



September 27, 2026

St. Simons

United Methodist Church



A Letter From The Pastor

REV. DAVID BLACKWOOD

Celebration Sunday: A Time to Give Thanks

Over the past few weeks, we have been reflecting on what it means to be faithful stewards of all that God has entrusted to us. We have considered the ways our prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness help make ministry possible and allow our church to be a blessing to our community and beyond.

Now it is time to celebrate!

This Sunday is Celebration Sunday, and I hope you will make a special effort to be present. I will be preaching at all three worship services, and each service will give us an opportunity to come together as a congregation and celebrate what God is doing through our church.

At the conclusion of each service, we will have an opportunity to bring forward our commitment cards. This is more than

simply turning in a card or making a financial commitment. It is an opportunity to prayerfully say, "God, I want to be part of what you are doing through this church."

Our commitments represent much more than dollars. They represent our prayers. They represent our presence and willingness to worship together. They represent our gifts and our service. They represent our commitment to sharing the good news of Jesus Christ with others.

I hope you will join us this Sunday—not simply because it is the conclusion of our stewardship emphasis, but because there is something worth celebrating. God has been faithful to us, and God continues to work through this congregation.

So come worship. Come give thanks. Come celebrate what God has done—and look forward with faith to what God will do next.

I look forward to seeing you this Sunday!

*WHERE LOVE IS UNCONDITIONAL,
SERVICE IS CELEBRATED
ENTHUSIASTICALLY, &
THE MISSION OF CHRIST IS
ADVANCED CONSISTENTLY.*

Sunday Worship
8:30 & 11:00- Sanctuary
9:45 Chapel

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

Rev. David Blackwood, Senior Pastor
david@stsimonsumc.com
678.787.0331

Rev. Benjy Varnell, Assistant Pastor
benjyv@stsimonsumc.com
912.393.4566

Upcoming Events!

Pumpkins are

Coming to the Patch!

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Pumpkin Patch season is almost here!

Important dates to know!

- ALL Parent & Kids SIGN UPS and Patch SET UP meeting on Sunday, September 27 at 5:00 pm!
- The pumpkins are scheduled to arrive at the church on Saturday, October 3 at 9:00 am. Wear your work clothes and gloves! We need volunteers to help unload, set up, and spread the word, so bring your family and friends to join in!

We are also looking for volunteers to help with school field trips in the patch throughout the season. If you're interested in assisting, contact Bill at bill@stsimonsumc.com and he will provide more details.



Movie in the Pumpkin Patch!

October 4, 2026 - 5:00-7:00 pm

Join us for a movie in the Pumpkin Patch!

"It's The Great Pumpkin Charlie Brown"

will play at 6:00pm! Snacks will be sold and pumpkins too, as a fund raiser for our youth missions.

FREE FOR ALL AGES! BRING YOUR FRIENDS & FAMILY!



A Joyous Celebration of Baptism

Congratulations to the Morrison and Westover families on the baptisms of their two children this past Sunday, September 20, 2026.

We celebrate with Mary Anna and Mac Morrison on the baptism of:

- Jack Henry Morrison

We celebrate with Kate and Jake Westover on the baptism of:

- Ella Kate Westover

We are blessed to share in this special milestone and to celebrate with their parents and grandparents, Kim and Jimmy Maupin.

May these little ones grow in faith, surrounded by God's love and the love of their family and church family.

Congratulations to both families on this beautiful and sacred occasion!

Wednesday Night Dinner!

October 7, 2026

Menu: Grandy's Chicken Tetrazzini, Rolls, Tossed Salad, Steamed Broccoli, and dessert! Take a midweek break and enjoy a delicious meal with us.

The cost is \$12.00 per person children 3 and under eat for free!

Sign up on Realm or call the church.

We need your reservation by Monday, October 5.

We can't wait to see you there!



Rise Against Hunger

Help Us Pack 20,000 Meals for Rise Against Hunger!

Sunday, October 18, 12:00 PM

First Baptist Church - SSI

Lunch will be provided by First Baptist Church!

Our church family, First Baptist Church, and St. Simons Presbyterian Church as we come together to pack 20,000 meals and make a difference in the lives of people around the world.

Everyone is welcome! This is a wonderful opportunity for the whole family. Bring your children, grandchildren, friends, and neighbors and help us reach our goal!

Come Pack a Meal. Make a Difference. Change Lives!

Worship Concert



The Son's of Jubal

Save the Date

Thursday, October 22

7:00 pm

First Baptist Church
Brunswick

Pre-Service Instrumental music at 6:30 pm

MAP—Missions Connect

Join MAP International for a

behind-the-scenes experience where

you'll discover the people, partnerships, and processes that make the "Supply Chain of Hope" possible.

Tuesday, September 29, 2026 • 8:30 AM-2:30 PM

MAP International 4700 Glynnco Parkway | Brunswick, GA

Missions Connect includes:

- A behind-the-scenes look at the Global Distribution Center
- The journey of donated medicine from warehouse to patient
- Stories of impact around the world and right here at home
- An opportunity to learn how churches can engage through prayer, volunteering, advocacy, and giving
- Register at maporg.jotform.com/261803389420053



This is a Stephen Ministry Church

Traditional Order of Worship

Sanctuary 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM

Prelude/Gathering Music

Kevin Lamb, Director of Music Ministries

Words of Welcome

Rev. David Blackwood, Senior Pastor

* The Opening Hymn #568

Christ for the World We Sing

* The Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles Creed

* Fellowship Time

We Are an Offering

Kids Message

Hope Giedl, Kid's Choir Director

Morning Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

Rev. David Blackwood

* Hymn #593

Here I Am, Lord

Offertory Prayer

Offertory

Sondra Anderson, Music Associate Pianist

* Response

The Doxology

Message in Music

Surrender

Morning Message

Rev. David Blackwood, Senior Pastor

Celebration Sunday

2 Corinthians 9:6-8

* Invitation #581

Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service

* Benediction

Postlude

*Stand As Able

About Today's Anthem — *Surrender*

On this Celebration Sunday, Heather Sorenson's *Surrender* reminds us that stewardship is about far more than what we give—it is about **who we are willing to become in God's hands**. Echoing the familiar prayer "*Take My Life, and Let It Be,*" the anthem offers to God our gifts, our resources, our successes and failures, our hurts and hopes—ultimately, our whole lives. As we celebrate God's abundant grace, we are invited to respond with the same spirit described in 2 Corinthians 9: giving not reluctantly or from obligation, but freely and joyfully. **Surrender is the recognition that everything we have is already God's gift, and our greatest offering is a life placed willingly in God's hands.**

Today's Scripture

2 Corinthians 9:6-8

6 The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.

7 Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

8 And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work.

Commitment Cards

During today's invitation, you are invited, as you feel led, to bring your stewardship commitment card forward and place it at the altar. May this simple act be an expression of gratitude for God's abundant grace and a joyful commitment to the ministry we share together. You may scan the QR Code to fill out an online commitment.



Contemporary Worship

9:45 AM in the Chapel

Today's Worship Flow

Build Your Kingdom Here

CCLI # 6186078

© 2011 Thankyou Music

FELLOWSHIP TIME

Lion and The Lamb

CCLI # 7038281

© 2015 Meaux Mercy

Build A Boat

CCLI # 7196310 CentricSongs

© 2011 Thankyou Music

PRAYER TIME

Ever Be

CCLI # 7030065

© 2014 Bethel Music

Today's Message

Celebration Sunday

2 Corinthians 9:6-8

Rev. David Blackwood
Senior Pastor

Closing Song

Step By Step

CCLI # 696994

© 1991 Kid Brothers

"Build a Boat" – Colton Dixon

"Build a Boat" is a song about trusting God enough to act in faith before we can see what God is doing. Drawing on the story of Noah, it reminds us that faith is more than believing—it is stepping forward in obedience, even when the way ahead seems uncertain. In the dry and difficult places of life, we can trust God's promises, surrender to God's leading, and believe that God is already at work.

"By faith Noah, warned by God about events as yet unseen, respected the warning and built an ark..."

—Hebrews 11:7 (NRSV)

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Prayer Requests

Please take time this week and pray for these individuals:

New Prayer Concerns - Church Members: Dylan Brandon, Becky Bridges, Bill Hansen, **Debbie Lloyd**, Larry Rogers & Family, Sally Tinsley
New Prayer Concerns Non- Members: Linda Allen, **Amie Beeman, Don Daugherty, Family & friends of Delores Harvey, Alice Hicks, Chase & Carly Hughes, Tim Lake, Elaine Mendez, Dale Moffett**, Family & friends of Jeanie Bartee, Noah & Nikki Coverstone, Mike Crews, Brooks Harvey, Brian Holmes, Dustin Horne & his wife, Addy Martin, Don Ray

Ongoing Prayer Concerns: Lisa Adams, Di Bailey, Dianne Beisel, Jim Bennett III, Sam Bodine, Kai Booth, Cindy Bostick, Carlotta Budd, Trudy Budd, Beth Carey, Vicki Certain, Russell Cohen, Cathy Bailey Crumbley, Pat Daniels, Betsy Draughon, Brenda Fields, Geoff Fields, Sandy Fitzgerald, Butch Frye, Dotsy Fuller, Mary McCreary George, Barbara Golding, Sara, Jeff & Juniper Heath, Jennifer & Tom Higdom, Elwanda Hopkins, Tom Humphries, Barbara Jensen, Holly Lamb, Ellie Leroux, Randy Little, Chris Lorence, James McBride, Mike McDonald, Ed McKenzie, Nathan Meadows, Kristen Merrill, Kirk Nowery, Randy Payne, Mary Rentz, Dawn Roberts, Anne Rogers, Irene Rohan, Jo Ann Segars, Bob Scherer, Bonni Smith, **Maxwell Smith**, Brion Trainor, Betty Tomlin, Rhonda Van View, Dave Vandersall, Mary & Bo Vice, Holly & Bill Wagner, Judy Whelan, Benjamin Wiggins, Sarah and Hannah Wood, Hollis Youngner, Beverly Zeller, Emmie Zwack

Assisted Living Prayer Concerns:

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

Marsh's Edge: Linda May, Ann Pickard, Nancy Reynolds, Ellen 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.

Members in Ministry ~ September 27, 2026

Ushers:

8:30 Chip Higginbotham, Jeff Zoul, Helene Magee, Bob Swinehart
11:00 Rick Denman, Erik Kaufmann, Clif Pease, Rabun Matthews

Greeters:

8:30 Pat Carmichael, Lesley Gonzalez
9:45 Pam & Randall Rehberg
11:00 Lou Harden, Sydonna Harden, Pam Brand

Projection:

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

Acolytes:

9:45 Atlas Zettler
11:00 Julia Humphries

Honorariums & Memorials

A Gift was Given in Memory of Adelaide Beall by:

Kimberly & Arthur Murray

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. David Blackwood at david@stsimonsumc.com | 912.638.3317

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, September 27- Commitment Sunday

8:30 am The Class- Sunday school, **Room 202**
8:30 am Traditional Worship Service, **Sanctuary**
9:30 am Nursery for Newborn- 4 yrs., 9:30-12:00
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**
11:20 am Children dismissed for Music & Worship, **Kid's Clubhouse**
5:00 pm Parent & Youth Pumpkin Patch Meeting & Set Up, **Thorpe Building**

Monday, September 28

9:00 am Prayer Team, **Parlor**
11:00 am Chair Yoga \$5.00, **Thorpe Building**

Tuesday, September 29

6:00 am Men's Bible Study, **Thorpe Building**
10:00 am Men's Life, **Room 203**
1:00 pm Women's Life Group, **Room 203**
3:30 pm Mahjong Planning Meeting, **Parlor**
6:30 pm Boy Scouts, **Thorpe Building**

Wednesday, September 30

9:30 am MOMS Walking Group, **Thorpe Building**
11:00 am Chair Yoga \$5.00, **Thorpe Building**
1:15 pm Lightkeepers Al-Anon, **Room 203**
4:00 pm Handbells, **Room 216**
6:00 pm Half Truths Bible Study, **Thorpe Building**
6:00 pm Seamless- Women's Study, **Room 201**
6:00 pm Chancel Choir, **Choir Room**

Thursday, October 1

10:00 am Half Truths Bible Study, **Thorpe Building**
1:00 pm Parkinson's Support Meeting, **Thorpe Building**
4:00 pm UWF Esther Circle Meeting, **Parlor**
5:30 pm Men's Ministry Meeting, **Parlor**

Friday, October 2

11:00 am Chair Yoga \$5.00, **Thorpe Building**
4:00 pm Wedding Rehearsal, **Sanctuary**

Saturday, October 3

9:00 am Pumpkins Arrive, **Pumpkin Patch**
4:00 pm Wedding, **Sanctuary**

Financial Report

For your convenience you may give online at www.stsimonsumc.com September 20, 2026

Tithes & Offerings Received | \$19,569.35

Received YTD | \$900,719.11

Expenses YTD | \$925,700.73

Difference YTD | -\$24,981.62

Budgeted Amount YTD | \$965,990.52

Trustees Maintenance Fund YTD | \$29,075.00

Thank You!

Attendance

September 20, 2026

8:30AM Worship Service: 65 Worship Views Online: 431
9:45AM Worship Service: 58 Sunday School/Groups: 131
11:00AM Worship Service: 235
Total In Person Worship: 358

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 Childrens Choir, games, & lesson, and may be picked up on the 2nd floor.