

~THE ST. JOHN'S POST~

August 2026 Edition

A Way to Build
Relationships!

My friends, have you ever thought about how we can build a stronger community together? In today's world, we often spend hours on our phones but very little time truly connecting with people around us. It is easy to be surrounded by others and still feel disconnected.

Last year, our youth group wanted to change that, so they planned an event called Boomers and Zoomers to build community in our church. They successfully brought the older and younger generations together at church. The goal wasn't just to have fun; they created an atmosphere where meaningful relationships could form, encourage conversation, and remind us that community grows when people of all ages spend time together.

Another wonderful opportunity for people over 65 living in Fort Mill is to obtain a Golden Card Pass from the School District. Go by the District Office, and Melissa McGady will give you a form to fill out and they will mail you a card. This card will give you access to all Middle and High School events in the Fort Mill school district. This card will include all sporting, band, chorus and drama events, except band competitions.

There is a bulletin board in the main hallway behind the sanctuary that currently displays "Let Your Light Shine" that could really use a refresh! What if, when you go to a student's event, you use your cell phone to take a picture and put it on our new community building board?

For parents with a student participating in an extracurricular activity, please share the schedule so we can build long-lasting relationships in our church. Let's see if we can fill this bulletin board with a refresh by adding photos of new relationships in our church. How can we build a stronger community, one relationship at a time? As school begins a new year, let us encourage everyone to be the best they can, as we build community together.

I look forward to seeing you at an event at one of our local schools soon!

Shalom,

Karen

◆ Kindness Week 2026 ◆

“Love with actions and truth”

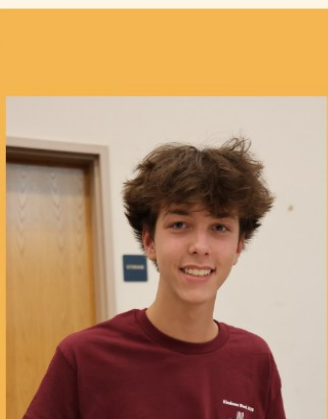
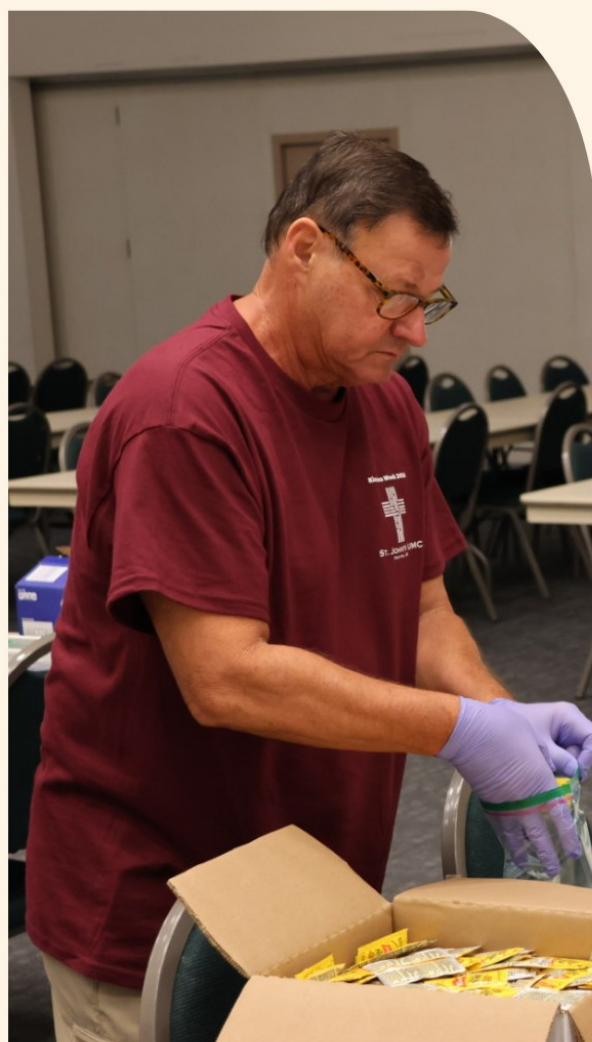
Over 18,000 people impacted

325
unique
volunteers



32 different service events





Little children, let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth.

