

St. John's Visitor

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A WELL-DESERVED TRIBUTE

No Wednesday Night Supper this week? Oh.....too bad. Don't those of us who attend this *really love* the time together in Ward Hall, with friends sharing greetings, families moving through quickly headed for music rehearsals, or a walk around downtown, or to help deliver meals to our members who are unable to get out and about? Throughout the hallways there's a happy buzz of St. John's family sharing community and fellowship. And, in order for this Wednesday evening connection to take place, hours and hours of volunteer efforts have gone into making this possible.

It will be a treat when the suppers start up again in the fall. After all, it's not just the kids and teachers who enjoy a summer vacation! Sometimes our treasured volunteers deserve a respite, too. We can never say often enough a word or two of praise for the incredible volunteers who keep St. John's working and on an even keel. The cost of covering these tasks while paying for these services would be staggering.

During the week – ahhh! - it's almost magical around here when St. John's is humming along with the special folks who give of their talents and time. Think about those heroes and heroines behind the scenes for just a moment: the Monday guys who work on a maintenance and repair "To Do" list; the Monday morning Altar Guild ladies who restore order to the altar and sanctuary, and spread joy by taking the flowers on request to our shut ins; the special visitation group who sees members at the hospitals and other facilities, keeping in touch; the grounds crew who brighten up the exterior and keep things nice and neat; the receptionists and the hosts who guard our doors and assure a warm welcome, whether by phone, or by turning off the lights when day is done.

Today, while we are all so grateful for the Sunday volunteers and the more formal committees and organizational of the church, it seems especially important to say a huge "Thank You" to those dependable, long-serving, good stewards who give of their time during the week, and who have done so in some cases for 30 years or more.

John's is a better place for all we do together, and for each other, in His glory and service.

May 24, 2009 - Seventh Sunday of Easter

"WHEN YOU'RE IN A HURRY, NO ONE ELSE IS!"

Scripture: James 5: 7 - 12

Rev. Keith Stewart

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

"Moving St. John's into the 21st Century"

**Meetings in the St. John's Gym
at 7:00pm**

**May 20 and 27 (Wednesdays)
with**

**Reverend George Howle
and the Board of Trustees**

(Additional meetings planned for the fall)

NEWS OF THE FAMILY

NEW MEMBERS: *The following members of the 2009 Confirmation Class were received Sunday, May 17:*

- CASEY ANN BECKUM
- BRITTANY LYNN CAMPBELL
- WHITNEY LEE CAMPBELL
- SYDNEY ANN GOODLOVE
- ASHLEY DANIELLE MIRANDA
- ALLISON CLAIRE NORTON
- ERIC COLLIER SHERBURNE
- JULIAN SCOTT WILSON

CONDOLENCES: *Sincere sympathy is extended to the Dee Alexander in the death of her mother, Annabelle Daugherty, in Bristol, TN, on May 14.*

CONGRATULATIONS: *Reba Weisner is representing South Carolina in Washington, DC, speaking about Arlington National Cemetery.*

The Friendship Sunday School Class, along with our children, wishes to thank everyone who donated items for our mission of collecting new and used baby items for the Aiken Pregnancy Care Center. During our drive, which lasted through March and April, we collected a significant number of items, including diapers, clothing, furniture, and toys. The members of our church, together with students in St. John's preschool program, nearly filled both the men's and women's shower rooms in the church basement. It is truly a blessing that so many items were collected during this drive and will go toward helping a newborn baby live a happy, healthy life.

Thanks again, The Friendship Class

There are no words big enough to extend to our St. John's Family. Your love, support, prayers and especially the "hugs" have helped my boys and me as well as Alan's sister and family through this most difficult and painful time in our lives. Special thanks to George and Neil for the kind words and loving tribute to Alan. Special thanks also to Catherine and Mark for the special music Alan loved so much. Thanks to all the wonderful cooks who dropped off all the delicious meals to sustain this large family from all over the country. We also send another special thank you to all the people who donated food and helped in the kitchen for the reception afterward. We could not have made it without you. How truly blessed we are to have such a caring, Christian family at our sides. May God bless each and every one of you always!

