

WELCOME TO ST. SIMONS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



“Stay Close to the Source”

My wife, Anne, has grown some beautiful flowers in our yard. Recently I decided to cut a few and bring them inside. They were just as beautiful inside as they had been in the yard, but it was only a short time until the flowers began to wither and die. I took the flowers outside to dispose of them and noticed that the flowers that remained in the ground were still vibrant and full of life.

Independence Day signifies the birthday of our country. It serves to remind us that we should never take for granted the history, traditions, and principles this country was founded upon. If we cut ourselves off from our roots, we may flourish for a while, but soon we will begin to wither and die. For America to remain strong we should be mindful of the spirit of freedom that motivated our ancestors to gain and defend the rights that are ours today.

Jesus taught about the importance of staying close to the source of life. He said, “I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing.” (John 15:5)

In our faith journeys we are called to always remember whose we are. Christ has paid the price for our freedom from sin and assured us of victory over death. When we slip away from the basics of our beliefs and the source of our strength in Jesus Christ, our faith will begin to wither, even die.

As we celebrate the blessings of citizenship in a free country, may we also celebrate our call to discipleship and the fullness of life that is ours when we choose to abide in Jesus.

I hope you will join us for online worship this Sunday at 11:00am as we share together in the good news of God’s love for us and the freedom that is ours in Jesus Christ! Enjoy the weekend and be safe!

Blessings,

Tom

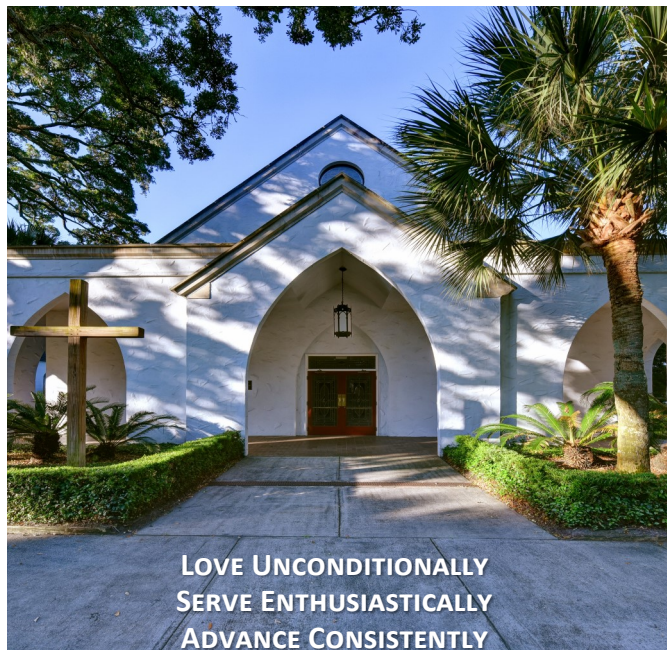


Happy 104th Birthday!

Our dear friend and church member Irene Drew is celebrating her 104th Birthday on July 12th!

Irene has a new address if you would like to drop a birthday card in the mail to her!

Mrs. Irene Drew
Grace Living PCH
2417 Canton Rd. Apt. 14
Marietta, GA 30066



Worship - Sunday, July 5, 2020

Romans 7:15-25a

“Freedom”

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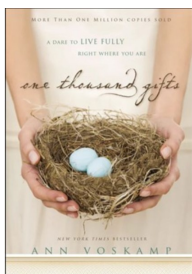
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JORDAN TIPPETT, Pianist
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Women's Bible Study



Join this new Ladies Bible Study, "One Thousand Gifts" on Tuesdays at 10:00 am beginning July 14. This will be a five week study, from July 14 – August 11 and sessions will be about 1 - 1 ½ hours. Even if you have to be out due to vacation, you are welcome to join the study when you are in town! This study encompasses learning to live a Christ-like life even though your days may be long, tough and full of challenges. The study is based on Ann Voskamp's book "One Thousand Gifts", and through our study, she will reveal how to open your eyes to "ordinary, amazing grace" regardless of your circumstances. Please call the church office to sign up and purchase the study book! This study will be led by Debbie Kohler and Becky Bridges. Hope to see many of you in our Bible Study! Email Debbie Kohler dkohler88@gmail.com or call her with questions at 770-843-8669. **This study will be offered by Zoom or an easily accessed on line platform, initially.**

Connect With Us!

