

The Disciple



St. John's Anglican Church, 230 Southland Rd., Americus GA 31709

In a recent gospel lesson, Jesus asked one key question and made one crucial promise. In Matthew 16:15 Jesus asked his disciples “Who do you say that I am?” In Matthew 16:18, Jesus promised them “I will build my church.” Let’s think again about how this question and this promise inform what we are doing here at St John’s.

We’ll start with the question. Jesus’ simple question, “Who do you say that I am?” is of crucial importance. If we are willing and able to join with Peter in confessing that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the Living God, then it follows that our whole lives may have to be re-organized on account of that confession.

If we grant Jesus those titles, we also must grant him the authority that comes with those titles. If Jesus is the Christ, then he should be Lord of every facet of our lives: our habits, our actions, our relationships, our desires.

We must learn to live for the one who died for us.

Now the promise: “I will build my church.” When we acknowledge that Jesus is Lord and Savior, we become part of something far bigger than ourselves. We join Jesus’ family--we are each adopted by God the Father.

Only Jesus has the authority and the credentials to make this magnificent inclusion possible. He is the master builder who is building up his one great congregation. He is the good shepherd who is in charge of multiplying his one flock.

We are called to live a consistent life of witness to the fact that Jesus is the Christ. When we live in this way, speaking with courage and patience and acting with obedience and compassion, then Jesus can work through us to build his church.

We are confessors and witnesses; Jesus is the builder.

At St John’s, our congregational mission statement is loving, proclaiming, and serving Christ that others may know him. I believe our mission statement dovetails smoothly with Jesus’ teaching in these verses, and I am excited for the opportunities we have coming up to offer that compelling witness to the wonderful truth that Jesus is the Christ and the Son of the Living God.

In Christ,
Jim



Jim Barton



Each month our Ministry Spotlight highlights a ministry our church partners with and supports. This month we are highlighting FCA-Fellowship of Christian Athletes. Through FCA, our church is reaching athletes at GSW, Southland, Furlow, and Sumter County HS.



FAITH + SPORT = FCA

Unite your two passions, faith and athletics,
to impact the world for Jesus Christ.
We've been on one mission for over 60 years.

The Fellowship of Christian Athletes is touching millions of lives...one heart at a time. Since 1954, FCA has been challenging coaches and athletes on the professional, college, high school, junior high and youth levels to use the powerful platform of sport to reach every coach and every athlete with the transforming power of Jesus Christ. FCA focuses on serving local communities around the globe by engaging, equipping and empowering coaches and athletes to unite, inspire and change the world through the gospel.

Vision

To see the world transformed by Jesus Christ through the influence of coaches and athletes.

Mission

To lead every coach and athlete into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ and His church.

Statement of Faith

- We believe the Bible to be the only inspired, trustworthy and true, without error, Word of God. (2 Timothy 3:16-17)
- We believe there is only one God who eternally exists in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. (Matthew 28:19)
- We believe Jesus Christ is God, in His virgin birth, in His sinless life, in His miracles, in His death that paid for our sin through His shed blood, in His bodily resurrection, in His ascension/rising up to the right hand of the Father, and in His personal return in power and glory. (John 1:1; Matthew 1:18,25; Hebrews 4:15; Hebrews 9:15-22; 1 Corinthians 15:1-8; Acts 1:9-11; Hebrews 9:27-28)
- We believe that acceptance of Jesus Christ and the corresponding renewal of the Holy Spirit is the only path to salvation for lost/sinful men and women. (John 3:16; John 5:24; Titus 3:3-7)
- We believe in the present ministry of the Holy Spirit, who lives within and guides Christians, so they are enabled to live godly lives. (John 14:15-26; John 16:5-16; Ephesians 1:13-14)
- We believe in eternal life and that through belief in Jesus Christ as the Son of God, we spend eternity with the Lord in Heaven. We believe that in rejecting Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, we receive eternal suffering in hell. (Matthew 25:31-46; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18)
- We believe in the spiritual unity of believers in our Lord Jesus Christ that all believers are members of His body, the church. (Philippians 2:1-4)

Reaching Raiders

The excitement and enthusiasm continues to grow in St. John's new outreach of feeding breakfast every Friday morning to the Southland football team. The last two Fridays have been well received by the players, coaches and staff at Southland. The players are thankful, polite and attentive. They are showing gratitude at breakfast, at school and on the field.

Every Friday morning at 6:45 AM, we're preparing to feed the Southland Varsity Football Team. The players and coaches arrive beginning at 7:00 AM in the Parish Hall and the meal begins promptly at 7:15. Around 7:30, there's a 5-minute devotion centered around the Bible.

The breakfast is prepared by Carter's Fried Chicken, consisting of scrambled eggs, cheese grits, bacon, sausage, cathead biscuits, jam, orange juice, milk and water. It's quite the sight to see 42 hungry big football players eating-Wow-they can eat.

