

St. John's

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

MISSION

Good Neighbors, Sharing the Good News

MESSAGE

A Letter from Paul
“Stations Please”

DATE

16th Sunday after Pentecost
September 13th, 2026
Liturgical Color - Green

WORSHIP GUIDE

NEW HERE?

WELCOME GUESTS

If you are interested in getting to know us, please provide information you are comfortable sharing via our online sign-in link on our website; stjohnsumc.org/worship, scan the QR code, or fill out the “guest card” located at the end of the pew, and place it in the offering plate.



NURSERY SERVICE | Room 103

Children, newborn through 5, are welcome in the nursery during the 10:45 AM worship service. The nursery staff kindly asks all parents to sign-in each Sunday and leave a cell phone number in case they need to contact you during the service. Also, please clearly label all of your child's important belongings.

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL | Kid's Club House

During our 10:45 AM Worship Service, children from kindergarten to 5th Grade will be dismissed to participate in our Deep Blue Sunday School curriculum, led by our Safe Gatherings certified teachers. If your child(ren) is new to class, please feel free to accompany them to our classroom and meet their teacher. Should you decide to have your child(ren) attend Sunday School, you can ask an usher for directions to room 203 (Kid's Club House). **Questions?** Grace Mott; Coordinator of Children's & Family Ministries; grace.mott@stjohnsumc.org

**On the 3rd Sunday of the month, all children and youth are invited to help prep and cook a meal served to our friends at Neighbor2Neighbor of Kansas City (N2N) during Children's Sunday School.*

REGULAR SUNDAY WORSHIP AND PROGRAMMING SCHEDULE

8:30 AM WORSHIP | Chapel

9:30 AM CHOIR REHEARSAL | Sanctuary
PATHWAYS ADULT BIBLE STUDY | 205

10:45 AM WORSHIP | Sanctuary and Virtual
NURSERY CARE | 103
CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL | Kid's Clubhouse

JOIN US ONLINE!

Our Sunday 10:45 Worship Service is live-streamed on our website. stjohnsumc.org/worship

MAKE SOME NOISE FOR MISSIONS

Loose change in the offering plate is used to support our local and international missions, service, and justice efforts including the Missouri United Methodist Conference's Mozambique Initiative. For more information on the Mozambique Initiative visit mzinitiative.com.

GIVE

We are grateful for your continued support and partnership in ministry! Scan the QR code to give online or Text BLESS6900 to 1-888-364-GIVE (4483).



SERVING

THIS WEEK | 9.13.2026

8:30 AM | CHAPEL

LAY LEADER | John Rasmus

USHERS | John Rasmus

10:45 AM | SANCTUARY

LAY LEADER | Volunteer Needed

USHERS | Leslie Ferguson
Dan Ferguson

NEXT WEEK | 9.20.2026

8:30 AM | CHAPEL

LAY LEADER | Sharon Curtright

USHERS | Sharon Curtright
Jay Curtright

10:45 AM | SANCTUARY

LAY LEADER | Jill Gardner

USHERS | Margaret Smith
Gary Whitmer

ORDER OF WORSHIP

**WE SING SONGS OF PRAISE AND PRAYER IN MUSIC FROM THE
18th, 20th, AND 21st CENTURIES.**

PRELUDE | Dale Morehouse, organ

**INTROIT (10:45) | *O Sing unto the Lord (Cantate Domino)* | music by Giuseppe Pitoni,
c.1700 | Chancel Choir; Dale Morehouse, conductor**

Giuseppe Pitoni (1657 – 1743) was one of the leading musical figures in Rome in the late Baroque era. He organized concerts for the greatest composers of the day, including Corelli, the Scarlattis, and Handel. He supervised much of the music for the Vatican, while serving St. Mark's Basilica as choirmaster for 66 years! He was a prolific composer, with 325 masses, 800 Psalm settings and 235 motets among his 3500 compositions. Yet American choral musicians really only know his setting of Psalm 96 – “*O Sing unto the Lord*,” and it is barely more than one minute long.

O sing unto the Lord.

Praise God with a new song.

Exult now and sing unto the Lord, raising a new song.

Sing praises to the Maker of creation.

