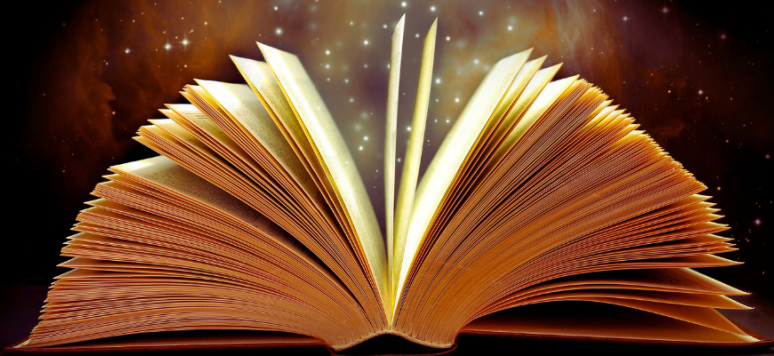


# STRANGER THINGS



A SERIES ABOUT  
BIZARRE BIBLE STORIES

*Sunday, June 14, 2024*  
*11 a.m. Worship Celebration*

All Are Welcome

As we continue our “Stranger Things” worship series, we read the bizarre story of Jael, an unknown yet courageous woman whose boldness, resourcefulness, and decisive action won a significant victory for God’s people. Where in your life is God calling you to act more courageously? As we see from Jael’s story, even when the course of action seems impossible or the outcome is unknown, God is with us every step of the way.

***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.***



stjohnsbr.org | @stjohnsbr | 230 Renee Drive Baton Rouge, LA 70810  
office@stjohnsbr.org | 225-766-4594

# 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](http://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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[pastorlane@stjohnsbr.org](mailto:pastorlane@stjohnsbr.org)

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*Director of Youth & Children's Ministries*  
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Bill Putzig  
*Custodian*  
[billputzig@stjohnsbr.org](mailto:billputzig@stjohnsbr.org)

Brooklyn Hays  
*Nursery Worker*

# 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

## Introit

*All I Need Is You*

## \*Call to Worship

Clara Maynard

Welcome to this community of faith.

**We come seeking hope and courage for the future.**

Here you will find peace, hope, love and joy.

**We come weighed down by difficulties in our lives.**

Here you will find Jesus, who will take your burdens on himself.

**Lord, we come to you this day in need of your mercy and love.**

## \*Hymn

*Standing on the Promises*  
The United Methodist Hymnal 374, vs. 1, 2, & 4

## \*Sharing God's Grace

## Prayer for Courage to Do Justice

O Lord,

**Open my eyes that I may see the needs of others;**

**open my ears that I may hear their cries;**

**open my heart so that they need not be without help.**

**Let me be not afraid to defend the weak**

**because of the anger of the strong,**

**Nor afraid to defend the poor**

**because of the anger of the rich.**

**Show me where love and hope and faith are needed,**

**and use me to bring them to those places.**

**And so open my eyes and my ears and my heart**

**that I may be able to do some work of peace for thee.**

**Amen.**

## Children's Message

Sarah Prevot

**Prayer**

Clara Maynard

**God of all ages,**

**Open our ears to hear your voice in the stories of our faith.**

**Open our minds to understand what they experienced.**

**Open our hearts to accept what you might be saying to us today.**

**In Christ's name we pray. Amen.**

**Scripture**

Judges 4:17-22

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

“Death by Tent Peg”

**Pastoral Prayer**

**The Lord's Prayer**

**\*Hymn**

*Be Still My Soul*

The United Methodist Hymnal 534, vs. 1 & 2

**Psalter**

Pastor Lane

Psalm 27

The United Methodist Hymnal 758-759

Sung Response

**For with you is the fountain of life; in your light do we see light.**

The Lord is my light and my salvation;

Whom shall I fear?

**The Lord is the stronghold of my life;**

**Of whom shall I be afraid?**

When evildoers assail me,

To devour my flesh,

My adversaries and foes

Shall stumble and fall.

**Though a host encamp against me,**

**My heart shall not fear;**

**Though war arise against me,**

**Yet I will be confident.**

One thing I asked of the Lord,

That will I seek after:

**That I may dwell in the house of the Lord**

**All the days of my life,**

**To behold the beauty of the Lord,**

**And to inquire in the Lord's temple.**

Sung Response

The Lord will hide me in his shelter  
In the day of trouble,  
Will conceal me under the cover of his tent,  
And will set me high upon a rock.

**And now my head shall be lifted up  
Above my enemies round about me;  
And I will offer sacrifices in the Lord's tent  
With shouts of joy;  
I will sing and make melody to the Lord.**

Sung Response

Hear, O Lord, when I cry aloud,  
Be gracious to me and answer me!  
"Come," my heart said, "seek the Lord's face."

