



January 25, 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

Church Council Meeting

We will hold our first Church Council meeting of 2026 on Tuesday, January 27, 2026 at 6pm in the Faith Center. We will install our new and existing Lay Leadership if needed.

Sunny Monday

Senior Adult Council will host Sunny Monday on Monday, February 9 at 10:30am in the Faith Center. The program will feature Judee Mitchell and the Saidi Friend Dancers with "A Taste of Asia and the Chinese New Year." Lunch will follow the program, at \$5 per plate/reservation with the menu: Chicken and rice casserole, salad, roll, and chocolate delight. Please call the church office at 803-648-6891 by 12pm on Thursday, Feb. 5, 2026 to make your reservation.

FAITH 101 (aka New Member) Class

We hold a 4-week class to learn what we believe about: God, St. John's Methodist Church, Methodism, our commitments as members, and more! This class is not only for people interested in joining our church but also for those who want to learn more about St. John's and the best ways to get involved, and to those who are interested in a refresher on basic beliefs.

The next class will begin today, January 25, running through February 15. To register for this class please contact Susan McDonald at smcdonald@stjaiken.org or call: 803-648-6891.

Applefest Nominations are Needed for 2026

St. John's Methodist Women are excited to once again ask for the women of our congregation to help nominate and select the 2026 Applefest recipients. All nominations are due by February 15, 2026. Nomination forms can be found with the designated Applefest Nomination boxes on the church's front entry desk and in the narthex of either the Sanctuary or the Faith Center. Please take a few minutes to provide your input on deserving organizations and place your nomination forms in the designated boxes. As always, your input and help is appreciated.

Discipleship Groups Forming

If you are interested in taking part in a Discipleship Group, we want to hear from you! D-Groups are a wonderful way to get deeper into the Word of God and grow in fellowship. Please fill out the bulletin insert with your information or reach out to Cara Robinson crobinson@stjaiken.org by February 15. Thank you!

Shepherd of Love

Shepherd of Love members will be meeting January 26 at 3pm in room 119. All Shepherds are encouraged to attend and those who would like to know more about this ministry are also invited. The members of this ministry provide at least one visit per month to home bound church members. Please contact Carol Godfrey 803-220-9248 or Rev. Butch 803-648-6891 if you have questions.

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: Matthew Dziczkowski **Acolytes:** Anna Bryson Reynolds and EG Reynolds

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

January 11:00 Ushers: Virgil Sauls, Pat Sauls, Donald Leader, Commie Peebles, Newkirk Barnes, Bill Hillan, Sara Carmichael, Doug Carmichael

January Worship Support: Judy Bilyeu, Susan Crosby, Karen Blackwell, Peggy Neill

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.

January 25, 2026

Children's Ministries

Looking Forward:

Feb. 4: MIC Wednesday Night Kickoff (not a Children's event but invited)

Feb. 7: MIC Pancake Breakfast and Service Project

Foundation Student Ministries

(7th-12th Grades)

Sunday Night Youth meets tonight at 5pm.

Youth Ski Retreat Jan. 30 - Feb. 1, 2026 to Winterplace "Are You Ready to Ski?"

Looking Forward:

Feb. 1: NO SNY due to returning from Ski Trip.

Feb. 4: MIC Wednesday Night Kickoff - Come meet missionaries in our community.

Feb. 7: MIC Pancake Breakfast and Service Project

Feb. 8: Super Bowl Party

Young Adults Ministry

Young Adults Sunday School Class takes place at 10am in Room 237. Please join us! Mark your calendars for Feb. 7: MIC Pancake Breakfast and Service Project.

St. John's Missions News

Today after church you can sign up for one of four February 7, Saturday of Service options: ACTS, Stand at the Crossroads, Jack Meeks Wheelchair Ramp Ministry or be a Prayer Bus Warrior.

Also, we looking for individuals or small groups to host a dinner for a mission partner on the evening of Friday, February 6. Four separate hosts are needed. It can be a group of eight to thirty, in a home, restaurant, or at the church. Stop by the sign-up tables in the narthexes for more information or call, text, or email Don Hayes, 803-761-3533, hayesdonj@gmail.com.

For the month of **January**, we are collecting **canned tuna and salmon (pop tops or pouches only)**. 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

SEED Open House

Our SEED program is getting ready to hold registration for the 2026-2027 school year. They will be hosting Open House January 26-29, 2026 from 12:30pm - 2pm. February 2, church members who are not currently enrolled in SEED may register. Public registration will begin February 3. Please reach out to Michelle Pearson, SEED Director for more information: mpearson@stjaiken.org.

Ready for Another New Year's Resolution?

What greater way to know more about the missions of St. John's Methodist Women than being a part of one of its circles? The circles meet monthly for devotion, fellowship, and work with various missions within the area. The circles meet in different locations and at varying times - hopefully there is one that suits your schedule. For more information, call the church office and they will let a circle leader know of your interest.

Circle 1: Leader is Pat Sauls. They meet the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 1pm in members' homes.

