



# SAINT JOHN'S

Established 1874

Cullman Alabama

## EVANGELICAL PROTESTANT CHURCH

May 28, 2023 Liturgical Color: **RED**  
**PENTECOST SUNDAY** [www.sjepc.com](http://www.sjepc.com)

9:00 (Sanctuary) 11:00 (Christ Hall)  
(Live stream available on YOUTUBE for Worship Services)

### PENTECOST

Today is Pentecost Sunday and is observed on the seventh Sunday after Easter and 10 days after Ascension. The name comes from the Greek word "pentekoste" which means fiftieth as Pentecost Sunday takes place on the 50th day of Easter. This holy day commemorates the coming of the Holy Spirit in the form of flames to the Apostles and other followers of Jesus Christ.



### ST. JOHN'S NEW TEXT LINE

*Communication and getting the right information to you in a timely manner is key, right?*

St. John's is adding a text line in order to improve our communication abilities. You can ask questions through this number to the staff, and you will receive the occasional text concerning SJ Events.

This is not a group chat; no one else other than SJ staff will be able to read your messages.

#### Here is how you can join:

- 1) Text "SJEPC" to 256-734-0344
- 2) After you receive a response from us, text your name so that we know who you are for contact information purposes.
- 3) Then you are signed up. You can opt out at any time.

**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-6TH GRADES**

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

**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.

#### **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).

\*\*\*\*\*

**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](http://www.sjepc.com) to learn more about St. John's.

**HOLY COMMUNION** --Today we will observe the sacrament of Holy Communion in both worship services. Clear grape juice is on the inner circles of the tray and wine(dark red) is served on the outer circles of the tray.

**SUMMER CHURCH OFFICE HOURS**- beginning Tuesday May 30<sup>th</sup> the summer church office hours are:  
Monday -Thursday 8:00am –4:00pm; Friday 8:00am –12:00pm

**MEMORIAL DAY HOLIDAY**- Monday May 29<sup>th</sup> the church office will be closed in observance of Memorial Day. The office will reopen on Tuesday morning at 8:00am.

**REMINDER FOR 55ALIVE ARK DEPOSITS**-- \$100 non refundable deposit is due in the office by May 31<sup>st</sup> to secure your spot for the trip to The Ark Encounter and Creation Museum. Trip date is: August 24-27<sup>th</sup>. You can pay in installments on your trip as you wish. Trip must be paid in full by August 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**RAGGY QUILT CLASS**—the next class will be Saturday June 10<sup>th</sup> from 9:00am – 11:00am in Heritage Hall. You are welcome to bring your machine if you would like to or there will be a couple of machines here for use.

**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](mailto:karen.hassell@sjepc.com) or call the church office (256-734-0344) with your email address.

**55ALIVE TENNESSEE RIVER FRESHWATER PEARL FARM ROADTRIP**--- June 22<sup>nd</sup>. SIGNUP DEADLINE: May 31<sup>st</sup> if you have not signed up but plan to go. Trip cost: \$35 for tour and lunch, +\$5 gas money. Signed up to go: Carol Hinkle, Sue Little, Jane Brannon, Linda Wesley, Mitzi Brumleve, Diane Culpepper, Richard and Brenda Rush, Sandra Sloan, Kenny Culpepper and Karen Hassell. Email : [karen.hassell@sjepc.com](mailto:karen.hassell@sjepc.com) or call the church office to sign up.



**55ALIVE OCTOBERFEST IN HELEN GEORGIA --October 26-28** (2 nights lodging)  
Helen's Oktoberfest celebrations have been going on for more than 50 years, involving multiple weeks of traditional dancing and food from September through October. This is the longest-running celebration of its kind in the United States. Revelers dress in traditional attire, lederhosen and dirndls, while dancing to the polka.

