



*Sunday, October 27, 2024
10 a.m. Worship Celebration*

All Are Welcome

Today is Commitment Sunday, the culmination of our Stewardship Campaign, and we will offer our financial commitments to God's work here at St. John's as an act of worship. Practicing faithful stewardship heals us as individuals and helps us restore right relationship with one another. In our scripture reading from the final chapter of John's gospel, Jesus appears to the disciples and fills their empty fishing nets. Even after death, Jesus restores our hope and provides an abundant feast. Speaking of which - please join us for a potluck luncheon following worship, when we will feast in fellowship together.

Whether you are a guest or member, we invite you to scan the QR code to register your attendance so we know you're here and we can get to know you better.



Welcome to St. John's United Methodist Church

GUEST INFORMATION

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. Our ushers are happy to assist you in anyway. Restrooms are in the Narthex, located in the back of the Sanctuary.

Please take home a copy of our Welcome Brochure located in the Narthex or view it online at: stjohnsbr.org/welcome-brochure.

HELPFUL HINTS FOR FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN

We fully welcome and love engaging children in worship! We include a special Children's Moment each Sunday.

- **The St. John's Prayground** is located in the front of the sanctuary. This is a place for children and their families to worship together, allowing children to more fully participate in the service. More details about the Prayground may be found on our website.
- A staffed **nursery** for infants through preschool is open every Sunday morning and is located next door in our Education/Administration building.
- **Changing tables** are located in the restrooms in the back of the sanctuary and in our nursery.
- Children are welcome to receive **Holy Communion**, which is served weekly at 8:30 a.m. and on the first Sunday of the month at 11 a.m. Our communion elements are bread and grape juice. Gluten-free elements are also available.
- **Sunday School** is offered for children starting at age 18 months through 12th grade from 9:45-10:45 a.m.

St. John's Clergy and Staff

Rev. Lane Cotton Winn
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Cheryl Roubique
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Commitment Sunday

The Celebration of the Gospel

**Please stand as you are comfortable.
Bold indicates congregational response.
Please scan the QR Code to register your attendance.*



Prelude

Words of Welcome

Rev. Lane Cotton Winn

*Songs of Praise

I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me
The Faith We Sing Songbook 2153, vs. 1 & 2

The Summons
The Faith We Sing Songbook 2130, vs. 1 & 2

*Call to Worship

Sandra Kuykendall

In worship we tell a story:

A story of an unfettered love that changed the world.

In worship we tell a story:

A story of how we live and how we long to live.

In worship we tell a story:

Because we are forgetful people.

So may we remember who we are.

May we release the narratives that trap us.

May we reimagine this world to see what God sees.

And may we work toward restoration.

It's all that easy, and it's all that hard.

Let us worship our holy God, who is our strength and our hope.

*Song of Response

The Summons
The Faith We Sing Songbook 2130, vs. 5

*Sharing the Love and Peace of Christ

Children's Message

Connor Dean

Prayer for Illumination

To restore is to bring back.
So today we bring our hearts back to God,
our thoughts back to love,
and our prayers back to peace.

Together, let us pray.

**Gracious God,
Grant us the clarity needed to hear
your Word anew.
And as you do, restore us to your breath.
Restore us to your Word.
Restore us to one another,
and restore us to you, O God.
In Christ's name we pray.
Amen.**

***Scripture**

Pastor Lane

John 21:1-17, 19b

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.

Witness to the Word

Pastor Lane

"Restore"

Mandala Moment

***Hymn**

What Gift Can We Bring
The United Methodist Hymnal 87, vs. 1 & 4

***Affirmation of Faith**

Zach Isenhower

We believe in a restoring God,
Who restores our bodies through the gift of Sabbath.

We believe in a restoring God,
**Who restores our souls through the gift of grace and
second chances.**

We believe in a restoring God,
**Who restores this hurting world through the gift of mercy and
God's son Jesus Christ.**

And we believe in a restoring God who invites us to join in this
restoration work.

**As people of faith, we seek to restore creation to God
by feeding the hungry,
loving our neighbors,
forgiving seventy times seven,
welcoming the children,
seeing all, loving all,
and living like we belong to all.**

And so we will work until God's promised day.
**This we believe.
Amen.**

***Gloria Patri**

**Glory be to the Father
and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Amen.**

***Act of Commitment**

*We join God in writing the next chapter in St. John's Mission & Money
Story as we bring our 2025 pledges and mandala prayer pieces forward.*

Pledges can also be made online at stjohnsbr.org/pledge-2025

Prayer of Dedication

The Lord's Prayer

Offering Our Tithes and Gifts to God

Ride on King Jesus

By Hall Johnson

Soloist: Steve Rushing, baritone

We appreciate your generosity.

