

Weekly Activities

Sunday, December 13

- 9:00am Hope: A Christmas Cantata, Sanctuary *
- 10:00am Sunday School/Small Groups:
Children, Youth and Adult *
- 11:00am Hope: A Christmas Cantata, Sanctuary *
- *Nursery Available: Birth to 2nd Grade
- 5:00pm UMW - Circle 5, Thorpe Bldg.
- 5:30pm MYF - Methodist Youth Fellowship, Youth Room

Monday, December 14

- 9:00am Prayer Team, Zoom Meeting
- 11:00am Chair Yoga, Thorpe Bldg.
- 7:00pm Men's Bible Study, Gholson Room

Tuesday, December 15

- 7:00am 707 Bible Study, Youth Room
- 8:00am Biscuit Eaters Reunion Group, Parlor
- 10:00am Incarnation Advent Study, Room 207
- 10:00am Men's Life, Room 203
- 12:30pm UMW - Circle 6, Thorpe Bldg.
- 7:00pm Boy Scouts Troup 248, Thorpe Bldg.

Wednesday, December 16

- 7:00am 707 Bible Study, Thorpe Bldg.
- 8:00am Prayer Hedge, Parlor
- 11:00am Chair Yoga, Thorpe Bldg.
- 4:00pm Disciple Bible Study, Zoom

Thursday, December 17

- 11:00am John Wesley in St Simons, Chapel
A Lecture by Rev. Dave Hanson
- 12:00pm Staff Christmas Lunch, Off Campus

Friday, December 18

- 11:00am Chair Yoga, Thorpe Bldg.



Our Staff

REV. TOM JONES, Senior Pastor

tom@stsimonsumc.com | 678.343.3767

REV. RICHARD SOPER, Associate Pastor

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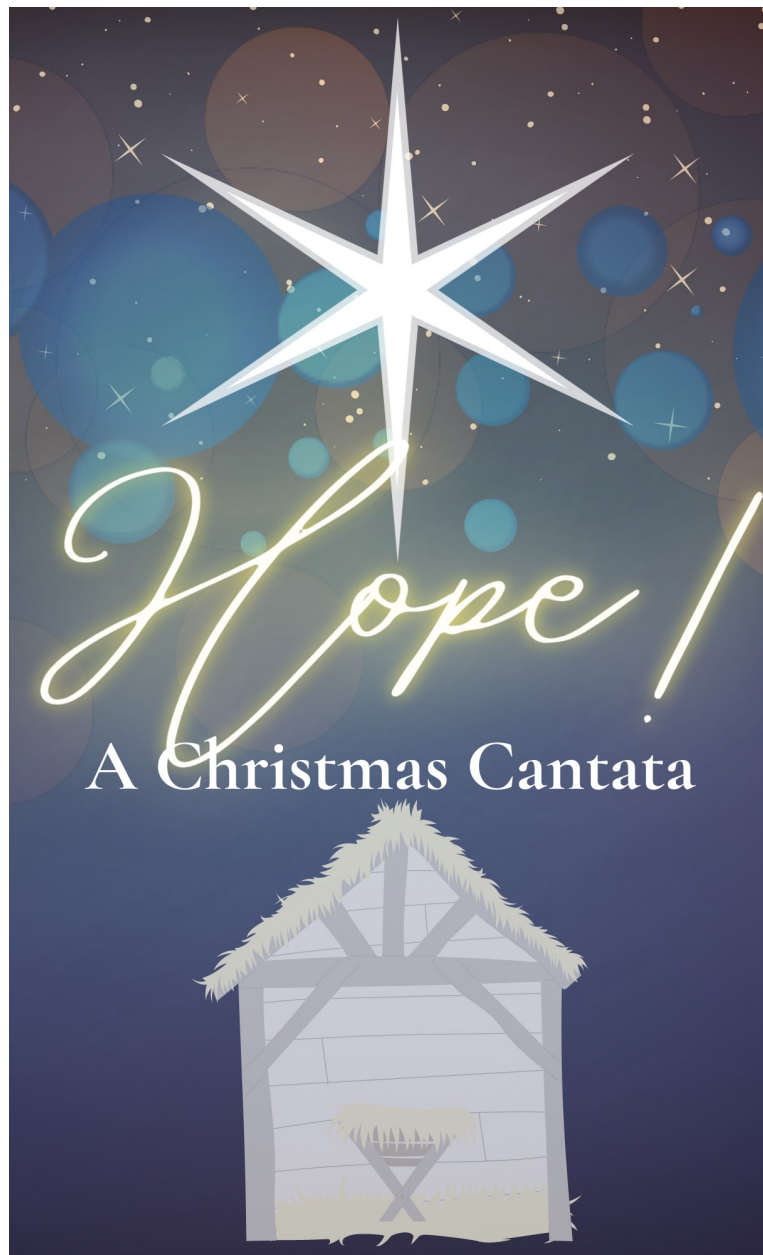
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HOLLY LAMB, Contemporary Music Associate

