



ST. JOHN'S

A STEPHEN MINISTRY CHURCH

September 27, 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

Rev. Butch's Bible Study

Starting this Wednesday, Sept. 30th, Rev. Butch will lead a 5-week, Wednesday evening Bible Study titled, "Everyday Grace" that seeks to help us understand our Methodist belief and call of Scriptural Holiness and how God gives to us certain means of His grace that allows God's sanctifying grace to free us from sin's power and enables us to love God and neighbors completely and unconditionally. All are welcome to join us 5:45pm – 6:45pm in the Chapel.

Altar Flower Correction

Please note that last Sunday's Altar Flowers were listed incorrectly. An announcement was made from the pulpit; September 20th flowers should have been listed as follows: The Flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God by Lenore, Eric, Esther, Cindy & Judy in memory of Duncan & Mary Ellen Randall and by Jeannie Heard in memory of Jacqueline Jennings.

Undy Sunday

Thank you, St. John's members and friends, for donating so generously to this important Methodist Women's project, and a special thanks to our SEED Program children who brought in 331 pairs of undies! ACTS and Christ Central will make sure that our donation will go to the needy in our community.

Sunny Monday

Adult Senior Council will host Sunny Monday on October 12, 2026. The 10:30am program will feature Linda Lindler, Director of SRS Museum. Lunch will be served at 12 noon, following the program, at \$5 per plate. Menu of Oriental Chicken Salad, roll and Key lime pie. Please call the church office at 803-648-6891 by 2pm, Thursday, October 8, to make your lunch reservation.

Friendship Sunday School Soup Luncheon

Mark your calendars to participate in the Friendship Sunday School Class soup luncheon that will be held in Ward Hall on October 18, 2026. Please stop by and grab a bowl of these delicious soups. To-go bowls will be available. All funds that are raised will go towards the Honduras Agape Foundation and local missions.

Applefest

Silent Auction: We need baskets! Also, there are 40 apples left on the giving tree in the lobby, regarding suggested items to complete auction baskets. If you currently have an apple or would like to take one of the remaining 40, please turn those items into the Church Office as soon as possible.

Frozen Features: Let's fill the freezers! Casseroles, soups, chili, quiches and bread are all needed to sell at Applefest this year. So, as you are making dinner one night, maybe make an extra batch and put it aside in the freezer for Applefest! Please contact Brenda Meeks at 803-979-1900 or Camille Bailey at 803-295-2057 if you have questions.

The Clothes Closet: Your donations of gently used or new apparel, shoes and accessories for women, men and children will be accepted and welcomed in Ward Hall on the following schedule: **Tues., 10/27 - Fri., 10/30 from 9am-1pm and Mon., 11/2 and Tues., 11/3 from 9am-5pm.** Please mark your calendars now as these are firm dates and times.

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: Kendall Doolittle **Acolytes:** Teddy Nichols and Ethan Wood

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

September Ushers: Dave Felak, Donald Leader, Bruce Carrera, Gerry Hansen, John Lindsay, Art Smith, Susie Graven-Smith, Larry Travis, Karen Travis, David Jameson, Sandra Jameson, Kevin Maynard, Rea Maynard, Bill Hillan

September Worship Support: Camille Bailey, Anita Allen, Pam Beckum and Claire Seawell

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.

September 27, 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.

The St. John's Trunk or Treat is just around the corner, and we are excited to offer a few new opportunities for you to get involved! First, decorate a trunk! If that isn't something you are interested in, donate a bag of candy for our trunk decorators to hand out. There will be multiple donation bins available around the church beginning in October. Third, we have partnered with a local food bank and are asking that each visitor to the evening's events "pay an admission" of two canned goods. With the holiday season upon us, the need for food is great. This is a simple way that we can support another wonderful ministry! We will also be adding a Cake Walk this year! If you are willing to donate a cake, cupcakes, cookies, pie, or any other wonderful dessert, please email Jennifer Hoover at jhoover@stjaiken.org. To sign up for Trunk or Treat please use: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C4BAFA828A7F8CF8-65916071-stjohns>

Congratulations to Henry Kisner and Haley Staack for memorizing Psalm 119:11, and Cayce Kring for Amos 5:24 as part of the Third-Grade Bible Basics!



Foundation Youth Ministries

(6th-12th Grades)

Sunday Bible Study takes place at 10am in room 212-213 of the Faith Center with our Gospel Through Movies featuring Lego Batman.

- Youth Choir and Band meet in the Choir Room today at 3:45pm and 4:15pm.
- Sunday Night Youth tonight from 5pm - 7pm. Drop off in the gym and pick up from Ward Hall.
- Tuesday Prayer Breakfast meets at 7:15am at Dunkin on Whiskey Road.
- Wednesday Night Small Groups in the Faith Center at 6:30pm.
- Sign up for Asbury Hills Trip today!

Young Adults Ministry

Please join us for Sunday School Class at 10am in Room 237. We also meet weekly for Bible Study on Wednesdays at 6:30pm in room 237. We are currently studying 2 Peter. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Will.

St. John's Missions News

Please pray for C4 Impact as they work to help the homeless in Aiken:

- Volunteers to help with maintenance and transportation
- Supplemental support for single moms with children
- Life changes and deeper relationships with God
- The rent rates to be maintained at a sustainable level

For the month of **September**, we are collecting **canned or dried fruit with easy open tops**. 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.

Rev. Josh's Bible Study

Rev. Josh's Wednesday Morning Bible Study will not meet on September 30, 2026. It will resume on Wednesday, October 7, 2026.

