

ST. JOHN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
MISSIONS DIRECTORY
2023-2025



INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the Mission Directory of Saint John UMC of Augusta, Georgia. Our aim is to keep you informed about your contributions to missions at home and around the world. You may use this resource when choosing your volunteer activities. You will find relevant web sites, phone numbers and names of contact persons here.

Saint John also provides service to Augusta by providing space for our Clothes Closet, and DCCM food distribution in the Mead House on 8th street. We own and maintain that building for the community.

Saint John's Music Ministry sponsors free concerts for the community each year. A committee of volunteers selects local service groups to receive the offering from each concert. Concert sponsors pay the concert expenses so that the entire offering goes to the highlighted organization. United Methodist Women and United Methodist Men also sponsor scholarships and service opportunities.

We pray that you will find your place to serve here.

Your 2022-2024 Mission Committee:
Jane Baldrige, Chair

Virginia Allen, Debby Barron, Kathy DeLoach, Allen Smith, Denise St. Clair
Members





COMPASS POINTS

North, South, East, and West of St. John are four core missions and agencies we support:

**Jessye Norman School of the Arts
St. John Towers, Wesley Woods
Mead House Clothes Closet
Wesley Foundation at the Foundry**

The Jessye Norman School of the Arts (JNSA)
739 Greene Street, Augusta, GA 30901
706-828-7768
<https://thejnsa.org/>

Organization Description:

An afterschool and summer program designed to develop and nurture the artistic and creative talents of students. The School of the Arts serves the cultural and educational needs of these traditionally under-served youth by providing:

- Free fine arts instruction
- Academic tutoring and opportunities for advanced level study in dance, drama, music, art, and creative writing
- Exposure to professionals working within the arts fields
- Information on possible careers in the arts
- Knowledge of technical aspects of presentation and performance

Contact Information:

St John Contact Person:

Mark Barron

Ph: 706-267-0603

Email: barronphd@yahoo.com

JNSA Contact Person:

Gary Dennis

Ph: 706-828-7768

Email: execdir@jnsa.com

Ways that St. John UMC Members can help:

Volunteer:

- Volunteers are accepted to assist in classes and summer camp programs.

Attend:

- JNSA would welcome audiences for their dress and tech rehearsals, support for fundraising events, and Summer Friday Programs.

Donate:

- Help fund or contribute items for programs St. John UMC supports, such as snacks for summer camps and school supplies for after-school programs. You may also make a direct monetary donation at <https://thejnsa.org/donation>.

St. John Towers
724 Greene Street, Augusta, GA 30901
706-772-2096
<https://www.wesleywoods.org/st-john-towers>

Organization Description:

Wesley Woods operates several comfortable retirement communities throughout North Georgia, like St. John Towers next door. They emphasize wellness, socialization, education, and personal and spiritual fulfillment to make the retirement experience healthy and fulfilling for older adults of all income levels, races, and faiths. As a not-for-profit provider, Wesley Woods offers affordable residential and health care services to older adults. Wesley Woods is different from profit-based retirement communities, because they serve people rather than the bottom line.

Contact Information:

St. John Contact Person:
Jane Baldrige
414-916-6174
baldrigejane@gmail.com

Amanda Mershon, Community Director
706.971.7341
Kelly Thackston, Activity Director
706-722-2096

Ways that St. John UMC Members can help:

Volunteer:

- Teach Sunday School
- Help with recruiting from St. John Towers for service projects in conjunction with St. John UMC
- Help with events such as Trunk or Treat and Bingo Parties

Donate:

Donations are always needed. You may directly donate to the Towers at
<https://www.wesleywoods.org/donate/>.

St. John Mead House Clothes Closet
430-432 8th Street, Augusta, GA 30901
706-722-3530

Organization Description:

The Clothes Closet, located on the first floor of the Mead House near the corner of 8th and Telfair Streets, is a long-standing ministry for people in need of clothing. The Clothes Closet offers all types and sizes of clothing for men and women year round. Pricing is flexible: some items are priced individually; others are available for inclusion in \$2 and \$5 "all you can fill bags." Those who are homeless or have no money may choose 2 outfits, along with underwear, socks, and Blessing Bags with items such as soap, shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrushes, and wash cloths.

Contact Information:

St. John Contact Person:

Jane Baldrige

414-916-6174

baldrigejane@gmail.com

Clothes Closet Contact Person:

Debby Barron

706-855-6437

Debby.barron4@yahoo.co

Types of jobs for volunteers:

There are four options; all involve sitting, standing, and walking:

- Staff workers on a regular basis for the Clothes Closet.
- Back-up workers in the Clothes Closet to cover vacations & appointments.
- Fundraising through parking cars in the St. John lot to earn cash for purchase of Blessing Bag items, underwear, socks, and gloves.
- Behind-the-scenes workers sorting and hanging

Hours volunteers needed:

- 10:30 AM to 1:30 PM on every Tuesday of the month
- Hours vary for parking cars and sorting clothes.

