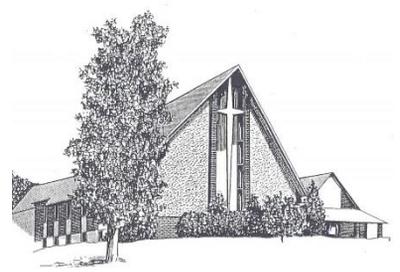


Southminster Presbyterian Church
KEYHOLE PRESS
April 2016



Faith Seeking Understanding

One of the very best lessons I learned when I was serving as a seminary intern was this: “Always admit when you don’t know the answer.” The church where I interned had a large Sunday school class called, The Forum. It was an adult class, open to all ages and interests. They covered a wide variety of topics, usually spending several weeks in a row on a series of related lessons, but whenever they had a lull in between two series they would hold an impromptu call that they liked to call, “Stump the Pastor.”

“Stump the Pastor” involved the pastor and associate pastor taking questions from the group about anything and everything. Sometimes they were bible related questions, sometimes they were historical or theological, sometimes they were just silly—like the endless debates about University of Texas vs Texas A&M that the good folks that that church never tired of! The spring of my internship year my mentor invited me to join him for a round of Stump the Pastor. I was a little bit nervous about being put on the spot! Seeing my anxiety he smiled and gave me just one piece of advice—“Don’t be afraid to say that you don’t know the answer, people always respect it if you take their question seriously.”

Inspired by this great tradition of “Stump the Pastor,” this year our worship services throughout Lent were built around asking questions. Many of you submitted questions of all sorts. Some of these questions were the result of years of wondering, while others were more recent thoughts-- but all of them reflected earnest wrestling with deep and personal questions of faith. Looking back, truly the greatest spiritual gift I received this Lent was from those of you who were willing to share your heartfelt questions and allow me to take part in your search for the answers. Truth be told I did not always know the answers and your good questions led me to return to those wise men and women of the faith who have been wrestling with these questions for long before you and me! I found inspiration in looking back at what Calvin had to say about the Trinity, what the Apostle Paul had to say about Salvation, or what the Barbara Brown Taylor has to say about prayer just to name a few.

Far from being out of bounds the importance of asking good questions and wrestling with the answers is long established in the Christian tradition. St Anselm famously defined the life of faith as one that is always seeking understanding. We even initiate new members into the church by asking and answering questions. At a baptism we ask parents, “Relying on God’s grace, do you promise to live the Christian faith, and to teach that faith to your child?” In turn the parents then get to ask a question of the congregation, “Do you, as members of the church of Jesus Christ, promise to guide and nurture this child, by word and deed, with love and prayer, encouraging them to know and follow Christ and to be faithful members of his Church?” I have come to think of the life of faith as a series of questions, a natural give and take that happens over a lifetime between individuals, the faith community, and God. Although our unofficial round of “Stump the Pastor” is over for now, the question box is never closed! I have already received a few more questions from people whose curiosity has been peaked and I am looking forward to the summer when I hope to be able to devote some more sermon time to them. I may not always know the answers, but I will always be willing to jump into the fray and wrestle with the questions along with you!

Carlin Dejeu

Session Highlights

- Deb Ellenberg and Kathy Liesfeld shared their experience from the Presbytery meeting.
- Session approved two marriages and one baptism.
- Session reflected over ordination vows concerning governance by our church's polity with respect to others.
- Issues over clean-up concerning the Fellowship Hall were addressed.
- Presbytery of the James Hunger Team gave \$1000 toward the food closet.

Southminster Scholarship

The Southminster Scholarship Fund is accepting applications for the 2016-2017 school year. Guidelines and applications will be available in the narthex and the church office. Full-time undergraduates in two-year and four-year colleges and universities, vocational or technical training schools, and community colleges may apply. The deadline to apply for a scholarship is **June 15, 2016**.

To be eligible for a scholarship grant, the applicant must:

- Be a confirmed member of Southminster Presbyterian Church.
- Have been on the active roll at Southminster for at least the previous twelve months as of the deadline date for applications.
- Be under the age of 25 as of the deadline date for applications.
- Be a high school graduate.
- Be enrolled in a full-time undergraduate education program leading to a degree or certification.

