

St. John's Visitor

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St. John's Commissions Our Stephen Ministry

On Sunday, September 27, St. John's will officially commission our Stephen Ministry. As noted previously, Nurture Pastor Keith Stewart and three members of our congregation went to Orlando, Florida earlier this summer for intensive training. They began to understand the commitment they were making for this congregation, to verify their willingness and God's guidance in their taking on such significant leadership roles, and their prayers that God will call others within our congregation to love and care for one another, through Stephen Ministry.

Upon their return, St. John's chose the Stephen Ministry in response to God's love and Jesus' command, "Love one another, even as I have loved you." Stephen Ministers answer this call in a trained way, being present for one another.

In recent weeks, Alice Allington, Rick Endler and Jeanette Isaacson have been sharing with Sunday School classes and interested others what it means to answer God's call to be a trained Stephen Minister. These leaders will provide training beginning in January to the initial group of you ready to embark on the necessary preparation required for this special ministry of care and concern.

Today, St. John's recognizes and commits our church to embarking on this Stephen Ministry, as a way for our church to grow in care, grow in discipleship, grow in lay ministry, and grow in outreach.

Stephen Ministry is a confidential, non-judgmental, listening ministry. Christ cares for people through people. It is 1:1, joining men to men, and women to women. Individuals can request a Stephen Minister without involving others. A Stephen Minister will undergo extensive training to assure their understanding of their role, which is to LISTEN, encourage, keep confidence, pray, support, and walk beside a hurting person.

The Stephen Ministry logo and the banner proclaiming our involvement will remind those in need that they may soon avail themselves of this nurture. This is quiet ministry. And, Sunday we take a big step with the commissioning. If you are interested in learning more, come on Monday, October 5, at 6:30pm (RSVP to the office by October 2.)

The Global Outreach Leadership Team (GOLT)

will host a potluck supper on Sunday, September 27 at 6:00 PM in Ward Hall. There will be presentations from participants in four recent mission trips. We hope to see you there!

**September 27, 2009
Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost**

**Messages this week by
Rev. Dr. George Howle and Keith Stewart
'THE POWER OF A PRAYER SHAWL'
Scripture: Mark 5: 25 - 34
Services at 8:30 & 11:00 in the sanctuary.
Contemporary service at 9:02 in the gym**

NEWS OF THE FAMILY

Meetings to Note

Thursday, September 24

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

Friday, September 25

- 10:30am Ringspiration Rehearsal

Saturday, September 26

- 8:00am Grace Kitchen opens

Sunday, September 27

- 8:15am Coffee House
- 9:45am Sunday School
- 10:00am *Getting to Know St. John's*
- 4:30pm Men's Praise Choir
- 5:00pm Youth Choir/Prayer Shawl Ministry
- 6:00pm *Revelations* & Women's Bible Study
- 6:00pm GOLT Covered Dish Supper/Program

Monday, September 28

- 8:00am First Place 4 Health
- 10:00am Exercise Class
- 12:30pm Al-Anon
- 7:00pm Women's Bible Study

Tuesday, September 29

- 12:00noon Women's Bible Study
- 7:00pm Joyful Sounds
- 7:00pm Men's Bible Study

Wednesday, September 30

- 9:30am Quilting Fellowship
- 9:30am TF Bible Study
- 4:00pm Grief Share Group
- 5:00pm Fellowship Supper
- 5:45pm Children's Choirs
- 5:30pm New Circle in Parlor
- 6:45pm Chancel Choir rehearsal
- 7:00pm Women's Bible Study
- 7:00pm Covenant Prayer Group

Serving This Week

- Crucifer** - Andrea Mikes
- Acolytes** - Hayden Hyche, Danielle Smith
- Altar Guild** - Kay Shirley, Judy Turner, Anita Allen, Ginger Talbert
- Crib Rm (11am)** - Jennifer Willoughby
- 2-3 Yr Nursery** - Michelle Orr
- 3-4 Yr Nursery** - Meg Massie
- Greeters 8:30** - Claudette Strickland
- Greeters 11:00** - Debi Rood
- Sunday AM Host (Sept 27)** *Dave Kelly*
- Evening Hosts**
 - Sunday (Sept 27) - *Bob Kosky*
 - Monday - *Marc Nadeau*
 - Tuesday - *Jeff Ray*
 - Wednesday - *John Geiger*
 - Thursday - *Jeff Crenshaw*
 - Friday - *Mark Mahoney*
 - Saturday - *Kevin Buchanan*

