

Dear Friends,

It has been quite a summer at ACTS! Between serving our neighbors, strengthening our programs, welcoming volunteers and partners, and celebrating an incredible milestone, these past few months have certainly kept us busy. And while there is still plenty of work ahead, I think I speak for many of us when I say we are all looking forward to cooler temperatures, changing leaves, and the arrival of fall. But as we turn the page to a new season, I find myself especially grateful for the season ACTS is experiencing right now.

This year, ACTS celebrates 40 years of serving our community. Forty years is more than a number. It represents four decades of people who believed that when a community comes together, we can accomplish far more than any one person, organization, or church could accomplish alone. From our beginnings in 1986 to the organization we are today, ACTS has been shaped by thousands of volunteers, donors, churches, businesses, civic organizations, community partners, staff members, and supporters who have believed that our neighbors deserve compassion, dignity, and a helping hand when life becomes difficult.

Our 40th anniversary has given us an opportunity to look back with gratitude, but it has also challenged us to look forward with purpose. We should celebrate the people and decisions that brought ACTS this far, but we cannot allow an anniversary to become simply an exercise in nostalgia. The greatest way we can honor those who built ACTS is by continuing the work they began and preparing this organization to serve our community for another forty years.

That is why I am so excited about what lies ahead. The community around us continues to change, and the needs of our neighbors continue to evolve. ACTS must be willing to grow, adapt, and find new ways to serve while remaining firmly grounded in the values that have defined us for four decades. Our programs may change. Technology will certainly change. The way we communicate and engage with our community may change. But the heart of ACTS should remain the same: **a community coming together to help its neighbors.**

As I reflect on this milestone, I am reminded of the words of Psalm 90:17: “Let the favor of the Lord our God rest on us; establish the work of our hands for us - yes, establish the work of our hands.” For forty years, countless hands have built, served, donated, volunteered, organized, prayed, encouraged, and cared. We are the beneficiaries of work that began long before any of us arrived, and now we have the responsibility to build upon it.

So, as we celebrate 40 years of ACTS, my gratitude is not only for what this organization has accomplished. **It is for you.** Thank you for being part of the story. Thank you for investing in this mission. Thank you for believing that our community is stronger when we care for one another.

And perhaps most importantly, thank you for helping us write the next chapter.

I believe the best days of ACTS are not behind us. They are still ahead. There are opportunities before us that could strengthen our organization, expand our reach, and allow us to serve even more of our neighbors with dignity and compassion. Whatever the next forty years hold, I am grateful to have the privilege of walking into them with you. Here’s to a wonderful Fall season, a meaningful 40th anniversary, and an exciting future for Area Churches Together Serving.

In service to our community,

Logan Ford

Logan C. Ford, Executive Director

LET THE FAVOR OF THE LORD

OUR GOD REST ON US;

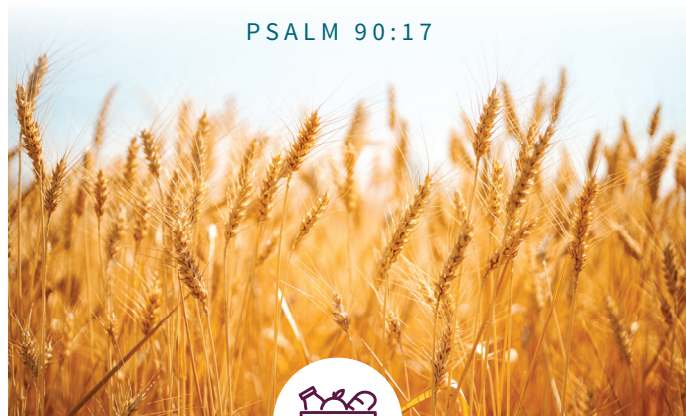
ESTABLISH THE WORK

OF OUR HANDS FOR US -

YES, ESTABLISH THE

WORK OF OUR HANDS.

