



March 27th, 2019

This past January, I met over lunch in small groups with all twenty-one elders currently serving on the session of our church. During these meetings I asked only one question: ***“What do you think are the significant issue(s) facing St. Simons Presbyterian Church today?”*** I also visited with our deacons and staff during that time and asked the same question. The goal was to identify the 2-3 areas that the elected leadership of the congregation feel are most in need of strengthening.

The result of those meetings is a report that I presented to session at their March meeting last Tuesday. **You can read the report by clicking here.** One important thing to note about this report is that it purposefully does not focus on the many good things happening at SSPC. From strong worship attendance, growing membership, exciting renovation plans, and expanded opportunities to serve, learn, and grow spiritually, there is much happening in our life together that is worthy of celebration.

But just as there are areas for improvement in each of our individual lives, so too are there places for growth within our church. It is those areas for growth that form the substance of the report. To that end, session approved a recommendation to form taskforces to study and plan in three key areas:

1. **Stewardship**: We are a financially healthy church, but shifts are happening in both our congregational giving patterns and demographics. As such, the time to study the giving landscape of our church and make plans for encouraging the generosity of our members to meet both current and future ministry goals is *now*.
2. **Ministry Teams**: Some of our ministry teams are firing on all cylinders while others struggle to understand their purpose and role. We also have some highly active and fruitful ministries happening at SSPC that are unclear on where they fall in the current ministry team structure. This group will study ways to rejuvenate the organization of our ministry teams as well as make recommendations for updating the officer nominations process.
3. **Welcoming**: How do we make sure that every person who walks into SSPC feels welcome? That is the question this group will focus on by studying best-practices for welcoming and connecting visitors and members alike into the life of the church.

These three taskforces are comprised of our deacons and elders with pastoral and staff support. They will do their work throughout the months of April and May and report their findings to session in June. This will allow us to then spend the rest of the year “watering in” any new processes/programs that are put into place. SSPC’s future is bright, and I am so grateful to play a role in shaping it with you!

See you Sunday. Invite a friend. Casual is fine.

Peace,
Alan

Day of Service



Sign Up Today

You are invited to join us for a Day of Service at St. Simons Presbyterian Church on Saturday, April 13. The Day of Service is an intergenerational event that brings together people of all ages and abilities to go out in teams and volunteer at local organizations around Glynn County. Worksites for the 2019 spring Day of Service include KGIB, Habitat Build Site, Habitat Restore, Operation Bedspread, Manna House, and second Harvest. There will also be a large team staying at the church for this Day of Service to help with indoor/outdoor projects around our campus. The day will start at 8:30AM and conclude at 1PM. All ages and abilities are welcome and encouraged to participate!

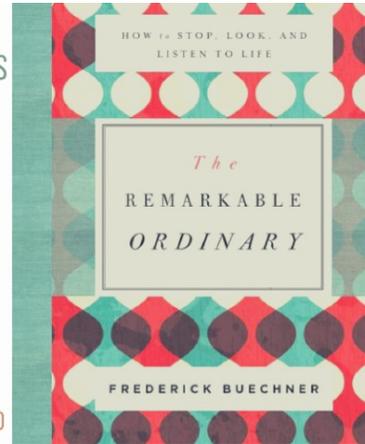
[Click Here to Sign Up!](#)

Christian Education

COME & SEE
SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

The Remarkable Ordinary

BOOKS AVAILABLE IN THE OFFICE FOR \$10



Come & See Sunday School Class The Remarkable Ordinary

Your remarkable life is happening right here, right now. You may not be able to see it – your life may seem predictable and your work insignificant until you look at your life as Frederick Buechner does.

Beginning Sunday, March 10th

When: 9:30 AM

Where: Social Hall

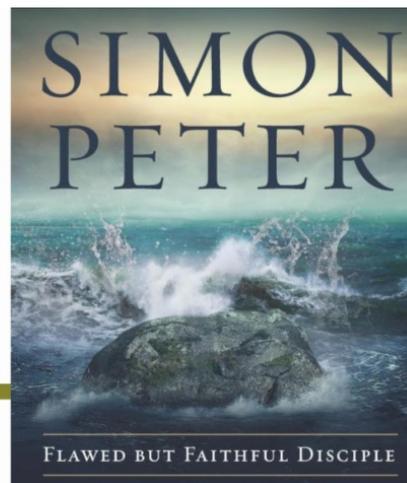
This Sunday - Listening for God in the Stories We Tell

