



From the Pastor

What an unprecedented time we are living right now! Throughout all of the anxiety and quickly changing circumstances it has been a blessing to speak with so many of you over these past two weeks either over the phone or by interacting online. Your company has been an encouragement to me and my family in these days. Together we have taken the leap to try new things like video conference bible studies and worshipping together through video. Who would have thought just a few weeks ago that we could be so creative? In fact, our online presence has connected us to people well beyond our normal reach. On the Faith Leader's conference call this week with the Governor's office, he offered his heartfelt encouragement to churches like ours who continue to meet and worship in new ways during these trying times.

Our session met this week to confirm that due to the Governor's most recent executive order we will continue to worship online until April 23. This is difficult news for us all. Just as teachers and students have struggled with disappointment over missing the end of their school year, I know pastors and church folks are deeply grieving the loss of our traditional Easter celebration. This disappointment is real. Yet through all of this we remain focused on one guiding light—Jesus' call to love him by caring for our neighbors. And in this time the way we can care for one another most meaningfully is to protect each other from sickness and protect our healthcare system from being so overwhelmed that it cannot care for those in deepest need.

This is a real sacrifice for us all. Yet the story of Easter is all about sacrifice. It is about Jesus' great sacrifice that gives us all a chance at new and abundant life. So the fact that we are being called this Easter to a time of self-sacrifice for the sake of the lives of our loved ones, friends, and neighbors connects us even more deeply to Christ our Risen Lord. Indeed, we too will rise again! When the time comes to reunite in worship together our celebration will be one of the most memorable resurrection Sundays we have ever experienced!

In the meantime, starting Sunday March 29th, we will expand our worship reach in order to try to include as many of our church family as possible!

- 1) We will continue to post our worship video on Facebook at 11am as a "Watch Party" for all to watch together and interact in the comments. Even if you are not on facebook you can follow this link to watch: www.facebook.com/southpreschurch (You do not even have to join facebook, just decline the invitation when it asks!).
- 2) The worship video will also remain available on facebook and the church website throughout the week to watch when you are able. Go to www.southpreschurch.org/sermons to watch.
- 3) And finally...for those of you who are less comfortable with the internet **you can call in at 9 am on Sunday mornings using a mobile phone or landline** to listen to the audio of our service live as the staff record it! The number to call is +1 646 558 8656 and enter the meeting ID when prompted 779 566 4969.

Peace be with you,

Caitlin Dejeu

**Create your own palm for Palm Sunday!
Color your palm leaf, cut it out, and share
a picture with us. Don't be afraid to get
creative! You are limited only by your art
supplies and your imagination.**



We will still celebrate communion on Palm Sunday!
In our tradition communion is about the power of God's
Spirit to unite us with Christ's presence across all limits of
time and space. So we invite you to use whatever ordinary
bread and juice you have available to join in! Even a
simple cracker is welcome. But if you would like to make a
special loaf to share in your home, check out
our suggested recipes on the next page.

Palm Sunday Communion – Make Your Own Bread

*“I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?
I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.” - Isaiah 43:19*

It might be said that the most important ingredient in bread-making is time. We wait for the yeast to activate, for the dough to rise, and for the bread to bake. We are so hungry for it, and our mouths water as the smell of the baking bread fills our homes. And yet there is so little we can do to speed up the process. Making a good loaf of bread asks us to have patience, and to trust that the ingredients are at work transforming ordinary flour and water into something delicious.

We, too, are in a season of waiting. We wait to hear our leaders’ instructions, for the curve to flatten, for the sick to heal, for our favorite businesses to re-open, and to be reunited with our friends, family, and church. And yet, like bread-making, it can feel like there is little we can do to speed up the process. It’s an odd thing to be told that the most we can do to help is to stay home. And yet we are a people of hope, and that hope asks us to have patience and trust. As we wait in our homes, may we remember and trust in God’s promise to “do a new thing,” “to make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.” So as you bake your bread, as you watch the dough rise, think about these ordinary elements being transformed into something good. And remember that during this season of waiting, God is at work in the world, transforming it into something good.

Caitlyn Hathaway

Traditional Irish Soda Bread

4 cups all-purpose flour
1 ½ teaspoons baking soda
1 teaspoon salt
2 cups cold buttermilk*

** You can make your own buttermilk by adding 2 tablespoons of white vinegar or fresh lemon juice to 2 cups of whole or 2% milk. Let stand for 5-10 minutes*

- Preheat oven to 425 degrees. Grease baking sheet or line with parchment paper.
- Whisk together flour, baking soda, and salt. Stir in buttermilk until just combined.
- Transfer to counter and lightly knead dough until it comes together.
- Shape dough into an 8” round. Place on baking sheet and score top with an “X.” Bake 30 – 35 minutes

Honey Beer Bread

3 cups all-purpose flour
1 tablespoon baking powder
1 teaspoon salt
¼ cup honey
1 bottle of beer (12 oz)
¼ cup butter, melted

- Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
- In a large mixing bowl, combine flour, baking powder, and salt.
- Slowly pour beer and honey into flour mixture and stir until combined.
- Pour half the melted butter into the bottom of a 9 X 13 inch bread pan and brush it around to grease the inside of the pan.
- Add batter to the pan and spread out in an even layer. Brush remaining melted butter on top.
- Bake 40 to 50 minutes, until toothpick or knife inserted in middle comes out clean.
- Transfer pan to wire baking rack and let cool for at least 10 minutes.