Let all who worship here lift your voice,

Let all you who worship here rejoice in God who made us all.

Let this congregation rejoice now and praise God on high.

(English translation by Dale Morehouse, 2010)

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WELCOME & INVITATIONS | Rev. Dr. Jim Hoffman

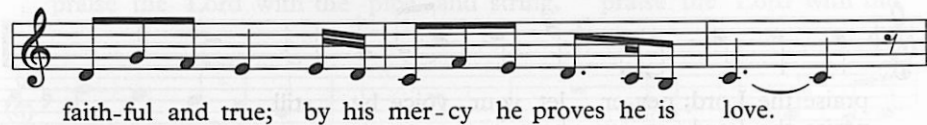
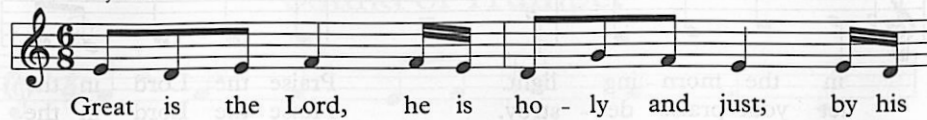
Worship Symbol Notes

* | All are invited to rise in spirit and, as you are able, please stand

BLUE TEXT indicates 10:45 AM Worship Service only.

*OPENING HYMN | *Great is the Lord*² | TFWs 2022

Refrain



1., 2. Great is the Lord and wor-thy of glo-ry! Great is the Lord and
3. Great are you, Lord, and wor-thy of glo-ry! Great are you, Lord, and



wor-thy of praise. Great is the Lord; now lift up your voice, now
wor-thy of praise. Great are you, Lord; I lift up my voice, I



lift up your voice: Great _____ is the Lord! _____
lift up my voice: Great _____ are you, Lord! _____

ORDER OF WORSHIP

*First time D.C.
Second time D.S.*

Great _____ is the Lord!
Great _____ are you, Lord!

WORDS: Michael W. Smith and Deborah D. Smith (Ps. 35:27)
MUSIC: Michael W. Smith and Deborah D. Smith
© 1982 Meadowgreen Music Co.

GREAT IS THE LORD
Irregular with Refrain

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader | God, we are seeking you.

People | Let yourself be found.

Leader | God, we are calling you.

People | Listen to our voices.

Leader | We enter your courts with singing.

People | We walk through your gates with thanksgiving.

Leader | Receive your people with gladness.

People | Welcome us with blessings!

ALL | Amen.

(Spann, Hilda A. *Flames of the Spirit* (Ruth C. Duck, ed.), pg. 68)

ORDER OF WORSHIP

*HYMN OF PRAISE (10:45) | *Sweet Hour of Prayer* | UMH 496

1. Sweet hour of prayer! sweet hour of prayer! that calls me
2. Sweet hour of prayer! sweet hour of prayer! the joys I
3. Sweet hour of prayer! sweet hour of prayer! thy wings shall

from a world of care, and bids me at my
feel, the bliss I share of those whose anx - ious
my pe - ti - tion bear to him whose truth and

Fa - ther's throne make all my wants and wish - es known.
spir - its burn with strong de - sires for thy re - turn!
faith - ful - ness en - gage the wait - ing soul to bless.

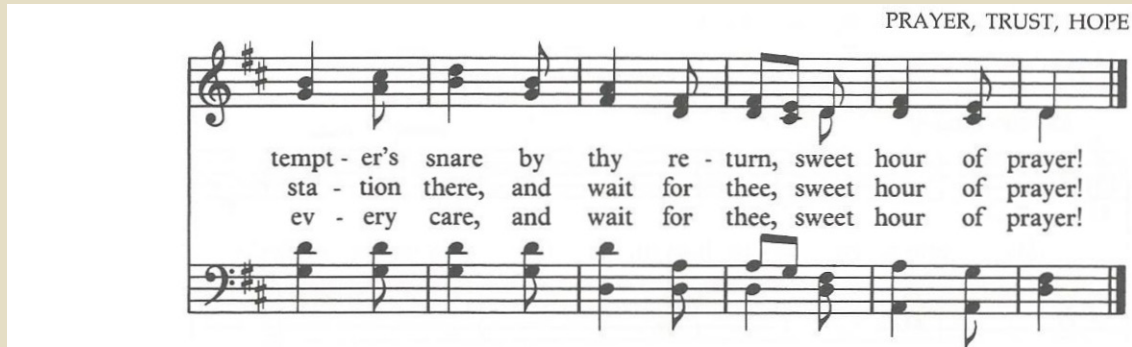
In sea - sons of dis - tress and grief, my soul has
With such I has - ten to the place where God my
And since he bids me seek his face, be - lieve his

