

St. John's Visitor

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A Lesson from Mother Teresa

An American man felt the call of God on his life. He was sure God was calling him to do something great. There was just one slight problem. He had no clue what that something was, so he figured he needed prayer. He went to Mother Teresa and said, "Mother Teresa, will you pray for me?" She said, "Sure I will pray for you. What do you want me to pray for you about?" "I want clarity. I want to know exactly what God is calling me to do with my life." She looked at him in her ever so Mother Teresa way, and said, "No, I won't pray that for you." He was confused and blurted out, "But why? I only want what you've had for your life. You've seemed to always know exactly what God is calling you to do." She looked back at him and said, "I, sir, have never had clarity. What I've had is trust."

I can understand how this "American man" must have felt. This past year I pleaded with God to reveal what He wanted me to do when I graduated college. Months of prayer, chats with mentors, and research left me with an opportunity to intern with Athletes in Action (AIA), a ministry focused on reaching student-athletes. This ministry is a subdivision of Campus Crusade for Christ (CCC). Could it be that majoring in International Business and receiving a minor in Spanish from USC while playing on the USC Women's Golf Team was God's way of preparing me to serve student-athletes in Mexico? I think so.

However, the preparation did not begin in college. It started twenty-two years ago when I was born into the St. John's family. I was baptized, attended VBS, was confirmed, and was president of UMYF at St. John's before I started college. While these milestones are significant, it is my relationship with Christ and its growing strength that has drawn me to the mission field.

AIA has assigned me to Puebla, Mexico where I will begin a nine-month internship in September of this year. While CCC is already in Puebla, AIA is not. I will be joining a small team and, with God's direction, will establish an AIA ministry in Puebla. While there will be administrative work, the ultimate focus is to build relationships with student-athletes. These relationships will be developed through discipleship groups, Bible studies, and spending time one-on-one.

CCC has no central funds for paying expenses; thus, I need a group of partners to underwrite this mission. I must raise \$25,610. St. John's has graciously given \$6,500 through the Faith Promise dollars. I cannot adequately thank you for your support. Please be assured that I will be accountable to you in return. It is an honor to be teamed with this great congregation.



While I am serving in Mexico, I will be sending out periodic newsletters in an electronic and hardcopy version. If you are interested in being added to the distribution list, please e-mail (wds7897@aol.com) or call me (803-221-1223).

My prayer last year was for clarity with my future. Today, my prayer is for trust. Clarity is not necessary, but trust in God is essential. I trust God will prepare me and use me to bring glory to His name. I ask you to pray this for me as I promise to pray the same for you.

Yours in Christ,
Whitney Simons

August 3, 2008 - Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Sermon by Rev. Tim Rogers
Secretary of the Annual Conference

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

NEWS OF THE FAMILY

Meetings to Note

Thursday, July 31

7:00pm Overeaters Anonymous

Saturday, Aug 2

7:00am Grace Kitchen begins

Sunday, Aug 3

8:15am Coffee House

9:45am Growing Christians Breakfast

5:00pm Prayer Shawl Ministry

6:00pm Women's Emmaus

6:00pm Women's Bible Study

6:00pm Sunday Night Youth

Monday, Aug 4

10:00am Summer Exercise Class

7:00pm Stewardship Committee

Tuesday, Aug 5

No Fun Tuesday this month

6:30pm Global Outreach Leadership Team

Wednesday, Aug 6

9:30am Quilting and Prayer Shawl Groups

6:00pm OARS Training

7:00pm Covenant Prayer Group

Thursday, Aug 7

7:00pm Overeaters Anonymous

Serving This Week

Crucifer - Rebecca Osteen

Acolytes - Adam Bumpus, Ryan Fogle

Altar Guild - Donna Caprell-Kraft, Gayle

Garrison, Paula Clayton, Mary Cornelius,
Sharon West

Crib Rm (11:00 a.m.) - Susan Vernon

Toddlers - Katie Proctor

2-3 Yr Nursery - Molly Jones

3-4 Yr Nursery - Dawn Mahoney

Greeters 8:30 - Claude & Marie Goodlett,

Sharon West

Greeters 11:00 - Bill & Nancy Vernon, Keith

& Julie Polk, Walter Croft, Mary Gardner

Sunday AM Host (August 3)

Jay Bilyeu

Evening Hosts

Sunday (Aug 3) - Kevin Buchanan

Monday - Lamar Keisler

Tuesday - Kenny Wiland

Wednesday - Jerry Johnson

Thursday - Edward Yeh

Friday - Charles McKeel

Saturday - Dennis Fish

Last Week's Attendance

8:30	106
9:02	125
11:00	425
Total	656
SS	280
Under the Steeple	653

WEDDING: Congratulations to **Andrea Jeanne Stanford and Steven Charles Selman** who were married Friday, July 18, in Columbia, SC.

CONDOLENCES: Deepest sympathy is extended to the following persons who have recently lost family members:

John Woodard in the death of his daughter, **Francis Woodard Pruitt**, in Chapel Hill, NC, on July 18.

Dottie Salter and Danny Fishburne in the death of their mother, **Dorothy M. "Bunny" Fishburne**, in Aiken on July 22.

Mildred Whitaker in the death of her sister, **Vivian Theurer**, in Scotch Plains, NJ, on July 27.

