



A STEPHEN MINISTRY CHURCH

May 14, 2023

Mother's Day

104 NEWBERRY ST. NW
AIKEN, SC 29801

P.O. BOX 809
AIKEN, SC 29802

803-648-6891

stjaiken.org

United Methodist Men

The United Methodist Men (UMM) will meet on May 25 at 6:30pm in Ward Hall. We will have our pot luck supper, followed by a devotional, and then the program. Our guest speaker will be Daniel Seawell. Besides being the owner and director of Houndslake Country Club, he is also a PGA golf instructor. He will share stories of his activities and the relationship with God through his endeavors.

St. John's Holy Land Trip – Informational Meeting May 21!

Dr. Tim will be leading a Holy Land Trip March 5-15, 2024; an 11-day trip called "Journey Through the Bible." Our Tour will be led by experienced and well-connected Educational Opportunities, otherwise known as EO. This trip will feature most of the Biblical highlights like Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Nazareth, Cana, and much more. This trip will be at a perfect time to go because we will be in the Holy Land just before Palm Sunday, March 24, 2024 and Easter on March 31, 2024. Total cost including airfare from Columbia, SC is \$4,046, with opportunities for some discounts. An informational meeting will be held Sunday May 21 in the Chapel behind the Sanctuary at 6 p.m. The number of participants is limited to the first 46 who pay the deposit of \$300 per person. Brochures are available in the church office.

Financial Stability Needed – Give Now!

As noted in our bulletin, for the first time in nine years, St. John's is in the red financially. The ongoing considerations as regards separation from the United Methodist Church seems to be creating for some, an unwillingness to support the ministry of the church. Some of those that disagree with the current direction of the UMC do not want to offer financial support for efforts they oppose. Others that oppose separation want to make their voice heard by withholding financial support to the church. The ministry of St. John's is vital to our congregation and the Aiken Community. We are called to share the Gospel and to be the hands of Christ in the world. Let us all consider that Jesus has called us to this work and it is the responsibility of each of us to support it.

Discernment Process to Stay or Separate Begins

On Tuesday, May 9, St. John's Church Council voted by an 80.85% margin, 38 to 9 out of 47 votes cast, to begin the Discernment Process to stay or separate from the UMC. This process has to proceed for a minimum of 30 days, however, the committee that has been studying the options has decided to ask the District Superintendent for an August date when the new school year begins. There will be more opportunity to discern whether or not it is in the best interest of St. John's to remain UMC or not. This is a time for deep prayer and discussion. Information to guide your discernment can be found on our webpage at www.stjaiken.org. We will not be distracted from our church mission statement, "To Love, Serve, and Worship Jesus with Passion." St. John's will remain a beacon of hope, vitality, and Christian love that welcomes all and remains true to Scripture and the Book of Discipline as we proceed.

SERVING THIS WEEK

Worship Services - Dr. Tim McClendon; Rev. Butch Blackwell; Director of Traditional Music - Dr. Matt Caine; Organist - Christopher Nash; 9:02 Band Leader - Jane Timmerman; The 9:02 Band

Crucifer - Clare Carpenter **Acolytes** - Audrey Dietzel and Baxter Whitesell

Mother's Day Ushers: Anna Bryce Reynolds, Elizabeth Reynolds, Evelyn Reynolds, Pierson Hall, Robert Miniard, Catherine Kreitzer, Eliza Green

May 11:00 Ushers: Missy Poe, Paula Blackmore, Donald Leader, Jean Geiger, Susie & Art Smith, Helen & Eric Randall, Penny Rue, John Schmidt, John Bradley, Connie & Mick Pisko, Alison & Roger Carpenter

May Worship Support - Millie Winston, Betty Holloway, Karen Blackwell, Nancy Perrine

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 14, 2023

Children's Ministries

Safe Sanctuary Training: Wednesday, May 17 at 6:15pm in Room 116, The Fellowship SS Classroom, led by Heather Peacock. Email Heather Peacock at hpeacock@stjohns-umc.org to sign up.

Nursery Workers are needed to join our excellent staff here at St. John's. Applicants must be available to work Sundays and Wednesday evenings. Please contact Heather Peacock at hpeacock@stjohns-umc.org for more information.

VBS Volunteers Needed: We are in search of Crew Leaders to take the children from one activity to another each day. Contact Heather Peacock at hpeacock@stjohns-umc.org to sign up.

VBS Donation Boards: We have donation boards set up in the Narthex and lobby of the Faith Center with items that we need to make VBS possible. Please check these boards out, grab a card or two and help support VBS!

Foundation Student Ministries

(7th-12th Grades)

Sunday Night Youth and Youth Choir:

Happy Mother's Day – Youth Choir and Sunday Night Youth will not be meeting tonight.

