

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, September 28

- 8:30 AM Nursery for Newborn- 4 yrs., **8:30-12:00**
8:30 AM Traditional Worship Service, **Sanctuary**
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**
12:00 PM Youth Bowling, **Strike Zone**

Monday, September 29

- 9:00 AM Prayer Team, **Parlor**
11:00 AM Chair Yoga, **Thorpe Building**

Tuesday, September 30

- 10:00 AM Men's Life, **Room 203**
10:30 AM Al-Anon Group, **Room 201**
1:00 PM Women's Life Group, **Room 203**

Wednesday, October 1

- 9:30 AM MOMS- Walking Group, **Church parking lot**
11:00 AM Chair Yoga, **Thorpe Building**
1:15 PM Lightkeepers Al-Anon, **Room 203**
4:30 PM Lift and Learn Kid's Choir, **Choir Room**
5:00 PM Lift and Learn Kid's Bible Fun, **Kid's Club House Upstairs**
5:00 PM Wednesday Night Dinner, **Thorpe Building**
5:30 PM Lift and Learn Kid's Dinner & Pickup, **Thorpe Building**
6:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal, **Choir Room**

Thursday, October 2

- 1:00 PM Parkinson's Support Meeting, **Thorpe Building**
5:30 PM Staff Parish Relations Committee Meeting, **Parlor**

Friday, October 3

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

Saturday, October 4

- 9:00 AM Pumpkin Patch Set Up, **Pumpkin Patch**
11:00 AM Jim Daher Memorial Service, **Gascoigne Park** (or Sanctuary if rain)

WELCOME



C REV. TOM JONES, Senior Pastor
tom@stsimonsumc.com | 678.343.3767

h REV. BENJY VARNELL, Assistant Pastor
benjyv@stsimonsumc.com | 912.393.4566

u REV. TAB MILLER, Assistant Pastor
tab@faithworksministry.org

r KEVIN LAMB, Director of Music Ministries
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c ANNE FRAZIER, Church Administrator
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a HOLLY LAMB, Contemporary Music Associate
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f SONDRA ANDERSON, Music Associate-Pianist
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f VICTORIA FRYER, Director of Children's Ministry
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f JUSTIS KUYKENDALL, Director of Youth Ministry
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ST. SIMONS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

*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

Contemporary Worship

September 28, 2025

Chapel • 9:45

Welcome and Announcements

Mission Moment

Marsha Hendrix

Prayer

Praise

CCLI #7213077

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Fellowship Time

Love Me Like You Do

CCLI #4085810

© 2003 Mercy

The Goodness of God

CCLI #7116726

© 2018 Capitol

Worthy of It All

with

More Precious Than Silver

CCLI #6280644

© 2012 Common Hymnal

Today's Message

Whatta Ya Know?

Luke 2:41-52

Rev. Tom Jones, Senior Pastor

Invitation

Center

CCLI #4665261

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Blessing

We are so thankful for **Phil Belt** and his willingness to step in and lead during my absence. His gifts and leadership keep our worship strong and Spirit-filled. Please join me in expressing gratitude for Phil and the blessing he is to our church family.

—Holly Lamb, Contemporary Worship Leader

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

SEPTEMBER 28, 2025 • 8:30 & 11:00 AM

His name is wonderful, Jesus, my Lord

He is the mighty King, Master of everything;

He's the great Shepherd, the Rock of all ages, almighty God is He;

Bow down before Him, love and adore Him,

His name is wonderful, Jesus, my Lord.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Tom Jones
Senior Pastor

PRELUDE

Emri Comer

* HYMN OF PRAISE #158 *Come, Christians, Join to Sing*

SPANISH HYMN

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *Apostle's Creed*

Rev. Benjy Varnell
Assistant Pastor

MISSION MOMENT

Manna House

Elizabeth Daniel (8:30)
John Rentz (11:00)

* FELLOWSHIP TIME

* FELLOWSHIP SONG *His Name Is Wonderful*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE (11:00 AM)

Victoria Fryer
Director of Children's Ministry

MORNING PRAYER

Benjy Varnell

THE LORD'S PRAYER

* HYMN #156

I Love to Tell the Story
Verses 1 & 4

HANKEY

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Benjy Varnell

OFFERTORY

Sondra Anderson
Music Associate, Pianist

THE DOXOLOGY

OLD 100th

SPECIAL MUSIC

I Stand Redeemed

Chancel Choir

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 2:41-52

MORNING MESSAGE

Rev. Tom Jones

Whatta Ya Know?

