

Weekly Events

Sunday, September 4

8:30 AM Traditional Worship Service, **Sanctuary\***  
9:45 AM Sunday School & Small Group Classes, **Various Locations\***  
9:45 AM Contemporary Worship Service, **Chapel\***  
11:00 AM Traditional Worship Service, **Sanctuary\***  
**\*Nursery Available: Newborn- 4 yrs.**  
**All Services Streamed Live**  
5:30 PM Youth Group, **Youth Room**

Monday, September 5– Labor Day

Church Office Closed  
9:00 AM Prayer Team, **Parlor**  
11:00 AM No Chair Yoga  
1:15 PM Lightkeepers Al-Anon, **Room 203**

Tuesday, September 6

8:00 AM Biscuit Eaters Reunion Group, **Parlor**  
10:00 AM Men's Life Group, **Room 203**  
6:30 PM PAL Meeting, **Room 207**  
7:00 PM Boy Scouts, **Thorpe Building**

Wednesday, September 7

8:00 AM Prayer Hedge, **Parlor**  
9:00 AM Map Packing, MAP International  
11:00 AM Chair Yoga, **Thorpe Building**  
1:15 PM Lightkeepers Al-Anon, **Room 203**  
5:30 PM Young Musicians Children’s Choir, **Choir Room**  
6:00 PM Kids WOW– Bible, Pizza & Fun, **Children’s Room**  
5:30 PM Youth Pizza & Games, **Youth Room**  
5:30 PM Parents Dinner and Conversation, **Meet in Gholson Room**  
6:15 PM Chancel Choir, **Choir Room**

Friday, September 9

7:30 AM Preschool - Goodies with Grandparents, **Gholson Room**  
11:00 AM NO Chair Yoga  
1:15 PM Lightkeepers Al-Anon, **Room 203**

  @stsimonsumc  stsimonsumc.com

 Join Our Email List or Update Your Contact Info:  
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Our Staff

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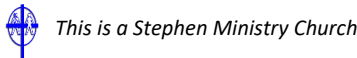
ST. SIMONS  
UNITED METHODIST



Community

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



THE WORSHIP OF GOD

SEPTEMBER 4, 2022  
CHAPEL • 9:45am

WELCOME

Rev. Richard Soper

PRAISE AND WORSHIP

Thrive

CCLI #7006228  
©2014 Be Essential Songs

FELLOWSHIP TIME

The Father’s House

CCLI #7135153  
©2019 Cory Asbury Publishing

MORNING PRAYER

Richard Soper

Better Is One Day

CCLI #1097451  
©1995 Thankyou Music

Bind Us Together

CCLI #1228  
©1977 Thankyou Music

MORNING MESSAGE

Why Church?

Community

Luke 15: 1-10

CELEBRATION OF  
HOLY COMMUNION

The Table

CCLI #7028956  
©2014 Capitol

INVITATION

Bind us Together

CCLI #1228  
©1977 Thankyou Music

CLOSING PRAYER

Rev. Tom Jones

The Worship of God

SEPTEMBER 4, 2022  
SANCTUARY • 8:30am & 11:00am

Greeting Rev. Richard Soper

Prelude Kevin Lamb

\* Hymn #374 **Standing on the Promises** PROMISES  
Verses 1, 2 & 3

\* Invitation to Holy Communion  
Confession & Pardon

\* Passing the Peace

\* Fellowship Chorus #2056  
**God Is So Good**

Children’s Message Chris Moncus

Morning Prayer Richard Soper

The Lord’s Prayer

Hymn #400 **Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing** NETTLETON

Offertory Prayer Tom Jones

Offertory Kevin Lamb

Presentation of Gifts DOXOLOGY

Message in Music **Worthy Is The Lamb** Chancel Choir  
Arr. John Wilson

Morning Message Rev. Tom Jones

Why Church?

Community

Luke 15: 1-10

Sacrament of Holy Communion  
The Great Thanksgiving  
The Lord’s Prayer  
Sharing of the Cup and Bread

\* Invitation **Bind Us Together** BIND US TOGETHER  
Verses 1 & 3

\* Benediction Tom Jones

Postlude

\*Worshippers, please stand as comfortable





“Useful”

Labor Day weekend is considered by many to be the last gasp of summer. It has been said that it’s the final day of the year when you can wear white without the fashion police glaring at you (is that really true if you live on an island?). After Labor Day the pools close, the beaches are less crowded, and most of us are well established in our Fall routines.

Labor Day is a vacation day for many of us. We love our vacation time! Who doesn’t? But when we experience extended periods of time feeling as though we are not contributing anything meaningful, we often struggle. The need to contribute in a useful way explains why some of us have trouble adjusting to; with retirement. We all want to know that we have a purpose, that we are useful. We tend to define our lives by what we do and what we accomplish, what we achieve.

