

# WELCOME TO ST. SIMONS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



## Value in Small Things

I had some change in my hand. It was only a nickel and a dime. My daughter, Croft, who was three-years old at the time, asked me if she could have the coins. I was curious to see what would happen if I told her she could only have one. She chose the nickel. I asked her why she took the nickel. Her answer did not surprise me: "It was the biggest!" I explained to her that the dime was worth more, but that didn't matter. The nickel was larger; it had to be better.

Sometimes we overlook the value of small things. In Matthew 13, Jesus shares several brief parables about a mustard seed, yeast, treasure hidden in a field, and a pearl of great value. These parables teach us that the kingdom of heaven is often revealed to us in small and surprising ways, but that these small things can ultimately have a big influence on us and others.

Sometimes we may ask ourselves, "Have I done anything worthwhile lately?" If we go a step further and ask, "When is the last time I did something great that really made a difference" it can be easy to become discouraged.

Jesus encourages us to rephrase the question and ask ourselves, "What small things have I done lately?" Our small acts of kindness, caring, and love can lead to great things being accomplished. It's in sharing our simple gifts that others experience the tremendous value of God's presence in their lives.

We can become discouraged in our faith journeys because we are constantly trying to hit homeruns. Remember that Jesus says base hits are just as valuable. We are to persevere; to press on; to not worry so much about doing great things, but to give of our best in all things – even as small as those things may seem. To do so is to do your part to help others see God's kingdom here on earth as it is in heaven.

Make plans to join us for online worship this Sunday at 11:00am. The Reverend Benjy Varnell will be our guest preacher. Tune in anticipating a blessing! And remember that on August 2 we will return to in-person worship at 9:00am and 11:00am. We will also be live-streaming both services! We are making small steps towards even greater days in the life of our church!

Have a wonderful weekend!

Blessings,

**Tom**

## Leaders Meeting:

Sunday School, Small Group & Committee Chairs  
Thursday, August 6 | 11:00am | In the Sanctuary

If you are a leader of a Sunday School class, small group or a committee chair that meets here at the church, on any day of the week, we would like to invite you to an informative meeting. We will review our guidelines and best practices for returning to in-person group meetings.



LOVE UNCONDITIONALLY  
SERVE ENTHUSIASTICALLY  
ADVANCE CONSISTENTLY

Online Worship at 11:00am

Sunday, July 26, 2020

John 13: 34-35

*"The Last Commandment"*

Guest Preacher: Rev. Benjy Varnell

624 Ocean Boulevard • St. Simons Island, GA 31522  
912.638.3317 • [stsimonsumc.com](http://stsimonsumc.com)

**Rev. Tom Jones, Senior Pastor**  
[tom@stsimonsumc.com](mailto:tom@stsimonsumc.com) • 678.343.3767

**Rev. Richard Soper, Associate Pastor**  
[richard@stsimonsumc.com](mailto:richard@stsimonsumc.com) • 912.222.2139

## Our Staff

**REV. TOM JONES, Pastor**  
[tom@stsimonsumc.com](mailto:tom@stsimonsumc.com)

**REV. RICHARD SOPER, Associate Pastor**  
[richard@stsimonsumc.com](mailto:richard@stsimonsumc.com)

**KEVIN LAMB, Director of Music Ministries**  
[kevin@stsimonsumc.com](mailto:kevin@stsimonsumc.com)

**ANNE FRAZIER, Church Administrator**  
[anne@stsimonsumc.com](mailto:anne@stsimonsumc.com)

**HEATHER KEEFER, Director of Student Ministries**  
[heather@stsimonsumc.com](mailto:heather@stsimonsumc.com)

**Allen Morrison, Director of Media and Communications**  
[allen@stsimonsumc.com](mailto:allen@stsimonsumc.com)

**CAROLYN HAMILTON, Finance**  
[carolyn@stsimonsumc.com](mailto:carolyn@stsimonsumc.com)

**MARY BRITAIN, Preschool Director**  
[maryb@stsimonsumc.com](mailto:maryb@stsimonsumc.com)

**HOLLY LAMB, Contemporary Music Associate**  
[hlamb92@gmail.com](mailto:hlamb92@gmail.com)

**JORDAN TIPPETT, Pianist**  
[jordan.tippett@gmail.com](mailto:jordan.tippett@gmail.com)

## Guest Preacher-Rev. Benjy Varnell

Our guest preacher for online worship this Sunday is the Rev. Benjy Varnell. Benjy is a former pastor of our church. During his years of active ministry he served several churches in the South Georgia Conference and also as a District Superintendent. In retirement, Benjy and his wife, Mary, have become a vital part of our SSUMC church family. We welcome Benjy to the pulpit and look forward to hearing his meaningful message.



