

# **SIMPSON SPEAKER**



**SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 2026**

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**Rev. Kevin G. Davis, Pastor**

**Sunday School 10 AM Sunday Mornings**

**11 AM Sunday mornings**

**on facebook and you tube**

Dear Friends,

As Summer winds down and we anticipate the change of seasons yet again, I pray you have had a restful, refreshing, and renewing summer!

We've had a good summer here. We enjoyed another fantastic VBS this year! Our Youth Group has been active and enjoying activities. We look forward to resuming weekly bible study at both churches.

We are eagerly anticipating a new season of mission and ministry here! We are looking forward to new opportunities to be in fellowship and worship together and we are looking forward to welcoming more and more back to worship and times of fellowship and service. We continue to be very grateful for our online presence as well, including our YouTube channel.

There is much ahead of us, and in this new season, I invite you to take advantage of opportunities to reconnect. We are looking forward to new opportunities and new ways to share our time, our talents, and our treasure as we continue to build each other up, and grow the kingdom of God here, and around the world! We are grateful for all those who continue to engage in new fundraising ministries and we welcome all your visions and ideas on how we can offer Christ to our communities.

Stay tuned! Stay in touch!

*"They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer."*  
*Acts 2:42 (NIV)*

Come, let us worship together, let us learn together, let us be together, let us eat together, let us pray together! Amen.

See you in church! Pastor Kevin

## **SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Sunday School teachers needed. Anyone interested please speak to Pam so she can tell you about the rewards of teaching God's word.

We will resume in September at 10 am on Sundays.

Sunday school is lots of fun. There is singing, storytelling, crafts, parties and more. Come join us each Sunday when we explore the wonderful stories of the bible. All children who are pre-K (age 4) through high school are welcome.

We wish everyone a safe and fun summer.

Respectfully yours,  
Pam White and Lynn Palladino, Sunday School

## **VBS SUMMER 2026**

Vacation Bible School 2026, "ROAR! Life is Wild – God is Good!" was a success. Children, parents, and volunteers had a wonderful time hearing the stories, learning new songs, making crafts, and playing games.

I would like to thank all the volunteers for the time and creativity they put into VBS to make it a fun time the children will remember.

A big thank you to everyone who donated to our mission, Old Bridge Animal Shelter. The week after VBS, I delivered the donated supplies to the shelter. Many families also used the Amazon link to send donations directly, so this was only part of what was given. When I opened my car so the shelter volunteer could help unload, she was amazed by how much we had collected. The shelter expressed their thanks and the volunteers were so grateful for the donations.

Best regards,  
Lynn Palladino, VBS Coordinator

## YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

As of the writing of this article the schedule for Sept and Oct is still being set and will be emailed to all the youth group members shortly.

Some dates to note:

**-Sun Sept 13-** This is the start date for the Sunday morning youth group before church; We meet at 10am for a time of Bible study and activities before church

**-Fri Oct 9-Sun Oct 11-** Ignite youth retreat in Wildwood, NJ; More details coming soon

The schedule will be filling out more shortly so all youth group members and families please be sure to watch your emails! We will have an exciting and busy fall!

The youth group is open to anyone in grades 6-12, and you don't have to be a member of Simpson UMC to be a member of the youth group. Friends are welcome as well!

If you have any questions or comments about the youth group, please feel free to contact Scott by email at [RU1989@aol.com](mailto:RU1989@aol.com) or by phone or text at 908-705-3315.

Scott Hunter  
Lauren Magnus  
Youth Group Leaders

## PUMPKIN PATCH

This October our front lawn will once again be transformed into a pumpkin patch! On Sat October 3 at 8am we will receive our shipment of over 1,000 pumpkins and will be selling them through October 31. This serves as both a church fundraiser and a community outreach.

The pumpkin patch has always been about so much more than just raising money and this year promises to be no different!

The patch was a tremendous success last year!