- Send **GUESTsumc** to 31996 to Connect With Us
- Send **PRAYsumc** to 31996 for Prayer Requests
- Send **SSUMC** to 73265 to Give Online

Please use these new opportunities to stay connected with our church. While we Worship online, we want you to be able to let us know if you are joining us as a guest for the first time, or if you would like to share a prayer with us to join in praying with you. Open a new text message on your phone and send the words above to the listed phone numbers. Once you text in, you will be able to answer some follow up questions to share with us.

Our Sympathy

Our sympathy is extended to Sally Stroud on the death of her mother, Miriam Tucker who passed away on Thursday, June 25, 2020.

Memorials

A gift has been given in Memory of **Gene Cariker** from:
H. Frazier & Kay Kennedy

A gift has been given in Memory of **Carolyn Lovell** from:
Marguerite & Mike Suthard

Gifts have been given in Memory of **Abraham Smith** (Judy & Tom Smith's Grandson) from:
Gail Rivard
Marcia Boney

July Worship –UPDATE

The decision has been made to return to Online Worship for the month of July. We have reached this decision after careful consultation with the Church Staff, Lay Leader, Church Council Chair, and our District Superintendent.

While this is a difficult decision for us, and it may feel like a step back in our reopening process, in fact we are moving forward each day, learning as we go, step by step.

Please join us in prayer for each step of this process of reopening, and be sure to stay connected with your church family in prayer, fellowship, and encouragement as you are able.

- Online Worship will be Live on Facebook Sunday's 11:00am through July
- There will be no In-Person Worship during the month of July
- The Church Office will remain open Monday-Thursday 8:30am-4:00pm
- We will continue to share updates through email and on our Facebook page
- Please continue to meet with your Small Groups via Zoom

Stay Connected

- Connect with us on Facebook
- Send email to Info@stsimonsumc.com
- Reach us by phone at [912.638.3317](tel:912.638.3317)

Financial Report

June 28, 2020
Tithes & Offerings Received | \$11,150.00
Amount Given YTD | \$487,056.29
Budgeted Amount YTD | \$579,333.05
Expenses YTD | \$471,146.91
Building Fund | \$5,655.00

thank you

Attendance

Total In Person Attendance 101
Total Online Weekly Worship Views | 886

Prayer Requests

Take time this week and pray for these individuals:

Vicky Adams, Diana Bailey, John Barton, Lauren Belt, Dr. Cathy Bishop, Sandy Bottjer, Rev. James Ellis Boyd, Mary Corbitt, Pam Dean, Terry & Meg Deaton, **Lanier Dobrenic**, Irene Drew, Janice Dumas, Terri Dunkle, Rev. Dr. Bob Fuller, Pat Gossage, Kathryn Gruetter, Connie Hallows, Brian Holmes, Elwanda Hopkins, Holly Lamb, Amelia Lasater, Shannon Lemmon, **Jones Lindgren**, **Judy McVey**, Nathan Meadows, Harry Moffett, Lynne Mulligan, Mathew North, Jimmy Orr, Sandy & Jerry Peterson, Ann Pickard, Bill Pickard, Dick Pipe, Don Proctor, George Raiford, Bob Rewis, **Rogers Family**, Lauren Rogers, Helen Schroder, Jerry Smith, **Wilson Smith**, Mary Stivers, **Thomas Stroud, III**, **Tucker/Stroud Family**, **Dave Vandersall**, Stephanie Watson, BJ Whitaker, Barbara Whitney, **Jerry Winsness**, 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, 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.

