

St. John's Visitor

February 16, 2010

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Richland at Newberry, Aiken, SC 29801

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FINANCIAL NEEDS WERE COVERED

In late November, 2009, every member of St. John's received a letter from Jack Gilbert, Chairman of the 2009 Finance Committee, stating the grim realities of our potential of a financial shortfall for the year. At the end of October, the church was running \$67,000 behind in revenue vs. expenses. Yes, we had a contingency fund, but the hope was to not dip deeper into that safety cushion unless there was no other option.

For each of the prior four years, our revenue exceeded expenses, which allowed the establishment of this contingency fund in July, 2009, in the amount of \$507,000. A decision was made to apply \$307,000 to the capital debt, and use the remaining amount if absolutely necessary.

Recognizing the economic state for 2009, you were asked to pray for the finances of the church, to realize sufficient revenue to meet the expected expenditures. Your prayerful consideration of this November, 2009 request came during a time of economic downturn.

I am so pleased to tell you that through expense management and the Holy Spirit moving all of us, we ended this year with revenue ABOVE expenses by \$49,000. *This makes the fifth year in a row.*

Our hope is that you will continue to support all of our programs and ministries. What a wonderful church family we have at St. John's!

In His name,

George

Marriage Enrichment Dinner



Couples are invited to Ward Hall Monday, March 15th at 5:30 p.m. for a romantic Italian dinner in the Tuscany style followed by a discussion designed to strengthen marriages. After dinner, our pastor will present an interactive program entitled "*Holy Matrimony*".

The childcare plan provides for children 5th grade and below. Dinner for the children will be pizza (the Italian theme!) and dessert is making your own ice cream sundaes. Children 5 and up will then go to our child friendly cinema room and see a good movie. The little ones will remain in the downstairs nursery rooms.

The entire evening is free of charge but reservations for couples and children must be made by calling the church office by March 10th. Do not miss an opportunity for good Christian fellowship and encouragement!

This appears on our website www.stjohns-umc.org. Click on "Evening in Tuscany" on the right side of the home page. Wade Johnson designed this appealing layout, with words from Judy Jernigan. Wade deserves a big thanks for all the time he puts in on the site including posting our worship service every Sunday, too. Notice how he includes the Scripture text, too.

NEWS OF THE FAMILY

Meetings to Note

Thursday, February 18

- 9:30am Women's Bible Study
- 1:30pm Joseph's Coat
- 7:00pm Overeaters Anonymous

Friday, February 19

- 9:30am Ringspiration Rehearsal
- 7:00pm Bridge Group

Saturday, February 20

- 8:00am Grace Kitchen
- 8:00am Preschool Registration

Sunday, February 21

- 8:15am Coffee House
- 8:30am Worship
- 9:02am Contemporary Worship
- 9:45am Sunday School
- 11:00am Worship
- 11:00am Mtg on Short-Term Missions
- 12:00pm Post GIC Luncheon
- 1:00pm Mtg on Short-Term Missions
- 4:30pm Men's Praise Choir
- 5:00pm Prayer Shawl Ministry
- 5:00pm Youth Choir
- 6:00pm Bible Study/Sunday Night Youth

Monday, February 22

- 8:00am First Place 4 Health
- 10:00am Exercise Class
- 12:30pm Al-Anon

Tuesday, February 23

- 12:30pm Bible Study
- 7:00pm Joyful Sounds/Men's Bible Study
- 7:00pm Church Council

Wednesday, February 24

- 9:30am Quilting Fellowship/Bible Study
- 3:30pm Columbarium Mtg
- 4:00pm Griefshare Group
- 5:00pm Fellowship Supper
- 5:30pm Children's Choirs
- 6:00pm Lenten Service
- 6:45pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal
- 7:00pm Covenant Prayer Group/Bible Study

Serving This Week

- Crucifer** - Kaitlyn Mikes
- Acolytes** - Sarah Elizabeth Davis
Annalise Eberhard
- Altar Guild** - Betty Mullikin, Ann Prather,
Pat Sauls, Frances Burnham
- Crib Rm** - Jessica Mussetter
- 2-3 Yr Nursery** - Casey Young
- 3-4 Yr Nursery** - Erin Herron
- Sunday AM Host (Feb 21)** - Mick Ferrell

Evening Hosts

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

CONGRATULATIONS: Aiken High senior **Christa Eberhard** was named as a teen that her school foresees as being highly successful in the next decade.

Sydney Ann Goodlove (8th grade) and **Sarah Grace Heaton** (6th grade) were first place winners in the recent DAR essay contest.

