

# Weekly Calendar

## Sunday, December 3

8:30 AM Traditional Worship Service, **Sanctuary\***  
8:30 AM Adult Sunday School, **Room 202\***  
9:45 AM Clubhouse Jam, **Kid's Clubhouse**  
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. for above worship services**  
**All Services Streamed Live**  
5:30 PM Youth Group and Dinner, **Thorpe Building**

## Monday, December 4

9:00 AM Prayer Team, **Parlor**  
9:00 AM Preschool Mini-Motions, **Thorpe Building**  
11:00 AM Chair Yoga, **Thorpe Building**  
2:00 PM Stephen Ministry Meeting, **Parlor**  
6:00 PM Church Council Meeting, **Thorpe Building**

## Tuesday, December 5

10:00 AM Men's Life Group, **Room 203**  
1:00 PM Women's Life Group, **Room 203**  
6:00 PM Boy Scout Troup 248, **Thorpe Building**  
6:00 PM PAL Meeting, **Room 207**  
6:00 PM Men's Ministry Visioning Meeting, **Room 203**

## Wednesday, December 6

11:00 AM Chair Yoga, **Thorpe Building**  
1:15 PM Lightkeepers Al-Anon, **Room 203**  
5:30 PM Kid's Choir, **Choir Room**  
6:00 PM Kids WOW— Bible, Pizza & Fun, **Kid's Clubhouse**  
6:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal, **Choir Room**

## Thursday, December 7

9:00 AM Preschool Mini-Motions, **Gholson Room**  
1:00 PM Parkinson's Support Group Meeting, **Thorpe Building**

## Friday, December 8

11:00 AM Chair Yoga, **Thorpe Building**

### \*\*\*FOR ALL CALENDAR DATES\*\*\*

Check out our **Online Calendar of Events** on our website at  
<https://www.stsimonsumc.com/calendar/>

**C** **h** **u** **r** **c** **h**  
**S** **t** **a** **f** **f**  
**REV. TOM JONES**, Senior Pastor  
tom@stsimonsumc.com | 678.343.3767  
**REV. RICHARD SOPER**, Associate Pastor  
richard@stsimonsumc.com | 912.222.2139  
**KEVIN LAMB**, Director of Music Ministries  
kevin@stsimonsumc.com  
**ANNE FRAZIER**, Church Administrator  
anne@stsimonsumc.com  
**CAROLYN HAMILTON**, Finance  
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**TANJA OLIVER**, Preschool Director  
tanja@stsimonsumc.com  
**ASHLEY CARTER**, Administrative Staff Associate  
ashley@stsimonsumc.com  
**Jennifer Meyers**, Youth Director – Part-time  
jennifer@stsimonsumc.com  
**Victoria Fryer**, Children's Director – Part-time  
victoria@stsimonsumc.com  
**HOLLY LAMB**, Contemporary Music Associate  
hlamb92@gmail.com  
**SONDRA ANDERSON**, Pianist  
sanderson41561@gmail.com

# ST. SIMONS

## UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

### A WONDER-FILLED

## Advent & Christmas



### A WONDER FILLED STAR

MATTHEW 2:1-2, 9-10

*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*

# THE WORSHIP OF GOD

DECEMBER 3, 2023

CHAPEL • 9:45 AM

## GREETING

Rev. Richard Soper

## PRAISE AND WORSHIP

### *O Come, O Come Emmanuel*

CCLI #31982  
© Public Domain

## Fellowship

### *He Has Come For Us*

CCLI #5683022  
© 2009 Spirit Nashville Three

## Lighting of the Advent Candle

Laura & Jim Weldy

### *What Child Is This*

CCLI #30983  
© Public Domain

### *Emmanuel (Hallowed Manger Ground)*

CCLI #5601640  
© 2009 sixsteps Music

## MORNING MESSAGE

ADVENT SERMON SERIES

### *A Wonder-Filled Life*

MATTHEW 2:1-2, 9-10

TODAY'S MESSAGE: A WONDER FILLED STAR

## CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

## INVITATION

### *Christmas Offering*

CCLI #7005509  
© 2003 Integrity's Hosanna! Music

## SENDING

Rev. Tom Jones

# The Worship of God

DECEMBER 3, 2023

8:30 AM & 11:00 AM • SANCTUARY

GREETING

Rev. Richard Soper

PRELUDE

*O Come, O Come,  
Emmanuel*

Matt Crawford

\* HYMN #196

*Come, Thou Long-  
Expected Jesus*

HYFRYDOL

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Nancy & Phil Thacker (8:30)

Amanda, Brian, Wesley & Whitaker Walker (11:00)

\* FELLOWSHIP TIME #204

*Emmanuel*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Victoria Fryer

\* HYMN #245

*The First Noel*  
Verse 1, 2, 3 & 4

THE FIRST NOEL

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Tom Jones

OFFERTORY

Sondra Anderson

RESPONSE

**Doxology**  
Tune: *Infant Holly*

W ZLOBIE LEZY

MESSAGE IN MUSIC

*Behold Him*

Chancel Choir  
arr. Trey Ivey

MORNING MESSAGE

Rev. Tom Jones

ADVENT SERMON SERIES

### *A Wonder-Filled Life*

MATTHEW 2:1-2, 9-10

TODAY'S MESSAGE: A WONDER FILLED STAR

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

Confession and Pardon

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord's Prayer

Giving of the Bread and Cup

\* HYMN #228

*He Is Born*  
Verses 1 & 3

IL EST NE

\* BENEDICTION

Tom Jones

POSTLUDE



## A Wonder-Filled Life

It is always wonderful to see the beautiful transformation that takes place in our church, homes, and community as everyday items are decorated or replaced with the colors and symbols of Christmas.

There is a family in my neighborhood that goes all out to decorate their home and grounds. People come from around the community to see the lights and displays. The first year my family saw the house our eyes were wide-open with wonder. We made comments to each other like, "This is amazing! Incredible! How do they do it?"

Now, as we approach our sixth year in the neighborhood, I have a confession to make; the display has lost some of its awe and wonder. It isn't any less beautiful. It's just as amazing as it has always been. But we have been there and done that. The emotions we feel will never match the first time we witnessed this incredible sight.

As we begin this season of Advent, my prayer is that you will reclaim the wonder of the Christmas story; that over the next few weeks you will rediscover the glory of Emmanuel – God with us.

Don't become complacent. Don't get caught in the trap of your having been there and done that. When your everyday story includes the hope, love, joy, and peace that is offered to us in Jesus Christ, you will realize that every day can be a fresh, new, and wonder-filled experience of God with us. This Advent as each of us travel yet again to Bethlehem and the celebration of Jesus' birth, I hope you will choose to experience the journey anew; to let your heart be filled with awe-inspiring wonder at the greatness and goodness of God!

Blessings,

**Tom**



## Poinsettias

**Order your poinsettias through Monday, December 18**

Help place poinsettias in the Sanctuary to celebrate the Birth of Christ. They will be placed in the church on Sunday, December 24 and go home after the 10:00am worship service that day! The cost of each poinsettia is \$26. 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. [anne@stsimonsumc.com](mailto:anne@stsimonsumc.com) | 912.638.3317



## Honorariums & Memorials

**A GIFT HAS BEEN GIVEN IN MEMORY OF ROBERT JENKINS BY:**

James Timbes

## Financial Report

For your convenience you may give online at [www.stimonsumc.com](http://www.stimonsumc.com)

**November 26, 2023**

Tithes & Offerings Received | \$25,988.47

Received YTD | \$1,080,840.09

Expenses YTD | \$1,083,598.98

Difference YTD | -\$2,758.89

Budgeted Amount YTD \$1,109,898.70

Building Maintenance Fund YTD | \$14,735.00

Maintaining the Mission GTD (given to date) | \$263,469.64

*thank you*

## Attendance- November 26, 2023

8:30 Worship Service: **72** Online Worship Views: **378**

9:45 Worship Service: **56** Sunday School/Small Groups: **113**

11:00 Worship Service: **159**

Total In Person Worship: **287**

## Members in Ministry- December

### Ushers:

**8:30** Pete Irby, Janice Lee, Mac McLawhorn, Tom Smith

**11:00** Kevin Brandon, Garrett Brandon, Dylan Brandon, David Clark, Ed Reynolds

### Greeters:

**8:30** Faye George, Helen Baker

**9:45** Casey & Craig Pace

**11:00** Susan Pope, June Smith

### Projection:

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

### Acolytes:

**8:30** Scarlet Irby **11:00** Addy Thompson & Adeline Watson

### Communion Servers:

**8:30** John Goodrich, Chuck Milliken

**9:45** Laura & Jim Weldy

**11:00** David Clark, Nancy Hecko

### Communion Prayers:

Sharon Blount, John Lindgren

Toni Metz, Shari Luken

Edie Payne, Judy Smith

## Prayer Requests

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

### New Prayer Concerns - Church Members:

**Baby Brooks & Falynd Brandon, Patsy Soper**

### New Prayer Concerns- Others:

Dr. Lee Bell, **Courtenay Budd**, Jean Cardin, **Family & Friends of Cynthia Denman**, **Family & Friends of James Fryer, Sr.**, **Rev. Walter Cash**, Cathy Crumbley, **Chris Cusick**, Jim Granade, **Joanie Roper**

