

Fellowship with our Church Community!

Wednesday Night Suppers

Join us for a delicious meal and fellowship on Wednesday nights! You can see new menus when they're uploaded and sign up for suppers at StJohnAugusta.org/Supper
Please be sure to sign up by Mondays at 12:00 noon.

Our last supper of the Spring will be
Wednesday, April 29th.

Thank you to all our volunteers who help make these possible, and especially to Tonya Currier for coordinating.

Lenten Reflections Recap

Our weekly Renewed Song reflection groups have come to a close after five wonderful weeks together. We had a total of 40 participants in groups held at Buona Caffè, Savannah River Brewing Company, & onsite at the church, with weekly topics including rediscovering wonder, reigniting faith, recapturing joy, restoring curiosity, & reimagining transformation.

Thank you to our group facilitators & local businesses for hosting!

Coming in May: New Life Sunday, School's Out Picnic, GreenJackets Game, and more!

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Church Office Hours

9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Monday - Thursday



St. John United Methodist Church
736 Greene St
Augusta, GA 30901

NEWS FROM THE PEWS

The Monthly Newsletter of St. John UMC

April 2026



Pastor's Corner

Recently I was listening to a podcast on best practices for leading one-to-two day retreats. That may seem like an odd topic, but it is part of the work of growing in connection with each other and with God. Retreats are important in the life of the church. The host said the first step in planning a retreat is to remove everything, then add back only what is necessary. He called this the beginning of design thinking.

I am many years removed from school, and when I was studying, “design thinking” was a regularly used term — but I wanted to make sure I still understood it correctly. Design thinking is a human-centered creative process that does not begin with a problem, but instead invites conversation around an opportunity. So what does design thinking have to do with Easter?

Before Easter morning — the third day — Jesus spent three days in the tomb. A quiet, simple, lonely place. Before Easter, we remove every element that symbolizes the presence of Christ from the sanctuary. The space sits empty. Then, on Easter morning, we gather together and begin something new. We begin by singing:

Christ the Lord is ris'n today, Alleluia!

Sons of men and angels say, Alleluia!

Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!

Sing, ye heav'ns, and earth, reply, Alleluia!

We gather this season because the stone was rolled away and the tomb is empty. This season, where do we see signs of new life, and what can be next as people who celebrate resurrection?



Jenny Anderson

This Month in Worship

April 5

Easter Sunday

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 28:1-10*

Acts 10:34-43; Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

April 12

Sermon Scripture: *John 20:19-31*

Acts 2:14a, 22-32; Psalm 16

April 19

Sermon Scripture: *Luke 24:13-35*

Acts 2a, 36-41; Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19

April 26

Sermon Scripture: *John 10:1-10*

Acts 2:42-47; Psalm 23

Holy Week at St. John

Holy Thursday: Supper at 6pm, Worship at 7pm

Meal Sign up: www.stjohnaugusta.org/supper

Good Friday: Tenebrae Service of shadow and light at 7pm

Nursery will be available for both services.

Easter Sunday

9:15-10:15am: Potluck Breakfast - Fellowship Hall *Bring something to share if you are able!*

10:00am: Sunday School begins; Children gather in the Parlor to hear the Easter Story

10:30am: Easter Egg Hunt in the Courtyard

11:00am: Easter Worship!

Thank you to our volunteers for setting up and cleaning up our breakfast potluck!



Grounds Work Day

Both campuses: Clarks Hill Lake Property AND Downtown!

We welcome all help!

Saturday, April 25th 9am until 12 Noon

Clarks Hill Lake Property:

12553 Hwy 28 S, Clarks Hill, SC

Help us get ready for the season, and our Summer Lake Worship Services. We'll be cleaning up limbs, prepping the beach, cleaning the lodge and bath house, replacing fixtures, and more. All talents needed!

Chainsaws and other tools welcome.

Points of Contact: *Beth Dixon, Jessica Bull,*

Chelsea Scritchfield

Downtown: 736 Greene Street

We'll be completing spring maintenance around the church grounds.

Point of Contact: *Warren Spooner*

Sign Up www.stjohnaugusta.org/grounds

Saturday, May 2nd

2pm - 5pm

Save the date for a Lake Work Day to prepare the Chapel Under the Pines for Lake worship this summer!

Hurricane Helene caused damage to the chapel that we did not have time to address last year.

More details coming!

Second City Youth

Middle & high school students are invited to join us in serving our next-door neighbors at St.

John Towers on Saturday, April 18 for our monthly student gathering! We'll meet at 11am for an informal hangout, then head over to help bus tables & escort residents at the UWF

Luncheon.

Please RSVP with your student's name & age to 833-214-9992 before Sunday, April 12, & we'll text you with drop off & pickup information.

The Clothes Closet is open

Tuesdays, 11am-1pm

There has been an abundance of community clients this winter, but we have been blessed with an increase in donations and helpers. There are always some donated items with stains we would like to add to the Closet. **We are seeking volunteers to help wash clothes.** The clothes will be pre-treated and sorted by lights/darks and the expected drying time. We are assuming we can catch up on the washing if a few people wash one load per month. Please contact Debby Barron for more details or to volunteer.

DCCM

Food Distribution:

Saturday, April 18

Volunteers please arrive at 8:00am

Thank you for your compassion and generosity.

United Women of Faith
Mission Opportunity for
St. John Towers/Wesley Woods

The St. John United Women In Faith will be providing a luncheon for our St. John Towers neighbors on Saturday, April 18th. You can help by treating a resident to lunch with a \$5 donation, or helping prepare and serve the meal.

Contact Jeanne Lee 706-831-9655 for more information or to volunteer.

Upcoming Activities

Thursday, April 2	6:00pm	Holy Thursday Dinner
	7:00pm	Holy Thursday Worship
Friday, April 3	7:00pm	Good Friday Tenebrae Service
Sunday, April 5		Easter Sunday
Monday, April 13	7:00pm	United Women of Faith, Room 110
	8:30am	DCCM Food Distribution
Saturday, April 18	1:00pm	UWF Luncheon for St. John Towers, Fellowship Hall
Wednesday, April 22	6:30pm	Lake Committee Meeting, Room 112
Wednesday, April 29	6:15pm	Children's Choir Awards at Wednesday Night Supper

New Life Sunday

May 3rd

Join us in worship for a celebration of Spring and the new life at St. John. Our Junior Choir will help lead us in worship and share their beautiful voices with us.



Are you receiving church communications?

Stay up to date!

Text message system:

Text "**optin**" to 833-214-9992

Weekly emails: email

secretary@stjohnaugusta.org

to request to be added

Facebook: [@StJohnAugusta](https://www.facebook.com/StJohnAugusta)

Instagram: [@stjohn_augusta](https://www.instagram.com/stjohn_augusta)

Website: www.stjohnaugusta.org/announcements