

St. John's

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

MISSION

Good Neighbors, Sharing the Good News

MESSAGE

But I Say To You
“Keep It Together”

DATE

Reformation Sunday
October 25th, 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 | 10.25.2026

8:30 AM | CHAPEL

LAY READER | John Rasmus

USHERS | John Rasmus

10:45 AM | SANCTUARY

LAY READER | Ginny Miller

USHERS | Bonnie Pearson
Doug Pearson

NEXT WEEK | 11.01.2026

8:30 AM | CHAPEL

LAY READER | Sharon Curtright

USHERS | Jay Curtright
Sharon Curtright

10:45 AM | SANCTUARY

LAY READER | Barb Mueller

USHERS | Robert Taylor
Gary Fischer

ORDER OF WORSHIP

WE CELEBRATE REFORMATION SUNDAY WITH HYMNS OF PRAISE OLD AND NEW – MARTIN LUTHER TO HANDEL AND HAYES.

PRELUDE (10:45) | *Lift High the Cross*² | setting by Barbara B. Kinyon, 1997
St. John's Ringers; Cheri Leigh, director

INTROIT (10:45) | *Praise the Lord, from JUDAS MACCABEUS*² | music by G. F. Handel, 1746 | Chancel Choir; Dale Morehouse, pianist and conductor

Baroque master **George Frederick Handel** (born in the same year as J. S. Bach) was born in Germany, studied in Italy, and built his career in England. When King George prohibited theatrical productions during Lent, Handel created the oratorio, an unstaged musical narrative event that continued the music his public craved. Here, the subject is Maccabeus leading the Israelites to victory over their Syrian invaders, told in high drama and glorious pageantry that is filled with rousing choruses, ravishing duets, and fiery arias. The Jewish holiday of Hanukkah ("Dedication") commemorates the restoration of Jewish worship at the Second Temple in Jerusalem in 164 BCE, after Judah Maccabee removed all of the statues depicting Greek gods and goddesses and then purified it.

*Praise the Lord. Let songs of joy break forth.
Sing alleluia. Praise His name forevermore.
Shout, sing, and dance and celebrate.
Rejoice, let all within us praise His name.*

(Thomas Morrell, 1746)

ORDER OF WORSHIP

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.

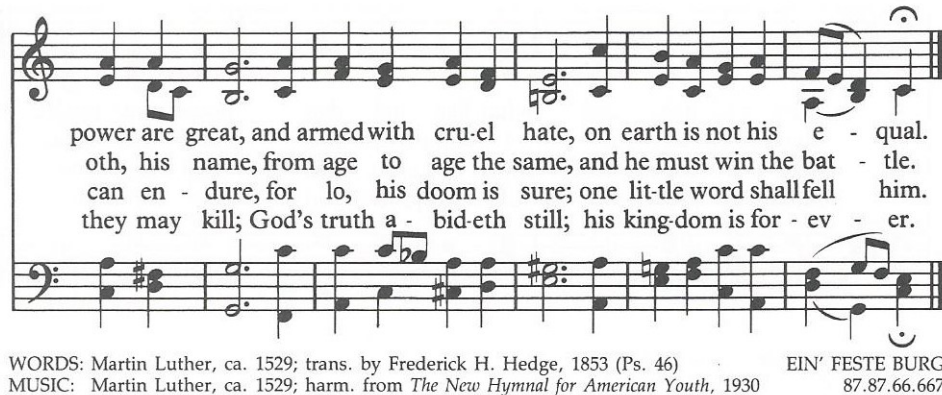
*OPENING HYMN | *A Mighty Fortress* | UMH 110 (1, 2, 4)

1. A might-y for-tress is our God, a bul-wark nev-er fail-ing;
2. Did we in our own strength con-fide, our striv-ing would be los-ing,
3. And though this world, with dev-ils filled, should threat-en to un-do us,
4. That word a-bove all earth-ly powers, no thanks to them, a-bid-eth;

our help-er he a-mid the flood of mor-tal ills pre-vail-ing.
were not the right man on our side, the man of God's own choos-ing.
we will not fear, for God hath willed his truth to tri-umph through us.
the Spir-it and the gifts are ours, thru him who with us sid-eth.

For still our an-cient foe doth seek to work us woe; his craft and
Dost ask who that may be? Christ Je-sus, it is he; Lord Sa-ba-b
The Prince of Dark-ness grim, we trem-ble not for him; his rage we
Let goods and kin-dred go, this mor-tal life al-so; the bod-y

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power are great, and armed with cru-el hate, on earth is not his e - qual.
oth, his name, from age to age the same, and he must win the bat - tle.
can en - dure, for lo, his doom is sure; one lit-tle word shall fell him.
they may kill; God's truth a - bid-eth still; his king-dom is for - ev - er.

