, it's easy to lose sight of our focus. This week, we hear Jesus' call to seek first the kingdom & take time to reflect on where our lives may need realignment. Join us in considering what we're centering, what's drifting, and how we might return to a more grounded, faithful rhythm.

## MAKE A DIFFERENCE

**School Supply Drive** Blue donation tubs will be located in the narthex and the Edu/Admin Building hallway and a complete list of items needed is on the back of this bulletin.

**Wearing a name tag** each Sunday is a simple but powerful way to help others feel *seen, known, and welcomed*—an act of hospitality that makes a real difference.

### Prayer Requests

Share prayer requests by scanning the QR code above, emailing [prayers@stjohnsbr.org](mailto:prayers@stjohnsbr.org) or visiting [stjohnsbr.org/here](http://stjohnsbr.org/here).

### All Are Welcome & Affirmed Here

Whoever you are, wherever your faith journey, you are welcome and affirmed. We are so glad you joined us and hope you feel at home here.

### For Newcomers

**Restrooms** & Welcome **Brochures** are located in the narthex (lobby). Our **ushers** can help you in any way you may need. Text 'CONNECT' to 225-230-1017 join our updates.

### For Families with Children

- The **St. John's Playground** is in the front of the sanctuary during services. Children are welcome to spend **the entire service** here.
- The **Nursery** serves infants - preschool in the Education & Administration building next door.
- **Changing tables** are located in the restrooms and nursery.
- **Holy Communion** elements of bread and grape juice are available to all including children weekly at the 8:30 a.m. service and on the first Sunday of the month at the 11:00 a.m. service. **Gluten free** elements are also available.
- We offer **Sunday School** for 18 months - 12<sup>th</sup> grade from 9:45 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.



The **altar flowers** are given by Pat Cobb in memory of her husband, Earl.

Our ushers are **Bob Armstrong & Belinda Dumas**.

## UPCOMING EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Create Your Own Rule of Life

This week, we invite you to reflect and write your own Rule of Life—a framework to help you live with intention and grace. Handouts are available during worship, and a digital version is linked in the newsletter at [stjohnsbr.org/rule-of-life](http://stjohnsbr.org/rule-of-life). Take time to explore what rhythms will help you stay rooted in God's love in daily life. Let this be a sacred practice of listening and renewal.

### Back To School Sunday, August 3rd

Join us for a fun-filled morning as we bless the new school year and celebrate with spirit!

**The Blessing of the Bags (All Ages)** Bring your backpack, briefcase, or handbag to worship for a special blessing and a prayer tag to keep with you. Worshiping online? Pick up your tag Mon–Fri, 9 a.m.–12 p.m. after August 3.

**Student Bible Presentations** Kids entering Kindergarten, 3rd, 6th, or 9th grade will receive a Bible in worship. Email [office@stjohnsbr.org](mailto:office@stjohnsbr.org) by July 21 to ensure we have one ready.

**Sunday School Kickoff** All kids and youth will promote to their next grade level. Join us in the Sanctuary at 10 a.m. for a short assembly before breaking into age groups.

**School Spirit Day (All Ages)** Wear your favorite school colors to worship and show your spirit!

**Grub Sunday** Youth, including our rising 6th graders, are invited to this messy showdown from 4–6pm with water, shaving cream, soap suds, goo, and other gloriously grubby fun—all on the church lawn!

### Volunteers Needed For Nursery

Serving in the nursery is a joy—and with 18 on rotation, most serve just once every six weeks! Cheryl, our coordinator, is always present and knows the children well. You'll never miss worship, and can choose times that work for you. Sign up: [stjohnsbr.org/nurseryvolunteer](http://stjohnsbr.org/nurseryvolunteer)

### Opening Doors Non-Profit is looking for a Volunteer Treasurer!

This role involves basic financial tasks like tracking income and expenses, helping with reports for the board, and working with our tax accountant as needed. If you're organized and want to support our mission behind the scenes, we'd love to hear from you. Familiarity with Quicken is helpful but not required. Contact Connie Laborde to learn more: [conniellaborde@gmail.com](mailto:conniellaborde@gmail.com).

### Youth Service Week, July 27th - August 1st

6th - 12th Graders (24-25 School Year). Food Bank, Food Pantry, and other service opportunities PLUS tons of fun planned too! Contact [youth@stjohnsbr.org](mailto:youth@stjohnsbr.org) for details.

### School Supply Drive, Ends August 3

Help us support our neighborhood schools—Wildwood Elementary, Charlie Thomas Head Start, and Gardere Community Christian—through our annual school supply drive! Blue donation tubs will be located in the lobby and the Edu/Admin Building hallway. Suggested donations include: pencils, pens, glue sticks, crayons, notebooks, rulers, folders, scissors, tissues, paper towels, Clorox wipes, and more. *Printed shopping list available in the Narthex (lobby).*

### EVERY WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

FLC = Family Life Center

#### Worship Services

**Sundays**  
**8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.** Sanctuary

**Coffee Time**  
**Sundays**  
**9:30 a.m.** FLC  
*Last Names M–R may bring snacks on July 27*

**Sunday School**  
**Sundays**  
**9:45 a.m.** Campus Wide

**Music Ministries**  
**Sundays**  
**6:00 p.m.** Alleluia Ringers, Bells Room

**Wednesdays**  
**6:30 p.m.** Chancel Choir Practice, Choir Room  
**Reconvenes in the Fall after Summer break**

**Children & Youth**  
**Sundays**  
**9:45 a.m.** Sunday School, Campus Wide  
**4:30 p.m.** Music Makers, Choir Room  
**Reconvenes in the Fall after Summer break**