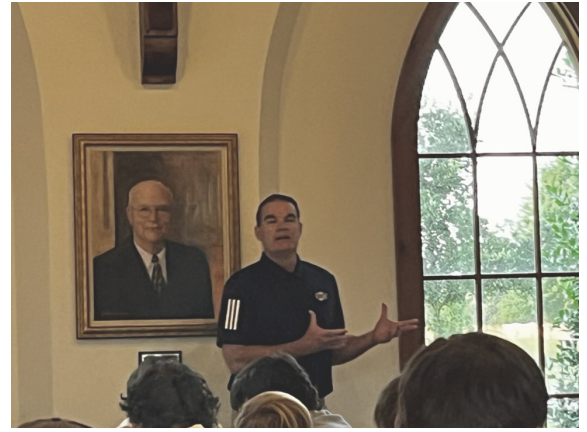
We still need your help. Each breakfast costs \$300. If you are so inclined to donate, it would be greatly appreciated. In addition, if you are interested in joining us for one of the breakfasts, please speak with Reggie (938-1438) or Jim.

This outreach is very uplifting to the players to propagate their spiritual growth, and by showing our support, we hope we bring them closer to Christ.

Please join us as St. John's continues with this vital outreach to these young Christian athletes.

Your brother in Christ,

Reggie



Mike Leeder-GSW Athletic Director



Children's Sunday School

Children's Sunday School is back in full swing for this school year. We are excited for another year for the children of our church to learn and grow more deeply in their faith!

We use a curriculum called 'Hearts Alive'. The curriculum provides a Bible story that usually goes along with our liturgical calendar year. They are able to hear the story on a level they can understand, have some discussion questions to go along with it, a Bible memory verse, a coloring sheet or craft, and a snack. It's really fun seeing them enjoy fellowship with their peers and learn about our Lord and Savior together.

We are so thankful for our teachers who give of their time and energy to teach the kids. And we are so thankful for

these children whom the Lord has entrusted us with to shepherd their hearts.



Second Harvest of South Georgia

Second Harvest of South Georgia delivers nutritious food directly to the people who need it most. A refrigerated truck transports 8,000 to 10,000 pounds of food to community centers, church parking lots, businesses, and other locations. Volunteers set up and distribute food to up to 300 families in just two hours.

In Plains, Mrs. Carter helped start this impactful ministry, along with the Maranatha Baptist church. Every third Saturday from 8-10am, 2nd Harvest delivers food to the Plains Community Center parking lot. In addition to the church and community volunteers, GSW students and Americus Rotarians join in each month. They are always looking for helping hands to give to those that truly need. If you have any questions please contact Hunter Peak at 334-750-1924 or Hunterpeak@outlook.com.



The next one will be September 16th from 8-10am, Plains Community Center parking lot.

Holy Chow

September 10, 2023

Immediately following Service

Let's eat lunch as a congregation!

Sign up sheet in Narthex to bring a side or dessert.

See you there!



WE'VE GOT GRAPES!



The muscadine vines out by the Cross are heavy with fruit. Stop by, check out the new landscaping, and harvest some grapes. They make excellent jam and, if you're really ambitious, pretty good wine. The grapes will be falling off the vines soon, so don't miss this opportunity to enjoy these southern treats.





Coffee & Conversation

We welcome everyone to coffee and conversation each Sunday in the Parish Hall from 9:30-10:00 AM. This will give us an opportunity to visit before Church and at the same time give people a quiet time to pray in the sanctuary before Church.



Men's Christian Fellowship

September 12, 2023

6:00 PM

Parish Hall

Bring a friend and join us for a BBQ meal!



MEETING NOTICE!

Vestry Meeting

September 19, 2023

6:00 PM

September

26-Peter & Bobbi Banse



September

4-Tam Olinger

24-Brooke Olinger

6-Sally Stuckey

24-Townsend Ray

11-Peter Banse

30-John Davidson

16-Ellison Olinger



SEPTEMBER ROTA

DATE	SERVICE	LEM	LECTOR	USHER	CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL
9/3	Holy Communion	David Snell	Jeff Joiner	Jeff Joiner	Beth Cameron
9/6	Evening Prayer & Healing		Everett Byrd		
9/10	Holy Communion	Beth Cameron	Everett Byrd	Hunter Trollinger	Lou Chase
9/13	Evening Prayer & Healing		Susan Curtis		
9/17	Holy Communion	Lou Chase	France Pierce	Brady Fowler	Angie Trollinger
9/20	Evening Prayer & Healing		Jeff Joiner		
9/24	Holy Communion	Jeff Joiner	Susan Curtis	Hunter Peak	Selby Fowler
9/27	Evening Prayer & Healing		Beth Cameron		