



October 11, 2026

St. Simons

United Methodist Church



A Letter From The Pastor

REV. DAVID BLACKWOOD
SENIOR PASTOR

Loving Our Community Through Service

One of the ways we live out our faith is by putting our love for God into action through service. Over the next few weeks, there are several opportunities for us to serve, connect with our neighbors, and be the hands and feet of Christ in our community.

Come work in the Pumpkin Patch!

Our pumpkin patch is more than a fundraiser—it is an opportunity to welcome people onto our church campus and share the love of Christ with our community. We need volunteers throughout October to help work the patch. Whether you can give an afternoon, an evening, or simply a few hours, please sign up to volunteer. There is a place for everyone!

Rise Against Hunger — Sunday, October 18

On Sunday, October 18, after the 11:00 a.m. worship service, we will gather to participate in Rise Against Hunger. This is a wonderful opportunity for individuals and families to work together to make a tangible difference in the lives of people around the world. We will be partnering with St Simons Presbyterian and First Baptist St Simons. I love that we get to come together with these other churches to serve others in Jesus' name. Please register and plan to join us after worship!

Roundtable Discussion on Poverty in Glynn County — Wednesday, October 14

I also want to invite you to join us in the Thorpe Building on Wednesday, October 14, from 5:00–6:00 p.m. for a special Roundtable Discussion about poverty in Glynn County.

A meal will be provided, and we will gather around tables for conversation and learning. We will have an opportunity to share how we have encountered people experiencing poverty, learn important statistics about poverty in our own community, and hear some best practices for working with people experiencing homelessness and poverty.

Local ministry experts will be with us to share what they are seeing in our community, the work they are already doing, and ways that we can become involved.

Trunk or Treat — Wednesday, October 28

Finally, start thinking about how you can participate in our Trunk or Treat on Wednesday, October 28. We need people who are willing to decorate their vehicles and create a fun and welcoming experience for children and families in our community. Start planning your trunk now—we want to see your creativity!

There are many different ways to serve, and you don't have to do everything. Find one opportunity that fits you and take the next step. As the church, we are called not simply to talk about God's love but to make that love visible through the ways we serve our neighbors.

I hope you will join me in finding ways to pray, serve, welcome, and love our community in the name of Christ.

*WHERE LOVE IS UNCONDITIONAL,
SERVICE IS CELEBRATED
ENTHUSIASTICALLY, &
THE MISSION OF CHRIST IS ADVANCED
CONSISTENTLY.*

Sunday Worship
8:30 & 11:00- Sanctuary
9:45 Chapel

St. Simons UMC
624 Ocean Boulevard
St. Simons Island, GA 31522
912.638.3317 • stsimonsumc.com

Rev. David Blackwood, Senior Pastor
david@stsimonsumc.com
678.787.0331

Rev. Benjy Varnell, Assistant Pastor
benjyv@stsimonsumc.com
912.393.4566

Upcoming Events!

Clergy Appreciation

October is Clergy Appreciation Month!

Join us as we honor Rev. David Blackwood, Rev. Benjy Varnell, & Rev. Tab Miller on Sunday,

October 25 and throughout the month of October!

Please bring or send a card, small gift or gift 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!



FaithWorks Dinner

Learn How We Serve, so you can find where you want to serve! Come enjoy a free dinner on October 14 at 5:00 pm in the Thorpe Building and learn about

FaithWorks and its ministry in Glynn County. Be careful though you may find what God is calling you to do! Sign Up on Realm or by scanning the QR Code!



Rise Against Hunger

Help Us Pack 20,000 Meals for Rise Against Hunger!

Sunday, October 18, 12:00 PM

First Baptist Church – SSI

Lunch will be provided by First Baptist Church!

Our church family, First Baptist Church, and St. Simons Presbyterian Church as we come together to pack 20,000 meals and make a difference in the lives of people around the world.

Everyone is welcome! This is a wonderful opportunity for the whole family. Bring your children, grandchildren, friends, and neighbors and help us reach our goal!

Come Pack a Meal. Make a Difference. Change Lives!

St. Augustine Harbor Tour

Tuesday, November 10, 2026 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Step aboard for a delightful, guided cruise through historic St. Augustine Harbor. Founded in the late 1500s, St. Augustine is rich with stories, sights, and centuries of coastal history. As you cruise, the captain's live narration brings the harbor's past to life. The boat features an enclosed lower deck and an open upper deck, making this tour comfortable in any weather. A restroom is available on board.