You can't visit Helen for Oktoberfest without trying some German food! **Hofer's of Helen** will satisfy your sweet tooth for delicious pastries or, Reuben sandwiches made by Germans who immigrated to the town in the 1950s. Lunch place options include **Cafe International, The Troll Tavern, Bodensee** for authentic favorites like spaetzle, goulash and wursts; **The Heidelberg German Restaurant, Old Bavaria Inn Restaurant & Lounge, Muller's Famous Fried Cheese Cafe and Hofbrauhaus** . Event admission is \$8 during the week, \$10 on Saturdays, and free on Sundays, with food and drink available for purchase.

15 Double hotel rooms on hold.

**Cost:** Double per person \$296.00

**Single:** \$507.00 (includes, hotel, gas, incidentals) Hotel has hot complementary breakfast each morning; Admission to event would be paid there at gate by each person.

**Hotel info:** Staying at Comfort Inn and Suites, Dahlonega Ga.

Call the church office (256-734-0344) to sign up. \$100 non-refundable deposit due by June 15<sup>th</sup>. You may pay on your trip as you are able. Trip must be paid in full by October 25<sup>th</sup>.



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

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

**STUDENTS AND  
PARENTS**  
Get info and updates on  
all things student  
ministry  
sent to you in a text  
message!

# St. John's Evangelical 2024 GERMAN REFORMATION TOUR

May 17-28, 2024

*Do you have friends you would like to invite?*

Come along and join us as we see the magnificent sights of Germany! We will travel down from Berlin to Munich and visit many stops along the way! You will also experience the sites of Martin Luther as well as many other historical sites in between. As a part of SJ's 150<sup>th</sup> birthday Celebration, we will make a special visit to Frankweiler, Cullman's sister city!

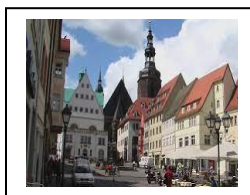
Some of the highlights include: a panoramic tour of Berlin, attend a service at St. Mary's Church where Luther preached in Wittenberg; Visit Luther's home, Tour Eisleben; Stroll through Erfurt and visit the Augustinian Monastery; enjoy free time to explore Erfurt at your leisure; Explore Wartburg Castle; Sail one of the prettiest sections of the Rhine River viewing beautiful castles as you go; celebrate a meal and wine tasting at a family owned winery; tour medieval Rothenburg-ob-der-Tauber; explore Neuschwanstein Castle for amazing Bavarian views; explore Linderhof Castle; enjoy a guided tour in Munich and leisure time there for exploring; and a farewell dinner at Ettal before returning home.



Neuschwanstein Castle



St. Mary's Church



Eisleben



Augustinian Monastery



Erfurt Germany



Wartburg Castle



Frankweiler



Rhine River



Linderhof Castle



Munich



Ettal



Rothenburg-ob-der-Tauber

For more information, receive an itinerary or to sign up to go, email:

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

the more the merrier!!

# Created for a Purpose -Girls Event



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

*Are you looking for a Sunday School class? 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:** Heritage Hall

**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**– "Journey to The Resurrection”

**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 General Fund

5-21-23 Offerings: \$16,981.46

Reducing our Debt in 2023

BTN \$64,984.10

\*\*This section is printed on the weekly Order of Worship as space permits. It is printed weekly in the online church bulletin.

### 6 Ways to Give:

- \* **church website** (www.sjepc.com) and click the giving tab
- \* **Mail gifts:** 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.



### Happening this week:

Mon. May 29 8a Victim's Services will not meet (RB)  
CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

Tues. May 30 7a Men's Bible Study and Breakfast (CH)  
9a P.L.A.R.N. (HH)  
10a Joy in the Mourning (3<sup>rd</sup> fl)  
6p NARANON (RB)

Wed. May 31 55Alive ARK DEPOSIT DUE TO THE OFFICE  
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

Thurs. June 1 12:00p Women's Guild (HH)  
12:00p Rotary Meeting and Lunch (CH)  
12:00p Men's Group (CR)  
1:00p Victim Services (RB)

Sat. June 3 9a-1:30p Daniel vs Lion Kids Event (Pk3- 2<sup>nd</sup> Gr)



ONLINE  
CONNECT  
CARD

NEW HERE? WE'D LOVE TO CONNECT WITH YOU.