* INVITATION #600

Wonderful Words of Life
verses 1 & 2

WORDS OF LIFE

* BENEDICTION

Tom Jones

POSTLUDE

Emri Comer

** Stand As Able*

We are deeply grateful to **Emri Comer** for sharing his gifts on the organ and to **Cindy Taylor** for faithfully leading the Chancel Choir during my absence. Their dedication and leadership ensure that our worship remain filled with beauty and joy. Please join me in thanking them for blessing our congregation with their talents and service.

—Kevin Lamb, Director of Music Ministries

The Potential for Spiritual Growth

We've all seen it. A 4-year-old dazzling the audience with a concert performance at Carnegie Hall. A 10-year-old proudly walking across the stage to receive a high school diploma. These are just a couple of examples of what we call child prodigies.

A child prodigy is typically defined as someone under the age of 12 who produces exceptional results whether it's a mind with an IQ off the charts or a musician playing at an adult level, whatever the gift, their abilities leave us amazed.

In Jesus' day, however, the word prodigy would have been unusual and almost unthinkable ways to describe a child. Children were not considered full members of society until around the age of 13, when a rite of passage marked their transition into adulthood. At that point, they were expected to take on adult responsibilities.

But then we meet Jesus at age 12, in the temple courts in Jerusalem. His parents found him "sitting among the religious leaders, listening to them, and asking questions. All who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers" (Luke 2:46-47). If there was ever a true child prodigy in the spiritual sense, it was Jesus.

This scene may help us understand why Jesus later showed such deep affection for children. He saw in them something greater than society gave them credit for being. Not brilliance. Not talent. Not astonishing accomplishments. What Jesus valued most was their openness, humility, and willingness to learn.

And that is where the potential for real growth lies - for children and adults alike. Jesus reminds us that greatness in the Kingdom is not about IQ or skill, but about a heart that is teachable and a spirit that remains open to God's leading.

That's why our church is committed to offering spaces where growth can happen: new small groups, the new young adult Sunday School class, and all of our ongoing classes for every age and stage of life. These aren't just programs - they are opportunities to sit at the Master's feet together.

You may never become a Bible scholar. You may never preach a sermon or write a book. But if your heart is open, if you approach God with humility and a willingness to learn, you will be amazed at what Christ still wants to teach you.

We are never too young or too old to keep growing in Christ. The potential for growth is in each of us - let's lean into it together.

Blessings,

Tom

Thank You for your Faithfulness!

As of September 25, 2025:

Number of Cards Received to date | **90**

Number of New Cards this year | **8**

Total Amount | **\$486,580.00**

Please remember, you may continue to return your Estimate of Giving cards.

Cards can be returned via **mail**, brought to the **church office**, placed in the **offering plates** on Sundays or submitted on our **website** at <https://onrealm.org/SSUMC/AddPledge/stewardshippledge26>

Thank you for your continued dedication and commitment to our church!

Clergy Appreciation

October is Clergy Appreciation Month! Join us as we honor **Rev. Tom Jones, Rev. Benjy Varnell, & Rev. Tab Miller** at our 11:00

worship service on Sunday, October 12 and through out the month of October! Please bring or send a card to the church and/or email them throughout the month to show them how much we appreciate their ministry!

Thank you for helping us celebrate our amazing Pastors!