FriendFinder

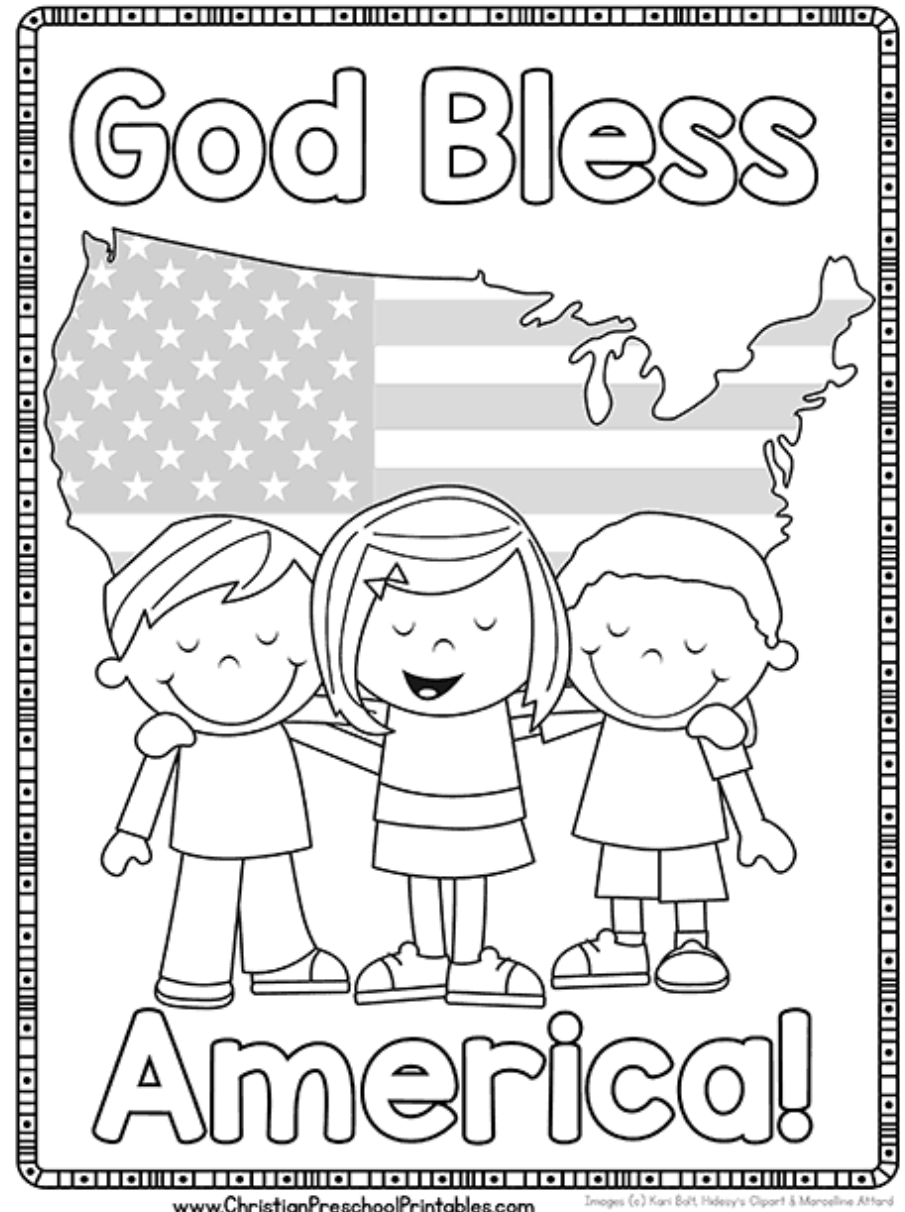


Hey friends! Since we are worshipping online and not able to see each other in person, let's find a friend to spotlight each week!

If you want to be a next week's friend, send me the answers to these same questions and a photo I can share!!



