

St. John's Visitor

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THE POWER OF A SIMPLE GIFT—OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Did you know that Operation Christmas Child (OCC) is the world's largest children's Christmas project of its kind? Wow!! We can all be a part of this project by filling a shoebox for a little boy or a girl. The joy of giving should be as rewarding as the impact of the child's receiving this precious gift of love and necessities. Our gifts open doors to introduce children to God's greatest gift of all—Jesus Christ. As Franklin Graham, President of Samaritan's Purse, quoted, "We are invited to join in this extraordinary outreach."



Just a reminder from the previous entry in St. John's Visitor, the outreach ministry has informed us that plastic shoe boxes have come in very handy for these children and their families in order to store either fresh water or food. Another suggestion is to include a bandana in the box to help protect the children with the heat. Our Church will provide plastic boxes for you to fill them with a washcloth, soap, toothbrush, toothpaste, brush or comb, candy, and some small toy along with a note of love and caring. With this donation, we need to include \$7.00 for shipping in each box.



Our boxes need to be turned in by Wednesday, November 14, 2007. On Sunday, November 18, the boxes will be dedicated through prayer at both of our services. The boxes will then be delivered to Aiken's First Baptist Church. This is the drop-off site for all churches that are participating with OCC in our area.

The plastic boxes will be located outside Michelle Pearson's office, the volunteer desk, the youth room, and upstairs where our children meet for OARS. You can also drop off the filled boxes at any of these locations. If you have any questions or would like to become more involved with this project, please feel free to contact me, Ann Gillam, at 649-6803 (h) or 646-2603 (c).

The Consecration Brunch and Luncheon were a very special event for those who were able to attend. Heartfelt thanks once again to Genie Farmer and her fantastic volunteers. They gave so willingly of their time and talents to provide wonderful meals and fellowship for over 600 people as we celebrated our abundant blessings.

The church had a good response to the pledge cards and heard from 283 families who pledged \$1,008,801. Many of these made a step up in their pledge. There are 752 families from whom we have not yet received a pledge card. Anticipating that these families will give at the same level they did last year, the giving to the church is expected to be \$1,869,124. It is hoped that many of the remaining families will choose to take a step up, thus enabling us to meet the challenges ahead. St. John's is an amazing church. Thank You!!

**October 28, 2007
Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost**

"SEEKING FORGIVENESS"

Rev. Dr. George Howle

Scripture: Luke 18: 9 - 14

Anthem

Plenty Good Room

Chancel Choir with
Betsy Wilson-Mahoney, Soprano

Hymns

***Alas and Did My Savior Bleed
Freely, Freely
Grace Greater Than Our Sin***

Meetings to Note

Thursday, October 25

- 9:30am *Believing God* Bible Study
- 6:30pm United Methodist Men
- 7:00pm Overeaters Anonymous
- 7:00pm Youth Bible Study

Sunday, October 28

- 8:15am Coffee House
- 9:30am Young Adults Organizational Brunch
- 9:45 am Forum Class Program on Islam
- 12:00pm PPRC called meeting
- 2:00pm Strategic Planning Committee
- 4:00pm *Under the Steeple* Concert
- 5:00pm Prayer Shawl Ministry
- 5:30pm Trunk or Treat set-up
- 6:00pm *Christian Believer* Bible Study
- 6:00pm Women's Bible Study & Emmaus

Monday, October 29

- 8:00am First Place
- 7:00pm Women's Bible Study

Tuesday, October 30

- 7:00pm First Place

Wednesday, October 31

- 9:30am Quilting and Prayer Shawl Groups
- 1:30am *Old Testament* Bible Study
- 5:00pm Fellowship Supper
- 7:00pm Covenant Prayer Group
- 7:00pm Men's & Women's Bible Study

Serving This Week

- Crucifer** - Caroline Smith
- Acolytes** - Sydney Beckner, Sarah Fleming
- Altar Guild** - Mae Croft, Betty Grodahl, Billie Johnson
- Crib Rm** (11:00 a.m.) - Darby Copeland
- Toddlers** - Rebecca Harper
- 2-3 Yr Nursery** - Amanda Stefanakos
- 3-4 Yr Nursery** - Tracey Smith
- Greeters 8:45** - Jerry & Billie Johnson, Hilda Secrist, Ann Carter
- Sunday School Greeter** - Diane James
- Greeters 11:00** - Jack & Libby Taylor, Bill & Sylvia Spell, Henriann Goddard, Johanna Gibbs
- Sunday AM Host (October 28)**
Jay Bilyeu
- Evening Hosts**
- Sunday (Oct 28) - *Marc Nadeau*
- Monday - *Jeff Ray*
- Tuesday - *John Geiger*
- Wednesday - *Bob Fogle*
- Thursday - *Jeff Crenshaw*
- Friday - *Robin Dillman*
- Saturday - *Kevin Buchanan*

