



SAINT JOHN'S

Established 1874

Cullman Alabama

EVANGELICAL PROTESTANT CHURCH

Aug. 20, 2023 Liturgical Color: Green

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

www.sjepc.com

(Live stream available on YOUTUBE for Worship Services)

Wednesday Night Schedule

Class Session: Aug. 16-Oct. 18

6:00-7:00p Adult Classes

Confirmation, Kids Ministry, Youth
Praise Band Rehearsal

3 ADULT CLASS OPTIONS

1- Walking in Faith

Leader- Wade Warren

Join Wade Warren for a time of prayer and exercise! We will gather together at the church, spend time in prayer, and then walk in the community.

Location- Atrium (at the beginning of class)

2-No Excuses: Discipleship and Following Christ

What does it mean to follow Christ?

Leaders-Wes Warren, Hank Apel, Steve Schwaiger

Location: Ruehl Building- Main level

3-Studying the Word: 1&2 Peter

Leader- Nathan Williams

Join Nathan Williams in Heritage Hall and spend time in God's word, walking through 1&2 Peter. Peter has a lot to say about staying strong in difficult times and living a life that pleases God. Let's dive into the Bible!

Location- Heritage Hall

TEXTING NUMBER FOR ST. JOHN'S

Important Communication Messages for You

SJ's has added a new text line in order to improve our communication abilities. Members 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.

Welcome to Blake Tetro

Over the last several years we have been fortunate to welcome a couple of interns to SJs to learn and grow in ministry skills as future leaders in the church. James Henderson was our first intern while a student at Beeson Divinity School. James now serves as a hospital chaplain at St. Vincent's East, as well as a military chaplain with the Air Force Reserves. Later we welcomed Nathan Williams for a shorter summer internship and then as an intern overseeing our young adult ministries while he attended Beeson. Nathan now serves SJs parttime as our interim associate minister while also gigging for ALCAP (Alabama Citizen Actions Program).

This fall we welcome Blake Tetro to the team. While learning about the innerworkings of SJs, and pastoral ministry in general, he will give particular attention to student and young adult ministries, while also following a coordinated plan of study in theology and church leadership. Blake is heading back to school this fall at WSCC and coaches' basketball at Cullman Christian School. He has been active with our young adults and has been serving in student and music ministries as well. **Welcome, Blake!**



Welcome to SJs!

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.

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)

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.

CARD OF THANKS- Dear St. John's Family, Thank you so much for the beautiful plant and especially all the prayers during this very difficult time for our family. Clark wasn't able to attend church these last years, but he loved St. John's! ~ Janie Keller and Family



WANT TO SIMPLIFY YOUR GIVING?

Consider a regular recurring gift or automated EFT to St. John's Church. You can set it up online thru our church website: www.sjepc.com

- Look under the "giving" tab on the top right side of the page
- Select "giving" and under the frequency section you have two options: one time gift or regular recurring gift
- Call Regina in the church office if you need assistance to set up.

JOY IN THE MOURNING WIDOWS GROUP next meeting is August 22 at 10:00am on 3rd fl of the education building.

LABOR DAY—The Church office will be closed on Monday September 4 in observance of Labor Day. The office will reopen on Tuesday morning at 8:00am.

LABOR DAY FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST BRUNCH

Join us in the Atrium on Sunday September 3rd 9:30-10:50a. Drop by and grab a quick bite on your way to Sunday School or after the first service. Sign up on the church website: www.sjepc.com under the events tab.

ENGRAVED BRICK PROJECT

2024 SJ's turns 150 years old! To help us celebrate we are selling two sizes of new engraved brick pavers. Paver sizes are the regular size of 4" x 8" and larger size of 8" x 8" square. Order online! **Go to the church website:** www.sjepc.com; find the events tab and click the brick picture. If paying online is not an option for you, you can order and pay in the church office.

BURN THE NOTE CHANGE---Beginning October 1, 2023 our current *BURN THE NOTE Debt Reduction* will have a name change. Stay tuned for more details.

SJ Kids & Tweens

SUNDAY SCHOOL LEADERS K - 3RD GRADE

Sundays 10-11am

WEDNESDAY NIGHT LEADERS PREK - 3RD GRADE

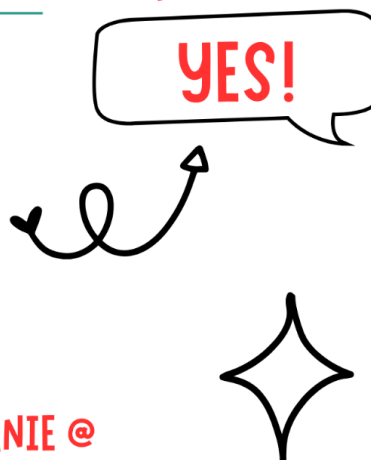
Wednesdays 6-7pm (10 week session)

GODLY WORSHIP LEADERS 4.5.6 YEAR OLDS

Sundays @ 11am service (Monthly)

SAY.....

