



*Candle of Joy*

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

**SAPC is offering a “Blue Christmas” Service on December 21st at 6pm.**

This service is offered for those who have lost a loved one and struggling with this time of year. Events take place at this time of the year that simply make celebration impossible — illness, sudden death of a loved one, or the burden of caring for a loved one, the loss of a job, financial difficulties, strained family relations, divorce or separation. For some people, Christmas may simply bring up memories of a difficult and troubled past. Perhaps a spouse, child, or parent has been taken away to fight a war. And for some, they have been confronted with their own mortality, having been told that this may be their own last Christmas.

*A Blue Christmas Service Makes Space for Healing & Hope during this Season.*

Don't miss out!

There will be a **“Christmas Eve, Candlelight Service”** on **December 24th** at **5pm.**

*Also, don't forget to attend to our worship on Sunday, Christmas Day to celebrate the birth of our Savior.*

*Dear SAPC family,*

*I hope this note find you well during this season of peace, hope, joy and love. As we have done in the past, we will be collecting a Love Offering to honor our wonderful church staff. If you would like to make a contribution to this offering, please do so by December 18 so we can distribute it prior to the Christmas holidays.*

*There are several ways to do this: you may leave an envelope marked “Love Offering” in my box in the church office; you may place your gift in the offering plate clearly marked “Love Offering.” If you want to write a check, please make it out to SAPC and put “Love Offering” in the For/Memo line.*

*Many thanks for your gift in honor of our dedicated staff who make sure our children, our buildings, our services, and our community are well taken care of throughout the year.*

*In Christ,  
Anita Self  
Clerk of Session*

3rd Sunday of Advent

December 11, 2022

Ordination/Installation Service

10:00 am

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

**Prelude**

**Welcome and Announcements**

**John Kelly (Pulpit Assistant, PA)**

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

**\*Introit**

**“While We Are Waiting, Come”**

**Don Cason**

**GATHERING AROUND THE WORD**

**Lighting of the of Advent Candle** (*Responsively*) (HOPE , PEACE and JOY):

Reader: In this season of Advent, we lit candle for Hope to symbolize that God through Jesus Christ’s birth bringing hope to internal and external conflict as well as between nations (light candle). Also, the candle of Peace is lit to symbolize the Peace given to all humanity in accepting Jesus Christ’s new way of living amidst the communities (light candle). Today, we light the candle of Joy reading Isaiah 35: 1, “The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing.” (*Light the pink candle*)

**ALL: Let us walk in the Hope, Peace and Joy of Christ.**

**\*Call to Worship** (*Psalm*) (*Read responsively*):

One: Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD, O my soul!

**ALL:** I will praise the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God all my life long.

One: Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD their God,

**ALL:** who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them; who keeps faith forever;

One: The LORD sets the prisoners free; the LORD opens the eyes of the blind.

**ALL:** The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous.

**\*Hymn #83**

**“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”**

**Prayer of Confession** (*Unison*): Mighty and merciful God, you have called us to be your people and claimed us for the service of Jesus Christ. We confess that we have not lived up to our calling. We have been timid and frightened disciples, forgetful of your powerful presence and the strength of your Spirit among us. O God, forgive our foolish and sinful ways. As you have chosen us and claimed us in our baptism, strengthen us anew to choose Christ’s way in this world. Give us the Holy Spirit that each one in ministry may be provided with all the gifts of grace needed to fulfill our common calling; through Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior.

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

PA: Amen.

**Assurance of Forgiveness** (*Responsively*):

One: The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting.

**Many: We declare God’s promises, in the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

One: May the God of mercy, who forgives us all our sins, strengthen us in all goodness,

**ALL: And by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.**

PA (*Responsively*): As we hear and see the water poured into the baptismal font, let us embrace our forgiveness in Jesus Christ which brings joy.

**All: True joy is found in Jesus Christ.**

**The Font** (*Water is poured as a visual sign of the washing away of sin and the bonding to Jesus Christ by the Holy Spirit.*)

**\*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.**

**\*Passing the Peace**

PA: 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.*)

## **ENCOUNTERING THE WORD OF GOD**

**Children’s Moment**

**Michelle Lorio**

**Anthem**

**“Prepare the Way”**

**Lloyd Larson**

**Prayer for Illumination**

**Scripture Lessons:**

**Old Testament :** **Isaiah 35:1-10** (*page 663 of the Old Testament in the Pew Bible*)

**Epistle Lesson:** **1 Peter 5:1-4** (*page 235 of the New Testament in the Pew Bible*)

**Gospel Lesson:** **Matthew 20:25-28** (*page 22 of the New Testament in the Pew Bible*)

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

All: **Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon**

**“Functioning in the Flock”**

**Rev. Jason Hammersley**

**Hymn #469**

**“Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying”**

**Lord, listen to your children praying.**

**Lord, send your Spirit in this place.**

**Lord, listen to your children praying.**

**Send us love; send us power; send us grace.**

## LIVING OUT GOD'S MESSAGE

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

### Offertory

**\*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**

### Ordination and Installation

**Sentences of Scripture** (*Responsively*):

One: There are varieties of gifts, but it is the same Spirit who gives them.

