

Merry Christmas!

Sunday, December 20

- 9:00am Worship Service, Sanctuary *
10:00am Sunday School/Small Groups:
Children, Youth and Adult *
11:00am Worship Service, Sanctuary *
*Nursery Available: Birth to 4 Years
4:00pm Carols at the Keyboards, Sanctuary
5:30pm MYF - Methodist Youth Fellowship, Youth Room

Monday, December 21

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

Tuesday, December 22

- 8:00am Biscuit Eaters Reunion Group, Parlor

Wednesday, December 23 - Church Office Closed

- 4:00pm Disciple Bible Study, Zoom

Thursday, December 24 - Church Office Closed

- 3:00pm Christmas Eve Worship, Sanctuary
4:30pm Christmas Eve Worship, Sanctuary
6:00pm Christmas Eve Worship, Sanctuary
11:00pm Christmas Eve Worship, Sanctuary

Christmas Day

Friday, December 25

- 12:00pm Christmas Lunch, Thorpe Bldg.



Merry Christmas
From Your Church Staff

Anne

Mary

Carolyn

Richard

Allen

Kevin

Heather

Tom




Sunday, December 20, 2020

9:00 AM and 11:00 AM

Nursery Available

*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

Poinsettias

Given by:

KayKay & Roy Akins
Jolee Benoit
Becky & Lawrence Bridges
Dona & Ray Colglazier
Gerry Egger
The Fitzgerald Family
Howell Jennings Fleetwood
Thomas, Jennings & Hunter Fleetwood

Dotsy & Jim Fuller

The Giles Family

Debbie & Andy Kohler
Pam Lewis

John, Jones & Stan Lindgren
Barbara & Charles Milliken

Pam & Ken Taylor

Cheryl & Mike Murphy
Carol & Lee Norton
Pat & Nikki Quiter
Claudia & Jim Royal
Billie & Conrad Stocks

Margie & Don Varnadoe

Mary & Benjy Varnell

Susan & Lee Watkins

Jamie, Kaitlin & Chris Wiles

Judy & JR Wright

In Memory of:

Irene Drew
Sara Rogers
Our Parents
Our Parents
Rose & Mack McKenzie
Jesse & Kitty Fitzgerald
Mrs. H. F. Laramore; by her Godson
Dr. & Mrs. Wood Lovell;
by their grandsons
Dorothy & Bill Gunnells; Dotsy's parents
Mary & James Fuller; Jim's parents
Susie Waters West
Catherine Payne Giles
Matthew Kohler
Tom Lewis
Rev. Eugene Cariker
Becky Outlaw
Barbara Lindgren
Our Parents: Charles & Helen Milliken
Robert & Katherine Tressler
Our Brother-in-Law: Leonard W. Riley, Sr.
Nephew, Robert J. Tressler
Lela & Lester Kleinendorst
Roger Taylor
Betty Murphy
Col. Frank Norton
John Quiter
Elaine Royal & Brennan Wiles
Mr. & Mrs. Winston Godwin
Conrad F. Stocks
Our Parents: Jr. & Margaret Varnadoe
Frank & Alva Pitman
Dr. & Mrs. J. C. Varnell
Dr. & Mrs. C. M. Massey
Our Parents: Lee & Mary Watkins
Dan & Eva Lott
Brennan Wiles, Elaine Royal
& Rob Wiles
Hunt Huntley
Our Parents: Jerry & Dorothy Wright
John M. & Honorable Bernice M. Gilder

Given By:

Troy Bankston
Beacon Sunday School Class
Tilman Blakely

Gerry Egger
The Fitzgerald Family
Pam Lewis
Friends in Faith Sunday School Class
Judy & Tom Smith
Mary & Benjy Varnell
Jamie, Kaitlin & Chris Wiles

In Honor of:

Joyce & James Bankston
Ann & Bill Pickard
Susan Blakely
To the Glory of God
Don, Karen & Madison Lewis
Sandy's Parents
My Family
Jim Polhill
Lucy Adams & Lucas Smith
The Church Staff
Claudia & Jim Royal

