



SAINT JOHN'S

Established 1874 Cullman, Alabama

EVANGELICAL PROTESTANT CHURCH

August 30, 2020

Liturgical Color: Green

9:00 am and 11:00am (Christ Hall)

SJ's FALL SCHEDULE

Sunday's

- Worship—Christ Hall

9 & 11am ---Online and in person

- Sunday School 10:10-10:50am
- Children's class locations have changed
See SJ's Children's Ministry Page
- No breakfast fellowship will be served

Wednesday's

- *No Meals offered this fall*
- 6:00-7:00pm

Small Groups, Confirmation and Youth:

***NOTE:**

Adjustments will be made as necessary. Watch your email and text messages for information.

HAVE YOU CONNECTED?

New to SJ's?

Please complete an Online Connect Card. We would love the opportunity to connect with you!

Visit www.sjepc.com and fill out a new card so we can introduce ourselves to you and answer any questions you might have!

Church Office Closed
Monday September 7 in
observance of
Labor Day

CONFIRMATION CLASS

2021

Confirmation has officially started!!

But it's not too late if you have a child entering the 6th grade this school year, and have not received a letter about Confirmation, call the church office or email Karen at:

karen.hassell@sjepc.com so we can get your important information to you.

Confirmation is a time honored practice of St John's. The confirmation year is a special time our 6th graders spend time with the pastoral staff and other adult mentors, learning more intensely about Christian doctrine in preparation for full membership in the church. All 6th graders are highly encouraged to attend.

If you are not familiar with this tradition, feel free to contact the office to set up a meeting with Rev. John to discuss the upcoming year.

New Sunday School Time 10:10-10:50am



Download the
**Church Center
App** today!!
Connect and
receive important
messages

Welcome to St. John's. If this is your first time with us, know that we are so glad you're here! Wherever you're at on your spiritual journey, we hope you are able to leave today having experienced the grace and truth of Jesus. Hopefully you've already met some of our welcome team and ushers, but know that we are here to help you however we can.

Parents, for the kids, our nursery and kids leaders will be excited to meet you (see the bulletin for details regarding nursery, SJ Kids, Godly Worship, and SJ Students during this COVID19 Virus time)

Finally, if there's any way we can pray for you or help you connect to our church family, *please drop a welcome card in the offering basket as you exit today or fill out an online prayer card.* Thank you for joining us today either virtually or in person!

STAY CONNECTED WITH US!!

- **Sign up for notifications** from the *SJ Facebook page* --(**turn on notifications for SJ's**)
- Worship Service available on (www.sjepc.com) **watch on FB live or livestream**
- **Email:** make sure we have your current email in the office

THANK YOU'S

- Dear St. John's Church, Thank you so much for the beautiful plant. I am trying so hard to take care of it. We appreciate your being with me and the family at this time. Your visits, calls and being there were great. I love my church and church friends. ~ Dottie Henke
- Dear 55ALIVE Group, Thank you so much for the gift to St. John's. I miss you all so much and will be glad when we can see each other again. Ed always wanted for me to make donations. He always said "flowers are beautiful, but soon die and a memorial lives on." ~Dottie Henke
- Dear St. John's Family, thank you so much for the food gift card and the beautiful plant in memory of Gail. I appreciate the prayers and kindness many of you have shown me.
~ May God Bless everyone, Ted Mauldin.

SAVING SEATS FOR THE FUTURE SAINTS—a upcoming project for the sanctuary.

Here is Rev. John's email:

I know many of you miss being in the sanctuary in this season of extended disruption. I do too. But let me introduce you to our latest initiative as we make plans for the future: *Saving Seats in the Sanctuary for Future Saints.*

The council has approved a simple, small-scale renovation that involves the following:

- Pews—will be "touched-up" (from scratches and fading), a protective coat added, and minor repairs made. The color should remain basically as is and the intent is not to make them look brand new. (New cushions are not currently a part of this project.)
- Wood floors/some of the other wood work—same as above
- Carpet—replace. It only makes sense to do this while the other is being done.

