

# Weekly Calendar



## Sunday, November 30

- 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**
- 5:00 PM Youth Friendsgiving, **Mellow Mushroom**

## Monday, December 1

- 9:00 AM Prayer Team, **Parlor**
- 11:00 AM Chair Yoga, **Thorpe Building**
- 5:30 PM Church Council Meeting, **Thorpe Building**

## Tuesday, December 2

- 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**
- 5:30 PM ERT Meeting, **Room 203**

## Wednesday, December 3

- 9:30 AM MOMS- Walking Group, **Church parking lot**
- 11:00 AM Chair Yoga, **Thorpe Building**
- 1:15 PM Lightkeepers Al-Anon, **Room 203**
- 5:30 PM Youth Committee Interview, **Parlor**
- 6:00 PM Chancel Choir, **Choir Room**

## Thursday, December 4

- 10:30 AM SAM Trip Departs for to JAX & St. Augustine
- 1:00 PM Parkinson's Support Group, **Thorpe Building**

## Friday, December 5

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

**Advent Quiz Answers**  
 1. b - Arrival/coming  
 2. False. Advent begins the fourth Sunday before Christmas. It can be 22-28 days long.  
 3. b - "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"  
 4. c - Circles symbolize eternity  
 5. d - All of the above  
 6. a - The third Sunday of Advent marks a shift from a season of quiet repentance and preparation, represented by the purple candles, to a joyful anticipation of Christ's coming. The pink candle symbolizes this joy breaking through.  
 7. c - God with us

**C**  
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**ST. SIMONS  
UNITED METHODIST  
CHURCH**

*Where Love is Unconditional,  
Service is Celebrated Enthusiastically,*

*The Mission of Christ is Advanced Consistently.*

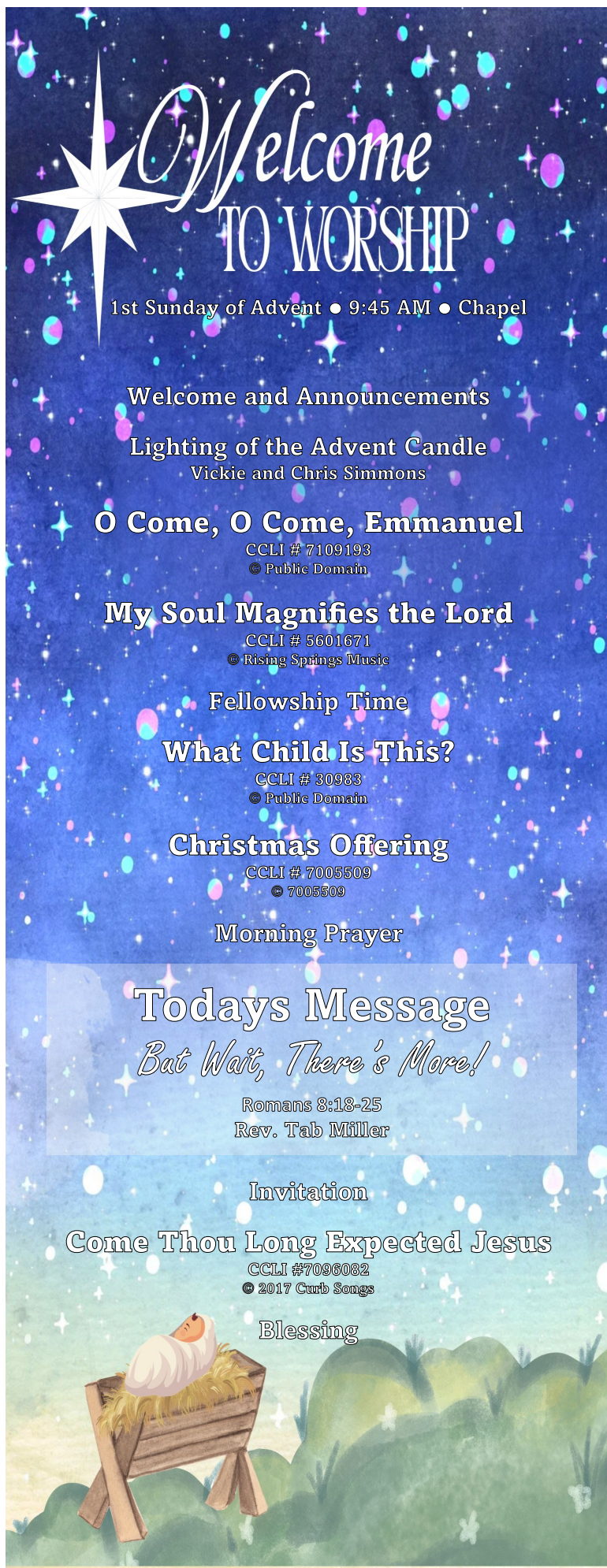
624 Ocean Boulevard • St. Simons Island, GA 31522

