



October 25, 2026

St. Simons

United Methodist Church



A Letter From The Pastor

REV. DAVID BLACKWOOD
SENIOR PASTOR

A November of Remembrance and Thanksgiving

November is quickly approaching, bringing with it a season of remembrance and thanksgiving.

We begin the month by remembering and giving thanks for the saints of our church. During worship, we will read the names of those in our church family who have passed away in the past year and light an additional candle in memory of all those we have lost in years past. This is always a meaningful service, reminding us of the faithfulness of those who came before us, the spiritual heritage we share, and the promise of eternal life.

Later in the month, we celebrate Thanksgiving. I hope you will have the opportunity to gather around tables with family and friends, sharing good food, stories, and laughter. Amid the celebrations, I pray you will also find time to reflect on God's goodness and give thanks for the many blessings in your life.

As a church, we have another special reason to celebrate this November: **88 years of ministry at St. Simons United Methodist Church!** On Sunday, November 22, we will celebrate this milestone with a special worship service. If you have stories, photographs, or memories from our church's history, I would love for you to share them with me as we give thanks for all that God has done through this congregation.

We have so much to be thankful for: the saints who have shaped our faith, the blessings God continues to provide, and 88 years of faithful mission and ministry. May this November be a time for us to remember, give thanks, and look forward with hope to all that God has yet to do among us.

I look forward to sharing this special month with you!

*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!

Clergy Appreciation

October is Clergy Appreciation Month!

Join us as we honor Rev. David Blackwood, Rev. Benjy Varnell, & Rev. Tab Miller throughout the month of October!

Please bring or send a card, small gift or gift card to the church and/or email them throughout the month to show them how much we appreciate their ministry!

Thank you for helping us celebrate our amazing Pastors!



United Women in Faith- PECAN SALE!

Pecans can be ordered **Sunday, October 25** in the Gholson Room!

We will be selling halves, pieces, salted and roasted, chocolate, cinnamon and glazed pecans.

Cost is \$12 with delivery before Thanksgiving, hopefully! Proceeds of pecan sales will benefit Local Missions! If you are unable to order in person you may order from any UWF member, the church office, or by calling Pat Carmichael at 912-638-4541, to place your order. Thank you for your continued support of the UWF and local missions ministries.



Pumpkin Patch Hours!

PUMPKIN PATCH HOURS!

Mon – Fri – 2:30pm-8:00pm

Sat & Sun – 10:00am-8:00pm

Come buy a pumpkin and Support our Youth!



Petpalooza!

SSUMC Preschool petting zoo!

Saturday, Nov. 14 from 9:00 am-12:00pm.

Come and enjoy the animals, games & fun with your family or volunteer to help! Contact Tanja for more info at tanja@stsimonsumc.com

Square Foot Ministry Opportunity

A trip to Cordele, GA is being planned with Square Foot Ministry of Fayetteville, GA with the City of Cordele and the Crisp ministerial Association, will begin construction of a new home for Isesha Moore and her daughter. The first phase of construction will take place **November 9-13**. Volunteers, community members and ministry partners will come together to build a safe and comfortable home for the family. If you are interested in going on this mission opportunity please contact David Clark from our mission team at 770-639-0346 or by email at dfclark929@gmail.com.



SQUARE FOOT MINISTRY
Rise Up & Build

Wednesday Night Dinner!

November 4, 2026

Menu: Grandy's Meatloaf, Green beans, Mashed potatoes & Gravy, Rolls 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, call the church.

We need your reservation by Monday, Nov. 2!

We can't wait to see you there!



Trunk or Treat!

Join us for our annual

Trunk or Treat on **Wednesday, October 28 at 5:30pm!**

Help us by decorating your trunk and or donating candy!

Contact Victoria for more

information. Sign up for Trunks on Realm or by contacting us!

victoria@stsimonsumc.com



Mahjong for Beginners! Learn & Enjoy!

Join us at SSUMC on Sunday, November 8, for an afternoon of learning Mahjong! Whether you're a complete beginner or just getting started, we invite you to discover this captivating game. Bring a friend and learn together!



