

# Weekly Calendar

## Sunday, April 26

- 8:30 AM Nursery for Newborn- 4 yrs., **8:30-12:00**
- 8:30 AM The Class- Sunday school, **Room 202**
- 8:30 AM Traditional Worship Service, **Sanctuary**
- 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**
- 12:15 PM United Women in Faith Board Meeting, **Room 203**
- 4:00 PM Festival Chorus Concert w/Cameron Cody, **Sanctuary**
- 5:00 PM Youth Group and Dinner, **Youth Room**

## Monday, April 27

- 9:00 AM Prayer Team, **Parlor**
- 10:00 AM Staff and Pastor Onboarding, **Youth Room**
- 11:00 AM Chair Yoga, **Thorpe Building**
- 5:30 PM Church Council Onboarding Meeting, **Thorpe Building**

## Tuesday, April 28

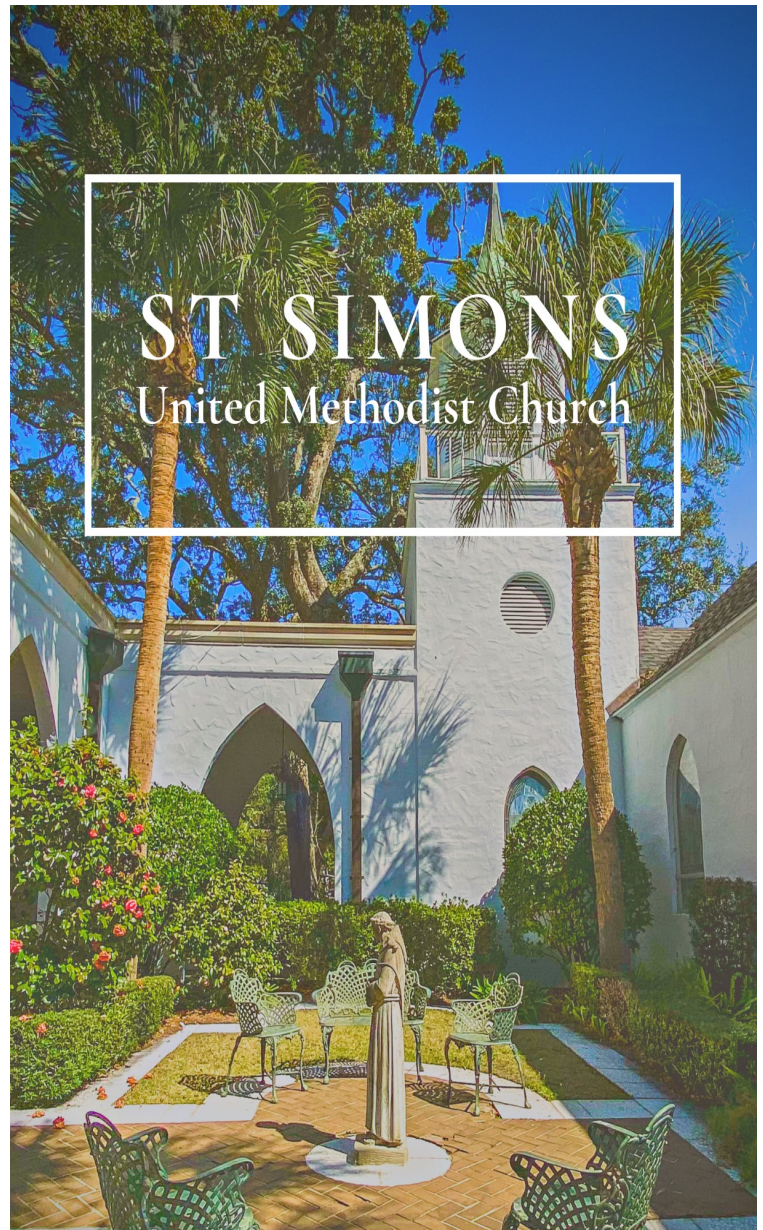
- 10:00 AM Men's Life, **Room 203**
- 1:00 PM Women's Life Group, **Room 203**
- 6:30 PM Boy Scouts, **Thorpe Building**

## Wednesday, April 29

- 11:00 AM Chair Yoga, **Thorpe Building**
- 1:15 PM Lightkeepers Al-Anon, **Room 203**
- 6:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal, **Choir Room**

## Friday, May 1

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



- C** **REV. BENJY VARNELL, Interim Senior Pastor**  
benjyv@stsimonsumc.com | 912.393.4566
- h** **REV. TAB MILLER, Assistant Pastor**  
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- u** **KEVIN LAMB, Director of Music Ministries**  
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- f** **BILL CULPEPPER, Director of Youth Ministry**  
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Join Our Email List or Update Your Contact Info:  
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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](http://stsimonsumc.com)



*This is a Stephen Ministry Church*

# WORSHIP

April 26, 2026

Chapel • 9:45 AM

## WELCOME

## PRAISE AND WORSHIP

Holly Lamb, Contemporary Worship Leader

### *Praise*

CCLI # 7213077  
© Brandon Lake Music

## FELLOWSHIP TIME

### *I See Grace*

CCLI # 7202043  
© Fair Trade Global Songs

### *Trust In God*

CCLI # 7206001  
© Brandon Lake Music

### *Jesus Paid It All*

CCLI # 4689508  
© 2006 Pay Me Please Publishing

## PRAYER TIME

## TODAYS MESSAGE

### *Some Good Advice*

Romans 12:9-11 RSV  
Rev. Benjy Varnell

## INVITATION

### *How Can I Keep From Singing*

CCLI #4822372  
© 2006 sixsteps Music

## BENEDICTION

# WORSHIP

April 26, 2026

Sanctuary • 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Kevin Lamb

PRELUDE (8:30)

Cindy Taylor

PRELUDE (11:00)

***Fanfare on RESURRECTION***

Cameron Cody  
Justin Maxey

CALL TO WORSHIP (11:00 AM)

***Because He Lives***

Chancel Choir

\* HYMN OF PRAISE #200 ***All Hail the Power  
of Jesus' Name***  
Verses 1, 2, 4 & 6

DIADEM

\* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

***The Apostles Creed***

Rev. Benjy Varnell  
Interim Senior Pastor

\* FELLOWSHIP TIME

\* FELLOWSHIP SONG

***Surely the Presence  
of the Lord***

KID'S MESSAGE (11:00 AM)

Victoria Fryer  
Director of Children's Ministry

MORNING PRAYER

Rev. Benjy Varnell

THE LORD'S PRAYER

\* HYMN #365

***Grace Greater than Our Sin***  
Verses 1, 2 & 4

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Rev. Benjy Varnell

OFFERTORY

RESPONSE

DOXOLOGY

MESSAGE IN MUSIC (11:00 AM)

***The Prayer***

Dani Wojcik  
Cameron Cody  
Cody Arthur

MORNING MESSAGE

### *Some Good Advice*

Romans 12:9 –11 RSV  
Rev. Benjy Varnell

\* INVITATION #395

***Take Time to Be Holy***  
Verses 1 & 2

HOLINESS

\* BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

\* *Stand As Able*



For Hearing Assist— Please see an usher.

## Ready, Willing and Able

Last Sunday I preached a sermon entitled "Are We Ready?" I don't believe God expects us to always be ready to serve, or even to be able to serve. I do believe he expects us to be willing. The truth is that often we are unwilling to be used in God's service because we just don't want to give up our self-centered ways. We find ourselves trying to make deals with God in an effort to avoid total commitment and allegiance. We are like the men who said they wanted to follow Jesus but then began to make excuses why they couldn't follow. Their schedules were too busy, so they missed the opportunity to be followers.

A famous preacher was struggling with self-surrender. There was always something that kept him from complete dedication. Finally, after many months of conversations with God, he prayed, "Lord, I am not willing to surrender everything, but I am willing to be made willing!"

We often find ourselves in the same boat. We always seem to be unwilling to give our all, because we feel that making that decision will be giving too much of ourselves. That is exactly why Jesus said that the first condition of discipleship was self-denial. That's something we all struggle with and the truth is we can't do it our own. We need the power of God's Spirit to help us to become willing to be who he is calling us to be.

A young woman named Adelaide Pollard entered a prayer meeting at a church. Feeling downcast about the future of her life, she heard a woman pray, "It really doesn't matter what you do with us, Lord. Just have your way with our lives." That same night she remembered the story of the Potter in Jeremiah and coupled with the prayer she heard, she was inspired to write the wonderful hymn, "Have Thine Own Way, Lord!" The opening verse said, "Have thine own way, Lord. Have thine own way. Thou art the potter, I am the clay. Mold me and make me after thy will, while I am waiting, yielded and still."

No matter how much we strive to be committed to following God's will for our lives, we can only reach the goal until we are willing for God through Christ to mold us and remold us and remake us into his disciples. Therefore, my prayer for all of us is that we will be willing to be made willing. Then, and only then, can we be READY, WILLING AND ABLE to be and do our best for Him and His Kingdom.

Hope to see you Sunday at 8:30, 9:45 or 11:00!

**Benjy**

## Baby Recognition—United Women in Faith

We will be celebrating all of the babies born in our Church Family during the past year on Mother's Day-Sunday, May 10, 2026 at the 11:00AM service. Please contact Anne Frazier if your baby was born after Mother's Day 2025, so we may include them in this celebration!

[anne@stsimonsumc.com](mailto:anne@stsimonsumc.com)



## Honorariums & Memorials

### A GIFT WAS GIVEN IN MEMORY OF GERRY EGGER

Janet & Chip Higginbotham "The Table"  
Marsha D. Collins Ann & Wright Culpepper

### A GIFT WAS GIVEN IN MEMORY OF DICK PIPE

Laura Jones  
Lighthouse Benefit Advisors, LLC

## Financial Report

For your convenience you may give online at [www.stsimonsumc.com](http://www.stsimonsumc.com)

### April 19, 2026

Tithes & Offerings Received | \$15,192.34  
Received YTD | \$374,168.32  
Expenses YTD | \$374,284.37  
Difference YTD | -\$116.05  
Budgeted Amount YTD | \$404,972.83  
Trustees Maintenance Fund YTD | \$10,405.00

*Thank you*

## Attendance

### April 19, 2026

8:30AM Worship Service: **87**      Worship Views Online: **455**  
9:45 AM Worship Service: **75**      Sunday School/Small Group: **122**  
11:00 AM Worship Service: **189**  
Total In Person Worship: **351**

## Members in Ministry~ April 26, 2026

### Ushers:

**8:30** Ward Sweat, Chip Higginbotham, Jeff Zoul, Bob Swinehart  
**11:00** Erik Kaufmann, Rick Denman, Cliff Pease, Rabun Matthews

### Greeters:

**8:30** Pat Carmichael, Lesley Gonzalez  
**9:45** Pam & Randall Rehberg  
**11:00** Susan Kaufmann, Robbie Clark

### Projection:

**8:30** Kim Howe  
**9:45** Carol Conner  
**11:00** Richard Hart

### Acolytes:

**11:00** Arden & Magnolia Culpepper

## Prayer Requests

*Please take time this week and pray for these individuals:*

**New Prayer Concerns - Church Members:** Baylor Baird, Ranny Blount, Mary Evelyn Cook, **Mary Charles Moulton**, Billy Wiggins

**New Prayer Concerns Non-Members:** Ruth Brown, **Lista Bodree, Rocky Bodree**, Family & friends of James Caldwell, Family of Harold & Mary Chambers, Family & friends of Trent Cohen, Gail Earle, Trey Hall, Corb Hankey, **Sara & Jeff Heath, Ronald Holz, Neil Laws, Mary Charles Moulton, Peyton Parker, Delany Showalter**, Maxwell Smith, **Sarah & Hannah Wood**

**Ongoing Prayer Concerns:** Di Bailey, Ron Bateman, Dianne Beisel, Jim Bennett III, Ranny Blount, Sam Bodine, Kai Booth, Cindy Bostick, Carlotta Budd, Trudy Budd, Beth Carey, Vicki Certain, Russell Cohen, Trent Cohen, Cathy Bailey Crumbley, Pat Daniels, Larry Daugherty, Mark Daugherty, Betsy Draughton, Brenda Fields, Geoff Fields, Sandy Fitzgerald, Karen Flagella, Dotsy Fuller, Mary McCreary George, Barbara Golding, Joe Gonzalez, James Gregory, Jennifer & Tom Higdorn, Elwanda Hopkins, Tom Humphries, Barbara Jensen, Holly Lamb, Ellie Leroux, Randy Little, Chris Lorence, Mike Martin, James McBride, Mike McDonald, Ed McKenzie, Nathan Meadows, Kristen Merrill, Kirk Nowery, Randy Payne, Ann Pickard, Mary Rentz, Dawn Roberts, Anne Rogers, Irene Rohan, Jo Ann Segars, Bob Scherer, Bonni Smith, Brion Trainor, Rhonda Van View, Dave Vandersall, Mary & Bo Vice, Holly & Bill Wagner, Judy Whelan, Benjamin Wiggins, Chuck Wilson, Hollis Youngner, Beverly Zeller, Emmie Zwack

### Missionaries & Christians in Middle East and abroad

#### Assisted Living Prayer Concerns:

**Heritage Oaks:** Jackie Brand, Marjorie Lawrence, Norma Mock, Mel Rozier

**Marsh's Edge:** Nancy Reynolds, Ellen Thrift, Ray Thrift

**Sears Manor:** Joan Harris

**Vitality:** Judy Clifton

*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.*

## Brantley Fire -Emergency Items Needed

### NEW High-Priority Items:

#### For First Responders:

Eye drops, nasal spray, ibuprofen, Tylenol, wet wipes, ChapStick, IV Packets, water flavor packets, Vaseline, baby powder, Personal Hygiene items (deodorant, toothbrush, toothpaste), toilet paper, soap, shampoo, SOCKS, Bottled Water, Perishable Food Items

**For Families:** New clothes, laundry detergent, pet supplies, and shoes.

Contact- Toby Eisentraeger

Team Leader, SSUMC Early Response Team- 912-289-1115

## We Are Hiring!

Join our team as a Property Maintenance and Event Setup Assistant. This is a part-time/hourly position with flexible hours. We are looking for someone with a flexible schedule to help care for our church facilities, handle small repairs, and assist with setting up for events and special activities. If you are interested in this flexible position, please contact Anne Frazier at [anne@stsimonsumc.com](mailto:anne@stsimonsumc.com).

## Lady Jane Shrimping Excursion

Join us for a fun and educational hands-on experience while immersed in science, weather, and oceanography. All trips take place in protected waters. Lady Jane is a U.S. Coast Guard-certified steel-hull shrimping vessel, recently retired and beautifully refurbished for cruising. Spend a few hours aboard and enjoy this unique coastal adventure.

**When:** Gather at 9:30 AM for a 10:00 AM departure

**Where:** Coastal Tide Excursions (Marshside Grill) Cost: \$40  
Register on Realm or by calling the church office.

## Volunteers needed at MAP International



MAP needs YOU!!! Help us with our projects. First Monday each month, 9-12

Contact Macey via email [macey@stsimonsumc.com](mailto:macey@stsimonsumc.com) to be added to our volunteer list. Or Email Neal Steiner for more information at [nealds511@gmail.com](mailto:nealds511@gmail.com)

## Birth Announcement!

Congratulations to Alexander and Kendall Tharpe on the birth of their baby boy Alexander McCollum Tharpe, III, "Mac"! Mac was born on Tuesday, April 21, weighing 7lbs, 10 ounces and 20 inches long. We celebrate this precious life with proud grandmother and church member Julie Tharpe.

## All May Emerald Birthdays

Let's get together on Wednesday, May 6, 12 noon at Live Oak Tavern (2463 Demere Road in the Shops at Demere) for a Dutch treat lunch to celebrate our May birthdays. All who have May birthdays are welcome to join us! Hosted by Donna Smith and Sydonna Harden- RSVP to Donna Smith **912-222-1972**

## Name Tags & Photos and Info on Realm

If you don't already have a name tag, please order one and be sure to wear it when you're here! With new members joining and a new pastor coming, we want to make sure everyone can easily recognize one another and greet each other by name.

Also, if you don't have an updated photo in our Realm database, please send one so we can update your profile and always let us know if your information needs to be changed or updated! Thank you so much!



## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL!

VBS is HERE! Get ready for an unforgettable adventure as we head deep into the Amazon to discover more about who God is!

**June 8-12 from 9:00AM-12:00PM**

Open to rising Kindergarten through rising 5 grade. Spots are waiting—sign up using the link or QR code! We can't wait to spend this AMAZING week with your kids full of fun, faith, and adventure... but we need your help to make it happen!

**We're looking for VOLUNTEERS for all kinds of roles throughout the week. Students rising 6 grade and up can jump in as Crew Leader Assistants or Station Assistants.** Let's make this the best VBS yet! If you

would like to volunteer use the link or QR code below or the sign up link <https://vbspro.events/p/3ac6a4>

If you have any questions please contact Victoria Fryer [victoria@stsimonsumc.com](mailto:victoria@stsimonsumc.com)



## Graduate Sunday!

Graduation Sunday is coming up fast! This year we will celebrate our high school graduates on May 17 during the 11:00 service. We would love to have all of our graduates involved in worship that morning. In order for us to honor your graduate, please contact Bill at [bill@stsimonsumc.com](mailto:bill@stsimonsumc.com) so that we can have an accurate list of our participants.

## The Louis & Millie Gholson Scholarship

The Louis and Millie Gholson Scholarship Fund was created to award a graduating high school senior who is an active member of St. Simons United Methodist Church. The Pastor, Youth Director and Church Administrator were appointed to determine who would receive the scholarship. Please contact Bill for an application at [bill@stsimonsumc.com](mailto:bill@stsimonsumc.com). Application and letters of recommendations must be received by Wednesday, May 13 2026. The scholarship will be presented on Sunday, May 17 during the Graduate Recognition in the 11:00am service!

## 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.
- 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.

## Join the Church

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

Profession of Faith in Jesus Christ, Transfer from another United Methodist congregation or Transfer from another denomination  
If you are interested in more information about becoming a member contact Rev. Benjy Varnell at [benjyv@stsimonsumc.com](mailto:benjyv@stsimonsumc.com) | **912.393.4566**