of - ten found re - lief, and oft es - caped the
Sav - ior shows his face, and glad - ly take my
word, and trust his grace, I'll cast on him my

WORDS: William Walford, 1845
MUSIC: William B. Bradbury, 1861

SWEET HOUR
LMD

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CHILDREN'S MOMENT | Grace Mott, Coordinator of Family & Children's Ministry
DISMISSAL TO SUNDAY SCHOOL

PRAYER JOYS

Thank you **Grace Mott** for donating cookies for all to enjoy in the Rotunda after the 10:45 AM service

You may see a few new faces welcoming you to the 10:45 service on Sunday mornings. **Leslie** and **Dan Ferguson**, and **Jeff** and **Barbara Henson** have agreed to join the usher and greeter team for this year. We are happy that **Bob Taylor**, **Gary Ficsher**, **Leah** and **Louis Ridgway**, **Emma** and **Vance Weber**, **Stephanie Toigo**, **Bethany Trogstad**, **Bonnie** and **Doug Pearson**, **Margaret Smith** and **Gary Whitmer** will continue to serve this year. Thanks to **Peter Barth** and **Josh Swenson** for their help last year. A special thanks to **Dennis** and **Annette Young** for their years of smiling welcomes, warm hugs and hardy handshakes. You'll still find them ready to welcome you about four rows back on the south side of the sanctuary.

PRAYER CONCERNS

The victims of the 9/11 terrorism attacks in 2001, their families and friends, and all those suffering at the hands of others

Paula Rector

Jan Etherton | Friend of John Rasmus

Chris Mueller

Tammy Oskvig | Friend of John & Paula Rector

Carolyn Jeter

Dennis Young

Bailey Andrus | Husband of Beth Andrus

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Marci Allen | Sister of Laura Jones

Darren Wallace and his family | Uncle of Grace Mott, and Brother of David Wallace

Rosa Maria Luque | Mother of PDO Teacher Blanca Quinto

Mark McMillen | Cousin of Jill Gardner and Nephew of Max Miller

Marilyn McMillen | Aunt of Jill Gardner and Sister of Max Miller

Linda Edwards | Friend of Ginny Miller

Those Dealing with Dementia, their families & caregivers

Those in Hospice Care, their families, and caregivers

UMC Hospice Program in Mongolia

Our Pastors & Other Church Leaders

Missouri Conference Bishop, Bob Farr

Northwest District Superintendent, Curtis Olsen

Lionzuane UMC in Mozambique and Pastor Moises Jeremias Manhique

Worldwide Unrest and Persecution

Those who live on the margins of society

Those serving in the Military and all First Responders

Those impacted by natural disasters

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

SOLO (8:30) | *Did You Think to Pray?* | music: William O. Perkins, arr. Marshall McDonald, 2014 | Grace Mott, soprano; Dale Morehouse, piano

Published in 1876, the Christian hymn “*Did You Think to Pray?*” was written by lyricist **Mary Ann Pepper Kidder** and composed by **William Oscar Perkins**. The comforting song emphasizes morning prayer, patience during trials, and turning to God instead of holding onto anger. Based on Psalm 5:3, 12 and Mark 11:24–25, it is a tender, earnest gospel song built around a searching question. It encourages prayer amid life’s struggles, emphasizing trust, repentance, and dependence on God. Its melody gives the message warmth, clarity, and enduring devotional appeal. This hymn was famously recorded by country music artist Charley Pride on his 1971 gospel album. **Marshall McDonald** is a gifted composer, arranger, pianist, and recording artist

Continued on page 8

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whose music blends classical, inspirational, cinematic, and contemporary styles. His sacred compositions and arrangements are especially known for their warmth, beauty, and emotional sincerity.

