



*"Walk by faith
and not by
sight."*

2nd Corinthians 5:7

Sunday, January 26, 2025

8:30 A.M. WORSHIP CELEBRATION

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH SUNDAY

All Are Welcome

Today is United Women in Faith Sunday, and our theme is "Walk by faith, and not by sight." We welcome Rev. Mary Rachel Moore, LSU's new Wesley Foundation Director, as our guest preacher. We will also hear about the impact UWF is making through their various mission efforts and recognize this year's recipients of the Special Mission Recognition Pin, given to members of St. John's who exemplify the motto of "Compassionate Commitment." Welcome to worship!

Whether you are a guest or member, we invite you to register your attendance and share any prayer requests you have at stjohnsbr.org/here or scan the QR code.



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

LeAnn Davis
Manager of Finance & Facilities
leanndavis@stjohnsbr.org

Dr. Steve Rushing
Choir Director
stevenrushing@stjohnsbr.org

Bill Putzig
Custodian
billputzig@stjohnsbr.org

Lynn Cooper
Administrative Assistant
office@stjohnsbr.org

Ben Balsler
Media Producer
benbalsler@stjohnsbr.org

Dr. Terry Byars
Praise Team Director and Accompanist
terrybyars@stjohnsbr.org

Cheryl Roubique
Nursery Coordinator

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

Words of Welcome

Rev. Lane Cotton Winn

*Songs

We Walk By Faith

The Faith We Sing Songbook 2196, vs 1, repeat 1, & 3

Through It All (2x)

The United Methodist Hymnal 507

*Opening Prayer

Deborah Cross-Young

Eternal God,

**We have gathered here in your sanctuary this morning
as members of your family
to worship you as our Living God.**

You have called us to walk by faith and not by sight.

**Enable us to center ourselves for renewal
in your presence, commitment to your mission,
and ministry with the least of these,
here and around the world.**

Amen.

*Response

Lead Me, Guide Me

The Faith We Sing Songbook 2214

*Sharing the Love and Peace of Christ

Children's Message

Sarah Prevot

UWF Purpose and Highlights

Pat Cobb

**We are 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.**

UWF Special Mission Recognition

*Each year the UWF recognizes members of St. John's
who exemplify our motto of "Compassionate Commitment"
with a Special Mission Recognition Pin.*

Prayer

Rev. Barbara Duke

**O God,
Equip us with your Holy Spirit to not only
listen to your Word,
but to bear witness to your love and power,
healing and reconciliation,
and a new life found in Christ.
Inspire us once again to be tellers of
the old, old story in ever new contexts,
that Jesus has come so that all may have life,
in fact, more than life –
Life in its fullness,
through Jesus the Christ.
Amen.**

Scripture

2 Corinthians 5:7, 9

For we walk by faith, not by sight. So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him.

The Word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

Witness to the Word

Rev. Mary Rachel Moore

*Hymn

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling
The United Methodist Hymnal 384, vs. 1 - 4

Offering Our Tithes and Gifts to God

Prayer: Clara Maynard

*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

Pastor Lane

The Lord's Prayer

***Sharing the Bread & 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.

Closing Prayer

Deborah Cross-Young

**Eternal God,
we give you thanks for this holy mystery
in which you have given yourself to us.
Grant that we may go into the world
in the strength of your Spirit,
to give ourselves for others,
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord,
Amen.**

Call to Action

Connor Dean

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**

Leaning on the Everlasting Arms
The United Methodist Hymnal 133, vs. 1 - 3

***Benediction**

Rev. Mary Rachel Moore

***Postlude**

Worship Notes

Many of the prayers were written by Glory E. Dharmara.

Bulletin cover art and worship graphics designed by Grace Idikwu.

Ushers for the 8:30 service are Beth Forester and Rhonda Tucker.

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

Announcements

YELLOW BAG SUNDAY

Don't forget to pick up a yellow bag on your way out of worship; **next Sunday, February 2 is Grocery Bag Sunday.** If you are able to add a few grocery items to your buggy, the pantry is in need of peanut butter, jam or jelly, condiments, snacks, and drinks. Thank you for helping us to stock the shelves of The Shepherd's Market after the snowfall - we were closed for a week due to the weather.