AUGUST CELEBRATIONS

- August 1:** Dan & Leslie Nielsen - *Happy Anniversary!*
- August 2:** **Mac Fuller**
- August 3:** Rebekah Conant & **Grant Easterling**
Jason & Mandy Shamblin - *Happy Anniversary!*
- August 4:** Craig & April Brown - *Happy Anniversary!*
Ron & Anne Purcell - *Happy Anniversary!*
- August 5:** Patrick & Leigh Ann Edmondson - *Happy Anniversary!*
- August 6:** **Piper Burns**
David & Phyllis Harroff - *Happy Anniversary!*
- August 7:** Ben James
- August 8:** Phil Lewis & Beth Meador
Les & Susan Spencer - *Happy Anniversary!*
- August 9:** James & Joyce Kimbrell - *Happy Anniversary!*
- August 10:** Lorena Snyder
- August 11:** Emily Easterling & Jeannie McCormick
- August 12:** Marnie Dunn & Scott Stone
- August 13:** David Cameron, Onye Emelife, David Harroff, H.F. Jackson & **Tallulah Sweenie**
- August 14:** Rachel Cameron & Kyle DeTombeur
- August 15:** **Sawyer Cooke**, Justin Isenhour & Tiffany Reavis
- August 16:** **Curtis Emelife** & Laura Lindsey
- August 20:** Jacob Neal
- August 21:** Margaret Bryson, Lisa Burwell & **Katelyn Easterling**
- August 22:** Jeff Easterling
- August 23:** John Anderson, **Luke Crocker**, Jim Messer, Lisa Miller & Tevis Vandergriff
- August 25:** Gene & Brenda Ervin - *Happy Anniversary!*
John & Lauren Johnson - *Happy Anniversary!*
- August 26:** Ronda Myers & **Vera Reavis**
- August 27:** Chris Yount
- August 28:** Doris Marks
Steve & Blair Skelton - *Happy Anniversary!*
- August 29:** Kindle Fisher & Terry Helms
- August 30:** Tom Turner



EVENTS & REMINDERS

*If you have a need to use our facilities, please contact the church office for a full list of availabilities

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

August 2 @ 12:15pm
Stewardship Committee Meeting (Loft)
August 3 @ 6:30pm
Trustees Meeting (Loft)
August 16 @ 12:15pm
Finance Committee Meeting (MBC)
August 24 @ 6pm
Church Council Meeting (FC)



BOOK CLUB:

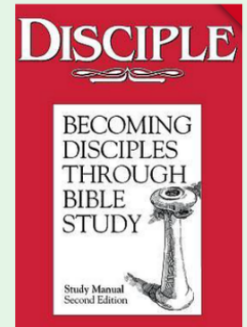
August 31 @ 7pm (MBC)
Title of book, "The Prayer Box"
by Lisa Wingate

EXERCISE WITH AVIS:

Monday-Wednesday-Friday
11:00am-11:30am (FC)

DISCIPLE I STUDY GROUP:

Begins Monday, August 10
6:30pm - 8:30pm
The study manual can be
purchased on the
Cokesbury website



SUNDAYS IN AUGUST:

August 2 - Communion Sunday
Blessing of the Backpacks
Offering supports Classroom Ready
August 9 - Children's Ministry Luncheon
hosted by the UMYF
August 16 - Salkehatchie Sunday
(Both Services)
August 23 - UWF Summer Celebration
12:15pm (FC)
August 30 - 5th Sunday Breakfast
No Sunday School
Breakfast hosted by The Connections Team
beginning at 9:30 in the Fellowship Center

LUNCH BUDDIES:

Lunch Buddies will meet at 11:30am on
Tuesday, August 18 at Lee Cafe.
The restaurant is located in the Food
Lion shopping center at
1046 Regent Pkwy #107
Fort Mill, SC 29715
Sign up on REALM or the
sign up board by Sunday
August 16 to join us!

CHURCH OFFICE SUMMER HOURS:

Monday - Thursday
8:30am - 2:30pm
Closed on Fridays through August

BETHEL DAY SHELTER

Clean & Restock Day
Saturday, August 15
9:30am - carpool from the church
10:00am - meet at the shelter
546 S. Cherry Road, Suite S, Rock Hill



CONNECTIONS TEAM!

This month, the Connections Team has 3 events for our church family to enjoy!

We are kicking off the month with 2 game times!

