



ST. JOHN'S

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

A STEPHEN MINISTRY CHURCH

July 23, 2023

104 NEWBERRY ST. NW
AIKEN, SC 29801

P.O. BOX 809
AIKEN, SC 29802

803-648-6891

stjaiken.org

Church Council Meeting

Our regularly scheduled Church Council meeting will be held Tuesday, July 25, 2023, at 7pm in the Faith Center.

Church Vote Postponed

Well, as most of you have heard, the upcoming August 20, 2023 vote on separating or staying UMC has been postponed until sometime after mid-January, 2024. The stated reason is because unfunded pension liability amounts can't be calculated until after January 1. This is a huge disappointment to some, but perhaps it will give us more clarity about God's plan for St. John's. It certainly gives us food for thought concerning the delay. Hopefully this time of waiting will be well-spent in further prayer and discernment. If anyone has had uncertainty, this delay should make things quite clear, by the grace of God. In the meantime, we will do what St. John's does best: "Serve, Love, and Worship with Passion!" Please be a part of the solution because the world needs us now more than ever to offer the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Potential Cost to Separate

The preliminary amounts to separate from the UMC have been calculated, except the smallest requirement, which is the unfunded pension liability, in which all UMs participate. This amount as of January 1, 2023 is \$25,000. We don't yet know what it will be next January, but most likely it will be reduced based upon higher interest rates and stock market improvement. The other items will have some variability, but will change very little or not at all. Presently, they are: \$228,000 for payments to the Annual Conference for apportionments; \$200,000 for 10% of our liquid assets; and \$539,000 which is based on the certified commercial appraisal of our property and buildings. This appraisal will not have to be redone by next year. The most drastic cost is the distraction to our focus on the mission of Christ. Please help St. John's to never lose that focus, especially over the next 6-plus months.

Discernment Committee

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. This QR code links to frequently asked questions (FAQ) regarding separation.



SERVING THIS WEEK

Worship Services: Rev. Dr. Tim McClendon; 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, Johnathan Cook, Susan Lawson, & Marshall Sanders

Crucifer: Lexi Taylor **Acolytes:** Campbell Crain and Jack Taylor

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

July Worship Support: Bessie Boyette, Alison Carpenter, Joadia Hiatt, Jean & Jena Quinn

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 23, 2023

Children's Ministries

As we enter a new exciting season with school starting, don't forget to add Sunday School to your busy calendars! All children are invited and encouraged to participate in a Sunday School class – we have wonderful teachers who are preparing a place for your child and are eager to share God's love! We'll see you in Sunday School!

Foundation Student Ministries

(7th-12th Grades)

Sunday Night Youth: Meet us at the outdoor shelter at O'dell Weeks for our annual Back-to-school picnic from 5:00-6:30. Bring games to play and invite some friends!

Our last Monday Dutch Lunch will be held at Maria's on Pine Log.

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

Wednesday Night Programming Begins August 2

As we shared last week, our Wednesday night programming is going to be awesome this year! Programming has been designed for the whole family. It will all start on Wednesday, August 2. We hope that you will all find a place to join in beginning with WNS at 5pm.

5:00pm – 6:30pm: WNS served (for all), in Ward Hall

5:30pm – 6:00pm: Children ages 3 - 1st grade music, Rm 218-220

5:30pm – 6:00pm: Children 2nd - 6th grade, "Time With Jesus," Rm 238

6:00pm – 6:45pm: Children 2nd - 6th grade music, Rm 210

6:00pm – 6:45pm: Children ages 3 - 1st grade, "Time With Jesus," Rm 238

6:00pm – 6:45pm: Dr. Tim Bible Study (for all adults), in the Chapel

7:00pm – 8:00pm: Youth, in the Faith Center

7:00pm – 8:00pm: Adult Choir, in the Choir Room

St. John's Missions News

YOU ARE INVITED to come hear our youth share their most recent mission trip highlights from Honduras. Join us Sunday, July 30 at 10am in Ward Hall. You don't want to miss this opportunity to hear about God at work in the world and in our kids.

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.

St. John's Grief Group

Our St. John's Grief Group is a caring group of people who will walk alongside you through one of life's most difficult experiences, losing a loved one. Please know that you don't have to go through the grieving process alone. If you are grieving the loss of a loved one, we invite you to become a part our St. John's Grief Group. We will meet on Tuesday's at 3:45pm - 5pm, beginning on August 15 upstairs in The Faith Center. Our weekly sessions will continue for 12 weeks. If you have questions or desire additional information, please feel free to reach out to Reverend Butch in the church office.

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God in memory of
Duncan and Mary Ellen Randal by Lenore, Eric, Esther, Cindy & Judy,
and in memory of *Evan Flynn, by Marguerite Flynn and Kristen McCaskill.*

Wednesday Night Supper/Ministry Meals

Wednesday Night Supper and Ministry meals will resume on Wednesday, August 2, 2023. Watch for the upcoming menu.

Dr. Tim's Wednesday Morning Bible Study

Dr. Tim's Wednesday morning Bible study will resume on Wednesday, August 23. He will continue with God's Deliverance, starting with Deuteronomy. This will take place in the Sanctuary from 10am - 11:30am.

Volunteers Needed

We are currently seeking volunteers to help serve food and volunteers that would be willing to be cashiers for Wednesday Night Suppers (WNS). If you are interested in helping in either capacity, please call Juli Davis in the church office.

