

St. John's Visitor

December 1, 2009 Published weekly by St. John's UM Church

Richtland at Newberry, Aiken, SC 29801

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St. John's has enjoyed a long tradition of allowing our children to usher in the Christmas season in presenting a Christmas program on the first Sunday of December. This past fall, our elementary age choirs and our youth choir have been preparing a unique Christmas program. Skillfully arranged for younger voices, *Christmas Messiah For Young Voices* provides children and youth with a practical opportunity to experience the joy of performing one of the world's greatest choral masterpieces. It includes five delightful unison/two-part choral arrangements: *And The Glory Of The Lord; O Thou That Tellest Good Tidings To Zion; For Unto Us A Child Is Born; Glory To God* and *Hallelujah*. I am very proud of what our youth and children have accomplished in preparing this program. The music staff and I encourage you to attend this presentation on Sunday, December 6, at 8:30 and 11:00. Come support our young people and you will be not only amazed at what they can do, but blessed as well.

December 6
Second Sunday of Advent
Messages this week by
8:30am and 11:00am
Children's and Youth Choir Program
9:02 - Rev. Dr. George Howle
"PREPARING THE WAY"
Scripture: Luke 3: 1 - 6
Services at 8:30 and 11:00
in the sanctuary.
Contemporary service at 9:02 in the gym

Catherine Stapleton Nance
Director of Music Ministries

NEWS OF THE FAMILY

**SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR BEGINS
FRIDAY IN LOBBY OUTSIDE
WARD HALL**

Meetings to Note

Thursday, December 3

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

Friday, December 4

- 10:30am Ringspiration Rehearsal
- 4:00pm College Class - Cookie Bake/Spaghetti

Saturday, December 5

- 8:00am Grace Kitchen opens doors

Sunday, December 6

- 8:15am Coffee House
- 9:30am Growing Christians Breakfast
- 9:45am Sunday School
- 10:00am Getting to Know St. John's
- 4:30pm Men's Praise Choir
- 5:00pm Prayer Shawl Ministry
- 6:00pm Revelations & Women's Bible Study
- 6:00pm Sunday Night Youth Group

Monday, December 7

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

Tuesday, December 8

- 7:00pm Joyful Sounds
- 7:00pm Men's Bible Study
- 7:00pm 9:02 Bank Practice
- 7:00pm Board of Trustees

Wednesday, December 9

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

Serving This Week

- Crucifer** - Collin Rayt
- Altar Guild** - Zenith Sharpe, Nancy Pitts,
Donna Caprell-Kraft

Crib Rm (11am) - Opan Bullington

2-3 Yr Nursery - Lauren Fulmer

3-4 Yr Nursery - Sharon West

Sunday AM Host (Dec 6) John McMahan

Evening Hosts

- Sunday (Dec 6) - Jerry Johnson
- Monday - Edward Yeh
- Tuesday - Charles McKeel
- Wednesday - Dinnis Fish
- Thursday - Mike Uhle
- Friday - Keith Polk
- Saturday - Brian Eberhard

NEW MEMBERS: Welcomed into the St. John's church family last Sunday:

Dorothy Abbott

413 Pine Ave SE 803-223-3973

Lori Morris

413 Pine Ave SE 803-257-4442

CONGRATULATIONS: Josh Stewart was named the Most Valuable Young Professional for 2009 by the Greater Aiken Chamber of Commerce!

CONDOLENCES: Deepest sympathy is extended to Lynda Platt in the death of her father, Norman King, on November 26.

HOSPITALIZED: ARMC - Ray Hydrick

IN MEMORIAM

ROBERT O. REHN

November 28, 2009

IN MEMORIAM

EMMETT BRUCE SELMAN

November 29, 2009

Special thanks to this year's Chrismon Tree Team: Bob & Mary Kosky, Al & Cindy Snell, Charlie & Peggy Neill and Jeff Beckner. Great job!!

NEW MEMBERS or other interested members are invited to the *Getting to Know St. John's* sessions scheduled for 10am on three Sundays in December (6, 13 & 20.) Look for signs about location of the first session on history of St. John's and the United Methodist Church with George Howle.

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

9:02 CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION of carols and scripture in planned for Sunday, Dec 20 at 6pm At this time there will also be a crèche display in Ward Hall. Those interested should bring nativity scenes on Sunday and pick them up the next day, Please call the office if you plan to participate.

