ST. JOHN'S

A STEPHEN MINISTRY CHURCH

November 15, 2026

STREET ADDRESS
104 NEWBERRY ST. NW
AIKEN, SC 29801

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

803-648-6891
www.stjaiken.org

Notice Regarding Door Codes

The safety of our St. John's campus staff and school children is a top priority. The only doors that are UNLOCKED during business hours Monday – Thursday, from 8:15am – 3:45pm are the main front door (glass doors) of the office and the hall entrance coming in from the Faith Center. Church members that have a key code or key card are able to access all doors with keypads only after 3pm. This was implemented a few years ago however; our system has recently updated and is now enforcing all access to be restricted prior to 3pm to ensure that our SEED Hall is secure. There are no exceptions- Please use the open doors for regular access to the building. Thank you for your cooperation!

Epworth Angels

Thank you, St John's family for helping us provide for all the gifts we signed up for. If you missed this opportunity, you can still purchase a gift card and place it in the Epworth box by the office. All gifts are due by November 30.

Help to Make a Family's Christmas Merry and Bright

You are invited to participate in our church-wide mission project on December 5 with the Salvation Army Angel Tree. Join the fun as you are given a child's "wish" card and a shopping cart to go through the well-organized warehouse and fulfill their wishes. To volunteer, contact Lynda Platt at lyndaplatt714@gmail.com. The warehouse is located at 240 University Parkway, and the shift times are 10am-12pm, 1pm-3pm, 6pm-8pm, but times are flexible to fit your schedule. You can also register online through this link - https://m.signupgenius.com/#!/showSignUp/60B0C48ACA72BA0FE3-67255712-aiken?useFullSite=false. Over the last few years, we have noticed that there are plenty of toys donated but a shortage of clothing. If you would like to donate clothing, contact Lynda Platt for guidance on sizes. Please consider making time to join the fun and serve our community.

Coming to St. John's in 2027

- Wesley Bible Studies – small group (12-15 people) studies on the book of Matthew (13 lessons).
- D-Groups – small group (4-5 people, same gender) who read the New Testament together, journal, and memorize verses (1 year commitment).

Stay tuned for more information and sign-ups in January! Space will be limited. To ensure a place for everyone interested, we'd love to have more facilitators. If you have completed a year of D-Group and are willing to facilitate a new group, or if you'd like to facilitate a small group study on Matthew, please reach out to Cara Robinson at crobinson@stjaiken.org.

Worship Services: Rev. Dr. Josh Duckworth, 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: Amelia Orr **Acolytes:** EG Reynolds and AB Reynolds
November 8:30 Ushers: Tom Miniard, Randy Shelley, Greg Lowry
November Ushers: Mitch Rivers, Mary Ann Findley, Donald Leader, Sara Carmichael, Doug Carmichael, Jean Geiger, Joe Spencer, Paula Blackmore, Penny Rue, David Jameson, and Missy Poe
November Worship Support: Christy Kisner, Nita Bell, Libby Taylor, Peg Robinson, and Judy Keaton

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.

November 15, 2026

Children's Ministries

Sunday School (children 4K-5th grade): Upstairs in the Education building. Sign-in and pick-up by the boat!

Wednesday Children's Music: 1st & 2nd graders will practice chimes from 5pm-5:30pm and then choir from 5:30pm-6pm. The 3rd-5th graders will have choir from 5pm-5:30pm and then they will practice handbells from 5:30pm-6pm.

Wednesday night lessons for grades 1st- 5th begin at 6:30pm, followed by a little gym time before parents pick up at 7:30pm.

Foundation Youth Ministries

(6th-12th Grades)

- Youth Bible Study is in room 212/213 at 10 AM with the Gospel through *The Lion King.*
- NO Sunday Night Youth tonight as we are returning from Asbury Hills.
- Tuesday Prayer Breakfast at Dunkin on Whiskey Rd. at 7:15 am.
- Get ready for the Christmas Open as we turn the gym into an 18-hole mini golf course! Contact Brett Bucklin for more information, to RSVP, and/or to help decorate a hole!
- We are putting our Wednesday Night Small Groups on pause for the holidays so that you can enjoy time with family. Stay tuned for future updates.

Young Adults Ministry

Mark your calendars for the Young Adults Christmas Party Dec. 13 at the Snipes' home, following the Christmas Open.

