

# you don't WALK ALONE



CHECK-IN &  
PRAYER  
REQUESTS



Even in life's darkest valleys, you are not alone. God meets us in every step – guiding, sustaining, and walking with us through it all.

## Next Sunday: Grocery Bag Sunday!

Take home a grocery bag today and bring it back to help **restock the Shepherd's Market Client-Choice food pantry** with our most urgently needed items – pasta (no Mac & Cheese, please) and drinks (water, boxed drinks, juice). In addition, condiments, jelly, cereal (regular size), and Jiffy cornbread mix. These items are always welcome: dried beans (no white or pinto beans, please), peanut butter, soup, and snacks.

### Prayer Requests

Share prayer requests by scanning the QR code above, emailing [prayers@stjohnsbr.org](mailto:prayers@stjohnsbr.org) or visiting [stjohnsbr.org/here](http://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 & Water Fountains** are located in the narthex (lobby). We invite all first time guests to stop by the welcome table to receive a gift. Text **'CONNECT'** to **225-230-1017** join St. John's updates.

### For Families with Children

Children are always welcome in worship. If at any time you'd prefer a quieter space, the Bride's Room—located at the back of the Narthex (lobby)—is available for you, with books, a rocker, and a nearby women's restroom.

- The **Prayground** 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 – 12<sup>th</sup> 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 from Rev Marie Williams in honor of her granddaughter, Elizabeth Marie Shoup, for her 19<sup>th</sup> birthday on May 1.

Today's ushers are **Bob and Belinda Armstrong**.

## EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Campus Tour Opportunity Today Sunday, April 26 | 10:00 a.m. | Family Life Center

New here or want to learn more about St. John's? Join us for a campus tour and get to know our spaces, ministries, and people. Meet Mary Madalyn St. Pierre, our Welcome, Belonging, and Congregational Care Coordinator, in the FLC or connect after the 8:30 service to walk over together.

### Confirmation & Youth Sunday | May 3 | 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

Join us as we celebrate Confirmation and our youth at both services. Our Intern, Frankie Guajardo, will be preaching, and our students will help lead us throughout the services.

We also have a beautiful opportunity that morning to take part in an **immersion baptism**, as we celebrate God's gift of grace being poured into two of our Confirmation students. Immediately following the 8:30 a.m. service (around 9:40), we will gather around the sugar kettle at the front of the sanctuary for this sacred and joy-filled moment of baptism. We hope you will stay, surround these students with your presence, and take part in this meaningful celebration of new life in Christ.

*To allow time for this special day, Communion will be observed the following Sunday, May 14.*

### Youth Mission Trip Fundraiser – Envelope Challenge In the Narthex (Lobby) & During Coffee Time | Now through May 3

Support our youth's summer mission trip to Houston by choosing an envelope (\$1-\$100). The number you select is your gift amount. Sign the sheet so we can track progress & return your donation by May 10. If all 100 envelopes are taken, we'll raise over \$5,000, helping offset the \$500 per-student cost so every youth can participate. Thank you for being part of their mission trip experience!

### Church Council Meeting Thursday, May 7 | 5:30 p.m. | Library

All are welcome to attend.

### Social for Retirees | Wednesday, May 27 | 10:00–11:30 a.m. | Stir Coffee Shop

Join fellow retirees for a relaxed time of fellowship. Drop in anytime and enjoy good conversation at Stir Coffee Shop (15405 Airline Hwy).

### Family Ministries Summer Internship

We're offering a 12-week paid summer internship for those passionate about working with children and youth. Gain hands-on ministry experience while growing in faith and leadership. Scan the QR code to learn more or visit: [stjohnsbr.org/jobs](http://stjohnsbr.org/jobs)



## 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 M-Z invited to bring snacks 5.3.26**

### SUNDAY SCHOOL

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

### MUSIC MINISTRIES

**Sundays**  
6:00 p.m. 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: Teachers**  
3:30 p.m. Music Makers (K-5<sup>th</sup> grades)  
4:30 p.m. Music Makers (Middle School)  
5:00 p.m. Youth Group

### SERVE

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

### WELLNESS

**Mondays**  
6:30 p.m. AA Meeting, FLC-E

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

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

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

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

### THE SHEPHERD'S MARKET A client choice food pantry

**Mon 3:30 – 5:30 p.m.** FLC  
**Tues & Thurs 8:00 – 10:00 a.m.** FLC  
[shepherdsmarket.org](http://shepherdsmarket.org)

### CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

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

**CONTACT** [stjohnsbr.org/contact-us](http://stjohnsbr.org/contact-us)

# you don't WALK ALONE

8:30 AM Worship Celebration  
Sunday, April 26th, 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.

