We are creating a community...

Access Friendship Book, Guest Form, and More

Scan this QR Code for links to the Friendship Book and Guest Form, prayer requests, giving online, bulletin, newsletter, and website. You can get to the same links by going to stjohnsaustin.org/connect.

Poinsettia Sales Begin Today

Poinsettias may be ordered in honor or in memory of loved ones, to be used either to decorate our church during Advent, or by our Congregational Care team as gifts for homebound members. Today through Sun, Dec 6, you may place orders in the church gallery after Sunday services. You may also online at bit.ly/sjpoinsettias2026. The cost is $12 each. Poinsettias may also be purchased for personal use; **the deadline for personal use orders is Tue, Dec 1**.

Thank You for Supporting Burnet Middle School!

A subcommittee of our Risk-Taking Mission and Service committee has provided the following "wish list" items for Burnet Middle School:

- $1,600 from the RTMS budget to cover the expense for black band shoes and Mariachi Band bowties
- $1,100+ from the UWF for the Burnet MS Spirit and School Morale committees
- $1,000 from the Seeker's Class for holiday gifts and clothes for the Burnet Holiday Fair (See next article.)
- HopeFest clothing drive

Our congregation has also responded to needs at the school with gifts of time and resources, and we will continue to be supportive.

Volunteer for Burnet Middle School Fair, Fri, Dec 12

Volunteers are needed to help distribute coats and toys at this year's Holiday Fair, Sat, Dec 12, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., at Burnet Middle School. To volunteer, go to forms.gle/Z54W9jSjviWeuUT69 and follow these steps:

1. On the first page, complete basic information. (This is where you can say you're working with the Saint John's team.)
2. On the second page, find the section labeled "Food Distribution and Events."
3. Under "Which AVEY events would you like to help with?" select "Burnet Holiday Fair - Saturday/sábado December 12th, 9:00 am - 2:00 pm, Burnet MS, 8401 Hathaway, 78757."

Questions? Email Pastor Randy at randy@stjohnsaustin.org, Kelli McAnally at kmjjkel@gmail.com, or David Balch at balchdavid3223@gmail.com.

Save the Date for These Advent Events!

- Advent Family Breakfast - Sun, Nov 29
- Advent Churchwide Sunday School - Sun, Nov 29 - Sun, Dec 20, 10 a.m. in the Great Hall
- Advent Contemplative Retreat - Sat, Dec 5, 9 a.m.-noon – See next article for details and a registration link!
- Gifts of Hope Gift Cards - Give the gift that gives twice! Gifts of Hope gifts cards will be for sale online and in the Gallery from Sun, Dec 6 - Sun, Dec 20.
- Tidings of Joy Concert and Holiday Bake Sale - Fri, Dec 11. Concert begins at 6:30 p.m. Bake Sale is 4:30 - 6:30 p.m. and again after the concert.
- Christmas Caroling - Sun, Dec 13, 12 - 3 p.m.
- Service of the Longest Night - Fri, Dec 18, 7 p.m.
- Christmas Eve Services - Thu, Dec 24, 3 p.m., 5 p.m., 7 p.m.

Contemplative Advent Retreat: Making Space for Hope, Sat, Dec 5

This Advent, as we ask, “What Child Is This?,” we remember that God entered fully into human life and continues to be present with us. On Sat, Dec 5, 9 a.m. – noon, join us for a contemplative retreat as we explore spiritual practices that deepen our awareness of God's incarnational presence, nurture hope, and help us carry God's love into the world. No experience with contemplative practices is needed. All are welcome. There will be an optional lunch with a suggested donation of $10. Register at bit.ly/adventretreat2026. Childcare is available upon request.

Participating in Worship Today

Rev. Hilary Marchbanks, Senior Pastor
Rev. Randy Knighten, Outreach Ministries Pastor
Chancel Choir
Cina Crisara, Music Ministry Specialist
Eric Metcalf, Liturgist
Mary Foster, Worship Arts Coordinator
Gary James, Sound Technician
Izzy Lopez, Children and Youth Coodinator
Katie McKenna, Director of Communications
Ed Snouffer, Director of Music Ministry, Pianist
John Thomason, Bulletin Editor
Shelley Walters, Director of Faith Development
Rebecca Witte, Director of Connections

Connect Team

Tricia Hallock (9:00 a.m.)
Kathleen Harrington (11:00 a.m.)

Liturgy Notes

The Greeting is by Thomas Merton.
The Morning Prayer is by Rev. M Jade Kaiser.

Ways to Give

We offer many ways to give to support Saint John’s.

1.Text “SJUMC” to 73256 and follow the prompts.

2. Visit stjohnsaustin.org/giving to make an online donation using a credit/debit card, or bank draft.

3. Church members may log on to their mySaintJohn’s account via the web or by the Realm Connect app.

4. Leave a donation in the offering plates as they are passed or in the offering box located in the Gallery, or mail a check.

Saint John's
United Methodist Church

2140 Allandale Road
Austin, Texas 78756

(512) 452-5737
stjohnsaustin.org

For more information about classes and activities at Saint John’s, see our newsletter at stjohnsaustin.org/newsletter.

