

St. John's Visitor

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From the Missions Committee

Will You Help Us with Cookies For Kairos?

Why Bake Cookies For Kairos?

For many in prison, they have hit bottom – the lowest possible point in their lives. They feel isolated, cast out, alone, and unloved. For many, their families and friends have abandoned them. Often the cookies you bake are the only indication to them that they have not become simply a South Carolina Department of Corrections number.

Each Kairos Weekend lasts three days. At the end of each of the three days the residents participating in the Kairos weekend take a bag of cookies to each person in their dorm, cottage, or cellblock. Residents who have already experienced a Kairos weekend bag the cookies each day and enclose a verse of scripture in each bag.

How Do These Cookies Help?

Your homemade cookies tell the residents that someone who doesn't even know them still cares enough to give a part of their life – the time it takes to bake the cookies – without wanting something in return. Such selflessness is often a unique experience for them. Most inmates in our prison system are takers, not givers. This brief experience of sharing something of value freely – often with those they do not like – has a powerful effect. Someone has said these cookies are “seeds of love” being sown in the hearts of those who know so little of the love God's children are commanded to show forth to the world.

How Many Cookies Are Needed?

At MCCI, 6,000 dozen cookies are need for a single Kairos weekend. No cookies are ever wasted. If any are left over, they are frozen and used for the next weekend.

What Kind of Cookies Can I Make? Are There Any Restrictions?

All types of cookies are needed – All cookies should be no larger than 2 ½” in diameter. This size does not break as easily as larger ones. Do not make thin crisp cookies as they break and cannot be used. **DO NOT USE POWDERED SUGAR TOPPING.** Once the cookies cool completely, wrap in plastic wrap or place in Ziploc bags and package in sturdy boxes like old shoe boxes. Cookies can be made ahead of time and frozen. While you are preparing the cookies, we ask that you pray for the people who will eat them.

When Are The Cookies Needed?

The next weekend begins on March 15th 2007. Cookies may be brought to the church kitchen by 2 p.m., Wednesday, March 14th, or contact Kairos Team Member **Dave Kelly** (803-295-7143) for pick up.

WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES DURING LENT

Lenten lunch followed by a time of meditation will be held at noon each Wednesday during Lent at the **First Baptist Church**. This gathering is open to the community and is sponsored by the Greater Aiken Ministerial Association. Serving begins around 11:40 am and the meditation concludes before 1:00 pm. In the past this time of fellowship and worship has been well attended by members from a variety of congregations across the city. Plan to be present on Wednesday of this week at First Baptist Church.

Also on Wednesdays at **6 pm in the Chapel** there will be a brief evening service which will include the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Lay speakers from within the congregation will be leading this time of worship.

Sunday, March 4, 2007

Second Sunday in Lent

“THE LORD IS MY STRENGTH AND MY SALVATION”

Rev. Dr. John M. Stapleton

Scripture: **Luke 13: 31 - 35**

8:45 am Men's Praise Choir

Blessed Redeemer & I Stand Amazed/And Can It Be?

11:00 am Hearts Afire (Children's Vocal) Choir

Tree Song

The Chancel Choir

Lord, Listen to Your Children Prayin'

NEWS OF THE FAMILY

Meetings to Note

Thursday, March 1

- 9:15 am Women's Bible Study
- 7:00 pm Family Life Council
- 7:00 pm Congregational Care Committee
- 7:00 pm Men's Emmaus Group
- 7:00 pm Overeaters Anonymous

Sunday, March 4

- 8:15 am Coffee House
- 12:00 noon UMYF Fund-raising Dinner
- 5:00 pm Confirmation Class Mtg w/Parents
- 6:00 pm Women's Bible Study

Monday, March 5

- 8:15 am First Place
- 7:00 pm Women's Bible Study

Tuesday, March 6

- 7:00 pm First Place
- 7:00 pm Missions Committee

Wednesday, March 7

- 9:30 am Quilting Fellowship
- 9:30 am Old Testament Bible Study
- 4:00 pm Women's Bible Study
- 4:00 pm Grief Share

No Wednesday Supper this week!

