



## Mission Status

*By Mr. Alexander S. Brown, Minister*

WHEN a church is planted in the PCA it begins life as a “Mission Church.” A church planter is called and, hopefully, after a few years the church is particularized. However, when this happens something very unfortunate occurs – the church loses its Mission Status.

This distinction initially was made simply as a helpful way to define the difference between established churches and newly forming churches. However, it has fed into an unhealthy view of what the local church is, and how we are to understand what we are to do. It suggests that the work has been done, a church has been established, and the mission is over.

*Every Christian is a missionary,  
and every church is a mission outpost.*

But the mission is not over when a church ordains its own elders and is particularized, and in fact in many ways the mission has only really begun. The mission of the local church is over when Christ returns, and not a minute before.

Every church, no matter how large or how old or how many elders it has, is fundamentally a Mission Church, whose primary task is to labor for the glory of Christ wherever it is placed.

There is a great temptation to think of mission as something that is done somewhere else. We are tempted to think about Missions as something that is done by professional missionaries, who are specially called and sent by the church, and therefore we participate in missions by giving money to those people.

But if we are to understand ourselves correctly, and understand mission correctly, we have to realize that every Christian is a missionary, and every church is a mission outpost, and that we primarily support Missions by being missionaries in the communities in which we are placed.

*(Continued on the next page)*

### April Calendar

#### Sundays

9:30 a.m. Sunday School  
Church History, Part 2

10:30 a.m. Morning Worship  
“I Peter: Strangers in a Foreign Land”

6:00 p.m. Evening Worship  
“Jeremiah: Judgment and Restoration”

Children’s Church, Nursery available  
.....

Sun 4/1 Palm Sunday  
Communion (AM)

*SSI Holy Week Services—see pg. 2*

Tue 4/3 “Beyond the Pages”  
Book Group for Women  
(6:30 p.m., Taylor home)

Wed 4/4, 11, 18, 25  
Midweek Prayer Meeting  
(6:30 p.m., GIPC)

Sun 4/8 Easter Sunday  
“Lunch at the Brown  
House” (sign up in foyer)

Sat 4/14 “Second Saturday” Men’s  
Breakfast & Bible Study  
(8:00 a.m.)

Tue 4/10, 17, 24  
Ladies Bible Study  
(6:30 p.m., Dr. Diane  
Bowen’s office)

Wed 4/11, 18, 25  
Ladies Bible Study  
(9:30 a.m., GIPC;  
child care provided)

Sun 4/15 Guest Minister, Rev.  
Tommy Park (RUF/UNF)

Tue 4/17 Savannah River Presby.

Sun 4/29 Guest Missionary  
Joshua Tsavatewa  
(Sacred Road Ministries)

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## Mission Status

*(Continued from the previous page)*

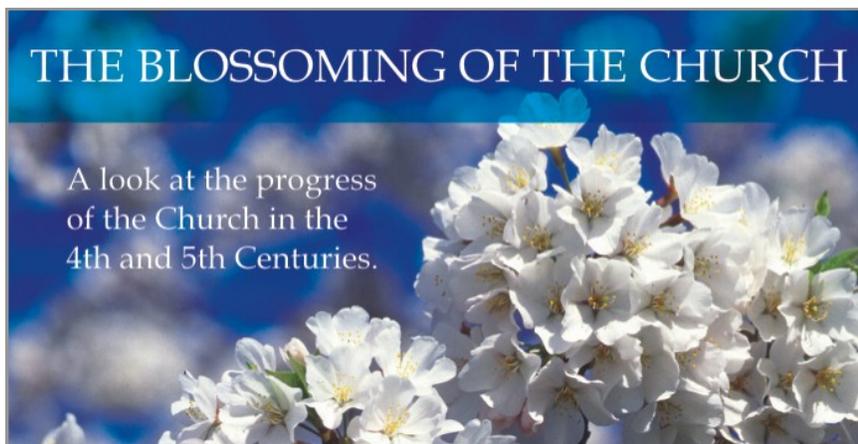
**I**N a well-worn quote, John Piper famously said “Missions exists because worship doesn’t” – and that is as true for us on St. Simons Island as it is for the Bakelaars in Japan, or for the Chinchens in Africa, or for Joshua Tsavatewa as he ministers amongst Native Americans.

These people, as well as the other missionaries who we have the joy of supporting, are doing mission because they want to see rebels turned into worshipers. That is exactly the same goal as we have at GIPC.

