

Weekly Calendar



Sunday, December 15

- 8:30 AM Traditional Worship Service, **Sanctuary***
8:30 AM Adult Sunday School, **Room 202***
9:45 AM Clubhouse Jam, **Kid's Clubhouse**
9:45 AM Sunday School & Small Group Classes, **Various Locations***
9:45 AM Contemporary Worship Service, **Chapel***
11:00 AM Traditional Worship Service, **Sanctuary***
***Nursery Available: Newborn- 4 yrs. for above worship services**
***All Services Streamed Live**
4:00 PM Christmas Caroling w/Children & Youth, **Thorpe Bldg.**

Monday, December 16

- 9:00 AM Prayer Team, **Parlor**
11:00 AM Chair Yoga, **Thorpe Building**
2:00 PM Stephen Ministry Meeting, **Parlor**

Tuesday, December 17

- 10:00 AM Men's Life Group, **Room 203**
1:00 PM Women's Life, **Room 209**
5:30 PM ERT Meeting, **Room 203**
6:30 PM UWF Circle 1 Meeting, **Parlor**

Wednesday, December 18

- 11:00 AM Chair Yoga, **Thorpe Building**
1:15 PM Lightkeepers Al-Anon, **Room 203**

Thursday, December 19

- 10:30 AM Advent Study, **Room 201**

Friday, December 20

- 11:00 AM Chair Yoga, **Thorpe Building**
7:00 PM Carols and Keyboards, **Sanctuary**

ST. SIMONS

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



C **REV. TOM JONES, Senior Pastor**
tom@stsimonsumc.com | 678.343.3767

h **REV. BENJY VARNELL, Assistant Pastor**
benjyv@stsimonsumc.com | 912.393.4566

u **KEVIN LAMB, Director of Music Ministries**
kevin@stsimonsumc.com

r **ANNE FRAZIER, Church Administrator**
anne@stsimonsumc.com

c **CAROLYN HAMILTON, Finance Associate**
carolyn@stsimonsumc.com

h **TANJA OLIVER, Preschool Director**
tanja@stsimonsumc.com

S **ASHLEY CARTER, Administrative Staff Associate**
ashley@stsimonsumc.com

t **CELIA EISENTRAEGER, Director of Family Ministries**
celia@stsimonsumc.com

a **HOLLY LAMB, Contemporary Music Associate**
hlamb92@gmail.com

f **SONDRA ANDERSON, Music Associate-Pianist**
sanderson41561@gmail.com

f **VICTORIA FRYER, Director of Children's Ministries**
victoria@stsimonsumc.com

f **JUSTIS KUYKENDALL, Director of Youth Ministries**
justis@stsimonsumc.com

*Where Love is Unconditional,
Service is Celebrated Enthusiastically,*

The Mission of Christ is Advanced Consistently.

624 Ocean Boulevard • St. Simons Island, GA 31522
912.638.3317 • stsimonsumc.com



This is a Stephen Ministry Church

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

DECEMBER 15, 2024

9:45 AM • CHAPEL

GATHERING

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Tom Jones

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Youth Group

PRAISE AND WORSHIP

O Come All Ye Faithful

CCLI #31054
©Public Domain

Born That We May Have Life

CCLI #5601839
©2009 sixsteps Music

FELLOWSHIP TIME

King of Kings

CCLI #7127647
©2019 Hillsong Music

Midnight Clear

CCLI #7050418
©2015 Capitol

PRAYER TIME

MORNING MESSAGE

Rejoice and Be...Mary

Complete Trust

Luke 1:31-38 NLT

Rev. Tom Jones

INVITATION

King of Kings

CCLI #7127647
©2015 Capitol

SENDING FORTH

The Worship of God

DECEMBER 15, 2024

8:30 & 11:00 AM • SANCTUARY

GREETING Rev. Tom Jones

PRELUDE Kevin Lamb

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES Nancy & Gary Krabill (8:30)
Cathy & Paul Hegeman & Family (11:00)

* HYMN #246 *Joy to the World* ANTIOCH

* FELLOWSHIP TIME *He Is Born* Verse 1
by Bob McGee
©1976 C.A. Music

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE (11:00AM) Victoria Fryer

MORNING PRAYER Rev. Benjy Varnell

THE LORD'S PRAYER

* HYMN #238 *Angels We Have Heard on High* GLORIA

OFFERTORY PRAYER Rev. Benjy Varnell

OFFERTORY Sondra Anderson

* RESPONSE *A Christmas Doxology* THE FIRST NOEL

MESSAGE IN MUSIC *Star of the Morning* Chancel Choir
Arr. Jay Rouse
©2012 Lindsborg Press

MORNING MESSAGE Rev. Tom Jones

Rejoice and Be...Mary

Complete Trust

Luke 1:31-38 NLT

* INVITATION #224 *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice* IN DULCI JUBILO
Verses 1 & 2

* BENEDICTION Tom Jones

POSTLUDE Sondra Anderson

* PLEASE STAND AS COMFORTABLE

2025 – A Year in the Bible Together

I recently received an article from the New York Times. It pointed out that the sales of Bibles are booming, fueled by first time buyers. One 28-year-old woman said, "I've had Bibles that my mom gave me, but I felt I needed my own to start to my own journey. Something was missing. It's a combination of where we are in the world, general anxiety and the sense that meaning and comfort can be found in the Bible." The overriding theme of the article was that people are looking for hope and the Bible is what they are reaching for.