*Ere you left your room this morning,
Did you think to pray?
In the name of Christ, our Savior,
Did you sue for loving favor
As a shield today?
Oh, how praying rests the weary!
Prayer will change the night to day.
So, when life gets dark and dreary,
Don't forget to pray.*

*When your heart was filled with anger,
Did you think to pray?
Did you plead for grace, my brother,
That you might forgive another
Who had crossed your way?
Oh, how praying rests the weary!
Prayer will change the night to day.
So, when life gets dark and dreary,
Don't forget to pray.*

*When sore trials came upon you,
Did you think to pray?
When your soul was full of sorrow,
Balm of Gilead did you borrow
At the gates of day?
Oh, how praying rests the weary!
Prayer will change the night to day.
So, when life gets dark and dreary,
Don't forget to pray.*

(Text: Mary A. Pepper Kidder, 1820–1905)

SCRIPTURE | Romans 14:1-12¹ | NRSVUE

Welcome those who are weak in faith but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat, for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on slaves of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

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Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it for the Lord. Also those who eat, eat for the Lord, since they give thanks to God, while those who abstain, abstain for the Lord and give thanks to God.

For we do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written,

“As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God.”

So then, each one of us will be held accountable.

READER | The Word of God for the people of God

PEOPLE | **Thanks be to God**

¹“Scripture quotations are taken from the New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition.
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MESSAGE | A Letter from Paul “Stations Please!” | Rev. Dr. Jim Hoffman

GENEROSITY MOMENT | Gary Whitmer, Stewardship Committee

OFFERTORY (10:45) | *Canticle of Praise* | music by John Ness Beck, 1964
Chancel Choir; Dale Morehouse, pianist and conductor

John Ness Beck's “*Canticle of Praise*” uses the colorful words from Psalms 103 and 148 to build to an explosion of praise, appropriate for grateful creatures bathed in God's grace. Beginning with the tender image of God's compassion, it expands into an exuberant summons for all creation to praise the Lord. This is perhaps his most challenging work, filled with complex harmonies and mixed meter. We've had fun learning this one!

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*As a father pitieth his children, so the Lord pitieth them that fear Him.
For He knoweth our frame; He remembereth that we are dust.
As for man, his days are as grass; as a flower of the field, so he flourisheth,
for the wind passeth over it, and it is gone, gone, gone, gone, gone;
and the place thereof shall know it no more.*

*But the mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting to them that fear Him,
to such as keep His covenants.
The Lord hath prepared His throne in the heavens, and His kingdom ruleth over all.*

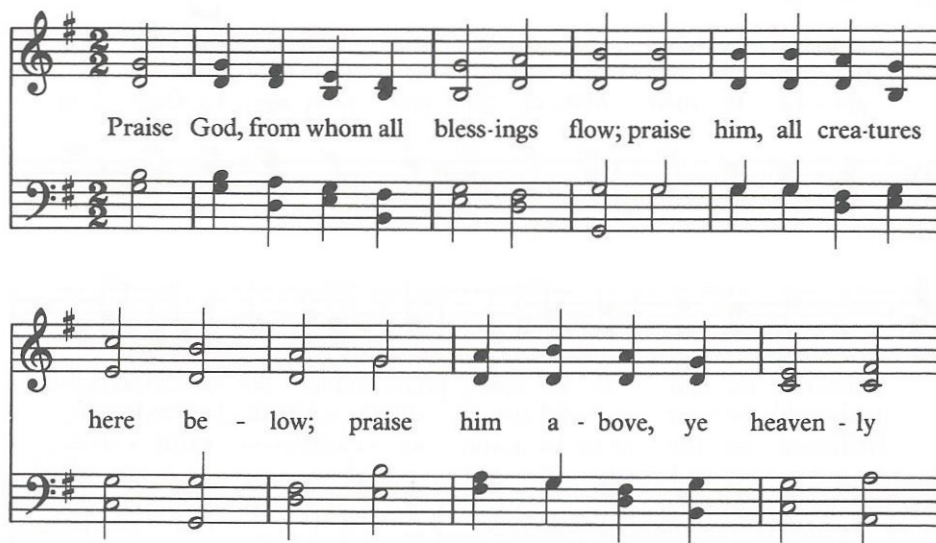
*Praise ye the Lord! Praise ye the Lord from the heavens! Praise Him in the heights!
Praise ye Him, all His angels, praise ye Him, all His hosts.*

