

PENTECOST:

Christ's

LEGACY



Sunday, May 28, 2023

8:30 A.M. WORSHIP CELEBRATION

All Are Welcome

When Jesus left this earth, he bequeathed a legacy to his followers. He left the Holy Spirit - to comfort, to guide, to empower them to be all that God had called them to be. Today we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit on the disciples at Pentecost. Had it not been for Pentecost, the Christian movement would have been a short lived moment in history. It could have ended when Jesus ascended into heaven, but as promised, Jesus gave his legacy to us at Pentecost and now we carry it on into the future.

Whether you are a guest or member, we invite you to register your attendance (scan the QR code in the bulletin) 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

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Office Hours: Monday thru Thursday 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., Friday 9 a.m. - noon



ST. JOHN'S
United Methodist Church

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. If you are feeling cold, shawls are available in a basket in front of the media desk in the back of the sanctuary. 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 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.

Any questions? Ushers are glad to assist you.

ST JOHN'S CLERGY AND STAFF

Rev. Lane Cotton Winn
Lead Pastor
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Dr. Terry Byars
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Bill Putzig
Custodian
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WELCOME to the CELEBRATION of the GOSPEL

**Please stand as you are comfortable.
Bold indicates congregational response.
Please scan the QR Code to register your attendance.*



GATHERING

Prelude

Words of Welcome

Rev. Lane Cotton Winn

*Songs of Praise

I'm Goin' a Sing When the Spirit Says Sing
The United Methodist Hymnal 333, vs. 1 & 2

Sweet, Sweet Spirit
The United Methodist Hymnal 334

*Call to Worship

Rev. Bernadine Johnson

God's Spirit is approaching

Through time, across continents, soaring over creation.

God's Spirit is speaking

Whispering and comforting, roaring and challenging.

God's Spirit surrounds us

Beyond touch, warmly embracing.

God's Spirit transforms us

**Making our horizons wider,
our faith stronger,
our hopes possible.**

Spirit of the living God, move among us all,
and take us on a journey of love.

*Song of Response

Where the Spirit of the Lord Is
The Faith We Sing Songbook 2119

GROWING

Children's Moment

Natalie Cooper

Prayer for Illumination

Rev. Bernie

**God of All Ages,
Give us open ears to hear your voice
in the voices of our ancestors.**

**Give us open minds to understand
what they experienced and believed.
Give us open hearts to accept
what you might be saying to us today.
As we leaf through the stories of our faith,
guide us into writing new chapters for the future!
In Christ's name we pray. Amen.**

Scripture

Rev. Bernie

Acts 2:1-21

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.

The Message

Pastor Lane

“Christ's Legacy”

RESPONDING

***Hymn of Faith**

Spirit Song
The United Methodist Hymnal 347

***Prayer of Confession**

Rev. Bernie

When we offer God our confession, we join the beautiful work of reconciliation, which begins with our reconciling with God. Trusting in our Partner in grace, let us make our confession.

O God,

**We confess that during Pentecost we spend a lot of time
talking about your Spirit without opening our lives
to receive its many gifts.**

We feel its fire burning, but we quench its flame.

We feel it moving among us, but we close our hearts.

**Breathe in us the fire of a Spirit
that cannot be quenched.**

**Fill us with a love that pours out freely,
but never runs dry.**

**Through this Spirit of love,
raise us up from death itself,
and give us a new heart,
a new hope, and a new life,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

***Words of Grace and Forgiveness**

Friends in Christ, know this:

the mercy of God is from everlasting to everlasting.

Breathe deeply of God's Spirit, for indeed, we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Amen.

***Sharing the Love and Peace of Christ**

Offering Our Tithes and Gifts to God

*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!

***The Great Thanksgiving**

A Service of Word and Table III

The United Methodist Hymnal 15

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.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we
praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord,
God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest. (3x)**

**Blest is the one who comes
in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest. (3x)**

*The congregation is seated and the institution
of the Lord's Supper is recalled.*

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living
sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the
mystery of faith:

**Christ has died; Christ is risen;
Christ will come again.
Hosanna in the highest. (3x)**

The pastor invokes the present work of the Holy Spirit and concludes:

Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy church,
all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and for ever.

Amen. Amen. Amen.
Hosanna in the highest. (3x)

The Lord's Prayer

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. The bread will be dipped in the grape juice and handed to you. Or, if you prefer, you may receive pre-packaged elements.

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 an usher know and someone will gladly bring communion to you.

Prayer after Receiving

Pastor Lane

Eternal God,

**We give you thanks for this holy mystery
in which you have given yourself to us.**

**Send us out with your Spirit,
that as we go out into the world,
we may carry on your legacy of hope,
passed down to us from Jesus Christ
and breathed into us by your Holy Spirit.**

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**

Spirit of God

The Faith We Sing Songbook, vs. 1 & 2

***Benediction**

***Postlude**

*The end of worship.
The beginning of service.*

WORSHIP NOTES

USHERS for today's service are Darren and Chris Stubbs.

