

# St. John's Visitor

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*We've all heard the quote: "The main thing is to keep the main thing the main thing."*

The main thing for you and me, according to Scripture, is to love the Lord our God with all our heart, soul, and strength. Jesus called this the greatest commandment. God also desires that we share His love to all the peoples of the earth who need to know of His love through Jesus Christ. We call this the "great commission." Through our loving obedience to the great commission, God calls forth a people for His name from every tribe, tongue, and nation.

St. John's takes this great commission seriously. In our Jesus' parting words, He gives to the church His final marching orders. Jesus said, "*Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age* (Matt. 28:28-20)." If we are going to walk in His steps, then we must give the highest priority to the fulfillment of this great commission.

To help us be more effective in reaching our community and world for Christ, we have planned a **Global Outreach Weekend** for our church on February 9-11. On Friday evening from 6:30-9:00 PM and Saturday morning from 8:30 AM to 1:00 PM, we are privileged to have the Rev. Dick McClain and the Rev. Richard Coleman, both from The Mission Society, present an engaging seminar to us.

The purpose of the Global Outreach Weekend is to help us discover God's heart for the world and to join God on mission through a personalized and strategic plan for local, national, and international outreach. The seminar itself will address three major components involved in mobilizing the church for mission: biblical foundations, our worldview and the unfinished task, and essential strategies that we can begin to implement now. On Sunday, Dick and Richard will speak to our entire church family with a message in the worship service and through a presentation during the Sunday School hour that is designed for youth and adults alike.

As your pastor, I challenge you to participate in the Global Outreach Weekend so our congregation can increase our effectiveness in reaching the world for Jesus Christ. Please set these dates on your calendar. For more information and/or to register, please contact Jan Gilbert at 646-0451 (cell) or at [jan.gilbert@stjohns-umc.org](mailto:jan.gilbert@stjohns-umc.org).

Blessings,

George

**MISSION STATEMENT:**  
**WE GROW**  
**IN FAITH AND NUMBER**  
**BY SHARING**  
**THE GOOD NEWS**  
**OF JESUS CHRIST,**  
**THROUGH WORSHIP,**  
**NURTURE AND SERVICE.**

**Sunday, February 4**  
**Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany**

**"WHAT IS WORSHIP?"**  
Scripture: **John 4: 19 - 24**  
Rev. Dr. George Howle

Anthem  
Offertory

**The Majesty and Glory of Your Name**  
**Cantiqué de Jean Racine**  
The Chancel Choir

Hymns

**Worship the King**  
**Come and Find the Quiet Center**  
**How Great Thou Art**

NEWS OF THE FAMILY

Meetings to Note

Thursday, February 1

- 9:15 am Women's Bible Study
- 9:30 am Old Testament Bible Study
- 7:00 pm Congregational Care Committee

Sunday, February 4

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

Monday, February 5

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

Tuesday, February 6

- 7:00 pm First Place
- 7:00 pm Missions Committee
- 7:00 pm Worship Committee

Wednesday, February 7

- 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 February 4

- Crucifer** - Jacob Busbee
- Acolytes** - Sarah Arnold, Kyle Beckner
- Altar Guild** - Betty Boone, Phyllis Campbell, Ann Prather, Mary Ann Ray, Mildred Whitaker
- Crib Rm** (11:00 a.m.) - Susan Vernon
- Toddlers** - Karen Buchanan
- 2-3 Yr Nursery** - Stephanie Shick
- 3-4 Yr Nursery** - Dawn Mahoney
- Children's Worship** - Kathy Samaha, Babs Bowers, Deedee Vaughters
- Greeters 8:45** - Claude & Marie Goodlett, Claudette Strickland
- Sunday School Greeter** - Carla Dillman
- Greeters 11:00** - John & Jean Geiger, Henriann Goddard, Johanna Gibbs, Evelyn Seebeck, Gail Marine
- Sunday AM Host (Feb 4)** - Jay Bilyeu
- Evening Hosts**
- Sunday (Feb 4) - Lamar Keisler
- Monday - Tom Nance
- Tuesday - John Tucker, Jr.
- Wednesday - Edward Yeh
- Thursday - Charles McKeel
- Friday - Dennis Fish
- Saturday - Mike Uhle

**NEW ARRIVALS:** Kael Alexander Leigh, son of Baker & Charity Leigh, was born January 25.

**BAPTISM:** Receiving the Sacrament of Holy Baptism on Sunday, January 28, was Joshua John Geiger, son of Warren & Kelly Geiger and grandson of John & Jean Geiger.

