



ST. JOHN'S

A STEPHEN MINISTRY CHURCH

March 22, 2026

Fifth Sunday of Lent

STREET ADDRESS
104 NEWBERRY ST. NW
AIKEN, SC 29801

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

803-648-6891
www.stjaiken.org

Easter Lillies

Easter lily orders will take place today, March 22 and next Sunday, March 29, following all three services. Orders can also be placed online at: <https://stjaiken.org/give>. The cost of each lily is \$25. Thank you to all who have supported this ministry over the years and for helping bring glory to our RISEN Lord.

Final Applefest Voting

Applefest Ballots, based on the nominations recently received, are located in the Narthex, at the Reception area, and in the Faith Center. Please vote by March 29th for two community groups and one St. John's based group. Voting should be only submitted by women of St. John's. Final results will be announced in early April.

Methodist Women Spring Luncheon

St. John's Methodist Women are pleased to invite all women of the church to their annual spring luncheon on Friday, April 24, 2026. The luncheon – "A Blooming Good Time" - begins at 11:30 am and will feature Jamie Vaughn of Cannon House, as its keynote speaker. Attendees will learn many techniques for flower arrangements. Service Pins will be awarded and those women who have passed from death to life eternal since last year's luncheon will be remembered. Please call the church office no later than April 20th if you plan to attend. This is a great way to learn more about the numerous activities of St. John's Methodist Women, while having a *blooming good time!*

St. John's Methodist Men

The St. John's Methodist men will have their next meeting March 26 at 6:30pm in Ward Hall. We will begin with our pot luck supper followed by business and the program. Our program will feature a presentation by Cara Robinson, Director of Discipleship. She will talk about Discipleship and how we as men, can fit in the concept remembering our purpose as Men Discipling Men.

Primetimers Travel News

Registration Deadlines:

April 15 is the deadline for the May 30th Beauty and the Beast matinee at the Fox Theatre. April 25 is the deadline to register for the June 9th Savannah tour.

Christmas Tour Added: St John's has been added as a pick up location for Ionosphere by Kelly's Chattanooga Dinner Train & Christkindl Market tour on December 11 - 12, 2026. Flyers with tour details are located outside the church office. Since Ionosphere will be picking up at several locations for this tour, when registering, emphasize you are registering for pick-up at St John's Methodist Church, Aiken.

Seats are available for all our tours. Flyers for all 2026 trips are located outside the church office. If you have questions regarding these tours, call Carol Godfrey at 803-642-8491.

Sunday Bus Drivers Needed

The Sunday Bus Ministry is currently recruiting for bus drivers for our shut-ins that wish to attend Sunday Services. These drivers would rotate on a weekly schedule, so the more drivers we have the few times you'd be on the schedule. If you are interested in being a driver, please contact Brian Eberhard: bandbeberhard@gmail.com or (803) 522-0433.

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: Sean Parker **Acolytes:** Joel Nichols and Teddy Nichols

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

March 11:00 Ushers: Diane O'Connor, Donald Leader, Missy Poe, Doug Carmichael, Sara Carmichael, Bruce Carrera, Gerry Hansen, Penny Rue, Larry Travis, Karen Travis, Eric Randall, John Lindsay, Jeff Wallace

March Worship Support: Gayle Jones, Mary Musick, Lynda Troutman, and Sherry Williamson

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.

March 22, 2026

Children's Ministries

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

April 4: Easter Egg Hunt, 10am - 12 noon, Register today:

<https://links.stjaiken.org/26STJEggHunt>

April 5: Easter Party Sunday School- Sign up at the Sunday School Registration or

<https://links.stjaiken.org/STJEasterParty>

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.

March 22: Pickleball Tonight

March 29: No SNY – Spring Break

April 5: No SNY – Spring Break

April 12: Master's Messy Night (See graphic)

April 19, April 26 and May 3: Regular SNY

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

High School Seniors:

April 5: SENIOR TIMES – Please fill out the form for “Senior Times” by Easter at: <https://links.stjaiken.org/Seniorforms>. Please send a digital senior photo to be used for the “Senior Times” and 5 digital images of your choosing for the slideshow. All photos should be sent to: foundation@stjaiken.org.

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

May 17: Senior Sunday: Please use QR code for Senior Survey for Senior Times. Details can be found at: <https://stjaiken.org/foundation-seniors>



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 2: Waffle House following the 7pm Maundy Thursday service

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

May 14: Ice Cream and Board Games at 6:20pm at the Church

June 23: Serving Salkehatchie Supper & Bowling

St. John's Missions News

Have you always wanted to know more or even better, go see Epworth Children's Home in Columbia? If so, we are making a short visit to Epworth on Tuesday, March 24. We will meet at the church at 9am and travel via the church bus, returning mid-afternoon. We will stop for lunch - Dutch treat. If you are interested in joining us, call Renee Reid at 803-215-8940.

For the month of **March**, we are collecting **bar soap and liquid hand soap**. 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.

Maundy Thursday

Please join us for worship on Maundy Thursday, April 2, at 7pm. We will observe Holy Communion, will have the Stripping of the Altar, and our Chancel Choir with Orchestra will present Sir Karl Jenkins' *Stabat Mater*. This will be the same music that our choir sang in Carnegie Hall in January. You don't want to miss this powerful worship experience through sacrament and song!

