



SAINT JOHN'S

Established 1874

Cullman Alabama

EVANGELICAL PROTESTANT CHURCH

March 12, 2023 Liturgical Color: Purple

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

www.sjepc.com **Third Sunday in Lent** (Live stream available on YOUTUBE for Worship Services)



Pre-wrapped Easter candy may be dropped off at the church office any time.

If you would like to sign up to make a cake for the EASTER CAKEWALK, please call the church office (256-734-0344) and leave your name and number.

EASTER LILLIES

Easter lilies are now available for purchase thru the church office. Lilies may be placed in the Sanctuary or Christ Hall in honor or memory of a loved one, a friend or a 2023 Confirmation Class member.

If you would like to purchase a Lilly, please fill out a form and return to the church office along with your payment.

Cost: \$15.00 each. If paying by check, make checks to St John's and in the memo section write "lily".

Lilies may be picked after each service on Easter Sunday.



Lenten Series 2023--*What Does It Mean to Flourish?*

"What does it mean to flourish? What does it mean to be happy?" Our culture is desperately trying to find answers to these questions, and it turns to every destructive lifestyle and habit to try to find peace. As Christians, what is our answer? Jesus answers these questions through his Sermon on the Mount in Matthew 5-7, and we will be meditating deeply on this famous passage throughout Lent as we seek to become more like Christ.

Please join us in the Sanctuary at 12pm and 6pm on March 15th, 22nd, and 29th (12pm only).

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!

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 both 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 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) 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)

SYMPATHY— Sympathy is extended to the Family Wayne Fuller, survived by his fiancé' of 5 years: Karen Ploppert; his son: Michael (Jodi) Fuller; his daughters: Katie (Wescoat) Free, Courtney (Jeremy) Zills, and Jaclyn (Brandon) Gardner; his sisters: Shelby (Jim) Knight, Janice (Charles) Cobb; his grandchildren: Morgan and Mason Fuller, Will, Wyatt, and Mabry Free, Nate, Ansley, Silas, and Sawyer Zills, Madeline, Tucker, Tyde Willingham.

NEW ARRIVAL: Congratulations to Nathan and Yvette (Kent) Evans on the birth of their daughter, born March 5, 2023 weighing 8 lb 4 oz.

INTRODUCTION TO RAGGY QUILTING CLASS ---Saturday-March 18 10:00am--Heritage Hall Geraldine Hendrix will have a Show n Tell of quilting! Geraldine is a very talented and accomplished member of the Heartland Quilt Guild. Come to our introductory class and find out all the details of different types of quilting. Our first project will be a raggy quilt. A supply list and meeting schedule will be handed out at the meeting. Sign up online on the church webpage under the event tab and look for the quilt picture. ***Class is open to men and women of all ages!*** You do not have to be a member of SJ's to attend! Just let us know you are coming!

55ALIVE FUN DAY / LUNCH DAY—is Thursday March 16th. Gathering time is around 9:15am in the Ruehl Building. 11:00a Outreach Update from Angie Glasscock and 11:30a lunch. Call the office (256-734-0344) to let us know you plan to attend!! If you are 55 and up you we would love to have you join us!

EASTER SUNDAY WORSHIP

7:45a Sanctuary (abbreviated worship and Communion)

9:00a Sanctuary (Traditional worship with Communion)

10:10-10:50a Sunday School

11:00a Christ Hall-Confirmands First Communion

To Help us in our planning, we ask that you sign up in advance and include the total number in your group.

Go to the church webpage, select **event tab** then **EASTER Sunday** and select the service you plan to attend. Please understand the service you would prefer to attend may fill up fast. We ask that you consider another service time if that occurs.

Link to register:

<https://sjepc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1675565>

CROSSES OF COMMITMENT--- Your family is invited to bring a cross during this Lenten Season to hang on the wall in the Atrium. Crosses can be up to 9" x 14" and placed in the designated space. Nails and hammer are provided at the Welcome Desk area for your convenience, to allow your family to hang up your cross together. If you prefer not to hang it yourself, leave on the desk and we will hang it for you.