The Worship of God

9:00 & 11:00 AM

Prelude	<i>O Holy Night</i>	Sondra Anderson Kevin Lamb Arr. Larson ©2017 Lorenz
Call to Worship	<i>Rejoice and Sing!</i>	Chancel Choir
Greeting		Rev. Richard Soper
Lighting of the Advent Candle	The Candle of Peace	Kevin & Holly Lamb
* Hymn	<i>Joy to the World</i>	ANTIOCH Verses 1,2 & 4
* Passing the Peace		
* Fellowship Chorus	<i>Infant Holy, Infant Lowly</i>	W ZLOBIE LEZY
Children's Message		Heather Keefer
* Hymn	<i>Angels We Have Heard on High</i>	GLORIA Verses 1,2 & 4
Morning Prayer		Richard Soper
The Lord's Prayer		
Scripture	Titus 2:11-14	
Message in Music	<i>Mary Did You Know?</i>	Holly Lamb CCLI # 839225 Greene Lowry ©2009 Rufus Music
Morning Message	GOD'S GIFT IN CHRIST	Rev. Tom Jones
* Invitation	<i>Good Christian Friends</i>	IN DULCI JUBILO
* Benediction		Tom Jones
Postlude		Kevin Lamb

**Worshippers, please stand as comfortable*



“Do You Know Anyone Born on Christmas Day”

It was two days before Christmas. There was a long line at the post office as people impatiently waited to use overnight mail to get Christmas packages to their friends and loved ones on time.

After finally reaching the front of the line, a woman asked the post office employee if it was possible to get a package to Phoenix, Arizona before Christmas. The employee said, "We can, but it will cost you." "How much?" the woman inquired. "Forty-seven dollars and forty cents." "Gracious!" she said. "That's a lot, but I've got to do it. This present is for my father. It has to be there before Christmas because Christmas is also his birthday."

"Wow! What a bum deal that is!" said the postal clerk. "I'm glad I don't know anyone with a birthday on Christmas!" Someone waiting in line spoke up: "I'm sure glad I do!"

On this fourth Sunday of Advent we celebrate the peace offered to us in Jesus Christ. 2020 will be a year we always remember as a year that was less than peaceful in a pandemic torn world. But as a people of faith this season reminds us that our greatest source of peace is to be able to say with confidence, "I know the one who was born on Christmas Day!"

Some of us remain nervous and unsettled. Even as the calendar flips to a new year, many of the concerns and worries of 2020 will carry over. Our search for peace continues. My prayer is that your search will end at the manger. Discover the Christ-child, God's gift of peace to each of us; a gift that the world cannot give; a gift that is ours when we open our hearts and release our fears in the strong, peace-filled name of Jesus.

Anne and Croft join with me in wishing you a joyful, hope-filled, love-filled, peace-filled Christmas. May the one born on Christmas Day be born anew in your hearts!

*Merry Christmas,
Tom*



Fear, anxiety, and worry permeate our lives today. It wreaks havoc on our relationships. It leads us into making poor decisions. It holds us back from the very pursuits that promise us fulfillment and joy.

Based on the book written by the Rev. Adam Hamilton, senior pastor of the Church of the Resurrection in Kansas City, this six-week sermon series will focus on how we can develop sustaining spiritual practices and embrace Jesus's recurring counsel: "Do not be afraid."

Invite your family members and friends to join us in person or online as we learn what it means to live with courage and hope.