News of the Family

Welcome Our Newest Members:

Brett Crowe
Ken & Frankie Anderson
Marge Taylor
Dawn Beam
Diane O'Conner
Sonia Hillman

Our Sympathies to:

Michelle & Barry McDougal and Aarial & Logan Murray on the death of *Robert E. Sanders*, who died on July 11, 2023 in Graniteville, SC. Robert was father to Michelle and grandfather to Aarial.

Dee Dee & Bauer, Ford, Ellen and Henry Vaughters on the death of *Mitchell Wayne Hardee*, who died on July 18, 2023 in Florence, SC. Mitchell was father to Dee Dee and grandfather to Ford, Ellen and Henry.

ACTS Monthly Collection Item

July — Canned Vegetables

Collection bins are located in the Narthex and the Faith Center

Attendance — 7/16/2023

8:30 | 104 9:02 | 205 11:00 | 272

In-Person Total 581

9:02 Online Live | 326 11:00 Online Live | 317

Financials

Operations Budget as of 7/19/2023

Year to date offerings given for what God	\$ 1,195,620.47
is asking us to do:	<u>\$ 1,166,865.63</u>
Year to date ministry expenditures:	\$ 28,754.84

Missions Budget: Year 2023-2024

Year to date offerings given for what God is asking us	
to do in Missions:	\$ 150,926.74
Year to date Missions Disbursements:	\$ 123,900.00

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



REGISTER USING THE QR
CODE ABOVE

JOIN US FOR

Blessings of the Backpacks

Hey, children and youth of all ages – be sure to come **this Sunday, 7/23** for the "Blessing of the Backpacks" as we pray over all the students, teachers, administrators and staff of every school so that this will be a blessed, safe and fruitful year of learning. The blessing of the backpacks will take place during the Children's Sermon, and anyone who wishes to receive a backpack tag for themselves, a grandchild or friends, may do so!



GRACE KITCHEN

Donations

July Needs:

Peanut Butter



Please place donations in boxes marked
"Grace Kitchen" in the Narthexes
of each service.

Altar Guild is in need of Extra Hands

If you have an interest in arranging flowers and bringing a smile to others, won't you consider serving on one of the teams that alternate throughout the year on the Altar Guild.

If you are interested please call:
Pat Sauls at (803) 998-9105 or
Leah Lewis at (803) 270-4003



HELP NEEDED



WNS VOLUNTEERS NEEDED SERVERS AND CASHIERS

Please contact Juli Davis at 803-648-6891
if you are able to help!



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

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP ***We Gather Together*** arr. Edward Kremser
Chancel Choir

***OPENING HYMN No. 418, “We Are Climbing Jacob’s Ladder” JACOB’S LADDER**

SCRIPTURE READING **Genesis 28:10-22** **Rev. Dr. Tim McClendon**

SERMON **“God’s Ladder or Jacob’s”** **Rev. Dr. Tim McClendon**

***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 *Surely the Lord Is in This Place* Herbert Colvin
Chancel Choir

***DEDICATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS No. 95, 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 & 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. 528, “Nearer, My God, to Thee ” BETHANY**

*BENEDICTION

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

POSTLUDE

***Please stand, as able.**

This is a time of great need, and our missions and church operations require our continued generous giving. Please consider giving online, through text, through the mail, or over the phone to help us ensure that our ministries here and around the world are not adversely affected. More details can be found at stjaiken.org.



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 **Sweet, Sweet Spirit** *Akers*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS **Rev. Will Altman**

PRAISE SONG **Holy Is the Lord** *Tomlin*

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 **Holy Spirit** *Battistellie*

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

SCRIPTURE READING **Acts 2:1-4** **Rev. Will Altman**

SERMON **"The Spirit Has Come!"** **Rev. Will Altman**

CHILDREN'S DISMISSAL (3K thru 5th grade dismiss for Sunday School)

PRAISE SONG **All Things New** *Fielding/Ussher*

BENEDICTION

SENDING FORTH SONG

This is a time of great need, and our missions and church operations require our continued generous giving. Please consider giving online, through text, through the mail, or over the phone to help us ensure that our ministries here and around the world are not adversely affected. More details can be found at stjaiken.org.

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 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

CALL TO WORSHIP

We Gather Together

arr. Edward Kremser

Chancel Choir

***OPENING HYMN No. 418, "We Are Climbing Jacob's Ladder"**

JACOB'S LADDER

*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

Surely the Lord Is In This Place

Herbert Colvin

Chancel Choir

***DEDICATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS No. 95,**

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.

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

Children K3-2nd grade may now follow the Crucifer to Children's Church.

Chancel Choir members who also sang at the 8:30am service may exit at this time.

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

Genesis 28:10-22

Rev. Dr. Tim McClendon

SERMON

"God's Ladder or Jacob's

Rev. Dr. Tim McClendon

***HYMN OF DEDICATION No. 528, "Nearer, My God, to Thee "**

BETHANY

*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE

The Lord Bless You and Keep You

John Rutter

Chancel Choir

POSTLUDE

***Please stand, as able.**

This is a time of great need, and our missions and church operations require our continued generous giving. Please consider giving online, through text, through the mail, or over the phone to help us ensure that our ministries here and around the world are not adversely affected. More details can be found at stjaiken.org.