

First Sunday of Lent



*South Aiken Presbyterian Church, dedicated to Jesus Christ and inspired by the Holy Spirit, will deliberately foster an **inclusive, intergenerational congregation**. We will extend **revolutionary, Christ-Like hospitality** to everyone we encounter, embrace **diverse styles of worship**, and utilize a **tech-based relational outreach**.*

South Aiken Presbyterian Church
1711 Whiskey Rd.

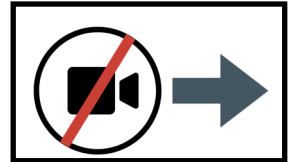
Welcome!

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

Please Note: *God may be calling you, but probably not on your cell phone! Please turn off or silence your devices during worship. We also ask for your support in keeping the aisle open; kindly place any walkers in the pew to keep walkways clear.*

All SAPC services are recorded for release on our YouTube channel. If you do not wish to be recorded during services, please sit in the video free zones, designated by this sign. Contact media@southaiken.org for more details and to confirm your privacy request.



Don't Forget, Next Sunday.....

SAPC Talent Show
February 28th, 5pm
\$10 per adult
\$5 per child
Dinner included with entry
Enjoy performances, culinary skills, and artwork!
Bring your spare change to vote for your favorite act!
Tickets on sale now! Proceeds benefit SAPC Children's Ministries

Online Donations

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



February 22, 2026

1st Sunday in Lent

10:00 am

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

Prelude

“Come to Me”
Olga Kuzmenkova, Pianist

Forrest

Welcome and Announcements

Greg Burkes (Pulpit Assistant, PA)

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

Introit

“Lead Me, Guide Me”

Kelly Willard

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

***Call to Worship** (*Psalm 32: 1-5*) (*responsively*):

One: Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

ALL: Happy are those to whom the Lord imputes no iniquity and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

One: While we kept silent, our body wasted away through groanings all day long.

ALL: For day and night your hand was heavy upon us; our strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.

One: Then you acknowledged our sin to you, and we did not hide our iniquity;

ALL: We said, “We will confess our transgressions to the Lord,” and you forgave the guilt of our sin.

***Praise Hymn #613**

“Grace Alone”
See insert

Brown & Nelson

Prayer of Confession (*Together*): **Almighty God, our personal and collective journey in Lent has begun. We confess that temptation abounds in this world. We realize as we gaze upon Jesus’ life and know our likeness of Christ falls short. Our desire leans toward self instead of God. We resist change, holding on to old patterns without renewing our minds. Forgive us, O God, as we seek you in this season of Lent through Jesus Christ.**

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

PA: Amen

Assurance of Forgiveness (*Responsively*):

One: Who is in a position to condemn?

ALL: Only Jesus Christ. Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ rules in power for us, and Christ prays for us. Anyone who believes in Christ is a new creation. The old life is gone, the new life has begun. Know we are forgiven and be at peace. Amen.

One: As you see and hear the water being poured into the font, remember you belong to the Lord and you are a new creation.

***Affirmation of Faith** (*Together*): **The Brief Statement of Faith** *excerpt*

We trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the church. In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. Amen.

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

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

Minute for Stewardship

Greg Burkes

Offering of Gifts

Offertory

"Sweet Hour of Prayer"

Johnston

Doxology: Hymn #606** ***"Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow"

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise him, all creatures here below;

***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 #742

“We Will Walk with God”

We will walk with God, by brothers; we will walk with God.

We will walk with God, my sisters; we will walk with God.

We will go rejoicing till the kingdom has come.

We will go rejoicing till the kingdom has come.

*Charge and Benediction

*Postlude Hymn #743

“O God, You Are My God”

O God, you are my God, and I will ever praise You.

O God, you are my God, and I will ever praise You.

I will seek you in the morning, and I will

learn to walk in your ways.

**And step by step you’ll lead me,
and I will follow you all of my days.**

Sermon Scripture Activity (NRSVUE):

As the Scripture is read (Matthew 4: 1-11) fill in the blank with the word(s) you hear.

The Testing of Jesus

4 Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tested by the _____. ² He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterward he was famished. ³ The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, _____ these stones to become loaves of bread." ⁴ But he answered, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone, but by every _____ that comes from the mouth of God.' "

⁵ Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, ⁶ saying to him, "If you are the _____ of God, throw yourself down, for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you,' and 'On their _____ they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.' "

⁷ Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the _____.' "

⁸ Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory, ⁹ and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." ¹⁰ Then Jesus said to him, "Away with you, _____! for it is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.' ¹¹ Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.



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.

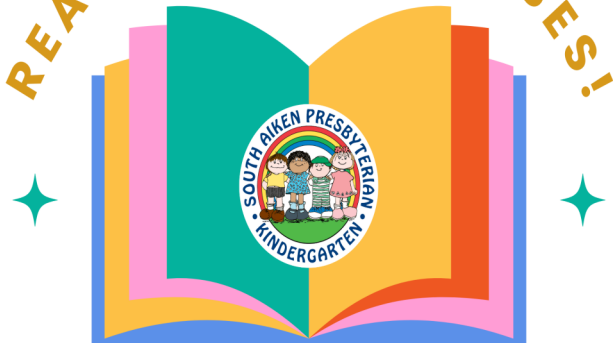
Do you like to run? What about being physically challenged?

