

St. John's Visitor

January 16, 2007 Published weekly by St. John's UMC Church Richland at Newberry, N.C. 29801 Volume 7, Issue 3

PRIMETIME SUNNY MONDAY

This month's meeting was rescheduled because of the holiday and will be held January 22 in Ward Hall with registration beginning at 10:30 am. Vicki Bukovitz, a St. John's member who is Executive Director of ACTS (Area Churches Together Serving) will be the guest speaker. Please telephone the church office (648-6891) to make your lunch reservation.

IT'S BACK!

After taking a year off, our popular Dinner for Eight Program is returning to St. John's. The Dinner for Eight concept is simple and has proven to be a wonderful way to build friendships through Christ.

Eight individuals (couples and/or singles) meet monthly for four consecutive months to make new Christian friends, share meaningful fellowship and enjoy good food. Hosting responsibility rotates among each group's members. Groups may meet in homes (preferably), or restaurants (Dutch treat), according to their choosing, for dinner, lunch, breakfast...whatever they decide within their group.

Please indicate your interest in joining the Dinner for Eight fellowship by phoning the church office. In early February we will have aligned the groups and you will be notified when and how to begin this enjoyable adventure.

Hope to See You Around the Table!

Celebrate St. John's, 150 Years

During this year of 2007 St. John's UMC will celebrate 150 years with a sanctuary building. While our congregation has been in existence for longer than 150 years, the banner in our present sanctuary reminds us of the beginning of the era (1857) when St. John's first had a house of worship.

This year through festivities, displays, and documentaries we will celebrate our heritage. We are planning a homecoming on Sunday, October 7, the Sunday nearest October 1, 1857, the day construction of the first church building was started 150 years ago. We will be reminded of our history through displays of memorabilia and photographs. The history document of our church will be revised to include significant events since the last update in 1981. Additional photographs will be included in the history document.

A small team is working to obtain photographs of all ministers and will prepare a permanent display of framed pictures.

A logo to celebrate this milestone in our local church history has been prepared to celebrate the year. You may have already seen it on some church documents!

These are just some of the events marking this historic occasion in the life of the church.

We are proud of the accomplishments of our forefathers. We continue to build on their efforts to share the Good News of God's grace and to serve in our community and beyond.

In His Service,

Bob Kosky, Chair
Celebrate St. John's Committee

Sunday, January 21 Third Sunday after the Epiphany Day of Christian Unity - Annual Pulpit Exchange

Sermon by
Rev. Dr. David Cozad
Visiting Minister
from First Presbyterian Church
and music by their Sanctuary Choir

Meetings to Note

Thursday, January 18

- 9:15 am Women's Bible Study
- 9:30 am Old Testament Bible Study
- 7:00 pm Greeter Training

Friday, January 19

- 7:00 pm Primetime Bridge

Saturday, January 20

- 8:00 am Open for Poverty Workshop

Sunday, January 21

- 8:15 am Coffee House
- 5:00 pm Prayer Shawl Group
- 6:00 pm Women's Emmaus Group
- 6:00 pm Women's Bible Study

Monday, January 22

- 8:15 am First Place
- 9:00 am District Clergy Meeting
- 10:30 am Primetime Sunny Monday
- 6:30 pm Strategic Planning Committee
- 7:00 pm Women's Bible Study

Tuesday, January 23

- 7:00 pm Church Council

Wednesday, January 24

- 9:30 am Quilting Fellowship
- 10:00 am Prayer Shawl Group
- 4:00 pm Women's Bible Study
- 4:00 pm Grief Support Group
- 5:00 pm Fellowship Supper
- 7:00 pm Covenant Prayer Group
- 7:00 pm Men's/Women's Bible Study

Serving January 21

- Crucifer** - Amanda Bryan
- Acolytes** - Colin Braithwaite, Nicole Neill
- Altar Guild** - Pat Crawley, Fratie Hardigree, Selona Murph, Nancy Vernon
- Crib Rm** (11:00 a.m.) - Molly Jones
- Toddlers** - Michelle Orr
- 2-3 Yr Nursery** - Deedee Vaughters
- 3-4 Yr Nursery** - Laura Rowan
- Children's Worship** - Keisha Uhle, Page Hall, Mary Cornelius
- Greeters 8:45** - Elizabeth Dill, Lee & René Boylston
- Greeters 11:00** - Bob and Eileen Stowell, Keith & Julie Polk, Mary Gardner, Shirley Powell
- Sunday AM Host (Jan 21)**
Bryan Staubs

Evening Hosts

- Sunday (Jan 21) - Barry Pearson
- Monday - Jim Minear
- Tuesday - Rick Endler
- Wednesday - Matt Beckum
- Thursday - Jim Wert
- Friday - Tom Brown
- Saturday - Bob Kosky

NEWS OF THE FAMILY

NEW ARRIVALS: Devin Wyndham Walke, son of John & Enu Walke and grandson of Pat & Sue Ann Walke was born December 29 in Washington, DC.

