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.

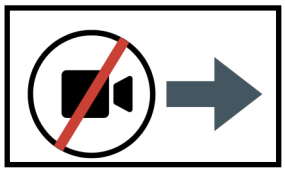
Welcome!

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 worship God!

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.



Please join us in our Gym honoring

***Anthony Williamson,* Youth Programs Coordinator for 4 years of leadership, immediately following today's Worship Service.**

Online Donations

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

August 23, 2026 **13th Sunday after Pentecost** **10:00 am**

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

Prelude **Olga Kuzmenkova (Accompanist)**

Welcome and Announcements **Paul Ebel (Pulpit Assistant, PA)**

The Chiming *(For God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.)*

Introit ***"Gather Us In"*** **Marty Haugen**

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

***Call to Worship** *(Psalm 138: 1-4) (Read responsively):*

One: We give you thanks, O Lord, with our whole heart; before the gods we sing your praise;

ALL: We bow down toward your holy temple and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your faithfulness, for you have exalted your name and your word above everything.

One: On the day we called, you answered us; you increased our strength of soul.

ALL: All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O Lord, for they have heard the words of your mouth.

Hymn #728** ***"Somebody is Knocking on Your Door" **Joy Patterson**

Prayer of Confession (Together): Eternal God, in whom we live and move and have our being, whose face is hidden from us by our sins, and whose mercy we forget in the blindness of our hearts: Cleanse us from all our offenses, and deliver us from proud thoughts and vain desires, that with reverent and humble hearts we may draw near to you, confessing our faults, confiding in your grace, and finding in you our refuge and strength; through Jesus Christ your Son.

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

Assurance of Forgiveness *(Responsively)*:

P.A.: Our assurance of forgiveness of all our mistakes and short comings is experienced through faith in Jesus Christ's sacrifice on the cross.

ALL: In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways. Know we are forgiven and be at peace in our hearts, our minds, and our spirits.

P.A.: As you see and hear the water being poured into baptismal font, let us witness, to the community through the resurrected Christ in thought, words, and actions.

The Font *(pour water into the baptismal font)*

Responsive Hymn #582** ***"Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me"

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
And to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
And to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen.
World without end, without end. Amen.
World without end, without end. Amen
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

Holy Interruption** (aka, Passing the Peace) *(Responsively):**

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.)

PROCLAIMING THE WORD OF GOD

Children's Moment **Kimberly Goetter**

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

Anthem ***"The Very Thought of Thee"*** **Tom Fettke**

Prayer for Illumination

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

Old Testament Lessons: **Isaiah 51: 1-6** *(pg. 681 of the Old Testament)*
Gospel Reading: **Matthew 16: 13-20** *(pg. 18 of the New Testament)*
(fill-in the blanks on page 7)

One: Hear what the Spirit says to the church.
All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon **"Confession Confirms the Call"** **Rev. Jason Hammersley**

Responsive Hymn #69** ***"I, the Lord of Sea and Sky

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

Prayer of Intercession

Minute for Mission ***(Family Promise)*** **Mary Bunch**

Offering of Gifts

Offertory ***"Arioso (Sinfonia from Cantata No./ 156)"*** **Arr. Curry**

***Doxology Hymn:**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise Christ all people here below
Praise Holy Spirit evermore
Praise Trinne God whom we adore. 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

Prayer of Gratitude for Anthony Williamson

Hymn #317** ***"In Christ There is No East or West"

***Blessings 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 16: 13-20) fill in the blank with the word(s) you hear.

Peter's Declaration about Jesus

13 Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the _____ of _____ is?" 14 And they said, "Some say John the Baptist but others Elijah and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." 15 He said to them, "But who do _____ say that I am?" 16 Simon Peter answered, "You are the _____,[a] the Son of the living God." 17 And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you but my _____ in heaven. 18 And I tell you, you are Peter,[b] and on this _____ [c]I will build my church, and the gates of _____ will not prevail against it. 19 I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you _____ on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you _____ on earth will be loosed in heaven." 20 Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to _____ anyone that he was[d] the Messiah.[e]

DID YOU KNOW?

The South Aiken Presbyterian Church Music Ministry choral library contains almost 450 titles?

