

# St. John's Visitor

November 24, 2009 Published weekly by St. John's UMC Church Richland at Newberry, Aiken, SC 29801 Volume 9, Issue 46

## St. John's Holds 2009 Charge Conference with District Superintendent



A Charge Conference convened here in the chapel on Monday, November 16<sup>th</sup>, at 7 pm. Orangeburg District Superintendent Reverend Ron Pettit led those assembled, which included George Howle, the staff, officers and church council leaders. The Charge Conference is a yearly mandatory review, and is held at each church within the district, at the direction of each Bishop, across the UMC.

St. John's was recognized with a plaque presented to Church Council leader Dennis Fish for paying 100% of our apportionment in 2008. Further, the DS commended St. John's, noting we are the flagship for the Orangeburg district, with particular success in mission work, both locally and through outreach.

Reverend Pettit has been our District Superintendent for eight years, the maximum tenure allowable. After 45 years of service in the UMC, he now plans to retire. George Howle made his fifth pastor's report, as Senior Pastor for St. John's.

Travis Pearson, son of Barry and Michelle, and grandson of Jean Irwin, was introduced and congratulated for approval to begin the ministerial candidacy process. When Al Snell, chair of the Pastor/Parish committee, presented Travis after he successfully answered the required Wesley questions, Travis becomes the fifth such member of St. John's to add to the rich history of growing ministers in the faith in recent years. The 2010 Report of the Committee on Lay Leadership was approved, and will be shared in an upcoming edition of the VISITOR.

A final touching tribute was made to those who have entered the Church Eternal since the last Charge Conference, with Dr. Howle reading the roll, and Reverend Pettit closing in prayer on their behalf.



**November 29  
First Sunday of Advent**

**Rev. Keith Stewart - 8:30 & 11:00am  
"THE WORD OF OUR GOD  
WILL STAND FOREVER"**

**Gene Aiken - 9:02am  
"HOPE IN CHRIST"**

**Scripture: Jeremiah 33: 14 - 16**

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

*There was an amazing response to the request for volunteers to help with the planting of shrubs and flowers!! Friday afternoon saw around 20 and on Saturday morning another 30 came to help. Take a good look at not only the fountain area but also the prayer garden (pictured.) All of this came about as the result of members giving their time, money, materials and talents. Many thanks to each and every one involved in this effort. The results will be enjoyed for years to come.*

**Meetings to Note**

**Thursday, November 26**

**Happy Thanksgiving!**

Church Offices Closed

**Friday, November 27**

Church Offices Closed

**Saturday, November 28**

8:00am Grace Kitchen opens doors

**Sunday, November 29**

8:15am Coffee House

9:45am Sunday School

3:00pm Healing Service

4:30pm Men's Praise Choir

6:00pm Revelations & Women's Bible Study

6:00pm Financial Course

No Youth Choir or Youth Group this Sunday

**Monday, November 30**

8:00am First Place 4 Health

10:00am Exercise Class

12:30pm Al-Anon

7:00pm Senior Adult Council

7:00pm Women's Bible Study

**Tuesday, December 1**

1:00pm UMW Executive Mtg

6:30pm Education Committee

6:30pm GOLT

7:00pm Joyful Sounds

7:00pm Men's Bible Study

7:00pm 9:02 Band Practice

**Wednesday, December 2**

9:30am Quilting Fellowship

9:30am TF Bible Study

7:00pm Covenant Prayer Group

**Serving This Week**

**Crucifer** - Zach Madden

**Acolytes** - Rachael Perkins, Benjamin Rawls

**Altar Guild** - Nita Bell, Libby Taylor, Christy

Kisner, Keenan Kizer, Peg Robinson,

Claudette Strickland

**Crib Rm (11am)** - Brenda Meeks

**2-3 Yr Nursery** - Virginia Morris

**3-4 Yr Nursery** - Alice Burdette

**Sunday AM Host (Nov 29)** Bobby Coker

**Evening Hosts**

Sunday (Nov 29) - Jeff Ray

Monday - John Geiger

Tuesday - Jeff Crenshaw

Wednesday - Robin Dillman

Thursday - Kevin Buchanan

Friday - Lamar Keisler

Saturday - Jimmy Moore

**Attendance - November 22**

8:30	118
9:02	143
11:00	466
Total	727
SS	312

**NEWS OF THE FAMILY**

**NEW ARRIVAL:** *Carly Ann Flowers, daughter of Scott & Summer Flowers and granddaughter of Neil & Patsy Flowers, was born Oct. 29 in Augusta, GA.,*

