



ST. JOHN'S

A STEPHEN MINISTRY CHURCH

May 10, 2026

Mother's Day

STREET ADDRESS
104 NEWBERRY ST. NW
AIKEN, SC 29801

MAILING ADDRESS
P.O. BOX 809
AIKEN, SC 29802

803-648-6891
www.stjaiken.org

Welcome Rev. Dr. Josh Duckworth

Following a Charge Conference vote held on Monday, April 27th, the St. John's Staff Parrish Relations Committee (SPRC) formally extended an offer to Reverend Dr. Josh Duckworth to become our next Senior Pastor at St. John's. SPRC is excited and grateful to announce that Rev. Dr. Josh Duckworth had officially accepted the offer. With a heart devoted to Christ, a love of people, an impressive educational background and a commitment to faithfully preach and teach the Word of God, Dr. Josh brings both spiritual wisdom and leadership to St. John's that by God's guidance, will lead us into the future that God has for us.

Dr. Josh Duckworth comes to St. John's with 20 years of ministry experience, having previously served as Senior Pastor at Porterfield Methodist Church in Albany, Georgia. Throughout that time, Dr. Josh successfully led Porterfield through disaffiliation from the United Methodist Church, in addition to building a strong, Christ-centered Community.

Dr. Josh is married to his high school sweetheart, Jade. Together, they have 2 sons, Cade - 15, Lucas - 11, and a daughter, Harleigh - 7. Jade works as a middle school teacher for the Georgia Public School System. Josh and his family are excited to become part of the St. John's family and the Aiken community. Sunday, July 12 will mark Dr. Josh's first day as Senior Pastor at St. John's, where he will preach at all 3 Sunday services.

As we welcome Dr. Josh and his family, we look forward to all that God will do in and through our church under his leadership. SPRC invites you to join us in helping Dr. Josh and his family as they adjust to their new church family, while also praying with us as we step into this new chapter together.

Methodist Questions Bible Study

We will continue the next two Wednesdays, at 5:45pm in the Church Chapel, with Rev. Butch leading a study that responds to the following questions:

May 13: "Do Methodists believe in the rapture?" We will take a look at the three most prominent schools of thought on the rapture and which, if any, of these three reflect a traditional Methodist belief on the topic. We will consider premillennialism, postmillennialism and amillennialism. This will reflect only upon the rapture and not the entire Book of Revelation.

May 20: "Why does God allow bad things to happen to good people?" We will reflect upon theodicy, which is the theological question of why God permits evil. We will consider and will very lightly touch upon the question of free will.

Come join us for what we believe will be an interesting and informative time of answering questions that you may have been pondering.

Demolition of the Annex Building

Beginning May 25, the entire back parking lot will be blocked as they begin the full demolition of the building. The back parking lot will be off limits through July.

Worship Services: Rev. Butch Blackwell; Rev. Will Altman; Director of Traditional Music - Dr. Matt Caine; Organist - Christopher Nash; 9:02 Band Leader - Jane Timmerman; The 9:02 Band - Chuck Carver, Juli Davis, Earl Melton, Matt Osteen, George Collins, Steve Davis, Alec James, Jeff Krok, Jonathan Cook, Susan Lawson, Marshall Sanders

Crucifer: Madison Zeigler **Acolytes:** Joel Nichols and Teddy Nichols

Mother's Day Ushers: Michael Whitehead, Field Griswold, Ollie Griswold, Max Ingram

May 8:30 Ushers: Tom Miniard, Randy Shelley, Greg Lowry

May 11:00 Ushers: Missy Poe, Donald Leader, Connie Pisko, Mick Pisko, Mary Ann Findley, Mitch Rivers, Sally Alexander, Rod Alexander, Karen Travis, Larry Travis, Rea Maynard, Kevin Maynard, Leah Lewis, Penny Rue

May Worship Support: Nancy Perrine, Melinda Greene, Karen Blackwell, Susanne Rhoden

You may text your gift to St. John's by texting **stjaiken** to 1-888-364-4483 and following the instructions.

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The 11:00 service is broadcast over WKSX 92.7 at 12 p.m., one week delay.

May 10, 2026

Children's Ministries

Sunday School (children 4K-2nd grade): Upstairs in the Education building. Sign in by the boat!

June 15-20: VBS - Register here: <https://vbspro.events/p/802a90>.

VBS Volunteers Needed! We'd love to have you work with us in VBS this year. Come spread God's love and have a blast with the children! Sign up to volunteer on the same site as registration; you can use the QR code or website. We hope to see you there!

