

Celebrating Jamie Garvey

For 46 years, Jamie Council Garvey has been at the musical soul of St. John, and a defining presence in Augusta's arts community. This September, we invite everyone whose life she has touched to come celebrate with her.

Sunday, September 6

Join us to celebrate Jamie with a reception in her honor following 11am worship in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome.

Contact Beth Dixon to volunteer to help with the reception, bdixon@stjohnaugusta.org.

Sunday, September 13

Jamie's final Sunday as Organist & Director of Music
Join us for worship at 11:00am

Concerts with a Cause The Raleigh Ringers

3:00pm
The Cause: DCCM Food Pantry

Coming in September: Wednesday Night Suppers return!

ST. JOHN UMC STAFF

Phone: 706-724-9641

**The Reverend Jenny Anderson,
Pastor in Charge**

Ext. 15; janderson@stjohnaugusta.org

**Beth Dixon,
Operations Coordinator**
Ext. 26; bdixon@stjohnaugusta.org

**Jamie Council Garvey,
Organist/Director of Music**
Ext. 16; jcgarvey@stjohnaugusta.org

Keith Ingram, Security Guard
Donald Tilton, Worship Technician
Adam Kuehl, Grounds Keeper, Sound Technician

**Christina Reid,
Office Administrator**

Ext. 13; secretary@stjohnaugusta.org

**Krisi Hawkes,
Finance Manager**
Ext. 14; finance@stjohnaugusta.org

**Tim James,
Facilities Manager**
Ex. 17; facilitymgr@stjohnaugusta.org

**Rebekah Bryant,
Director of Programs and Discipleship**
rbryant@stjohnaugusta.org

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

August 2026



Pastor's Corner

In June, I made a declaration that this was going to be a gentle summer. And to my surprise, some of you read the Pastor's Corner and asked how that was going. "I declare 2026: A Gentle Summer." One of you asked sweetly if the church had ruined my declaration of gentle.

This summer was different. No vacation that required a follow-up vacation to recover. That means no twenty thousand steps a day at Disney World, or navigating airports to faraway lands. But what this summer did bring—its very best moment—was a good two hours of no jellyfish in the ocean. Playing in the water without pause. The gentle summer also brought seeing cousins: three different cousin adventures, and one big family party.

There were other aspects of the summer that were not gentle. The "adulthood" part of life brought challenges, but those challenges come in every season.

What I look forward to in this next season is the back-to-school time. I look forward to what this next school year will bring. Will this season be gentle? Probably not. But what I hope I can carry into this next season of time is to celebrate the brief gentle moments—to not leave them in the heat of July and August, but to bring that celebration into the rest of the year.

This summer in worship, we have wrestled with the challenges of the Gospel of Matthew. Long ago, those who put the books of the Bible together wanted the Book of Matthew to begin the journey of learning about Jesus in written word. Matthew is not a gentle Gospel, but it is one that tells us over and over again: Christ is with us. And the people who follow Christ are given this important and challenging task of trusting in God. I trust that God, through Christ, will bring moments of gentle this fall.

This Month in Worship

August 2

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 14:13-21*
Genesis 32:22-31, Psalm 17:1-5, 15

August 9

Reverend Lindsey Solomon
Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 14:22-33*
Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28; Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b

August 16

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 15:21-28*
Genesis 45:1-15; Psalm 133

August 23

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 16:13-20*
Exodus 2:1-10; Psalm 124

August 30

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 16:21-28*
Exodus 3:1-15; Psalm 105

Thank you to our Lake Volunteers for a successful Summer of Lakeside Worship! We also extend special thanks to everyone who made cookies and lemonade in the courtyard possible this summer!

Sunday, August 2nd is Back to School Sunday!

Promotion Sunday & Blessing of the Backpacks

Rising pre-K, 3rd, and 6th graders will move to their new Sunday School Classrooms! We will present Bibles to our Pre-K and 3rd graders. Students (and teachers!) bring your backpacks/school bags to Sunday morning worship. We will have a special blessing for ALL our students (preschool to graduate school!), parents, teachers and administrators.

Youth Room Open House

Following worship, the congregation is invited to join us for lemonade and cookies in our newly renovated upstairs Youth room, Room 214, directly above the parlor. We are excited to have repairs and decorations complete! Thank you to our volunteers and staff who have helped with this process. This has been a labor of love that we’re delighted to share with our Youth.

Youth Fellowship returns in August!

Middle & high school students gather monthly during the school year with our safety-trained adult leaders for a range of meaningful fellowship activities. Whether we're on a walk exploring our community, ranking the best breakfast cereal varieties, or serving together at outreach events, it's always a lot of fun with our close-knit group of welcoming students.
Students, join us Sunday, August 9 at 5pm at the church for an evening of fun as we kick off the new school year!
To be added to the parents' text thread & receive monthly meeting info, text "Second City" to 833-214-9992 & complete the sign up prompts! For additional information, contact Rebekah Bryant (Director of Programs & Discipleship) at RBryant@stjohnaugusta.org

The Clothes Closet is open
Tuesdays, 11am-1pm

We are grateful for the steadfast support from the congregation & local community groups donating clothing & food! With the summer heat & humidity, we are expecting high demand for lightweight clothing, shoes, hats, underwear, & socks for men & women. Summer essentials include broad spectrum sunscreen, hand sanitizer, & water (flavored optional). In the meantime, we are seeking volunteers to help wash stained items. We assume we can catch up if a few people wash one load a month. Please contact Debby Barron for more information or to volunteer. 706-855-6347

DCCM
Food Distribution:
Saturday, August 15
Volunteers please arrive at 8:00am

Thank you for your compassion and generosity.

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

MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS

July 2026

To Budget:

In Memory of Jane Baldrige
By Kay Phillips & Alex Scharko
By Joseph & Joyce Edwin

To Missions:

In Memory of Jane Baldrige
By Rodney & Angela Powell
By Dan Griggs & Tonya Currier

To Choral Scholar’s Fund:

In Memory of Jane Baldrige
By your St. John Chancel Choir Family
In Memory of Judge Matthew Hawley
By your St. John Chancel Choir Family
In Honor of Jamie Garvey
By Dan Griggs & Tonya Currier

Children’s Choirs and Wednesday Night Suppers return in September!

Children’s Choirs Open House:

Wednesday, September 2nd 5:30 pm

Join us upstairs in the choir room for an open house to learn all about our Wednesday night music programs for students preschool through high school starting back this fall!

Wednesday Night Suppers and Choirs begin
Wednesday, September 9th.

Upcoming Activities

Sunday, August 2	11:00am	Back to School Sunday
Wednesday, August 5	7:00pm	Chancel Choir Resumes
Wednesday, August 9	5:00pm	Youth Returns
Wednesday, August 12	10:00am	Stewardship Committee Meeting
	5:30pm	Lake Committee Meeting
Saturday, August 15	8:30am	DCCM Food Distribution
Sunday, August 16	3:00pm	Leadership Board

Celebrating Jamie Garvey

For 46 years, Jamie Council Garvey has been at the musical soul of St. John, and a defining presence in Augusta's arts community. This September, we invite everyone whose life she has touched to come celebrate with her.

Sunday, September 6

Join us to celebrate Jamie with a reception in her honor following 11am worship in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome.

Contact Beth Dixon to volunteer to help with the reception, bdixon@stjohnaugusta.org.

Sunday, September 13

Jamie's final Sunday as Organist & Director of Music
Join us for worship at 11:00am

Concerts with a Cause The Raleigh Ringers

3:00pm
The Cause: DCCM Food Pantry

Coming in September: Wednesday Night Suppers return!

ST. JOHN UMC STAFF

Phone: 706-724-9641

**The Reverend Jenny Anderson,
Pastor in Charge**

Ext. 15; janderson@stjohnaugusta.org

**Beth Dixon,
Operations Coordinator**

Ext. 26; bdixon@stjohnaugusta.org

**Jamie Council Garvey,
Organist/Director of Music**

Ext. 16; jcgarvey@stjohnaugusta.org

Keith Ingram, Security Guard

Donald Tilton, Worship Technician

Adam Kuehl, Grounds Keeper, Sound Technician

**Christina Reid,
Office Administrator**

Ext. 13; secretary@stjohnaugusta.org

**Krisi Hawkes,
Finance Manager**

Ext. 14; finance@stjohnaugusta.org

**Tim James,
Facilities Manager**

Ex. 17; facilitymgr@stjohnaugusta.org

**Rebekah Bryant,
Director of Programs and Discipleship**

rbryant@stjohnaugusta.org

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

August 2026



Pastor's Corner

In June, I made a declaration that this was going to be a gentle summer. And to my surprise, some of you read the Pastor's Corner and asked how that was going. "I declare 2026: A Gentle Summer." One of you asked sweetly if the church had ruined my declaration of gentle.

This summer was different. No vacation that required a follow-up vacation to recover. That means no twenty thousand steps a day at Disney World, or navigating airports to faraway lands. But what this summer did bring—its very best moment—was a good two hours of no jellyfish in the ocean. Playing in the water without pause. The gentle summer also brought seeing cousins: three different cousin adventures, and one big family party.

There were other aspects of the summer that were not gentle. The "adulthood" part of life brought challenges, but those challenges come in every season.

What I look forward to in this next season is the back-to-school time. I look forward to what this next school year will bring. Will this season be gentle? Probably not. But what I hope I can carry into this next season of time is to celebrate the brief gentle moments—to not leave them in the heat of July and August, but to bring that celebration into the rest of the year.

This summer in worship, we have wrestled with the challenges of the Gospel of Matthew. Long ago, those who put the books of the Bible together wanted the Book of Matthew to begin the journey of learning about Jesus in written word. Matthew is not a gentle Gospel, but it is one that tells us over and over again: Christ is with us. And the people who follow Christ are given this important and challenging task of trusting in God. I trust that God, through Christ, will bring moments of gentle this fall.

This Month in Worship

August 2

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 14:13-21*
Genesis 32:22-31, Psalm 17:1-5, 15

August 9

Reverend Lindsey Solomon
Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 14:22-33*
Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28; Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b

August 16

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 15:21-28*
Genesis 45:1-15; Psalm 133

August 23

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 16:13-20*
Exodus 2:1-10; Psalm 124

August 30

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 16:21-28*
Exodus 3:1-15; Psalm 105

Thank you to our Lake Volunteers for a successful Summer of Lakeside Worship! We also extend special thanks to everyone who made cookies and lemonade in the courtyard possible this summer!

Sunday, August 2nd is Back to School Sunday!

Promotion Sunday & Blessing of the Backpacks

Rising pre-K, 3rd, and 6th graders will move to their new Sunday School Classrooms! We will present Bibles to our Pre-K and 3rd graders. Students (and teachers!) bring your backpacks/school bags to Sunday morning worship. We will have a special blessing for ALL our students (preschool to graduate school!), parents, teachers and administrators.

Youth Fellowship returns in August!

Middle & high school students gather monthly during the school year with our safety-trained adult leaders for a range of meaningful fellowship activities. Whether we're on a walk exploring our community, ranking the best breakfast cereal varieties, or serving together at outreach events, it's always a lot of fun with our close-knit group of welcoming students.

Students, join us Sunday, August 9 at 5pm at the church for an evening of fun as we kick off the new school year!

To be added to the parents' text thread & receive monthly meeting info, text "Second City" to 833-214-9992 & complete the sign up prompts! For additional information, contact Rebekah Bryant (Director of Programs & Discipleship) at RBryant@stjohnaugusta.org

Youth Room Open House

Following worship, the congregation is invited to join us for lemonade and cookies in our newly renovated upstairs Youth room, Room 214, directly above the parlor. We are excited to have repairs and decorations complete! Thank you to our volunteers and staff who have helped with this process. This has been a labor of love that we're delighted to share with our Youth.

The Clothes Closet is open
Tuesdays, 11am-1pm

We are grateful for the steadfast support from the congregation & local community groups donating clothing & food! With the summer heat & humidity, we are expecting high demand for lightweight clothing, shoes, hats, underwear, & socks for men & women. Summer essentials include broad spectrum sunscreen, hand sanitizer, & water (flavored optional). In the meantime, we are seeking volunteers to help wash stained items. We assume we can catch up if a few people wash one load a month. Please contact Debby Barron for more information or to volunteer. 706-855-6347

DCCM
Food Distribution:
Saturday, August 15
Volunteers please arrive at 8:00am

Thank you for your compassion and generosity.

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](#)

Instagram: [@stjohn_augusta](#)

Website: www.stjohnaugusta.org/announcements

MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS

July 2026

To Budget:

In Memory of Jane Baldrige
By Kay Phillips & Alex Scharko
By Joseph & Joyce Edwin

To Missions:

In Memory of Jane Baldrige
By Rodney & Angela Powell
By Dan Griggs & Tonya Currier

To Choral Scholar's Fund:

In Memory of Jane Baldrige
By your St. John Chancel Choir Family
In Memory of Judge Matthew Hawley
By your St. John Chancel Choir Family
In Honor of Jamie Garvey
By Dan Griggs & Tonya Currier

Children's Choirs and Wednesday Night Suppers return in September!

Children's Choirs Open House:

Wednesday, September 2nd 5:30 pm

Join us upstairs in the choir room for an open house to learn all about our Wednesday night music programs for students preschool through high school starting back this fall!

Wednesday Night Suppers and Choirs begin
Wednesday, September 9th.

Upcoming Activities

Sunday, August 2	11:00am	Back to School Sunday
Wednesday, August 5	7:00pm	Chancel Choir Resumes
Wednesday, August 9	5:00pm	Youth Returns
Wednesday, August 12	10:00am	Stewardship Committee Meeting
	5:30pm	Lake Committee Meeting
Saturday, August 15	8:30am	DCCM Food Distribution
Sunday, August 16	3:00pm	Leadership Board

Celebrating Jamie Garvey

For 46 years, Jamie Council Garvey has been at the musical soul of St. John, and a defining presence in Augusta's arts community. This September, we invite everyone whose life she has touched to come celebrate with her.

Sunday, September 6

Join us to celebrate Jamie with a reception in her honor following 11am worship in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome.

Contact Beth Dixon to volunteer to help with the reception, bdixon@stjohnaugusta.org.

Sunday, September 13

Jamie's final Sunday as Organist & Director of Music
Join us for worship at 11:00am

Concerts with a Cause The Raleigh Ringers

3:00pm
The Cause: DCCM Food Pantry

Coming in September: Wednesday Night Suppers return!

ST. JOHN UMC STAFF

Phone: 706-724-9641

**The Reverend Jenny Anderson,
Pastor in Charge**

Ext. 15; janderson@stjohnaugusta.org

**Beth Dixon,
Operations Coordinator**

Ext. 26; bdixon@stjohnaugusta.org

**Jamie Council Garvey,
Organist/Director of Music**

Ext. 16; jcgarvey@stjohnaugusta.org

Keith Ingram, Security Guard

Donald Tilton, Worship Technician

Adam Kuehl, Grounds Keeper, Sound Technician

**Christina Reid,
Office Administrator**

Ext. 13; secretary@stjohnaugusta.org

**Krisi Hawkes,
Finance Manager**

Ext. 14; finance@stjohnaugusta.org

**Tim James,
Facilities Manager**

Ex. 17; facilitymgr@stjohnaugusta.org

**Rebekah Bryant,
Director of Programs and Discipleship**

rbryant@stjohnaugusta.org

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

August 2026



Pastor's Corner

In June, I made a declaration that this was going to be a gentle summer. And to my surprise, some of you read the Pastor's Corner and asked how that was going. "I declare 2026: A Gentle Summer." One of you asked sweetly if the church had ruined my declaration of gentle.

This summer was different. No vacation that required a follow-up vacation to recover. That means no twenty thousand steps a day at Disney World, or navigating airports to faraway lands. But what this summer did bring—its very best moment—was a good two hours of no jellyfish in the ocean. Playing in the water without pause. The gentle summer also brought seeing cousins: three different cousin adventures, and one big family party.

There were other aspects of the summer that were not gentle. The "adulthood" part of life brought challenges, but those challenges come in every season.

What I look forward to in this next season is the back-to-school time. I look forward to what this next school year will bring. Will this season be gentle? Probably not. But what I hope I can carry into this next season of time is to celebrate the brief gentle moments—to not leave them in the heat of July and August, but to bring that celebration into the rest of the year.

This summer in worship, we have wrestled with the challenges of the Gospel of Matthew. Long ago, those who put the books of the Bible together wanted the Book of Matthew to begin the journey of learning about Jesus in written word. Matthew is not a gentle Gospel, but it is one that tells us over and over again: Christ is with us. And the people who follow Christ are given this important and challenging task of trusting in God. I trust that God, through Christ, will bring moments of gentle this fall.

This Month in Worship

August 2

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 14:13-21*
Genesis 32:22-31, Psalm 17:1-5, 15

August 9

Reverend Lindsey Solomon
Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 14:22-33*
Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28; Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b

August 16

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 15:21-28*
Genesis 45:1-15; Psalm 133

August 23

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 16:13-20*
Exodus 2:1-10; Psalm 124

August 30

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 16:21-28*
Exodus 3:1-15; Psalm 105

Thank you to our Lake Volunteers for a successful Summer of Lakeside Worship! We also extend special thanks to everyone who made cookies and lemonade in the courtyard possible this summer!

Sunday, August 2nd is Back to School Sunday!

Promotion Sunday & Blessing of the Backpacks

Rising pre-K, 3rd, and 6th graders will move to their new Sunday School Classrooms! We will present Bibles to our Pre-K and 3rd graders. Students (and teachers!) bring your backpacks/school bags to Sunday morning worship. We will have a special blessing for ALL our students (preschool to graduate school!), parents, teachers and administrators.

Youth Fellowship returns in August!

Middle & high school students gather monthly during the school year with our safety-trained adult leaders for a range of meaningful fellowship activities. Whether we're on a walk exploring our community, ranking the best breakfast cereal varieties, or serving together at outreach events, it's always a lot of fun with our close-knit group of welcoming students.

Students, join us Sunday, August 9 at 5pm at the church for an evening of fun as we kick off the new school year!