CONDOLENCES: *Deepest sympathy is extended to Katie Aiken and former member/organist Carla Fleming in the death of their cousin/niece, Michelle Fortier, on September 15 in Bloomfield, KY.*

HOSPITALIZED: MCG - *Elaine Whitaker; Discharged - Gail Hendrick*

IN MEMORIAM

MARY ANN SPRAWLS ROGERS

September 16, 2009

IN MEMORIAM

FRANCES HANCOCK DUNN

September 16, 2009

CHURCH TOUR will be Wednesday, Oct 7, 6pm Meet your guide at reception desk near the office. Reservations are requested! Tour (about 45 minutes) includes some history about St. John's Church.

METHODIST MEN'S GROUP welcomes all men of the church to their meeting on Thursday at 6:30. Bring a covered dish to Ward Hall and hear about Aiken Center for the Arts from Executive Director Kristin Brown.

NEW MEMBER SUNDAY IS SEPTEMBER 27 AT ALL SERVICES.

NEW UMW CIRCLES are forming for women ages 25-45. First daytime meeting is Thursday, Oct 1, 10:30am in the parlor. First evening meeting is Wednesday, Sept 30, 6pm in the parlor. Any interested young woman is welcome and encouraged to attend. Contact is Michelle Orr, 649-6444.

GETTING TO KNOW ST. JOHN'S sessions conclude Sunday, September 27, by sharing about *How We Serve - St. John's Ministries and Missions*. This is for long-time members as well as new members. If interested, come to Ward Hall at 10am.

Financials for week ending Sept 19, 2009

Budgetary needs for the week	\$ 34,914
Budget funds rec'd this week	\$ 30,476
Budget funds rec'd to date	\$1,107,222
Actual expenses to date	\$1,118,219
St John's loan amt w/Security Fed	\$ 341,657

Faith Promise Update

Faith Promise	\$177,112.00
Rec'd YTD	\$111,739.62
Disbursed YTD	\$ 99,678.60
2009 Faith Promise year =	
2/1/09 thru 1/31/10	

FELLOWSHIP SUPPER

September 30

- Chicken & Dressing Casserole*
- Sweet Potatoes Cranberry Sauce*
- French Green Beans*
- Peach Cobbler w/Ice Cream*

JOHN ROSEMOND, author of twelve best-selling books on parenting and family issues, will be speaking at St. John's on Thursday, October 8. Two events are planned that day. Come at 9:30am for coffee and fellowship and at 10am John will speak on *Parenting By the Book* (\$5 fee at the door.) At 6pm doors open for the 6:30 event in the sanctuary *Bringing Out the Best in Your Child*. (tickets \$12/person; \$20/couple and at the door \$15/person and \$25.couple.)

Attendance

September 20

8:30	112
9:02	130
11:00	388
Total	630
SS	337



SUNDAY NIGHT YOUTH GROUP
Sunday, Sept 27 6:00pm Ward Hall
Youth will attend the GOLT Potluck Supper.
Parents, if you attend with your youth, please
remember to bring a covered dish!

ACTS COLLECTION

Are we doing all we can? The needs of ACTS are greater than ever! Vicki Bukovitz, Executive Director and St. John's member, has provided a list of the food items needed for the rest of this year. When creating your grocery list, why not add these items now?

September - Beans (pinto, refried, etc.)

