



St. Marys United Methodist Church

106 East Conyers Street

St. Marys, Georgia 31558

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Website: www.stmarysumc.org

February 22, 2012

STAFF

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DRIVEN

Every elder – fully ordained to a lifetime ministry in the United Methodist Church – has to live by eight words in our book of church law (called **The Book of Discipline**): “They offer themselves without reserve to be appointed...”. And it’s true for me – it has been true ever since June 6, 1988. On that evening, I and several other people experienced the glory of ordination, of a bishop actually noticing who we were, who gave us our marching orders, who reminded us of God’s powerful call upon our lives.

And from that moment on, I was... driven. In other words, I have never been allowed to sit down with a list of the churches in our area and pick the one I thought would be nice to serve. (Can’t you imagine that conversation: “Hmm... nice beachfront property – great schools – and that church loves their pastors – I think I’ll apply!”) A bishop has always picked the place for me. I’ve had to trust that even if he wasn’t listening to God, God would help him choose the right congregation for me to serve. I’ve been driven to every church I’ve served, in small towns, large cities, to churches in great pain, or churches lost in the wilderness, or churches in (seeming) paradise. And in every place where I’ve been driven, I’ve met both wild beasts and ministering angels. All along the way, I’ve been tempted at times – to find a way out of being driven, to regain what I thought was control over my life and my destiny.

For all of us, “driven” is the best word I know to describe how we fall into the Lenten season. If you take the Lenten disciplines seriously, and you fast and pray and give away your resources to the poor ones, you’ll arrive in the wilderness pretty quickly. You’ll definitely be hungry. Intentional prayer may just become boring. And you’ll always have the poor with you, as Jesus reminded his disciples. Above all, the shadow of Jesus’ cross will fall on this landscape. Are you willing to let God’s Spirit drive you into this Lenten wilderness, as the Spirit did to Jesus? I’m praying you will – because it’s the beginning of a journey which will take you to that cross... and to life forever!

--Dale

Opportunities for the Week

Sunday, February 26th

8:30 A.M. First Morning Worship
9:45 A.M. Sunday School
11:00 A.M. Second Morning Worship
4:00 P.M. Confirmation (Sanctuary)
5:15 P.M. UMYF

Monday, February 27th

6:45 A.M. Middle School Breakfast Club (Hardees) *Note new day & time*

Tuesday, February 28th

7:00 A.M. High School Breakfast Club (Chick-Fil-A)
5:30 P.M. Hand Bell Choir Practice

Wednesday, February 29th

5:30 P.M. Children's Choir Practice
6:15 P.M. Clues Club/Playhouse Kids
6:30 P.M. Chancel Choir Practice
7:30 P.M. Adult Praise Team Practice

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NURSERY WORKER NEEDED: We are in need of Nursery Workers for Wednesday nights & Sunday activities. If you would be interested in helping in the Nursery on either a scheduled employee basis or an as needed volunteer please call Tina Bense @674-8839 or Patty Brandon @ 674-9771.

PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR...

Prayer Concerns

Bob Deen, Bettye Howard, Helen Lenahan, George & Carolyn Long, George & Eileen Turner, Richard Anderson, Richard Pippin, Arthur Grimsley, Emmett & Pat Williams

Extended Family and Friends

Mike Willards' Family (friend of Ken Kunda); Lisa Simpson, Eryn Hill (Amos & Dottie's daughter-in-law, & great granddaughter); Sandra Street (relative of the Hoylman Family); Douglas Peeples, Jr. (Carolyn Asaro's nephew); John Jackson (friend of Johnette Picard); Jimmy Doster; Colette Robertson (Joyce Smith's sister-in-law); Betty Conner (friend of Betty Spagna); Trevor Simpson; Laura Kiesel (friend of Rex Dale); Craig Harrison (Kenneth & Jean Harrison's grandson); Jean Keel (Barbara Smith's cousin); Barbara Zimmerman (Bea Crouse's friend); Beth Norris (Arlene Norris' daughter-in-law); Mary Lishman (Joan Seal's mother); Katherine White-Lindemood, Linda Cook & Family, Agnes Robinson (friends & relative of Ray & Donna O'Banion); Joan Lomis (Jim Lomis' mother); Lois Hall (Barbara Hall's mother); Ann & Jim Buskirk (former member); Yolanda Mirarchi, Keith Smith, Leslie Mullis & Family (Karen's mother & friends of Dale & Karen Hoylman); Miriam Starline (Shannon Wainright & Stacie Mizell's mother); Dylan Ross Williams (Emmett & Pat Williams' grandson)

Nursing Home Residents

Herbert Howell C-4

Magnolia Manor Residents

Becky Ridenour (SM), Wylidean Wynne (SSI), Betty Hart (SSI)

Deployed & Injured Military Family & Friends

Lee George, Richarde Anderson, Kyle Carpenter, Durand Tanner, Ethan Allen, Brandi Bryant, Josh Harker

Bold indicates a new addition**

Names will be removed after two weeks unless otherwise requested.