To be added to the parents' text thread & receive monthly meeting info, text "Second City" to 833-214-9992 & complete the sign up prompts! For additional information, contact Rebekah Bryant (Director of Programs & Discipleship) at RBryant@stjohnaugusta.org

Youth Room Open House

Following worship, the congregation is invited to join us for lemonade and cookies in our newly renovated upstairs Youth room, Room 214, directly above the parlor. We are excited to have repairs and decorations complete! Thank you to our volunteers and staff who have helped with this process. This has been a labor of love that we're delighted to share with our Youth.

The Clothes Closet is open
Tuesdays, 11am-1pm

We are grateful for the steadfast support from the congregation & local community groups donating clothing & food! With the summer heat & humidity, we are expecting high demand for lightweight clothing, shoes, hats, underwear, & socks for men & women. Summer essentials include broad spectrum sunscreen, hand sanitizer, & water (flavored optional). In the meantime, we are seeking volunteers to help wash stained items. We assume we can catch up if a few people wash one load a month. Please contact Debby Barron for more information or to volunteer. 706-855-6347

DCCM
Food Distribution:
Saturday, August 15
Volunteers please arrive at 8:00am

Thank you for your compassion and generosity.

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](#)

Instagram: [@stjohn_augusta](#)

Website: www.stjohnaugusta.org/announcements

MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS

July 2026

To Budget:

In Memory of Jane Baldrige
By Kay Phillips & Alex Scharko
By Joseph & Joyce Edwin

To Missions:

In Memory of Jane Baldrige
By Rodney & Angela Powell
By Dan Griggs & Tonya Currier

To Choral Scholar's Fund:

In Memory of Jane Baldrige
By your St. John Chancel Choir Family
In Memory of Judge Matthew Hawley
By your St. John Chancel Choir Family
In Honor of Jamie Garvey
By Dan Griggs & Tonya Currier

Children's Choirs and Wednesday Night Suppers return in September!

Children's Choirs Open House:

Wednesday, September 2nd 5:30 pm

Join us upstairs in the choir room for an open house to learn all about our Wednesday night music programs for students preschool through high school starting back this fall!

Wednesday Night Suppers and Choirs begin
Wednesday, September 9th.

Upcoming Activities

Sunday, August 2	11:00am	Back to School Sunday
Wednesday, August 5	7:00pm	Chancel Choir Resumes
Wednesday, August 9	5:00pm	Youth Returns
Wednesday, August 12	10:00am	Stewardship Committee Meeting
	5:30pm	Lake Committee Meeting
Saturday, August 15	8:30am	DCCM Food Distribution
Sunday, August 16	3:00pm	Leadership Board

Celebrating Jamie Garvey

For 46 years, Jamie Council Garvey has been at the musical soul of St. John, and a defining presence in Augusta's arts community. This September, we invite everyone whose life she has touched to come celebrate with her.

Sunday, September 6

Join us to celebrate Jamie with a reception in her honor following 11am worship in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome.

Contact Beth Dixon to volunteer to help with the reception, bdixon@stjohnaugusta.org.

Sunday, September 13

Jamie's final Sunday as Organist & Director of Music
Join us for worship at 11:00am

Concerts with a Cause The Raleigh Ringers

3:00pm
The Cause: DCCM Food Pantry

Coming in September: Wednesday Night Suppers return!

ST. JOHN UMC STAFF

Phone: 706-724-9641

**The Reverend Jenny Anderson,
Pastor in Charge**

Ext. 15; janderson@stjohnaugusta.org

**Beth Dixon,
Operations Coordinator**

Ext. 26; bdixon@stjohnaugusta.org

**Jamie Council Garvey,
Organist/Director of Music**

Ext. 16; jcgarvey@stjohnaugusta.org

Keith Ingram, Security Guard

Donald Tilton, Worship Technician

Adam Kuehl, Grounds Keeper, Sound Technician

**Christina Reid,
Office Administrator**

Ext. 13; secretary@stjohnaugusta.org

**Krisi Hawkes,
Finance Manager**

Ext. 14; finance@stjohnaugusta.org

**Tim James,
Facilities Manager**

Ex. 17; facilitymgr@stjohnaugusta.org

**Rebekah Bryant,
Director of Programs and Discipleship**

rbryant@stjohnaugusta.org

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

August 2026



Pastor's Corner

In June, I made a declaration that this was going to be a gentle summer. And to my surprise, some of you read the Pastor's Corner and asked how that was going. "I declare 2026: A Gentle Summer." One of you asked sweetly if the church had ruined my declaration of gentle.

This summer was different. No vacation that required a follow-up vacation to recover. That means no twenty thousand steps a day at Disney World, or navigating airports to faraway lands. But what this summer did bring—its very best moment—was a good two hours of no jellyfish in the ocean. Playing in the water without pause. The gentle summer also brought seeing cousins: three different cousin adventures, and one big family party.

There were other aspects of the summer that were not gentle. The "adulthood" part of life brought challenges, but those challenges come in every season.

What I look forward to in this next season is the back-to-school time. I look forward to what this next school year will bring. Will this season be gentle? Probably not. But what I hope I can carry into this next season of time is to celebrate the brief gentle moments—to not leave them in the heat of July and August, but to bring that celebration into the rest of the year.

This summer in worship, we have wrestled with the challenges of the Gospel of Matthew. Long ago, those who put the books of the Bible together wanted the Book of Matthew to begin the journey of learning about Jesus in written word. Matthew is not a gentle Gospel, but it is one that tells us over and over again: Christ is with us. And the people who follow Christ are given this important and challenging task of trusting in God. I trust that God, through Christ, will bring moments of gentle this fall.

This Month in Worship

August 2

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 14:13-21*
Genesis 32:22-31, Psalm 17:1-5, 15

August 9

Reverend Lindsey Solomon
Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 14:22-33*
Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28; Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b

August 16

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 15:21-28*
Genesis 45:1-15; Psalm 133

August 23

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 16:13-20*
Exodus 2:1-10; Psalm 124

August 30

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 16:21-28*
Exodus 3:1-15; Psalm 105

Thank you to our Lake Volunteers for a successful Summer of Lakeside Worship! We also extend special thanks to everyone who made cookies and lemonade in the courtyard possible this summer!

Sunday, August 2nd is Back to School Sunday!

Promotion Sunday & Blessing of the Backpacks

Rising pre-K, 3rd, and 6th graders will move to their new Sunday School Classrooms! We will present Bibles to our Pre-K and 3rd graders. Students (and teachers!) bring your backpacks/school bags to Sunday morning worship. We will have a special blessing for ALL our students (preschool to graduate school!), parents, teachers and administrators.

Youth Fellowship returns in August!

Middle & high school students gather monthly during the school year with our safety-trained adult leaders for a range of meaningful fellowship activities. Whether we're on a walk exploring our community, ranking the best breakfast cereal varieties, or serving together at outreach events, it's always a lot of fun with our close-knit group of welcoming students.

Students, join us Sunday, August 9 at 5pm at the church for an evening of fun as we kick off the new school year!

To be added to the parents' text thread & receive monthly meeting info, text "Second City" to 833-214-9992 & complete the sign up prompts! For additional information, contact Rebekah Bryant (Director of Programs & Discipleship) at RBryant@stjohnaugusta.org

Youth Room Open House

Following worship, the congregation is invited to join us for lemonade and cookies in our newly renovated upstairs Youth room, Room 214, directly above the parlor. We are excited to have repairs and decorations complete! Thank you to our volunteers and staff who have helped with this process. This has been a labor of love that we're delighted to share with our Youth.

The Clothes Closet is open
Tuesdays, 11am-1pm

We are grateful for the steadfast support from the congregation & local community groups donating clothing & food! With the summer heat & humidity, we are expecting high demand for lightweight clothing, shoes, hats, underwear, & socks for men & women. Summer essentials include broad spectrum sunscreen, hand sanitizer, & water (flavored optional). In the meantime, we are seeking volunteers to help wash stained items. We assume we can catch up if a few people wash one load a month. Please contact Debby Barron for more information or to volunteer. 706-855-6347

DCCM
Food Distribution:
Saturday, August 15
Volunteers please arrive at 8:00am

Thank you for your compassion and generosity.

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](#)

Instagram: [@stjohn_augusta](#)

Website: www.stjohnaugusta.org/announcements

MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS

July 2026

To Budget:

In Memory of Jane Baldrige
By Kay Phillips & Alex Scharko
By Joseph & Joyce Edwin

To Missions:

In Memory of Jane Baldrige
By Rodney & Angela Powell
By Dan Griggs & Tonya Currier

To Choral Scholar's Fund:

In Memory of Jane Baldrige
By your St. John Chancel Choir Family
In Memory of Judge Matthew Hawley
By your St. John Chancel Choir Family
In Honor of Jamie Garvey
By Dan Griggs & Tonya Currier

Children's Choirs and Wednesday Night Suppers return in September!

Children's Choirs Open House:

Wednesday, September 2nd 5:30 pm

Join us upstairs in the choir room for an open house to learn all about our Wednesday night music programs for students preschool through high school starting back this fall!

Wednesday Night Suppers and Choirs begin
Wednesday, September 9th.

Upcoming Activities

Sunday, August 2	11:00am	Back to School Sunday
Wednesday, August 5	7:00pm	Chancel Choir Resumes
Wednesday, August 9	5:00pm	Youth Returns
Wednesday, August 12	10:00am	Stewardship Committee Meeting
	5:30pm	Lake Committee Meeting
Saturday, August 15	8:30am	DCCM Food Distribution
Sunday, August 16	3:00pm	Leadership Board

Celebrating Jamie Garvey

For 46 years, Jamie Council Garvey has been at the musical soul of St. John, and a defining presence in Augusta's arts community. This September, we invite everyone whose life she has touched to come celebrate with her.

Sunday, September 6

Join us to celebrate Jamie with a reception in her honor following 11am worship in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome.

Contact Beth Dixon to volunteer to help with the reception, bdixon@stjohnaugusta.org.

Sunday, September 13

Jamie's final Sunday as Organist & Director of Music
Join us for worship at 11:00am

Concerts with a Cause The Raleigh Ringers

3:00pm
The Cause: DCCM Food Pantry

Coming in September: Wednesday Night Suppers return!

ST. JOHN UMC STAFF

Phone: 706-724-9641

**The Reverend Jenny Anderson,
Pastor in Charge**

Ext. 15; janderson@stjohnaugusta.org

**Beth Dixon,
Operations Coordinator**

Ext. 26; bdixon@stjohnaugusta.org

**Jamie Council Garvey,
Organist/Director of Music**

Ext. 16; jcgarvey@stjohnaugusta.org

Keith Ingram, Security Guard

Donald Tilton, Worship Technician

Adam Kuehl, Grounds Keeper, Sound Technician

**Christina Reid,
Office Administrator**

Ext. 13; secretary@stjohnaugusta.org

**Krisi Hawkes,
Finance Manager**

Ext. 14; finance@stjohnaugusta.org

**Tim James,
Facilities Manager**

Ex. 17; facilitymgr@stjohnaugusta.org

**Rebekah Bryant,
Director of Programs and Discipleship**

rbryant@stjohnaugusta.org

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

August 2026



Pastor's Corner

In June, I made a declaration that this was going to be a gentle summer. And to my surprise, some of you read the Pastor's Corner and asked how that was going. "I declare 2026: A Gentle Summer." One of you asked sweetly if the church had ruined my declaration of gentle.

This summer was different. No vacation that required a follow-up vacation to recover. That means no twenty thousand steps a day at Disney World, or navigating airports to faraway lands. But what this summer did bring—its very best moment—was a good two hours of no jellyfish in the ocean. Playing in the water without pause. The gentle summer also brought seeing cousins: three different cousin adventures, and one big family party.

There were other aspects of the summer that were not gentle. The "adulthood" part of life brought challenges, but those challenges come in every season.

What I look forward to in this next season is the back-to-school time. I look forward to what this next school year will bring. Will this season be gentle? Probably not. But what I hope I can carry into this next season of time is to celebrate the brief gentle moments—to not leave them in the heat of July and August, but to bring that celebration into the rest of the year.

This summer in worship, we have wrestled with the challenges of the Gospel of Matthew. Long ago, those who put the books of the Bible together wanted the Book of Matthew to begin the journey of learning about Jesus in written word. Matthew is not a gentle Gospel, but it is one that tells us over and over again: Christ is with us. And the people who follow Christ are given this important and challenging task of trusting in God. I trust that God, through Christ, will bring moments of gentle this fall.

This Month in Worship

August 2

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 14:13-21*
Genesis 32:22-31, Psalm 17:1-5, 15

August 9

Reverend Lindsey Solomon
Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 14:22-33*
Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28; Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b

August 16

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 15:21-28*
Genesis 45:1-15; Psalm 133

August 23

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 16:13-20*
Exodus 2:1-10; Psalm 124

August 30

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 16:21-28*
Exodus 3:1-15; Psalm 105

Thank you to our Lake Volunteers for a successful Summer of Lakeside Worship! We also extend special thanks to everyone who made cookies and lemonade in the courtyard possible this summer!

Sunday, August 2nd is Back to School Sunday!

Promotion Sunday & Blessing of the Backpacks

Rising pre-K, 3rd, and 6th graders will move to their new Sunday School Classrooms! We will present Bibles to our Pre-K and 3rd graders. Students (and teachers!) bring your backpacks/school bags to Sunday morning worship. We will have a special blessing for ALL our students (preschool to graduate school!), parents, teachers and administrators.

Youth Fellowship returns in August!

Middle & high school students gather monthly during the school year with our safety-trained adult leaders for a range of meaningful fellowship activities. Whether we're on a walk exploring our community, ranking the best breakfast cereal varieties, or serving together at outreach events, it's always a lot of fun with our close-knit group of welcoming students.

Students, join us Sunday, August 9 at 5pm at the church for an evening of fun as we kick off the new school year!

To be added to the parents' text thread & receive monthly meeting info, text "Second City" to 833-214-9992 & complete the sign up prompts! For additional information, contact Rebekah Bryant (Director of Programs & Discipleship) at RBryant@stjohnaugusta.org

Youth Room Open House

Following worship, the congregation is invited to join us for lemonade and cookies in our newly renovated upstairs Youth room, Room 214, directly above the parlor. We are excited to have repairs and decorations complete! Thank you to our volunteers and staff who have helped with this process. This has been a labor of love that we're delighted to share with our Youth.

The Clothes Closet is open
Tuesdays, 11am-1pm

We are grateful for the steadfast support from the congregation & local community groups donating clothing & food! With the summer heat & humidity, we are expecting high demand for lightweight clothing, shoes, hats, underwear, & socks for men & women. Summer essentials include broad spectrum sunscreen, hand sanitizer, & water (flavored optional). In the meantime, we are seeking volunteers to help wash stained items. We assume we can catch up if a few people wash one load a month. Please contact Debby Barron for more information or to volunteer. 706-855-6347

DCCM
Food Distribution:
Saturday, August 15
Volunteers please arrive at 8:00am

Thank you for your compassion and generosity.

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](#)

Instagram: [@stjohn_augusta](#)

Website: www.stjohnaugusta.org/announcements

MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS

July 2026

To Budget:

In Memory of Jane Baldrige
By Kay Phillips & Alex Scharko
By Joseph & Joyce Edwin

To Missions:

In Memory of Jane Baldrige
By Rodney & Angela Powell
By Dan Griggs & Tonya Currier

To Choral Scholar's Fund:

In Memory of Jane Baldrige
By your St. John Chancel Choir Family
In Memory of Judge Matthew Hawley
By your St. John Chancel Choir Family
In Honor of Jamie Garvey
By Dan Griggs & Tonya Currier

Children's Choirs and Wednesday Night Suppers return in September!

Children's Choirs Open House:

Wednesday, September 2nd 5:30 pm

Join us upstairs in the choir room for an open house to learn all about our Wednesday night music programs for students preschool through high school starting back this fall!

Wednesday Night Suppers and Choirs begin
Wednesday, September 9th.

Upcoming Activities

Sunday, August 2	11:00am	Back to School Sunday
Wednesday, August 5	7:00pm	Chancel Choir Resumes
Wednesday, August 9	5:00pm	Youth Returns
Wednesday, August 12	10:00am	Stewardship Committee Meeting
	5:30pm	Lake Committee Meeting
Saturday, August 15	8:30am	DCCM Food Distribution
Sunday, August 16	3:00pm	Leadership Board

Celebrating Jamie Garvey

For 46 years, Jamie Council Garvey has been at the musical soul of St. John, and a defining presence in Augusta's arts community. This September, we invite everyone whose life she has touched to come celebrate with her.

Sunday, September 6

Join us to celebrate Jamie with a reception in her honor following 11am worship in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome.

Contact Beth Dixon to volunteer to help with the reception, bdixon@stjohnaugusta.org.

Sunday, September 13

Jamie's final Sunday as Organist & Director of Music
Join us for worship at 11:00am

Concerts with a Cause The Raleigh Ringers

3:00pm
The Cause: DCCM Food Pantry

Coming in September: Wednesday Night Suppers return!

ST. JOHN UMC STAFF

Phone: 706-724-9641

The Reverend Jenny Anderson,
Pastor in Charge

Ext. 15; janderson@stjohnaugusta.org

Beth Dixon,
Operations Coordinator
Ext. 26; bdixon@stjohnaugusta.org

Jamie Council Garvey,
Organist/Director of Music
Ext. 16; jcgarvey@stjohnaugusta.org

Keith Ingram, Security Guard
Donald Tilton, Worship Technician
Adam Kuehl, Grounds Keeper, Sound Technician

Christina Reid,
Office Administrator

Ext. 13; secretary@stjohnaugusta.org

Krisi Hawkes,
Finance Manager
Ext. 14; finance@stjohnaugusta.org

Tim James,
Facilities Manager
Ex. 17; facilitymgr@stjohnaugusta.org

Rebekah Bryant,
Director of Programs and Discipleship
rbryant@stjohnaugusta.org

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

August 2026



Pastor's Corner

In June, I made a declaration that this was going to be a gentle summer. And to my surprise, some of you read the Pastor's Corner and asked how that was going. "I declare 2026: A Gentle Summer." One of you asked sweetly if the church had ruined my declaration of gentle.