Don't forget to save your plastic grocery bags for The Shepherd's Market. Our stash of bags is dwindling; so if you have any, please bring them to the pantry or drop them off in the hallway of the Admin. Building. Many, many thanks.

KARAOKE C.H.A.O.S.

Come make a joyful noise with us at our C.H.A.O.S. event **today, January 26 from 4-6 p.m.** in the Family Life Center. Participants will have an opportunity to lift their voice in song during karaoke, create Valentine's Day cards for our home-centered and facility bound members, and share a meal together. Join us for St. John's fellowship, singing, and if you want, make Valentine's Day cards!

GOOD GRIEF! SUPPORT FELLOWSHIP

Good Grief! originally scheduled for Tuesday, January 21 has been rescheduled to **Tuesday, January 28 at 5:30 p.m.** in The Founders' Parlor.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

The Trustees will meet **Wednesday, January 29 at 4:30 p.m.** in the library.

The Finance Committee will meet on **Thursday, January 30 at 5:30 p.m.** in the Library.

Both the 2024 and 2025 committee members will meet to go over this year's budget.

COUNCIL KICKOFF: A MORNING OF ORIENTATION & COLLABORATION

The Church Council will gather on **Saturday, February 8, from 8:30 to 11:30 AM** for a morning of orientation and collaboration. During this session, we will take time to reflect on our accomplishments and experiences from 2024, as well as look ahead to opportunities and goals for this year. We will also take care of some beginning-of-the-year business, including the adoption of the 2025 budget. Though this is designed for the 2025 Church Council, anyone who is interested in attending is welcome to come. Please let us know in the church office (office@stjohnsbr.org) that you're coming so we can plan accordingly.

2025 CHURCH LEADERS INSTALLATION AND BLESSING

On **Sunday, February 9** at both worship services we will have an installation of officers of our committees and will offer a blessing to those who have been called to serve in leadership and as members of our boards and committees of the church for 2025.

2025 FLOWER CHART

The 2025 Flower Chart is up in the hallway of the Admin/Education Building. This is a wonderful way to remember or honor someone in your family, a very good friend, a group, or to the Glory of God, to name a few. Lynn will contact you during the week to remind you your Sunday is coming up and will ask you for a dedication to be printed in the bulletin. Many thanks for adding to the beauty of our Sanctuary and to the day the Lord has made.

NURSERY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Beginning **today, January 26**, we will have members spending some time with the youngest blessings of St. John's. This will help us meet our budget and best stretch your contributions! If no children arrive within the first 15 minutes of the worship service and/or Sunday School, volunteers are free to leave the nursery. You will remain "on call" until your time has ended and will receive a text if a child shows up and you are needed. Thank you for your willingness to serve on the rotation with others!

If you are interested in this ministry, to sign up and share your availability, go to stjohnsbr.org/nurseryvolunteer. Also, keep an eye out for Safe Sanctuary Training sign-up, coming soon!

Middle school and high school students are welcome to sign up, too!

COFFEE TIME SNACKS

If your last name begins with **L-N**, “your” day to bring a snack for Coffee Time is next Sunday, **February 2**. Remember, this is just a much appreciated suggestion not an obligation. *Please bring your items in a disposable container or single-use dish, and take them to the FLC by 9:30 a.m.*

DONATE TO UMCOR/CALIFORNIA FIRES

If you would like to help the California relief effort through UMCOR, you can go online at stjohnsbr.org/give, on the General Budget pull down menu select Missions and on the Sub Fund pull down menu, select Disaster Relief/UMCOR. You may also pay by check with UMCOR or CA Fire Relief in the memo line. You may mail the check to the office or put your check or cash (marked on the envelope UMCOR or CA Fire Relief) in the offering plate on Sunday. Remember, 100% of your donation goes to the California relief effort.

