



# ST. JOHN'S

A STEPHEN MINISTRY CHURCH

*April 12, 2026*

*Second Sunday of Easter*

STREET ADDRESS  
104 NEWBERRY ST. NW  
AIKEN, SC 29801

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

803-648-6891  
[www.stjaiken.org](http://www.stjaiken.org)

## SPRC Update On Search for a Senior Pastor

Our SPRC Committee is pleased to announce that they have extended an invitation to a Senior Pastor candidate to preach at each of our three services on April 26, 2026. Additionally, the candidate will be answering questions submitted from the congregation at a question and answer period to be held at 2pm on April 26, 2026 in the Faith Center. St. John's Book of Discipline requires that a Senior Pastor candidate finalist proposed by the SPRC is required to preach a regularly scheduled Sunday service at St. John's followed by a question and answer period (Par. 335.5.e.(3)). SPRC is requesting that any church member that wishes to pose a question to please do so by completing the bulletin insert and return your questions to Jennifer in the church office, or by placing your questionnaire in the offering plate.

You may also submit your questions online at:

<http://www.menti.com/al7qpm5vwby5> or use the QR Code:



The question-and-answer period is not a town hall discussion, but questions will be asked by our SPRC Chairman from the questions submitted. All questions are to be submitted either in person or online by 3pm on Monday, April 20, 2026.

## Charge Conference Announcement

A Special Session of our Church Council and our St. John's Methodist Church Charge Conference has been scheduled for Monday, April 27, 2026 at 6pm in the Faith Center. Our SPRC Committee will formally make a recommendation to Church Council regarding a candidate for our open Senior Pastor position. Church Council will then move into a special session of our St. John's Methodist Church Charge Conference, where they will vote on said proposal. All current members of our Church Council are voting members of The Charge Conference.

## New Photo Directory

Beginning April 26 and continuing the following 5 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. We especially encourage families with children and those who were not included in the last directory to have their pictures made. Appointments can be made by calling the church office: 803-648-6891, however, walk-ins will be taken as well. You'll already be dressed up and here, might as well swing by and say "cheese." We will use the images from the last directory for those who do not take new pictures. Please contact Susan McDonald, [smcdonald@stjaiken.org](mailto:smcdonald@stjaiken.org), with any changes to address, phone numbers, or email addresses so this will be updated accordingly for the new directory.

## Kairos Prison Ministry

The Kairos Prison Ministry Team will be sharing the Good News of Christ to men at the Trenton Correctional Institute during the week of April 30 - May 3. In Matthew 25:36, "... I was in prison and you came to visit me," believers are judged. While you may not physically be able to join us in prison, you can join us spiritually! We need COOKIES (1,200 dozen!), PRAYERS, and if you are inclined, FUNDING. For prayers or donations, see David Long or Carson Sublett after the service. For cookies, deliver to the church by Monday, April 27. No nuts, no sprinkles, no sugar coatings, no frosting, no fruit. Cookies should be no larger than 2 inches in diameter and packaged by the dozen in Ziplock bags. Please mark "KAIROS" and leave in the main church kitchen.

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**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:** Audrey Dietzel **Acolytes:** Teddy Nichols and Ethan Wood

**April 8:30 Ushers:** Tom Miniard, Randy Shelley, Greg Lowry

**April 11:00 Ushers:** Allen Radcliffe, Nola Radcliffe, Rod Alexander, Sally Alexander, Larry Travis, Karen Travis, Kevin Maynard, Rea Maynard, Donald Leader, Newkirk Barnes, Judy Keaton, Dawn Beam, Diane O'Conner, John Lindsay, Sinclair Short

**April Worship Support:** Bonne Culbertson, Kathie Gassman, Diane Buschle

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

Images and texts used with this service have permission granted under CCLI #2220845.

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

# April 12, 2026

## Children's Ministries

Sunday School: Upstairs in the Education building. Sign in by the boat!

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

So much fun at the Children's Egg Hunt last weekend! Many thanks to all who made it such a joyful event!



## Foundation Student Ministries

*(7th-12th Grades)*

Wednesday Small Groups: Girls at 6:30pm (Upstairs in the Faith Center), Guys at 7pm (Upstairs Game Room)

Sunday Night Youth (SNY): 5pm - 7pm, Meet in the gym and finish in Ward Hall.

**April 12:** Master's Messy Night

**April 19, April 26 and May 3:** Regular SNY

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

**May 17:** Chill & Grill/Senior Night

High School Seniors:

**April 26:** Inez Crain Scholarship due. You can find the application and more information at: <https://stjaiken.org/foundation-seniors>

**May 17:** Senior Sunday

## Young Adults Ministry

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

Thursday Night Philippians Bible Study: 6pm in the Faith Center, room 212/213.

SAVE THE DATE:

**April 23:** Pickleball at Odell Weeks, 6:30pm

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

**June 23:** Serving Salkehatchie Supper & Bowling

## St. John's Missions News

Join us at 10am in Ward Hall 1 for an interest meeting for a Fall mission trip to the Christian Union Sports Club in Medellin, Colombia. Children and youth accompanied by a parent or guardian on the trip are welcome. Additional meetings will be held on Sundays, April 19 and 26 at 10am.