Children's Worship Bulletins are now available! Kids ages 7 years and older can pick up a bulletin with Scripture and puzzles just for them. Look for the green paper in the narthex.

Parents, Children's Church has moved! 11 am Children's Church is now meeting in Room 223. This is an exciting change that gives the children more room and a dedicated space. Room 223 is upstairs - take the elevator in the coffee area and look for the boat! Signs will be out to direct you.

Foundation Student Ministries

(6th-12th Grades)

Wednesday Small Groups: Enjoy Summer Break!

May 10: No SNY - Mother's Day, Celebrate Your Moms!

May 17: Chill & Grill/Senior Night

High School Seniors:

May 17: Senior Sunday

Young Adults Ministry

Young Adults Sunday School Class takes place at 10am in Room 237.

No Thursday Night Philippians Bible Study because of ice cream and board games.

SAVE THE DATE:

May 14: Ice Cream and Board Games at 6:30pm at the Church

June 23: Serving Salkehatchie Supper & Bowling

St. John's Missions News

St. John's, we welcome the following new mission partners: Inside Out Ministries (a recovery ministry located in the Valley), Remnant Ministries (a new church in Aiken), New Life Network (discipling, training leaders and starting churches among Hispanic people in eleven countries) and Tranquilidad Foundation (a Christian home for orphans in Honduras). Keep them all in your prayers and THANK YOU for your faith promise gifts that make all of our partnership possible.

For the month of **May**, we are collecting **deodorant**. Please place any donated items in the box marked "Grace Kitchen" in the Narthex of each worship service and in front of Ward Hall. Please place only the requested donation items in the Grace Kitchen boxes as these are the current items needed.

Men's Night Out Bible Study

Our Men's Night Out Bible Study meets on Tuesday, at 6pm in the Faith Center. This week's movie will be "Glory." Robert Gould Shaw leads the U.S. Civil War's first all-black volunteer company, fighting prejudices from both his own Union Army, and the Confederates.

Kairos Weekend - Trenton Correctional Institution

YOU MADE A HUGE DIFFERENCE! This past weekend, the Trenton Kairos Team delivered the Gospel to 34 inmates at the Trenton Correctional Institution. Your prayers, children's artwork, donations, and cookies (444 dozen from St. John's, > 1,000 dozen overall) fueled the Kairos Team, who were filled with the Holy Spirit all weekend. At the closing ceremony on May 3rd, 33 residents graduated and accepted crosses. Each graduate responded to the statement "Christ is counting on you," by stating "And I'm counting on Him," as they accepted their cross. Thank you all for being a part of God's Work with these men!

The Flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God
by *Kevin & Rea Maynard* in memory of *Linda Sharpe Hance*,
and by *Bill & Kitty Hillan* in memory of *Kappy Crain*
and *Verda Hillan*.

Wednesday Night Supper

WNS MENUS LOOKING FORWARD:

May 13: Hamburger steak with gravy, mashed potatoes, peas & carrots,
and chocolate pudding pie

May 20: Pulled pork, coleslaw, mac & cheese and peach cobbler

May 27: Grilled chicken thighs, roasted broccoli, diced potatoes with
cheese and peach cobbler

Reservations are required by phone/email: jwindham@stjaiken.org by **12pm, Tuesday, May 12, 2026.**

Dinner is served at 5pm in Ward Hall 2/3. Cost for dinner: \$8 per adult (10 yrs. & older) and \$3 per child (ages 3 - 9yrs). Payment options: on-line via our website: www.stjaiken.org and select "GIVE NOW" and then select "WNS" from the drop down menu. **Payment online does not make your reservation.** You must still call the office to do so. You may also pay in person by cash or check. Please make checks payable to St. John's.

News of the Family

Sympathies to:

Jeffrey & Dianne Rusotto on the death of Dianne's mother, **Leota A. Redhead**, who died April 30, 2026 in Fulton, NY.

St. John's Security Team

If you are interested in becoming part of St. John's Security Team, please join us for a Safety & Security Informational Meeting on May 17 at 10am in Ward Hall 1.

New Photo Directory

During the next 3 Sundays, from 8am-1pm in Room 105, a photographer will be taking pictures for those of you who would like updated pictures for the new version of our St. John's directory. Appointments can be made by calling the church office: 803-648-6891, however, walk-ins will be taken as well. Please contact Susan McDonald, smcdonald@stjaiken.org, with any changes to address, phone numbers, or email addresses to be updated accordingly in the new directory.

