

St. John's Visitor

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CELEBRATE ST. JOHN'S

We are all going to have a chance to do just that: **CELEBRATE!** We'll enjoy some fellowship, break bread together, and watch a video about US, with a guarantee to be wrapped up and heading home by 8 p.m.

You probably think you're pretty savvy about what all goes on around this place: You might be surprised what all is really being done in our various programs and ministries in our church, community, and the world. See where your money goes. You just might be amazed. For sure, *you'll have to feel a great sense of pride.*

One Sunday afternoon in this past year, the combined membership of two committees of our church (Strategic Planning and Evangelism) sat down together and tried to capture all the activities we thought we knew so well. Guess what? It took more than an hour to cite them all, and many comments were heard like, *"I didn't realize we did that, too."*

You heard George ask from the pulpit whether we'd be content if he DIDN'T give a single sermon about *giving* this year. This idea just might appeal to most of the congregation. What else did he say about not preaching about money? He said all we'd have to do is *agree to come to a dinner.*

Soon you will receive a call from another member of our church family, inviting you to join in for one of these dinners. **Choose from three nights in October: the 14th, 15th, and 16th.** Each night will feature the same buffet, at no charge, prepared and presented under the skillful guidance of Genie Farmer and her service team.

No matter which of the three nights you choose to attend, you should plan to be at the gym by 6:15 p.m. There will be an usher directing you to your table. Bring along your nametag, if you can readily put your hands on it. If not, your host can make a temporary one for you.

On Wednesday the focus will especially be on young families. Childcare with activities will be provided for K5 through 5th grade that night. Those in 6th grade and older are invited to stay and see the video and hear George's brief comments.

This promises to be a wonderful time of fellowship – an evening to enjoy. Yes, *you will be given a pledge card to fill out*, and you are asked to leave it that very night. Or, if you need more time, you can turn it in on Sunday. That's it. That's all the pressure you'll get. No guilt, no reason to avoid hearing another sermon about the merits of giving. Just your chance to do what you think is right, and comfortable for you, as a welcome member of this great community known as St. John's.

This is not like other campaigns to give, with "step up" charts, a bit of arm-twisting, not even a Consecration Sunday. We all know these economic times. We'll know even more about the wonderful things St. John's is doing after our time together, and we can only imagine the potential for the FUTURE. That FUTURE is NOW.

FIFTY YEAR MEMBERS
are being recognized
next Sunday, September 21

NEW MEMBERS
will be received on Sunday, September 21.
If interested in church membership, please
contact the church office.

September 21, 2008
Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
"YOU CAN'T MAKE A GOD"
Scripture: **Exodus 32: 1 - 14**
Rev. Dr. George K. Howle

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, September 18

9:30am Experiencing God Bible Study
7:00pm Overeaters Anonymous

Friday, September 19

7:00pm Primetime Bridge

Saturday, September 20

8:00am Grace Kitchen

Sunday, September 21

8:15am Coffee House
5:00pm Old Testament Bible Study
5:00pm Lay Leadership Committee
6:00pm 40/60 Bible Study
6:00pm Sunday Night Youth Mtg
6:00pm Women's Bible Study

Monday, September 22

8:00am First Place
10:00am Exercise Class
12:30pm Music Reading Class
4:00pm UMW Executive Meeting
7:00pm Women's Bible Study

Tuesday, September 23

12:30pm Women's Bible Study
7:00pm Church Council

Wednesday, September 24

9:30am Quilting and Prayer Shawl Groups
9:30am Acts Bible Study
4:00pm GriefShare Group
5:00pm Fellowship Supper
5:45pm Children's Choirs
6:00pm Church Tour
6:45pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal
7:00pm Covenant Prayer Group
7:00pm Women's & Men's Bible Study