## Used Bike needed!

The missions committee has received a request for a used bike for a gentleman in our church family in need. Please call the church office 912.638.3317 if you or someone you know has a used bike you would like to donate to a friend in need!

## Volunteers needed!

Do you want to serve as a volunteer in one of the many areas at our church that need extra help right now? Volunteers are a vital part of ministry and sharing God's love. You can make a difference by serving and giving of your time and sharing your many gifts and talents.

Here are a few of our opportunities:

- **Greeters on Sunday mornings— 9:00am and 11:00am**
- **Children's Ministry Sunday Mornings 9:45am-10:45am**
- **VBS on Wednesdays! For specific volunteer positions check out our Rocky Railways website: [vbspro.events/p/vbs-ssumc](https://vbspro.events/p/vbs-ssumc)**
- **Youth Sunday School Teacher(s) 9:45am-10:45am**
- **MYF— Sunday evenings— hangout and connect with Youth and have FUN! 5:30pm-7:00pm**

For more information contact Anne Frazier at [anne@stsimonsumc.com](mailto:anne@stsimonsumc.com) or for children and youth info contact Heather Keefer at [heather@stsimonsumc.com](mailto:heather@stsimonsumc.com).

## Disciple Bible Study

New Opportunity | Online Zoom Class | Time and Dates TBD

We are pleased to announce the formation of an online Disciple 1 Bible Study Class. Zoe Hicks will be hosting this study via Zoom initially. If you are interested in this in depth study of the bible, contact the church as we plan this study. We will provide more information as it becomes available, and share with those interested in joining.

[Info@StSimonsUmc.com](mailto:Info@StSimonsUmc.com)

## Rocky Railways VBS on Wednesdays!



Since we could not hold traditional VBS during the summer, we are stretching it through the first 5 or 6 Wednesdays this fall. Kids will begin at a fun opening then rotate with Crew Leaders including Bible, games and a snack supper. The time on Wednesday at 5:30pm-7:00pm beginning Wed., Sept. 9th in the Thorpe Building.

Go to our website to sign your children and their friends up: [vbspro.events/p/vbs-ssumc](https://vbspro.events/p/vbs-ssumc). You can also find more details and volunteer opportunities here at this site too!

Please contact Heather Keefer, Director of Student Ministries at [heather@stsimonsumc.com](mailto:heather@stsimonsumc.com) or 912.638.3317 to volunteer or for more information.

## Bibles for 3rd and 4th Graders!

Please let Ms. Heather know if you are a rising 3rd or 4th grade student by emailing [heather@stsimonsumc.com](mailto:heather@stsimonsumc.com). We will be presenting Bibles to students on Sunday, August 16th during both services— 9:00am and 11:00am.

*If your family does not feel comfortable coming back to in-person worship at this time, I will save your Bible for you and drop it in the mail!*