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SONDRA ANDERSON, Pianist

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Sunday, December 13, 2020

9:00 AM and 11:00 AM

Nursery Available - Birth to 2nd Grade*

*There will be No Children's Church Today

*Where Love is Unconditional
Service is Celebrated Enthusiastically
The Mission of Christ is Advanced Consistently*

624 Ocean Boulevard • St. Simons Island, GA 31522
912.638.3317 • stsimonsumc.com



This is a Stephen Ministry Church

Upcoming Events



Carols at the Keyboards

December 20 | 4:00pm | Sanctuary

The Season of Christmas is often the season for gathering for songs! This Concert of Carols will be presented on the evening of December 20 in our Sanctuary, as well as Live Streaming on Facebook and YouTube. Please be sure to RSVP as this Concert is quickly filling the social distanced capacity of our Sanctuary. We will have overflow seating available if needed in our Chapel.

RSVP (limited seating capacity)

www.StSimonsUmc.com



Christmas Eve Services

December 24 | Live Streamed at 6:00pm

3:00pm

4:30pm - RSVP Capacity has been Reached

6:00pm

11:00pm

Join us for one of our 4 services for Christmas Eve!

Each will include candle lighting, communion, scripture, and music! Please note, our 4:30pm Service has already reached capacity from our RSVPs. There are still 3 services with room for socially distanced seating. Visit our website to RSVP.

RSVP (limited seating capacity)

www.StSimonsUmc.com

The Worship of God

9:00 & 11:00 AM

Prelude ***Noel, Sing We Noel!*** Sondra Anderson
Kevin Lamb
©1999 Word Music | Arr. Clydesdale

Welcome Rev. Richard Soper

Call to Worship Chancel Choir
Merry Christmas! Merry Christmas! John Williams
Arr. Tom Fetteke

Lighting of the Advent Candle The Jones Family
The Candle of Joy Anne, Tom, & Croft

* Hymn ***O Come, All Ye Faithful*** ADESTE FIDELES
Verses 1 & 6

Morning Prayer Richard Soper

Hope!

A Christmas Celebration

Narration—Nancy Rozier

Rejoice and Sing

Narration—Bo Vice

Hope of the World, Emmanuel

Narration—Patti Jo Palmer

Heavenly Peace

Holly Lamb & Heather Keefer

Narration—Terry Craig

Worship the Newborn King

Pam & Ken Taylor

Narration—Robert Carroll

O Holy Night

Fred Kopp

Narration—Zena Martin

Hope Is Born

Benediction Tom Jones

Postlude

****Worshippers, please stand as comfortable***
Today's Narrators are Members of the Choir
who are worshipping Online with us; We are so thankful
for our Online Community!



“The Journey”

How is your walk to Bethlehem going? Is the anticipation building as you get closer to Christmas? Are you growing spiritually? Or are you simply overwhelmed, feeling like the journey will never end or that it can't end soon enough?

When we consider the first journey to Bethlehem we are reminded that it wasn't easy for anyone. It certainly wasn't easy for Mary and Joseph. The approximately 100-mile trip from Nazareth to Bethlehem would have taken them 8 to 10 long days of walking. It had to be a tiresome, scary journey for the young, pregnant Mary. It wasn't easy for the shepherds who were minding their business only to be scared out of their wits by a multitude of angels. It wasn't easy for the wise men who followed a star for many miles, only to deal with the treachery of Herod before arriving safely at their destination. And it certainly wasn't easy for Jesus – born in a barn and placed in a feeding trough.