WORDS: Martin Luther, ca. 1529; trans. by Frederick H. Hedge, 1853 (Ps. 46)
MUSIC: Martin Luther, ca. 1529; harm. from *The New Hymnal for American Youth*, 1930

EIN' FESTE BURG
87.87.66.667

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader | Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous. Sing to the Lord a new song.

People | **Your word is upright, O God, the earth is full of your steadfast love.**

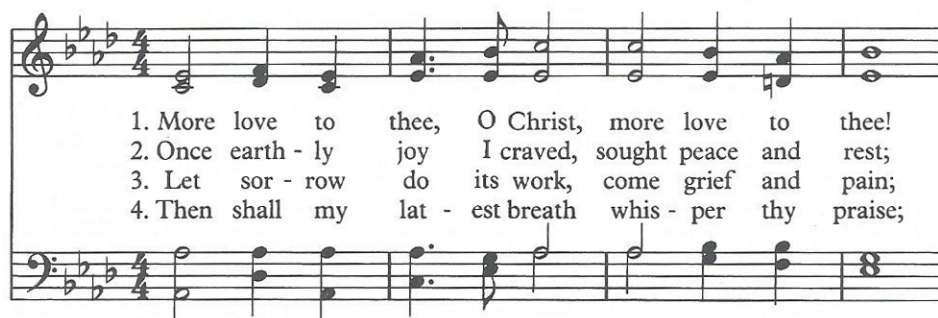
Leader | Let the earth fear the Lord; let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of your presence.

People | **Happy is the nation whose God is the Lord, the people you have chosen to be your own.**

ALL | **Let us worship God. Amen.**

(Kirk, James G. *When We Gather*, pg. 81 – adaption of Psalm 33)

*HYMN OF PRAISE (10:45) | *More Love to Thee, O Christ* | UMH 453 (1, 2, 4)



1. More love to thee, O Christ, more love to thee!
2. Once earth - ly joy I craved, sought peace and rest;
3. Let sor - row do its work, come grief and pain;
4. Then shall my lat - est breath whis - per thy praise;

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Hear thou the prayer I make on bend - ed knee.
now thee a - lone I seek, give what is best.
sweet are thy mes - sen - gers, sweet their re - frain,
this be the part - ing cry my heart shall raise;



This is my ear - nest plea: More love, O Christ, to thee;
This all my prayer shall be: More love, O Christ, to thee;
when they can sing with me: More love, O Christ, to thee;
this still its prayer shall be: More love, O Christ, to thee;



more love to thee, more love to thee!
more love to thee, more love to thee!
more love to thee, more love to thee!
more love to thee, more love to thee!

WORDS: Elizabeth P. Prentiss, 1869
MUSIC: William H. Doane, 1870

MORE LOVE TO THEE
64.64.66.44

CHILDREN'S MOMENT | Grace Mott, Coordinator of Family & Children's Ministry

DISMISSAL TO SUNDAY SCHOOL

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PRAYER JOY

Thank you **Marilyn Senter** for donating cookies for all to enjoy in the Rotunda after the 10:45 Worship Service

PRAYER CONCERNS

The Family and Friends of LaDonna Justice | on her death
Paul Bergman | Father-in-Law of Becky Bergman
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
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
Those suffering at the hands of others

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.

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SOLO | Give Me Jesus² | Traditional Spiritual, arranged by Mark Hayes, 1998
Dr. Tara Curtis, mezzo soprano; Dale Morehouse, piano

“**Give Me Jesus**” originated as an African-American spiritual sung during the time of slavery in the United States. Its lyrics are simple, but poignant. Kansas City’s own **Mark Hayes** set them with a lush, beautiful accompaniment. Whether we are dealing with tragedy or triumph, weathering storms or counting treasures - do we want Jesus more than all? In the morning Christians should seek Christ first, to thank him for His mercies of yesterday, for his blessings to be bestowed today and to ask for grace for the day. During the day we should seek a quiet place to thank Him again, plead for his sustaining mercies and to worship our Savior. We should seek Christ throughout life and want Him as we die. This will be the time for Christians when we truly understand that all the world offers is nothing and that a life in Christ is everything. When it’s time to die, will you have the world or will you have Christ?

*Oh, when I come to die, give me Jesus.
Give me Jesus. You may have all the world, give me Jesus.*

*Dark midnight was my cry, give me Jesus. Refrain
Give me Jesus. You may have all the world, give me Jesus.*

(Traditional Spiritual)

SCRIPTURE | Matthew 5:27-32¹ | NRSVUE

“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’ But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to go into hell.”

“It was also said, ‘Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.’ But I say to you that anyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of sexual immorality, causes her to commit adultery, and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.”

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. Copyright © 2021 National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.