Easter Sunday

Easter Sunday Scavenger Hunt

Enjoy an Easter morning walk around your neighborhood and search for these signs of life and resurrection all around you! We would love to see a photo of your Easter scavenger hunt findings on the church Facebook page- share with us!

- A tree with flowers
- A butterfly (or caterpillar!)
- Tulips in bloom
- A heart shaped rock
- A bird's nest (Bonus points for eggs!)
- Squirrels playing
- A neighbor waving to you
- Your reflection in a puddle
- Easter decorations at a neighbor's house

What else did you see that made you think of Easter? Tell us about it below:

Special Announcements

Nominate Elders For The Class of 2023

Your Nominating Committee invites the congregation to submit names for the elder nominations for the Class of 2023. (We prefer that you not inform that person of your suggestion.) The Committee will receive recommendations through Sunday, April 5th. Because we are taking a brief hiatus from worship services due to the coronavirus, we encourage you to submit your nominations directly to Elder Tracey Williams at tracey4163@gmail.com. Please give a brief reason for each name.

The following have been elected to serve on this year's Nominating Committee: Jim Davis, Brown Pearson, Sue Rhodes, and Tracey Williams, Moderator.

Communion Teams

We have a new need for a 4th communion team to finish out the year. This would involve preparing and setup, preparing travel kits as needed and cleanup on the Sunday your team is scheduled (roughly 3 or 4 times a year). Each team will be doing intinction services as well as Sundays when trays are served. Please contact Jan Belote to volunteer, and for more information.

Youth Sunday Plans

Looking ahead to May please mark your calendars for Youth Sunday on May 17th. This is always a special Sunday when our teenagers lead us in worship and share their gifts and wisdom with the whole congregation. I know some of our seniors are already planning what they want to share with us during their senior reflections!

Youth Group members please mark your calendars for our Youth Sunday planning meetings on the following days: Sunday, April 19th 6-7:30, Sunday, May 3rd, 6-7:30, Sunday, May 10th, 6-7:30. We will meet in person to plan if possible, but I will be also be sending a link to online planning meetings via email.

Session Highlights

The regular stated session meeting for March did not take place due to the closure of the church facility. Two called session meetings were held on Friday, March 13th and Wednesday, March 25th in order to address the recent coronavirus pandemic. The session decided to be proactive in making decisions for the protection of the congregation, by following mandated closures until April 23rd.

It is important to continue our support of staff and the church facility by continuing our financial support during this time. On a special note, please take care of yourself, your families, neighbors and other church members during this unique and unprecedented time in the life of our church.

Giving to Southminster

A heartfelt thank you goes out to so many of you who have taken the time to mail in your weekly or monthly offerings to continue to support our ministry during this time! We are so blessed as a church family to have such committed and generous spirits among us. The session is committed to keeping our essential ministries like worship, pastoral care, and our food closet fully funded for the sake of fulfilling the mission of our church. If you are able, we encourage you to continue to mail in your offerings to the church office or take advantage of our online giving program found at www.southpreschurch.org/giving. We know that this may also be a hard time financially for many of us, and we are also committed to supporting one another in any way that we can. Please contact Pastor Caitlin so that she can help connect you to the right resources. Thank you!

Easter Lily Orders

As you know, our Easter services will look a little different this year. Therefore, we have decided to keep up one important Southminster tradition—the ordering of Easter lilies. The lilies will be visible in the background of our Easter service video. After Easter services, we will plant the lilies on the grounds of the church as a reminder that beautiful things can bloom even in uncertain times.

Many of you have not had a chance to order lilies. Therefore we are extending our ordering deadline to Noon on **Friday, April 3rd**. If you would like to order lilies, please call or email the church office at 804-276-1749 or office@southpreschurch.org. Lilies are still \$10.00 each; payment can be mailed to the church. Please contact us with any questions.

Southminster Scholarship

The youth and young adults in our congregation have been blessed by the generosity of former and current members who contribute to our Scholarship Fund, helping our young members with college expenses. All eligible Southminster youth are encouraged to apply for the Southminster Scholarship. Applicants must be confirmed members of Southminster and attend at least two worship services or church-sponsored events each year. Due to the current suspension of worship services, applications and guidelines will be mailed to eligible students. If you think you are eligible and do not receive this mailing by the end of April, please contact the church office.