St. John's Missions News

Colombia Mission Trip Sharing will be next Sunday. There will be sharing at all three services. At 10am in Ward Hall, there will be an opportunity to learn more about a mission trip next year. See you next Sunday!

For the month of November, we are collecting blankets and sleeping bags. Please place any donated, freshly cleaned 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.

New Sunday School Class

The new Agape Sunday School class meets in room 238. We are excited to welcome those in-and-around their 30s to come together for this new class. We hope to see you there!

Christmas Cards for Veterans

It's not too early to start writing those cards. Please write the same heartfelt 'thank you' message in each card and bundle them in packages of 10. Do not seal the envelopes as this helps in sorting them for distribution. Collection boxes will be placed in the Narthex, outside Ward Hall and in the Faith Center. Thank you for taking time to remember those who are alone during our most joyful Christmas celebration.

Rev. Josh's Wednesday Bible Study

This Wednesday, November 18 will be the final Bible Study for the year. Please watch for future information as to when it will restart in the new year.

The Flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God by *Joe & Leah Lewis* in memory of *Mr. & Mrs. LL Lewis and Mrs. Faye Roof* and in honor of *Rev. John H. Roof.*

Wednesday Night Supper

Nov. 18: Ham, green beans, sweet potato casserole and pumpkin cake
Nov. 25: NO WNS due to Thanksgiving

Dinner is served at 5pm in Ward Hall 2/3 (unless otherwise posted). **New meal rates are: $10 per adult, $4 per child (over 3yrs) with a family cap of $28.** Payment options: On-line via our website: www.stjaiken.org and select "GIVE NOW" and then select "WNS." Payment on-line does not guarantee that your reservation has been made. You must still call in your reservation for WNS. You may also pay in person by cash or check made payable to: St. John's.

News of the Family

Wishing Elah Wofford a very happy "special" birthday today!

Office Closure During Thanksgiving

The Church Office will be closed Wednesday, November 25 – Friday, November 27, 2026, for Thanksgiving. We will reopen on Monday, November 30, 2026.

Church Directory

The new directories are here! They may be picked up by stopping at the receptionist's desk Monday - Thursday during office hours of 8:30am – 4pm. Please remember - only one copy per family.

If your family's contact information was not included in the current church directory and you would like it to be available to the members of the church, please contact Susan McDonald at smcdonald@stjaiken.org. Include your family's names, address, phone numbers and emails addresses. A supplement to the directory is being created.

Under the Steeple

On Sunday, November 22, at 3pm, our choir, along with singers from throughout the CSRA, will come together to present most of the choruses from all three parts of Handel's beloved Messiah. You don't want to miss this beautiful afternoon of music! If you are interested in singing, please contact Dr. Matt Caine, mcaine@stjaiken.org.

ACTS Monthly Collection Item

November — Canned beans
Collection bins are located in the Narthex and the Faith Center

Attendance — 11/8/2026

8:30 | 107 9:02 | 241 11:00 | 289
In-Person Total | 637
9:02 Online Live | 199 11:00 Online Live | 199

Financials

Operation Budget as of 11/11/2026

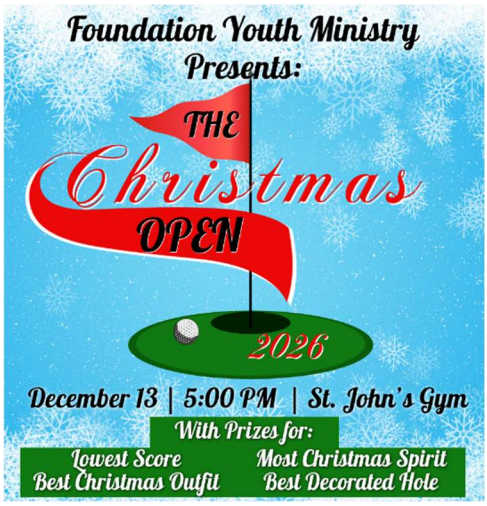
Year to date offering given for what God is asking us to do:	$2,335,561.39
Year to date ministry expenditures:	$1,958,385.26
	$ 377,176.13

Missions Budget: Year 2026 - 2027

Year to date offerings given for what God is asking us to do in Missions:	$294,230.76
Year-to-date disbursements:	$260,938.50