Please be on the look out for ways you can volunteer to help with pumpkin unloading, helping at the sales table during the patch, or many other ways you can be great stewards with your time and talents!

Respectfully Submitted,  
Hunter, Coordinator

Scott

## **OUTREACH**

COMMUNION : September communion will do towards Wounded Warrior Project: Your donation will change the lives of over 1 million injured warriors, caregivers, and family members. You will help bring independence back to our nation's most severely wounded veterans.

COMMUNION: October communion will go toward Heifer. Heifer supports farmers and their communities as they mobilize resources there for the future. They work with 21 countries around the world.

Food Pantry: Our food pantry is running low. Please don't forget to bring your nonperishable items to the Lord's table the 1st Sunday of every month.

Visitation: We were not able to visit any of our shut-ins.

CHANGE FOR L.I.F.E: Our change for life is still going on. This will be going towards Heifer International. Heifer International's mission is to work with communities to end world hunger and poverty and to care for the Earth.

Communion Collection: April \$129.60, May \$144.00, June \$108.00

Baskets are right around the corner keep a look out for more information!!

God Bless,  
Nancy Carrasquillo, Mission Chairperson

## **SHAREGOOD THRIFT SHOPPE**

Summer is still here, but fall is just around the corner. The shop is full of wonderful summer items, and we have begun putting out Halloween costumes and decorations. If you enjoy Halloween, be sure to stop by and find something new for your home. Our customers appreciate having fresh choices each week, and we continue to welcome new visitors who have discovered our little shop. ShareGood is not just a place to shop; it is also a place to connect with friends, both new and old. Donations have increased, so there is always something new to see. Some days are busier than others, but we are ready whenever customers arrive. We are also grateful for the opportunity to support others and their missions to help family and friends in our town and around the world. Through our work, we become part of our own missions as well as the many missions of our customers. We hear about the needs in their families, countries, and neighborhoods, and their stories fill our hearts with compassion and gratitude for the chance to help. The Thrift Shop is a wonderful outreach opportunity for Simpson, and I encourage everyone to come see it for themselves. We always welcome new volunteers—many hands make light work.

**ShareGood will be closed on Saturday September 5<sup>th</sup> for the Labor Day Holiday.  
ShareGood is open on Saturdays from 9-1.**

The volunteers are available to except donations on Sunday after service.

**Volunteers are needed on Saturday's. Anyone interested in volunteering please contact me, Lynn Palladino, Betty Muldowney, Marilyn Caffrey, or Judy Desciscio, Pam White for more information.**

Those of us at ShareGood are blessed by all the volunteers, customers and those that donate.

Respectfully yours,

Lynn Palladino, ShareGood Thrift Shoppe Chairperson

## **SUPERMARKET GIFT CARD NEWS**

Dear Simpson Family,

Back to school is here and so are the packed lunches and afternoon snacks. Get your gift cards on Sunday at church, so you have them when you go to pick up all the items you need for those lunch bags and even your lunch. You don't have to have children in school to benefit from the sales that are going on. Don't forget Halloween coming, you'll need lot of candy for those kids. Also, the church can benefit from you using ShopRite or Stop-n-Shop gift cards. The church can make 5% of the sale from those gift cards. Stop by after church and purchase some scrip. You will see how convenient it is and hopefully I can get you to become a consistent customer. If you need scrip and it isn't Sunday, call me at 732-801-9059 and we can arrange to meet, or you can pick-up at my house. Please give it a try.

Blessing to All,

Betty Muldowney, Program Coordinator

## **FAITHFUL READERS GROUP**

This is for the Faithful Readers Group - we will resume our monthly meeting in September. We meet on the last Sunday of the month. We invite everyone to consider attending. We share something we've read recently that helps our growth in Christianity, touches our hearts or anything else. It could be something you read in the Bible or any other Christian literature. It is good to share your thoughts with others. Contact me if you have any questions and May God bless you today.