## Financial Report

July 19, 2020

Tithes & Offerings Received | \$31,590.33

Amount Given YTD | \$556,686.60

Budgeted Amount YTD | \$645,686.60

Expenses YTD | \$546,769.48

Building Fund | \$5,940.00

*thank you*

## Attendance

Total Online Weekly Worship Views | 904

## Prayer Requests

**Take time this week and pray for these individuals:**

Vicky Adams, Diana Bailey, John Barton, Lauren Belt, Sandy Bottjer, Billie June Boyd, **Rev. James Ellis Boyd**, Barron Bray, Tony Campolo, Cecilia & Matt Chase, **Conner-Bischoff Family**, Lanier Dobrenic, Irene Drew, Terri Dunkle, Pat Gossage, Kathryn Gruetter, Connie Hallows, Brian Holmes, Elwanda Hopkins, Barbara & Jim Jensen, Anne Kase, Holly Lamb, Shannon Lemmon, **Monica Leverett**, Jones Lindgren, **Mann Family**, Judy McVey, Nathan Meadows, Harry Moffett, Doris Muchison, **Lynne Mulligan**, Mathew North, Jimmy Orr, Sandy & Jerry Peterson, Ann Pickard & Bill Pickard, Dick Pipe, Don Proctor, George Raiford, Bob Rewis, Lauren Rogers, Shawn Rozier, Helen Schroder, Jerry Smith, Wilson Smith, **Greg Sperry**, Mary Stivers, Thomas Stroud, III, **Will Thomas**, **Dave Vandersall**, Stephanie Watson, Jerry Winsness, Bobbée 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 y'all! Let's find a friend to spotlight each week. I really enjoy learning about all of our friends!

*Heeere's Kaden!!*



What is your full name?

**Kaden Meyers**

• What grade are you going into?

**Kindergarten**

• What is your favorite color? **Blue**

• What is your favorite food? **Ice cream**

• What is your favorite candy or ice cream flavor? **Strawberry ice cream**

• What do you want to be when you grow up? **Mail Man**

• What do you like to do for fun? **Hang out with my family**

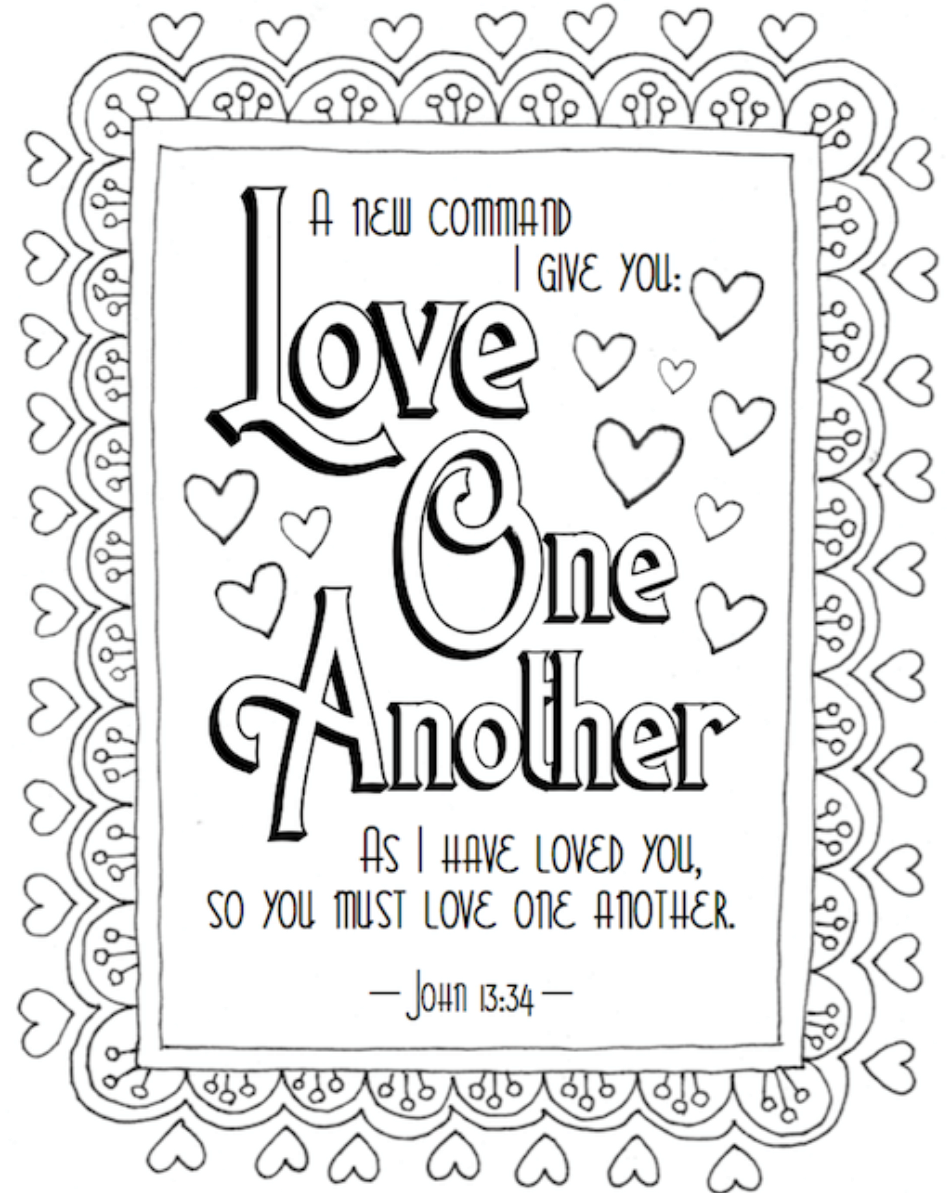
• If you could go anywhere in the world, where would it be? **Fuse**