Why now?

The work will need to be done in the near future. It only makes sense to do it while we are already disrupted. Better now than undergo another disruption in the next 18 to 36 months.

Continued next page....

How will we pay for this?

The cost of this is roughly \$60,000, which we will be paying for via special offering. The church has many needs and those do not cease because of this newly adopted project. If you decide to contribute, please do so as a special offering above your normal giving. The discipline of over-and-above giving (for any project) helps us focus on the whole body, fend off selfishness and idolatry, and aids our growth as cheerful givers.

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There are roughly 50 pews in the sanctuary, so a \$1000 gift “saves” a seat for a future saint. Some can give more and some can give less and some are not in a position to give anything right now. We simply celebrate all the ways our members support the work of St. John’s.

Thanks for your patience and generosity in this season and for this project!
Grace and Truth,
Reverend John

PS I’m getting wordy, but here are the answers to a couple of other questions you might have.

How long will the project take?

We should (SHOULD!) be back in before the end of the year and in time to celebrate Advent.

How can I give?

Through the usual channels – online (choose the adopt a pew/save a seat option) or by check (be sure you specify it’s a special offering to Save a Seat) <https://sjepec.churchcenter.com/giving>

GATHERING POINTS FOR GROUPS AND WORSHIP

Keeping in mind, we are in a fluid situation and our facilities and services can possibly change at any given time.

- *Face coverings: With the updated state mask ordinance, face coverings are highly recommended but not required to wear in worship services and classes.*
- If a positive test of an individual that has been onsite, an outbreak of the virus occurs, we will do our best to keep you up to date and informed of the next step.
- ***Been around someone who has tested positive?*** If so, we kindly ask that you please remain at home until your test comes back negative and you are cleared by your Doctor before rejoining us in person.
- Wash your hands frequently.

WEEKLY CHURCH BULLETIN—currently we will not be handing out church bulletins. Bulletins are uploaded weekly on the church web site (www.sjepec.com).

PLAR N...mat making group will begin meeting on Tuesday Sept. 8 at 9:00am in Heritage Hall.

PLASTIC BAGS—we are not currently accepting plastic bags. Hold til further notice.

DO YOU HAVE A NEED??--If you are homebound during this time, and there is something we can do for you, please call the office (256-734-0344) and let us know your need. We will try to help you out!

Tithes and Offerings and Special Gifts: Baskets are located by each entry door in Christ Hall.

Ways you can give: * **church website** (www.sjepec.com) and click the giving tab ***Mail your check to the church:** St. John’s Church, 512 2nd Ave SE, Cullman Al 35055 ***“Text to Give”** text **84321** follow the prompt ***complete an authorization** form for Visa, MasterCard, Discover or debit card ***call the office before you come** and we can come out to your car.

Our Faithful Giving: August 23, 2020:

Offering: \$12,836.00 (plate and mail)
\$ 6,617.42(online)

Reducing our Debt in 2020

BTN YTD 2020 \$48,085.99
SASS- \$29,000.00

Gifts given this week:

Memory of Ed Henke: Glory of God: by Cliff and Judy Green;
Richard and Betty Gibbs;

Memory of Gail Mauldin by Don and Joyce Dossey; John and Marie
Apel;

BTN

..Memory of Ed Henke by Bill and Geraldine Hendrix;

Thank you for your continued faithfulness!

Office Hours

Monday –Thursday 8:00-5:00pm

Friday 8:00am-12:00pm

St. John's is a Church of Grace and Truth

At St. John's we seek to be grace-filled, graceful, and a people of truth. Believing Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life, we understand our need for the grace he offers. We believe in responding in gratitude for the grace we have received by extending grace to others. We do this by loving God, one another, and our community, and reorienting our lives around the truths handed to us through the Holy Scriptures. Join us in the journey!

ST. JOHN'S RAPID RESPONSE TEAM. . .now forming. If you are interested in joining St. Johns Rapid Response Team please notify Chad Knop or Karen Hassell in the church office. The team will provide assistance in the event of a medical problem/emergency that occurs at St. Johns. Medical background preferred but not required. We will need Members from all 3 services.

