



## SIMPSON STREET CHURCH OF CHRIST

SIMPSON STREET CHURCH OF  
CHRIST

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*Sunday Bible Class - 9:00 AM*  
*Sunday Worship Service - 10:00 AM*  
*Wednesday Online Bible Study - 7:00 PM*

*November 30, 2025*



*Marcus T. Watkins, Sr. Minister  
Simpson Street CoC*

### *The Race Toward Grace*

LUKE 15:11-24

BRO. MARCUS T. WATKINS



#### Key Themes

##### The Posture of the Parent

The father in the story constantly watches for his son. His seeing the boy “a great way off” is not accidental; it’s intentional.

- God actively looks for us, even when we are in a “far country.”
- Grace is not about earning; it is God’s loving initiative toward us.

##### The Passion of the Patriarch

- When the father sees the son, he runs, embraces him, and kisses him—something a respectable Jewish patriarch would never do.
- Running required him to abandon dignity and risk shame.

Likewise, God absorbs our shame so that we don’t have to carry it.

#### Main Message

**Grace runs toward you while you walk toward it. You don’t need perfection—only movement.**

- God sees your effort, even a single step.
- God meets you before others can label or condemn you.
- God’s grace transforms you so that you “don’t look like what you’ve been through.”

#### Application

- Stop trying to fix everything by yourself; you can’t.
- Accept God’s grace rather than reject it by striving for perfection.
- Not everything in life deserves your energy or tears—choose what matters most.
- Don’t let others’ opinions rent space in your head.
- Give thanks in everything, not necessarily for everything—because God can bring you through it.

**God does not wait for us to “get ourselves together” before He comes to us. Instead, like the father in the story, God runs toward us with compassion, meeting us exactly where we are—even in our brokenness.**

### ATTENDANCE:

*Bible Study - 93*

*Worship Service - 242*

*Virtual - 175*

### BAPTISMS / YTD 30



**REMINDER:** Wednesday Night  
Bible Study via Zoom - 7:00PM

**REMINDER:** The last  
Wednesday of each month is  
Wednesday Night Prayer  
Service via Zoom - 7:00PM

**REMINDER:** The last Sunday  
of each month is *Casual  
Sunday*

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## REMINDER: Christmas Humanitarian Event

Celebrating Christ's Love For Those In Need - 3 Ways to Give:

- 1.) Toy Box Drive - Please bring new, unwrapped toys for all ages
- 2.) Angel Tree Gifts - Choose a name from the Angel Tree and bring the items listed
- 3.) Monetary donations - To be used to support families in need

All donations are due by December 12th. See Tyree Bernard with questions

**December 6<sup>th</sup>** - Men's Study: The Titus 10 at 9:00 AM

**December 13<sup>th</sup>** - Ladies Bible Class: Bind Us Together at 10:00 AM; Continuing with chapter 4 lead by Sis Braggs and Sis Coes

**December 6, 2025** - The Ladies Ministry at Schaffer Road CoC will host, "What's the Tea On God". Marietta, GA 8:00 AM - 12:30 PM, Speakers: Sis Tonya Wilkerson and Sis Reba Okollo

**February 28, 2026** - Please join us for our annual Extravaganza at the Douglasville Convention Center (Douglasville, GA). Theme: We Have Come This Far By Faith. Deadline for registration is January 31<sup>st</sup>. Adults: \$30/person; Ages 11-College Students: \$20; children 10 & under are free. **SSCoC members should register by January 1, 2026; Capacity is 300 guests**

**April 2 - 5, 2026** - 39th Annual CoC Ladies Lectureship Retreat (Houston, TX) Early bird registration now through October 31<sup>st</sup>. See Pat Applewhite for details

**April 10 - 12, 2026** - The 2026 National Association of Celebrated Seniors Conference hosted by Camp Creek CoC (Atlanta, GA), Early bird registration \$125. See Roosevelt and Karen Stripling for details

**October 3 - 8, 2026** - Southeastern Regional Lectureship hosted by Simpson Street CoC (Atlanta, GA), Hope Unshaken "Anchoring Your Soul In A Shifting World", Pre-registration \$150



Greg Crawford - Thank you my church family for all of your love, prayers, cards and generosity to me. May God continue to bless you as you have truly blessed me.

The White Family - We want to express our deepest gratitude for your love and support during this difficult time. Your prayers, presence, and kind words provided our family with immense comfort as we mourned the loss of Sis White. We are grateful for the beautiful service and the way you celebrated Sara's life. Your fellowship and kindness were a true blessing, and we are so thankful to have our all as our church family.

Tamera Alexander - I just want to publicly thank God for the grace He provides to me on a daily basis.

Cecilia Botchway - I'm thankful to God for His grace and mercy during my recent procedure. Everything went well. Thank you for your prayers and support.

## PRAYER REQUESTS

Marilyn Thomas - Asking for prayers for our aunt who is in the ICU in Texas.

Jya Lee & Victoria Alexander - Prayers for health and strength to through and pass our college exams.

Angela McBride - Asking for prayers for her nieces and nephews traveling back to college.

Clark Family - Asking for prayers for traveling grace.

Rassoul Tears - Please pray for my strength in the Lord. My addiction to drugs and alcohol has ruined my life and has me contemplating suicide.

Keith Green - Please pray for the Berry's as they are currently traveling.

Justin Jackson - Please pray for my health as I have been dealing with a few health issues.

Veronica Spriggs - Prayers for Bro. Al Boykins. He is out of town dealing with 2 deaths in his family. Also, prayers for his mom who is home from the hospital.

The Ludy Family - Mekhi arrived to his permanent station in Hawaii on Thanksgiving Day. Please keep him in prayer.

Tiara Watkins - My new student is from a neglected and abusive home. Please pray that he and his sister can adjust to their foster home and they can receive the help they need for trauma. Also, pray for me that I can be a light to all my students.

Donyale Miller - Asking for prayers for traveling grace for Donald III. He made it here safely and we're praying for a safe return trip. Thanks for his girlfriend and family for bringing him.

Nicole Wilcox - Prayers for Leon Carlyle who is having back surgery tomorrow. Continued prayers for Craig's recovery. Prayers for Lywanda who is traveling out of the country. Prayers for the families in Eastman going through loss. Continued prayers for me and my children.

Sedgewick Williams - Asking for prayers for my son as he flies to Raleigh, NC tomorrow. Also asking for prayers for my daughter who works overnights at the hospital. Prayers for her alertness and safe travel to and from work.

Tommie & Lynn Berry - Asking for traveling grace this week.

### STATEMENTS:

Lisa McLean - Please pray for my strength to help with breaking chains and seeing things through to completion.