



DECEMBER CALENDAR



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

Return service requested



NEWS FROM THE PEWS ST. JOHN UMC

736 Greene St.; Augusta GA 30901
Office : 706.724.9641 Fax: 706.724.9644
www.stjohnaugusta.org

December 3– 16, 2017

Sunday,
9:00 a.m.
9:30 a.m.
10:00 a.m.
11:00 a.m.
3:00 p.m.
Monday,
9:30 a.m.– 3 p.m.
9:30 a.m.
Wednesday,
5:00 p.m.
6:00 p.m.
6:40 p.m.
7:30 p.m.
Thursday,
9:30 a.m.– 12:30 p.m.
Friday,
9:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.
Sunday,
9:00 a.m.
9:30 a.m.
10:00 a.m.
11:00 a.m.
Monday,
9:30 a.m.– 3 p.m.
9:30 a.m.
10:00 a.m.
7:00 p.m.
Tuesday,
6:00 p.m.
Wednesday,
5:00 p.m.
6:00 p.m.
6:40 p.m.
7:30 p.m.
Thursday,
9:30 a.m.– 12:30 p.m.
7:00 p.m.
Friday,
9:00 a.m.—11:30 a.m.

December 3
Morning Worship
Coffee and doughnuts, FH
Sunday School for all ages
Morning Worship
Lucia Rehearsal
December 4
Kindermusik
Prayer Group
December 6
Junior and Wesley Choirs
Supper, Fellowship Hall
Programs for all ages
Chancel Choir Rehearsal
December 7
Kindermusik
December 8
Homeschool Music Classes
December 10
Morning Worship
Coffee and doughnuts, FH
Sunday School for all ages
Morning Worship
December 11
Kindermusik
Prayer Group
Shake Your Soul
UMW, Georgia Vesely
December 12
Church Council Dinner & Meeting
December 13
Junior and Wesley Choirs
Supper, Fellowship Hall
Programs for all ages
Chancel Choir Rehearsal
December 14
Kindermusik
Davidson Fine Arts Concert
December 15
Homeschool Music Classes

«AddressBlock»

The Christmas Question

Advent begins Sunday December 3, 2017. Advent means “coming” or “arrival.” But we want to get right to Christmas; why slow things down? We must if we are going to get any kind of grasp on what this mystery of incarnation might mean.

So let’s here from God’s word about some of the waiting that has been taking place through the centuries:

“But as for me, I watch in hope for the Lord, I wait for God my Savior; My God will hear me.” Micah 7:7

“For God alone my soul waits in silence, for my hope is from him.” Psalm 62:5

“But I will keep on hoping for your help; I will praise you more and more.” Psalm 71:14

“Blessed are you who wait for the Lord.” Isaiah 30:18

“But if we hope for what we do not have, we wait for it patiently.” Romans 8:25

Hundreds, thousands of passages about waiting, but waiting is not what we want. We want things repaired right now. We want a pill that will bring immediate relief. We google the answer to our questions at the dinner table (at least that’s what my family does.) We get anxious when the microwave is too slow. We pray for healing and it doesn’t come.

Our theme for this Advent season is “What are you waiting for?” We are frustrated at times because we want easy solutions to difficult problems. What good is waiting? What *are* we waiting for? That’s a good question. Oh yes, we know the quick answer is the birth of the Christ Child, Emmanuel, God with us, but what might that really mean to us if we really considered it? Contemplated it? Prayed about it? Sat in quiet stillness pondering it?

Christmas will come soon enough, but the waiting itself is worthwhile because in the waiting is when God is teaching us. What might God be teaching you this season?

Blessings to you as you consider the season.

Jody Alderman

**Worship Service
December 3, 2017**

Advent: What are you waiting for?; When?

*Sermon Scripture: Mark 13:24-37
Isaiah 64:1-9; Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19; 1 Corinthians 1:3-9*

**Worship Service
December 10, 2017**

Advent: What are you waiting for?; Do What?

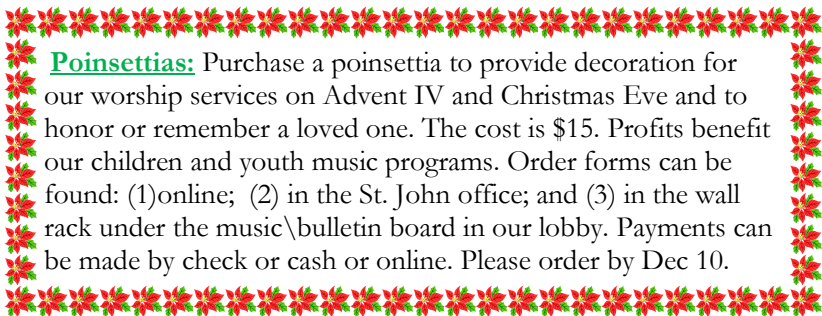
*Sermon Scripture: Mark 1:1-8
Isaiah 40:1-11; Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13; 2 Peter 3:8-15a*



Advent Decorations: Please contact Martha Spooner or Paula Matson, if you would like to remember or honor a loved one with any of the church decorations during the Advent Season.

