



# CHRIST IS RISEN!

ALLELUIA!

*Sunday, March 31, 2024  
8:30 a.m. Worship Celebration*

All Are Welcome

“In three words I can summarize everything I have learned about life: it goes on.”

- Robert Frost

The Easter story is a proclamation of resurrection, new life, and hope! It is a day we proclaim that while death is a part of life – even little “deaths” along the way of dreams, of love, of the way we thought life would go – we are part of a faith that invites us to consider that the Good Gardener is always tending us, abiding with us, beyond any kind of death that faces us. Easter tells us that life goes on. Welcome to worship, as we celebrate that the tomb is empty and Christ is alive forevermore.

***Whether you are a guest or member, we invite you to scan the QR code to register your attendance 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

Connor Dean  
*Director of Youth & Children's Ministries*  
connordean@stjohnsbr.org

Lynn Cooper  
*Administrative Assistant*  
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Dr. Steve Rushing  
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Ben Balsler  
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Cheryl Roubique  
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LeAnn Davis  
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Dr. Terry Byars  
*Praise Team Director and Accompanist*  
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Bill Putzig  
*Custodian*  
billputzig@stjohnsbr.org

Brooklyn Hays  
*Nursery Worker*

# Welcome to the Celebration of the Risen Lord!

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



## Prelude

*An Easter Fanfare*  
Terry Byars, piano

## Words of Welcome and Prayer

Rev. Lane Cotton Winn

## Procession of Light and New Life

*Carillon for a Joyous Day*  
By Douglas E. Wagner  
Alleluia Ringers

*The children will process with flowers to decorate our resurrection cross.*

## Gathering Song

*Hallelujah! Jesus Is Risen*  
By David L. Ray  
Music Makers

## \*Call to Worship

Sandra Kuykendall

Out of the darkness of grief and despair comes a message of hope.  
Christ is risen!

**Christ is risen, indeed!**

We run to the tomb to see for ourselves. And it is true. Christ is risen!

**Christ is risen, indeed!**

We hear a voice call our name, and we know our risen Lord is with us  
now and always.

**Christ is risen! Alleluia! Amen.**

## \*Hymn

*Christ the Lord Is Risen Today*  
The United Methodist Hymnal 302, vs. 1 - 3

## Children's Message

Pastor Lane and Connor Dean

## Anthem

*Lord of the Dance*  
Shaker Tune - Words by Sidney Carter  
Music Makers

## Prayer

Pastor Lane

**O Risen Christ,  
Open us to the power of your resurrection as we hear it  
proclaimed anew this day, that we too might rise to new life  
in you. Amen.**

## \*Scripture

Pastor Lane and  
Rev. Larry Norman

John 21:1-18

A Word of God that is still speaking,  
**Thanks be to God.**

## Witness to the Word

Pastor Lane

“Jesus is Alive as God is Alive”

## Pastoral Prayer

### \*Hymn

*Hymn of Promise*  
The United Methodist Hymnal 707, vs. 1 - 3

### \*Prayer of Confession

Rev. Larry

In the beauty of this space, in this sacred moment, in the fellowship we have with one another, we speak with God about our lives, about how we have followed and how we have faltered.

Trusting in God's grace and forgiveness, we confess:

**We have failed.**

And God loves us.

**We have forgotten.**

And God loves us.

**We have hurt others.**

And God loves us.

**We have hurt ourselves.**

And God loves us.

**We have hoarded.**

And God loves us.

**We have turned away.**

And God loves us.

**Yes, God loves us.**

### \*Words of Grace and Forgiveness

Hear this compassionate word from the prophet Isaiah: “I am about to create new heavens and a new earth; the former things shall not be remembered or come to mind. But be glad and rejoice forever in what I am creating; for I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy, and its people as a delight.”

Know that already, God is offering us freedom from the fear of isolation and anguish at endings, inviting us to community and creativity for birthing new life—unexpected life, unending love.

And know, that despite our sometimes faltering steps, in the name of Jesus Christ, you are being forgiven, even now.

**In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.  
Glory to God! Alleluia. Amen.**

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

#### **Offering Our Tithes and Gifts to God**

Offertory: *Thine is the Glory*

By Susan E. Geschke  
Alleluia Ringers

*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](http://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!**

### **\*Invitation to Holy Communion**

#### **\*The Great Thanksgiving**

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.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing,  
anytime and everywhere to give thanks to you.

*The pastor tells of God's acts of love and grace.*

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.  
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

*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.**

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

May we rest in your calm assurance that, come what may, "All shall be well, all shall be well, and all manner of things shall be well."

**Amen.**

## **The Lord's Prayer**

### **\*Sharing the Bread and 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.*

## **Prayer Song**

*Alleluia*

The United Methodist Hymnal 186, vs. 1

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia,  
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

## **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**

*He Lives*

The United Methodist Hymnal 310, vs. 1 - 3

## **\*Benediction**

## **\*Postlude**

The Praise Band

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

# Worship Notes

## ROSEBUD ON ALTAR

The rosebud on the altar is placed in honor of the birth of Norah Katherine, daughter of Mary Hannah and Thornton Johnson and granddaughter of Troy and Sarah Prevot, born on March 25, 2024, weighing 8 pounds 12 ounces and measuring 19.5 inches.

