

Saint Simons Presbyterian Church

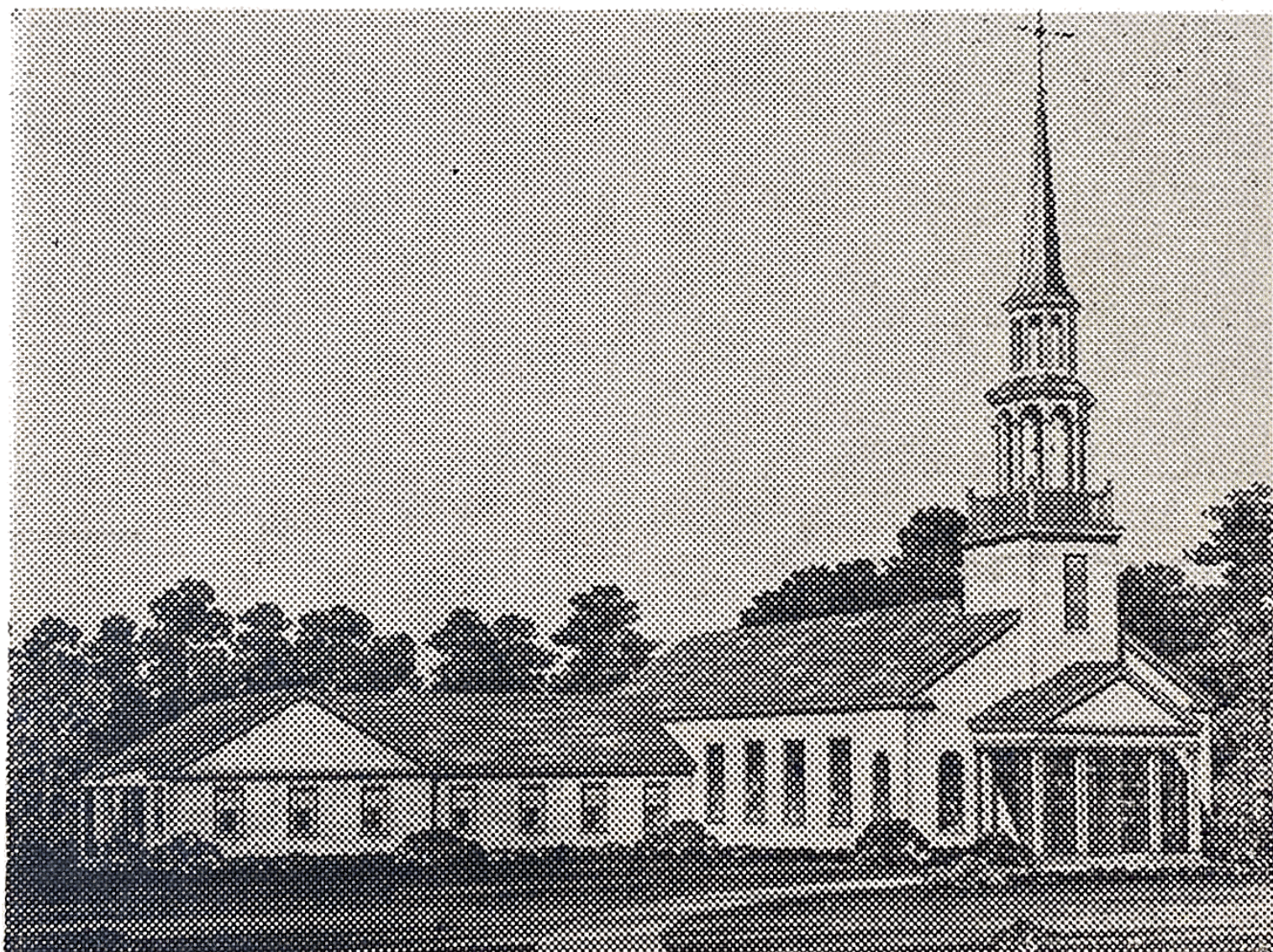
St. Simons Island, Georgia

Organized September 26, 1946

JAMES THORNWELL GILLESPIE, PH.D., *Pastor*

*I Was Glad When They Said Unto Me,
Let Us Go Unto The House Of The Lord.*

*I Had Rather Be A Doorkeeper In The
House Of My God, Than To Dwell In The
Tents Of Wickedness.*



*Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts
with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name.*

The Service of Dedication

September 26, 1954 — Eleven-Thirty A.M.

PRELUDE: "All Hail Thy Dwelling Pure And Holy"....Gounod
(Mrs. E. H. Langston, Sr.)

Lift up your heads, O ye gates; and be ye lifted up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in.

PROCESSIONAL: "Coronation (Verses 1, 4, 5).....No. 116
(Congregation Standing, Singing on Verse 5)

THE CALL TO WORSHIP: (Responsive)....Pastor and Cong.

The Lord is in his holy temple: let all the earth keep silence before him.

I was glad when they said unto me, let us go into the house of the Lord.

Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto Him, and bless his name.

