

Gathering



Sharing



Growing



Serving



## ST. SIMONS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Volume 58

October 12, 2017

I hope that the unsettledness of September is beginning to recede as the structures of our lives are put back in place after the storm that was Irma. We continue to pray for all who have been damaged and suffered loss by the hurricanes, earthquakes, and violence of the past weeks. Please speak up and let your church know how we can keep helping one another as brothers and sisters in Christ.

We have certainly had some good times together at church recently. The dedication of our new Steinway grand piano was so very special. We thank Fred Stradtman for giving us this beautiful instrument, and Kevin Padgett at Jamestown Piano for lovingly rebuilding the piano. It was a delight to have Terry Readdick play three pieces in worship this past Sunday as we thanked God for this gift. Rhonda Hambright oversaw the entire process to its completion, and our church will enjoy our concert grand for years to come.

Church member Sean Hidalgo is home, and we are so proud of his faith and his courage as he gave two weeks of his life to the adventure of delivering supplies for freshwater wells in Africa with Marion Medical mission. We are glad that he is safely home, and he inspires us to mission near and far. God bless Sean!

This Wednesday night we gathered after supper to share the results of a congregational survey about the strengths, weaknesses, and future mission of our church. We thank everyone for responding to this survey, and we thank Alan Dyer for compiling the many responses into an understandable format. What we learned from our listening will be used in the coming weeks as our church prepares to search for an associate pastor. Please pray for that process which will be seeking a pastor to share life and faith with us and to strengthen our witness for Jesus Christ. [Click here to download the Congregational Survey Report.](#)

Enjoy this week's newsletter and take advantage of some of the good opportunities coming our way to make friends and do good deeds and share God's love as church together.

Love,  
Bob

Come on an  
adventure  
with us to the...  
*Jacksonville*  
*Zoo!*



You are invited to join us on our upcoming "Try Something New" Jacksonville Zoo adventure! Together we will carpool down to Jacksonville to spend the day exploring God's creatures and we hope that you will come with us! Please feel free to invite your family, friends, and neighbors! Cost is \$20.00 per person plus money for food. You are welcome to ride on the church van with us or caravan down behind us. We know this will be a day full of fun and fellowship together so come make new friends within your church family and let's go exploring!

**Tuesday, October 17**

Departing from church at 9AM - Returning late afternoon

*Please follow the link below to let us know you are coming and to reserve your seat on the van! Also, please make payment to church office or drop in offertory on Sunday during worship.*

**Register Here!**



Provided by Hospice of the Golden Isles



## FALL IS IN THE AIR!

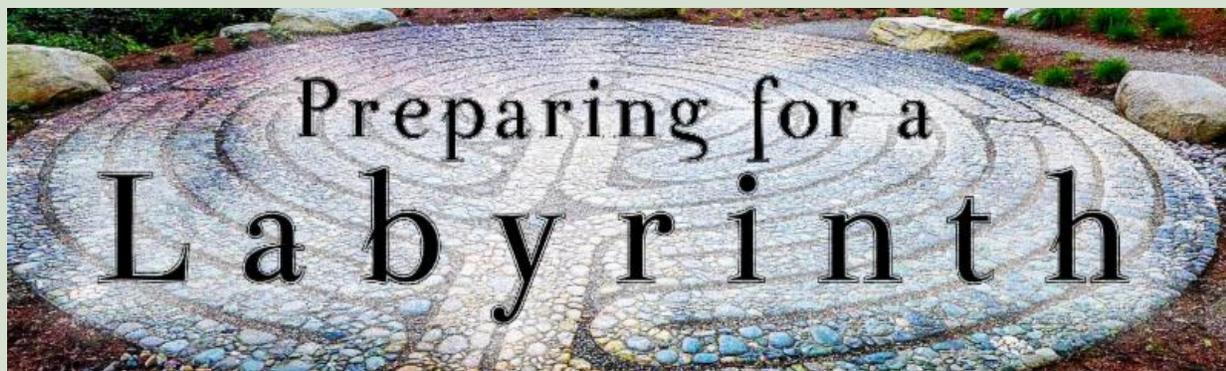
Well, not really, but we are hoping it's right around the corner! Everyone is welcome at this year's Great-Fall Gathering! Weather permitting, this family fun event will take place on the front lawn of the church. We will have bounce houses, a parade of costumes, a cakewalk, popcorn & candy, a chili cook-off with prizes, and a chicken wing bar!

