



ST. JOHN'S

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

A STEPHEN MINISTRY CHURCH

July 2, 2023

Patriotic Worship Service

104 NEWBERRY ST. NW

AIKEN, SC 29801

P.O. BOX 809

AIKEN, SC 29802

803-648-6891

stjaiken.org

During the American Revolution, the legal separation of the Thirteen Colonies from Great Britain in 1776 actually occurred on this date, July 2. This was when the Second Continental Congress voted to approve a resolution of independence that had been proposed in June by Richard Henry Lee of Virginia. This resolution declared the United States independent from Great Britain's rule. After voting for independence, Congress turned its attention to the *Declaration of Independence*, a statement explaining this decision, which had been prepared by a committee of five, with Thomas Jefferson as its principal author. Congress debated and revised the wording of the Declaration, finally approving it two days later on July 4. A day earlier, John Adams had written to his wife Abigail:

"The second day of July, 1776, will be the most memorable epoch in the history of America. I am apt to believe that it will be celebrated by succeeding generations as the great anniversary festival. It ought to be commemorated as the day of deliverance, by solemn acts of devotion to God Almighty. It ought to be solemnized with pomp and parade, with shows, games, sports, guns, bells, bonfires, and illuminations, from one end of this continent to the other, from this time forward forever more."

Adam's prediction was off by two days. From the outset, Americans celebrated independence on July 4, the date shown on the much-publicized *Declaration of Independence*, rather than on July 2, the date the resolution of independence was approved in a closed session of Congress.

Historians have long disputed whether members of Congress signed the *Declaration of Independence* on July 4, even though Thomas Jefferson, John Adams, and Benjamin Franklin all later wrote that they had signed it on that day.

**But no matter when it was signed, July 4th will always
represent the birth of The United States of America
and the celebration of our freedom.**

St. John's Staffing Announcements

We would like to extend a heartfelt welcome to St. John's new Associate Minister, Rev. Will Altman and his wife, Stockton. Rev. Will is our new Associate for Missions, Evangelism and Young Adult Ministries. He is a 2012 graduate of Clemson University with a B.S. in Animal and Veterinary Science (his father is a veterinarian), and is a native of Galivants Ferry, SC. He received his Master's of Divinity degree in 2020 from Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary. While at Clemson, Rev. Will was Youth Pastor at Lawrence Chapel UMC and Assistant Campus Minister at the Clemson Wesley Foundation. He most recently served in Darlington, SC at Trinity UMC. Rev. Will's wife Stockton, is a lawyer who has clerked for Federal Judges and for the last 2 years, has been on the mission field with the International Justice Mission in Ghana, Africa. Welcome!

We would also like to thank Greg Robinson for his work as St. John's Media and Technical Manager for the last eight years. He has decided to enter into his second retirement so that he and his wife, Peg, can spend more time with their family and especially their grandchildren. In their words, "We'll still see you on Sundays."

SERVING THIS WEEK

Today's patriotic service is coordinated by Brigadier General John W. Geiger, Joint Services Detachment, South Carolina Military Department. Special thanks to Col. Gary Lamb, US Army Bandmaster, (Ret.) for leading the worship portion of our service. Thank you to the Chancel Choir under the direction of John Poe, and the Aiken Brass for participating in worship this morning.

Worship Services: Rev. Dr. Tim McClendon; Rev. Butch Blackwell; Rev. Will Altman; Organist - Christopher Nash; 9:02 Band Leader - Jane Timmerman; The 9:02 Band

Crucifer: Rebecca Kreitzer **Acolytes:** Grant Kreitzer and Madison Zeigler

July 11:00 Ushers: Champ & Jeannette Bowden, Donald Leader, Sinclair Short, Roger & Alison Carpenter, Jean Geiger, Eric & Helen Randall, Kent & Maxine Falb, Allen & Nola Radcliffe, Joe & Leah Lewis, Virgil & Pat Sauls

June Worship Support: Bessie Boyette, Jean & Jena Quinn, Alison Carpenter, Joada Hiatt

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.

July 2, 2023

Children's Ministries

Summer Bible Memory Challenge for ages Kindergarten through 6th grades! Hide God's Word in your heart and earn a special prize. Parents, check your email for the verses we are learning, or grab a copy from your Sunday School teacher.

Due to only having one service today, there is NO Children's Sunday School or Children's Church.

Foundation Student Ministries

(7th-12th Grades)

Sunday Night Youth: Sunday Night Youth will not meet tonight due to the July 4th holiday.

Please be in prayer for our Edisto Salkehatchie team as they leave on Saturday, July 8 for a week of service.

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, Room 111

Vote for Aiken's Choice

It's time for Aiken's Choice 2023! St. John's UMC has once again, been nominated for Aiken's "Best Place for Worship." You too, can vote for St. John's by going to: <https://aikenstandard.secondstreetapp.com/Aikens-Choice-2023/gallery?group=452359> Voting continues through July 26, 2023.

UMCOR Coffee Sale

Due to there only being one service today, the UMCOR Coffee Sale will take place next Sunday, July 9, 2023.

St. John's Church Office Closed

The church office will be closed on Tuesday, July 4, 2023 in observance of the Independence Day holiday. Our office will be open on Monday, July 3 and will reopen on Wednesday, July 5 at 8:30am. We invite you to join us for our annual Patriotic Worship Service at 10am in the Sanctuary.

