

Therefore, as God's chosen people,  
holy and dearly loved,  
clothe yourselves with

COMPASSION,  
KINDNESS.

humility,  
gentleness, and  
patience.

Colossians 3:12

Sunday, January 22, 2023

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

All Are Welcome

Put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator. Here there is no Gentile or Jew, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free, but Christ is all, and is in all. Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.

Colossians 3:10-13

*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

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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 18 months 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*  
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Ben Balsler  
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Dr. Terry Byars  
*Praise Team Director and Accompanist*  
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Bill Putzig  
*Custodian*  
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Sofia Rodriguez-Martinez  
*Nursery Worker*  
srodzmz23@gmail.com

# GATHERING

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

## Prelude

## Words of Welcome

Rev. Lane Cotton Winn

## \*Song of Praise

*The Servant Song*  
The Faith We Sing Songbook 2222, vs. 1, 2, 4, & 6

## \*Call to Worship

Betty Schroeder

God of love and light, we are living in a tumultuous time.  
All around us we witness hurt and distress and bald need.  
We covet your divine guidance.

**Rain down on us, God of justice, with your insight.**

Our neighbors are hungry, precious children are neglected,  
families are suffering, the world is torn by war.

**Shine down on us, God of mercy, with your healing grace.**

Our prayer to you this day is for compassionate discernment.  
Help us, enable us, empower us to meet the needs of those who suffer.

**Breathe down on us, God of grace, with your loving spirit.**

**Refresh our senses, revive our passion, renew our commitment  
to our neighbors, near and far. Amen.**

written by Betty Schroeder

## \*Song of Response

*Breathe on Me, Breath of God*  
The United Methodist Hymnal 420, vs. 1

# LISTENING

## Children's Moment

Pam Toney

## UWF Special Mission Recognition

Pat Cobb, Beth Forester

*Each year the UWF recognizes members of St. John's who exemplify  
our motto of "Compassionate Commitment" with a Special Mission Recognition  
Pin which honors the recipient with a monetary gift to mission in her name.*

## UWF Purpose and Highlights

Joyce Robinson, Beth Forester

*To be a community of women whose purpose is to know God and to  
experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a  
creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through  
participation in the global ministries of the church.*

## Introduction of Guest Preacher

Joyce Robinson

**Prayer for Illumination**

Beth Forester

**May the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts  
be acceptable in thy sight, thou who art our strength and our  
redeemer. Amen.**

**Scripture**

Colossians 3:10-13

Beth Forester

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

**Message**

“Compassionate Commitment:  
Explore, Experience, Engage”

Sandra Jones

# RESPONDING

**\*Hymn of Faith**

*Here I Am, Lord*

The United Methodist Hymnal 593, vs. 1 - 3

**Offering Our Tithes and Gifts to God**

Lenni Stickles, prayer

Loving God of all peoples, we humbly offer ourselves to you through caring service. Grant us wisdom to discern appropriate priorities, energy and enthusiasm to pursue our compassionate goals, and loving hearts to offer to all your children. Bless these gifts we offer now toward the mission and ministry of your church. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

by Betty Schroeder

*Be Kind to One Another*

lyrics by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

music by Samuel S. Wesley

sung by Pastor Lane and Molly Means

*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**

The United Methodist Hymnal 94

**Sharing in Holy Communion**

*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.*

**The Lord's Prayer**

**Prayer after Receiving  
Ever Present God,**

Pat Lively

**Thank you for inviting us to your table of grace and feeding us  
spiritually and physically this day.  
Renewed by your spirit, may we go out as people of  
compassion, committed to living into our baptism,  
as we put on Christ and give our lives in service to you.  
In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.**

## DEPARTING TO SERVE

### **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 of Discipleship**

*Take My Life, and Let It Be*

The United Methodist Hymnal 399, vs. 1 - 3

### **\*Benediction**

Beth Forester

Gracious God,

Our hearts are filled with gratitude for Your grace and compassion.

**Send us out to show compassion for our neighbors and  
those in need.**

Send us out to work for what is right and to forgive as You forgive.

**Send us out to be Your kindness,  
with humility and gentleness, and Your patience,  
as we bear with one another in love.**

Siblings in Christ, put on the new self,  
and clothed in Christ, go in peace.

**Renewed by the Spirit, may we have courage to explore,  
experience, and engage in compassionate commitment, and  
so find greater kinship with the Lord, who is our guide and  
our path, now and forever. Amen.**

### **\*Postlude**

## WORSHIP NOTES

### **Flowers on the Altar**

The flowers on the altar are dedicated to all members of United Women in Faith and the predecessor organizations.

