

# Weekly Calendar

## Sunday, October 12

- 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 Pumpkins Delivered to the Church, Pumpkin Patch**  
5:00 PM Youth Group Work in the Patch, **Pumpkin Patch**

## Monday, October 13

- 9:00 AM Prayer Team, **Parlor**  
11:00 AM Chair Yoga, **Thorpe Building**  
**2:30 PM Pumpkin Patch Open- 7:30PM**  
5:30 PM Finance Committee Meeting, **Room 203**

## Tuesday, October 14

- 10:00 AM Men's Life, **Room 203**  
10:30 AM Al-Anon Group, **Room 201**  
12:00 PM Staff Appreciation Luncheon, **Youth Room**  
1:00 PM Women's Life Group, **Room 203**  
**2:30 PM Pumpkin Patch Open- 7:30PM**  
5:30 PM Thorpe Building Focus Group, **Youth Room**

## Wednesday, October 15

- 9:30 AM MOMS- Walking Group, **Church parking lot**  
11:00 AM Chair Yoga, **Thorpe Building**  
12:00 PM SAM Meeting, **Parlor**  
1:15 PM Lightkeepers Al-Anon, **Room 203**  
**2:30 PM Pumpkin Patch Open- 7:30PM**  
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 16

- 10:00 AM Faithful Women's Bible Study, **Room 203**  
12:00 PM UWF Sunshine Circle Meeting/Lunch, **Tramici**  
**2:30 PM Pumpkin Patch Open- 7:30PM**

## Friday, October 17

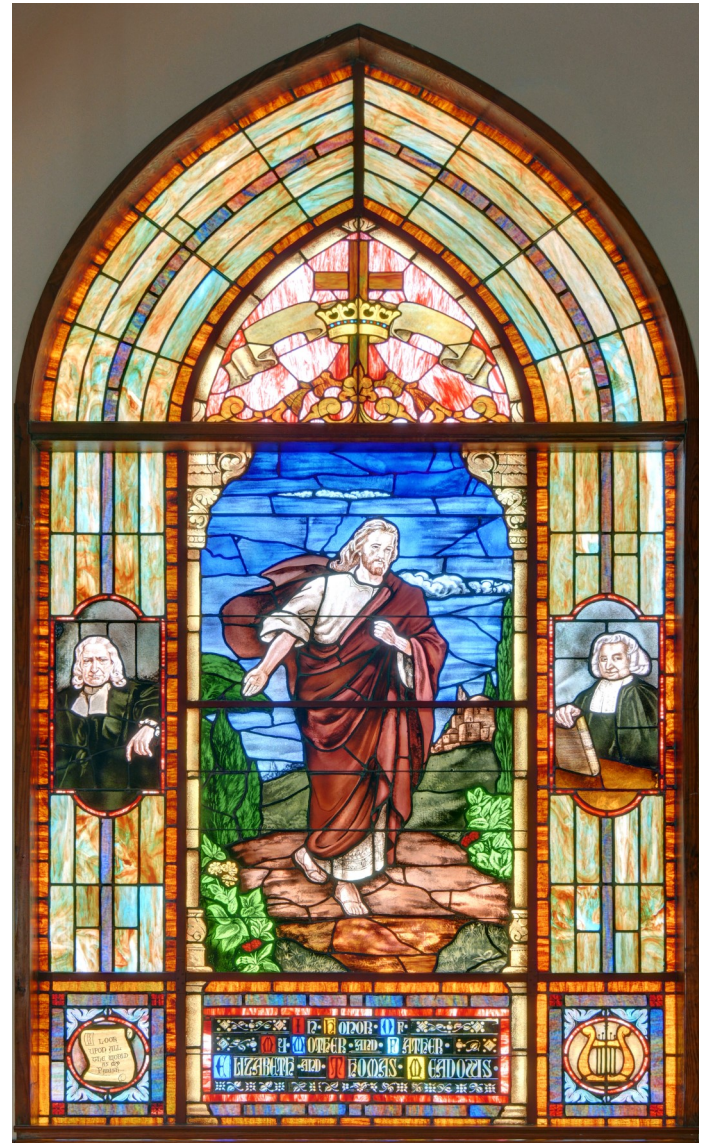
- 11:00 AM Chair Yoga, **Thorpe Building**  
**2:30 PM Pumpkin Patch Open- 7:30PM**

## Saturday, October 17

- 10:00 AM Pumpkin Patch Open- 7:30PM**

**C** **h** **u** **r** **c** **h**  
**S** **t** **a** **f** **f**  
**REV. TOM JONES**, Senior Pastor  
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**REV. BENJY VARNELL**, Assistant Pastor  
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**REV. TAB MILLER**, Assistant Pastor  
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# WELCOME



## 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

October 12, 2025

Chapel • 9:45

### Welcome and Announcements

Kevin Lamb, Director of Music Ministries

### Mission Moment The Salvation Army

### What a God

CCLI # 7236901  
© One House Publishing

### Fellowship Time

### Hallelujah

CCLI # 3091812  
© 2000 Vineyard Songs

### God So Loved

CCLI #7138599  
© 2019 Angie Feel Good Songs

### What a Beautiful Name

CCLI #7068424  
© 2016 Hillsong Music

### Morning Prayer

## Today's Message

*Lord, Let Me Try It!*

Matthew 14: 22-33 NLT  
Rev. Benjy Varnell, Assistant Pastor

### Invitation

### Offering

CCLI #3956562  
© 2002 Integrity's Hosanna!

