

# St. John's Visitor

March 31, 2009 Published weekly by St. John's UM Church

Richland at Newberry, Aiken, SC 29801

Volume 9, Issue 13

## Can one person make a difference?

Charlie Chastain & I have returned safely from Ukraine. We spent March 17-19 in Donetsk, Ukraine at a conference sponsored by The CoMission for Children at Risk. Charlie & I led a session related to ministering to disabled individuals. We discussed the current situation in Eastern Europe (institutional care) and presented Aiken's Tri-Development Center as an example of what can be accomplished. We talked about ways that the local church can help these institutions and initiate programs to assist the residents. We also discussed how ACTS and Helping Hands are ministries started by a small group of churches working together to solve a problem. Our goal was to encourage the church representatives to initiate programs related to disabled children and adults.

This trip also allowed me to spend a lot of time with Charlie. I was able to get a better understanding of the plans for their ministry in St. Petersburg. By the way, they have selected their date for moving to Russia – May 12. Please pray for the Chastains as they make their arrangements to leave the US.



*Charlie Chastain and Michael Norton  
at the Sea of Azov*

The last day of the conference was reserved for site visits. Charlie & I visited the "Republic Pilgrim" ministry in Mariupol (see [www.m-x.org.ua](http://www.m-x.org.ua)).



*Foster kids at a Republic Pilgrim  
ministry home*

This ministry is headed by Pastor Gennadiy Mokhnenko. He is an impressive and charismatic man. Pastor Gennadiy founded the ministry which to date has assisted over 2,700 street children. The ministry takes in street children, helps to get them off of drugs, provides housing, and schooling. The ministry then finds an appropriate solution to their situation (return home, foster care, extended family, etc). The latest emphasis for the ministry is foster care. One home recently established has 13 children and two foster parents. The husband is a musician and all of the children are engaged in music training (see picture). Another home is for children with HIV. This is the first foster home for HIV-positive children in all of the former Soviet Union. The ministry also involves centers for adults struggling with drug and alcohol addiction. As our mission efforts grow, we often come across individuals who started a small project that has had a profound impact on people's lives - Pastor Gennadiy Mokhnenko, Michael Agwanda, Debra Lamb, Chris Manley, etc.

One person can make a big difference; just ask one of these former street children in Mariupol. Thanks to the St. Johns family for supporting me on this adventure.

Michael Norton, Chair GOLT

**April 5, 2009 - Passion/Palm Sunday**

**"THE HOUR WAS ALREADY LATE"**

**Scripture: Mark 11: 1 - 11**

**Rev. Dr. George K. Howle**

**Services at 8:30 and 11:00 in the sanctuary.  
Contemporary service at 9:02 in the gym.**

***Have you handed or mailed your Easter postcards  
inviting your friends and neighbors to join us at  
St. John's on Easter?***

**NEWS OF THE FAMILY**

**NEW MEMBERS:** Welcomed recently into St. John's membership were

**Barbara Mink Burns (Mrs. Bruce)**

141 Double Eagle Court 644-5060

**Mrs. Anna "Anne" Lavinia Butts**

108 Sweet Gum Ln 644-9540

**Dr. Dean A. Page**

775 Burden Lake Rd

**CONDOLENCES:** Deepest sympathy is extended **Sandy Dunn** in the death of her brother-in-law, **Vernon Ritchie**, in Gallatin, TN, on March 25.

**HOSPITALIZED: Select Specialty, Augusta - Earl Bruorton; Discharged - Donna Petersen, Mary Wiland; Discharged to Mattie Hall - Frances Dunn; Columbia - Mac Massie**

**IN MEMORIAM**

**FRED WARREN PENIX**

**March 25, 2009**

**EASTER LILY ORDERS** may be placed at all 3 services on Palm Sunday, April 5. Cost is \$18 per plant to honor or remember a loved one during this season.

**CALLED CHURCH COUNCIL** meeting takes place following 11am service next Sunday, April 5. There will be a called Charge Conference on Sunday, April 19, at 5pm.

**LAST CALL** for activity photos for the new Church Directory. Please submit photos of activities or special events at St John's from 2008-09 (glossy prints or photo CD's) to Susan Frushour, 648-8126, or leave in the church office. All photos/CD's will be returned..

St. John's has responsibility for the Wed. (Apr 1) **LENTEN LUNCH** held at noon in St. Angela Hall of St. Mary's Catholic Church. Hope you can come!

**Financials for week ending March 28, 2009**

Budgetary needs for this week \$ 34,914

Budget funds rec'd this week \$ 18,031

Budget funds rec'd to date \$455,484

Actual expenses to date \$387,323

St John's loan amt w/Security Fed \$ 718,208

**Faith Promise Update**

Fiscal Year 2009-Faith Promise \$176,312.00

Fiscal Year 2009-Rec'd to date \$68,890.62

Fiscal Year 2009-Disbursed to date \$43,425.00

**\*\*2009 Faith Promise year = 2/1/09 thru 1/31/10**

If you have not already made your **PORTRAIT APPOINTMENT** so that you may be included in the new Church Family Album and receive a free copy please call Susaln Lawson (648-5079) or Claudette Strickland (649-5405.) Transportation can be provided. The deadline is very near.

