

St. John's Visitor

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SHAPING OUR FUTURE: PLANNING UPDATE

From time to time, articles to update on the progress of St. John's Planning effort have appeared in the VISITOR. Now that the planning activity has matured and really begun to drive the future direction in which we are headed, it is important to review the high-level elements of this plan with St. John's members. Your Lay Leadership representatives who comprise the membership of our committees and Church Council have done the work.

VISION: As a reminder, the United Methodist Church has given the overarching Vision for each church: *To make disciples for Christ.* Our particular Vision at St. John's is worded in this way: *Be a thriving, friendly and growing church whose members are actively engaged in being and making disciples for Christ.*

MISSION: The words so carefully crafted, with input from the earlier Cottage Meetings shortly after George's arrival, are familiar and visible to all. *We grow in faith and number by sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ through worship, nurture and service.*

PLAN SEGMENTS: Comprised of Long-Range Goals, created by members of the existing Committees of the Church Council, and supporting Objectives and Action Plans, the segments of St. John's plan fall into the four categories of our Mission Statement: **Growth, Nurture, Worship and Service.**

LONG-RANGE GOALS: To give a better picture of the direction our Plan is heading, but not to overwhelm with details, the Goals are summarized herein. Bear in mind, these Goals are LONG RANGE in intent, with some not nearing completion until 2019. They are reviewed in Planning sessions yearly, and can be modified. Then, the elements of these Goals (Objectives and Action Plans) are presented by due dates and by exceptions at the monthly Church Council meeting. (Not all Goals are reviewed each month: just those where action is required.)

Here are the Goals currently forming the highest levels of St. John's Plan:

GROWTH

Become a more welcoming congregation in order to grow membership significantly over the next ten years.

Renovate and expand facilities to support growth in the church.

Manage funding according to operating and capital plans, and forecasts to support growth in the church.

Expand and structure the ministerial, support and volunteer staff and lay leadership according to forecast needs to support growth in the church.

NURTURE

Increase program and ministry effectiveness and participation in all categories (Children, Youth, and Adults).

Implement processes to more efficiently and effectively identify and respond to individuals' needs. (Includes Stephen Ministry and lay visitation).

WORSHIP

Increase worship effectiveness and participation, with emphasis on development of traditional, 9:02, community and other-than-Sunday services.

SERVICE

Increase commitment and involvement with local, national and international mission activity.

Increase commitment of time/talent/financial resources for all members of St. John's to identify opportunities to become more engaged in church activities.

Further discussions will be held with Sunday School Classes and upcoming cottage meetings in the weeks ahead.

NEWS OF THE FAMILY

Meetings to Note

Thursday, October 29

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

Friday, October 30

- 10:30am Ringspiration Rehearsal

Saturday, October 31

- 8:00am Grace Kitchen opens doors

Sunday, November 1

- 8:15am Coffee House
- 9:45 am New College Class
- 4:30pm Men's Praise Choir
- 5:00pm Lay Leadership Committee
- 5:00pm Youth Choir
- 6:00pm Revelations & Women's Bible Study
- 6:00pm Sunday Night Youth

Monday, November 2

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

Tuesday, November 3

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

Wednesday, November 4

- 9:30am Quilting Fellowship
- 9:30am TF Bible Study
- 4:00pm Grief Share Group
- 5:45pm Children's Choirs
- 6:45pm Chancel Choir rehearsal
- 7:00pm Women's Bible Study
- 7:00pm Covenant Prayer Group
- 7:00pm 9:02 Band Practice

