

St. John's Visitor

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UNITED METHODIST MEN have invited *Marshall Cain* to be their speaker at the next meeting on Thursday, January 25. Marshall served in the South Carolina House of Representatives for Aiken County, worked in Senator Strom Thurmond's office in Washington, served in the U. S. Justice Department and was Deputy General Counsel for Litigation in the Environmental Protection Agency. Take advantage of this opportunity to hear one of Aiken's outstanding citizens speak about his experience in Government. Meeting begins with a covered dish supper at 6:30 pm in Ward Hall.

DINNER FOR EIGHT sign-ups continue through January. Groups of eight individuals (couples or singles) meet for four months to share a meal together, with hosting responsibilities rotating among the members. Contact the church office to register.



PLEASE REMEMBER to wear your name tags to worship and also to church functions!! Contact the office if you need to replace a broken or lost badge or if you simply need to have one made.



Rev. Bill Ehlig



Congregations of all denominations and faiths struggle with the challenge of service to the poor. We're called to reach out, but to whom are you reaching? And how? The mindsets of people in poverty may differ strikingly from those of your membership. To be effective, you have to know what poverty does to human beings. These are some of the issues discussed at last Saturday's seminar led by Rev. Bill Ehlig, Minister at the Missouri Street Church of Christ in Baytown, TX.

Rev. Ehlig is co-author of a guide entitled *What Every Church Member Should Know About Poverty* which served as the basis for issues considered at the seminar. Those attending came from a variety of denominations not only in Aiken but also Columbia and Augusta areas. As the session concluded some steps were suggested as points to ponder:

- Any serious effort will take time, work and money.
- Know who you are trying to reach.
- Make the situation comfortable for those being helped and also the church.
- Teach the "hidden rules."
- Learn to value the perspectives of other groups.
- Learn to talk and listen to others.
- Set boundaries (rules.)
- Do what you can and don't worry about what you can't.

Sunday, January 28
Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

"WHAT'S LOVE GOT TO DO WITH IT?"

Scripture: **I Corinthians 13**

Rev. Dr. George Howle

Anthem **Amazing Grace** arr. Furnivall
Chancel Choir with the Aiken Brass

Offertory **Deep Waters** Choplin
Chancel Choir with Judy Kalbaugh

Meetings to Note

Thursday, January 25

- 9:15 am Women's Bible Study
- 9:30 am Old Testament Bible Study
- 6:30 pm United Methodist Men

Saturday, January 27

- 8:30 am Strategic Planning Workshop

Sunday, January 28

- 8:15 am Coffee House
- 6:00 pm Women's Bible Study

Monday, January 29

- 8:00 am First Place
- 7:00 pm Women's Bible Study

Tuesday, January 30

- 9:00 am Natural Church Developmnt Conf
- 7:00 pm First Place

Wednesday, January 31

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

Serving January 28

- Crucifer** - Ellen Bryan
- Acolytes** - Lauren Pearson, Jimmy Rodgers
- Altar Guild** - Pat Crawley, Fratie Hardigree, Selona Murph, Nancy Vernon
- Crib Rm** (11:00 a.m.) - Darby Copeland
- Toddlers** - Kelly Boni
- 2-3 Yr Nursery** - Dottie Salter
- 3-4 Yr Nursery** - Roslyn Ingram
- Children's Worship** - Paul Musick, Teresa Crain, Denise Musick, Myrle Jett
- 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 28)

Michael Rollins

Evening Hosts

- Sunday (Jan 28) - Marc Nadeau
- Monday - Jeff Ray
- Tuesday - John Geiger
- Wednesday - Bob Fogle
- Thursday - Jeff Crenshaw
- Friday - Robin Dillman
- Saturday - Kevin Buchanan

Last Week's Attendance

	2007	2006
8:45	151	227
11:00	518	477
Total	669	704
SS	356	371

NEWS OF THE FAMILY

NEW ARRIVALS: *Harley Grace Brown*, daughter of *Nina & Steve Brown* and granddaughter of *Erwin & Elaine Whitaker*, was born January 11 in Aiken.

Cole Robert Kring, son of *Brent & Holley Kring* and grandson of *Harry & Caroline Sampson*, was born January 15 in Aiken.

Walker William Wilson, son of *Kurt & Amy Wilson* and grandson of *Lee & René Boylston*, was born January 15 in Columbia, SC.

Nina Emily Walke, daughter of *David & Rieko Walke* and granddaughter of *Pat & Sue Ann Walke*, was born January 16 in South Lake, TX.

CONGRATULATIONS: *Joe and Ruth Alexander* celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on December 27.

