



Sunday, February 12, 2023

11 A.M. WORSHIP CELEBRATION

All Are Welcome

"We are like the various parts of a human body. Each part gets its meaning from the body as a whole, not the other way around. The body we're talking about is Christ's body of chosen people. Each of us finds our meaning and function as a part of his body."

- Romans 12:4-6, The Message

Today we are talking about relationships. We belong to each other. Our relationship with God is not, and cannot, become an individual endeavor. We are called to connection and community. We must nurture our relationships, and in doing so, we nurture our relationship with God.

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

STJOHNSBR.ORG | @STJOHNSBR

WELCOME TO ST. JOHN'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

OUR MISSION

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.

OUR VISION

Our church will be known as a center for feeding people spiritually and physically in our community.

OUR CORE VALUES

We believe the following guiding principles make us a fruitful and spiritually intentional church:

- Fellowship: A sense of family, hospitality, and belonging to an open, accepting, and nurturing community.
- Caring: Loving response to needs of all people through empathy and compassion.
- Mission: giving of ourselves to meet and serve the needs of all others by faithful witness through our actions, servanthood and way of living.
- Spiritual Growth: Studying, understanding and growing in the word of God by Christ-centered prayer, worship and service through discipleship in action.

OUR CONTACT INFO

230 Renee Drive | Baton Rouge, LA 70810

office@stjohnsbr.org | 225-766-4594 | stjohnsbr.org | @stjohnsbr

Office Hours: Monday thru Thursday 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., Friday 9 a.m. - noon



ST. JOHN'S
United Methodist Church

Glorifying God. Feeding People. Making Disciples.

GUEST INFORMATION

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. Our ushers are happy to assist you in anyway. Restrooms are in the Narthex.

You are invited to participate in any of our activities, and to become a part of this community of faith and love.

Thank you for being here.

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 Playground** 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 Playground 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.

Any questions? Ushers are glad to assist you.

ST JOHN'S CLERGY AND STAFF

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

Lynn Cooper
Administrative Assistant
office@stjohnsbr.org

Dr. Steve Rushing
Choir Director
stevenrushing@stjohnsbr.org

Ben Balsler
Media Producer
benbalsler@stjohnsbr.org

Cheryl Roubique
Nursery Coordinator
cherylroubique@stjohnsbr.org

Connor Dean
*Interim Director of Youth and
Children's Ministries*
connordean@stjohnsbr.org

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

Dr. Terry Byars
Praise Team Director and Accompanist
terrybyars@stjohnsbr.org

Bill Putzig
Custodian
billputzig@stjohnsbr.org

Sofia Rodriguez-Martinez
Nursery Worker
srodzmz23@gmail.com

PREPARE

**Please stand as you are comfortable.
Bold indicates congregational response.*

Prelude

Words of Welcome

Rev. Lane Cotton Winn

Introit

Make Us One

***Call to Worship**

Richard Damberg

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

The risen Christ is with us -
in our waking and in our sleeping;
in our coming in and our going out;
in our everyday, ordinary lives,

God is with us. Always and forever. Amen.

***Hymn of Praise**

Jesus, United by Thy Grace
The United Methodist Hymnal 561, vs. 1, 2, & 6

ENGAGE

Children's Message

Natalie Cooper

Prayer for Illumination

Richard Damberg

Lord,

**Open our hearts and minds
by the power of your Holy Spirit,
that, as the Scriptures are read
and your Word proclaimed,
we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.**

Scripture

Richard Damberg

Romans 12:3-6a

Response to the Word

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.

RESPOND

***Hymn of Faith**

They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love
The Faith We Sing Songbook 2223, vs. 1, 2, & 4

***Sharing the Love and Peace of Christ**

***Affirming Our Faith**

Richard Damberg

A Statement of Faith of the United Church of Canada
The United Methodist Hymnal 883

We are not alone, we live in God's world.

We believe in God:

**who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others by the Spirit.**

We trust in God.

We are called to be the church:

**to celebrate God's presence,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.**

In life, in death, in life beyond death,

God is with us.

We are not alone.

Thanks be to God. 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.**

Prayers of the People

Natalie Cooper

The Lord's Prayer

Offering Our Tithes and Gifts to God

Built on a Rock
by Jay Althouse
Chancel Choir Anthem

*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!**

BLESS

Call to Action

Pastor Lane

*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

Pass It On
The United Methodist Hymnal 572, vs. 1 & 3

*Benediction

*Postlude

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR

The flowers on the altar are from Gray Sexton in memory of his mother, Valentine Sexton. "Vallie" was a member of the First United Methodist Church of Pineville for 66 years.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

UWF MARY MARTHA CIRCLE

The Mary Martha Circle of United Women in Faith will meet **Tuesday, February 14 at 6:30 p.m.** in the Parlor. All women are invited to attend.

DAYS FOR GIRLS

Day for Girls Spring work days will be **Saturday, February 18, 25, and March 4 at 9 a.m.** in the FLC. Days for Girls is a mission of United Women in Faith that makes feminine hygiene kits for girls in developing countries. We can always use your help. You do not have to know how to sew! Contact Joyce Perry (225-763-6613) for more information.

MANNA MISSION MEAL

Join us for a food, fun, and fellowship event on **Sunday, March 19 at 5 p.m.!** The youth will lead us in packing manna bags assembly-line style. We will meet in the FLC at 5 p.m. for a potluck dinner so bring a dish to share. Please refer to the flyer below for information on items we are requesting to be donated throughout the month of February. There will be a blue tub in the hallway of the Admin/ Education Building and in the Narthex for your donations.

Sign up to celebrate a birthday or an anniversary! See more details and get on the schedule by going to <https://tinyurl.com/CoffeeTimeSignup>.