2024 GERMAN REFORMATION TOUR



Interested? Want more info?

Ready to go?

Email

Rev. John Richter:

john.richter@sjepc.com

55ALIVE MARCH ROADTRIP—Thursday March 23rd we will be off to Columbia Tennessee to tour President James K. Polk Home, Elm Springs, Athenaeum Rectory and lunch at Mt Pleasant Grille. The James K. Polk Home is the only surviving residence of the 11th President of the United States. This beautifully preserved American landmark is home to one of the finest Presidential collections in the nation, as well as period artifacts and authentic glimpses of life in the early 1800s. Elm Springs is a magnificent Greek Revival mansion built in 1837 by Maury County master builder Nathan Vaught for James & Nathaniel Dick, two wealthy New Orleans cotton merchants. The Historic Athenaeum Rectory is all that remains of two famous girl schools that flourished in the area from the 1830s until the Great Depression. Call the office (256-734-0344) to sign up to go. **Costs:** \$9.00 Polk Tour ; Elm Springs \$5 Museum \$10 home or both for \$12; \$5 Athenaeum; \$5 gas plus your lunch\$\$ and spending \$\$\$. We will pay individually at each stop. **LEAVE TIME:** 7:30am return 5:00ish.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY SUMMER SAVE THE DATES

**ST. JOHN'S
SUMMER BLAST
DANIEL V. LION**



**SATURDAY, JUNE 3RD
9am-1:30PM
KIDS PREK3-2ND
GRADE**



BUILT FOR A PURPOSE
BOYS ENTERING 3RD-8TH GRADES



**JUNE 13TH-15TH
5-8:30PM**



*Created For A Purpose
Summer 2023*



**JULY 10TH - 14TH
9AM-1:30PM**



GIRLS ENTERING 3RD - 8TH GRADES

Created for a Purpose for Girls Registration

2 Fundraising Events Sponsored by Kenya Relief for the Education Team Summer 2023

SJ's Team Members are:

Madelyn Hendrix, Kristi Guest, Shana Guest, Faith Guest, Evie Krenkel, Cheryl Parker

Golf Tournament

Location: Terri Pines

Date: Friday May 12th, lunch served at noon with shotgun start at 1:00.

\$400 per team

Hole sponsorship is \$100

For information contact Steven Parker @ 256-339-7916

Ice cream Fundraiser

April 2nd 3:00-5:00 @ Seven Sisters Scoops

the missions team will receive 10% of all sales made during that time frame.

For more information contact Cheryl Parker 256-347-8095

Proceeds from these events will be split among team members. Contact Chery Parker if you would like a form to sign up to join the team. Completed forms and checks are due by May 1, 2023

SJ's Adult & Young Adult Sunday School Class Information and Location List

Are you looking for a Sunday School class? Like to check one out? You are invited to visit these classes and find the class for you! Ask any greeter (wearing a yellow lanyard) or staff member Sunday morning and they will be happy to help you find a class location.

1-Eddie McGriff's Class– "Digging into books of the Bible a chapter at a time. All are welcome!"

Location: Ruehl Building Main Floor (North Side)

2-Wes Warren's Kingdom Builders– "Discussion-based studies that draw us into the truth of Scripture. All are welcome!"

Location: Ruehl Building Main Floor (South Side)

3-Melanie Townson's Reaching Higher– “We are a diverse group of like-minded individuals with different backgrounds pursuing one goal: We want to live like Jesus. Our main objective in studying the Bible is to develop an understanding of how to model our lives after the directions of Christ. We gather together to encourage and foster relationships, and we also like to have fun and fellowship with one another! “We do Bible studies that focus on our relationship with Christ, our prayer life, and how to apply Biblical principles to our everyday lives.”

Location: Ruehl Building Basement

4-Wade Warren's Reaching Higher Too– "Young Adult class for ages 18 - 25 years with a focus on developing relationships with each other and with God."

