



ST. JOHN'S

A STEPHEN MINISTRY CHURCH

March 29, 2026

Palm Sunday

STREET ADDRESS
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AIKEN, SC 29801

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

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Easter Lillies

Today is the final day for placing Easter Lily orders. Tables are set up outside of 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.

Youth Director Announcement

The Staff Parish Relations Committee is excited and grateful to introduce St John's new youth director, Brett Bucklin, to our church family! Brett and his wife, Riley, are coming to us from Virginia Beach, VA.

Brett holds a Master of Arts in Youth Ministry from Memphis Theological Seminary and a Bachelor of Arts in Religion with an emphasis on youth ministry from Florida Southern College. This educational background, including an intense, three-year graduate residency program with hands on ministry experience, provides biblical and practical knowledge that fully equips him to lead our youth ministry, here at St. John's.

Brett has a deep love for Jesus and believes in creating community not only to grow with Jesus, but to be able to hold one another accountable to live a Christ-like life. He is passionate about partnering with parents, equipping student leaders, and helping young people develop a faith that lasts well beyond their teenage years.

SPRC will be coordinating a meet and greet with Brett and his wife Riley, shortly after their arrival of April 13th for all youth families and any other church family members who wish to get to know Brett. The date and time is TBD, so please watch the upcoming church bulletin for further details.

Please join us in warmly welcoming Brett and Riley, as well as, praying for the new season of ministry at St. John's Methodist Church.

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!*

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 fewer 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: Avery Abrams **Acolytes:** James Rittgers and Thomas Rittgers

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.

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

March 29, 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>

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

Grown ups in the church are invited to participate in the children's Easter Egg Hunt, too! We need volunteers to help hide the eggs, help with games, and share in the fun! Please come and join the children on Saturday, April 4! Helpers and egg-hiders can meet in the gym at 9:30am. We hope to see you there!

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 29: No SNY or Wed. Small Groups – Spring Break

April 5: No SNY or Wed. Small Groups – Spring Break

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 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

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 6:30pm at the Church

June 23: Serving Salkehatchie Supper & Bowling

St. John's Missions News

Come to our Missions gathering at 10am today in the Faith Center to hear the latest from Terry Lee of Overflow Foundation's Clubhouse of Hope. Lives are being changed through the power of Jesus' love and the program they offer. Come hear all about it.

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.

Church Office Closure

Please make note that the Church Office will be closed on Good Friday, April 3, 2026 and Easter Monday, April 6. We will reopen on Tuesday, April 7 for regular office hours.

Wednesday Night Supper

WNS MENUS LOOKING FORWARD:

April 1 & 8: NO WNS due to Spring Break
Will resume meals on Wednesday, April 15, 2026.

News of the Family

Sympathies to:

Janice Akin on the death of her husband, **Ken**, who died March 24, 2026 in Aiken, SC.

In Memoriam

Mr. Ken Akin
March 24, 2026

Maundy Thursday

Please join us for worship on Maundy Thursday, April 2, at 7pm. We will remember the Last Supper of our Lord, celebrate Holy Communion, have the Stripping of the Altar, and our Chancel Choir with Orchestra will share 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, scripture and song!

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 "Dunkirk;" the historical war drama depicting the miraculous WWII evacuation of over 330,000 Allied troops from French beaches in 1940. Known for its intense, minimalistic dialogue approach, the film spans land, sea, and air, featuring Harry Styles, Tom Hardy, and Cillian Murphy.

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 — 3/22/2026

8:30 | 126 9:02 | 240 11:00 | 254
In-Person Total | 620
9:02 Online Live | 163 11:00 Online Live | 146

Financials

Operation Budget as of 3/25/2026

Year to date offering given for what God is asking us to do:	\$ 747,859.07
Year to date ministry expenditures:	<u>\$ 453,012.66</u>
	\$ 294,846.41

Missions Budget: Year 2026 - 2027

Year to date offerings given for what God is asking us to do in Missions:	\$91,270.02
Year to date disbursements:	\$47,100.00

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

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



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!

2026

SAVE THE DATE
 5/17/26
SENIOR SUNDAY



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.

PRELUDE *Cortege et Litanie* Marcel Dupre

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP *Wondrous Love Was There* arr. Sandra Eithun
Chancel Bells

***OPENING HYMN No. 280, "All Glory, Laud, and Honor"** ST. THEODULPH

***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 *My Song Is Love Unknown* arr. Cathy Moglebust
Chancel Bells

***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.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

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

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.

ANTHEM *On The Road to Jerusalem* Joseph Martin
Chancel Choir

***SCRIPTURE READING** **Matthew 21:1-11** **Rev. Will Altman**

SERMON **"The King is Here, Will you Follow Him?"** **Rev. Will Altman**

***HYMN OF DEDICATION No. 298, "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"** HAMBURG

*BENEDICTION

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

POSTLUDE *O Sacred Head Now Wounded* Johann Sebastian Bach

*Please stand, as able.