



***“...fostering an inclusive, intergenerational congregation.”***

**South Aiken Presbyterian Church  
1711 Whiskey Rd.  
Aiken, SC 29803**

# *Welcome!*

Welcome to God-Encountered worship at South Aiken Presbyterian Church! We are thankful that you have been called to worship with us this morning. We believe all people are children of God. We believe that the redeeming grace of God can transform our lives by the power of the Holy Spirit. We believe all people are loved with a love that has no end in Jesus Christ.

Today, may you encounter Jesus Christ through Spirit-inspired worship including dynamic preaching, specific prayers, and beautiful music. May the blessings of the triune God give you joy and hope that can only come from God with us. Let us worship God!

***Mrs. Olga Kuzmenkova is our guest Pianist for January.***

Olga has a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration and Applied Music from Newberry College. She has played the piano for Bachman Chapel Lutheran Church in Prosperity, SC; Lebanon United Methodist Church in Newberry, SC and the Aiken Kinderchoir which practices in the SAPC's Fellowship Hall. Her daughter is a member of the Belles Cantos Choir and participates in the Aiken Community Theater. Olga moved to Aiken eight years ago when she married her husband who is an Aiken native and photographer. Let's welcome her to the piano and our worship service today!

## ***Congregational Meeting***

There will be a Congregational Meeting immediately following Sunday worship on January 21<sup>st</sup>.

### **Agenda Items:**

- Elect Christian Education Elder: Catherine Pateracki.
- Vote on Pastor's Terms of Call for 2024.
- Presentation of SAPC's 2024 budget.

January 7, 2024

Baptism of the Lord

10:00 am

(Please stand, if able, when indicated by an \*)

**Prelude**

***“Be Thou My Vision”***

**Michael Sharp**

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Paul Ebel (Pulpit Assistant, PA)**

**The Chiming** (*Handbell is rung three times, for God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.*)

**Introit**

***“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”***

**Jones**

## **GATHERING AROUND THE WORD**

**\*Call to Worship** (*Psalm 145: 4-8*) (*Responsively*):

One: One generation will praise your works to the next one, proclaiming your mighty acts.

**ALL: They will talk all about the glorious splendor of your majesty; we will contemplate your wondrous works.**

One: They will speak of the power of your awesome deeds; we will declare your great accomplishments.

**ALL: They will rave in celebration of your abundant goodness; they will shout joyfully about your righteousness...**

**\*Hymn #697**

***“Take My Life”*** (*stanzas 1-3, 6*)

**Prayer of Confession** (*Together*): **Visioning God, we confess that when new information is offered, we reject it. Instead of being curious with what you are doing, we protect our comfort and understanding. Forgive us, O God for not staying open to your Holy Spirit’s leading through Jesus Christ.**

*(Pause and confess your personal sin in silence to God)*

PA: Amen

## **Assurance of Forgiveness**

PA: As you hear the water being poured into the font, remember Jesus Christ washes away the sins of the World.

**The Font** *(pouring of the water)*

**\*Responsive Hymn #581**

***“Glory Be to the Father”***

**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.**

**\*The Peace** *(Responsively):*

PA: Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another. The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**ALL: And also with you.** *(share fist bumps, high fives, hugs, and other signs of forgiveness and peace to each other.)*

## **PROCLAIMING THE WORD OF GOD**

**Children’s Moment**

**Kim Goetter**

*(Children are invited to come to the stage steps for a small lesson, then walk together to Sunday School in the Fellowship Hall.)*

**Anthem**

***“Beautiful Savior”***

**Fettke**

**Prayer for Illumination**

**Scripture Reading** *(New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition, NRSVUE):*

**Psalms Reading:** **Psalms 78: 4-7** *(page 537 of the Old Testament in the Pew Bible)*

**Epistle Reading:** **2 Timothy 1: 3-7** *(page 211 of the New Testament in the Pew Bible)*

**Gospel Reading:** **Matthew 19: 13-15** *(page 21 of the New Testament in the Pew Bible)*  
*(fill-in the blanks on page 7)*

One: Hear what the Spirit of God says to the Church!

