

# A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood: Faith Lessons from Mr. Rogers



Sunday, September 11, 2022

**8:30 A.M. WORSHIP CELEBRATION**

All Are Welcome

“People have said, “Don’t cry,” to other people for years, and all it has ever meant is, “I’m too uncomfortable when you show your feelings. Don’t cry.” I’d rather have them say, “Go ahead and cry. I’m here to be with you.”

Fred Rogers

*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 3 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

Evan Gager  
*Fall Youth Intern*  
evangager@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*  
srodz23@gmail.com

# WE GATHER AS NEIGHBORS

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

**Prelude**

Terry Byars

**Words of Welcome**

Rev. Lane Cotton Winn

**\*Songs of Praise**

*He Came Down*  
The Faith We Sing Songbook 2085  
*Halle, Halle, Halleluja (2x)*  
The Faith We Sing Songbook 2026

**\*Call to Worship**

Evan Gager

We bring all that we are to worship God:  
**our hopes and our losses,**  
our faith and our questions,  
**our unique gifts and selves.**  
Just as we are, this very day,  
**we bring our praise to God.**

**\*Song of Response**

*God Is Here Today*  
The Faith We Sing Songbook 2049

# GROWING AS NEIGHBORS

**Children's Message**

Molly Means

**Prayer for Illumination**

Evan Gager

**God of our global neighborhood,  
guide us in your truth and teach us again  
the lessons we need to learn.  
Through your loving instruction,  
may we be good neighbors to others  
and follow in the way of Christ. Amen.**

**\*Scripture**

Evan Gager

Matthew 5:1-11

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Message**

Pastor Lane

"The Feelings We Feel"

# NEIGHBORS IN ACTION

## \*Hymn of Faith

*Blest Are They*

The Faith We Sing Songbook 2155, vs. 1, 2, 4

## \*Call to Confession

Pastor Lane

Mr. Rogers once said, "Listening is where love begins, listening to ourselves and then to our neighbors."

It is time to listen to that voice within us that names our mistakes, the ways in which we have disregarded or hurt others. It is time to listen to the voices of our neighbors when we have ignored needs or done things that damage our community or our world neighbors. Love blossoms and flourishes when we can forgive and be forgiven.

*Let us pray together and then silently.*

## \*Prayer of Confession

Pastor Lane

**Creator God,**

**You made us with full and complex hearts  
that can respond in so many ways to the realities of  
your world.**

**Forgive us**

**when we deny what we feel, or lash out from our feelings;  
when we turn away from others' grief, fear, or anger;  
when we believe you only love us if we pretend everything  
is okay;**

**when we try to be less than the people you have made us to be.**

**Give us strength to face the fullness of our own hearts,  
and to love others as we meet them.**

**We pray in the name of Christ.**

*A time for silent prayer*

## \*Words of Grace and Forgiveness

Friends! Neighbors! Hear this Good News:

The love of God is beyond measure,  
and you are included in that love.

Know that you are forgiven and thus freed  
to share neighborly acts of service and love.

**Thanks be to God. Amen.**

## \*Sharing Love and Peace with Your Neighbor

### Ministry Moment

Johnny McWilliams

Kairos Prison Ministry

### Offering Our Tithes and Gifts to God

Terry Byars

*What Do You Do?*

*We appreciate your generosity.*

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

*You may give online at [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!**

## \*The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

We praise you for creating the whole world,  
for your promises to your people Israel,  
and leading them to a new home.  
In time you moved into our neighborhood yourself,  
in the gift of a child, Jesus Christ,  
in whom your fullness dwells.

**Born of Mary, he shares our life.  
Eating with sinners, he welcomes us.  
Guiding his children, he leads us.  
Visiting the sick, he heals us.  
Dying on the cross, he saves us.  
Risen from the dead, he gives new life.  
Living with you, he prays for us.**

*The congregation is seated and the institution  
of the Lord's Supper is recalled.*

With thanksgiving we take this bread and this cup  
and proclaim the death and resurrection of our Lord.

*The pastor invokes the present work of the Holy Spirit.*

## The Lord's Prayer

### Sharing the Bread and Cup

*Everyone is welcome to share in Holy Communion.*

*Communion will be served using the ancient means of "intinction" with only the  
pastor and servers touching the elements, or, if you prefer, you may receive pre-  
packaged elements. Our communion elements are bread and grape juice.*

*A gluten-free option is also available.*

*You are invited to stay at the chancel for prayer as long as you desire.*

*If you are mobility challenged, please let the usher know and someone will bring  
communion elements to you.*

### Prayer after Receiving

**Thank you, God,  
for life in the Spirit of Jesus:  
for delight in this bread and cup,  
for love that cannot die,  
for peace the world cannot give.**