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR

The flowers on the altar are in celebration of Pentecost and in remembrance of all who lost their lives while serving in the military.

COFFEE TIME

After the 8:30 service, everyone is invited to the Family Life Center for coffee and refreshments. Coffee time hosts are members of the Connections Sunday School Class.

Announcements

PLANNED GIVING TEAM

The Legacy page on our church website is live! You can read about planned giving options by going to stjohnsbr.org/legacy. Planned giving team members are Kathy King, Brian Blackwood, Pat Cobb, Johnny McWilliams, and Mari Walker. They are happy to provide next step information.

INTRODUCING OUR SUMMER YOUTH INTERN

We are pleased to announce that Gabriel "Gabe" Guillory will be serving as our Summer Youth Intern. Gabe is a student at LSU, majoring in Mass Communication, specializing in Public Relations with a dual minor in African American Studies and Political Science. Gabe's 13-week internship begins later this week. He will join us for worship on June 4. Gabe will work 20 hours a week alongside Connor Dean this summer.

Worship

GUEST PREACHERS JUNE 4 AND 11

We will welcome guest preachers on Sundays, June 4 and 11, while Pastor Lane is off. Next Sunday, June 4, Rev. Peter Gaughan will preach and preside for Holy Communion. While Peter became an educator after graduating LSU, he and Leah started attending St. John's. Leah, his wife, served as the Youth Director at St. John's, and during that time, Peter felt his call to ministry. On Sunday, June 11, Rev. Larry Norman, who calls St. John's home in his retirement, will preach and lead worship.

NEW WORSHIP SERIES - "SUMMER ON THE MOUNT"

Beginning June 18, we will spend our, "Summer on the Mount," through our worship series. In his Sermon on the Mount, Jesus gives us a sort of theological pep talk, not only to help us feel better about life, but to offer practical ways to help us live as God would have us live, that we might then help create the world as God envisions it. Join us as we spend the summer with Jesus' most famous sermon.

To begin the series, our **June 18 services will be a "Sermon of the Mount Reading and Hymn Festival."** We will read and sing our way through the Sermon on the Mount, in the style of a "Lessons and Carols" service. We will hear Jesus' entire Sermon on the Mount, as written in the Gospel of Matthew, Chapter 5-7, we will sing beloved songs of our faith, and we will witness beautiful special music offerings from our congregation. (Due to the nature of the service, we will not celebrate Holy Communion at the 8:30am.)

Servanthood

BOOKS NEEDED FOR THE SHEPHERD'S MARKET LIBRARY

The free "library" in The Shepherd's Market needs donations of gently used and/or new adult and children's books. If you are down-sizing your library, they are gladly accepting fiction and non-fiction books. Bins are available for book donations in the Narthex and Church Office.

SAVE THE DATE: ST. MARK'S MISSION DAYS

The St. John's Youth Group will be serving a meal to the unhoused and those experiencing hunger through St. Mark's UMC in New Orleans on **Sunday, June 25**. If you would like to participate in this one-day mission, please contact Connor Dean at connordean@stjohnsbr.org. Anyone is welcome to serve - whether you are Youth or not.

You are also welcome to take part in another mission to St. Mark's on October 8 being led by Rev. Larry Norman.

VOLUNTEER TO HELP WITH YOUTH & CHILDREN SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL

Each Summer, we give our regular and reliable youth and children Sunday School leaders a chance to relax by giving them the summer off. We need your help. Starting June 4, our youth and children Sunday School classes will meet in the Family Life Center for a combined Sunday School experience. Connor will be leading each week's lesson and will provide oversight. She is seeking helpers to guide the activities that accompany each lesson, for each of the three age groups. All materials will be provided.

Please consider the opportunity to create and strengthen intergenerational connections within our church family by volunteering for at least one Sunday in June or July. If you are willing to serve contact Connor Dean at connordean@stjohnsbr.org.

Fellowship & Spiritual Growth

INTERGENERATIONAL GAME NIGHT

Join us for a game night for all ages on **Thursday, June 1, 5 - 7 p.m.** in the Family Life Center. We will have board games, card games, and trivia games. We will also provide finger foods for everyone to grab as a snack supper. You are more than welcome to bring your favorite finger food to share and favorite game to teach everyone! People of all ages are encouraged to join. We hope to see you there.

VOLLEYBALL!

St. John's will be hosting a volleyball night on **Tuesday, June 13 at 5 p.m.** in the Family Life Center. Come wearing comfortable clothes and shoes. Although our youth and children might be most excited about this event, people of all ages are welcome! Even if you can only join as a spectator, we hope you'll consider being a part of this fellowship time.

CHURCH-WIDE SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

This summer we will offer a church-wide Bible Study on Jesus' "Sermon on the Mount" on Sunday mornings in the sanctuary from 9:55-10:45 a.m. Many of our adult Sunday School classes will be joining in this 7-week study, which begins on June 18. We invite you to participate in the study, too! We've lined up a great team of facilitators, including Pastor Lane, Rev. Bernie Johnson, Rev. Marie Williams, Rev. Larry Norman, Natalie Cooper, and more.

