

# Weekly Calendar

## Sunday, February 25

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**  
 5:00 PM Way Forward- Parlor Talk, **Parlor**  
 5:30 PM Youth Group and Dinner, **Thorpe Building**

## Monday, February 26

9:00 AM Prayer Team, **Parlor**  
 9:00 AM Preschool Mini-Motions, **Children's Room**  
 11:00 AM Chair Yoga, **Thorpe Building**  
 5:00 PM Dinner for the W&L Singers, **Thorpe Building**  
 5:30 PM Church Council Meeting, **Room 201**  
 7:00 PM Washington & Lee University Singers, **Sanctuary**

## Tuesday, February 27

10:00 AM Men's Life Group, **Room 203**  
 10:00 AM Remember Lenten Bible Study, **Room 201**  
 11:00 AM Way Forward- Parlor Talk, **Parlor**  
 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**

## Wednesday, February 28

11:00 AM Chair Yoga, **Thorpe Building**  
 12:00 PM Footprints Widow's Support Group, **Mullet Bay**  
 1:15 PM Lightkeepers Al-Anon, **Room 203**  
 5:00 PM Handbell Practice, **Handbell Room**  
 5:30 PM Way Forward- Parlor Talk, **Parlor**  
 5:30 PM The Chosen Bible Study, **Thorpe Building**  
 5:30 PM Kid's Choir, **Choir Room**  
 6:00 PM Kids WOW- Bible, Pizza & Fun, **Kid's Clubhouse**  
 6:15 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal, **Choir Room**

## Thursday, February 29

9:00 AM SAM Trip Leaves for A Darien Adventure  
 9:00 AM Preschool Mini-Motions, **Gholson Room**

## Friday, March 1

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

# ST. SIMONS

## UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



*Charades*

MARK 8:31-38

*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

FEBRUARY 25, 2024

CHAPEL • 9:45 AM

## WELCOME

Rev. Richard Soper

## PRAISE AND WORSHIP

### *Sing to the King*

CCLI #4010902  
©2003 sixsteps Music

### Fellowship Time

### *Good Good Father*

CCLI #7036612  
©2014 Capitol CMG Paragon

### Morning Prayer

Richard Soper

### *Ever Be*

CCLI #7030065  
©2014 Bethel Music Publishing

### *Waiting Here For You*

CCLI #5925663  
©2011 Rising Springs Music

## MORNING MESSAGE

### *Charades*

Mark 8:31-38  
Rev. Tom Jones

## INVITATION

### *I Could Sing of Your Love Forever*

CCLI #1043199  
©1994 Curious? Music UK

## CLOSING PRAYER

Tom Jones

Therefore, since we are justified by faith,  
we have **Peace** with God through our  
Lord Jesus Christ.  
Romans 5:1

# The Worship of God

FEBRUARY 25, 2024

8:30 AM & 11:00 AM • SANCTUARY

GREETING

Rev. Richard Soper

PRELUDE

Kevin Lamb

\* HYMN #160

### *Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart*

Verses 1, 3, 4 & 5

MARION

\* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Apostles Creed

MISSION MOMENT

Serve Saturday

Anna Wilson

\* FELLOWSHIP TIME

### *I Have Decided to Follow Jesus*

Verse 1

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Victoria Fryer

MORNING PRAYER

Richard Soper

\* HYMN #297

### *Beneath the Cross of Jesus*

ST. CHRISTOPHER

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Rev. Tom Jones

OFFERTORY

Sondra Anderson

RESPONSE #95

### *Doxology*

OLD 100TH

MESSAGE IN MUSIC

### *When I Survey*

Chancel Choir

MORNING MESSAGE

Tom Jones

### *Charades*

MARK 8:31-38 NLT

\* HYMN #553

### *And Are We Yet Alive*

Verses 1, 2 & 6

DENNIS

\* BENEDICTION

Tom Jones

POSTLUDE

*\* Worshipers, please stand as able*

Therefore, since we are justified by faith,  
we have **Peace** with God through our  
Lord Jesus Christ.  
Romans 5:1

## Playing a Role or Being Real?

Ask a Christian to describe other Christians and the answers likely will be "giving," "compassionate," "loving" and "respectful." That means we are playing our roles well. Our actions and our words among ourselves can be identified with those of Jesus.