Circle 3: Leaders are Joada Hiatt & Becky Robbins. They meet the 3rd Monday of each month in Room 117 at St. John's church.

Circle 7: Leader is Brenda Meeks. They meet the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 3pm in Room 117 at St. John's church.

Circle 9: Leaders are Kitty Moore & Cheryl Cooke. They meet the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 12:30pm in Ward Hall 2&3 at St. John's church. Attendees bring a bag lunch.

Circle 20: Leader is Joyce Laskey. They meet the 2nd Friday of each month at various eateries.

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

We still have many 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:

Jan. 28: Roasted chicken thighs, garlic sliced potatoes, peas & carrots, roll, and cherry pie
Feb. 4: "MIC Dinner" - NO CHARGE: Lasagna, salad, garlic bread, & cheese cake
Feb. 11: Meatloaf, roasted potatoes, green beans and chocolate pudding pie

Reservations are required by phone/email: jwindham@stjaiken.org by **12pm, Tuesday, January 27, 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

Congratulations to:

The Pitts family on the birth of **Luke Paschal Pitts** born December 29, 2025. Proud parents are **Mark and Keeley Pitts**; grandparents are **Kirk and Cathy Pitts**; great-grandparent: **Mark Pitts**.

Sympathies to:

JoAnn Griffin on the death of her husband, **Ken Griffin**, who died January 14, 2026 in Aiken, SC.

Kay Leach on the death of her husband, **Phillip Leach**, who died January 15, 2026 in Aiken, SC.

Rev. Will, Stockton and Millie Altman on the death of **Mildred Bedford Edmunds Long** who died January 17, 2026 in Garysburg, NC. Mildred was grandmother to Stockton and great-grandmother to Millie.

In Memoriam

Mr. Ken Griffin
January 14, 2026

In Memoriam

Mr. Phillip Leach
January 15, 2026

ACTS Monthly Collection Item

January — canned vegetables

Collection bins are located in the Narthex and the Faith Center

Attendance — 1/18/2026

8:30 | 102 9:02 | 183 11:00 | 151

In-Person Total | 436

9:02 Online Live | 256 11:00 Online Live | 318

Financials

Operation Budget as of 1/21/2026

Year to date offering given for what God is asking us to do:	\$ 194,327.30
Year to date ministry expenditures:	<u>\$ 99,606.00</u>
	\$ 94,721.30

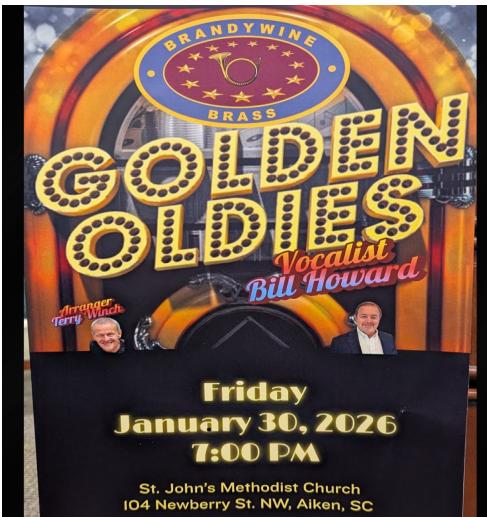
Missions Budget: Year 2025 - 2026

Year to date offerings given for what God is asking us to do in Missions:	\$ 342,814.89
Year to date disbursements:	\$ 315,895.67

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

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





"I will make them and the places surrounding my hill a blessing. I will send down showers in season; there will be showers of blessing." Ezekiel 34:26





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	<i>Spirit of the Living God</i> Chancel Choir	Daniel Iverson
*OPENING HYMN No. 334, "Sweet, Sweet Spirit"		SWEET, SWEET SPIRIT
CHILDREN'S SERMON		Rev. Butch Blackwell
SCRIPTURE READING	Galatians 5:16-26	Rev. Butch Blackwell
SERMON	"Picking and Choosing"	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” 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 *With a Voice of Singing* Martin Shaw

***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

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. 671, "Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing" SICILIAN MARINERS

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

*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 **Daystar** *Gaither*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAISE SONG **Your Grace is Enough** *Maher*

***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 **I Trust In God** *Evelation Worship*

CHILDREN'S SERMON **Rev. Butch Blackwell**

SCRIPTURE READING **Galatians 5:16-26** *Rev. Butch Blackwell*

SERMON **“Picking and Choosing”** *Rev. Butch Blackwell*

PRAISE SONG **My Feet Are On the Rock** *I AM THEY*

BENEDICTION

SENDING FORTH SONG



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

INSTALLATION OF CHURCH COUNCIL OFFICERS

CALL TO WORSHIP *Spirit of the Living God* Daniel Iverson
Chancel Choir

***OPENING HYMN No. 334,** **“Sweet, Sweet Spirit”** SWEET, SWEET SPIRIT

***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.

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Shaw Chancel Choir

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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 **Rev. Will Altman**
Children K4-2nd grade may now follow the Crucifer to Children’s Church.

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.

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POSTLUDE

**Please stand, as able.*