This summer was different. No vacation that required a follow-up vacation to recover. That means no twenty thousand steps a day at Disney World, or navigating airports to faraway lands. But what this summer did bring—its very best moment—was a good two hours of no jellyfish in the ocean. Playing in the water without pause. The gentle summer also brought seeing cousins: three different cousin adventures, and one big family party.

There were other aspects of the summer that were not gentle. The "adulthood" part of life brought challenges, but those challenges come in every season.

What I look forward to in this next season is the back-to-school time. I look forward to what this next school year will bring. Will this season be gentle? Probably not. But what I hope I can carry into this next season of time is to celebrate the brief gentle moments—to not leave them in the heat of July and August, but to bring that celebration into the rest of the year.

This summer in worship, we have wrestled with the challenges of the Gospel of Matthew. Long ago, those who put the books of the Bible together wanted the Book of Matthew to begin the journey of learning about Jesus in written word. Matthew is not a gentle Gospel, but it is one that tells us over and over again: Christ is with us. And the people who follow Christ are given this important and challenging task of trusting in God. I trust that God, through Christ, will bring moments of gentle this fall.

This Month in Worship

August 2

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 14:13-21*
Genesis 32:22-31, Psalm 17:1-5, 15

August 9

Reverend Lindsey Solomon
Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 14:22-33*
Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28; Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b

August 16

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 15:21-28*
Genesis 45:1-15; Psalm 133

August 23

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 16:13-20*
Exodus 2:1-10; Psalm 124

August 30

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 16:21-28*
Exodus 3:1-15; Psalm 105

Thank you to our Lake Volunteers for a successful Summer of Lakeside Worship! We also extend special thanks to everyone who made cookies and lemonade in the courtyard possible this summer!

Sunday, August 2nd is Back to School Sunday!

Promotion Sunday & Blessing of the Backpacks

Rising pre-K, 3rd, and 6th graders will move to their new Sunday School Classrooms! We will present Bibles to our Pre-K and 3rd graders. Students (and teachers!) bring your backpacks/school bags to Sunday morning worship. We will have a special blessing for ALL our students (preschool to graduate school!), parents, teachers and administrators.

Youth Fellowship returns in August!

Middle & high school students gather monthly during the school year with our safety-trained adult leaders for a range of meaningful fellowship activities. Whether we're on a walk exploring our community, ranking the best breakfast cereal varieties, or serving together at outreach events, it's always a lot of fun with our close-knit group of welcoming students.

Students, join us Sunday, August 9 at 5pm at the church for an evening of fun as we kick off the new school year!

To be added to the parents' text thread & receive monthly meeting info, text "Second City" to 833-214-9992 & complete the sign up prompts! For additional information, contact Rebekah Bryant (Director of Programs & Discipleship) at RBryant@stjohnaugusta.org

Youth Room Open House

Following worship, the congregation is invited to join us for lemonade and cookies in our newly renovated upstairs Youth room, Room 214, directly above the parlor. We are excited to have repairs and decorations complete! Thank you to our volunteers and staff who have helped with this process. This has been a labor of love that we're delighted to share with our Youth.

The Clothes Closet is open
Tuesdays, 11am-1pm

We are grateful for the steadfast support from the congregation & local community groups donating clothing & food! With the summer heat & humidity, we are expecting high demand for lightweight clothing, shoes, hats, underwear, & socks for men & women. Summer essentials include broad spectrum sunscreen, hand sanitizer, & water (flavored optional). In the meantime, we are seeking volunteers to help wash stained items. We assume we can catch up if a few people wash one load a month. Please contact Debby Barron for more information or to volunteer. 706-855-6347

DCCM
Food Distribution:
Saturday, August 15
Volunteers please arrive at 8:00am

Thank you for your compassion and generosity.

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](#)

Instagram: [@stjohn_augusta](#)

Website: www.stjohnaugusta.org/announcements

MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS

July 2026

To Budget:

In Memory of Jane Baldrige
By Kay Phillips & Alex Scharko
By Joseph & Joyce Edwin

To Missions:

In Memory of Jane Baldrige
By Rodney & Angela Powell
By Dan Griggs & Tonya Currier

To Choral Scholar's Fund:

In Memory of Jane Baldrige
By your St. John Chancel Choir Family
In Memory of Judge Matthew Hawley
By your St. John Chancel Choir Family
In Honor of Jamie Garvey
By Dan Griggs & Tonya Currier

Children's Choirs and Wednesday Night Suppers return in September!

Children's Choirs Open House:

Wednesday, September 2nd 5:30 pm

Join us upstairs in the choir room for an open house to learn all about our Wednesday night music programs for students preschool through high school starting back this fall!

Wednesday Night Suppers and Choirs begin
Wednesday, September 9th.

Upcoming Activities

Sunday, August 2	11:00am	Back to School Sunday
Wednesday, August 5	7:00pm	Chancel Choir Resumes
Wednesday, August 9	5:00pm	Youth Returns
Wednesday, August 12	10:00am	Stewardship Committee Meeting
	5:30pm	Lake Committee Meeting
Saturday, August 15	8:30am	DCCM Food Distribution
Sunday, August 16	3:00pm	Leadership Board

Celebrating Jamie Garvey

For 46 years, Jamie Council Garvey has been at the musical soul of St. John, and a defining presence in Augusta's arts community. This September, we invite everyone whose life she has touched to come celebrate with her.

Sunday, September 6

Join us to celebrate Jamie with a reception in her honor following 11am worship in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome.

Contact Beth Dixon to volunteer to help with the reception, bdixon@stjohnaugusta.org.

Sunday, September 13

Jamie's final Sunday as Organist & Director of Music
Join us for worship at 11:00am

Concerts with a Cause The Raleigh Ringers

3:00pm
The Cause: DCCM Food Pantry

Coming in September: Wednesday Night Suppers return!

ST. JOHN UMC STAFF

Phone: 706-724-9641

**The Reverend Jenny Anderson,
Pastor in Charge**

Ext. 15; janderson@stjohnaugusta.org

**Beth Dixon,
Operations Coordinator**

Ext. 26; bdixon@stjohnaugusta.org

**Jamie Council Garvey,
Organist/Director of Music**

Ext. 16; jcgarvey@stjohnaugusta.org

Keith Ingram, Security Guard

Donald Tilton, Worship Technician

Adam Kuehl, Grounds Keeper, Sound Technician

**Christina Reid,
Office Administrator**

Ext. 13; secretary@stjohnaugusta.org

**Krisi Hawkes,
Finance Manager**

Ext. 14; finance@stjohnaugusta.org

**Tim James,
Facilities Manager**

Ex. 17; facilitymgr@stjohnaugusta.org

**Rebekah Bryant,
Director of Programs and Discipleship**

rbryant@stjohnaugusta.org

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

August 2026



Pastor's Corner

In June, I made a declaration that this was going to be a gentle summer. And to my surprise, some of you read the Pastor's Corner and asked how that was going. "I declare 2026: A Gentle Summer." One of you asked sweetly if the church had ruined my declaration of gentle.

This summer was different. No vacation that required a follow-up vacation to recover. That means no twenty thousand steps a day at Disney World, or navigating airports to faraway lands. But what this summer did bring—its very best moment—was a good two hours of no jellyfish in the ocean. Playing in the water without pause. The gentle summer also brought seeing cousins: three different cousin adventures, and one big family party.

There were other aspects of the summer that were not gentle. The "adulthood" part of life brought challenges, but those challenges come in every season.

What I look forward to in this next season is the back-to-school time. I look forward to what this next school year will bring. Will this season be gentle? Probably not. But what I hope I can carry into this next season of time is to celebrate the brief gentle moments—to not leave them in the heat of July and August, but to bring that celebration into the rest of the year.

This summer in worship, we have wrestled with the challenges of the Gospel of Matthew. Long ago, those who put the books of the Bible together wanted the Book of Matthew to begin the journey of learning about Jesus in written word. Matthew is not a gentle Gospel, but it is one that tells us over and over again: Christ is with us. And the people who follow Christ are given this important and challenging task of trusting in God. I trust that God, through Christ, will bring moments of gentle this fall.

This Month in Worship

August 2

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 14:13-21*
Genesis 32:22-31, Psalm 17:1-5, 15

August 9

Reverend Lindsey Solomon
Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 14:22-33*
Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28; Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b

August 16

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 15:21-28*
Genesis 45:1-15; Psalm 133

August 23

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 16:13-20*
Exodus 2:1-10; Psalm 124

August 30

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 16:21-28*
Exodus 3:1-15; Psalm 105

Thank you to our Lake Volunteers for a successful Summer of Lakeside Worship! We also extend special thanks to everyone who made cookies and lemonade in the courtyard possible this summer!

Sunday, August 2nd is Back to School Sunday!

Promotion Sunday & Blessing of the Backpacks

Rising pre-K, 3rd, and 6th graders will move to their new Sunday School Classrooms! We will present Bibles to our Pre-K and 3rd graders. Students (and teachers!) bring your backpacks/school bags to Sunday morning worship. We will have a special blessing for ALL our students (preschool to graduate school!), parents, teachers and administrators.

Youth Room Open House

Following worship, the congregation is invited to join us for lemonade and cookies in our newly renovated upstairs Youth room, Room 214, directly above the parlor. We are excited to have repairs and decorations complete! Thank you to our volunteers and staff who have helped with this process. This has been a labor of love that we’re delighted to share with our Youth.

Youth Fellowship returns in August!

Middle & high school students gather monthly during the school year with our safety-trained adult leaders for a range of meaningful fellowship activities. Whether we're on a walk exploring our community, ranking the best breakfast cereal varieties, or serving together at outreach events, it's always a lot of fun with our close-knit group of welcoming students.
Students, join us Sunday, August 9 at 5pm at the church for an evening of fun as we kick off the new school year!
To be added to the parents' text thread & receive monthly meeting info, text "Second City" to 833-214-9992 & complete the sign up prompts! For additional information, contact Rebekah Bryant (Director of Programs & Discipleship) at RBryant@stjohnaugusta.org

The Clothes Closet is open
Tuesdays, 11am-1pm

We are grateful for the steadfast support from the congregation & local community groups donating clothing & food! With the summer heat & humidity, we are expecting high demand for lightweight clothing, shoes, hats, underwear, & socks for men & women. Summer essentials include broad spectrum sunscreen, hand sanitizer, & water (flavored optional). In the meantime, we are seeking volunteers to help wash stained items. We assume we can catch up if a few people wash one load a month. Please contact Debby Barron for more information or to volunteer. 706-855-6347

DCCM
Food Distribution:
Saturday, August 15
Volunteers please arrive at 8:00am

Thank you for your compassion and generosity.

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](#)

Instagram: [@stjohn_augusta](#)

Website: www.stjohnaugusta.org/announcements

MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS

July 2026

To Budget:

In Memory of Jane Baldrige
By Kay Phillips & Alex Scharko
By Joseph & Joyce Edwin

To Missions:

In Memory of Jane Baldrige
By Rodney & Angela Powell
By Dan Griggs & Tonya Currier

To Choral Scholar’s Fund:

In Memory of Jane Baldrige
By your St. John Chancel Choir Family
In Memory of Judge Matthew Hawley
By your St. John Chancel Choir Family
In Honor of Jamie Garvey
By Dan Griggs & Tonya Currier

Children’s Choirs and Wednesday Night Suppers return in September!

Children’s Choirs Open House:

Wednesday, September 2nd 5:30 pm

Join us upstairs in the choir room for an open house to learn all about our Wednesday night music programs for students preschool through high school starting back this fall!

Wednesday Night Suppers and Choirs begin Wednesday, September 9th.

Upcoming Activities

Sunday, August 2	11:00am	Back to School Sunday
Wednesday, August 5	7:00pm	Chancel Choir Resumes
Wednesday, August 9	5:00pm	Youth Returns
Wednesday, August 12	10:00am	Stewardship Committee Meeting
	5:30pm	Lake Committee Meeting
Saturday, August 15	8:30am	DCCM Food Distribution
Sunday, August 16	3:00pm	Leadership Board

Celebrating Jamie Garvey

For 46 years, Jamie Council Garvey has been at the musical soul of St. John, and a defining presence in Augusta's arts community. This September, we invite everyone whose life she has touched to come celebrate with her.

Sunday, September 6

Join us to celebrate Jamie with a reception in her honor following 11am worship in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome.

Contact Beth Dixon to volunteer to help with the reception, bdixon@stjohnaugusta.org.

Sunday, September 13

Jamie's final Sunday as Organist & Director of Music
Join us for worship at 11:00am

Concerts with a Cause The Raleigh Ringers

3:00pm
The Cause: DCCM Food Pantry

Coming in September: Wednesday Night Suppers return!

ST. JOHN UMC STAFF

Phone: 706-724-9641

**The Reverend Jenny Anderson,
Pastor in Charge**

Ext. 15; janderson@stjohnaugusta.org

**Beth Dixon,
Operations Coordinator**
Ext. 26; bdixon@stjohnaugusta.org

**Jamie Council Garvey,
Organist/Director of Music**
Ext. 16; jcgarvey@stjohnaugusta.org

Keith Ingram, Security Guard
Donald Tilton, Worship Technician
Adam Kuehl, Grounds Keeper, Sound Technician

**Christina Reid,
Office Administrator**

Ext. 13; secretary@stjohnaugusta.org

**Krisi Hawkes,
Finance Manager**
Ext. 14; finance@stjohnaugusta.org

**Tim James,
Facilities Manager**
Ex. 17; facilitymgr@stjohnaugusta.org

**Rebekah Bryant,
Director of Programs and Discipleship**
rbryant@stjohnaugusta.org

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

August 2026



Pastor's Corner

In June, I made a declaration that this was going to be a gentle summer. And to my surprise, some of you read the Pastor's Corner and asked how that was going. "I declare 2026: A Gentle Summer." One of you asked sweetly if the church had ruined my declaration of gentle.

This summer was different. No vacation that required a follow-up vacation to recover. That means no twenty thousand steps a day at Disney World, or navigating airports to faraway lands. But what this summer did bring—its very best moment—was a good two hours of no jellyfish in the ocean. Playing in the water without pause. The gentle summer also brought seeing cousins: three different cousin adventures, and one big family party.

There were other aspects of the summer that were not gentle. The "adulthood" part of life brought challenges, but those challenges come in every season.

What I look forward to in this next season is the back-to-school time. I look forward to what this next school year will bring. Will this season be gentle? Probably not. But what I hope I can carry into this next season of time is to celebrate the brief gentle moments—to not leave them in the heat of July and August, but to bring that celebration into the rest of the year.

This summer in worship, we have wrestled with the challenges of the Gospel of Matthew. Long ago, those who put the books of the Bible together wanted the Book of Matthew to begin the journey of learning about Jesus in written word. Matthew is not a gentle Gospel, but it is one that tells us over and over again: Christ is with us. And the people who follow Christ are given this important and challenging task of trusting in God. I trust that God, through Christ, will bring moments of gentle this fall.

This Month in Worship

August 2

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 14:13-21*
Genesis 32:22-31, Psalm 17:1-5, 15

August 9

Reverend Lindsey Solomon
Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 14:22-33*
Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28; Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b

August 16

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 15:21-28*
Genesis 45:1-15; Psalm 133

August 23

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 16:13-20*
Exodus 2:1-10; Psalm 124

August 30

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 16:21-28*
Exodus 3:1-15; Psalm 105

Thank you to our Lake Volunteers for a successful Summer of Lakeside Worship! We also extend special thanks to everyone who made cookies and lemonade in the courtyard possible this summer!

Sunday, August 2nd is Back to School Sunday!

Promotion Sunday & Blessing of the Backpacks

Rising pre-K, 3rd, and 6th graders will move to their new Sunday School Classrooms! We will present Bibles to our Pre-K and 3rd graders. Students (and teachers!) bring your backpacks/school bags to Sunday morning worship. We will have a special blessing for ALL our students (preschool to graduate school!), parents, teachers and administrators.

Youth Fellowship returns in August!

Middle & high school students gather monthly during the school year with our safety-trained adult leaders for a range of meaningful fellowship activities. Whether we're on a walk exploring our community, ranking the best breakfast cereal varieties, or serving together at outreach events, it's always a lot of fun with our close-knit group of welcoming students.

Students, join us Sunday, August 9 at 5pm at the church for an evening of fun as we kick off the new school year!

To be added to the parents' text thread & receive monthly meeting info, text "Second City" to 833-214-9992 & complete the sign up prompts! For additional information, contact Rebekah Bryant (Director of Programs & Discipleship) at RBryant@stjohnaugusta.org

Youth Room Open House

Following worship, the congregation is invited to join us for lemonade and cookies in our newly renovated upstairs Youth room, Room 214, directly above the parlor. We are excited to have repairs and decorations complete! Thank you to our volunteers and staff who have helped with this process. This has been a labor of love that we're delighted to share with our Youth.

The Clothes Closet is open
Tuesdays, 11am-1pm

We are grateful for the steadfast support from the congregation & local community groups donating clothing & food! With the summer heat & humidity, we are expecting high demand for lightweight clothing, shoes, hats, underwear, & socks for men & women. Summer essentials include broad spectrum sunscreen, hand sanitizer, & water (flavored optional). In the meantime, we are seeking volunteers to help wash stained items. We assume we can catch up if a few people wash one load a month. Please contact Debby Barron for more information or to volunteer. 706-855-6347

DCCM
Food Distribution:
Saturday, August 15
Volunteers please arrive at 8:00am

Thank you for your compassion and generosity.

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](#)

Instagram: [@stjohn_augusta](#)

Website: www.stjohnaugusta.org/announcements

MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS

July 2026

To Budget:

In Memory of Jane Baldrige
By Kay Phillips & Alex Scharko
By Joseph & Joyce Edwin

To Missions:

In Memory of Jane Baldrige
By Rodney & Angela Powell
By Dan Griggs & Tonya Currier

To Choral Scholar's Fund:

In Memory of Jane Baldrige
By your St. John Chancel Choir Family
In Memory of Judge Matthew Hawley
By your St. John Chancel Choir Family
In Honor of Jamie Garvey
By Dan Griggs & Tonya Currier

Children's Choirs and Wednesday Night Suppers return in September!