**All: Thanks be to God.**

\*Hymn #450

*“Be Thou My Vision”*

## RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

\*Affirmation of Faith *(Together)*:

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 Ghost,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, dead, and buried;  
he descended into hell.  
the third day he rose again from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven,  
and sitteth on 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 Ghost,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
And the life everlasting. Amen

## SENDING INTO THE WORLD

**Prayer of Intercession** *(prayers for the Church, the world, the nation, the community and our loved ones)*

**Offering of Gifts**

Offertory

*“Joy to the World”*

Heather Sorensen

**\*Doxology: Hymn #606   *“Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow”***

**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**

**\*Prayer of Thanksgiving (*with the 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors;  
And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen**

## **SENDING INTO THE WORLD**

**\*Hymn #700**

***“I’m Gonna Live So God Can Use Me”***

**\*Benediction**

**\*Postlude Hymn #727:**

***“Will You Let Me Be Your Servant”***

**Will you let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you?  
Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant too.  
I will hold the Christ-light for you in the nighttime of your fear.  
I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.  
I will weep when you are weeping; when you laugh, I’ll laugh with you.  
I will share your joy and sorrow till we’ve seen this journey through.**

## Sermon Scripture Activity (NRSVUE):

*As the Scripture is read (Matthew 19:13-15) fill in the blank with the word(s) you hear.*

### **Jesus Blesses Little Children**

<sup>13</sup> Then children were being brought to him in order that he might \_\_\_\_\_ his \_\_\_\_\_ on them and pray. The disciples spoke sternly to those who brought them, <sup>14</sup> but Jesus said, "Let the \_\_\_\_\_ come to me, and do not stop them, for it is to such as these that the \_\_\_\_\_ of heaven belongs." <sup>15</sup> And he \_\_\_\_\_ his hands on them and went on his way.

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### ***Would You Like to Participate in the Count of Local Homeless?***

Several folks have expressed an interest in helping with the homeless PIT (Point in time) Count the week of January 24<sup>th</sup>. This is being headed up by the Homeless Coalition of Aiken County. If you want to volunteer, you need to go on their website <https://www.aikencountyhomelesscoalition.org/pit-count> to sign up. They need to know ***as soon as possible*** how many volunteers they will have so they can plan. All information about the count is there.

This count of homeless people in Aiken County is necessary in order to obtain funding for the various agencies who assist the homeless. Just some of those agencies who will be participating are ACTS, Veterans Affairs, Family Promise, the Salvation Army, St. Vincent de Paul, and MANY churches. By necessity to find the homeless, it will have to be done either late at night or very early in the morning.

If you would like to help but are not comfortable being out in the dark, organizations are collecting items to hand out to the homeless during the count. You also can go to the website to find other ways to donate or organize. Our knitting/crocheting ministry is making hats to hand out. You can join us Thursday, January 11 at 1:30 in the church library to help with that.

***Help Us Help the Homeless***



## Have you misplaced an item while you were at South Aiken Presbyterian Church or the Family Life Center?

We have a beautiful floral walking cane, along with a pair of glasses in a black case, a man's blue Irish cap, women's brown gloves, a leather/metal belt, etc. Please stop by the Family Life Center (Room F100) to see if, what you are missing, has been found!!



## January Collection

(Peanut Butter & Jelly)

ACTS collection baskets are located in the narthex by the church entrance and across from the church office. Monetary donations may be made by placing a check made out to SAPC in the offering plate and noting 'ACTS' on the memo line.

*Thanks for sharing with others!*

## Sound Operator's Needed

We are in need of additional volunteers to serve as Sound Operators. Each new operator will be provided with training, and will serve with support until they are completely comfortable with the system. Once trained, each operator serves approximately once every 4 to 6 weeks and on special occasions.



Anyone who is interested in serving in this capacity should contact **Larry Hinson** at [shbc50@gmail.com](mailto:shbc50@gmail.com) for more info.

## Online Donations

available on our website, or by scanning this QR code with camera.



**Please Note:** *We can no longer determine who has donated stocks to the church, due to a recent change in laws. However we want to take this opportunity to thank each and everyone who has made this type of contribution to SAPC. We are extremely grateful for your donation. If you would like a letter for your taxes, please notify us of your donation and we will be glad to provide it to you.*

**Has your Address Changed?** If so, we kindly ask that you provide us with your updated address and/or phone number so that we can update our Church records. Thank you



## Calling all Knitters and Crocheters!

Our prayer shawl ministry meets every second and fourth Thursday in the library at 1:30 pm. Besides shawls, we also make lap afghans, hats, baby blankets, etc. If you don't know how to knit or crochet but want to learn, we would love to teach you. We have both knitting needles and crochet hooks donated to us as well as yarn and patterns, so just come! If you have questions, please contact Mary Bunch at [marybunch1953@gmail.com](mailto:marybunch1953@gmail.com)



Reserve your date by visiting the new "Sanctuary Flowers" web page found under the Worship menu tab, or call the Secretary's office at 803-648-9574

## Jesus & Music (JaM)

*Coming soon to our neighborhood!*

**What is JaM?** Children's Choir for South Aiken Presbyterian Church

**Who is this for?** 4K and Older Youth

**Where will this be held?** South Aiken Presbyterian Church's Fellowship Hall

**When?** Sunday Mornings, 9 – 9:20 AM. After dismissal the children will go to the nursery until church. Practice will follow closely to the Aiken County Public School District Calendar.

