



Time & Talent 2009

Baskets of First Fruits

We are called to give of our time, talent and treasure for the sake of Christ's church. God has blessed all our lives, and our confidence in the future is strengthened when we reflect on what God has done for us in the past.

This is our congregation's Time and Talent form. Please prayerfully consider your "**first fruit**" giving to the church with your many talents and the gift of your time. We would like *each confirmed member of the congregation* to consider how you can use the gifts God has given you in love and service to church and neighbor. Would you please complete this Time and Talent form and return it to the church?

And let all of us give thanks to God for the many blessings in our lives, as we are renewed and refreshed in our calling to be Jesus' hands and feet in the world.

One form per confirmed member, please.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE # _____ BEST TIME TO CALL _____

CELL PHONE # _____ AGE _____

E-MAIL _____

OCCUPATION _____

TALENTS USED IN YOUR JOB

SKILLS & INTERESTS (check all that you wish to share)

- | | | | |
|-----------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Photography | <input type="checkbox"/> Computers | <input type="checkbox"/> Carpentry | <input type="checkbox"/> Writing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Landscaping | <input type="checkbox"/> Electrical work | <input type="checkbox"/> Acting | <input type="checkbox"/> Plumbing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dancing | <input type="checkbox"/> Interior decorating | <input type="checkbox"/> Singing | <input type="checkbox"/> Organizing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Graphic layout | <input type="checkbox"/> Instrument _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Advertising | <input type="checkbox"/> Cooking |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gardening | <input type="checkbox"/> Designing Websites | <input type="checkbox"/> Video Taping | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Phone Calls | | | |

Other (please describe below):

WORSHIP MINISTRY

Each worship service at St. John's requires the dedication and commitment of many volunteers. Time commitments are generally minimal beyond the time of the worship service itself, and you will be contacted regarding your preferred schedule of assistance, i.e., monthly, semi-monthly, etc. Training is routinely provided. We ask that you deeply consider which areas of worship you can help with.

Worship Preparation

- Prepare/clean-up communion
- Maintain and/or decorate the sanctuary
- Make worship banners for sanctuary
- Worship service planning team (meets once every six weeks with Pastor to discuss sermon themes, select songs, etc.)
- Bulletin stuffing
- Decorate church for Christian holidays

Sunday Services

- Read the Bible lesson for a service
- Greet and welcome worshippers
- Communion server
- Operate computer graphics
- Worship Steward (Confirms worship assistants are present and reviews check list of other preparations for the service)
- Nursery attendant
- Usher
- Operate sound system

Special Service Activities

- Participate in a short skit
- Coffee hour host
- Do a children's sermon
- Clean/organize/restock quiet-time bags (1 hr.)

Worship Technology

- Scriptor (prepare worship texts for on-screen presentation)
- Projectionist (present worship texts on screen during services)
- Podcaster (add sermon recordings to our web site)

CARE/SOCIAL MINISTRY

St. John's is committed to serving its congregational family. Our Befriender's group visits members who are ill, grieving, homebound, or just simply living a stressful life. "Times most remembered are when we do something special for someone else".

- I would like to learn how to do and say the right thing in response to a difficult situation. Contact me about participating in a training class for care ministry.
- I'm willing to participate in a telephone "care calling" ministry
- Contact me regarding my possible visitation of people in hospitals, nursing homes, homebound, etc.
- Call me about the program support group for one of the following: grief or loss, illnesses, Alzheimer's, etc.
- I am able to deliver some Sunday service tape cassettes to homebound residents
- I am willing to be on a list of possible drivers for those needing rides to doctor appointments, church, or other functions.

MUSIC INTERESTS

St. John's enjoys a variety of Christian Music. We boast two adult music groups (Traditional & Contemporary). Individuals and groups are always welcome to provide special music during worship services.

- Coordinate or assist with youth choirs.
- Group singing (special occasion choirs)
- Group singing (structured choirs/Contemporary Praise Team)
- Playing an instrument _____
- Contact me about providing special music for a worship service or to accompany with my instrument

SOCIAL/COMMUNITY MINISTRY

God does good things through us. We are His hands and His feet. When someone is in need, we are the instruments of His mighty love. When we do something for the least of these, we do it for Him. God commands us to feed the hungry and clothe the naked. We can make a difference in other people's lives. All it takes is our time and our talent.