- What is your full name? [Anna Croft Jones](#) (goes by Croft)
- What grade are you going into? [4th](#)
- What is your favorite color? [Any shade of blue](#)
- What is your favorite food? ["I have 15 million flavor of foods I love!"](#)
- What is your favorite candy or ice cream flavor? [Reese's Peanut Butter Cups](#)
- What do you want to be when you grow up? [Drama director or Broadway star](#)
- What do you like to do for fun? [go horseback riding](#)
- What do you like to do that you cannot do right now because of the Coronavirus? [Roller skating rink or bowling alley](#)
- If you could go anywhere in the world, where would it be? [Marietta \(she grew up there and wants to visit old friends!\)](#)
- What is your favorite Bible verse? [Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.](#)
- What do you love most about yourself? [That I can sing.](#)

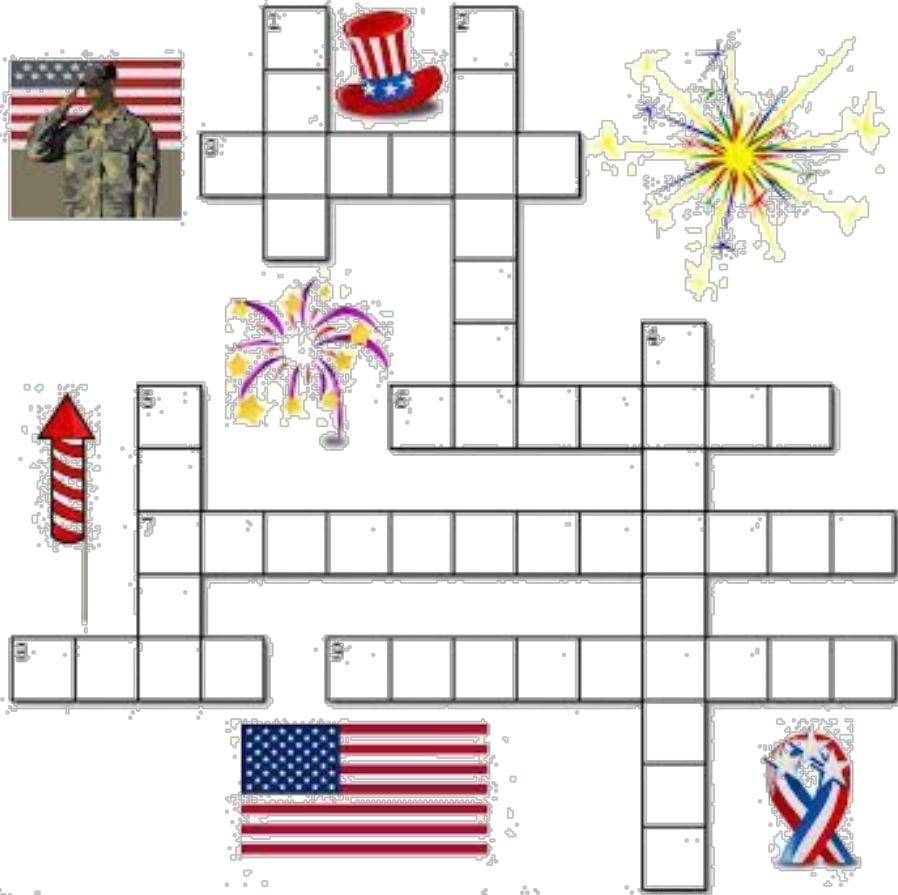


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SUNDAY, JULY 5, 2020

4th Of July Crossword Puzzle



Across

3. It's a hot ____ day.
6. We live in the united States of _____.
7. The 4th of July is _____ Day.
8. We celebrate the 4th of ____.
9. Someone who loves & supports America is _____.

Down

1. Our flag is red, white and ____.
2. Soldiers fight for our _____.
4. There is a _____ show on the beach.
5. Burgers and hot dogs are cooking on the _____.



What does the Bible say about

FREEDOM

It is God who has made you part of Christ Jesus. Christ has become wisdom for us from God. Christ is the reason we are right with God and have **freedom** from sin; Christ is the reason we are holy.

1 Corinthians 1:30

The Lord is the Spirit. And where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is **freedom**.

2 Corinthians 3:17

Let us thank the Lord, the God of Israel. God has come to help his people and has given them **freedom**.

Luke 1:68

Doing what is right brings **freedom** to honest people. But those who are not trustworthy will be caught by their own desires.

Proverbs 11:6