**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; Tamara White, JP White; Donna Hendrix; Cori Antler Bradfield; Gail Wallace; Roman Higdon; Jean Driver; Jim Mechaw; Clark Keller; Janet Holt; Frank Brunner; Bob Rigdon

### EXTENDED CHURCH FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

Kristen Hawsey Smith; Baker Shoemaker, remission -treatment; Betty Walker; Lindsay Hickman; Lisa Sharpton; Susan McClendon Patrick; Julie Blaize; Porter Lynn Phillips; Kelli Kontogorge Wright; James Laminack; Tom Sawyer; Sterling Bates; Terry Parker; Ann Buster Payne; Michael Johnston; Pam Hagan; Allan Samp; Betty Barrett

### 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, Middle East; Lt. Scott Waitley, US Navy; Lt. 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 EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS TEAMS

Getting ourselves back on track since the pandemic, it is now time for our annual assessment and update of our emergency teams for St John's. Please let us know if you would be willing to assist us on Sunday morning or at any church function if there was an emergency and your training might help save someone's life.

If you work or have training in any of the following fields, Safe Sanctuaries and the Security Team would like to have knowledge of your expertise in the event of any type emergency that could possibly happen to any individual while on our church campus.

**PLEASE NOTE: These lists will not be made public or be published. They are for our information purposes only and will only be shared only with team members and pastoral staff.**

### Fields of Interest are:

- **Medical Training**
  - Your area of experience?
    - AED- Defibrillator trained
    - CPR Certified
    - First Aid Trained
    - Doctor, Nurse, PA
    - EMT
- **Background in Security or have had Security training**
  - Do you conceal carry?
  - Law Enforcement Background?
  - Military Police Background?
  - Have worked in security before?
  - The Service I usually attend-- 9 or 11 ?
  - I don't have experience in any of the above fields, but I am willing to be trained in \_\_\_\_\_ area.
  - Yes, I would help if there was an emergency at church possibly to help save a life \_\_\_\_\_.

**Please email: [karen.hassell@sjepc.com](mailto:karen.hassell@sjepc.com) with your name, area of experience, your willingness to assist if needed, or the area you would like to be trained in, along with the best contact number for you to be reached at.**

**SAFE SANCTUARIES**

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



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

**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



# STAFF EMAIL AND CONTACT INFORMATION:

Reverend Doctor John Richter, Sr. Pastor

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

Nate Williams, Associate Minister

Wednesday Night Coord./ LLS Outreach

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

Trent Dodson, Student Pastor

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

Tiffany Richter, Director of Music Ministries

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

Stephanie Jowers, Director Children's Ministries

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

Tina White, Director Little Lambs Preschool

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

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

Jane Brannon, Church Office and LLS Office 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,  
Facility Coordinator; 55Alive Sr. Adults

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

St. John's  
Evangelical Protestant Church  
512 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave SE  
Cullman, Al  
35055

## Church Office Hours

Monday –Thursday

8am-5pm

Friday

8:00am-12:00pm

Phone: 256-734-0344

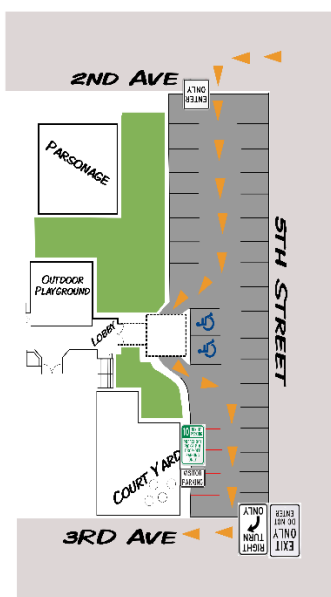
[www.sjepc.com](http://www.sjepc.com)

look under the event tab to sign up for  
all up-coming activities and events

## CHURCHWIDE EMAILS

*email:* (karen.hassell@sjepc.com) to sign up  
for receiving emails from the church so you  
will not miss out on important information.

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!!

