



SAINT JOHN'S

Established 1874 Cullman, Alabama

EVANGELICAL PROTESTANT CHURCH

December 19, 2021

Liturgical Color: Blue

www.sjepc.com

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

(Live stream available for Worship Services)

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT--Love

Advent and Christmas 2021

Dec. 19 5-7p Youth Christmas Party (YC)

Dec. 29 NO WEDNESDAY ACTIVITIES

Dec. 31 New Year's Eve Youth Lock in

2022

Happy New Year!!

Jan. 2

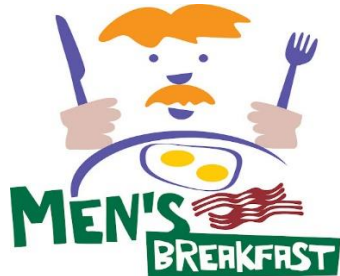
Regular Sunday Schedule

9 & 11 Worship

10:10a Sunday School

Jan. 4

7a Men's Tuesday Morning Breakfast
and Bible Study



7:00am CHRIST HALL

Jan. 5

Wednesday Night's Resume



Christmas Weekend Schedule

Dec. 24 Christmas Eve (sanctuary)

12:00p

5:00p

Candlelight / Communion

Dec. 25 Christmas Day

6:00am Dawnwatch (sanctuary)

Dec. 26 9:00am Worship

1 Service

(Sanctuary)

(No Sunday School)

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!

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, You Tube or livestream**
- **Email:** make sure we have your current email in the office

NURSERY-- Nursery is available for newborns up to 3 yrs. of age at all worship services and during Sunday School. Please see any usher or First Impression Team member or Usher this morning and they will direct you to the nursery.

CHRISTIAN BAPTISM- This past Sunday we rejoiced in the sacrament of Christian Baptism for Jasmine Son Williams and Jacquelyn Son Williams, daughters of Justin and Jenafe Williams with a family service in the sanctuary. Grandparents are James and Pattie Williams.



CARDS OF THANKS

- Dear St. John's Church Family, Thank you very much for all the cards of sympathy, the uplifting text messages and the heartfelt thoughts and prayers these past weeks during my father's passing. Thanks to Rev. John, Nate and Trent for the calls and prayers while traveling between Cullman and Jacksonville. A special thank you to Wes Warren and my Kingdom Builders Sunday School Classmates for lifting me and my family up with prayers! Thank you for the peace lily delivered to my office, a reminder of what a wonderful church family we have! God's Blessings, The Shannon Green Family.
- Dear St. John's Merry Christmas! Thank you so much for your continued prayers and support! I hope you all have a wonderful celebration of our Savior's birth! Have a great 2022! Many blessings, Liz Miller Missionary
- Dear St. John's Church, You all are a true blessing to so many. Thank you for being His hands and feet. We appreciated the volunteer serve group at Curt's Closet last Wednesday night. Huge Help!!! Blessings, Ashley Wilson

END OF THE YEAR DONATIONS--According to IRS rules, donations must be post marked by 12/31/2021 or received in the office by that date to be included on your 2021 Offering Statement.

2022 OFFERING ENVELOPES--2022 Offering Envelope sets are now available near the drink machines. *Please do not use these envelopes until after January 1st as offering numbers usually change each year.*

Online givers will not have assigned envelope sets unless requested. Envelope numbers are no longer required for recording contributions.

IRA GIFTS--Did you know you can donate an IRA required minimum distribution to a qualified charity and it generally could be a nontaxable distribution?

You must be 70 ½ at the time of the distribution and it must be made directly by the trustee of your IRA.

Check with your tax advisor to determine if an IRA qualified charitable deduction is right for you. If it is, please contact us with the details of your IRA gift.

Happening this week:

Mon. Dec. 20 8a. Victim's Services (RB)

Tues. Dec. 21 9a P.L.A.R.N. (HH)
6p NARANON (RB)

Wed. Dec. 22
No Noon Service Today

Thurs. Dec. 23
9a Ladies Bible Study
12p Men's Lunch Group (CR)
12p Rotary (CH)
1:00p Victim Services
6:00pm Rotary Club Christmas Dinner

Friday Dec. 24 Christmas Eve
12p Communion Service
5:00p Candlelight / Communion Service

Sat. Dec. 25 Christmas Day
6:00am Dawnwatch Service

Sunday. Dec. 26
9:00am 1 Service Only (Sanctuary)
NO Sunday School

New to SJ's? *HAVE YOU CONNECTED?* 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!

