



From the Pastor

Our Lenten Journey

When you receive this month's newsletter our faith community, and Christians everywhere, will have passed through most of the Lenten season which began on Ash Wednesday. At Southminster, we observed Ash Wednesday with a worship service. Toward the end of Lent we will observe Maundy Thursday with a worship service as well, which will take place on Thursday, April 14th in the evening.

The Lenten season is often referred to as a journey. We travel through Lent as both individual people and as a faith community. It is a journey that is characterized by self-examination and remembrance as we consider what it means to live faithfully as the people of God. It has been said by some that we can't get to Easter without going through Lent.

Lent is a season of waiting. It is a time for us to hit the "pause button" and do a "reality check" for forty days. During this time, we wait in anticipation of the coming of the other side of Lent, when we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ, on Easter Sunday.

Lent is a season of reflection. It is a season that calls us to be honest with ourselves and with our Creator as we prepare our hearts and minds for the mystery of the resurrection. It is a time to intentionally look back and think about our lives as we take stock of all that we are grateful for. It is a time to remember what we have learned from the past that will help us to live more faithfully as the people of God in the future.

Lent is a season of change. Often people choose to engage in some new activity during the season, perhaps joining in on a book study, or seeking to engage in some form of volunteer service. One common practice of this season is to give up something—perhaps a favorite food or a TV show—to live without it for a time. Others may decide to pray more regularly than usual or to make some other change in their personal lives.

Lent is also a season of rediscovery in God's infinite faithfulness and generosity to all people, even as the season calls us, as followers of Jesus Christ, to live more faithfully and generously in response.

Then when we get to Easter, having passed through Lent, we are renewed in our minds and spirits. We are ready to receive our Lord, Jesus Christ, anew singing "Alleluia!" May we all be renewed this Lenten season and blessed with joy as we enter the new season of Easter.

God's Blessings,

Mary Bielen

Covenant Pastor

Maundy Thursday

On April 14th we will observe our annual Maundy Thursday service at 7:00 PM. This service remembers Christ's last meal with his disciples in the upper room outside the walls of Jerusalem. It will also include readings of the events of that night: the time in Gethsemane, the betrayal by Judas, and Peter's denial. This portion is called "Tenebrae", the Latin word for "shadows". As the shadows grow we move toward the cross. Without the cross there is no glad Easter announcement. Please join us for this sacred time on Maundy Thursday.

Easter Egg Hunt

Sunday - April 17th
10:30 AM before Worship

Join us on the playground for our annual Easter Egg Hunt! Toddlers will be on the new playground and older children on the original playground. Bring your baskets (extras will be available) and join in the fun!

Church In The World

RISC Nehemiah Action

In his sermon on March 13, the Rev. Fred Holbrook praised Southminster for our work with "the least of these." RISC is one of the ways we serve thousands by advocating for affordable housing (and we have succeeded!), for gun violence intervention (we are not giving up, in spite of Mayor Stoney's attempts to ignore us), and for those whose mobile homes need repair or replacement (a new project we are addressing this year).

The Nehemiah Action is our annual gathering to present our programs to public officials. This year, it is IN PERSON! **We will meet at the church at 5:15pm on Tuesday, April 5, to carpool to the Richmond Convention Center**, where we hope to join over 2000 of our fellow RISC friends. Our goal is to send 65 from Southminster, so please join us! If you are immunocompromised, unvaccinated, or out of town, there is a Zoom option. The Convention Center holds 4000, so social distancing will be observed. Please call Shelley Murray to find out more.

Special Offering – One Great Hour of Sharing

In April, we will have the opportunity to contribute to this annual offering. The majority of the funds (90 %) will be used by the Presbyterian Church (PCUSA) for three missions: the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Program, the Presbyterian Hunger Program and the Self-Development of People Program. The remaining portion of your contribution will be used to assist our own Southminster Food Fund. In this time of Lent and Easter, please consider all we have been given and return a portion for these directed missions. We all have much to be thankful for.