Cullman NAR-ANON Group Meetings--The NAR-ANON family group meetings are a worldwide fellowship for those affected by someone else's Addiction. We offer Help by sharing our experiences, strength, and hope. We carry the message of Hope by letting others know that they are not alone by practicing the 12 Steps of NAR-ANON and changing our own Attitudes. We Respect Your Anonymity. Our program is not a Religious one but a Spiritual way of Life. Meetings are held at Grace Episcopal Church on Tuesday evenings @ 6:30 pm. Contact Don or Nancy McKenzie 256-736-3327 256-736-3470 for more Information.

Cullman AA Group Meetings –If you or someone you know might need to attend, group meetings are held at: 1519 St. Joseph St. NW, Cullman. Additional meetings are held at Grace Episcopal Church on Monday and Thursday at 7:00pm; and also at Sacred Heart Church on Wednesday at 7:00 pm. Contact: Nancy Clemmons Moore 256-347-8543 or 256-735-1717 for more information.

PHONE NUMBERS—Please help us update our church files. If you have recently disconnected your home land line, and have changed to a cell phone only, please remember to email (karen.hassell@sjepc.com) or call the church office (256-734-0344) with your new contact information.

A CARING CHURCH ? At St. John's we long to be a caring church. Most churches share this desire, but to actually be a caring church requires all of our participation in member-to-member care. First and foremost, it begins in the friendships and relationships you establish with your brothers and sisters in Christ. A great way—in fact *the primary* way—to connect to caring, Christ-centered friendships at SJs is to get involved with one of our many groups. Each of our groups are encouraged to nurture biblical member-to-member care for one another. And, secondly, caring churches are intentional churches. Care doesn't just happen. It takes purposeful effort! Thus, our hope is that our groups will be intentional in listening to, looking out for, and praying with one another. Take time in your groups to develop a process to care for one another.

We also want to offer good pastoral care during the more trying seasons of life. By God's grace, our church has the privilege of shepherding several hundred people who look to SJs as their church "home." Even though each of our services may feel relatively small or medium-sized, the sum total of our congregation is quite large. This simply means that we have to think wisely, biblically, and creatively on how to care for the spiritual well-being of a congregation this size. This, too, takes intentionality both on your part and the part of our staff.

We have recognized that we are best at remembering specifics when prayer requests are written down. So we want to make sure you have easy channels to ask for prayer and care. You'll find prayer cards in the sanctuary and Christ Hall and, of course, calls, emails, and texts are best to set up appointments. We'd love to see our care and prayer ministry grow and even explore new avenues. If that's a part of your heartbeat, we'd like to hear how God is prompting you to join in this ministry.~~Grace and Truth, Reverend John and Pastor Nate



INSTALL THE APP

- ✓ FIND A GROUP
- ✓ GIVE
- ✓ REGISTER FOR EVENTS

Download the Church Center App today!!
Connect with Groups, Give & Register for events in one spot!!

SJStudents

Middle School & High School

YOUTH CENTRAL

Beginning August 23rd

Sunday

Sunday School: 10:10-10:50 am

Middle School and High School Small Groups

Connect with Trent for more info on meeting areas

STUDENTS AND PARENTS

Get info and updates on all things student ministry sent to you in a text message!
Text "@sjstudent" to 81010 to begin receiving updates!

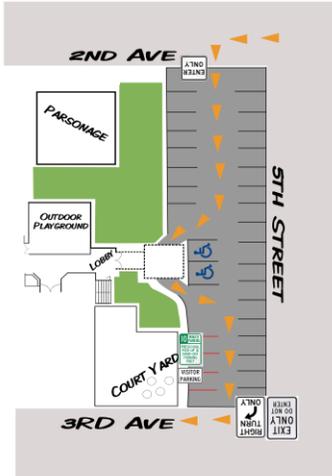
FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!