### **Worship Stewards**

Greeters at the 8:30 service are Kathleen Adams and Lenni Stickles.

Ushers are Beth Forester and Pam Toney.

### **Coffee Time**

Everyone is invited to the Family Life Center after worship for a reception hosted by the UWF.

### **Bulletin Cover**

The cover for this Sunday's Bulletin was designed by Grace Idikwu.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## DISCIPLE FAST TRACK NEW TESTAMENT

Disciple Fast Track will begin **Monday, January 23 from 6 - 7:15 p.m.** in the Library. This 12-week study covers the entire New Testament. The class will be facilitated by Guy Johnson, Rhonda Tucker, and Danielle Blackwood. You may register with the form in the Narthex or online at [stjohnsbr.org/disciple-jan-23](http://stjohnsbr.org/disciple-jan-23). Student books cost \$18; there are scholarships available.

**PLEASE NOTE:** participants should pick up their student book from the church office prior to the first session in order to be ready to discuss the first lesson.

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

The Finance Committee will hold its first meeting of 2023 on **Thursday, January 26 at 6 p.m.** in the Library.

The Church Council will hold its first meeting of 2023 on **Tuesday, January 31 at 6:30 p.m.** in the Library.

## NEW WORSHIP SERIES, JANUARY 29 - FEBRUARY 19

Our lives are made up of a string of ordinary moments, and sometimes the ordinary begins to feel mundane or monotonous. But in these ordinary moments we can find God. In fact, each is a gift from God, an opportunity to be formed in God's grace and love. In our series "**Holy in the Everyday**" we will explore ordinary tasks like checking our email, eating leftovers, texting a friend, and drinking coffee to help us remember that we can meet God in every moment

## THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

### Sunday, January 22

- 8:00 a.m. Praise Team Warm Up, *Sanctuary*
- 8:30 a.m. Worship Service, *Sanctuary*
- 9:30 a.m. United Women in Faith Reception, *FLC\**
- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School, *Campus Wide*
- 11:00 a.m. Worship Service, *Sanctuary*
- 3:00 p.m. Youth Group, *Youth Room*
- 4:30 p.m. Music Makers, *Choir Room*
- 6:00 p.m. Alleluia Ringers, *Bells' Room*

### Monday, January 23

- 7:00 a.m. Early Risers Exercisers, *FLC*
- 9:00 a.m. Ladies Covenant Group, *Parlor*
- 3:00 p.m. Men's Covenant Group, *Library*
- 3:30 p.m. The Shepherd's Market, *FLC*
- 4:30 p.m. Ladies Covenant Group, *Parlor*
- 6:00 p.m. Disciple Fast Track, *Library*
- 6:30 p.m. AA Meeting, *FLC-E*

### Tuesday, January 24

- 8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market, *FLC*
- 6:30 p.m. AA Meeting, *FLC-E*

### Wednesday, January 25

- 7:00 a.m. Early Risers Exercisers, *FLC*
- 6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir, *Choir Room*

### Thursday, January 26

- 8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market, *FLC*
- 6:00 p.m. Finance Committee, *Library*

### Friday, January 27

- 6:30 a.m. Men's Prayer Group, *Parlor*
- 7:00 a.m. Early Risers Exercisers, *FLC*
- 8:00 a.m. Food Bank Delivery, *FLC*

### Saturday, January 28

- 8:30 a.m. Watercolor Class, *FLC-E*
- 12:00 p.m. AA Meeting, *FLC-C*
- 8:00 p.m. AA Meeting, *FLC*





## 2023 Officers

Beth Forester - President  
Joyce Robinson - Vice President  
Liz McDonald - Secretary  
Marie Varnes - Treasurer  
Kathleen Adams - Immediate Past President  
Diane Roark - Ruth Circle Leader  
Lenni Stickles - Mary Martha Circle Leader

St. John's has two "circles" of United Methodist Women and these groups gather monthly in the church parlor. The Ruth Circle meets on the first Tuesday of each month at 9:30 a.m. The Mary Martha Circle meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m.

Our mission is to support local, state, national, and world-wide projects with women and children as our focus. We are always looking for women to join our efforts by contributing your time, talents, and financial support.

You may join one of the Circles or be a Friend of the UMW if attending meetings does not work into your schedule at this time.

### **Important Dates This Spring**

February 18, 25, March 4

Days for Girls Mission  
Work Days  
9 a.m. in the FLC

March 19, September 17

General Meeting  
3 p.m. in the Parlor

April 2

Easter Craft & Bake Sale  
8 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. in the FLC