

# **CHECK-IN & PRAYER REQUESTS VIA OR CODE**



t's easy to assume someone else will share God's love—but Paul reminds us it often starts with us. Today, we'll explore how faith isn't just something we believe—it's something we live, offering Christ to others through prayer, care, and action.

# **MAKE A DIFFERENCE**

# Set Up & Clean Up Crew, Welcome Potluck

Join us for a Welcome Potluck Lunch on September 7th for Kate Bouchillon, our new Family Ministries Director! If you can come a little early to help set food out, or stay after to help with dishes and cleanup, let Beth LaCour know (beth\_lacour@att.net).

## **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 **St. John's Prayground** is in the front of the sanctuary during services. Children are welcome to spend the entire service here.
- 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 12<sup>th</sup> grade from 9:45 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.
- Flowers are given by the SPRC in celebration of our incredible staff at St John's UMC. We are truly blessed by our hardworking, talented, and dedicated leaders!

Our ushers are Brian & Danielle Blackwood.

## UPCOMING EVENTS & ANNOUCEMENTS

### **Finance Committee Meeting**

Join us on Thursday, August 28th 5:30 p.m. in the Library.

One Service Sunday & Extended Coffee Time August 31st, 10:00 a.m. No Sunday School on this Sunday. The next 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday is August 31st, and we'll worship together in one combined service at 10:00 a.m. followed by an extended Coffee Time. Everyone is invited! If your last name begins with M-Z, A-C, or D-G, please consider bringing a treat to share for Coffee Time that day.

#### New Worship Series, Overcoming, Begins August 31st

Life can feel like too much sometimes—too busy, too uncertain, too overwhelming. In this five-week series, we'll explore how God meets us in the chaos and gives us the tools to move from overwhelmed to overcoming.

#### Welcome Potluck for Kate Bouchillon, September 7th

Following the 11:00 am service, join us for a Welcome Potluck Lunch as we officially welcome Kate Bouchillon, our new Family Ministries Director! We want to celebrate and connect with families with children and youth and all who serve in Family Ministries—but everyone is invited. Please bring a dish to share! We also need some helping hands:

- 2–3 people to arrive early and set food out before the 11:00 am service ends.
- 3-4 people to stay after and help clean up and wash dishes.

If you can help in either way, please let Beth LaCour know (beth\_lacour@att.net). Come get to know Kate, enjoy fellowship, and share a meal with your church family!

#### Discover St. John's, September 14th, 9:45 a.m.

Curious about St. John's? Whether you've visited once or many times, we'd love to get to know you! Join Pastor Lane for a relaxed, no-pressure meet-up in her office. You'll hear a bit about who we are, what we value, and ways to get connected. Enjoy coffee, snacks, and friendly conversation and please come as you are! Please RSVP to office@stjohnsbr.org so that we can prepare.

#### **Thank you From Opening Doors**

On behalf of Opening Doors, I would like to thank you for your generous donations of school supplies again this year. Three local schools (Wildwood, Charlie Thomas, and Gardere Christian Academy) received the gifts of your generosity helping to provide students with some of the necessities that many children from the Gardere Area will start off the new school year without. St. John's congregation. You Are the BEST! The Opening Doors' Board truly appreciates you. - Beth Forester

#### **(†) 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

Coffee treats: Last names M-Z, A-C, or D-G for 8/31

#### **Sunday School**

#### Sundays

9:45 a.m. Campus Wide

#### **Music Ministries**

6:00 p.m. Alleluia Ringers, Bells Room

#### Wednesdays

6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Practice, Choir Room

#### **Children & Youth**

#### Sundays

9:30 a.m. Upstairs Café, Rm 202 Admin/Ed Bldg 9:45 a.m. Sunday School, Campus Wide 4:30 p.m. Music Makers, Choir Room

#### Serve

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

#### Wellness

Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays 7:00 a.m. Early Risers Exercisers, FLC