WESLEY FOUNDATION AT LSU

The Wesley Foundation at LSU has begun their campaign for meals to be brought or delivered to the Foundation after Wednesday night prayer service for college students. If you as an individual or your Sunday School class is interested in this mission you may sign-up at <https://takethemameal.com/WKLU0298>.

Youth and Children's Ministries

MUSIC MAKERS WILL NOT MEET THIS AFTERNOON

Music Makers will not meet this afternoon, January 26, the fourth Sunday of the month. Please join us in Karaoke Chaos at 4 p.m. in the Family Life Center.

YOUTH AND CHILDREN SUNDAY FLOW

We offer faith formation for children and youth of all ages during Sunday School.

Upstairs Café opens at 9:30 a.m. - 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 age specific Sunday School groups.

Sunday School Classes - 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 Room 204; students in 3rd through 5th grades are in Room 207; students in 6th through 12th grades are in the Youth Sunday School class Room 201.

YOUTH GROUP (6th-12th Grades)

First Sundays: The St. John's youth group gathers on the first Sunday of each month from 4 - 5:30 p.m. at the homes of different church members for small group Bible Study, games, crafts, or other activities.

Third Wednesdays: Youth also meet on the third Wednesday of each month from 6 - 7:30 p.m. in the Youth Room for Wednesday Night Live.

NEW YOUTH COUNCIL

The Youth Council is a team that will meet regularly to collaborate and answer different questions about the youth ministry at St. John's: Do we want to plan a lock-in? What activities should we include? What are some community service projects we should be involved in? Where and when do we want to go for a summer mission trip? If you are an adult or youth student who would like to help create & plan various events and programs for our students in 6th - 12th grades, join them at their first meeting **February 9, 4:30 - 5:30 p.m.** in the Youth Room. Please contact Connor (connordean@stjohnsbr.org) if you or your student is interested in serving on the Youth Council.

This Week at St. John's

Sunday, January 26

- 8:00 a.m. Praise Team Warm Up, Sanctuary
- 8:30 a.m. Worship Service, Sanctuary
- 9:30 a.m. Coffee Time, FLC*
- 9:30 a.m. Upstairs Cafe, 202 Admin Bldg.
- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School, Campus wide
- 11:00 a.m. Worship Service, Sanctuary
- 4:00 p.m. Karaoke Chaos, FLC
- 6:00 p.m. Alleluia Ringers, Bells Room

Monday, January 27

- 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, January 28

- 8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market Client Choice Food Pantry, FLC
- 5:30 p.m. Good Grief! Fellowship, The Founders' Parlor
- 6:30 p.m. Gardere Youth Program, FLC
- 7:30 p.m. AA Meeting, FLC-E

Wednesday, January 29

- 7:00 a.m. Early Risers Exercisers, FLC
- 4:30 p.m. Trustees Meeting, Library
- 6:30 p.m. Ladies' AA Meeting, FLC-C
- 6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir, Choir Room

Thursday, January 30

- 8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market Client-Choice Food Pantry, FLC
- 5:30 p.m. Finance Committee, Library

Friday, January 31

- 7:00 a.m. Early Risers Exercisers, FLC

Saturday, February 1

- 9:00 a.m. Quilts of Valor Workshop, FLC
- 12:00 p.m. AA Meeting, FLC-C
- 7:00 p.m. AA Meeting, FLC

*Family Life Center



2025 OFFICERS

Clara Maynard, President

Claudia Fowler, Vice-President

Pat Lively, Secretary

Deborah Cross-Young, Treasurer

Beth Forester, Immediate Past President

St. John's has one circle group at present. It's called Circle of the Heart and we meet on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 9:30 am. Meetings are held in the Founder's Parlor.

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. If you can't attend the monthly meetings, see Clara Maynard about becoming a Friend of UWF if attending meetings doesn't work into your schedule at this time.

IMPORTANT DATES THIS SPRING

Wednesday, February 5 - General Meeting
9:30 am in the Founders' Parlor

March 15 & March 22 - Days for Girls Mission Work Days
9 am in the FLC