**Why?** To share the love of music with our young people and celebrate our love of Jesus. They be learning songs, but they will also discuss what the words mean. Children will be able to share the songs with others and with the congregation. The real heart of this choir is in the week-to-week community-building and skill development that will occur.



***Want to get the digital newsletter of announcements each week?***

Email [secretary@southaiken.org](mailto:secretary@southaiken.org) to join the Spirit Express emailing list!

## Presby Café Bible Study

### Topic: Patience

*What are you waiting for?*



Where?: Pastor Conference  
Room (PRC) in the  
Family Life Center  
When? Each Sunday at

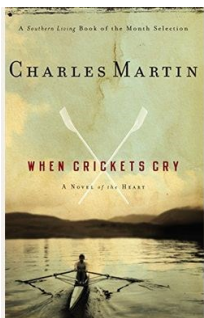
## Pickle Ball

SPCA now has Pickle Ball courts. To sign up for games, please use the sign-up sheets on the bulletin board in the hallway behind the Sanctuary.



Any questions, please contact Linda Blake at [mrhankey@gforcecable.com](mailto:mrhankey@gforcecable.com)

## The Chapter Chat Book Club



### “When Crickets Cry”

By Charles Martin

Thursday, February 1<sup>st</sup>,  
at 2 pm.

Meet in the Church Library  
Call Maureen Dunn at (803) 443-  
8681 for more info.

## PRIVACY OF CONTACT INFORMATION

If you wish for your phone number and/or address to be withheld from any printed publication which may be seen by the public, please contact Monica at [secretary@southaiken.org](mailto:secretary@southaiken.org) or (803-648-9574) to let your wishes be known.

## Prayer Requests

**Brooke R.** (friend of Jimmy B.) for health concerns.

**Myra R.** (friend of Jimmy B.) for health concerns.

**Linda S.** (friend of Scott M.) for healing.

**Emily L.** for comfort.

**Leona F.** for comfort.

**Edmund J.** for healing.

**Ethel** (mother to Steve H.) for comfort.

**Jeff B.** (family friend to Sarah S.) for health concerns and in season of grief

**Hammersley Family** in season of grief.

**Pethick Family** in season of grief.

**Lewis Family** in season of grief.

**Edwards Family** in season of grief.

**Samuel M** (Becky H's Uncle) for health concerns.

**Pat M.** (Linda B's sister) for health concerns.

**Mike G.** (brother in-law to Steve K.) - for health concerns.

**Kari M.** for health concerns.

**Mary Louise S.** (Mary S.'s granddaughter) for health concerns.

**Leslie C.** for health concerns.

**Doug M.** (Linda B.'s nephew) for healing and comfort.

**Ray P.** (cousin of Sarah Scott) for healing and strength

**Lynn S.** - for comfort

**Scott Family** - in season of grief.

**Dot M.** - for comfort

**Gail** (friend of Kitt M.) for healing as her treatments have changed.

**Steve & Linda H.** for comfort.

**Bob A.,** for comfort and strength

**Lois V.** sister of Lyn V., for continuing improvement.

**Peg P.** for comfort.

**Jim and Shirley S.** for comfort.

**Jayne B.** for comfort.

**Barbara K.** for healing.

**Anita & Bob P.** for comfort and discernment.

### Homebound Members

*Email [secretary@southaiken.org](mailto:secretary@southaiken.org) to change information or removal of name.*

## **Volunteers Today**

**Pulpit Assistant:** - Paul Ebel

**Ushers:** Jenny Chase, Elaine Barnes,  
Diane Davies, Amy Loftus

**Sound:** Robert Glance

**Video:** Kelly Frontroth

## **Volunteers Next Week**

**Pulpit Assistant:** Greg Burkes

**Ushers:** Cheryl MacCrum, Martin MacCrum,  
Chuck Abele, Heidi Abele

**Sound:** Larry Hinson

**Video:** Anthony Williamson

## ***SAPC THIS WEEK***

### **Sunday, January 7<sup>th</sup>**

9:00a - Apocrypha Sunday School (Library)  
9:00a - Presbyterian Cafe (FLC PCR)  
9:00a - JaM (Fellowship Hall)  
10:00a - Worship Service (Sanctuary)  
11:00a - Bethel Study (Library)  
12:00p - Carolina Grizzlies Parent Meeting (Gym)  
2:00p - Pickleball (Gym)  
6:00p - Youth Group (FLC, Rm 202)