- Contact me about service projects that I can do at home.
- Contact me about service projects (Habitat for Humanity, Handyman Group, Mission Trips, etc.)
- Contact me about service projects related to crafting and homemaking, i.e. quilting, layettes, health kits, etc.
- Coordinate or assist with Lutheran World Relief.
- Coordinate or assist with World Hunger.
- Coordinate or assist with Mississippi Project
- Contact me about service projects requiring no special skills.

YOUTH MINISTRY

St. John's Youth Ministry has two different groups currently meeting. Sr. High Youth Group (Grades 9-12) and Confirmation Youth Group (Grades 6-8)

Give assistance for youth activities

Call me, to see if I can help with one of the items below:

- Make treats
- Help in craft preparation
- Volunteer driver (local)
- Volunteer driver (out-of-town)
- Chaperone activities at church
- Chaperone youth trips
- Open home for youth activity
- 1 - 2 hrs. of childcare
- Able to help in planning youth activities
- Able to assist a youth program leader (group?) _____

- Assist with music for the monthly Sunday evening youth service
- Assist with the Wednesday youth breakfast group

OUTREACH/EVANGELISM

Sharing the good news that our church welcomes everyone into the fellowship of Christ is crucial to the continued growth of St. John's goal of spreading the Gospel message.

- New member sponsor
- Welcome new-to-town residents
- Make home and hospital visits
- Prepare press releases of church activities
- Prepare ads for church services, activities, or other events
- Serve as a mentor

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

To strengthen your inner soul you need to feed your faith. Feeding your faith reaches beyond the Sunday sermon and beyond yourself. Please consider the peace that comes with learning God's word and sharing it with others.

St. John's Christian Education program for youth is outstanding and often considered the main reason for families joining St. John's. Please keep our programs alive and vibrant by planning to involve yourself with other youth in some way. Our youth are not only the future of the church – they are the NOW of the church.

Sunday School

- Team teach or substitute for Sunday School
- Substitute teach Sunday School class
- Assist in the Sunday School office during Sunday School (order supplies, greet newcomers, record attendance, count offering, etc.)
- Help with the planning of Sunday School kickoff Sunday (Sept) and/or

Youth Sunday (May)

- Recruit Sunday School Teachers and helpers
- Help with crafts or craft preparation
- Help with music and/or skits
- Help with games
- Storytelling
- Director or Assist with Sunday School
- Participate on Sunday School planning team

Vacation Bible School (VBS)

- Assist with planning VBS
- Assist with craft preparation for VBS (prep work)
- Teach Vacation Bible School
- Helpers needed to do crafts, recreation and music with children.

Confirmation

- Assist with planning Confirmation Program
- Serve as a mentor for a class of 5-6 confirmation students
- Serve as a substitute youth mentor for a confirmation class.

Christmas Program

- Teach a class their songs for the program
- Help with costumes (sewing or coordinating)
- Help with scenery set-up or clean up

Adult Education

- Contact me about possibly participating in a Bible Study Group.
 - Evenings
 - Daytime
 - Sunday mornings
- I would consider leading/co-leading a Bible Study Group if someone would help me get started

SUPPORT MINISTRIES

Amidst the many opportunities for outward service, there are many “behind the scenes” opportunities to serve as well. Please consider helping with one or more.

- Make bread for communion
- Assist in the library
- Count offering (Monday mornings)
- Time and Talent follow-up
- Assist with building and grounds maintenance
- Computer-Data Entry
- Help with mailings
- Computer hardware assistance
- Telephoning
- Photograph and display photos of members
- Wedding Coordinator
- Poster making/Sign making/Bulletin Boards
- Office/clerical help and/or fill-in
- Assist with dispersing memorial funds
- Assemble Vision Notes newsletter (monthly)
- Bake for special events
- Help with Lenten suppers
- Serve funeral lunches on weekdays
- Serve funeral lunches on Saturdays
- Serve on Church Council
- Able to help cook for an occasional dinner
- Serve on Endowment Committee
- Serve as Historian
- Serve as Mississippi Self-Help Coordinator
- Other

STANDING MINISTRIES

As a congregation, we have several standing ministries or committees which oversee the various projects, events, or responsibilities of the congregation. These committees serve as organizational hubs for the congregation.

- Youth and Family
- Personnel
- Fellowship
- Social Concerns
- Mutual Ministry
- Life and Growth
- Memorials
- God’s Resources