Children's Choirs Open House:

Wednesday, September 2nd 5:30 pm

Join us upstairs in the choir room for an open house to learn all about our Wednesday night music programs for students preschool through high school starting back this fall!

Wednesday Night Suppers and Choirs begin
Wednesday, September 9th.

Upcoming Activities

Sunday, August 2	11:00am	Back to School Sunday
Wednesday, August 5	7:00pm	Chancel Choir Resumes
Wednesday, August 9	5:00pm	Youth Returns
Wednesday, August 12	10:00am	Stewardship Committee Meeting
	5:30pm	Lake Committee Meeting
Saturday, August 15	8:30am	DCCM Food Distribution
Sunday, August 16	3:00pm	Leadership Board

Celebrating Jamie Garvey

For 46 years, Jamie Council Garvey has been at the musical soul of St. John, and a defining presence in Augusta's arts community. This September, we invite everyone whose life she has touched to come celebrate with her.

Sunday, September 6

Join us to celebrate Jamie with a reception in her honor following 11am worship in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome.

Contact Beth Dixon to volunteer to help with the reception, bdixon@stjohnaugusta.org.

Sunday, September 13

Jamie's final Sunday as Organist & Director of Music
Join us for worship at 11:00am

Concerts with a Cause The Raleigh Ringers

3:00pm
The Cause: DCCM Food Pantry

Coming in September: Wednesday Night Suppers return!

ST. JOHN UMC STAFF

Phone: 706-724-9641

**The Reverend Jenny Anderson,
Pastor in Charge**

Ext. 15; janderson@stjohnaugusta.org

**Beth Dixon,
Operations Coordinator**
Ext. 26; bdixon@stjohnaugusta.org

**Jamie Council Garvey,
Organist/Director of Music**
Ext. 16; jcgarvey@stjohnaugusta.org

Keith Ingram, Security Guard
Donald Tilton, Worship Technician
Adam Kuehl, Grounds Keeper, Sound Technician

**Christina Reid,
Office Administrator**

Ext. 13; secretary@stjohnaugusta.org

**Krisi Hawkes,
Finance Manager**
Ext. 14; finance@stjohnaugusta.org

**Tim James,
Facilities Manager**
Ex. 17; facilitymgr@stjohnaugusta.org

**Rebekah Bryant,
Director of Programs and Discipleship**
rbryant@stjohnaugusta.org

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

August 2026



Pastor's Corner

In June, I made a declaration that this was going to be a gentle summer. And to my surprise, some of you read the Pastor's Corner and asked how that was going. "I declare 2026: A Gentle Summer." One of you asked sweetly if the church had ruined my declaration of gentle.

This summer was different. No vacation that required a follow-up vacation to recover. That means no twenty thousand steps a day at Disney World, or navigating airports to faraway lands. But what this summer did bring—its very best moment—was a good two hours of no jellyfish in the ocean. Playing in the water without pause. The gentle summer also brought seeing cousins: three different cousin adventures, and one big family party.

There were other aspects of the summer that were not gentle. The "adulthood" part of life brought challenges, but those challenges come in every season.

What I look forward to in this next season is the back-to-school time. I look forward to what this next school year will bring. Will this season be gentle? Probably not. But what I hope I can carry into this next season of time is to celebrate the brief gentle moments—to not leave them in the heat of July and August, but to bring that celebration into the rest of the year.

This summer in worship, we have wrestled with the challenges of the Gospel of Matthew. Long ago, those who put the books of the Bible together wanted the Book of Matthew to begin the journey of learning about Jesus in written word. Matthew is not a gentle Gospel, but it is one that tells us over and over again: Christ is with us. And the people who follow Christ are given this important and challenging task of trusting in God. I trust that God, through Christ, will bring moments of gentle this fall.

This Month in Worship

August 2

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 14:13-21*
Genesis 32:22-31, Psalm 17:1-5, 15

August 9

Reverend Lindsey Solomon
Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 14:22-33*
Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28; Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b

August 16

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 15:21-28*
Genesis 45:1-15; Psalm 133

August 23

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 16:13-20*
Exodus 2:1-10; Psalm 124

August 30

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 16:21-28*
Exodus 3:1-15; Psalm 105

Thank you to our Lake Volunteers for a successful Summer of Lakeside Worship! We also extend special thanks to everyone who made cookies and lemonade in the courtyard possible this summer!

Sunday, August 2nd is Back to School Sunday!

Promotion Sunday & Blessing of the Backpacks

Rising pre-K, 3rd, and 6th graders will move to their new Sunday School Classrooms! We will present Bibles to our Pre-K and 3rd graders. Students (and teachers!) bring your backpacks/school bags to Sunday morning worship. We will have a special blessing for ALL our students (preschool to graduate school!), parents, teachers and administrators.

Youth Room Open House

Following worship, the congregation is invited to join us for lemonade and cookies in our newly renovated upstairs Youth room, Room 214, directly above the parlor. We are excited to have repairs and decorations complete! Thank you to our volunteers and staff who have helped with this process. This has been a labor of love that we’re delighted to share with our Youth.

Youth Fellowship returns in August!

Middle & high school students gather monthly during the school year with our safety-trained adult leaders for a range of meaningful fellowship activities. Whether we're on a walk exploring our community, ranking the best breakfast cereal varieties, or serving together at outreach events, it's always a lot of fun with our close-knit group of welcoming students.
Students, join us Sunday, August 9 at 5pm at the church for an evening of fun as we kick off the new school year!
To be added to the parents' text thread & receive monthly meeting info, text "Second City" to 833-214-9992 & complete the sign up prompts! For additional information, contact Rebekah Bryant (Director of Programs & Discipleship) at RBryant@stjohnaugusta.org

The Clothes Closet is open
Tuesdays, 11am-1pm

We are grateful for the steadfast support from the congregation & local community groups donating clothing & food! With the summer heat & humidity, we are expecting high demand for lightweight clothing, shoes, hats, underwear, & socks for men & women. Summer essentials include broad spectrum sunscreen, hand sanitizer, & water (flavored optional). In the meantime, we are seeking volunteers to help wash stained items. We assume we can catch up if a few people wash one load a month. Please contact Debby Barron for more information or to volunteer. 706-855-6347

DCCM
Food Distribution:
Saturday, August 15
Volunteers please arrive at 8:00am

Thank you for your compassion and generosity.

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

MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS

July 2026

To Budget:

In Memory of Jane Baldrige
By Kay Phillips & Alex Scharko
By Joseph & Joyce Edwin

To Missions:

In Memory of Jane Baldrige
By Rodney & Angela Powell
By Dan Griggs & Tonya Currier

To Choral Scholar’s Fund:

In Memory of Jane Baldrige
By your St. John Chancel Choir Family
In Memory of Judge Matthew Hawley
By your St. John Chancel Choir Family
In Honor of Jamie Garvey
By Dan Griggs & Tonya Currier

Children’s Choirs and Wednesday Night Suppers return in September!

Children’s Choirs Open House:

Wednesday, September 2nd 5:30 pm

Join us upstairs in the choir room for an open house to learn all about our Wednesday night music programs for students preschool through high school starting back this fall!

Wednesday Night Suppers and Choirs begin
Wednesday, September 9th.

Upcoming Activities

Sunday, August 2	11:00am	Back to School Sunday
Wednesday, August 5	7:00pm	Chancel Choir Resumes
Wednesday, August 9	5:00pm	Youth Returns
Wednesday, August 12	10:00am	Stewardship Committee Meeting
	5:30pm	Lake Committee Meeting
Saturday, August 15	8:30am	DCCM Food Distribution
Sunday, August 16	3:00pm	Leadership Board

Celebrating Jamie Garvey

For 46 years, Jamie Council Garvey has been at the musical soul of St. John, and a defining presence in Augusta's arts community. This September, we invite everyone whose life she has touched to come celebrate with her.

Sunday, September 6

Join us to celebrate Jamie with a reception in her honor following 11am worship in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome.

Contact Beth Dixon to volunteer to help with the reception, bdixon@stjohnaugusta.org.

Sunday, September 13

Jamie's final Sunday as Organist & Director of Music
Join us for worship at 11:00am

Concerts with a Cause The Raleigh Ringers

3:00pm
The Cause: DCCM Food Pantry

Coming in September: Wednesday Night Suppers return!

ST. JOHN UMC STAFF

Phone: 706-724-9641

**The Reverend Jenny Anderson,
Pastor in Charge**

Ext. 15; janderson@stjohnaugusta.org

**Beth Dixon,
Operations Coordinator**
Ext. 26; bdixon@stjohnaugusta.org

**Jamie Council Garvey,
Organist/Director of Music**
Ext. 16; jcgarvey@stjohnaugusta.org

Keith Ingram, Security Guard
Donald Tilton, Worship Technician
Adam Kuehl, Grounds Keeper, Sound Technician

**Christina Reid,
Office Administrator**

Ext. 13; secretary@stjohnaugusta.org

**Krisi Hawkes,
Finance Manager**
Ext. 14; finance@stjohnaugusta.org

**Tim James,
Facilities Manager**
Ex. 17; facilitymgr@stjohnaugusta.org

**Rebekah Bryant,
Director of Programs and Discipleship**
rbryant@stjohnaugusta.org

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

August 2026



Pastor's Corner

In June, I made a declaration that this was going to be a gentle summer. And to my surprise, some of you read the Pastor's Corner and asked how that was going. "I declare 2026: A Gentle Summer." One of you asked sweetly if the church had ruined my declaration of gentle.

This summer was different. No vacation that required a follow-up vacation to recover. That means no twenty thousand steps a day at Disney World, or navigating airports to faraway lands. But what this summer did bring—its very best moment—was a good two hours of no jellyfish in the ocean. Playing in the water without pause. The gentle summer also brought seeing cousins: three different cousin adventures, and one big family party.

There were other aspects of the summer that were not gentle. The "adulthood" part of life brought challenges, but those challenges come in every season.

What I look forward to in this next season is the back-to-school time. I look forward to what this next school year will bring. Will this season be gentle? Probably not. But what I hope I can carry into this next season of time is to celebrate the brief gentle moments—to not leave them in the heat of July and August, but to bring that celebration into the rest of the year.

This summer in worship, we have wrestled with the challenges of the Gospel of Matthew. Long ago, those who put the books of the Bible together wanted the Book of Matthew to begin the journey of learning about Jesus in written word. Matthew is not a gentle Gospel, but it is one that tells us over and over again: Christ is with us. And the people who follow Christ are given this important and challenging task of trusting in God. I trust that God, through Christ, will bring moments of gentle this fall.

This Month in Worship

August 2

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 14:13-21*
Genesis 32:22-31, Psalm 17:1-5, 15

August 9

Reverend Lindsey Solomon
Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 14:22-33*
Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28; Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b

August 16

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 15:21-28*
Genesis 45:1-15; Psalm 133

August 23

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 16:13-20*
Exodus 2:1-10; Psalm 124

August 30

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 16:21-28*
Exodus 3:1-15; Psalm 105

Thank you to our Lake Volunteers for a successful Summer of Lakeside Worship! We also extend special thanks to everyone who made cookies and lemonade in the courtyard possible this summer!

Sunday, August 2nd is Back to School Sunday!

Promotion Sunday & Blessing of the Backpacks

Rising pre-K, 3rd, and 6th graders will move to their new Sunday School Classrooms! We will present Bibles to our Pre-K and 3rd graders. Students (and teachers!) bring your backpacks/school bags to Sunday morning worship. We will have a special blessing for ALL our students (preschool to graduate school!), parents, teachers and administrators.

Youth Fellowship returns in August!

Middle & high school students gather monthly during the school year with our safety-trained adult leaders for a range of meaningful fellowship activities. Whether we're on a walk exploring our community, ranking the best breakfast cereal varieties, or serving together at outreach events, it's always a lot of fun with our close-knit group of welcoming students.

Students, join us Sunday, August 9 at 5pm at the church for an evening of fun as we kick off the new school year!

To be added to the parents' text thread & receive monthly meeting info, text "Second City" to 833-214-9992 & complete the sign up prompts! For additional information, contact Rebekah Bryant (Director of Programs & Discipleship) at RBryant@stjohnaugusta.org

Youth Room Open House

Following worship, the congregation is invited to join us for lemonade and cookies in our newly renovated upstairs Youth room, Room 214, directly above the parlor. We are excited to have repairs and decorations complete! Thank you to our volunteers and staff who have helped with this process. This has been a labor of love that we're delighted to share with our Youth.

The Clothes Closet is open
Tuesdays, 11am-1pm

We are grateful for the steadfast support from the congregation & local community groups donating clothing & food! With the summer heat & humidity, we are expecting high demand for lightweight clothing, shoes, hats, underwear, & socks for men & women. Summer essentials include broad spectrum sunscreen, hand sanitizer, & water (flavored optional). In the meantime, we are seeking volunteers to help wash stained items. We assume we can catch up if a few people wash one load a month. Please contact Debby Barron for more information or to volunteer. 706-855-6347

DCCM
Food Distribution:
Saturday, August 15
Volunteers please arrive at 8:00am

Thank you for your compassion and generosity.

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](#)

Instagram: [@stjohn_augusta](#)

Website: www.stjohnaugusta.org/announcements

MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS

July 2026

To Budget:

In Memory of Jane Baldrige
By Kay Phillips & Alex Scharko
By Joseph & Joyce Edwin

To Missions:

In Memory of Jane Baldrige
By Rodney & Angela Powell
By Dan Griggs & Tonya Currier

To Choral Scholar's Fund:

In Memory of Jane Baldrige
By your St. John Chancel Choir Family
In Memory of Judge Matthew Hawley
By your St. John Chancel Choir Family
In Honor of Jamie Garvey
By Dan Griggs & Tonya Currier

Children's Choirs and Wednesday Night Suppers return in September!

Children's Choirs Open House:

Wednesday, September 2nd 5:30 pm

Join us upstairs in the choir room for an open house to learn all about our Wednesday night music programs for students preschool through high school starting back this fall!

Wednesday Night Suppers and Choirs begin
Wednesday, September 9th.

Upcoming Activities

Sunday, August 2	11:00am	Back to School Sunday
Wednesday, August 5	7:00pm	Chancel Choir Resumes
Wednesday, August 9	5:00pm	Youth Returns
Wednesday, August 12	10:00am	Stewardship Committee Meeting
	5:30pm	Lake Committee Meeting
Saturday, August 15	8:30am	DCCM Food Distribution
Sunday, August 16	3:00pm	Leadership Board

Celebrating Jamie Garvey

For 46 years, Jamie Council Garvey has been at the musical soul of St. John, and a defining presence in Augusta's arts community. This September, we invite everyone whose life she has touched to come celebrate with her.

Sunday, September 6

Join us to celebrate Jamie with a reception in her honor following 11am worship in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome.

Contact Beth Dixon to volunteer to help with the reception, bdixon@stjohnaugusta.org.

Sunday, September 13

Jamie's final Sunday as Organist & Director of Music
Join us for worship at 11:00am

Concerts with a Cause The Raleigh Ringers

3:00pm
The Cause: DCCM Food Pantry

Coming in September: Wednesday Night Suppers return!

ST. JOHN UMC STAFF

Phone: 706-724-9641

**The Reverend Jenny Anderson,
Pastor in Charge**

Ext. 15; janderson@stjohnaugusta.org

**Beth Dixon,
Operations Coordinator**
Ext. 26; bdixon@stjohnaugusta.org

**Jamie Council Garvey,
Organist/Director of Music**
Ext. 16; jcgarvey@stjohnaugusta.org

Keith Ingram, Security Guard
Donald Tilton, Worship Technician
Adam Kuehl, Grounds Keeper, Sound Technician

**Christina Reid,
Office Administrator**

Ext. 13; secretary@stjohnaugusta.org

**Krisi Hawkes,
Finance Manager**
Ext. 14; finance@stjohnaugusta.org

**Tim James,
Facilities Manager**
Ex. 17; facilitymgr@stjohnaugusta.org

**Rebekah Bryant,
Director of Programs and Discipleship**
rbryant@stjohnaugusta.org

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

August 2026



Pastor's Corner

In June, I made a declaration that this was going to be a gentle summer. And to my surprise, some of you read the Pastor's Corner and asked how that was going. "I declare 2026: A Gentle Summer." One of you asked sweetly if the church had ruined my declaration of gentle.

This summer was different. No vacation that required a follow-up vacation to recover. That means no twenty thousand steps a day at Disney World, or navigating airports to faraway lands. But what this summer did bring—its very best moment—was a good two hours of no jellyfish in the ocean. Playing in the water without pause. The gentle summer also brought seeing cousins: three different cousin adventures, and one big family party.

There were other aspects of the summer that were not gentle. The "adulthood" part of life brought challenges, but those challenges come in every season.

What I look forward to in this next season is the back-to-school time. I look forward to what this next school year will bring. Will this season be gentle? Probably not. But what I hope I can carry into this next season of time is to celebrate the brief gentle moments—to not leave them in the heat of July and August, but to bring that celebration into the rest of the year.

This summer in worship, we have wrestled with the challenges of the Gospel of Matthew. Long ago, those who put the books of the Bible together wanted the Book of Matthew to begin the journey of learning about Jesus in written word. Matthew is not a gentle Gospel, but it is one that tells us over and over again: Christ is with us. And the people who follow Christ are given this important and challenging task of trusting in God. I trust that God, through Christ, will bring moments of gentle this fall.

This Month in Worship

August 2

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 14:13-21*
Genesis 32:22-31, Psalm 17:1-5, 15

August 9

Reverend Lindsey Solomon
Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 14:22-33*
Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28; Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b

August 16

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 15:21-28*
Genesis 45:1-15; Psalm 133

August 23

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 16:13-20*
Exodus 2:1-10; Psalm 124

August 30

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 16:21-28*
Exodus 3:1-15; Psalm 105

Thank you to our Lake Volunteers for a successful Summer of Lakeside Worship! We also extend special thanks to everyone who made cookies and lemonade in the courtyard possible this summer!

