

THE CHIMES

St. John's Lutheran Church, ELCA 301 West Main Street
Walhalla, South Carolina

*We are called and empowered by God to spread the Gospel and
to share the love of Jesus Christ in service to all.*

The Rev. Dr. Frank G. Honeycutt, Pastor

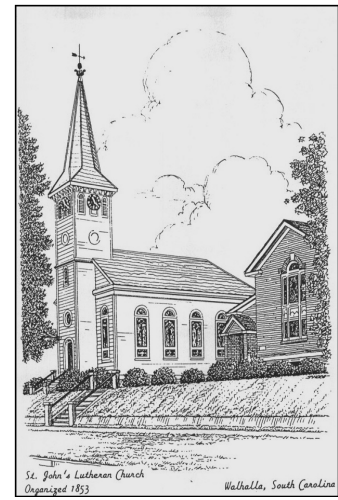
Office Hours Mon.- Fri. 8:30 am - 1:00 pm Phone: (864) 638-6363 Fax: (864) 638-8238

Email: stjohnsluther@gmail.com Website: www.stjohnswalhalla.org

Biggerstaff Christian Retreat: 864-882-3337 398 Biggerstaff Road; Seneca SC 29672

Email: biggerstaffctr@bellsouth.net

St. John's Pre-School: (864) 638-8099 Pre-School Email: stjohnspreschool@bellsouth.net



December 2016

To the saints gathered at St John's in Walhalla,

I can't believe I am back with you again as an Interim. I will miss Pastor Frank, but it will be a joy to serve among you as your Interim once more. I loved that opportunity when Pastor David left our community and I could step in to help. You are good people to be with and a strong congregation striving to be faithful in this community. After my year with the folks at University Lutheran in Clemson I thought I could just rejoin my home congregation, but now I will be doing so in a new role.

It will be somewhat the same as before, but not really the same. I was impressed to read again God's word in Isaiah 43 as we are told not to be stuck in the past but to be looking for the new thing that God is about. The phrase "Kodak Moment" came to mind. Remember how we looked back on those special scenes, those high points of the past and preserved them as "Kodak Moments"? Well the God of the Bible seems to call us from those frozen moments of the past and to look forward to the new thing that God is about.

Join with me as we move forward in this time of searching and discernment, as we discover where the Lord is taking us and where we are called to be. It will not be a repeating of any of our past experiences, but it will be an exciting time of listening to the Spirit and deepening our faith. Thanks for this opportunity to serve among you!

Pastor Bob



Advent Opportunities for WORSHIP & FELLOWSHIP SHARING, CARING & GIVING

November 27th- January 6th – Christmas Eve Community Meal Advent Ministry

December – Lucy Klaren Circle “White Christmas”

December – Youth “Noisy Offering” on Sundays

December 3rd –Decorating the Chrismon tree at 1:00pm

December 3rd- Walhalla Christmas Parade at 5pm

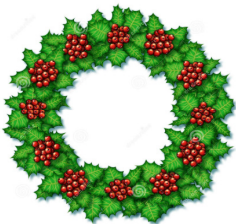
December 10th – WELCA quarterly meeting & cookie exchange

December 23rd- Prep work for Christmas Eve meals

December 24th – Delivering Christmas Eve Meals to the Community at 10am

December 24th – 5pm and 10:30pm Christmas Eve Worship

December 29th - Christmas Caroling to Shut-ins





The Mission Endowment Committee has announced the 2016 grant recipients.

2016 Endowment Awards:

St. John's Youth.....	\$500
Baby Read.....	\$500
St. Luke Food Pantry.....	\$1200
GHS Hospice of the Foothills.....	\$800
Family Friends of United Way.....	\$500
Ripple of One.....	\$500
 TOTAL.....	 \$4000

Many thanks Mission Endowment!