Snapchat – sjstudents

Instagram and Facebook - @sjyouthlive

Trent Dodson, Youth Pastor: trent.dodson@sjepc.com cell: 205-910-2741

ONE WAY TRAFFIC FOR NORTH PARKING LOT



To help us ensure the safety of our children, visitors and adults, everyday, **beginning August 1, 2017** the traffic flow in the north parking lot will become **ONE WAY TRAFFIC**.

Enter (ONLY) from 2nd Ave. (street that runs in front of the church) and **exit onto 3rd Ave. (facing St. Paul's) with a RIGHT Turn only.**

We now have 4 designated Visitor parking spots for our guests on Sundays.

~ Safe Sanctuaries

VISITORS

Thanks for visiting with us today! Feel free to call the pastor, Rev. John Richter @ 256-734-0344 if you have questions and would like to set up a time to discuss them. You may also check out our website www.sjepc.com to learn more about St. John's.

NURSERY

Nursery is available for newborns up to 3 yrs. of age at all worship services and Sunday School. Please see any usher or greeter this morning and they will direct you to the nursery.

55 ALIVE 2020 ROADTRIPS :

**** The Ark Trip has been cancelled. The Savannah Trip will be decided October 1. Stay tuned, in the event trips are cancelled due to COVID 19.**

Several of our 2020 Roadtrips have been cancelled or rescheduled. Watch for more information to come.

For more information or details, come by the church office to pick up a brochure of the planned trips. Sign up deadlines for each trip, deposits and trip costs are found in the brochure. Questions? Contact Karen Hassell by email: karen.hassell@sjepc.com or text: 256-708-3557.

September: The Ark –cancelled

October 22 --Chihuly Hand blown Glass Exhibit/ Cheekwood Gardens, Nashville Tn.

Option to go and drive your own car.

November: All day shopping trip to Opry Mills; Nashville Tn

Option to go and drive your own car

December: Christmas in Savannah, Ga. –will be decided October 1

SJ's SECURITY TEAMS – How can I find out more information? We would love to tell you more about it and would love to have more men and women be a part of our teams. If you like to become involved in our Security Teams, contact Stan Sandlin, Kenny Culpepper or Karen Hassell.

READ THRU THE OLD TESTAMENT IN A YEAR--Pick up your Storyline "The People of God" weekly readings today so you won't get behind! They are located on the welcome centers in Christ Hall or in the Narthex of the Sanctuary or the hallway by the church office.

STAFF EMAIL AND CONTACT INFORMATION:

Rev. John Richter, Sr. Pastor

john.richter@sjepe.com

As a church of grace and truth, St. John's is...

Rooted in the doctrines of the Protestant Reformation. We believe we are saved by grace through faith in Jesus, that the Bible is the rule for Christian life and faith, and that the Good News of Jesus should be proclaimed in word and deed.

Sacrament Celebrating. We believe God ministers to the community of believers in unique and special ways through the gifts of Baptism and Holy Communion.

Liturgically Oriented. We believe remembering the whole life of Christ is important for spiritual maturity. We follow the church calendar, celebrating seasons like Advent and Lent.

Ecumenically Minded. In the context of our heritage, we believe all those who call upon Jesus as Lord and affirm the creeds of the church (eg the Apostles' Creed) will share in his eternal blessings and so we welcome all believers who join us to participate in worship and community life.

2020 CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mary Barnes, Fred Bussey, Wescoat Free, Will Harding, Willy Hendrix, Babs Herfurth, Billy Jackson, Matthew Laney, Don McKenzie, Matt Schlosser, Ronnie Scott, Christine Wiggins

CONTRIBUTIONS

When making contributions to any fund other than the general fund (Burn the Note, Music Fund, or Youth Fund, Women's Guild / Whit's Place) please write a separate check made specifically to that fund.

Assisted Living:

Folsom Center: Dee Jordan

Morningside: Doris Keathley

Hanceville Nursing Home: Virginia Nail, Juanita Schuman

Woodland Village: Bea Mack; Dot York, Jim Jones

Westminster- Inez Ruehl

Safe SANCTUARIES

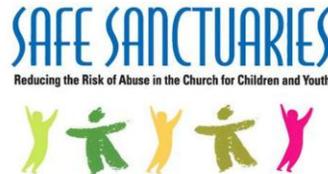
Always keep your eyes open to something that looks unusual to you and report it to an usher or staff member immediately.