Sunday, August 2nd is Back to School Sunday!

Promotion Sunday & Blessing of the Backpacks

Rising pre-K, 3rd, and 6th graders will move to their new Sunday School Classrooms! We will present Bibles to our Pre-K and 3rd graders. Students (and teachers!) bring your backpacks/school bags to Sunday morning worship. We will have a special blessing for ALL our students (preschool to graduate school!), parents, teachers and administrators.

Youth Fellowship returns in August!

Middle & high school students gather monthly during the school year with our safety-trained adult leaders for a range of meaningful fellowship activities. Whether we're on a walk exploring our community, ranking the best breakfast cereal varieties, or serving together at outreach events, it's always a lot of fun with our close-knit group of welcoming students.

Students, join us Sunday, August 9 at 5pm at the church for an evening of fun as we kick off the new school year!

To be added to the parents' text thread & receive monthly meeting info, text "Second City" to 833-214-9992 & complete the sign up prompts! For additional information, contact Rebekah Bryant (Director of Programs & Discipleship) at RBryant@stjohnaugusta.org

Youth Room Open House

Following worship, the congregation is invited to join us for lemonade and cookies in our newly renovated upstairs Youth room, Room 214, directly above the parlor. We are excited to have repairs and decorations complete! Thank you to our volunteers and staff who have helped with this process. This has been a labor of love that we're delighted to share with our Youth.

The Clothes Closet is open
Tuesdays, 11am-1pm

We are grateful for the steadfast support from the congregation & local community groups donating clothing & food! With the summer heat & humidity, we are expecting high demand for lightweight clothing, shoes, hats, underwear, & socks for men & women. Summer essentials include broad spectrum sunscreen, hand sanitizer, & water (flavored optional). In the meantime, we are seeking volunteers to help wash stained items. We assume we can catch up if a few people wash one load a month. Please contact Debby Barron for more information or to volunteer. 706-855-6347

DCCM
Food Distribution:
Saturday, August 15
Volunteers please arrive at 8:00am

Thank you for your compassion and generosity.

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](#)

Instagram: [@stjohn_augusta](#)

Website: www.stjohnaugusta.org/announcements

MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS

July 2026

To Budget:

In Memory of Jane Baldrige
By Kay Phillips & Alex Scharko
By Joseph & Joyce Edwin

To Missions:

In Memory of Jane Baldrige
By Rodney & Angela Powell
By Dan Griggs & Tonya Currier

To Choral Scholar's Fund:

In Memory of Jane Baldrige
By your St. John Chancel Choir Family
In Memory of Judge Matthew Hawley
By your St. John Chancel Choir Family
In Honor of Jamie Garvey
By Dan Griggs & Tonya Currier

Children's Choirs and Wednesday Night Suppers return in September!

Children's Choirs Open House:

Wednesday, September 2nd 5:30 pm

Join us upstairs in the choir room for an open house to learn all about our Wednesday night music programs for students preschool through high school starting back this fall!

Wednesday Night Suppers and Choirs begin
Wednesday, September 9th.

Upcoming Activities

Sunday, August 2	11:00am	Back to School Sunday
Wednesday, August 5	7:00pm	Chancel Choir Resumes
Wednesday, August 9	5:00pm	Youth Returns
Wednesday, August 12	10:00am	Stewardship Committee Meeting
	5:30pm	Lake Committee Meeting
Saturday, August 15	8:30am	DCCM Food Distribution
Sunday, August 16	3:00pm	Leadership Board

Celebrating Jamie Garvey

For 46 years, Jamie Council Garvey has been at the musical soul of St. John, and a defining presence in Augusta's arts community. This September, we invite everyone whose life she has touched to come celebrate with her.

Sunday, September 6

Join us to celebrate Jamie with a reception in her honor following 11am worship in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome.

Contact Beth Dixon to volunteer to help with the reception, bdixon@stjohnaugusta.org.

Sunday, September 13

Jamie's final Sunday as Organist & Director of Music
Join us for worship at 11:00am

Concerts with a Cause The Raleigh Ringers

3:00pm
The Cause: DCCM Food Pantry

Coming in September: Wednesday Night Suppers return!

ST. JOHN UMC STAFF

Phone: 706-724-9641

**The Reverend Jenny Anderson,
Pastor in Charge**

Ext. 15; janderson@stjohnaugusta.org

**Beth Dixon,
Operations Coordinator**
Ext. 26; bdixon@stjohnaugusta.org

**Jamie Council Garvey,
Organist/Director of Music**
Ext. 16; jcgarvey@stjohnaugusta.org

Keith Ingram, Security Guard
Donald Tilton, Worship Technician
Adam Kuehl, Grounds Keeper, Sound Technician

**Christina Reid,
Office Administrator**

Ext. 13; secretary@stjohnaugusta.org

**Krisi Hawkes,
Finance Manager**
Ext. 14; finance@stjohnaugusta.org

**Tim James,
Facilities Manager**
Ex. 17; facilitymgr@stjohnaugusta.org

**Rebekah Bryant,
Director of Programs and Discipleship**
rbryant@stjohnaugusta.org

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

August 2026



Pastor's Corner

In June, I made a declaration that this was going to be a gentle summer. And to my surprise, some of you read the Pastor's Corner and asked how that was going. "I declare 2026: A Gentle Summer." One of you asked sweetly if the church had ruined my declaration of gentle.

This summer was different. No vacation that required a follow-up vacation to recover. That means no twenty thousand steps a day at Disney World, or navigating airports to faraway lands. But what this summer did bring—its very best moment—was a good two hours of no jellyfish in the ocean. Playing in the water without pause. The gentle summer also brought seeing cousins: three different cousin adventures, and one big family party.

There were other aspects of the summer that were not gentle. The "adulthood" part of life brought challenges, but those challenges come in every season.

What I look forward to in this next season is the back-to-school time. I look forward to what this next school year will bring. Will this season be gentle? Probably not. But what I hope I can carry into this next season of time is to celebrate the brief gentle moments—to not leave them in the heat of July and August, but to bring that celebration into the rest of the year.

This summer in worship, we have wrestled with the challenges of the Gospel of Matthew. Long ago, those who put the books of the Bible together wanted the Book of Matthew to begin the journey of learning about Jesus in written word. Matthew is not a gentle Gospel, but it is one that tells us over and over again: Christ is with us. And the people who follow Christ are given this important and challenging task of trusting in God. I trust that God, through Christ, will bring moments of gentle this fall.

This Month in Worship

August 2

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 14:13-21*
Genesis 32:22-31, Psalm 17:1-5, 15

August 9

Reverend Lindsey Solomon
Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 14:22-33*
Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28; Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b

August 16

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 15:21-28*
Genesis 45:1-15; Psalm 133

August 23

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 16:13-20*
Exodus 2:1-10; Psalm 124

August 30

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 16:21-28*
Exodus 3:1-15; Psalm 105

Thank you to our Lake Volunteers for a successful Summer of Lakeside Worship! We also extend special thanks to everyone who made cookies and lemonade in the courtyard possible this summer!

Sunday, August 2nd is Back to School Sunday!

Promotion Sunday & Blessing of the Backpacks

Rising pre-K, 3rd, and 6th graders will move to their new Sunday School Classrooms! We will present Bibles to our Pre-K and 3rd graders. Students (and teachers!) bring your backpacks/school bags to Sunday morning worship. We will have a special blessing for ALL our students (preschool to graduate school!), parents, teachers and administrators.

Youth Fellowship returns in August!

Middle & high school students gather monthly during the school year with our safety-trained adult leaders for a range of meaningful fellowship activities. Whether we're on a walk exploring our community, ranking the best breakfast cereal varieties, or serving together at outreach events, it's always a lot of fun with our close-knit group of welcoming students.

Students, join us Sunday, August 9 at 5pm at the church for an evening of fun as we kick off the new school year!

To be added to the parents' text thread & receive monthly meeting info, text "Second City" to 833-214-9992 & complete the sign up prompts! For additional information, contact Rebekah Bryant (Director of Programs & Discipleship) at RBryant@stjohnaugusta.org

Youth Room Open House

Following worship, the congregation is invited to join us for lemonade and cookies in our newly renovated upstairs Youth room, Room 214, directly above the parlor. We are excited to have repairs and decorations complete! Thank you to our volunteers and staff who have helped with this process. This has been a labor of love that we're delighted to share with our Youth.

The Clothes Closet is open
Tuesdays, 11am-1pm

We are grateful for the steadfast support from the congregation & local community groups donating clothing & food! With the summer heat & humidity, we are expecting high demand for lightweight clothing, shoes, hats, underwear, & socks for men & women. Summer essentials include broad spectrum sunscreen, hand sanitizer, & water (flavored optional). In the meantime, we are seeking volunteers to help wash stained items. We assume we can catch up if a few people wash one load a month. Please contact Debby Barron for more information or to volunteer. 706-855-6347

DCCM
Food Distribution:
Saturday, August 15
Volunteers please arrive at 8:00am

Thank you for your compassion and generosity.

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

MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS

July 2026

To Budget:

In Memory of Jane Baldrige

By Kay Phillips & Alex Scharko
By Joseph & Joyce Edwin

To Missions:

In Memory of Jane Baldrige

By Rodney & Angela Powell
By Dan Griggs & Tonya Currier

To Choral Scholar's Fund:

In Memory of Jane Baldrige

By your St. John Chancel Choir Family

In Memory of Judge Matthew Hawley

By your St. John Chancel Choir Family

In Honor of Jamie Garvey

By Dan Griggs & Tonya Currier

Children's Choirs and Wednesday Night Suppers return in September!

Children's Choirs Open House:

Wednesday, September 2nd 5:30 pm

Join us upstairs in the choir room for an open house to learn all about our Wednesday night music programs for students preschool through high school starting back this fall!

Wednesday Night Suppers and Choirs begin
Wednesday, September 9th.

Upcoming Activities

Sunday, August 2	11:00am	Back to School Sunday
Wednesday, August 5	7:00pm	Chancel Choir Resumes
Wednesday, August 9	5:00pm	Youth Returns
Wednesday, August 12	10:00am	Stewardship Committee Meeting
	5:30pm	Lake Committee Meeting
Saturday, August 15	8:30am	DCCM Food Distribution
Sunday, August 16	3:00pm	Leadership Board

Celebrating Jamie Garvey

For 46 years, Jamie Council Garvey has been at the musical soul of St. John, and a defining presence in Augusta's arts community. This September, we invite everyone whose life she has touched to come celebrate with her.

Sunday, September 6

Join us to celebrate Jamie with a reception in her honor following 11am worship in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome.

Contact Beth Dixon to volunteer to help with the reception, bdixon@stjohnaugusta.org.

Sunday, September 13

Jamie's final Sunday as Organist & Director of Music
Join us for worship at 11:00am

Concerts with a Cause The Raleigh Ringers

3:00pm
The Cause: DCCM Food Pantry

Coming in September: Wednesday Night Suppers return!

ST. JOHN UMC STAFF

Phone: 706-724-9641

The Reverend Jenny Anderson,
Pastor in Charge

Ext. 15; janderson@stjohnaugusta.org

Beth Dixon,
Operations Coordinator
Ext. 26; bdixon@stjohnaugusta.org

Jamie Council Garvey,
Organist/Director of Music
Ext. 16; jcgarvey@stjohnaugusta.org

Keith Ingram, Security Guard
Donald Tilton, Worship Technician
Adam Kuehl, Grounds Keeper, Sound Technician

Christina Reid,
Office Administrator

Ext. 13; secretary@stjohnaugusta.org

Krisi Hawkes,
Finance Manager
Ext. 14; finance@stjohnaugusta.org

Tim James,
Facilities Manager
Ex. 17; facilitymgr@stjohnaugusta.org

Rebekah Bryant,
Director of Programs and Discipleship
rbryant@stjohnaugusta.org

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

August 2026



Pastor's Corner

In June, I made a declaration that this was going to be a gentle summer. And to my surprise, some of you read the Pastor's Corner and asked how that was going. "I declare 2026: A Gentle Summer." One of you asked sweetly if the church had ruined my declaration of gentle.

This summer was different. No vacation that required a follow-up vacation to recover. That means no twenty thousand steps a day at Disney World, or navigating airports to faraway lands. But what this summer did bring—its very best moment—was a good two hours of no jellyfish in the ocean. Playing in the water without pause. The gentle summer also brought seeing cousins: three different cousin adventures, and one big family party.

There were other aspects of the summer that were not gentle. The "adulthood" part of life brought challenges, but those challenges come in every season.

What I look forward to in this next season is the back-to-school time. I look forward to what this next school year will bring. Will this season be gentle? Probably not. But what I hope I can carry into this next season of time is to celebrate the brief gentle moments—to not leave them in the heat of July and August, but to bring that celebration into the rest of the year.

This summer in worship, we have wrestled with the challenges of the Gospel of Matthew. Long ago, those who put the books of the Bible together wanted the Book of Matthew to begin the journey of learning about Jesus in written word. Matthew is not a gentle Gospel, but it is one that tells us over and over again: Christ is with us. And the people who follow Christ are given this important and challenging task of trusting in God. I trust that God, through Christ, will bring moments of gentle this fall.

This Month in Worship

August 2

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 14:13-21*
Genesis 32:22-31, Psalm 17:1-5, 15

August 9

Reverend Lindsey Solomon
Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 14:22-33*
Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28; Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b

August 16

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 15:21-28*
Genesis 45:1-15; Psalm 133

August 23

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 16:13-20*
Exodus 2:1-10; Psalm 124

August 30

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 16:21-28*
Exodus 3:1-15; Psalm 105

Thank you to our Lake Volunteers for a successful Summer of Lakeside Worship! We also extend special thanks to everyone who made cookies and lemonade in the courtyard possible this summer!

Sunday, August 2nd is Back to School Sunday!

Promotion Sunday & Blessing of the Backpacks

Rising pre-K, 3rd, and 6th graders will move to their new Sunday School Classrooms! We will present Bibles to our Pre-K and 3rd graders. Students (and teachers!) bring your backpacks/school bags to Sunday morning worship. We will have a special blessing for ALL our students (preschool to graduate school!), parents, teachers and administrators.

Youth Room Open House

Following worship, the congregation is invited to join us for lemonade and cookies in our newly renovated upstairs Youth room, Room 214, directly above the parlor. We are excited to have repairs and decorations complete! Thank you to our volunteers and staff who have helped with this process. This has been a labor of love that we’re delighted to share with our Youth.

Youth Fellowship returns in August!

Middle & high school students gather monthly during the school year with our safety-trained adult leaders for a range of meaningful fellowship activities. Whether we're on a walk exploring our community, ranking the best breakfast cereal varieties, or serving together at outreach events, it's always a lot of fun with our close-knit group of welcoming students.
Students, join us Sunday, August 9 at 5pm at the church for an evening of fun as we kick off the new school year!
To be added to the parents' text thread & receive monthly meeting info, text "Second City" to 833-214-9992 & complete the sign up prompts! For additional information, contact Rebekah Bryant (Director of Programs & Discipleship) at RBryant@stjohnaugusta.org

The Clothes Closet is open
Tuesdays, 11am-1pm

We are grateful for the steadfast support from the congregation & local community groups donating clothing & food! With the summer heat & humidity, we are expecting high demand for lightweight clothing, shoes, hats, underwear, & socks for men & women. Summer essentials include broad spectrum sunscreen, hand sanitizer, & water (flavored optional). In the meantime, we are seeking volunteers to help wash stained items. We assume we can catch up if a few people wash one load a month. Please contact Debby Barron for more information or to volunteer. 706-855-6347

DCCM
Food Distribution:
Saturday, August 15
Volunteers please arrive at 8:00am

Thank you for your compassion and generosity.

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

MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS

July 2026

To Budget:

In Memory of Jane Baldrige
By Kay Phillips & Alex Scharko
By Joseph & Joyce Edwin

To Missions:

In Memory of Jane Baldrige
By Rodney & Angela Powell
By Dan Griggs & Tonya Currier

To Choral Scholar’s Fund:

In Memory of Jane Baldrige
By your St. John Chancel Choir Family
In Memory of Judge Matthew Hawley
By your St. John Chancel Choir Family
In Honor of Jamie Garvey
By Dan Griggs & Tonya Currier

Children’s Choirs and Wednesday Night Suppers return in September!

Children’s Choirs Open House:

Wednesday, September 2nd 5:30 pm

Join us upstairs in the choir room for an open house to learn all about our Wednesday night music programs for students preschool through high school starting back this fall!

Wednesday Night Suppers and Choirs begin
Wednesday, September 9th.

Upcoming Activities

Sunday, August 2	11:00am	Back to School Sunday
Wednesday, August 5	7:00pm	Chancel Choir Resumes
Wednesday, August 9	5:00pm	Youth Returns
Wednesday, August 12	10:00am	Stewardship Committee Meeting
	5:30pm	Lake Committee Meeting
Saturday, August 15	8:30am	DCCM Food Distribution
Sunday, August 16	3:00pm	Leadership Board

Celebrating Jamie Garvey

For 46 years, Jamie Council Garvey has been at the musical soul of St. John, and a defining presence in Augusta's arts community. This September, we invite everyone whose life she has touched to come celebrate with her.

Sunday, September 6

Join us to celebrate Jamie with a reception in her honor following 11am worship in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome.

Contact Beth Dixon to volunteer to help with the reception, bdixon@stjohnaugusta.org.

Sunday, September 13

Jamie's final Sunday as Organist & Director of Music
Join us for worship at 11:00am

Concerts with a Cause The Raleigh Ringers

3:00pm
The Cause: DCCM Food Pantry

Coming in September: Wednesday Night Suppers return!

