



Parish Voice

Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.

JANUARY 2018



A message from Jim...

Christmas Eve was spectacular. We had 200 parents, grandparents, and children attend our 4:00 pm family service. The shepherds were wonderful; so was the star; and we had a real baby, Adam Growe, to play Jesus. Parents beamed, the entire congregation smiled; it was a great experience. Everybody was right. Jesus was coming!

The 7:00 pm candlelight communion service was standing room only with everyone inspired by the lessons and carols. What a wonderful way to celebrate the birth of our Lord with communion and the lighting of candles.

But now it is January, and the stories of glad tidings are gone. Our houses are back to normal and so is the sanctuary. There isn't an angel in sight. However, the wise men came visiting on Epiphany looking for the Christ child. We turned from welcoming Jesus to looking for him.

Why are we moving from seeing to not seeing, from welcoming him to not being able to find him and having to search? Why the story of the wise men? Because that is the way life is. Each of us must follow the star, or the light, however small it may be.

Most of us have taken, or are about to take the journey that causes us to search and struggle to find the Christ. The joy at the end of the journey, however, is a level of trust we can have in knowing God loves us and has become one of us. Join us this Epiphany season in worship to start the journey together.

I hope to see you Sunday.

Jim



SWING DANCE!

Valentine Big Band Dance Party

MUSIC BY: DJ RAY

GIVE IT A WHIRL!

FRIDAY, FEB. 9TH
7:00 PM - 9:30 PM
SIUMC BAILEY HALL

\$10 PER PERSON
PAY AT THE DOOR

Snacks and drinks provided - please no alcohol

PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT EDEL CAREGIVERS INSTITUTE

SKIDAWAY ISLAND UNITED METHODIST CHURCH | 54 DIAMOND CAUSEWAY, SAVANNAH, GEORGIA 31411
WWW.SIUMC.ORG | FOR MORE INFO, CALL: 912-598-8460

PRAYER THOUGHTS

I appreciate the designation of January 1st as the start of a new year. Even though it is really just a product of an agreed upon cycle, it helps us to re-think our lives and give thought to the possibility of change, renewal and re-prioritizing ourselves. It can give us a feeling that we can start anew and put the past behind us. In the midst of promises to lose weight, exercise more, or change our inner spiritual selves, there lies the reality that change is difficult to actually make happen – especially on our own. Maybe this year we should consider using our prayer life to facilitate change. If we want to lose weight, perhaps our blessing before meals should include reflection on what we are about to eat. Sleeping on plans to awake and exercise might be accompanied by prayer first thing each morning as we read our well-intentioned plan for the day.

Real change seldom is accomplished alone. Let's engage our family, our friends and Our Lord in our renewal efforts for 2018. Here is a prayer to help us begin.

"Lord, I come to you thankful that I am not alone in my life today, tomorrow, or ever. Help me to begin each new direction in my life by opening my heart and soul to you and to those special people who share my life. Come to me through the blessed presence of your Holy Spirit to empower me toward all my tomorrows, and to help me achieve the spiritual, physical and emotional goals that will help me be a better child of yours. AMEN"

- Pastor Tom

NEW PICTORIAL DIRECTORY



We will be creating an updated pictorial directory in 2018 (our last directory was published in 2015). You may sign-up for your photography date on Sunday mornings or by visiting: www.siumc.org/pictorialguide. We would like for all our church members and families to be included in the directory.



We wish to thank all who participated in our Missions Marketplace in November. Because of your generosity, we were able to donate almost \$9,000 additional dollars to the missions we serve.

Our Missions committee donated a total of \$45,500 this year to the agencies we serve. This distribution was determined by specific, weighted criteria which Missions Committee members established.

I would like to thank off-going Missions members: Patty Kleiber, Ken Winnert, Pat Howard, Paul Fisher and Nancy Peterson for their hard work and great contributions to our Missions process. And we welcome our new members to the Missions Committee: Jane Bruno, Karen Burroughs, and Cathey Cuttino, who will be joining Tim Baldwin, Susan Ragland and Jan Schroder, who are returning for another year.

- Nancy Sheet, *Chair of Missions*



WESLEY COMMUNITY CENTER'S LOVE WALK

Saturday, February 10th • 9:00 am

Come and join others in Wesley Community Centers' most important fundraising event of the year. Money donated through sponsorship of walkers helps homeless and low-income families and individuals with childcare, youth programs, adult education, crisis intervention, and services for women.