CONDOLENCES: Deepest sympathy is extended to *Tommy Grier* in the death of his mother, *Priscilla Louise Price Grier*, in Augusta on January 11.

Sympathy is also extended to *Reba Courtney* in the death of her sister-in-law, *Eugenie Reynolds*, on December 27.

HOSPITALIZED: VA-Augusta - *Charles Lide*; Recently discharged - *Blanche Durant*

IN MEMORIAM

WALTER DOUGLAS BROWN, JR

January 15, 2007

Learn how to be on mission with God at St. John's **Global Outreach Seminar**. It will impart a deeper understanding of the biblical foundation for missions, a greater awareness of the world and the unfinished task, and present practical strategies that are essential for effective outreach. Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend. The seminar will be held on **Friday, February 9**, from 7:00-9:00 pm and **Saturday, February 10**, from 8:30 am – 1:00 pm. You may register in the lobby next Sunday morning or by calling the church office at 648-6891 this week. The weekend will conclude with special ministry for our entire congregation during Sunday morning worship. Sunday School classes and those who don't participate in Sunday School are invited to come together in Ward Hall during the Sunday School hour for an experience that will allow you to see the world from God's perspective. For questions and more detailed information, call Jan Gilbert at 646-0451 (cell) or 641-3882 .

A SPECIAL VALENTINE'S DAY LUNCHEON is being held in Ward Hall at 12 noon on Wednesday, February 14, for all the widows and widowers in the congregation. This is being hosted by your church family and transportation will be provided if that would be helpful. Please make your reservation by contacting the church office (648-6891) and mention any dietary restrictions you may have.



Financials for week ending January 14, 2007

Budgetary needs for the week	\$	30,890
Budgetary funds rec'd this week	\$	91,183
Budget needs to date	\$	30,890
Budget funds rec'd to date	\$	91,183
St John's loan amt w/Security Fed		\$2,177,708.32

FELLOWSHIP SUPPER

Menu for January 31

Barbeque Sandwiches

Cole Slaw

Potato Chips

Pickles

Ice Cream Sandwiches

St. John's Youth News

SUNDAY, JANUARY 28

DR. DAVID OLSHINE

Youth Ministry Program Director at
Columbia (SC) International University
Director of Youth Activities
and part of Preaching Staff of
Mount Horeb UMC in Lexington, SC
will be present to meet with

12:00 noon Youth Counselors in Ward Hall
(lunch provided)

5:00 pm UMYF parents - meet in Youth Room

6:00 pm UMYF members - meet in Youth Room

These gatherings will last approximately 45 minutes. During this time he hopes to get your input and hear your dreams about how to keep this youth program as one of the best things that St. John's offers for our youth.

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

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



The OARS sign-up sheets that were being used between Sunday services in December have disappeared. If anyone signed up on these, PLEASE call Tina Frazier at 803-292-5411. Thanks!!

CELEBRATE ST. JOHN'S: PICTURE REQUEST

The written and pictorial history of St. John's UMC, Aiken is being updated. We are seeking photographs of the old church and parsonages, group photographs, pictures of events at the church or sponsored by the church over the years. Do you have a picture depicting a baptism, picnic, wedding, the choir performing or practicing, a meeting of a committee, youth activity, etc. that might be considered? Even paintings or other larger size memorabilia may be displayed or photographed for this use.

If you have photographs that you would be willing to share, we would like to scan these pictures for possible use. We need the date, the names of those pictured, the name of the group pictured, an explanation of what is pictured and also your name so the picture(s) may be returned.

It is planned to display many of the copied photographs in a glass display case in the church lobby for all to enjoy. Photographs will be changed at intervals throughout the year. Some of these photographs may be used in a DVD to be available in October at the Homecoming. It is possible that some photographs will not be selected for the DVD; i.e. clarity, duplications and subject applicability will be considered. Submittal of photographs is considered your approval to use these photos for the purposes described.

Pictures may be left at the church office in envelopes marked to the attention of Bob Kosky. Also, please advise of any larger size memorabilia that could be borrowed to display or photographed for possible use.

CHILDREN'S CORNER

God is definitely at work in our Children's Ministry! We saw so many smiling young faces this past Sunday during Sunday School. What a blessing! We want to give a BIG THANK YOU to Mrs. Polk who leads our preschoolers and kindergartener's as we worship Jesus with songs and music.