Finance

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 2021.) Applications and guidelines will be available at the church and will also 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. Applications are due by June 15, 2022.

Leadership & Planning

Interim Pastor Update

The interim nominating committee (Rich Kowalski, Robin Lapsley, Clay Spillman, and Jennifer Weddle) have been working hard putting together the form which will soon be put on the Presbytery of the James' website. At that point, we will begin receiving applicants for this position. We will then begin interviewing with the hopes of finding someone to meet the needs of Southminster. Please see the committee members if you have any questions.

Facilities

Spring Work Party

The Facilities Committee will host a spring work party at Southminster on Saturday, April 2nd from 8:00 AM – 12:30 PM. Volunteers are needed to help get the church ready for Easter. Contact Brown Pearson for details.

Plastic Jars Needed

Brown Pearson is collecting plastic pint and quart jars which will be used to make carpenter bee traps for Camp Hanover. If you have jars you'd like to contribute, you may leave them for Brown in the church kitchen.

Presbyterian Women

Ruth Circle

April 5th at 2:00 PM
Conference Room

Anna Circle

April 12th at 6:30 PM
Debbie Greenberg's residence

Martha Circle

On hiatus until September

Save the Date for Bible Fun Week

Calling all parents and children! Mark your calendars and save the date for Southminster's Bible Fun Week : July 25 – 29, from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm. This year we will be offering a fun filled week of Bible stories, songs, and games to children ages 2 through 5th grade. And the fun does not stop there. Older children and teens are encouraged to come and help. We are also recruiting volunteers to make this year's program spectacular.

This year we will be using curriculum from the same company as last year. It is called "Passport to Peace." We will be having a Bible Fun Week committee meeting on Sunday, April 3 after church. If you are interested in volunteering for the week or even for a day, please join us. All are welcome.

Stay tuned for how to register in the May newsletter. If you have any questions or would like to volunteer but cannot make the meeting, contact Laura Pearson by phone: 804-387-3913 or email: laurapearson53@gmail.com.

Name Tags are Coming Back in April

Starting April 3rd we will be reinstating the use of name tags during worship.

There were many reasons for this decision, but the best is to get to know each other better. We have new staff members who will really appreciate this added tool which will help them get to know the congregation. It is also way to continue welcoming the former members of New Covenant, now part of the Southminster Church family.

Many area churches use permanent name tags that are kept at church to use every Sunday. We are investigating the best option for our church to do the same, but in the meantime please fill out a name tag on Sunday morning and get to know your neighbor!

Reception for Brett Eisenhauer

Brett Eisenhauer will be completing her time with us on April 24th. We want to thank her for all she has done for us during her Southminster internship, and to wish her well on her journey. We will have a reception in her honor after the service on the April 24th. Anyone who would like to help with the reception please contact Kathy Liesfeld.

Youth Sundays

May is an exciting month for our youth. The school year is winding down and, for some, graduation is approaching. It is also when Southminster honors and recognizes its young members with a special worship service.

This year, in order to let as many of our youth participate as possible, we are inviting them to take part on either Sunday, May 1st or Sunday, May 8th. If your child wishes to participate in either Youth Sunday service, please contact Jennifer Weddle at 804-690-7185.

Session Highlights

- Approved new COVID protocols based on the updated information by CDC and the Virginia Department of Health. A weekly review of the COVID Community Levels will determine the wearing of masks at Southminster. Of course, at any time, one may choose to wear a mask, but we will adhere to the following levels:
 - LOW or green, masks optional
 - MEDIUM or yellow, wear masks entering and exiting church building and sanctuary, masks may be removed while in church pew.
 - HIGH or orange, masks worn at all times in church building.
- Chesterfield County is currently at a LOW level, on Sunday April 3rd, we will begin to implement this new policy.
- We will begin the process of removing the yellow tape, while exploring the best way to clean the pew cushions. This process may take some time so please be patient.
- It was also passed that we will begin collecting the regular offering during the worship beginning April 3rd.
- Motion not to have session meeting in April, and change the May meeting to the 22nd was passed.
- A motion to move the current Children's worship area to the back of the sanctuary and move the Bell Choir tables in its place was passed.
- Approved the Ministry Information Form for the Interim Pastor position.
- Approved a motion to set outdoor worship schedule as June 5th – August 28 at 9am.