Financial Report

For your convenience you may give online at www.stsimonsumc.com

September 21, 2025

Tithes & Offerings Received | \$24,242.62

Received YTD | \$878,647.73

Expenses YTD | \$910,398.86

Difference YTD | -\$31,751.13

Budgeted Amount YTD | \$969,075.52

Trustees Maintenance Fund YTD | \$17,573.00

thank you

Attendance ~ September 21, 2025

8:30 AM Worship Service: **60**

Online Worship Views: **496**

9:45 AM Worship Service: **66**

Sunday School/Small Group: **119**

11:00 AM Worship Service: **190**

Total In Person Attendance: **316**

Members in Ministry ~September 28, 2025

Ushers:

8:30 Ward Sweat, Chip Higginbotham, Jeff Zoul, Bob Swinehart

11:00 David Paulk, Erik Kaufmann, Rick Denman, Clif Pease, Rabun Matthews

Greeters:

8:30 Pat Carmichael, Lesley Gonzalez

9:45 Pam & Randall Rehberg

11:00 Lou Harden, Sydonna Harden, Pam Brand

Projection:

9:45 Carol Conner

11:00 Richard Hart

Acolytes:

11:00 Savannah Smith, Natalie Smith

Welcome to our Newest Member

Join us in welcoming our newest member, **Randy Little** who joined on Sunday, September 21.

We are grateful to have him join our church and be a part of our church family.

Prayer Requests

Please take time this week and pray for these individuals:

New Prayer Concerns - Church Members: Betty Daher, **Family & friends of Bubba Parmelee, Betty Sharp**

New Prayer Concerns Non-Members: Kristie Bernard, **Donna Dawson, Ginny Dawson, Hope Hall, Jane Hall, Jacqueline Hamilton, Eloise Harvey, Family & friends of Gary Larkins, Mike McKinney**

Ongoing Prayer Concerns: Di Bailey, Ron Bateman, Jim Bennett III, Ranny Blount, Sam Bodine, Kai Booth, Cindy Bostick, Billy June Boyd, Carlotta Budd, Trudy Budd, Beth Carey, Vicki Certain, Russell Cohen, Trent Cohen, Cathy Bailey Crumbley, Betty Daher, Pat Daniels, Larry Daugherty, Mark Daugherty, Betsy Draughton, Geoff Fields, Sandy Fitzgerald, Karen Flagella, Dotsy Fuller, Jim Fuller, Barbara & Bob Golding, Mary McCreary George, Joe Gonzalez, Ken Graffis, Julie Haney, Jennifer & Tom Higdom, Elwanda Hopkins, Tom Humphries, Pete Irby, Barbara Jensen, Kevin Josey, Mitchell Kent, Holly Lamb, Gary Leggett, Ellie Leroux, Chris Lorence, James McBride, Mike McDonald, Ed McKenzie, Mike McMillan, Nathan Meadows, Kristen Merrill, Megan & Blake Moore, Neil Mullis, Spence Mullis, Kirk Nowery, Randy Payne, Ann Pickard, Dick Pipe, Mable Proctor, Mary Rentz, Dawn Roberts, Anne Rogers, Jimmy Rogers, Irene Rohan, Jo Ann Segars, Bob Scherer, Bonni Smith, Brion Trainor, Rhonda Van View, Dave Vandersall, Mary Vice, Bo Vice, Holly & Bill Wagner, Joel West, Judy Whelan, Chuck Wilson, Audrey Wood, Bobbé Wooldridge, Hollis Youngner, Beverly Zeller, Emmie Zwack

Assisted Living Prayer Concerns:

Heritage Oaks: Jackie Brand, Marjorie Lawrence, Barbara Meadows, Norma Mock

Marsh's Edge Assisted: Nancy Reynolds

Vitality: Judy Clifton

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.



Wednesday Night Dinner

10/1 from 5:00-6:00pm

Sloppy Joe's, Baked Beans, Potato Chips & Dessert

This is a great opportunity to connect with others in our church community, and come together for fun and fellowship with a nice, warm meal! Cost is

\$10 for adults and \$5 for children ages 6-12. Children 5 and under eat for free.

PLEASE register by calling the Church office, clicking the QR code or through Realm no later than noon on Monday, to guarantee your reservation!



Hope 1312 Church Care Team

Hope 1312 Collective engages the Church and the community to enter the story of child welfare as a provision of tangible Hope for children who have encountered the DFCS. At St. Simons UMC we are building a team that can meet the physical, therapeutic, and relational needs of our community's most vulnerable children and families.