Serving This Week

Crucifer - Adam Bumpus

Acolytes - Jordan Kelley, Rachael Perkins

Altar Guild - Nell Berrie, Kay Shirley,
Vivian Tate, Judy Turner

Greeters 8:30 - Elizabeth Dill,
John and Andrea Downs

Greeters 11:00 - Gail & Evelyn Marine,
Tom Brown, Dorothy Brannon,
Bobby & Phyllis Coker, Lee & Dot Poe

Sunday AM Host (9/21) - Dave Sherburne

Evening Hosts

Sunday (**Sept 21**) - Barry Pearson

Monday - Jim Minear

Tuesday - Rick Endler

Wednesday - Matt Beckum

Thursday - Jim Wert

Friday - Tom Brown

Saturday - Bob Kosky

Last Week's Attendance

8:30	118
9:02	139
11:00	446
Total	703

BAPTISM: Receiving the Sacrament of Holy Baptism on Sunday, September 14, was **Benjamin Wyatt Herron**, son of **T J & Erin Herron**.

NEW ARRIVALS: **Macy Belle Harper**, daughter of **Will & Rebecca Harper**, was born September 2 in Aiken.

Matthew Brown Davis, son of **Steve & Juli Davis**, was born September 10 in Aiken.

Reece Nicholas Boore, son of **Brian & Lindsey Boore** and grandson of **Brent & Jan Boore**, was born September 14 in Greenville.

HOSPITALIZED: Discharged - **Joe Thompson**, **Denise Musick**; **Walton Rehab** - **Ann Schifferli**

APPLE FEST INFORMATION

Frozen Casseroles needed - meat, chicken or vegetable for two, 8"x8" or 9"x13." Also soup, chili (white or beef), sauces, frozen desserts or your favorite, freezable appetizers. *Please label donations with your name, content identification and cooking instructions.*

Silent Auction items this year consist solely of items donated by our St. John's church family. Remember the charities which will benefit: **Golden Harvest Food Bank, Grace Kitchen and Jack Meeks Memorial Wheelchair Ramp Ministry**. Some ideas: a few days at a beach or mountain home; tax preparation; auto detailing, dinner or lunch in your home for 6 or 8, round of golf for (4), tennis lessons, heating/air conditioning checkup, needlework, artwork, homemade cakes/pies delivered for special occasions.

Christmas Shop donations (decorations, ornaments, linens, unused Christmas cards) may be left on the table in the UMW/Applefest room 119.

Twice Loved Treasures will be collected in the gym during the week of Apple Fest. Please **DO NOT** bring items before October 29.

Financials for week ending September 13, 2008

Budgetary needs for the week	\$ 35,042
Budgetary funds rec'd this week	\$ 36,119
Budget funds rec'd to date	\$1,107,392
Actual expenses to date	\$1,028,786
St John's loan amt w/Security Fed	\$ 933,908

Faith Promise Report for week ending Sept. 13

2008 Faith Promise	\$233,252.48
Received last week	939.00
Received YTD	95,014.39
Disbursements to date	84,381.48
Balance for which to pay	138,238.09

DINNER FOR EIGHT REGISTRATION continues. Groups of eight meet monthly to share a meal. The hosts prepare a main course and others bring accompanying dishes. This time of fellowship is a great way to make new friends within the congregation. Sign up by Sunday, September 21 - you'll be notified about your group by the end of the month.

ANOTHER CHURCH TOUR for those interested will be Wednesday, 9/24, at 6pm. Meet at the volunteer desk. Please notify the office or sign up at that desk.

UNITED METHODIST MEN have their monthly covered dish dinner at 6:30 in Ward Hall on Thursday, September 25 with Keith Stewart as guest speaker.

GRIEFSHARE GROUP meets weekly on Wednesdays, 4:00-5:15pm, in the church parlor. Learn to walk the journey of grief and be supported on the way.

LYDIA PROJECT needs your help to make tote bags for women facing cancer treatment. Material is provided and training sessions scheduled. Contact Lynda Platt, 641-0646 or via e-mail at plat-taiken@gforcecable.com.