MORNING CIRCLE:

The Morning Circle will hold a Christmas Party on December 20th at 11:30 AM at the home of Millie Hawbecker. Everyone attending will bring either a salad or a dessert. We will also have a gift exchange (approximately \$10). We always have a great deal of fun at this party and welcome all women of St. John's. Check with Millie for directions to her house. This will not be a business meeting, just fun and fellowship.

The Gloria Shealy Circle

The Gloria Shealy Circle will meet on Tuesday, December 20 at 6:00 in the home of Ann Brackett. Diane Rawlins will lead us in devotions. Our donation will be gifts purchased for the three children we are sponsoring for Christmas.

Each person attending is asked to bring a finger food to share and a pair of Christmas socks filled with goodies for a gift exchange.

Reminder....

Knitters-Crocheters meet **December 14th**. Come enjoy the fellowship and click your needles. Plan to stay for lunch, too.... **Only one gathering in December.**



Wednesday Lunch **December 14th (One lunch only in December)**. We gather for lunch at 11:30 am. Sign up today or speak with Libby McLean at 638-7070 or Cathie Nowell at 638-3284

Parish News.....



Pastor Bob Schmeelcke's contact information:

rcswing@att.net
or
903-3540(cell).

A message from Pastor Frank and Cindy.....

We were deeply moved by the November 20 send-off: a spirit-filled worship service, reconnection with old friends and former parishes, delicious food, good stories, a few tears, and a lot of laughter. There is great power in church community and it really came through to the Honeycutts on Christ the King Sunday. Thanks so much for all the love and planning that went into the day. We have been changed by you and will miss you all very much. Saint John's is an interesting and faith-filled congregation and will attract a solid slate of candidates as you enter the process to call a new pastor. The Holy Spirit has much in mind for your future. May God's peace rest upon all of you in this holy Advent season...Pastor Frank and Cindy

WE NEED YOU!

The Children's Sermon group needs 2-3 additional volunteers to be part of our Sunday morning presentation to the children. Pastor Frank and Cindy's slots are now open. Please consider becoming part of this very important ministry for the children. ***If interested, please see Mark McLean or contact the church office.***

Givelify...a new way to give. St. John's is up and running with this new approach to giving.



The Children have had an opportunity to learn about our Veterans and enjoying the Thanksgiving Holiday. We appreciate Mrs. Marcia, Ms. Christen and Ms. Dottie. Children will be enjoying robots soon in Computer Pals. The fours have enjoyed Power Tumbling with

Mr. Kees. We will be working on our Christmas Program to perform during Parents Chapel December 14th. Thanks to all that contribute or donate items, we couldn't make it without your help.

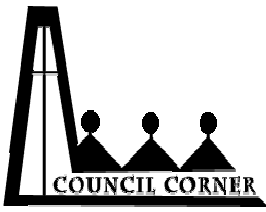
With Love, Mrs. Cindy and The Preschool Teachers

Wish List:

- Clorox Wipes
- Baby Wipes
- Kleenex
- Hand Sanitizer



POT LUCK AND CAROL SING
SPONSORED BY MEN IN MISSION
AND THEIR WIVES
EVERY ONE INVITED
DECEMBER 5 AT 6pm



CHURCH COUNCIL CORNER

Abbrev. St. John's Council Meeting Minutes
Oct 17, 2016—6 p.m.

Current internal loan: \$32,266. Checking balance:
\$8,288. \$15,000 of the maturing \$35,000 CD depos-

ited into our checking account: roll the remaining \$20,000 over into a CD.
Accepted the revised church 2017, Biggerstaff, & Preschool Budgets. Present
at Annual Congregational Meeting—Nov.13, 2016, after worship.

Council Nominations—Tom Ward, Chris Lawrence, Blair Stoudemire, & Tif-
fany Chapman.

Interim is Pastor Bob Schmeelcke for 6 months beginning Nov. 27, 2016.

Getting a quote to paint the sanctuary roof. Explore the possibility of selling
Ballenger House.