**ALL: There are different ways of serving God, but it is the same Lord who is served.**

One: God works through each person in a unique way, but it is God's purpose that is accomplished.

**ALL: To each is given a gift of the Spirit to be used for the common good.**

One: Together we are the body of Christ, and individually members of it.

### Statement of Ordination and Installation

**Presentation** (Anita Self, Clerk of Session): Representing the one, holy, catholic, and apostolic church, and the Session of South Aiken Presbyterian Church now ordains Maureen Dunn, Cheryl MacCrum, James "Alex" McGee, Nancy Goslen, and Ansley Green to the office of deacon, and Katie Moler, Susan Glenn, Bill Paulson to the office of ruling elder, and installs them to active service.

The Session also installs to active service those who have been previously ordained: deacons Lisa Lader, Jenny Summers and ruling elders Susan Selden, Andrew Goslen, John Callan.

**\*Reaffirmation of the Baptismal Covenant and Rejections (for whole congregation)**

Pastor: Trusting in the gracious mercy of God, do you turn from the ways of sin and reject evil and its power in the world? If you do say, "I do." **ALL: I do**

Pastor: Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Lord and Savior, trusting in his grace and love? **ALL: I do.**

Pastor: Will you be Christ's faithful disciple, obeying his Word and showing his love? **ALL: I will, with God's help.**

**Profession**

One: With the whole church, let us confess our faith in the Apostles' Creed

**\*Affirmation of Faith (Unison):**

**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.**

**Thanksgiving for Baptism**

**Constitutional Questions (ordained as deacons, ordained as ruling elders, and trustee)**

1. Do you trust in the Lord Jesus Christ your Savior, acknowledge him Lord of all and Head of the Church, and through him believe in one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit?
2. Do you accept the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be, by the Holy Spirit, the unique and authoritative witness to Jesus Christ in the Church universal, and God's Word to you?
3. Do you sincerely receive and adopt the essential tenets of the Reformed faith as expressed in the confessions of our church as authentic and reliable expositions of what Scripture leads us to believe and do, and will you be instructed and led by those confessions as you lead the people of God? If so, say, "I do and I will"
4. Will you fulfill your ministry in obedience to Jesus Christ, under the authority of Scripture, and be continually guided by our confessions?
5. Will you be governed by our church's polity, and will you abide by its discipline? Will you be a friend among your colleagues in ministry, working with them, subject to the ordering of God's Word and Spirit?

6. Will you in your own life seek to follow the Lord Jesus Christ, love your neighbors, and work for the reconciliation of the world?
7. Do you promise to further the peace, unity, and purity of the church?
8. Will you pray for and seek to serve the people with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love?
9. *(For ruling elders)* Will you be a faithful ruling elder, watching over the people, providing for their worship, nurture, and service? Will you share in government and discipline, serving in councils of the church, and in your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ?
10. *(For deacons)* Will you be a faithful deacon, teaching charity, urging concern, and directing the people's help to the friendless and those in need, and in your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ?

**\*Congregational Questions**

Clerk of Session: Do we, the members of the church, accept deacons *Maureen Dunn, Cheryl MacCrum, James "Alex" McGee, Nancy Goslen, Ansley Green, Lisa Lader and Jenny Summers* ruling elders *Katie Moler, Susan Glenn, Bill Paulson, Susan Sel-den, Andrew Goslen, and John Callan* chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to lead us in the way of Jesus Christ?

**Congregation Response: We do.**

Clerk of Session: Do we agree to pray for them, to encourage them, to respect their decisions, and to follow as they guide us, serving Jesus Christ, who alone is Head of the Church?

**Congregation Response: We do.**

**Prayer of Ordination and Laying On of Hands**

Deacons: *Maureen Dunn, Cheryl MacCrum, James "Alex" McGee, Nancy Goslen, and Ansley Green*)

Ruling Elders: *Katie Moler, Susan Glenn, Bill Paulson*

**Prayer of Installation**

**Declaration of Ordination and Installation, Welcome and Charge** *(Newly ordained and installed elders and deacons remain standing)*

**SENDING INTO THE WORLD WITH THE GOOD NEWS OF  
JESUS CHRIST TO SHARE**

**\*Hymn #69**

**"I the Lord of Sea and Sky "**

**\*Charge and Benediction**

**\*Postlude:**

**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.**



## December Collection (Canned Vegetables)

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!