**Wednesday Supper
Menu for September 24**
Roast Beef & Provolone
Sandwiches on Croissant
Tomato Basil Soup
Chips Pickles
Cookies Ice Cream



St. John's
youth ministry

SUNDAY NIGHT YOUTH GROUP 6pm September 21

George Howle will be meeting with the group and the topic is *What It Means to be a United Methodist*. Come & bring your questions.

GRACE KITCHEN Saturday, September 27

Youth are in charge this day. At least 10 of you are needed to help serve breakfast. Plan to arrive about 6:45am and to finish no later than 10am.

SENIOR HIGH BIBLE STUDY begins with an organizational meeting in the youth room on **Wednesday, September 24, at 6:30**. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to come.

ASBURY HILLS SIGN-UPS for the trip on Nov. 7-9 have begun. The cost is higher this year because it is necessary to charter a bus. If you or your friends plan to go, you must attend Sunday Night Youth 3 times between now and departure time. Gene Aiken has registration forms.



40-60 MID-LIFE BIBLE STUDY

Upcoming Topics

Sunday, September 21, 6pm

Children Parents and Grandparents

Sunday, September 28, 6pm

Preretirement and Work

GO Global Outreach News

1. Whitney Simons will be leaving to begin her nine-month missionary assignment in Puebla, Mexico on September 22. She will be serving with *Athletes in Action*, a ministry of *Campus Crusade for Christ*. Whitney had this to say about her training in August, "It went well. It was definitely like drinking out of a fire hydrant. I met a lot of great people and am very excited to get going." Please continue to keep Whitney and her family in your prayers. If you would like to receive Whitney's news and prayer letter updates, e-mail her at wds6786@aol.com

2. On September 28, Dan and Judy Armstrong will visit St. John's. Dan and Judy are the South Eastern US coordinators for various mission efforts in Indonesia. Dan and Judy live in North Augusta and attended our 2008 GIC. During the Sunday school hour, they will give a presentation in Ward Hall. Please attend and learn how they help to bring Jesus to an unreached people group. Contact Michael Norton with any questions (648-9740).

3. Children's Missions Committee needs volunteers to help create impactful, meaningful programs for grades 1-5 in the next GIC, January, 2009. First team meeting *changed to Sunday, October 5, 3-5pm* to avoid conflict with attendance at the movie, *Fireproof*. Contact Wendy Hirsch (646-5435) or Keisha Uhle (641-1528) if interested.

CHILDREN'S CORNER

O.A.R.S. SCHEDULE FOR SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2008:

1ST GRADE: PALMS & PSALMS
2ND GRADE: HOLYWOOD CINEMAS
3RD GRADE: THOU ART
4TH GRADE: MARY & MARTHA'S B & B
5TH/6TH GRADE GRP 1: THE ARKADE
5TH/6TH GRADE GRP 2: JOYFUL NOISE

CHURCH LEAGUE BASKETBALL SIGN-UPS will be held after both services on 9/21 and 9/28 for the following age groups. *Ages are as of September 1, 2008*

Ages 5-6 Co-ed

Ages 7-8 Co-ed

Ages 9-10 Boys & Girls Teams

Ages 11-12 Boys & Girls Teams

Ages 13-15 Boys & Girls Teams

Ages 16-18 Boys & Girls Teams

Coaches for all ages needed also!

Practices will start the first week of November. Games will begin the week of November 22. Contact Mark Mahoney at 649-1279 with any questions.

SPREAD THE JOY, a new program for grades 1-6, begins Sunday, September 6, 6-8pm. See the bulletin board by the kitchen for details. Schedules have also been mailed.



ACTS is collecting beef stew in September!

LOOKING AHEAD

September 21 - Recognition of 50-year members

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 - Dedication of Shoe Box Contributions

St. John's Charge Conference

November 20 - UMW Turkey Dinner

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
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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

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
mary.kosky@stjohns-umc.org
michelle.brown@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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