St. John's Missions News

Pray for the U-14 All Star Team of the Christian Union Sports Club as they travel to play and promote CUSC to Danville, Kentucky at the invitation of Grace Presbyterian Church and The Storm Soccer Club of Danville. Pray for God's provision, for safety and for His light to shine on these young men and all who are part of this trip of a lifetime!

For the month of July, we are collecting **peanut butter**. 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.

Senior Adult Council – 50+ Activity Night

Mark your calendar! The Senior Adult Council is hosting its annual 50 Plus Activity Night on Wednesday, July 26. This will be an evening of food, games and fellowship beginning at 6pm in Ward Hall. The Senior Adult Council will provide pulled pork, buns and beverages. We ask that you bring a side dish or dessert to share (serving 8-10). To ensure that there is adequate food, please call the church office at 803-648-6891 by Wed., July 19 to sign up.

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God in loving memory
of **Edward Rorex's birthday (July 8)** by the **Rorex Family**.

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

Wednesday Night Supper/Ministry Meals

Wednesday Night Supper and Ministry meals have stopped for the summer break. We will resume on Wednesday, August 2, 2023.

News of the Family

Welcome Our New Members:

Bob and Jan Kirkwood

Our Sympathies to:

Bob & Susanne Rhoden and Mary Leslie, John and Michael Whitehead, on the death of **Jimmy Rhoden**, who died on June 20, 2023 in Columbia, SC. Jimmy was son to Bob & Susanne, brother to Mary Leslie and uncle to Michael.

Sean, Krissy, Madison & Tyler Zeigler, on the death of **Pamela Warner Zeigler**, who died June 23, 2023 in Chapin, SC. Pamela was mother to Sean and grandmother to Madison and Tyler.

In Memoriam

Mr. Jimmy Rhoden

June 20, 2023

Discernment Committee

Our next meeting will take place on Wednesday, July 19 at 6pm in the Sanctuary. This will be a discernment public informational meeting. Our vote date has been set to take place on Sunday, August 20 at 3pm, with registration at 2pm. Voting is IN PERSON ONLY.

We continue to UPDATE the discernment page on the St. John's website: <https://stjaiken.org/discernment>. Please continue with the "40 Day Prayer Guide" that started Friday, May 19, 2023.

ACTS Monthly Collection Item

July — **Canned Vegetables**

Collection bins are located in the Narthex and the Faith Center

Attendance — 6/25/2023

8:30 | 103 9:02 | 180 11:00 | 337

In-Person Total 620

9:02 Online Live | 267 11:00 Online Live | 323

Financials

Operations Budget as of 6/28/2023

Year to date offerings given for what God	\$1,090,745.85
is asking us to do:	<u>\$1,068,244.16</u>
Year to date ministry expenditures:	\$ 22,501.69

Missions Budget: Year 2023-2024

Year to date offerings given for what God is asking us	
to do in Missions:	\$ 140,155.32
Year to date Missions Disbursements:	\$ 98,900.00

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



**FOUNDATION
STUDENT MINISTRIES
SUMMER 2023**

JULY

SUNDAYS
5pm-6:30pm

9th kickball
16th pool party
23rd odell weeks picnic
30th dinner & sny

MONDAYS
11:30pm-12:30pm

10th jimmy john's
17th chick-fil-a
24th maria's

FUEL RETREAT
registration opens July 5th
AIKEN | 18TH-20TH

registration links and wednesday night calendars available at linktr.ee/foundationstj

Save the date Aug 18-20



FUEL RETREAT

REGISTRATION OPENS
JULY 1ST

Order of Worship - 10:00 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 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

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

OPENING PRAYER

Almighty God, you rule all the peoples of the earth. Inspire the minds of all women and men to whom you have committed the responsibility and leadership in the nations of the world. Give to them the vision of truth and justice, that by their counsel all nation and people may work together. Give to the people of our country zeal for justice and strength of forbearance, that we may use our liberty in accordance with your gracious will. Forgive our shortcoming as a nation; purify our hearts to see and love the truth. We pray all these things through Jesus Christ. Amen.
(Andy Lanford, USA, 20th Cent., UM Book of Worship)

*PRESENTATION OF AMERICAN & STATE FLAGS

*UNITED STATES NATIONAL ANTHEM "The Star Spangled Banner"

*PRESENTATION OF THE POW & MIA FLAGS Taps

ANTHEM ARMED FORCES – The Pride of America arr. Greg Gilpin

You are invited to stand when you hear the anthem of your branch of service.

US ARMY	"The Army Goes Rolling Along"
US MARINE CORPS	"The Marines' Hymn"
US NAVY	"Anchors Aweigh"
US COAST GUARD	"Semper Paratus"
US AIR FORCE	"The US Air Force"
US SPACE FORCE	<i>Semper Supra</i> ⁺

⁺ The Official March of the US Space Force, *Semper Supra*, was composed by Jamie Teachenor and Sean Nelson. It is used by special permission obtained by St. John's United Methodist Church from the United States Department of the Air Force.

*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

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 United States Military Hymns arr. David M. Kellermeyer

*DEDICATION OF TITHES & OFFERING

CHILDREN'S SERMON

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.

*SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 10:24-39

SERMON "Stand Up" Dr. Tim McClendon

*CLOSING HYMN, NO. 696 "America the Beautiful" MATERNA

*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE This is My Song JEAN SIBELIUS

POSTLUDE The Stars and Stripes Forever Sousa

*Please stand, as able.