Seekers of Good News Sunday School class will host a **SPAGHETTI LUNCHEON** Sunday, April 19, to raise funds for the August *Life for Children Christian Camp* in Kisumu, Kenya. Lunch will be served from 11am-1pm.

**Fellowship Supper  
THURSDAY, April 9**

Soup  
Corn Bread  
Pizza for children  
Chocolate Chip Pudding

**Attendance February 29**

8:30 174  
9:02 115  
11:00 389  
Total 678  
SS 399

Under the Steeple - 280

**Meetings to Note**

**Thursday, April 2**

9:30am Bible Study

7:00pm Congregational Care Committee

7:00pm Overeaters Anonymous

**Friday, April 3**

10:00am Ringspiration Handbell rehearsal

**Saturday, April 4**

8:00am Grace Kitchen

**Sunday, April 5 - Palm Sunday**

8:15am Coffee House

12:00noon **Called Church Council Meeting**

3:00pm Easter Egg Hunt

6:00pm Women's Bible Study

**No Confirmation Class, Youth Group or Youth Choir**

**Monday, April 6**

8:00am First Place

10:00am Exercise Class

10:00am Women's Bible Study

7:00pm Women's Bible Study

7:00pm Stewardship Committee

**Tuesday, April 7**

12:30pm Women's Bible Study

1:00pm UMW Executive Board

7:00pm Men's Bible Study & Bell Rehearsal

**Wednesday, April 8**

9:30am Prayer Shawl/Quilting

9:30am Bible Study

3:30pm Grief Share

**No Choir Rehearsals**

7:00pm Covenant Prayer Group

7:00pm Men's & Women's Bible Study

**Fellowship Supper this week is on Thursday**

**Serving This Week**

**Crucifer** - Adam Bumpus

**Acolytes** - Annalise Eberhard, Rachael Perkins

**Altar Guild** - Virginia Morris, Linda Endler, Mimi Wiland

**Crib Rm** (11am) Deedee Vaughters

**Toddlers** - Teresa Crain

**2-3 Yr Nursery** - Amanda Stefanakos

**3-4 Yr Nursery** - Dawn Mahoney

**Greeters 8:30** - Ann Carter,

John & Andrea Downs

**Greeters 11:00** - Dorothy Brannon, Tom

Brown, Marcia Harris, Jack & Libby Taylor

**Sunday AM Host (4/5)** - Frank Smith, III

**Evening Hosts**

Sunday (April 5) - Jimmy Moore

Monday - Jerry Johnson

Tuesday - Edward Yeh

Wednesday - Charles McKeel

Thursday - Dennis Fish

Friday - Mike Uhle

Saturday - Keith Polk



St. John's  
youth ministry

**SUNDAY NIGHT YOUTH GROUP**  
No meeting on April 5 - Spring Break  
Tigers Go! - Trip to New Orleans  
is April 4 - 9

**CHILDREN AGES 4K-5TH GRADE** will meet outside by the fountain on Palm Sunday, Apr 5, at 10:45 to receive their palms and process during the 11am service. Children will then be dismissed to sit with their parents in the pews. Parents may walk with them down the aisle. All children in this age group are encouraged to participate. *Please arrive early to line up your child!*

**EASTER EGG HUNT** takes place Palm Sunday afternoon at 3:00pm. Gather in the rear parking lot. Remember to drop off a dozen plastic eggs (filled w/wrapped candy, stickers, etc.) by Friday, March 27.

**THE BOOK CLUB** will be reading *Between Sundays* by Karen Kingsbury. The group meets on Monday, April 20, 7pm in Rm 204. Everyone is invited to join for the book discussion. Sharon West, 648-3824, can provide more information. Come and bring a friend!

*ACTS COLLECTION IN APRIL: Canned Fruit*

**Missionary Prayer Focus:** For all to see God's presence in the final preparations of the Tigers Go trip and for safe travels to New Orleans.

## GO Global Outreach News

**Grace Kitchen:** A short bible study for our guests will be started on April 4. Please contact Bobby Coker (439-6596) or Jan Gilbert (641-3882), if you are interested in assisting with this weekly mission outreach.

A trip to Kenya to host a Christian camp for **Life for Children Ministry** is set for August 6-18. To find out more information on this trip, please contact Frances Osteen (648-2548.)

**Christ Central Aiken** will celebrate its 10th anniversary on Monday, April 20, at Town Creek Baptist Church's Fellowship Hall from 6:00-8:00 PM. RSVP Judy Floyd (640-1708) if you are able to help celebrate this milestone. There is no cost for the meal.

**Karen Ujereh**, our GBGM missionary from Senegal, will visit St. John's on Sunday, April 26.

**Aiken Pregnancy Care Center's** Annual Spring Fund Raising Banquet will be Thursday, April 30 from 7:00- 9:00 PM. Seating will begin at 6:45. The event will be held at St. Mary Help of Christians Catholic Church in St. Angela Hall. Please contact APCC at 642-3949 if you would like to host a table or simply attend as a guest.