YES!



READY TO SAY YES?? TEXT STEPHANIE @

256-962-0211



Class time: 6-7:00pm



Ages 18-25 Welcome!!
 Sunday mornings
@ *Reaching Higher Too!*
Basement of the Ruehl Building
10:10-10:50a
Great place to connect!!



**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
 Cell: 205-910-2741

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

SAFE SANCTUARIES EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS TEAMS

To help us be prepared in the event of an emergency here at SJ's, we are in the process of our annual assessment and update of our emergency teams. If you would be willing to stand in the gap and assist us if an emergency occurs, please let us know. Your skills and training might possibly help save someone's life!! If you can assist in any of the following fields, Safe Sanctuaries and the Security Team would like to have knowledge of your expertise.

PLEASE NOTE: These lists will not be made public or be published. They are for our files 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 _____

Email: 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.

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

Our Faithful Giving

General Fund

8-13--23 Offerings: \$19,738.64

Reducing our Debt in 2023

BTN \$85,748.10

General Fund:

Memory of Dan Keel by Men's Fellowship Bible Study;

Memory of Clark Keller by Mark and Pam Farmer; Men's Fellowship Bible Study;

Memory of Jean Driver by Mark and Pam Farmer

Memory of Catherine Nelson by Mark and Pam Farmer

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

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 150th 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.

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

john.richter@sjepc.com

the more the merrier!!

SJ's Adult & Young Adult Sunday School Class Information and New Locations

****note: a couple of classes have changed locations. See below:**

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: 2nd Floor Ruehl Building

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: Basement of the Ruehl Building

5-Dennon Compton's Upper Room– "The Book of James"

Location: Upper room, next to elevator and Tween room. Use elevator off the Atrium to get to the classroom.

6 Ways to Give:

* **church website** (www.sjepc.com) and click the giving tab

***Mail gifts:** 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

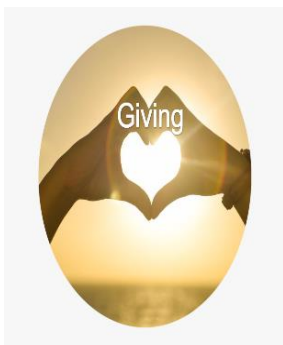
***Put in the offering plate** during the service

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.



SJ'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; Tamara White, JP White; Donna Hendrix; Cori Antler Bradfield; Gail Wallace; Jim Mechaw; Janet Holt; Bob Rigdon; Raemon Gladney

EXTENDED FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

Kristen Hawsey Smith; Betty Walker; Lindsay Hickman; Lisa Sharpton; Susan McClendon Patrick; Julie Blaize; Porter Lynn Phillips; Kelli Kontogeorge Wright; James Laminack; Tom Sawyer; Sterling Bates; Terry Parker; Ann Buster Payne; Michael Johnston; Pam Hagan; Betty Barrett; Michael Clemmons; Brenda Landers; Doug Finch and Family

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.

Praying for: 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: Doris Keathley
Woodland Village: Bea Mack

Hanceville Nursing Home: Clarice Shafer
Woodland House—Jo Webb, Bob Rigdon (rehab)

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.

SJ's STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION:

Reverend Doctor John Richter, Sr. Pastor

john.richter@sjepc.com

Nate Williams, Associate Minister

Wednesday Night Coord./ LLS Outreach

nate.williams@sjepc.com

Trent Dodson, Student Pastor

trent.dodson@sjepc.com

Tiffany Richter, Director of Music Ministries

tiffany.richter@sjepc.com

Stephanie Jowers, Director Children's Ministries

stephjowers96@gmail.com

Tina White, Director Little Lambs Preschool

tina.white@sjepc.com or

littlelambspreschool@sjepc.com

Jane Brannon, Church Office and LLS Office Assistant

jane.brannon@sjepc.com

Regina Baker, Financial Secretary

regina.baker@sjepc.com

Karen Hassell, Administrative Assistant,
Facility Coordinator; 55Alive Sr. Adults

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

Phone: 256-734-0344

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.

Happening this week:

Tues. August 22

7:00am Men's Bible Study and Breakfast resumes

9a P.L.A.R.N

10a Joy in the Mourning- 3rd Fl.

6p NARANON (RB)

Wed. Aug. 23

10a LLS Chapel

10a Soul Sister's Bible Study- (Upper Room- 2nd fl.by elevator)

6:00- 7:00p Classes, Confirmation, Kids Min, Youth, Praise Band

Thurs. Aug. 24

7a 55Alive Roadtrip to The Ark Encounter and Creation Museum

12:00p Rotary Meeting and Lunch (CH)

12:00p Men's Group (CR)

1:00pVictim Services (RB)

Sun. Aug. 27

55 Alive Returns

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

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



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.



Thank you for visiting our church website!

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

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 adult

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