CHURCHWIDE EMAILS—Are you receiving emails from the church? If not, please call the church office or email: (karen.hassell@sjepc.com) to give us your updated address so you will not miss out on important information from the church.

VISITORS

Thanks for visiting our site today!
We would love the opportunity to sit down and meet with you! Please give us a call to set up an appointment with our Senior Pastor, Rev. John Richter or Associate Pastor Rev. Nate Randall @ 256-734-0344 if you have questions and would like to schedule an appointment to learn more about SJ's.

You may also check out our website www.sjepc.com to learn more about St. John's.

SANCTUARY AND CHRIST HALL SEATING

Currently it is **open seating** for both worship services.

Masks are personal preferences for your health and safety.

SJ's Worship Schedule

9:00 – Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary without weekly communion

10:10-10:50 – Sunday School – classes for children, youth and adults

11:00 – Modern Worship in Christ Hall with the addition of weekly communion

“Get Fit!”

2021-2022 Sermon Series

We will learn and explore a healthy Christian life. Topics will range from personal sacrifice to church life to today's hot cultural issues such as abortion and human sexuality.

**YOU WERE
MADE TO
MAKE A
DIFFERENCE.
TAKE THE
FIRST STEP
TODAY.**

 **Get Fit**

*Find out more
about how you can
get involved in
Kingdom service.*

Scan me





St. John's Evangelical Protestant Church is now a registered charity with AMAZONsmile!

Below are some commonly asked questions and answers.
Bookmark AMAZONSMILE in your browser today!

THANK YOU!! We have received \$45.15 from the Amazon Smile program this year. Thank you for designating St. John's Church as your Amazon Smile Charity.

Use Smile.Amazon.com To Shop Online & Automatically Donate to St. John's Church!

It works just the same as regular Amazon.com — same shipping, same Prime, same everything — but you provide a gift to **St. John's Evangelical Protestant Church** in the process. *Every quarter adds up!* **Thank you for helping!**

To shop at AmazonSmile simply go to smile.amazon.com from the web browser on your computer or mobile device. You may also want to add a **bookmark** to smile.amazon.com to make it even easier to return and start your shopping at AmazonSmile. *Thank you for considering St. John's as your charitable organization!*

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

ST. JOHN'S RAPID RESPONSE TEAM. . . 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 both services for team

YOUTH CENTRAL

Sunday School: 10:10-10:50 am
Youth Center (main gathering area only)

Wednesday's: 6-7:00pm Youth Center

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!

Instagram and Facebook - @sjyouthlive
Snapchat – sjstudents

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

ST. JOHN'S MONDAY PRAYER COLLECTIVE

Are you receiving *SJ's Monday Prayer Collective* email?
If not, and you would like to be included on the list,
please email: karen.hassell@sjepc.com or call the
church office (256-734-0344) with your email address.



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.

Our Faithful Giving

Offering: Dec. 12 \$32,750.47

Reducing our Debt in 2021

BTN YTD \$130,598.00

Gifts:

**General Fund: Memory of
Tommy Durden and Ted
Mauldin** by Clark and Janie Keller

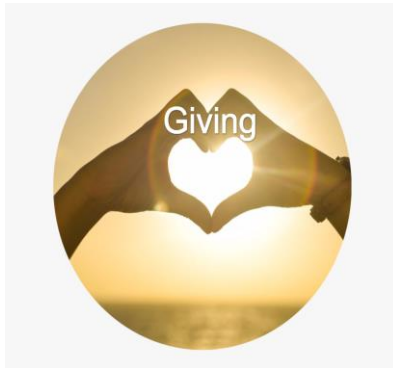
**Memory of Charles Hollis,
Tommy Durden, Jim Jones** by
Mark and Pam Farmer and Family

Memory of Charles Hollis by Jean
Clingan

Men's Fellowship

**Memory of Tommy Durden, Vic
Self and Jim Witte** by Randy
Drake;

Memory of Vic Self by Barry
McGriff



6 Ways to Give:

* **church website** (www.sjepc.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

***Put in the offering plate** during
the service

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

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 will be held at The Ruehl Building (family life center of St John's Church) Tuesday evenings @ 6:00 pm. Contact Don or Nancy McKenzie 256-736-3327 or 256-736-3470 for more information

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.