Sincerely,

Gail Thompson

## **SPEAKING OF THE MEMBERS**

I'd like to let everyone know how proud Bob and I are of our son Erik. He is being honored for life saving practices at a fire scene in Old Bridge. Fellow firefighter had a heart attack and Erik took action to begin working on him. He'll be honored by the Township of Old bridge on Aug 18th at police headquarters. He will then be honored again by St. Barnabas Hospital in October. Thank you, Irene Ritz

Congratulations to Megan & Sean McCabe on their new baby boy Colton James McCabe born on August 7<sup>th</sup>, 2026 he was 2 lbs. 14.5 ozs. He is in the NICU at Jersey Shore he will be there until original due date of

October 24<sup>th</sup>. Mom is doing well. Colton is doing good but needs our prayers. Please keep them all in your prayers. Proud Nan & Pop, Tom & Karen Gaunt.

Hello all my Simpson United Methodist Friends, I just got this email with nothing in it but the list of people it has been sent to. Kind of reminds me of God's Love, Sometimes we think He is away in heaven since he journeyed to the cross. Then I realize the trip to the cross was for me. The Holy Spirit is with me today and will be with us believers as we wait for him to come again.

Thank you Lord God for this day and the walk together on this beautiful day. It's up to us, as it is said, "beauty is in the eye of the beholder".

In Christ's Love,  
Larry

PS: If it has been a while since you have been with us in church know that you are loved. Come by and visit



with us in person or online. As Debbie Anastasio used to say, "it's all good".

## **September & October BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES**

### **SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

|                       |    |
|-----------------------|----|
| Karen Gaunt           | 4  |
| Tess Camba            | 7  |
| Thomas A. Cerabone    | 7  |
| Thomas Gaunt          | 7  |
| Zachary James Ploskon | 8  |
| Fiona Borre           | 11 |
| Zachary Caffrey       | 13 |
| Paul Graham           | 14 |
| Abigail Pomerantz     | 14 |
| Sue DeFilippo         | 17 |
| Lloyd Wilmot          | 20 |
| Charles Mataya        | 21 |
| Sherri (Bergen) Lutz  | 24 |
| Danielle Magnus       | 24 |
| Diana Springer        | 25 |
| Scott Akumiah         | 27 |
| Travis Borre          | 27 |
| Alan J. Meeker        | 29 |
| Aaron Bottinick       | 30 |

### **SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES**

|                         |    |
|-------------------------|----|
| Charles & Dianne Mataya | 8  |
| Daniel & Lynn Palladino | 15 |
| Michael & Erin Salica   | 22 |
| Lloyd & Jean Wilmot     | 23 |
| James & Janice Ploskon  | 27 |

### **OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS**

|                    |    |
|--------------------|----|
| Shauna Davis       | 1  |
| Ann Hamilton       | 1  |
| Michelle Pearson   | 3  |
| George Conover     | 5  |
| Michelle Grimes    | 6  |
| Klaudia Korley     | 12 |
| Edward Yeats       | 12 |
| Dorothy Himelrick  | 13 |
| Gina Oriento       | 14 |
| Carol Wojcik       | 17 |
| Mark Fasulka       | 18 |
| Joe DeSciscio      | 19 |
| David Chapman      | 20 |
| Natalie Akumiah    | 21 |
| Linda Oriento      | 23 |
| Nancy Carrasquillo | 27 |
| Cynthia Akumiah    | 29 |
| Keith Ritchings    | 29 |

### **OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES**

|                                  |    |
|----------------------------------|----|
| Kevin & Susan Davis              | 1  |
| Bobby & Ashley Spitzer           | 3  |
| Matthew & Christi Anne DeSciscio | 4  |
| Travis & Brooke Borre            | 10 |
| Robert & Cheryl Bennett          | 14 |
| Mike & Ann Marie Layton          | 14 |
| Bob & Irene Ritz                 | 14 |
| Robert & Karen Bennett           | 16 |
| Richard & Ann Hamilton           | 23 |
| Barry & Judi Schwartz            | 27 |