912.638.3317 • stsimonsumc.com



*This is a Stephen Ministry Church*





# THE WORSHIP OF GOD

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

NOVEMBER 30, 2025 • 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM

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*Emmanuel, Emmanuel, his name is called Emmanuel.  
God with us, revealed in us,  
His name is called Emmanuel.*

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WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Tom Jones  
Senior Pastor

PRELUDE

Kevin Lamb  
Director of Music Ministries

\* HYMN OF PRAISE #196 ***Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus***

HYFRYDOL

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Parmelee Family (8:30 AM)  
Joiner Family (11:00 AM)

SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM (11:00 AM)

Jake Alexander Westover

\* FELLOWSHIP TIME

\* FELLOWSHIP SONG

***Emmanuel***

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE (11:00 AM)

Victoria Fryer  
Director of Children's Ministry

MORNING PRAYER

Rev. Benjy Varnell

\* HYMN #224 ***Good Christian Friends, Rejoice***

IN DULCI JUBILO

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Benjy Varnell

OFFERTORY

Emri Comer

THE DOXOLOGY #95

MESSAGE IN MUSIC

***Come, Jesus,  
Heavenly Light***

Chancel Choir

SCRIPTURE LESSON 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

MORNING MESSAGE

Rev. Tom Jones

***The Path We Choose***

\* INVITATION #206

***I Want to Walk  
as a Child of the Light***

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

\* BENEDICTION

Tom Jones

POSTLUDE

\* Stand As Able

## Advent Quiz

Advent is a four-week season of preparation for the celebration of Christmas. It is the first season of the Christian year. But beyond some basic facts, how much do you really know about Advent? For example, at the Advent Wreath Workshop held recently I was asked about the meaning of the pink candle in the wreath. You'll find the answer and learn other interesting facts about Advent when you take the quiz below.

- What does the word Advent mean?
  - Preparation before Christmas
  - Arrival or coming of Jesus
  - To step out in faith
  - A website for online Christmas coupons
- True or False: Like the 40 days of Lent, Advent has a fixed number of days before Christmas.
- Which of these Advent hymns was written by Charles Wesley?
  - "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming"
  - "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"
  - "Come, O Come, Emmanuel"
  - "Hail to the Lord's Anointed"
- Why are the Advent candles arranged in the shape of a circle?
  - They make a wreath, and wreaths are Christmassy
  - It is the easiest way to see all four candles and takes up the least space
  - Circles symbolize eternity
  - None of the above
- What is a Chrismon Ornament?
  - Depict Christian symbol
  - Named from a contraction for Christ monograms
  - Made of white and gold to symbolize purity and majesty
  - All of the above
- On the third Sunday in Advent, we light a pink candle in the Advent wreath. Why?
  - Pink represents our joyful preparation and a pause from penance represented by the purple candles
  - Pink was Mary's favorite color and symbolizes her happiness
  - It represents the hope we have in Christ
  - None of the above
- What is the meaning of the Hebrew word "Emmanuel"?
  - Mighty King
  - Christ Child
  - God with us
  - All of the above

The answers for the quiz are found on the back page of the Worship Guide. I hope you did well and possibly learned a thing or two. May God's special blessings be with you and your family during this Advent Season!

Blessings,

**Tom**

## Financial Report

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

**November 23, 2025**

Tithes & Offerings Received | \$20,076.62

Received YTD | \$1,089,694.32

Expenses YTD | \$1,134,534.39

Difference YTD | -\$44,840.07

Budgeted Amount YTD | \$1,198,896.61

Trustees Maintenance Fund YTD | \$20,483.00

*thank you*

## Attendance ~ November 23, 2025

8:30 AM Worship Service: **82** Online Worship Views: **445**

9:45 AM Worship Service: **56** Sunday School/Small Group: **118**

11:00 AM Worship Service: **163**

Total In Person Attendance: **301**

## Members in Ministry ~ November 30, 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** Tricia Boatright, Libby Sweat

**9:45** Ava White, Judy Merrick

**11:00** Sherry Pickett, Nancy Jenkins

**Projection:**

**8:30** Robin Parmelee

**9:45** Carol Connor

**11:00** Elizabeth Daniel

**Acolytes:**

**11:00** Smith Graffis

## Honorariums & Memorials

**A GIFT HAS BEEN GIVEN IN MEMORY OF LOIS WINSNESS**

Barbara J. Adams Estate

## Prayer Requests

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

**New Prayer Concerns - Church Members:** Family & Friends of Billie June Boyd, Family & friends of Jim Fuller, Mike Martin

