November 8, 2026

St. Simons
United Methodist Church



A Letter From The Pastor

REV. DAVID BLACKWOOD
SENIOR PASTOR

Honoring Those Who Have Served

This coming Wednesday, November 11, our nation will observe Veterans Day, a time set aside to honor the men and women who have served in the United States Armed Forces. It is an opportunity to pause, reflect, and express our gratitude for those who have answered the call to serve, often at great personal sacrifice.

As Christians, we recognize that service to others is one of the highest expressions of love. Jesus reminds us, “No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends” (John 15:13). While military service takes many forms, the willingness to place the needs and well-being of others ahead of oneself reflects something deeply meaningful about the nature of sacrifice and commitment.

Veterans Day is also an opportunity to remember that service does not always end when someone takes off the uniform. Many veterans carry with them experiences, memories, and burdens that are not always visible to those around them. Our gratitude should extend beyond a single day of recognition to a continuing commitment to care for those who have served and their families.

As we approach Veterans Day, I encourage you to take a moment to thank a veteran, listen to their story, and pray for those who continue to bear the costs of their service. May we also pray for peace in our world, remembering that one of the greatest ways we can honor those who have served in war is to work toward a world where war is no longer necessary.
To all the veterans in our church family and community, thank you for your service, your sacrifice, and your example of commitment to something greater than yourself. May God bless you and your families.

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
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Rev. Benjy Varnell, Assistant Pastor
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Upcoming Events & Announcements



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

Farewell to Macey Gibbs

We extend our heartfelt thanks and warmest wishes to Macey Gibbs as she prepares to leave our church office. We are truly grateful for her dedication, kindness, and the many ways she has served and supported our church family.

Macey's cheerful spirit and willingness to help will certainly be missed! As she begins this next chapter, we wish her much happiness, success, and God's continued blessings.

Thank you, Macey, for being such a special part of our church family. We wish you all the best!

Savannah Christmas Tradition

When: Saturday, December 19, 2026
1:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Join us for this fun trip that brings you holiday glitz and glitter with a 2-hour production. The theater is transformed into a perfect holiday picture, sharing all of your Christmas favorites. Sprinkle in a little comedy and Santa and his dancing reindeer for the greatest event of the season. Bus leaves at 1:00pm to Savannah. Cost is $48 per person.





Cranberry Queen Birthday Lunch!

Join the November Cranberry Queens for a birthday celebration on Tuesday, November 17, at 11:00 AM at Sweet Mamas! Come enjoy a wonderful time of fellowship, friendship, and birthday fun as we celebrate! Please RSVP to Mary Varnell at (912) 230-2206. We hope to see you there!

The Extended Table Ministry



Sharing Christ's Love Beyond the Church Walls. We are excited to renew a cherished ministry at St. Simons UMC! Through **The Extended Table Ministry**, we will once again bring Holy Communion to members of our church family who are unable to attend worship in person. This meaningful ministry reminds us that Christ's table extends beyond the walls of our church and that everyone remains a valued part of our faith community. Would you like to serve? We invite caring hearts to join this special ministry by helping share Communion, fellowship, and God's love with our homebound members. Interested in volunteering? Please sign up on realm to be contacted about serving in this ministry.

Thanksgiving Lunch



Join us for our Annual Thanksgiving Lunch! This meal will be held on Thanksgiving day, Thursday, November 26, at noon in the Thorpe Building. The church will provide turkey, dressing, gravy and tea. Please bring your favorite side dish/casserole or dessert. Please RSVP by calling the church office or registering on Realm, by Monday, November 23.



Decorate the Church for Christmas!

Join us on Sunday, November 22 at 3:00pm. Bring your family and help decorate the Church for Advent and Christmas! All ages and abilities are welcome to come and help! Meet in the Sanctuary!

Altar Team Volunteers Needed!



Our Altar Team is looking for a few helping hands to prepare our sanctuary for worship! We currently need two volunteers to serve on the first Sunday of each month, assisting with altar preparations and Communion setup, and we are always in need of additional volunteers to serve on Sundays throughout the month. This is a wonderful opportunity to serve behind the scenes and help create a welcoming, worshipful space for our church family.

If you are interested in serving, please contact Anne Frazier in the church office for more information. We would love to have you join our Altar Team!

Traditional Order of Worship

Sanctuary 8:30 am & 11:00 am

Words of Welcome
Rev. David Blackwood, Senior Pastor

Centering

Built on the Rock (8:30)
Kevin Lamb

I Am Not My Own (11:00)
Chancel Choir

*** The Opening Hymn #529**
How Firm a Foundation

*** Affirmation of Faith**
The Apostles Creed

Sacrament of Holy Baptism (11:00)
Chandler Bailey Brown

*** Fellowship Time**
Lord I Lift Your Name on High

Kids Message (11:00am)

Mission Moment: Hope 1312

Morning Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

*** Hymn #467**
Trust and Obey
Verses 1, 3 & 4

Offertory Prayer

Offertory

Message in Music (8:30)
Holy, Holy, Holy

Morning Message
Rev. David Blackwood, Senior Pastor

Built to Last: The Foundation
Matthew 7:24-27

*** Invitation #368**
My Hope Is Built
Verses 1, 2 & 4

*** Benediction**

Postlude

*Stand As Able

Today's Choral Anthem

I Am Not My Own
Music by Craig Courtney | Lyrics by Susan Bentall Boersma

Today's anthem, I Am Not My Own, reminds us that our lives belong to Jesus Christ, our Savior and Redeemer. As we begin our Built to Last series with today's message, "The Foundation" (Matthew 7:24–27), we are reminded of Jesus' teaching that a life built upon His Word will stand firm through life's storms. Just as a strong building requires a sure foundation, a faithful life begins with surrendering ourselves completely to Christ. This anthem beautifully expresses that commitment—not living for ourselves, but belonging to the One whose love and faithfulness sustain us. When Christ is our foundation, we can face whatever life brings, confident that we are held securely in His grace.