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.*
- Prayer lists are published as space allows.

CHURCH MEMBERS:

Johnnie Miller; Sandra Sloan, Judy Dean, Ronnie Pattillo, Conner Laney, Virginia Nail; Rachel Riley; Jackson Ray; Don Dossey; Ray Bolzle; Jack Stevens; Etna Rigsby; Anna McGriff, Betty Gibbs; Donna Byram; Yon Johnson; Perry Warren, Dona Adams; Carla Crimm; Shane Guest

EXTENDED CHURCH FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

Katie Wesley (daughter of Linda Wesley); Kristen Hawsey Smith-breast cancer; Baker Shoemaker, remission -treatment; Chris Durden; Betty Walker; Parker Hyatt, Avery Lyle; Michael Cruce; Chip Sutfin, Jeannie Elliott

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.

Serving: Cmdr. Chris Hester, Chaplain—USS Harry S. Truman; Nicholas Sargent, US Marines; Staff Sergeant Josh Ryan, USAF, Eglin AFB

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!

Look for Ushers, First Impression Team Members and Staff wearing Yellow Lanyards to assist you with any questions.

SAFE SANCTUARIES
Reducing the Risk of Abuse in the Church for Children and Youth



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

STAFF EMAIL AND CONTACT INFORMATION:

Rev. John Richter, Sr. Pastor	john.richter@sjepc.com
Rev. Nate (Pastor Nate) Randall, Associate Pastor	nate.randall@sjepc.com
Stephanie Jowers, Director Children's Ministries	stephjowers@sjepc.com
Tiffany Richter, Director of Music Ministries	tiffany.richter@sjepc.com
Trent Dodson, Minister to Youth	trent.dodson@sjepc.com
Tina White Director Little Lambs Preschool	tina.white@sjepc.com littlelambspreschool@sjepc.com
Nathan Williams, Pastoral Intern (20+ group)	nathan.williams@sjepc.com
Jane Brannon, Office Assistant	jane.brannon@sjepc.com
Regina Baker, Financial Secretary	regina.baker@sjepc.com
Karen Hassell, Administrative Assistant, Facility Coordinator, Sr. Adult Travel	karen.hassell@sjepc.com

St. John's Evangelical Protestant Church
512 2nd Ave SE
Cullman Al 35055

**Church Office
Hours**
Monday –Thursday
8am-5pm

Friday
8:00am-12:00pm

Assisted Living:

Folsom Center: Dee Jordan

Morningside: Doris Keathley

Hanceville Nursing Home: Virginia Nail, Juanita Schuman, Betty Pitzing

Woodland Village: Bea Mack

Country Living- Jo Webb

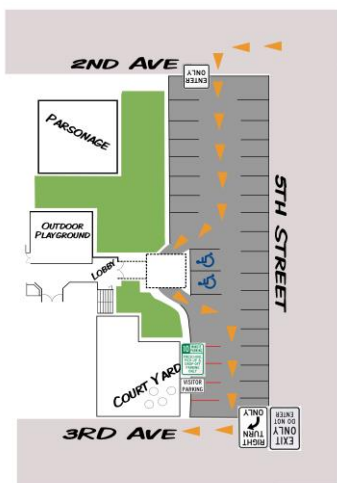
Summerford Nursing Home: Bob Polancich

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


ONE WAY TRAFFICE FOR NORTH PARKING LOT



To help us ensure the safety of our children, visitors and adults, the traffic flow in the north parking lot is **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.**

There are 4 designated Visitor parking spots for our guests on Sundays.
~ Safe Sanctuaries



INSTALL
THE APP

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

Kurt Apel, Mary Barnes, Fred Bussey, Champ Crocker, Billy Jackson, Michelle Joiner, Matthew Laney, Don McKenzie, Matt Schlosser, Ronnie Scott, Christine Wiggins, Stacie Wren.

2021 Council Officers:

Billy Jackson, President; Matt Schlosser, VP; Christine Wiggins, Secretary; Matthew Laney, Treasurer

*Thank you for visiting our
site!!*

Download the Church Center App today!!

Connect with Groups, Give & Register for events
in one spot!!