Donation Suggestions:

- Gently used clothing for adults regardless of the season.
- Any gently used bath and kitchen towels and bed linens even if not matching sets.
- New travel-sized toiletries, any size socks and underwear.
- Cash donations

Wesley Foundation
The Foundry – 801 Greene Street, Augusta, GA, 30901
706-869-0888
<https://stjohnaugusta.org/wesley-foundation/>

Organization Description:

The Wesley Foundation is the college campus ministry of the United Methodist Church. Augusta Wesley exists to enable students to encounter God and support them as disciples of Jesus Christ.

Contact Information:

St. John Contact Person:
Alison Wright
678-462-8022
aswuga@gmail.com

Wesley Foundation Contact Person:
Joshua Swanson
jeswanson90@gmail.com

Ways that St. John UMC Members can help:

Volunteer:

- Provide a meal for 30 students for Monday night worship at The Foundry.
- Work with Wesley Foundation staff to find additional ways to care for students.

Hours when volunteers are needed: Dinner is served at 6 p.m. Worship is at 7 p.m. Dates volunteers are needed: Most Mondays, August through April, when school is in session

Donate: Donation needs vary with events; for example, food donations could be needed for a Game Night. Contact Joshua Swanson if you would like to make a cash donation:
jeswanson90@gmail.com



LOCAL AGENCIES SUPPORTED BY ST. JOHN UNITED METHODIST

**Augusta Rescue Mission
Downtown Cooperative Church Ministries (DCCM)
Heritage Academy
Hale House
Master's Table at Golden Harvest**

Augusta Rescue Mission
706-722-2058
www.augustarescuemission.com/volunteer

Organization Description:

Since 1965, the Augusta Rescue Mission has had a tireless commitment to breaking the cycle of homelessness. By creating a safe and healing environment for homeless men – more than just shelter and soup kitchen – the Mission offers the means for men's lives to change, arming them with the understanding and wisdom for sound decision-making, as well as with life skills.

Contact Information:

St. John Contact Person:
Denise St. Clair
614-772-2742
denistclair@gmail.com

Augusta Rescue Mission Contact Person:
Chris Jones, Executive Director
706-722-2058
Jerry Doyle
jdoyl@augustarescuemission.org

Ways that St. John UMC Members can help:

Volunteer:

- Serve or deliver meals during holiday meal events.
- Help with budgeting skills, resume preparation and vocational skills.
- Driving men to appointments and work during the business week.

More information on volunteering: <https://www.augustarescuemission.com/volunteer>

Financial Donations: <https://app.securegive.com/AugustaRescue/main/donate/category>

Downtown Cooperative Church Ministries
706-722-3530
www.dccmaugusta.org

Organization Description:

DCCM Food Pantry is a multi-denominational coalition of 15 area churches that have combined resources to run a centrally located food pantry in the heart of downtown Augusta in the Mead House at 430 8th St. Since 1978, DCCM has established itself as a consistent, reliable source of food for those in need. DCCM is a joint effort of local churches (primarily downtown churches) that operates a food pantry out of the first floor of the St. John Mead House. St. John was one of the founders 40 years ago. DCCM is categorized as a super pantry, distributing nearly 100 tons of food to clients every year. This food is purchased from the Golden Harvest Food Bank.

Contact Information:

St. John Contact Person:
Betty Aldridge, 706-513-9555

DCCM:
Dennis Sodomka
sodomkadennis@gmail.com
Phone: 706.722.3530
Dccmaugusta@gmail.com

Ways that St. John UMC Members can help:

Volunteer:

- Assist with mobile food distributions on the third Saturday of each month (,and the extra distribution once each quarter, usually on a First Saturday).
- Pick up the food from **Golden Harvest Food Bank, Food Lion, Costco, Dollar General** and other businesses.
- Sort and bag food on the Thursday before the distributions at our facility, usually starting at 9:00.
- Most volunteer activities only require about 2 – 3 hours. DCCM welcomes local businesses, other charitable organizations, churches, and youth groups looking for a way to volunteer to join us.