Save the Date for Camp Hanover Day Camp

It's hard to believe that Summer is just around the corner and I'm asking you to save the date for another fun-filled week of Camp Hanover Day Camp. This year Camp Hanover staff will be here August 3 - 7 from 8 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Cost for the one week day camp will remain the same as last year at \$150 per child with discounts for Southminster members and scholarships available. Online registration is now open at www.camphanover.org. Southminster is opening enrollment to children entering K-6th grade in the Fall of 2020. Please contact Sue Rhodes at cabinsue@verizon.net or call (804) 938-9299.

Bible Fun Week

Parents of children ages 2-5, mark your calendars for August 3-7. Southminster will once again present a fun filled week of Bible stories, songs and games. Look for more information to come. If you would like to volunteer or help with planning Bible Fun Week, contact Laura Pearson. Phone 804-387-3913 or email: Laura.Pearson53@gmail.com.

April Birthdays

- 2 Frank Farrington, Madison Pinchbeck
- 3 Chelsea Dixon, Kate Osborne
- 4 Samuel Charles Bunkholt
- 5 Jack Daniel, Trenton Williams,
Lynne Reeser
- 6 Isabella Paterson
- 7 Deb Ellenberg, Chris Endries
- 9 Cindy Howlett
- 12 Ron Raetz
- 13 Marty Griffin
- 14 Linda Bookman, Bonnie Endries
- 15 Natira Bookman
- 17 Mitchel Kirtley
- 18 Zach Pond, Andrew Smith
- 20 Bev Lamberton
- 21 Marsha Lane
- 22 Elizabeth Adiele
- 23 Joyce Lapsley
- 24 Russ Ellenberg
- 25 Sue Carlton, Erin McDonald
- 28 Edna Warncke
- 29 Declan Bowser, Bonnie Davis, Mary Stahl

April Food Closet Schedule

Food Closet

- 2 Mary Stahl, Shelley Murray
- 7 Terry Liendecker, Lyndale Baptist
- 9 Edna Warncke, Melba Jolly
- 14 Mary Stahl, Jane Tarter
- 16 Margaret Hall, Lyndale Baptist
- 21 Gail DeCosta, Bonnie Kowalski
- 23 Jane Tarter, Terry Liendecker
- 28 Shelley Murray, Lyndale Baptist
- 30 Gail DeCosta, Bonnie Kowalski

If any volunteer needs or wishes to stay at home during this time, please contact Shelley Murray and a sub will be found. We want all of our volunteers to stay safe and healthy!

April Anniversaries

- 1 Richard & Barbara Jordanger (59)
- 5 Zachary & Morgan Krigelman (6)
- 6 Andrew & Mary MacKenzie Swenck (7)
- 6 Dan & Kitty Bice (34)
- 9 Will & Alicia Willis (25)
- 14 Rick & Pat Abbott (46)
- 20 Dan & Susan Pharr (23)

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

Directory Updates

Craig & Naomi Campbell
12455 SW 124th Path
Miami, FL 33186-5410

Remember in Prayer

Please pray for our military personnel, Sue Carlton, Jean Collier, Bob Davis, Matt Davis, Frank Farrington, Carolyn Griles, Bob Hall, Ann Kearns, Bev Lamberton, Marsha Lane, Alberta Lindsey, Shirley Martin, Jane McGee, Earl & Donna Medicus, Adele Robertson, Billy Smith, Liz Snead, Dave Thomas, Howard Vann, Ryan Witcher.

Presbyterian Women

The Southminster PW circles are on hiatus until further notice.

We encourage you to keep in touch with your circle moderators and members, and we'll see you again soon!

SOUTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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N. Chesterfield, VA 23235-5810

Phone: 804-276-1749

www.southpreschurch.org

office@southpreschurch.org

Return Service Requested

April 2020

Easter Sunday

April 12, 2020

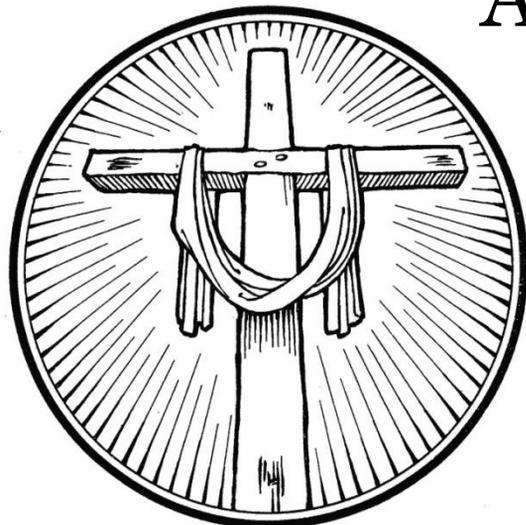
Celebrate with us online at 11:00 AM

facebook.com/southpreschurch

Call in live at 9:00 AM

1-646-558-8656

Meeting ID 779 566 4969



Would you like to receive your newsletter electronically?

Send an email to office@southpreschurch.org with *Add Me To Newsletter List* in the subject line.