October - dish detergent or bar soap

November - grits

December - canned soup



GO Global Outreach News

St. John's will help plant a church in Thailand! Rev. Mike and Sherri Morrissey are the first United Methodist missionaries to Thailand. The GOLT invited them to visit with us in July. After learning about their efforts in Thailand, the GOLT has decided to fund a church planting effort. We have committed to providing funds for the pastor's salary for a new church plant. This is a five-year commitment, starting at a funding level of \$300/month. In year four, the support drops to \$200/month and in year five, the support is \$100/month. By the end of year five, the church is expected to be financially self-sufficient. St. Johns also plans to fund small projects to support the new church as our Faith Promise funds allow. Rev. Sherri Morrissey recently provided the details of our partnership:

"We would like to match St. John's UMC with the church plant that will begin soon in Nakom Patom, a community located on the west side of Bangkok. We will be traveling with Pastors Akarin & Dah to the area on the 16th of September to meet with some of the believers that will be part of this new congregational launch.

Both pastors Akarin and Dah are Bible school graduates and have already completed the 3 United Methodist courses - History, Doctrine, and Polity. They've been serving well at Pradumri church for the last 4 months, so we know they are going into their new situation with a good foundation. Also, Akarin has family in the region that will provide an extra measure of relational support, especially important as they are expecting their first child to be born around January 15th. (Please ask folks at St. John's to pray for pastors Akarin & Dah; for the baby; for eyes and hearts to be open to Christ in Nakom Patom; as well as for fruitful ministry)."

Please pray for this new effort. The GOLT is very excited about this new partnership. If you would like to be involved with this new ministry effort (prayer team, travel to Thailand, missionary care support, etc), then please contact a GOLT member.

CHILDREN'S CORNER

O.A.R.S. SCHEDULE FOR
 SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2009

1ST GRADE: THE ARKADE
 2ND GRADE: THOU ART
 3RD GRADE: MARY AND MARTHA'S B & B
 4TH GRADE: FROM BC TO PC

DO YOU HAVE 2 hours, 4 hours or more to help an at-risk student learn to read? Camp Sharigan is taking place at St. John's this week from 4-6pm in the OARS classrooms. Fourteen 1st, 2nd & 3rd graders are having fun while improving reading skills. But they are just beginning the journey. If you would like to guide one of these students in a continuous improvement reading program, *Reading Orienteering Club*, please call Nancy Sjostrom, 648-3745, or Mary McCormack, 642-6493, for more details. The curriculum is provided and no teaching experience is necessary. The *Reading Orienteering Club* will meet on Mondays and Thursdays from 4-6pm until Christmas. Can you help for one sessions? One week? One month?

SUNDAY MORNING COFFEE HOUSE needs helpers! Two shifts available: 8am to 9am or 9:30am to 10:45am. Second shift is particularly needy—you only serve one Sunday per month. Renee Reid, 642-8951, is contact.

CHURCH LEAGUE BASKETBALL SIGN-UPS continue the next two Sundays after all 3 services. Ages 5-6 & 7-8 teams are co-ed; ages 9-10, 11-12, 13-15, 16-18 have both boys and girls teams. Coaches are needed for all ages!! Contact Ben Dean, 634-0574, with questions.



GREETERS NEEDED AT 9:02 SERVICE. Can you come a little early to hand out bulletins or greet? Contact Renee Reid at 642-8951 with questions or to volunteer.

LOOKING AHEAD

September 27 - Potluck Supper with Missionaries
October 4 - World Communion Sunday
October 8 - John K. Rosemond programs on parenting
October 13-14 - Celebration Dinners
October 25 - Trunk a Treat
November 1 - All Saints Day - Daylight Savings time ends
November 7 - AppleFest
November 13-15 - Asbury Hills Youth Retreat
November 19 - UMW Turkey Dinner
November 22 - Thanksgiving Sunday, Holy Communion
December 6 - Children's Christmas Program
December 20 - Chancel Choir Christmas Cantata
January 27-31, 2010 - Next 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 HAWKINS
21 PAULA SAWYER
30 MICHELLE PEARSON
61 ALLISON BEATTY
60 MIDGE ROTHROCK
ALLEN RADCLIFFE
JIMI WHITESSELL
JANE TIMMERMAN
LOUIS PLAYFORD
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
Director, Children's Ministries
PR/Communications Coordinator
Volunteer Facilities Coordinator
Asst Director, Youth Ministries
9:02 Music
Interim Organist
Custodian Coordinator
Custodian
Custodian
Custodian
Custodian

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