WEDDING: Congratulations, **Margaret Walsh and Thomas Monroe**, who were married November 6, 2009 at Rye Patch. Margaret is the daughter of **Carol & Jack Walsh**.

CONDOLENCES: Deepest sympathy is extended to **Polly Baker** in the death of her husband, **Dee Baker, Jr.**, who passed away February 9 at Lake Murray. The Bakers were longtime members of St. John's prior to moving to Lake Murray.

Sincere sympathy is also extended to **Vera Keisler** in the death of her nephew, **Richard E. Bonnette, Jr.**, in Columbia on February 13.

The family of **Elmer Lowrie Wilson** wishes to thank this great church for all of its steadfast support and outpouring of love for the last 13+ years of his many health problems, especially recently during the hardest of days until his death on January 26. The love you have shown and the support you have given in countless ways will never be forgotten.
Mary Jo, Betsy, Lowrie & their families

STEPHEN MINISTRY UPDATE: It is with great joy we report to you that the Stephen Ministry class, which began January 5, is diligently working each week to learn the skills and to grow in Christian faith. God is answering our prayers for the leaders and the class in a remarkable way! We are depending on your continued prayers to support us in our study and preparation for this vital Ministry to begin at St. John's, following the training course.

Stephen Leaders—Alice Allington, Rick Endler, Jeanette Isaacson, Keith Stewart

SANCTUARY RENOVATION presentations are scheduled for Sunday, March 7 at 10am and 12pm in the gym. An invitation is extended to all interested persons.



WALK BY FAITH and FRIENDSHIP SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES invite you to stay for a soup & salad lunch on Sunday, February 28, 11am-1pm. Proceeds will benefit local charities and Vacation Bible School.

Financials for week ending Feb. 13, 2010

Budgetary needs for the week\$	33,091.00
Budget funds rec'd this week	\$ 34,217.50
Budget Funds Rec'd to date	\$391,013.00
Expenses to date	\$189,180.00
St John's loan amt w/Sec Fed	\$304,240.63

Faith Promise for 2010

Faith Promises rec'd for 2010	\$128,607.00
Rec'd to date	\$ 9,032.00

NEW MEMBERS are being received Sunday (Feb. 21.) Please contact the church office (648-6891) if interested in joining St. John's. It is not necessary to attend classes prior to this decision - simply provide the appropriate information.

Attendance - Feb 14	
8:30	101
9:02	161
11:00	362
Total	624
SS	292

WEDNESDAY SUPPER

Menu for February 24

- Hot Chicken Salad
- Fruit Salad
- Rolls & Butter
- Chocolate Chess Pie



SUNDAY NIGHT YOUTH GROUP

Sunday, February 21 6:00pm
Regular Sunday Night Youth Meeting
 as well as confirmation/mentor meetings

PLEASE COME JOIN US! The *Sisters* Thursday morning Bible Study group will be starting a new six week Blackaby series called *When God Speaks: How to Recognize God's Voice and Respond in Obedience*. Participant manuals are available now at a cost of \$10. The first week of discussion will be February 25 in Room 116 from 9:30-11:30am. Contact Judy Jerinigan at 648-9859 or jern527@bellsouth.net.

COOKIES NEEDED by March 15 to be shared in conjunction with the Kairos prison ministry. Can you help? Please contact Jennifer Willoughby at 648-8146 for the necessary details.

Spaces are available for the upcoming **OBERAMMERGAU PASSION PLAY AND ALPINE EUROPE TRIP** on September 21. Contact Mary Anne or Bob Clyburn if interested at 803-644-9752.

ACTS COLLECTION

FEBRUARY: *Canned Tuna or Salmon*

MARCH: *Beef Stew*

GO Global Outreach News

The **Global Outreach Leadership Team (GOLT)** will host two **GIC follow up meetings** on February 21 in Ward Hall. The first meeting will be at 11:00 a.m. for those who attend one of the early services. Lunch will be served at noon for everyone, followed by a second meeting for those who attend the 11:00 service. The purpose of the meetings is to learn more about short term mission trips and provide opportunities for anyone considering this area of service.

Honduras Agape Foundation recently fielded a medical team in Quimistan, Honduras. **Dr. Randy Shelley** from St. John's served with the team from February 10-14. Thanks to everyone who supported the ministry through prayer. For information and photos, go to: "www.hondurasagape.com" and click on "Our Blog" under the "Links" heading.

The next **Kairos** weekend will be March 17-21. Several St. John's members will be participating on both the inside and outside teams. Stay tuned if you would like to help bake cookies for this event.

