

WELCOME TO ST. SIMONS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Friday • May 1, 2020



Online worship - Sunday, May 3, 2020

John 14:1-3

“Let’s Meet at God’s Place”

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Our Staff

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We Miss You!

COVID-19 Update from Rev. Tom Jones and your Lay Leadership

Dear Church Family and Friends,

In recent days some of the COVID-19 guidelines have been relaxed by the governor’s office. Certain businesses have been allowed to re-open but are required to maintain stringent operational standards including social distancing. Many of us wonder what implications the current guidelines will have on our church.

The staff and lay leadership continue to meet to assess a possible re-opening date. Many factors must be addressed to ensure the health and safety of our congregation, guests, and staff members. We are using the directives from the governor’s office, the Georgia Department of Public Health, and the bishop of the South Georgia Conference as resources to help guide our planning.

We have not identified a potential re-opening date. We will keep you advised in a timely manner as plans are revised and finalized. When we return, we can anticipate things being different in our in-person worship services and other group activities as we move into the prescribed new normal. We ask for your continued patience, understanding, and prayers as we develop a plan of action.

The following are the current guidelines for our church as of May 1:

- The office is open from 8:30am-12:30pm, Monday through Thursday. All the church buildings will remain locked. Please contact the staff by email, text, or telephone.
- The Chapel Narthex/Prayer room is open from 8:30am-12:30pm, Monday through Thursday. You may come to pray, drop off canned goods for Sparrows Nest and pick up your Upper Room Books.
- Online worship will continue until further notice.
- No group activities will be allowed at the church until further notice.

Thank you again for your prayerful support of the church staff and lay leadership. We look forward to the day when we can all be together again. May God’s continued blessings and care be with you, your families, and your friends.

Tom Smith- Lay Leader
John Bird Daniel- Church Council Chair
Tom Jones- Senior Pastor

Thank You!

Dear Church Family, Thank you to the SPR Committee and the whole church family for honoring me and making me feel so special in celebrating my 10 year anniversary here at SSUMC! The cards, videos, gifts and thoughtfulness have brought tears to my eyes. It is a joy and a blessing for me to be able to work and be in ministry at such a wonderful church. I miss each of you and look forward to seeing you all soon. Time has flown by and I look forward to the future and many more years here with you all!

With much appreciation,

Anne Frazier - Church Administrator

Conference-Wide Agape Meal

Led by Bishop Lawson Bryan
Sunday, May 3, 6:00 pm

Live Stream: www.sgaumc.org/sgaumclivestream

Facebook Live: www.facebook.com/sgaumc

All you will need is your version of comfort food: something to eat and drink.

To the South Georgia Conference:

I celebrate the power of relationships and connectedness I see going on within the South Georgia Conference in the midst of this pandemic. Laity and clergy are finding creative ways that enable us to remain Alive Together in Christ.

I would like to offer one such way for us as the South Georgia Conference to be connected, even when we cannot physically be together. Sherrill and I would like to invite you into our home - virtually - for an Agape Meal on **Sunday, May 3 at 6:00 pm**.

This will be a special time, lasting no more than 30 minutes, where I will lead us through the ancient practice of a Love Feast - or Agape Meal - that is well-suited for the time in which we find ourselves. The Agape Meal unites Christians in table fellowship using bread, cup, scripture, and prayer for encouragement and support—the very things we need most right now.

The Agape Meal can be celebrated online. It does not require an ordained person to officiate; any Christian may conduct it. Historically, it has often been used in situations where a service of Holy Communion was not feasible. Although its origins in the early church are closely interconnected with the origins of the Lord’s Supper, the two services became quite distinct and should not be confused with each other. The Agape Meal has its own uniqueness and can be a “fresh expression” of the Christian faith for our church members.

At a time when we are looking for ways to remain connected to one other, I am excited for this time to celebrate an Agape Meal together. All you will need is your version of comfort food: something to eat and drink. I hope you will join me.