Six months ago our church had a dinner/meeting to discuss our Children's Ministry Program and to introduce new church programs offered to our children. It was awesome to see so many families share their ideas, needs, and wants for our children at St. John's UMC. We are having a follow-up luncheon and meeting right after the 11:00am service on February 18th. Our children are invited to eat lunch with us. While the "grownups" meet together, our children will go play with our childcare staff. If you are new to our church family or were not able to attend this past fall's meeting, please come!

Save The Date!

Children's Ministry Lunch
and Follow-up Meeting

Sunday, February 18th
12pm to 2pm

For whoever does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother and sister and mother. Matthew 12:50

ST. JOHN'S PRESCHOOL still has a few openings in the 5K and 3 year programs. Please contact Michelle Pearson at 648-4745 if interested.

ST. JOHN'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

OUR AMAZING ROTATIONAL STUDENTS



104 NEWBERRY STREET NW
AIKEN, SC 29801-3918

Most of you heard George's plea for O.A.R.S. teachers at the 11:00 a.m. service on Christmas Eve. While it was a strong message, it only produced one volunteer. In follow-up calls, it has come to my attention that many in our church do not know what is involved with this new Sunday School curriculum. So, in an effort to attract more teachers, I offer the following information.

First, let me say that response from the kids has been great. Attendance has become more regular and we have even seen kids bringing friends from outside of our congregation. We also have great support from our Shepherds, many of whom signed on to follow a grade through to the end of their 6th grade year and then pledged to come back and start again with first grade! Now, we just need to get some teachers on board!

The teaching commitment for the O.A.R.S. Sunday School is six weeks (two of the eight rooms available are dropped each rotation). The idea behind this is to make it more appealing to those who are unavailable for (or uneasy about making) a one-year commitment as well as those that are interested but do not want to leave their own Sunday School class for an entire year.

The curriculum is the same for the entire six weeks. This means that you would be teaching the same lesson each week but adjusted to different age groups. The curriculum is already laid out for you, you need only to review it and let myself or Joan Bodkin know which activities you would like to do. Joan has also graciously offered to give written scripts to those who are uncomfortable with preparing their own lesson.

As an example, during our first rotation (Life in Bible Times), the art class ("Thou Art") made clay pots. Each week Jennifer and George Kelly taught the same basic bible principle and made clay pots with each class, 1st through 6th grade. In the storytelling room ("Palms & Psalms"), Tom Nance dressed the part and engaged the kids in various dramatic activities. In science ("Creation Station"), Bob van Pelt showed the kids what it was like to grind your own spices and make purchases using scales and 'shekels.'

More specifically, we ask the teachers that they:

1. Be in their classrooms by 10:00 a.m. each Sunday. Each class has a Shepherd who will meet with the students beforehand in the "Arkade" for a 'gathering time' (9:45 a.m.) to

explain the theme for the current rotation, take roll, collect offerings, etc. The Shepherds will then bring the students to the classrooms by 10:05 a.m. ready to begin the lesson.

2. Present the prepared activity and explain the relevance to the current rotation's theme. The Shepherds will remain in the classroom and are available to assist the kids with the activity and participate themselves. This should take approximately 30 minutes.

3. Review the activity with the kids and its relevance to the theme and close with prayer. This is done for the last 5 - 10 minutes of class.

4. Leave the classroom at 10:45 a.m. The Shepherds are responsible for seeing that the children are taken back to the "Arkade" to be picked up and/or sent to meet their parents. In addition, any cleanup will be done by me after everyone has left the area.

Hopefully this better explains the expectations we have of our teachers and will ease any reservations about volunteering! Please contact me at (803) 643-1092 (home); (803) 292-5411 (cell); (706) 722-4481, x1014 (work), or tfrazier@hullfirm.com (work email), if you have ANY questions or would like to volunteer for one of the rotations below:

DATES	THEME	VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES*
February 18 th through March 25 th	Journey to the Cross (Lent)	Art, Computer, Cooking, Games, Music, Science, Storytelling, Video
April 1 st through May 6 th	Easter: Go and Tell	Art, Computer, Cooking, Games, Music, Science, Storytelling, Video
May 13 th through June 17 th	Pentecost	Art, Computer, Cooking, Games, Music, Science, Storytelling, Video
June 24 th through July 29 th	Noah	Art, Computer, Cooking, Games, Music, Science, Storytelling, Video
August 5 th through September 9 th	Teach Us How To Pray (The Lord's Prayer)	Art, Computer, Cooking, Games, Music, Science, Storytelling, Video

I am praying that you will find yourself called to join us in this rewarding opportunity!

In His service,

Tina L. Frazier
Elementary Education Coordinator

* Please note that only six of the eight classes will be used each rotation. The two classes dropped will be based on teacher/subject/room availability.

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