

Gathering



Sharing



Growing



Serving



ST. SIMONS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

November 29, 2018

The days between Thanksgiving and Christmas have a special name in the vocabulary of the Church:

Advent. Advent is the four-week season that begins this Sunday and ends on Christmas Eve. It is a season when we are invited to prepare our hearts and minds for the good news of the approaching Good News – the birth of Jesus. This

week's newsletter includes information about the many different opportunities for worship, fellowship, and reflection happening during Advent at St. Simons Presbyterian. Make space, mark your calendar, and join us as together we prepare to watch and wait and draw near to our God on the journey to Bethlehem.

THE GENEROUS LIFE

TIME•TALENT•RESOURCES



2019 STEWARDSHIP DREAM

[CLICK HERE TO VIEW OUR 2019 BROCHURE & PLEDGE ONLINE!](#)

The arrival of December also means that we are looking ahead to ministry for the year to come. This includes completing our annual **Stewardship Pledge Campaign**. Since Dedication Sunday on November 18, we have received 108 pledges totaling \$529,457, which is roughly 50% of our 2019 mission budget of \$1,117,000. Last year we had a total of 189 pledges. Our goal is to meet or exceed that number of pledges this year. If you have not already done so, we hope you will prayerfully consider making a pledge. You can do so online at sspres.org/stewardship-2019 or by turning in a pledge card to the church office at any time. Thank you for saying "Yes" to living the generous life!

Last but certainly not least, please join me in praying for God's peace, comfort, and healing mercy to be with those in our church who are grieving the loss of loved ones as well as facing serious illness in these days. You can visit the whiteboard in the church office for a complete list of those soliciting the care and compassion of the church. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayers...

Advent is near. See you at church. Come as you are.

Peace,
Alan

Upcoming Events



Ladies Christmas Luncheon

MONDAY, DECEMBER 10TH

11:45 AM | BRITT ROOM | \$15 PER PERSON

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO](#)

SPONSORED BY THE PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN



OPENS THANKSGIVING DAY & EVERY SUNDAY THROUGHOUT ADVENT

Hope Hall

Greater Good Gifts
between Sanctuary & Social Hall

HEIFER PROJECT * Angel Tree * Serrv

Hope Hallway

Hope Hallway, located in the back hallway behind the Sanctuary, will be open every Sunday throughout Advent. Help us help others this Holiday Season!



THIRD DAY OF CHRISTMAS PARTY

December 27 | 6 - 9 PM | Britt Room

[CLICK HERE FOR DETAILS & REGISTRATION](#)



Advent Communion: Draw Near in Watching and Waiting

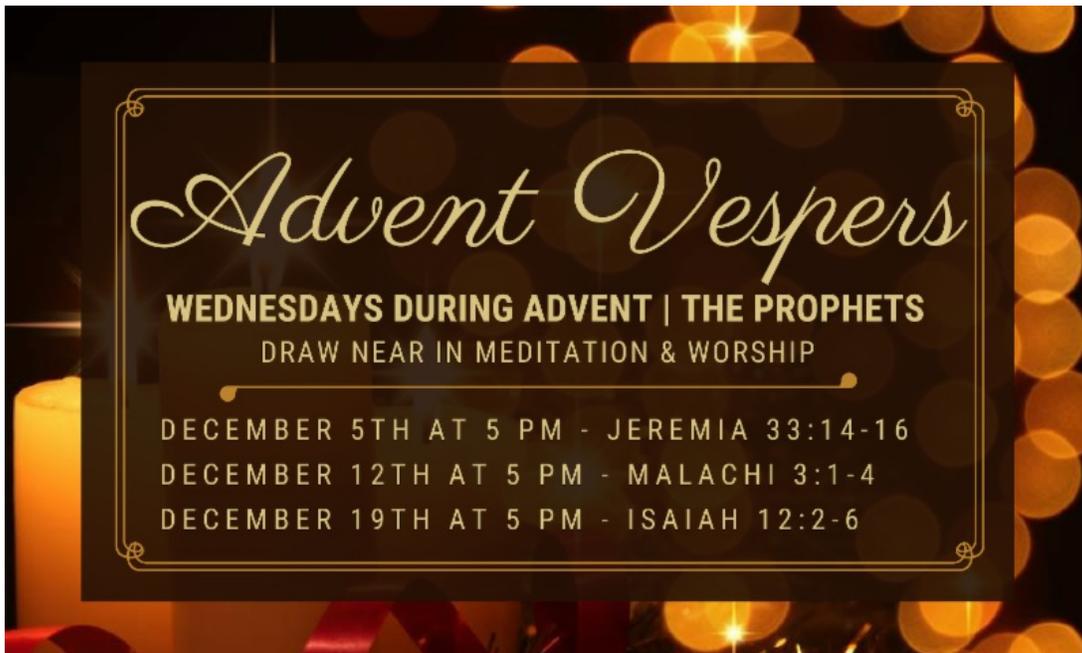
The three Advent Communion services share a similar format and familiar elements of worship. These include the lighting of the Advent candles; the singing of a hymn; reading of scripture and of a short piece on the day's theme, followed by

a time of silence; an opportunity for creative expression; the celebration of communion in a circle around the table; and the passing the peace. Seating is in a circle. Participants will have the opportunity to share in readings and other parts of the service. Each service will last between 30 and 45 minutes.