Benton Ryan Orr, son of Ryan and Michelle Orr was born January 4 in Augusta. Jack Miller Luten and Ashley Ellen Luten, children of Derek & Ellen Luten, grandchildren of former staff member Ellen Miller and husband, Charlie, and great-grandchildren of Anne Jarriel, were born January 9 in Aiken.

CONGRATULATIONS: Norflet and Christine Caprell will celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary on January 18.

Also celebrating 60 years of marriage on January 18 are John W. and Carolyn Heaton.

Celebrating their 55th wedding anniversary on January 19 are Russ and Ruth Messick.

NEW MEMBERS: Welcomed into St. John's Church on Sunday, January 14:

Mrs. Jean F. Harris

647 Landing Dr 642-2302

Mr. & Mrs. Jason Vitali (Robin)

Sophia Grace Vitali added to Constituent Roll

299 Southbank Dr 649-1187

CONDOLENCES: Deepest sympathy is extended to Susan J. Lawson (Mrs. George) in the death of her mother, Fran Jones, in Spartanburg on January 8.

HOSPITALIZED: VA-Augusta - Charles Lide; Aiken - Greg Robinson; Discharged - Sara Charlton

IN MEMORIAM

AUDREY CAROL BLOSSER

January 12, 2007

I'm in the visitor lounge at the hospital waiting for the twins to be born and thinking about the new lives they'll be embarking upon. I realized at this time that Grandma was starting a new life also. I'll miss the contact with the folks at St. John's, but new and different beginnings lie ahead for me and for them. Ashley (5 lbs, 9oz) and Jack (6 lbs) have arrived and there is much excitement. They are beautiful and healthy. I want to thank all for making my work experience at St. John's very rewarding. I am glad I did not miss the opportunity. **Ellen**

Dear Members & Friends - Your prayers and concerns were wonderful doses of "medication" & I know I'm on my way to a good recovery because of your caring about me. Thank you ever so much! Sincerely, **Hilda Hehle**

Betty & family wish to express gratitude for the cards, food and prayers shown by our friends at St. John's. Thank you, George, for making it so much easier. Jane, Roberta & Sandy - the trio was beautiful and brought back some special meaning. The ladies who did the reception following the funeral showed how much love comes from a caring God. Thank you, too, Fellowship Class. Eddie & I have enjoyed the love and friendship all these years - your presence at the service was special. **Betty & the Boone Family**

Remember to use email addresses shown on page 4 when contacting office staff.

Financials for week ending December 31, 2006

Budgetary needs for the week	\$ 40,800
Budgetary funds rec'd this week	\$ 46,780
Budget needs to date	\$1,327,850
Budget funds rec'd to date	\$1,498,287
St John's loan amt w/Security Fed	\$2,404,708.32

Last Week's Attendance

	2007	2006
8:45	181	163
11:00	456	519
Total	637	682

St. John's Youth News

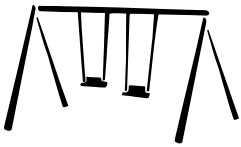
Sunday, January 21

5:00 pm Youth Choir
6:00 pm UMYF Meeting



PRESCHOOL REMINDER

Open House is scheduled for next week, January 22-26. Registration will be open to the public at the time. Sign-up sheets will be posted on the back parking lot doors at 4:00 pm. Registration will begin at 5:00 pm. You may only sign up one family. If you have questions, please see Michelle Pearson, Director of Preschool/MDO Ministries. Hopefully, this arrangement will improve the registration process.



O.A.R.S. schedule for Sunday, January 21:

1st Grade	Joyful Noise
2nd Grade	Creation Station
3rd Grade	Palms & Psalms
4th Grade	Hollywood Cinemas
5th & 6th Grade Girls	Thou Art
5th & 6th Grade Boys	From BC to PC

FELLOWSHIP SUPPERS

Menu for January 24

Pork Chops
Macaroni and Cheese
Green Beans Baked Apples
Banana Pudding

Volunteers are needed to help with cooking, setting up, collecting, serving and clean-up. There is a calendar located on the table near the kitchen. Please sign by the preferred date.

MISSION NEWS

The first group of short-term missionaries (15) left for Quimistan, Honduras, January 12 and will return January 20. The work to be done includes building an additional classroom and bathrooms for a small elementary school on the outskirts of Quimistan. *David White* of our congregation is among those attending. Please pray for the missionaries and for those in Honduras who are being helped. Four additional trips are planned for this Spring and Summer. Contact Michael Norton (648-9740) or Ed Norton (649-9754) for details.



PRIMETIME BRIDGE PLAYERS invite anyone interested in playing to join them on Friday (January 19) at 7 pm. Telephone the office or contact Hilda Secrist (642-4028) or Sarah Perkins (648-1965) if you plan to attend.



A SPECIAL INVITATION is extended to all widows and widowers to attend a Valentine's Day Lunch on Wednesday, February 14, at noon in Ward Hall given for you by your church family.



THE FLOWER CALENDAR FOR 2007 may now be found in the church office. A number of dates are still available for those who wish to honor or remember a loved one with altar flowers. Cost is \$40 per vase.

