



A STEPHEN MINISTRY CHURCH

*October 5, 2025*  
*World Communion Sunday*

STREET ADDRESS  
104 NEWBERRY ST. NW  
AIKEN, SC 29801

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

803-648-6891  
[www.stjaiken.org](http://www.stjaiken.org)

## Church Council Nominations

Nominations for the various church committees are now open. If you are interested in serving on one of the various committees within Church Council, please email Dr. Tim at [tmccleendon@stjaiken.org](mailto:tmccleendon@stjaiken.org). Do let your committee chair know of your desire to rotate off or remain on. Committee Chairs, please let us know of your committee rosters before **October 6, 2025**, as the Leadership Development Committee will meet at 12pm on October 12 for consideration. Elections will take place at Charge Conference on October 28 at 6pm in the Chapel.

## Senior Pastor Search

Thank you to all who completed and submitted a Senior Pastor Input Survey. The results of the Survey have been compiled and will be available for viewing and discussion Sunday afternoon, October 5, 2025 in Ward Hall from 2pm - 4pm. At that time you may review the full results and talk with Staff Parish Relations Committee (SPRC) members. The results of the survey are also available on the Church website, [www.stjaiken.org](http://www.stjaiken.org). After the Drop-in, SPRC will use this input in evaluating candidates. Please see the insert that shows the results of the key skills and responsibilities.

## Stephen Ministry

Today we celebrate the commissioning of our two newest Stephen Ministers, Gerry Hansen and Kirstin Johnson. Please congratulate them on completion of their training and starting this ministry of caring. See the brochure insert for more information.

## Undy Sunday

St. John's, you did it again! The Methodist Women and its Circles thank you for your generous support for UNDY SUNDAY. A special thank you goes to the SEED program which again enthusiastically participated in this project. All totaled, approximately 3,700 individual items in 550 packages were delivered equally to ACTS and Christ Central. Thank you for reaching out to those in need.

## Applefest

**The Clothes Closet:** We are gearing up to receive your gently used clothes for men, women and children. You may deliver them to Ward Hall beginning October 22, 23 and 24 from 9am - 1pm. We will also receive clothing October 27, 28 and 29 from 9am - 5pm. Your generous donations are greatly appreciated.

**Twice Loved Treasures** will begin accepting items in the gym on Monday, Oct. 27 beginning at 8:30am each day through Friday, Oct. 31. We will have our early Friday sale at 5pm. No donations will be accepted after 12 noon on that date.

**Silent Auction** is in need of items to create our wonderful baskets for auction that will take place on Oct. 31 and Nov. 1. All items need to be turned into the church by October 13. Here are some things we have offered in the past: Photography Sessions, Beach House/Condo for a week or weekend, pet sitting services, concert/football game tickets, floral arrangements or wreaths, landscaping services, golf/tennis/dance lessons, pottery, antiques, etc.

**Frozen Features:** Let's fill the freezers! Casseroles, soups, chili, quiches and breads are all needed to sell at Applefest this year. If you make it beforehand and need a place to freeze it, please contact Camille Bailey at 803-295-2057 or Brenda Meeks at 803-979-1900.

**Apple Pre-Orders** will be taken until Oct. 23, 2025 as whole bushels only. Please contact Judy Kalbaugh at 803-221-1342. Smaller amounts at available first come-first served on Friday, Oct. 31 and Nov. 1.

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**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, Jonathan Cook, Susan Lawson, Marshall Sanders

**Crucifer:** Henry Vaughters      **Acolytes:** Emily Poole and Matt Poole

**October 8:30 Ushers:** Tom Miniard, Randy Shelley, Greg Lowry

**October 11:00 Ushers:** Dave Felak, Donald Leader, John Lindsay, Mick Pisko, Connie Pisko, Newkirk Barnes, Rea Maynard, Kevin Maynard, Dawn Beam, Katherine Sturm, Karen Travis, Larry Travis, Eric Randall

**October Worship Support:** Jane Fogle, Marsha Mikes, Sandra Shelly

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.*

# October 5, 2025

## Children's Ministries

Children's Music will not meet on Wednesday, October 8 due to Fall Break.

### UPCOMING:

**October 15:** "The Crew" Fall Festival 5:30pm-7pm in the gym (3rd-5th grade)

Register today: <https://bit.ly/2025CrewFallFestival>

**October 26:** Trunk or Treat, at 4pm in the back parking lot. This year we are adding a chili cook-off. Register today: <https://links.stjaiken.org/2025TrunkorTreat>

**Nov. 8:** Operation Christmas Child packing of boxes. More details are available in the lobby. Register today: <https://links.stjaiken.org/2025OCC>. "Pack-on-Your-Own" boxes are due to the church by Nov. 9. Pick up a box in the Church & Faith Center lobbies.

