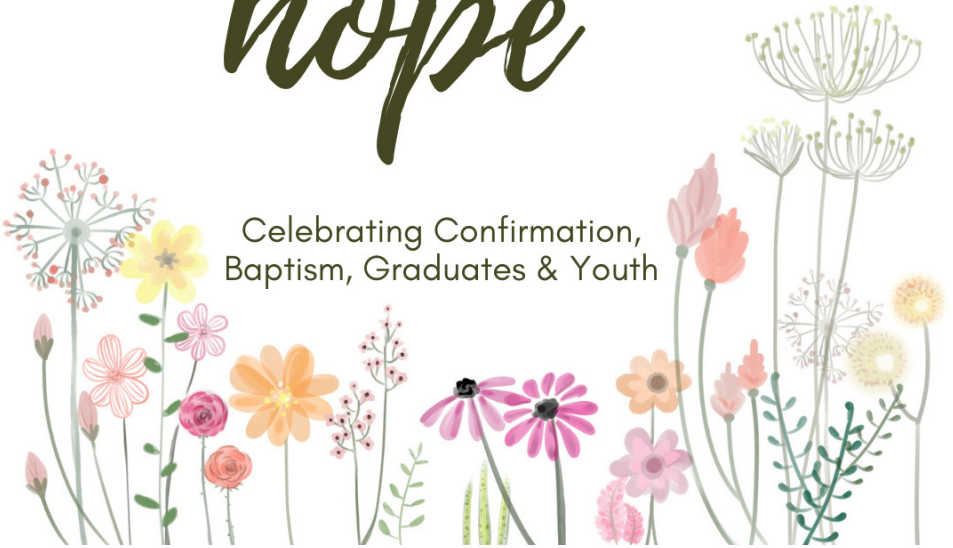


# LEGACY

## of hope

Celebrating Confirmation,  
Baptism, Graduates & Youth



Sunday, May 7, 2023

**8:30 A.M. WORSHIP CELEBRATION**

All Are Welcome

*"You are the ones chosen by God, chosen for the high calling of priestly work, chosen to be a holy people, God's instruments to do his work and speak out for him."*

1 Peter 2:9

*Today is Youth Sunday, and our students in 6th-12th grades will be leading our worship time. Additionally, we are delighted to celebrate with the Class of 2023 as we recognize our graduates as well as the Confirmation of seven of our Youth. We will witness their Confirmation at the 11 a.m. service. Welcome to worship!*

***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

[office@stjohnsbr.org](mailto:office@stjohnsbr.org) | 225-766-4594 | [stjohnsbr.org](http://stjohnsbr.org) | [@stjohnsbr](https://www.instagram.com/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. 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*  
pastorlane@stjohnsbr.org

Lynn Cooper  
*Administrative Assistant*  
office@stjohnsbr.org

Dr. Steve Rushing  
*Choir Director*  
stevenrushing@stjohnsbr.org

Ben Balsler  
*Media Producer*  
benbalsler@stjohnsbr.org

Cheryl Roubique  
*Nursery Coordinator*

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

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

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

Bill Putzig  
*Custodian*  
billputzig@stjohnsbr.org

# 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

*As the Deer*  
Violin solo by Lydia Rahkawi

### Words of Welcome

Connor Dean

### \*Songs of Praise

*Sanctuary*  
The Faith We Sing Songbook 2164  
*We Are the Church*  
The United Methodist Hymnal 558, vs 1 & 2

### \*Call to Worship

Devin Dickson

Welcome to God's house, where Christ is the cornerstone.

**He is the source of all life - our rock and redeemer.**

Vibrant life will come to those who lay a foundation upon this stone.

**We turn our hearts to your vibrant life.**

**We recommit to living like Jesus.**

Turn your hearts away from the darkness that causes us to stumble.

**We turn our hearts to your amazing light.**

Clear away the malice and pretense, the envy and hurtful talk.

**May we drink deep from your pure kindness.**

Come, for now you are God's people.

