



September 8, 2023

Josh's Jottings

“We are not human beings having a spiritual experience; we're spiritual beings having a human experience.” - Pierre Teilhard de Chardin

In preparation for our next sermon series, I have been thinking about spirituality and how different people experience it. Why do some people feel closest to God when they are meditating in a monastery while others experience God most profoundly in a Bible study or by going to seminary? Why are some people drawn to God's close presence when they are marching for justice or feeding the poor while others find their spirituality in singing hymns together with others or greeting friends at church with a hug?

Over the next several weeks, we'll be talking about and exploring your “spiritual type.” I'll save the full explanation for Sunday mornings, but the idea is that God created all of us with a unique blend of spiritual strengths. Some are better at experiencing God through intellect and thought while others find God through feelings and emotion. Some want to know God with the closeness and certainty of a close friend while others embrace God's mystery and bigness. When Jesus commanded that we love the Lord our God with all our heart, mind, soul, and strength, turns out we are created as “heart people” or “strength people.”

We'll be exploring the spiritual types in worship this fall. Each of you has one and I hope this exploration will help you better understand yourself and where you fit in the cattywampus patchwork quilt that is God's church. Join us Sunday mornings to learn more about your type.

See you Sunday!

-Pastor Josh



EVENTS

Jazz Vespers Tomorrow

Join us for Jazz Vespers this Saturday, September 9, at 5pm! Performers will include vocalist Dianna Hughes, pianist Robert Lah, guitarist Michael Anthony, bassist David Parlato, and drummer Cal Haines. Our preacher will be Rev. Dr. Carl Schenck. Join us live, or by livestream.

Fall Kickoff Sunday Lunch September 10

The St. John's Food Ministry is inviting everyone to a Fall Kickoff Lunch this Sunday, September 10. Come enjoy Chef Tim's Green Chile Chicken Enchiladas in the Family Life Center from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Just \$12 for adults, \$6 for ages 12-17, \$3 for ages 5-11, and under 5 is free. Invite a friend or get to know a new friend. No reservation required. All are welcome!

We need volunteers to help prepare and serve the lunch. If you are available, please sign-up [LINK HERE](#). If you have questions, text or call Nancy Douglas de Baca at 505-238-5895.

Come sing with JOY September 11

The Joy Singers will resume rehearsals this Monday, September 11. All are welcome to attend; no experience or training necessary. We enjoy singing together every Monday morning from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. in the Choir Room, and occasionally sing for the community. Join us!

Garden Workday September 16

It's been a very productive gardening season in the St. John's Garden! Chef Tim has made use of the produce in preparing meals for both inside and outside the St. John's community. Now it's time to clean up and prepare for the fall planting and we could really use help! "Many hands make light work!"

A work day is scheduled for Saturday, September 16, 8 a.m. - 12 p.m. Come and do what you can do; there are simple jobs and heavy-duty jobs. We appreciate any and all help! If you can't spend all morning at the garden, just come and go as your schedule permits. If you have questions, contact Regina at hamptonmason1@msn.com.

Mobile Food Pantry September 16

Our next Mobile Food Pantry is Saturday, September 16. Volunteers arrive about 9:00 a.m. and distribution begins at 9:45 - 10:00 a.m., depending on the time the RoadRunner truck arrives. We are usually finished by noon. For many families, with the end of Pandemic funding, SNAP benefits have decreased significantly. I have been receiving more and more calls for food assistance. Roadrunner has an excellent resource for finding food assistance, [link here](#). Please spread the word to those in need. For more information, please contact Debby Smith at 505-554-4238 or dysmith0427@gmail.com.

Mountain Cathedrals Canoe Day September 16

The Mountain Cathedrals "hike" for September will be a canoe adventure! Stan Mortimer will lead us in this endeavor at Cochiti Lake, with the agenda tailored to the abilities of the group. We'll meet at St. John's UMC (East Parking Lot) at 8:00 AM, then carpool to the lake. We should be back at the church by around 4:00 PM. So we can plan ahead, please let us know your experience level and what equipment (canoes, life jackets, etc.) you have (if any). You will need sun protection, drinking water, and lunch.

Small boats in Jesus' time served purposes including fishing, transportation, and even allowing Jesus to escape the crush of crowds. Who has not wondered about the way they link islands and other lands, protect us from the unknown of the deep, and sometimes even have minds of their own? Please join us for a day of exploring these ideas and some fun on the water!

Next hikes: October 21, November 18 (details TBD - suggestions?)
Contact: Mike Furnish, CLM, mdfurnish@comcast.net; 505-440-7292 or Stan Mortimer.