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MESSAGE | But I Say To You “Keep It Together” | Rev. Dr. Jim Hoffman

GENEROSITY MOMENT

OFFERTORY ANTHEM (10:45) | *Creation Sings*² | music by Shelton Ridge Love, 2000
Chancel Choir; Dale Morehouse, conductor and pianist

The words to “***Creation Sings***” were written by New Zealand’s leading hymnist, **Shirley Erena Murray**, for a hymn-writing search sponsored by the Presbyterian Association of Musicians to celebrate the gift of music. (Murray also wrote the words to one of our favorite anthems, “*For Everyone Born.*”) **Shelton Ridge Love** gives musical voice to the exuberance and mystery of the created world. Lyrical melodies unfold within colorful, impressionistic harmonies, gradually gathering momentum until the music bursts forth in a radiant celebration of God’s handiwork and soaring alleluias. Do you recognize the traditional hymn he interweaves with his own original melody?

Shelton is a composer, organist, pianist, and conductor whose musical life has been deeply shaped by the tradition of church music. A native of Kansas City, he later spent many years in Greenville, South Carolina, where he served as artistic director and conductor of the Greenville Gay Men’s Chorus. He now makes his home in the Washington, D.C., area.

*Creation sings, and we are in the music,
The movement of God’s energy and art,
A liturgy that links our lives to angels,
A litany that rises from the heart.
Creation sings, and we are in the music,
Creation sings!*

*The Spirit sings! Through love and lamentation,
From Pentecost to joy of Easter Day.
The universe is resonant with music,
The smallest creature dances to its play.
Creation sings, and we are in the music,
Creation sings!*

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*Creation groans at our discordant clashing.
The Spirit comes with music, the Spirit comes
to bring the harmony of peace,
harmony of beauty, to show the way to blend.*

*O God, You draw the melody from silence;
You make of us the instruments of songs!
We offer thanks in worship and in wonder
That such a gift belongs.
Creation sings, and we are in the music,
Creation sings! Alleluia!*

(words by Shirley Erena Murray, 2000)

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

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures
here below; praise him above, ye heavenly
host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

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

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*HYMN OF SENDING FORTH | *How Firm a Foundation*² | UMH 529 (1, 2, 5)

1. How firm a foun - da - tion, ye saints of the Lord,
2. "Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dis - mayed,
3. "When through the deep wa - ters I call thee to go,
4. "When through fi - ery tri - als thy path - ways shall lie,
5. "The soul that on Je - sus still leans for re - pose,

is laid for your faith in his ex - cel - lent word!
for I am thy God and will still give thee aid;
the riv - ers of woe shall not thee o - ver - flow;
my grace, all - suf - fi - cient, shall be thy sup - ply;
I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

What more can he say than to you he hath said,
I'll strength - en and help thee, and cause thee to stand
for I will be with thee, thy trou - bles to bless,
the flame shall not hurt thee; I on - ly de - sign
that soul, though all hell should en - deav - or to shake,

to you who for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?
up - held by my righ - teous, om - ni - po - tent hand.
and sanc - ti - fy to thee thy deep - est dis - tress.
thy dross to con - sume, and thy gold to re - fine.
I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake."

WORDS: "K" in Rippon's *Selection of Hymns*, 1787 (2 Tim. 2:19; Heb. 13:5; Is. 43:1-2)
MUSIC: Early USA melody; harm. from *Tabor*, 1866

FOUNDATION
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ORDER OF WORSHIP

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE** | *March on "A Mighty Fortress is Our God"*³ | setting by Phil Lehenbauer, 2017 | Dale Morehouse, organ

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FALL FESTIVAL - TODAY!



**BRING YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY
FOR THIS FUN FALL EVENT!**

THIS WEEK

SUNDAY | 10.25

- 8:30 AM Worship Service | Chapel
- 10:45 AM Worship Service | Sanctuary
- 3:00 PM Fall Festival**
- 5:00 PM Stage Right Rehearsal | Susanna Wesley Hall

MONDAY | 10.26

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

TUESDAY | 10.27

- 9:00 AM PDO/PS Fall Session
- 9:30 AM Tuesday Morning Bible Study | 205
- 11:30 AM St. John's Bell Choir Rehearsal | Susanna Wesley Hall
- 7:00 PM Mandolin Orchestra of Kansas City | Brookside Hall

WEDNESDAY | 10.28

- 9:00 AM PDO/PS Fall Session
- 6:00 PM Pastor's Bible Study | 205

THURSDAY | 10.29 | Happy Birthday Jill Gardner!

- 9:00 AM PDO/PS Fall Session
- 6:00 PM Neighbor 2 Neighbor Board Meeting | Library

FRIDAY | 10.30

- 1:00 PM Living Streams | Zoom

SATURDAY | 10.31 | Happy Halloween!

