

CALENDAR

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| <u>Sunday</u> 9:00 a.m. 9:40 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m. 3:00 p.m. | <u>October 23rd</u> Morning Worship Coffee and doughnuts in FH Morning Worship <i>Half Truths</i> study, FH Lucia Rehearsal |
| <u>Monday</u> 9:00 - 3:00 p.m. 9:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m. | <u>October 24th</u> Kindermusik Prayer Group Pacesetters, FH |
| <u>Tuesday</u> 12:00 p.m. | <u>October 25th</u> Brown Bag Study on Grace |
| <u>Wednesday</u> 5:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 7:30 p.m. | <u>October 26th</u> Children's Choirs Prayers & Squares, Rm 107 Wednesday Night Supper Fall Festival, all ages, FH Chancel Choir Rehearsal |
| <u>Friday</u> 9:00-12:00 p.m. | <u>October 28th</u> Homeschool Music Classes |
| <u>Sunday</u> 9:00 a.m. 9:40 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m. 1:00 p.m. 3:00 p.m. 4:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m. | <u>October 30th</u> Morning Worship Coffee and doughnuts in FH Morning Worship Join us for Lunch!, FH <i>Half Truths</i> study, Misfits 112 Lucia Rehearsal Lucia Parent Meeting Cecelia Ensemble Rehearsal in Choir Room |
| <u>Monday</u> 9:00 a.m. -3:00 p.m. 9:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m. | <u>October 31st</u> Kindermusik Prayer Group Shake Your Soul, Choir Room |
| <u>Tuesday</u> 12:00 p.m. | <u>November 1st</u> Brown Bag Study on Grace |
| <u>Wednesday</u> 5:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 7:30 p.m. | <u>November 2nd</u> Children's Choirs Prayers & Squares, Rm 107 Wednesday Night Supper Adult Program, B2B Kids, UMYF Chancel Choir Rehearsal |
| <u>Friday</u> 9:00-12:00 p.m. | <u>November 4th</u> Homeschool Music Classes |
| <u>Saturday</u> 4:00 p.m. - | <u>November 5th</u> Harvest Festival |

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 Augusta, GA
 Permit #411

St. John United Methodist Church
 P.O. Box 444
 Augusta, GA 30903-0444

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NEWS FROM THE PEWS
ST. JOHN UMC
 736 Greene St.; Augusta GA 30901
 Office : 706.724.9641 Fax: 706.724.9644
 www.stjohnaugusta.org

October 23 — November 5, 2016

Money Matters ... or the Sermon on the Amount!

Some people think that money has nothing to do with our spiritual lives, but they would be wrong. Jesus understood that the way we relate to money impacts the way we live, how we relate to others, and how we relate to God. Its use and misuse impacts our relationship to God. "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." *Luke 12:34* The primary reason for giving is not to help the church but to help the giver grow spiritually. ***Giving Makes a Joyful Heart!***

Jesus spoke about money and possession very frequently. In the book *The Parables of Jesus*, Buttrick lists 43 parables: 27 of those, or 62%, refer to possessions. One out of every 10 verses in the four gospels deals with money. The Bible refers to prayer 500 times; fewer than 500 verses are about faith; and over 2,000 verses are about money and its use or misuse.

Our 5th Sunday covered dish lunch is Sunday October 30th as well as our Celebration Commitment Sunday. It is the day we re-commit ourselves to God as we come forward at the close of the worship service to pray and place our estimate card in the baskets. It is a big day in the life of the Church. I hope that you have been praying about what you expect to give. If you are not currently giving a tithe (10% of your income), I hope you will consider it. I dare you to try it for 3 months and see how doable it is. Write the check to the church first (that's what the phrase "first fruits" is about; it's from the Old Testament). Give to God first. If you still don't think it is possible, pick a percentage of your income (and increase it each year till you get to the biblical 10% standard) and give on a regular basis. It will teach you about managing all that you have been given, and it will bring you joy.

I know there are those that have tithed for years, and God has blessed them, but there are others that have missed out on the gift of giving. I want you to step out in faith and double the amount that you gave last year. For some, that will not be difficult at all; therefore, do more. For others, to double your giving may be unrealistic. What I'm getting at is that we should give sacrificially; we should give something that actually cost us something and means something. Real giving does not come from God's demand but from our desire. Hopefully this season of stewardship has been a time of prayer, reflection, and thought. We do not give under compulsion, but our giving is a joyful response to God's grace and mercy.

I am excited because we will receive these estimates and build a budget for 2017. I'm excited because as you stretch your giving you will be stretching your faith. This stretching will allow us to do more in ministry and mission in 2017. Our leaders have been building a vision for what God is calling us to do. Now it is time to underwrite the vision. I hope that you will continue to pray for your church and your pastor as we move forth - as we continue to learn that ***Giving Makes a Joyful Heart!***

Jody Alderman

Worship Service

October 23, 2016

Theme: Giving Makes a Joyful Heart

Sermon: Learning to Invest

Matthew 13:1-9, 19-23; Joel 2:23-32;

Psalms 65; 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18; Luke 18:9-14

Worship Service

October 30, 2016

Theme: Giving Makes a Joyful Heart

Sermon: Giving Makes a Joyful Heart!

Luke 19:1-10; Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4;

Psalms 119:137-144; 2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12; Luke 19:1-10

5th Sunday Lunch! We invite you to join us after the 11am Celebration Sunday service. We will provide chicken, ham, vegetables, and tea, and we ask you to share a side dish or dessert! If the weather's nice, we'll set some tables out in the courtyard as well!

Ladies, Literature, and Laughter

On Tuesday, October 25, 2016 Judy Ellis (572 Martin Lane, Augusta, GA) will serve as our hostess while Karen Wish will lead our discussion of *The Girls of Atomic City* by Denise Kiernan.