*Our building is not just a place we go on Sundays, but is a mission station.*

When we view the local church as a mission work, then it radically changes how we view ourselves and what we are called to do. Suddenly, our building is not just a place we go on Sundays, but is a mission station. Suddenly, our finances are not just a matter of staying in the black and out of the red, but is a matter of having money to do ministry. Suddenly, we are no longer a gathering of consumers, but we are a community of missionaries banding together to reach this Island for Christ.

When I worked with a campus ministry in Scotland, our motto was “A Four Year Mission Team to Campus.” The idea was to get students to not think of the ministry as a holy-hangout, or a safe place where they could hide from the world, but rather as a mission that they were joining – they were becoming missionaries. That needs to be our identity also – Golden Isles is a Mission Team to this Island. We may be particularized, but we have never lost our Mission Status. ▪



**Sundays at 9:30 a.m.**

## Holy Week Services on Saint Simons Island

**Services at 12:00 noon,  
followed by Lunch\***

*\*Suggested donation: \$3*

**Monday, April 2 – Day of Authority**

**Location:** St. Simons United  
Methodist Church

**Preacher:** Rev. Tony Powell,  
Holy Nativity Episcopal Church

**Tuesday, April 3 – Day of Conflict**

**Location:** St. Simons First Baptist

**Preacher:** Rev. Marcia Cochran,  
St. Simons United Methodist Church

**Wednesday, April 4 –**

**Day of Withdrawal**

**Location:** Wesley United  
Methodist Church

**Preacher:** Rev. Troy Hauser Brydon,  
St. Simons Presbyterian Church

**Thursday, April 5 – Day of Intimacy**

*Services at individual churches*

**Friday, April 6 – Day of Sacrifice**

**Location:** Saint Simons  
Presbyterian Church

**Preacher:** Rev. Quentin Morris,  
First African Baptist Church, SSI

**EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE\*\***

**Sunday, April 8, 6:30 a.m.  
at the Village Pier on St. Simons.**

**Preacher:** Rev. Jim Wright,  
SSI Church of Christ

*\*\*An offering will be received  
to benefit local ministries.  
Bring lawn chairs & bug spray.*

*Sponsored by St. Simons Island  
Area Churches*

**Connect with us!**

**Church Office**

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## Women in the Church

### College Care Pack Ministry



#### !! Donations Please !! April 1st—April 15th

Each spring the Women of GIPC look forward to preparing College Care Packages to be sent to GIPC college students, students of grandparents and students of missionaries supported by GIPC. This is an opportunity for the GIPC Church Family to support, bless and encourage these students to continue in their spiritual growth and academic work.

You may drop your gift in the specially-marked box in the foyer, or place it in the offering plate. Make checks payable to "GIPC" and designate for "College Care Pack." Please put cash in an envelope labeled "College Care Pack."

There are currently 11 students on the list. Grandparents and family members are asked to please provide the name, address, name of college/university of your student to India or Clay Huddleston. Thank you for participating in this ministry and giving as generously as possible to provide a GIPC pack of LOVE for these students!

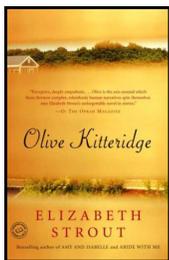
### Ladies Bible Study

All women are invited to meet for Bible study each Tuesday evening (except the first) at Dr. Diane Bowen's office, or each Wednesday morning (except the first), at the church. The current study is entitled, "Meeting Jesus: Women of Faith from the New Testament." Childcare is available at the Wednesday morning meeting.



### "Beyond the Pages" Book Group for Women—

Tuesday, April 3rd, 6:30 p.m.



The Book Group will meet on Tuesday, April 3rd at the home of Sue Taylor. Our new meeting time is 6:30-7:30 p.m. The book for April is: "Olive Kitteridge," by Elizabeth Strout.