### Seeking Usher Volunteers

*The church continues to need volunteers to serve as Ushers.*



If you are interested in serving as an Usher, please contact Elsie Worpell at [roger-elsie@bellsouth.net](mailto:roger-elsie@bellsouth.net)

### The Chapter Chat Book Club

The Memory Box by Kathryn Hughes



Thursday, January 5th,  
at 2 pm In the Church Library

Call Maureen Dunn  
(803) 443-8681 for more info.

### Help the Salvation Army!

Donate sweat pants, T-shirts, and underwear for men and women.

*Please drop donations off at 322 Gayle Ave.*

## PRAYER PARTNERS

### Calling all Knitters and Crocheters!

Our prayer Shawl Ministry started back up on September 8th after taking the summer off. We are meeting 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 *LOTS* of yarn and patterns, *so just come!* If you have questions, please contact Mary Bunch at (803) 270-5599.

Prayer is a powerful force for those in need of healing, comfort, strength, and encouragement. It is often as much of a blessing for those offering the prayers. If you have a prayer request during office hours (Monday-Friday 9am-1pm) please contact the church office at 648-9574 or at [secretary@southaiken.org](mailto:secretary@southaiken.org). After office hours please contact Emily Lockard at 649-0473 or at [emilybim@bellsouth.net](mailto:emilybim@bellsouth.net).

### 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

## **Join the Membership and Mission Team Ministry!**

Meetings: 2nd Sunday of the month, 11:00am.  
For more information, please email  
[weimerchrystie@gmail.com!](mailto:weimerchrystie@gmail.com)

## **It's time to order your Christmas Poinsettias!**



This year, we have 20 available on a first-come, first-serve basis. From Cold Creek Nurseries, one flower pot is \$16.25 to be picked up after the Christmas service. *Bonnie Hayes will be available in the narthex before and after each Sunday service on December 4th and December 11th for sign-ups, or you can call her at (803) 645-7353 to reserve your flowers.*



**Sanctuary flowers for this Sunday's Service were given by Mathew & Sarah Scott in memory of our their dad, Tom Lookabill.**

*Sanctuary flower sign ups are located in the hallway on the bulletin board outside of the library.*

## **There's a new way to sign up for sanctuary flowers for 2023!**

The Sanctuary Flower sign-ups have gone digital! You can now reserve a date to donate sanctuary flowers by filling out the Google Form available on the [southaiken.org](https://southaiken.org) website. Not sure how to use a Google Form, or where to find it? Sign up for our first technology training day, just for Sanctuary Flower sign ups, on Friday, December 16th at 4:00pm in the SAPC Library. Contact Carina McGee at [media@southaiken.org](mailto:media@southaiken.org), or call (803) 629-1070, to sign up for the training day or to ask questions about this new system.



## **GriefShare Grief Support Ministry**



### ***What is GriefShare?***

*A weekly faith-based support group for those grieving the death of a loved one.*

### ***Where does it take place?***

*GriefShare meets in the SAPC Library (in the hallway behind the sanctuary).*

### ***When does it take place?***

*Each Monday from 5:30-7:30 PM through December 12, 2022.*

### ***When can I join?***

*This next cycle of GriefShare will begin on January 2, 2013,*

### ***Do I have to be a member of SAPC to participate?***

*No, all those who are grieving the death of a loved one are welcome.*

### ***Where can I find more information about GriefShare?***

*Visit the GriefShare website at [griefshare.org](https://griefshare.org).*

## A New Way to Donate

### We now have our own QR code!

Our online donations have had an upgrade! You can now choose to donate to specific fundraisers, organizations, and other initiatives directly when donating through our website. You can also choose to offset the online donation fees with your gift on the second page of the donation page! Register an account or donate as a guest. Simply find our "Online Donations" tab on [southaiken.org](http://southaiken.org), or scan the QR code here with your phone.



*Online Donations*

## Secret Santa Update



Drop-in Secret Santa volunteer hours will take place from now until December 16th, from 9a-12p daily. Please see Monica in the church office for volunteer options. Please email [sarah.lookabill.scott@gmail.com](mailto:sarah.lookabill.scott@gmail.com) with questions or for details.

Thank you for your support of Secret Santa!

