

STAYING IN THE WORK

CHECK-IN & PRAYER REQUESTS → 

When the work takes longer than expected, it's easy to feel tired, distracted, or unsure of what comes next. Today we reflect on staying faithful in seasons of waiting, trusting that God is still at work, even when progress feels slow.

Most Needed Pantry Items

This week's most needed donations are **peanut butter, snacks, and pasta**. Ongoing needs include cereal, condiments, drinks, and household items such as detergent, paper products, and hygiene items. Thank you for helping care for our neighbors.

You may drop items by the Church Office or during Shepherd's Market Pantry Hours Mon 3:30 - 5:30 p.m. and Tues & Thurs 8:00 - 10:00 a.m. in the Family Life Center.

Prayer Requests

Share prayer requests by scanning the QR code above, emailing prayers@stjohnsbr.org or visiting stjohnsbr.org/here.

All Are Welcome & Affirmed Here

Whoever you are, wherever your faith journey, you are welcome and affirmed. We are so glad you joined us and hope you feel at home here.

For Newcomers

Restrooms & Welcome Brochures are located in the narthex (lobby). Our **ushers** can help you in any way you may need. Text 'CONNECT' to 225-230-1017 join our updates.

For Families with Children

- The **Playground** is a child-friendly space at the front of the sanctuary where children and their families are welcome to participate in worship in a way that works for them.
- The **Nursery** serves infants - preschool in the Education & Administration building next door.
- Changing tables** are located in the restrooms and nursery.
- Holy Communion** elements of bread and grape juice are available to all including children weekly at the 8:30 a.m. service and on the first Sunday of the month at the 11:00 a.m. service. **Gluten free** elements are also available.
- We offer **Sunday School** for 18 months - 12th grade from 9:45 a.m. to 10:45 a.m., along with a variety of adult classes as well.

The flowers on the altar are given by Barbara Benton in honor of her St. John's family, with gratitude for all the love and blessings they have shown her over the years.

Todays ushers are **Jackie Creed and Laurie Williams**.

EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

"On Purpose" Worship Series Continues

In *On Purpose*, we reflect on vision—where we're headed, what distracts us, and how God calls us to live with intention. This three-week series connects our shared life as a church with the choices we make each day.

"On Purpose" Reflection Guide – Now Available

A reflection guide for the On Purpose worship series is available and includes Scripture, reflection questions, and weekly practices for individuals or groups. Pick up a copy in the Narthex (lobby) or church office, or download it using the QR code.



"The Chosen" Watch Parties – Wednesdays

We are currently watching Season 1 of "The Chosen," and you are welcome to join at any time. Watch parties meet on Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m. in the Family Life Center to enjoy an episode together, followed by a brief time of conversation and fellowship.

Church Council Meeting – Thursday, February 5 | 5:30 p.m. | Library

All are welcome to the Church Council's meeting on Thursday at 5:30 p.m. as we look ahead to the life and ministry of the church, approve the 2026 budget, and continue conversation around our newly adopted mission and vision.

Parents' Night Out – Saturday, February 14 | 4:30-7:30 p.m.

Looking for a Valentine's night out? Let our youth take care of the kids. Parents' Night Out will be held from 4:30-7:30 p.m. Children will enjoy a fun, safe evening while you enjoy time away, all while supporting our youth mission trip. A suggested donation of \$25 per child is requested, with a minimum of \$15. Additional donations are welcome. Drop off in the Family Life Center. Please spread the word to support Youth Missions!

Ash Wednesday – February 18 | 6:00 p.m.

Begin the season of Lent with Ash Wednesday worship, a quiet and meaningful service of prayer, scripture, and the imposition of ashes. We gather to name our need for grace, and turn our hearts toward God's renewing love as the Lenten journey begins.

Mary Madalyn St. Pierre to Visit Adult Sunday School Classes

Our New Welcome, Belonging, and Congregational Care Coordinator, Mary Madalyn St. Pierre, will visit adult Sunday School classes for conversation and teaching. Details and class schedule will be shared soon.