## Foundation Student Ministries

(7th-12th Grades)

SNY, Youth Choir & Band will not meet this Sunday due to Fall Break.

Asbury Hills Retreat will take place November 21-23, 2025.

Register today at: <https://bit.ly/AsburyHill2025> or with the QR Code:



Spring Break Mission Interest Meetings will take place on Oct. 19 and Nov. 9.

## Young Adults Ministry

Young Adults Sunday School Class takes place at 10am in Room 237. Please join us!

## St. John's Missions News

Your prayers are needed for Mattias, the 10-year-old son of Weimar, a Cosdecoll coach. On October 1, Mattias began his third week of chemotherapy for leukemia. Pray for Mattias's spirits and his complete healing, for the malignant cell count to reach 00.00%, and for patience and love for his whole family in the midst of so much stress and for God's provision.

And while praying, please remember our mission team in Honduras this week.

For the month of October, we are collecting **coats**. 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.

## Men's Night Out

Join us in the Faith Center at 6pm on October 7 for Men's Night Out Bible Study. This week's film will be, "Black Hawk Down," the story of one hundred and sixty elite US soldiers who dropped into Mogadishu in October 1993 to capture two top lieutenants of a renegade warlord.

## Sunny Monday

Senior Adult Council will host Sunny Monday on Monday, October 13 at 10:30am in the Faith Center. This month's program will feature David Nichols' "A Brief History of Bagpipes." Lunch will served at 12pm following the program at \$5 per plate with a menu of baked chicken alfredo, salad, roll and apple pie with ice cream for dessert. Please call the church office 803-648-6891 by 12pm on Thursday, Oct. 9 to make your reservations.

## Under the Steeple

On Friday, October 10, at 7pm in the Sanctuary, please join us for the first Under the Steeple concert of the 2025-2026 season as Brandywine Brass presents *Masters of the Opera*. With music ranging from Mozart, Verdi, Puccini, and Andrew Lloyd Webber, to name but a few, there is something on this program for everyone!

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God  
by *The Dillman Family* in memory of *Dixie Dillman*  
and by *The Allen Family* in memory of *Ernie Allen*.

### Wednesday Night Supper

#### WNS MENUS LOOKING FORWARD:

Oct. 08: Spaghetti, grilled zucchini, garlic bread, & cheese cake  
Oct. 15: Meatloaf, mashed potatoes, green beans, & apple pie  
Oct. 22: Grilled chicken thighs, roasted broccoli, diced potatoes  
with cheese, & peach cobbler

Reservations are required by phone/email: [jwindham@stjaiken.org](mailto:jwindham@stjaiken.org) by  
12pm, Tuesday, October 7, 2025.

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](http://www.stjaiken.org) and select "GIVE NOW" and then select "WNS" from the drop down menu. You may also pay in person by cash or check. Please make checks payable to St. John's.

### WNS Volunteers NEEDED

Volunteers for food prep on Wednesdays from 10am - 2pm and for clean up are needed. If you are interested and available, please contact Jim Hanna at (803) 645-4336.

### News of the Family

#### Congratulations to:

**Josh & Jordan Love** who were married on Saturday, September 27, 2025 here at St. John's. Jordan's parents are Jennifer & George Kelley and grandparents, Virgil & Pat Sauls.

#### Sympathies to:

**Mark Goodlett** on the death of his mother, **Marie Goodlett**, who died on September 25, 2025 in Aiken, SC.

**Joe, Leah, Emory & Jason Lewis** on the death of **Mary Lewis**, who died September 28, 2025 in Gilbert, SC. Mary was Joe's mother and grandmother to Emory and Jason.

#### *In Memoriam*

Mrs. Marie Goodlett  
September 25, 2025

#### *In Memoriam*

Mrs. Jackie Socha  
September 29, 2025

### ACTS Monthly Collection Item

October — rice (1 lb. bag/box)

Collection bins are located in the Narthex and the Faith Center

### Attendance — 9/28/2025

8:30 | 110      9:02 | 205      11:00 | 254  
In-Person Total | 569  
9:02 Online Live | 143    11:00 Online Live | 135

### Financials

#### Operation Budget as of 10/1/2025

Year to date offering given for what God is asking us to do:	\$ 1,847,863.77
Year to date ministry expenditures:	<u>\$ 1,599,248.62</u>
	\$ 248,615.15

#### Missions Budget: Year 2025-2026

Year to date offerings given for what God is asking us to do in Missions:	\$ 280,923.81
Year to date disbursements:	\$ 212,950.00

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

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





JOIN US FOR CHURCHWIDE

# Holy Communion

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2025

AT ALL 3 SERVICES: 8:30, 9:02, & 11  
& THE 10:30AM HEALING SERVICE



# Stop by TODAY

We're Open  
Outside Ward Hall  
9:15am - 12:30pm

Coffees, Teas,  
Chocolates!!



