



From the Pastor

As we enter our second Holy Week and Easter of Covid-19, my thoughts are full of what a year of pandemic life has meant. The list of grief is long-- family members gone, funerals missed, plans upended, and the sacrifice of isolation. In the community we have seen jobs lost, homelessness on the rise, businesses closed, and schools, families, and caregivers stretched to the breaking point.

Yet here we are again at Easter, the ultimate celebration of hope. And finally, it does feel a bit like Easter is coming. We may not quite be there yet, but the hope of hugs, and singing, and fellowship is on the horizon. It is so close we can almost taste it...which makes it all the harder to be patient and wait for our friends to get their vaccines too and for restrictions to be eased. I anticipate this will be a hard season, full of that sense of almost, but not yet. As Christians we ought to be well trained for this in-between time of darkness before the dawn, this liminal space where we wait with our toes curled just over the threshold. We ought to be well trained, because that kind of already-but-not-yet waiting is what the Christian life is all about. We know that Jesus is already risen, yet we still wait for the fullness of God to come on earth. We know we are forgiven and freed, yet we still long for that day when we will see and know God fully. We know that the victory of Easter has already been won, but we are still waiting to experience the fullness of God's glory. The Christian life is a practice of living in the in-between, and this Easter will embody that tension more than ever. So even as we wait, we still celebrate and look forward to the promise of what is to come!

Peace, *Pastor Caitlin*

Until That Day *By Rev. Sarah Are*

We cannot shake hands right now.
We cannot hug or kiss cheeks.
We cannot lean in to tell stories
Or draw close to pray.
We cannot pass the peace
Or even pass the time in each other's homes.
We cannot eat together,
Because the world is sick.

So instead of holding each other,
We hold distance.
We hold masks.
We hold statistics on the tips of our tongues.
We hold fear,
We hold space,
We hold tense conversations.

Maybe by the time you're reading this,
The day will have come
For all God's people to be gathered at Table.

Maybe by the time you're reading this,
We will be eating together.

Maybe we'll be hugging.
Hopefully there will be dancing
And laughing and kissing
And leaning in to tell stories,
And throwing our heads back to laugh.

But until that day,
I will wiggle my toes,
And think of footwashing.
I will eat sweet bread,
Ravenously,
And remember Communion.
I will close my eyes,
And picture your face.
I will clasp my hands
And know—
As sure as one palm knows the other—
That we are being held.
We are being held together.

*Used with permission from sanctifiedart.org
Written in December 2020*

Southminster Ringers 2021

The Bell Choir is back in action! Our first rehearsal will be Wednesday, April 7th. We will meet and rehearse every Wednesday evening from 7pm-8pm. Health and safety is a priority, so we will continue to require masking and physical distancing during rehearsals and performances.

We are accepting new members! If you have been a part of the Sanctuary Choir or the bell choir in the past, or if you are looking for a new way to share your gifts and be a part of our worship services, this is the perfect opportunity! No experience is required, and basic music reading skills will be taught as we learn each piece of music. You are especially encouraged to join us if you do have music reading skills. Anyone who has an interest should contact Kimberly Ryan at keliseryan@gmail.com.

April Worship Update- A Virtual Sunday and Outdoor Worship

We have been so grateful to be able to move to hybrid worship in March and to enjoy having a small group of worshipers in the sanctuary. We continue to watch the Covid-19 numbers and observe CDC safety guidelines, but we are encouraged by the positive vaccine response from so many of you. Here are two important updates for April Worship:

- 1) This Lent and Easter, our staff has really gone above and beyond, especially when it comes to the technical creativity of creating special videos, music, and other online opportunities! So, the session has unanimously voted to make **Sunday, April 11th an Online-only Worship Service** led by the Campus Ministry at UKirk Greensboro. This will show our gratitude to our music and pastoral staff by giving them a Sunday off. Worship can be accessed at two locations- www.southpreschurch.org/online-worship or on our Facebook Page.
- 2) This Sunday off will give the staff a chance to recharge and get ready for a new season of outdoor worship! Our **First Outdoor Worship Service will be Sunday, April 25th at 9 AM** in the Outdoor Chapel. This service will also continue to require masks and distancing. All are welcome to this simplified outdoor service. Bring your own chair or sit on one of our benches to enjoy worshipping in the beauty of God's creation.

Church in the World**One Great Hour of Sharing**

One Great Hour of Sharing is our first PC(USA) special offering of 2021. Donations are used domestically and globally by the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) for three outreach missions: hunger assistance, natural disaster relief, and self-development of people.

Hunger actions include helping with immediate needs and addressing chronic poverty and its effects. In disaster relief, both the physical and the emotional needs of affected persons are addressed. Self-development of people helps those experiencing oppression, injustice, and poverty and to educate all Presbyterians about how these experiences affect our brothers and sisters. In this season of Lent and Easter, please prayerfully consider expressing your personal gratitude by helping others via this opportunity. The offering will be collected on Easter Sunday. Please mark all checks, "One Great Hour of Sharing."

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. (The Scholarship Committee will offer grace on the participation requirement due to the extraordinary circumstances of 2020.) Due to the ongoing Covid-19 situation, 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 at 804-276-1749.