Nancy & Boys and Jane, Earl & Family



WELCOME, LYN PATTERSON, who is St. John's interim organist! Lyn moved in August, 2008, from Chula Vista, CA, to Aiken where her brother-in-law, Bob Byrne, serves as St. Paul Lutheran's Senior Minister. Her sister, Chris Byrne, was present to support Lyn on her first Sunday.

**CHURCH OFFICES CLOSED
MONDAY, MAY 25.**

**National Day of Prayer Service
Thursday, May 7, at St. John's**

Financials for week ending May 16, 2009

Budgetary needs for last 2 weeks	\$ 69,828
Budget funds rec'd last 2 weeks	\$ 58,013
Budget funds rec'd to date	\$650,329
Actual expenses to date	\$585,287
St John's loan amt w/Security Fed	\$ 698,808

Faith Promise Update

Fiscal Year 2009-Faith Promise	\$176,312.00
Fiscal Year 2009-Rec'd YTD	\$79,498.62
Fiscal Year 2009-Disbursed YTD	\$74,897.82

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

**CONGRATULATIONS
INEZ CRAIN
2009 SCHOLARS**

**LIZZIE MAHONEY
NICOLE NEILL
THOMAS OSTEEEN
JIMMY RODGERS
DANNY PERRINE**

Meetings to Note

Thursday, May 21 - Preschool Final Day

- 9:30am Bible Study
- 7:00pm Overeaters Anonymous
- 7:00pm Strategic Planning Committee
- 7:00pm Kindergarten Graduation & Reception

Friday, May 22 - St. John's Golf Tournament

- 10:00am Ringspiration Handbell rehearsal

Saturday, May 23

- 8:00am Grace Kitchen

Sunday, May 24

- 8:15am Coffee House
- 5:00pm Prayer Shawl Ministry
- 6:00pm Women's Bible Study
- 6:00pm Sunday Night Youth

Monday, May 25 - CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

- 8:00am First Place
- 12:30pm Al-Anon

Tuesday, May 26

- 7:00pm Joyful Sounds Rehearsal
- 7:00pm Church Council

Wednesday, May 27

- 9:30am Quilting
- 9:30am Bible Study
- 7:00pm Covenant Prayer Group
- 7:00pm Men's Bible Study
- 7:00pm Information-gathering Meetings

Thursday, May 28

- 6:30pm United Methodist Men

Serving This Week

- Crucifer** - Nicole Neill
- Acolytes** - Colby Hozey, Matthew Hudgins
- Altar Guild** Peggy Boykin, Nancy Martin, Nancy Perrine, Sandra Cantwell,
- Crib Rm** (11am) Jennifer Willoughby
- Toddlers** - Helen Randall
- 2-3 Yr Nursery** - Meg Massie
- 3-4 Yr Nursery** - Heather Young
- Greeters 8:30** - Joe/Leah Lewis, Elizabeth Dill
- Greeters 11:00** - Cecil Bischof, Monnie Pitts, Sharon West, Sherry Williamson, Bill/Sylvia Spell
- Sunday AM Host (May 24)** - Mick Ferrell
- Evening Hosts**
- Sunday (May 24) - Matt Beckum
- Monday - Jim Wert
- Tuesday - Tom Brown
- Wednesday - Bob Kosky
- Thursday - Marc Nadeau
- Friday - Jeff Ray
- Saturday - John Geiger

Attendance - May 17

8:30	111
9:02	135
11:00	407
Total	653
SS	291



St. John's
youth ministry

SUNDAY NIGHT YOUTH GROUP
May 24 - 6:00pm Regular meeting

COLLEGE GROUP meets again on Sunday, May 24, 6pm, at the Mahoney home (477 Sumter St SE). Call them at 649-1279 with questions or just bring a friend and come!