**NEW MEMBERS:** Received into membership on Sunday, January 28: Doug and Kim DePriest

Evie and Maddie DePriest added to Constituent Roll  
202 Fairway Ridge Apt H 640-8699

**HOSPITALIZED:** MCG - Earl Simmons; VA-Augusta - Charles Lide; Discharged - Greg Robinson

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN  
FEBRUARY CIRCLE MEETINGS

Monday, February 12

11:00 am # 4 Church Parlor

Tuesday, February 13

10:00 am #11 Church Resource Rm

12:30 pm # 9 Phil's Deli

2:00 pm #10 Church Resource Rm

7:30 pm # 1 Marguerite Flynn

115 Kimberly Dr NW

Monday, February 19

2:30 pm # 3 Church Parlor

Tuesday, February 20

2:00 pm #13 Church Rm 116

7:00 pm # 8 Church

Wednesday, February 21

4:00 pm #14 Church Parlor

7:00 pm # 7 Church



Mark your calendars for March 11 at 4pm. The talented young organist, Felix Hell, will be once again playing our organ in concert. Many of you will remember his appearance at St. John's in 2004. It is an experience not to be missed. The concert is free to the public.

FELLOWSHIP SUPPER

Menu for February 7

Roast Beef & Gravy

Creamed Potatoes Broccoli Casserole

Carrot & Raisin Salad

Rolls Apple Pie

**NO SUPPER FEBRUARY 14!**

**SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY IS FEBURARY 4!** UMYF members will be at exit doors for each service. Money collected will support their mission efforts.

Financials for week ending January 21, 2007

Budgetary needs for the week	\$ 26,873
Budgetary funds rec'd this week	\$ 25,357
Budget needs to date	\$ 57,763
Budget funds rec'd to date	\$ 116,540
St John's loan amt w/Security Fed	\$2,177,708.32

FREE

INCOME TAX PREPARATION

with electronic filing is available at Weeks Center on Mon, Tu & W during February and Mon & Tu through April 10. Hours are 9-4:30. No appointments are necessary; taxpayers are served on a first come-first served basis. This service is provided by the Aiken Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) group and is available to all with no age or income restrictions. Homebound members unable to come to Weeks Center may call Rick Benton at 649-6902 for special arrangements.

**DINNER FOR 8** is a wonderful way to become better acquainted with other St. John's members in an informal setting. Sign-ups conclude January 31. Contact the church office NOW so you can be included.



REMINDER: Valentine's Day luncheon for widows and widowers in the congregation, hosted by your church family, takes place at noon on February 14 in Ward Hall. Do we have your reservation? Transportation can be provided.

Last Week's Attendance

	2007	2006
8:45	186	149
11:00	527	415
Total	713	564
SS	362	294

# St. John's Youth News

**Sunday, February 4**  
**5:00 pm Youth Choir**  
**12:00 noon Youth Council**  
**6:00 pm UMYF Meeting**  
**News Flash**

**Winter Jam in Augusta, GA, is Thursday, February 8, at 7 pm. St. John's bus will be leaving at 5 pm from the church. Members interested in going need to bring permission slips and money for tickets and food. Call the office, 648-6891, for information.**

O.A.R.S. SCHEDULE FOR  
 SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2007:

1<sup>ST</sup> GRADE: JOYFUL NOISE  
 2<sup>ND</sup> GRADE: CREATION STATION  
 3<sup>RD</sup> GRADE: STORYTELLING  
 4<sup>TH</sup> GRADE: HOLYWOOD CINEMAS  
 5<sup>TH</sup>/6<sup>TH</sup> GRADE GIRLS: THOU ART  
 5<sup>TH</sup>/6<sup>TH</sup> GRADE BOYS: FROM BC TO PC



*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!!*

**FIRST PLACE** Christian Weight Loss Program begins a new 12-week session on February 27 and new members are welcome. The focus is on making healthy food choices, learning through Bible study and providing mutual support while seeking spiritual, physical, mental and emotional balance in life. Cost is \$25 (includes book) and sessions conclude May 27. Contact Deborah McMurtrie, 648-6323 or debmcm@bellsouth.net for information.