But before we rise to quickly to our feet to give ourselves standing ovations for the leading and supporting roles we play as a people of faith there is something else we should consider. If you ask a non-Christian to describe Christians we are likely to hear words like "hypocritical," "judgmental," and "self-righteous." Non-Christians are far more likely to say Christians do not represent the teachings of Jesus. Christians say one thing but perform in ways that are confusing and often misleading.

These responses are the results of a survey conducted by the Episcopal Church that illustrates stark differences between how Christians and non-Christians view Christianity in the United States. "There is a disconnect between the reality of Jesus and the perceived reality of Christians," said Bishop Michael Curry, presiding bishop of the Episcopal Church.

If you ask today's "nones" people who have drifted away from the church - what led to their departure, chances are one reason will top the list: too many hypocrites in the church. But if that's their only reason for leaving, their logic is flawed. The simple truth is, there have always been hypocrites in church. A quick read of some of Paul's letters will confirm that as will gospel stories like the one about James and John, who try to muscle each other out of the way in a game of heavenly musical chairs to determine who will be seated next to God.

It has been said that Christian hypocrites are like counterfeit money. But here's the thing about counterfeits: no one has ever stopped using real money because of them. It's just as foolish to step away from the church of Jesus Christ, where there's so much real value that can be found nowhere else.

Don't let pretend Christians distract you from what's real. Don't be a pretend Christian that causes others to be distracted. Let's choose to be real. Faith is not a show - it's a way of living - it's an everyday reality. Let's do our part to change the world's perception of the church and of Christians. Listen and respond to Jesus and his example of sacrificial living. Give up your own way; take up your cross and follow him.

Blessings,

**Tom**

## Stephen Ministry

Join our team! Perhaps you understand that God has given you the gift of CARING, and you may be looking for a way to use this gift. Stephen Ministry is a way for you to do that and to begin serving others. A series of classes to become a **Stephen Minister** is scheduled to begin in early March.

If you would like more information.

Call the church office at 912-638-3317



## Financial Report

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

**February 18, 2024**

Tithes & Offerings Received | \$9,524.00

Received YTD | \$191,587.24

Expenses YTD | \$141,590.34

Difference YTD | \$49,996.90

Budgeted Amount YTD \$175,348.42

Building Maintenance Fund YTD | \$1,738.00

Maintaining the Mission GTD (given to date) | \$274,129.64

*thank you*

## Worship Attendance- February 18, 2024

8:30am : **100**

Online Worship Views: **498**

9:45am : **78**

Sunday School/Small Group: **132**

11:00am: **248**

Total In Person: **426**

## Members in Ministry- February 25, 2024

### Ushers:

8:30 Ward Sweat, Bill Kirby, Chip Higginbotham, Jeff Zoul

11:00 Joey Baldwin, Erik Kaufmann, David Paulk, Clif Pease

### Greeters:

8:30 Pat Carmichael, Barbara Whitney

9:45 Pam & Randall Rehberg

11:00 Kay Holmes, Cherie DeMarco, Susan Kaufmann

### Projection:

8:30 Robin Parmalee

9:45

Carol Conner

11:00 Neva Kaye

### Acolytes:

11:00 Evie & Reese Stephenson

## Prayer Requests

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

**New Prayer Concerns - Church Members:** Carey Brock, Family & friends of Tilman Blakely, Christina Pinkerton, Adrienne Wiggins, Billy Wiggins

**New Prayer Concerns- Others:** Sandra Bryant, Caroline Campbell, Julie

Childs, Clark Co. School System Illnesses, Rev. Walter & Michelle Cash, Ginny Dawson, Marie Dennard, Family & employees of Dills Food City, Jessica Flemming, Family & friends of Faye Gowen, Family of Hayes Guzman, Patty & Scott Harvey, JoDee Hubbert, Diana Kahn, Mike McDonald, Bowie Nunnally, Rick Siegmann, Dennis Simpson, Anne Spelts, Frank Spelts, Waite Thomas, Jeanie Waters, Joe Winter, Brauleen Wynn, Harold Zell