OFFERING ENVELOPES for 2010 are available from tables set up outside Ward Hall.

ALL RETIREES are invited to Fun Monday on December 7, 10:30am, in the Youth Room. You'll enjoy good company and find that whatever Zenith Sharpe has planned is always interesting.

WEDNESDAY SUPPER

Menu for December 9

Potato Soup

Ham & Cheese Sandwiches

Pickles Chips

Ice Cream & Cookies

Financials for week ending Nov 28, 2009

Budgetary needs for the week	\$ 34,914
Budget funds rec'd this week	\$ 17,735
Budget funds rec'd to date	\$1,376,532
Actual expenses to date	\$1,449,729
St John's loan amt w/Security Fed	\$ 326,676

Faith Promise Update

Faith Promise	\$177,112.00
Rec'd YTD	\$125,218.62
Disbursed YTD	\$122,837.13
2009 Faith Promise year =	
<i>2/1/09 thru 1/31/10</i>	

Attendance - Nov 29

8:30	106
9:02	183
11:00	357
Total	646



St. John's
youth ministry

SUNDAY NIGHT YOUTH GROUP

Sunday, December 6 6:00pm
Regular Meeting

COLLEGE AGE STUDENTS are invited to take a break from studies and help someone else. Come on Friday, December 4, 4pm-7pm, and bake cookies for children and seniors in Aiken. Stay for spaghetti. Contact person is Nancy Reed, 648-6891.

UMW CIRCLE MEETINGS FOR DECEMBER

Tuesday, December 8

11:30 am #11 Travinia Restaurant
12:30 pm # 9 Janet Wertz - 651 Oak Meadow Ln
6:30 pm # 8 Sawasdee Restaurant
7:30 pm # 1 Mary Lou Wallace - 782 Palm Dr

Friday, December 11

9:30am # 2 - Michelle Orr - 168 Governors Ln

Monday, December 14

11:30am # 4 & #10 - Red Lobster

Wednesday, December 16

5:45 pm # 5 - Church Parlor
6:00pm # 7 - The Kitchen - Mitchell Shopping Ctr

Monday, December 21

12:00 pm # 3 - VZ Restaurant

BOOK CLUB final 2009 meeting is Dec 14, 7pm, in Rm 204. Book being read is *The Christmas Clock* by Kat Martin. Come and bring a friend - for more information please contact Sharon West, 648-3824.

ACTS COLLECTION

DECEMBER: Macaroni & Cheese

Especially needed (in addition to items listed below) are donations of winter coats and boots in all sizes!

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.

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.

Epworth Angel gifts (unwrapped) are due by next Sunday, December 6. Please leave in appropriately marked box by the office.

CHILDREN'S CORNER

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2009

5TH-6TH GRADE GRAPPLE DARE FOR THE WEEK:
I DARE YOU TO DO SOMETHING TO LET A CLOSE FRIEND
KNOW YOU'LL STICK TOGETHER NO MATTER WHAT. I
ALSO DARE YOU TO READ **PROVERBS 18:24**

On Sunday, December 20, our Chancel Choir will be presenting special Christmas music to glorify God and bless our congregation during this Holy season. It is our custom to *serve breakfast to the choir members between services, and VOLUNTEERS are needed*. If you can help in any way that morning, please call Mary Kosky at 642-2848. Many thanks!

SURVIVING THE HOLIDAYS, a seminar to help deal with emotions and prepare for the holidays, is being presented in two 1-hour daytime sessions on Wed, Dec 2, and Wed, Dec 9, from 4-5pm. Nancy Reed, 648-6891, can provide additional information.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY on Sundays at 6pm begin a study of David Jeremiah's *Facing the Giants...* on Jan. 10. This 12 session series requires an \$8 book - contact Nancy Reed or Janel Poe if interested.

WHAT: SIGN UP FOR POINSETTIAS

WHEN: Sunday, December 6

before and after each service

**WHERE: Lobby near Offices and
in Gym for 9:02 service**

**WHY: To glorify God and to decorate St. John's
with colorful poinsettias given**

IN MEMORY OF or TO HONOR loved ones

DONATION: \$20 each

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 20 - 6pm 9:02 Christmas Celebration

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 Meeting

January 20 - Cottage Meeting

January 27-31, 2010 - Global Impact Celebration

February 3 - Cottage Meeting

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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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