Make plans to join us this Friday, May 19 at 5pm to start decorating for VBS! Dinner will be provided.

Foundation Youth will be serving at Grace Kitchen this Saturday, May 20. Meet in the kitchen at 6:30am.

Youth Bible Studies on Wednesdays from 7pm-8pm:

Brotherhood (7th-12th grade boys) in the gym

CORE (7th-8th grade girls) in the Faith Center

Dwell (9th-12th grade girls) in Bekah & Amy's office

Music News

The Aiken Singers will present a free concert entitled "Nostalgia" this Tuesday, May 16, 2023, at 7pm in the Sanctuary.

St. John's Missions News

Christ Central of Aiken has a weekly "Lunch and Learn" on Wednesdays at noon, which combines spiritual nourishment and physical nourishment. They are in need of drivers to provide transportation. Please call Judy at 803-640-1708 to learn more.

For the month of May, we are collecting canned meat – pop top or pouches only. Please place any donated items in the box marked "Grace Kitchen" in the Narthex of each worship service. Please place only the requested donation items in the Grace Kitchen boxes as these are the current items needed.

ACTS Monthly Collection Item

May — Canned Tuna

Collection bins are located in the Narthex and the Faith Center

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God
in loving memory of *Eleanor H. Rorex* by *The Rorex Family* and in
memory of *Mary Kenney* given *anonymously*.

Wednesday Night Supper

Menu: Goulash, salad, éclair cake

Kids Menu: chicken nuggets and carrots

Reservations are required and should be made by Monday, May 15, at 5pm. Make reservations by calling the church office at (803)648-6891 or contacting Juli Davis at: jdavis@stjohns-umc.org. Cost is \$7.50 for ages 10 yrs. old through adult, and \$3.00 for children over the age of 3 years. You can pay online at stjaiken.org, select "GIVE NOW" and then from the drop down menu, select "WNS." You may also pay in person - checks are preferred. Please make checks payable to St. John's.

News of the Family

Congratulations to:

Michael & Margaret Rollins on the birth of their granddaughter, **Sienna James Rollins**, born April 18, 2023 in Palmyra, PA. Parents are **Brian & Lesley Rollins**.

Tom & Pam McCollum, whose granddaughter **Mary Catherine McCollum**, graduated from Auburn University with a BS in Hospitality Management, on May 6, 2023.

Barbara Kennedy Hiller and **Ethan Murray Hiller** were baptized May 7, 2023. Their proud parents are **Murray & Liz Hiller**.

Our Sympathies to:

Jeff & Rosalind Crenshaw on the death of Jeff's grandmother, **Mazie Bailey**, who died on May 3, 2023 in Kershaw, SC.

David & Lisa Carroll on the death of Lisa's mother, **Cecile Flanders**, who died May 3, 2023 in Lancaster, SC.

David & Anna, James, Mary, Sarah and Thomas Rittgers on the death of Anna's grandfather and the children's great-grandfather, **Gary Preston Roberts, Sr.**, who died May 9, 2023 in Chester, SC.

Attendance — 5/7/2023

8:30 | 109 9:02 | 202 11:00 | 362

In-Person Total 673

9:02 Online Live | 324 11:00 Online Live | NA

Financials

Operations Budget as of 5/10/2023

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

\$809,969.22

Year to date ministry expenditures:

\$820,917.48

\$ 10,948.26

Missions Budget: Year 2023-2024

Year to date offerings given for what God is asking us
to do in Missions:

\$ 84,212.80

Year to date Missions Disbursements:

\$ 73,900.00

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



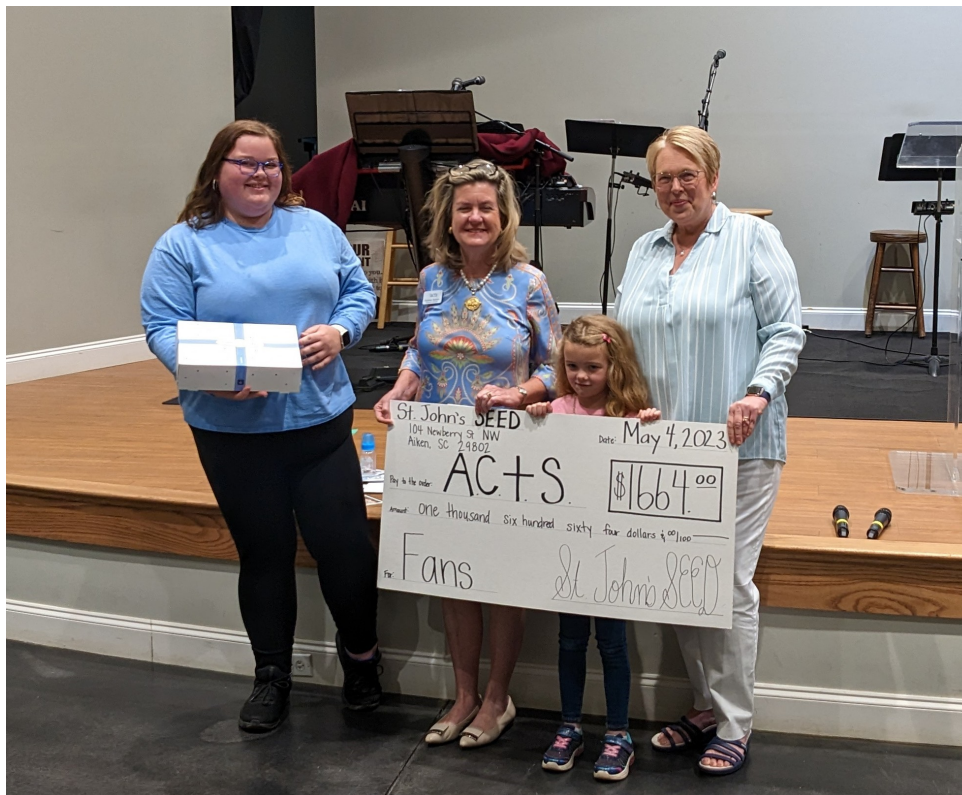
Epworth Mother's Day Offering

Today, May 14, is the Epworth Mother's Day Offering. This is one of two time a year, when we take a special collection to support the Epworth Children's Home in Columbia, SC. If you would like to learn more about this important mission, please visit: <https://www.epworthchildrenshome.org/>. We hope you will consider giving generously, as you are able. Please use the pink Epworth envelope in the pews. Thank you for your support.



SEED Supports ACTS

"Nothing Bundt Cakes" was SEED's final fundraiser for this school year. What a sweet end to a great year. As we shared last week, SEED was able to donate \$1,664 to supports ACTS effort to provide fans for the elderly. Photographed below are: left, Emily Garvin, with Nothing Bundt Cakes; Suzanne Jackson, Executive Director of ACTS; Jaselyn Moseley, SEED student and top seller; Michelle Pearson, SEED Program Director.



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 *Meditation on "Victimae Paschali"* Douglas E Wagner

CALL TO WOSHIP *On Jordan's Stormy Banks* arr. Sharon Elery Rogers
Chancel Bells

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS **Rev. Butch Blackwell**

***OPENING HYMN** **No. 605, "Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters"** BEACH SPRING

SCRIPTURE READING **Proverbs 31:10-31**

SERMON **"There's Nobody Like Her, Except God!"** **Rev. Dr. Tim McClendon**

***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. 70** **MEINEKE**

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 *Softly and Tenderly* arr. Gilbert M. Martin
Chancel Choir

***DEDICATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS, No. 95** **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, 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. 139, "Praise the Lord, the Almighty"** **LOBE DEN HERREN**

***BENEDICTION**

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

POSTLUDE

***Please stand, as able.**

This is a time of great need, and our missions and church operations require our continued generous giving. Please consider giving online, through text, through the mail, or over the phone to help us ensure that our ministries here and around the world are not adversely affected. More details can be found at stjaiken.org.



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 9:02 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

PRAISE SONG **Be the Centre** *Frye*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS *Heather Peacock*

PRAISE SONG **Your Love Is Like A River** *Third Day*

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH **We Believe**

We believe in God the Father. We believe in Jesus Christ. We believe in the Holy Spirit and He's given us new life. We believe in the crucifixion. We believe that He conquered death. We believe in the resurrection and He's comin' back again. We believe.

PASTORAL PRAYER & 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.

OFFERTORY **It Is Well** *DiMarco/Sapfford*

CHILDREN'S SERMON *Rev. Dr. Tim McClendon*

SCRIPTURE READING **Proverbs 31:10-31**

SERMON **"There's Nobody Like Her, Except God!"** *Rev. Dr. Tim McClendon*

CHILDREN'S DISMISSAL (Kindergarten thru 6th grade dismiss for Sunday School)

PRAISE SONG **Lord, Reign In Me** *Brown*

BENEDICTION

SENDING FORTH SONG

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WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Butch Blackwell

CALL TO WORSHIP

On Jordan's Stormy Banks

arr. Sharon Elery Rogers

Chancel Bells

*OPENING HYMN

No. 605, "Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters"

BEACH SPRING

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS pg. 48

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CHILDREN'S SERMON

Rev. Dr. Tim McClendon

Children K3-2nd grade may now follow the Crucifer to Children's Church

Chancel Choir members who also sang at 8:30am may now exit.

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.

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