

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



Sunday, September 4, 2022

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

All Are Welcome

"We live in a world in which we need to share responsibility. It's easy to say 'It's not my child, not my community, not my world, not my problem.' Then there are those who see the need and respond. I consider those people my heroes."

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 | stjohsbr.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. 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**

*The Servant Song*

The Faith We Sing Songbook 2222, vs. 1, 2

*Bind Us Together*

The Faith We Sing Songbook 2226

**\*Call to Worship**

Jim Sandifer

God calls us to be together as neighbors in faith,  
**to celebrate those who came before us,**

to be in community with those around us,  
**and to care for those who will come after us.**

With joy and thanksgiving, let us be good neighbors.  
**With joy and thanksgiving, let us praise the Lord!**

**\*Song of Response**

*Make Us One*

The Faith We Sing Songbook 2224

# GROWING AS NEIGHBORS

**Prayer for Illumination**

Jim Sandifer

**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**

Jim Sandifer

Ecclesiastes 4:9-12

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

**Children's Message**

Natalie Cooper

**Scripture**

Jim Sandifer

1 John 4:7-21

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

“Won’t You Be My Neighbor”

# NEIGHBORS IN ACTION

## \*Hymn of Faith

*They’ll Know We Are Christians by Our Love*  
The Faith We Sing Songbook 2223, vs. 1, 2, 4

## \*Prayer of Confession

Pastor Lane

Merciful Lord,  
we confess to how easily we lose hope.  
You promise us your yoke is easy,  
but we carry it heavily.  
We treat our callings as burdens, not gifts.  
Lighten our loads; lighten our hearts.  
Teach us to rejoice in you,  
and to trust always in your steadfast,  
powerful, and unwavering love.  
In Christ’s name we pray. Amen.

## \*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 the Peace and Love of Christ with Others

### Ministry Moment

Walk to Emmaus Retreat

Kathy King

## 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](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**

Jim Sandifer

**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.**

# 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**

*Help Us Accept Each Other*

The United Methodist Hymnal 560, vs. 1, 2, 4

*During the singing of the hymn, we invite you to bring forward The Shepherd's Market grocery bags.*

## **\*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**

Terry Byars

## WORSHIP NOTES

### **Worship Stewards**

Ushers in today's service are Kathy King and Rhonda Tucker.

### **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 Pam and John Toney to thank God for our physical and spiritual families.

# 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.

## ONE DAY MISSION OPPORTUNITY

Next **Sunday, September 11**. St. John's will be going to St. Mark's UMC in New Orleans to participate in their mission to feed those experiencing hunger and homelessness. All ages are welcome to participate in this mission opportunity. The team will depart at 7 a.m. and return Sunday afternoon. For more information contact Rev. Larry Norman (225-933-1881 or [lducknataol@gmail.com](mailto:lducknataol@gmail.com)).

## JOIN OUR FALL BIBLE STUDY

Beginning **Monday September 12 at 6 p.m.** in the Library, we will be offering the 13-week Disciple 1 Fast Track: The Old Testament. This study offers a meaningful experience for you to go deeper into the study of the Old Testament alongside others in a small group setting; the New Testament study will be offered in the spring. Participants read a manageable 3-5 chapters of the Bible daily in preparation for the weekly sessions, which last approximately 75 minutes. The study book costs \$18 and can be paid online. You may register by filling out a registration form or register online at [stjohnsbr.org/disciple-2022](http://stjohnsbr.org/disciple-2022).

## MUSIC MAKERS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Beginning **Sunday, September 11 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.

## DAYS FOR GIRLS IN SEPTEMBER

Fall work days for Days for Girls will be **Saturdays, September 10, 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).

## UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

The Ruth Circle will meet **Tuesday, September 6 at 9:30 a.m.** in the parlor. All women are invited to attend.

## SECOND SATURDAY BREAKFAST CLUB

Join the Prime Timers at their Second Saturday Breakfast Club at the Drury Inn & Suites, 7939 Essen Park Ave., at **8:30 a.m. on September 10**. Rise and Shine to greet the day!

## 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. Look for the guide, "Cookies for Kairos," in the Narthex as there are specific rules to follow. You may bring your cookies to Johnny here at church on **Sunday, September 18**.