• What is your favorite Bible verse? **Kaden replied "Any verse about Jesus as a baby"**

• What do you love most about yourself? **I like that I can have fun all day**

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

**CHILDREN'S**  
BULLETIN



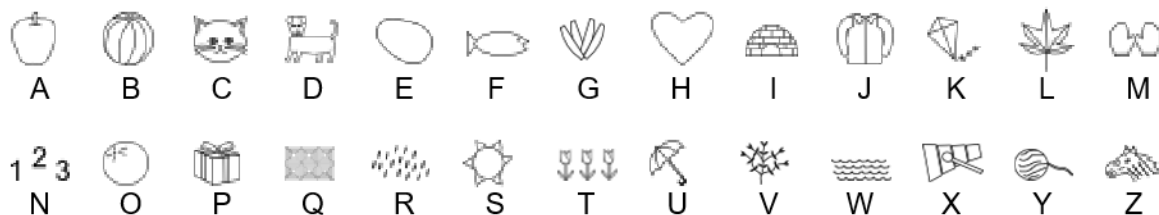
**SUNDAY, JULY 26, 2020**



Why should we love? Use the code to figure out the message!



Code:

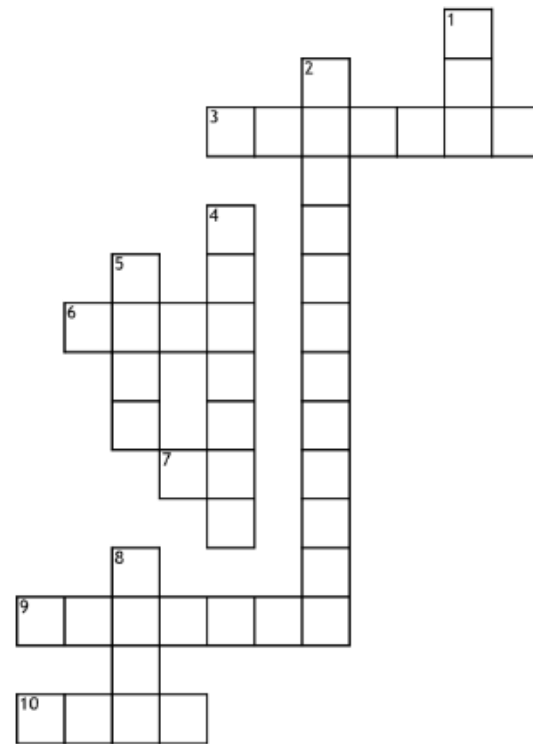


# LÔÔK

Look up John 13:34-35 and find the word that is missing!

<sup>34</sup> "A new command I give you: \_\_\_\_ one another. As I have \_\_\_\_ you, so you must \_\_\_\_ one another. <sup>35</sup> By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you \_\_\_\_ one another."

What is the missing word? \_\_\_\_



### ACROSS

3. Love one \_\_\_\_ as I have loved you
6. Jesus wants us to \_\_\_\_ just like He did
7. Jesus loves \_\_\_\_.
9. You are my \_\_\_\_ if you do what I command you.
10. Jesus wants us to \_\_\_\_ His commandments.

### DOWN

1.  $10 - 9 =$  \_\_\_\_
2. The ten rules God gave us. The ten \_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_ love (opposite of lesser love)
5. One of Jesus' disciples \_\_\_\_ (also the book of the Bible where our scripture is found)
8. The opposite of death \_\_\_\_