Saint John’s
United Methodist Church

At Saint John’s United Methodist Church, we affirm that all persons are of sacred worth, and we welcome everyone, without exception, to participate fully in the church’s life and ministry.



Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday, November 15, 2026

Children Are Always Welcome at Saint John’s!

***Nursery care** is available during worship in Room 106.*

*Children and families are invited to explore the **Worship Wonder Library** in the back of the sanctuary for materials to use during worship.*

***Children’s Sunday School** is offered during the 10 a.m. hour (between services) in rooms 119 and 103.*

Difficulty hearing in the Sanctuary? Please ask an usher for a listening device or see the pew card for information about using the ListenWiFi phone app.

Gathering Music — Ed Snouffer, piano
“For the Fruits of This Creation”

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Welcome — Shelley Walters

Introit "Where Charity and Love Prevail" Chancel Choir

Where charity and love prevail,
There God is ever found.
Brought here together by Christ's love,
By love are we thus bound.

With grateful joy and holy fear
God's charity we learn;
Let us with heart and mind and strength
Now love God in return.

Forgive we now each other's faults
As we our faults confess;
And let us love each other well
In Christian holiness.

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Music: Paul Benoit; Words: Omer Westendorf
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***Greeting** Responsive, led by Eric Metcalf

We believe in the Incarnation of the Son of God, Christ here and now.
May we enter each day prepared to see the presence of Christ in everyone.
Christ's love lives in us. It is a love without weakness, even in the midst of fear.
It is a love always ready to see goodness in the land of the living, a love ready to be surprised. Amen.

***Opening Hymn** All

"For the Fruits Of This Creation" UMH 97 vv 1,3

(Lyrics are on the screen and in your hymnal.)

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Morning Prayer All, led by Eric Metcalf

Holy One, you draw us together to tend to pain, to celebrate justice, to share stories ancient and new, and to pursue the mysteries of our faith. In this sacred work, may we remember that you brought us together to depend on one another. May none among us forget: we are each essential in this community of faith. Amen.

Children's Time Rev. Hilary Marchbanks

Children are invited to stay in worship with their families. Activity bags are available to keep hands busy, and the Bethlehem Room and Nursery are available.

During the 10 o'clock hour, children age 4 - 3rd grade will meet in room 103; 4th and 5th graders will meet in room 119.

Prayers of the People Shelley Walters

The Prayer of Jesus All, led by Shelley Walters

Our Father/Mother/Creator, 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.

Words of Life 1 Corinthians 12:12-26 Eric Metcalf

Message for Today Rev. Hilary Marchbanks

"Honor One Another"

***Response** "Spirit of the Living God" UMH 393 (2X) All

(Lyrics are on the screen and in your hymnal.)

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CCLI License #420373

Offertory Prayer All, led by Eric Metcalf

Glorious God, every good gift comes from your hand, and many are the ways you give your life to us and to the world. Let us be counted among those ways, that the offerings we bring may bring life to the world, and through the giving of them, to us as well. In the name of Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

Offertory "Many Gifts, One Spirit" Chancel Choir

Many gifts, one Spirit; many ways to serve;
Many gifts, one Spirit in Christ.
Knowledge of God's teachings, wisdom for the right,
Love that heals a heart broken, faith to seek the light.

Many gifts, one Spirit, many ways to serve:
One Spirit in Christ.
Hands that reach to others, arms with warm embrace,
Love that binds us together, hearts to share God's grace.

One in Spirit, one in faithfulness, one in love for the Son.
Ev'ry gift a blessing given from our gracious God.

Many gifts, one Spirit; many ways to serve;
Many gifts, one Spirit in Christ.
Hearts to feed the hungry, strength to win the fight,
Love that holds us forever in God's eternal light.

One in Spirit, one in faithfulness, one in love for the Son.
Ev'ry gift a blessing given from our gracious God.

Many gifts, one Spirit in Christ.

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***Song of Thanks** All

"Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow" UMH 94

(Lyrics are on the screen and in your hymnal.)

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We Continue Our Worshipful Work Rev. Marchbanks

***Sending Hymn** All

"We Are God's People" TFWS 2220, vv 1,3

(Lyrics are on the screen and in your hymnal.)

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***Benediction** Responsive, led by Rev. Marchbanks

Oh, God of grace,
renew our hope, deepen our faith, increase our love for you and each other. Amen.

***Sharing the Peace of Christ** Rev. Marchbanks

***Postlude** "We Are God's People" Ed Snouffer, piano

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**You are invited to rise in body or spirit.*
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UMH denotes "United Methodist Hymnal".
TFWS denotes "The Faith We Sing" hymnal.

Sanctuary Flowers

This week's flowers are provided by
Kathleen Johnson
in appreciation for
all the participants in and instructors for Day of Discovery.
This event allows UWF to help many mission projects.

To sign up to provide Sanctuary flowers,
please email Rebecca Witte at rebecca@stjohnsaustin.org.