The narrated cruise lasts approximately 75 minutes. Following the tour, we'll enjoy lunch together at a nearby restaurant (Dutch treat).

Cost: \$28.00 per person, Departure: 9:00 AM

Sign up on Realm or Call the church office!

Discovering Our Methodist DNA

A new five-week Bible study begins this Wednesday 10/7 at 6:00pm or Thursday 10/8 at 10:00am. Together, we'll explore John Wesley's "**The Character of a Methodist**" as a framework for discovering some of the core features of our faith.

What does it mean to live as a faithful Christian—and specifically, as a Methodist Christian—in the world today? We'll look at the spiritual practices, values, and commitments that have shaped the Methodist tradition and consider how they can help us faithfully follow Jesus today.

Understanding our spiritual "DNA" can help us better understand who we are, why we do what we do, and how we can grow as disciples of Christ.

No book purchase is necessary. We'll provide a printed copy of Wesley's work for you to use throughout the study.



Bonaventure Cemetery Tuesday, October 13

8:00 am - 5:00 pm

Embark on a captivating walking tour (approximately one mile) through history at Bonaventure Cemetery. Expert guides will lead us on an enlightening exploration of this iconic destination. Please bring a camera, water, bug spray, and comfortable walking shoes. The walk lasts approximately two hours, with stops and places to sit along the way.

Departure: Leave the church at 8:00 AM

Return: Approximately 5:00 PM (lunch location to be determined)

Cost: \$40 per person

Sign Up on Realm or by calling the church office by Monday, October 12- Space is limited!



Pumpkin Patch Hours!

PUMPKIN PATCH HOURS!

Mon – Fri – 2:30pm-8:00pm

Sat & Sun – 10:00am-8:00pm

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

Trunk or Treat!

Join us for our annual Trunk or Treat on Wednesday, October 28 at 5:30pm!

Help us by decorating your trunk and or donating candy!

Contact Victoria for more information or to sign up!

victoria@stsimonsumc.com



This is a Stephen Ministry Church

Traditional Order of Worship

Sanctuary 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM

Words of Welcome

Rev. David Blackwood, Senior Pastor

Centering

Kevin Lamb, Director of Music Ministries

* The Opening Hymn #89

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

* The Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles Creed

Acolyte Recognition (11:00am)

* Fellowship Time

Christ Be Magnified

Kids Message (11:00am)

Victoria Fryer, Director of Children

Morning Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

Rev. Benjy Varnell, Assistant Pastor

* Hymn #430

O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee

Verses 1, 3 & 4

Offertory Prayer

Offertory

Sondra Anderson, Music Associate Pianist

* Response

The Doxology

Message in Music

Great is Thy Faithfulness

Morning Message

Rev. David Blackwood, Senior Pastor

Faithfulness in Ordinary Places

Ruth 2:8-16

* Invitation #399

Take My Life, and Let It Be

Stanzas 1 & 3

* Benediction

Postlude

*Stand As Able



OCTOBER 11, 2026

Faithfulness in Ordinary Places

RUTH 2:8-16

OCTOBER 18, 2026

Taking a Step of Faith

RUTH 3:6-13

OCTOBER 25, 2026

From Bitter to Blessed

RUTH 4:13-17

Scripture Focus: Ruth 2:11-12

¹¹ But Boaz answered her, "All that you have done for your mother-in-law since the death of your husband has been fully told me, how you left your father and mother and your native land and came to a people that you did not know before. ¹² May the Lord reward you for your deeds, and may you have a full reward from the Lord, the God of Israel, under whose wings you have come for refuge!"

Guest Information

- First time guests please fill out the yellow, "Welcome Card" located in your pew. Please bring to the Welcome Desk to receive a gift!
- Restrooms are located through the exit doors nearest the altar to your left or right.
- Sunday School for children & adults meets at 9:45am.
- A nursery is available for children 4 years old and under.
- Kid's Clubhouse (5 yrs - 5th grd), leave together after the Kid's Message (except on the 1st Sunday of the month)— for Childrens Choir, games, & lesson, and may be picked up on the 2nd floor.