## Prayer Requests

**Weeks Family** - for comfort

**Parnell Family** - in a season of grief

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

**McCrum & Bielnell Family** - in season of grief

**Bob R.** recovering from open heart surgery

**Kari & Roger 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.

**Kelli W.** in her season of grief.

**Peg M.** (sister of Kit M.) successful surgery.

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

**Lynn S.** - for comfort and wisdom after recent diagnosis.

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

**Dot M.** - for comfort.

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

**Joyce & Jeff** (Jayne B.'s best friends) mourning the loss of their son, Patrick.

**Ethel H., Steve H.**'s mother for relief from pain.

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

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

**Georgia L.** for healing.

**Glady C.** for healing.

**Ron D.** (Cyndy D's brother-in-law) for healing.

**Debbi R.** as new health issues emerge.

**Phil L.** for resolution of health issues.

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

**Peg P.** for comfort.

**The Linda E. Family** for continued healing.

**Jim and Shirley S.** for healing.

**Richard E.** as he receives treatment.

**Jayne B.** confronting 2 health issues.

**Barbara K.** for healing.

**Anita & Bob P.** for healing.

**Homebound Members**

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

## Volunteers Today

**Pulpit Assistant** - John Kelly

**Ushers:** Edmund Jones, Jane Jones, Sue Kelly,  
Linda Blake

**Sound:** Scott Reboul

**Video:** Kelly Frontroth

## Volunteers Next Week

**Pulpit Assistant** - Chrystie Weimer

**Ushers:** Donna Boik, Kelli Williams, Will Self,  
Anita Self

**Sound:** Larry Hinson

**Video:** Anthony Williamson/Sam Jacobs

## **SAPC Youth Program**

\***Remember flocking?** We are going to be "gnoming" people starting next month as a fundraiser for Youth.

- \* \$10 to remove gnomes from your yard,
- \* \$10 to send gnomes somewhere,
- \* \$20 to remove and send somewhere,
- \* \$30 to buy insurance so they don't come to your yard.

*We'll be collecting donations this week in the Narthex.*

Contact Anthony Williamson at  
[youth@southaiken.org](mailto:youth@southaiken.org) with questions

## **Young At Heart Seniors**

**Please Note:**

The December 9th trip to Newberry has been cancelled



## ***SAPC THIS WEEK***

### **Sunday, December 11th**

- 9:00a - Ezekiel Sunday School (Fellowship Hall)
- 9:00a - Presbyterian Cafe (Pastor's Conference Rm)
- 10:00a - Worship Service (Sanctuary)
- 11:00a - Secret Santa (Fellowship Hall)
- 11:00a - Bethel Study (Library)

### **Monday, December 12th**

- 12:00p -Bible Friends (Gym)
- 4:15p - Tall Pines Basketball (Gym)
- 5:00p - SAPK Board Meeting
- 5:30p - GriefShare (Library)
- 6:00p - Christian Education (High School Room)

### **Tuesday, December 13th**

- 12:00p -Bible Friends (Gym)
- 4:15p - Tall Pines Basketball (Gym)
- 4:30p - Belles Canto (Music Room)
- 6:00p - Property Committee
- 6:00p - Worship Committee
- 7:00p - Scouts Meeting (Upstairs Scouts classroom)

### **Wednesday, December 14th**

- 11:00a - Admin & Stewardship Meeting (F101)
- 12:00p - Bible Friends (Gym)
- 4:30p - Tall Pines Basketball (Gym)
- 7:00p - Choir Rehearsal (Music Room)

### **Thursday, December 15th**

- 7:00a - SAPK Early Dismissal at 11:30
- 8:50a - SAPK Chapel (Sanctuary)
- 3:30p - Aiken Kinderchoir (Fellowship Hall)
- 4:15p - Tall Pines Basketball (Gym)

### **Friday, December 16th**

- 10:00a- Ukulele Fellowship (Music Room)
- 3:30p - Sanctuary Flower Sign-up Training (Library)

### **Saturday, December 17th**

- 7:30a - ACTS Senior Food Distribution
- 8:00a - Secret Santa (Fellowship Hall)
- 8:00a - Preschool Fundraiser (Gym)

### **Sunday, December 18th**

- 9:00a - Ezekiel Sunday School (Fellowship Hall)
- 9:00a - Presbyterian Cafe (Pastor's Conference Rm)
- 10:00a - Worship Service (Sanctuary)
- 11:00a - Bethel Study (Fellowship Hall)
- 11:00a - Diaconate Meeting (Library)

## **CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION**

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

**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)

*Please turn off your phone during the service*

*Follow SAPC activities on Facebook*

<https://m.facebook.com/SouthAikenPresChurch/>

Twitter: @SAPChurch and Instagram: southaikenpresbyterian4

## **SAPC STAFF**

**Rev. Jason Hammersley**, Pastor: 648-9574: ext. 112

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

**Michelle Lorio**, Director of Children's Ministry/Kindergarten Director:

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**Carina McGee**, Communications Specialist. [media@southaiken.org](mailto:media@southaiken.org). cell: (803) 629-1070

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**Scott Chappell**, Pianist/Accompanist, [scottchappell57@icloud.com](mailto:scottchappell57@icloud.com), cell (803) 640-5102

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