



Olympic Faith

**“I have fought the good fight,
finished the race, and kept the faith.”**

- 2 Timothy 6:7

*Sunday, August 11, 2024
8:30 a.m. Worship Celebration*

All Are Welcome

You don't have to be an Olympic champion to have a Podium Moment. You can be a hero wherever you find yourself. In today's reading we hear a pep talk from "Coach Paul". We are being called to leave the spectator stands and reach out in service and love to those who are hurting out there on the "track of life."

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.

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
Lead Pastor
pastorlane@stjohnsbr.org

Connor Dean
Director of Youth & Children's Ministries
connordean@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

Gabe Guillory
Youth Intern
youth@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

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

O Worship the King/Praise to the Lord
Arranged by James D. Kimball

Alleluia Ringers

Words of Welcome

Rev. Lane Cotton Winn

*Songs of Praise

May You Run and Not Be Weary
The Faith We Sing Songbook 2281

Marching to Zion
The United Methodist Hymnal 733, vs. 1 & 4

*Call to Worship

Margaret Sprunger

At the starting line of this day, we call on your name,
God of grace.

**We are running this race of life –
faster, higher, stronger – together!**

God calls us to Olympic faith.

Our goal is to be more like Jesus each day.

We push forward to win the prize to which God
has called us.

Help us keep the faith as we worship our God.

*Response

Guide My Feet
The Faith We Sing Songbook 2208, vs. 1

*Sharing the Love and Peace of Christ

We can run with endurance the race that God has set before us,
because we know that the grace of God, the love of Jesus Christ, and
the presence of the Holy Spirit goes with us.

May the love and peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you and all others!

Children's Moment

Darlene Dickson

2 Timothy 4:6-8

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

“The Podium Moment”

***Hymn**

Lift High the Cross
The United Methodist Hymnal 159, vs. 1 & 4

Ministry Moment: Permanent Endowment

Kathy King

Offering Our Tithes and Gifts to God

Offertory: *Breathe on Me, Breath of God*
Arranged by James D. Kimball
Alleluia Ringers Ensemble

*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.*



***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!**

***Gathering at God's Table**

*To prepare for Holy Communion, we recall the story of the Last Supper
and the pastor invokes the presence 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 a person with limited mobility, please let the usher know and
someone will bring communion to you.*

Lord,

**As we run the race You have set before us,
help us keep our eyes on Your goals -
not our own.**

When we falter, give us fresh strength and courage.

When we are fleet-footed, let us give You the glory.

**By Your Spirit, send us out to exercise our faith, growing
faster, higher, stronger - together.**

In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

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, 2, 3, & 6

*Blessing and Sending Forth

*Postlude

Alleluia Ringers Ensemble

Do Lord

Arranged by James Kimball

Worship Notes

The flowers on the altar are given to the Glory of God, the God Creator watches over our pets here and in heaven.

Ushers for the 8:30 service are Darren and Chris Stubbs.

After the 8:30 service, everyone is invited to the Family Life Center for coffee and refreshments.

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.

PRAYER REQUESTS

We believe that prayer is a powerful way to connect us to one another and to God. If you have a prayer or joy you want lifted up, please email prayers@stjohnsbr.org. Pastor Lane and Lynn Cooper, our Administrative Assistant, will receive your request and pass it along to the Prayer Team, unless you request it only be shared with Pastor Lane. A group of dedicated volunteers receive prayer requests weekly and then focus on praying for these requests immediately and throughout the week. All of the Prayer Team Members are deeply committed to keeping prayer requests confidential as requested. Prayer Requests are also included in the *Inside St. John's* newsletter, sent on Tuesdays.

Announcements

THANK YOU FOR THE SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Many, many thanks to everyone who donated with supplies and money to Opening Doors' 2024 School Supplies Drive. As you can see it was quite a success. Once again, we will be able to send a good many of the needed school supplies to Charlie Thomas Head Start, Gardere Community Christian School, and Wildwood Elementary.

OUR CURRENT WORSHIP SERIES - OLYMPIC FAITH

As the Olympic games take center stage this summer, we will discover how the values of the games teach us biblical values for our lives through August worship series "Olympic Faith."

