

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



Sunday, September 18, 2022

8:30 A.M. WORSHIP CELEBRATION

All Are Welcome

"Knowing that we can be loved exactly as we are gives us all the best opportunity for growing into the healthiest of people."

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

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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
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Sofia Rodriguez-Martinez
Nursery Worker
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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**

Clap Your Hands
The Faith We Sing Songbook 2028
We Bring the Sacrifice of Praise (2x)
The Faith We Sing Songbook 2031

***Call to Worship**

Bryan Adams

At the end of a long week,
and the beginning of another,
we come to hear the good news:
that we are loved just the way we are,
by a God who delighted in creating us.
Let us love the one who loves us with songs of praise!

***Song of Response**

O How He Loves You and Me
The Faith We Sing Songbook 2108, vs. 1

GROWING AS NEIGHBORS

Children's Message

Rhonda Tucker

Prayer for Illumination

Bryan Adams

**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

Bryan Adams

Psalm 139:1-18

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Message

Pastor Lane

"It's You I Like"

NEIGHBORS IN ACTION

*Hymn of Faith

I Was There to Hear Your Borne Cry
The Faith We Sing Songbook 2051, vs. 1, 2, 5, 6, 7

*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,

**We confess to a dire lack of love
for our neighbor, our enemy,
and even,
especially,
ourselves.**

**And we confess that
by not loving as you have loved,
we fail to love you.**

**Give us eyes that see your image
in each of your children,
and hearts that love others,
not as we wish they were,
but as you have made them to be.**

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

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

Families in Transition (FIT)

Carol Gordon

Offering Our Tithes and Gifts to God

*We appreciate your generosity.
Each gift enables us to be a blessing in our community.
You may give online at 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.**

Bryan Adams

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**

Be Thou My Vision

The United Methodist Hymnal 451, vs. 1, 2, 3

***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**

WORSHIP NOTES

Worship Stewards

Ushers in today's service are Sandra Kuykendall and Amy Richardson.

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 given in honor of those involved with the Kairos Prison Ministry weekend and with thanks to those who support this ministry with their prayers, monetary donations, and cookies.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SEPTEMBER WORSHIP SERIES

Our September worship series, "A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood," turns to childhood icon, Mr. Rogers, for inspiration. 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.

MUSIC MAKERS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

TODAY, from 4:30 to 5:30, Mr. Steve will hold 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. We hope you will encourage your children and youth of school age to participate. We all look forward to the blessings that music-making can bring.

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 (tomorrow)** 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!

GOOD GRIEF, ST JOHN'S!

Good Grief, St. John's! is holding their monthly gathering on **Tuesday, September 20 at 5:30 p.m.** in the Parlor. Join them for fellowship, sharing, and support. All who are suffering a loss are invited to attend.

DAYS FOR GIRLS IN SEPTEMBER

The remaining work day for Days for Girls is **Saturday, September 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). For more information on this international mission go to the Days for Girls website daysforgirls.org.

NEW DAYTIME SESSION OF GRIEFSHARE

A new daytime 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. If you have any questions, please contact Dee Muenzler at 225-933-1668 or deemuenzler@gmail.com.

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.

FAMILIES IN TRANSITION (FIT)

Families in Transition is a ministry of Opening Doors that helps families that are going through a tough situation. We will work with a family for up to 6 months and provide services based on their needs. Sometimes it is help with paying bills but it can also be mentoring, finding resources and praying. You can donate online thru the church website by choosing Missions and sub fund Families in Transition or put FIT in the memo line of your check.

PLANNED GIVING PRESENTATION - What Legacy Will You Leave?

Join Chris Spencer from the United Methodist Foundation of Louisiana on **Sunday, October 9 during the Sunday School hour**, where he will explain how Planned Giving can benefit you, your loved ones, and your church or favorite ministry. Everything from wills and bequests to donor advised funds and endowments will be discussed. Join us, and find out how easy it is to make a planned gift and start reaping the benefits immediately. Breakfast items will be served.