## EASTER LILIES

A list of Easter lily dedications can be found on the back of the bulletin.

## USHERS

Ushers for the 8:30 service are Brian and Danielle Blackwood.

## COFFEE TIME

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

## *This Week at St. John's*

### Sunday, March 31

- 8:00 a.m. Praise Team Warm Up, Sanctuary
- 8:20 a.m. Line-up for Flower Processional
- 8:30 a.m. Worship Service, Sanctuary
- 9:30 a.m. Coffee Time, FLC\*
- 9:30 a.m. Upstairs Cafe, Rm 202
- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School, Campus Wide
- 10:50 a.m. Line-up for Flower Processional
- 11:00 a.m. Worship Service, Sanctuary

### Monday, April 1

OFFICE CLOSED

### THE SHEPHERD'S MARKET CLOSED

- 7:00 a.m. Early Risers Exercisers, FLC
- 9:00 a.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, Founders' Parlor
- 3:00 p.m. Men's Covenant Group, Library
- 6:30 p.m. AA Meeting, FLC-E

### Tuesday, April 2

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

### Wednesday, April 3

- 7:00 a.m. Early Risers Exercisers, FLC
- 6:30 p.m. Ladies' AA Meeting, FLC-C

### Thursday, April 4

- 8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market, FLC
- 5:00 p.m. River City Quilt Guild, FLC

### Friday, April 5

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

### Saturday, April 6

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

\*Family Life Center



# Announcements

## **SUPPORT THE FOOD PANTRY**

Don't forget to pick up a yellow shopping bag on your way out of worship. Bring it back next week for Grocery Bag Sunday to help keep the shelves of The Shepherd's Market stocked with food to serve those who come to shop. On Grocery Bag Sunday in March we collected 797 pounds of nonperishable foods and household items. Let's try to collect over 800 pounds in April! So far this year, you have donated 2,447 pounds to the Shepherd's Market!

## **EASTER CLOSURES**

The church office will be closed **Good Friday, March 29** and **Easter Monday, April 1**. The office will reopen Tuesday, April 2 at 9 a.m.

The Shepherd's Market will be closed **Easter Monday, April 1** and will reopen Tuesday, April 2 at 8 a.m. for regular shopping.

## **RESURRECTION STORIES AND SONGS**

On **Sunday, April 7**, we will share in a service of Resurrection Stories and Songs at both 8:30 and 11 a.m. It will be in the style of "Lessons and Carols," which is popular around Advent and Christmas. We will read together the varied post-Easter resurrection stories of Jesus visiting his disciples and sing some of the most beloved Easter hymns of our faith. These stories in scripture will continue to inspire, as will the joyful music and the other aspects of our worship. (We will not share in Holy Communion this day, but it will be celebrated at both services Sunday, April 14.)

## **MUSIC MAKERS**

There will be no Music Makers this afternoon. We will resume on **Sunday, April 7 at 4:30 p.m.** If you have a child in Kindergarten through 5th grade, we would love to have them join us. Just bring them to the Choir Room at 4:30 and pick them up at 5:30 in the Choir Room.

## **UWF CIRCLE OF THE HEART**

The United Women of Faith (UWF) Circle of the Heart will meet on **Wednesday, April 10 at 9:30 a.m.** in the Founders' Parlor. All women are invited to attend.

## **PICKLE BALL AT ST. JOHN'S!**

Join us for a friendly pickle ball match on **Sunday, April 14 from 3 - 4:30 p.m.** in the Family Life Center. Paddles and balls will be provided, but feel free to bring your own gear if you prefer. We will also have some light snacks and finger foods. Even if you aren't comfortable playing, we invite you to join us for this opportunity for food, fun, and fellowship!

## **COMMUNION COMPANIONS**

Our Communion Companions will have a meeting on **Sunday, April 14 at 4:30 p.m.** to offer support and encouragement to one another in this caring ministry role. Our Communion Companions make monthly visits to our church members who are home-centered or facility-centered to offer Holy Communion and fellowship. If you are interested in serving in this ministry, please contact Pastor Lane ([pastorlane@stjohnsbr.org](mailto:pastorlane@stjohnsbr.org)).

## **NEW WORSHIP SERIES: "UNIQUELY UMC" STARTS APRIL 14**

Jesus' followers gather in churches of many different varieties: Catholic, Baptist, Presbyterian, Nondenominational, and so on. St. John's identity is rooted in The United Methodist Church. What is unique about being a United Methodist Christian and why does it matter? Beginning April 14, join us as we explore the possibilities and practices of being United Methodist through our "Uniquely UMC" worship series.

# Thank You

## **HOLY WEEK AND EASTER WORSHIP**

Thank you to all who aided in making our Holy Week and Easter worship so meaningful.