### Ongoing Prayer Concerns:

Diana Bailey, Lauren Belt, Thomas Benefield, Jim Bennett III, Tilman Blakely, Ranny Blount, Sam Bodine, Marcia Boney, Kai Booth, Billy June Boyd, Marsha Boyette, Beth Carey, Vicki Certain, Pat Daniels, Betsy Draughon, Sandy Fitzgerald, Annette Flagella, Karen Flagella, Sam Friedman, Dotsy & **Jim Fuller**, Chris Gonzalez, Kristin Gonzalez, Savannah Gonzalez, Connie Hallows, Ronda Hansen, Bill Hansen, Elwanda Hopkins, Merideth Houseman, **Tom Humphries**, Barbara Jensen, Jim Jensen, **Kevin Josey**, Rosie Koch, **Holly Lamb**, Ellie Leroux, Chris Lorence, Sandee Lukitsch, Ken McCauley, Ed McKenzie, Mike McMillan, Barbara Meadows, Nathan Meadows, Carol Meeks, Louise Mofield, Spence Mullis, Kirk Nowery, **Randy Payne**, Ann Pickard, Dick Pipe, Alan Proctor, Mable Proctor, Mary Rentz, Reggie Rogers, Irene Rohan, Bob Scherer, SSUMC Preschool, Mike Stiles, Dave Vandersall, Bo & Mary Vice, Terry West, Judy Whelan, Bobbé Wooldridge, Hollis Youngner, Beverly Zeller, Emmie Zwack  
The people of Israel and all affected by this crisis, FaithWorks Ministry

### Assisted Living Prayer

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

**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.*



## Church Christmas Love Offering

We are grateful for our Pastors, and our Full and Part time staff and would like to honor them at Christmas with a Love Offering/Christmas gift! If you would like to provide a gift for the pastors and the staff, you may mail or bring your donation to the church office. You may also drop it in the offering plate at one of the worship services on Sundays or to at the church office through Wednesday, December 13. Please make checks payable to St. Simons UMC and designate "Love Offering Gift" on your envelope or check memo. Thank you for your on-going support of our pastors and staff especially during the Christmas season!

## Welcome New Members

Welcome to our newest member who joined Sunday, November 26, 2023: **Chuck and Tricia Wilson.**

Join us in welcoming the Wilson's to our church family.

## Staff Parish Announcement

The Staff Parish committee is excited to announce that Jennifer Meyers has been hired as our Part-Time Youth Director. We are happy to welcome Jennifer back to our church staff and appreciate the volunteer time she has given to the youth during this transition time. Please join us in welcoming Jennifer to our church staff. Her email is [jennifer@stsimonsumc.com](mailto:jennifer@stsimonsumc.com).

## Mission Team at Second Harvest

A group from our church recently had a workday at Second Harvest to assist in the renovation project of the organization's new warehouse. The group installed ceiling tiles. The staff at Second Harvest was exceptionally grateful for both the amount of work our group did and the quality of their work.



Thank you to Joe Baker for organizing and offering leadership for this project. Joe was joined by David Clark, Bob Swinehart, Jim Weldy, Jim Lee, Bob Kiser, and Toby Eisentrager. We are grateful for the good work of these men and for their example of living out the commitment to serve beyond the walls of our church.

## Advent Sunday School Study

Join us for an Advent Sunday School study for parents in the parlor! The study will meet at 9:45 on the following Sundays:

**12/3– Advent Reflection, 12/17– Advent Reflection Continued**

This study will be using "Bless The Advent We Actually Have" by Kate Bowler and The Everything Happens Project. This is a daily devotional with a Sunday component! For more information and to let us know you are planning on attending email- Celia Eisentraeger at [celiamccollum@gmail.com](mailto:celiamccollum@gmail.com)

## New Class-The Chosen- Save the Date

A new class using the video series, *The Chosen, Season 3*, will begin on Wednesday, January 17, 2024, from 5:30 - 7:00 in the Thorpe Building. The class will meet for seven Wednesday evenings. Please register via Realm but feel free to drop in whenever you can. Please contact, Jeff Zoul, with any questions at [jeffzoul@gmail.com](mailto:jeffzoul@gmail.com).

## Christmas Lunch

Join us for our Annual Christmas Lunch! This meal will be held on Christmas day, Monday, December 25, at noon in the Thorpe Building. The church will provide turkey, ham, dressing, gravy and tea. We ask those who are attending to bring your favorite side dish or dessert. **Please RSVP on Realm or to the church office by Monday, December 21!**



## Advent Mission:

### Giving Trees



**Hope 1312 | FaithWorks | Salvation Army**

The Advent Missions Challenge is brought to you by our SSUMC Missions Committee. This Season we will support 3 Ministries, each by an individual Christmas Giving Tree. Each tree in the Gholson Room will have either gift ornaments or gift tags representing a need. Please feel free to take as many gift ornaments or gift tags as you would like. Visit the Gholson Room Sunday mornings to find out more and select gift ornaments or gift tags. You can bring your gifts back to the appropriate tree or to the church office.

**Packing Instructions for each Ministry:**

**FaithWorks** - no packaging needed

**Hope 1312** - A gift bag or wrapping with the tag attached

**Salvation Army** - Instructions should be on the tag but if not should be unwrapped but can be put in a gift bag that would show the contents and the tag attached.

Salvation Army gifts deadline is Sunday, December 10. The deadline for FaithWorks and Hope 1312 Collective is Wednesday, December 13.

Thank you all in advance for your generosity to these local ministries during the Christmas season!

## 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 8:30 & 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 Bldg.
- Kid's Clubhouse (**5 years old - 5th grade**), leave together after the Kid'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 Bldg.

## 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)**



**Join Our Email List or Update Your Contact Info:**  
**[info@stsimonsumc.com](mailto:info@stsimonsumc.com) | 912.638.3317**



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