### **Monday, January 8<sup>th</sup>**

9:00a - Beginner Ukulele Fellowship (Music Rm)  
10:00a - Interm. Ukulele Fellowship (Music Rm)  
12:00p - Bible Friends (Gym)  
2:00p - Pickle Ball (Gym)  
5:00p - SAPK Board Meeting (Fellowship Hall)  
6:00p - Christian Education Team (High School Room)

### **Tuesday, January 9<sup>th</sup>**

12:00p - Bible Friends (Gym)  
2:00p - Pickle Ball (Gym)  
4:30p - Belles Canto (Music Room)  
6:00p - Worship and Music Team (Library)  
7:00p - Scouts Meeting (Upstairs Scouts Classroom)

### **Wednesday, January 10<sup>th</sup>**

11:00a - Admin & Stewardship Meeting (F101)  
12:00p - Bible Friends (Gym)  
2:00p - Pickle Ball (Gym)  
7:00p - Choir Rehearsal (Music Room)

### **Thursday, January 11<sup>th</sup>**

8:50a - SAPK Chapel (Sanctuary)  
12:00p - Bible Friends (Gym)  
1:30p - Prayer Shawl (Library)  
2:00p - Pickle Ball (Gym)  
4:00p - Aiken Kinderchoir (Fellowship Hall)  
5:30p - Timberwolves/Tall Pines (Gym)

### **Friday, January 12<sup>th</sup>**

12:00p - Bible Friends (Gym)  
2:00p - Pickleball (Gym)

### **Saturday, January 13<sup>th</sup>**

2:00p - Pickleball (Gym)

### **Sunday, January 14<sup>th</sup>**

9:00a - Apocrypha Sunday School (Library)  
9:00a - Presbyterian Cafe (FLC PCR)  
9:00a - JaM (Fellowship Hall)  
10:00a - Worship Service (Sanctuary)  
11:00a - Mission/Membership Team Mtg (Library)  
2:00p - Pickleball (Gym)  
6:00p - Youth Group (FLC, Rm 202)

\* FLC - Family Life Center  
\*\* PCR - Pastor's Conference Room

*"Each day is a new  
beginning, the  
chance to do with it  
what should be done  
and not to be seen  
as simply another  
day to put in time."*

*—Catherine Pulsifer, author*

The church email address is:

[secretary@southaiken.org](mailto:secretary@southaiken.org)

## **CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION**

**Church Office:** 803-648-9574

**Rev. Jason Hammersley**, Pastor/Head of Staff: ext. 112

[pastor@southaiken.org](mailto:pastor@southaiken.org)

**SAPK:** 803-648-9895

**Fax:** 803-648-7972

**Web Site:** [www.southaiken.org](http://www.southaiken.org)

**Email:** [secretary@southaiken.org](mailto:secretary@southaiken.org)

Find our SAPC page on Facebook at **@SouthAikenPresChurch!**

Also with Instagram at: **southaikenpc**

## **SAPC STAFF**

### Office Staff

**Monica Grindle**, Secretary: ext. 100, [secretary@southaiken.org](mailto:secretary@southaiken.org)

**Barbara Bono**, Bookkeeper: ext. 103, [treasurer@southaiken.org](mailto:treasurer@southaiken.org)

### Music Staff

**Phillip Hare**, Director of Music, [philliphare@hotmail.com](mailto:philliphare@hotmail.com)

**Olga Kuzmenkova**, Guest Pianist/Accompanist

### Communication Staff

**Carina McGee**, Communications Specialist, [media@southaiken.org](mailto:media@southaiken.org).

### Family and Children Staff

**Kim Goetter**, Interim Children and Family Ministry Coordinator, [families@southaiken.org](mailto:families@southaiken.org)

### Youth Staff

**Anthony Williamson**, Youth Programs Coordinator. [youth@southaiken.org](mailto:youth@southaiken.org)

### Facility Staff

**Kirk Callan**, Sexton (Custodian): [kirkcallan@gmail.com](mailto:kirkcallan@gmail.com)

### Church & School Staff

**Jennifer Huntley**, Kindergarten Director:

803-648-9895: ext. 107. [sapkdirector@southaiken.org](mailto:sapkdirector@southaiken.org)

**Cissy Kelley**, Assistant Kindergarten Director/Childcare Coordinator:

803-648-9895 ext.110, cell 803-270-5808. [sapkasst\\_director@southaiken.org](mailto:sapkasst_director@southaiken.org)