Attention Middle School Youth: Beginning February 27th, our Middle School Breakfast Club will start meeting for breakfast on *Mondays at 6:45am* instead of on Wednesdays at 6:30am. We will be joining with the Kingsland UMC Middle School Group. If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact our Youth Director, Luke at 576-8041.

Ash Wednesday We will hold Ash Wednesday service on February 22nd at **7:00pm** in our Sanctuary. The First Presbyterian Church will be joining us again this year. Pastor Rick will be preaching. Come and receive Ashes and Holy Communion.

Welcome to our Newest Member

Brannon Cobb
122 Inlet Reach
St. Marys, GA 31558

Brannon, Rebekah's husband, joined our congregation and their daughter, Georgia Faye, was baptized on February 19, 2012.

Introduce yourself to Brannon or drop him a card to welcome him to our church family.

Children's Ministry

Sunday:

8:30 Children's Church 9:45 Sunday school 11:00 Children's Church

Sunday, February 26th

Children's Church: 8:30am & 11:00am - A volunteer is needed to help for each service Acolytes are also needed

Clues Club / Playhouse Kids: Wednesday at 6:15pm.

Children's Church: If you are interesting in lending a hand, please see me.

Easter Egg Hunt: Easter Sunday (April 8th) during Sunday school. This year we are asking for filled eggs.

Vacation Bible School: June 11-15.

Volunteers are now being accepted, as well as donations. It takes about \$25 for each child for the week. Please make sure to mark your donation for VBS.

VBS workdays are as follows:

May 5, 19

June 2, 8, 9, 11 (lunch and set up immediately following the 11:00 service)

If you are missing your sleeping bag from KidzQuest...it is in my office.

Just a reminder that we are still collecting soda tabs for the Ronald McDonald House. You can leave them in the children's room, on my desk or hand them to me.

If you need to contact me please call my cell at (912) 674-8839 or e-mail me at cmc@stmarysumc.org.

In Him,
Tina

"An Evening to Remember"

Saturday, February 25th

6:30pm in Bailey Hall

This is an adult Church Wide Social with dinner
and live entertainment by Dr. Roy Bernius,
the opening act for The Drifters.

The Social will begin with a Meet & Greet at 6:15pm and dinner at 6:30pm.

The dress is dressy casual (no jeans). The cost is only \$10.00 per person.

Contact Peggy Shoemaker @882-9060 for tickets. (Please let Peggy know if childcare is needed.)



Happy Apple Pre-Registration for 2012-2013

Happy Apple Academy will begin in-house registration for students presently enrolled, siblings, and members of St. Marys United Methodist Church.

Open Registration will be on March 8, 2012
from 8am - 12:30pm in Bailey Hall.

Call 912-882-3727 for further information..



Easter Lilies order form

\$9.00 each Due by March 23rd

Please circle in Honor or *Memory* & enclose payment for each flower ordered.



Ordered by: _____ In Honor/Memory of _____

Ordered by: _____ In Honor/Memory of _____

Ordered by: _____ In Honor/Memory of _____

Total ordered _____ X \$9.00 = _____

FREE TO GOOD HOME. A member of our congregation has a piano that needs a new home. If you are interested in giving this piano a good home, please call the church office at 882-5505 ext. 0. And yes, it really is free—no strings attached!

Stewardship of Presence

8:30 am	92
11:00 am	125
Worship Total	217
Sunday School	97

2012 Altar Flower Schedule

Several dates are available for those wishing to provide altar flowers in 2012. If you would like to honor a special person or their memory, please stop by the office and sign up, email Tricia at smumc@stmarys.org, or call 882-5505 ext. 0.

May 27 June 10 July 8
August 5, 19 September 2, 16 October 7 November 25

If you sign up to provide altar flowers, please remember to take your arrangement home with you after the 11:00am service on the Sunday that you provide them.

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Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
St. Marys, GA

PERMIT NO. 8

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul. O my God, in you I trust; do not let me be put to shame; do not let my enemies exult over me. Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame; let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.

Psalm 25:1-3

Those Who Serve in Special Ways

Altar Flowers:	Lent
Children's Church:	Tina Bense
Helpers:	8:30: Available 11:00: Available
Acolytes:	8:30 Available 11:00: Available
Evangelism Visitor:	Richard Anderson
8:30 Greeters:	Kelly & Linda Alexander
11:00 Greeters:	Cheryl Doster & Kim Bennett
Head Offering Counter:	Diane Isernhagen
Offering Counter:	Gloria Hurley
Sound System:	8:30 - Gabe Slusser 11:00 - Roy Bauers
8:30 Head Usher:	Jeff Barker
8:30 Usher:	Paul Lentz
11:00 Head Usher:	Linda Victory
11:00 Ushers:	Stephen Kinney, David Shoemaker, Jim Stein