Women's Bible Study *Better, a Study of Hebrews by Jen Wilkin*

**Tuesdays, September 26 - November 28 (10 weeks), 6:30 - 8:30 p.m., ZOOM,
facilitator: Donna Bruce**

Jesus is better. In this 10-session, verse-by-verse study of the Book of Hebrews, Jen Wilkin explores how God "provided something better for us" in the person of Jesus Christ (Heb. 11:40). Through stories of Old Testament heroes and practices, the author of Hebrews demonstrates how the new covenant is superior to the old and how Jesus Christ is the fulfillment of every promise. Explore familiar verses in context of the entire Bible, learning how to place your hope and faith in Christ alone.

To register for the class, contact Susan Perry at teachersusan@comcast.net, or sign up in the Hospitality Center on Sunday morning.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Three Letters From Paul: Galatians, Ephesians, and Philemon

St. John's email Bible study will take up three Pauline letters that vary in topic, style, and audience. Galatians, addressed to one of Paul's own churches, contrasts faith and law. Ephesians talks about God's plan for salvation and the accompanying new rules for living. Philemon is a personal letter to friends, but with a special request. Join more than 100 fellow-readers as we examine some of the similarities and differences among these letters. A scripture passage and a brief study tip are distributed to most participants by email five days a week. The study tips are made available outside our walls through an archive at www.daily-bible-study-tips.com, where they are accessed daily by readers throughout the world. Answers to reader questions and other supplements occasionally come out on Saturdays. Paper study guides will be available in the Welcome Center beginning September 17. To receive daily study tips by email, write or call Regina Hunter at drhunter@nmia.com or 505-294-2877.



CHILDREN & YOUTH

Youth (and parents) serving at Asbury Pie Café

The Youth will volunteer at the Asbury Pie Café on Friday, September 15 from 6:45 p.m. to about 11 p.m. We will meet at St. John's UMC west parking lot at 5:30 and return by 11:30-45 p.m. Please contact Tiffany at thollums@stjohns-abq.org. Parents will need to sign a parent permission form that will be available in the front office, at the hospitality center and at youth group on Sunday, September 10.

Children's Ministry News

Families of Faith and New Sound choir will begin Wednesday, September 13. A meal will be served at 5 p.m. in the Family Life Center. New Sound Choir will start at 5 and go until 6 p.m. in the children's music room upstairs followed by a time where the kids can eat and then have Bible Club.

Youth Ministry News

Youth Bells on Sunday's from 3-4 p.m., where youth, young adults and young at heart adults are welcome!

This Sunday's Solid Ground Youth will be American Idol and 'yes', there are rumors that the world famous judges will be there and to bring your best karaoke with you.

Fourth Grade Bible Presentation

We have a tradition of giving fourth graders a new Bible and would love to give your child a new Bible! If you have a fourth grader in your family, please contact Pastor Tiffany at thollums@stjohns-abq.org to receive a Bible. In fact, any child who would like to receive a Bible, please let us know. Reading the Bible is such an important part of growing in the faith and we would love to help your child start off this new year with a Bible.



Prayer Quilt Recipient

Jane Goodrich is the recipient for the prayer quilt currently on display in the Hospitality Center.

In lieu of tying knots, please pray this prayer (or your own prayer) for Jane: "Heavenly Father, your love has held Jane and kept her through this suffering. Now may your hope and healing lead her quickly to a place of restoration. Amen."



GIVING

September Special Offering: Two Children's Ministries

This month we have the opportunity to support the Methodist Children's Home in Waco, Texas which has helped troubled children for over 125 years. As one child put it "They are there for me when no one else is."

A second Methodist supported haven for children is Providence Place in San Antonio. It "Gives God's Children a Faith, a Family and a Future". First it helps both teen mothers and adoptive parents. Second, it works with young adults with special needs to develop their full potential and learn to live on their own with minimal assistance.

Both of these fine ministries rely on our generous donations.

Paper Products for Silver Horizons

Did you ever participate in TP-ing, house wrapping, yard rolling or simply rolling someone's tree, house or another structure with toilet paper? Well, let's TP (not physically) Silver Horizons with paper products this month to include, but not limited to: toilet paper, paper towels, Kleenex, aluminum foil and plastic wrap. Place your donations in the bins in the Hospitality Center. These donations are very much appreciated.



LIVESTREAM

Our worship services are livestreamed so you can watch them from home. To watch a worship service live, click on the service that you would like to watch on Sunday morning at its scheduled time.

**8:15AM Mosaic
Worship**

**9:30AM Abide
Worship**

**11AM Traditional
Worship**

Submission Deadline for Disciple Connections is noon on Wednesday for the Friday weekly edition. [Click here](#) to send your articles to the editor.

Visit Our
Website

Give Online

St. John's United Methodist Church

2626 Arizona Street NE | Albuquerque, New Mexico 87110
Office Hours (call only): Monday - Thursday, 9a.m. - 4 p.m.
Friday, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Pastor 24-Hour Hotline | (505) 808-1624

Pastoral care is available for after-hours emergencies. Please send any congregational care needs to Pastor Tiffany at thollums@stjohns-abq.org as we all work together to love one another well.



St. John's UMC | 2626 Arizona Street NE, Albuquerque, NM 87110

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