St. John Methodist Church Revelations

Volume XXII Issue XI **November 2026**

Our Ministry is on the RISE!

Pastor Charles Goodman, Jr.

As the weather begins to cool and the leaves begin to fall, **our ministry at St. John Methodist Church continues to RISE!**

While the seasons around us are changing, the spirit of our church remains strong and growing. We are blessed with a congregation that continues to worship with gladness, serve with willing hearts, and share the love of Jesus Christ throughout our church and community.

Psalm 100:2 reminds us to **"Serve the Lord with gladness."** Those simple words reflect the spirit of ministry we are witnessing at St. John. Ministry is not simply about what happens inside the church building on Sunday mornings. It is about people coming together, sharing their gifts, encouraging one another, and making a difference in the lives of others.

In fact, the word **RISE** provides a wonderful picture of what we are striving to accomplish as a church family.

RISE — Our Ministry in Action!

R — Reaching Our Community

Sharing Christ's love through outreach, hospitality, and compassion.

I — Inspiring Faith and Worship

Growing spiritually as we worship God and strengthen our relationship with Him.

S — Serving with Gladness

Giving our time, talents, and hearts to serve God and others.

E — Encouraging One Another

Building relationships, supporting one another, and growing together as a church family.

These are more than just words. They represent the heart of our ministry and the many wonderful things happening throughout our congregation.

Recognizing Our Ministry Moments

Over the past several weeks, we have witnessed some wonderful examples of our church putting faith into action. There is much to celebrate and many reasons to give thanks!

Faith, Football, and Fellowship!

We were delighted to host the Midland Valley High School Junior Varsity Football Team for their game meal. What a wonderful opportunity to encourage these young athletes, share a meal, and demonstrate the love and hospitality of our church. Sometimes ministry begins with something as simple as preparing a meal and making others feel welcome.

(Cont. on page 2)

A Fantastic Fall Festival!

Our recent Fall Festival welcomed more than 150 people for an evening filled with games, delicious food, laughter, fun, and fellowship! It was wonderful to see families, friends, and neighbors enjoying time together. Events like these remind us that the church is more than a place to gather for worship. It is a place where friendships are formed, families are welcomed, and our community comes together.

A Ministry of Dignity and Compassion!

St. John was also honored to support the Aiken County Paupers' Funeral held at Graniteville Cemetery. This meaningful service provided an opportunity to remember and honor individuals who had passed away, many of whom had little or limited support from family or friends. Through this ministry, we helped demonstrate a powerful truth: **Every life has value, every person deserves dignity, and no one should be forgotten.** Christian ministry is not always found in large gatherings or celebrations. Sometimes, it is expressed most powerfully through quiet acts of compassion, respect, and care for others.

Growing Together in Worship!

Our Sunday morning worship attendance continues to grow, and one of our greatest blessings is seeing a wonderful mix of individuals and families of all ages. From our youngest worshipers to our longtime faithful members, each person brings something special to the life of our congregation. A growing church is not measured by attendance alone, but also by the relationships we build, the faith we strengthen, and the love we share. Every new face is an opportunity for a new friendship, and every Sunday is another opportunity to grow together in Christ.

Investing in Our Children and Youth!

We have recently made additional audio and video upgrades in the Darby Building, providing valuable new resources to support our Children and Youth Ministry. These improvements will help enhance their activities, special events, educational programs, and fellowship gatherings.

Music That Lifts Our Spirits!

Our Music Ministry and Choir continue to bless us with wonderful special selections, beautiful songs, and inspiring music. We are grateful for the time, dedication, and talent of those who help lead us in worship. Music has a special way of touching our hearts, lifting our spirits, and reminding us of God's goodness. Thank you to everyone who shares their musical gifts in praise to the Lord!

Looking Ahead with Thankful Hearts

November promises to be another exciting month at St. John! We have some outstanding Sunday worship services planned, and we look forward to the meaningful opportunities for worship, fellowship, and service that lie ahead.

As we approach Thanksgiving, may we take time to recognize the many blessings God has placed before us. We are thankful for our church family, for those who faithfully serve, for the new faces joining us in worship, and for every opportunity God gives us to make a difference.

And as we prepare to enter the Advent season, may our hearts be filled with the hope, peace, joy, and love that come through Jesus Christ.