FALL BIBLE STUDY ON PSALMS STARTING IN SEPTEMBER

Imagine a life of true happiness, a life of complete honesty with God. Through our upcoming Bible Study on the Psalms, you learn how to live a life of gratitude while producing actions that honor God. This 6-week study meets weekly, **beginning Tuesday, September 10**, with a **morning session at 9:30am**, led by Clara Maynard and an **evening session at 6pm**, led by Guy Johnson. Choose the time of day that works best for your schedule. (The study will end October 15.) The study book, *Immersion Bible Study on the Book of Psalms*, will cost \$15 and can be picked up in the church office. Participants should read Lesson 1 prior to the first class. You may pay for the book by check (made out to St. John's UMC with Bible Study in the memo line) or online at stjohnsbr.org/give, then from the General Budget pull down menu select SS Classes and Small Groups, then from the Sub Fund pull down menu select Bible Study. In the For: line put Immersion Psalms.

You may register online at stjohnsbr.org/Immersion-Study-Fall-2024.

If you have any questions, please contact Rhonda Tucker (by phone or text: 225-270-2193 or parkerrhondatucker@gmail.com).

PICKLEBALL, ANYONE?

Join us for pickleball for adults in the Family Life Center! Our schedule has changed for the fall and we will play Pickleball on Tuesdays with the exception of the fourth Tuesdays in August, September, and October and the third Tuesday in November. No sign up is required, just show up! Beginners are welcome. For more information contact Donnie Lambert at 225-921-0446.

JOIN OUR CHANCEL CHOIR

Our Chancel Choir has resumed rehearsals on **Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.** and singing at the 11 a.m. service on Sundays. This is an opportunity for anyone to share the gift of their heart, soul, and voice--when one sings, they pray twice. Grace upon grace is bestowed upon those who share their gifts to the glory of God. Join us this Wednesday in the choir room.

COFFEE TIME SNACKS BY LAST NAME CONTINUES!

Thanks so much for all of your generous coffee time contributions over the summer! We all ate very well! In fact, we ate so well we are going to continue into the fall with this new concept! Look for reminders in the Sunday Bulletin and weekly newsletters.

If your last name begins with **H - K, Sunday, August 18** is "your" day to bring a snack for Coffee Time. Remember, this is just a much appreciated suggestion not an obligation. You don't have to cook or bake - in these days of prepared foods, any grocery store has plenty of delicious items to choose from. **Please bring your items in a disposable container or single-use dish, and take them to the FLC by 9:30 a.m.**

PLANNED GIVING

Today we hear a Ministry Moment from Kathy King about our Permanent Endowment. You can read about planned giving by going to stjohnsbr.org/legacy. Planned giving team members are Kathy King, Brian Blackwood, Pat Cobb, and Mari Walker. They are happy to provide information about the Permanent Endowment or other legacy giving options. We're grateful to be able to donate books for the benefit of The Shepherd's Market clients through the 2024 distribution from the Permanent Endowment!

UWF CIRCLE OF THE HEART

The United Women in Faith Circle of the Heart will meet **Wednesday, August 14 at 9:30 a.m.** in The Founders' Parlor. Joyce Perry will present the program; Lenni Stickles will present the devotional. All women are invited to attend.

DAYS FOR GIRLS MISSION ASKING FOR DONATIONS

Days for Girls is a mission of St. John's United Women of Faith Circle of the Heart to help provide reusable feminine hygiene products for girls in developing countries. For our Fall Workdays, we will meet in the Family Life Center on **Saturday, September 7 and 14 from 9 a.m. – noon**. We have many jobs such as applying snaps, inserting ribbons, and folding panties and washcloths. All helpers are welcome and needed!

To help alleviate the cost of making the kits, we are asking for donations of: new girls' cotton panties (briefs) sizes 10, 12, or 14, solids or flowers, no characters or animals; new colored washcloths, and cash donations for supplies.

For more information contact Joyce Perry (home: 225-763-6613 or cell: 225-978-2206 or joyce.perry@cox.net). Also, you might be interested in checking out their website at www.daysforgirls.org.

ST. MARK'S UMC MISSION

Our fall mission to St. Mark's UMC in New Orleans will be **Sunday, September 22**, when we will join St. Mark's in the French Quarter serving the unhoused. If you would like to be a part of this meaningful day of mission (from approximately 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.), please contact Larry Norman at 225-933-1881.