Christmas Love Offering:

The Staff-Parish Relations Committee would like our congregation to express appreciation to the church staff with a love offering this Christmas. Throughout the year our staff has provided outstanding service to us. Please place your check or envelope marked "Staff Christmas Offering" in the offering plate on Sundays. Also, please take time to thank these fine folks for all they do for us throughout the year.



Poinsettias: Purchase a poinsettia to provide decoration for our worship services on Advent IV and Christmas Eve and to honor or remember a loved one. The cost is \$15. Profits benefit our children and youth music programs. Order forms can be found: (1) online; (2) in the St. John office; and (3) in the wall rack under the music bulletin board in our lobby. Payments can be made by check or cash or online. Please order by Dec 10.

9:00 am Chapel Service: Our 9:00 am worship service will be held in the Chapel beginning December 3, the First Sunday of Advent, through Dec 17. We feel that this will make our service more intimate. We will *not* be having a 9:00 am worship service on December 24 nor December 31. We will resume the normal 9:00 am worship schedule in the Sanctuary on January 7, 2018.

Our Prayers

Carol Capers, Vivian Stampley, Jim Richardson, Sally Fisher, Leonard Brubaker, Dorothy Millen, Don Beck, 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 Communion Stewards Assisting with Communion Bread Baker Acolyte Crucifer Offering Counters Sound Technicians

The Reverend Dr. Jody Alderman
Allen Smith, 9 a.m.
Becky Moon, 11 a.m.
Shirley Markle, 9 a.m.
Nesbit Dasher, 11 a.m.
Kathy Morris, 9 a.m.
Charles Piercy, Lead Usher; Gerry Aldridge; Carol Klein; Lansing Lee, III; Roy Stampley, Jr.; Charlie Tudor; William Walker 11 a.m.
Rita Laschober, 9 a.m.
Linda Walker and Jencie Hargrove, 11 a.m.
Fredrica Clary, Alison Wright and Jeanne Lee
Mary Ottinger
TBD
TBD
Rolston Wilder and Melissa Spurr
Rich Laschober, 9 a.m.
Bobby James, 11 a.m.

December 3

Sunday

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.
Mark Fissel, 11 a.m.
Rich Laschober, 9 a.m.
Charlie Tudor, Lead Usher; Mark Fissel; Don Gordon; Suzanne Gordon; Lansing Lee, III; Donna Leone; Vivian Stampley; Roy Stampley; 11 a.m.
TBD
TBD
Chip Matson and Becky Rogers
Ronald and Donna Strom, 9 a.m.
Michael Young, 11 a.m.

December 10

Give the gift of time and service to your church!
Office helpers needed one day a week and offering counters on Sundays.
Call or email Traci at tfryant@stjohnaugusta.org

HONORARIUMS AND MEMORIALS

Bless This House: In memory of Levings Laney by Qtr. Century Club of Georgia Railroad Bank & Trust c/o Dodie Burd.

Clarks Hill: In memory of Paul Kent Plunkett, Jr. by Bud Wardlaw; Betty & James Raley; and John & Amanda Barnes.

Wednesday Night Supper December 6, 2017

Menu: Chicken tetrazzini, roasted vegetables, green beans, congealed salad, orange cake, rolls, tea, and coffee.

Wednesday Night Supper December 13, 2017

Menu: Pepper steak/chicken, rice, broccoli casserole tossed salad, ice cream, french bread, 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. You may also fill out a supper reservation form online.

Wednesday Programs in December

Dec 6 & 13 - Advent Study: Max Lucado's *Because of Bethlehem* (Adults), Room 108.
Books available but not required.

Take the time for yourself to explore the question: "How am I preparing for the King?"
- United Methodist Youth Fellowship (UMYF), 214
- Homework Help (3rd-12th Grade), Library
- M & M Club (Methodists & Missions) (Pre-K - 2nd Grade), 109

Dec 20 - Our annual Birthday Party for Jesus! The Childrens' choirs present the nativity through carols in the choir room.
We finish with a giant birthday cake!

Dec 27 & Jan 3 - No supper, programs, or choirs

Important:

Church Council Meeting. Tuesday, December 12. Dinner at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Meeting at 6:30 p.m. All 2017 church council members are required to vote on the budget and discuss other necessary items of business. Please RSVP for dinner reservations by Sunday, December 10, by emailing or calling the church office. (Donations appreciated for dinner costs.)