



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

December 19, 2021
Fourth Sunday of Advent

104 NEWBERRY ST. NW
AIKEN, SC 29801

P.O. BOX 809
AIKEN, SC 29802

803-648-6891
stjaiken.org

December 19, 2021

Children's Ministries

Grove will not be meeting tonight. Enjoy Christmas break with your family and friends! Grove will resume January 9.

Children's choirs will start back on January 19, 2022.

Foundation Student Ministries

(7th-12th Grades)

Sunday Night Youth will not meet tonight. Enjoy Christmas break with your family and friends. 6th Grade Confirmation Class will have their Christmas party tonight from 5:00-6:30 p.m. at the Smith's home. Don't forget your white elephant gift (\$5 limit)!

Youth Choir will resume in January.

Youth Bible Studies:

We will not be meeting on December 22 or 29. We will resume on Wednesday, January 5.

St. John's Missions News

The images of the devastation of the tornadoes in the midwest have touched us all. Please keep these folks in your prayers. If you would like to help financially, consider a donation to United Methodist Committee on Relief. You may send your gift through St. John's: please note UMCOR Advance #901670. To give directly, go to their website <http://www.umcor.org>.

*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.***

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. If you have any questions, please contact Nancy Fairgrieve at (803)648-6891 or nfairgrieve@stjohns-umc.org.*

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR CHRISTMAS EVE

We need 5-6 adult parking attendants to make sure that people can park their cars easily for this drive-in worship service. Please call the church office at (803)648-6891 to volunteer.

Traditional Christmas Eve Service

We will be showing our Traditional Christmas Eve Service online beginning at 11:00 a.m. on December 24. It will be available all day. Rev. Butch will deliver a new Christmas message for 2021. You can find this service streaming on stjaiken.org or our Facebook page.

Poinsettias 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.

St. John’s Calendar Reservations for 2022

As we approach the end of 2021, we would like to remind all group leaders that they must re-up any and all room or resource reservations for 2022. Our calendar does not roll-over from year to year, so please contact Jennifer Windham in the church office at (803)648-6891 or jwindham@stjohns-umc.org to make your reservations. All room and resources will be reserved on a first-come-first-served basis. Please note that if your group does not have a reservation on the church calendar, you will not be permitted to use the space or resource. Thank you for your continued cooperation!

Wednesday Night Supper

NO WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPER! We wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We will see you again for supper on January 5th.

We are in need of volunteers to help clean up on Wednesday Nights following dinner. Please contact Juli Davis to help.

News of the Family

Congratulations to:

Andrea & Dave Zimmerman who will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on December 23.

Our Sympathies to:

Don Smith; Deanna Smith; Sydney Goodlove, Blake, & Blake Richardson Jr.; Andrew, Dixie, Coraline, & Arabella Busbee; and Jacob, Linh-Da, & Lucas Busbee on the death of Don’s wife, Deanna’s mother, and Sydney, Andrew, & Jacob’s grandmother, Patricia Smith, who passed away on December 13, 2021 in Aiken, SC.

Barbara Zirps on the death of her husband, George Zirps, who passed away on December 14, 2021 in Aiken, SC.

In Memoriam

Mrs. Patricia Ann Smith
December 13, 2021

In Memoriam

Mr. George Zirps
December 14, 2021

ACTS Monthly Collection Item

December— Cereal

Collection bins are located in the Narthex and the Faith Center

Attendance—12/12/2021

8:30 | 77 9:02 | 181 11:00 | 330 6:00 | 10
Total in Person | 598
9:02 Online Live | 272 11:00 Online Live | 309

Operations Budget as of 12/15/2021

Year to date offerings given for what God is asking us to do:	\$ 2,090,577.66
Year to date ministry expenditures:	<u>\$ 1,919,500.00</u>
	\$ 171,077.66

Missions Budget: Year 2020/2021

Year to date offerings given for what God is asking us to do in	
Missions:	\$170,072.95
Year to date Missions Disbursements:	\$159,000.00



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— Amy Draeger **Acolytes**—Mary Davisson & Witt Wilkins

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.](#)

TODAY IS THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Love



FOUNDATION SKI TRIP

FEBRUARY 11-13, 2022
Winterplace, West Virginia

REGISTER TODAY

FOUNDATION@STJAIKEN.ORG



REVOLUTION JANUARY 28-30 RETREAT



GRACE KITCHEN *Donations*

December Needs: NEW Underwear (Men & Women)

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

NEW GRIEF SHARE SESSION

Wednesday, January 12
3:45 p.m.

Faith Center
All are invited
to join.