*"Strout has a magnificent gift for humanizing characters.... Like Sherwood Anderson's 'Winesburg, Ohio', this novel in stories captivates us because the characters are so human, the place so vivid....Olive is the strong link here. Funny, wicked and remorseful, Mrs. Kitteridge is a compelling life*

*force, a red-blooded original. When she's not onstage, we look forward to her return. The book is a page-turner because of her."* (San Francisco Chronicle)

*"One of the year's best....a piece of multi-textured music— AND a great piece of writing about small town America....a fascinating collection....Strout's writing here is deep and masterful....If you're going to read one book of short fiction this year, make it this one."* (Buffalo News)

*"Strout's sensitive insights and luminous prose affirm life's pleasures....A perfectly balanced portrait of the human condition, encompassing plenty of anger, cruelty and loss without ever losing sight of the equally powerful presences of tenderness, shared pursuits and lifelong loyalty."* (Kirkus Reviews—starred review)

—Sue Taylor, Book Group Chair

## Finance Committee

### GIPC Monthly Update— Loan Balance

Loan Balance 1/1/12	\$840,102
Principal Paid YTD	\$ 8,038
Loan Balance	\$832,064
April Payment:	
Interest	\$ 2,635
Principal	\$ 2,614
Total Payment	\$ 5,249

## Membership Class

### Mark Your Calendars!

The GIPC Membership Class has been rescheduled for the weekend of May 18 and 19.

## Men in the Church

### "Second Saturday" Breakfast and Bible Study—

April 14th, 8:00 a.m.

All men are invited to gather for food and fellowship on Saturday morning, April 14th. The current topic of discussion is *biblical manhood*. (Note: April location TBA—please check weekly bulletin for updates.)

## World Missions

### Guest Missionary

April 29th at GIPC

On Sunday, April 29th guest missionary Joshua Tsavatewa will share about the Sacred Road Ministry among the Yakama people in Washington State during the Sunday School hour (9:30 a.m.), and briefly during the morning and evening worship services.

"The Sacred Road team reaches out to the community through children's ministry, youth ministry; a variety of acts of service and mercy, adult Bible study (Hope Fellowship), recruiting, hosting and organizing one week service teams, etc.)\*"

\*[www.sacredroadministries.com/www](http://www.sacredroadministries.com/www)

**APRIL**

"O send out Thy light and Thy truth; let them lead me."  
 (Psalm 43:3)

**Family Worship**

**Old Testament Reading**

Date	Book	Chapter	✓
1	<i>Leviticus</i>	4	<input type="checkbox"/>
2		5	<input type="checkbox"/>
3		6	<input type="checkbox"/>
4		7	<input type="checkbox"/>
5		8	<input type="checkbox"/>
6		9	<input type="checkbox"/>
7		10	<input type="checkbox"/>
8		11,12	<input type="checkbox"/>
9		13	<input type="checkbox"/>
10		14	<input type="checkbox"/>
11		15	<input type="checkbox"/>
12		16	<input type="checkbox"/>
13		17	<input type="checkbox"/>
14		18	<input type="checkbox"/>
15		19	<input type="checkbox"/>
16		20	<input type="checkbox"/>
17		21	<input type="checkbox"/>
18		22	<input type="checkbox"/>
19		23	<input type="checkbox"/>
20		24	<input type="checkbox"/>
21		25	<input type="checkbox"/>
22		26	<input type="checkbox"/>
23		27	<input type="checkbox"/>
24	<i>Numbers</i>	1	<input type="checkbox"/>
25		2	<input type="checkbox"/>
26		3	<input type="checkbox"/>
27		4	<input type="checkbox"/>
28		5	<input type="checkbox"/>
29		6	<input type="checkbox"/>
30		7	<input type="checkbox"/>

**APRIL**

"O send out Thy light and Thy truth; let them lead me."  
 (Psalm 43:3)

**Family Worship**

**Psalms Reading**

Date	Book	Chapter	✓
1	<i>Psalms</i>	1,2	<input type="checkbox"/>
2		3,4	<input type="checkbox"/>
3		5,6	<input type="checkbox"/>
4		7,8	<input type="checkbox"/>
5		9	<input type="checkbox"/>
6		10	<input type="checkbox"/>
7		11,12	<input type="checkbox"/>
8		13,14	<input type="checkbox"/>
9		15,16	<input type="checkbox"/>
10		17	<input type="checkbox"/>
11		18	<input type="checkbox"/>
12		19	<input type="checkbox"/>
13		20,21	<input type="checkbox"/>
14		22	<input type="checkbox"/>
15		23,24	<input type="checkbox"/>
16		25	<input type="checkbox"/>
17		26,27	<input type="checkbox"/>
18		28,29	<input type="checkbox"/>
19		30	<input type="checkbox"/>
20		31	<input type="checkbox"/>
21		32	<input type="checkbox"/>
22		33	<input type="checkbox"/>
23		34	<input type="checkbox"/>
24		35	<input type="checkbox"/>
25		36	<input type="checkbox"/>
26		37	<input type="checkbox"/>
27		38	<input type="checkbox"/>
28		39	<input type="checkbox"/>
29		40,41	<input type="checkbox"/>
30		42,43	<input type="checkbox"/>