- 6:00 pm Lenten Communion Service
- 6:30 pm Youth Bible Study
- 7:00 pm Covenant Prayer Group
- 7:00 pm Men's/Women's Bible Study

Serving March 4

- Crucifer** - Liz Schilb
- Acolytes** - Kyle Beckner, Connor Kane
- Altar Guild** - Betty Grodahl,
Lynda Troutman, Sherry Williamson
- Crib Rm** (11:00 a.m.) - Susan Vernon
- Toddlers** - Karen Buchanan
- 2-3 Yr Nursery** - Stephanie Shick
- 3-4 Yr Nursery** - Dawn Mahoney
- Children's Worship** - Kathy Samaha,
Babs Bowers, Deedee Vaughters
- Greeters 8:45** - Phyllis and Bobby Coker,
Ed Farmer, Paula and Barry Clayton
- Sunday School Greeter** - Beverly Burch
- Greeters 11:00** - Jack & Libby Taylor,
John & Joyce Bowman, Dot & Lee Poe
- Sunday AM Host (Mar 4)**
Bobby Coker
- Evening Hosts**
- Sunday (Mar 4) - Lamar Keisler
- Monday - Tom Nance
- Tuesday - John Tucker, Jr.
- Wednesday - Edward Yeh
- Thursday - Charles McKeel
- Friday - Dennis Fish
- Saturday - Mike Uhle

BAPTISM: *Receiving the Sacrament of Holy Baptism on Sunday, February 25, was **Hunter Elle Creasy**, daughter of **Gage & Rachel Creasy**.*

CONDOLENCES: *Deepest sympathy is extended to the following members who have recently experienced losses of family members:*

***Brenda Meeks** in the death of her brother, **Clifford McAfee**, in Wrightsville, GA, on February 18.*

***David Schenken** in the death of his brother in New Orleans on February 18.*

***George Howle** in the death of his uncle, **Brooks Gandy**, in Hartsville, SC, on February 20.*

***Rich Thomason** in the death of his father, **Homer Clifford Thomason**, in Slidell, LA, on February 21.*

HOSPITALIZED: **Doctor's Hospital** - Betty Minear; **VA-Augusta** - Charles Lide; **Univ.** - Dot Tolar; **Aiken** - Jimmy Player, Mary Herold, Reba Courtney; **Discharged to Trinity Place** - Wyatt Johnson

What an amazing blessing that St. John's would have this beautiful wheelchair ramp ministry. Special thanks.

Elmer & Mary Jo Wilson and Mark & Betsy Mahoney

FROM THE FINANCE OFFICE

Due to client confidentiality, brokers will no longer be able to submit the name of the person or persons donating stock to the church.



We are therefore requesting that if you plan to donate stock that you contact the Finance Office with all the necessary information so that we may administer the funds properly.

Returning to St. John's on Sunday, March 11, is **FELIX HELL**, the talented young organist who was part of the 2005 series of concerts introducing the newly installed organ. Mr. Hell's concert will begin at 4 pm and is free to the public.



FUN TUESDAY for Retirees will be held in Ward Hall next Tuesday, March 6, from 10am until 11:30. This time is a good mix of fellowship, food, fun and exercise. Join them and find out for yourself!

ST JOHN'S UMYF cordially invites you to dinner following 11am worship next Sunday, March 4. No reservations needed and no tickets necessary. However, all contributions will be gratefully received. Proceeds from the dinner will be distributed between Salkehatchie and Christ Central. Please plan to join them for this fund-raising effort. Menu planned: lasagna, salad and strawberry shortcake.

REMEMBER
FOOD FOR ACTS WHEN
YOU COME TO WORSHIP
NEXT SUNDAY MORNING.