HOSPITALIZED: **Aiken** - Polly Riede; **Eisenhower** - Francis Hubbard; **Discharged to Carriage Hills** - Mary Wiland, Betty Mullikin; **Discharged** - Walt Burckhalter

IN MEMORIAM

HARRY WALLACE CAREY

July 25, 2008

Thank you, church family, for your kindness in sending cards and prayers for me and my family during my brother's illness and death. You truly are my support system and I'm grateful to God to have a wonderful family of believers to share my sorrow and share in the hope we have in eternal life.

Yours in Christ, **Linda Endler**

YARD SALE at the Callahan home on Parsons Lane is scheduled for Saturday,

August 9. This is a fundraiser to benefit the Russia Mission Trip. If you have items to donate, please contact Susan Callahan at 617-8933 by August 6.



WELCOME

NEW MEMBERS will be received on Sunday, August 24. If interested in becoming party of St. John's church family, please contact Nancy Reed (Adult & Senior Ministries Director) or Anne Hawkins (Membership Sec'y) at 648-6891.

Financials for week ending July 26, 2008

Budgetary needs for the week	\$ 35,042
Budgetary funds rec'd this week	\$ 21,063
Budget funds rec'd to date	\$ 929,472
Actual expenses to date	\$ 804,562
St John's loan amt w/Security Fed	\$1,029,908

Faith Promise Report for week ending July 26

2008 Faith Promise	\$233,252.48
Received last two weeks	693.00
Received YTD	82,807.39
Disbursements to date	73,269.99
Balance for which to pray	150,445.09

GRIEF SHARE GROUP

will be meeting to eat out together on Wednesdays, August 6 and August 30, at 6:30pm. Please call the church to reserve your place and to find out the destination. All are welcome! The next Grief Share Session will begin in September.



St. John's
youth ministry

Wednesday, July 30

Lunch at Zaxby's - 1 pm
with Gene & Marshall

Sunday, August 3

Youth Group Meeting - 6 pm
Program - Marshall Mahoney

Wednesday, August 6

Lunch at Theresa's - Whiskey Rd

Carowinds Trip is planned for Saturday, August 9. Departure time on the minibus is 8 am from the church parking lot.

A school supply drive is currently underway, sponsored by the Education Committee as part of **OPERATION BACKPACK**. Please drop off donations of paper, pencils, crayons, etc. in the collection boxes located by the kitchen and in the lobby on or before August 17.

CHRIST CENTRAL seeks to respond to requests for assistance by offering a *hand up* rather than simply a *hand out*. On their website (www.christcentralaiken.com) you can read more about their needs and how you may help. Especially needed are mentors for one-on-one assistance in math and reading with a child for *one hour per week*. A training program is being offered on Saturday, Aug 2, 9:30am, at Memorial Baptist Church. Additional information is available from Denise Merchant (Director) at 617-8106.

FINAL REMINDER - UMW members are asked to have their AppleFest charity ballot in the basket in front of the church office no later than Friday, August 1.

APPLEFEST NEWS - Apple Dumpling Gang

Volunteers are needed to make pie pastry at home and bring into the church kitchen Tuesday, October 28, by 4pm or Wednesday morning, October 29, by 8am. Volunteers are also needed to roll pastry, peel and core apples, assemble, and bake apple dumplings Wednesday between 8am-4pm, Thursday between 8am and 4pm, and Friday between 8am and 4pm, October 29-31, in the Church kitchen. Any time you could give will be so greatly appreciated! Contact Glenna Lathrop, Chairperson at 649-4508, or Doris Roman 642-3459 or Jan Close, 643-0961, Co-chairs

GO Global Outreach News

ACTS REQUEST for July

CEREAL

(either dry or oatmeal)

CHILDREN'S CORNER

O.A.R.S. SCHEDULE FOR SUNDAY, AUGUST 3, 2008:

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

Celebrate holidays with your church family! Tuesday, December 9, is a day-trip to Myrtle Beach to celebrate the season with a lively show at the **ALABAMA THEATRE'S** special Christmas production. Cost includes Capital Tours Motor Coach, lunch at J & W Cafeteria & gratuity. Contact Nancy Reed at the church for more information.

UMW CIRCLE 11 will meet for lunch on August 12 at 11:00 am at Café Monet.

ANOTHER FUNDRAISER for the Russia Mission Trip: Two days of Childcare are being offered on August 6 & 13! This is an opportunity for busy parents to do back-to-school shopping. Donations will benefit the trip scheduled in September. *Volunteers are needed to provide the Childcare from 9 am to 12 noon on these two Wednesdays.* Please contact Susan Callahan at 617-8933 or Deedee Vaughters at 439-5701 by July 30.

LOOKING AHEAD

August 2 - Grace Kitchen begins
August 17 - Promotion Sunday, Teacher Breakfast, Blessing of Backpacks
August 22-24 - FUEL Retreat (Youth)
August 26 - Preschool and MDO resume
September 7 - *Gospel of John* - Under the Steeple series
September 21-25 - Book Fair
October 5 - World Communion Sunday
October 12 - Fred Swann, Organist - Under the Steeple
October 20 - U.S. Army Chorus - Under the Steeple
October 26 - Trunk or Treat
November 1 - AppleFest
November 2 - All Saints Sunday
Daylight Saving Time ends
November 7-9 - Asbury Hills Youth Retreat
November 16 - St. John's Charge Conference
December 6 - Birthday Party for Jesus
December 7 - Children's Musical
December 21 - Chancel Choir Christmas Cantata
January 18 - Day of Commitment to Christian Unity
Jan 21-25 - Global Impact Celebration

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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
MARK DICKENS
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
Coordinator of Volunteers
Director, Children's Ministries
Organist
Custodian Coordinator
Custodian
Custodian
Custodian
Custodian

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