**Ongoing Prayer Concerns:** Di Bailey, Ron Bateman, Bob Beane, Thomas Benefield, Jim Bennett III, Ranny Blount, Sam Bodine, Marcia Boney, Kai Booth, Billy June Boyd, Marsha Boyette, Carlotta Budd, Beth Carey, Vicki Certain, Russell Cohen, Trent Cohen, Joy Cowart, Cathy Bailey Crumbley, Pat Daniels, Betsy Draughon, Sandy Fitzgerald, Dotsy & Jim Fuller, Chris Gonzalez, Kristin Gonzalez, Savannah Gonzalez, Bill Hansen, Alice Hicks, Elwanda Hopkins, Merideth Houseman, Tom Humphries, Barbara Jensen, Jim Jensen, Anne Jones, Kevin Josey, Rosie Koch, Holly Lamb, Ellie Leroux, Chris Lorence, Ed McKenzie, Mike McMillan, Barbara Meadows, Nathan Meadows, Carol Meeks, Priscilla Mercer, Spence Mullis, Kirk Nowery, Randy Payne, Ann Pickard, Dick Pipe, Alan Proctor, Mable Proctor, Mary Rentz, Reggie Rogers, Irene Rohan, Bob Scherer, Mike Stiles, Dave Vandersall, Bo & Mary Vice, Judy Whelan, Chuck Wilson, Lois Winsness, Bobbé Wooldridge, Hollis Youngner, Beverly Zeller, Emmie Zwack

### 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.**



# The Way Forward FAQ

## Why have other United Methodist Churches left the denomination?

There are numerous reasons that church's have chosen to depart the UMC. Over the next four weeks we will address what are considered to be the top four reasons. The first and most obvious point of contention is our divide over human sexuality. The 2016 Book of Discipline states the United Methodist clergy will not conduct gay marriages and that gay marriages cannot be held in United Methodist Churches. It also prohibits practicing homosexuals from being ordained. There is concern among more traditional leaning United Methodists that this language will change at this year's General Conference. Church's decided they no longer wanted to be a part of this discussion and opted to leave the UMC based on what could potentially happen. Our church leadership decided to stay the course until after the General Conference and the South Georgia Annual Conference and to base any decisions about the future of our church on facts rather than speculation.

## Serve Saturday!

Join us on **Saturday, March 9** for our Second Annual Serve Saturday!

Volunteers will meet at the church at 8:00am for breakfast and a devotional. You will be given a Serve Saturday T-shirt by submitting your size when you register. Volunteers will depart at 8:45am wearing our matching Serve Saturday t-shirts and ready to Serve in our community!

**\*\*\* A new opportunity has been added for those who are still looking for a spot! You may write notes of encouragement to our 12 South GA Delegates and our Bishop! These notes will be delivered at General Conference and is a wonderful opportunity to show our support and encourage our Bishop and Delegates!\*\*\***

You may sign up through the Sign-Up Genius link at:

[www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0B4EAF2AA3FB6-ssumc#/](http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0B4EAF2AA3FB6-ssumc#/)

or call the church office at (912) 638-3317 to choose an area to serve! **Please register ASAP!**



## Saints and Sinners Luncheon

Join us on Tuesday, March 12 for Saints and Sinners for some fellowship around the table and entertainment from our very own Fred Kopp. Fred plays the guitar and sings. Many of his songs are originals. Fred and his wife, Lynn, are members of SSUMC and sing in the Chancel Choir. Entree is provided but please bring a side dish to share. Cost is \$5.00. Reserve your spot on Realm or by calling the church office. **Reservations due by March 5.**



## SCUBA VBS

SAVE THE DATE FOR VBS  
JUNE 9-13!

We are going to take kids deep into an amazing undersea adventure where they will experience the ever-flowing, never-ending love of GOD! Registration for children and volunteers is coming soon!



# February & March

ST. SIMONS UMC  
MUSICAL ARTS

## THE UNIVERSITY SINGERS

WASHINGTON & LEE UNIVERSITY- LEXINGTON, VIRGINIA

Monday, February 26 • 7:00 PM

The premiere choral ensemble at Washington and Lee University, continues to be recognized as one of the finest *cappella* choirs in the region. Directed by award-winning conductor Shane M. Lynch  
\*Nursery provided

## Cameron Cody Concert

Sunday, March 10 • 4:00 PM

Join us for a concert by Cameron Cody who is the Director of Music Ministry and Organist at Chapelwood UMC in Houston, TX. Cameron is an internationally recognized concert artist, conductor and organist. This should be a wonderful afternoon enjoying his musical talents. Cameron was a former resident of the Golden Isles and former organist at Wesley UMC at Frederica. A reception will follow after this concert in the Gholson area! Complimentary to all!

\*Nursery provided

## 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 (adult only) & 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**



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