Camp Hanover Day Camp: Registration Now Open

June 20 – 24, 2016
8:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Camp Hanover Day Camp will be returning to Southminster the week of June 20 – 24, 2016. We have signed up for extended hours this year with camp beginning at 8:00 AM and ending at 5:00 PM. Camp is open to all children who will be entering grades 1 – 6 in the fall of 2016.

Day Camp is a small group experience. Campers will spend the week doing arts and crafts activities, Bible studies, playing games, exploring nature, and singing songs. There will be a mid-week cookout for campers to prepare their own lunch.

The cost for Day Camp is \$100 per camper. If cost is a burden, contact Sue Rhodes to ask about scholarships. Registration forms are available in the Narthex. You may also register online at camphanover.org.

Community Festival 2016

Spring is just around the corner and so is the annual Community Festival. Mark your calendars for Saturday April 30th this year from 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM.

There will be activities for the whole family to enjoy: Bouncy houses, face painting, arts and crafts, music, a petting zoo from Camp Hanover, and the return of the famous cake walk! Manchester Middle School will host a 5K walk outside this year starting at 10:00 AM and the YMCA will have ongoing activities celebrating Healthy Kids Day. Join us for a fun-filled day in our community. For questions or to volunteer contact Anne Smith 516-7563.

Fellowship Committee

Potluck dinners will continue on the first Wednesday of each month at 6:00 PM. Please bring a dish to share. Paper products are used for the dinners. The serving / clean-up schedule for the remainder of the year is as follows:

April 6 th	Bob & Marty Griffin (Serving)	Gary & Anne Smith (Clean-Up)
May 4 th	Dixie & Marty Kovacs (Serving)	Brown Pearson (Clean-Up)
June 1 st	Joyce & Frank Grier (Serving)	David & ChiChi Huff (Clean-Up)

Spring Picnic

The Fellowship Committee invites you to stay after worship on Sunday, April 24th for Southminster's annual Spring Picnic. Meat and desserts will be provided. Please bring a side dish to share.

Presbyterian Women

Martha Circle will meet on **Wednesday, April 6th** at 10:00 AM in the Christian Life classroom. Refreshments will be provided by Eileen Robison. Ann Kearns will lead our Bible Study #8, "The Hospitality of Living Waters--Compassion." Don't forget to bring items for the Food Closet.

Anna Circle will meet on **Monday, April 11th** at 7:00 PM at Debbie Greenberg's residence.

Ruth Circle will meet on **Tuesday, April 12th** at 7:00 PM in the Conference Room.

Esther Circle will meet on **Tuesday, April 12th** at 10:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall. We will begin our study of Session # 8, "The Hospitality of Living Water--Compassion." Remember to bring items for Sunshine Bags, Food Closet, magazines for VA Hospital, tab tops and education coupons to benefit schools. Hostesses are to be determined.

Remember in Prayer

Please pray for our military personnel, Dan Bice, John Bowles, Lillian Brooks, Mike & Pat Cifelli, Ron Crenshaw, Matt Davis, Pete Gillispie, Marty Griffin, Anna Hall, Bob & Net Hall, Laura Jessee, Ann Kearns, Bev Lamberton, Ron & Nellie Long, Adele Robertson, Ken Robison, Edna & Louis Schelter, Eddie & Jenny Schiller, Gordy & Betty Smith, Riki & Dennis Stone, Dave Thomas, Marjorie Quimby, Doris Vaughan.

Facilities Work Day

The Physical Facilities Committee is hosting a church-wide work party on Saturday, April 23rd, from 8:30 AM until 12:30 PM. We have lots to do and all church members are invited. We have yard work, painting, cleaning, sprucing up, and more. Lunch will be served at 12:30 PM.

Contemporary Issues

The Contemporary Issues class meets from 10:00 AM – 10:45 AM.

- April 3rd** Continuing discussion of Derek Maul's *Pilgrim in Progress: Notes from the Journey*, led by Joyce Lapsley
- April 10th** *Current Political Scene*, led by Dixie Kovacs
- April 17th** *Poverty in Chesterfield*, continuing discussion led by Mark Endries
- April 24th** Open forum, led by Jane Tarter

Youth Group

The Southminster Youth Group meets on Sundays at 6:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall unless otherwise stated.