Join the youth in a 5K Spartan Sprint in Atlanta on March 14th. It is \$130 per person with carpooling where possible. **Sign up ASAP** before spots are gone and get to training! If you want to know more about the specific race, go to **Spartan.com**.



VOLUNTEER TO

READ TO SAPK CLASSES!



SIGN UP AT THE BULLETIN BOARD OR CONTACT SAPKDIRECTOR@SOUTHAIKEN.ORG

The Chapter Chat Book Club



“The Paris Novel”
By Ruth Reichl

Thursday, March 2nd, at 2 pm.
Meet in the Church Library

Contact Maureen Dunn at maureendunn14@bellsouth.net for more info.

SAPC Talent Show

Enjoy performances, culinary skills, and artwork!

February 28th, 5pm

\$10 per adult
\$5 per child

Dinner included with entry

Bring your spare change to vote for your favorite act!



Tickets on sale now! Proceeds benefit SAPC Children’s Ministries

WE STILL NEED VOLUNTEERS!

Help supervise the pre-made lessons for our younger members during **Food for Thought!**



Worried about missing the adult lesson? Videos of the F4T discussion are available upon request each week!

Contact Kim Goetter at families@southaiken.org



Adopt an SAPK Classroom!

Connect with one of our classes of students to help support unique opportunities of learning

- Help organize guest speakers
- Host end-of-year celebrations
- Send in prayer notes, cards of encouragement
- Give random acts of kindness
- Help support ongoing enrichment (like class pets, garden projects, hatching chicks in the spring, etc.)

And more!

Sign up on the bulletin board!

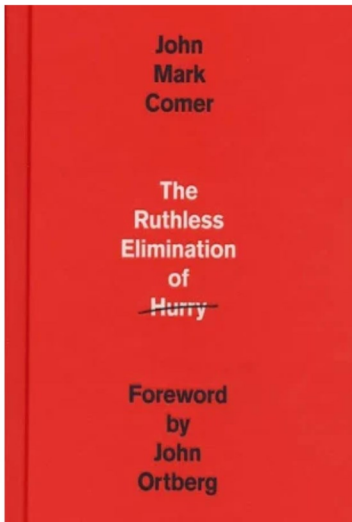


Spring 2025 Food for Thought

Wednesdays, starting Feb. 25th

5:30pm meal, 6:00 lesson

Join us in discussing...



With a parallel lesson for children ages 3 - 6th grade!

SPRING 2026 FOOD FOR THOUGHT CHILDREN'S PROGRAM:



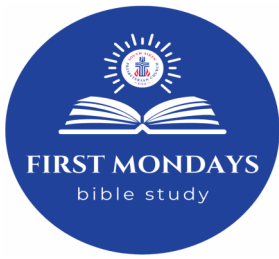
An exploration of how we are each unique and a part of God's plan

Donation box available upon entry

Our Food for Thought meal will be:

Poppyseed chicken and Shephard's pie with salad and green beans.





Monday,
Mar. 2nd
8:45 Coffee

ALL ARE WELCOME TO JOIN US IN THE LIBRARY

February Collection

(Pasta Sauce, No Glass)



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. *Thank you!*

Living in Faith Together (LIFT)

(Women's Small Group)

When: February 24th, at 6:00pm

Where: Neon Fig

We will be studying the first chapter of The Four Agreements.

Please let Lynn know if you need child-care. *To join our group on Facebook, scan this QR Code.*



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 or (803-648-9574) to let your wishes be known.

The church email address is:

secretary@southaiken.org

Prayer Requests

Hook Family - season of grief.
Anderson Family - season of grief.
Stephens Family - season on grief.
Pateracki Family - season of grief.
MacCrum & Tyler Family season of grief.

John (Sharon F's nephew) for healing & recovery.
Graham T (Chery M.'s great grandson) for healing & recovery.

Jim M. (Alex M's father) for health concerns.

Gordon C. recovery

Donna B. for healing & recovery.

Sonni C. for healing & recovery.

Suzan M. for health concerns.

Owens G. (Cissy K) for health & strength.

Michael & Jennifer H. (friend of Linda W.) for health and strength..

Carina M. for health & strength.

Nancy & Andrew G. for health & strength.

John K. (Donna B's brother) for comfort & healing.

AJ B. (Donna B's relative) for comfort and healing.

Debbie E. (niece of Linda B.) comfort and healing.

Myra & Brooke R. (friends of Jimmy B.) health concerns.

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

Ethel (mother to Steve H.) comfort.

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

Leslie C. health concerns.

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

Ray P. (cousin of Sarah S.) healing and strength.

Lynn S. comfort.

Dot M. for healing & comfort..