The first journey to Bethlehem was not an easy trip. Sometimes the same can be said for us as we travel towards Christmas. But no matter how difficult our journeys may be, when we arrive in Bethlehem to embrace the Christ-child, the rewards will far exceed the challenges we faced. We are reminded as we stand by the manger that the greatest gift ever given was God's gift of Jesus to each of us – the source of our hope, love, peace, and joy! Stay on the journey!

I look forward to seeing you in worship this Sunday as the choir presents its cantata and reminds us through the message of music of the hope that is ours in Jesus Christ!

Blessings, **Tom**

Sunday Schools and Small Groups:

Upcoming Sermon Series: “Unafraid”

Beginning January 3, Tom Jones will preach a 6 week sermon series, “Unafraid: Living with Courage and Hope in Uncertain Times”.

The series based on the book by Rev. Adam Hamilton, is available in a group study format with resources that can be easily adapted to a Sunday School Class or Small Group setting.

If you are interested in facilitating a class/small group that coincides with the weekly preaching topic during the month of January through the first week of February you can order the materials for your class from your favorite book vendor, including Cokesbury.

Tom has one copy of the leaders guide and a DVD he will share with the first group leader who contacts him.

Financial Report

TEXT TO GIVE: For your convenience you may send a text to the number 73265 with the message SSUMC to Give Online

December 6

Tithes & Offerings Received | \$27,007.10

Amount Given YTD | \$940,485.73

Expenses YTD | \$973,863.44

Budgeted Amount YTD | \$1,092,942.78

Building Fund YTD | \$8,825.00

thank you

Attendance

December 6

Total In-Person Worship | 187

9:00 am | 94 11:00 am | 93

Total Online Worship Views | 487

9:00 am | 232 11:00 am | 255

Sunday School/Small Groups | 112

Members in Ministry This Sunday

December 13

Ushers:

9:00 Steve Tucker, Ed Gossage, Richie Sipe, Carolyn Vann

11:00 Mike Fitzgerald, Bill Hansen, Robert Jenkins, Jeff Parker, Randall Rehberg, Phil Shinall, Charles Taylor

Greeters:

9:00 Ranny and Sharon Blout, Toni Metz

11:00 Barbara Smith, Susan Pope, Nancy Jenkins

Projection:

9:00 Elizabeth Daniel

11:00 Neva Kaye

Prayer Requests

Please take time this week and pray for these individuals:

New Prayer Concerns:

Carey Brock, Nancy & Phil Cabibi, John Christianson, Corbitt/Stahl Family, Jennifer Cox, Barbara Jensen, Ellie Leroux, Spence Mullis, Marie Neel, Kathy O'Brien Family, Brenda Padea, Bill Pickard, Madden Robinson, Cheryl Schilleci, Jeremy Turner

Ongoing Prayer Concerns:

Diana Bailey, John Barton, Lauren Belt, Sandy Bottjer, Billy June Boyd, Lanier Dobrenic, Terri Dunkle, Connie Hallowses, Elwanda Hopkins, Jim Jensen, Shannon Lemmon, Jeff Martin, Nathan Meadows, Jimmy Orr, Sandy & Jerry Peterson, Dick Pipe, Don Proctor, Jeff Proctor, George Raiford, Mary Stivers, Stephanie Watson, Bobbé Wooldridge, Hollis Youngner, Beverly Zeller, Our Nation.

Assisted Living Prayer:

Magnolia Manor: JoAnne Alford, Jack Jenkins, Marjorie Lawrence, Debby Lloyd, Pat Miller, Norma Mock, Joyce Parry, Charlotte Petty, Larry Varnadoe, Effie Walker

Senior Care:

 Anne Pinson

Marshes Edge Assisted: Nancy Reynolds

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.

BOLDDED names indicate a new addition or current concern.