Safe Sanctuary and Emergency Preparedness 411

- ❖ **Always keep your eyes open to something or someone that looks unusual to you and report it to an usher or staff member immediately. Be alert!**

What is Safe Sanctuaries?

Our Number 1 Priority:
Keeping Basic Procedures for a Safe Ministry with Children, Youth and Vulnerable Adults



Look for Ushers, Greeters and Staff wearing Yellow Lanyards to assist you with any questions.

ALL VOLUNTEERS AND STAFF ARE BACKGROUND CHECKED PRIOR TO BEING INVOLVED WITH OUR CHILDREN, YOUTH OR VULNERABLE ADULTS.

Safe Sanctuary Steering Committee:

Stan Sandlin, Tricia Fuller, Billy Jackson, Kenny Culpepper, Karen Hassell

We are a Safe Sanctuary Campus

**local 24 /7 crisis line if you believe you are a victim:
256-734-6100 and need help or information.**

ST. JOHN'S PRAYER LIST

All prayer requests are very important to us. To make sure we can give your request proper attention, please be sure to communicate with us in writing requests on prayer request cards. You may also email prayer requests to: karen.hassell@sjepc.com. Sunday Mornings and Wednesday evenings are busy times for everyone and prayer requests can be accidentally lost in conversations. Thank you for helping us with this important matter.

- Our prayer list is renewed the first of each month.
- Please fill out a new prayer card with your individual requests each month and indicate clearly if you would like it public knowledge—*otherwise it will remain on the Pastor's Prayer list only.*
- Online prayer cards are available on the church website: www.sjepc.com or you may email your prayer request in or drop a note in the offering baskets.
- As your prayer request needs to be removed from the list, please let us know that too.
- Prayer lists are published as space allows.

CHURCH MEMBERS: Frances Murphy; Jackson Ray; Don Dossey; Ray Bolzle; Maxine Whisenhunt; Virginia Nail; Jack Stevens; Debbie Shear, Etna Rigsby; Tommy Durden

CHURCH FAMILY AND FRIENDS: Jean Lackey; Lillie Handley

Military Prayer List:

Help us update our Military Prayer list. Please look over the list and see if your family member or friend has changed locations or has now arrived back at home.

MILITARY ADDRESSES --If you have friends or family currently serving in the US Military, our card ministry would like the opportunity to send cards to them throughout the year. Please submit (clearly print) complete mailing addresses to Geraldine Hendrix or bring them by the church office during regular business hours.

Cmdr. Chris Hester, Chaplain—Okinawa Japan; CW4 James Williams—Fort Lee, Virginia; Major Kellie Scott Hyatt—Cullman, AL ; Lt. Cmdr. Scott and Lt. Cmdr. Roz Love, Jacksonville Naval Air Station, Jacksonville, Florida; US Navy; A1C Will Sapp US Air Force, Key West, FL; Sgt. Tony Parker, Air Force, Kandahar; John Lancaster, US Navy; Jason Beck, US Army, Afghanistan; Adam Ramos, Naval Air Station, San Diego, Ca ; US Navy; Derek Ramos – Naval Hospital Yokosuka, Japan, CA; Major John Forbes, Pentagon; NC; Jack Baker, Afghanistan .

GRACE PLACE- "Grace Place is a program for adults with mild to moderate memory loss, who can still feed themselves and take care of their own bathroom needs. The program consists of 4 hours of mental and physical stimulus, 10am to 2pm, every Tuesday and Thursday at Grace Episcopal Fellowship Hall, 305 Arnold St NE, Cullman, AL. Grace Place is a community program open to all qualified people regardless of church affiliation, or no church. Email at info@graceplacecullman.org. Facebook: Grace Place Cullman; or contact Wes Harding, 256-200-2434 for information."