The article tugged at my heart. I felt a renewed challenge to lead our congregation into a year of exploring the epic story of the Bible and how it relates to us today. In turn, I want to challenge you to join with members of our congregation in reading and studying the Bible together in 2025.

The first step is to purchase the One Year Chronological Study Bible – New Living Translation. This Bible is published by Tyndale House and can be easily found on Amazon and at other book vendors. Reading the Bible in chronological order will help you better understand God's redemptive plan as you move through the scriptures from creation to Revelation in the order the events occurred or when passages, like Paul's letters, were written.

In the coming year, my plan is to preach sermons based on a story or spiritual truth we have read in the previous week's daily readings. I want to encourage existing Sunday School classes to consider this format for all or for a portion of your classes during the year. I also pray that individuals will step-up who are led to form and facilitate new study groups. These groups will focus on the weekly readings and serve as a means of holding one another accountable in our reading. If you feel called to serve in this way, please let me know and we will make it happen.

This Sunday we continue our journey to Bethlehem. As we move closer to Christmas it's my prayer that you will gift yourself, and possibly someone you care about, with a One Year Chronological Study Bible. In doing so it will serve as the starting point for yet another journey - our personal and churchwide journey through the Bible together in 2025!

Blessings,

Tom



Join us on **Friday, December 20 at 7:00pm** in the Sanctuary! You will not want to miss this beautiful and meaningful evening of pianos, pipe organ and carol singing! Bring a friend to this complimentary concert and enjoy the music of Christmas!

Financial Report

For your convenience you may give online at www.stimonsumc.com

December 8, 2024

Tithes & Offerings Received | \$23,935.00
 Received YTD | \$1,193,680.92
 Expenses YTD | \$1,179,644.96
 Difference YTD | \$14,035.96
 Budgeted Amount YTD | \$1,218,054.93
 Building Maintenance Fund YTD | \$34,436.00
 Maintaining the Mission (given to date) | \$275,370.64

thank you

Worship Attendance- December 8

One Worship Service at 10:30am: **451**

Online Worship Views: **2,303**

Members in Ministry- December 15

Ushers:

8:30 John Goodrich, Bill Foster, Steve Stahl

11:00 John Rentz, Zdenek Kuja, Dona Colglazier, Steve Smith

Greeters:

8:30 Susan Watkins, Barbara Foster

9:45 Toni Metz, Ava White

11:00 June Smith, Cheryl Murphy

Projection:

8:30 Elizabeth Daniel

9:45 Jessica Zettler

11:00 Richard Hart

Acolytes:

11:00 Ketch & Claire Kase

Prayer Requests

Please take time this week and pray for these individuals:

New Prayer Concerns - Church Members: Betty Daher, **Mary Glen Giery and family**, Jordi Graffis, Linda Hodges, Glenna Humphries, **Laura Johnson**, Jimmy Langford, **Mary Charles Moulton**, Ed Reynolds, Christa Thompson and family

New Prayer Concerns Non-Members: Gerry Bohannon, Kelly Conner, Family & friends of Jackson Dodgen, **Kristen Merrill**, **Maggie & David McNally**, **Amy Roberts**, **Robert Strain**, **Linda Wright**

Ongoing Prayer Concerns: Di Bailey, Ron Bateman, Bob Beane, Thomas Benefield, Jim Bennett, III, Ranny Blount, Sam Bodine, Marcia Boney, Kai Booth, Cindy Bostick, Billy June Boyd, Linda Boyette, Marsha Boyette, Carlotta Budd, Beth Carey, Vicki Certain, Russell Cohen, Trent Cohen, Cathy Bailey Crumbley, Pat Daniels, Larry Daugherty, Cathy Dowdy, Betsy Draughon, Eddie Echols, Sandy Fitzgerald, Dotsy Fuller, Jim Fuller, Ken Graffis, Mary McCreary George, Julie Haney, Bill Hansen, Elwanda Hopkins, Meredith Houseman, June Humphries, Tom Humphries, Barbara Jensen, Kevin Josey, Mitchell Kent, Rosie Koch, Holly Lamb, Gary Leggett, Ellie Leroux, John Lindgren, Chris Lorence, Mike Martin, Jason May & family, Whitney McCarthy, Mike McDonald, Ed McKenzie, Mike McMillan, Nathan Meadows, Priscilla Mercer, Spence Mullis, Kirk Nowery, Randy Payne, Ann Pickard, Dick Pipe, Mable Proctor, Mary Rentz, Reggie Rogers, Irene Rohan, Nancy Rozier, Bob Scherer, Bonni Smith, Mike Stiles, Carmen Sumpter, Robert Sumpter, Gena Paige Tolleson, Brion Trainor, Rhonda Van View, Dave Vandersall, Mary Vice, Bo Vice, Judy Whelan, Chuck Wilson, Bobbé Wooldridge, Hollis Youngner, Beverly Zeller, Emmie Zwack,