Labor Day is a good day to consider what brings value to our lives. It is a holiday that grew out of laborers' desires to be valued beyond their jobs and to have lives beyond their work. Still there are many of us who still struggle to find a balance between our work and the rest of our lives. Even as we celebrate Labor Day, we might be tempted to peek at an email or text just to be sure we haven't missed anything important in the workplace. We want to believe our lives are more than what we do for a living, yet our inability to disengage from our jobs tells a different story. We have fallen into the trap of believing that we are only useful at work.

As the people of God, we have a purpose in life. We are called to serve Christ whether we are employed, unemployed, or underemployed; whether we have much or little; whether we feel satisfied or frustrated with our work; whether our employer appreciates us or not; whether we feel empowered or powerless. On this Labor Day, we give thanks to God for the blessing of our jobs and our work. But we also remember that our lives are not solely measured by our jobs. Our usefulness is best measured in our discipleship and in our relationship with God, our families, and others.

When you consider your purpose in life remember the words of Proverbs 19:21: “Many are the plans in a person’s heart, but it is the Lord’s purpose that prevails.” Let us make it our purpose to be full of use for Christ and his kingdom.

This Sunday I begin the sermon series, “Why Church?” I look forward to being in worship with you. Have a safe and enjoyable Labor Day Weekend!

Blessings,  
**Tom**



Simons United Methodist Church we will take care of today’s needs and the future needs to Maintain the Mission. For more information visit our website at [stsimonsumc.com](http://stsimonsumc.com) or contact Anne Frazier with questions: [anne@stsimonsumc.com](mailto:anne@stsimonsumc.com).

Financial Report

For your convenience you may give online by visiting our website at [www.stimonsumc.com](http://www.stimonsumc.com) and click on the Giving tab.

August 28, 2022

Tithes & Offerings Received | \$12,620.00  
Received YTD | \$792,297.95  
Expenses YTD | \$737,618.22  
Difference YTD| \$54,679.73  
Budgeted Amount YTD | \$790,612.25  
Building Fund YTD | \$15,869.00



Attendance ~ August 28, 2022

8:30 Worship Service: **107**      Online Worship Views: **275**  
9:45 Worship Service: **53**      Sunday School/Small Groups: **132**  
11:00 Worship Service: **202**  
Total In Person Worship: **362**

Members in Ministry ~ September 4, 2022

Ushers:

8:30      Janice Lee, Mac McLawhorn, Tom Smith, Pete Irby  
11:00      Kevin Brandon, David Miller, Ed Reynolds

Greeters:

8:30      Faye George, Helen Baker  
9:45      Casey & Craig Pace  
11:00      Cindy Simpson, Susan Bagwell

Projection:

8:30      Neva Kaye                      9:45   Elizabeth Daniel  
11:00      Ashley Swann

Acolytes:

8:30	Sarah Sipe	11:00	Stiles Robinson
<b>Communion Servers:</b>		<b>Communion Prayers:</b>	
8:30	Chuck Milliken	Sharon Blount	
	Barbara Whitney	Mike Martin	
9:45	Andy & Debbie Kohler	Toni Metz, Shari Luken	
11:00	Sherry & Mike Pickett	Judy Smith, Betty Sharp	

Prayer Requests

*Please take time this week and pray for these individuals:*

**New Prayer Concerns:**

**Betsy Alexander**, Tilman Blakely, **Horacio Chum**, **Tyler Cusack**, Major Dennis Blanchard, Ed Clark, **Lynn Danos**, **Evelyn Diaz**, **Alan Elias**, **The Eller Family**, Andrew Jones, **Tom Lindgren**, **The Lukitsch Family**, **Jim Medbery**, Carolanne Milliken, **Jim Milliken**, Tom Milwee, **Randy, Paul & Judy Shivers**, **Charlotte Wheeler**, **Ken Whelan**

**Ongoing Prayer Concerns:**

Vicky Adams, Diana Bailey, Lauren Belt, Tilman Blakely, Ranny Blount, Linda Blount, Marcia Boney, Billy June Boyd, Beth Carey, Vicki Certain, Lanier Dobrenic, Terri Dunkle, Sam Friedman, Dotsy Fuller, Connie Hallowes, Ginny Holt, Elwanda Hopkins, Ellie Leroux, Jack Lindgren, Sandee Lukitsch, Marcia Maguire, Mike Martin, Ken McCauley, Mike McMillan, Nathan Meadows, Sharon Mitchell, Spence Mullis, Kirk Nowery, Jerry Peterson, Ann Pickard, Bill Pickard, Dick Pipe, Don Proctor, Mable Proctor, Jeff Proctor, Bob Rewis, Irene Rohan, Bob Scherer, Sandy Thornberry, Dave Vandersall, Bo Vice & Mary Vice, Paul Wilska, Judy Whelan, Bobbé Wooldridge, Hollis Youngner, Beverly Zeller, Emmie Zwack