**APRIL**

"O send out Thy light and Thy truth; let them lead me."  
 (Psalm 43:3)

**Private**

**Old Testament Reading**

Date	Book	Chapter	✓
1	<i>Proverbs</i>	19	<input type="checkbox"/>
2		20	<input type="checkbox"/>
3		21	<input type="checkbox"/>
4		22	<input type="checkbox"/>
5		23	<input type="checkbox"/>
6		24	<input type="checkbox"/>
7		25	<input type="checkbox"/>
8		26	<input type="checkbox"/>
9		27	<input type="checkbox"/>
10		28	<input type="checkbox"/>
11		29	<input type="checkbox"/>
12		30	<input type="checkbox"/>
13		31	<input type="checkbox"/>
14	<i>Ecclesiastes</i>	1	<input type="checkbox"/>
15		2	<input type="checkbox"/>
16		3	<input type="checkbox"/>
17		4	<input type="checkbox"/>
18		5	<input type="checkbox"/>
19		6	<input type="checkbox"/>
20		7	<input type="checkbox"/>
21		8	<input type="checkbox"/>
22		9	<input type="checkbox"/>
23		10	<input type="checkbox"/>
24		11	<input type="checkbox"/>
25		12	<input type="checkbox"/>
26	<i>Song of Solomon</i>	1	<input type="checkbox"/>
27		2	<input type="checkbox"/>
28		3	<input type="checkbox"/>
29		4	<input type="checkbox"/>
30		5	<input type="checkbox"/>

**APRIL**

"O send out Thy light and Thy truth; let them lead me."  
 (Psalm 43:3)

**Private**

**New Testament Reading**

Date	Book	Chapter	✓
1	<i>Colossians</i>	2	<input type="checkbox"/>
2		3	<input type="checkbox"/>
3		4	<input type="checkbox"/>
4	<i>I Thess.</i>	1	<input type="checkbox"/>
5		2	<input type="checkbox"/>
6		3	<input type="checkbox"/>
7		4	<input type="checkbox"/>
8		5	<input type="checkbox"/>
9	<i>II Thess.</i>	1	<input type="checkbox"/>
10		2	<input type="checkbox"/>
11		3	<input type="checkbox"/>
12	<i>I Timothy</i>	1	<input type="checkbox"/>
13		2	<input type="checkbox"/>
14		3	<input type="checkbox"/>
15		4	<input type="checkbox"/>
16		5	<input type="checkbox"/>
17		6	<input type="checkbox"/>
18	<i>II Timothy</i>	1	<input type="checkbox"/>
19		2	<input type="checkbox"/>
20		3	<input type="checkbox"/>
21		4	<input type="checkbox"/>
22	<i>Titus</i>	1	<input type="checkbox"/>
23		2	<input type="checkbox"/>
24		3	<input type="checkbox"/>
25	<i>Philemon</i>	1	<input type="checkbox"/>
26	<i>Hebrews</i>	1	<input type="checkbox"/>
27		2	<input type="checkbox"/>
28		3	<input type="checkbox"/>
29		4	<input type="checkbox"/>
30		5	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Week beginning  
 APRIL 1**

**Psalm 103:19-22**

The LORD has established His throne in the heavens, and His kingdom rules over all. Bless the LORD, O you His angels, you mighty ones who do His word, obeying the voice of His word! Bless the LORD, all His hosts, His ministers, who do His will! Bless the LORD, all His works, in all places of His dominion. Bless the LORD, O my soul!

**Week beginning  
 APRIL 8**

**II Corinthians 4:17-18**

For this slight momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.

**Week beginning  
 APRIL 15**

**II Corinthians 5:17**

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

**Week beginning  
 APRIL 22**

**Proverbs 17:22; 18:10**

A joyful heart is good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones.  
 The name of the LORD is a strong tower;  
 the righteous man runs into it and is safe.

**Week beginning  
 APRIL 29**

**Ephesians 4:29**

Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear.