

Welcome to Aiken's First Baptist

Thank you for joining us this morning. We are glad that you are here and want you to know that you are welcome with us.

You are welcome here if you are single, married, divorced, searching, or done searching. We welcome you if you are filthy rich or dirt poor, work too much or don't work at all, are over 60 and not grown up or a teenager growing up too fast. And we extend a special welcome to all crying babies.

You are welcome here if you are just browsing, just woke up, are tired of organized religion and not sure how you found your way here, or have heavy questions that need thoughtful answers. We welcome you if you are a long-time faithful or a doubter, recovering or still addicted, inked or don't know what that means, black or white or no hablan inglés.

But above all, we welcome you if you could use a prayer right now, if you feel like rejoicing, if you're broken-hearted and need a safe space, or if you just need a place to sit in awe of all that is.

Welcome to Aiken's First Baptist Church.



This Week

Sunday, December 14

8:30 am - Church Council
9:45 am - Sunday School
11:00 am - Worship- Cantata and More Than Sunday First Gifts

Monday, December 15

1:00 pm - Personnel Committee

Wednesday, December 17

7:00 pm - Sanctuary Choir Practice

Thursday, December 18

10:00 am - Prayer Quilt Ministry
6:30 pm - Young Adult Christmas Party

Friday, December 19

8:00 am - Vanguard: A Men's Study Group

Saturday, December 20

9:00 pm - Youth Lock-In

Sunday, December 21

8:30 am - Deacons Meeting
9:45 am - Sunday School
11:00 am - Worship

Missions & Donations

The ACTS collection item for December is canned complete meals.
(chunky soup, canned pasta etc.)
Our goal is 450 cans.
So far we have collected 201 cans and 24 cans from our preschool, for a total of **225**.

Ministry Team

Rev. John Carroll
Senior Pastor

Zachary Derr
Director of Music and Worship

Rev. Christian Burton
Director of Administration

Rev. Sarah Laurence
Minister of Youth and Pastoral Care

Rev. Matt Waller
Minister to Children and Families

Emily Berry
Youth Family Intern

Kim Mitchell
Preschool Director

Alison Heenan
Assistant Preschool Director

Anna Derr
Communications Specialist/Organist

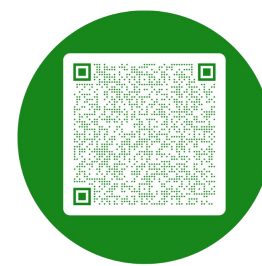
Gail Floyd
Financial Secretary

Darin Floyd
Building Maintenance Specialist

LeAnne Jolley
Administrative Assistant



Give Here



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Contact

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 120 Chesterfield Street N
Aiken, South Carolina 29801



Aiken's First Baptist Church

Sunday, December 14, 2025

Order of Worship

Prelude Ding Dong Merrily on High arr. K. Agioritis

Chiming of the Trinity

Entering worship, we step into a time that is not ours, but God's.

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship and Prayer of Invocation Zachary Derr

Rejoice in the Lord always, and again I say Rejoice!

Our joy is in the Lord who blesses us.

Shout for joy, for the Lord is near!

Our praises ascend to God for the mighty things God has done.

Let your praise dance and swirl in tribute to God!

Surely God blesses and saves us. Hallelujah! Praise be to God.

***The Advent Hymn 120** Emmanuel

Lighting of the Joy Candle Isaiah 35:1-10
The Pniewski Family

***Hymn 127** Hark! The Herald Angels Sing MENDELSSOHN

Psalm 96

Pastoral Prayer John Carroll

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.

More Than Sunday Celebration John Carroll

Offertory O Come, All Ye Faithful arr. Lind

You may give in a variety of ways. Your gift may be given in the plate as it is passed, online at fbcaiken.org, or through the church app.

***Doxology**
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.

Blessing John Carroll

Moment of Fellowship

Christmas Cantata **A Journey to Joy** Joseph M. Martin
Sanctuary Choir and Orchestra
Narrated by Megan Dozier

A Flourish of Carols

Advent Lament Hendrick McCullar, soloist

Credo in Candlelight

Comfort, Hope and Joy

A Joyful, Jubilant Song Mark LeGrand, soloist

A Palace in Bethlehem Sarah Laurence, soloist

Angels We Have Heard on High, Gloria!

Child of Promise

Let There Be Joy - A Festive Medley of Carols

Joy to the world! the Lord is come. Let earth receive her King. Let every heart prepare Him room, and heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing, and heaven and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the earth! the Savior reigns. Let all their songs employ; while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

The first Noel the angel did say, was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay; in fields where they lay keeping their sheep, on a cold winter's night that was so deep. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel. Born is the King of Israel.

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant. O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem! Come and behold Him, born the King of angels! O come, let us adore Him. O come, let us adore Him. O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation. O sing, all ye citizens of heaven above! Glory to God, all glory in the highest! O come, let us adore Him. O come, let us adore Him. O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning. Jesus, to Thee be all glory given. Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing! O come, let us adore Him. O come let us adore Him. O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord! O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

***Benediction** John Carroll

*Sung Congregational Response

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee O Israel!

Postlude Joy to the World! arr. Williams

**Please stand as you are able.*

We at Aiken's First Baptist remain particularly grateful to the enduring gift of the Fincher Family for making these special ensembles possible.

Upcoming Events & Announcements

Wednesday Night Activities are on hiatus and will resume January 14.

Important Reminder -

All Year End Gifts for 2025 must be received in the church office or postmarked by December 31.

Poinsettias - Poinsettias are now available for purchase. Forms can be returned to the church office or you can also purchase them using the QR code. The cost is \$17 a piece. **Orders must be placed and paid by Tuesday the 16th.**

Young Adult Christmas Party - Thursday, December 18 at the Wallers' at 6:30 pm.

Youth Christmas Lock-In - Saturday, Dec. 20 from 9:00 pm to 9:00 am. AFBC Third Floor.

Christmas Eve Service - December 24 at 5:00 pm.

Together For Hope Mission Day - Saturday, February 14, we will join with one of CBF of SC covenant partners, Together for Hope- Black Belt Region, and other churches in the state for a workday in Allendale, Blackville and Fairfax. The minimum age is middle school students. More details to come!

We welcome the following guest musicians this morning: Nyamka Odsuren, first violin; Angela Shaw, second violin; Brent Hooper, viola; Justin Resley, cello; Travis Shaw, bass; Erin Montgomery, flute; Jay Rising, clarinet; Todd Jenkins, first trumpet; James Vaughn, second trumpet; Will Jenkins, horn; Kate Jenkins, first trombone; Joshua Brown, second trombone; and Kent Hannibal, percussion.

Information Card

Name(s):

Home Phone:

Cell Phone:

Email:

Address:

I am a Visitor

Change of Information

Add me to the Email List

I'm interested in following Jesus and being baptized.

I'm interested in joining the church family.

I'm interested in learning more about our ministries and ways to serve.

Wednesday Night Sign-Up

Number of Adults Number of Kids

Prayer Requests

Please keep confidential among the ministers.

Please tear off and place in offering plate.