When: December 2nd, 26th, & 23rd

Time: 5 pm

Where: Chapel



ST. SIMONS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Advent Calendar

WED, NOVEMBER 28	ADVENT FEST & HANGING OF THE GREENS - 5 PM
SAT, DECEMBER 1	MESSIAH (WESLEY UMC) - 3 PM
SUN, DECEMBER 2	ADVENT COMMUNION - 5 PM YOUTH PROGRESSIVE DINNER - 5:30 PM
WED, DECEMBER 5	ADVENT VESPERS: JEREMIAH 33:14-16 - 5 PM
SUN, DECEMBER 9	BREAKFAST BY GRANDY'S - 9:30 AM KIDZ CHRISTMAS MUSICAL - 10 AM CHANCEL RINGERS - 11 AM SERVICE THE LONGEST NIGHT: A WINTER SERVICE OF HOPE & HEALING - 5 PM
MON, DECEMBER 10	LADIES CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON - 11:45 AM
WED, DECEMBER 12	ADVENT VESPERS: MALACHI 3:1-4 - 5 PM
SUN, DECEMBER 16	A NOEL CELEBRATION WITH THE CHANCEL CHOIR - 11 AM SERVICE ADVENT COMMUNION - 5 PM
WED, DECEMBER 19	ADVENT VESPERS: ISAIAH 12:2-6 - 5 PM
THU, DECEMBER 20	CAROLING ON THE TROLLEY - 4:30 - 6:30 PM
FRI, DECEMBER 21	LIVE NATIVITY - 6 PM & 7 PM
SAT, DECEMBER 22	LIVE NATIVITY - 6 PM & 7 PM
SUN, DECEMBER 23	ADVENT COMMUNION - 5 PM
MON, DECEMBER 24	CANDLE AND CAROLS SERVICE WITH CHILDREN'S NATIVITY TABLEAU - 5:30 PM CHRISTMAS EVE COMMUNION - 10:00 PM

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO ABOUT OUR EVENTS](#)

The Week Ahead

Sunday, December 2

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

3:30 pm - **Magnolia Manor Worship** - Magnolia Manor
5:00 pm - **Advent Communion** - Sanctuary
5:30 pm - **Youth Group** - Progressive Dinner

Monday, December 3

9:00 am - **Manna House** - 1408 G Street
10:00 am - **Chancel Ensemble** - Sanctuary
3:00 pm - **CLC Meeting** - John Law
8:00 pm - **AA Meeting** - Britt Room
8:00 pm - **Al-Anon Meeting** - John Law Room

Tuesday, December 4

7:00 am - **Youth Breakfast Devotion** - Chick-fil-A SSI
9:30 am - **Staff Meeting** - Upper Room
6:00 pm - **Lunch Bunch Xmas Party** - 100 Druid Oaks Ln

Wednesday, December 5

12:00 pm - **Men's Noonday Bible Study** - John Law
4:00 pm - **KidZ Crew (Rehearsal & Party)** - Children's Hall
5:00 pm - **Advent Vespers** - Sanctuary
6:30 pm - **Chancel Ringers** - Sanctuary
7:00 pm - **Chancel Choir** - Sanctuary

Thursday, December 6

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

Friday, December 7

10:00 am - **Book Study and Prayer** - Jann's Office

Saturday, December 8

9:00 am - **TSN Bike to Harris Neck** - Harris Neck

Try Something New



Bicycling at Harris Neck

Join the Try Something New group for a bike ride around Harris Neck, followed by a group lunch! Participants can either ride the church van or meet the group at Harris Neck by 10 am to start the bike ride. If you're interested in riding the church van, please bring your bicycle

and meet in the SSPC parking lot at 8:45 am. A trailer will be attached to the van to carry bicycles.

When: Saturday, December 8th

[CLICK HERE TO SIGN UP](#)

Youth Opportunities



Savannah Presbytery Winter Camp Connect 2019

Winter Camp Connect is an opportunity to reunite with last Summer's camp friends or sample what a week long Summer program is like. At camp, we will build &

strengthen friendships with one another, enjoy God's creation, and learn about our faith as we grow closer to Christ.

Youth Camp Connect is for for current 7th - 12th graders. You will stay in the Family Life Center (bunk beds).

Family Camp Connect is for parents to camp along with their children ages 6th grade and younger. Parents will stay with their children in dorm cabins (bunk beds).

Sign up by December 7th

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO](#)



Joys & Concerns



Christian Sympathy: We extend Christian sympathy to the family and friends of Mary Jo Leary, who entered into rest on November 16. A service of witness to the resurrection will be held this Saturday, December 1, at 11 AM in the sanctuary.