Cindy Sweat and Sally Stroud will lead the lessons, with experienced players available to offer additional guidance. All supplies, including mats and tiles, will be provided.

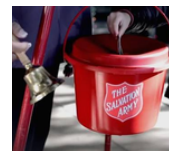
Light refreshments will be served in the Gholson Room at 3:15 PM. Lessons begin promptly at 3:30 PM and will conclude by 6:00 PM.

Space is limited! Register through Realm or call the church office to reserve your spot.

2026 Red Kettle Campaign

Salvation Army Bell Ringing | Nov. 20-Dec. 24

- Winn-Dixie: 9:00 am-7:00 pm
- St. Simons Post Office: Monday-Friday, 8:00 am-5:00 pm; Saturday, 8:00 am-12:00 pm



We are looking for Sunday School classes, Women's Circles, Men's Bible studies, youth groups, and others to volunteer for a day of bell ringing in 30-minute or one-hour shifts. Please consider signing up for one or more time slots!

The Salvation Army retains more funds when volunteers ring the bells instead of paid workers. This campaign provides 80% of their income.

To sign up your group, contact:

Lynn Moses: 912-689-9860

Elain McNeal (Volunteer Coordinator): 772-300-5210



This is a Stephen Ministry Church

Traditional Order of Worship

Sanctuary 8:30 am & 11:00 am



Words of Welcome

Rev. David Blackwood, Senior Pastor

Centering

Jordan Tippet

* The Opening Hymn #64

Holy, Holy, Holy!

* The Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles Creed

Sacrament of Holy Baptism

McAlum Lee Southall

* Fellowship Time

The Family of God

Kids Message (11:00am)

Victoria Fryer, Director of Children

Morning Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

Rev. Benjy Varnell, Assistant Pastor

* Hymn #383

This Is a Day of New Beginnings

Verses 1, 2, 3 & 4

Offertory Prayer

Offertory

* Response

The Doxology

Message in Music

The Majesty and Glory of Your Name

Morning Message

Rev. David Blackwood, Senior Pastor

From Bitter to Blessed

Ruth 4:13-17

* Invitation #707

Hymn of Promise

* Benediction

Postlude

*Stand As Able

Today's Choir Anthem:

The Majesty & Glory of Your Name

Inspired by Psalm 8, this powerful anthem celebrates the majesty of God as revealed in the beauty and wonder of His creation. As we consider the heavens and all that God has made, we are reminded of His greatness and humbled by His love and care for humanity. Through soaring melodies and stirring harmonies, the music leads us from quiet reflection to a glorious proclamation of praise. Today, as we celebrate the gift of baptism, we are reminded that every child is a precious part of God's creation, wonderfully made, deeply loved, and welcomed into the family of faith.

Message Focus:

From Bitter to Blessed

Ruth 4:13-17

God's faithfulness transforms seasons of loss and bitterness into new beginnings filled with hope and blessing. Through the birth of Obed, Naomi discovers that God's redemptive love is at work even when the future seems uncertain. As we celebrate baptism today, we are reminded that God's promises extend beyond our own lives, bringing hope and blessing to generations yet to come.

Guest Information

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

Contemporary Worship

9:45 am in the Chapel

Today's Worship Flow

Raise A Hallelujah

CCLI # 7119315

© 2018 Quiltmaker Music

FELLOWSHIP TIME

Jesus

CCLI # 7067249

© 2016 Capitol CMG

Famous For

CCLI # 7096220

2020 Capitol CMG Paragon

Jesus Paid It All

CCLI # 4689508

© 2006 Pay Me Publishing

Today's Message

A Church of Hope

Revelation 3:1-6; 14-22

Rev. Tab Miller

Closing Song

Christ Be Magnified

CCLI # 7139866

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Message Focus

A Church of Hope –

Revelation 3:1-6, 14-22

A church of hope is not defined by its activity or appearance, but by its dependence on Christ. When complacency takes hold, our faith can grow comfortable and lose its purpose. Jesus calls us to awaken, renew our commitment, and place our trust fully in Him, allowing His presence to guide all that we do.