### Blessing

## THE WORSHIP OF GOD

OCTOBER 12, 2025 • 8:30 & 11:00 AM

*As the deer pants for the water, so my soul longs after You.  
You alone are my heart's desire, and I long to worship You.  
You alone are my strength, my shield; to You alone may my spirit yield.  
You alone are my heart's desire, and I long to worship You.*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Kevin Lamb  
Director of Music Ministries

MISSION MOMENT    **The Salvation Army**

PRELUDE

Sondra Anderson  
Music Associate, Pianist

\* HYMN OF PRAISE #64    ***Holy, Holy, Holy!  
Lord God Almighty***

NICEA

\* Affirmation of Faith #881

**The Apostles' Creed**  
Traditional Version

Rev. Benjy Varnell  
Assistant Pastor

\* FELLOWSHIP TIME

\* FELLOWSHIP SONG    ***As The Deer***

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE (11:00AM)

Victoria Fryer  
Director of Children's Ministry

MORNING PRAYER

Benjy Varnell

THE LORD'S PRAYER

\* HYMN #451    ***Be Thou My Vision***

SLANE

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Benjy Varnell

OFFERTORY

Kevin Lamb

SPECIAL MUSIC (11:00 AM)

***What a Savior, What a Friend***  
Holly Lamb & Jordan Graffis, Soloists

Chancel Choir

SCRIPTURE LESSON    Matthew 14: 22-33 NLT

MORNING MESSAGE

Rev. Benjy Varnell

*Lord, Let Me Try It!*

\* INVITATION #462    ***'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus***  
Verses 1, 3 & 4

TRUST IN JESUS

\* BENEDICTION

Benjy Varnell

POSTLUDE

Kevin Lamb

\* *Stand As Able*



## What's Next?

United Methodists love meetings and nearly every meeting comes with an agenda. Over the years of my ministry, I've created more agendas than I can count. Most of them ended with the same question: "What's next?" In other words, where do we go from here?

Last Sunday in the worship services I announced that I will be retiring on December 31, 2025. As I approach my 70<sup>th</sup> birthday in January, I've been reflecting on life, health, and family. I want to be fully present for my wife and daughter, and to do so I've realized that I can no longer give the 100% that this wonderful church deserves. The time has come to begin a new chapter for me and for our congregation.

The question on my mind and possibly yours is, "What's next?" We enter a season of transition - one that involves both the church and the Jones family. Transition can bring uncertainty, but it's also a time for growth and trust.

Here are three ways I believe we can move forward together: Trust that God is guiding our steps, even when the path isn't clear. Seek wisdom from faithful people and align our hopes with God's direction. Embrace what's new with faith and openness, knowing that God's opportunities often come disguised as change.

In Deuteronomy 31:8, as Moses passed leadership of the Israelites over to Joshua, he offered this promise to Joshua and the people: *"Do not be afraid or discouraged, for the Lord will personally go ahead of you. He will be with you; he will neither fail you nor abandon you."* Those words remain true for us today. Whatever the future holds, God goes before us - steady, faithful, and unchanging.

What's next? I invite you to join me in praying for our church and for each other in the weeks ahead. Ask God:

- To help us release any anxieties from the past and about the future.
- To help us begin this new chapter with a clean heart and open mind.
- To give us wisdom and courage to adapt to new situations with a positive attitude, seeing God's hand at work in every change.
- To commit our paths to God, trusting that he will guide us even when the way forward seems unclear.
- To remind us that God is our refuge and strength; that he will neither fail nor abandon us.

Blessings and love,

**Tom**

## Charge Conference

The annual Charge Conference will be held on Monday, October 20, at 5:30 pm in the Thorpe Building. Our District Superintendent, Rev. Scott Hagan will be here to lead us.

## Thank You for your Faithfulness!

**As of October 10, 2025:**

Number of Cards Received to date | **127**

Number of New Cards this year | **18**

Total Amount | **\$717,530.00**

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!



## Financial Report

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

**October 5, 2025**

Tithes & Offerings Received | \$34,730.00

Received YTD | \$932,113.73

Expenses YTD | \$965,677.04

Difference YTD | -\$33,563.31

Budgeted Amount YTD | \$1,020,953.26

Trustees Maintenance Fund YTD | \$17,848.00

*thank you*

## Attendance ~ October 5, 2025

8:30 AM Worship Service: **71**

Online Worship Views: **880**

9:45 AM Worship Service: **52**

Sunday School/Small Group: **118**

11:00 AM Worship Service: **193**

Total In Person Attendance: **316**

## Members in Ministry ~ October 12, 2025

**Ushers:**

**8:30** Steve Tucker, Richie Sipe, Chuck Buhman, Bill Foster

**11:00** Mike Fitzgerald, PJ Hamilton, Cindy Simpson, Jordan Graffis, Nancy Jenkins

**Greeters:**

**8:30** Barbara Foster, Sharon Blount

**9:45** Carol Conner, Laura Weldy

**11:00** Kari Cooper, Christiana Weisberg

**Projection:**

**9:45** Jim Weldy

**11:00** Elizabeth Daniel

**Acolytes:**

**11:00** Ellington Graffis, Julia Humphries

## Honorariums & Memorials

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

Jody McCollum

**A GIFT HAS BEEN GIVEN IN MEMORY OF JIM DAHER TO THE MUSIC MINISTRY**

**BY:** Jana & Emri Comer

## Prayer Requests

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

**New Prayer Concerns - Church Members:** Susan Hoshall, Rosemary Longmire, Nan Manson,

**New Prayer Concerns Non-Members:** Family & friends of Danny Brinks, Clint Carter, Kim Dunn, **Hope Hall, Matt Longmire**, Jimmy Mock, **Karen Shelley**, Barbara Smith, Dawn Spruiel

**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 Draughon, Geoff Fields, Sandy Fitzgerald, Karen Flagella, Dotsy Fuller, Jim Fuller, Barbara & Bob Golding, Mary McCreary George, Joe Gonzalez, Ken Graffis, Julie Haney, Eloise Harvey, 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, Bobbée Wooldridge, Hollis Youngner, Beverly Zeller, Emmie Zwack

**Map International, Rise Against Hunger Mission Project**

**Assisted Living Prayer Concerns:**

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

**Marsh's Edge Assisted:** Nancy Reynolds, Ellen Thrift

**Vitality:** Judy Clifton

Map International

*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

10/15 from 5:00-6:00pm

Chicken and Dumplings, Butter Beans, Squash with Zucchini and Onions, and a Sweet 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!



## 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.



## United Women in Faith-PECAN SALE!

Pecans can be ordered Sunday, October 12 & 19!

We will be selling halves, pieces, salted and roasted, chocolate, and glazed pecans. Cost is \$12 with

delivery before Thanksgiving, hopefully! Proceeds of pecan sales will benefit Local Missions! If you are unable to order in person you may order from any UWF member, the church office, or by calling Pat Carmichael at 912-638-4541, to place your order.



## Clergy Appreciation

October is Clergy Appreciation Month! Join us as we honor **Rev. Tom Jones, Rev. Benjy Varnell, & Rev. Tab Miller** on Sunday, October 26 and throughout 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!



## Weekly Bible Reading Highlights

**What did you highlight in your Bible October 5-11? These are a few verses that stood out to Tom:**

**Luke 8:16** - "No one lights a lamp and then covers it with a bowl or hides it under a bed. A lamp is placed on a stand, where its light can be seen by all who enter the house."

**Mark 4:39-41** - When Jesus woke up, he rebuked the wind and said to the waves, "Silence! Be still!" Suddenly the wind stopped, and there was a great calm. Then he asked them, "Why are you afraid? Do you still have no faith?" The disciples were absolutely terrified. "Who is this man?" they asked each other. "Even the wind and waves obey him!"

**Matthew 9:36-38** - When Jesus saw the crowds, he had compassion on them because they were confused and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. He said to his disciples, "The harvest is great, but the workers are few. So pray to the Lord who is in charge of the harvest; ask him to send more workers into his fields."

**John 6:35** - Jesus replied, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry again. Whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."

## HELP WANTED- PUMPKIN UNLOADING!

- The pumpkins will arrive at the church on **Sunday, October 12 at 12:00 pm.** Bring a change of clothes! WE NEED HELP UNLOADING!!!

Contact Justis for more info at [justis@stsimonsumc.com](mailto:justis@stsimonsumc.com)



## PUMPKIN PATCH HOURS!

**Mon- Fri - 2:30pm-7:30pm**

**Sat & Sun - 10:00am-7:30pm**

Come support our Youth Ministry, purchase your pumpkins and enjoy the Pumpkin Patch!



## TRUNK OR TREAT

SUNDAY OCTOBER 26 5:00-6:30  
SET UP AT 4:30

### WAYS TO HELP:

- CANDY DONATIONS
- SIGN UP TO HAVE A TRUNK

SIGN UPS IN GHOLSON ROOM & KIDS ROOM

## 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 through the church office.

## 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](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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