There is much to celebrate, much to be thankful for, and much more ministry yet to be accomplished.

The leaves may be falling, but our ministry is RISING!

Let us continue **Reaching** our community, **Inspiring** faith and worship, **Serving** with gladness, and **Encouraging** one another.

Whether we are welcoming a football team, serving our neighbors, honoring a life, singing a hymn, or simply offering a warm smile and a word of encouragement, each act of love becomes another opportunity to share Christ with others.

Together, with God's guidance and the faithful service of His people, we can continue making St. John Methodist Church a place where faith grows, friendships flourish, and God's love is shared.

Our ministry is on the RISE — and with God's help, the best is yet to come!



Council Corner

Separation Update -

We received the following notice from our NCLL lawyers today just before noon on October 12th –

Judge Gibbons has granted our motion to dismiss the Conference's lawsuit. First, that is a HUGE win! We are very excited about. However, the Conference will immediately be appealing this up to the South Carolina Supreme Court. So, this fight is not over, and it will continue in front of the South Carolina Supreme Court. We believe the judge feels that it should be reviewed by the Supreme Court and found this to be the best route to handle it. So, we go on to the Supreme Court of South Carolina! It is worth the celebration, BUT just know the fight is not over yet. Once they appeal, we will share that with all of you.

This is an extremely important step towards a successful outcome in our separation effort. Please continue to keep this process, our lawyers, and our legal system in your prayers.

Church Council Update –

The church council met on October 15th at 6PM to elect the leaders and committee members for 2027 -

Board of Directors		**Other Positions**	
Board/Council Chair	Peyton Northington	Worship Chair	Felicia Faulkner
PPRC Chair	Lynn Chapman	Workship Co-Chair	Suzanne West
Lay Leader	Chris Reames	Youth/Children Director	Esther Timmerman
Lay Ministry Chair	Felicia Faulkner	Kitchen Coordinator	Vicky Durden
Treasurer	Carroll Clark	Sunday School Superintendent	Alan Hayes
Trustees Chair	Alan Hayes	Disaster Relief Coordinator	Greg West
Pastor (Interim)	Charles Goodman	Technical Coordinator	John Holmes
Board Secretary	Kaela Lambert	Church/Financial Secretary	Kim Noah
		Music Director	Kaye Minor
Pastor Parish Relations	**Trustees**	**Finance**	**Members At Large**
Felicia Faulkner	Ginny Busbee	Kim Noah	Larry Clark
Kaela Lambert	Larry Chapman	Carroll Clark	Eldon Koch
Greg West	Russell Barton	Alan Hayes	John White
Vicky Durden	John Holmes	Felicia Faulkner	Rachel Reames
Steve Weeks	Bobbie Jean Padgett	Peyton Northington	Christy Sloan
Todd Hudson	Alan Hayes	Lynn Chapman	Julie Barton
Lynn Chapman	Lanny Hudson	Chris Reames	Margaret Kneece
John Herrin	Leon Hayes, Jr.		Clifton Chapman
Thomas Scott	Rodney Williams		Jessica Gunter

(Cont. on page 4)

It has been suggested that we move our Council Meetings to Sundays so our meetings for 2027 are presently scheduled on the following Sundays:

February 7th
May 16th (might be canceled following approval of the new ByLaws)
August 1st (might be canceled following approval of the new ByLaws)
October 17th

ByLaws Update –

During our preparation for separation last year, our church had to refile the necessary documents with the State Attorney General's Office to declare ourselves as an independent non-profit organization. As a part of this process, we prepared with our lawyers' assistance and approved our initial set of ByLaws for our church which defined our statement of faith and set forth the guidelines by which we govern and operate our church. Since those initial documents were filed, we have learned a lot during our first year as an independent church and have grown to understand some of the inadequacies in the format and content of our current ByLaws. With Pastor Goodman's assistance, we have developed a more comprehensive set of restated ByLaws that are better organized and more easily understood. Along with this process, we have begun work to update the policies and procedures necessary for our church. These policies and procedures update or define the requirements for our various programs – children's safety program, safe workplace requirements, etc.