Song Spotlight — Jesus Paid It All

As Christ calls His church to awaken from complacency and renew its dependence on Him, “Jesus Paid It All” reminds us where our true hope is found. We cannot earn God's grace or sustain our faith through our own strength. Everything we need begins and ends with Jesus, whose sacrifice offers forgiveness, renewal, and the promise of new life.

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 door near the stage.
- Sunday School for this service meets at 8:30. Kids small group meets concurrently with this service
- A nursery is available for children 4 years old and under.
- Kid's Clubhouse meets at 11 except for the first Sunday of the month for Childrens music, games, & lesson.

Prayer Requests

Please take time this week and pray for these individuals:

New Prayer Concerns - Church Members: Ray Colglazier, **Sydonna Harden**, Laura Johnson, Eric Orr

New Prayer Concerns Non-Members: **Elizabeth Eversole, Family & friends of Eric Hickes**, Dustin Horne & wife, **Ally Jackson**, John Turner, Henry Wood

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, **Bill Hansen**, 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

The Methodist Children's Home

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 ~ October 25, 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 Susan Watkins, Lesley Gonzalez

9:45 Pam & Randall Rehberg

11:00 Susan Kaufmann, Janet Orr

Projection:

8:30 Kim Howe

9:45 Carol Conner

11:00 Robin Parmelee

Acolytes:

9:45 Atlas Zettler

11:00 Magnolia Culpepper, Claire Kase

Charge Conference

The annual Charge Conference will be held on **Monday, October 26, at 6:00 pm in the Chapel**. Our District Superintendent, Rev. Scott Hagan will be here to lead us.

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, October 25

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**

10:00am Pumpkin Patch Open- 8:00pm, Pumpkin Patch

11:00 am Traditional Worship Service, **Sanctuary**

11:20 am Children dismissed for Music & Worship, **Kid's Clubhouse**

5:00 pm Youth Group & Dinner, **Thorpe Building**

Monday, October 26

9:00 am Prayer Team, **Parlor**

11:00 am Chair Yoga \$5.00, **Thorpe Building**

2:30 pm Pumpkin Patch Open- 8:00pm, Pumpkin Patch

6:00 pm Charge Conference, **Chapel**

Tuesday, October 27

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**

2:30 pm Pumpkin Patch Open- 8:00pm, Pumpkin Patch

6:30 pm Boy Scouts, **Thorpe Building**

Wednesday, October 28

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**

2:30 pm Pumpkin Patch Open- 8:00pm, Pumpkin Patch

5:30 pm Trunk or Treat, **Thorpe Building and Parking Lot**

Thursday, October 29

2:30 pm Pumpkin Patch Open- 8:00pm, Pumpkin Patch

Friday, October 30

11:00 am Chair Yoga \$5.00, **Thorpe Building**

2:30 pm Pumpkin Patch Open- 8:00pm, Pumpkin Patch

Saturday, October 31

10:00 pm Pumpkin Patch Open- 8:00pm, Pumpkin Patch

Attendance

October 18, 2026

8:30AM Worship Service: 98 Worship Views Online: 571

9:45AM Worship Service: 63 Sunday School/Groups: 132

11:00AM Worship Service: 196

Total In Person Worship: 357

Financial Report

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

October 18, 2026

Tithes & Offerings Received | \$26,653.34

Received YTD | \$1,021,154.90

Expenses YTD | \$1,037,659.35

Difference YTD | -\$16,504.45

Budgeted Amount YTD | \$1,067,862.86

Trustees Maintenance Fund YTD | \$30,275.00

Thank You!

Thank You for your Faithfulness!

As of October 22, 2026:

Number of Cards Received to date | **164**

Number of New Cards this year | **40**

Total Amount | **\$821,910.00**

Please remember, you may continue to return

your Commitment cards. Cards can be returned via mail, brought to the church office, placed in the offering plates on Sundays or submitted on our website or by scanning the QR Code here.

Thank you for your continued dedication and commitment to our church and the mission of Christ at SSUMC!