**Wellness**  
**Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays**  
**7:00 a.m.** Early Risers Exercisers, FLC

**Tuesdays**  
**7:00 p.m.** Pickleball, FLC  
**7:30 p.m.** AA Meeting, FLC–E

**Wednesdays**  
**6:30 p.m.** Ladies AA Meeting, FLC–C

**Saturdays**  
**12:00 p.m.** AA Meeting, FLC–C  
**7:00 p.m.** AA Meeting, FLC

**Shepherd's Market**  
**A client choice food pantry**  
**Mondays 3:30 p.m.** FLC  
**Tuesdays & Thursdays 8:00 a.m.** FLC  
[shepherdsmarket.org](http://shepherdsmarket.org)

**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS**  
**9 AM - 12 NOON**  
**Monday - Friday**



# RECENTER MY LIFE

8:30 AM Worship Celebration  
Sunday, July 20th 2025

[stjohnsbr.org](http://stjohnsbr.org) | [@stjohnsbr](https://twitter.com/stjohnsbr) | [office@stjohnsbr.org](mailto:office@stjohnsbr.org)

225-766-4594 | 230 Renee Drive BR, LA 70810

# WELCOME

## 8:30 AM Worship Celebration

Please stand as you are comfortable where marked by an asterisk (\*) & join in speaking where text is in **bold**.

### Gathering Music

**Words of Welcome** Rev. Lane Cotton Winn

**Welcome in the Light of Christ\*** U.M. Hymnal #451 vs 1, 2, 3  
*Be Thou My Vision*

**Invitation to Worship\*** Grace Idikwu

Come, weary ones, with crowded minds and full calendars.  
**We come seeking stillness, clarity, and peace.**  
Come, curious ones, wondering what matters most.  
**We come to seek the kingdom of God.**  
Come, hopeful ones, ready to begin again.  
**We come to re-center our lives in God’s love.**  
**Let us worship with open hearts and honest spirits.**

**We Sing Together\*** U.M. Hymnal #405 vs 1  
*Seek Ye First*

### We Encourage Our Children

**We Read the Word\*** Rev. Lane Cotton Winn  
Matthew 6:33  
For the Word of God in scripture,  
for the Word of God among us,  
for the Word of God within us,  
**Thanks be to God.**

**We Reflect on the Word** Rev. Lane Cotton Winn  
*Recenter My Life*

**Guided Meditation** Rev. Lane Cotton Winn

**We Sing Together\*** Our Faith We Sing Songbook #2146 vs 1, 2  
*His Eye Is on the Sparrow*



CHECK IN  
& PRAYER  
REQUESTS

**We Name Our Need For Grace\*** Grace Idikwu  
**Holy and Centering God,**  
**we confess that we have let many things take your place.**  
**We’ve rushed through our days,**  
**filled our minds with noise,**  
**and tried to do it all —**  
**while losing sight of what truly matters.**  
**Forgive us for the ways we’ve drifted.**  
**Call us back to your heart.**  
**Help us re-center our lives in your grace,**  
**your justice, your peace.**  
**Start again with us, O God.**  
**Amen.**

### We Hear Words of Grace and Forgiveness\*

Hear this good news:  
God does not wait for perfection.  
God meets us in the moment we turn,  
and with open arms says, “Come home.”  
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.  
**In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.**  
**Glory to God. Amen.**

### \*We Greet One Another with Joy & Peace\*

**Ministry Moment** BJ Cobb & Margaret Sprunger  
*Mission & Vision Revision*

### We Offer our Tithes and Gifts to God

Thank you for your generosity. Your gift helps us be a blessing in our community. Scan the QR code or visit [stjohnsbr.org/give](http://stjohnsbr.org/give) to give online.



GIVING

**We Sing Together\*** U.M. Hymnal #94  
*Praise God from Whom all Blessings Flow*  
**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!**

### We Prepare for Communion

*We give thanks, remember God’s saving acts, and call on the Holy Spirit to bless the bread and cup. Together, we join in a holy meal that connects us with Christ and one another.*

**We Pray the Lord's Prayer** U.M. Hymnal #895

### We Receive Communion\*

**All are welcome to receive Communion.**  
*We serve by intinction (bread dipped in juice); servers handle the elements. Pre-packaged & gluten-free options are available. You may remain at the chancel to pray. If you need communion brought to you, please let an usher know.*

**We Pray Together** Grace Idikwu  
**God of steady love,**  
**thank you for this meal —**  
**a reminder that no matter the storms we face,**  
**you are the rock we cling to.**  
**As we have tasted your grace in the bread and cup,**  
**strengthen our faith to stand firm,**  
**our hearts to trust deeply,**  
**and our lives to live boldly in your love.**  
**Help us carry this with us,**  
**singing your praises even when the winds howl around us.**  
**In Jesus’ name, Amen.**

### We Receive This Week’s Call To Action

*We joyfully welcome all those who wish to become members of St. John’s and invite you to come forward and stand with Pastor Lane during the singing of the next song.*

**We Sing Together\*** U.M. Hymnal #402 v 1, 2, 4  
*Lord, I Want to be a Christian*

### We Share in a Blessing\*

**We Go Out into the World\***  
*The service ends, but our worship continues as we go forth to love and serve the Lord.*

### Worship Notes

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