Advent Mission Project: 3 Trees

Salvation Army | Compassion International | FaithWorks

The Advent Missions Challenge is brought to you by our SSUMC Missions Committee. This Season we will support 3 Ministries, each represented by an individual tree. Each Tree in the Gholson Room has ornaments representing a need. Please feel free to take as many ornaments as you would like. Visit the Gholson Room during Advent to find out more and select an ornament.

Salvation Army Due by December 14

Compassion International & FaithWorks Due by December 24

Christmas Countdown

A New Take on the Traditional Advent Calendar!

Look for this fun resource in our Email, on the Website and on our Facebook! Download and Print the resource or follow along online on Facebook or Instagram.

@StSimonsUmc | www.StSimonsUmc.com

End of Year Giving

Contributions for 2020 and Holiday Office Hours

The Finance Committee of St. Simons UMC is so thankful to those who have contributed to our church this year! Your giving has been so appreciated, especially during this challenging year. If you need to complete your pledge for 2020 or are preparing a year end gift to the church, please note that gifts must be received by the church postmarked no later than December 31 to be included in 2020 giving statements.

The Church office will be OPEN 8:30am-4pm on December

21, 22, 28-30.

The office will be CLOSED: December 23 - 25, 31, & 1/1.

Did you know?

Individuals can give Stock Gifts to the church for possible tax savings. Charitable donations can contribute towards meeting your IRA's yearly required minimum distribution. Traditional IRA owners must start taking RMD's at age 70½. We must receive your donation by Dec. 31 for it to apply to this year's tax return. Contact your accountant or IRA advisor for tax savings questions, or contact Anne in the church office for further information.

Memorials

A gift has been given in Memory of **Irene Drew** from:

Betty & Tom Mitchell, Dianne S. Beisel, June Smith, Diane & Jim Bailey, John Lindgren, Dianne Searcy Smoot, Forrest Bloodworth, Nick & Jane Sigalos, and Pam Lewis (to the Worship Fund)

A gift has been given in Memory of **Tom George** from:

Dr. Joyce Coleman

A Sincere Thanks

A Sincere, heartfelt thank you to the church members for your thoughts, prayers, cards, and phone calls during this difficult time of the loss of my Mother. Your sympathy and love is so appreciated.

-Randall Rehberg and Family

Poinsettias

Order through Tuesday, December 15

The cost of each poinsettia is \$22.

You may designate them in memory of, in honor of a loved one or to the Glory of God.



Look for envelopes in the pew racks or contact the Church Office. Ordered Poinsettias can be picked up after the 11:00am Worship Service, December 20, 2020.

anne@stsimonsumc.com | 912.638.3317

Christmas Meal

December 25 | 12:00noon | Thorpe Building

Please join us for our Annual Christmas Meal on Christmas Day in the Thorpe Building.

All of the food will be provided and reservations are required. Space will be limited due to Social Distancing.

Reservations: anne@stsimonsumc.com | 912.638.3317

Advent Readers

Be a part of a Christmas Eve Tradition!

If you or your family is interested in leading an Advent Reading during one of our four Christmas Eve Services, please call or email the church office. Instructions and text are provided for you and your family to be a part of this Worshipful Tradition.

anne@stsimonsumc.com | 912.638.3317

Preschool Cookies

For all those who ordered cookies for the Preschool Fundraiser, your orders have arrived and will be available in the Gholson Room after each service this Sunday.

Contact Mary Brittain for alternate pickup instructions.

maryb@stsimonsumc.com | 912.634.8557

Join the Church

If you would like to join St. Simons United Methodist Church you may do so by one of three ways:

- (1) Profession of Faith in Jesus Christ
- (2) Transfer from another United Methodist congregation
- (3) Transfer from another denomination

If you are interested in more information about becoming a member contact Rev. Tom Jones **678.343.3767 |**

tom@stsimonsumc.com

Connect With Us!

Send GUESTsumc to 31996 to Connect With Us

Open a new text message on your phone and send the words above to the listed phone number. Once you text in, you will be able to answer some follow up questions to share with us.

You may always reach out to our pastors and staff directly.

912.638.3317 | anne@stsimonsumc.com



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anne@stsimonsumc.com 912.638.3317