The Board of Directors hopes to have all these documents ready for approval in early to mid-2027. When the ByLaws are ready for approval, we will submit them along with the supporting documents to our lawyers for a legal review. Once we have satisfied any comments from the legal review, the ByLaws will be presented to the church congregation for their review, and finally a congregational vote for approval.

Annual Financial Report –

Financial Report (as of 10/15/2026)		
Assets:		
Operating Funds	$	69,967.06
Committee/Group Accounts	$	12,031.18
Designated Offering Amounts	$	11,537.29
Invested Funds	$	233,874.83
Total Assets	$	327,410.36
Required Contingencies:		
Emergency Repairs	$	153,553.00
Insurance deductible	$	7,500.00
Total Contingency	$	161,053.00
Designated or Restricted Funds	$	80,085.81
Net Funds Available	$	86,271.55

Operating Budget Status:		
2026 Annual Budget	$	153,553.00
Budgeted Expenses thru 9/30	$	115,165.00
Actual Spent thru 9/30	$	106,398.00

Congregational Meeting –

Our Annual Congregational Meeting was held on November 1st immediately following the service. All the content prepared for that meeting has been included within this Council Corner. The 2027 Annual Congregational Meeting is scheduled for October 31st.

As always, please contact me in person or via text/call if you have any comments or questions about any of the information provided.

In Christ,
Peyton Northington, 803-645-6396



St. John Seniors in November

Tuesday, November 10th at 12:00 noon

Covered Dish

We are excited to have Kay Benitez with Megiddo.
She will share with us the story of cemetery cross!
This vision, the planning and the impact in the community.

It is wonderful to share time in Christian Fellowship!

St. John Methodist Church

Ladies Group

The Ladies Group will be collecting contributions for the Valley Empty Stocking Fund.
Sue Herrin will be collecting checks and/or cash on Sunday, November 8th at church. Contributions are also welcomed from the congregation.
For more information, please contact Sue Herrin.

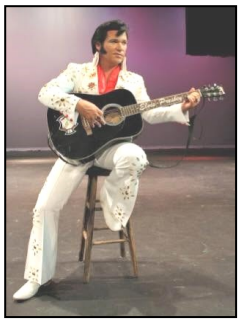


Valley Empty Stocking Fund



Ladies Group Meeting Update:
Please note, the Ladies Group will not meet in November or December. Our next meeting is Wednesday, January 27th, 2027!

Annual Christmas Banquet



Monday Night
December 7th

Jason Sikes is back this year!
Cost: $30 per person

Please contact Lynn Chapman
to reserve your seat
(803) 507-7207

Must have your seat reserved and paid in full by Sunday, Nov. 22nd.
Please put cash or check in envelope with your name. Checks payable to St. John.

St. John Seniors in December

Looking ahead to our December meeting on Tuesday, December 15th:



It will be catered by Shealy's.
Cost is $15 per person.
See Suzanne West to pay.
Please put check (payable to St. John Seniors) or cash in envelope with your name.



IN OUR Thoughts and Prayers

Prayer List

Becky Hall
David Johnson, Jr.
Helen Hall
Warren Kime
Joyce Humphries
Andy Edwards
Lea Courtney
Kensley Napier
Peyton McLendon
Neil Wilson
Darryl Hudson
Bobby Hydrick
Maleah Busbee
Edmond Deketeleare
Desiree Adams Beard
Betty Pifer
Mary Watson
Robert & Jean Keith
Jose Velez
Chelsea Harrison
Hudson Abbott
Pam Plunket
Tommy Gregory
Logan Stowell
Patrick Matte
Evelyn Chipley

In Memory of

Alvin Dean Bailey, Jr.
Clifton and Lynn Chapman

Lucille Berry
John and Linda White
Margaret Kneece
Don and Ronnie Hudson

Ralph McGee
Margaret Kneece
John and Linda White
Don and Ronnie Hudson

Cards or Notes

Also Pray for Those in Independent/Assisted Living & Nursing Homes:

Bob and Joyce Humphries
105 North Hills, #73
North Augusta, SC 29860

Rev. Gene Wilson
Shadow Oaks Assisted Living
Room 203
108 Gregg Ave. NW
Aiken, SC 29801

Thinking of you or Praying for you cards may be sent to the individual at the address below:

Mrs. Betty Pifer
Brandon Wilde-House
Room 266
4275 Owens Road
Evans, GA 30809



11/01 Ellie Dennis
11/08 Dax Dennis
11/15 Cole Timmerman
11/22 Cooper Reames
11/29 Ellie Dennis



11/04 Kate Bowen
11/08 Carol McKay
11/09 Martha Johnson
11/13 Ricky Scott, Jr.
11/17 Alan Hayes
11/18 Alvie McKay
11/19 Robert Dunn
11/20 Jennifer Hadden
11/20 Gail Hudson
11/25 Susan Hayes
11/25 Steve Weeks
11/25 Greg West
11/26 James Peters, Sr.
11/29 Robert Dennison
11/30 Donald Pratt



11/09 John & Susan Herrin
11/14 Phil & Amy Baker
11/19 Lawrence & Tina Baker Jr.
11/20 Clifton & Lynn Chapman
11/24 Donald & Gwen Sloan

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Fourth Wednesday of Each Month	Ladies Meeting, 10:00 AM, Sue Herrin's home
Fourth Monday of Each Month	Cereus Garden Club meets at 10:00 AM
Sundays	Adult Sunday School, 9:45 AM, Educational Bldg.
Wednesdays	Choir Practice, 6:30 PM
THURSDAYS	9:00 AM, Volunteers for Buildings & Grounds Maintenance

Newsletter Submission Information and Deadline

Thank you so much to everyone who contributes to our monthly newsletter.
We sincerely appreciate your time and effort.
To help us mail or email it **BEFORE** each month begins, we kindly ask that you submit your contributions by the **last Tuesday of each month**, unless advised otherwise.
Thank you for your understanding and for all you do to help our church family stay connected!

November is a beautiful and busy season in the life of our church. Below are the services we have planned. We invite you to join us each week as we remember, honor and look forward together!

November 1st – All Saints Sunday

Led by Charles Goodman, Jr. During this morning's worship we will take time to remember and honor those members and loved ones who have passed away since last All Saints Sunday.

November 8th – Special Patriotic Service

Led by Charles Goodman, Jr. In observance of Veterans Day, we invite you to a special Patriotic Service. We will pause to express our deep gratitude and recognize the veterans in congregation and community who faithfully served our country.

November 15th – Ladies Day Service

The women of our congregation will be stepping into leadership for a special service from ushers at the doors to the praises of the women's choir and the morning message **delivered by Jennifer Goodman.**

November 22nd – Welcoming Jonathan Randall

We are excited to give a warm church-family welcome back to **Jonathan Randall** as he returns to our pulpit this morning.

November 29th - First Sunday in Advent

Led by Charles Goodman, Jr. We prepare our hearts for the miracle of Christmas as we celebrate the First Sunday of Advent. Join us as we light the first candle on the Advent wreath and begin this beautiful season of sacred anticipation and hope.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

September Attendance and Offerings

Date	Worship	Weekly Goal	Weekly Given
10/04/2026		$3,000.00	$5,740.00
10/11/2026		$3,000.00	$2,870.00
10/18/2026		$3,000.00	$8,155.00
10/25/2026		$3,000.00	$3,765.00

Y-T-D CONTRIBUTIONS

Current received	$154,758.55
Year to date goal	$129,440.00
	$25,318.55

St. John Methodist Church of Graniteville
18 Gregg St.
PO Box 38
Graniteville, SC 29829
803-663-7041
admin@stjohngraniteville.com
Address service requested



November 2026



SJM Youth News!

Sunday Craft Sales

November 15, 22, and 29
9:45 - 10:45 am before Service
Coffee & donuts for your shopping (free) pleasure!

Sharing IS Caring!

We are collecting GENTLY USED items for a Lady-in-Need who has lost everything and is living in a shed!
Items needed: toiletries, blankets, love offerings, dog items, clothing size medium … The SJM Youth will be giving her a Thanksgiving dinner & gift basket during Thanksgiving week.
For more information, contact Esther Timmerman.



Christmas Delight Raffle Basket!

$5.00 a ticket

Don't miss out on the

Christmas Delight Raffle Basket,

offered by the SJM Youth!

Tickets will be available on Sunday's, during Worship Service, and at St. Johns Seniors on Tuesday, November 10th.