- April 3rd** *Spring Break / No Youth Group*
- April 10th** Regressive Dinner
- April 17th** Game Night
- April 24th** Camp Hanover Open House (12:00 PM – 4:00 PM)
- April 30th** Community Festival ((10:00 AM – 12:00 PM)

May Newsletter Deadline

If you would like to submit an article or item for the March newsletter, please turn it in to the church office by **Noon on Monday, April 18th.**

Directory Update

Brown Pearson
cbpearson3@erg-homes.com

Southminster Notes

We lovingly thank all of our church family for surrounding us with love! Throughout my mother's health challenges, we have always been on the receiving end of Christ's love through all of you. It was such a blessing to all of us to have Mom be a part of this church's family. She enjoyed worship, choir parties, church picnics, cantatas, outdoor worship service, Presbytone practices and performances, great-grandchildren's baptisms, community festivals, and the pastoral support of Dick Lindsey, Mary Johns, Caitlin, and Eniko. God is so good! We love our church family!

Debbie Greenberg

Thank you all so much for the cookie cake. It was delicious. I really appreciate it!

Thank you,
Chelsea Dixon

Dear Church Family,

Thank you for all the prayers, calls, cards, and food. You are truly a lovely church family. The prayer shawl has been great. I am always cold. Thanks for everything.

Love in Christ,
Marty Griffin

Dear Church Family,

Thank you all so much for the wonderful care package you sent me! There are enough goodies in this box to power me for weeks. I am so blessed to know each and every one of you great people.

Love you and miss you all,
David Flynt

Dear Congregational Care Committee,

Thank you so much for the cookie heart. It was delicious! It meant a lot to know you are thinking of me while I am in nursing school.

Love,
Maggie Lumsden

Dear Southminster Presbyterian,

Thank you so much to all who were involved with the making and delivery of my cookie cake! It was absolutely delicious and only lasted about two days! It could not have come at a more perfect time, either. Midterms are in full swing at nursing school and I just started a new job at St. Francis, so this was just the sweet treat I needed to help take some of my stress away. I feel so blessed to have such a great church family looking after me and thinking of me so often!

Thanks again, everyone!
Lindsey Hamlin

I was hungry and you gave me food to eat. I was thirsty and you gave me a drink. I was a stranger and you welcomed me. Matthew 25:35

Dear Southminster Presbyterian Church Volunteers,

Thank you for your dedication to caring for "the least of these." May God richly bless you for your obedience to God's Word.

The Salvation Army

April Birthdays

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| 2 Frank Farrington, Madison Pinchbeck | 18 Mia-Lynn Hamilton, Zach Pond, Andrew Smith |
| 3 Chelsea Dixon, Kate Osborne | 20 Bev Lamberton |
| 5 Jack Daniel, Trenton Williams | 21 Marsha Lane |
| 6 Isabella Paterson | 22 Elizabeth Adiele |
| 7 Deb Ellenberg, Christopher Endries | 23 Joyce Lapsley, Dallas Wampler |
| 9 Cindy Howeltt | 24 Russ Ellenberg, Nellie Long |
| 11 Katie Henderson | 25 Sue Carlton, Erin McDonald |
| 12 Ron Raetz | 28 Edna Warncke |
| 13 Marty Griffin | 29 Declan Bowser, Bonnie Davis, Mary Stahl |
| 14 Linda Bookman, Bonnie Endries | |
| 17 Mitchel Kirtley | |

April Anniversaries

- | | | | |
|------------------------|------|----------------------|------|
| 6 Dan & Kitty Bice | (30) | 20 Dan & Susan Pharr | (19) |
| 9 Will & Alicia Willis | (21) | 27 Robert & Net Hall | (69) |
| 14 Rick & Pat Abbott | (42) | | |

Have we missed your birthday or anniversary? Let the church office know: 804-276-1749.