## GLOBAL OUTREACH SEMINAR REGISTRATIONS

On line: [www.stjohns-umc.org](http://www.stjohns-umc.org) (home page)  
 Call the church office: 648-6891  
 Sign up in the lobby on Sunday Mornings  
 Call Jan Gilbert: 646-0451 (cell)

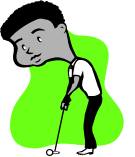
Seminar Dates and Times:  
 February 9, 6:30-9:00 pm  
 February 10, 8:30 am-1:00 pm

*Please note: Child care will be available for infants-5 years of age but we must know how many and what ages by no later than Monday, February 5.*

## Children's Corner

All of us with children are looking for family oriented activities and want our kids to be in a safe and supportive environment. We thought a monthly family outing would be a good way to get to know other families in the church. It would also give us the opportunity to introduce families to our awesome church and all it has to offer.

The first family outing will be in the afternoon on **Sunday, February 11, 2007**, to play putt putt. We will meet at Hole 'N One on Whiskey Rd at 4 pm for the first of these family activities.



Other outings will include: A trip to Riverbanks Zoo, Adventure in Columbia, Fort Discovery in Augusta, a Green Jackets minor league baseball game, movie nights either at church or the theater, a trip to Richardson's Lake, Ruth Patrick Science Center and the Lights at Hopelands for Christmas. Any other ideas for activities are greatly appreciated.

We will arrange a schedule for these outings based on team schedules and availability. We will plan to go the **second Sunday of every month** and each outing will be in *The Visitor* the first week of each month. If you have any questions or ideas, please contact Bauer at [bauerv@bellsouth.net](mailto:bauerv@bellsouth.net) or 645-0768. Please call or email if you plan to attend so we can get an idea of turnout. We hope to see you there!

## Save The Date!

Children's Ministry Lunch  
 and Follow-up Meeting  
 Sunday, February 18th  
 12pm to 2pm Ward Hall

The St. John's **CHILDREN'S VOCAL CHOIR** has some exciting news. First of all, we welcome **Tom Calhoun** as co-director, along with Catherine Nance. He is joining our talented volunteer music staff, having recently retired as music director of his former church in Barrington, Illinois. His presence with this group, as well as in the Chancel Choir, is indeed a blessing. Also, the members of the choir have been working hard to come up with a name and we are proud to announce the name we adopted:

**St. John's Hearts Afire Choir.**

This choir is available for all children in the 2<sup>nd</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> grades. Now is a great time to join, as we

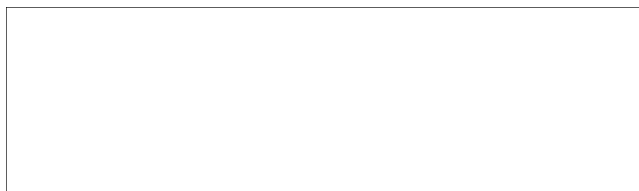
Salkehatchie registration has begun. If interested in participating, go to [Salkehatchie.org](http://Salkehatchie.org) and download an application form or see Neil Flowers in the church office.

# St. John's Visitor

PERIODICALS POSTAGE PAID  
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Aiken, SC 29802-0809

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## Serving you...

### Ext

22 GEORGE K. HOWLE  
29 TERRY FLEMING  
23 HARRY W. SAMPSON  
26 CATHERINE STAPLETON NANCE  
25 NANCY FAIRGRIEVE  
CARLA F. FLEMING  
27 NEIL FLOWERS  
34 ANNE L. HAWKINS  
21 PAULA C. SAWYER  
30 MICHELLE I. PEARSON  
33 MARY KOSKY  
35 MIMI WILAND  
JAN GILBERT  
31 GERALD F. THOMPSON  
WILLIE M. GREEN  
ENSLEY O. ADAMS  
ROBERT WOODS  
YVONNE DUBLIN

Senior Minister  
Director of Congregational Care  
Director of Staff and Planning  
Director of Music Ministries  
Financial Services  
Organist  
Facilities Manager  
Assistant to Ministers  
Church Secretary  
Director, Preschool/MDO Ministries  
Coordinator of Volunteers  
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Missions Coordinator  
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