**Your face, O Lord, I seek.**

Hide not your face from me.  
Turn not your servant away in anger,  
For you have been my help.

**Cast me not off, forsake me not,  
O God of my salvation!  
If my father and mother should forsake me,  
The Lord would take me up.**

Sung Response

Teach me your way, O Lord;  
And lead me on a level path  
Because of my enemies.  
**Give me not up to the will of my adversaries;  
For false witnesses have risen against me,  
And they breathe our violence.**

I believe that I shall see the goodness of the Lord  
In the land of the living.

**Wait for the Lord;  
Be strong, and let your heart take courage.  
Wait for the Lord!**

Sung Response

## Offering Our Tithes and Gifts to God

Offertory: *We Will Praise Your Name*

Words & music by Glenn Barbay

Vocalist: Glenn Barbay

*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](http://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

*O God Our Help In Ages Past*  
The United Methodist Hymnal 117, vs. 1 - 3

## \*Blessing and Sending Forth

## \*Postlude

# Worship Notes

The flowers on the altar are given to the Glory of God in praise for this day that He has made.

Ushers for the 11:00 service are Richard and Marilyn Damberg.

Prayer for Courage to Do Justice, by Alan Paton, South Africa, 20th century, adapted. Published in *The United Methodist Hymnal*, page 456.

# 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.

# Announcements

## ADULT SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL - TED TALK THEOLOGY

Our adult summer study series is called TED Talk Theology and runs through July 28 (9:55-10:45 am) in the sanctuary. Each Sunday we're watching a TED Talk, reading scripture, and talking about what they say to us about our faith and life. We have a new facilitator each Sunday. Come weekly or come when you can! There's nothing to prep for or to read ahead of time. our next TED Talk session will be Sunday, July 21.

**TODAY SUNDAY, JULY 14** our session will be lead by Molly Means with a talk by Chimamanda Adichie titled "The Danger of a Single Story." Our scripture focus will be James 2:1-8.

**NEXT SUNDAY JULY 21** our session will be lead by Rev. Larry Norman with a talk by Shane Koyczan titled "To This Day...for the bullied and beautiful. Our scripture focus will be Matthew 5:43-48.

## CHILDREN & YOUTH SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL

We are looking for volunteers to serve as "table leaders" to help lead each age group within our one-room Sunday School class for our children & youth during the summer. Please carefully review the available slots at [stjohnsbr.org/sumer-ss](http://stjohnsbr.org/sumer-ss) or contact Connor if you have any issues or questions.

## COFFEE TIME REMINDER

Just a reminder that **if your last name begins with S, next Sunday, July 21**, is "your Sunday" to bring a treat to Coffee Time! And also remember that this is NOT an obligation, just a suggestion! You don't have to cook or bake – in these days of prepared foods, any grocery store has plenty to choose from. Please bring your item to the FLC before 9:30 am.

## GRIEF SUPPORT & FELLOWSHIP

Good Grief, St. John's!, the monthly grief support and fellowship group will meet on **Tuesday, July 16 at 5:30 p.m.** in the Founders' Parlor. If you are dealing with any kind of grief, you are welcome. Contact Susan Johnston (call or text 225-773-9563) if you have any questions.

## **PICKLEBALL, ANYONE?**

St. John's! Join us for pickleball for adults on **Tuesdays at 7 p.m.** in the FLC. No sign up is required, just show up! Beginners are welcome.

## **CHURCH OFFICE SUMMER HOURS**

The church office will be closed on Fridays in July. Office hours Monday through Thursday remain 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Friday office hours of 9 a.m. - noon will resume August 2.

## **UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH**

The United Women in Faith Circle of the Heart is having a fundraiser by selling lunches to the ladies who are attending the regional meeting of the Gulf States Quilting Association being held here at St. John's on **Saturday, July 20**. The UWF is asking for volunteers to help with baking brownies or cookies and bring them to the kitchen on Saturday morning. Volunteers are also needed to help plate and serve the meal. Please contact Joyce Perry ([joyce.perry@cox.net](mailto:joyce.perry@cox.net) or 225-978-2206). Thanks go to Phil LeBlanc for preparing his delicious jambalaya for the event.

## **ANNUAL SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE**

Opening Doors is once again sponsoring the annual school supply drive. The drive begins today and will **end Thursday, August 8**. The school supplies will go to students at Wildwood Elementary School, Charlie Thomas Memorial Head Start Center, and Gardere Community Christian School.

Suggested supplies are: pencils, pens (black or blue), Elmer's glue, glue sticks, 24-pack of crayons, colored pencils, spiral notebooks (3 subject or more), standard rulers, folders with clasps and pockets, scissors, boxes of Kleenex, rolls of paper towels, Clorox wipes, hand wipes, dry erase markers, kid scissors, construction paper, copy/computer paper, and kindergarten paper with wide lines.