April Schedules

Elder Greeters

- 3 Ken Brammer, Kathy Liesfeld
- 10 Gail DeCosta, Jeff McDonald
- 17 David Lamberton, Rick Schaffer
- 24 Frank Grier, Deb Ellenberg

Door Greeters

- 3 George & Barbara Reid
- 10 George & Barbara Reid
- 17 George & Barbara Reid
- 24 George & Barbara Reid

Flower Delivery

- 3 Aileen & Jerry Davis
- 10 Lil & Courtney Price
- 17 Karen Stafford
- 24 Karen Stafford

Soundboard

- 3 James Deyerle, Gary Smith
- 10 Lee Bennett
- 17 Mitchel Kirtley, Mark Endries
- 24 The Crawfords

Ushers

- 3 Guy Dixon, Marsha Lane, Howard Vann, Terry Liendecker
- 10 Kitty Bice, Jack Daniel, Jerry Davis, Dianna Scott Bumgarner
- 17 Kitty Bice, Jack Daniel, Jerry Davis, Dianna Scott Bumgarner
- 24 Jim & Margaret Hall, Ben Nwoke, Moses Adiele

Food Closet

- | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 4 Gerry Doyle, Norma Poole | 18 Mary Stahl, Liz Snead |
| 7 Rachel Clay, Jane Tarter | 21 Rachel Clay, Terry Liendecker |
| 11 Gail DeCosta, Bonnie Kowalski | 25 Gail DeCosta, Bonnie Kowalski |
| 14 Melba Jolly, Jane McGee | 28 Shirley Martin, Barbara Reid |
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Southminster Presbyterian Church

April 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3 Communion 9:45 AM: Sunday School 11 AM: Worship 12 PM: First Sunday Prayers 12 PM: Finance Meeting 3 PM: IPCN	4 Food Closet 10:00 AM Balladeers	5 7:00 PM Girl Scouts 7:30 PM IPCN	6 10:00 AM Martha Circle 6:00 PM Pot Luck 7:30 PM Choir	7 Food Closet 6:30 PM Presbyteries	8 7:30 PM IPCN	9 7:30 PM IPCN
10 9:45 AM: Sunday School 10:15 AM: Pastor's Aid 11 AM: Worship 12 PM: Nominating Com. 12 PM: Worship Committee 3 PM: IPCN 6 PM: Regressive Dinner	11 Food Closet 10:00 AM Balladeers 7:00 PM Anna Circle	12 10:00 AM Esther Circle 7:00 PM Ruth Circle 7:00 PM Girl Scouts 7:30 PM IPCN	13 7:30 PM Choir	14 Food Closet 6:30 PM Presbyteries	15 7:30 PM IPCN 6 PM: Girl Scout Movie Night	16 7:30 PM IPCN
17 9:45 AM: Sunday School 11 AM: Worship 12:30: Session Meeting 3 PM: IPCN 6 PM: Youth Group	18 Food Closet Newsletter Deadline 10:00 AM Balladeers	19 7:00 PM Girl Scouts 7:30 PM IPCN	20 7:30 PM Choir	21 Food Closet 9 AM: Triad Meeting 6:30 PM Presbyteries	22 7:30 PM IPCN Earth Day	23 Passover 8:30 AM: Spring Work Day 7:30 PM IPCN
24 9:45 AM: Sunday School 11 AM: Worship 12 PM: Spring Picnic 12:15: Prayer Shawl Mtg. 1 PM: Camp Hanover Open House 3 PM: IPCN	25 Food Closet 10:00 AM Balladeers	26 8:30 AM: Senior Advocate Caregivers Conference 7:00 PM Girl Scouts 7:30 PM IPCN	27 7:30 PM Choir	28 Food Closet 6:30 PM Presbyteries	29 7:30 PM IPCN 10 AM: Community Festival	30 7:30 PM IPCN
Notes						

SOUTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

7500 Hull Street Road

N. Chesterfield, VA 23235-5810

Phone: 804-276-1749

www.southpreschurch.org

office@southpreschurch.org

Return Service Requested

April

Camp Hanover Day Camp Is Coming!

June 20 – 24, 2016

8:00 AM – 5:00 PM

All rising 1st – 6th graders welcome.

Flyers and registration forms available in the Narthex, or visit camphanover.org to register online.