Acolyte Information

Any student who wishes to become an acolyte may do so by contacting Glenna Humphries at grhumphries1974@gmail.com

Contemporary Worship

9:45 AM in the Chapel

Today's Worship Flow

I Thank God

CCLI # 7169680

© 2021 Bethel Worship

FELLOWSHIP TIME

Battle Belongs

CCLI # 7148126

© Phil Whickman

Evidence

CCLI # 7147432

2020 Capitol CMG

ACOLYTE RECOGNITION

PRAYER TIME

Friend in Jesus

CCLI # 7194284

© All Essential Music

Today's Message

Faithfulness in Ordinary Places

Ruth 2:8-16

Rev. David Blackwood

Closing Song

Still Waters

CCLI # 7199601

© Capitol CMG



OCTOBER 11



FAITHFULNESS IN ORDINARY PLACES

RUTH 2:8-16

God often works in the ordinary moments of life. Faithfulness, even in small things, can lead to His greater purpose.

OCTOBER 18



A CHURCH OF FAITH

REVELATION 2:12-29

Churches that want to love well can sometimes lose sight of the fact that we need to be set apart. Christ calls us to be a church that holds firm to our convictions.

OCTOBER 25



A CHURCH OF HOPE

REVELATION 3:1-6, 14-22

Complacency is an enemy of the church. Christ calls us to be a church that depends on Him in all we do.

Scripture Focus: Ruth 2:11-12

¹¹ But Boaz answered her, "All that you have done for your mother-in-law since the death of your husband has been fully told me, how you left your father and mother and your native land and came to a people that you did not know before. ¹² May the Lord reward you for your deeds, and may you have a full reward from the Lord, the God of Israel, under whose wings you have come for refuge!"

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 door near the stage.
- Sunday School for this service meets at 8:30. Kids small group meets concurrently with this service
- A nursery is available for children 4 years old and under.
- Kid's Clubhouse meets at 11 except for the first Sunday of the month for Children's music, games, & lesson.

Acolyte Information

Students who wish to acolyte may do so by contacting Glenna Humphries at grhumphries1974@gmail.com

Prayer Requests

Please take time this week and pray for these individuals:

New Prayer Concerns - Church Members: Becky Bridges, **Jan & Marty Carriker, Michelle Stewart**

New Prayer Concerns Non-Members: Cheryl Adams, Mike Crews, Watt Gregory, **Karen & Mike Hand**, Brooks Harvey, **Mike Hodges, Jim Hurley**, Charles Hutcherson, **Addy Martin**, Dale Moffett, Maxwell Penn, Don Ray, Mark Stevens

Ongoing Prayer Concerns: Lisa Adams, Di Bailey, Dianne Beisel, Jim Bennett III, Sam Bodine, Kai Booth, Cindy Bostick, Carlotta Budd, Trudy Budd, Beth Carey, Vicki Certain, Russell Cohen, Cathy Bailey Crumbley, Pat Daniels, Betsy Draughon, Brenda Fields, Geoff Fields, Sandy Fitzgerald, Butch Frye, Dotsy Fuller, Mary McCreary George, Barbara Golding, Sara, Jeff & Juniper Heath, Jennifer & Tom Higdom, Elwanda Hopkins, Tom Humphries, Barbara Jensen, Holly Lamb, Ellie Leroux, Randy Little, Chris Lorence, James McBride, Mike McDonald, Ed McKenzie, Nathan Meadows, Kristen Merrill, Kirk Nowery, Randy Payne, Mary Rentz, Dawn Roberts, Anne Rogers, Irene Rohan, Jo Ann Segars, Bob Scherer, Bonni Smith, Maxwell Smith, Brion Trainor, Betty Tomlin, Rhonda Van View, Dave Vandersall, Mary & Bo Vice, Holly & Bill Wagner, Judy Whelan, Benjamin Wiggins, Sarah and Hannah Wood, Hollis Youngner, Beverly Zeller, Emmie Zwack
The Methodist Children's Home

Assisted Living Prayer Concerns:

Heritage Oaks: Jackie Brand, Jean Cardin, Marjorie Lawrence, Norma Mock, Mel Rozier

Marsh's Edge: Linda May, Ann Pickard, 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.

