

Calendar

Sunday, 9:00 a.m. 9:40 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 12:15 p.m. 3:00 p.m.	January 15th Morning Worship Coffee and doughnuts in FH Morning Worship Trustees Meeting Lucia Rehersal
Monday,	January 16th Church Office Closed
Wednesday, 5:00 p.m. 5:15 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 6:45 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	January 18th Children’s Choirs Safe Sanctuary Training, Parlor Wednesday Night Supper Adult Program, B2B Kids, UMYF Safe Sanctuary Training, Parlor Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Thursday, 10:30-12:30	January 19th Kindermusik
Friday, 9:00 a.m.	January 20th Homeschool Music Classes
Sunday, 9:00 a.m. 9:40 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m. 3:00 p.m.	January 22nd- Rev. Terry Phillips Morning Worship Coffee and doughnuts in FH Morning Worship Covered Dish Lunch, FH Lucia Rehearsal
Monday, 9:30-3:00 9:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	January 23rd Kindermusik Prayer Group Pacesetters
Wednesday, 5:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	January 25th Children’s Choirs Wednesday Night Supper Adult Program, B2B Kids, UMYF Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Thursday 10:30-12:30	January 26th Kindermusik
Friday, 9:00 a.m.	January 27th Homeschool Music Classes

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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

January 15 –28, 2017

We have probably heard the saying “Jesus is the reason for the season” and I certainly agree with that statement. But I want to explore a bit further the meaning behind the phrase “Jesus is the reason.” Jesus is the purpose of God, the Logos, the Word; because of him, we have life and light. This purpose became flesh. This is what the Gospel of John tells us. What does it mean to us that Jesus is our reason?

I had a recent conversation with a pastor friend of mine regarding leadership. He said in the corporate world there is a tendency to start with the “what” and work backwards to the “how” and then the “why.” Even some churches do that, but that does not make for a vital, thriving church.

The way to begin is to ask the “Why” question. As we consider a new year, the church leadership and the church staff are going to be asked: What is the “Why” for St John? This is a time of reflection, prayer and resting in the presence of God. During this season, pray for the leadership and the staff as we draw closer to Christ and each other. Hopefully, we will model this approach in our own spiritual lives.

How often have we been like Martha in the New Testament story worried about the meal and all the details when we see Mary resting at the feet of Jesus? And yet Jesus says she has chosen the better thing. What we need is both Martha and Mary. Mary helps us reflect; Martha gets the food on the table. Our spiritual lives need both. If we don’t have the Martha’s, we wouldn’t get to eat very much. Jesus became flesh and dwelt among us. Jesus is our purpose, and Jesus had a plan. Jesus had a reason, and Jesus discovered a “how” and a “what.”

May God guide our leaders this year as we seek to listen for God’s call in our lives together.

Blessings to you in this New Year.

Jody Alderman

Worship Service

January 15, 2017

Sermon: Come and See

*Sermon Scripture: John 1:29-42
Isaiah 49:1-7; Psalm 40:1-11; 1 Corinthians 1:1-9*

Worship Service

January 22, 2017

Guest Preacher: Rev. Terry Phillips

*Matthew 4:12-23; Isaiah 9:1-4;
Psalm 27:1, 4-9; 1 Corinthians 1:10-18*

The Ladies, Literature, and Laughter Book Club

will meet at 7:00 pm on Tuesday, January 24, 2017 at the home of Holley Renno, located at 3535 Lakestone Court, Augusta, Ga. phone: 706-650-1533 or katorenno@comcast.net. Please notify her whether or not you will attend. Sandy Hobbs will lead the discussion of our book, *The Goldfinch* by Donna Tart. We welcome you to join us.

Safe sanctuary training will be held Wednesday, January 18 at 5 pm or at 6:45 pm in the parlor for all those who wish to work with our children and youth. RSVP to Nichole, Ntkuehl@stjohnaugusta.org.

Wednesday Night Supper January 18, 2017

Program: Bad Girls of the Bible

Menu: Meatballs / Chicken, Spaghetti, Green vegetables, tossed salad, brownies, french bread, tea, and coffee.

Wednesday Night Supper January 25, 2017

Program: Bad Boys of the Bible

Menu: Chicken Tetrizzini, peas and carrots, green beans, fruit salad, cake, 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.

Looking for a way to serve at St. John?
We need office volunteers.

If you are interested or have any questions,
please contact Traci Fryant at
706-724-9641 or tfryant@stjohnaugusta.org

Our Prayers

The family of Connie Blanchard,
Parmie Lay, Gary DeMore, The family of Jackie Lott,
Eve Richardson, David Lewis, Don Gordon,
Curtis Oglesby, Tom Rogers, 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

January 15th

The Reverend Dr. Jody Alderman
Allen Smith, 9 a.m.
Dennis Hollins, 11 a.m.
Rich Laschober, 9 a.m.
Jeanne Lee, 11 a.m.
Ronald Strom, 9 a.m.

William Walker, Chair; Bill Bohling; Don Gordon;
Susan Gordon; Colin Gordy; Phil Hargrove; Dennis Hollins;
Lansing Lee, III; Tim Maund; Curt Strickland; 11 a.m.

January 22nd

Preaching
Liturgist

Lay Reader

Ushers

Acolyte

Crucifer

Offering Counters

Sound Technicians

The Reverend Dr. Jody Alderman
Allen Smith, 9 a.m.
Patty Strickland, 11 a.m.
Rich Laschober, 9 a.m.
Bobby James, 11 a.m.
Frank Fidler, 9a.m.

William Walker, Chair; Bill Bohling; Don Gordon;
Susan Gordon; Colin Gordy; Phil Hargrove; Dennis Hollins;
Lansing Lee, III; Tim Maund; Curt Strickland; 11 a.m.

Abby Kight
Aiden Grant
Chip Matson and Becky Rogers
Ronald and Donna Strom, 9 a.m.
Carol Capers, 11 a.m.

The St. John staff wishes to thank everyone for the love offering so
generously donated this Christmas.

HONORARIUMS AND MEMORIALS

Budget: In honor of Beth & Lansing Lee by William Walker, Jr.

Bless This House: In honor of Tim & Carolyn Maund
by Anne & Dick Manning

Endowment Fund: Mr. & Mrs. Joseph W. Evans
by Joseph W. Evans, Jr. & Debbie Evans.

Get your books for these Winter Studies!

The Call: the Life and Message of the Apostle Paul by Adam Hamilton. This includes a dvd component as we visit the places Paul journeyed. We have 2 class options to fit your schedule: Sunday afternoons at 1:00 p.m. led by Nesbit Dasher, beginning Jan. 8th, or Tuesdays at noon, led by Nichole Kuehl, beginning January 17th at our Brown Bag Bible Study.

Methodism 101 will be offered for 4 Sundays, Jan 22 – Feb 12 at 10 am in the library. Led by our pastor, Dr. Jody Alderman, this is an introduction to what Methodism is all about for new members, visitors, or those who want a refresher! Let the church office know if you plan to attend.

We continue our book club on February 1st after dinner with *Blood Brothers: the Dramatic Story of a Palestinian Christian Working for Peace in Israel* by Elias Chacour, led by Jane Baldrige.

Find books online, at area bookstores, or reserve a copy through the church office. Some are available in large print or ebook editions.



On January 22nd, our guest preacher will be Reverend Terry Phillips, St. John's pastor from 1998 to 2004. All are invited to a covered dish lunch. You are encouraged to bring a side dish or dessert. Please plan to come!

PACESETTER MEETING

Monday - January 23, 2017 - 11:00 am - St. John Fellowship Hall
Guest speaker will be our pastor Dr. Jody Alderman, who will share his life story and faith journey with us and invite us to share our stories. Invite a Friend!

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