Mission Moment
Hope 1312 Collective

Our Mission Moment this month highlights Hope 1312 Collective, a local ministry dedicated to bringing hope, healing, and support to children and families impacted by foster care and the child welfare system. By connecting churches and the community, Hope 1312 provides practical resources, caregiver support, trauma-informed training, and opportunities to serve vulnerable children. Through compassion, meaningful relationships, and tangible acts of love, they seek to help rewrite the stories of children and families in need. Join us in praying for and supporting this important ministry as together we share the hope of Christ with our community.
Learn more: www.hope1312co.org

Flowers on the Altar
The beautiful flowers on the altar were given in honor of the marriage of Hannah Binion and Spencer Ralston and in loving memory of her grandfather, Charles P. Manor, Jr.

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 — for Children's Choir, games, & lesson, and may be picked up on the 2nd floor.

Contemporary Worship

9:45 am in the Chapel

Todays Worship Flow

Mission Moment: Hope 1312

Made to Worship

CCLI # 4794118
© 2006 New Spring

Holy Forever

CCLI # 7201044
© 2022 Brian and Jenn Publishing

Fellowship Time

Honey in the Rock

CCLI # 7191257
© 2022 Brandon Lake Music

Higher Ground

CCLI # 21844
© Public Domain

Todays Message

Terrifying or Terrific?

Amos 5:18-24
Rev. Tab Miller

Closing Song

How Can I Keep From Singing

CCLI # 4822372
© 2006 sixsteps Music

Worship Spotlight:
Made to Worship

Are we simply going through the motions of worship, or are we truly living lives that honor God? This Sunday's message, “Terrifying or Terrific?” (Amos 5:18–24), reminds us that God desires more than outward expressions of praise. He calls us to lives filled with justice, righteousness, and authentic faith. Chris Tomlin's “Made to Worship” reminds us that we were created to glorify God—not just through the songs we sing, but through the way we live, love, and serve others. True worship doesn't end when the music stops; it continues through every part of our lives.

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Learn more: www.hope1312co.org

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 concurently 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 Children’s music, games, & lesson.

Prayer Requests

Please take time this week and pray for these individuals:

New Prayer Concerns - Church Members: **John Goodrich**, Elizabeth Sudduth, **Billy Wiggins**

New Prayer Concerns Non– Members: Jim Barger, Keri Brittain, Joe Cramer, Ally Jackson, Shea Lambert, **Ellen Morris**, **Family & friends of Debbie Lloyd**, Debbie Pellicano, Don Ray, **Judy Riggle**, **Marc Rindner**, **Patsy Roberts**, Vicky Towns Sawall, Marta Schrieber, Jerri Sumrall, **Family & friends of Angela Turner**, Susan West

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, Eric Orr, 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 ~ November 8, 2026

Ushers:
8:30 Bill Foster, Thornton Willingham, John Vann, Joanie Meeks
11:00 Mike Fitzgerald, Marcus Griffin, Jim Peterson, Nancy Jenkins

Greeters:
8:30 Nancy Krabill, Helene Magee
9:45 Carol Conner, Laura Weldy
11:00 Barbara Raines, Franny Robinson

Projection:
8:30 Robin Parmelee
9:45 Jim Weldy
11:00 Elizabeth Daniel

Acolytes:
9:45 Atlas Zettler, Nash Russell
11:00 Savannah Smith, Natalie Smith

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, November 8
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**
12:15 am United Women in Faith Board Meeting, **Room 203**
3:15 pm Mahjong for Beginners, **Gholson Room**
5:00 pm Youth Group & Dinner, **Thorpe Building**

Monday, November 9
9:00 am Prayer Team, **Parlor**
11:00 am Chair Yoga $5.00, **Thorpe Building**
5:30 pm Trustees Meeting, **Room 203**

Tuesday, November 10
6:00 am Men's Bible Study, **Thorpe Building**
9:00 am SAM Trip to St. Augustine Harbor Tour, **St. Augustine, FL**
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, November 11
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 Chancel Choir rehearsal, **Choir Room**

Friday, November 13
11:00 am Chair Yoga $5.00, **Thorpe Building**

Saturday, November 14
9:00 am Preschool Pet-a-Palooza, **Parking lot and Pumpkin Patch**

Attendance

November 1, 2026
8:30AM Worship Service: **96**
9:45AM Worship Service: **53**
11:00AM Worship Service: **234**
Total In Person Worship: **383**
Worship Views Online: **404**
Sunday School/Groups: **128**

Financial Report

For your convenience you may give online at www.stsimonsumc.com
November 01, 2026
Tithes & Offerings Received | $16,681.00
Received YTD | $1,058,793.12
Expenses YTD | $1,094,743.27
Difference YTD | -$35,950.15
Budgeted Amount YTD | $1,118,319.53
Trustees Maintenance Fund YTD | $30,275.00

Thank You!