*Praise ye Him, sun and moon, praise Him, all ye stars of light.
Praise the Lord from the earth, ye dragons, and all deeps:
Fire and heal; snow and vapours; stormy wind fulfilling His word!*

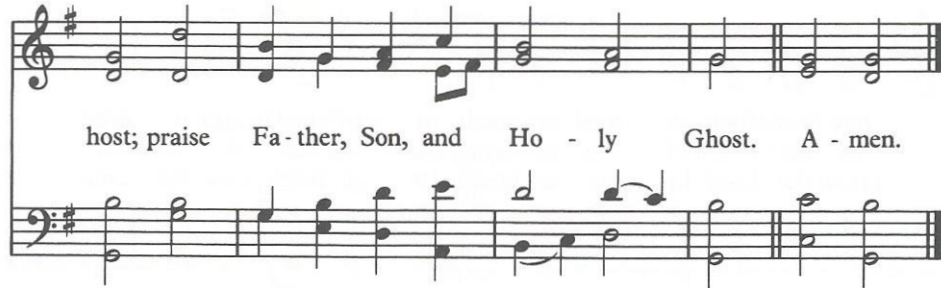
*Kings of the earth, and all people, princes and all judges of the earth, young men and maidens, old
men and children, let the praise the name of the Lord!
For His name alone is excellent, His glory is above the earth and heaven.*

*Praise ye the Lord! Praise ye the Lord! Praise ye the Lord! Praise ye the Lord!
(From Psalms 103 and 148)*

***DOXOLOGY | Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow | UMH 95**



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WORDS: Thomas Ken, 1674
MUSIC: Attr. to Louis Bourgeois, 1551

OLD 100th
LM

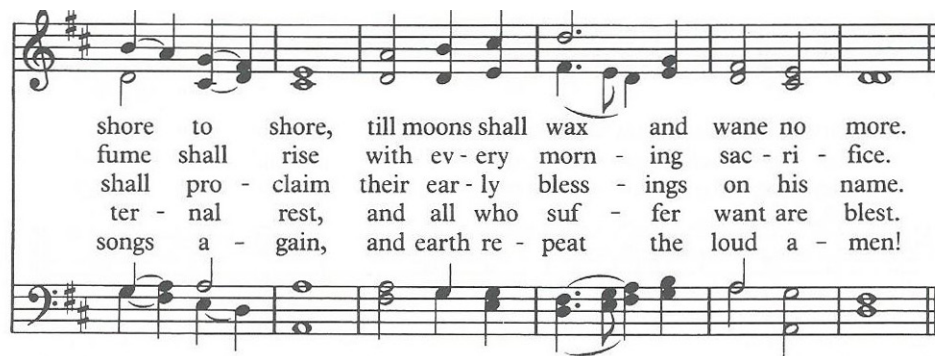
*HYMN OF SENDING FORTH | *Jesus Shall Reign* | UMH 157 (St. 1, 2, 4)

A musical score for the hymn "Jesus Shall Reign". The top staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 2/2 time signature. The bottom staff is in bass clef with the same key signature and time signature. The lyrics are written below the staves, with five verses numbered 1 through 5. The music consists of simple chords and single notes, typical of a hymn tune.

1. Je - sus shall reign wher - e'er the sun does its suc -
2. To Je - sus end - less prayer be made, and end - less
3. Peo - ple and realms of ev - ery tongue dwell on his
4. Bless - ings a - bound wher - e'er he reigns; all pris - oners
5. Let ev - ery crea - ture rise and bring hon - ors pe -

ces - sive jour - neys run; his king - dom spread from
prais - es crown his head; his name like sweet per -
love with sweet - est song; and in - fant voic - es
leap and loose their chains; the wea - ry find e -
cu - liar to our King; an - gels de - scend with

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WORDS: Isaac Watts, 1719 (Ps. 72)
MUSIC: John Hatton, 1793

DUKE STREET
LM

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE | Dale Morehouse, organ

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2026 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

ST. JOHN'S TESTIMONIALS WHY PLEDGING MATTERS TO US . . .