## CHILDREN'S CORNER

### O.A.R.S. SCHEDULE FOR SUNDAY, APRIL 5, 2009

THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS CHRIST, THE SON OF GOD

GRADES 1 & 2: ART ROOM - JIMMY MOORE AND MUSICKS

GRADES 3 & 4: KITCHEN - BECKUMS & RODGERS

GRADE 5: SCIENCE RM - JULIE MOORE & PAM HOWLE

**BIBLE MEMORY VERSE:** "THERE ARE DIFFERENT WAYS TO SERVE THE SAME LORD, AND WE CAN EACH DO DIFFERENT THINGS." 1 CORINTHIANS 12:5-6

**REMINDER TO OARS KIDS:** Please donate any of your gently used toys and clothes - put them in the container in the OARS hallway.

Reminder to **PRESCHOOL SUNDAY SCHOOL AND OARS MEMBERS:** Continue to memorize your Bible verses for the ice cream sundae party on April 15 during the Wednesday night supper *before* choir!

Join us for **DIVINE DINNERS** on Saturday, April 25, at 10:30 in the church kitchen. We have space for up to 12 chefs to come and prepare 6 different healthy meals for your family (meals serve 4 people). Cost of ingredients will be divided among participants. Leave Saturday afternoon with 6 dinners freezer-ready for those nights you don't have time to cook. Won't that be DIVINE??? Contact Kathy Samaha 641-9741 or [samaha\\_a@bellsouth.net](mailto:samaha_a@bellsouth.net) for more information or to reserve your spot!

### LOOKING AHEAD

#### Wednesdays during Lent

Noon-St Mary's Catholic Lunch/Devotions

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

**April 4-9** - Mission Trip to New Orleans

**April 5** - Passion/Palm Sunday

**April 5** - Easter Egg Hunt

**April 9** - Maundy Thursday Communion Service

**April 10** - Good Friday Tenebrae Service of Shadows

**April 12** - Easter Day

**April 15** - Asbury Hills Presentation

OARS Ice Cream Party

**April 24-25** - Youth Choir Trip

**May 17** - Confirmation Sunday

**May 22** - St. John's Golf Tournament at Cedar Creek

**May 31** - Graduation Sunday

**May 31-June 3** - South Carolina Annual Conference

**June 8-12** - Vacation Bible School

**June 13-20** - Sand River Salkehatchie

# St. John's Visitor

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

ST. JOHN'S VISITOR  
P O Box 809  
Aiken, SC 29802-0809

POSTMASTER: Send change of address to  
P O Box 809 Aiken, SC 29802-0809

## 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 L. HAWKINS  
21 PAULA C. SAWYER  
30 MICHELLE I. PEARSON  
33 MARY KOSKY  
61 MICHELLE BROWN  
MARK DICKENS  
JANE TIMMERMAN  
60 MIDGE ROTHROCK  
JIMI WHITESSELL  
31 GERALD F. THOMPSON  
WILLIE M. GREEN  
ENSLEY O. ADAMS  
ROBERT WOODS  
YVONNE DUBLIN

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

[george.howle@stjohns-umc.org](mailto:george.howle@stjohns-umc.org)  
[keith.stewart@stjohns-umc.org](mailto:keith.stewart@stjohns-umc.org)  
[harry.sampson@stjohns-umc.org](mailto:harry.sampson@stjohns-umc.org)  
[catherine.stapleton@stjohns-umc.org](mailto:catherine.stapleton@stjohns-umc.org)  
[nancy.fairgrieve@stjohns-umc.org](mailto:nancy.fairgrieve@stjohns-umc.org)  
[gene.aiken@stjohns-umc.org](mailto:gene.aiken@stjohns-umc.org)  
[nancy.reed@stjohns-umc.org](mailto:nancy.reed@stjohns-umc.org)  
[anne.hawkins@stjohns-umc.org](mailto:anne.hawkins@stjohns-umc.org)  
[paula.sawyer@stjohns-umc.org](mailto:paula.sawyer@stjohns-umc.org)  
[michelle.pearson@stjohns-umc.org](mailto:michelle.pearson@stjohns-umc.org)  
[mary.kosky@stjohns-umc.org](mailto:mary.kosky@stjohns-umc.org)  
[michelle.brown@stjohns-umc.org](mailto:michelle.brown@stjohns-umc.org)

[midge.rothrock@stjohns-umc.org](mailto:midge.rothrock@stjohns-umc.org)  
[jimi.whitesell@stjohns-umc.org](mailto:jimi.whitesell@stjohns-umc.org)  
[gerald.thompson@stjohns-umc.org](mailto:gerald.thompson@stjohns-umc.org)

Church Office: 648.6891  
Church FAX: 648.7197  
Preschool: 648.4745  
Web Site: [www.stjohns-umc.org](http://www.stjohns-umc.org)