Alive Together in Christ,

R. Lawson Bryan

Prayer Requests

Take time this week and pray for these individuals:

Vicky Adams, Diana Bailey, John Barton, Tilman Blakely, Sandy Bottjer, Caroline Boyd, **Cariker Family**, Mary Corbitt, Terry & Meg Deaton, Irene Drew, Janice Dumas, Jeff Fields, **Rev. Dr. Bob Fuller**, Pat Gossage, Connie Hallows, **Brian Holmes**, Elwanda Hopkins, Holly Lamb, Shannon Lemmon, Nathan Meadows, Mathew North, **Rondal O’Berry**, Jimmy Orr, **Bill Parker**, Sandy & Jerry Peterson, Bill Pickard, Dick Pipe, Don Proctor, George Raiford, Bob Rewis, **Allen Rogers**, **Lauren Rogers**, Helen Schroder, Diane Sharp, **Shirley Family**, Bill Sisco, Jerry Smith, Mary Stivers, Stephanie Watson, Susan Webb, BJ Whitaker, Dick Wilton, Bobbé Wooldridge, Hollis Youngner, Beverly Zeller, and our Nation.

Magnolia Manor: JoAnne Alford, Jack Jenkins, Marjorie Lawrence, Debby Lloyd, Pat Miller, Norma Mock, Joyce Parry, Charlotte Petty, Miriam Tucker, Larry Varnadoe, Effie Walker **Sr. Care:** Anne Pinson
Addington Place: Nancy Reynolds

To add or remove a name from our prayer list, please contact the church office or one of our pastors.



Food Donations

Sparrow’s Nest plans to remain open as long as they have food and can safely distribute. Items can be dropped off for Sparrow’s Nest in our **Prayer Room (Chapel entrance) Monday thru Thursday from 8:30am –12:30pm**. Items needed are canned meats (chicken, tuna, Vienna sausage), veggies, fruit, soups and chili, spaghetti sauce, noodles, rice, mac & cheese, peanut butter, jelly, cereal, canned milk, and kid’s snacks. We are always grateful to our faithful congregation to this important ministry.



National Day of Prayer

When: Thursday May 7, 2020 Noon

How: 3 ways to participate

*Tune to WAY Radio 90.7 FM

*Join the Livestream at First Baptist Church website:
www.fbcbrunswick.com

*Facebook: our local website at www.coastalgeorgiatime.com

Memorials

Gifts have been given in Memory of Barbara Lindgren from:
Pam Lewis, Elizabeth & John Bird Daniel, Toni Metz
Richard W. Maly, Barbara Meadows

Gifts have been given in Memory of Carolyn Lovell from:
Pam Lewis, George & Judith Parker, John Lindgren
Elizabeth & John Bird Daniel, Barbara Meadows

Gifts have been given in Memory of Weldon Thalacker from:
Susan Pope

Gifts have been given in Memory of Ted Teale from:
Pam Lewis, Susan Pope, Barbara Meadows

Volunteers Needed-Children’s Sunday School

It is such a privilege to teach and serve the children of our church! As our Sunday School ministry continues to grow, and our long-time teachers, Tom and Judy Smith are stepping down from this role after many years of incredible service, we need to find people willing to serve. My prayer is to have four teachers that could teach once a month so that we could divide the PreK – 1st grade and 2-5th grades. In addition, volunteers to be helpers (no prep needed for this role) once per quarter, or for one month out of the year. We need men and women, age 18 – 99! Please let me know if you would like more information heather@stsimonsumc.com
Thank you again, Tom & Judy Smith for your dedicated service!

Financial Report

April 26, 2020

Tithes & Offerings Received | \$10,622.13

Amount Given YTD | \$324,809.13

Budgeted Amount YTD | \$377,542.79

Expenses YTD | \$299,330.33

Building Fund | \$3,435.00

Attendance

Total Online Weekly Worship Views | 1,028

thank you