



ST. JOHN'S
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
A STEPHEN MINISTRY CHURCH

December 5, 2021
Second Sunday of Advent

104 NEWBERRY ST. NW
AIKEN, SC 29801

P.O. BOX 809
AIKEN, SC 29802

803-648-6891
stjaiken.org

REMINDERS FROM THE FINANCE OFFICE

Financial statements through November 2021 will be mailed this week. Please look these statements over and let the Finance Office know of any corrections that need to be made. This will make the year-end statements much easier if we catch all corrections early.

In order to receive a tax benefit in 2021, donations must be received by **DECEMBER 31, 2021**. If using the mail, all envelopes must be postmarked by **DECEMBER 31, 2021** to receive a tax benefit for the year.

*For those who set up donations online, please remember that we are approaching the end of the year, and you will need to set it up again for 2022 if you set the end date for December 31, 2021. IF YOU ARE STILL USING THE **REALM ONLINE** GIVING WE ARE ASKING THAT YOU PLEASE SWITCH OVER TO THE **SUBSPASH ONLINE GIVING**. IF YOU ARE UNSURE HOW TO USE SUBSPASH, PLEASE CALL NANCY FAIRGRIEVE AND SHE WILL WALK YOU THROUGH THE PROCESS. If you have any questions, please contact Nancy Fairgrieve at 803-648-6891 or nfairgrieve@stjohns-umc.org.*

Stewardship Pledges 2022

We continue to receive pledges for the 2022 Stewardship campaign. To date we have received 286 pledges totaling \$1,302,340.00. You may call or email Nancy Fairgrieve and she will fill out a pledge card for you. You may also still mail your pledge card through the post office.

Poinsettia Sales

Poinsettia Sales will take place today, December 5th, and Sunday, December 12th after each service. Look for the tables in the Faith Center and inside the front doors by the church office. You will also be able to order your poinsettias online at <https://stjaiken.org/give>. Simply select the “flower” fund and put whom you are buying in honor or in memory of in the memo box of your payment. The cost is \$20 each. They will be displayed on December 19th and December 26th. They will be available for pick up after the last service on Sunday, and on Monday, December 27.

Coffee, Tea, Chocolate, and More!

We are joining other Methodist congregations in offering fair trade products through a collaboration with The United Methodist Committee On Relief (UMCOR) and the Equal Exchange Company. 15 cents per pound sold goes to UMCOR. To purchase competitively priced products and to learn more about UMCOR and other mission opportunities at St. John’s, look for us in the hallway outside Ward Hall the first and third Sundays each month starting **TODAY**, December 5, between 9:15 and 12:30. These items will make great Christmas gifts!

SERVING THIS WEEK

Worship Services—Dr. Tim McClendon; Rev. Butch Blackwell; Rev. Douglas Herlong; Music Director— Dr. Catherine Nance; Music Associate & Organist—Christopher Nash; 9:02 Band Leader, Jane Timmerman; 9:02 Band

Crucifer— Bobbi Timmerman **Acolytes**—Olivia Overstreet & Sophia Overstreet

December 11:00 Ushers: Champ & Jeannette Bowden, Donald Leader, Paula Blackmore, Larry Burdette, Pat Piekos, Mitch Rivers, Mary Ann Findley, Jeanette Isaacson, Dave Felak, & Sinclair Short

December Worship Support—Jean Geiger, Peg Robinson, & Millie Winston

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.

[This service is broadcast over WKSX 92.7 at 12 p.m., one week delay.](#)

December 5, 2021

Children's Ministries

See you tonight for Family Night in the Faith Center from 5:00 -6:30p.m.!

Join us on Wednesdays from 5:00-6:00p.m. for Alleluia Choir (1st-5th grade) room 210 and 5:15-6:00p.m. for Joy Choir (3K-5K), room 220.

Foundation Student Ministries

(7th-12th Grades)

See you tonight for Family Night in the Faith Center from 5:00 -6:30p.m.! If your family can't make it, we will have tables for youth to join Bekah and Amy's families! We want to see you all!

Youth Choir will meet at 4:00 p.m. in the Chapel.

Youth Bible Studies:

CORE (Middle School girls), Dwell (High School girls) and Brotherhood (Middle and High School boys) at 7:00 p.m. CORE and Dwell will meet in the upstairs Faith Center and Brotherhood will meet in the gym. Make plans to join us and invite a friend!

St. John's Missions News

Enjoy the retail environment? Stand at the Crossroads Ministry needs volunteers to staff their store, Redeemed Treasures. The hours are Tuesday through Friday, 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. and Saturday 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. If interested, please call (803)502-0285. Your help is needed!

*For the month of December, we are collecting **NEW Men's & Women's Underwear**. 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.***

Night of Joy

St. John's will be hosting a special Christmas Eve drive-in service at 5:00 p.m., December 24. The service will be located at the Western Carolina State Fairgrounds off of Hwy 1, down May Royal Drive and take a left at Rodgers Road. South Carolina Highway Patrol will be present for assistance. Everyone is welcome to bring a lawn chair and sit outside, and we will also use our FM radio transmitter for everyone who wishes to stay in their car and keep warm. You may tune to FM 90.1 while special music from members of the 9:02 Band and Chancel Choir members play and sing Christmas music. Rev. Douglas will offer a short sermon, and we will conclude with a candle lighting with 2,000 battery-operated candles that the church is providing. This is a service of hope and joy for all of Aiken in the midst of a very trying year. Invite your family, friends, and neighbors. Thank you to the owners of the Western Carolina State Fairgrounds for this spectacular opportunity!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR CHRISTMAS EVE

Night of Joy at the Western Carolina State Fairgrounds will be held Christmas Eve at 5:00 p.m.! We need 5-6 adult parking attendants to make sure that people can park their cars easily for this drive-in worship service. The youth will be handing out battery-operated candles for each car, and some of us can use our smartphone flashlights to brighten the night sky, and lift our spirits! Please call the church office at (803)648-6891 to sign up!