Serving This Week

- Crucifer** - Adam Bumpus
- Acolytes** - Zach Harrington, Michael Rogers
- Banner Bearer** - Ryan Fogle
- Altar Guild** - Nita Bell, Libby Taylor, Christy Kisner, Claudette Strickland, Keenan Kizer
- Crib Rm** (11am) - Heather Yeh
- 2-3 Yr Nursery** - Teresa Crain
- 3-4 Yr Nursery** - Robin Vitali
- Sunday AM Host (Nov 1)** Jay Bilyeu
- Evening Hosts**
 - Sunday (Nov 1) - Jeff Crenshaw
 - Monday - Robin Dillman
 - Tuesday - Kevin Buchanan
 - Wednesday - Lamar Keisler
 - Thursday - Jimmy Moore
 - Friday - Jerry Johnson
 - Saturday - Edward Yeh

NO FELLOWSHIP SUPPER
November 4
Due to Applefest Preparations

BAPTISM: Charles Rylan Shick, son of Chuck & Stephanie Shick received the Sacrament of Holy Baptism on Sunday, October 25.

NEW ARRIVALS: Hayden James Woods, son of Wendy Woods and grandson of John & Gale Soares was born on October 13 in Augusta.

Danielle Reese Zimmermann, daughter of Andrew & Denise Zimmermann was born on October 22 in Augusta.

Brody William Pirkle, son of Owen & Angela Pirkle and grandson of William & Rachel Pirkle, was born on October 13 in Seattle, WA.

CONGRATULATIONS: Jules Brown (Ariel) & Ben Herrin (Thomas the Train) were the winners of the costume contest at Trunk-a-Treat.

NEW MEMBERS welcomed on October 25:

- William D. Harpine**
450 Crystal Peak Rd., Graniteville, SC 29829 593-4988
- James Washington**
1406 Wyman St. NE, Aiken, Sc 29801 644-8323
- Janis Hartline**
10 Ruffian Road, Aiken, SC, 29803 648-9096

HOSPITALIZED: ARMC - Shirley Autery, Bobbie Blackmon; MCG-Denise Zimmermann & Danielle, **Greenwood:** Dot Etheridge; **Discharged** - Donna Walker, Jack Rogers, **Discharged to Carriage Hills** - Elaine Whitaker

Thank you to ALL who worked diligently to make the CELEBRATION DINNERS a time of fun, fellowship, and fabulous food! It would be impossible to list everyone who gave of their time and effort, but please know that it couldn't have happened without you. St. John's is richly blessed with many whose hearts and hands are open to serving to further God's kingdom, and *you are very much appreciated.*



DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ends this weekend. Remember to turn clocks back one hour on Saturday evening.

Showings of the "Shaping Our Future" video will be held on Wednesday evenings Oct. 28 & Nov. 11 at 6:15 in the Hollywood Cinema, second floor of the Education Building. All are welcome.

NEW COLLEGE AGE CLASS - An organizational meeting will be Sunday, Nov. 1, 10 am in Ward Hall-1. Breakfast of home waffles will be served! Invite a friend!

Financials for week ending Oct 24, 2009

Budgetary needs for the week	34,914
Budget funds rec'd this week	\$ 36,162
Budget funds rec'd to date	\$1,249,755
Actual expenses to date	\$1,271,982
St John's loan amt w/Security Fed	\$ 334,559

Faith Promise Update

Faith Promise	\$177,112.00
Rec'd YTD	\$117,288.62
Disbursed YTD	\$103,596.50

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

**Attendance
October 25**

8:30	85
9:02	152
11:00	319
Total	556
SS	253

**November 1, 2009
Twenty Second Sunday after Pentecost**

Messages this week by
Rev. Dr. George Howle and Gene Aiken
"THE INHERITANCE OF THE SAINTS"
Scripture: Ephesians 1: 15-18
Services at 8:30 and 11:00
in the sanctuary.
Contemporary service at 9:02 in the gym



SUNDAY NIGHT YOUTH GROUP

Sunday, November 1 6:00pm
Regular Meeting
Discussing heaven and hell



On Wednesday, October 21st, two esteemed staff members from St. John's were hauled off to the pokey. Soldiers from Fort Gordon came and took them both away. Why? Well, to raise money for MDA in a community-based fundraiser! Many of you helped, and their combined total was over \$1000. (Yes, Nancy did raise a bit more bail money than Harry, in case you wonder!).