For the month of **April**, we are collecting **socks for men and women**. 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.

The Flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God  
by *Tommy & Beth Harman* in honor of  
*their 65th Wedding Anniversary,*  
and by *Rick Endler* in honor of *Elizabeth Endler.*

### Wednesday Night Supper

WNS MENUS LOOKING FORWARD:

**April 15:** Spaghetti, garlic bread, salad, and cheesecake with chocolate drizzle.

**April 22:** Meatloaf, mashed potatoes, green beans, and chocolate crème pie

Reservations are required by phone/email: [jwindham@stjaiken.org](mailto:jwindham@stjaiken.org) by **12pm, Tuesday, April 14, 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](http://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:*

**Jerry & Lynda Platt** on the death of Jerry's sister, **Kathleen Moore**, who died April 4, 2026 in MI.

**John Cantwell** on the death of his brother, **Jesse Clifton Rodgers**, who died on April 6, 2026. in Williston, SC.

### 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 "Thin Red Line." This is an adaptation of James Jones' autobiographical 1962 novel, focusing on the conflict at Guadalcanal during the second World War.

### Sunny Monday

Senior Adult Council will host Sunny Monday, April 13. The program will feature the Kairos Prison Ministry, "Sharing Faith, Hope, and Love in the Prisons," beginning at 10:30am in the Faith Center.

### ACTS Monthly Collection Item

April — **pasta sauce (please, no glass)**

Collection bins are located in the Narthex and the Faith Center

### Attendance — 4/5/2026 Easter Sunday

8:30 | 181      9:02 | 356      11:00 | 535

In-Person Total | 1,072

9:02 Online Live | 228    11:00 Online Live | 205

Maundy Thursday: 341 | online: 554    Good Friday: 93 | online: 178

### Financials

#### Operation Budget as of 4/8/2026

Year to date offering given for what God is asking us to do:	\$ 829,208.65
Year to date ministry expenditures:	<u>\$ 514,639.56</u>
	\$ 314,569.09

#### Missions Budget: Year 2026 - 2027

Year to date offerings given for what God is asking us to do in Missions:	\$105,951.20
Year to date disbursements:	\$ 50,500.00

*We thank you for your generous support of  
St. John's Ministries & Missions!*  
Please use our new GIVING QR code to give on line:



ST. JOHN'S FOUNDATION Student Ministries

MASTERS

**Masters Messy Night**

6-12 Grade | April 12 | 5-7 PM

**Organ & Brass CLASSICS!**

BRANDYWINE BRASS

with  
Special Guest  
Katherine Jolliff, Organ

**Friday  
April 17, 2026  
7:00 PM**

**Grace Kitchen**

*April*

**donation needs**

**SOCKS FOR MEN & WOMEN**

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

**RAINFOREST FALLS**

Exploring the Nature of God

Join Us for  
**St. John's Methodist  
VBS 2026!!**

Dates: June 15<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup>  
Time: 9am - 12pm

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

It's  **Kairos cookie time!**

Home-baked cookies are needed by 12 noon on April 27 for Trenton Correctional.

Please complete a form regarding questions you'd like to ask the Senior Pastor candidate. All questions must be turned into Jennifer in the main office by 3pm, Monday, April 20th.

The question-and-answer session will take place from 2 - 3 pm on Sunday, April 26 in the Faith Center.

Jack Meeks Memorial Ramp Ministry

ST. JOHN'S **GOLF TOURNAMENT**

REGISTER TODAY

**MAY 15, 2026  
8:00 am**

Houndslake Country Club  
901 Houndslake Dr, Aiken

**2026**

SAVE THE DATE  
**5/17/26  
SENIOR  
SUNDAY**



## 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** *At Eastertide* Howells

### WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

**SPEAKER** Kairos Prison Ministry **Carson Sublett**

**CALL TO WORSHIP** *Easter People, Raise Your Voices* Henry T. Smart  
Chancel Choir

**\*OPENING HYMN No. 600, "Wonderful Words of Life"** WORDS OF LIFE

### CHILDREN'S SERMON

**SCRIPTURE READING** **Genesis 1:1-5** **Rev. Will Altman**

**SERMON** **"God Speaks Life"** **Rev. Will Altman**

**SOLO** *Easter Alleluia* Leonard Cohen  
Lawrette McCann, soprano

**\*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 ANTHEM** *With a Voice of Singing* Martin Shaw  
Chancel Choir

**\*DEDICATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS** **LASST UNS ERFREUEN**  
*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

### PASTORAL PRAYER, LORD'S PRAYER & CHORAL RESPONSE

*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. 310, "He Lives"** ACKLEY

### \*BENEDICTION

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

**POSTLUDE** *O Sons and Daughters of the King*

*\*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 [stjohns.org](http://stjohns.org), our Facebook Page, and the St. John's App. Thank you for worshipping with us today. Please silence all electronic devices.*

**PRELUDE** *At Eastertide* Howells

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*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

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

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