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given by **Millie & Robert Winston** to the glory of God and in loving memory of Millie's father, **Arthur Morrison**.

Circle 9 Meeting

December 7, 2021 will be a special day for Circle 9 as we meet again for the first time since the Pandemic began. Bring your bagged lunch to Ward Hall at 12:30. Bottled water will be provided. Our mission focus will be Bridge 2 Home. Please contact Elaine Bennett at 803-645-8219 or Audrey Osteen 803-295-6373 if you have questions.

Replicate Discipleship Groups

New Replicate Discipleship Groups will be starting in January but are forming **NOW**. Ladies, contact Jan Gilbert at (803)646-0451 and men, contact Denny Norman at (773)329-5341 for details. We hope you will consider joining one of these life-changing groups!

Wednesday Night Supper

Menu: **Lasagna, Salad, Bread, & Cheesecake**

Reservations are required and should be made by Monday, December 6, at 5:00 p.m. Make reservations by calling the church office at (803)648-6891 or contacting Juli Davis at: jdavis@stjohns-umc.org. Cost is \$7.50 for 10 years old and older, and \$3.00 for children over the age of 3. You can pay online at stjaiken.org. Then go to "Give Now," next press the drop down button, then click on WNS. You may also pay in person. Checks are preferred. Please make checks out to St. John's.

News of the Family

Welcome to Our Newest Members:

David, Anna, James, Thomas, Mary, & Sarah Rittgers

Our Sympathies to:

Judy Clark on the death of her husband, **Col. Bill Clark**, who passed away on November 26, 2021 in Aiken, SC.

Denny Workman on the death of his wife, **Jacqui Workman**, who passed away on November 28, 2021 in Atlanta, GA.

In Memoriam

COL. William "Bill" Clark

November 26, 2021

In Memoriam

Mrs. Jacqueline "Jacqui" Workman

November 28, 2021

ACTS Monthly Collection Item

December— **Cereal**

Collection bins are located in the Narthex and the Faith Center

Attendance—11/28/2021

8:30 | 63 9:02 | 125 11:00 | 277 6:00 | 12

Total in Person | 477

9:02 Online Live | 243 11:00 Online Live | 321

Operations Budget as of 11/30/2021

Year to date offerings given for what God is asking us to do:	\$ 1,928,161.72
Year to date ministry expenditures:	<u>\$ 1,811,046.34</u>
	\$ 117,115.38

Missions Budget: Year 2020/2021

Year to date offerings given for what God is asking us to do in Missions:	\$177,245.22
Year to date Missions Disbursements:	\$159,000.00

TODAY IS THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Peace



FOUNDATION SKI TRIP

FEBRUARY 11-13, 2022
Winterplace, West Virginia

REGISTER TODAY

FOUNDATION@STJAIKEN.ORG



GRACE KITCHEN *Donations*

December Needs: NEW Underwear (Men & Women)

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

We Are Hiring!

We are hiring a **FULL-TIME** Director of
Children's Ministries & Christian Education.

Contact Nancy Fairgrieve for more info!

(803)648-6891 or nfairgrieve@stjohns-umc.org

DECEMBER

5th FAMILY NIGHT
12th CHRISTMAS PARTY

Bible Studies continue through December 15th

SUNDAY NIGHT YOUTH | 5:00-6:30 IN FAITH CENTER



Order of Worship— 8:30 A.M.

The Second Sunday of Advent

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

CALL TO WORSHIP **God of the Watching Ones** *Dengler*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS **Rev. Butch Blackwell**

***OPENING HYMN NO. 202** **People, Look East** *Besancon*

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE **Margaret Brown & Carol Godfrey**
Hymn No. 211: Verse 2 of O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

***SCRIPTURE READING** **Luke 3:1-20**

SERMON **The Good News of No Regrets** **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** *Meineke*
*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 **The Yearning** *Courtney*
John Poe, Solo

***OFFERTORY RESPONSE**
(Sung to tune of "God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen") Praise God, from whom all blessings flow, on every hill and coast! Praise God above, all angels who comprise the heavenly host! Praise to the Father and the Son and to the Holy Ghost! O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy! O tidings of comfort and joy!

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. 230 O Little Town of Bethlehem** *St. Louis*

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

**Please stand, as able.*



Order of Worship

The Second Sunday of Advent

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

I Need a Silent Night

Grant

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Douglas Herlong

PRAISE SONG

Your Grace is Enough

Nuzum

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Jack & Carolyn Roberts

O Come, O Come Emmanuel, Rejoice, Rejoice Emmanuel Shall Captive Ransom Israel.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Nicene Creed

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PASTORAL PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER

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OFFERTORY

Do Not Be Afraid

JJ Weeks

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 3:1-20

SERMON

The Good News of No Regrets Dr. Tim McClendon

PRAISE SONG

O Little Town of Bethlehem

Redner/Brooks

BENEDICTION

SENDING FORTH SONG

Order of Worship— 11:00 AM

The First Sunday of Advent

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Maxine & Kent Falb

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OFFERTORY

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

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ANTHEM

The Yearning

Courtney

PASTORAL PRAYER, LORD'S PRAYER, & CHORAL RESPONSE

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Dr. Tim McClendon

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St. Louis

*BENEDICTION

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