

Gathering



Sharing



Growing



Serving



ST. SIMONS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Volume 73

February 8, 2018

February is here, and good things are happening in our community and in our church. I hope that you will come this Friday evening at 7:00 to hear Dr. Erskine Clarke tell us about the early years of Christianity in coastal Georgia, particularly when we followed Jesus and lived in a slave-holding society. A deeper understanding of what has transpired in the past on this soil will help us live the faith now and in the future. We thank Erskine Clarke for traveling to us and spending this coming weekend with us. He will guide us on a bus tour to Midway on Saturday and then teach us in Sunday School on the Lord's Day. You are welcome to come. For more information and to sign up please [click here](#) or give us a call at 638-2220.

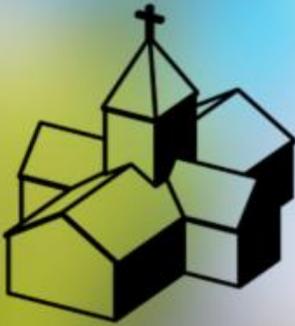
We have already attended the first performance of the February Festival of the Island Concert Series, and it was a spiritual experience! Sophie Shao on cello and Milana Strezeva on piano produced beautiful and powerful music that left us wanting more. Please mark your calendar for every Tuesday evening of February at 7:30 in our sanctuary. Plan to come early for a good seat because every seat was taken at the first concert. We thank Rhonda Hambright for her leadership as we host this fine series of world-class music.

Our church rejoices in receiving new members this coming Sunday, February 11. The Session will meet at 10:30 am in the Ashantilly Room on the airport side of the church, and it is not too late to join us this Sunday. Just give us a call, and Alan or Bob can help it happen for you.

We received the sad news of the death of Dr. John Ellenberg last week in Greenville, South Carolina. A memorial service will be held this coming Sunday at 3:00 pm in our sanctuary with a reception following in the Social Hall. Our prayers are with the family and loved ones of John.

Easter comes on the early side this year, and our Lent Event of crafts, soup supper, and Ash Wednesday worship happens on February 14 beginning at 5:00 pm in the Social Hall. We are thankful for the church that God gives us to enjoy at St. Simons Presbyterian.

Love,
Bob



Theologian in Residence

W E E K E N D

February 9-11



The Theologian in Residence Weekend is a new opportunity at SSPC to visit with & learn from distinguished teachers and preachers of the Christian faith. This year, we will be welcoming Dr. Erskine Clarke-Professor Emeritus of American Religious History at Columbia Theological Seminary - as our theologian in residence. Dr. Clarke has spent a lifetime studying American religious history with a special focus on the rise of a distinctive African-

American Christianity & Presbyterianism in coastal Georgia & the Carolinas.

Schedule of Events:



Friday, February 9 | Public Lecture | 7 PM | Sanctuary

Join us for an informative and introductory lecture by Dr. Erskine Clarke that will provide a brief European prologue and then a review of the settlement of the SC and Georgia low-country by Puritans and French Huguenots, Scots and Scot-Irish. The rise of a distinctive African-American Christianity and Presbyterianism will be a major theme in preparation for the Saturday trip to Midway & Dorchester.

Saturday, February 10 | Guided Trip to Midway & Dorchester



Hop on a chartered bus with us to Midway and Dorchester as Dr. Erskine Clarke guides us through the Midway museum and church to learn about the important entry into an enormously influential Antebellum Calvinist community followed by a tour in Dorchester where we will learn wonderful insights into the history of the Gullah-Geechee people and the role of the church in their community. We will have lunch together in Darien at Skippers followed by a special performance by the The Geechee Gullah Ring Shouters! You will not want to miss this time of learning and fellowship with one another! Please meet at the church at 8:30 AM to load the bus!