We also extend our Christian sympathy to the family & friends of Virginia Snyder, who passed away on Sunday, November 25. A service of witness to the resurrection will be held this Friday, November 30, at 3 PM in the sanctuary.

We also extend our Christian sympathy to the family and friends of Tom Ellington, who passed away on November 26th in McDonough, GA.

Christian Celebration: We share in the joy and celebration of the birth of John & Bonnie Turner's daughter, Della Katherine Turner, who was born on November 16th, 2018. Welcome to the world, Della Katherine!



A total of 330 plates were served this year at our 46th Annual Thanksgiving Breakfast! A big thanks to everyone who came together and helped make it such a success. We hope everyone had a



Another big thanks to our wonderful Hunger Action Team for working so hard to deliver 116 family food boxes to the Counselors at the 10 grammar schools and 4 middle schools for distribution to families in need during the Thanksgiving school break.

L to R: Connie Worley, Nora Sue Spencer, Marilyn Grey, Barbara Wilsher, Victoria Stewart, Bonnie Rabert, Melinda Meighen
Not Pictured: Karleen Thompson, Martha Martin Leon Jorgensen, Donna Chisholm, Lois Vogelman, and Grey Vogelman.

PRAYERS & THANKSGIVINGS

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

Giving Opportunities



FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

AS OF OCTOBER 31, 2018

OFFERINGS RECEIVED YTD	\$851,440.31
EXPENDITURES PAID YTD	\$922,342.58

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED GIVING AND FAITHFULNESS AS ST.
SIMONS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH CARRIES OUT GOD'S WORK.



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.

Worship This Sunday

Scripture: *Jeremiah 33:14-16, Luke 21:25-36*

8:30 am Service Hymn:

- O Come, O Come, Emmanuel verse 1&7 - 88

11:00 am Service Hymns:

- Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates - 93
- Prepare the Way, O Zion - 106

Preacher: Rev. Alan Dyer

MUSICAL NOTES

Many churches have begun instrumental programs because there are lots of folks out there that used to play in orchestra or band and want to take it up again. It is a joy for those that have joined our Chancel Ensemble just to have that time of fellowship. Being able to play in worship or other places is just icing on the cake. Thank you to Anne Marie Stirewalt, Judy Foster, Fred Leif, Beth Evans, Maddie Shafer, and John Simmons for playing last Sunday. These same folks will make up most of the brass section when the Chancel Choir presents its cantata this year on December 16th. Save the date!

After a couple of months of rehearsing, it is now time to offer our musical gifts for the worship of God. Singers, Ringers, and other instrumentalists have been practicing hard for this Advent and Christmas season to bring you inspiration, comfort, and joy. Here are some highlights for this week's music:

December 1 - 3:00 pm at Wesley United Methodist Church at Frederica – Handel's Messiah will be presented. 94 singers will be in the choir loft. Those from our choir include: Brenda and Tom Haughney, Paulette Dickison, Jane Drake, Nancy Matthews, Frances McCrary, and Richard Hathaway. I will be singing the Soprano solos again this year. The instrumentalists from SSPC are: Anne Marie Stirewalt, Trumpet and Harlan Hambright, Timpani. Our beautiful harpsichord will be featured again this year, as well.

December 2 - 10:45 am Amy Bishop and Beverly Fetter offer piano and organ duets to begin the season before the 11:00 am service. The choir will offer Keep God's Light by Mark Patterson. Hymns for Sunday are: 93 Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates and 106 Prepare the Way, O Zion. 8:30 am hymn – 88 O Come, O Come Emmanuel

At 5:00 pm - Rev. Jann Briscoe will lead a meditative communion service. This week's subject is Draw Near in Hope and will also include the singing of a hymn, reading of scripture, a short piece on the day's theme, creative expression and passing of the peace.

A look ahead for worship in the Sanctuary:

December 5 th at 5:00 pm - Vespers: Voice of the Prophets - Jeremiah

December 9 th at 11:00 am - Chancel Ringers are in the loft

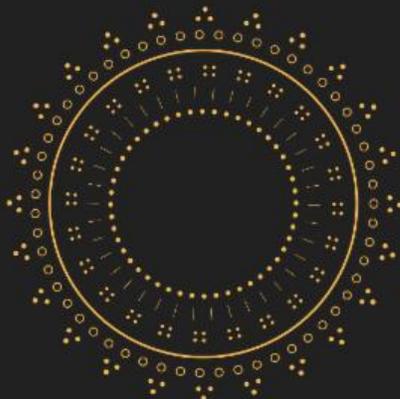
5:00 pm - The Longest Night: A Winter Service of Hope and Healing -

Chancel Choir, Youth Ensemble, and Chamber Orchestra

I need 5 candle lighters for this service – any volunteers?

Take the journey together as a congregation. There are many worship opportunities to Draw Near.

Hope, Love, & Gratitude,
Rhonda



Stay connected with the Church

TEXT: SSPRES
TO: 555888

We will provide occasional updates on church activities, event/meal RSVP reminders, and other timely information.

[912-638-2220] [ada@sspres.org] [sspres.org]

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