Open to me the gates of righteousness: and I will go into them, and I will praise the Lord.

Praise ye the Lord. Sing unto the Lord a new song, and his praise in the congregation of the saints.

THE DOXOLOGY

INVOCATION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

THE GLORIA PATRI

ORGAN INTERLUDE (Congregation Please Be Seated)

SOLO: Selected.....Mr. Tevis Reyburn

HYMN OF PRAYER: "Lead On, O King Eternal".....No. 57

THE DEDICATORY OFFERING.....Elder W. L. Wilkes

Offertory: "Quand de la Nuit".....Halevy

ANTHEM: "Open The Gates Of The Temple".....Knapp

THE DEDICATORY MESSAGE.....Elder E. J. Gainer III

SOLO: "O Divine Redeemer".....Gounod
(Mrs. E. H. Langston, Jr.)

DELIVERY OF THE KEYS.....Mr. J. D. Compton
(General Chairman, Building and Finance Committees)

RESPONSE.....The Pastor

My Christian friends, we have assembled here this day to dedicate this house to the worship and service of God, Who, by His matchless grace, hath both persuaded and enabled us, with the help of many friends, to bring this house to its present state of completion.

THE LITANY OF DEDICATION.....Pastor and Congregation

To the glory of God the Father, the honor of God the Son,
our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the praise of the Holy
Spirit, the mediator of life and light,

We dedicate this house.

For the worship of the triune God through prayer, the
preaching of Christ and him crucified, and the admin-
istration of the holy sacraments, instituted by Him,

We dedicate this house.

For the faithful teaching of the inspired Word of God,
that we all may come in the unity of the faith, and the
knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto
the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ,

We dedicate this house.

In gratitude to Him for His redeeming love and grace, and
the praise of His glory, through the Ministry of Music,

We dedicate this house.

For the comforting of all who mourn, or are in distress,
and the strengthening of all, when visited by temptation,

We dedicate this house.

IN UNISON: And now, we, the members of the St. Si-
mons Presbyterian Church, do re-dedicate ourselves anew
to Thee, our gracious Heavenly Father, and to the high
and holy duties and privileges to which Thou hast called
us as Thy children, in and through Jesus Christ our Lord.

THE PRAYER OF DEDICATION:

(Choral Response).....The Pastor

THE PRONOUNCEMENT:

In the name of God the Father, God the Son, and God the
Holy Spirit, I do pronounce and declare that this house
is now duly and properly dedicated to the worship of Al-
mighty God, and the service of all mankind, through our
Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

HYMN OF FAITH: "How Firm A Foundation".....No. 19

THE APOSTOLIC BLESSING:

Jude 24 - 25.....The Pastor

Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and
to present you faultless before the presence of his glory
with exceeding joy, to the only wise God our Savior, be
glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and
forever. Amen.

THE THREEFOLD AMEN.....The Choir

POSTLUDE: "Selection From The Creation".....Haydn

THE BUILDING COMMITTEE

Tom Gash, Chm.	W. L. Wilkes	Mrs. S. H. McKewen
Mrs. Daniel Boone	C. E. Tyler	Mrs. Wm. A. Way
W. M. Anderson	Consultant

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Wm. A. Way, Chm.	C. L. Gowen	W. J. Milner III
Eugene McNeel	Walter Jens	W. H. Swinney
Edwin Fendig, Sr., Consultant, Church Treasurer		
W. H. Swinney, Treasurer for the Building Operation		
J. D. Compton, Gen. Chm., Building and Finance Committees		

HIGHLIGHTS IN THE HISTORY OF THE CHURCH

The St. Simons Presbyterian Church was organized by a commission of Savannah Presbytery on September 29, 1946 with 46 Charter members. Worship began at the County Casino with the use of temporary supplies.

On January 1, 1947 Dr. James Thornwell Gillespie, with Mrs. Gillespie, came to become the Church's first pastor.

On July 1, 1947 the congregation, through the generous kindness of Mrs. B. F. Mann and her family, moved to the Community Church, the property of the Mann Estate, and began its worship there.

The Church began as a home mission church, with aid from the Presbytery. But after three and one-half years it became self-supporting.

Since the day of its organization 266 new members have been added to the original 46 Charter members. The Sunday School has grown from 20 to 172 enrolled members.

By the summer of 1950 it began to be obvious that plans must be started looking toward the construction of a church plant. To this end the congregation, on August 20 of that summer, elected a temporary Planning Committee.

On March 1, 1951 a Building Fund campaign was launched at a dinner meeting with the view to securing the Means. Dr. J. R. McCain of Agnes Scott College delivered the inspirational message.

The Plans, as presented by the Building Committee, were adopted by the congregation October 11, 1953. The contract to build the church was let on March 1, 1954, and work was begun the next day.

Today, the Day of Dedication, by the grace of God, the liberality and faith of its members and the very generous help of many friends, this Church, with its attractive design and greatly expanded facilities, stands upon the threshold of an era of far greater privilege and service than ever before. thanks be to God!