Walkers may find information packets and sign-up sheets in the church office and at www.Wesleyctrs-Savh.org. It is a beautiful walk from their location on Drayton Street near Forsyth Park to Bay Street and back. Our church bus will be taking a group down and back. Please sign up in the church office or call 598-8460 if interested.

Don't want to walk? You may donate to this wonderful Methodist mission by making a check payable to SIUMC and noting "Love Walk" on your check. Thank you very much for making a difference in the lives of many women and children who need a hand up!



Weekly Happenings

Monday
10:00 am: Evangelism Meeting
11:00 am: Staff Meeting

Tuesday

Wednesday
7:00 pm: Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday
8:45 am: Morning Prayer

Friday
Church office closes at noon
9:00 am: Friday Folders

Saturday

Sunday
8:30 am: Worship
9:15 am: Chancel Choir Warm-up
10:00 am: Worship
11:00 am: Coffee Hour
11:15 am: Sunday School



Friday Morning Prayer has moved to Thursdays as I start a new work schedule for the coming year that will have me away on Fridays. Same time - 8:45 am. Same location - the Chapel. I will look forward to seeing you for this 15 minutes of morning prayer on Thursdays.

- Pastor Tom

January 2018 Calendar

Monday (1/1)
New Year's Day
Office Closed

Tuesday (1/2)
Office Closed

Wednesday (1/3)
11:00 am - Shubeck Memorial Service

Thursday (1/4)

Friday (1/5)

Saturday (1/6)

Sunday (1/7)
5:00 pm - Youth Party

Monday (1/8)
4:00 pm - LOVE Meeting
5:30 pm - Music Search Committee Meeting

Tuesday (1/9)

Wednesday (1/10)
10:00 am - Low Vision Group

Thursday (1/11)
5:00 pm - Finance Meeting

Friday (1/12)

Saturday (1/13)

Sunday (1/14)

Monday (1/15)
10:00 am - LOVE Meeting

Tuesday (1/16)
7:00 pm - Admin. Board

Wednesday (1/17)

Thursday (1/18)

Friday (1/19)
10:00 am - Baby Bundles

Saturday (1/20)
5:30 pm - High School Dinner Out

Sunday (1/21)

Monday (1/22)

Tuesday (1/23)
6:00 pm - Girls' Night Out
Dinner (Fiore)

Wednesday (1/24)
5:30 pm - Council on Ministries

Thursday (1/25)
3:00 pm - Parkinson's Mtg.
4:00 pm - Endowment Mtg.
4:00 pm - ATC & Savannah Friends of Music

Friday (1/26)
5:00 pm - Freeman/Shirah Rehearsal

Saturday (1/27)
2:00 pm - Freeman/Shirah Wedding
6:00 pm - Middle School Bowling Night

Sunday (1/28)
4:00 pm - Mighty Kid's Paint

Monday (1/29)
8:00 am - Speaker's Breakfast

Tuesday (1/30)
9:30 am - Ladies' Bible Study
1:00 pm - LifeTouch Photos

Wednesday (1/31)
1:00 pm - LifeTouch Photos
5:30 pm - Wednesday Night Dinner Begins



Monday, January 29th • 8:00 am
Bailey Hall • \$8/pp

The SIUMC Speaker's Breakfast is scheduled for Monday, January 29th at 8:00 am in Bailey Hall. The United Methodist Men invite all members of our Church and our community to the breakfast program. Look for information regarding the program in our weekly emails and Sunday bulletin.



STARTING BACK ON JANUARY 31ST

Take a pause from cooking and join us on Wednesday nights for a warm meal. Dinner begins at 5:30 pm with a program at 6:00 pm in Bailey Hall. Children 16 and under eat free and adults are asked to contribute \$8. Reserve your spot online at www.siumc.org/wnd or call the church office!



SUPPORT GROUPS

Al-Anon:

Mondays
4:00 pm
Church Library

AA:

Mondays - Saturdays
7:30 am
Spiritual Growth Room

Alzheimer's & Other Types of Dementia:

Not meeting in January.

Low Vision Group:

January 10th • 10:00 am • Spiritual Growth Room

Stroke Survivors:

January 18th • 4:00 pm • Messiah Lutheran

Parkinson's:

January 24th • 3:00 pm • Spiritual Growth Room

GOING TO THE HOSPITAL?