August 2 from 2pm-4pm

we will meet in the fellowship center to enjoy fun games and fellowship with each other.

Bring your favorite game or choose one when you walk in the door! Bring a snack to share if you wish!

August 22 from 6pm-8pm

we will have our 2nd game time in the fellowship center. The Connections Team will provide pizza for everyone to enjoy this night! Bring your favorite game & a dessert to share if you wish!

Our 3rd event will be our ***5th Sunday Breakfast on Sunday, August 30 after the 8:30am service.*** Sign up to attend and bring a breakfast item to share.

Watch for the sign ups on REALM & the sign up board. We look forward to fun & fellowship with our church family this month!

Barri Helms & Denise Holland, Co-Chairs

J.O.Y. Just Older Youth



JAARS

On August 20th J.O.Y. will travel to Waxhaw to tour JAARS and The Alphabet Museum. JAARS (Jungle Aviation and Radio Service) was founded over 75 years ago by William Cameron Townsend to support and mobilize his Bible translation organizations. Using special purpose aircraft, boats, and off-road vehicles, JAARS covers the last mile of missions to relay the Bible, missionaries, and crucial supplies across age-old geographical barriers. The Alphabet Museum provides hands-on exhibits of writing systems all around the world. One can see how our alphabet, as well as alphabets all over the world, evolved, and how translators develop alphabets so that Bible translation and literacy work is possible.

The tour, which last approximately 90 minutes, will begin at 10:00. Lunch will be at the Townsend Café, located on the grounds. The menu includes a variety of wraps, sandwiches, and salads, all under \$10.00. With a group of fifteen or more we'll need to do a preorder for lunch. The form will be available either online or at the Church.

**To RSVP please contact the Church Office
by August 6 or sign up on REALM or the sign up board.**

Children & YOUTH MINISTRY

Summer

This summer has been very busy and fulfilling!!

Between VBS, Salkehatchie, Kindness Week, and everything in between...It's been a busy summer!!! Looking forward to a season of routine with the new school year!



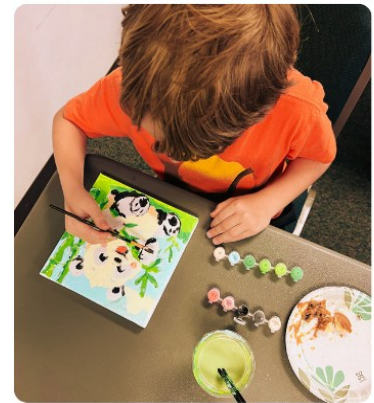
Drive-In Movies!

The youth went to the Belmont Drive-In and caught a movie!



VBS was a blast!!

Lots of laughs, games, and fun to remember that we can do all things through Christ!



Paint and Dip Nights

The Kids spent time doing some paint by numbers and eating some yummy dips!!

MUSIC DEPARTMENT

Message from Noah!

Dear St. John's Family,

It has been a tremendous joy to begin my ministry with you. From my very first days, I have been welcomed with such warmth, kindness, and generosity by both the congregation and the staff. Thank you for making me feel so at home. I am grateful to be part of this church family, and I am excited for all that God has in store for our worship and music ministry in the months ahead.

I hope you are all enjoying a restful and refreshing summer. As we prepare for the start of the fall season, I wanted to share that the Chancel Choir will begin rehearsals on Wednesday, August 12, at 7:00 p.m. We look forward to leading worship together beginning the following Sunday.

If you have ever considered singing in the choir, I encourage you to come give it a try. New members are always welcome, and there is no expectation of a long-term commitment. You're invited to join us for a Wednesday rehearsal, meet some wonderful people, and experience the joy of making music together. Whether you're an experienced singer or simply enjoy singing, there is a place for you.

I look forward to getting to know many more of you in the weeks ahead. Until then, may God bless you with a safe, restful, and joy-filled remainder of the summer.

Grace and peace,

Noah Sigsworth
Director of Music

W.E.E. SCHOOL NEWS!



Summer camp has been a great success once again this year! The children have had a great time making fun crafts, yummy snacks, singing and playing with new friends! As summer camp comes to an end, we begin to prepare for an exciting school year. W.E.E. School begins on September 8th. We look forward to a wonderful school year and ask for your continued prayers.

W.E.E. School 2026-2027

We have a few spots available for the upcoming school year in all of our classes.