**We join together as those chosen and called by Christ.**

### \*Song of Response

*Here I Am, Lord*  
The United Methodist Hymnal 593, refrain only

### Children's Moment

Connor Dean

### Graduation Recognition

Pastor Lane, Connor Dean,  
Beth Forester

### Class of 2023:

*Devin Dickson    Lydia Rahkawi*

# PROCLAMATION

Prayer for Illumination

Grace Idikwu

Gracious God,

Who values the wisdom of age, the energy of youth,  
and the steadiness in between, make Your presence known to  
us in our worship today.

Make plain to us the gifts you've planted in the lives of our  
sisters and brothers of different generations.

May Your Holy Spirit move among us, so that we draw closer to  
each other and closer to you.

Thank you for your invitation to gather as a community of  
disciples. Amen.

Scripture Reading

Rev. Marie Williams,  
Elizabeth Cooper, Bishop Idikwu

1 Peter 2:2-10

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

"We Will!"

## RESPONSE TO THE WORD

\*Hymn

*Here I Am, Lord*

The United Methodist Hymnal 593, vs. 1 & 3

Offering Our Tithes and Gifts to God

Haylee Matthews, prayer

*Morning Has Broken*

Violin solo by Evie Durham

*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!**

## 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

Paul Idikwu

**We thank you once again for this meal,  
this day,  
the gift of resurrection,  
and for making us your people.**

**Send us out by your mercy,  
that we may be instruments of your work  
embodying Christ's love and pure kindness,  
that all may have abundant and vibrant lives. 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

*Bind Us Together*

The Faith We Sing Songbook 2226

*During the singing of the hymn, we invite you to bring forward The Shepherd's Market grocery bags.*

## \*United Methodist Youth Fellowship Benediction

Seth Robertson

**May the Lord bless you and keep you.  
May the Lord make his face shine upon you  
and be gracious unto you.  
May the Lord lift up his countenance upon you  
and give you peace, both now and forever more. Amen.**

## \*Postlude

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

# WORSHIP NOTES

**USHERS** for today's service are St. John's Youth.

## **FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR**

The flowers on the altar are presented by Beth Forester in honor of our Youth and all who work with them, our graduating seniors, and the Confirmands, their mentors, their families, and Rev. Marie Williams, who led them on this important journey in their life and in that of the church.

## **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.

# Worship

## LEGACY OF HOPE SERIES

Scripture is filled with intriguing characters who left profound legacies. As we look closer, we find that they were not that different from us. They too, experienced challenges, heartaches, successes, and failures. Their lives knew fear, doubt, and worry, and yet their lives bear witness to the everlasting story of God's hope and love for God's people. The Holy Spirit is hoping to do the same thing in our day and age through people just like us. During our "Legacy of Hope" series, we are talking about the importance of leaving a positive spiritual legacy. Join us on the Sundays in May. What will be your legacy?

## WEAR RED ON PENTECOST

We encourage you to wear red and other fiery colors to worship on May 28 in celebration of Pentecost, the day when the Holy Spirit came upon the disciples like fire!

# Missions and Fellowship

## MANNA BAGS AVAILABLE

Manna Bags are located in the blue tubs in the Narthex, so feel free to grab one or several after worship today. Filled with food, water, and socks, Manna Bags are a tangible gift you can offer to someone in need. This mission is just one of the ways we continue to live out our vision of feeding people spiritually and physically within our community.

## UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

UWF Mary Martha Circle will meet **Wednesday, May 10 at 11 a.m. in the library**. This will be a salad luncheon and everyone is being asked to bring a salad whose name begins with one of their initials. For example, if your name is Joyce, you might decide to bring a Jello salad. This will be the final Mary Martha Circle meeting of the summer; their next meeting will be Wednesday, August 9 at 10 a.m. in the parlor. All women are invited to attend.

## 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.

## PRIME TIMERS BUFFET BREAKFAST

Prime Timers will meet for their Second Saturday Dutch-treat Buffet Breakfast on **Saturday, May 13 at 8:30 a.m.** at Drury Inn and Suites, 7939 Essen Park Ave. The buffet costs \$8.99. All are welcome.

# Children & Youth Ministries

**Music Makers** (1st-12th grades) continue to meet at 4:30 on Sunday afternoons as they prepare for worship on **May 14, Mother's Day**. The Easter Ensemble made such a fun and meaningful contribution to the service and they will once again join voices and instruments as they add to the mix for praising God through word, rhythm, melody and harmony. Hope to see all of our music makers this afternoon.



