



# SAINT JOHN'S

Established 1874

Cullman Alabama

## EVANGELICAL PROTESTANT CHURCH

February 12, 2023 Liturgical Color: Green

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

[www.sjepc.com](http://www.sjepc.com)

(Live stream available on YOUTUBE for Worship Services)

*Ash  
Wednesday*

**February 22**

**12 and 6p-Sanctuary**

A time of reflection, repentance, and spiritual renewal with the imposition of ashes and Holy Communion. Children will be invited to come with their parents or guardians to receive the ashes at a designated time in the service.

**Wednesday Lenten Services**

**12 and 6p- Sanctuary**

March 1, 8, 15, 22  
29(12pm only)

Lent is a period of forty days that Christians observe every year just before Easter, typically from late February to early April. The liturgical color for Lent is purple. This is a somber color for the Lenten season which signifies humility, willingness to repent, mourning for the sins and suffering with Jesus. Also it reminds us of Jesus' experience in the desert for forty days and being tempted by the devil. The Lenten season begins on a day known as Ash Wednesday (about six weeks before Easter) and continues until Easter Sunday, not counting the Sundays in between, as they are still considered days of celebration. Lent represents a time of searching for God amidst the brokenness of life, a season of intentional fasting before a time of feasting.

Lent is a journey that culminates in the hope of Easter morning.

# Jazz Sunday

**Feb. 19<sup>th</sup>**

**9:00** Prayer service (sanctuary)

**9:45am-10:45am** *Brunch in the Atrium*  
(everyone invited)

**10:10-10:50** Sunday School

**11:00 Service (Christ Hall)**

*special guests*

**Wallace State Concert Choir**

Come hear the Concert Choir performing excerpts from their upcoming show "*Down by the Riverside*": *The Gospel Music of America*, to be held April 13-15 at Betty Leeth Haynes Theater (on Wallace State Campus) from Spirituals on the plantation, to quartet music on the radio, we'll trace the history of your favorite Gospel songs!

This show is a pre-cursor to the Concert Choir's performance tour to Germany, Austria and Italy this coming May!!!

You will not want to miss this outstanding group of talented young adults!

*Come early.....  
grab a bite to eat at brunch...  
then settle in for a great Sunday!*

**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 or fill out an online prayer card.* Thank you for joining us today either virtually or in person!

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**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.

**NURSERY** -- 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 this morning and they will direct you to the nursery.

**VISITORS**--Thanks for visiting with us 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 @ 256-734-0344 if you have questions and would like to schedule an appointment to learn more about SJ's. You may also check our website [www.sjepc.com](http://www.sjepc.com) to learn more about St. John's.

### **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](http://www.sjepc.com)) watch on You Tube**
- **Fill out a green connect card and drop in the offering plate when you visit us! We would love to meet you!**
- **Email:** make sure we have your current email in the office (256-734-0344)

**2023 OFFERING ENVELOPES**—Remaining 2023 offering envelopes are now located in the hallway by the church office. Online users will not have assigned envelope sets unless requested. Envelope numbers are no longer required for recording contributions.

**DONATION STATEMENTS**—statements have been emailed to the primary email address in our files on January 30, 2023. Please check your spam / junk folders to make sure yours did not go there. Statements were mailed by January 31, 2023 for those without email unless requested. Please call the office (256-734-0344) if you need a printed copy.

**55ALIVE FEBRUARY MONTHLY FUN DAY / LUNCH DAY**—Thursday, February 16<sup>th</sup> beginning at 9:15am. Gathering time begins around 9:15am! If you are 55 and up, you are invited to come and be a part! 11:00 Angie Glasscock Outreach Update followed by Lunch at 11:30am. Call the office (256-734-0344) to let us know you plan to join us!!

**55ALIVE BRAVES GAME**—Wednesday, September 20<sup>th</sup> we will be traveling to see the **Phillie's vs Braves** for a 12:20pm gametime. **Limited number of seats.** Price: \$34 each plus \$5 gas money. If you have not signed up and want to go, call the office (256-734-0344).

**FEBRUARY FOOD DRIVE---**The month of February we are sponsoring a food drive for The Link. **The food drive wraps up Feb. 26<sup>th</sup>.** **Items needed:** Regular size boxes and cans needed items: Pop top canned soups, saltine crackers, mac and cheese, canned tuna or chicken, peanut butter, rice, pasta and pasta sauces, cereal bars, assorted cereals. **Food collection bins locations:** Inside the front door next to the church office and preschool entry.



**THANK YOU !!**

**REACHING HIGHER TOO Young Adult Sunday School Class donating food for The Link Food Drive that continues thru February 26<sup>th</sup>.**

If you are between the ages of 18-25 and do not have a Sunday School class, Faith, Ella, Kate, Ben, Kelly and Katie (pictured) invite you to come and join them. Wade Warren is the leader of the class.