No Scheduled Activities

SUNDAY | 11.1 | All Saint's Sunday | Communion Sunday

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



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OUR FRIDAY
E-NEWSLETTER**

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WITH US!**



stjohnsumc.org



[stjohnsumckc](https://www.instagram.com/stjohnsumckc)

INVITATIONS

MEN'S PIZZA NIGHT

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4TH | 6:30 PM | WALDO PIZZA

Join our St. John's men for a night of fun and fellowship. **Questions?** stjohnsumc@stjohnsumc.org or 816.523.6788

ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1ST | 10:45 AM WORSHIP SERVICE

All Saints' Sunday is an opportunity to give thanks for those who have gone before us in faith. It is a time to celebrate what United Methodists call the tradition of the church. On this day, we can remember all those who are part of the "communion of saints" we confess whenever we recite the Apostles' Creed. We share stories of those "to glory gone." Retelling these stories grounds us in our history. These memories teach us how God has provided for us through the generosity and sacrifice of those who have come before us.

There will be an opportunity at the 10:45 am service to come forward and bring a keepsake memory of the saints in your life and place it on the table in the chancel. It may be a photo, a piece of jewelry, or anything that reminds you of your loved one. **We will also celebrate communion together.** You may collect the keepsake after the service.

MYSTIC MISFITS; CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER GROUP

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3RD | 10:00 AM | BROOKSIDE HALL

The Mystic Misfits meet every other week from September through May with a few weeks off around Christmas/New Year's. The group begins with a twenty-minute sit beginning at 10:00 a.m. Centering Prayer is usually followed with a DVD or CD featuring a prominent leader in the Contemplative movement such as Fr. Richard Rohr, Dr. James Finley, Fr. Thomas Keating, Sr. Ilia Delio, Rob Bell etc., and the remaining time is spent in small group discussion, finishing about noon. **Questions?** mysticmisfitskc@gmail.com

ALL-CHURCH CHRISTMAS DECORATING

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22ND | 12:00 PM

Please join us to decorate the church for the Advent and Christmas season. All are welcome to help us make our sanctuary and chapel look "Merry and Bright" for this special time in the life of the church. **Questions?** Church Office; 816.523.6788 or stjohnsumc@stjohnsumc.org.

MISSIONS, SERVICE, & JUSTICE

IT'S TURKEY (EQUIVALENT) TIME

Now through **Sunday, November 22nd** we are collecting monetary donations for Harvesters to support their Holiday meal program. YOUR CONTRIBUTION is important: it will help provide a meal for a food insecure family this holiday season. Your part is easy...just donate "turkey equivalents" – which are \$25 each. **Cash or checks made out to St. John's with "Harvesters" in the memo line can be dropped off at SJUMC anytime between now and the 22nd.** You can also donate online at <https://tinyurl.com/2027Turkeys> or Scan the QR code. Thank you for your generosity. **Questions?** Julie Salmon; julie.r.salmon@gmail.com or 816.547.6906.



HELP SUPPORT HOPE LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

St. John's has been a community partner for Hope Leadership Academy since 2016. As partners we help support their student scholars and teachers by donating supplies and uniforms, delivering Back Snacks and volunteering as classroom buddies. HLA currently needs:

- Boys underwear (sizes 5 - 16)
- Clear plastic backpacks

Donations can be brought to church and left in the bin in the rotunda.

The school has on-going needs, often identified on short notice. You can also help by contributing to the **Hope Leadership Academy Fund** at St. John's. This fund allows us to provide supplies and materials to the school when they are needed. Donations can be made by checks payable to SJUMC with HLA in the memo line, or online at stjohnsumc.org/give (Choose Fund: Hope Leadership Academy) If you'd like more information about Hope Leadership Academy and ways to help, please contact the church office; 816.523.6788 or stjohnsumc@stjohnsumc.org.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

BUILDING COMMUNITY ONE COOKIE AT A TIME

Every Sunday after our 10:45 AM service, we gather in our Rotunda for fellowship. Cookies make this time a little sweeter. If you are interested in donating cookies scan the QR code or sign up in the Rotunda. **Questions?** Church Office; stjohnsumc@stjohnsumc.org





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SENIOR PASTOR

Jim Hoffman | Ext 103
jimh@stjohnsumc.org

**ORGANIST AND
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRIES**

Dale Morehouse
stjohnsumc@stjohnsumc.org

**COORDINATOR OF CHILDREN'S
& FAMILY MINISTRIES**

Grace Mott | Ext 102
grace.mott@stjohnsumc.org

CHURCH OFFICE MANAGER

Jessica Gattorna | Ext 100
jessicag@stjohnsumc.org

PARENTS DAY OUT | PRESCHOOL

DIRECTOR

Jill Gardner | 816.523.6788 Ext. 101
jill.gardner@stjohnsumc.org



Register
Attendance

BE OUR GUEST



Network Home: **SJUMCWireless_Guest**
Network Password: **sjumcguest**

**BABY GRACE OF
KANSAS CITY!**

