



SAINT JOHN'S

Established 1874

Cullman Alabama

EVANGELICAL PROTESTANT CHURCH

February 4, 2024 Liturgical Color: Green

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

www.sjepc.com

(Live stream available on YOUTUBE)

2023 GIVING STATEMENTS

Your 2023 giving statements were emailed to the primary email address on file here in the office this week. Those without email addresses were mailed by USPS. If you do not receive your statement call Regina in the church office (256-734-0344) to receive a copy.

JAZZ SUNDAY BRUNCH

Feb. 11

9:00a Prayer Service (Sanctuary)

9:45-10:50am Brunch (Atrium)

10:10a Sunday School

Stop by and grab a bite after early prayer service or on your way to Sunday School.

Come join us and experience our version of New Orleans bites of goodness!

11:00 Special guests (Christ Hall)

ASH WEDNESDAY

Feb. 14th

5:00p Beans and Rice

a simple meal

Meal of Plight and Poverty
(pintos, rice, cornbread)



6:00p Dr. Robert Smith

special guest (Christ Hall)

150 HOUR PRAYER VIGIL

Every hour beginning at 12:00p Ash Wednesday (Feb. 14) and continuing 24 hours a day thru Tuesday (Feb. 20) ending at 5:00p. We will pray for God's favor for vision, wisdom, and strength.

Call the church office to sign up for a time

Or visit:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0948A9AE23A1F85-47355403-prayer>

LITTLE LAMBS PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION

January 22-Feb. 2—Currently enrolled students and siblings

Feb. 12-16—ST. JOHN'S CHURCH MEMBER registration (you must be an active member of the church)

Mar. 4—OPEN enrollment

For additional information contact LLPS Office @ 256-736-2290

Mission 150!

What's YOUR 150 ?

Every Member on a Mission

Celebrating our 150th Anniversary, we give thanks for what God has done in the past while looking forward to his continued faithfulness in the future. As a sign of our gratitude and desire to see God continue working thru SJ's, we encourage you to draw near to Go, through some practical spiritual challenges.

Rev. John handed out "homework" sheets with suggestions to celebrate 150 years.

Pick up a sheet in the office, Sanctuary or Christ Hall with 16 great suggestions for you to select from.

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 kid's 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 with a yellow lanyard 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.

CONGRATULATIONS to Madelyn Hendrix and Carter Guest who were married Saturday February 3, 2024 at St. John's Evangelical Protestant Church by Rev. John Richter. Madelyn is the daughter of Willy and Camilla Hendrix and Carter is the son of Shane and Dr. Kristi Guest.

55ALIVE FEBRUARY MONTHLY LUNCHEON AND PROGRAM- Thursday Feb. 15

We will gather for fellowship and a game or two at **9:30am** in the Ruehl Building.

This month we have a special program presented by **"The Klassy Kickers"** taught by Sherry Boatright beginning at **11:00am.**

The Klassy Kickers participate in line dance classes taught at The Active Adult Center in Cullman. Robin Sandlin and Dona Adams are two of our own members in the group.

Invite a friend and plan to come and see them!

Lunch will be served at 11:30am. Menu: BBQ Stuffed Potato and salad. Call the office (256-734-0344)

to reserve your lunch!



SPECIAL MUSICAL GUEST JAZZ SUNDAY

Denver Bierman will lead us in musical celebration in the 11:00 Worship Service in Christ Hall.

Join us in celebration as we prepare for the Lenten Season.

WALLACE STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE BIBLE STUDY!—If you are on campus Wednesdays at 2:30pm, join Nathan Williams in the Campus Ministries Room 100 in the Wellness Center. The club—named Ratio Christi—generally focuses on evangelism (sharing the faith) and apologetics (defending the faith). If you are a student, you are welcome to join! Invite friends. Contact Nathan if you have any questions (nathan.williams@sjepc.com, 256-338-9210)

LENT BEGINS FEBRUARY 14

Lent is a period of forty days Christians observe before Easter. The liturgical color is purple and signifies humility, willingness to repent, mourning for the sins and suffering with Jesus. Also being reminded of Jesus's time in the desert for forty days being tempted by the devil.