NO FELLOWSHIP SUPPER
on
March 7
Please join us again on
March 14

Financials for week ending February 24, 2007

| | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|
| Budgetary needs for the week | \$ 28,907 |
| Budgetary funds rec'd this week | \$ 74,075 |
| Budget needs to date | \$ 122,957 |
| Budget funds rec'd to date | \$ 279,709 |
| St John's loan amt w/Security Fed | \$2,025,708.32 |

| Last Week's Worship Attendance | |
|---|-----|
| 8:45 | 164 |
| 11:00 | 439 |
| Emmaus | 11 |
| Total | 614 |
| SS | 310 |

St. John's Youth News

NO UMYF MEETING SUNDAY, MARCH 4.

REMEMBER THAT YOUR ASSISTANCE IS NEEDED ON SATURDAY TO HELP WITH SET-UP FOR SUNDAY'S DINNER AFTER 11 AM WORSHIP.



ON SUNDAY, VOLUNTEERS NEED TO ARRIVE BY 10:45 TO HELP WITH COOKING AND SERVING.

CONFIRMATION CLASS OF 2007 will have its first meeting Sunday, March 4, at 5 pm in Ward Hall. The class will be primarily made up of 7th graders and their mentors but *Confirmation is also open to any youth or adult who is not a member of St. John's* but would like to learn what it means to be a Christian and how to live a life



in relevant relationship with God. Contact Terry Fleming at 648-6891 (church) or 644-8496 (home) with any questions. **YOUR RSVP IS IMPORTANT!**

Spring begins on Wednesday, March 21! Let's celebrate by re-energizing the **WEDNESDAY MORNING PRAYER SHAWL GROUP**. We'll meet in the Parlor at 9:30 am. Instructions and some yarn are available. Questions? Call Nancy Perrine, 649-0318.

PRAYER LIST is updated weekly and available on the website or a printed copy may be found on a table in the narthex of the sanctuary for those interested.



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER SERVICE, sponsored by Church Women United, will be held at Mt. Moriah Baptist Church, 3522 Trolley Line Rd NW in Aiken, on Saturday, March 3, beginning at 10 am.

CELEBRATE ST. JOHN'S: PICTURE REQUEST

The written and pictorial history of St. John's UMC, Aiken, is being updated. We are seeking photographs of the old church and parsonages, group photographs, pictures of events at the church or sponsored by the church over the years. We need the date, the names of those pictures, the name of the group pictured, an explanation of what is pictured and also your name so the picture(s) may be returned. Several potential uses for these photographs are possible beyond the updated church history.

Pictures may be left at the church office in envelopes marked to the attention of Bob Kosky. Also, please advise of any larger size memorabilia that could be photographed for possible use.

Bob Kosky, Chair - Celebrate St. John's Committee

CHILDREN'S CORNER

Our family activity for March will be bowling!

Mark your calendar for Sunday, March 11th, from 4pm to 6pm at Family Bowl. Family Bowl is located at 1100 Park Avenue SE.

Be sure to look for more details in next week's newsletter. We hope you and your family will join us!



O.A.R.S. SCHEDULE FOR SUNDAY, MARCH 4, 2007:

| | | |
|---|------------------|--|
| 1 ST GRADE: | JOYFUL NOISE | |
| 2 ND GRADE: | CREATION STATION | |
| 3 RD GRADE: | PALMS & PSALMS | |
| 4 TH GRADE: | HOLYWOOD CINEMAS | |
| 5 TH /6 TH GRADE GIRLS: | THOU ART | |
| 5 TH /6 TH GRADE BOYS: | FROM BC TO PC | |

In addition to VITA, **TAX HELP IS ALSO AVAILABLE FROM AARP TAX-AIDE**. Their assistance is provided free of charge for taxpayers with low- and middle-incomes, with special attention to those age 60 and older. For an appointment time at the Aiken Public Library (Monday-Thursday, 10-2), phone 642-2023. An alternative site (Mondays only, 10-2) is the Nancy Carson Library in North Augusta, phone 279-5767.

MISSION STATEMENT:

**WE GROW IN FAITH AND NUMBER
BY SHARING THE GOOD NEWS
OF JESUS CHRIST, THROUGH WORSHIP,
NURTURE AND SERVICE.**

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