There will be a tour of **Epworth Children's Home** on March 21. The group will leave St. John's at 9:00 a.m., attend a 10:30 service at Epworth, take a tour of the campus and wrap things up with lunch in the cafeteria (\$5 per person). Contact Randy Shelley at 649-1979 for more details.

CHILDREN'S CORNER

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2010

3K THROUGH 4TH GRADE:
JESUS TEACHES ABOUT REWARDS
LUKE 6: 17 - 26

5TH-6H GRAPPLE DARE FOR THE WEEK:
GOD HAS LEFT THE CHOICE OF WHETHER OR NOT
YOU WANT TO LOVE HIM UP TO YOU. I DARE YOU
THIS WEEK TO SAY YES TO LOVING GOD.
LIVE FOR GOD. LOVE HIM AND DON'T STOP!

WHAT'S YOUR STORY? Do you have a story to share about your *Random Acts of Kindness* experience during our last GIC? If so, please e-mail it to Jan Gilbert at janjacg@earthlink.net.

LOOKING AHEAD

Wednesdays during Lent

6:00pm - St. John's Chapel, **Lenten Communion Service**

Saturdays - Grace Kitchen opens at 8am

February 17 - Ash Wednesday (6pm service)

February 20 - Preschool Registration

February 24 - Lenten Luncheons begin at St. Thaddeus

March 7 - Renovation Presentation (10am & 12pm)

March 15 - Marriage Enrichment Seminar w/Dinner

March 21 - Scout Sunday

March 28 - Passion/Palm Sunday

April 1 - Maundy Thursday (Last Supper Presentation)

April 2 - Good Friday (Tenebrae Service)

April 4 - Easter Sunday

April 16 - U S Army Chorus (Under the Steeple)

April 25 - King's Brass (Under the Steeple)

May 23 - Confirmation Sunday

May 30 - Graduation Sunday

June 10-13 - SC Annual Conference, Florence

February 21, 2010
First Sunday in Lent

8:30am Traditional Worship - Sanctuary
"TEMPTATIONS ARE EVERYWHERE"
Luke 4: 1 - 13
Rev. Keith Stewart

9:02am Contemporary Worship - Gym
11:00am Traditional Worship - Sanctuary
"ENTICING TEMPTATIONS"
Luke 4: 1 - 13
Rev. Dr. George Howle

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ST. JOHN'S VISITOR
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Aiken, SC 29802-0809

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OUR MISSION STATEMENT

*We grow in faith and number by sharing
the Good News of Jesus Christ, through
worship, nurture and service.*



Serving you...

Ext

22 GEORGE K. HOWLE
29 KEITH STEWART
23 HARRY W. SAMPSON
26 CATHERINE STAPLETON NANCE
25 NANCY FAIRGRIEVE
27 GENE AIKEN
57 NANCY REED
34 ANNE HAWKINS
21 PAULA SAWYER
30 MICHELLE PEARSON
61 ALLISON BEATTY
60 MIDGE ROTHROCK
27 JIMI WHITESSELL
58 ALLEN RADCLIFFE
31 GERALD F. THOMPSON
JANE TIMMERMAN
LOUIS PLAYFORD
WILLIE M. GREEN
ENSLEY O. ADAMS
ROBERT WOODS
YVONNE DUBLIN

THE PEOPLE OF ST. JOHN'S

Minister
Nurture Pastor
Director of Staff and Planning
Director of Music Ministries
Financial Services
Missions & Evangelism
Director, Adult & Senior Ministries
Assistant to Ministers
Church Secretary
Director, Preschool/MDO Ministries
Director, Children's Ministries
PR/Communications Coordinator
Director of Youth Ministries
Volunteer Facilities Coordinator
Custodian Coordinator
9:02 Music
Organist
Custodian
Custodian
Custodian
Custodian

george.howle@stjohns-umc.org
keith.stewart@stjohns-umc.org
harry.sampson@stjohns-umc.org
catherine.stapleton@stjohns-umc.org
nancy.fairgrieve@stjohns-umc.org
gene.aiken@stjohns-umc.org
nancy.reed@stjohns-umc.org
anne.hawkins@stjohns-umc.org
paula.sawyer@stjohns-umc.org
michelle.pearson@stjohns-umc.org
allison.beatty@stjohns-umc.org
midge.rothroock@stjohns-umc.org
jimi.whitesell@stjohns-umc.org

gerald.thompson@stjohns-umc.org

Church Office: 648.6891
Church FAX: 648.7197
Preschool: 648.4745
Web Site: www.stjohns-umc.org

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