Leadership & Planning

Nominate Elders for the Class of 2024

Your Nominating Committee invites the congregation to submit names for the elder nominations for the Class of 2024. (We prefer that you not inform the individual or individuals you nominate of your suggestion.) The Committee will receive recommendations through **Sunday, April 25th**. You may submit your nominations directly to Elder Frank Grier at grierf1@outlook.com. Please give a brief reason for each name.

The following have been elected to serve on this year's Nominating Committee: David Huff, Joyce Lapsley, Bob Warren, and Frank Grier, Moderator.

Facilities

Music Library: Call For Volunteers

We have been blessed in many ways by our new members who have come over from New Covenant. One major blessing has been the huge amount of choir music they have gifted to us.

Currently the music is all boxed up in the library next door to the choir room, and in need of some major filing! We hope to schedule one or two people at a time to spend an hour or more working on this project. At least one person present will need to have a computer and basic knowledge of how to use GoogleSheets (very similar to Excel) in order to search our music database. If you would like to help but are worried about the tech aspect, Kimberly will arrange to work with you or pair you with someone who can do that part.

We also have need of volunteers in the choir room; the choir cubbies are in need of a good clean-out. This would be a great way to help out that does not require any computer knowledge. The music can be placed in piles and filed away into the library after all the choir folders are emptied. If you are interested in helping with either of these projects, or if you would like more detailed information, please contact Kimberly Ryan at keliseryan@gmail.com.

Special Announcements

Save The Date For Day Camp

Save the dates, August 2—6, 2021, for day camp at Southminster Presbyterian Church. It is uncertain if we will be able to partner with Camp Hanover this year due to Covid-19. However if we are not, our staff and volunteers are already planning an alternative curriculum and series of activities for children entering kindergarten—6th grade. As in past years we will also offer a half-day program for toddlers and preschoolers. Keep watching for more information.

If you are interested in volunteering to help with either Day Camp or Toddler Fun Week, please contact Sue Rhodes (804-938-9299) or Laura Pearson (804-387-3913).

College Care Packages

Springtime not only means Easter, it also means saying an extra prayer for our college age young adults as they approach the end of the semester! This year we sent 11 care packages to our young adults to encourage them as they finish up what is probably the most difficult school year of their lives. Some of them are living in a dorm and following some kind of hybrid class schedule, others are living at home and doing classes entirely online. Still others are working their way through trade school or working part-time. These young adult years are so formative and all of our young adults have all handled this pandemic interruption with so much grace and fortitude—they definitely deserve some extra goodies from their church family!

Liberation Veteran Services

This is an invitation, especially to our newest members, to help support one of our local missions that is under our Church in the World Committee. For 4 years now, we have cooked and served a dinner meal to 20 – 30 homeless veterans five times during the year. Liberation Veteran Services (LVS) is a non profit organization located just a few miles from the church on Hull Street. They provide temporary housing and meals for homeless veterans, as well as services to support mental health, employment services, financial education, and ultimately permanent housing. We plan a menu ahead of time. We usually have 6 – 8 volunteers helping by cooking at home, purchasing prepared items, or helping to deliver the food. Although we are not able to personally serve the meal as we would in pre-COVID days, it is still a very rewarding service that we feel very honored to support.

Our next scheduled meal is Friday, May 7. If you are interested in learning more about it, please call Susan Pharr (804-690-5436).

Session Highlights

- Approved the start up of small groups Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Chair Yoga, and Bell Choir. Regular Choir will resume with certain restrictions, and will be pre-recorded.
- Outdoor Worship was approved to resume April 25th.
- In order to reduce cost and waste, it was approved to move the offertory/giving envelopes to a generic version and members will be able to opt in/out to receive them.



2021 Easter Lily Dedications

In loving memory of family and friends

In memory of Elizabeth & Bill Shermer

In honor of our first wedding anniversary

In memory of Harriette & Robert Young

In memory of all our Southminster members
who we could not say goodbye to in 2020

In loving honor of Elizabeth B. Young

In appreciation of our Southminster staff who
have worked so hard to keep us all worshipping
together in spite of the many challenges

From Jerry & Aileen Davis



Directory Updates

Nancy Bare

10361 Spring Run Road
Chesterfield, VA 23833

Brent & Jane Tarter

9109 Cold Water Circle
Chesterfield, VA 23832

Lauren Weddle

352 Sailfish Drive
Destin, FL 32541

David Kirtley

dbk12341@gmail.com

Lynn Sutton

Preferred Phone: 804-647-1890

Billy Smith

804-894-2104

Dennis & Riki Stone

Dennis Preferred Phone: 804-852-1372

Riki Preferred Phone: 804-350-8583

Candace Young

804-245-2400

c1s2y3@aol.com

Southminster Notes

Dear Southminster Family,

Thank you for all of the calls, cards, and prayers for Harry while he was recovering from eye surgery. It brought us both a great deal of comfort.