Lois V. sister of Lyn V., increased mobility

Barbara K. for transition.

Anita & Bob P. comfort and discernment.

Homebound Members

Email secretary@southaiken.org to change information or removal of name.

Volunteers Today

Pulpit Assistant: Greg Burkes

Ushers: Heidi Abele, Chuck Abele,
Ron Stennett, Diane Davies

Sound: Scott Reboul

Video: Haley Culp

JaM Director: Lyn VanDervort

Volunteers Next Week

Pulpit Assistant: Michelle Green

Ushers: Jenny Chase, Elaine Barnes,
Kelli Williams, Alan Miller

Sound: Scott Martin

Video: Anthony Williamson

JaM Director: Lyn VanDervort

Upcoming Schedule for Sunday School

February 22nd (*SOAR, Take Off*)

Teacher: Angela Clifford

Assistant Teacher: Margaret Clifford

Aide: Shirley Colburn

March 1st (*SOAR, Full Speed*)

Teacher: Mary Bunch

Assistant Teacher: Jim Bunch

Aide: Sandy Erwin

March 8th (*SOAR, Turbulence*)

Teacher: Susan Glenn

Assistant Teacher: Katie Moler

Aide: Susan Selden

March 15th (*SOAR, Cruising Altitude*)

Teacher: Emily Martin

Assistant Teacher: Madison Wooten

Aide: Sandy Haines

SAPC THIS WEEK

Sunday, February 22nd

- 8:50a Children's Chime Choir (Fellowship Hall)
- 9:00a The Present Word Sunday School (Library)
- Presbyterian Cafe (FLC PCR) Book of Acts
- 9:05a JaM Practice (Fellowship Hall)
- 10:00a Worship Service
- 11:00a New Member Luncheon (Gym)
- 1:30p Mighty Warriors Basketball
- 2:00p Youth Group Sunday Planning (Youth Rm
in FLC)
- 4:00p Session Meeting (Library)

Monday, February 23rd

- 12:00p Bible Friends (Gym)
- 2:00p Pickleball (Gym)
- 4:00 Mighty Warriors Basketball (Gym)

Tuesday, February 24th

- 12:00p Bible Friends (Gym)
- 2:00p Pickleball (Gym)
- 4:30p Belles Canto (Music Room)
- 6:00p Carolina Flight Basketball (Gym)
- 7:00p Scouts Meeting (F205 in FLC)

Wednesday, February 25th

- 12:00p Bible Friends (Gym)
- 2:00p Pickleball (Gym)
- 5:30p Food for Thought (Gym, Kitchen, Rm 203)
- 7:00p Choir Rehearsal (Music Room)

Thursday, February 26th

- 12:00p Bible Friends (Gym)
- 1:15p Busy Hands in Faith (Library)
- 2:00p Pickleball (Gym)
- 5:00p Kash Elite Basketball (Gym)

Friday, February 27th

- 12:00p Bible Friends (Gym)
- 2:00p Pickleball (Gym)
- 4:00p Setup for Talent Show (Gym)

Saturday, February 28th

- 5:00p Talent Show (Gym)

Sunday, March 1st

- 8:50a Children's Chime Choir (Fellowship Hall)
- 9:00a The Present Word Sunday School (Library)
- Presbyterian Cafe (FLC PCR) Book of Acts
- 9:05a JaM Practice (Fellowship Hall)
- 10:00a Worship Service
- 11:00a Kid's First Training (Fellowship Hall)
- 2:00p Pickleball (Gym)
- 6:00p Youth Group Planning Meeting 2 (Youth Rm
in FLC)

* FLC - Family Life Center

** PCR - Pastor's Conference Room

CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION

Church Office: 803-648-9574

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

pastor@southaiken.org

SAPK: 803-648-9895

Fax: 803-648-7972

Web Site: www.southaiken.org

Email: secretary@southaiken.org

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

Also with Instagram at: **southaikenpc**

SAPC STAFF

Office Ministry Staff

Monica Grindle, Secretary: ext. 100, secretary@southaiken.org

Mary Bunch, Interim Treasurer: ext. 103, treasurer@southaiken.org

Music Ministry Staff

Phillip Hare, Director of Music, philliphare@hotmail.com

Olga Kuzmenkova, Pianist/Accompanist, okvwarren@gmail.com

Communication Ministry Staff

Carina McGee, Communications Specialist, ext. 105 media@southaiken.org.

Office Hours: Upon Request

Family and Children Ministry Staff

Kim Goetter, Children and Family Ministry Coordinator, families@southaiken.org

Youth Ministry Staff

Anthony Williamson, Youth Programs Coordinator. youth@southaiken.org

Facility Ministry Staff

Kirk Callan, Sexton (Custodian): kirkcallan@gmail.com

Church & School Mission Staff

Jennifer Huntley, Kindergarten Director:

803-648-9895: ext. 107. sapkdirector@southaiken.org

Cissy Kelley, Assistant Kindergarten Director/Childcare Coordinator:

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