Spaces are still available | \$40/person | [Sign up here!](#)

Sunday, February 11 | Joint Sunday School | 9:30 AM



Dr. Clarke will focus on the life of Jane Bayard Wilson, born on Cumberland Island, granddaughter of Major General Lachlan McIntosh of Revolution fame. She and her husband, John Leighton Wilson-from Bob's family home territory in SC-were the most important US missionaries to West African in the first half of the 19th century. Because they freed their slaves and fought the international slave trade, but returned to the South in 1861, they make a particularly important study for understanding some of the issues before the nation today. They also point to the ways that the church today is growing rapidly in other parts of the world-esp. Africa & Asia.

Lent Event

Ash Wednesday
February 14

KidZ Programs - 4 pm
Crafts for All Ages - 5 pm
Soup Supper - 6 pm
Ash Wednesday Service - 6:45 pm

We encourage you to either bring a crockpot of soup or offer a donation at the door to support SSPC Youth Missions.

Let us know what soup you are bringing by clicking here!

Gather with us and share a meal . . . *or two!*

“Love One Another”
Luncheon

Sunday, February 11
12:15 PM | \$10

Register Here!

*Snowbird
Luncheon*



*Sunday,
February 18*

RSVP Here!

*New Member
Sunday* Feb 11



If you are interested in joining the church,
we would love to recognize you at
either service on Sunday, February 11!

Please contact Bob (bob@sspres.org) or Alan (alan@sspres.org)

THE ISLAND CONCERT ASSOCIATION PRESENTS

February Festival

ALL CONCERTS ARE FREE & BEGIN AT 7:30 PM IN THE SANCTUARY.