For more information about how you can help: <https://dccmpantry.org/volunteers/>

Heritage Academy
333 Greene Street, Augusta GA 30901
706-821-0034
www.heritageacademyaugusta.org

Organization Description:

Heritage Academy provides a culture of learning with high expectations for academic character and spiritual development. Its goals include providing educational opportunities for underserved children from low-income families in the Augusta area. Heritage Academy accepted its first class of 10 students in 2001 and now has 240 students in grades kindergarten through 8th grade and a preschool program. It provides a dyslexia identification and limited treatment program, a rigorous academic program, art and music education, a maker space program, sports, and weekly chapel. Students have consistently outperformed both national and county averages on standardized tests and gone on to success at high school and college levels.

Contact Information:

St. John Contact Person:
Virginia Allen
706-736-6793
vallenotr@aol.com

Heritage Academy Contact Person:
Eva Claire Schwartz
706-821-0034, extension 211
eschwartz@heritageacademyaugusta.org

Ways that St. John UMC Members can help:

Volunteer:

- Donate items and funds during a school supply drive each summer. A list of requested items for teachers and students is posted in July. Church members are also provided information about the GOAL Scholarship program which includes a Georgia state income tax credit.
- Help with tutoring programs and other volunteer opportunities.
- Volunteer hours: during school hours

Donate: Financial donations are accepted for scholarships for students and school supplies. Donate directly at <https://heritage-academy-augusta.networkforgood.com/>.

Master's Table Soup Kitchen
702 Fenwick St., Augusta, Ga 30901
706-722-0607
<https://goldenharvest.org/>

Organization Description:

The Master's Table is Golden Harvest Food Bank's soup kitchen in Downtown Augusta. It was started during the 1982 recession as one of the Food Bank's very first direct-service programs and, thanks to the kindness and support of our community, has grown to feed a noon meal to more than 325 homeless and hungry persons per day, 365 days per year.

Contact Information

St. John Contact Person:
Denise St Clair
614-772-2742
denistclair@gmail.com

Master's Table
<https://goldenharvest.org/get-involved/>
Phone: 706-736-1199
Toll Free-GA: 1-800-766-7690
Toll Free-SC: 1-866-484-6829

Ways that St. John UMC Members can help:

Volunteer:

- Cooking lunch – Help chef with basic food preparation
- Serving lunch – Serve lunch to approximately 300 guests and help clean the tables afterwards
- Golden Harvest has additional volunteer opportunities, including stocking warehouse shelves, working in the garden, and food drives.

Donations:

Direct monetary donations may be made at:

<https://virtualdrive.goldenharvest.org/give/409679/#!/donation/checkout>

Hale House
402 Walker Street, Augusta, GA 30901
706-722-3060
www.thehalefoundation.com

Organization Description:

The Hale House is halfway house for men challenged with substance abuse. The Hale House Foundation Inc. is a 501c3 non-profit which operates this transitional program assisting men over the age of 18 suffering from substance abuse problems to recover in a safe home-like setting until they are ready to assume responsibility for their own lives. The one year program gives them the tools necessary to readjust to society and to resume independent living. Despite the ideal length of stay of one year, the Hale House offers programs without this restriction to accommodate individual needs. It holds to a strict zero tolerance policy for alcohol or drug use as well as any unwillingness to cooperate with foundation rules.

Valor Station, operated by the Hale House Foundation, is a residential treatment facility for “first responders” (law enforcement officers, firefighters, EMT’s and dispatchers) suffering from PTSD, depression, anxiety, addiction and other problems associated with the unique stresses associated with their professions. It is the first facility of its type in the United States. [For more information, see https://www.thehalefoundation.com/give/](https://www.thehalefoundation.com/give/)

Monetary Donations are welcome at: <https://www.thehalefoundation.com/give/>

Contact Information:

St. John Contact Person:
Nesbit Dasher
706-294-2494

Hale House Contact Person:
Cliff Richards
706-722-3060 or 706-294-5692

FOREIGN MISSIONS SUPPORTED BY
ST. JOHN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

KENYA PROJECT
P. O. Box 2023, Lilburn, Georgia 30048
Info: 678-207-7515
Donations: 770-408-8696
<https://www.thekenyaproject.org/>

Organization Description:

This project grew out of the Mountain Park UMC in Lilburn. Their vision is to educate and provide spiritual growth to Kenya's children through the work of Mountain Park Academy, Nakuru, Kenya.

Contact Information:

St. John Contact Person:

Virginia Allen

706-736-6793

vallenotr@aol.com

Kenya Project Contact Person:

Gedeon Robi, Program Director

robideon@gmail.com

admin@thekenyaproject.org

Contact Rachel Tarr (rachel.tarr@yahoo.com) for student sponsorship donations

Ways that St. John UMC Members can help:

Volunteer: A group from the Kenya Project travel to Kenya each year for a two-week mission trip. Volunteers work with the school children, families and volunteers in Kenya. Volunteers come from various congregations.