They meet each Sunday morning at 10:10am upstairs on 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the Education Building. Contact Wade Warren for if you have questions.

**55ALIVE FEBRUARY ROADTRIP -- February 23<sup>rd</sup> --Hats, Pearls, Gloves and High Tea, Magnolia Hill Manor, visit to the Old Jail Museum, Winchester, Tn**

Come along to a Valentine High Tea in all our tea party finery of hats, pearls and gloves! Wear or bring your favorite tea hat. *Don't have a hat?* No worries. There will be a table of hats you can select from there at the Manor. We will also take a quick visit to the Old Jail Museum that houses artifacts from the Civil War and Pioneer era and memorabilia from a home town girl turned global celebrity Dinah Shore (admission \$1). **Final count due to the Manor by Wednesday Feb. 15.** Call the office (256-734-0344) to sign up. \$\$ needed: \$27.00 tea party, \$1 Museum and \$5 gas and whatever other spending money you need for stops along the way!



**St. John's**  
LITTLE LAMBS  
PRESCHOOL

# LLPS REGISTRATION

**Currently Enrolled Students/Siblings – January 23<sup>rd</sup>–February 3, 2023**  
**St. John's Church Members – February 6<sup>th</sup>–February 20, 2023**  
**Open Enrollment March 6<sup>th</sup>–March 20, 2023**

**Registration packets are available at Little Lambs Preschool**  
**Hours: Monday–Friday 6:30 a.m.–5:30 p.m.**

**Phone: 256.736.2290**  
**email: [littlelambspreschool@sjepc.com](mailto:littlelambspreschool@sjepc.com)**




**Save the Date**  
**Children's Ministry Summer Dates:**

**Daniel vs Lion's June 3**  
(3-rising 2<sup>nd</sup> grade boys and girls)

**Built for a Purpose June 13-15**  
(boys only)

**Created for a Purpose July 10-14** (girls only)

**CLEAN PLASTIC BAGS WELCOME!!**--- --Please drop off **clean** bags in the receptacles located at the entrance to the education building (by the church office) and Little Lambs Preschool entrance. **PLEASE—NO STICKY BAGS WHERE ITEMS HAVE SPILLED INSIDE.**

**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.

**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.

**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

**Happening this week:**

Sun. Feb. 12 11:30am 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee Lunch and Meeting (CR)  
Mon. Feb 13 8a Victim's Services (RB)  
Tues. Feb 14 7a Men's Bible Study and Breakfast (CH)  
9a P.L.A.R.N. (HH)  
6p NARANON (RB)  
Wed. Feb 15 10a Soul Sister's Bible Study- off campus in individual's homes. Contact Becky Hudson to find out location of the week at: (256) 565-9840  
6:00p-7:00p Confirmation, \*Small Groups, Youth, Praise Band Rehearsal  
Thurs. Feb. 16 9:15a 55Alive Fun Day / Lunch Day (Ruehl Bldg)  
11:30a 55Alive Lunch (Ruehl Bldg)  
12:00p Rotary Meeting and Lunch (CH)  
12:00p Men's Group (CR)  
1:00pVictim Services (RB)  
Friday Feb. 17 10-12:00p Alabama Education Retirees Meeting (Christ Hall)

## Our Faithful Giving

### General Fund

Offerings: 1-29 \$23,845.39

Reducing our Debt in 2023

BTN \$53,062.00

2-05 \$24,089.92

### Gift:

BTN- Memory of Jerry Laney by J.R. and Christine Batemon



Just copy and paste this address into your internet browser.

<https://sjepc.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/online-connect-card-2.png> or log in from our church web site.

## 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](http://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; Judy Dean, Rachel Riley; Jackson Ray; Ray Bolzle; Anna McGriff, Betty Gibbs; Shane Guest; Bay Bacate; Tamara White, JP White; Donna Hendrix; Cori Antler Bradfield; Gail Wallace; Roman Higdon; Charlie McBrayer; Jean Driver; Curt Peinhardt

### EXTENDED CHURCH FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

Kristen Hawsey Smith; Baker Shoemaker, remission -treatment; Betty Walker; Jeannie Elliott; Lindsay Hickman; Lisa Sharpton; Susan McClendon Patrick; Julie Blaize; Porter Lynn Phillips; Kelli Kontogorge Wright; Darrell Raley; James Laminack; Tom Sawyer; Sterling Bates; Doris Grissom

### 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; Ben Turner, Navy Seaman E3, Naval Station Norfolk; Pvt. First Class 3 Caleb Wood, Mississippi National Guard; Lieutenant Scott Waitley, US Navy