Wed, Oct 25 | 5 PM | Church  
Lawn

*This year we are collecting food donations to benefit the Sparrow's Nest! Bring one or more of the following items as your ticket for admission:*

Boxed Cereal, Peanut Butter, Jelly, Soup, Canned Fruit,  
Canned Meat, Spaghetti Noodles & Sauce

**ENTER YOUR AWARD WINNING CHILI INTO OUR COOK-OFF HERE!**



For the past several months, a group of church members and staff have been meeting regularly to explore the possibility of creating an outdoor labyrinth at St. Simons Presbyterian. After meeting with Chuck Hunner, a labyrinth consultant/builder/facilitator, we learned much that will inform the numerous decisions to help make a labyrinth at SSPC a reality. We look forward to sharing a detailed plan with the Session and more broadly with the congregation soon.

This is the third installment of six in which we are sharing a summary **12 Reasons to Have a Church Labyrinth** (two each week) written by Robert Ferre, an internationally recognized labyrinth resource person. I will offer additional comments. If you would like a copy of the article please let me know. -Rev. Jann Briscoe

- Reason 5: The Labyrinth is Physical

"As a form of body prayer, the labyrinth embodies our experience, keeping it from being just theoretical or mental." Labyrinth walking involves our whole bodies and our senses together. "Labyrinth walking has been called the laying on of feet."

One of the most noticeable effects of walking the labyrinth is stress reduction. We can see the reduction in our physical bodies. Stress kills, and the reduction of stress heals. The same is true with balance. Our priorities get far out of kilter sometimes. When that happens, we experience dis-ease. The labyrinth brings us back to a state of equilibrium.

- Reason 6: The Labyrinth is a Form of Pilgrimage

Pilgrimage is an outer journey with an inner purpose. It takes us away from the routine of daily life to sacred places where the veil seems thinner and more approachable. The labyrinth does this. It organizes our experience and engages us in spiritual travel. Some call it a quest. In the labyrinth we walk in a way we don't walk elsewhere, which leads to a new kind of experience. ... Being on a spiritual journey is the perfect metaphor and image for both life and the labyrinth."

"Life can be many kinds of journeys. The world has endless choices and paths, (many) of which lead nowhere. The labyrinth path is sure, certain, dependable...The labyrinth symbolizes the route, but no one can take it for someone else. We must each find our own way. The labyrinth is an appropriate and accessible place to go on a pilgrimage."

## The Week Ahead

**calendar**

**2017**

### Sunday, October 15

- 8:30 am - Chapel Service - Sanctuary
- 9:00 am - Coffee Hour - Social Hall
- 9:30 am - Sunday School - Various Locations
- 11:00 am - Traditional Service - Sanctuary

- 12:15 pm - CE Team Meeting - Children's Hall
- 3:30 pm - Magnolia Manor Worship - Magnolia Manor
- 5:00 pm - Youth Ensemble - Music Attic
- 6:00 pm - Youth Fellowship - Youth Suite
- 6:00 pm - KidZ Fellowship (Grades 3-5) - Veranda

**Monday, October 16**

- 10:00 am - Instrumental Ensemble - Sanctuary
- 12:00 pm - Men's Noonday Bible Study - Britt Room
- 5:30 pm - Diaconate Meeting - Upper Room
- 8:00 pm - Al-Anon Meeting - John Law Room
- 8:00 pm - AA Meeting - Britt Room