#### **Tuesdays**

7:00 p.m. Pickleball, FLC 7:30 p.m. AA Meeting, FLC-E

#### Wednesdays 6:30 p.m. Ladies AA Meeting, FLC-C

12:00 p.m. AA Meeting, FLC-C 7:00 p.m. AA Meeting, FLC

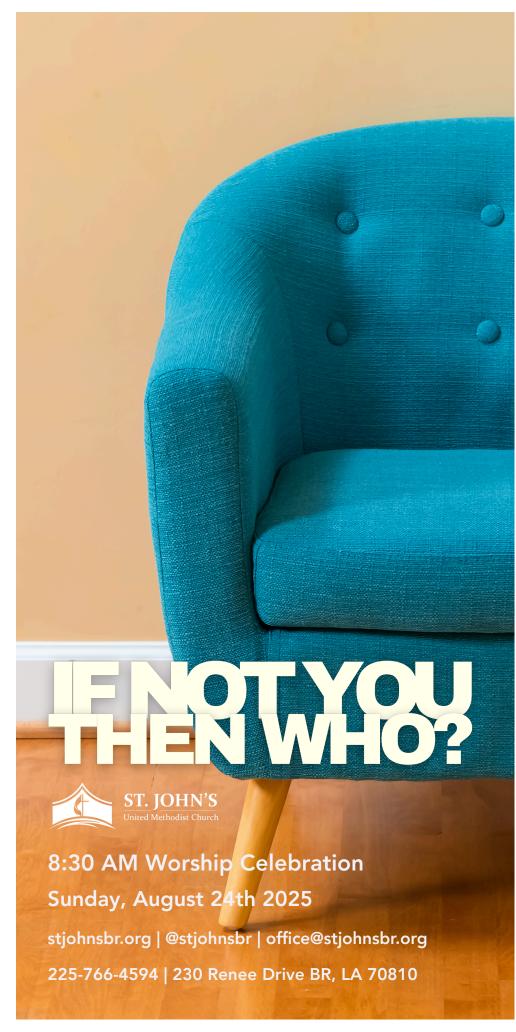
# **Shepherd's Market**

A client choice food pantry

Mondays 3:30 p.m. FLC Tuesdays & Thursdays 8:00 a.m. FLC shepherdsmarket.org

#### **CHURCH OFFICE HOURS**

9 AM - 12 NOON



# WELCOME



CHECK IN & PRAYER REQUESTS

# 8:30 AM Worship Celebration

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

**Gathering Music** 

Dr. Terry Byars

**Words of Welcome** 

Rev. Lane Cotton Winn

Welcome in the Light of Christ\*

U.M Hymnal # 568 vs 1, 2, 4

Christ for the World We Sing

Invitation to Worship\*

Grace Idikwu

Come, all who are seeking, all who are wondering, all who are trying to find their way.

We come, sometimes sure of the path, sometimes stumbling, but always hoping.

Come, hear the story of lives transformed by encounters with Christ—moments that change everything.

We come to be reminded that God's love is for everyone, and that we are called to share it.

Come, open your hearts to God's mission, open your hands to God's work, and open your feet to go where God sends.

We come, ready to be witnesses of God's love, ready to pray, ready to go.

We Sing Together\*

The Faith We Sing # 2239 vs 1, 2

Go Ye, Go Ye into the World

We Encourage Our Children

Barbara Benton

We Pray Together

Pastor Lane

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.

We Read the Word

Pastor Lane

Romans 10:10-15

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.

If Not You, Then Who?

We Reflect on the Word

Pastor Lane

We Sing Together\*

Go, Make of All Disciples

**We Name Our Need for Grace\*** Grace Idikwu **Gracious God.** 

U.M. Hymnal # 571 vs 1, 2, 4

**Beth LaCour** 

**GIVING** 

U.M. Hymnal #94

We confess that too often we keep your love to ourselves.

We hesitate to speak of your mercy,

we shrink from showing your grace,

and we ignore the opportunities to bring hope to others.

Forgive us for the times we have prioritized

comfort over courage, silence over witness,

and busyness over the mission you have given us.

Open our hearts to see the needs around us, and open our hands to share your love freely.

(A moment for personal reflection)

Words of Grace & Forgiveness\* Grace Idikwu

Friends, hear this good news:

God's love is abundant and for all!

No past mistake, no fear, no hesitation

can separate us from the mercy of Christ.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, renewed, and sent forth to be God's witnesses.

Thanks be to God!

May be peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

We Greet One Another with Joy & Peace\*

Ministry Moment
Staff Appreciation

We Offer our Tithes and Gifts to God

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.

We Sing Together\*

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

We give thanks, remember God's saving acts, and call on the Holy Spirit to bless the bread and cup. Together, we join in a holy meal that connects us with Christ and one another.

We Pray the Lord's Prayer

U.M. Hymnal #895

We Receive Communion\*

All are welcome to receive Communion.

We serve by intinction (bread dipped in juice); servers handle the elements. Pre-packaged & 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

Grace Idikwu

Adapted from a prayer by Teresa of Avila, circa 1566

Gracious God,

Christ has no body but ours,

no hands, no feet on earth but ours.

Let us be the eyes through which Christ sees compassion, the feet through which Christ moves to bring justice,

the hands through which Christ blesses and heals

this world. Let our words speak Your truth,

let our actions reflect Your love,

let our lives be a living witness to Your presence among us.

Yours are the hands, Yours are the feet,

Yours are the eyes, O Lord, and we are Your body in the world.

Christ has no body now on earth but ours.

May we go forth proclaiming Your grace in all we do. Amen.

We Receive This Week's Call To Action

We joyfully welcome all those who wish to become members of St. John's and invite you to come forward and stand with Pastor Lane during the singing of the next song.

We Sing Together\*

U.M. Hymnal # 399 vs 1, 3

Take My Life, and Let It Be

We Share in a Blessing\*

Pastor Lane

We Go Out into the World\*

Dr. Terry Byars

The service ends, but our worship continues as we go forth to love and serve the Lord.

Praise the Spirit, Holy Spir