Last Week's Attendance

8:45	162
11:00	512
Total	674
SS	264

NEWS OF THE FAMILY

BIRTHDAY: *Special wishes to Sarah Ponder at the Methodist Oaks in Orangeburg who celebrated her 94th birthday on Monday, October 22.*

BAPTISMS: *Receiving the Sacrament of Holy Baptism on Sunday, October 21, were Whitney Lee Campbell and Brittany Lynn Campbell, twin daughters of Todd and Dawn Campbell.*

CONGRATULATIONS to **Bob Borneman** who was named 2007 Kiwanian of the Year for his leadership and service to the club and community.

CONDOLENCES: *Deepest sympathy is extended to the Jean Orth in the death of her brother, Bill Ledgerwood, on October 18 in Jefferson City, TN.*

HOSPITALIZED: **Aiken** - Jack Meeks, *Ann Spencer, *Jan Holman; **Discharged to Carriage Hills** - Dot Tolar

TURKEY DINNER TICKETS are available from a UMW member or the church office. Dinner is November 15 from 5:30-7:00 and cost is \$9 for adults and \$4 for children 10 & under.



Reminder to the men of the church: **UNITED METHODIST MEN** meet on Thursday at 6:30 pm in Ward Hall for their monthly covered dish supper. George Howle has been invited to speak at this meeting.

UNDER THE STEEPLE, a series of Sunday afternoon events focusing on the arts, continues next Sunday, October 28, with a concert by Sarah Oliver, harpist, along with Laura Tomlin, violinist. On November 4 the Claflin College Choir will be in concert in the sanctuary. This series is presented as a gift from St. John's to the community. Hopefully, you will be able to take advantage of this opportunity.



GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP, led by Kathy Hargett, will begin meeting on Wednesday, November 14, (*note different date*) from 4:00pm to 5:15pm. Please RSVP to church office.

Financials for week ending October 20, 2007

Budgetary needs for the week	\$ 28,907
Budgetary funds rec'd this week	\$ 24,985
Budget funds rec'd to date	\$1,186,554
Actual expenses to date	\$1,083,348
St John's loan amt w/Security Fed	\$1,515,508

NO SUPPER WEDNESDAY, OCT 31 APPLE FEST WEEK

Dates for next month's dinners are November 7 and November 28.

STILL LOOKING for globes to use during GIC week, January 23-25. Please call Claudette Strickland at 649-5405 if you have one that could be used.

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED will observe the annual **World Community Day** at 10 am on Saturday, November 3. The service will be held at First Christian Church, 900 Kerr Dr SW. This year's theme is *Embracing Justice Under God's Tent*. Donations received this year will help Children's Place, Abused Women, Salvation Army, Alston Wilkes Society, Migrant Workers, Development Center and Camp Hope.

MEMORIAL BANNER is now placed in the narthex. You may place a bell on the banner in memory of someone close to you, regardless of whether or not that person was a members of this church. The banner will be used for All-Saints Sunday, November 4.



St. John's
youth ministry

New Youth Logo on the left!

No evening Youth Group on Oct 28

but there is a lot going on. Meet at the church around 1 pm to go to Christ Central in Gloverville from 2-4, returning around 5pm. More of you **and your parents** are needed to help with this.

Then at 6, plan to help with *Trunk or Treat*.

CIRCLE OF HOPE from Trinity UMC has published a new cookbook which is available for sale. Contact Tracy Greene, 643-7032.

YOUNG ADULTS - SPREAD THE WORD!

If you are 20 to 30's please come together to share your ideas and needs for a new class or classes!

- What: Organizational Meeting Brunch
- When: Sunday, October 28, 2007
9:30 am - 10:45 am
- Where: Ward Hall
- RSVP to Church Office (648-6891)
or Nancy Reed (522-2009-cell)

Remember to leave your **PAPER TOWEL TUBES** in the kitchen - look for the labeled box on top of the small refrigerator.