"Pledging matters to us because it shows our commitment to St John's Mission "Good neighbors, sharing the good news." We value the commitment our church has to helping others. As a very busy family we know we can't always show our support through acts of service, so we can still help support the mission through our financial contributions."

- Katie Swenson

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September 14th to September 19th

Scripture Reading(s) for the week: Romans 14:1-12; I Corinthians 8:1-13; Galatians 5:16-26

I grew up in a religious tradition that was very concerned with orthodoxy or “right” beliefs. For instance, the creation story of Genesis was literal. Noah built an ark and the flood happened just like the author of Genesis wrote. Jonah was swallowed by a whale, and Daniel had a pleasant stay in a den of lions. And if you did not believe these things to be literal and true, then the Bible was not to be trusted, and neither should we trust God. This rigid belief was tied then to orthopraxy or “right actions.”

I was raised to believe that Christians mainly focused on habits or actions that you avoided. A righteous person avoided playing cards, dancing, smoking, drinking, going to the movies, or listening to popular music. Boys kept their hair cut above their ears and girls did not wear pants to church. When it was time to start dating, you did not date an unbeliever because you would be “unequally yoked . . .” You avoided these things among others so that you could stay pure, holy, and acceptable in God’s sight. God was just and would punish any offense; you did not want to be on God’s naughty list. In other words, I was shaped by a religion of limitations. Secondly was the understanding that you did not want to cause anyone else to fall into sin. If you lived within the limitations of evangelical tradition, you could not be accused of being the impetus to someone else’s demise. I did not make this up - this understanding of Christian living comes from a particular interpretation of Paul.

In Rome, people would frequently offer animal sacrifices to the gods. After the ritual, the meat would then be sold in the markets. Some Christians shopped in those markets purchasing the meat. They knew that meat offered to a false god was still just meat and they could consume it without it impacting their belief in the one true God. Others were not as convinced of this and saw it as a sin. The meat was profaned by being offered to a false god and therefore should be avoided. This caused tension in the body of Christ in Rome and so Paul simply put a limitation in place. Don’t buy and consume the meat. That way you won’t be a stumbling block to your fellow (weaker) Christians. Sounds reasonable. Unfortunately, it appears that this set the tone for our on-going approach to things from a negative angle. In certain circles, our faith is more about what you avoid instead of what you do.

John Wesley had a particular phrase that I am challenged by. He said, “Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can, as long as ever you can.” I think that Paul and others aren’t primarily concerned about what we are to avoid as what we have left undone. Allow me to explain.

Paul writes that the fruits of the Spirit are love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. He goes on to say that “there is no law against such

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things.” In other words, there are no limitations on us doing these things. We have unfettered freedom to produce these fruits and share them with others. In a hopeless world, there are no limitations on sharing hope. In a world of despair, there are no limitations on sharing joy. In a world beset with conflict, there are no limitations on spreading peace. In a world of hate, there are no limitations on choosing love. We simply need more Christians who choose to live in the positive light of Christ’s example striving daily to live out the fruits of the Spirit. Spending the bulk of our time avoiding this or that is frankly a waste of God’s resources.

I invite you to take time and read each of the scriptures above followed by reflection on the questions below. Consider the changes you need to make that will empower you to live out the fruits of the Spirit. Lastly, I pray that God bless the reading of God’s Word and the meditations of your heart.

Questions to Consider this week:

Monday: What are the worldly practices that your religion told you to avoid?

Tuesday: How much time and energy do you expend avoiding or addressing your sins?

Wednesday: Where do you see God active in your life?

Thursday: What is your understanding of the call to live out the fruits of the Spirit?

Friday: Which of those fruits is most needed in your life, family, or community?

Saturday: How are you encouraging others to live a life that reflects the fruits of the Spirit?

Actions for the Week:

Head: Reflect on your religious training and how it focuses your time and energy.

