WE'RE SO GLAD YOU JOINED US TODAY!

Welcome To St. John's

Welcome to worship at St. John's United Methodist Church.

You are welcome and celebrated in this faith community!
If you are a first time attendee or a longtime member;
If you are black, brown, white or anything in between;
If you are gay, straight, bisexual, lesbian, or transgender;
If you are a Native American or an immigrant friend;
If you are male or female, young or old, abled or differently-abled, rich or poor;
No matter what you believe or doubt;
No matter where you are on life's journey; You are a gift of the Creator God.
Together, we are family of God, because we are gathered in the name of the One who makes us one.

St. John's has been affiliated with Reconciling Ministries Network since 1998, when we adopted a statement affirming the sacred worth of all God's children, including lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people. We celebrate our diversity and welcome all people to join us in our journey together toward greater understanding and mutual respect.

We welcome children and enjoy their participation in all aspects of congregational life. For caregivers of small children, a changing table is available in the front bathroom and the library is open if you need a quiet place to tend to your little one. A nursery with certified workers is available for infants through age 5 at the southeast corner of the building if you need respite. Ushers will be glad to direct you to any of these resources.

Meet Our Staff

To contact a member of our staff please call 8067620123, visit us online, or send us an email at openminds@stjohnslubbock.org

Rev. Josh Stueve
Senior Pastor

Rev. Ann Akin
Associate Pastor

Clint Barrick
Organist

Tim Algate
Choral Conductor

David Cranford
Facilities Manager

John Dotts
Assistant Facilities Manager

Rachel Blackwell
Director of Youth Ministries

Kyle Collins
Director of Communications

Trish Hernandez
Director of Childcare Ministries

It Takes All Kinds of Birds
Rhiannon Lamb-Vines

The rainbow has always held significance for me. It was a natural outflowing of my love that I used these colors. The predominant color of the cross is aqua-green, synonymous with the color of water, from which all life flows.

The crossbar again is adorned with color, but in this case with small bits of paper with words printed on them. The words on the front reflect the words of love, while the words on the back are significant in expressing our brokenness.

The birds on the crossbar are each unique. They were carved with the help of longtime St. John's parishioner, Kenneth Dendy, using his woodworking tools. When Kenneth's wife Oleta saw the birds mounted on the cross, she christened it with its name, "It Takes All Kinds of Birds".



The cross traveled to Kansas City for the 2008 General Conference of the United Methodist Church, and occupied a place in the rooms for which the Reconciling Movement were given as a place to rest and receive solace. The meaning of the cross reflects the hard work of seeking inclusion in a body of Christ that at that time failed to live to its calling and identity. The cross has occupied its place in the St. John's Narthex since 2012, when it was gifted to the church by the artist's parents, Mary and Darrell Vines.

Please Remember in Prayer

St. John's Pastors, Staff, Small Council, and Ministries
St. John's Members who are homebound or in assisted care
The St. John's Confirmation Class
Jonathan Krebbs
Bob Albin
Caleb Davis
Kyle Gregory
Paul Gonzales
The Family of
Barbara Morgan-Fleming
The Family of Ron Williams

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ST. JOHN'S
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Reconciling Sunday

Sunday, October 25, 2026

10:30 a.m.

ST. JOHN'S
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Address: 1501 University Ave. Lubbock, TX 79401
Phone: 8067620123 **Web:** stjohnslubbock.org
Email: openminds@stjohnslubbock.org

The Worship of God 10:30 A.M. Service

ENTRANCE

Gathering — Revs. Josh Stueve and Ann Akin

Prelude — Clint Barrick
Help Us Accept Each Other — John Ness Beck (1930-1987)

*Call to Worship — Mary Saathoff
Spirit of Love, we are children of your delight.
We who are born of your love sing your praise.
Spirit of Love, you enfold us in your blessing.
We who are healed by your love give you thanks.
Spirit of Love, you, you flow through us into the world.
Alleluia! We who bear your love bless you.
Come, Spirit of Love, and transform us by your grace. Alleluia!

*Hymn No. 584 — *The United Methodist Hymnal*
Lord, You Give the Great Commission — ABBOT'S LEIGH

A Time for Young Disciples — Marcy Stueve
Hymn No. 405 — *The United Methodist Hymnal*
Seek Ye First — SEEK YE

As the Children Arrive
Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you. Allelu, alleluia!

As the Children Depart:
Ask, and it shall be given unto you; seek and ye shall find; knock, and the door shall be opened unto you. Allelu, alleluia!