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY meeting Sundays at 6pm begins using a video driven **3:16 by Max Lucado** from June 28 - August 9. Learn how you can live the message of John 3:16 in your life, in your family, in your community and in our world. Contact Janel Poe (648-4541) to order your book or for more info.

GOLF TOURNAMENT takes place Friday at Cedar Creek. It's not too late to register!!

ACTS COLLECTION

MAY: 1# bag rice and/or 1# bag beans

JUNE: Canned tuna and/or canned salmon

Missionary Prayer Focus: For God's guidance, organization and peace on all those preparing for the Salkehatchie camps this summer.

GO Global Outreach News

Whitney Simons will be visiting St. John's on June 21 to give a presentation in Ward Hall at 10:00 AM. Ms. Simons will be talking about her experience working with **Athletes in Action** and **Campus Crusade** in Puebla, Mexico. Please contact Michael Norton (648-9740) for more info.

A Community Vacation Bible School will be held at Memorial Baptist Church from June 22-26. Children from five area churches, Helping Hands & Christ Central are invited. The VBS is scheduled for 5:45-9:15 PM each day in an effort to appeal to a wider cross section of volunteers. Men are especially encouraged to help out in order to provide positive male role models. A wide variety of volunteer positions are available. Please contact Michelle Brown (648-6891) or michelle.brown@stjohns-umc.org to help out with this special ministry.

Upcoming Mission Trips: Please support the following short-term mission trips with your prayers:

1. **Russia** (June 7-17)
2. **Honduras** (June 10-20)
3. **Salkehatchie/Sand River** (June 13-20)
4. **Salkehatchie/Pee Dee** (June 24-July 4).

CHILDREN'S CORNER

O.A.R.S. SCHEDULE FOR
SUNDAY, MAY 24, 2009

SPREAD THE JOYCRAFT

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE: "ALL OF THEM WERE
FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT" ACTS 2:4

St. John's Vacation Bible School, **Crocodile Dock**, will be held June 8 through June 12. **Please register your child before May 22** on St. John's website, www.stjohns-umc.org, in order for them to receive a t-shirt. Also, be sure to invite your friends and neighbors so that they can also experience Jesus' love. Please consider donating any supplies that you might have for this year's VBS. The supply list can be found next to *Jacque the Croc*, outside the main office and also outside the gym. Please place donated items outside Michelle Brown's office by June 1. Thank you so much!!

The Board of Directors of **ASBURY HILLS CAMP & RETREAT CENTER** located at Cleveland, SC, invites you to be present Sunday, June 7, 3:00pm, for the Dedication Service for the new cabins and remodeled buildings. Bishop Taylor will be present and tours, refreshments and camp activities are planned. Please RSVP.

SAND RIVER SALKEHATCHIE, hosted by St. John's, takes place June 13-20. If you, your class or group can assist with a meal or meals, please contact Meal Coordinator, Phyllis Coker, 648-2672 or 270-7121 or Gene Aiken, Youth Minister, at 648-6891.

COMPLIMENTARY 8X10 PHOTOS for those who had a picture made for the new directory are available in the church office. Those who ordered additional pictures should receive this free photo with the order shipped directly to them.

LOOKING AHEAD

May 22 - St. John's Golf Tournament at Cedar Creek
May 31 - Graduation Sunday
May 31-June 3 - South Carolina Annual Conference
June 7 - ALL Volunteer VBS Meeting
June 8-12 - Vacation Bible School
June 13-20 - Sand River Salkehatchie
June 22-25 - Community VBS at Memorial Baptist Church
July 5 - Single worship service followed by Picnic in Gym
August 16 - Blessing of the Backpacks
August 17 - Public School resumes
October 4 - World Communion Sunday
November 1 - All Saints Day - Daylight Savings time ends
November 7 - AppleFest

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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
LYN PATTERSON
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
Interim Organist
9:02 Music
PR/Communications Coordinator
Asst Director, Youth Ministries
Custodian Coordinator
Custodian
Custodian
Custodian
Custodian

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