March 31 - The Subterranean Grace of God or Why Stories Matter

20S/30S/40S
SUNDAY SCHOOL - CHAPEL

FLAWED BUT FAITHFUL DISCIPLE

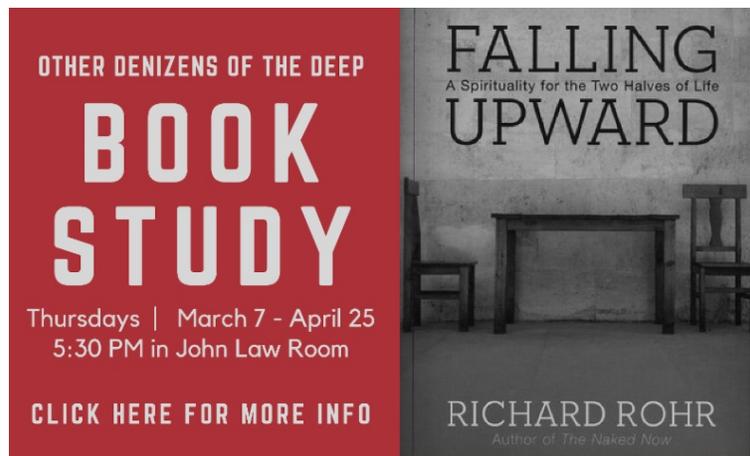
BOOKS AVAILABLE IN
OFFICE FOR \$10



20s/30s/40s Sunday School Series Simon Peter - Flawed but Faithful Disciple

Join pastor and author Adam Hamilton in this six-week Lenten journey, and take an in-depth dive into the life, faith, and character of Simon Peter

Beginning Sunday, March 17th
When: 9:45 AM
Where: Chapel



Other Denizens of the Deep

Spiritual Book Study

"Falling Upward: A Spirituality for the Two Halves of Life" by Richard Rohr

Come Join Us! All Are Welcome!

- **Dates:** Thursdays, March 7 through April 25, skipping Holy Week. (April 18)
- **Time:** 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. with dinner afterwards (optional)
- **Location:** John Law Conference Room
- **Co-Leaders:** Brenda Haughney and Reverend Laurie Bentley

Sunday School for Lent

COME & SEE CLASS
THE REMARKABLE ORDINARY (BEGINS MAR 10)
BOOKS AVAILABLE IN THE OFFICE FOR \$10

TRINITY CLASS
THE FINAL WEEK (BEGINS MAR 3)

20S/30S/40S CLASS
SIMON PETER, FLAWED BUT FAITHFUL DISCIPLE
BY ADAM HAMILTON (BEGINS MAR 17)

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL
ILLUSTRATED CHILDREN REFLECTIONS ON PRAYER
AND SIMON PETER, FLAWED BUT FAITHFUL DISCIPLE

Holy Week



Day of Authority - April 15

Community Worship: St. Simons United Methodist Church - 12 PM*

Rev. Mike Cordle, Hospice of the Golden Isles

(Arrive by 11:30 AM for a Concert Prelude by the Glynn Academy Choir)

Lunch at 12:30 PM | \$3

Day of Conflict - April 16

Community Worship: First Baptist of St. Simons Island - 12 PM*

Rev. Alexander Brown, Golden Isles Presbyterian Church

Lunch at 12:30 PM | \$3

Day of Withdrawal - April 17

Community Worship: Wesley UMC at Frederica - 12 PM*

Rev. Mike Murray, Christian Renewal Church SSI

Lunch at 12:30 PM | \$3

Maundy Thursday - April 18

Maundy Thursday Meal & Communion at Table: Social Hall - 6 PM

Prayer Journey: 7-8 PM

Stations in Chapel, Memorial Garden, and Sanctuary

Good Friday - April 19

Community Worship: St. Simons Presbyterian Church - 12:30 PM*

Various Preachers

Good Friday Luncheon: Social Hall - 11:30 AM | Cost \$3

GOOD FRIDAY

Luncheon & Worship

APRIL 19 at ST. SIMONS PRESBYTERIAN
11:30 AM Luncheon | 12:30 PM Worship Service

All are Welcome!

Summer Activities



Sapelo Island Kayak Adventure Explore the Barrier Island by Kayak

A great experience for youth and adults alike to enjoy God's creation as we explore this beautiful barrier island on foot and by kayak under the careful eye and helpful guidance of trained staff from Southeast Adventure Outfitters.

- **Dates:** May 28 - 31
 - **Ages:** Adults and Youth (Grades 9-12)
 - **Cost:** \$400 for adults, \$200 for youth (fee covers equipment, housing, and food)
 - **Housing:** Rustic cottages in Hog Hammock. Linens are provided but feel free to bring your own.
 - **Meals:** All food will be provided by Southeast Adventure.
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ST. SIMONS PRESBYTERIAN PRESCHOOL
SUMMER FUN 2019

 <p><i>Week 1</i> June 17-21: Nature</p>	 <p><i>Week 2</i> June 24-28: Creative Arts</p>
 <p><i>Week 3</i> July 8-12: It's a Small World</p>	 <p><i>Week 4</i> July 15-19: Super Spy</p>

CLICK HERE FOR INFO & TO SIGN UP!

The graphic has a light blue background with a sunburst pattern. It features four circular icons: a sun and landscape for Nature, two children for Creative Arts, two children with a globe for It's a Small World, and a detective for Super Spy. The text is in a mix of bold, sans-serif and cursive fonts.