ACTS Monthly Collection Item

May — **Canned meats (chicken or tuna)**

Collection bins are located in the Narthex and the Faith Center

Attendance — 5/3/2026

8:30 | 103 9:02 | 187 11:00 | 283

In-Person Total | 573

9:02 Online Live | 186 11:00 Online Live | 167

Financials

Operation Budget as of 5/6/2026

Year to date offering given for what God is asking us to do:

\$1,085,125.27

Year to date ministry expenditures:

\$ 678,948.52

\$ 406,176.75

Missions Budget: Year 2026 - 2027

Year to date offerings given for what God is asking us

to do in Missions:

\$181,838.42

Year to date disbursements:

\$ 76,200.00

*We thank you for your generous support of
St. John's Ministries & Missions!*

Please use our new GIVING QR code to give on line:





Epworth
Serving Children & Families

Mother's Day Offering

TODAY, MAY 10, 2026

WE WILL BE TAKING UP OUR ANNUAL EPWORTH MOTHER'S DAY OFFERING.

PLEASE USE THE PINK ENVELOPES.

Jack Meeks Memorial Ramp Ministry

ST. JOHN'S **GOLF** TOURNAMENT

SPACE STILL AVAILABLE

REGISTER TODAY



MAY 15, 2026
8:00 am

Houndslake Country Club
901 Houndslake Dr, Aiken



JOIN US FOR ST. JOHN'S METHODIST VBS 2026

RAINFOREST FALLS
Exploring the Nature of God

DATES: June 15 - 19
TIME: 9AM - 12PM

OPEN TO ALL CHILDREN RISING 4K - 6 GRADE

REGISTER TODAY:
<https://vbspro.events/p/802a90>



Grace Kitchen
May
donation needs

DEODORANT





Please leave items in the boxes in both the Narthex and Faith Center Lobby marked "Grace Kitchen"

FOUNDATION Student Ministries

Chill and Grill
5/17
Senior Night
5-7pm



COME TOGETHER TO JOIN APPLEFEST FROM GOD'S LOVE

APPLEFEST PREP

PLEASE WATCH FUTURE BULLETINS FOR DATES OF COLLECTION.

WE ARE **NOT** ABLE TO STORE ITEMS ONSITE PRIOR TO ANNOUNCED DATES!





Order of Worship - 8:30 A.M.

We welcome you, no matter who you are, where you come from, or why you are here. We are Christ's people, and this is Christ's place with its doors open wide. Thank you for worshipping with us today. Please silence all electronic devices.

PRELUDE **More Love to Thee** Carolyn Hamlin

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

***OPENING HYMN No. 408,** **"The Gift of Love"** GIFT OF LOVE

CHILDREN'S SERMON

***SCRIPTURE READING** **1 John 4:7-31** **Rev. Butch Blackwell**

SERMON **"True Love"** **Rev. Butch Blackwell**

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** **The Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; the third day He rose from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

***GLORIA PATRI No. 71,** **"Glory Be to the Father"** GREATOREX
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

OFFERTORY SOLO **Amazing Grace/My Chains Are Gone** Chris Tomlin
Tim Bennett, tenor

***DEDICATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS** **OLD 100TH**
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; Praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

***HYMN OF DEDICATION No. 549, "Where Charity and Love Prevail"** ST. PETER

*BENEDICTION

***CHORAL RESPONSE** **The Lord Bless You and Keep You** Peter Christian Lutkin

POSTLUDE **Tuba Tune** CS Lang

**Please stand, as able.*



Order of Worship - 11:00 AM

We welcome you, no matter who you are, where you come from, or why you are here. We are Christ's people, and this is Christ's place with its doors open wide. This service will be livestreamed today at 11am on our website stjaiken.org, our Facebook Page, and the St. John's App. Thank you for worshipping with us today. Please silence all electronic devices.

PRELUDE **More Love to Thee** Carolyn Hamlin

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP **A Psalm** Andy Beck
Children's Choir

***OPENING HYMN No. 408,** **"The Gift of Love"** GIFT OF LOVE

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I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; the third day He rose from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

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Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

OFFERTORY **O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing** arr. Martha Lynn Thompson
Jesus, Lover of My Soul arr. Martha Lynn Thompson
Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow arr. Martha Lynn Thompson
Children's Handbells

***DEDICATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS** **OLD 100TH**
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; Praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Children K4-2nd grade may now follow the Crucifer to Children's Church.

PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

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