WEDNESDAY LENTEN SERVICES

12p Communion / Meditation

6p Service (Sanctuary)

TEXT ANNOUNCEMENTS--- Sign up today to receive the up to date last minute messages you might need to know about classes, worship services or events taking place at SJ's. To be sure you will not miss any important communication messages for you and your family, go ahead and sign up.

Here you can also ask questions thru this number to the staff. **THIS IS NOT A GROUP CHAT**; no one else other than SJ's staff will be able to read your message.

HERE'S HOW TO SIGN UP:

- Text SJEPC to 256-734-0344
- After you receive a response from us, text your name, so we will know who you are for contact information purposes.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT CLASSES- end Feb. 7th Until after LENT

6:00 pm 2 Adult Class Options, SJ's Kids, Youth, Confirmation

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.

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



**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!

THIS WEEK:

- Mon. Feb. 5**
5:30p Women's Fellowship (CH)
- Tues. Feb. 6**
7a Men's Breakfast and Bible Study (CH)
9a PLARN (HH)
6p NaraNon- (RB)
- Wed. Feb. 7**
10a Chapel
6:00p Confirmation, Youth, SJ Kids, Adult Classes
- Thurs. Feb. 8**
12:00p Cullman Bar Association Mtg and Lunch (HH)
12:00p Rotary Meeting and Lunch
12:00p Hank's Group (UR)

Our Faithful Giving

Offering: \$23,319.67 (1-28-24)

Gifts:

Mission 150

Memory of Wilford James by George and Brenda Scott; Wayne and Myra Chandler; Joyce Dossey;
Memory of Ray Bolzle by Jerry and Denise Schuman; Joyce Dossey

Debt Retirement

Memory of Ray Bolzle by Bill and Ellesha Whisenhunt

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

Mission 150! A Legacy of God's Faithfulness and Generosity.



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 (Mission 150!, 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.



Ages 18-25 Welcome!!

Sunday mornings

@ *Reaching Higher Too!*

Basement of the Ruehl Building

10:10-10:50a

Great place to connect!!

Leaders

Cori Manord and Blake Tetro,

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

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– "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

Location: 2nd Floor Ruehl Building

4-Reaching Higher Too– Leaders: Cori Manord, Blake Tetro; "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 1 Peter"

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

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; Anna McGriff, Betty Gibbs; Shane Guest; Tamara White, JP White; Gail Wallace; Bob Uzzell

EXTENDED FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

Kristen Hawsey Smith; Betty Walker; Lindsay Hickman; Lisa Sharpton; Susan McClendon Patrick; Julie Blaize; Porter Lynn Phillips; Sterling Bates; Terry Parker; Ann Buster Payne; Michael Johnston; Pam Hagan; Betty Barrett; Michael Clemmons; Brenda Landers; Cindy Hawkins; Jabron (TJ) Luker; Lauren Rasbury Horstman; Dorothee Grayban

Military Addresses

Praying for: Cpt. Chris Hester, Chaplain—Maryland; Nicholas Sargent, US Marines; Staff Sergeant Josh Ryan, USAF, Eglin AFB; Pvt. First Class 3 Caleb Wood, Middle East; Lt. Scott Waitley, US Navy; Lt. John Riley, Ft Benning, Ga; Jase Goolsby, US Navy-Norfolk; Ben Turner, US Navy-Norfolk

Assisted Living:

Folsom Center: Doris Keathley

Woodland Village: Bea Mack

Westminster—Jo Webb

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

SJ's STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION:

Reverend Doctor John Richter, Sr. Pastor
john.richter@sjepc.com

Nathan Williams, Associate Minister
nathan.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.

SIMPLIFY YOUR GIVING!

Never worry about leaving your check at home or your tithe while you are away on vacation!

Consider a regular recurring gift or automated EFT to St. John's Church.

EASY SETUP 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(256-734-0344) if you need assistance to set up.

2024 CHURCH COUNCIL

Officers:

President: Matt Page; Vice President: Deanna Little; Secretary: Corrie Antler Bradfield; Treasurer: Jamie Laney

Members:

Pam Farmer, Chad Knop, Stan Sandlin, Kathy Schuman, Jeremy Stidham, Matt Townson, Jacob Waldrop, Malinda Windham

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.

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

Thank you for visiting our church
website!

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