Heart: Assess the state of your heart and whether it is anxious over sin or filled with the fruits of the Spirit.

Hand: Do one thing each day centered on the fruits of the Spirit.

Prayer: Lord, we understand how we can be shaped by a religion of limitations. Predicated on the negative aspects of our humanity, we want to find ourselves living in right relationship with you. Help us to understand that we can accomplish this goal by living in the freedom you give us. Utilizing the gifts of the Spirit, we can refocus our efforts on doing as much good as can. Make us agents of hope, joy, peace, and love. This world needs a positive vision for living and you have given it to us to share. Amen.

THIS WEEK

SUNDAY | 9.13

- 8:30 AM Worship Service | Chapel
- 10:45 AM Worship Service | Sanctuary
- 5:00 PM Stage Right Rehearsal | Susanna Wesley Hall

MONDAY | 9.14

- 9:00 AM PDO/PS Fall Session
- 9:00 AM Neighbor 2 Neighbor Lunch Prep | Brookside Hall Kitchen
- 10:45 AM Neighbor 2 Neighbor Lunch Served | St. Paul's Presbyterian Church
- 12:15 PM Staff Birthday Lunch
- 12:30 PM Quilting Group | 205

TUESDAY | 9.15

- 9:00 AM PDO/PS Fall Session
- 9:30 AM Tuesday Morning Bible Study | 205

WEDNESDAY | 9.16

- 8:00 AM Foundations for Faith Group | Brookside Hall
- 9:00 AM PDO/PS Fall Session
- 9:30 AM Staff Meeting | Library
- 6:30 PM Wise Women "Wired Word" Group | Location TBD

THURSDAY | 9.17

- 9:00 AM PDO/PS Fall Session
- 6:00 PM Baby Grace Diaper Distribution | Trinity UMC

FRIDAY | 9.18

- 1:00 PM Living Streams | Zoom

SATURDAY | 9.19

- 1:00 PM Mo-Kan Heart Quilt Guild | Susanna Wesley Hall
- 6:00 PM Neighbor 2 Neighbor Dinner | Brookside Hall

SUNDAY | 9.20

- 8:30 AM Worship Service | Chapel
- 10:45 AM "Back To School" Worship Service | Sanctuary
- 10:45 AM Kids/Youth Service Sunday | Brookside Hall Kitchen
- 12:00 PM Youth Donut Sale | Rotunda
- 5:00 PM Stage Right Rehearsal | Susanna Wesley Hall



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E-NEWSLETTER**

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WITH US!**



stjohnsumckc

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UP NEXT

Ever played UNO with a six-year old? I have and I lost to said six-year old, multiple times. Our granddaughter, Chloe, started playing the game and has mastered it. I did not realize that a six-year old could master the skill of strategy but evidently, she has and I was one of her victims. Much of life is navigating a series of events. We are constantly bombarded by changing tides personally, professionally, in our neighborhoods, and even in our churches. We cannot stem the tide of change, we have to figure out a strategy to find our way through it. Living a generous life does not happen by chance. It is a choice that we make backed up by a strategy. You are invited to join us as we consider the principles that undergird the strategic choice to live a generous life. ~Rev. Dr. Jim Hoffman



MISSIONS, SERVICE, & JUSTICE

JOIN THE BACKSNACK TEAM

Harvesters' Back Snack Program provides a pack of nutritious, kid-friendly food each week to children in area schools who would otherwise go hungry over the weekend. St. John's is the community partner for two schools: Academie Lafayette and Hope Leadership Academy. We serve a total of 50 kids each week.

We have a team of people who work on this. People typically help about **once a month**. We work out a calendar depending on who is available when. There are always two people assigned to help each delivery day. It takes about **60 minutes** to pack up and deliver the kits. Deliveries are usually done on **Monday** and **Wednesday mornings**, but schedule sometimes flexes to another day based on the school calendars (or inclement weather).