225-766-4594 | 230 Renee Drive BR, LA 70810  
[stjohnsbr.org](http://stjohnsbr.org) | [@stjohnsbr](https://www.instagram.com/stjohnsbr) | [office@stjohnsbr.org](mailto:office@stjohnsbr.org)



ST. JOHN'S  
United Methodist Church

# 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\*** The Faith We Sing 2208 vs 1 – 3  
*Guide My Feet*

**Invitation to Worship\*** Rev. Barb Duke

There is a song beneath our lives –  
a melody of grace that continues in every season.

**Sometimes we hear it clearly,  
and sometimes it feels distant.**

In moments of peace and in days of uncertainty,  
God’s presence and guidance is the steady refrain.

**Calling us back to trust,  
calling us back to hope.**

Even when life feels out of rhythm,

**God’s love holds the beat and carries us through.**

Come, let us listen for the song of faith  
that surrounds us and sustains us.

**We come to worship, trusting the song of God’s love  
that continues all our days. Amen.**

**We Sing Together\*** U.M. Hymnal 507  
*Through It All*

**We Encourage Our Children** Phil Sprunger

**We Read the Word** Pastor Lane  
*Psalms 23* U.M. Hymnal Psalter 754 Response 2  
SUNG RESPONSE

***The Good Shepherd comes that we may have life and have it abundantly.***

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

**The Lord makes me lie down in green pastures,**

Leads me beside still waters,

Restores my life,

**Leads me in right paths**

**For the sake of the Lord’s name.**

Even though I walk through the darkest valley,

I fear no evil;

**For you are with me;**

**Your rod and your staff,**

**They comfort me.**

SUNG RESPONSE

***The Good Shepherd comes that we may have life and have it abundantly.***

You prepare a table before me

In the presence of my enemies;

**You anoint my head with oil,**

**My cup overflows.**

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me

All the days of my life;

**And I shall dwell in the house of the Lord**

**As long as I live.**

SUNG RESPONSE  
***The Good Shepherd comes that we may have life and have it abundantly.***

**We Reflect On The Word** Pastor Lane  
*You Don’t Walk Alone*

**We Sing Together\*** U.M. Hymnal #136 vs 1, 3, 5  
*The Lord’s My Shepherd, I’ll Not Want*

**We Name Our Need for Grace\*** Rev. Barb

Trusting in the goodness and mercy that never leaves us,  
let us confess the ways we have wandered from God’s path.

**Gracious Shepherd,  
we confess that we do not always trust your care.**

**We rush past still waters  
and resist the rest you offer.**

**We try to guide ourselves  
and forget to listen for your voice.**

**In the valleys of life,  
we sometimes give in to fear  
instead of leaning on your presence.**

**Forgive us, O God.**

**Restore our souls again.**

**Lead us back to your paths of righteousness,  
and remind us that your goodness and mercy  
are always with us. Amen.**

**Words of Grace and Forgiveness** Rev. Barb

Hear the good news:

God’s goodness and mercy are not earned – they are graciously given.

God pursues us, restores us, and remains with us always.

**In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, renewed, and led home.**

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Amen.**

**We Greet One Another with Joy & Peace\***

**We Offer God’s Tithes and Our Gifts** Judy Gilmore  
& Molly Means  
*You’ll Never Walk Alone*  
Rodgers & Hammerstein

*Thank you for your generosity. Your gift helps us be a blessing in  
our community. Scan the QR code or visit [stjohnsbr.org/give](http://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** Pastor Lane

*We give thanks for God’s grace, hear Jesus’ words spoken at the table,  
and ask the Holy Spirit to bless the bread and cup. In this holy meal,  
we are joined with Christ and with one another, reminded that  
there is always room at God’s table for all.*

**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 Share in Prayer** Rev. Barb

**Gracious God,  
you have nourished us at your table  
and reminded us of your goodness and mercy.  
As we go from this place,  
lead us through every season of life.  
Help us to trust your presence,  
to notice your gifts,  
and to follow where you guide us.  
Through Christ, our Shepherd. Amen.**

**We Receive This Week’s Call to Action** Pastor Lane

**We Sing Together\*** U.M. Hymnal #128 vs 1, 3  
*He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Thought*

**We Share in a Blessing** Pastor Lane

**We Go Out Into the World\*** Praise Team