**Give us the gifts of this holy communion:  
oneness of heart,  
love for neighbors,  
forgiveness of enemies,  
the will to serve you every day,  
and joy in your daily presence.**

**In Jesus name we pray, Amen.**

Evan Gager

# GOING OUT INTO THE NEIGHBORHOOD

## 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

*God Will Take Care of You*

The United Methodist Hymnal 130, vs. 1, 3, 4

## \*Blessing and Sending Forth

Once we were strangers,  
**now we are friends.**

Once we were strangers,  
**now we are neighbors.**

United as neighbors, God sends us  
out into the world,  
**to shine Christ's light and love in our  
neighborhoods. Amen.**

## \*Postlude

*It's Such a Good Feeling*

It's such a good feeling  
To know you're alive  
It's such a happy feeling  
You're growing inside  
And when you wake up ready to say  
"I'll make a snappy new day."

It's such a good feeling  
A very good feeling  
The feeling you know  
That I'll be back when the day is new  
And I'll have more ideas for you  
And you'll have things you'll want to talk about  
I will, too.

## WORSHIP NOTES

### Worship Stewards

Ushers in today's service are Paul Ivey and Joyce Robinson.

### Coffee Time

Everyone is invited to the Family Life Center following the service for coffee and snacks.

### Flowers on the Altar

The flowers on the altar are from Pat Cobb and are in memory of the 9/11 attack on the Twin Towers in New York and in memory of all who lost their lives on that day and since because of this tragedy.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## SEPTEMBER WORSHIP SERIES

Our September worship series, "A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood," turns to childhood icon, Mr. Rogers, for inspiration. Fred Rogers was not only a children's television host, but was also an ordained Presbyterian minister. He brought many Christian values into his program and into the lives of those who grew up watching him. Throughout the month of September, join us as we learn from Mr. Rogers about how to be a good neighbor in today's ever changing and chaotic world. We'll touch on topics like inclusion, self-worth, how we process our feelings, and salvation as we visit with everyone's favorite neighbor, Mr. Rogers, through the lens of scripture.

## UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH (UWF)

**TODAY at 3 p.m.** in the parlor the UWF will hold their general meeting. Guest speaker will be Grace Oulton, district president of UWF. All women are invited to attend.

The Mary Martha Circle will meet **Tuesday, September 13 at 6:30 p.m.** in the Parlor. All women are invited to attend.

## MUSIC MAKERS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

**TODAY, from 4:30 to 5:30,** Mr. Steve will begin our "Music Makers" program for children and youth in 1st - 12th grades. This is an exciting opportunity to discover how music plays a vital role in the life of our church through singing and playing instruments. All children and youth of school age are invited to participate. We all look forward to the blessings that music-making can bring.

## ST. JOHN'S WRITERS' GROUP

**TODAY at 4 p.m.** on Zoom, join St. John's Writers' Group. Newcomers are welcome. Contact Mari Walker (silvermari@gmail.com) for the Zoom information.

## NEW MORNING SESSION OF GRIEFSHARE

A new morning session of GriefShare will begin on Tuesday, September 27 at 2 p.m. in the Parlor. This is a 13-week grief recovery program that will help you on your journey through your grief. You can register at [www.griefshare.org](http://www.griefshare.org). If you have any questions, please contact Dee Muenzler at 225-933-1668 or [deemuenzler@gmail.com](mailto:deemuenzler@gmail.com).

## DAYS FOR GIRLS IN SEPTEMBER

The remaining fall work days for Days for Girls are **Saturdays, September 17 and 24 from 9 - 11:30 a.m.** in the Family Life Center. This is a wonderful mission for everyone to participate. You don't have to know how to sew! If you have any questions, contact Joyce Perry (225-763-6613 or [joyce.perry@cox.net](mailto:joyce.perry@cox.net)). For more information on this international mission go to the Days for Girls website [daysforgirls.org](http://daysforgirls.org).

## COOKIES FOR KAIROS

Johnny McWilliams will be on staff at the Kairos Prison Ministry #48, September 22-25. This world-wide prison ministry works to establish strong Christian communities among the prison population. Home-baked cookies are a tangible expression of Christian love and one the inmates at LCIW (Louisiana Correctional Institute for Women) look forward to.

## COFFEE AND CONVERSATION

We invite you to join us for a new ministry called "Coffee and Conversation," which will gather each **Monday morning from 10-11 am beginning September 19** in the Library. The group will reflect on the scripture used in worship the previous day and apply it to our lives. You can participate in this weekly opportunity as your schedule allows - no need to sign up. With fresh coffee and friendly fellowship, there's space for everyone!

## CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

The Church Council is meeting on **Thursday, September 29 at 6 p.m.** At this meeting Charge Conference items will be on the agenda.