**New Prayer Concerns Non-Members:** Jimmy Coyne, Mary Gair, James Gregory, Hope Hall, Family & friends of Charlotte Lancaster, William Perry, Barbara Smith, Melanie Spivey, Lesley Staton, Family & friends of John David Strickland, Randy Watson

**Ongoing Prayer Concerns:** Di Bailey, Ron Bateman, Jim Bennett III, Ranny Blount, Sam Bodine, Kai Booth, Cindy Bostick, 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, 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, Judy Whelan, Chuck Wilson, Bobbé Wooldridge, Hollis Youngner, Beverly Zeller, Emmie Zwack,

**Assisted Living Prayer Concerns:**

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

**Norma Mock**

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

**Sears Manor:** Joan Harris

**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.*



## Shopping fun & St. Augustine Lights

Thursday, December 4, 2025

Get in the holiday spirit with a day of shopping, dining, and the spectacular **St. Augustine Nights of Lights!** We will be traveling in comfort on a charter coach with all the amenities.

### Itinerary:

**10:30 AM:** Depart for IKEA (shopping and lunch). If you haven't experienced IKEA here's your chance, and if you are not a shopper there's lots of comfortable seating for reading and drinking coffee. You must try the Swedish Meatballs for lunch.

**1:30 PM:** Head to St. Augustine Outlets for a shopping spree.

**4:30 PM:** Dinner at the famous Columbia Restaurant.

**7:00 PM:** Board the trolley for a breathtaking lights tour.

**Cost: \$30** per person (does not include dinner)

Reserve your spot now for this exciting trip in Realm or call the office – we are filling up fast!



## Hope Has Dawned, Noel A Musical Celebration

Join us for a Musical Celebration of "Hope Has Dawned, Noel"! We invite you to a heartwarming performance by our talented Music Ministry and Christmas singers on **Sunday, December 14 at 10:30 AM** in the sanctuary. Come early to find the perfect seat and experience the joy of this festive and meaningful musical celebration!

## New Member Gathering

Are you a new member who joined in 2025? We warmly invite you to a **New Member Gathering** where we'll enjoy fellowship and refreshments together in the **Parlor** on **Sunday, December 7 at 4:00 PM**.

We look forward to celebrating our new members and spending this meaningful time together! Please let us know you are planning on attending by emailing Anne Frazier at [anne@stsimonsumc.com](mailto:anne@stsimonsumc.com)



## Poinsettias

**Order your poinsettias through Monday, December 15**

Help place poinsettias in the Sanctuary to Celebrate the Birth of Christ. They will be placed in the church on Sunday, December 21 and go home after the 11:00am 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



## Christmas Lunch

Join us for our Annual Christmas Lunch! This meal will be held on Christmas day, Thursday, 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 to share. **Please RSVP on Realm or to the church office by Thursday, December 18!**



## Weekly Bible Reading Highlights

*What did you highlight in your Bible November 22-29? These are a few verses that stood out to Tom:*

**1 Corinthians 15:14, 20** — "And if Christ has not been raised, then all our preaching is useless, and your faith is useless. But in fact, Christ has been raised from the dead. He is the first of a great harvest of all who have died."

**1 Corinthians 15:55** — "O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?"

**1 Corinthians 16:13-14** — "Be on guard. Stand firm in the faith. Be courageous. Be strong. And do everything with love."

**Romans 3:23-24** — "For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God's glorious standard. Yet God, in his grace, freely makes us right in his sight. He did this through Christ Jesus when he freed us from the penalty for our sins."

**Romans 5:1** — "Therefore, since we have been made right in God's sight by faith, we have peace with God because of what Jesus Christ our Lord has done for us."

**Romans 8:38** — "And I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from God's love. Neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither our fears for today nor our worries about tomorrow - not even the powers of hell can separate us from God's love."

## Advent Giving Trees

**Hope 1312 | FaithWorks | Salvation Army**

The Advent Missions Challenge is brought to you by our SSUMC Missions Committee. Trees are in the Gholson Room. All items should be returned by:

**Sunday, December 14.** Thank you all in advance for your generosity to these local ministries during the Christmas season!



## Part-Time Youth Director Position

Our church has an immediate opening for a Part-Time Youth Director. Join our team and make a difference with our next generation of youth! If interested in the position, please email Anne Frazier ([anne@stsimonsumc.com](mailto:anne@stsimonsumc.com)) for more info and to submit your resume by the deadline of **Thursday, December 4**.

## 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