Worship This Sunday

MUSICAL NOTES

It isn't often that the bagpipes are used with other instruments because of the difficulty of achieving good pitch. The drones and the chanter use reeds. All have to be tuned separately, then together in order to create that perfect fifth interval that you hear under the melody of the chanter. Just like other reed instruments, weather is a huge factor in tuning. Our organ experiences fluctuations due to weather because one of the blowers is located in our attic. So, in winter, cold air blows through the pipes causing them to contract. In summer, hot air causes them to expand with hot or cold temperature changing the tuning. Our sanctuary maintains a stable temperature for most

of the year in order to prevent big swings in the tuning of the instrument that could damage the pipes, which are made of wood or metal. Air conditioning works the same way with furniture and carpet, keeping humidity at a reasonable level. The future reworking of our organ and sanctuary will allow things to stay at a more constant temperature, keeping instruments and sanctuary items in good repair for much longer periods of time. I could go on, but back to bagpipes! On Sunday, (if it all works out!) we will be singing a setting of Amazing Grace by Mack Wilberg, who is the conductor of the Mormon Tabernacle Choir. This is an epic version of the hymn and why we will sing it during the offertory, so that the Doxology can be sung afterwards! We aren't as large as the MTC, but our numbers have filled the loft of late. Michael Evers, who plays at the Lodge, will be our bagpiper. David Stewart will play snare drum along with Amy Bishop on the organ. Hymns for Sunday: 370 This is My Father's World; 22 God of the Sparrow.

Love & Gratitude,
Rhonda

Note to Youth Ensemble – no rehearsal on Sunday; Chancel Choir - no rehearsal next week – Spring Break. However, Chancel Ringers will practice as scheduled.

Scripture Readings for Sunday: *Psalm 32, Luke 15:1-3, Luke 15:11-32*

Hymns:

8:30

- God of the Sparrow - 22

11 am Service Hymns:

- This Is My Father's World - 370
- God of the Sparrow - 22

Preacher: Rev. Alan Dyer

The Week Ahead

Sunday, March 31st

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

6:00 pm - **Youth Group** - Britt Room

Monday, April 1st

9:00 am - **Manna House** - 1408 G Street

8:00pm - **AA Meeting** - Britt Room

8:00pm - **Al Anon** - John Law

Tuesday, April 2nd

7:00 am - **Youth Breakfast Devotion** - Chick-Fil- A

9:30 am - **Staff Meeting** - John Law

9:30 am - **Yoga Class** - Chapel

6:00 pm - **New Member Dinner** - The Dyer's Home

Wednesday, April 3rd

10:30 am - **Ladies Video Bible Study** - Chapel

4:00 pm - **KidZ Crew** - Veranda

6:30 pm - **Chancel Ringers** - Bell Room

Thursday, April 4th

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

4:00 pm - **Yoga Class** - Chapel

5:30 pm - **ODD Book Study** - John Law

8:00 pm - **AA Meeting** - Britt Room

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

Friday, April 5th

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



Joys & Concerns

Welcome New Members

Last Sunday we welcomed seven new members into our congregation. If you see any of these smiling faces around the church, be sure to welcome them to our church family! (Not pictured - Greyson Kellis)



Variety Show

There was some serious talent at our Annual Variety Show last week. We had dancing, singing, golf, stomping (it's a talent when you're 3!), karate, and an incredible gallery of art on display. We're blessed to have a church family filled with such gifts! Thank you to everyone that participated and helped make this event one to remember!



[Click Here for More Variety Show Pictures!](#)



Playground Shade

Have you ever seen the children piled under the bridge of our playground on a hot Summer day... Looking for a bit of shade, but not willing to give up their playtime in exchange? Well, next week we will be providing a solution by installing several free-standing sun

shades over our playground! We hope this improvement, which was approved by session, will encourage tons of outside play this Summer, minus the sunburn.

Angel Tree TY Notes

Be sure to check out the bulletin board by choir loft this week. Several "Angels" have written thank you notes to the church to express their love and gratitude for the Christmas gifts we were able to provide them. It is guaranteed to bring a smile to your face!



PRAYERS & THANKSGIVINGS

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

Giving Opportunities

GIVING MADE EASY

TEXT: SSPC

TO: 73256

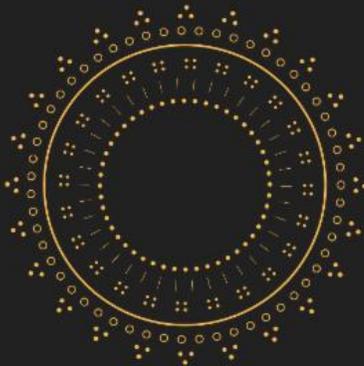


TEXT SSPC TO 73256 TO
GIVE TITHES AND
OFFERINGS THROUGH
TEXT MESSAGING!



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tithe and donate online. If you have any
questions, please contact the church office at
(912) 638-2220.



Stay connected with the Church
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We will provide occasional updates on
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