An anonymous donor has offered to match the first \$500 of donations we raise for our one-day mission to St. Mark's UMC in New Orleans! You may donate online by going to stjohnsbr.org/give, then from the pull down General Budget menu, select Sub Fund, then Missions, then St. Marks. You may also give by check made out to St. John's UMC with St. Mark's in the memo line and put it in the offering plate or mailing it to the church.

Upcoming Children's & Youth Events

SUNDAY MORNINGS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

We offer faith formation for children and youth of all ages during Sunday School. Students start in the Upstairs Cafe (Room 202 of the Admin building) helping them get settled, enjoy a snack, and have a time of fellowship with one another before separating into their smaller Sunday School groups: Children 2 yrs to 4 yrs are in the Pre-K Room on the first floor of the Admin building; Students in Kindergarten through 2nd grade are in Mrs. Marilyn's & Mrs. Sarah's class (Room 204); Students in 3rd through 5th grades are in Mrs. Natalie's and Mrs. Beth's class (Room 207); Students in 6th through 12th grades are in the Youth Sunday School class (Room 201). The nursery is open to infants and toddlers all morning on the first floor of the Admin building

Students should be signed-in by an adult (18 years or older) between 9:30 - 9:50 a.m. in the Upstairs Cafe or at the sign-in station located at the base of the stairwell. (Children in the nursery and toddler classes will continue to sign in at their classrooms.) Students will also need to be signed-out by an adult or an older sibling (at least youth age) at the end of Sunday School, around 10:50 a.m. Older, youth-age siblings can sign-out younger siblings only if Connor has been directly notified of this preference.

UPSTAIRS CAFE REOPENING TODAY

The Upstairs Cafe has reopened with a new routine for supplying the Cafe with snacks.

For the month of August, to give parents time to adjust to this new routine, Connor and the Sunday School leaders will provide all the Cafe snacks. Beginning in September, the Sunday School leaders will provide snacks on the first Sunday of each month. Families are being asked to provide snacks for the remainder of the month, following this schedule: 1st Sunday - Sunday School Teachers; 2nd Sunday - K - 2nd Families; 3rd Sunday - 3rd - 5th Families; 4th Sunday - Youth Families; 5th Sundays will be dealt with separately.

MUSIC MAKERS RESUMES

Music Makers will begin rehearsals on **Sunday, August 18 at 4:30 p.m.** in the Choir Room.

This is a wonderful opportunity for Kindergarten through 5th grade students as well as Youth (6th - 12th grades) to be introduced to songs and hymns of the United Methodist Church and a variety of instruments. Drop them off and pick them up in the choir room. They will have a wonderful time with Dr. Steve.

This Week at St. John's

Sunday, August 11

- 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. Sunday School, Campus wide
- 11:00 a.m. Worship Service, Sanctuary

Monday, August 12

- 7:00 a.m. Early Risers Exercisers, FLC
- 9:00 a.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, The Founders' Parlor
- 3:30 p.m. The Shepherd's Market Client Choice Food Pantry, FLC
- 4:30 p.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, The Founders Parlor
- 6:30 p.m. AA Meeting, FLC-E

Tuesday, August 13

- 8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market Client Choice Food Pantry, FLC
- 7:00 p.m. Pickleball, FLC
- 7:30 p.m. AA Meeting, FLC-E

Wednesday, August 14

- 7:00 a.m. Early Risers Exercisers, FLC
- 9:30 a.m. UWF Circle of the Heart, The Founders' Parlor
- 6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir, Choir Room
- 6:30 p.m. Ladies' AA Meeting, FLC-C

Thursday, August 15

- 8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market Client Choice Food Pantry, FLC
- 3:30 p.m. Nominations Committee, The Founders Parlor

Friday, August 16

- 6:30 a.m. Men's Prayer Group, The Founders' Parlor
- 7:00 a.m. Early Risers Exercisers, FLC

Saturday, August 17

- 9:00 a.m. River City Quilt Guild Workshop, FLC
- 12:00 p.m. AA Meeting, FLC-C
- 7:00 p.m. AA Meeting, FLC

*Family Life Center



ST. JOHN'S

United Methodist Church

Glorifying God. Feeding People. Making Disciples.