GRACE KITCHEN TEAM LEADERS: Please plan to attend a meeting on Sunday, Nov. 1, 10:00 am in Ward Hall-3.

ACTS COLLECTION FOR NOVEMBER: Grits

GO Global Outreach News

Aiken Pregnancy Care Center is looking for a few willing hearts to volunteer as receptionist, parenting class helper, childcare helper or closet sorter. If you can help, please call APCC at 642-3949.

Christ Central reports they are in desperate need of bath towels to give to the less fortunate in our community. Please give if you are able.

Reminder: Don't forget to get your **Operation Christmas Child** boxes and labels so you can begin filling them up. Boxes are currently being collected and are due at the church by November 15.

Honduras Agape Update: More people are being reached each month through the Honduras Agape Foundation's efforts to provide a physical and spiritual boost for residents of northwestern Honduras. This ministry is a collaborative effort between several churches in the U.S. and Honduras. Aiken serves as the base of operations, with major support from St. John's and several other local churches.

Dates are set for the following 2010 mission trips and space is still available for each: February 4-14, June 9-19, June 23 to July 3, July 6-16, and July 28 to August 7. Please pray for those who are most harmed by the ongoing political power struggle in Honduras (which ranks among the Western Hemisphere's poorest countries), and for those missionary organizations that continue to send aid. For more information, visit: www.hondurasagape.com.

CHILDREN'S CORNER

O.A.R.S. SCHEDULE FOR
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2009

1ST GRADE: HOLYWOOD CINEMA
2ND GRADE: THE ARKADE
3RD GRADE: THOU ART
4TH GRADE: MARY & MARTHA'S B & B

5th-6th Grade Grapple Dare for the week :

I DARE YOU TO THINK OF AN AREA OF YOUR LIFE WHERE YOU'RE NOT LETTING JESUS BE LORD, IN CHARGE OF YOUR LIFE.

TURKEY DINNER TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE IN THE OFFICE!! The UMW turkey dinner takes place in the gym on Thursday, November 19. Cost is \$9 for adults and \$4 for children 10 & under. Serving time is 5:30-7:00 pm.



HOME HOSTS NEEDED FOR MISSIONARIES DURING GLOBAL IMPACT CELEBRATION. January 27-31. If you are willing to open your home to house one of our visiting missionaries, please contact Al and Cindy Snell. Email: alsnell@bellsouth.net or leave phone message at 642-5672.

SURVIVING FINANCIAL MELTDOWN will be held on Sunday evenings throughout November, for 5 weeks, beginning November 1st. Sessions will be 6-7 at St. John's led by Paul Rideout. Childcare provided. Let us know ASAP if you plan to attend, and any childcare needs. Call the office. Cost of the course is minimal and includes a book, workbook, and devotional guide. The course will provide a good balance of the biblical principles of financial management with the practical aspects of assessing the financial situation, developing goals, budgeting, and debt management. Class will use a dvd and workbook, and outside class the participants will read the book provided and do some worksheets, so each person will be working with their own financial situation.

LOOKING AHEAD

Saturdays - Grace Kitchen opens at 8am
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 19 - A Night in Bethlehem
December 20 - Chancel Choir Christmas Cantata
December 21 - 6 pm - The Longest Night
December 24 - 5pm Family Candlelight Service (Sanctuary)
December 24 - 6pm Communion Service (Chapel)
December 24 - 11pm Candlelight service (Sanctuary)
January 27-31, 2010 - Global Impact Celebration

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PERIODICALS POSTAGE PAID
AT AUGUSTA, GEORGIA
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

THE PEOPLE OF ST. JOHN'S

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
Organist
Custodian Coordinator
Custodian
Custodian
Custodian
Custodian

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