**NEW MEMBERS** *Welcome to the following persons recently received as new members of St. John's:*

**Marilyn Blanchard**

1905 Alpine Dr 643-3588

**Daniel Nash**

823 Kedron Church Rd 649-7983

**John & Diane Schmidt**

2792 Club Dr 642-0689

**Jim & Babs Stokes**

**Mary Margaret and Josh** added to baptized roll

70 Redwood Dr 649-3345

**CONGRATULATIONS:** *Frank Pendergast was recently named among the top 40 under 40 by Georgia Trend magazine for helping to revitalize downtown Milledgeville. Frank is the son of St. John's member, Frankie Lambright.*

*Joan Nagle received the prestigious Founders' Day Award from the United Methodist Foundation of Western Pennsylvania at a ceremony held in Pittsburgh on October 30.*

**HOSPITALIZED:** ARMC - Bob Rehn; MCG - young Julian Pollin; Providence - Art Justice; Discharged - Tom Minter

**THANK YOU, THANK YOU** to all who filled boxes for Operation Christmas Child! St. John's collected over 330 boxes - what an amazing response!!! A big thank you also to **Kristen Bates** for organizing and leading this wonderful mission project!

Church Offices Closed

Thursday and Friday

November 26 and 27

**HEALING SERVICE** will be held Sunday (Nov. 29) in the Chapel from 3-4pm. All are invited and welcome to attend this special service.

**NO SUPPER**

**November 25**

*Menu for Dec 2*

*Lasagna*

*Salad Crusty Bread*

*Layered Ice Cream Dessert*

**GRACE KITCHEN** could use your help to serve breakfast this Saturday (after Thanksgiving.) Please notify Bobby Coker (649-1511) or Marsha Mikes (644-7204) if this is something you can do.

Another open session of the **STRATEGIC PLAN REVIEW** is scheduled for Ward Hall on Dec. 20 at 9:45. am.

**GETTING TO KNOW**

**ST. JOHN'S**

**Sundays**

**December 6, 13 & 20**

**10:00am to 10:45am**

**Ward Hall**

**Financials for week ending Nov 21, 2009**

Budgetary needs for the week	\$ 34,914
Budget funds rec'd this week	\$ 30,697
Budget funds rec'd to date	\$1,358,797
Actual expenses to date	\$1,411,981
St John's loan amt w/Security Fed	\$ 327,376

**Faith Promise Update**

Faith Promise	\$177,112.00
Rec'd YTD	\$124,857.62
Disbursed YTD	\$122,837.13
<b>2009 Faith Promise year =</b>	
<b>2/1/09 thru 1/31/10</b>	

**FUN MONDAY** for retirees will be December 7 from 10:30-11:30 in the Youth Room. Plan to join them immediately following exercise class (10-10:30.)



## SUNDAY NIGHT YOUTH GROUP

Sunday, November 29      No Meeting  
Thanksgiving Weekend

A **VERY IMPORTANT REHEARSAL** is scheduled for Wednesday, Dec 2, from 5:30-7:00 for the Children's and Youth Choirs. This is the final practice prior to the presentation on Sunday, Dec. 6, so it is especially important that everyone be present.

Grief Share Seminar, **SURVIVING THE HOLIDAYS**, will be offered in two 1-hour daytime sessions on Wednesday, Dec 2, and Wednesday, Dec 9, from 4-5pm. Registration will assure that sufficient booklets with devotions & helpful tips for coping with the season will be available. Contact the church office, 648-6891.

**SUNDAY EVENING WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY** will listen to David Jeremiah's audios on *Facing the Giants in Your Life*. There are 12 sessions beginning on Jan. 10 from 6:00-7:30 in Rm 116. Please contact Nancy Reed or Janel Poe if you wish to participate and would like a book (\$8.00.)

Next Sunday St. John's will welcome special guests from **WESLEY UMC** as they plan to worship with us on this fifth Sunday which is also the first Sunday in Advent.

### ACTS COLLECTION

NOVEMBER: Grits

DECEMBER: Macaroni & Cheese

## GO Global Outreach News

**ACTS** reports they are in desperate need of children's clothing. All sizes are needed but especially sizes 2T-6T. Please look through your unused children's clothing & give if you are able to do so.