We may also have a guest who moved to the Atomic City when she was 3 years old and lived there until she married. Her father was on the management team for telephone and other communications during that era.

We should have an excellent discussion. Please RSVP to Judy at 706-733-0228 or by e-mail to Sally at bobfisher09@comcast.net

Wednesday Night Supper **October 26, 2016**

Program: Fall Festival Night for all ages

Menu: Hot Dogs and Hamburgers, Chicken, Tater tots, Baked beans, Salad, Brownies, tea, and coffee.

Wednesday Night Supper **November 2, 2016**

Program: Join us for discussion on Anne Lamott's book, *Traveling Mercies*, led by Jim Garvey

Menu: Chicken and Dumplings, Pease and Carrots, Green bean Casserole, Congealed Salad, Peach Cobbler, Rolls, tea and coffee.

Cost: Adults: \$7; Youth (7-12) \$3; Children (3-6) \$1; Children under 3 are free. To reserve or cancel, call the church office at 706-724-9641 by 12:00 p.m. on the Tuesday before.

Or fill out an online supper reservation form.

Our Prayers

The family of **George Lee, Cliff Richards**, Diddy Thompson, The family of Charlie Shirley, Kay Gross and family, Shell Knox, Evelyn Bird, Gail Kitchens, Jackie Lott, The Hale House, New Bethlehem Community Center, The Stith Mead House, Military at home and deployed overseas, and the troubled corners of our world.

Sunday

Preaching
Liturgist

Lay Reader

Ushers

Acolyte

Crucifer

Offering Counters

Sound Technicians

Sunday

Preaching
Liturgist

Lay Reader

Ushers

Acolyte

Crucifer

Offering Counters

Sound Technicians

October 23rd

The Reverend Dr. Jody Alderman

Rich Laschober, 9 a.m.

Bonnie Hodges, 11 a.m.

Rich Laschober, 9 a.m.

Marion Butler, 11 a.m.

Ronald Strom, 9 a.m.

William Walker, Chair; Mark Fissel,

Don Gordon, Suzanne Gordon, Phil Hargrove,

Lansing Lee III, Tim Maund, Curt Strickland, 11 a.m.

Harper James

Aiden Grant

Charles Piercy and Bob Claussen

Rich Laschober, 9a.m.

Carol Capers, 11 a.m.

October 30th

The Reverend Dr. Jody Alderman

Allen Smith, 9 a.m.

Vic Johnson, 11 a.m.

Allen Smith, 9 a.m.

Bobby James, 11 a.m.

Bob Zeyfang, 9 a.m.

William Walker, Chair; Mark Fissel,

Don Gordon, Suzanne Gordon, Phil Hargrove,

Lansing Lee III, Tim Maund, Curt Strickland, 11 a.m.

Abby Kight

Catherine Blanchard

Charlie Tudor and Ted Klein

Rich Laschober, 9a.m.

Nichole Kuehl, 11 a.m.



Advent Decorations: Please contact Anna Butler, 706-799-8198, if you would like to remember or honor a loved one with any of the church decorations during the Advent Season.

HONORARIUMS AND MEMORIALS

Budget: In memory of Pat Setzer by Betty Flowers; In memory of Charlie Williamson, Marshall Allen, Mary Lou Dennis, Clinton and Peggy Lewis by Dr. Theo & Artemisia Thevaos; In memory of Charlie Shirley by Joan & Charles Piercy; In honor of Curt & Patty Strickland by Joan & Charles Piercy; In honor of Carolyn Maund's birthday by Frances Altizer.

Bless This House: In memory of Pat Setzer and in honor of Curt & Patty Strickland by Robert & Clara Claussen; In memory of John & Caryl Radke by Robert E. Roberts; In memory of Rev. Rudy Baker by W. Wynn Riley; In honor of Carolyn Maund's birthday and in honor of Sandy Rockman by Patty & Curt Strickland.

Our October warm clothing drive ends Oct 30th!

Spread the warmth this year by donating items for our clothes closet. We can use clean, gently worn or new, coats, jackets, sweaters, hats, gloves, and socks for all sizes. Clean blankets and sleeping bags in good condition are also accepted. Donated items may be placed on the coat rack outside the office or in the boxes underneath through October 30th. You may also deliver items directly to the clothes closet at 432 8th St., Tuesday through Thursdays, 10am-1pm.

All Ages Fall Festival Night

Join us for dinner and fun on Wednesday, Oct 26th in the Fellowship Hall. No costumes needed as dressing each other up will be part of the fun. Games, treats, and prizes for all! Drop any small costume items (mark it with your name for return) to the box in the church office by Tuesday, Oct 25th.

Harvest Festival at the Lake!

Come Saturday, November 5th beginning at 4pm at the Lake Property for the Annual Harvest Festival! Please bring a side or dessert, or, if you wish, a crock pot of chili for the cook-off. This year we will continue the apple dessert contest as well. The church will provide hot dogs and drinks. Games, campfire, hayrides and sunset! You don't want to miss it! Rain delay: Nov. 12th.

PACESETTER MEETING

Monday, October 24th - 11:00 am - St. John Fellowship Hall

Our speaker will be Dr. Linda Tucciarone, Executive Director, Heritage Academy, who will speak briefly about the excellent work being done at this private Christian School. Afterwards, we will be treated to a **MUSICAL PERFORMANCE** by some of the children. Join us for this entertaining program, and invite a friend!

Lunch following the meeting for \$7.00 for those choosing to stay.

St. John wishes to extend sympathy to Lizzie Grant upon the loss of her father George Lee and to Cliff Richards upon the loss of his mother.