If you have an upcoming surgery, or if you are in the hospital, let us know so that our pastors and prayer team may lift you up in prayer.

COLLECTING ALL COATS!



January will be warm coats month! We are looking for any size, gender, or style coats to be distributed to those in need. Please drop them off at the church office during January.

EARLY SERVICE COFFEE HOUR

Starting **February 11th**, every second Sunday, after our 8:30 am worship service, we will have a coffee hour in the breezeway. Those who attend the early service are encouraged to stay after worship for a few minutes every second Sunday for a time of fellowship. If you are interested in helping to prepare the coffee once per quarter, please contact Nancy Sheets at 598-0954.

LENTEN DEVOTIONAL GUIDE

This year we will publish a devotional guide to be used during the season of Lent. The booklet will include devotionals written by our church members. If you are interested in writing a devotional to be included, please contact Michelle Johnson (michelle@siumc.org) for details on length and deadlines.

CONNECT WITH US ONLINE...

www.SIUMC.org

(Visit to see events, RSVP for dinners, and more!)



www.facebook.com/skidawayislandumc

Make Christian Education a priority this fall & attend one of our Sunday School classes!



ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Open to all. Join us at 11:15 am!

The Thorne Class

Meets in Room 111

This class utilizes the Adult Bible Study series by Cokesbury and is led by rotating facilitators.

The Spiritual Growth Class

Meets in Room 109

This class will begin a new book and video series, "Anxious About Nothing" by Max Lucado.

The Encouragers Class

Meets in the Library

This class is studying "What Makes You Happy" by Andy Stanley. Led by Michelle Johnson.

Utilizing age-appropriate curriculum that interactively teaches scripture and helps students to apply God's word to their lives.

CHILDREN & YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL

Cherubs (PreK - K)

Meets in Room 103

Led by Anna Davis & Ciera Rouse.

Mighty Kids (Elementary School)

Meets Upstairs

Led by Bettie Negley & Jenny Gerrard.

Youth (Middle & High School)

Meets Upstairs

Led by Luke Hamner and Sarah Franklin.

Children & Youth Ministry

MIGHTY KIDS' PAINT NIGHT

January 28th
4:00 pm - 6:00 pm
K - 5th Graders
Spiritual Gr. Rm.



Calling all "mini Van Gogh's" for an evening of fun and art! We'll have an instructional painting class where we'll create sea turtles! Everything will be provided, just bring your creativity!



UPCOMING YOUTH EVENTS!



HIGH-SCHOOL DINNER OUT

Saturday, January 20th

Meet at the church at 5:30 pm

Group will choose where to eat:

Bowtie BBQ, Chromatic Dragon, or Sakura Buffet

High schoolers will meet at the church and choose where we'll go and eat. Each student should bring \$20 for dinner. Students will engage with one another in fellowship and talk about things that we look forward to in the coming year.

MIDDLE-SCHOOL BOWLING NIGHT

Saturday, January 27th
Meet at the church at 6:00 pm
AMF Savannah Lanes



Get ready for a night of bowling fun! We will play two games so each student should bring \$18. Dinner will be provided while we are there at the bowling alley.



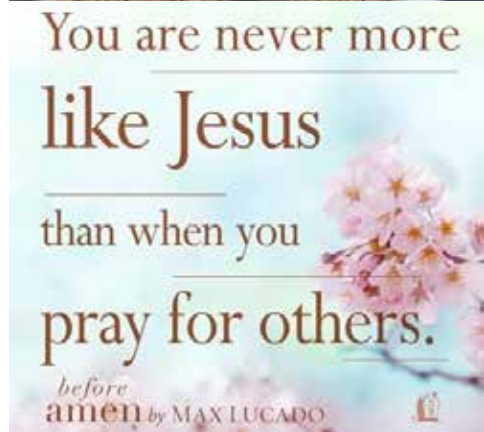
**YOUTH LOCK-IN
FEBRUARY 9-10TH**





LADIES' BIBLE STUDY ON PRAYER

Starting Tuesday, January 30th • Church Library • 9:30 am - 11:00 am



The new year is the perfect time to start a new Bible study! All ladies are invited to participate in a 4-week study entitled "Before Amen" by Max Lucado. This study will focus on the power of simple prayer. Through this video-based study, Max Lucado reveals how connecting with God each day can be as simple as five short sentences. Participants will learn how to let go of uncertainties about prayer, trust that God hears you, and embrace a prayer life that brings peace and rest.