Tuesday, February 13

Suchan Kim, *Baritone*

Laetitia Ruccolo, *Pianist*



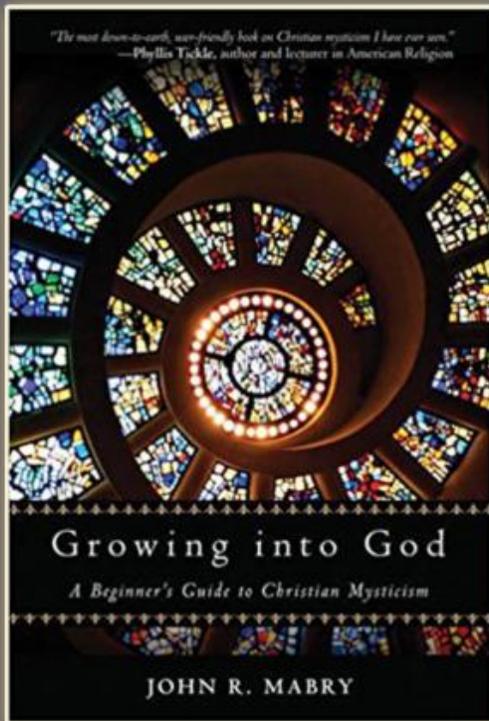
Tuesday, February 20

Seraph Brass Quintet



Tuesday, February 27

Chelsea Chen, *Organist*



Lenten Book Study

with Jann Briscoe



**Wednesdays throughout Lent
beginning February 21**

4:30 PM | Parlor

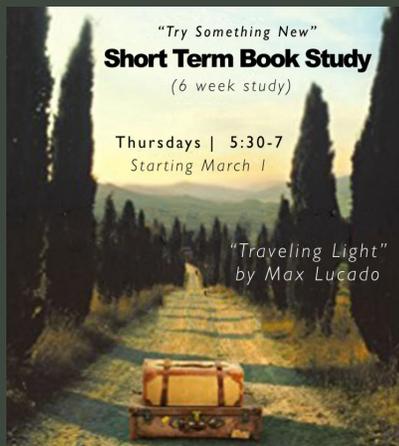
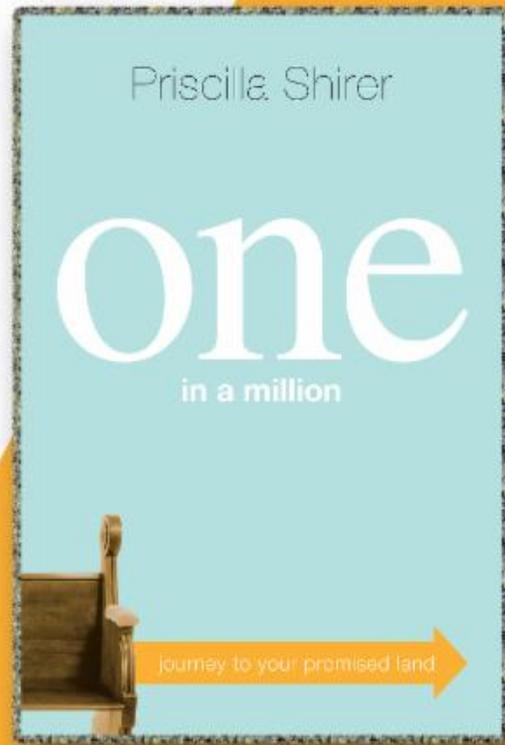
We will be studying the book

Growing into God:

A Beginner's Guide to Christian Mysticism

Ladies VIDEO BIBLE STUDY

Resuming Wednesday, Feb. 21
10:30 AM | Youth Suite



"Try Something New"

Short Term Book Study

Thursdays | 5:30-7 PM | John Law Room

Starting Thursday, March 1st

All adults are invited to join us as we travel together through Max Lucado's book *"Traveling Light: Releasing the burdens you were never intended to bear, the promise of Psalm 23"* Starting on March 1, we will meet on Thursday's for 6 weeks in the John Law Conference Room from 5:30 - 7 followed by dinner together at a local restaurant. Led by Brenda Haughney & Coco Bujold, each week we will begin with an informal, open discussion to get to know one another before talking about the book. We hope you will join us in this journey through this great book!

Book Description: The luggage of life, The middle C of life, I'll do it my way, The prison of want, I will give you rest, Whaddifs and howells, It's a jungle out there, A heavenly exchange, Get over yourself, I will lead you home, When mourning comes, From panic to peace, Silent nights and solitary days, The crowing rooster of me, Slippery sheep and healed hurts, Jam session, God's loving pursuit, Almost heaven. [Order the book on Amazon here.](#)

The Week Ahead

calendar

2018

Friday, February 9

7:00 pm - Public Lecture with Dr. Erskine Clarke - Sanctuary

Saturday, February 10

8:30 am - Guided Trip to Midway & Dorchester - Meet at church to load bus // [Sign Up!](#)

Sunday, February 11 // New Member Sunday

8:30 am - Chapel Service - Sanctuary

9:00 am - Coffee Hour - Social Hall

9:30 am - Joint Sunday School - Social Hall

11:00 am - Traditional Service - Sanctuary

12:15 pm - Love One Another Luncheon - Britt Room // [RSVP Here](#)

3:00 pm - Memorial Service for John Ellenberg - Sanctuary

5:00 pm - Magnolia Manor Worship - Magnolia Manor

5:00 pm - Youth Ensemble - Music Attic

6:00 pm - Youth Fellowship - Youth Suite

Monday, February 12

10:00 am - Chancel Ensemble - Sanctuary

12:00 pm - Men's Noonday Bible Study - Britt Room

7:15 pm - Ladies of the Night Circle - Upper Room

8:00 pm - AA Meeting - Britt Room

8:00 pm - Al-Anon Meeting - John Law Room

Tuesday, February 13

7:00 am - Youth Breakfast Devotion - SSI Chick-fil-a

10:00 am - One-derful Morning Glories - Upper Room

12:00 pm - Lunch Bunch Circle - Upper Room

2:00 pm - Circle of Esther - Lisa Martin's Home (28 Caroline Street, SSI)

4:30 pm - KidZ Book Club - Wake Up Coffee

7:30 pm - ICA Concert - Sanctuary

Wednesday, February 14

4:00 pm - KidZ Programs & Choir - Playground Veranda

5:00 pm - Lent Event - Social Hall // [Let us know what soup you plan to bring!](#)