PSALM 90:17



Pop-Up Food Distributions Continue to Serve Our Community

ACTS continues to bring food directly to neighbors in need through our ongoing pop-up food distributions. These events, like our recent collaboration with the Aiken County Long Term Recovery Group, United Way of Aiken County, and the American Red Cross, help us reach families where they are and strengthen community partnerships. We’re grateful for the teamwork that makes these efforts possible and for everyone who helps ACTS fight hunger across Aiken County.





Vicki Bukovitz
Executive Director, 2003-2014



ACTS Celebrates 40 Years of Service

**ACTS is celebrating 40 years of serving Aiken County -
an incredible milestone rooted in faith, collaboration, and compassion.**

Our story began in 1986 when Pat Bisschop, an Elder at First Presbyterian Church of Aiken, launched a small clothing ministry that quickly outgrew its space. Seeing the growing need, she and her pastor, Dr. William (Bill) Johnston, invited area churches to unite in service. Representatives from 20 congregations came together and agreed to form a shared ministry to better support families in crisis.

From that meeting, AREA CHURCHES TOGETHER SERVING (ACTS) was born. A central food pantry, clothing closet, furniture and household goods, and assistance with prescriptions and utilities were established - all powered by volunteers and supported by participating churches. A building on Hayne Avenue was leased, and ACTS was officially dedicated on August 4, 1986.

As ACTS grew, leadership support from the Daughters of Charity helped stabilize operations, and in 1994,

ACTS moved into its current building, expanding space fivefold. By 1999, ACTS transitioned to local governance under a Board of Directors, Executive Director, and Director of Operations.

Today, ACTS remains committed to its founding mission: serving our neighbors in need to glorify

God. What began with 20 churches has grown to 71 congregations, as well as many corporate partners, and volunteers continue to be the heart of our work.

We look forward to a year of celebration! Stay tuned for events and activities that will be scheduled to allow us to praise the decades of dedication.

As we celebrate 40 years, we honor our founders, our partner churches, and every volunteer who has carried this mission forward. Here's to four decades of service - and to the hope and help still ahead.



The ACTS 40th Anniversary logo tells the story of four decades of faith in action. The number 40 is formed from dozens of small images representing the people, programs, and values that have shaped ACTS of Aiken. Churches, crosses, hearts, homes, loaves of bread, praying hands, volunteers, children, older adults, grocery bags, and other symbols come together to reflect the many ways ACTS serves neighbors in need.

Up close, each icon represents an individual act of service. From a distance, those acts come together to form 40 years of ministry, compassion, and community impact. The mosaic reminds us that ACTS' story has been built through countless volunteers, churches, donors, community partners, and neighbors working together.

The multicolored burst surrounding the cross represents a new era for ACTS. While the cross remains at the center of our mission, the expanding colors symbolize growth, renewed energy, and an increasing variety of services. They also reflect ACTS' continued outreach into more communities throughout Aiken County, including rural areas, while strengthening programs that serve seniors and other neighbors with unique needs.

40th Anniversary Kickoff

ACTS joyfully kicked off its 40th Anniversary with a special celebration held at First Presbyterian Church, the place where our mission first took root in 1986.

Returning to our beginnings made the event especially meaningful as we gathered with longtime volunteers, community partners, and many local elected officials who came to show their support. The room was filled with gratitude, fellowship, and stories of how ACTS has grown through four decades of service. It was a beautiful start to our Ruby 40 year and a reminder of the strong community that continues to stand behind our mission.



WE THANK OUR 2026 CORPORATE PARTNERS

Shepherds



Stewards



Benefactors



Patrons

Aiken Pest Control

Cold Creek Nurseries

Aiken Saddlery

Blue Salamander Solutions

Coward & McNeil Real Estate

Durban-Laird Insurance

Advocates

JE Stewart Builders

McNeil Appraisal Service

Morris Communications

Shinshow American Corporation

Friends

Aiken County Farm Supply

Family Medcenter

McDonald's



Security Federal Bank ACTS Affinity Card

Security Federal Bank is a proud corporate sponsor and is helping launch our brand-new ACTS Affinity Card — a simple, meaningful way for community members to support our mission with every swipe.

