



SPENDING THE SUMMER WITH JESUS' MOST FAMOUS SERMON.

Sunday, July 30, 2023

**11 A.M. WORSHIP CELEBRATION**

All Are Welcome

Today we finish up our "Summer on the Mount" as we listen to the concluding words of Jesus' Sermon on the Mount and consider how we are to live out Jesus' instructions each and every day. Welcome! We're so glad you're here with us.

*Whether you are a guest or member, we invite you to register your attendance (scan the QR code in the bulletin) 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

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*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. If you are feeling cold, shawls are available in a basket in front of the media desk in the back of the sanctuary. 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

Connor Dean  
*Director of Youth & Children's Ministries*  
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Lynn Cooper  
*Administrative Assistant*  
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Dr. Steve Rushing  
*Choir Director*  
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Ben Balsler  
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Cheryl Roubique  
*Nursery Coordinator*

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LeAnn Davis  
*Manager of Finance & Facilities*  
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Dr. Terry Byars  
*Praise Team Director and Accompanist*  
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Bill Putzig  
*Custodian*  
billputzig@stjohnsbr.org

Brooklyn Hays  
*Nursery Worker*

# WELCOME to the CELEBRATION of the GOSPEL

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



## CLIMBING THE MOUNTAIN

Prelude

Words of Welcome

Rev. Lane Cotton Winn

Introit

**\*Call to Worship**

John Toney

Look around.

Listen carefully.

Peer into your heart.

What do you see?

What do you hear?

What do you find?

*(pause for silent reflection)*

Let us seek the presence of God in this moment.

**And let us worship God.**

**\*Hymn of Praise**

*Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*  
The United Methodist Hymnal 127, vs. 1 & 2

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

## LISTENING TO JESUS

Children's Moment

Darlene Dickson

Prayer for Illumination

Holy One,

Throughout the ages you have journeyed with your people.

May we sense your Spirit stirring us to continue our journeys, trusting you will not only guide us to the road that leads to life, but also strengthen us to travel it, following in the footsteps of our great Teacher, Jesus Christ. Amen.

**\*Scripture Reading**

Matthew 7:6-29

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.**

**The Message**

“Living Into the Kingdom”

Pastor Lane

**Pastoral Prayer**

**The Lord’s Prayer**

## **RESPONDING TO THE WORD**

**\*Hymn of Faith**

*My Hope Is Built*

The United Methodist Hymnal 368, vs. 1, 2, & 4

**\*Affirming Our Faith**

*The World Methodist Social Affirmation, adapted*

John Toney

**We believe in God, creator of the world and of all people;  
and in Jesus Christ, incarnate among us,  
who died and rose again;  
and in the Holy Spirit,  
present with us to guide, strengthen, and comfort.**

**We rejoice in every sign of God’s Kingdom;  
in the upholding of human dignity and community;  
in every expression of love, justice and reconciliation;  
in each act of self-giving on behalf of others;  
in the abundance of God’s gifts  
entrusted to us that all may have enough;  
in all responsible use of the earth’s resources.**

**We commit ourselves individually and as a community  
to the way of Christ:  
to take up the cross;  
to seek abundant life for all humanity;  
to struggle for peace with justice and freedom;  
to risk ourselves in faith, hope, and love,  
praying that God’s kingdom may come on earth  
as it is in heaven.**

**\*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.**

**Offering Our Tithes and Gifts to God**

Offertory

*How Can I Keep From Singing*

Steve Rushing, soloist

*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!**

# **BUILDING THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN**

**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 of Discipleship**

*They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love*

*The Faith We Sing Songbook 2223, vs. 1, 2, & 4*

**\*Benediction**

**\*Postlude**

*The end of worship.  
The beginning of service.*

# WORSHIP NOTES

## **USHERS**

Ushers for today's service are Bill and Jane Metcalf.

## **FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR**

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God by Belinda Dumas.

# Worship

## SCHOOL SPIRIT SUNDAY AUGUST 6

- **Blessing of the Bags** - Anyone who desires to have their backpack, work bag, briefcase, or handbag blessed, is invited to bring it to worship on Sunday, August 6. We will have a special Bag Tag for you to hang on your bag to remind you that your St. John's family is praying for you.
- **Wear your favorite school colors!** - Purple and gold; blue and gold; green and gold; red, white, and blue ... whatever your school colors are for high school or college, show your school spirit and wear those colors on Sunday!
- **Prayers for Students, Faculty, & Staff** will be lifted for those returning to school.
- **Presentation of Bibles** - Do you have children entering Kindergarten, 3rd grade, 6th grade, or 9th grade? If you would like them to receive an age-appropriate Bible, please send his or her name to Connor Dean at [connordean@stjohnsbr.org](mailto:connordean@stjohnsbr.org) by Sunday, July 30.
- **Promotion Sunday** - Students beginning Kindergarten will move up to Mrs. Marilyn's & Mrs. Sarah's class. Students beginning 4th grade will move into Mrs. Natalie's and Mrs. Beth's class. Students beginning 6th grade will move into the youth Sunday School class.