**Tuesday, October 17**

- 7:00 am - Youth Breakfast Devotion - SSI Chick-fil-a
- 9:00 am - Jacksonville Zoo Trip - Depart from Kitchen Parking Lot
- 2:00 pm - Coffee & Conversation - Marsh's Edge
- 5:30 pm - Session Meeting - Upper Room

**Wednesday, October 18**

- 10:30 am - Ladies Video Bible Study - Youth Suite
- 4:00 pm - KidZ Crew & Choir - Playground Veranda
- 5:00 pm - Confirmation Class - Chapel
- 6:00 pm - WOW Supper - Social Hall
- 6:30 pm - Chancel Ringers - Bell Room
- 7:00 pm - Chancel Choir - Sanctuary

**Thursday, October 19**

- 7:15 am - Men's Breakfast Bible Study - Britt Room
- 10:00 am - Ladies Bible Study - Upper Room
- 4:00 pm - Free Flow Yoga - Youth Suite
- 6:30 pm - Stephen Ministry - Parlor
- 8:00 pm - Al-Anon Meeting - John Law Room
- 8:00 pm - AA Meeting - Britt Room

**Friday, October 20**

- 10:00 am - Book Discussion & Prayer - Jann's Office

**Click for More Information About Upcoming Events**



[Prayers and Thanksgivings](#)

[Click here for the Weekly Prayer & Meditation](#)

[Thank you to our Manna House Volunteers](#)

We give thanks to those who came out to participate in serving those in our community at Manna House on October 2. Thank you to the following people who were the hands and feet of Christ with us! Chris Pippart, Martha Collette, Elynn Butler, Joe Wills, Martha Champaigne, Gail Ledbetter, Martha Martin, Mary Margaret Shiver, Nora Sue Spencer, Jerry Spencer, Gail Wolflick, Jack Hartman, Jann Briscoe, Mike Aspinwall, Charlotte Lueckel, Bill Lueckel, Matt Hodgdon, and Frances McCrary.



## Worship This Sunday

Scripture:

[Psalm 106:1-5](#)

[Philippians 4:1-9](#)

Hymns:

667 - When Morning Gilds the Skies

804 - Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!

Preacher:

[Rev. Alan Dyer](#)

### Financial performance as of September 30, 2017

Offerings Received YTD \$803,052.56

Expenditures Paid YTD \$832,523.15

*Thank you for your giving to support the ministries at St. Simons Presbyterian Church. Your continued giving and faithfulness is greatly appreciated!*



[CLICK HERE TO GIVE ONLINE](#)

Giving online is easy! Just follow the link above to tithe and donate online. If you have any questions, please contact the church office at (912) 638-2220.

[Musical Notes](#)

Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow! That is what I feel as I write this column. I am grateful for the gifts and the people that come our way in the music ministry. Last week's dedication of the Steinway B was both prayerful and exciting! I thank Bob Brearley and Terry Readdick for their words about Fred Stradtman and Don Carter - two esteemed gentlemen speaking about two esteemed gentlemen. It doesn't get any better than that. Terry's playing of Blessed Assurance, Chopin Etude, and When We All Get to Heaven with Amy Bishop joining on organ was blessing for all of us.

This week, the Chancel Choir will offer *Rejoice in the Lord*, a piece by Georg Telemann, a composer of the Baroque period. Yes, we do a variety of music here - almost all styles, so I am grateful for such a flexible choir. Hymns for this Sunday - 667 When Morning Gilds the Skies; and 804 Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!

The following Sunday, the children of our church will assume leadership at the 11:00 am service. This service last year touched the hearts of many, so plan to come on October 22nd. All Children's Choirs - Cherub (preschool); Seraphim (K-2) and Angel (3rd-5th) Choirs will be singing. **Parents are encouraged to bring their children to rehearsal on Wednesday, October 18 for practice for October 22 service. The 3rd-5th graders will also practice during KidZ Fellowship on Sunday, October 15th beginning with dinner at 6:00 pm.**

Love & Gratitude,  
Rhonda