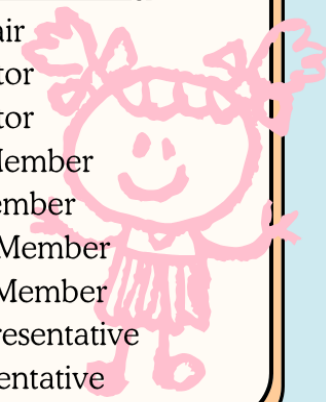
If you would like more information, please contact Beth Meador
(803)548-6557
or sjumcweeschool@gmail.com



The W.E.E School Board met on July 15th to discuss the upcoming school year. We have an exciting year ahead of us! The board will meet three times during the school year to discuss various items and activities. I would like to thank all of our board members for devoting their time to serving on our board. We would like to thank Joan Pate, Molly Long, Maggie Mitchell and Rachel Guy for serving on our board for 3 years. We would like to welcome Melissa Joseph, Sara Clark, Taralynn McNitt and Molly Meier to our board. We are so excited to welcome each of them to the preschool board.

W.E.E. School Board 2026-2027

Brittany Foster – Chair
Beth Meador – Director
Karen Radcliffe – Pastor
Lauren Miller – Church Member
Jen Brown – Church Member
Taralynn McNitt – Church Member
Sara Clark – Non-Church Member
Melissa Joseph – Parent Representative
Molly Meier – Staff Representative



Spirit Nights 2026-2027

Mark your calendars for our spirit nights this year. We have added some new places to grab a bite to eat and support our W.E.E. School.

September 22nd – 5pm-9pm- Bossy Beulah's

October 13th – 5pm-10pm – Hobo's

January 12th – 4pm-8pm – Paco's Tacos

February 23rd – 4pm-9pm – Brixx Pizza

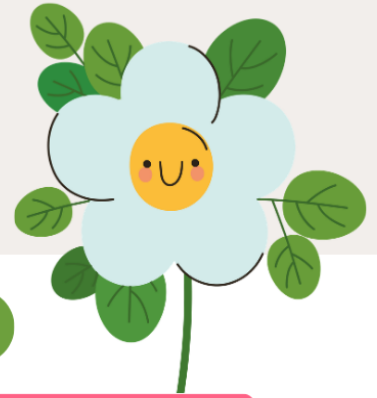
March 16th – 4pm-8pm – Wing King

April 6th – 12pm-9pm – Whit's Custard





MISSIONS COMMITTEE



submitted by Amy Bartholomew, Committee Chair

Kindness Week

Wow! What a great Kindness Week!
We were able to help so many
people in our community.
But kindness doesn't stop now.
We will begin our Saturday Project
again on Saturday, September 19.
Opportunities will be listed in our
next newsletter.

Bethel Day Shelter

On Saturday, August 15 we will have
our monthly visit to clean and restock
the donation closets at the Bethel Day
Shelter. You can meet Shawne Heeren
in the church parking lot at 9:30am to
carpool or meet her at the shelter at
10:00am: 546 S. Cherry Road, Suite S,
Rock Hill. Please let Shawne know if
you plan to attend.

Donations

Please check the lists of donation
requests in the donation center
outside the door to the fellowship hall.
Current needs a listed for the Fort Mill
Care Center and the Bethel Shelter.
Thank you to everyone who donates
to our non-profit organizations that
support our community!

August Mission Spotlight: Rise Against Hunger

On Sunday, July 19th we held our
largest event for Kindness Week.
We worked together to make meals
for 15,000 people! Rise Against
Hunger works alongside
communities worldwide to build food
security and long-term resilience.
Their approach is grounded in three
interconnected focus areas:
nutrition, education and economic
empowerment. These are aligned
with the United Nations Sustainable
Development Goals, especially
#2: Zero Hunger and #4: Quality
Education. Their programs reach
communities where hunger is most
severe. By prioritizing areas ranked
"serious" or higher on the Global
Hunger Index, they address
immediate needs while helping
communities build the tools,
systems and stability to thrive.
By 2028, their goal is to support
16.9 million people through
integrated nutrition, education and
economic empowerment programs.
If you are interested in learning more
or finding other ways to support
them, the link is:

<https://riseagainsthunger.org/partner-with-us/corporate-partnerships/>



All Ladies are Invited!