**Assisted Living:**

**Folsom Center:** Dan Keel, Frank Brunner, Doris Keathley, Jean Driver

**Hanceville Nursing Home:** Clarice Shafer

**Woodland Village:** Bea Mack

**Woodland House—**Jo Webb

Summerford Nursing Home- Bob Polancich

**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

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FOLLOW US ON  
SOCIAL MEDIA!  
Instagram and Facebook -  
@sjyouthlive  
Snapchat – sjstudents

## YOUTH 411

### 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!

### Sunday School

10:10-10:50 am  
Youth Center

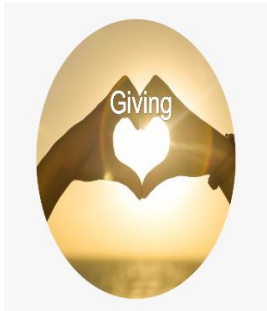
Trent Dodson, Student Pastor

[Trent.dodson@sjepc.com](mailto:Trent.dodson@sjepc.com)

Cell: 205-910-2741

### Wednesday's:

6-7:00pm  
Youth Center  
Middle School & HS



### 6 Ways to Give:

- \* **church website** ([www.sjepc.com](http://www.sjepc.com)) and click the giving tab
- \***Mail your check to the church:** St. John's Church, 512 2<sup>nd</sup> 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

### 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.**

### IRA Qualified Charitable Distribution

Anyone 70.5 years of age or older can give up to \$100,000 as a tax-free gift, in the form of a QCD, from their traditional IRA account.  
Contact your IRA custodian or tax preparer for more information.

# SAFE SANCTUARIES

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



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

- ❖ Remember do not leave your valuables in your vehicles.
- ❖ Do not leave your purses, wallets, phones, laptops, weapons in plain sight.

***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 Dille, Billy Jackson, Kenny Culpepper, Karen Hassell

We are a safe sanctuary campus.

Local crisis line: 256-734-6100 if you need help or 911

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

### **STAFF EMAIL AND CONTACT INFORMATION:**

Rev. John Richter, Sr. Pastor

[john.richter@sjepc.com](mailto:john.richter@sjepc.com)

Nate Williams, Interim Associate Pastor

[nate.williams@sjepc.com](mailto:nate.williams@sjepc.com)

Wednesday Night Coord./ LLS Outreach

[stephjowers96@gmail.com](mailto:stephjowers96@gmail.com)

Stephanie Jowers, Director Children's Ministries

[tiffany.richter@sjepc.com](mailto:tiffany.richter@sjepc.com)

Tiffany Richter, Director of Music Ministries

[trent.dodson@sjepc.com](mailto:trent.dodson@sjepc.com)

Trent Dodson, Student Pastor

[tina.white@sjepc.com](mailto:tina.white@sjepc.com) or

Tina White, Director Little Lambs Preschool

[littlelambspreschool@sjepc.com](mailto:littlelambspreschool@sjepc.com)

Jane Brannon, Office / LLS Assistant

[jane.brannon@sjepc.com](mailto:jane.brannon@sjepc.com)

Regina Baker, Financial Secretary

[regina.baker@sjepc.com](mailto:regina.baker@sjepc.com)

Karen Hassell, Administrative Assistant,

[karen.hassell@sjepc.com](mailto:karen.hassell@sjepc.com)

Facility Coordinator; 55Alive Sr. Adult Travel

St. John's Evangelical Protestant Church

512 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave SE Cullman AL 35055

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

256-734-0344

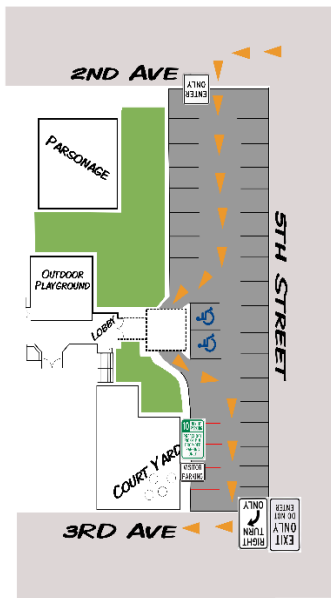
Friday 8:00am-12:00pm

Phone

[www.sjepc.com](http://www.sjepc.com)



**If your visiting, a little traffic information for you about the 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 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave.** (street that runs in front of the church) and **exit onto 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave. (facing St. Paul's) with a RIGHT Turn only.**

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

# **ONE WAY TRAFFIC FOR NORTH PARKING LOT**

**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

## **2023 CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Kurt Apel, Champ Crocker, Pam Farmer, Michelle Joiner, Chad Knop, Deanna Little, Stan Sandlin, Kathy Schuman.

### **2023 Council Officers:**

Stacie Wren, President; Matt Page, VP; Corrie Antler Bradfield, Secretary; Jamie Laney, Treasurer

## SJ's Weekly Sunday 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



*Thank you for visiting our church  
website!*

Download the Church Center Ap today!  
Registration for events or meals is a breeze with the ap!!