Please contact Rev. Butch
if you plan to attend:
(803)648-6891 ext. 214
gblackwell@stjohns-umc.org



DON'T FORGET:

**FOLLOW
US ON
INSTAGRAM!**

@stjohnsumc_aiken

JOIN US FOR THE

Night of Joy

We invite all to celebrate the birth of our savior with a drive-in
Christmas Eve Worship Service at the Western Carolina State Fair
Grounds at 5:00 p.m. on December 24. Tune in to 90.1 FM to listen.



(803)648-6891 | WWW.STJAIKEN.ORG



ST. JOHN'S
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

December 19, 2021

8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Sanctuary Services

Fourth Sunday in Advent—Sunday of Love

GREETING, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CALL TO WORSHIP

ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING with RESPONSE

Connie, Julie, & Harry Shade (8:30)

Missy & John Poe (11:00)

Congregational response #211, verse 3

THE WORD BECAME FLESH by Dan Goeller

Presented by St. John's Chancel Choir and Orchestra

Dr. Catherine Stapleton Nance, Director

Mr. Christopher Nash, Organ

Rev. Dr. John M. Stapleton, Jr. Narrator

Prelude: Christmas Fantasy for Orchestra

***This Is My Father's World* ~ John 1:1; Col. 1:15-16a, 17; Gen. 1:26-27, 31**

***The Fall of Man* ~ Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-6; Romans 5:12, 3:23**

Kyrie Eleison (Lord, have mercy)

***Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus* ~ Ephesians 2:4-5a, 8**

***The Savior Foretold* ~ Isaiah 9:6-7**

Unto Us a Child Will Be Born

***The Angel Gabriel* ~ Luke 1:26-33**

Gabriel's Message with Gloria and Magnificat

***The Child Is Born* ~ Matthew 1:18-23; Luke 2:1, 3-7; John 1:14**

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly and Silent Night, Holy Night

***Good News of Great Joy* ~ Luke 2:8-14**

Gloria in Excelsis Deo

***The Shepherds' Joy* ~ Luke 2:15-18, 20**

CONGREGATIONAL HYMNS: *Angels We Have Heard on High and Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

(1) Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains:

And the mountains in reply, echoing their joyous strains.

Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

(2) Come to Bethlehem, and see Him whose birth the angels sing;

Come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn King.

Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

(3) Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King;

Peace on earth, and mercy mild; God and sinners reconciled."

Joyful, all ye nations, rise, join the triumph of the skies;

With angelic hosts proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King."

(4) Hail the heav'n born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of righteousness!

Light and life to all He brings, Ris'n with healing in His wings.

Mild He lays His glory by, born that man no more may die,

born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them second birth.

Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King."

OFFERTORY

The Wise Men ~ Matthew 2:1-11a

The Word Became Flesh ~ John 1:10-14

We Have Seen His Glory ~ John 1:14; Philippians 2:11

BENEDICTION

CONGREGATIONAL HYMN: Hallelujah Chorus from *Messiah

(Sheet music is available from the ushers)

Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Hallelujah! Hallelujah! :|

|: For the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth.

Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! :|

For the Lord God omnipotent reigneth.

|: Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! :|

The kingdom of this world

Is become the kingdom of our Lord,

And of His Christ, and of His Christ;

And He shall reign for ever and ever,

For ever and ever, forever and ever,

King of kings, and Lord of lords,

|: King of kings, and Lord of lords, :|

And Lord of lords,

And He shall reign,

And He shall reign forever and ever,

King of kings, forever and ever,

And Lord of lords,

Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

And He shall reign forever and ever,

|: King of kings! and Lord of lords! :|

And He shall reign forever and ever,

King of kings! and Lord of lords!

Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Hallelujah!

**Please stand in body or in spirit*

Thank you to Lionel Smith, Ltd. for the donation of the tuxes and accessories worn by the Chancel Choir Men.

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Order of Worship

The Fourth 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 **In the Bleak Midwinter** *Rossetti*

CHRISTMAS MUSIC **Away in a Manger** *Tomlin*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS **Rev. Douglas Herlong**

CHRISTMAS MUSIC **Love Came Down at Christmas** *Jars of Clay*

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE **The Padgett Family**

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

CHRISTMAS MUSIC **What Child is This?** *Dix*

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.***

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 **Make Room** *Casting Crowns*

SCRIPTURE READING **Luke 1:39-56**

CHRISTMAS MUSIC **Silent Night** *Gruber*

HOMILY **A Mother's Love** **Dr. Tim McClendon**

PRAISE SONG **Joy to the World** *Watts/Tomlin*

BENEDICTION

SENDING FORTH SONG