**Volunteer opportunity!** St. John's is sending 20 volunteers to the Operation Christmas Child Distribution Center in Charlotte, NC on Monday, November 30, to help pack & inspect boxes. The church bus will leave at noon, volunteer time is from 3-6:00 p.m., followed by dinner & everyone will return home later that evening. If interested, please contact Allison Beatty at 648-6891.

**Home Hosts** are needed for the GIC from January 27-31. If you are willing to open your home & house one of our visiting missionaries, please contact Cindy & Al Snell at 642-5672 or [alsnell@bellsouth.net](mailto:alsnell@bellsouth.net).

## CHILDREN'S CORNER

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2009

BAGS WILL BE PACKED FOR THE  
"SPREAD THE JOY" PROJECT

GRADES 1 & 2: ART ROOM  
GRADES 3 & 4: KITCHEN

**5TH-6TH GRADE GRAPPLE DARE FOR THE WEEK :**  
**I dare you this week to spend more time with your friend - Jesus. I dare you to read your Bible, write a letter to Jesus, or take a walk and talk to Him.**

**COOKIE BAKING AND SPAGHETTI DINNER** scheduled for Friday, December 4, 4pm - 7pm. Join the college class to bake cookies to be given to children and seniors in Aiken. Take a break from studies and help someone else. Stay for spaghetti. Call Nancy Reed at 648-6891 for information.

**REMINDER:** You and your children are invited to go back in time to Bethlehem for an amazing Christmas experience. You won't want to miss this event which takes place December 19 from 2-5pm in the gym. If this arouses your interest, please contact Allison Beatty in the church office.

**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES** are available with the 2010 Census. All jobs are temporary and may last several weeks. There is a 30 minute aptitude exam requiring pre-registration. An information pamphlet is available in the church office.

**EPWORTH ANGELS** will be available again Sunday between services for those who wish to brighten Christmas for a boy or girl at Epworth Children's Home. Gifts are due Sunday, Dec. 6. Maureen Bernard is contact person, 803-221-9635.

### LOOKING AHEAD

**Saturdays** - Grace Kitchen opens at 8am  
**December 6** - Children's Christmas Program  
**December 19** - A Night in Bethlehem  
**December 20** - Chancel Choir Christmas Cantata  
**December 21 - 6pm** The Longest Night  
**December 24 - 5pm** Family Candlelight Service (Sanctuary)  
**December 24 - 6pm** Communion Service (Chapel)  
**December 24 - 11pm** Candlelight service (Sanctuary)  
**January 6** - Cottage Meetings  
**January 20** - Cottage Meeting  
**January 27-31, 2010** - Global Impact Celebration  
**February 3** - Cottage Meeting

# St. John's Visitor

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

[george.howle@stjohns-umc.org](mailto:george.howle@stjohns-umc.org)  
[keith.stewart@stjohns-umc.org](mailto:keith.stewart@stjohns-umc.org)  
[harry.sampson@stjohns-umc.org](mailto:harry.sampson@stjohns-umc.org)  
[catherine.stapleton@stjohns-umc.org](mailto:catherine.stapleton@stjohns-umc.org)  
[nancy.fairgrieve@stjohns-umc.org](mailto:nancy.fairgrieve@stjohns-umc.org)  
[gene.aiken@stjohns-umc.org](mailto:gene.aiken@stjohns-umc.org)  
[nancy.reed@stjohns-umc.org](mailto:nancy.reed@stjohns-umc.org)  
[anne.hawkins@stjohns-umc.org](mailto:anne.hawkins@stjohns-umc.org)  
[paula.sawyer@stjohns-umc.org](mailto:paula.sawyer@stjohns-umc.org)  
[michelle.pearson@stjohns-umc.org](mailto:michelle.pearson@stjohns-umc.org)  
[allison.beatty@stjohns-umc.org](mailto:allison.beatty@stjohns-umc.org)  
[midge.rothrock@stjohns-umc.org](mailto:midge.rothrock@stjohns-umc.org)

[jimi.whitesell@stjohns-umc.org](mailto:jimi.whitesell@stjohns-umc.org)

[gerald.thompson@stjohns-umc.org](mailto:gerald.thompson@stjohns-umc.org)

Church Office: 648.6891  
Church FAX: 648.7197  
Preschool: 648.4745  
Web Site: [www.stjohns-umc.org](http://www.stjohns-umc.org)

*St. John's Visitor is published weekly except the last week of the year by  
St. John's United Methodist Church, 104 Newberry St NW, Aiken, SC 29801-3918.*