## Friendship SS Class Soup Luncheon

October 12, 10am - 2pm  
in Ward Hall,  
TO GO containers available

Money raised benefits the Honduras Agape  
Foundation & Local Missions.



**5K RUN FOR FREEDOM  
2025**

H. Odell Weeks Activity Center  
1700 Whiskey Rd., Aiken, SC

**OCT 18  
9am**



- Wheelchairs, strollers and friendly pets welcome! Please start race at the back of the line. NO bikes
  - Prizes for each age category. Music, games, and vendors! Drinks and other items available for purchase.
  - 1 mile Fun Run FREE for kids 9 and under. Starts at 10 AM
- Register by 10/5 to receive t-shirt as participation prize.**  
\$38 THROUGH 10/5. \$43 THROUGH RACE DAY.

CHECK-IN AND LATE REGISTRATION: 7:30 - 8:30 AM ON RACE DAY

THE BRIDGE 2 HOME IS A 501(C)(3) NON PROFIT IN AIKEN, SC  
THAT HELPS CHILDREN WHO ARE VICTIMS OF SEX TRAFFICKING

## THE CREW FALL FEST

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 15  
5PM - 6:30PM

ALL 3<sup>RD</sup> - 5<sup>TH</sup> GRADERS  
JOIN US IN WARD HALL  
FOR PUMPKIN PAINTING, PRAISE MUSIC, AND  
GAMES! DINNER WILL BE SERVED.

# GAMES



## A NIGHT OF BRASS AT THE OPERA

Brandywine Brass presents  
Masters of the Opera

Friday, October 10, 2025

7:00 PM

St. John's Methodist Church  
Downtown Aiken

Free Admission



## Silent Auction Basket Items NEEDED BY 10/13



Item Examples:

Pet Supplies, Golf Items,  
Gift Certificates, Pottery,  
Beach House/Condo rentals,  
concert/sports tickets, etc.



## TRUNK OR TREAT

WE ARE LOOKING FOR PEOPLE TO HOST A TRUNK AND  
PARTICIPATE IN A CHILI COOK-OFF FOR TRUNK OR TREAT ON

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26  
FROM 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM**



Register:





## 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

Union Seminary

### WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### COMMISSIONING OF STEPHEN MINISTERS

#### CALL TO WORSHIP

*This Is the Feast of Victory*  
Chancel Choir

Richard Hillert

#### \*OPENING HYMN No. 616, "Come, Sinners, to the Gospel Feast"

HURSLEY

#### SCRIPTURE READING

Ephesians 4:1-16

Rev. Dr. Tim McClendon

#### SERMON

"The Glue"

Rev. Dr. Tim McClendon

#### \*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Nicene Creed

*We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is seen and unseen.*

*We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom shall have no end.*

*We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in the one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. 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

*Draw Us In the Spirit's Tether*

Harold W. Friedell

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.*

#### 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.*

#### CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION, page 12

#### COMMUNION ANTHEM

X. Ave verum, *Stabat Mater*

Sir Karl Jenkins

#### \*HYMN OF DEDICATION No. 620, "One Bread, One Body"

ONE BREAD, ONE BODY

#### BENEDICTION

#### \*CHORAL RESPONSE

*The Lord Bless You and Keep You*

Peter Christian Lutkin

Chancel Choir

#### POSTLUDE

Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands

JS Bach

\*Please stand, as able.



*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](http://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**

**Hope Now**

*Addison Road*

#### **WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **PRAISE SONG**

**Your Love Is Like A River**

*Third Day*

#### **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

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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**

**Give Me Faith**

*Brown*

#### **COMMISSIONING OF STEPHEN MINISTERS**

#### **CHILDREN'S SERMON**

#### **SCRIPTURE READING**

**Ephesians 4:1-16**

**Rev. Dr. Tim McClendon**

#### **SERMON**

**"The Glue"**

**Rev. Dr. Tim McClendon**

#### **PRAISE SONG**

#### **CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION**

#### **BENEDICTION**





## 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 [stjohns.org](http://stjohns.org), our Facebook Page, and the St. John's App. Thank you for worshipping with us today. Please silence all electronic devices.*

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#### OFFERTORY ANTHEM

*Draw Us In the Spirit's Tether*

Chancel Choir

Harold W. Friedell

#### \*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.*

*Chancel Choir members who sang at the 8:30 service may now leave.*

#### 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.*

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#### CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION, page 12

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Sir Karl Jenkins

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#### \*BENEDICTION

#### \*CHORAL RESPONSE

*The Lord Bless You and Keep You*

Chancel Choir

Peter Christian Lutkin

#### POSTLUDE

**Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands**

JS Bach

*\*Please stand, as able.*



## Stephen Ministers “*The After People*”

Stephen Ministers are there:

*after* the phone call you hoped you would never get.

