



# St. John

AUGUSTA

**St. John United Methodist Church  
Charge Conference  
November 10, 2024  
6:30 p.m. \* St. John Sanctuary**

Attending: Rev. Dr. Beth Sanders (District Superintendent), Rev. Jenny Anderson, Celia Lozada (District Administrative Asst.), Jenn Byrd (District Lay Leader), Rich Bias, Jim Garvey, Sawyer Branham, Tonya Currier, Mark Barron, Beth Dixon, Charles Dixon, Jeanne B. Lee, Alison Wright, Dan Griggs, Mary Ottinger, Georgia Vesely, Sarah Thomas, Nancy Clements, Kelly Thomas, Virginia Allen, Mary Ann Scaper, Stephanie Quattlebaum, Pam Light, Jim Barrow (non-voting member), Carol Capers, Greg Capers, Deborah Barron, Jamie Garvey, Kathy DeLoach, Pat DeLoach, Paula Matson, Chip Matson, Karen Phelps, Greg Goodwin, Judith Goodwin

**6:31 p.m. - Welcome**

Jenny welcomed everyone, gave an overview of the meeting agenda, and explained the proposed Hurricane Helene Building Recovery Committee.

**6:34 p.m. - Prayer**

District Lay Leader Jenn Byrd prayed.

**6:36 p.m. – Call to Order**

District Superintendent Beth Sanders called the 2024 Charge Conference for St. John UMC to order.

**6:37 p.m. – Election of Recording Secretary**

Beth asked for a nomination to elect a secretary for the meeting. Beth Dixon nominated Alison Wright. The group voted, and Alison was approved as the secretary.

**6:38 p.m. - District Greetings and Celebrations**

Beth Sanders shared that, as of July, there are now five districts rather than eight, and St. John is in the Southeast District. The District office is now in Athens, and the District Office that was in Augusta is now closed. This is a time of rebuilding following Covid, disaffiliation, Hurricane Helene, etc. The new Southeast District staffing is Beth Sanders, District Superintendent; Alissa Rothschild, Regional Developer; and Celia Lozada, District Administrative Assistant. As of September 1, Bishop Dease presides over the North GA and South GA Conferences. It is anticipated there will be one GA Conference in two years.

Beth acknowledged the effects of Hurricane Helene on the Augusta area. She is appreciative of the help and hope St. John provided, and her prayers remain with us.

### **6:48 p.m. – Business of the Charge Conference**

-Approval of the Lay Leadership Report (Nominations): Jenny shared the Nominations to the Leadership Board for 2025 which was provided with the Charge Conference agenda, particularly pointing out the class of 2027. She welcomed questions, and none were asked. A vote was taken, and the nominations were approved.

-Hurricane Helene Recovery and Renovation Team (provided with the agenda): Jenny shared that the team will elect a Chair. After questions and discussion, a vote was taken, and the team was unanimously received for 2024-2025.

-Approval of the Pastor(s) Financial Support: Tonya Currier presented the Pastor Compensation Package (provided with the agenda) and shared that it is within the recommendations and guidelines that were given at Annual Conference. The compensation package was voted on and approved. Beth Sanders thanked the group for providing a cost of living increase to Jenny and for supporting her in other ways as well.

-Approval of Lay Servants and Approval of Candidates for Ministry: There were none, but Beth reminded the group of these opportunities.

### **7:12 p.m. – Celebration of Life**

Jenny named the saints of St. John who died in the past year and the new members who have joined. So far this year eleven people have joined St. John. Jenny prayed for these saints and new members.

### **7:16 p.m. – Celebration of Mission**

Jenny said the Celebration of Mission was originally to be given by Allen Smith who served as Lay Leader for a very long time, and he was to be celebrated. The celebration will happen another time since Allen and Becky have moved. Jenny named the churches who have provided supplies and money in response to Hurricane Helene and celebrated the response and the UMC Connection.

### **7:26 p.m. – Commissioning**

Beth read from John 15 and shared related to the Scripture. The group joined in saying the Affirmation of Faith provided in the Charge Conference agenda.

### **7:38 p.m. – Adjournment and Benediction**

Submitted by Alison Wright, Recording Secretary