January 3	"An Age of High Anxiety"
January 10	"Fear of the Other"
January 17	"Friendless and Alone?"
January 24	"Fear of Failure"
January 31	"The Sky is Falling"
February 7	"Sickness, Growing Old, and Death"

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 13

Tithes & Offerings Received | \$21,442.00

Amount Given YTD | \$961,927.73

Expenses YTD | \$992,307.71

Budgeted Amount YTD | \$1,114,990.47

Building Fund YTD | \$9,015.00

thank you

Attendance

December 13

Total In-Person Worship | 264

9:00 am | 129 11:00 am | 135

Total Online Worship Views | 686

9:00 am | 322 11:00 am | 364

Sunday School/Small Groups | 83

Members in Ministry This Sunday

December 20

Ushers:

9:00 John Goodrich, Bill Foster, Lynda Sterrett, Lee Watkins

11:00 Dona Colglazier, David Lewis, Jimmy Orr, John Rentz, Mel Rozier, Mike Suthard, Jamie Wiles

Greeters:

9:00 Susan Watkins, Carol Conner

11:00 Claudia Royal, Jennifer Irion

Projection:

9:00 Robin Parmelee

11:00 Ashley Swann

Prayer Requests

Please take time this week and pray for these individuals:

New Prayer Concerns:

Vicky Adams, Carey Brock, Nancy & Phil Cabibi, **John Christianson**, Jennifer Cox, **Mara DeLage**, **Steve Dixon**, **Jim & Dotsy Fuller**, **Mitchell Godwin**, **Gail Gonzalez**, Barbara Jensen, **Steve & Kate Kennedy**, Ellie Leroux, **Craig Miller**, **Mathew North**, Madden Robinson, Cheryl Schilleci, **Paul Wilska**

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

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.

BOLD names indicate a new addition or current concern.



Advent Mission Project

Compassion International | FaithWorks

The Advent Missions Challenge is brought to you by our SSUMC Missions Committee. 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 Gifts have already been collected.

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

Youth White Elephant Exchange!

During MYF This Sunday!

Bring a gift under \$10 and a Snack to Share.

heather@stsimonsumc.com

Youth: Salvation Army Bell Ringing

Calling All Youth! Come ring the Bell for Salvation Army! We will be ringing on two different days, so pick the day that works best for you.

Saturday, December 19 at Sam's Club in Brunswick

Monday, December 21 at Winn Dixie on St Simons

Both Locations | 10:00am-12:00noon

heather@stsimonsumc.com | 912.638.3317

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 office will be OPEN 8:30am-4pm on December 21, 22, 28-30 and until 12:30 on December 31.

The Church Office will be CLOSED: December 23 - 25.

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:

Barbara Meadows, The Worship Committee of SSUMC, Jean K. Bryan, Betty E. Oliver & Robert Fischer, Nancy Pickren

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

Diane & Jim Bailey

A Gift has been given to the **Preschool** in Memory of **Ann Rewis'** Family from: **Ann Rewis**

New Online Bible Study "The Gospel of John"

Wednesdays | 5:30-6:30pm | Begins January 13

Tom Jones will facilitate a 10-session ZOOM Bible Study on the Gospel of John. All are welcome to participate. This class will be our second Online Only class. Materials needed include a device that can install Zoom (Computer, iPad, Smart Phone), and your Bible.

An Email address is required for registration. Invitations to join each session will be sent to your email weekly.

Free Registration Required | www.stsimonsumc.com

Information about Study | tom@stsimonsumc.com

Zoom Information | allen@stsimonsumc.com

Blessing of the Toys!

Sunday Worship | 10:30am | December 27

Children are welcome to bring a favorite Christmas gift to church on Sunday the 27th to have it blessed during the Children's Message. Feel free to wear Christmas pajamas if you would like! **heather@stsimonsumc.com**

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

Music Ministry

Thank you music ministry for a great worship experience Sunday. I want to thank Allen and the tech team for the flawless audio visuals Sunday. Thank you chancel choir for being faithful servants and singing beautifully. Sondra and Emri your skill at the keyboards was amazing. It is a joy to serve with all of you and to be in a church that values music. Merry Christmas!

Sincerely, Kevin Lamb, Director of Music Ministries

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 GUESTssumc 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



@StSimonsUmc



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**Join Our Email List or Update Your Contact Info:
anne@stsimonsumc.com 912.638.3317**