## **EASTER EGG-STRAVAGANZA**

Thank you to all of our volunteers, donors, and community members who provided so much support during this event. Without your help, we would not be able to host events like this one. We are abundantly blessed to have such a generous and servant-spirited congregation. We were able to share this free and fun event with over 100 children in our community — that's something to praise God for. And what a way to kick off Holy Week!

## **SPRING WORK DAYS**

Many thanks to all who came out on the two work days sponsored by the Trustees. Our campus looks wonderful for Holy Week and Easter Sunday.

## **BABY CHICKS**

Thank you to Zachary Feed and Seed for supplying us with the baby chicks.

# *Intern at St. John's*

## **SEEKING SUMMER INTERN APPLICANTS**

Applications are now being accepted for our Summer Internships! There are two different positions available: one youth ministry intern and one children's ministry intern. Youth ministry involves working closely with students in 6th - 12th grades while children's ministry involves working closely with students in 5th grade and younger. Each internship spans 13-weeks throughout the summer, with the expectation of working at least 20 hrs each week -- including Sunday mornings from 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. These positions are designed for young adults who have a passion for ministry with youth and/or may be exploring a call to ministry by providing an opportunity to lead young believers in their spiritual formation through dynamic programming. It is a great opportunity to gain valuable ministry and leadership experience!

We are looking for people who have a desire to learn, serve, and encourage others in a local church setting. This is a great opportunity for those majoring in education and humanities, but all degree programs are welcome.

Each intern will receive \$2,000, to be paid semi-monthly (15th & 30th of each month) during the 13-week internship. For more information, visit: [stjohnsbr.org/summer-interns-2024/](http://stjohnsbr.org/summer-interns-2024/)

Anyone who is interested should send a cover letter, resume, and the contact information of at least two references to [jobs@stjohnsbr.org](mailto:jobs@stjohnsbr.org) by **April 15, 2024**.

# Upcoming Events For **CHILDREN**



## **Park Playdate**

*April 28 | 4-6 PM*

Join us for a playdate at Highland Road Community Park as we build stronger relationships with God and one another by playing in creation.

## **Vacation Bible School**

*June 17-21 | 8 AM - 12 PM*

Children in 5th grade & younger (2023/24 school year) are invited to join us for VBS! You can register online at [stjohnsbr.org/vbs-2024](http://stjohnsbr.org/vbs-2024).

## **Summer Pool Parties**

*May 24 | 6-8 PM*

*July 21 | 4-6 PM*

Members of St. John's offer to host pool parties for children throughout the summer. We invite you to join in on the fun on May 24 & July 21!

## **Glow Party**

*July 12 | 6-8 PM*

*\$20 Admission*

Invite your friends and get your glow on with us at this fundraiser for our Children's Ministry. Music, food, drinks, and fun are provided!

# Upcoming Events For **YOUTH**



## **Bible Study**

*April 7 & May 5 | 4-6 PM*

During the school year, our 6th-12th grade students gather at a church member's home on the first Sunday of each month for Bible Study.

## **Wednesday Night Live**

*April 17 & May 15 | 6-7:30 PM*

During the school year, our youth gather in the Upstairs Café on the third Wednesday of each month for dinner and fellowship activities.

## **Summer Tour**

*Wednesdays in June & July  
6-8 PM*

Each Wednesday in June & July (except July 3), a different UMC church in the Baton Rouge area hosts an activity for students.

## **Youth Week**

*July 29 - August 2  
Various times each day (TBA)*  
Join us for a week full of service and fun activities like laser tag, go karts, large group games, and more!  
*Pay \$25 participation fee by June 16.*



# *Easter Lilies*

## *In memory of...*

**Ronnie Benton** by Barbara Benton

**Karen Cochran** by Bobbi Marino

**Danny Fontenot** by Hal Holloway and Bobby Johnson

**Pearl Fournet** by Suzanne and Gray Sexton

**Walter Fournet, Jr.** by Suzanne and Gray Sexton

**Ron Johnson** by Hal Holloway and Bobby Johnson

**Danny Jones** by Hal Holloway and Bobby Johnson

**George & Frances Lindsley** by Jim and Norma Thomason

**Linda Locke** by Jesse Locke

**BJ McKee** by Gray and Suzanne Sexton

**Jim Schaffauser** by Joyce and Bill Perry

**Valentine Sexton** by Gray and Suzanne Sexton

**Hilda & James Thomason, Sr.** by Jim and Norma Thomason

**James Randle Yates** by Clara Maynard

**Angie Wall** by Susan Teddlie

**John Winn & Keith Hartman** by the "Hart-Winn" family  
(Pastor Lane, Ben, & Julian)

**John Winn** by Carole Cotton-Winn

## *In honor of...*

**All those that volunteer in The Shepherd's Market**  
by Jill & Phil Slicker

**The congregation of St. John's UMC & Pastor Lane**  
by Lynn Cooper

**Livia Walker, whose 8th birthday is today!**  
by Mari, Shawn & Jane Walker

*Thank you for your lily dedications.  
Plants can be taken home following the  
11 a.m. service or picked up during the week.*