

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, January 19

- 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**
5:00 PM Rock the Universe Mandatory Parent Meeting, **Thorpe Building**

Monday, January 20— Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

- Church Office— Closed in Observance of MLK Day
9:00 AM Prayer Team, **Parlor**
11:00 AM Chair Yoga, **Thorpe Building**
2:00 PM Stephen Ministry Meeting, **Parlor**

Tuesday, January 21

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

Wednesday, January 22

- 11:00 AM Chair Yoga, **Thorpe Building**
1:15 PM Lightkeepers Al-Anon, **Room 203**
4:30 PM Children's Choir, **Choir Room**
5:00 PM Wednesday Night Dinner, **Thorpe Building**
6:00 PM Chancel Choir, **Choir Room**
6:00 PM "The Chosen", **Chapel**

Thursday, January 23

- 5:30 PM Outreach Committee Meeting, **Room 203**

Friday, January 24

- 11:00 AM Chair Yoga, **Thorpe Building**

Saturday, January 25

- 9:00 AM Poverty Simulation, **Thorpe Building**

C **h** **u** **r** **c** **h** **S** **t** **a** **f** **f**
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ST. SIMONS

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



*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

JANUARY 19, 2025

9:45 AM • CHAPEL

GATHERING

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Tom Jones

PRAISE AND WORSHIP

I'm So Blessed

CCLI #7167000
©All Essential Music

FELLOWSHIP TIME

I Thank God

CCLI #7169680
©2021 Bethel Worship Publishing

Build My Life

CCLI #7070345
©6 Kaple Music

PRAYER TIME

Rev. Benjy Varnell

Rescue Story

CCLI #7133142
©2019 Anthems of Hope

MORNING MESSAGE

Signs of Healing

Genesis 45:1-15 NLT

Rev. Tom Jones

INVITATION

Brother

CCLI #7029230
©2013 Hi Fi Music

SENDING FORTH

The Worship of God

JANUARY 19, 2025

SANCTUARY 8:30 AM • 11:00 AM

Prelude

Kevin Lamb

Director of Music Ministries

Greeting

Rev. Tom Jones

Senior Pastor

* Hymn #374

Standing on The Promises

PROMISES

* Affirmation of Faith

The Apostle's Creed

* Response

Gloria Patri

* Fellowship Chorus

People Need The Lord

Children's Message (11:00 AM)

Victoria Fryer

Director of Children's Ministries

Morning Prayer

Rev. Benjy Varnell

Assistant Pastor

The Lord's Prayer

Hymn #128

*He Leadeth Me:
O Blessed Thought*
verses 1, 3 & 4

HE LEADETH ME

Offertory Prayer

Benjy Varnell

Offertory

*I Have Decided
to Follow Jesus*

Sondra Anderson

Music Associate-Pianist

* Response #95

DOXOLOGY

Message in Music

Untitled Hymn

Chancel Choir

Morning Message

Rev. Tom Jones

Signs of Healing

Genesis 45:1-15 NLT

* Invitation #549

*Where Charity
and Love Prevail*
verses 1, 3 & 6

ST. PETER

* Benediction

Tom Jones

Postlude

*Worshippers, please stand as comfortable

The First Step

The first step. Sometimes it is not an easy thing to do. Uncertainty, fear, or simply procrastination can make it difficult.

I remember many “first steps.” A few that stand out include the first step I took off of a cliff to rappel down a mountain side. There was the first step up the ladder to the high dive. Then there was the first step towards fulltime ministry. None of these were easy decisions to make, but I have learned over the years, as most of us have, that we are never going to get anywhere unless we overcome whatever it is that is holding us back and take the first step.

This is certainly true when it comes to forgiveness. Most of us know someone we need to forgive or someone we need to ask to forgive us. But we can be stubborn, can’t we? In doing so we remain stuck where we are with no hope of new beginnings. We convince ourselves that it’s the other person who has to make the first move. Usually, the end result is that there’s no forgiveness, no reconciliation, and the wounds created by a harmful word or action fail to heal.

In the sermon this Sunday we will consider the story of one of Jacob’s sons, Joseph. There are several overriding themes regarding family, faithfulness, and forgiveness that weave in and out of his story. We learn that he was sold into slavery by his brothers; that he trusted God to care for him in the years before he was appointed to a position of power in Egypt; and that by being in this position he is given the opportunity to meet with his brothers.

When his brothers recognize Joseph they are afraid of what may happen. They know that payback is due them. Joseph could certainly make life hard for them; he could even order that their lives be taken if he chose to do so. But instead of payback or punishment, Joseph took the first step towards offering forgiveness. By taking this step, the brothers and the family were reconciled.

Has someone hurt you? Has someone made you angry? Has someone made the choice to create a greater distance in a relationship? In 2 Corinthians 5:18 we read that reconciliation is from God, “who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation.” Take the first step.

Blessings,

Tom

Weekly Bible Reading Highlights

Weekly Bible Reading Highlights – January 5– 11

What did you highlight in your Bible last week? A few of the verses that stood out for Tom were:

- **Genesis 17:5**— “What’s more, I am changing your name. It will no longer be Abram. Instead, you will be called Abraham, for you will be the father of many nations.”
- **Genesis 18:13-14**— Then the Lord said to Abraham, “Why did Sarah laugh? Why did she say, ‘Can an old woman like me have a baby?’ Is anything too hard for the Lord?”
- **Genesis 22:14**— Abraham named the place Yahweh-Yireh (which means “the Lord will provide”).
- **Genesis 28:16**— Then Jacob awoke from his sleep and said, “Surely the Lord is in this place, and I wasn’t even aware of it!”
- **Genesis 31:49**— “May the Lord keep watch between us to make sure that we keep this covenant when we are out of each other’s sight.

Keep reading!

Financial Report

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

January 12, 2025

Tithes & Offerings Received | \$23,829.00

Received YTD | \$39,974.10

Expenses YTD | \$7,460.79

Difference YTD | \$32,513.31

Budgeted Amount YTD | \$43,053.63

Building Maintenance Fund YTD | \$50.00

Maintaining the Mission (Given To Date) | \$284,640.35

Thank you

Attendance

January 12, 2025

8:30AM Worship Service: **82**

Online Worship Views: **495**

9:45 AM Worship Service: **80**

11:00PM Worship Service: **211**

Total In Person Worship: **373**

Members in Ministry~ January 19, 2025

Ushers:

8:30 Steve Tucker, Richie Sipe, Thornton Willingham

11:00 Mike Fitzgerald, Carolyn Williams, Larry Williams, Jordan Graffis

Greeters:

8:30 Susan Watkins, Barbara Foster

9:45 Toni Metz, Ava White

11:00 Gayle Disque, Edie Payne

Projection:

8:30 Elizabeth Daniel **9:45** Jessica Zettler

11:00 Richard Hart

Acolytes:

11:00 Claire & Ketch Kase

Memorials

A GIFT HAS BEEN GIVEN IN MEMORY OF LORI HUNTLY TO

MUSIC MINISTRY BY: JUDY AND JR WRIGHT

Prayer Requests

Please take time this week and pray for these individuals:

New Prayer Concerns - Church Members: Jackie Brand, Betty Daher, Joan Harris, Andy Kohler, Sandra Nobles

New Prayer Concerns Non-Members: Barbara Duthie, Geoff Fields, David Keese, **J. Wayne Lane**, Bradley Link, Brett Lippincott, Joe Williams, **Audrey Wood**, Brooke Yawn

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, Carlotta Budd, Beth Carey, Vicki Certain, Russell Cohen, Trent Cohen, Cathy Bailey Crumbley, Pat Daniels, Larry Daugherty, Cathy Dowdy, Betsy Draughton, Eddie Echols, Sandy Fitzgerald, Dotsy Fuller, Jim Fuller, Barbara & Bob Golding, Mary McCreary George, Ken Graffis, Julie Haney, Bill Hansen, Elwanda Hopkins, Tom Humphries, Barbara Jensen, Kevin Josey, Mitchell Kent, Rosie Koch, Holly Lamb, Jimmy Langford, Gary Leggett, Ellie Leroux, Chris Lorence, James McBride, Whitney McCarthy, Mike McDonald, Ed McKenzie, Mike McMillan, Nathan Meadows, Priscilla Mercer, Mega & Blake Moore, Neil Mullis, Spence Mullis, Kirk Nowery, Randy Payne, Ann Pickard, Dick Pipe, Mable Proctor, Mary Rentz, Reggie Rogers, Irene Rohan, Bob Scherer, Bonni Smith, Carmen Sumpter, Robert Sumpter, 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.



WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEALS



Wednesday Night Dinner - January 22

Join us for our next Wednesday Night Dinner! The menu is: **Baked Tacos, Cilantro Lime Rice, Kicked Up Refried Beans and Dessert.** This is a great opportunity to connect with others in our church community, and come together for fun and fellowship with a nice, warm meal! Cost is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children ages 6-12. Children 5 and under eat for free. **PLEASE register by calling the Church office, clicking the QR code or through Realm no later than noon on Monday, to guarantee your reservation!** We hope to see you there!

Wednesday Evenings for Kids

Kid's Choir has kicked off! Its not too late to join us at **4:30 pm** with singing, drama, and instruments as we teach kids to worship and lead others in worship.



Note: Afterschool pickup will not be available this semester, so please plan to bring your child. After choir, stay for **Family Dinner** and enjoy time together.

The Chosen, Season 4

Join us Wednesday evenings from 6:00-7:30pm, in the chapel. The group is facilitated by Jeff Zoul. For more information contact Jeff at jeffzoul@gmail.com

Welcome our Bishop– Robin Dease

Join us for a **Gathering with Bishop Dease on Sunday, January 26** Meet and welcome Bishop Robin Dease - our new episcopal leader in the South Georgia Annual Conference! We will gather for an informal meet-and-greet event on Sunday, January 26, from 3:00-5:00 PM at Garden City United Methodist Church (62 Varnedoe Ave, Garden City, GA 31408). Lots of goodies will be served, and there will be activities for kids. Clergy and laity are invited to join the fun! We hope to see you there! RSVP is appreciated but not required at <https://sgaumc-reg.brtapp.com/GatheringwithBishopDease>.

An Evening with Michael Hulett

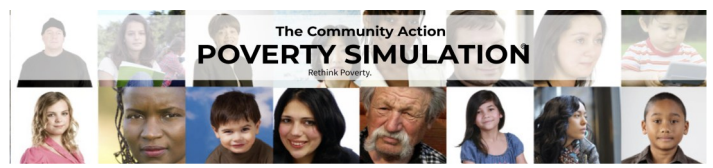


Join us on Thursday, February 20 at 6:00pm and enjoy a fun evening of music with the talented Michael Hulett! A delicious dinner will be served, and who knows ...there might even be some dancing! The event will begin at 6:00pm in the Thorpe building, cost is \$20.00. Join us for a night of fun! Sign up in Realm or call the church office!

Save the Date for Serve Saturday

Saturday, March 8, 2025—is our 3rd annual Serve Saturday!

Join us on Saturday, March 8, volunteers will meet at the church at 8:00am for breakfast, and a devotional. At 8:45am we will depart to local organizations to lend a hand and serve. We hope you will join us and save the date on your calendar for this meaningful day of service in our community! More information on the organizations and how to sign up and serve will be sent out soon!



Poverty Simulation– SIGN UP NOW!

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

Saturday, January 25, 9:00am-12:00pm, Thorpe Bldg. Sponsored by the Men's Ministry of our church. Sign Up in Realm or by calling the Church office. A continental breakfast will be offered.

What is a Poverty Simulation?

Poverty is a reality for many individuals and families. But unless you've experienced poverty, it's difficult to truly understand. The Community Action Poverty Simulation (CAPS) bridges that gap from misconception to understanding. CAPS is an interactive immersion experience. It sensitizes community participants to the realities of poverty.

CAPS is NOT a Game. It is based on Real Community Action Clients and their Lives.

What will we learn?

- Gain a new awareness for the reality of those in poverty.
- Share your experience with family and friends and raise awareness.
- Build relationships with community leaders and educate them to the realities of poverty.
- Find opportunities to continue learning.



Welcome to our New Members!

Welcome to our newest members who joined on Sunday, January 12:

- **Karen and Travis Irby**
- **Ellen and Ray Thrift**

Join us in welcoming these new members!

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**



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