*after* the funeral, when everyone has left and the emotions you have held at bay come crashing down on you.

*after* the relationship falls apart and the bottom falls out of your life.

*after* the doctor says, “I’m sorry, but there is nothing more we can do.”

*after* the nursing home director says, “Welcome to your new home.”

*after* the last child honks the horn and drives away, and the house suddenly is empty.

*after* the gavel comes down, the handcuffs go on, and your loved one is led away.

*after* the baby arrives, demanding more of you than you ever dreamed possible.

*after* you receive a pink slip with your final paycheck.

*after* your family and friends have heard your story one too many times, but you still need to talk it out.

Stephen Ministers are the “*After People*” who are ready to come alongside you to provide support for as long “after” as needed.

To learn more about  
Stephen Ministry or to inquire  
about one on one care,  
contact a St. John’s Methodist  
Stephen Leader

- ♦ Rev. Butch Blackwell  
803.682.6717
- ♦ Steven Lathrop  
803.295.3433
- ♦ Don Hayes  
803.761.3533
- ♦ Julie Roe  
865.805.6609



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Stjaiken.org

stephen  
MINISTRY®



*Celebrating more than 15 years  
of providing high quality care  
and outreach to  
hurting people through  
St. John’s Methodist Church.*

# Stephen Ministry

## What is Stephen Ministry?

- Stephen Ministry is Christ Caring for People through People. Everyone faces periods of crisis, transition, or difficulty. During these times, a caring relationship with someone who will faithfully listen, empathize, pray with and for them, and encourage them with Christ's love and care can be a tremendous benefit. Stephen Ministry ensures no one walks alone.

*Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ (Galatians 6:2, NRSV).*

- Stephen Ministers are laypeople — Christian men and women — trained to provide one-to-one care to people experiencing a difficult time in life, such as grief, divorce, job loss, chronic or terminal illness, relocation, or separation due to military deployment. People receiving care are referred to as care receivers. Stephen Ministers are people with a compassionate heart who have been equipped with the skills to listen,

encourage, and offer support when someone is in need.

- Stephen Ministers typically have one care receiver relationship at a time and meet together once a week for about an hour in a confidential listening relationship. Stephen Ministers care, pray, encourage, listen, and visit faithfully to bring Christ's love and to hurting care receivers. Stephen Ministers recognize that they are merely care givers, where Christ is the ultimate Cure Giver.
- Stephen Ministers receive over 50+ hours of training with continuing education to be equipped to serve and provide prayerful support for their care receivers.
- Stephen Leaders recruit, select and train Stephen Ministers; connect Stephen Ministers with people who need care; while providing ongoing supervision and continuing education.

## When did Stephen Ministry begin?

- Since 1975, Stephen Ministry has equipped God's people within 14,000 congregations across the globe. Likewise, 600,000

laypeople have had Stephen Ministry training with more than 1.5 million people receiving Christian care from a Stephen Minister during tough times.

- In 2009, St. John's Methodist established a Stephen Ministry with a few members who received Stephen Leader Training. Since that time, Stephen Leaders have trained many Stephen Ministers within the church in order to provide one on one Christian care to members as care receivers.

## How do Stephen Ministers serve?

- Stephen Ministers are matched with individuals by Rev. Butch and a Stephen Leader for a confidential one on one caregiving relationship.
- Stephen Ministry shares a 4 part series of Grief books to help people who are grieving.



Below are how the key pastoral skills and responsibilities ranked per the survey.

1. Impactfully communicates Biblical teachings through preaching and ministering the Word of God.
2. Motivates and installs confidence among individuals and teams within the church.
3. Effectively promotes a team environment within church staff.
4. Outstanding pastoral care (grief, couples/family counseling...)
5. Capable of engaging the variety of our worship settings / programs
6. Demonstrates passion for growing disciples
7. Emphasizes missions and outreach to the community and world
8. Ability to lead the church to "the next level"
9. Other