ST. JOHN UMC STAFF

Phone: 706-724-9641

**The Reverend Jenny Anderson,
Pastor in Charge**

Ext. 15; janderson@stjohnaugusta.org

**Beth Dixon,
Operations Coordinator**

Ext. 26; bdixon@stjohnaugusta.org

**Jamie Council Garvey,
Organist/Director of Music**

Ext. 16; jcgarvey@stjohnaugusta.org

Keith Ingram, Security Guard

Donald Tilton, Worship Technician

Adam Kuehl, Grounds Keeper, Sound Technician

**Christina Reid,
Office Administrator**

Ext. 13; secretary@stjohnaugusta.org

**Krisi Hawkes,
Finance Manager**

Ext. 14; finance@stjohnaugusta.org

**Tim James,
Facilities Manager**

Ex. 17; facilitymgr@stjohnaugusta.org

**Rebekah Bryant,
Director of Programs and Discipleship**

rbryant@stjohnaugusta.org

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

August 2026



Pastor's Corner

In June, I made a declaration that this was going to be a gentle summer. And to my surprise, some of you read the Pastor's Corner and asked how that was going. "I declare 2026: A Gentle Summer." One of you asked sweetly if the church had ruined my declaration of gentle.

This summer was different. No vacation that required a follow-up vacation to recover. That means no twenty thousand steps a day at Disney World, or navigating airports to faraway lands. But what this summer did bring—its very best moment—was a good two hours of no jellyfish in the ocean. Playing in the water without pause. The gentle summer also brought seeing cousins: three different cousin adventures, and one big family party.

There were other aspects of the summer that were not gentle. The "adulthood" part of life brought challenges, but those challenges come in every season.

What I look forward to in this next season is the back-to-school time. I look forward to what this next school year will bring. Will this season be gentle? Probably not. But what I hope I can carry into this next season of time is to celebrate the brief gentle moments—to not leave them in the heat of July and August, but to bring that celebration into the rest of the year.

This summer in worship, we have wrestled with the challenges of the Gospel of Matthew. Long ago, those who put the books of the Bible together wanted the Book of Matthew to begin the journey of learning about Jesus in written word. Matthew is not a gentle Gospel, but it is one that tells us over and over again: Christ is with us. And the people who follow Christ are given this important and challenging task of trusting in God. I trust that God, through Christ, will bring moments of gentle this fall.

This Month in Worship

August 2

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 14:13-21*
Genesis 32:22-31, Psalm 17:1-5, 15

August 9

Reverend Lindsey Solomon
Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 14:22-33*
Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28; Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b

August 16

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 15:21-28*
Genesis 45:1-15; Psalm 133

August 23

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 16:13-20*
Exodus 2:1-10; Psalm 124

August 30

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 16:21-28*
Exodus 3:1-15; Psalm 105

Thank you to our Lake Volunteers for a successful Summer of Lakeside Worship! We also extend special thanks to everyone who made cookies and lemonade in the courtyard possible this summer!

Sunday, August 2nd is Back to School Sunday!

Promotion Sunday & Blessing of the Backpacks

Rising pre-K, 3rd, and 6th graders will move to their new Sunday School Classrooms! We will present Bibles to our Pre-K and 3rd graders. Students (and teachers!) bring your backpacks/school bags to Sunday morning worship. We will have a special blessing for ALL our students (preschool to graduate school!), parents, teachers and administrators.

Youth Room Open House

Following worship, the congregation is invited to join us for lemonade and cookies in our newly renovated upstairs Youth room, Room 214, directly above the parlor. We are excited to have repairs and decorations complete! Thank you to our volunteers and staff who have helped with this process. This has been a labor of love that we’re delighted to share with our Youth.

Youth Fellowship returns in August!

Middle & high school students gather monthly during the school year with our safety-trained adult leaders for a range of meaningful fellowship activities. Whether we're on a walk exploring our community, ranking the best breakfast cereal varieties, or serving together at outreach events, it's always a lot of fun with our close-knit group of welcoming students.
Students, join us Sunday, August 9 at 5pm at the church for an evening of fun as we kick off the new school year!
To be added to the parents' text thread & receive monthly meeting info, text "Second City" to 833-214-9992 & complete the sign up prompts! For additional information, contact Rebekah Bryant (Director of Programs & Discipleship) at RBryant@stjohnaugusta.org

The Clothes Closet is open
Tuesdays, 11am-1pm

We are grateful for the steadfast support from the congregation & local community groups donating clothing & food! With the summer heat & humidity, we are expecting high demand for lightweight clothing, shoes, hats, underwear, & socks for men & women. Summer essentials include broad spectrum sunscreen, hand sanitizer, & water (flavored optional). In the meantime, we are seeking volunteers to help wash stained items. We assume we can catch up if a few people wash one load a month. Please contact Debby Barron for more information or to volunteer. 706-855-6347

DCCM
Food Distribution:
Saturday, August 15
Volunteers please arrive at 8:00am

Thank you for your compassion and generosity.

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

MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS

July 2026

To Budget:

In Memory of Jane Baldrige
By Kay Phillips & Alex Scharko
By Joseph & Joyce Edwin

To Missions:

In Memory of Jane Baldrige
By Rodney & Angela Powell
By Dan Griggs & Tonya Currier

To Choral Scholar’s Fund:

In Memory of Jane Baldrige
By your St. John Chancel Choir Family
In Memory of Judge Matthew Hawley
By your St. John Chancel Choir Family
In Honor of Jamie Garvey
By Dan Griggs & Tonya Currier

Children’s Choirs and Wednesday Night Suppers return in September!

Children’s Choirs Open House:

Wednesday, September 2nd 5:30 pm

Join us upstairs in the choir room for an open house to learn all about our Wednesday night music programs for students preschool through high school starting back this fall!

Wednesday Night Suppers and Choirs begin
Wednesday, September 9th.

Upcoming Activities

Sunday, August 2	11:00am	Back to School Sunday
Wednesday, August 5	7:00pm	Chancel Choir Resumes
Wednesday, August 9	5:00pm	Youth Returns
Wednesday, August 12	10:00am	Stewardship Committee Meeting
	5:30pm	Lake Committee Meeting
Saturday, August 15	8:30am	DCCM Food Distribution
Sunday, August 16	3:00pm	Leadership Board

Celebrating Jamie Garvey

For 46 years, Jamie Council Garvey has been at the musical soul of St. John, and a defining presence in Augusta's arts community. This September, we invite everyone whose life she has touched to come celebrate with her.

Sunday, September 6

Join us to celebrate Jamie with a reception in her honor following 11am worship in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome.

Contact Beth Dixon to volunteer to help with the reception, bdixon@stjohnaugusta.org.

Sunday, September 13

Jamie's final Sunday as Organist & Director of Music
Join us for worship at 11:00am

Concerts with a Cause The Raleigh Ringers

3:00pm
The Cause: DCCM Food Pantry

Coming in September: Wednesday Night Suppers return!

ST. JOHN UMC STAFF

Phone: 706-724-9641

**The Reverend Jenny Anderson,
Pastor in Charge**

Ext. 15; janderson@stjohnaugusta.org

**Beth Dixon,
Operations Coordinator**

Ext. 26; bdixon@stjohnaugusta.org

**Jamie Council Garvey,
Organist/Director of Music**

Ext. 16; jcgarvey@stjohnaugusta.org

Keith Ingram, Security Guard

Donald Tilton, Worship Technician

Adam Kuehl, Grounds Keeper, Sound Technician

**Christina Reid,
Office Administrator**

Ext. 13; secretary@stjohnaugusta.org

**Krisi Hawkes,
Finance Manager**

Ext. 14; finance@stjohnaugusta.org

**Tim James,
Facilities Manager**

Ex. 17; facilitymgr@stjohnaugusta.org

**Rebekah Bryant,
Director of Programs and Discipleship**

rbryant@stjohnaugusta.org

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

August 2026



Pastor's Corner

In June, I made a declaration that this was going to be a gentle summer. And to my surprise, some of you read the Pastor's Corner and asked how that was going. "I declare 2026: A Gentle Summer." One of you asked sweetly if the church had ruined my declaration of gentle.

This summer was different. No vacation that required a follow-up vacation to recover. That means no twenty thousand steps a day at Disney World, or navigating airports to faraway lands. But what this summer did bring—its very best moment—was a good two hours of no jellyfish in the ocean. Playing in the water without pause. The gentle summer also brought seeing cousins: three different cousin adventures, and one big family party.

There were other aspects of the summer that were not gentle. The "adulthood" part of life brought challenges, but those challenges come in every season.

What I look forward to in this next season is the back-to-school time. I look forward to what this next school year will bring. Will this season be gentle? Probably not. But what I hope I can carry into this next season of time is to celebrate the brief gentle moments—to not leave them in the heat of July and August, but to bring that celebration into the rest of the year.

This summer in worship, we have wrestled with the challenges of the Gospel of Matthew. Long ago, those who put the books of the Bible together wanted the Book of Matthew to begin the journey of learning about Jesus in written word. Matthew is not a gentle Gospel, but it is one that tells us over and over again: Christ is with us. And the people who follow Christ are given this important and challenging task of trusting in God. I trust that God, through Christ, will bring moments of gentle this fall.

This Month in Worship

August 2

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 14:13-21*
Genesis 32:22-31, Psalm 17:1-5, 15

August 9

Reverend Lindsey Solomon
Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 14:22-33*
Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28; Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b

August 16

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 15:21-28*
Genesis 45:1-15; Psalm 133

August 23

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 16:13-20*
Exodus 2:1-10; Psalm 124

August 30

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 16:21-28*
Exodus 3:1-15; Psalm 105

Thank you to our Lake Volunteers for a successful Summer of Lakeside Worship! We also extend special thanks to everyone who made cookies and lemonade in the courtyard possible this summer!

Sunday, August 2nd is Back to School Sunday!

Promotion Sunday & Blessing of the Backpacks

Rising pre-K, 3rd, and 6th graders will move to their new Sunday School Classrooms! We will present Bibles to our Pre-K and 3rd graders. Students (and teachers!) bring your backpacks/school bags to Sunday morning worship. We will have a special blessing for ALL our students (preschool to graduate school!), parents, teachers and administrators.

Youth Room Open House

Following worship, the congregation is invited to join us for lemonade and cookies in our newly renovated upstairs Youth room, Room 214, directly above the parlor. We are excited to have repairs and decorations complete! Thank you to our volunteers and staff who have helped with this process. This has been a labor of love that we’re delighted to share with our Youth.

Youth Fellowship returns in August!

Middle & high school students gather monthly during the school year with our safety-trained adult leaders for a range of meaningful fellowship activities. Whether we're on a walk exploring our community, ranking the best breakfast cereal varieties, or serving together at outreach events, it's always a lot of fun with our close-knit group of welcoming students.
Students, join us Sunday, August 9 at 5pm at the church for an evening of fun as we kick off the new school year!
To be added to the parents' text thread & receive monthly meeting info, text "Second City" to 833-214-9992 & complete the sign up prompts! For additional information, contact Rebekah Bryant (Director of Programs & Discipleship) at RBryant@stjohnaugusta.org

The Clothes Closet is open
Tuesdays, 11am-1pm

We are grateful for the steadfast support from the congregation & local community groups donating clothing & food! With the summer heat & humidity, we are expecting high demand for lightweight clothing, shoes, hats, underwear, & socks for men & women. Summer essentials include broad spectrum sunscreen, hand sanitizer, & water (flavored optional). In the meantime, we are seeking volunteers to help wash stained items. We assume we can catch up if a few people wash one load a month. Please contact Debby Barron for more information or to volunteer. 706-855-6347

DCCM
Food Distribution:
Saturday, August 15
Volunteers please arrive at 8:00am

Thank you for your compassion and generosity.

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

MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS

July 2026

To Budget:

In Memory of Jane Baldrige
By Kay Phillips & Alex Scharko
By Joseph & Joyce Edwin

To Missions:

In Memory of Jane Baldrige
By Rodney & Angela Powell
By Dan Griggs & Tonya Currier

To Choral Scholar’s Fund:

In Memory of Jane Baldrige
By your St. John Chancel Choir Family
In Memory of Judge Matthew Hawley
By your St. John Chancel Choir Family
In Honor of Jamie Garvey
By Dan Griggs & Tonya Currier

Children’s Choirs and Wednesday Night Suppers return in September!

Children’s Choirs Open House:

Wednesday, September 2nd 5:30 pm

Join us upstairs in the choir room for an open house to learn all about our Wednesday night music programs for students preschool through high school starting back this fall!

Wednesday Night Suppers and Choirs begin Wednesday, September 9th.

Upcoming Activities

Sunday, August 2	11:00am	Back to School Sunday
Wednesday, August 5	7:00pm	Chancel Choir Resumes
Wednesday, August 9	5:00pm	Youth Returns
Wednesday, August 12	10:00am	Stewardship Committee Meeting
	5:30pm	Lake Committee Meeting
Saturday, August 15	8:30am	DCCM Food Distribution
Sunday, August 16	3:00pm	Leadership Board

Celebrating Jamie Garvey

For 46 years, Jamie Council Garvey has been at the musical soul of St. John, and a defining presence in Augusta's arts community. This September, we invite everyone whose life she has touched to come celebrate with her.

Sunday, September 6

Join us to celebrate Jamie with a reception in her honor following 11am worship in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome.

Contact Beth Dixon to volunteer to help with the reception, bdixon@stjohnaugusta.org.

Sunday, September 13

Jamie's final Sunday as Organist & Director of Music
Join us for worship at 11:00am

Concerts with a Cause The Raleigh Ringers

3:00pm
The Cause: DCCM Food Pantry

Coming in September: Wednesday Night Suppers return!

ST. JOHN UMC STAFF

Phone: 706-724-9641

**The Reverend Jenny Anderson,
Pastor in Charge**

Ext. 15; janderson@stjohnaugusta.org

**Beth Dixon,
Operations Coordinator**

Ext. 26; bdixon@stjohnaugusta.org

**Jamie Council Garvey,
Organist/Director of Music**

Ext. 16; jcgarvey@stjohnaugusta.org

Keith Ingram, Security Guard

Donald Tilton, Worship Technician

Adam Kuehl, Grounds Keeper, Sound Technician

**Christina Reid,
Office Administrator**

Ext. 13; secretary@stjohnaugusta.org

**Krisi Hawkes,
Finance Manager**

Ext. 14; finance@stjohnaugusta.org

**Tim James,
Facilities Manager**

Ex. 17; facilitymgr@stjohnaugusta.org

**Rebekah Bryant,
Director of Programs and Discipleship**

rbryant@stjohnaugusta.org

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

August 2026



Pastor's Corner

In June, I made a declaration that this was going to be a gentle summer. And to my surprise, some of you read the Pastor's Corner and asked how that was going. "I declare 2026: A Gentle Summer." One of you asked sweetly if the church had ruined my declaration of gentle.

This summer was different. No vacation that required a follow-up vacation to recover. That means no twenty thousand steps a day at Disney World, or navigating airports to faraway lands. But what this summer did bring—its very best moment—was a good two hours of no jellyfish in the ocean. Playing in the water without pause. The gentle summer also brought seeing cousins: three different cousin adventures, and one big family party.

There were other aspects of the summer that were not gentle. The "adulthood" part of life brought challenges, but those challenges come in every season.

What I look forward to in this next season is the back-to-school time. I look forward to what this next school year will bring. Will this season be gentle? Probably not. But what I hope I can carry into this next season of time is to celebrate the brief gentle moments—to not leave them in the heat of July and August, but to bring that celebration into the rest of the year.

This summer in worship, we have wrestled with the challenges of the Gospel of Matthew. Long ago, those who put the books of the Bible together wanted the Book of Matthew to begin the journey of learning about Jesus in written word. Matthew is not a gentle Gospel, but it is one that tells us over and over again: Christ is with us. And the people who follow Christ are given this important and challenging task of trusting in God. I trust that God, through Christ, will bring moments of gentle this fall.

This Month in Worship

August 2

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 14:13-21*
Genesis 32:22-31, Psalm 17:1-5, 15

August 9

Reverend Lindsey Solomon
Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 14:22-33*
Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28; Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b

August 16

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 15:21-28*
Genesis 45:1-15; Psalm 133

August 23

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 16:13-20*
Exodus 2:1-10; Psalm 124

August 30

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 16:21-28*
Exodus 3:1-15; Psalm 105

Thank you to our Lake Volunteers for a successful Summer of Lakeside Worship! We also extend special thanks to everyone who made cookies and lemonade in the courtyard possible this summer!

Sunday, August 2nd is Back to School Sunday!

Promotion Sunday & Blessing of the Backpacks

Rising pre-K, 3rd, and 6th graders will move to their new Sunday School Classrooms! We will present Bibles to our Pre-K and 3rd graders. Students (and teachers!) bring your backpacks/school bags to Sunday morning worship. We will have a special blessing for ALL our students (preschool to graduate school!), parents, teachers and administrators.

Youth Fellowship returns in August!

Middle & high school students gather monthly during the school year with our safety-trained adult leaders for a range of meaningful fellowship activities. Whether we're on a walk exploring our community, ranking the best breakfast cereal varieties, or serving together at outreach events, it's always a lot of fun with our close-knit group of welcoming students.

Students, join us Sunday, August 9 at 5pm at the church for an evening of fun as we kick off the new school year!

To be added to the parents' text thread & receive monthly meeting info, text "Second City" to 833-214-9992 & complete the sign up prompts! For additional information, contact Rebekah Bryant (Director of Programs & Discipleship) at RBryant@stjohnaugusta.org

Youth Room Open House

Following worship, the congregation is invited to join us for lemonade and cookies in our newly renovated upstairs Youth room, Room 214, directly above the parlor. We are excited to have repairs and decorations complete! Thank you to our volunteers and staff who have helped with this process. This has been a labor of love that we're delighted to share with our Youth.

The Clothes Closet is open
Tuesdays, 11am-1pm

We are grateful for the steadfast support from the congregation & local community groups donating clothing & food! With the summer heat & humidity, we are expecting high demand for lightweight clothing, shoes, hats, underwear, & socks for men & women. Summer essentials include broad spectrum sunscreen, hand sanitizer, & water (flavored optional). In the meantime, we are seeking volunteers to help wash stained items. We assume we can catch up if a few people wash one load a month. Please contact Debby Barron for more information or to volunteer. 706-855-6347

DCCM
Food Distribution:
Saturday, August 15
Volunteers please arrive at 8:00am

Thank you for your compassion and generosity.