Each gift enables us to be a blessing in our community.

*You may give online by scanning the QR Code
or navigate to stjohnsbr.org/give.*



***Doxology**

**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!**

Call to Action

*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**

Take My Life, and Let It Be

The United Methodist Hymnal 399, 1 - 3

***Blessing and Sending Forth**

***Postlude**

Worship Notes

The flowers on the altar are given in thanksgiving to God for Natalie and Paul Cooper's 28th wedding anniversary! Thank you, Jesus!

Some worship prayers were written by Sarah Are | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

Ushers for the 10:00 service are Bill and Jane Metcalf.

Connect with Us

You are invited to participate in any of our activities, and to become a part of this community of faith and love. Sign up for text/email notifications by texting the word "Connect" to 225-230-1017.

PRAYER REQUESTS

We believe that prayer is a powerful way to connect us to one another and to God. If you have a prayer or joy you want lifted up, please email prayers@stjohnsbr.org. Pastor Lane and Lynn Cooper, our Administrative Assistant, will receive your request and pass it along to the Prayer Team, unless you request it only be shared with Pastor Lane. A group of dedicated volunteers receive prayer requests weekly and then focus on praying for these requests immediately and throughout the week. All of the Prayer Team Members are deeply committed to keeping prayer requests confidential as requested. Prayer Requests are also included in the *Inside St. John's* newsletter, sent on Tuesdays.

Announcements

MANDALA ART PROJECT

Thank you for helping bring our mandala to life through worship this month. Today, the mandala is located in the FLC. During the potluck, please stop by and write words inside the clasped hands in the outer ring of the mandala that describe our future together. Answer the question: *What will be written in the next chapter of St. John's Mission & Money Story?* (Use your five senses: what will our next chapter together look, smell, feel, sound, and taste like?)

PREPARING FOR ALL SAINTS' DAY

On Sunday, November 3, we will observe All Saints' Day in worship. During the service, we will remember and give thanks for those who have passed away since the previous November 1, by reading their names and lighting a candle, giving thanks for their lives. Rev. Dr. Francey Hooton, Guy Johnson's daughter, will be our guest preacher.

If you have a loved one who has died in the past year that you would like us to name aloud in those services, please email Pastor Lane (pastorlane@stjohnsbr.org) with their name and the date of their passing by October 30.

All Saints Day Altar Cloth - We invite you to add the names of the "saints" in your life who have passed away and you remember fondly on a white tablecloth found in the FLC which you can sign during the potluck. The tablecloth, adorned with names, will be placed on the altar on All Saints Day.

NO COFFEE TIME TODAY

We will **NOT** have Coffee Time today. So, if your last name begins with **S, Sunday, November 3** is "your" day to bring a snack for Coffee Time. Remember, this is just a much appreciated suggestion not an obligation. You don't have to cook or bake – in these days of prepared foods, any grocery store has plenty of delicious items to choose from. **Please bring your items in a disposable container or single-use dish, and take them to the FLC by 9:30 a.m.**

CHURCHWIDE WORKDAY - NOVEMBER 16

Can you scoop ice? Wipe down appliances? Use a paint brush? Wash windows? Trim bushes? If so, we have work items matching your skill set!

If those skills aren't for you, can you do minor electrical work? Replace light covers? Plant flower beds? If so, we have work items matching those skill sets, too!

Whatever you can do, we have small jobs that you can do during the St. John's Fall Workday. Trustees will bring donuts, supplies and some tools, we just need you to bring yourself and join us for workday on **Saturday November 16 at 8 a.m.** Don't forget your work gloves.

BATON ROUGE DISTRICT CHARGE CONFERENCE

The 2024 Charge Conference for St. John's will be held at Jefferson UMC, 10328 Jefferson Hwy, Baton Rouge, LA 70809, on **Sunday, November 3 at 4 p.m.** If you are a member of St. John's Church Council, you are a voting member of the Charge Conference. Let Pastor Lane (pastorlane@stjohnsbr.org) know if you will be able to attend.

PICK UP YELLOW GROCERY BAG

Don't forget to pick up a yellow pantry grocery bag after worship and bring it back next week for **Grocery Bag Sunday on November 3.**

FALL FEST & TRUNK OR TREAT

Many thanks to our wonderful volunteers who designed a trunk, who served as game coordinators, who passed out snacks ... in other words, all of you! Go to our Facebook page to see pictures (facebook.com/stjohnsbr).