Each purchase made with the affinity card generates a contribution to ACTS, turning everyday spending into ongoing support for local families in need. We are grateful to Security Federal Bank for investing in our community, supporting ACTS for many years, and helping us expand the impact of our mission.

ACTS CORPORATE PARTNER HIGHLIGHT



The Gifting Tree Foundation continues to be a cherished partner in ACTS' mission, providing meaningful support that directly impacts families throughout our community. Through their generosity and commitment to local service, The Gifting Tree Foundation helps ensure that essential resources reach those who need them most. We are grateful for their ongoing partnership and the compassion they bring to our shared work of strengthening and uplifting neighbors across Aiken County. The Gifting Tree and ACTS has a partnership truly rooted in compassion and kindness.



Special Thanks

WE APPRECIATE THE GENEROUS
CONTRIBUTORS WHO HELP MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Gifts in Memory

Monnie Pitts
John Jordan

Robert A. Smoak, Jr.
Jeannie Dynarski

Barbara E.
Blankenship

Mary & Elmore Fabrick
J. Nick Shaw

Gifts in Honor

Sam Christine's
90th Birthday

Gladys Holmes

The Marriage of
Kerstin & Eric McDonald

Gifts + Grants

Women of Woodside -
for food programs
Aiken Hospital and Relief Society

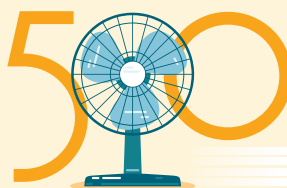
Dominion Energy
Aiken Women's Club
Kiwanis Club of Aiken

Aiken County Long Term Recovery
Group in partnership with the
United Way of Aiken County and
the American Red Cross

ACTS Branded Gear

ACTS now has branded
merchandise.

Find shirts, hoodies,
mugs and more at
actsofaiken.org



Fan Drive Goal Met

ACTS extends a heartfelt thank-you
to our community for helping us reach
our Fan Drive goal of 500 fans.

Your generosity keeps our neighbors
cool, valued, and supported.

ACTS Needs

Please consider donating these items in support of our clients:

Pantry Needs

- » **Priority need: Peanut Butter**
- » Tuna
- » Canned/Dry Beans
- » Breakfast foods (cereal, oatmeal, grits)
- » Soups
- » Spaghetti noodles/pasta

Miscellaneous

- » Men's shoes/clothes
- » Men's/women's bikes for the bicycle program

Please call 803-649-3800 for more information
or with any questions.



PROVIDING HOPE
TO OUR
Neighbors in Need

MAIN OFFICE

340 Park Avenue, SW, Aiken

Office Hours

Monday – Friday: 9 am – 5 pm

Administration: 803-649-3800

CLIENT SERVICES

Monday - Friday:

11 am - 3 pm, by appointment

Aiken: 803-642-5919

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK

@actsofaiken

@actsresalestoreaiken

@actsofgraniteville

ACTS OF AIKEN RESALE STORE

401 Hayne Avenue, Aiken

Hours

Monday – Friday:

10 am – 5 pm

803-226-0134

ACTS OF GRANITEVILLE RESALE STORE

50 Canal Street, Graniteville

Hours

Monday – Friday:

10 am – 5 pm

803-392-7022

info@actsofaiken.org

www.actsofaiken.org

ACTS BOARD MEMBERS

Officers

Eric Muhlbaiier, *President*

Stephanie Lord, *Vice President*

Lee Sims, *Treasurer*

Kathy Samaha, *Secretary*

Rev. Matt Steelman, *Member-at-Large*

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Mike Borders

Tom Boykin

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Larry McHale

Melissa McKnight

Nicole Morgan

Zack Moulton

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Louisiana W.

Sanders

Cindy Snell

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Jennifer Chastain, *Administrative Manager*

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HELP US PROVIDE HOPE TO OUR NEIGHBORS IN NEED ►
MAKE A GIFT ONLINE: www.actsofaiken.org



A United Way of
Aiken County Partner Agency