# *Upcoming Children's & Youth Events*

## **CHILDREN'S POOL PARTY**

Pam & John Toney are hosting our children (5th grade & younger) for a pool party on **Sunday, July 21 from 4-6 PM**. Be sure to wear secure swimsuits and bring towels. Students should also bring a drink of choice to share (soda, juice, etc.).

## **YOUTH SUMMER TOUR**

The next stop on our Summer Tour will be hosted by Broadmoor UMC (10230 Mollylea Dr.) on **Wednesday, July 17**. Youth should be dropped off at 6 p.m. and picked up at 8. The Youth Summer Tour meets each Wednesday in June & July from 6 - 8 p.m. A different church hosts each week.

## **YOUTH SERVICE WEEK**

We are hosting Youth Service Week again this summer! It will take place during the **week of July 29 - August 2**. We are currently contacting local charities to schedule an assortment of exciting and varied volunteer opportunities. Each day, we will also have an engaging fellowship activity like laser tag, bowling, go karts, and more!

## **SAVE THE DATES**

**Youth Mystery Night** - The St. John's youth group is hosting a Mystery Party for students entering 6th-12th grades in the 2024-25 school year. Students will need to RSVP no later than July 21 to ensure they receive a formal invitation with further instructions for the event. The Mystery Party will take place in the Family Life Center on **Friday, August 2 from 6-9 p.m.**

**Grub Sunday** - Join us for messy games at St. John's UMC on **Sunday, August 4 from 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.** Let's celebrate the start of the new school year by making new connections with other youth! Students should meet at the St. John's Family Life Center (the building located furthest from Highland Road) at 4:00 p.m. We will then move to the yard to play MEGA Kickball and other messy games. Students should bring towels and an extra change of clothes. We will finish around 6:00 p.m.

# This Week at St. John's

## Sunday, July 14

- 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. Youth/Children's Sunday School, FLC
- 9:50 a.m. Adult Summer Study, Sanctuary
- 11:00 a.m. Worship Service, Sanctuary
- 6:00 p.m. Summer Bells, Bells' Practice Room

## Monday, July 15

- 7:00 a.m. Early Risers Exercisers, FLC
- 8:30 a.m. Quilt Sew Day, FLC-E
- 9:00 a.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, Founders' Parlor
- 3:00 p.m. Men's Covenant Group, Library
- 3:30 p.m. The Shepherd's Market Client Choice Food Pantry, FLC
- 6:30 p.m. AA Meeting, FLC-E

## Tuesday, July 16

- 8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market Client Choice Food Pantry, FLC
- 1:00 p.m. Gardere Summer Program, FLC
- 5:30 p.m. Good Grief Fellowship, The Founders' Parlor
- 7:00 p.m. Pickleball, FLC
- 7:30 p.m. AA Meeting, FLC-E

## Wednesday, July 17

- 7:00 a.m. Early Risers Exercisers, FLC
- 1:00 p.m. Gardere Summer Program, FLC
- 6:00 p.m. Youth Summer Tour, Broadmoor UMC
- 6:30 p.m. Ladies' AA Meeting, FLC-C

## Thursday, July 18

- 8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market Client Choice Food Pantry, FLC
- 10:00 a.m. River City Quilts, FLC
- 6:00 p.m. Opening Doors Meeting, Library

## Friday, July 19

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

- 6:30 a.m. Men's Prayer Group, Founders' Parlor
- 7:00 a.m. Early Risers Exercisers, FLC
- 8:00 a.m. Gulf States Quilting Association, FLC

## Saturday, July 20

- 8:00 a.m. Gulf States Quilting Association, FLC
- 12:00 p.m. AA Meeting, FLC-C
- 7:00 p.m. AA Meeting, FLC

\*Family Life Center

**BACK TO SCHOOL SPIRIT SUNDAY**  
★ AUGUST 4TH ★  
Blessing of the Bags  
Prayers for Students, Faculty, & Staff  
Presentation of Bibles  
(for K, 3rd, 6th & 9th graders)  
Everyone wear your favorite school colors!

All students will be "promoted" to the next grade level on Sunday, August 4. All children & youth will gather in the Sanctuary at 10:00 a.m. for a brief assembly before breaking into our Sunday School groups for the year. The age groups are divided thusly: Pre-K & younger, Kindergarten - 2nd grade, 3rd - 5th grade, and 6th-12th grade. Students entering Kindergarten, 3rd grade, 6th grade, and 9th grade will be given Bibles on Promotion Sunday as well. If Connor has not already contacted you about receiving a Bible, please email her.

The whole congregation is invited to celebrate the new school year on Sunday, August 4 by wearing the colors of their favorite school! During children's moment on Promotion Sunday, we will bless the bags of students and education professionals. Be sure to show your school spirit and bring a bag for the blessing!