**Assisted Living Prayer:**

**Magnolia Manor:** JoAnne Alford, Marjorie Lawrence, Norma Mock, Joyce Parry, Larry Varnadoe

**Marsh’s Edge Assisted:** Judy Clifton, 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. Names that are BOLD indicate a new addition or current concern.*

Animal Encounter at Oatland

North Farm- Thursday, September 22

Early fall is an excellent time to get outside on the beautiful north end of St. Simons and enjoy nature. The farm at Oatland North is a refuge for abused and abandoned animals including horses, goats, donkeys and more! Tour the farm and meet the residents up close! A Dutch treat lunch following the tour will be at 100 Tabbystone, the Hampton Golf Resort restaurant. Depart Thursday at 9:00am and return after lunch. Please reserve your spot on Realm or by calling the church office by Thursday, September 15. Individual donations appreciated.

White Christmas at Alhambra Dinner Theater



Tickets are available and going fast! Join us for another delicious meal and live show at the Alhambra Dinner Theatre. We will leave at 10:30am and return at approximately 5:00pm. This all-inclusive ticket is \$90 and reservations (payment) by Monday, November 21. Register on Realm or call the church office to reserve your spot!

Restored: Finding Redemption in Our Mess

Rev. Richard Soper will be leading this study beginning on Thursday, September 8 at 10:00am finishing on Thursday, October 20 meeting in Room 201. You may purchase your book through the church office or order on Amazon. Books are \$14.00. Register on Realm or call the church office by Tuesday, September 6. We will discuss the 1st Chapter on Thursday, September 8.

Blessing of the Animals & Pet Parade–

Sunday, September 18



A Blessing of Animals, in many congregations, witnesses to God’s and the Church’s love, care, and concern for creation. As we recognize our mutual interdependence with God’s creatures, the Church’s witness of stewardship of creation is strengthened. Join us for scripture and prayer at 3:00pm. RSVP on Realm or by calling the church office at **912.638.3317**

UMW Circle 1

We are starting a new study this fall on the book “The Women of the Bible Speak” by Shannon Bream. If you have a copy of this book and don’t mind sharing it, we would be grateful! Please text Pam Rehberg at **912.270.0328** if you have a copy to share.

Welcome to our Newest Member!

Please join us in welcoming our newest members who joined on Sunday, August 28, 2022:

**John and Candi Allison**

We welcome you to our church family!

The Way Forward- FAQ on Disaffiliation

The current plan of our church is to hold off on a decision regarding disaffiliation from the United Methodist Church until after the General Conference meets in May 2024. As a means of helping to keep you informed this space is being used to provide routine updates on our church’s way forward and answer frequently asked questions.

**Why does our church continue to stay the course while others are choosing to disaffiliate?**

This continues to be the most common question I hear regarding our church’s current position. There are others who wonder, “Why are we not meeting like other churches?” The answer is simple: There is no reason to hurry.

The pastoral and lay leadership of the church are closely following what is happening. The message being disseminated by some that we have to move on this now or else is not accurate. Be assured that if at some point we see the need to change our course and to bring this matter before the church, we will. In the meantime, our church will continue to lift-up the name of Jesus and be faithful in our discipleship as we ask for God’s blessings on our ministries.

**To help you better understand the current position of our church I invite you to view the link by** Bishop David Graves, the episcopal leader of the South Georgia Conference, has produced a 3-minute video that speaks to some of our concerns regarding timing. I believe you will find the video to be helpful.

The link is [www.sgaumc.org/newsdetail/bishop-graves-navigating-this-next-season-together-16615512](http://www.sgaumc.org/newsdetail/bishop-graves-navigating-this-next-season-together-16615512)

Do you have a question you would like to have addressed in this column? Please send it to Tom Jones at [tom@stsimonsumc.com](mailto:tom@stsimonsumc.com). Your email must include your name. Questions about processes and protocols are preferred and are most helpful in providing information. Questions asked for the purpose of soliciting the opinions of the pastoral and lay leadership will not be considered.

Memorials

**A GIFT HAS BEEN GIVEN IN MEMORY OF WES ROGERS**

**BY:** Tina & Bill Kirby

Guest Information

- **First time guests** please fill out the yellow, “Welcome Card” located in your pew. Please drop in the offering plate or bring to the Welcome Desk to receive a gift!
- Restrooms are located through the exit doors nearest the altar to your right or left.
- Sunday School for children & adults meets at 9:45am.
- A nursery is available for children **4 years old and under**, located through the exit door to the right of the altar, 1st floor in the Stubbs Building.
- Children’s Church (**5 years old - 5th grade**), leave together after the Children’s Message (except on the 1st Sunday of the month— Communion Sundays) for lessons, crafts, and games, and may be picked up on the 2nd floor in the Stubbs Building.

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](mailto:tom@stsimonsumc.com)