**The Flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God
by *Arthur and Susie Smith* in memory of
*Marion and Willard C. Smith.***

Wednesday Night Supper

Sign-up sheets are located at the Reception Desk in the main office, or you can call the office at 803-648-6891. **Reservations are due by 12pm on Tuesdays!**

Sept. 30: Grilled chicken, roasted broccoli, diced potatoes with cheese, and lemon squares for dessert

Oct. 7: Lasagna, salad, garlic bread, and tiramisu for dessert

Oct. 14: Hamburger steak with gravy, mash potatoes, peas & carrots, and Boston Crème pie for dessert

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.

St. John's T-shirts

The new order of t-shirts has arrived. If you want one, please see Susan McDonald during her office hours: Mondays 9am-1pm, Tuesday – Thursday 12pm - 4pm or make arrangements for a Sunday pickup by contacting Susan via email: smcdonald@stjaiken.org.

News of the Family

Sympathies to:

Gene & Carole Sansone on the death of their daughter, **Lisa Mary Mascone**, who died September 16, 2026, in Clarksville, MD.

Billie Sprawls, Jenny & Wade Johnson, and Jimmy & Mariruth Rogers on the death of **Don Sprawls**, who died September 17, 2026, in Aiken, SC. Don was husband to Billie and uncle to Jenny and Jimmy.

Taylor & Jen, Rowan and Madelyn Braithwaite on the death of **Vincent Ingrasciotta**, who died September 20, 2026, in Aiken, SC. Vincent was Jen's grandfather and great-grandfather to Rowan & Madelyn.

In Memoriam

Mr. Don Sprawls
September 17, 2026

ACTS Monthly Collection Item

September — cereal/oatmeal/grits

Collection bins are located in the Narthex and the Faith Center

Attendance — 9/30/2026

8:30 | 112 9:02 | 227 11:00 | 271
In-Person Total | 610
9:02 Online Live | 200 11:00 Online Live | 162

Financials

Operation Budget as of 9/23/2026

Year to date offering given for what God is asking us to do:	\$1,981,625.81
Year to date ministry expenditures:	<u>\$1,558,999.53</u>
	\$ 422,626.28

Missions Budget: Year 2026 - 2027

Year to date offerings given for what God is asking us to do in Missions:	\$273,700.95
Year to date disbursements:	\$210,238.50

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

Please use our GIVING QR code to give online:



NOW HIRING WEDNESDAY PM & SUNDAY AM

NURSERY WORKERS

CONTACT
JENNIFER HOOVER
JHOOVER@STJAIKEN.ORG
803-648-6891, EXT. 205

SEED needs old magazines and catalogs

Please leave donations on bench outside of SEED Director's office.

Rev. Butch's

Bible Study

EVERYDAY GRACE

5-Week study beginning Sept. 30
5:45pm - 6:25pm
in the Chapel

Applefest BookWorm Corner

We are still accepting book donations.

Please leave books in the red book bin outside of Ward Hall.

Mark Your Calendars!

Soup's On!

Friendship SS Class Soup Luncheon

October 18, 10am - 1pm
in Ward Hall,
TO GO containers available
Money raised benefits the Honduras Agape Foundation & Local Missions.

St. John's Methodist Church

Trunk or Treat

Sunday, October 25th 4-5:30pm
back parking lot

Trick or treat in the safety of the parking lot
Cake Walk
Bobbing for Donuts

Admission:
2 canned goods to be donated to local food bank

104 Newberry St. NW, Aiken, SC 29801 www.stjaiken.org

Join Us for

Applefest 2026

First Friday, Nov. 6
5pm - 7pm, \$10 entry

Saturday, Nov. 7 (free entry)
8:00am - 2:00pm

St. John's Methodist Church
Downtown at Newberry & Richland

ENTERTAINMENT • SILENT AUCTION •
APPLE SEED CAFÉ • CLOTHING • TOYS
SHOES • TWICE LOVED TREASURES
BOOKS • AND MUCH MORE

For more info: Call 803-648-6891 | www.stjaiken.org

ALL PROCEEDS GO TO LOCAL CHARITIES

ASBURY HILLS

NOVEMBER 13-15, 2026

REGISTRATION OPEN!
REGISTER ON REALM
OR
THROUGH OUR LINKTREE!



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 **Voluntary IX** John Stanley

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP ***Surely the Presence of the Lord*** Lanny Wolfe
Chancel Choir

***OPENING HYMN No. 138, "The King of Love My Shepherd Is"** ST. COLUMBA

CHILDREN'S SERMON

***SCRIPTURE READING** **Exodus 17:1-7** **Rev. Butch Blackwell**

SERMON **"Elephants and Goldfish"** **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"** 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 ***Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*** arr. Mack Wilberg
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. 472, "Near to the Heart of God"** McAFEE

BLESSING OF THE MISSIONARIES

*BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE** ***The Lord Bless You and Keep You John Rutter
Chancel Choir

POSTLUDE **In Dir Ist Freude** JS Bach

**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 **Born Again** Third Day

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAISE SONG **Rock of Ages** Brown

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

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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 **God With Us** Mercy Me

CHILDREN'S SERMON

***SCRIPTURE READING** **Exodus 17:1-7** **Rev. Butch Blackwell**

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PRAISE SONG **Leaning on the Everlasting Arms** Hoffman

BLESSING OF THE MISSIONARIES

BENEDICTION

SENDING FORTH SONG

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CHILDREN'S SERMON

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

PASTORAL PRAYER, LORD'S PRAYER AND CHORAL RESPONSE

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