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](#)

Instagram: [@stjohn_augusta](#)

Website: www.stjohnaugusta.org/announcements

MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS

July 2026

To Budget:

In Memory of Jane Baldrige
By Kay Phillips & Alex Scharko
By Joseph & Joyce Edwin

To Missions:

In Memory of Jane Baldrige
By Rodney & Angela Powell
By Dan Griggs & Tonya Currier

To Choral Scholar's Fund:

In Memory of Jane Baldrige
By your St. John Chancel Choir Family
In Memory of Judge Matthew Hawley
By your St. John Chancel Choir Family
In Honor of Jamie Garvey
By Dan Griggs & Tonya Currier

Children's Choirs and Wednesday Night Suppers return in September!

Children's Choirs Open House:

Wednesday, September 2nd 5:30 pm

Join us upstairs in the choir room for an open house to learn all about our Wednesday night music programs for students preschool through high school starting back this fall!

Wednesday Night Suppers and Choirs begin
Wednesday, September 9th.

Upcoming Activities

Sunday, August 2	11:00am	Back to School Sunday
Wednesday, August 5	7:00pm	Chancel Choir Resumes
Wednesday, August 9	5:00pm	Youth Returns
Wednesday, August 12	10:00am	Stewardship Committee Meeting
	5:30pm	Lake Committee Meeting
Saturday, August 15	8:30am	DCCM Food Distribution
Sunday, August 16	3:00pm	Leadership Board

Celebrating Jamie Garvey

For 46 years, Jamie Council Garvey has been at the musical soul of St. John, and a defining presence in Augusta's arts community. This September, we invite everyone whose life she has touched to come celebrate with her.

Sunday, September 6

Join us to celebrate Jamie with a reception in her honor following 11am worship in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome.

Contact Beth Dixon to volunteer to help with the reception, bdixon@stjohnaugusta.org.

Sunday, September 13

Jamie's final Sunday as Organist & Director of Music
Join us for worship at 11:00am

Concerts with a Cause The Raleigh Ringers

3:00pm
The Cause: DCCM Food Pantry

Coming in September: Wednesday Night Suppers return!

ST. JOHN UMC STAFF

Phone: 706-724-9641

**The Reverend Jenny Anderson,
Pastor in Charge**

Ext. 15; janderson@stjohnaugusta.org

**Beth Dixon,
Operations Coordinator**

Ext. 26; bdixon@stjohnaugusta.org

**Jamie Council Garvey,
Organist/Director of Music**

Ext. 16; jcgarvey@stjohnaugusta.org

Keith Ingram, Security Guard

Donald Tilton, Worship Technician

Adam Kuehl, Grounds Keeper, Sound Technician

**Christina Reid,
Office Administrator**

Ext. 13; secretary@stjohnaugusta.org

**Krisi Hawkes,
Finance Manager**

Ext. 14; finance@stjohnaugusta.org

**Tim James,
Facilities Manager**

Ex. 17; facilitymgr@stjohnaugusta.org

**Rebekah Bryant,
Director of Programs and Discipleship**

rbryant@stjohnaugusta.org

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

August 2026



Pastor's Corner

In June, I made a declaration that this was going to be a gentle summer. And to my surprise, some of you read the Pastor's Corner and asked how that was going. "I declare 2026: A Gentle Summer." One of you asked sweetly if the church had ruined my declaration of gentle.

This summer was different. No vacation that required a follow-up vacation to recover. That means no twenty thousand steps a day at Disney World, or navigating airports to faraway lands. But what this summer did bring—its very best moment—was a good two hours of no jellyfish in the ocean. Playing in the water without pause. The gentle summer also brought seeing cousins: three different cousin adventures, and one big family party.

There were other aspects of the summer that were not gentle. The "adulthood" part of life brought challenges, but those challenges come in every season.

What I look forward to in this next season is the back-to-school time. I look forward to what this next school year will bring. Will this season be gentle? Probably not. But what I hope I can carry into this next season of time is to celebrate the brief gentle moments—to not leave them in the heat of July and August, but to bring that celebration into the rest of the year.

This summer in worship, we have wrestled with the challenges of the Gospel of Matthew. Long ago, those who put the books of the Bible together wanted the Book of Matthew to begin the journey of learning about Jesus in written word. Matthew is not a gentle Gospel, but it is one that tells us over and over again: Christ is with us. And the people who follow Christ are given this important and challenging task of trusting in God. I trust that God, through Christ, will bring moments of gentle this fall.

This Month in Worship

August 2

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 14:13-21*
Genesis 32:22-31, Psalm 17:1-5, 15

August 9

Reverend Lindsey Solomon
Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 14:22-33*
Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28; Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b

August 16

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 15:21-28*
Genesis 45:1-15; Psalm 133

August 23

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 16:13-20*
Exodus 2:1-10; Psalm 124

August 30

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 16:21-28*
Exodus 3:1-15; Psalm 105

Thank you to our Lake Volunteers for a successful Summer of Lakeside Worship! We also extend special thanks to everyone who made cookies and lemonade in the courtyard possible this summer!

Sunday, August 2nd is Back to School Sunday!

Promotion Sunday & Blessing of the Backpacks

Rising pre-K, 3rd, and 6th graders will move to their new Sunday School Classrooms! We will present Bibles to our Pre-K and 3rd graders. Students (and teachers!) bring your backpacks/school bags to Sunday morning worship. We will have a special blessing for ALL our students (preschool to graduate school!), parents, teachers and administrators.

Youth Fellowship returns in August!

Middle & high school students gather monthly during the school year with our safety-trained adult leaders for a range of meaningful fellowship activities. Whether we're on a walk exploring our community, ranking the best breakfast cereal varieties, or serving together at outreach events, it's always a lot of fun with our close-knit group of welcoming students.

Students, join us Sunday, August 9 at 5pm at the church for an evening of fun as we kick off the new school year!

To be added to the parents' text thread & receive monthly meeting info, text "Second City" to 833-214-9992 & complete the sign up prompts! For additional information, contact Rebekah Bryant (Director of Programs & Discipleship) at RBryant@stjohnaugusta.org

Youth Room Open House

Following worship, the congregation is invited to join us for lemonade and cookies in our newly renovated upstairs Youth room, Room 214, directly above the parlor. We are excited to have repairs and decorations complete! Thank you to our volunteers and staff who have helped with this process. This has been a labor of love that we're delighted to share with our Youth.

The Clothes Closet is open
Tuesdays, 11am-1pm

We are grateful for the steadfast support from the congregation & local community groups donating clothing & food! With the summer heat & humidity, we are expecting high demand for lightweight clothing, shoes, hats, underwear, & socks for men & women. Summer essentials include broad spectrum sunscreen, hand sanitizer, & water (flavored optional). In the meantime, we are seeking volunteers to help wash stained items. We assume we can catch up if a few people wash one load a month. Please contact Debby Barron for more information or to volunteer. 706-855-6347

DCCM
Food Distribution:
Saturday, August 15
Volunteers please arrive at 8:00am

Thank you for your compassion and generosity.

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](#)

Instagram: [@stjohn_augusta](#)

Website: www.stjohnaugusta.org/announcements

MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS

July 2026

To Budget:

In Memory of Jane Baldrige
By Kay Phillips & Alex Scharko
By Joseph & Joyce Edwin

To Missions:

In Memory of Jane Baldrige
By Rodney & Angela Powell
By Dan Griggs & Tonya Currier

To Choral Scholar's Fund:

In Memory of Jane Baldrige
By your St. John Chancel Choir Family
In Memory of Judge Matthew Hawley
By your St. John Chancel Choir Family
In Honor of Jamie Garvey
By Dan Griggs & Tonya Currier

Children's Choirs and Wednesday Night Suppers return in September!

Children's Choirs Open House:

Wednesday, September 2nd 5:30 pm

Join us upstairs in the choir room for an open house to learn all about our Wednesday night music programs for students preschool through high school starting back this fall!

Wednesday Night Suppers and Choirs begin
Wednesday, September 9th.

Upcoming Activities

Sunday, August 2	11:00am	Back to School Sunday
Wednesday, August 5	7:00pm	Chancel Choir Resumes
Wednesday, August 9	5:00pm	Youth Returns
Wednesday, August 12	10:00am	Stewardship Committee Meeting
	5:30pm	Lake Committee Meeting
Saturday, August 15	8:30am	DCCM Food Distribution
Sunday, August 16	3:00pm	Leadership Board

Celebrating Jamie Garvey

For 46 years, Jamie Council Garvey has been at the musical soul of St. John, and a defining presence in Augusta's arts community. This September, we invite everyone whose life she has touched to come celebrate with her.

Sunday, September 6

Join us to celebrate Jamie with a reception in her honor following 11am worship in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome.

Contact Beth Dixon to volunteer to help with the reception, bdixon@stjohnaugusta.org.

Sunday, September 13

Jamie's final Sunday as Organist & Director of Music
Join us for worship at 11:00am

Concerts with a Cause The Raleigh Ringers

3:00pm
The Cause: DCCM Food Pantry

Coming in September: Wednesday Night Suppers return!

ST. JOHN UMC STAFF

Phone: 706-724-9641

**The Reverend Jenny Anderson,
Pastor in Charge**

Ext. 15; janderson@stjohnaugusta.org

**Beth Dixon,
Operations Coordinator**

Ext. 26; bdixon@stjohnaugusta.org

**Jamie Council Garvey,
Organist/Director of Music**

Ext. 16; jcgarvey@stjohnaugusta.org

Keith Ingram, Security Guard

Donald Tilton, Worship Technician

Adam Kuehl, Grounds Keeper, Sound Technician

**Christina Reid,
Office Administrator**

Ext. 13; secretary@stjohnaugusta.org

**Krisi Hawkes,
Finance Manager**

Ext. 14; finance@stjohnaugusta.org

**Tim James,
Facilities Manager**

Ex. 17; facilitymgr@stjohnaugusta.org

**Rebekah Bryant,
Director of Programs and Discipleship**

rbryant@stjohnaugusta.org

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

August 2026



Pastor's Corner

In June, I made a declaration that this was going to be a gentle summer. And to my surprise, some of you read the Pastor's Corner and asked how that was going. "I declare 2026: A Gentle Summer." One of you asked sweetly if the church had ruined my declaration of gentle.

This summer was different. No vacation that required a follow-up vacation to recover. That means no twenty thousand steps a day at Disney World, or navigating airports to faraway lands. But what this summer did bring—its very best moment—was a good two hours of no jellyfish in the ocean. Playing in the water without pause. The gentle summer also brought seeing cousins: three different cousin adventures, and one big family party.

There were other aspects of the summer that were not gentle. The "adulthood" part of life brought challenges, but those challenges come in every season.

What I look forward to in this next season is the back-to-school time. I look forward to what this next school year will bring. Will this season be gentle? Probably not. But what I hope I can carry into this next season of time is to celebrate the brief gentle moments—to not leave them in the heat of July and August, but to bring that celebration into the rest of the year.

This summer in worship, we have wrestled with the challenges of the Gospel of Matthew. Long ago, those who put the books of the Bible together wanted the Book of Matthew to begin the journey of learning about Jesus in written word. Matthew is not a gentle Gospel, but it is one that tells us over and over again: Christ is with us. And the people who follow Christ are given this important and challenging task of trusting in God. I trust that God, through Christ, will bring moments of gentle this fall.

This Month in Worship

August 2

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 14:13-21*
Genesis 32:22-31, Psalm 17:1-5, 15

August 9

Reverend Lindsey Solomon
Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 14:22-33*
Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28; Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b

August 16

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 15:21-28*
Genesis 45:1-15; Psalm 133

August 23

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 16:13-20*
Exodus 2:1-10; Psalm 124

August 30

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 16:21-28*
Exodus 3:1-15; Psalm 105

Thank you to our Lake Volunteers for a successful Summer of Lakeside Worship! We also extend special thanks to everyone who made cookies and lemonade in the courtyard possible this summer!

Sunday, August 2nd is Back to School Sunday!

Promotion Sunday & Blessing of the Backpacks

Rising pre-K, 3rd, and 6th graders will move to their new Sunday School Classrooms! We will present Bibles to our Pre-K and 3rd graders. Students (and teachers!) bring your backpacks/school bags to Sunday morning worship. We will have a special blessing for ALL our students (preschool to graduate school!), parents, teachers and administrators.

Youth Fellowship returns in August!

Middle & high school students gather monthly during the school year with our safety-trained adult leaders for a range of meaningful fellowship activities. Whether we're on a walk exploring our community, ranking the best breakfast cereal varieties, or serving together at outreach events, it's always a lot of fun with our close-knit group of welcoming students.

Students, join us Sunday, August 9 at 5pm at the church for an evening of fun as we kick off the new school year!

To be added to the parents' text thread & receive monthly meeting info, text "Second City" to 833-214-9992 & complete the sign up prompts! For additional information, contact Rebekah Bryant (Director of Programs & Discipleship) at RBryant@stjohnaugusta.org

Youth Room Open House

Following worship, the congregation is invited to join us for lemonade and cookies in our newly renovated upstairs Youth room, Room 214, directly above the parlor. We are excited to have repairs and decorations complete! Thank you to our volunteers and staff who have helped with this process. This has been a labor of love that we're delighted to share with our Youth.

The Clothes Closet is open
Tuesdays, 11am-1pm

We are grateful for the steadfast support from the congregation & local community groups donating clothing & food! With the summer heat & humidity, we are expecting high demand for lightweight clothing, shoes, hats, underwear, & socks for men & women. Summer essentials include broad spectrum sunscreen, hand sanitizer, & water (flavored optional). In the meantime, we are seeking volunteers to help wash stained items. We assume we can catch up if a few people wash one load a month. Please contact Debby Barron for more information or to volunteer. 706-855-6347

DCCM
Food Distribution:
Saturday, August 15
Volunteers please arrive at 8:00am

Thank you for your compassion and generosity.

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](#)

Instagram: [@stjohn_augusta](#)

Website: www.stjohnaugusta.org/announcements

MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS

July 2026

To Budget:

In Memory of Jane Baldrige
By Kay Phillips & Alex Scharko
By Joseph & Joyce Edwin

To Missions:

In Memory of Jane Baldrige
By Rodney & Angela Powell
By Dan Griggs & Tonya Currier

To Choral Scholar's Fund:

In Memory of Jane Baldrige
By your St. John Chancel Choir Family
In Memory of Judge Matthew Hawley
By your St. John Chancel Choir Family
In Honor of Jamie Garvey
By Dan Griggs & Tonya Currier

Children's Choirs and Wednesday Night Suppers return in September!

Children's Choirs Open House:

Wednesday, September 2nd 5:30 pm

Join us upstairs in the choir room for an open house to learn all about our Wednesday night music programs for students preschool through high school starting back this fall!

Wednesday Night Suppers and Choirs begin
Wednesday, September 9th.

Upcoming Activities

Sunday, August 2	11:00am	Back to School Sunday
Wednesday, August 5	7:00pm	Chancel Choir Resumes
Wednesday, August 9	5:00pm	Youth Returns
Wednesday, August 12	10:00am	Stewardship Committee Meeting
	5:30pm	Lake Committee Meeting
Saturday, August 15	8:30am	DCCM Food Distribution
Sunday, August 16	3:00pm	Leadership Board

Celebrating Jamie Garvey

For 46 years, Jamie Council Garvey has been at the musical soul of St. John, and a defining presence in Augusta's arts community. This September, we invite everyone whose life she has touched to come celebrate with her.

Sunday, September 6

Join us to celebrate Jamie with a reception in her honor following 11am worship in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome.

Contact Beth Dixon to volunteer to help with the reception, bdixon@stjohnaugusta.org.

Sunday, September 13

Jamie's final Sunday as Organist & Director of Music
Join us for worship at 11:00am

Concerts with a Cause The Raleigh Ringers

3:00pm
The Cause: DCCM Food Pantry

Coming in September: Wednesday Night Suppers return!

ST. JOHN UMC STAFF

Phone: 706-724-9641

**The Reverend Jenny Anderson,
Pastor in Charge**

Ext. 15; janderson@stjohnaugusta.org

**Beth Dixon,
Operations Coordinator**
Ext. 26; bdixon@stjohnaugusta.org

**Jamie Council Garvey,
Organist/Director of Music**
Ext. 16; jcgarvey@stjohnaugusta.org

Keith Ingram, Security Guard
Donald Tilton, Worship Technician
Adam Kuehl, Grounds Keeper, Sound Technician

**Christina Reid,
Office Administrator**

Ext. 13; secretary@stjohnaugusta.org

**Krisi Hawkes,
Finance Manager**
Ext. 14; finance@stjohnaugusta.org

**Tim James,
Facilities Manager**
Ex. 17; facilitymgr@stjohnaugusta.org

**Rebekah Bryant,
Director of Programs and Discipleship**
rbryant@stjohnaugusta.org

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

August 2026



Pastor's Corner

In June, I made a declaration that this was going to be a gentle summer. And to my surprise, some of you read the Pastor's Corner and asked how that was going. "I declare 2026: A Gentle Summer." One of you asked sweetly if the church had ruined my declaration of gentle.

This summer was different. No vacation that required a follow-up vacation to recover. That means no twenty thousand steps a day at Disney World, or navigating airports to faraway lands. But what this summer did bring—its very best moment—was a good two hours of no jellyfish in the ocean. Playing in the water without pause. The gentle summer also brought seeing cousins: three different cousin adventures, and one big family party.

There were other aspects of the summer that were not gentle. The "adulthood" part of life brought challenges, but those challenges come in every season.

What I look forward to in this next season is the back-to-school time. I look forward to what this next school year will bring. Will this season be gentle? Probably not. But what I hope I can carry into this next season of time is to celebrate the brief gentle moments—to not leave them in the heat of July and August, but to bring that celebration into the rest of the year.