Following the message, children Pre-K through 2nd grade are invited to Sunday School for storytelling, arts & crafts & a snack. We will meet at the church nursery.

Prayers of the People | The Lord's Prayer — Rev. Ann Akin
God in your graciousness/mercy
Hear our prayers.

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.

Act of Praise — Sara Yancey and Mary Len Stanton, sopranos
Love the Lord Your God — Rodolfo López, Estela García-López and Ricky Manalo, CSP

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Hebrew Bible Lessons - Leviticus 19: 15-18, p. 106 — Mary Saathoff
Deuteronomy 6: 4-6, p. 163
*Gospel Lesson - Matthew 22: 34-40, p. 25, N.T.
The word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

Sermon — Rev. Josh Stueve

**You're invited to stand at moments in this service marked with an asterisk.*

***Please silence all cell phones and electronic devices.*

Voices of Reconciliation

*An Affirmation of our Statement of Reconciliation — Rev. Ann Akin and Robby Vestal, Lay Leader

Today we join to reaffirm the historic statement ratified by members of St. John's United Methodist Church in 1998. May these words be a sign of our commitment to continue to be bearers of the light of reconciling love in the present and into the future.

We affirm that through God's redeeming love for all, we are one in Christ. We respect the inherent and valuable contributions each member makes to the Body of Christ. We celebrate our diversity and recognize the sacred worth and dignity of all persons regardless of sexual orientation, gender, race, age, ethnicity, gender identity, physical or mental capacity, education, or economic or marital status.

As we journey toward reconciliation, we proclaim this statement of welcome to all who have known the pain of exclusion and discrimination within the church.

We welcome all persons to full participation in the life and ministries of St. John's United Methodist Church.

At the same time, we recognize that there remain differences of opinion among us. We do not seek to erase our differences. We welcome all in our journey together in faith toward greater understanding and mutual respect.

"All this is from God, who reconciled us...through Christ, and who gives us the ministry of reconciliation." (from 2 Corinthians 5:18)

—Statement of Reconciliation (1998), St. John's United Methodist Church

THANKSGIVING

Invitation to an Offering — Rev. Josh Stueve

*Hymn, No. 549 — *The United Methodist Hymnal*
Where Charity and Love Prevail — ST. PETER

Anthem — St. John's Chancel Choir
The Greatest Commandment — Pepper Choplin

Love the Lord with all your heart
Love the Lord with all your soul
Love the Lord with all your mind, and all your strength
O love the Lord, your God.
Love the Lord, and love your neighbor as yourself.
If you love the Lord with all your heart, love your neighbor as yourself.

*Doxology and Presentation of Gifts No. 94
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise, God the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

SENDING FORTH

Reception of New Members — Rev. Josh Stueve
We rejoice to welcome you as members of Christ's Holy Church, and we bid you welcome to St. John's United Methodist Church.
With you we renew our vows to uphold it by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness.

*Hymn, No. 2172 — *The Faith We Sing*
We Are Called — WE ARE CALLED

Benediction — Rev. Josh Stueve

Please be seated for the Postlude.

Postlude — Clint Barrick
The Rejoicing — G.F. Handel (1685-1759)

Pastor Appreciation
The Pastor/Parish Relations Committee is preparing to show our appreciation as a church community to Josh and Ann. We plan to present them with notes of appreciation and cash gifts on Sunday, November 1. If you would like to make a gift, please see a member of SPRC.

If you would like to leave a personal note or share words of encouragement with Pastor Josh and Pastor Ann, please scan the QR Code.

- SPRC
Marie Cox, Chair
Kathryn Quilliam
Sara Yancey

Game Day Parking
The next home game of the season is
Saturday, October 31 at 11:00 a.m. The parking lot will open at 7:00 a.m.

St. John's sells parking spots for $10 during TTU home games and we need volunteers to help work the parking lot!

Sign up by scanning the QR Code or by emailing Jay or Coleen Sedberry at jay.and.coleen@gmail.com

All Saints' Sunday
On Sunday, November 1, St. John's will observe All Saints Day. In this worship service, we will give thanks for those who have gone before us in the faith. We will light a candle & ring a bell for church community members who died in the last year. It is a time to celebrate the church's history, heritage & tradition.

Do You Get Our Weekly Email?

Weekly Email
We send out a weekly email on Friday mornings filled with announcements, happenings around our church community, helpful links, and more. You can subscribe using the QR code or by visiting www.bit.ly/emailSJUMC