Please look for our information table on Sunday, September 28 at 9:00-11:30 am in the Gholson Room. We hope you will sign up to be a part of this Jesus led ministry.

Questions— contact Kim Gallogly—khgallogly@att.net or 404-376-5205



Volunteers Needed!

This year, we're teaming up with **First Baptist** to host our **Rise Against Hunger** event, and we need your help to reach our goal of packing

20,000 meals! Every box we fill

will go toward feeding families in need around the world.

Come join us on **Sunday, October 19!** We'll start the day with **set up at 11:30, share lunch together at 12:00, and then roll up our sleeves for meal packing at 12:30.** It's a great way to serve, fellowship, and make a real

difference. Register in Realm or by contacting the church office.



Saints and Sinners Luncheon 10/23

Senior Adult Ministries invites all members to join us on Thursday, **October 23**, for great food and an engaging program! Bring along your favorite dish to share, and enjoy a special presentation from **Rear Admiral Lee Watkins USN Retired!**

He will be sharing about his experience aboard nuclear submarines and the beginnings of this incredible technology. You won't want to miss this! Register on Realm or the office.

Weekly Bible Reading Highlights

What did you highlight in your Bible September 21-27? These are a few verses that stood out to Tom:

Malachi 3:1 – "Look! I am sending my messenger, and he will prepare the way before me. Then the Lord you are seeking will suddenly come to his Temple. The messenger of the covenant, whom you look for so eagerly, is surely coming," says the Lord of Heaven's Armies.

Joel 2:28 – "Then, after doing all those things, I will pour out my Spirit upon all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy. Your old men will dream dreams, and your young men will see visions."

Mark 1:1 – This is the Good News about Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God.

John 1:1 – In the beginning the Word already existed. The Word was with God, and the Word was God.

Matthew 1:22-23 – All of this occurred to fulfill the Lord's message through his prophet: Look! The virgin will conceive a child! She will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel, which means 'God is with us.'"

Luke 2:7 – She gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him snugly in strips of cloth and laid him in a manger, because there was no lodging available for them.

Pumpkins are Coming!

Pumpkin Patch season is almost here! Important dates to know!



- The pumpkins will arrive at the church on **Sunday, October 12 at 12:00 pm**. Bring a change of clothes!
- We'll begin setting up the patch on **Saturday, October 4 at 9:00 am**.

We need volunteers to help unload, set up, and spread the word, so bring your family and friends to join in!

We are also looking for volunteers to help with school field trips in the patch throughout the season. If you're interested in assisting, please contact me directly and I will provide more details.

Contact Justis for more info at justis@stsimonsumc.com

Kickball & Cookout!

Sunday, October 5, 2025

Mallery Park | 4 - 6 pm

Join us for an afternoon of fellowship, food, & fun at our Kickball & Cookout! **ALL ARE WELCOME!**

- Wear your favorite school colors or team T-shirts.
- Food and Beverages are provided!
- Bring a lawn chair to cheer from the side lines.

Registration is required — sign up and come ready for a great time with friends and family!



Wheel-a-Thon- Thank You!

Thank you for your incredible support, our recent Wheel-a-Thon has been a monumental success. We are absolutely thrilled to announce that we not only met our goal of \$7,000, to purchase **Alive Studio**, but surpassed it, raising over \$8,000. Thank you all for being part of something that made a real difference. We couldn't have done it without you.

~Blessings, **Tanja**

Honorariums & Memorials

A GIFT HAS BEEN GIVEN IN MEMORY OF JIMMY LANGFORD, JR. BY:

Edie Payne, Robbie Clark, Becky & Lawrence Bridges, Jill Hardwick

A GIFT HAS BEEN GIVEN IN MEMORY OF BILL MARKERT BY:

Marlis & Bob Kiser, Robbie Clark

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.
- 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.

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**

Join Our Email List or Update Your Contact Info:

info@stsimonsumc.com | 912.638.3317



Worship Notes

The Worship of God

Contemporary Worship

September 28, 2025

Chapel • 9:45

Welcome and Announcements

Mission Moment

Marsha Hendrix

Prayer

Praise

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