Assisted Living Prayer Concerns:

Magnolia Manor: Marjorie Lawrence, Barbara Meadows, Norma Mock

Marsh's Edge Assisted: Judy Clifton, Nancy Reynolds

Vitality: JoAnne Alford

When a name is added to the New Prayer Concerns they will remain for TWO weeks unless the office is notified of an ongoing prayer concern. Names that are BOLD indicate a new addition or current concern.

Christmas Lunch

Join us for our annual Christmas lunch! This meal will be held on Christmas day, Wednesday, December 25, at noon in the Thorpe Building. The church will provide turkey, ham, dressing, gravy and tea. We ask those who are attending to bring your favorite side dish or dessert to share. **Please RSVP on Realm or to the church office by Monday, December 23!**



Christmas Caroling

All our welcome to join our children and youth on Sunday afternoon, Sunday, December 15, at 4:00 pm in front of the Thorpe Building for hot cocoa and cookies before we carol to congregants around the island. Dress festive!



Advent Mission: Giving Trees



Hope 1312 | FaithWorks | Salvation Army

All Items should be returned by: **Sunday, December 15**

Thank you in advance for your generosity to these local ministries during the Christmas season!

The Chosen, Season 4

The video series, *The Chosen, Season 4*, returns Wednesday, January 15, from 6:00-7:30pm. Mark your calendars and plan to attend. The group is facilitated by Jeff Zoul. For more information contact Jeff at jeffzoul@gmail.com

End of Year Giving– 2024!

The Finance Committee of St. Simons UMC is so thankful to those who have contributed to our church this year! Your giving has been a blessing to the church and its mission and ministry in this community and beyond. If you need to complete your pledge for 2024 or are preparing a year end gift to the church, please note that gifts must be received by the church post-marked no later than December 31 to be included in 2024 giving statements.

The office will be OPEN 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM on **December 23, 26, 30 and until noon on 12/31**. The Church Office will be **CLOSED: December 24 & 25**.

Guest Information

- **First time guests** please fill out the yellow, "Welcome Card" located in your pew. Please drop in the offering plate or bring to the Welcome Desk to receive a gift!
- Restrooms are located through the exit doors nearest the altar to your right or left.
- Sunday School for children & adults meets at 8:30 (adult only) & 9:45am.
- A nursery is available for children **4 years old and under**, located through the exit door to the right of the altar, 1st floor in the Stubbs Bldg.
- Kid's Clubhouse (**5 years old - 5th grade**), leave together after the Kid's Message (except on the 1st Sunday of the month—Communion Sundays) for lessons, crafts, and games, and may be picked up on the 2nd floor in the Stubbs Bldg.

Join the Church

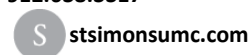
If you would like to join St. Simons United Methodist Church you may do so by one of three ways:

- (1) Profession of Faith in Jesus Christ
- (2) Transfer from another United Methodist congregation
- (3) Transfer from another denomination

If you are interested in more information about becoming a member contact Rev. Tom Jones. **678.343.3767 | tom@stsimonsumc.com**



Join Our Email List or Update Your Contact Info:
info@stsimonsumc.com | **912.638.3317**



stsimonsumc.com

Poinsettias– Final Day to Order!

Order your poinsettias through Monday, December 16

Help place poinsettias in the Sanctuary to Celebrate the Birth of Christ. They will be placed in the church on Sunday, December 22 and go home after the 11:00am worship service that day! The cost of each poinsettia is \$26. You may designate them in memory of, in honor of a loved one or to the Glory of God. Look for envelopes in the pew racks or contact the Church Office. anne@stsimonsumc.com | **912.638.3317**



Blue Christmas Service

Sunday, December 22 at 6:00pm– Chapel

Christmas can be difficult. Loss of any kind can cause us to feel blue in this season of joy.

All are welcome as we gather to acknowledge our struggles and find comfort in community. At St. Simons UMC - We Care!
A nursery will be provided.



FAMILY FRIENDLY SERVICE 4:00 PM

Join us for our *Paper Bag Pageant*. Everyone is a participant in this pageant. We will have carols, communion and candle lighting!

TRADITIONAL SERVICE 11:00 PM

This service has a more meditative feel, but still with carols, communion, and candle lighting!

Poverty Simulation– Save the Date

What is it like to experience a day in the life of a person less fortunate than us?

Save the date:

Saturday, January 25, 9:00am-12:00pm, Thorpe Bldg.

Sponsored by the Men's Ministry of our church.