Sincerely,
Becky Rowan

April Birthdays

- 2 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
- 14 Bonnie Endries
- 15 Natira Bookman
- 17 Mitchel Kirtley
- 18 Andrew Smith
- 20 Bev Lamberton
- 21 Marsha Lane
- 22 Elizabeth Adiele
- 23 Joyce Lapsley
- 24 Russ Ellenberg
- 25 Erin McDonald
- 28 Edna Warncke
- 29 Declan Bowser, Bonnie Davis, Mary Stahl

April Anniversaries

- 1 Richard & Barbara Jordanger (60)
- 5 Zachary & Morgan Krigelman (7)
- 6 Andrew & Mary MacKenzie Swenck (8)
- 7 Bill & Patsy Hevener (60)
- 9 Will & Alicia Willis (26)
- 10 Doug & Wendy Briskman (1)
- 12 Clay & Debbie Spillman (41)
- 14 Rick & Pat Abbott (47)
- 20 Dan & Susan Pharr (24)

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

April Schedules

***If you cannot be present on your scheduled day,
please notify your schedule's organizer.***

***Due to the evolving Covid-19 situation,
some schedules may not apply if
Sunday service is online only.***

Elder Greeters

- 4 Rich Kowalski
- 11 Anne Smith
- 18 Eddie Pearson
- 25 Mary MacKenzie Swenck

Ushers

- 4 Guy Dixon, Jerry Davis
- 11 David Huff, Guy Dixon
- 18 Kathy Liesfeld, Guy Dixon
- 25 Gail DeCosta, Guy Dixon

Soundboard

- 4 Gary Smith
- 11 Mark Endries
- 18 The Crawfords
- 25 Gary Smith

Food Closet

- 1 Lyndale Baptist, Shelley Murray
- 6 Margaret Hall, Terry Liendecker
- 8 Gail DeCosta, Bonnie Kowalski
- 13 Mary Stahl, Lyndale Baptist
- 15 Jane Tarter, Lyndale Baptist
- 20 Shelley Murray, Lyndale Baptist
- 22 Jane Tarter, Terry Liendecker
- 27 Lyndale Baptist, Margaret Hall
- 29 Gail DeCosta, Bonnie Kowalski

Southminster Presbyterian Church

April 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Food Closet	2 Good Friday 8 AM: Good Friday Prayer Breakfast--Online	3 10 AM: Easter Egg Hunt
4 Easter Sunday 11 AM: Worship 3 PM: IPCN	5 Office Closed 12 PM: Chair Yoga 6 PM: BSA Scouts	6 Food Closet 6:30 PM: Girl Scouts 7:30 PM: IPCN	7 7 PM: Bell Choir	8 Food Closet	9 7:30 PM: IPCN	10 7:30 PM: IPCN
11 10:15 AM: Pastor's Aid 11 AM: Worship (Online Only) 3 PM: IPCN	12 12 PM: Chair Yoga 6 PM: BSA Scouts	13 Food Closet 6:30 PM: Girl Scouts 7:30 PM: IPCN	14 7 PM: Bell Choir	15 Food Closet	16 7:30 PM: IPCN	17 7:30 PM: IPCN
18 11 AM: Worship 1 PM: Session Meeting 3 PM: IPCN	19 12 PM: Chair Yoga 6 PM: BSA Scouts	20 Food Closet 6:30 PM: Girl Scouts 7:30 PM: IPCN	21 7 PM: Bell Choir	22 Food Closet	23 7:30 PM: IPCN	24 7:30 PM: IPCN
25 9 AM: Outdoor Worship 11 AM: Worship 3 PM: IPCN	26 12 PM: Chair Yoga 6 PM: BSA Scouts	27 Food Closet 6:30 PM: Girl Scouts 7:30 PM: IPCN	28 7 PM: Bell Choir	29 Food Closet	30 7:30 PM: IPCN	
Notes						
Disclaimer: Due to the evolving Covid-19 situation items on the calendar may be subject to change.						

SOUTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

7500 Hull Street Road

N. Chesterfield, VA 23235-5810

Phone: 804-276-1749

www.southpreschurch.org

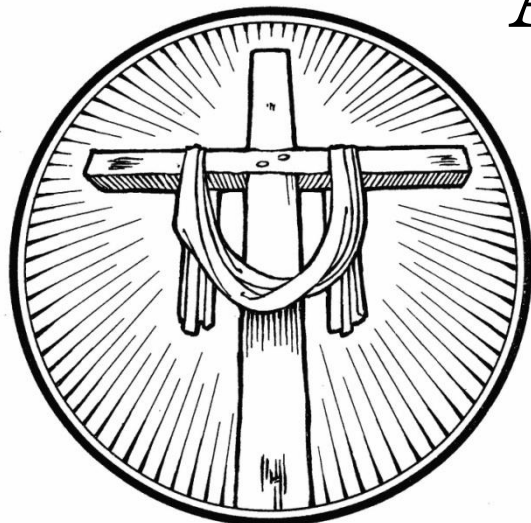
office@southpreschurch.org

Return Service Requested

April 2021

Easter Sunday

April 4, 2021



**Join us at 11:00 AM
for worship and communion,
in person and online.**

www.southpreschurch.org/online-worship

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.