EVERY WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

FLC = Family Life Center

WORSHIP SERVICES

Sundays
8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. Sanctuary

COFFEE TIME

Sundays
9:30 a.m. FLC
Last Names A-C may bring snacks on 2/8

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sundays
9:45 a.m. Campus Wide for All Ages

MUSIC MINISTRIES

Sundays
6:00 p.m. The Alleluia Ringers, Bells Room
Wednesdays
6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Practice, Choir Room

CHILDREN & YOUTH

Sundays
9:45 a.m. Sunday School, Campus Wide
Upstairs Cafe Fruit: Last Names A-H
4:00 p.m. Music Makers (K-8th grades)

SERVE

Fridays
10:30 a.m. Holy Helpers, Church Office

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Monday - Friday

CONTACT stjohnsbr.org/contact-us



ST. JOHN'S
United Methodist Church

Staying in the WORK

8:30 AM Worship Celebration

Sunday, February 1 2026

St. John's Mission

Go and make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

St. John's Vision

Love. Grow Together. Serve Our Neighbors.

stjohnsbr.org | @stjohnsbr | office@stjohnsbr.org

225-766-4594 | 230 Renee Drive BR, LA 70810

WELCOME

8:30 AM Worship Celebration

Please stand as you are comfortable where marked by an asterisk (*) & join in speaking where text is in **bold**.



CHECK IN
& PRAYER
REQUESTS

Gathering Music

Dr. Terry Byars

Words of Welcome

Rev. Lane Cotton Winn

We Sing Together*

How Firm a Foundation

U.M. Hymnal #529 vs 1, 2, 5

Invitation to Worship*

Rev. Larry Norman

When the work feels long and the vision takes time,

we come to worship the God who is still at work.

When we are tempted to give up, settle, or turn aside,

God calls us to stay with the work.

When faithfulness feels ordinary, unseen, or slow,

God strengthens our hands and renews our hope.

Come, let us worship the God who builds patiently,

and shapes us through love, perseverance, and grace.

We Sing Together*

As the Deer

The Faith We Sing #2025

We Encourage Our Children

Barbara Benton

Special Mission Recognition

We Read the Word

Nehemiah 6:1-9

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.

Pastor Lane

We Reflect on the Word

Staying with the Work

Pastor Lane

We Sing Together*

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

U.M. Hymnal # 140 vs 1, 3

We Name Our Need For Grace*

Rev. Larry Norman

Gracious God,
we confess that when the work feels slow,
we are tempted to give up.
When faithfulness takes time,
we look for shortcuts or distractions.
We settle for comfort when you call us to courage.
We confuse patience with passivity
and busyness with faithfulness.
Forgive us for the times we have
come down from the work you have given us to do.
Renew our focus.
Strengthen our hands.
Teach us to trust your timing
and stay present to your call.
In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

We Hear Words of Grace & Forgiveness*

Rev. Larry Norman

Hear the good news:
God has not given up on us.
The work is not finished.
Grace meets us where we are and carries us forward.
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.
May the peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

We Greet One Another with Joy & Peace*

We Offer God's Tithes and Our Gifts

Thank you for your generosity. Your gift helps us be a blessing in our community. Scan the QR code or visit stjohnsbr.org/give to give online.



GIVING

We Sing Together*

U.M. Hymnal # 94

Praise God from Whom all Blessings Flow
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!

We Prepare for Communion*

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The blessings of God, our Creator are shared, concluding with singing:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest (3x)

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest (3x)

The congregation is seated as we affirm Jesus' life and recall the Last Supper, concluding with:

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Hosanna in the highest (3x)

We pray for the Holy Spirit's presence in this holy meal concluding with The Lord's Prayer.

We Pray the Lord's Prayer

U.M. Hymnal #895

We Partake in Communion*

All are welcome to receive Communion.

We serve by intinction (bread dipped in juice); servers handle the elements. Pre-packaged and gluten-free options are available.

You may remain at the chancel to pray. If you need Communion brought to you, please let an usher know.

We Pray Together

Rev. Larry Norman

**Gracious God, we give you thanks for this holy meal,
where you have met us with love,
strengthened us for the journey,
and reminded us that we do not walk alone.**

**Strengthen us to stay with the work before us -
to love, grow together, and serve our neighbors.**

**Send us out nourished by your grace, patient in the waiting,
faithful in the building, and hopeful in all that lies ahead. Amen.**

We Receive This Week's Call To Action

Pastor Lane

We Sing Together*

U.M. Hymnal #368 vs 1, 2

My Hope is Built

We Share in a Blessing*

Pastor Lane

We Go Out into the World*

Dr. Terry Byars

Music sends us out, but our worship continues as we go forth to love, grow together, and serve our neighbors.

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