REMINDER FROM THE HOST COMMITTEE

Only the following exterior doors will be unlocked by the evening hosts from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm on weeknights when activities are scheduled (typically, Sunday through Thursday evenings):

- Ebenezer – North Portico (Barnwell St. side)
- Ebenezer – Kitchen Area (Newberry St. side)
- Ebenezer – Kitchen Area (Chesterfield St. side)
- Church Office Lobby (Newberry St. side)
- Church Office Lobby (Richland Ave. side)

The evening host will be stationed in the middle of the hallway from 6:30 to 7:30 in order to have a view of these five unlocked doors and any individuals who are entering the church through them.

At 7:30 pm all exterior doors will be locked and the host will begin rounds. If the host is needed by someone inside the church after 7:30 pm, a radio (works like a walkie-talkie) will be available at the host desk to contact the host.

Access after 7:30pm will require an individual to have an exterior door key.

BECOMING...A WOMAN OF GOD

First Quarter, 2007 Provided by UMW

Change is Difficult

Change is difficult, but change is what God calls us to do. We should constantly be changing to become more Christlike. God has led me to attend two leadership training events which were awesome. I came home inspired with books to read and enthusiasm about leading the women of this church. Currently through prayer, I am seeking a team of 7 women to assist me. Our emphasis will be Prayer, Bible Study, Missions, Circles, Small Interest Groups and Special Events. Each woman on the team will have her own team to shepherd. Together we will learn how to encourage the leadership potential within the women of our church. Together we will reach out to include all the women of St. John's. Some are concerned we are leaving UMW behind. That is not true. The Circles will still be active in supporting UMW and the Methodist missions. Change is difficult, but is necessary for spiritual growth. I know we all seek to bring others into Christ's family. Please pray with me for God's will and guidance. We are His!

Renee Reid



Prayer Request Corner †

- For God's loving guidance
- For our youth group and for our church as we seek a youth minister
- For each woman of the Church to serve as God calls her
- For each heart to be filled with the love of God
- For the preparation of the Valentine Luncheon for widows and widowers

Looking for a fun night out with your girlfriends?

**Anita Renfroe is coming to Cedar Creek Church
on Saturday, February 10, 2007 at 7:00**

The evening will be topped off with a little Chocolate!

Anita has been described as "a triple shot of espresso in a decaf world." Her inventive blend of musical comedy and inspiration leave audiences with cheeks that hurt and hearts infused with humor and hope. Use this opportunity to bring a friend to Christ.

Tickets are \$15.00 in advance, \$12.00 groups of 10+, and \$20.00 at the door. They are available at Cedar Creek Church. You can charge by phone (800-965-9324) or order online at iTickets.com.



Bible Study Opportunities For Women

Feeling overwhelmed? Looking for an inner peace? You're not alone! Over 50 women will be attending the study on "Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World". Please consider joining them or one of the other studies listed below:

Sunday 6 - 7:30 pm (child care provided)

"Believing God" (a Beth Moore study)
Flo McElmurray 642-5763

Monday 8:15 am

"First Place"
Betsy Wilson-Mahoney 270-1213

Monday 7:00 pm

"Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World"
Frances Osteen 648-2548

Wednesday 4:00 pm (child care provided)

"Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World"
Frances Osteen 648-2548

Wednesday 7:00 pm (child care provided)

"Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World"
Judy Jernigan 648-9859

Thursday 9:15 am

Women's Bible Study
Catherine Nance 648-6891

Tuesday 6:30 pm

Young Women's Study
Katie Fleming 644-8496

*The unfolding of your
words gives light.
Psalm 119:13*



In case you haven't heard the great news: The Community Apple Fest for ACTS raised over \$27,000 to support the ministry of ACTS! God was faithful from the beginning to the end of the event. It was in His hands. Please pray for Apple Fest 2007. Seek God's will as we will soon decide whether to continue to open this event to the community or to return to a St. John's organized event.

St. John's has many opportunities to serve. Step out of your comfort zone and call Renee Reid (642-8951) to volunteer.

Our Mission

- † To equip women for service in God's kingdom through relationships
- † To encourage women to use their spiritual gifts in ministry
- † To edify women through the intentional study of God's Word



BECOMING...A WOMAN OF GOD

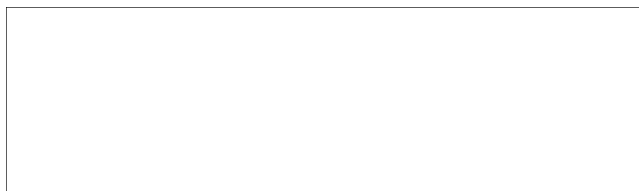
A quarterly newsletter for the women of St. John's

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PERIODICALS POSTAGE PAID
AT AIKEN, SOUTH CAROLINA
USPS 673-640

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P O Box 809
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St. John's Visitor is published weekly except the last week of the year by
St. John's United Methodist Church, 104 Newberry St NW, Aiken, SC 29801-3918.