This summer in worship, we have wrestled with the challenges of the Gospel of Matthew. Long ago, those who put the books of the Bible together wanted the Book of Matthew to begin the journey of learning about Jesus in written word. Matthew is not a gentle Gospel, but it is one that tells us over and over again: Christ is with us. And the people who follow Christ are given this important and challenging task of trusting in God. I trust that God, through Christ, will bring moments of gentle this fall.

This Month in Worship

August 2

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 14:13-21*
Genesis 32:22-31, Psalm 17:1-5, 15

August 9

Reverend Lindsey Solomon
Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 14:22-33*
Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28; Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b

August 16

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 15:21-28*
Genesis 45:1-15; Psalm 133

August 23

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 16:13-20*
Exodus 2:1-10; Psalm 124

August 30

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 16:21-28*
Exodus 3:1-15; Psalm 105

Thank you to our Lake Volunteers for a successful Summer of Lakeside Worship! We also extend special thanks to everyone who made cookies and lemonade in the courtyard possible this summer!

Sunday, August 2nd is Back to School Sunday!

Promotion Sunday & Blessing of the Backpacks

Rising pre-K, 3rd, and 6th graders will move to their new Sunday School Classrooms! We will present Bibles to our Pre-K and 3rd graders. Students (and teachers!) bring your backpacks/school bags to Sunday morning worship. We will have a special blessing for ALL our students (preschool to graduate school!), parents, teachers and administrators.

Youth Fellowship returns in August!

Middle & high school students gather monthly during the school year with our safety-trained adult leaders for a range of meaningful fellowship activities. Whether we're on a walk exploring our community, ranking the best breakfast cereal varieties, or serving together at outreach events, it's always a lot of fun with our close-knit group of welcoming students.

Students, join us Sunday, August 9 at 5pm at the church for an evening of fun as we kick off the new school year!

To be added to the parents' text thread & receive monthly meeting info, text "Second City" to 833-214-9992 & complete the sign up prompts! For additional information, contact Rebekah Bryant (Director of Programs & Discipleship) at RBryant@stjohnaugusta.org

Youth Room Open House

Following worship, the congregation is invited to join us for lemonade and cookies in our newly renovated upstairs Youth room, Room 214, directly above the parlor. We are excited to have repairs and decorations complete! Thank you to our volunteers and staff who have helped with this process. This has been a labor of love that we're delighted to share with our Youth.

The Clothes Closet is open
Tuesdays, 11am-1pm

We are grateful for the steadfast support from the congregation & local community groups donating clothing & food! With the summer heat & humidity, we are expecting high demand for lightweight clothing, shoes, hats, underwear, & socks for men & women. Summer essentials include broad spectrum sunscreen, hand sanitizer, & water (flavored optional). In the meantime, we are seeking volunteers to help wash stained items. We assume we can catch up if a few people wash one load a month. Please contact Debby Barron for more information or to volunteer. 706-855-6347

DCCM
Food Distribution:
Saturday, August 15
Volunteers please arrive at 8:00am

Thank you for your compassion and generosity.

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

MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS

July 2026

To Budget:

In Memory of Jane Baldrige
By Kay Phillips & Alex Scharko
By Joseph & Joyce Edwin

To Missions:

In Memory of Jane Baldrige
By Rodney & Angela Powell
By Dan Griggs & Tonya Currier

To Choral Scholar's Fund:

In Memory of Jane Baldrige
By your St. John Chancel Choir Family
In Memory of Judge Matthew Hawley
By your St. John Chancel Choir Family
In Honor of Jamie Garvey
By Dan Griggs & Tonya Currier

Children's Choirs and Wednesday Night Suppers return in September!

Children's Choirs Open House:

Wednesday, September 2nd 5:30 pm

Join us upstairs in the choir room for an open house to learn all about our Wednesday night music programs for students preschool through high school starting back this fall!

Wednesday Night Suppers and Choirs begin
Wednesday, September 9th.

Upcoming Activities

Sunday, August 2	11:00am	Back to School Sunday
Wednesday, August 5	7:00pm	Chancel Choir Resumes
Wednesday, August 9	5:00pm	Youth Returns
Wednesday, August 12	10:00am	Stewardship Committee Meeting
	5:30pm	Lake Committee Meeting
Saturday, August 15	8:30am	DCCM Food Distribution
Sunday, August 16	3:00pm	Leadership Board

Celebrating Jamie Garvey

For 46 years, Jamie Council Garvey has been at the musical soul of St. John, and a defining presence in Augusta's arts community. This September, we invite everyone whose life she has touched to come celebrate with her.

Sunday, September 6

Join us to celebrate Jamie with a reception in her honor following 11am worship in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome.

Contact Beth Dixon to volunteer to help with the reception, bdixon@stjohnaugusta.org.

Sunday, September 13

Jamie's final Sunday as Organist & Director of Music
Join us for worship at 11:00am

Concerts with a Cause The Raleigh Ringers

3:00pm
The Cause: DCCM Food Pantry

Coming in September: Wednesday Night Suppers return!

ST. JOHN UMC STAFF

Phone: 706-724-9641

**The Reverend Jenny Anderson,
Pastor in Charge**

Ext. 15; janderson@stjohnaugusta.org

**Beth Dixon,
Operations Coordinator**

Ext. 26; bdixon@stjohnaugusta.org

**Jamie Council Garvey,
Organist/Director of Music**

Ext. 16; jcgarvey@stjohnaugusta.org

Keith Ingram, Security Guard

Donald Tilton, Worship Technician

Adam Kuehl, Grounds Keeper, Sound Technician

**Christina Reid,
Office Administrator**

Ext. 13; secretary@stjohnaugusta.org

**Krisi Hawkes,
Finance Manager**

Ext. 14; finance@stjohnaugusta.org

**Tim James,
Facilities Manager**

Ex. 17; facilitymgr@stjohnaugusta.org

**Rebekah Bryant,
Director of Programs and Discipleship**

rbryant@stjohnaugusta.org

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

August 2026



Pastor's Corner

In June, I made a declaration that this was going to be a gentle summer. And to my surprise, some of you read the Pastor's Corner and asked how that was going. "I declare 2026: A Gentle Summer." One of you asked sweetly if the church had ruined my declaration of gentle.

This summer was different. No vacation that required a follow-up vacation to recover. That means no twenty thousand steps a day at Disney World, or navigating airports to faraway lands. But what this summer did bring—its very best moment—was a good two hours of no jellyfish in the ocean. Playing in the water without pause. The gentle summer also brought seeing cousins: three different cousin adventures, and one big family party.

There were other aspects of the summer that were not gentle. The "adulthood" part of life brought challenges, but those challenges come in every season.

What I look forward to in this next season is the back-to-school time. I look forward to what this next school year will bring. Will this season be gentle? Probably not. But what I hope I can carry into this next season of time is to celebrate the brief gentle moments—to not leave them in the heat of July and August, but to bring that celebration into the rest of the year.

This summer in worship, we have wrestled with the challenges of the Gospel of Matthew. Long ago, those who put the books of the Bible together wanted the Book of Matthew to begin the journey of learning about Jesus in written word. Matthew is not a gentle Gospel, but it is one that tells us over and over again: Christ is with us. And the people who follow Christ are given this important and challenging task of trusting in God. I trust that God, through Christ, will bring moments of gentle this fall.

This Month in Worship

August 2

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 14:13-21*
Genesis 32:22-31, Psalm 17:1-5, 15

August 9

Reverend Lindsey Solomon
Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 14:22-33*
Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28; Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b

August 16

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 15:21-28*
Genesis 45:1-15; Psalm 133

August 23

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 16:13-20*
Exodus 2:1-10; Psalm 124

August 30

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 16:21-28*
Exodus 3:1-15; Psalm 105

Thank you to our Lake Volunteers for a successful Summer of Lakeside Worship! We also extend special thanks to everyone who made cookies and lemonade in the courtyard possible this summer!

Sunday, August 2nd is Back to School Sunday!

Promotion Sunday & Blessing of the Backpacks

Rising pre-K, 3rd, and 6th graders will move to their new Sunday School Classrooms! We will present Bibles to our Pre-K and 3rd graders. Students (and teachers!) bring your backpacks/school bags to Sunday morning worship. We will have a special blessing for ALL our students (preschool to graduate school!), parents, teachers and administrators.

Youth Fellowship returns in August!

Middle & high school students gather monthly during the school year with our safety-trained adult leaders for a range of meaningful fellowship activities. Whether we're on a walk exploring our community, ranking the best breakfast cereal varieties, or serving together at outreach events, it's always a lot of fun with our close-knit group of welcoming students.

Students, join us Sunday, August 9 at 5pm at the church for an evening of fun as we kick off the new school year!

To be added to the parents' text thread & receive monthly meeting info, text "Second City" to 833-214-9992 & complete the sign up prompts! For additional information, contact Rebekah Bryant (Director of Programs & Discipleship) at RBryant@stjohnaugusta.org

Youth Room Open House

Following worship, the congregation is invited to join us for lemonade and cookies in our newly renovated upstairs Youth room, Room 214, directly above the parlor. We are excited to have repairs and decorations complete! Thank you to our volunteers and staff who have helped with this process. This has been a labor of love that we're delighted to share with our Youth.

The Clothes Closet is open
Tuesdays, 11am-1pm

We are grateful for the steadfast support from the congregation & local community groups donating clothing & food! With the summer heat & humidity, we are expecting high demand for lightweight clothing, shoes, hats, underwear, & socks for men & women. Summer essentials include broad spectrum sunscreen, hand sanitizer, & water (flavored optional). In the meantime, we are seeking volunteers to help wash stained items. We assume we can catch up if a few people wash one load a month. Please contact Debby Barron for more information or to volunteer. 706-855-6347

DCCM
Food Distribution:
Saturday, August 15
Volunteers please arrive at 8:00am

Thank you for your compassion and generosity.

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

MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS

July 2026

To Budget:

In Memory of Jane Baldrige
By Kay Phillips & Alex Scharko
By Joseph & Joyce Edwin

To Missions:

In Memory of Jane Baldrige
By Rodney & Angela Powell
By Dan Griggs & Tonya Currier

To Choral Scholar's Fund:

In Memory of Jane Baldrige
By your St. John Chancel Choir Family
In Memory of Judge Matthew Hawley
By your St. John Chancel Choir Family
In Honor of Jamie Garvey
By Dan Griggs & Tonya Currier

Children's Choirs and Wednesday Night Suppers return in September!

Children's Choirs Open House:

Wednesday, September 2nd 5:30 pm

Join us upstairs in the choir room for an open house to learn all about our Wednesday night music programs for students preschool through high school starting back this fall!

Wednesday Night Suppers and Choirs begin
Wednesday, September 9th.

Upcoming Activities

Sunday, August 2	11:00am	Back to School Sunday
Wednesday, August 5	7:00pm	Chancel Choir Resumes
Wednesday, August 9	5:00pm	Youth Returns
Wednesday, August 12	10:00am	Stewardship Committee Meeting
	5:30pm	Lake Committee Meeting
Saturday, August 15	8:30am	DCCM Food Distribution
Sunday, August 16	3:00pm	Leadership Board

Celebrating Jamie Garvey

For 46 years, Jamie Council Garvey has been at the musical soul of St. John, and a defining presence in Augusta's arts community. This September, we invite everyone whose life she has touched to come celebrate with her.

Sunday, September 6

Join us to celebrate Jamie with a reception in her honor following 11am worship in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome.

Contact Beth Dixon to volunteer to help with the reception, bdixon@stjohnaugusta.org.

Sunday, September 13

Jamie's final Sunday as Organist & Director of Music
Join us for worship at 11:00am

Concerts with a Cause The Raleigh Ringers

3:00pm
The Cause: DCCM Food Pantry

Coming in September: Wednesday Night Suppers return!

ST. JOHN UMC STAFF

Phone: 706-724-9641

**The Reverend Jenny Anderson,
Pastor in Charge**

Ext. 15; janderson@stjohnaugusta.org

**Beth Dixon,
Operations Coordinator**

Ext. 26; bdixon@stjohnaugusta.org

**Jamie Council Garvey,
Organist/Director of Music**

Ext. 16; jcgarvey@stjohnaugusta.org

Keith Ingram, Security Guard

Donald Tilton, Worship Technician

Adam Kuehl, Grounds Keeper, Sound Technician

**Christina Reid,
Office Administrator**

Ext. 13; secretary@stjohnaugusta.org

**Krisi Hawkes,
Finance Manager**

Ext. 14; finance@stjohnaugusta.org

**Tim James,
Facilities Manager**

Ex. 17; facilitymgr@stjohnaugusta.org

**Rebekah Bryant,
Director of Programs and Discipleship**

rbryant@stjohnaugusta.org

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

August 2026



Pastor's Corner

In June, I made a declaration that this was going to be a gentle summer. And to my surprise, some of you read the Pastor's Corner and asked how that was going. "I declare 2026: A Gentle Summer." One of you asked sweetly if the church had ruined my declaration of gentle.

This summer was different. No vacation that required a follow-up vacation to recover. That means no twenty thousand steps a day at Disney World, or navigating airports to faraway lands. But what this summer did bring—its very best moment—was a good two hours of no jellyfish in the ocean. Playing in the water without pause. The gentle summer also brought seeing cousins: three different cousin adventures, and one big family party.

There were other aspects of the summer that were not gentle. The "adulthood" part of life brought challenges, but those challenges come in every season.

What I look forward to in this next season is the back-to-school time. I look forward to what this next school year will bring. Will this season be gentle? Probably not. But what I hope I can carry into this next season of time is to celebrate the brief gentle moments—to not leave them in the heat of July and August, but to bring that celebration into the rest of the year.

This summer in worship, we have wrestled with the challenges of the Gospel of Matthew. Long ago, those who put the books of the Bible together wanted the Book of Matthew to begin the journey of learning about Jesus in written word. Matthew is not a gentle Gospel, but it is one that tells us over and over again: Christ is with us. And the people who follow Christ are given this important and challenging task of trusting in God. I trust that God, through Christ, will bring moments of gentle this fall.

This Month in Worship

August 2

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 14:13-21*
Genesis 32:22-31, Psalm 17:1-5, 15

August 9

Reverend Lindsey Solomon
Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 14:22-33*
Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28; Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b

August 16

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 15:21-28*
Genesis 45:1-15; Psalm 133

August 23

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 16:13-20*
Exodus 2:1-10; Psalm 124

August 30

Sermon Scripture: *Matthew 16:21-28*
Exodus 3:1-15; Psalm 105

Thank you to our Lake Volunteers for a successful Summer of Lakeside Worship! We also extend special thanks to everyone who made cookies and lemonade in the courtyard possible this summer!

Sunday, August 2nd is Back to School Sunday!

Promotion Sunday & Blessing of the Backpacks

Rising pre-K, 3rd, and 6th graders will move to their new Sunday School Classrooms! We will present Bibles to our Pre-K and 3rd graders. Students (and teachers!) bring your backpacks/school bags to Sunday morning worship. We will have a special blessing for ALL our students (preschool to graduate school!), parents, teachers and administrators.

Youth Room Open House

Following worship, the congregation is invited to join us for lemonade and cookies in our newly renovated upstairs Youth room, Room 214, directly above the parlor. We are excited to have repairs and decorations complete! Thank you to our volunteers and staff who have helped with this process. This has been a labor of love that we’re delighted to share with our Youth.

Youth Fellowship returns in August!

Middle & high school students gather monthly during the school year with our safety-trained adult leaders for a range of meaningful fellowship activities. Whether we're on a walk exploring our community, ranking the best breakfast cereal varieties, or serving together at outreach events, it's always a lot of fun with our close-knit group of welcoming students.
Students, join us Sunday, August 9 at 5pm at the church for an evening of fun as we kick off the new school year!
To be added to the parents' text thread & receive monthly meeting info, text "Second City" to 833-214-9992 & complete the sign up prompts! For additional information, contact Rebekah Bryant (Director of Programs & Discipleship) at RBryant@stjohnaugusta.org

The Clothes Closet is open
Tuesdays, 11am-1pm

We are grateful for the steadfast support from the congregation & local community groups donating clothing & food! With the summer heat & humidity, we are expecting high demand for lightweight clothing, shoes, hats, underwear, & socks for men & women. Summer essentials include broad spectrum sunscreen, hand sanitizer, & water (flavored optional). In the meantime, we are seeking volunteers to help wash stained items. We assume we can catch up if a few people wash one load a month. Please contact Debby Barron for more information or to volunteer. 706-855-6347

DCCM
Food Distribution:
Saturday, August 15
Volunteers please arrive at 8:00am

Thank you for your compassion and generosity.

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](#)

Instagram: [@stjohn_augusta](#)

Website: www.stjohnaugusta.org/announcements

MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS

July 2026

To Budget:

In Memory of Jane Baldrige
By Kay Phillips & Alex Scharko
By Joseph & Joyce Edwin

To Missions:

In Memory of Jane Baldrige
By Rodney & Angela Powell
By Dan Griggs & Tonya Currier

To Choral Scholar’s Fund:

In Memory of Jane Baldrige
By your St. John Chancel Choir Family
In Memory of Judge Matthew Hawley
By your St. John Chancel Choir Family
In Honor of Jamie Garvey
By Dan Griggs & Tonya Currier

Children’s Choirs and Wednesday Night Suppers return in September!

Children’s Choirs Open House:

Wednesday, September 2nd 5:30 pm

Join us upstairs in the choir room for an open house to learn all about our Wednesday night music programs for students preschool through high school starting back this fall!

Wednesday Night Suppers and Choirs begin Wednesday, September 9th.

Upcoming Activities

Sunday, August 2	11:00am	Back to School Sunday
Wednesday, August 5	7:00pm	Chancel Choir Resumes
Wednesday, August 9	5:00pm	Youth Returns
Wednesday, August 12	10:00am	Stewardship Committee Meeting
	5:30pm	Lake Committee Meeting
Saturday, August 15	8:30am	DCCM Food Distribution
Sunday, August 16	3:00pm	Leadership Board