Included in this collection are:

- Traditional and blended choral anthems
- Contemporary song sheets
- Traditional and contemporary songs, hymns and spiritual songs
- Dozens of Christmas Cantatas
- Dozens of Orchestral accompaniment scores for anthems and cantatas
- Song sheets for the contents of our Glory to God Hymnal (so singers will not have to balance a hymnal in the choir loft)

A tremendous and heartfelt ***"thank you"*** *is expressed to* ***Nancy Goslen*** *for spending valuable volunteer time helping sort, catalogue, and store our vast music library!*

Living in Faith Together (LIFT)

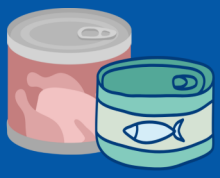
(Women's Small Group)

When: Sept. 1st, at 5:30pm
Where: Dom Postrillos Mexican Restaurant in Downtown Aiken

Angela will be leading the lesson with a review from chapters 1 and 2 of the Four Agreements

Please let Lynn know if you need childcare. To join our group on Facebook, scan this QR Code.

August's acts Collection:



Canned Meat (chicken or tuna)

The annual *Family Promise Rummage Sale*

St. Paul Lutheran Church on **Sept. 17th, 18th, & 19th**.

There will be a preview sale on the evening of Sept. 17th (6-8pm) for a $10 entry fee for each person.

We need donations and volunteers. ***Can you help?*** We are receiving donations here at SAPC to be stored on the stage of the FLC. If you need help with moving your donation, please contact Mary Bunch. If you have furniture to donate, we much prefer to pick it up from your house the week of the sale. We will not be accepting donations of clothing, but most anything else will be greatly appreciated. ***We also need volunteers to help the whole week, starting Sunday afternoon, the 13th, after church, especially if you have a pickup truck.***

Please contact Mary Bunch at 803-270-5599 or marybunch1953@gmail.com to sign up to help. The schedule is to move everything to St. Paul on Sunday, then spend Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday staging and pricing prior to opening the doors at 8:00 am on Friday.

acts
AREA CHURCHES TOGETHER SERVING

PROVIDING HOPE TO OUR *Neighbors in Need*

FOOD ASSISTANCE | PRESCRIPTION ASSISTANCE | UTILITY ASSISTANCE | TRANSPORTATION ASSISTANCE | CLOTHING ASSISTANCE

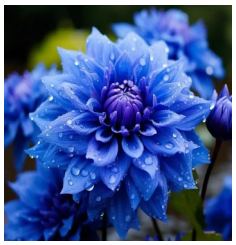
Current Needs:

- Men's shoes & clothing (gently used or new)
- Children's shoes & clothing (gently used or new)
- Fan Drive (new fans or monetary donations)

Volunteer Opportunities:

- Volunteers for our Resale stores (pricing, intake)

SCAN ME! »
actsofaiken.org



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.

Let's Jam
Jesus and Music
Children's hand chimes, instruments, and choir

Hand Chimes
Instruments
Singing

Sunday Mornings
8:50am Fellowship Hall

Coordination Team:
Lyn VanDervortl
and
Lynn Burkes

We follow the ACPSD school calendar - when they are off on Monday, there will no practice on the prior Sunday.

SAPC's Blessing Box

Please don't forget our homeless, please consider bringing one of the following for them.

Possible Non-Perishable Food Items

- Bottled Water
- One-box meals
- Dried fruits & nuts
- Canned goods
- Granola bars, Crackers
- Fruit cups, Instant Oatmeal
- meat, fruit, & vegetables

Possible Personal Care Items

- Unused Underwear/Socks
- Travel-sized hygiene items (toothpaste, soap, etc.)
- Toilet paper
- Band Aids/Wet wipes
- Nail clippers

KINDer Closet

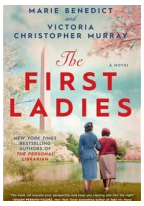
KINDerClosetSAPC@gmail.com
southaiken.org/KINDer-Closet

Volunteer your time | **Donate clothes** | **Give monetarily**

Current needs:

Please drop off your donations in front of the Church Office, Narthex and Kindergarten Office. The bins are marked with the KINDer Closet logo.