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

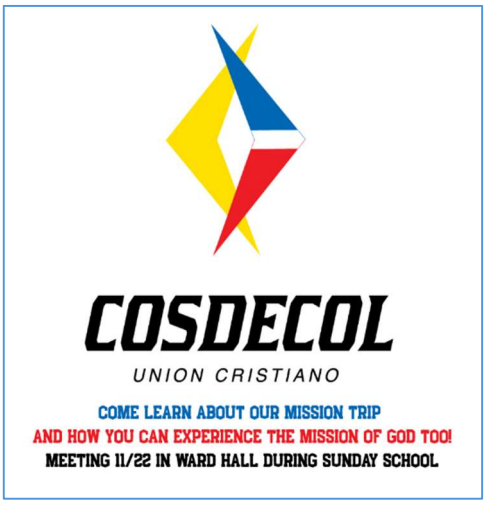
Please use our GIVING QR code to give online:

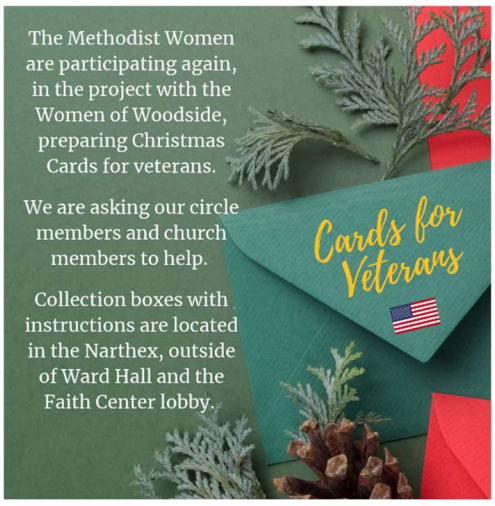












FINANCE COMMITTEE BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENT

As we approach the end of the calendar year, the Finance Committee wants to review two "gifting" options for our church members.

1. Gifting highly appreciated securities (i.e.: stocks, bonds, etc.) – please contact Nancy Fairgrieve and/or speak to Mary Ann Barrett, Janney, Montogomery Scott LLC, Aiken office at 803-649-6304 per the church's local brokerage account. We ask that transfer instruction be in process on or before 12/20/2026.
2. Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCDs) – for charitable gifts from IRAs. Please have check made payable to and as beneficiary "St. John's Methodist Church," PO BOX 809, Aiken, SC 29802. Nancy Fairgrieve can provide further assistance if necessary.

Both options can provide advantageous tax benefits to individuals and couples. Please consult your own personal tax advisor if appropriate.

ST. JOHN'S

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 **This is My Father's World** Diane Bish

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP ***What Gift Can We Bring*** Jane Marshall

Chancel Choir

***OPENING HYMN No. 452, "My Faith Looks Up to Thee"** OLIVET

***SCRIPTURE READING** **Matthew 25:14-30** **Rev. Josh Duckworth**

SERMON **"Parable of the Talents"** **Rev. Josh Duckworth**

***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 ***For the Beauty of the Earth*** John Rutter

Chancel Choir

***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, LORD'S PRAYER AND 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. 399, "Take My Life, and Let it Be"** MESSIAH

***BENEDICTION**

CHORAL RESPONSE** ***God Be in My Head John Rutter

Chancel Choir

POSTLUDE **Toccata on Duke Street** Joel Raney

***Please stand, as able.**

Order of Worship – 9:02 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. 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 **Open the Eyes of My Heart, Lord** Baloche

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAISE SONG **All the People Said Amen** Maher

***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.

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

Jesus Shall Reign

God of the Ages

Children's Bells

Jesus Loves Me

Children's Chimes

For God So Loved the World

Children's Choir

CHILDREN'S SERMON

***SCRIPTURE READING** **Matthew 25:14-30** **Rev. Josh Duckworth**

SERMON **"Parable of the Talents"** **Rev. Josh Duckworth**

PRAISE SONG **Make Room** Andrews

BENEDICTION

SENDING FORTH SONG

***Please stand, as able.**

ST. JOHN'S

Order of Worship – 11:00 A.M.

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PRELUDE **This is My Father's World** Diane Bish

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP ***What Gift Can We Bring*** Jane Marshall
Chancel Choir

***OPENING HYMN No. 156, "I Love to Tell the Story"** HANKEY

***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.

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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 in 4K-2nd grade may now follow the crucifer to Children's Church.

PASTORAL PRAYER, LORD'S PRAYER AND 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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