## **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.

This summer, our youth and children Sunday School classes **will meet in the Family Life Center from 10:00 - 10:45 a.m.** The age groups included in this group are students who recently completed **1st-3rd grades, 4th-5th grades, and 6th-12th grades.** Connor will provide all of the curriculum to the leaders, but she needs leaders to give the curriculum to! Please consider the opportunity to create and strengthen intergenerational connections within our church family by volunteering to lead with one of these three age groups for at least one Sunday in June or July.

## **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](mailto: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 church will host youth from St. John's, University UMC, Jefferson UMC, and First UMC in Gonzales. St. John's will host the first gathering on June 7 in the Family Life Center.

## **CHILDREN AND FAMILY MINISTRIES**

**Family Camp - A VBS Alternative:** This year, in place of Vacation Bible School, St. John's will be hosting a Family Camp July 13-15. Family Camp will meet in the evenings on July 13 and 14 and the morning of July 15. It will include a dinner Thursday & Friday nights, worship, Bible study, games, music, and service projects to promote community building among the families with children at St. John's. More details will come soon, but mark your calendars now because you do not want to miss out!

**Summer Fellowship for Children & Families:** Every other Thursday in June and July, there will be opportunities for fellowship and fun activities. So far, we have lined up swimming and a volley ball game night. Our first family activity will be swimming at the Magnolia Woods Swimming Pool, more details later.

# Job Opportunities

## **ANNOUNCING 2023 SUMMER YOUTH INTERN**

Applications are now being accepted for our Summer Youth Intern position. This 13-week internship spans the summer months and is a great opportunity for young adults with a passion for youth ministry to gain valuable leadership and ministry experience. This is a part time, salaried internship of approximately 20 hours per week. We are looking for someone who has 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. Visit [stjohnsbr.org/summer-intern-2023](http://stjohnsbr.org/summer-intern-2023) for more information and application instructions.

## **HIRING A NURSERY WORKER**

We are seeking qualified candidates to staff our church nursery on Sunday mornings, with the possibility of additional hours during the week in the evening for meetings and choir rehearsal. Nursery Workers provide dependable, safe, secure, and nurturing care to the children while at our Church, ages 0-4 years in a clean environment. They work as a team, with at least two nursery workers serving together at all times. Sunday morning hours are 7:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. and pay is guaranteed even if there are no children. Hourly pay is \$13-\$15/hour. We are looking for someone who is available to start immediately. Proof of COVID-19 vaccination required. Interested applicants should send their resume to [jobs@stjohnsbr.org](mailto:jobs@stjohnsbr.org).





# This Week at St. John's

## **Sunday, May 7**

### **YOUTH SUNDAY**

### **GROCERY BAG SUNDAY**

- 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
- 12:00 p.m. Celebratory Youth Luncheon, FLC
- 4:30 p.m. Music Makers, Choir Room
- 6:00 p.m. Bells Practice, Bells Room

## **Monday, May 8**

- 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
- 3:30 p.m. The Shepherd's Market, FLC
- 4:30 a.m. Ladies Covenant Group, Parlor
- 6:30 p.m. AA Meeting, FLC-E

## **Tuesday, May 9**

- 8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market, FLC
- 2:00 p.m. Grief Program, Parlor
- 6:30 p.m. AA Meeting, FLC-E

## **Wednesday, May 10**

- 7:00 a.m. Early Risers Exercisers, FLC
- 11:00 a.m. Mary Martha Circle, Library
- 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, May 11**

- 8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market, FLC
- 6:00 p.m. Opening Doors Meeting, Library

## **Friday, May 12**

- 6:30 a.m. Men's Prayer Group, Parlor
- 7:00 a.m. Early Risers Exercisers, FLC
- 8:00 a.m. Food Bank Delivery, FLC

## **Saturday, May 13**

- 8:30 a.m. Prime Timers Breakfast, Drury Inn
- 12:00 p.m. AA Meeting, FLC-C
- 8:00 p.m. AA Meeting, FLC

\*Family Life Center