6:45 pm - Ash Wednesday Service - Sanctuary

Thursday, February 15

7:15 am - Men's Breakfast Bible Study - Britt Room

10:00 am - Ladies Bible Study - Upper Room

6:30 pm - Stephen Ministry - Parlor

8:00 pm - AA Meeting - Britt Room

8:00 pm - Al-Anon Meeting - John Law Room

Friday, February 16

Upcoming Dates:

Sun, February 11 | "Love One Another" Luncheon - [RSVP Here](#)

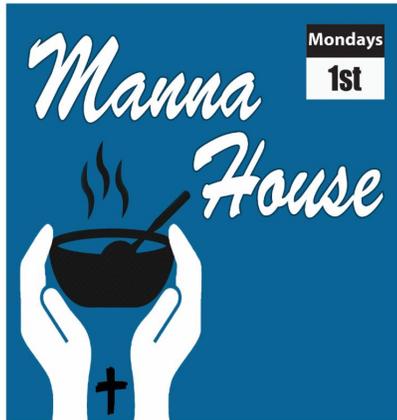
Wed, February 14 | Lent Event

Sun, February 18 | Snowbird Luncheon - [RSVP Here](#)

Thur, March 1 | Community Seder

Wed, March 7 | Variety Show

Click for More Information About Events & Opportunities



Prayers and Thanksgivings

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



Christian Sympathy

We extend Christian sympathy to Brenda Ellenberg and her family upon the death of her husband and church member, Dr. John Ellenberg, who entered into rest on February 2. A memorial service for John will be held this Sunday, February 11 at 3 PM in the sanctuary.

Manna House Volunteers

Thank you to our volunteers who came out on Monday to help serve over 125 men and women in our community! We thank them for their time and dedication to this ministry that we love so much.

Thank you for being the hands and feet of Christ! *Chris Pippart, Kathy Cathey, Martha Collette, Gail Wolflick, Sally Miles, Martha Martin, Joe Wills, Gail Ledbetter, Elyn Butler, Nora Sue & Jerry Spencer, Tate & Terri Simpson, Mike & Nardis Kellar, Ken Winter, Jack Hartman, Bill Luekel, Krishna Rogers, Bain & Brady Head, Jann Briscoe, Lynda Bisher, Matt Hodgdon, and Bob Brearley!*

"Souper" Bowl Sunday Donations

Thanks to you and your generous donations to our "Souper" Bowl Sunday food drive, together we raised **\$571.07** in financial donations alone! All canned foods and 100% of financial donations will go directly to Sparrow's Nest. We are so grateful for our congregation and for your full and open hearts to help those around us within our community.



Worship This Sunday

Transfiguration Sunday

Scripture:

Psalm 50:1-6

Mark 9:2-9

Hymn:

192 - Lord, the Light of Your Love is Shining

377 - I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

Preacher:

Rev. Alan Dyer



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

Eternal Light. Lux aeterna, shine on us, luceat eis. God Almighty. Domine. These Latin words are the first sung words you will hear at the 11:00 am service. It is an excerpt from the Ames choral piece, *In Remembrance*. Transfiguration Sunday is here which means Lent is around the corner in the liturgical calendar. Visuals are being planned for these seasons by Suzanne Morrison and Nat Scott. The one for this Sunday is only up for this

week, so don't miss it.

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome new choir members Marj Smith and Kathy Chapman. Also, the snowbirds have returned: Richard Boettcher, Craig Endicott, Bernice Field, Ruth and Paul Gardiner, and John Sergey. We are all grateful for their talent and presence in the group.

The Chancel Choir will be singing *Keep God's Light* by Mark Patterson as the anthem.
Hymns for Sunday are: 192 Shine, Jesus, Shine; 377 I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

Love & Gratitude,
Rhonda