The Forum Sunday School Class invites you to join them in the Chapel on Sunday, October 28, from 10:00am to 10:45am for a **SEMINAR ON ISLAM**. Their guest speakers are Dr. Adel Bakr and Mr. Iqbal (Ike) Jilani.



**TRUNK OR TREAT - Sunday, October 28
in the back parking lot of the church**

Set-up 5:30 pm Children arrive 6:00 pm

Church members decorate car trunks with Halloween décor. Place a bucket of candy in the trunk to hand out to the "trunk or treaters" who are encouraged to dress up. You may wish to bring a chair to set up next to your trunk. Drinks and popcorn will also be available.

In order to be able to offer the safe, fun activity for children at least 25 trunk volunteers are needed. Sign up in the church lobby.

Contact Virginia R. Johnson with questions, 649-3513 or 645-3584.



CHILDREN'S CORNER

**O.A.R.S. SCHEDULE FOR
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2007:**

- 1ST GRADE: FROM BC TO PC**
- 2ND GRADE: MARY & MARTHA'S B & B**
- 3RD GRADE: THE ARKADE**
- 4TH GRADE: CREATION STATION**
- 5TH/6TH GRADE GIRLS: PALMS & PSALMS**
- 5TH/6TH GRADE BOYS: HOLYWOOD CINEMAS**

Luke 11:9-10 says, "So I say to you :ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be open to you. For everyone who asks receives. He who seeks finds; and to Him who knocks, the door will be opened." We asked God to provide 16 people to volunteer for **Children's Church**. SIXTEEN people!!!! Guess, what? We asked, we sought, we knocked, and the Lord provided 16 people to volunteer for **Children's Church!** Thankfully this congregation answered their doors! Please lift our Ministry up in prayer as we *begin Children's Church on November the 4th*. If you feel that God is calling you to serve the children at St. John's through Children's Church it is not too late to sign up. Please call Michelle Brown, 803-522-2010 or Walter Cantwell, 803-215-5501 for more details.

LOOKING AHEAD

- October 23** - Churchwide Day of Prayer
- October 25** - United Methodist Men
(George Howle, speaker)
- October 28** - Seminar on Islam in Chapel - 10am
Sarah Oliver/Laura Tomlin Concert - 4pm
(Harpist/Violinist)
Trunk or Treat (6-8 pm)
- November 3** - Apple Fest
- November 4** - All Saints Sunday
Claflin College Choir
- November 5** - St. John's Charge Conference
- November 9-11** - Asbury Hills Youth Retreat
- November 11** - Prayer/Healing Service
- November 15** - UMW Turkey Dinner
- November 18** - Thanksgiving Sunday
Operation Christmas Child Dedication
Soup/Salad Luncheon
- November 26** - St. John's Choir at Biltmore House
- December 2** - Children's Christmas Program
- /December 2-7** - Preschool Book Fair
- December 23** - Chancel Choir Cantata
- December 24** - Candlelight/Communion Service (5pm)
Candlelight Service (11pm)
- January 23-27** - Global Impact Celebration

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
23 HARRY W. SAMPSON
29 TERRY FLEMING
26 CATHERINE STAPLETON NANCE
25 NANCY FAIRGRIEVE
27 GENE AIKEN
58 WALTER CANTWELL
57 NANCY REED
34 ANNE L. HAWKINS
21 PAULA C. SAWYER
30 MICHELLE I. PEARSON
33 MARY KOSKY
35 MIMI WILAND
60 JAN GILBERT
61 MICHELLE BROWN
CARLA F. FLEMING
31 GERALD F. THOMPSON
WILLIE M. GREEN
ENSLEY O. ADAMS
ROBERT WOODS
YVONNE DUBLIN

Minister
Director of Staff and Planning
Director of Congregational Care
Director of Music Ministries
Financial Services
Director of Youth Ministries
Intern
Director, Adult & Senior Ministries
Assistant to Ministers
Church Secretary
Director, Preschool/MDO Ministries
Coordinator of Volunteers
Coordinator of Volunteers
Missions Coordinator
Director, Children's Ministries
Organist
Custodian Coordinator
Custodian
Custodian
Custodian
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