Donations needed:

- The expanding student population (900 Students) has created the need for 100 additional desks. A \$105 gift will move 3 students sharing a bench to their own work- space for classroom study.
- The annual Christmas Gift Program will, for \$30 per student, provide new shoes and a sweater. Our goal for this year is \$26,000.
- An annual donation of \$360 can support a student for one year.

Direct donation information is available on the front page at:

<https://www.thekenyaproject.org/>

MISSION TO NICARAGUA

P.O. Box 936559, Atlanta, GA 01193-6559
609-632-0446
ronnieangi@gmail.com

Organization Description:

Mission – To spread the good news of God to children, youth, and families and encourage them to follow Christ.

Ronnie and Angi served in the Red Bird Missionary Conference before joining The Mission Society team. Ronnie was the camp manager and Angi served as a nurse practitioner. They were active on short-term teams to Nicaragua for 10 years before moving to Nicaragua full-time. They work with MEFEL, a group of indigenous evangelical pastors. Ronnie and Angi work in community health and development, as well as host short-term teams for medical/dental outreach, construction projects, and evangelism.

Contact Information:

St. John Contact Person:
Jane Baldrige
414-916-6174
baldrigejane@gmail.com

Mission Contact Person:
Sandeep David
800-478-8963 or 770-446-1381

Ways that St. John UMC Members can help:

Donations can be sent to the address above for Project ID# 0297SUP.



Concerts with a Cause brings live music to our community. Generous donors allow us to offer the concert series free of charge.

At each concert, we collect a “love offering” – not for the performers – but for a local service organization.

Christianity has always been associated with great works of art and beauty, expressing the inexpressible and transcending the earthbound. It is our prayer that these concerts will help you find God here. As we gather, we also hope to benefit service organizations which are doing good work for the Kingdom of God in our community. Since its beginning in 2003, Concerts with a Cause has donated \$214,837.20 to 55 local organizations.



**2023-2024
Concerts With a Cause**

Seasons And Queens
September 24, 2023, 3:00 pm

Vivaldi's The Four Seasons
with a delightful bonus: Songs from Queen and Abba

Anastasia Petrunia, violin
Tomas Lakubek, violin
Craig Mumm, viola
Daniel Mumm, cello

The cause:
The Family Counseling Center of the CSRA
www.familycounselingcenter@fcccsra.org

The mission of Family Counseling Center of the CSRA, Inc. is to provide mental health care to anyone, regardless of their ability to pay. We offer holistic, community-oriented, and trauma-informed services with a passion to improve the overall health and wellness of our community. Our comprehensive services are available to individuals and families, including children, adolescents, adults and the elderly, living in the CSRA.

Ways St John UMC can help:
Volunteer for fundraising activities, office work and networking.
See: <http://www.fcccsra.org/volunteer.html>

Direct in-kind and monetary donations are accepted
See: <http://www.fcccsra.org/donations.html>

**Christmas Eve Concert and Lessons and Carols
The Saint John Choirs and Orchestra**

December 24, 2023, 10:30 pm

“Through the ministry of music, we hope to help people of all ages encounter, know, and enjoy God more deeply.”



**The Cause:
GAP Ministries**

GAP Ministries is a volunteer service organization founded on the conviction that we are all beloved children of God. GAP works to create a community of supporters, volunteers, and clients based on mutual compassion and respect. GAP's mission is to improve material and spiritual well-being in a way that “fills the gap between plenty and need.”

Ways that St. John UMC can help:

You may donate your time or provide financial support.

GAP welcomes everyone who has a heart to work directly with the clients or help with background work such as office support. Other opportunities include collection drives and donation of clothes and toiletries. For details, See: <https://www.gapministriesaugusta.org/volunteer>

Financial support is crucial to GAP's operations. To donate, see:
<https://www.gapministriesaugusta.org/checkout/donate?donatePageId=62fa724cdf9341c1ffc469a>

The Georgia State University Singers
March 3, 2024, 7:00 pm

Hear the award-winning Georgia State Singers
with Augusta's beloved Davidson Chorale and Harmonix

The Cause: ReStart Augusta
<https://www.restartaugusta.org/>

ReStart Augusta provides the “foundation for a good start on the day and a healthy life by providing a new or gently used bed and bedding for children, families, and veterans in the Augusta area. The delivery of these beds brings a smile to the faces of children and adults alike, and is one step on the road to conducting a normal, self-sufficient life. With a bed comes a sense of comfort, rest, and peace, and at ReStart Augusta we work with local volunteers and donors to build up our community and the lives of people who live in it.”

For information on volunteer opportunities, visit <https://www.restartaugusta.org/volunteer>

To make an in-kind or financial donation, go to <https://www.restartaugusta.org/donate>