COFFEE TIME REVISITED

Tired of boxed raisins and packaged muffins? It's time to Bring Back the Food! The Food, Fun, and Fellowship team is looking for volunteers to provide snacks for Coffee Time on Sundays. Sign up for several Sundays as a group – Sunday School class, church committee, or just a bunch of friends! Sign up to celebrate a birthday or an anniversary! See more details and get on the schedule by going to <https://tinyurl.com/CoffeeTimeSignup>.

VOLUNTEER WITH YOUTH SIGNUP

If you have a passion to work with young people or are just looking for more ways to get involved at St. John's, consider signing up as an adult volunteer with our youth group. To ensure the safety of our young people, St. John's requires at least two adults be present to oversee all events involving youth and/or children. You may sign up at tinyurl.com/sjumcyouthsignup. Remember, you don't have to have a child in Youth to help out!

MEET & GREET OUR NEW BISHOP!

You are invited to attend the Service of Installation for Bishop Delores J. Williamston, the 11th bishop of The Louisiana Conference of The United Methodist Church on Saturday, **March 4 at 11 a.m. in Lawless Chapel at Dillard University in New Orleans**. It will be a joyous occasion to gather for worship and celebrate the historic installation of the first African-American bishop to be assigned to the Louisiana Conference, and the first African-American female to be elected bishop in the South Central Jurisdiction of The United Methodist Church.

Bishop Williamston has begun a Boots on the Ground Tour, meeting with clergy, laity, and members of local congregations all across Louisiana. All Laity of the Baton Rouge District are invited to meet with her on **Saturday, March 11 from 10:00am-11:30am at Wesley UMC** (544 Government St Baton Rouge, LA 70802). This gathering gives Bishop Williamston the opportunity to listen to United Methodist' hopes and dreams in Louisiana, hear their concerns, and learn of their interests. She also hopes to offer guidance and support for the coming year.

INTRODUCING COMMUNION COMPANIONS

One of the many ministries impacted by the pandemic has been our Visitation ministry to our home-centered and facility-bound church members. We are eager to re-launch this ministry and rebuild those connections! To do so, we need volunteers to serve as Communion Companions.

Communion Companions will make a monthly visit to a church member to which they are paired, extending Christian love and fellowship, serving Communion, which was consecrated in worship, and maintaining the connection to our church family. These visits are set up by you, the Communion Companion, so it fits into your personal and/or work schedule.

These visits are so rewarding for everyone! If you are interested in visiting one of our cherished church members as a representative of St. John's, please come to the **Communion Companions Training on Sunday, March 5 at 3 p.m.** in the Library led by Pastor Lane. She will go over helpful tips for having a brief yet meaningful visit as well as instructions for sharing Communion together. If you are unable to attend the training but are willing to serve as a Communion Companion, please let Pastor Lane (pastorlane@stjohnsbr.org) know.

SPECIAL OFFERING FOR EARTHQUAKE RELIEF

We are collecting a special offering to support the earthquake relief efforts in Turkey and Syria. Tents, heaters, blankets, warm clothes, ready-to-eat meals and first-aid kits will soon be headed to earthquake survivors through a grant from the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR). According to The Associated Press, the quake death toll has topped 22,000. Tens of thousands were also injured. The devastation is beyond compare. Please join us in prayer for the affected areas and consider giving to UMCOR's International Disaster Response to support these efforts. Through UMCOR, every penny donated goes to helping those in need. To make a financial donation, we have set up a special Disaster Relief Fund on our website at stjohnsbr.org/give. Choose the Missions Fund, and then the Disaster Relief Fund / UMCOR. Checks written to St. John's should have UMCOR in the memo line or on the cash envelope.

ASH WEDNESDAY AND LENT

The sacred season of Lent begins with **Ash Wednesday, February 22. We invite you to join us for worship at 12 p.m. (Noon) and 6 p.m.** The ashes used are from last year's palms on Palm Sunday. This year's Lenten theme will be "Seeking: Honest Questions for Deeper Faith." Over the six weeks of Lent we will follow the Lectionary readings, which offer us stories of Jesus encountering people who were seeking – a new beginning, a different life, a deeper faith. Like those in scripture, we are also seeking many things: clarity, connection, wonder, balance. This series will help us unpack some of life's big questions in ways that are honest and faithful, as we ask ourselves: What am I seeking? What is God seeking? Join us on Sundays at 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. in person or online.

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, February 12

- 8:00 a.m. Praise Team Warm Up, 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
- 3:00 p.m. Youth Fellowship
- 4:30 p.m. Music Makers (1st-12th grades),
Choir Room
- 6:00 p.m. Alleluia Ringers, Bells' Room

Monday, February 13

- 7:00 a.m. Early Risers Exercisers, FLC
- 9:00 a.m. Ladies Covenant Group, Parlor
- 3:00 p.m. Men's Covenant Group, Library
- 3:30 p.m. The Shepherd's Market, FLC
- 6:00 p.m. Disciple Bible Study, Library
- 6:30 p.m. AA Meeting, FLC-E

Tuesday, February 14

- 8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market, FLC
- 6:30 p.m. UWF Mary Martha Circle, Parlor
- 6:30 p.m. AA Meeting, FLC-E

Wednesday, February 15

- 7:00 a.m. Early Risers Exercisers, FLC
- 6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir, Choir Room

Thursday, February 16

- 8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market, FLC

Friday, February 17

- 6:30 a.m. Men's Prayer Group, Parlor
- 7:00 a.m. Early Risers Exercisers, FLC

Saturday, February 18

- 9:00 a.m. Days for Girls, FLC
- 9:00 a.m. Watercolor Class, FLC-E
- 12:00 p.m. AA Meeting, FLC-C
- 8:00 p.m. AA Meeting, FLC

*Family Life Center