Members in Ministry ~ October 11, 2026

Ushers:

8:30 Bill Foster, Thornton Willingham, John Vann, Joanie Meeks
11:00 Cindy Simpson, Mike Fitzgerald, Marcus Griffin, Jim Peterson,
PJ Hamilton, Nancy Jenkins

Greeters:

8:30 Carole Barton, Helen Baker 9:45 Carol Conner, Laura Weldy
11:00 Kari Cooper, Christiana Weisberg

Projection:

8:30 Robin Parmelee 9:45 Jim Weldy
11:00 Elizabeth Daniel

Acolytes:

9:45 Atlas Zettler
11:00 Savannah & Natalie Smith

Welcome New Members

Welcome to our Newest Members who joined on Sunday, October 4, 2026:

- **Gianna and Jordan Mann**
- **Ken Brown**

Please join us in welcoming these new members to our church family!

Honorariums & Memorials

A Gift was Given in Memory of Martha Kent by:

Janie Alexander

Join the Church

If you would like to join St. Simons United Methodist Church you may do so by one of three ways:

Profession of Faith in Jesus Christ, Transfer from another United Methodist congregation or Transfer from another denomination.

If you are interested in more information about becoming a member contact Rev. David Blackwood at david@stsimonsumc.com | 912.638.3317

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, October 11

8:30 am The Class- Sunday school, **Room 202**
8:30 am Traditional Worship Service, **Sanctuary**
9:30 am Nursery for Newborn- 4 yrs., 9:30-12:00
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**
10:00am **Pumpkin Patch Open- 8:00pm, Pumpkin Patch**
11:00 am Traditional Worship Service, **Sanctuary**
11:20 am Children dismissed for Music & Worship, **Kid's Clubhouse**
5:00 pm Youth Group & Dinner, **Thorpe Building**

Monday, October 12

9:00 am Prayer Team, **Parlor**
11:00 am Chair Yoga \$5.00, **Thorpe Building**
2:30 pm **Pumpkin Patch Open- 8:00pm, Pumpkin Patch**

Tuesday, October 13

6:00 am Men's Bible Study, **Thorpe Building**
8:00 am SAM Trip to Tour Bonaventure Cemetery, **Savannah**
10:00 am Men's Life, **Room 203**
1:00 pm Women's Life Group, **Room 203**
2:30 pm **Pumpkin Patch Open- 8:00pm, Pumpkin Patch**
6:30 pm Boy Scouts, **Thorpe Building**

Wednesday, October 14

9:30 am MOMS Walking Group, **Thorpe Building**
11:00 am Chair Yoga \$5.00, **Thorpe Building**
1:15 pm Lightkeepers Al-Anon, **Room 203**
2:30 pm **Pumpkin Patch Open- 8:00pm, Pumpkin Patch**
4:00 pm Handbells, **Room 216**
5:00 pm FaithWorks Information Dinner, **Thorpe Building**
6:00 pm Seamless- Women's Study, **Room 201**
6:00 pm Chancel Choir, **Choir Room**

Thursday, October 15

2:30 pm **Pumpkin Patch Open- 8:00pm, Pumpkin Patch**
5:30 pm Parkinson's Board Meeting, **Parlor**
6:00 pm Traditional Worship Committee Meeting, **Room 201**

Friday, October 16

11:00 am Chair Yoga \$5.00, **Thorpe Building**
2:30 pm **Pumpkin Patch Open- 8:00pm, Pumpkin Patch**

Saturday, October 17

9:00 am Preschool Professional Training, **Thorpe Building**
10:00 pm **Pumpkin Patch Open- 8:00pm, Pumpkin Patch**

Attendance

October 4, 2026

8:30AM Worship Service: 87 Worship Views Online: 360
9:45AM Worship Service: 83 Sunday School/Groups: 129
11:00AM Worship Service: 207
Total In Person Worship: 377

Financial Report

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

October 4, 2026

Tithes & Offerings Received | \$30,589.90
Received YTD | \$951,206.56
Expenses YTD | \$985,365.41
Difference YTD | -\$34,158.85
Budgeted Amount YTD | \$1,017,525.77
Trustees Maintenance Fund YTD | \$30,005.00

Thank You!

Thank You for your Faithfulness!

As of October 8, 2026:

Number of Cards Received to date | **147**

Number of New Cards this year | **35**

Total Amount | **\$717,980.00**

Please remember, you may continue to return your Commitment cards. Cards can be returned via mail, brought to the church office, placed in the offering plates on Sundays or submitted on our website or by scanning the QR Code here.

Thank you for your continued dedication and commitment to our church and the mission of Christ at SSUMC!