Together we will examine some of Jesus' most profound and memorable teachings along with a video featuring Dr. Amy-Jill Levine, author of *Sermon on the Mount: A Beginner's Guide to the Kingdom of Heaven*. Taking themes from her book, we'll discuss how Jesus's teachings about forgiveness, kindness, prayer, and salvation are still relevant for us today. (It is not necessary to read or purchase the book, although for those who want to have it as a reference, you can buy the book online.)

COFFEE TIME UPDATE

Since the beginning of March, our efforts to "Bring Back the Food" have been highly successful! The FLC has been full of fellowship and yummy snacks! However, beginning on June 4, the fellowship may continue, but the food will be gone! That's right, between June 4 and the end of the year, only TWO Sundays are signed up for. Please talk about this with your friends and your Sunday School classes and see how you can help. In past months, several classes signed up for a whole month or 4 Sundays scattered throughout the year; some classes signed up for just 1 or 2 Sundays, but with fewer Sunday School classes, there is a more pressing need.

We have changed the signup format so that you can sign up as an individual or a family and still just bring a couple of things. You don't have to be in a Sunday School class to sign up. Members of the congregation can sign up, the Chancel Choir can sign up! The Alleluia Ringers can sign up! To sign up you can go to <https://tinyurl.com/CoffeeTimeSignup> or use the QR code.

Children & Youth Ministries

YOUTH & CHILDREN SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL

Beginning Sunday, June 4, and continuing every Sunday in June and July, our children in Kindergarten - 12th grade, have a wonderful opportunity to meet together in a one-room Sunday school for Bible study, singing, activities, and snacks, led by Connor Dean. We will meet in the FLC from 10 - 10:45 a.m. Come early to enjoy some fellowship at Coffee Time. We do hope you will bring your children and youth to this experience.

YOUTH MINISTRIES (6TH - 12TH GRADES)

Youth Switching to Wednesday Nights in May - Our Youth are now gathering on Wednesday evenings from 6-8 p.m. in the Family Life Center. We are asking anyone who would like to volunteer to help out on any of these evenings to please get in touch with Connor Dean (connordean@stjohnsbr.org or 225-766-4594).

Summer Tour '23: Wednesdays in June and July, 6 - 8 p.m. Our collaborative youth ministry program will begin **Wednesday, June 7 at 6 p.m.** Each week a different United Methodist Church will host youth from the Baton Rouge area. St. John's will host the first gathering on June 7 in the Family Life Center.

Youth Service Week: June 25-20 - More information coming soon about this week filled with local mission opportunities for our youth.

CHILDREN AND FAMILY MINISTRIES

Family Camp - A VBS Alternative: This summer, we will be hosting an event called "Family Camp." It will take place Thursday - Saturday, July 13 - 15. We will meet in the evenings on Thursday & Friday (July 13 & 14) from 6 - 7:30 p.m. and in the morning on Saturday (July 15) from 8 a.m. - 12 p.m. We will gather in the Family Life Center each day for food, games, worship, Bible study, and other activities. Registration will be required for the event, but there is no cost to attend. For more information, please contact Connor Dean at connordean@stjohnsbr.org.

Summer Fellowship for Children & Families: Every other Thursday in June and July, there will be opportunities for fellowship and fun activities.

- June 8, our first activity will be a Family Pool Party at the Magnolia Woods Swimming Pool, 5 - 7 p.m.
- June 22 is a Children's Ministry Pool Party at the Prevot's, 5 - 7 p.m.
- July 6 there will be an Ice Cream Social & Sock Hop at St. John's, 5 - 7 p.m.
- July 20 there will be Children's Ministry Pool Party at the Toneys, 5 - 7 p.m.
- Plus, we will have a Family Movie Night on August 3 at 5 p.m.

This Week at St. John's

Sunday, May 28

- 8:00 a.m. Praise Team Warm Up, Sanctuary
- 8:30 a.m. Worship Service, Sanctuary
- 9:30 a.m. Coffee Time, FLC*
- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School, Campus Wide
- 11:00 a.m. Worship Service, Sanctuary
- 6:00 p.m. Bells Practice, Bells' Room

Monday, May 29

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

THE SHEPHERD'S MARKET CLOSED

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

Tuesday, May 30

- 8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market, FLC
- 7:30 p.m. AA Meeting, FLC-E

Wednesday, May 31

- 7:00 a.m. Early Risers Exercisers, FLC
- 6:00 p.m. Youth Group, FLC
- 6:30 p.m. Women's AA Meeting, FLC-E
- 6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir, Choir Room

Thursday, June 1

- 8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market, FLC
- 5:00 p.m. Family Game Night, FLC

Friday, June 2

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

Saturday, June 3

- 12:00 p.m. AA Meeting, FLC-C
- 8:00 p.m. AA Meeting, FLC

*Family Life Center