SAVE THE DATE - UWF CRAFT & BAKE SALE, DECEMBER 15

The call is out for craft & baked items that you might want to donate to the United Women in Faith's Craft & Bake Sale on Sunday, December 15. This very worthy cause raises funds for local missions supported by Circle of the Heart. If you would like to help, contact Clara Maynard at claramaynard@gmail.com.

Upcoming Children's & Youth Events

ST. JOHN'S YOUTH TO HOST HALLOWEEN PARTY

St. John's youth group is hosting a Halloween Party today, **Sunday, October 27, 5-7 p.m.** We will play some Halloween-themed games and have a costume contest. (Students, please use discretion for costumes, nothing too scary or inappropriate.) It's sure to be a good group of students and leaders!

This event is free to attend, but we ask that students please bring a food item to share. Students with last names starting with A-K should bring a salty/savory snack to share. Students with last names starting with L-Z should bring a sweet snack to share. Snacks can be Halloween-themed or simply cookies/chips. Drinks, plates, napkins, and plastic cutlery will be provided.

Bring friends too! There will be a prize for best duo & best trio costumes!

YOUTH BIBLE STUDY

Join us for Bible Study **Sunday, November 3, 4 - 5:30 p.m.** Light snacks and refreshments will be provided.

For our Bible Study series this fall, we will be using the TrndSttr curriculum from Church of the Resurrection.

ST. MARK'S MISSION & LOCK-IN

The St. John's youth group is planning a one-night trip to New Orleans on **November 23-24.** We will be staying in the bunk rooms at the North Rampart Community Center. **The cost to attend is \$30/person, which is due by Sunday, November 10.** Scholarships are available upon request.

Sunday, November 24, our mission team will serve meals to those experiencing homelessness and hunger in the French Quarter. Adult volunteers are welcome to join as well. However, adult chaperons will also need to pay the \$30 fee for themselves. Please contact Connor for more information.

MUSIC MAKERS

Music Makers will meet on Sunday at 4:30 p.m. in the Choir Room.

This Week at St. John's

Sunday, October 27

- 10:00 a.m. One Worship Service, Sanctuary
- 11:15 a.m. Potluck Luncheon, FLC
- 4:30 p.m. Music Makers, Choir Room
- 5:00 p.m. Youth Halloween Party, FLC
- 6:00 p.m. Alleluia Ringers, Bells Room

Monday, October 28

- 7:00 a.m. Early Risers Exercisers, FLC
- 9:00 a.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, The Founders Parlor
- 3:30 p.m. The Shepherd's Market Client Choice Food Pantry, FLC
- 4:30 p.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, The Founders' Parlor
- 6:30 p.m. AA Meeting, FLC-E

Tuesday, October 29

- 8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market Client Choice Food Pantry, FLC
- 7:00 p.m. Pickleball, FLC
- 7:30 p.m. AA Meeting, FLC-E

Wednesday, October 30

- 7:00 a.m. Early Risers Exercisers, FLC
- 6:30 p.m. Ladies' AA Meeting, FLC-C
- 6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir, Choir Room

Thursday, October 31

- 8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market Client Choice Food Pantry, FLC
- 2:00 p.m. UWF Committee Meeting, The Founders' Parlor

Friday, November 1

- 7:00 a.m. Early Risers Exercisers, FLC

Saturday, November 2

- 12:00 p.m. AA Meeting, FLC-C
- 7:00 p.m. AA Meeting, FLC

*Family Life Center

2025 Stewardship Campaign "Our Mission & Money Story"

Each fall, as we budget and begin planning financially for the following calendar year, we invite you to consider how you will support the mission and ministries of St. John's United Methodist Church through your financial giving. The theme for this year's stewardship campaign is "Our Mission & Money Story."

This stewardship season, we are asking ourselves what new story God is inviting us to write that weaves together our mission and money into a narrative of hope and joy. Today, we make our commitments to God's work through our financial pledges for 2025. The mission of St. John's UMC is made possible only through your investment in it. Thank you for your ongoing support of Our Mission & Money Story.

Pledge cards are available in the narthex, on the back of the pews, the church office, and you can pledge online at stjohnsbr.org/pledge-2025.



ST. JOHN'S
United Methodist Church

Glorifying God. Feeding People. Making Disciples.