## NEW WORSHIP SERIES COMING NEXT SUNDAY

"Grace in the Depths: A Series on Jonah" - This August we will take a deep dive into the story of Jonah and see just how far God's grace will go. We take the plunge on August 6.

## RINGING AND SINGING

After a welcome summer break, the Alleluia Ringers and Chancel Choir will begin the fall with rehearsals starting the first week of August.

The **Chancel Choir** will meet **Wednesday, August 2 at 6:30 p.m.** in the choir room and begin the fall season by leading worship Sunday, August 6 for the 11 a.m. service (10:30 arrival in the choir room). All are welcome to join us as we aspire to worthily magnify our Lord through song.

The **Alleluia Ringers** will commence rehearsals on **Sunday, August 13 at 6 p.m.** Ask any experienced bell ringer, counting is a prerequisite for being a member. If you can count to eight and ring a bell, then you can join the Alleluia Ringers--we will teach you the rest.

For more information on either of these music-making opportunities please contact Steve Rushing at [stevenrushing@stjohnsbr.org](mailto:stevenrushing@stjohnsbr.org) or call 225-773-2589.



# Servanthood

## **VOLUNTEER IN CHURCH OFFICE**

Some of our staff will be attending a workshop at Broadmoor UMC on **Thursday, August 3 from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.** We need a volunteer(s) to come and sit in the office for that day. It can be broken up into half days: 9 a.m. - noon and 1 - 4 p.m. Please email Lynn (office@stjohnsbr.org) to let her know if you are available. Thanks so very much.

## **OUR NEXT ST. MARK'S UMC MISSION**

Mark your calendar for **Sunday, October 8.** This is our next one-day mission to New Orleans to help feed those experiencing homelessness in and around the French Quarter. All ages and abilities are welcome. Text or call Larry Norman (225-933-1881) for more information.

## **SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE**

Opening Doors is collecting school supplies for 3 schools in our area: Charlie Thomas Memorial Head Start Center, Gardere Community Christian School, and Wildwood Elementary School. There are blue tubs in the Narthex and the hallway of the Education/Admin Building through **Sunday, August 6.** A list of suggested supplies is available in the Narthex or in the Friday newsletter.

## **PICK UP YELLOW BAG**

Don't forget to pick up a yellow bag after worship and bring it back next Sunday with items to help stock the shelves for Grocery Bag Sunday. Some suggested items are Jam/jelly, condiments, snack food, canned meat, cereal, canned spinach, greens, or corn (PLEASE no peas, carrots, or green beans).

# Fellowship & Spiritual Growth

## **MOVIE NIGHT IN FLC THURSDAY**

Bring the whole family to watch a movie with us in the FLC on **Thursday, August 3 at 5 p.m.** The votes from our children and families have been tallied and we will be showing... **Ferdinand!** This 2017 animated movie follows the adventures of Ferdinand, the peace-loving bull, as he rallies a misfit team of friends to help him find his way back home. Bring your family and friends and watch this endearing and fun-filled comedy that all ages will enjoy. You are welcome to bring blankets and camp chairs, or enjoy one of our comfy seats in the Family Life Center. We will provide popcorn and drinks. You are welcome to bring your favorite movie snacks with you!

## **CHURCH-WIDE SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY**

All of our adult Sunday School classes combined for a summer study on Jesus' "Sermon on the Mount." Each week was led by a different facilitator. Rev. Larry Norman will lead us today in our final session, "Living into the Kingdom." We are recording the sessions so if you happen to miss the class, you can watch it online. We will send a link to each week's session through the *Inside St. John's* newsletter.

## **UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH MEETING**

The UWF Ruth Circle will meet on Tuesday, August 1 at 9:30 a.m. in the Parlor. Pat Lively will present the program. All women are invited to attend.

## **GRIEFSHARE SUPPORT GROUP**

A 13-week grief and loss support group using the recently released GriefShare New Edition materials will begin on **Tuesday, August 22, 2 - 3:30 p.m.** in the parlor. To join the class you must register through the GriefShare website, [www.GriefShare.org](http://www.GriefShare.org). There is a \$20 charge for class materials, there are scholarships available. Please contact Dee Muenzler for more information (225-933-1668 or [deemuenzler@gmail.com](mailto:deemuenzler@gmail.com)).