New Altar Guild chairs Marlena Dixon & Pat Clonginger. Thanks to Jeri Klaren.
Confirmation Sunday, Oct.30 for Riley Bateman, Randy Parris, & Charlie Ward.
Senior Saints/All Saints Sunday, Nov. 6. Pastor Frank's last Sunday, Nov. 20
with luncheon after worship.

Adjourned with laying on of hands for Pastor Frank for his last Council meet-
ing.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Wilson, Secretary

Dear Congregation:

Thank you for your attendance and participation at our Annual Meeting
on Sunday, November 13th. Your comments and suggestions are vital to
the ministry here. A very special thank you goes out to Allen Harding for
his service and to Dean Fogel and Tom Ward for allowing their names to
be submitted into nomination. The congregation is very blessed to know
and worship with Pastor Frank, Cindy and family for the past 5 years. They
will surely be missed. Thank you to Pastor Bob Schmeelcke for serving as
the Interim during the vacancy. To Anna, Joan, Ray, Marsha, Cindy and
Christopher your ministries here are the glue that holds us together. We
are so blessed to have each of you here in our midst.

As we begin the call process, please pray for guidance and discernment
for our congregation. If you have thoughts or questions, seek out a mem-
ber of council.

In Service in His Kingdom:

Bill Brackett

Church Council President

FINANCE COMMITTEE... Starting this month, the financial results for St.
John's will compare actual income (contributions and rent) versus actual
expenses. This will enable one to see what is happening to the checking
account each month. If you have questions, see a Finance Committee
member.

Month of October	Year to date 2016	
Contributions/Rent*	\$ 32,665	\$ 273,202
Expenses/Paid	32,327	280,948
Difference	\$ 338	\$(7,745)

*The month of October had 5 Sundays. The internal debt was \$24,296 at
the beginning of the year, so it now stands at \$32,041.

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS EVE MEAL MEAL



PREPARED & DELIVERED TO
SENIORS, SHUT-INS AND NEEDY
IN OCONEE COUNTY

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Prep Work on 12/23 (Friday-3:30pm)

Meal assembly & Delivery on 12/24
(Saturday) at 10:00am

Clean-up on 12/24 (Saturday) at 11:00am

***Sign-up today at the
Spiritual Opportunities Table***

St. John's will **not** be receiving funding
from Thrivent this year. Our Advent
outreach ministry will be accepting
donations to fund the meal.

- **Take a donation envelope from the
Advent Giving Tree in the Sacristy
and return to the Spiritual Ops
table.**



**ST. LUKE FOOD
PANTRY continues
each week...**

For the past year our con-
gregation has donated
over \$2,000 and many boxes of groceries.
On Wednesday, December 14th, St. John's
will be distributing grocery boxes at the
pantry. Included in those boxes will be a
ham for each family-donated by St. John's
through an endowment fund grant. Our
friends at St. Luke are so appreciative of
our continuing help and donations.

***All ages- please sign-up to help on
December 14th beginning at 3:30pm.
God work ~ Our hands!***

St. John's Staff

Rev. Robert C. Schmeelcke, Interim Pastor
Bill Brackett, Congregational President
Anna T. Zelaya, Parish Secretary
Joan Lewis, Spiritual Gifts Coordinator
Christopher Girardeau, Youth Director
Ray Burroughs, Sexton/Biggerstaff Christian Retreat
Marsha Cabbage, Organist and Director of Music
Cindy Kelly, SJ Preschool Director
Chuck Rawlins, Congregational Treasurer
Mark McLean, Financial Secretary
Jeri Klaren, Martha Murtiashaw, Thelma Miller,
Marcia Lyle Carolyn Brandt: Altar Guild
Cory Drennon, Cemetery Grounds Keeper
Dave Parkey, Special Projects



CRISMON TREE DECORATING

Help neededAll ages welcome

Date: Saturday, December 3rd

Time: 1:00pm

Place: St. John's Sanctuary

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED
TIME DATED MATERIAL

Non Profit Organization
U. S. Postage Paid
Walhalla, SC
Permit No. 26

St. John's Lutheran Church
301 West Main St.
Walhalla, SC 29691