The Chapter Chat Book Club



"The First Ladies"
by Marie Benedict

Thursday, September 3rd, at 2 pm.
Meet in the Church Library

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

WANTED

Volunteer(s) for the SAPC's Property Committee Team who has talents for:

⇒ **Electrical**

⇒ **Plumbing**

⇒ **HVAC**

⇒ and **General Repairs**

for our SAPC property.

Please contact Gary Hamman via the church office

The church email address is:
secretary@southaiken.org

Prayer Requests

Hinson Family - season of grief.
Appigani Family - season of grief.
Kierpse Family - season of grief.
MacCrum & Tyler Family season of grief.

Ed T. for comfort (hospice).
Jimmy H. for comfort.
John C. for recovery.
Jane B. for effective treatment.
Judi A .for recovery.
John P. (friend of Will & Anita Self) for healing & strength.
Crissy C. (Daughter in Law of John C.) - for health concerns.
Rob K. (Lynn B.'s brother) for comfort & healing.
Donna B. 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
Sonni C. for healing & recovery.
Leland K. (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
Bob P. for comfort (hospice).

Homebound Members

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

Volunteers This Week

Pulpit Assistant: Paul Ebel

Ushers: Susan Selden, Elizabeth Barringer, Mary Ann Hinson, Larry Hinson

Sound: Steve Kuhl

Video: Haley Culp

Volunteers Next Week

Pulpit Assistant: Shirley Colburn

Ushers: Margie Hamman, Gary Hamman, Scott Martin, Graham Culp

Sound: Alex McGee

Video: Kelly Frontroth

Upcoming Schedule for Sunday School

August 23rd
Teacher: Kimberly Goetter
Assistant Teacher: Madison Wooten
Aide: Shirley Colburn

August 30th
Teacher: Emily Martin
Assistant Teacher: Kimberly Goetter
Aide: Sandy Haines

September 6th *(Books of the Bible, Better than Shakespeare!)*
Teacher: Mary Bunch
Assistant Teacher: Jim Bunch
Aide: Sandy Erwin

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.

SAPC THIS WEEK

Sunday, August 23rd
8:50a Children's Chime Choir (Fellowship Hall)
9:00a The Present Word Sunday School (Library)
- Presbyterian Cafe (FLC PCR) Book of Acts
10:00a Worship Service
11:00a Anthony's Appreciation (Gym)
12:00p Officer Nominating Team (Library)
2:00p Pickleball (Gym)
4:00p Session Meeting (Library)
5:00p Family Movie Night (Youth Room)

Monday, August 24th
9:30a Music Room Reserved
12:00p Bible Friends (Gym)
2:00p Pickleball (Gym)
6:00p Mighty Warriors Basketball Practice (Gym)

Tuesday, August 25th
12:00p Bible Friends (Gym)
2:00p Pickleball (Gym)
7:00p Scouts Meeting (F205 in FLC)

Wednesday, August 26th
12:00p Bible Friends (Gym)
2:00p Pickleball (Gym)
6:00p Mighty Warriors Basketball Practice (Gym)
7:00p Choir Rehearsal (Music Room)

Thursday, August 27th
12:00p Bible Friends (Gym)
1:15p Busy Hands in Faith (Library)
2:00p Pickleball (Gym)
5:00p Kash Elite Basketball Practice (Gym)

Friday, August 28th
12:00p Bible Friends (Gym)
2:00p Pickleball (Gym)
6:00p Mighty Warriors Basketball Practice (Gym)

Saturday, August 29th
11:30a Mighty Warriors Basketball (Gym)
2:00p Pickleball (Gym)

Sunday, August 30th
8:50a Children's Chime Choir (Fellowship Hall)
9:00a The Present Word Sunday School (Library)
- Presbyterian Cafe (FLC PCR) Book of Acts
10:00a Worship Service
2:00p Pickleball (Gym)
5:00p Youth Kickoff Night (Youth Room)

* *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
Rebecca Ferguson, Financial Manager: 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**:** Maternity Leave

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

Youth Ministry Staff
Kim Goetter, Interim Youth Programs Coordinator

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

Church & School Mission Staff
Dawn Thurston, 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