# Children & Youth Ministries

## BIBLE PRESENTATION

In honor of those heading back to school, on Sunday, August 6, students going into Kindergarten, 3rd, 6th and 9th grades will be presented Bibles. If your student is moving up into one of those grades, please email Connor Dean (connordean@stjohnsbr.org) by July 30 so we can have an age-appropriate Bible ready.

## PROMOTION SUNDAY

This is when St. John's will recognize the students moving up to the next grade level. On August 6, students starting Kindergarten, 3rd grade, 4th grade, and 6th grade will move into their new Sunday School classes - how exciting! Students beginning Kindergarten will move up to Mrs. Marilyn's & Mrs. Sarah's class. Students beginning 3rd and 4th grades will move into Mrs. Natalie's and Mrs. Beth's class. Students beginning 6th grade will move into the youth Sunday School class.

Children and Youth Sunday School classes will start the morning off in the Sanctuary at 9:45am before attending the GRAND OPENING of the Upstairs Cafe together and then visiting their classrooms. Students can be picked up in their classrooms in the Admin Building when Sunday School ends at 10:45 a.m. And kids, don't forget to wear your favorite school's colors.

## YOUTH & CHILDREN SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL

Today is the final session of our one-room Sunday School for our children in Kindergarten - 12th grade. They will meet in the FLC from 10 - 10:45 a.m. See the Promotion Sunday announcement for information about Sunday School during the school year.

## MUSIC MAKERS RETURNS!

Music Makers will begin making music on **Sunday afternoons from 4:30-5:30 p.m., beginning August 13**, in the Choir Room with Dr. Steve. Children from Kindergarten through 5th grade will meet the first three Sundays of every month and the youth (6th - 12th grades) will join whenever special music is planned. Music Makers will participate in up to four worship services this fall and the Youth will join us for special music during the season of Advent leading into Christmas. Our children have so much musical talent and we are planning a fun and spirit-filled time through singing and playing instruments. Children may be dropped off and picked up from the Choir Room. For more information or to help serve with Music Makers, contact Steve Rushing at [stevenrushing@stjohnsbr.org](mailto:stevenrushing@stjohnsbr.org).

## UPCOMING YOUTH ACTIVITIES

**Mystery Night.** The youth group will be having a mystery night on **August 2, 3:30 - 5:30 p.m.** We will meet at St. John's first before heading out on a mystery activity.

**Grub Sunday.** Grub Sunday is an event for grades 6th-12th. During Grub Sunday, University UMC will also be joining us to play messy games like Color Wars, paint games and Mega kickball. It will take place on **August 6, 4-6 p.m.** We will meet at St. John's Family Life Center.

## UPSTAIRS CAFE

We will have an "Upstairs Cafe" for our children and youth starting August 6 in Room 202 of the Admin Building. The cafe will be open during Coffee Time and will serve primarily as a check-in point for our Sunday School classes, helping our students get settled, enjoy a snack, and have a time of fellowship with one another before separating into their smaller Sunday School groups. If you prefer for your student to spend fellowship time with you in the FLC during Coffee Time, that is totally okay as well. We offer this as another option. It is a space that is intentionally crafted to foster greater community among our children and youth age groups.



# This Week at St. John's

## **Sunday, July 30**

- 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. Children's Sunday School, FLC
- 9:55 a.m. Sermon on the Mount, Adult Bible Study, Sanctuary
- 11:00 a.m. Worship Service, Sanctuary

## **Monday, July 31**

- 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
- 6:30 p.m. AA Meeting, FLC-E

## **Tuesday, August 1**

- 8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market
- 9:30 a.m. UWF Ruth Circle, Parlor
- 6:30 p.m. AA Meeting, FLC-E

## **Wednesday, August 2**

- 7:00 a.m. Early Risers Exercisers, FLC
- 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice, Choir Room
- 6:30 p.m. Women's AA Meeting, FLC-E

## **Thursday, August 3**

- 8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market, FLC
- 5:00 p.m. Movie Night, FLC

## **Friday, August 4**

- 6:30 a.m. Men's Prayer Group, Parlor
- 7:00 a.m. Early Risers Exercisers, FLC
- 8:00 a.m. Food Bank Delivery, FLC

## **Saturday, August 5**

- 9:00 a.m. Gardere Back to School Extravaganza, Hartley-Vey Park
- 12:00 p.m. AA Meeting, FLC-C
- 8:00 p.m. AA Meeting, FLC

\*Family Life Center