If you are willing to help or would like more information, please contact **Julie Salmon** at julie.r.salmon@gmail.com or 816.547.6906

MISSIONS, SERVICE, & JUSTICE

COATS FOR BABY GRACE FAMILIES

DONATIONS NEEDED BY OCTOBER 5TH

We are now collecting coats to keep our Baby Grace Families warm this winter. On Oct. 10th & 15th we will distribute coats so that they are ready for when the cold weather hits. We will concentrate on providing coats for our Babies and especially our Toddlers (Newborn through size 5T & 6). However we would love to have coats for older siblings and the moms and dads. New coats are wonderful,; and now many stores are offering specials. However used coats in good condition are also very much appreciated. Children grow fast and even your size may have changed from last year. So clean our your closets to help those who really need them. **Please deliver them to the Church by October. 5th.** Thank you for your generosity.

Questions? Ruth Gerald; stjohnsumc@stjohnsumc.org or 816.523.6788

INVITATIONS

BACK TO SCHOOL SERVICE - BRING YOUR BACKPACKS!

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20TH | DURING OUR 10:45 AM WORSHIP SERVICE

Join us for our **Back To School** Service dedicated to the kids! We will have:

- “Backpack Blessing”
- A special “Children’s Moment” with Grace Mott, Coordinator of Children’s and Family Ministry
- Cook a meal for Neighbor2Neighbor of Kansas City
- Youth Donut Sale

See you next Sunday!

Questions about our Children’s Ministry?

Grace Mott; grace.mott@stjohnsumc.org or 816.523.6788

ST. JOHN’S BOOK CLUB

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29TH | 6:30 PM | LIBRARY

Books discussed will be Braiding Sweetgrass by Robin Wall Kimmerer and Raising Hare: A Memoir by Chloe Dalton. The next selection, Master and Margarita, by Mikhail Bulgakov, will be discussed Tuesday evening, November 17 at 7:00 pm. Contact Ginny Miller, virginiamillerkc72@gmail.com if you would like to participate by Zoom.

INVITATIONS

“TABLE N’ TOWN” UPDATE!

Sign up now for St. John’s Table ‘n Town (“TNT”) events for October and December!

- **Lee's Summit "Magical History Tour" – Sat., Oct 10, 2026 hosted by Dena Mezger:** Starts at 5:00 PM at the Lee’s Summit History Museum (220 SW Main St., Lee's Summit) for a private tour of the museum followed by a short walk (about 3 blocks) including info on several historic buildings. Ends at 3rd Street Social for dinner around 6:15. (Anyone interested can continue the evening at Dena's house for conversation and beverages.) There is no admission fee to the museum, but donations are always appreciated. Maximum: Currently 10 reservations for dinner but may be able to add others .
- **Drinks/Apps at Smith/Whitmers followed by performance of “Working” – musical at UMKC Conservatory featuring Dale Morehouse. Fri. Oct. 16th.** Dale will be featured playing the cameo role of Joe who is dealing with retirement after a life of working. This will be his final stage performance at UMKC, as he is retiring from full-time university teaching in Spring ‘27 after 36 years as a full-time university professor and 49 years as university instructor. (No worries – he will NOT be retiring from St. John's!) Drinks/apps at 5:00 PM and show at 7:30 PM. Tickets for the show are \$25 for the General Public, \$10 for Senior Citizens. (Limit at Smith/Whitmers – 20.) Visit umkcconservatory.universitytickets.com/w/event.aspx?id=1654 or scan the QR code to purchase tickets 
- **Dinner at Sue’s – Sunday, Oct. 25th at 5:00 PM.** Join friends – old and new – for dinner. Sue will provide the main dish and drinks and others will bring side dishes and dessert. Get to know others while enjoying a gathering around the table. (Limit – 10.)
- **Dinner and Rezound Concert – Friday, Dec. 11th at 5:00 PM.** Hosted by Sue Young. Rezound is recognized as an outstanding bell choir – this is their Christmas concert. Come to Sue's house first for a light supper and then join your friends for the 7:00 PM concert after, held at Rolling Hills Presbyterian Church, 9300 Nall. (Limit – 10.)

Please sign up on the clipboard in the Rotunda or contact **Gary Whitmer** to sign up – or to offer your TNT activity idea – at 816-501-8671 or gtwhitmer@gmail.com.



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Register
Attendance

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Announcing the
St. John's UMC

 **FALL
FEST!**

Sunday, October 25th
4 - 6PM

