

# 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. Robert C. Schmeelcke, Interim Pastor

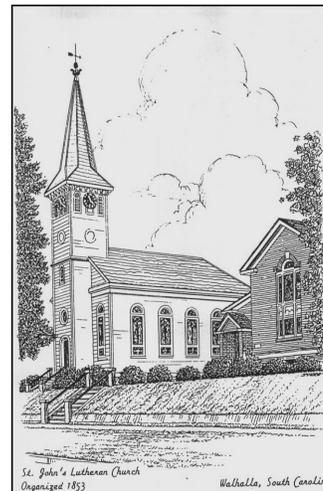
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Biggerstaff Christian Retreat: 864-882-3337 398 Biggerstaff Road; Seneca SC 29672

Email: [biggerstaffctr@bellsouth.net](mailto:biggerstaffctr@bellsouth.net)

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



## February 2017

I believe there is a Chinese proverb about "living in interesting times". Clearly we do! Today I read that Oxford Dictionaries has selected "post-truth" as the word of the year. It has been a word since 1992, but its use greatly increased in the Brexit vote and our recent election cycle. Defined as "circumstances in which objective facts are less influential in shaping public opinion than appeals to emotion and personal belief", this amazing concept of "post-truth" is rapidly becoming a general characteristic of our age.

The challenge for us at St John's is to respond to this trend that says truth is unimportant. For us, truth is a person.....Jesus Christ. We do not dismiss truth, we witness to it in all we say....in all we do....in all we demonstrate is vital to us.

Pastor Bob



10th Annual  
**LOW COUNTRY BOIL**  
hosted by St. John's  
Biggerstaff Committee

~location~  
St. John's Lutheran  
Church

301 West Main Street, Walhalla

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11th ~ 4:00pm- 6:00pm**  
eat-in or take-out

Advance tickets on sale at Spiritual Opportuni-  
ties Table

**\$12.00 per plate**

(tickets available at the door, but advance pur-  
chase or reservation is appreciated)

Meal includes:

Shrimp

Kielbasa

Red Potatoes

Corn

Roll, Brownie & Drink



6th Annual

Lucy Klaren Jubilee

February 25, 2017

Tickets are \$15

Walhalla Depot

7pm-10pm

Tickets available in the  
Church Office

Don't miss it! Good time  
guaranteed!



• On 4 Feb, We  
will be visiting  
Anderson to take  
part in the Com-

passion Experience. This free event  
features an interactive journey  
through the true stories of children  
living in developing countries like the  
Philippines, Kenya, Uganda and the  
Dominican Republic. We are planning a  
Souper Bowl Lunch with Trivia, the  
proceeds of which will go to future  
youth activities (e.g. National Youth  
Gathering) for after worship on the  
5th. Please contact Christopher to sign  
up to make soup and/or dessert.

- There will be no youth group the week-  
end of the 12th.
- On 19 Feb, we will have our annual  
Agape meal, a meal to share and show  
God's love to one another. This event  
is from 4-6pm.
- On 26 Feb, we will be doing a movie  
and dinner at church, starting at 4pm.



Men In Mission  
6pm  
February 6, 2017

We will be discussing  
Mere by Christianity by C S Lewis  
Book .III Chapters 1 through 6

**The Morning Circle will hold its meeting on February 21<sup>st</sup> at 9:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall.** We will be discussing what we want to do for our Easter Project for DSS adults. Our hostesses will be Barbara Gauderer (and Nettie Diebold has offered to help). The devotion will be given by Sandy Yuda. We are actively looking for new members and welcome anyone who would like to join us for some thoroughly enjoyable fellowship.

### The Gloria Shealy Circle

The Gloria Shealy Circle will meet Tuesday, February 21st at Ram Cat Social House in Seneca at 6:00 for dinner and their monthly meeting. Sandra Pruitt will lead the group devotions. Please bring diapers (sizes #4 or #5 as the donation to Family Friends at United Way. Visitors are welcome. Come join us.

### Reminder....



**Knitters-Crocheters** meet **Feb. 8th and 22nd** Come enjoy the fellowship and click your needles. Plan to stay for lunch, too.

Wednesday Lunch  
**Feb 8th and 22nd.** 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  
903-9355(cell).

### 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.***

### Lunch with the Bishop

CONGREGATION MEETING with  
BISHOP YOOS  
& PASTOR GINNY



**Date: February 26<sup>th</sup>** immediately following worship

A light lunch will be served

**Purpose:** to discuss and begin the Call Process for our new Pastor

Sign-up today at the Spiritual Ops table.

### ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP

**Worship and imposition of ashes will be on Wednesday evening, March 1st at 7pm.**

### LENTEN STUDY and SOUP SUPPERS

Weekly Lenten Study will be held on Wednesday evenings. This year's study will recognize the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Reformation with a study of Martin Luther's catechism. Soup and Bread Supper will begin at 6pm, followed by Study at 6:30pm. These will begin on Wednesday, March 8<sup>th</sup> and continue through April 5th. **Please** sign-up at the Spiritual Opportunities table to provide a crockpot of soup. We will need 6 crockpots of soup for each Wednesday evening. Bread and drinks will be provided- no desserts during Lent. Dinner donation will be \$3 per person/\$10 for family of 4+. This year all proceeds from Lenten suppers will be donated to "Oconee County School Backpack Lunch Program". Feel free to contact Joan Lewis with any questions- 710-1756 [joanlewissc@aol.com](mailto:joanlewissc@aol.com).



## CHURCH COUNCIL CORNER

Abbrev. St. John's Council Meeting Minutes  
Nov 21, 2016—6 p.m.

Opening Prayer & Devotion—Bill.

Pastor Ginny Aebischer—Assistant to SC

Synod Bishop Yoos, Pastor Ginny serves with

Congregational Call Committees and meets with congregational Councils. Call Process involves 1) meeting with Council after Pastor has resigned; 2) attending a congregational event (TBD)—a spirit-lead time of renewal—to compile data from a MSP (ministry site profile—which helps the Synod office know our congregation and help for selecting prospective pastors to refer to Call Com.); 3) returning to meet with Call Com. Pastor Ginny meets regularly with Bishop Yoos and timely reports progress. Bill will e-mail Joan Lewis to post a Call Com. sign-up sheet.

**October Minutes**—Approved.

**Treasurer/Finance Com. Report**—Oct expenses were \$32,327; contributions/rentals were \$32,665 Year-to-date contributions/rent are \$273,203, and expenses paid are \$280,948 meaning that internal debt was increased by \$7,745.

### OLD BUSINESS

**December Wedding**—Stephens' wedding on Dec. 10, 2016, is being planned as per guidelines.

**MINISTRY REPORTS**—On file in office.

**Next Reg Meeting**—December 19, 2016 @ 6 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Barbara Wilson, Sec.

## THE FINAL NUMBERS...

The response to the Christmas Eve community meal delivery which was St. John's



Advent outreach was *amazing*. Thirty five (35) St. John's members and friends gave \$3590 in support of this ministry. Included in that total were gifts totaling \$600 donated by our Knitters & Crocheters. Enough was donated to continue our ministry for another year. A fund has been established for anyone wanting to donate throughout the year. Our amazing food coordinators- Pete and Sharon Runge- have agreed to work with us again in 2017 (their 31<sup>st</sup> year). God bless Pete, Sharon and everyone at St. John's for continuing to support and understanding the importance of this ministry.

**"INASMUCH as you did it to the least of these My brothers, you did it to Me" Matthew 25:40**

### From the Financial Secretary:

	Month of December	Year to Date 2016
Contributions/Rents	\$ 32,930	\$326,380
Expenditures	<u>22,320</u>	<u>331,747</u>
Deficit	\$ 10,610	( \$ 4,633)

**This is the 5th consecutive year that contributions have been less than expenses.**



### WORSHIP ASSISTANT

**(Ushers, Greeters and Acolytes)**

### TRAINING SESSIONS

**FEBRUARY 5<sup>th</sup> - after worship-** Pastor

Bob Schmeelcke will conduct a training session or all ushers and greeters. Please plan to attend.

**FEBRUARY 12<sup>th</sup> - after worship -** Haileigh Chapman will conduct a training session or ALL acolytes (new and old). It is most important that all acolytes attend.

Dear St. John's Family,

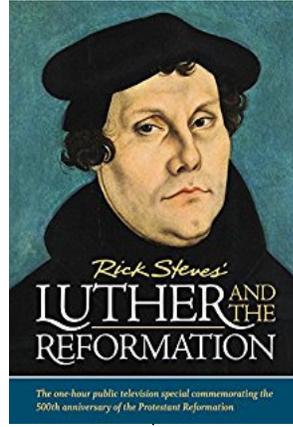


Horace and I appreciate so much all the calls, cards, words of encouragement, prayers and visits to him during his recent hospital stay and illness. He is finally on the mend and hopefully will be back at church very soon. We want to send a special thank you to the Chefs I and II for their wonderful meals. Also we want to thank the Knitters and Crocheters for their beautiful lap afghan they sent to Horace. Thank you again to all who have shared their concern and prayers. It has meant so much to both of us.

**Tina and Horace Barrett**

## 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  
Martha Murtiashaw, Andera Stroud, Nancy Carter:  
Altar Guild  
Cory Drennon, Cemetery Grounds Keeper  
Dave Parkey, Special Projects



We have received a DVD from Bishop Eaton and the ELCA

*A one-hour PBS show commemorating the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation.*

The DVD shares beautiful scenery with the story of how Luther's journey transpired.

The DVD is located in the church office and is available for all groups (Sunday school, youth, circles, etc. for viewing.) Please let the office know if you are interested.

TIME DATED MATERIAL  
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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

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

