

AUGUST 2022

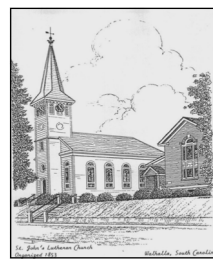
MID-MONTH CHIMES

St. John's Lutheran Church, ELCA

Mission: EMPOWERED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT, WE JOYFULLY INVITE ALL TO LOVE, SERVE, AND GROW IN CHRIST WHILE EMBRACING A CHANGING WORLD.

Email: stjohnsluther@gmail.com

Website: www.stjohnswalhalla.org



SUNDAY, AUGUST 21

9AM Worship at the Lake, Biggerstaff Retreat Center

11 AM Worship in Sanctuary on W Main Street

Worship Theme: "Set Free to Worship"

Welcome and Service of Beginning for Vicar Emily Whitlow

Welcome and Prayer of Beginning for Music Director Carla Padgett

4:00-7:00PM Youth and Family Event at the Lake

Dear St. Johns:

As a native of Columbia, South Carolina, I've spent most of my life (apart from 2 years) in the same general area. Despite being geographically unchanged, my life has certainly changed over the course of my twenty-three years, especially within the past 5 or so years. Prior to attending seminary at Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary, I studied oboe performance professionally and extensively, earning an arts dual diploma in high school from the South Carolina Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities in Greenville, SC (hence, the exception of 2 years mentioned above—Spring 2016) as well my Bachelor of Arts in Music Performance with a concentration in Oboe Performance and cognate in Religious Studies from the University of South Carolina, Columbia (Spring 2020.)

Coming to seminary from studying music for so long—half of my life—seemed like another world: the only experience I had in studying religion came from a secular standpoint and my own experiences with my personal theology in which I had grown up. I surprisingly learned just how connected my seminary studies have been to my previous music studies and have found meaning in the parallels that I've witnessed. It wasn't an easy journey to get to the point of witnessing parallels, as is the case with most people, and I look forward to sharing the rest of my call story over the course of the upcoming year of internship!

Some of my interests outside of music and seminary studies include: outdoor activities—especially hiking and kayaking/canoeing—as well as spending time with friends and family, journaling/writing, and listening to new music in live music settings! I also enjoy volunteer work with local establishments and am always looking to be more involved.

Vicar Emily Whitlow

*From the
Vicar*



Greetings to All:

I would like to introduce myself and am very happy to be serving as your new Music Director and Organist. I am a native South Carolinian—my father was born in Walhalla and my mother in Pickens. I have ancestral ties to St. John's on my mother's side, so it is a great honor to be here.



I grew up in Columbia, then spent some time in the Lowcountry, but in 2005 moved to the upstate to stay. I have a little farm in Pickens County and share it with dogs, cats, chickens, a thirty year old horse and a lot of wild animals. I primarily grow deer these days.

Music is my passion and my calling. I wanted to be an organist and choir director like J. S. Bach when I was a little kid. (Yes, I know that is weird.) I am a genealogy and local history enthusiast and am secretly hoping to be able to trace my unknown German ancestors back to him. He had something like 16 children, so I figure there is a better than average chance of this working out. I also play the violin, compose music regularly, and direct the Pickens Concert Choir.

Now for the important part — I am really looking forward to bringing the choir at St. John's back together after a long hiatus. If you have sung in the choir in the past or if you are a singer who might be interested in singing with us, please join us on **Wednesday, August 31st at 7:00 pm**. We will get to know each other and sing for about an hour. The practice will be from 7-8pm. Also, please feel free to bring a friend along if you know anyone who sings and is not involved in another church choir, but might enjoy singing with us.

I am looking forward to meeting everyone and “[making] a joyful noise unto the Lord“ together!

Soli Deo Gloria,

Carla Padgett

Women's Restroom Renovation

Plans are underway to remodel the women's restroom. The goal is to improve the functionality, storage and comfort of the space, and at the same time to create a beautiful and cozy room.

Here is a list of the updates and overall plan:

- The partition will be removed to make the space more accessible
- Lighting – overhead fixture replaced, and vanity light added
- Open storage bookcase under changing table – A 4 cubby bookcase with sturdy basket storage
- Wall shelf above changing table – for baby wipes and other baby care items
- Bench – to be located to the right of the changing table
- Coat hooks on plaques – one to be mounted above the bench; one to be mounted near the toilet
- 3 new trash cans – one at the sink, one for diapers and wipes at the changing table and one next to the toilet
- New toilet
- New sink and faucet
- New mirror and shelf
- The floor will be resurfaced
- Better placement of hand dryers and soaps
- The walls will be done with a plaster finish. The plaster will have a gentle texture with a patina glaze. Several full-size dogwood trees will be sculpted on the walls using the same plaster and glaze.

The renovation costs of approximately \$3,000 will be for the materials. Labor for the project will be done by volunteers. If you would like to donate to this project, write a check to St. John's and earmark it for “Bathroom Project”

Questions: see Barbie White or Scot Willaims.