Location: Third Floor of the Education Building

5-Dennon Compton's Upper Room– "A study on the Fruit of the Spirit"

Location: Upper room, next to elevator and confirmation room.

Use elevator off the Atrium to get to the classroom.

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.**

Our Faithful Giving

Offerings: 3-5-23 \$28,208.95

General Fund

Reducing our Debt in 2023

BTN \$55,207.00

Gifts:

BTN

Memory of Jerry Laney by Bill and Hazel Ruehl;

Happening this week:

- Mon. Mar. 13 8a Victim's Services (RB)
- Tues. Mar. 14 7a Men's Bible Study and Breakfast (CH)
9a P.L.A.R.N. (HH)
6p NARANON (RB)
- Wed. Mar 15 10a LLS Chapel
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
12:00p Noon Wednesday Service (Sanctuary)
6:00p Evening Wednesday Lenten Service (Sanctuary)
- Thurs. Mar 16 9:15a 55Alive Fun Day / Lunch Day(RB)
11:00a 55Alive Outreach Update
11:30a 55Alive Lunch
12:00p Rotary Meeting and Lunch (CH)
12:00p Men's Group (CR)
1:00pVictim Services (RB)
- Fri. Mar 17 St. Patrick's Day
- Sat. Mar 18 10a Confirmation Rehearsal
10a Introduction to Quilting Class-Raggy Quilt (HH)
11:30a Confirmation Baptism (atrium)



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 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.

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; 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 Kontogee Wright; James Laminack; Tom Sawyer; Sterling Bates; Doris Grissom; Terry Parker; Ann Buster Payne; Michael Johnston; Pam Hagan

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: Cpt. Chris Hester, Chaplain—Maryland; 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; Pvt. John Riley, Ft Benning, Ga

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

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

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.

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

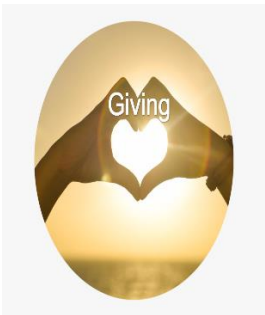
Trent Dodson, Student Pastor

Trent.dodson@sjepc.com

Cell: 205-910-2741

Wednesday's:

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



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

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.

STAFF EMAIL AND CONTACT INFORMATION:

Rev. John Richter, Sr. Pastor
Nate Williams, Interim Associate Pastor
Wednesday Night Coord./ LLS Outreach
Stephanie Jowers, Director Children’s Ministries
Tiffany Richter, Director of Music Ministries
Trent Dodson, Student Pastor
Tina White, Director Little Lambs Preschool

john.richter@sjepc.com

nate.williams@sjepc.com
stephjowers96@gmail.com
tiffany.richter@sjepc.com
trent.dodson@sjepc.com
tina.white@sjepc.com or
littlelambspreschool@sjepc.com

Jane Brannon, Office / LLS Assistant
Regina Baker, Financial Secretary
Karen Hassell, Administrative Assistant,
Facility Coordinator; 55Alive Sr. Adult Travel

jane.brannon@sjepc.com
regina.baker@sjepc.com
karen.hassell@sjepc.com

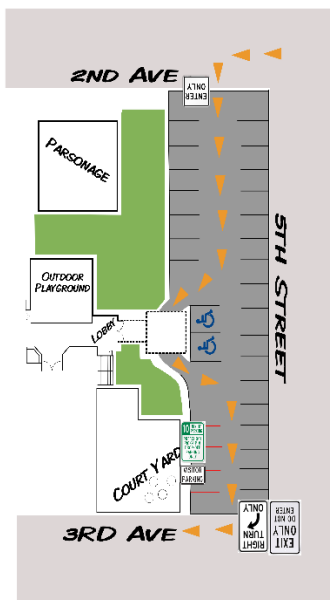
St. John’s Evangelical Protestant Church
512 2nd Ave SE Cullman Al 35055

Church Office Hours Monday –Thursday 8am-5pm
Friday 8:00am-12:00pm

256-734-0344
Phone

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 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

**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!!