Summer Celebration

Sunday, August 23

12:15 pm

Fellowship Center

*Lunch & Fellowship
featuring
Guest Speaker,
Heather Francisco,
as she shares her family's mission trip
to Malawi (Africa)*



Sponsored by United Women in Faith

*Please sign up on REALM or
the sign up board by Sunday, August 16.*



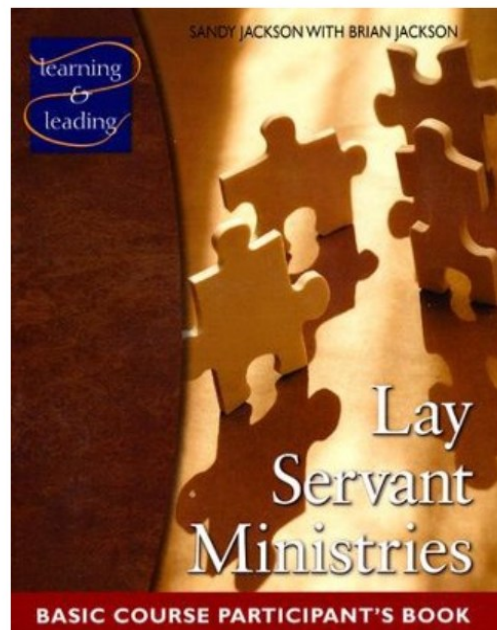
Introduction to Lay Ministry

Won't you join us?

This class will meet:

September 13, 20, 27 & October 11

4:00pm - 6:30pm



Participants are encouraged to discover and employ personal spiritual gifts as God intended and to consider the importance of exercising servant leadership, developing future leaders, remaining rooted in consistent spiritual practices, and being part of a group that holds members accountable in their discipleship.

Sign-up is on Realm or on the sign up board.

Class facilitator: Nancy Rivers



Epworth Children's Home

130th Anniversary Celebration!

Please join us for a joyful, family-friendly day celebrating Epworth's 130th anniversary on Saturday, October 17th, from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.

The event on the beautiful and historic Epworth campus in Columbia, SC will feature delicious Shealy's BBQ! Pork and fried chicken plates are \$15 each with fixings and Kids' (10 and under) plates are \$10. Pre-orders are preferred, but walkup orders on day of event are welcome while supplies last.

In addition to lunch, the celebration will include:

- Live music
- A classic car display presented by the Columbia Classic Chevy Car Club
- Fun children's activities
- Campus tours
- And more!
- To reserve your plate, complete the order form at the Friends of Epworth website – [130th Anniversary Celebration – Friends of Epworth](https://friendsofepworth.org/epworth-130th-anniversary/).

We can't wait to celebrate with you!

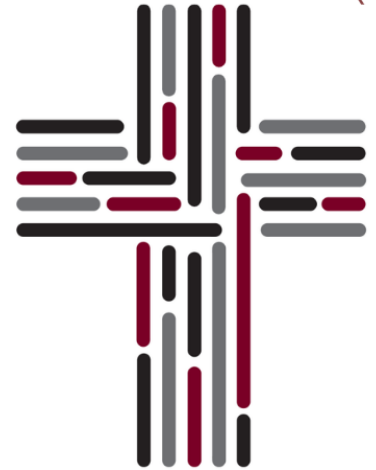
For more information, visit the link below:

<https://friendsofepworth.org/epworth-130th-anniversary/>



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Website: www.stjohnsfm.org



Reverend Karen H. Radcliffe, Senior Pastor
864-313-9348 (Cell)
khradcliffe@umcsc.org

Robert E. (Bob) Romanello Pastor Emeritus
Lisa Henley Administrative Coordinator
Mallory Capps Director of Church Ministries
Beth Meador W.E.E. School Director
Minda Siebert Finance Coordinator
Terry Helms Building Administrator
Noah Sigsworth..... Director of Music
Lauren Harris Accompanist
Nancy Rivers Handbell Director
Suzanne Fisher Kitchen Coordinator
Maggie Helms Custodian
Katherine Burns Music Makers Director
Amber Boan Golden Ringers Director
Oriana Gilmore Nursery Worker

...TO BE CHRIST TO ALL PEOPLE BY LIVING OUT GOD'S CALL
TO LOVE, SERVE, AND TRANSFORM THE WORLD.