This study will begin on Tuesday, January 30 and will meet from 9:30 am – 11:00 am in the church library. Milli Sample will lead the group discussion. To sign-up for this study, please email michelle@siumc.org.



GIRLS NIGHT OUT

January 23rd • 6:00 pm • Fiore Italian Restaurant

All ladies are invited to enjoy a time of fellowship! Sign up on Sunday or email michelle@siumc.org. Ladies have the option to meet at Fiore's in Sandfly at 6:00 pm or let Michelle know if you would like to ride on the church bus. We will have space for 14 to ride the bus.

NEW CHILDREN'S CHURCH COORDINATOR



We welcome Amanda Wooten who is now serving as our new Children's Church Coordinator! Amanda leads our children's worship time each Sunday. Amanda has a master's degree in Early Childhood Education and has been teaching in the Savannah-Chatham County

Public School System for nine years. She taught at Charles Ellis Montessori Academy and Haven Elementary, and is currently working at Hesse K-8 where she teaches English as a Second Language. Amanda absolutely loves teaching and is very excited to work with our children and their families at SIUMC! Welcome Amanda!

The Arts on Skidaway 2017 - 2018 Concert Series

The January 28th concert with organist Oak Martin has been cancelled due to a scheduling conflict with the artist. **Our next concert in the Arts on Skidaway Concert Series is February 25th** and will feature piano virtuoso Paolo Andre Gualdi and his wife, Savannah Philharmonic violinist Danijela Zvezlj-Gualdi.

MEMORIAL RECEPTION COMMITTEE

The Memorial Reception Committee is looking for glass platters in various sizes. Please bring donations to the church office. Volunteers willing to occasionally bake cookies and prepare finger foods once or twice a month are also needed. Thank you!



HAPPENING NEXT MONTH...

February 14th:
Ash Wednesday

February 19th - 23rd:
American Traditions Competition

February 25th:
Arts on Skidaway Concert - A Dynamic Duo

NEW WAYS TO GIVE AT SIUMC



SKIDAWAY ISLAND
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
e-giving

E-Giving has provided our church with different options to make regular donations to the church and make payments throughout the year. You can pay for Wednesday night dinners, memorial donations, trips, events, and you can setup and control recurring donations. Use the guide below to set up your account.

GETTING STARTED:

ONLINE SIGN-UP

Go to website: <https://siumc.securegive.com>

1. Select "Create an Account"
2. Enter your phone number
3. Fill out and save your account information
4. Refer to steps 3-10 of "Online Giving" found below
5. Ignore step 7 and instead enter your new payment information for initial payment set-up

KIOSK SIGN-UP

1. Select "Make a Payment" or "Make a Donation"
2. Enter your phone number
3. Register your account information, click continue
4. Refer to steps 4-8 of "Kiosk Giving" found below to complete your sign-up and first contribution.



Go to website: <https://siumc.securegive.com>

1. Enter your previously registered phone number
2. Enter your password
3. Select "make a donation" or "make a payment" from the header options
4. Select "one time" or "recurring"
5. Enter your \$\$ amount
6. Include a message if desired, click next
7. Enter registered card security code
8. Review your submission and confirm
9. You will receive an email confirmation



1. Select "make a donation" or "make a payment"
2. Enter your previously registered phone number
3. Enter your password
4. Enter your \$\$ amount
5. Review your submission
6. Swipe credit or debit card
7. Complete transaction
8. You will receive an email confirmation

FOUR WAYS TO GIVE:



After downloading and installing the free SecureGive app – open the app.

1. Select "make a donation" or "make a payment"
2. Enter your previously registered phone number
3. Enter your password
4. Select "one time" or "recurring"
5. Enter your \$\$ amount
6. Include a message if desired
7. Hit next
8. Enter registered card security code
9. Review and confirm your submission
10. You will receive an email confirmation



After your mobile device has been set up to make text contributions:

1. Enter "833-355-4888" into your message app
2. Enter keyword for donation (General, Maintenance, Flower, Discretionary, or Music)
3. Enter keyword for payment (Adult, Dinner, Children, or Youth)
4. Hit space and enter \$\$ amount
5. Hit send
6. Reply "Y" to confirm
7. You will receive an email confirmation