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God.

*We still have a few dates available for Altar flowers.
If you are interested in signing up for a specific date, please contact
Jennifer Windham in the main office: 803-648-6891.*

Wednesday Night Supper

WNS MENUS LOOKING FORWARD:

Mar. 25: Cream beef & gravy pasta, corn, roll, and pound cake

April 1 & 8: NO WNS due to Spring Break

Reservations are required by phone/email: jwindham@stjaiken.org by **12pm, Tuesday, March 24, 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

Welcome Our Newest Members:

Roy Hill

Jan Macleay

Congratulations to:

Michael & Leigh Norton on the birth of their granddaughter, Camilla "Millie" Dawn Pebbles, born March 15, 2026 in Atlanta, GA. Proud parents are **Allison & Daniel Pebbles**, great-grandfather is **Ed Norton** and great-uncle, **Ensley Adams**.

Name Tags

If you have requested a name tag, it may be hanging on one of the ribbons outside the main office or the lobby of the Faith Center. If you still don't have one, please contact Susan McDonald: smcdonald@stjaiken.org to have one made. Please specify your preference of either a clip or magnet. On Easter Sunday, let's strive to have a sea of name tags in all the services! We will have visitors and name tags make us look friendlier.

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 "Soul on Fire," a 2025 American biographical drama film about John O'Leary, a real-life St. Louis native who survived fire burns which covered his entire body.

St. John's Library News

Are you looking for ideas to fill Spring Break? The display shelves in the library have adult and children's inspirational "reads" for Easter and DVDs for family movie night.

ACTS Monthly Collection Item

March — **cereal/oatmeal or grits**

Collection bins are located in the Narthex and the Faith Center

Attendance — 3/15/2026

8:30 | 110 9:02 | 245 11:00 | 260

In-Person Total | 615

9:02 Online Live | 108 11:00 Online Live | 142

Financials

Financials are not available due to Nancy Fairgrieve serving with the Kairos Prison Ministry this week.

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

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



SCAN ME

FILLED EGGS NEEDED!

Children's Ministry is in need of pre-filled plastic eggs for our Egg Hunt. Eggs can be filled with stickers, coins, candy (please NO nuts or peanut butter), etc.

Please bring into the Church Office by April 1, 2026.

Sunday Bus Drivers Needed

If you are able to drive the Sunday Bus to pick up our Shut-ins, please reach out to Brian Eberhard (803) 522-0433.



Join Us
 March 29 at 10am
 in the Faith Center
 to hear from:
 Terry Lee from
 Overflow Foundation
 Clubhouse of Hope
 Everyone welcome - Sunday School classes encouraged to attend as a group!




EASTER EGG HUNT
 Saturday, April 4, 10am - 12pm
 Ages 0 to 12 years
 St. John's Faith Center
 104 Newberry St, NW, Aiken
OPEN TO THE COMMUNITY!



Join Us for Holy Week!

Palm/Passion Sunday:
 March 29
 Services: 8:30, 9:02 & 11am

Maundy Thursday:
 April 2
 Service: 7 pm in the Sanctuary

Good Friday:
 April 3
 Service: 12 pm in the Sanctuary

Children's Egg Hunt:
 April 4
 10am - 12pm
 in the Faith Center

Easter Sunday
REJOICE! HE IS RISEN!
 April 5
 Easter Sunday Services at
 8:30, 9:02 and 11 am




A LOT CAN HAPPEN IN SEVEN DAYS
 LET'S CELEBRATE JESUS IS RISEN!

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL
 EASTER PARTY IN WARD HALL AT
 10AM




Sign up here

Seniors - Please use the QR code to complete your Senior Survey today!




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 **Andante Sostenuto** Widor

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP **Wellspring of Wisdom** Miriam Therese Winter
Chancel Choir

***OPENING HYMN No. 103, "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"** ST. DENIO

CHILDREN'S SERMON

***SCRIPTURE READING** James 1:5, James 3:13-18 Rev. Dr. Jeff Kersey

SERMON "A Word for the Wise" Rev. Dr. Jeff Kersey

***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"** GREATOR EX
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 **Offertory** John Ness Beck
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.

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. 577, "God of Grace and God of Glory"** CWM RHONDDA

*BENEDICTION

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

POSTLUDE **Nearer My God to Thee** Karg-Elert

*Please stand, as able.



Order of Worship - 9:02

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 **Give Me Words to Speak** *Shust*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAISE SONG **I Will Boast** *Baloche*

***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 **Your Words** *Third Day*

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SCRIPTURE READING **James 1:5, James 3:13-18** **Rev. Dr. Jeff Kersey**

SERMON **"A Word for the Wise"** **Rev. Dr. Jeff Kersey**

BENEDICTION

SENDING FORTH SONG **A Mighty Fortress** *Luther/Daigle*



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 stjajiken.org, our Facebook Page, and the St. John's App. Thank you for worshipping with us today. Please silence all electronic devices.

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CHILDREN'S SERMON

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

Choir members that sang at the 8:30 service may now leave.

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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