Directory Updates

Jerry Davis

JDavis@dmme-engineering.com

Frank & Joyce Grier

Preferred Phone: 804-399-8173

Phil Stillman

2422 University Park Blvd.

Henrico, VA 23233

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, Lee Spillman
- 12 Ron Raetz
- 14 Bonnie Endries
- 15 Natira Bookman
- 17 Mitchel Kirtley
- 18 Andrew Smith
- 20 Bev Lamberton, Shirley Reed
- 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, Ginny Ball
- 30 Crosby Solaimani

April Anniversaries

- 1 Richard & Barbara Jordanger (61)
- 5 Zachary & Morgan Krigelman (8)
- 6 Andrew & Mary MacKenzie Swenck (9)
- 7 Bill & Patsy Hevener (61)
- 9 Will & Alicia Willis (28)
- 10 Doug & Wendy Briskman (2)
- 12 Clay & Debbie Spillman (42)
- 14 Rick & Pat Abbott (49)
- 20 Dan & Susan Pharr (26)

***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.***

Communion Team

April 3: Team 3

April 14: Team 1 (Maundy Thursday)

Elder Greeters

3 Clay Spillman

10 Rich Kowalski

17 Anne Smith

24 Eddie Pearson

Ushers

3 Matt Briggs, David Huff, Marsha Lane, Guy Dixon

10 Kitty Bice, Rich & Bonnie Kowalski

17 Kitty Bice, Rich & Bonnie Kowalski

24 Pat Thomas, Kathy Liesfeld,
Jerry & Cheriene McCall

Visitation Team

10 Karen Stafford

17 Easter Lilies

Food Closet

5 Shelley Murray, Frank Grier

7 Gail DeCosta, Bonnie Kowalski

12 Mary Stahl, David Stahl

14 Jane Tarter, Ann Potts

19 Jane Williams, Frank Grier

21 Gail DeCosta, Bonnie Kowalski

26 Rose Spradin, Margaret Hall

28 Melba Jolly, Cheriene McCall

Southminster Presbyterian Church

April 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>3 Communion 10 AM: Sunday School 11 AM: Worship 12 PM: Bible Fun Week Meeting 3 PM: IPCN</p>	<p>4 10 AM: Balladeers 12 PM: Chair Yoga 6 PM: BSA Scouts 7:30 PM: IPCN</p>	<p>5 Food Closet 2 PM: Ruth Circle 5:15 PM: Nehemiah Action Car Pool Meet Up 7 PM: Girl Scouts 7:30 PM: IPCN</p>	<p>6 6 PM: Bell Choir 7:15 PM: Sanctuary Choir</p>	<p>7 Food Closet 6 PM: Girl Scout Service Unit Meeting 7 PM: Pinewood Derby Set Up</p>	<p>1 7:30 PM: IPCN</p>	<p>2 8 AM: Spring Work Day 11 AM: Vocal Workshop 2:00 PM: Concert 7:30 PM: IPCN</p>
<p>10 Palm Sunday 10 AM: Sunday School 10:15 AM: Pastor's Aid 11 AM: Worship 3 PM: IPCN</p>	<p>11 10 AM: Balladeers 12 PM: Chair Yoga 6 PM: BSA Scouts 7:30 PM: IPCN</p>	<p>12 Food Closet 6:30 PM Anna Circle 7 PM: Girl Scouts 7:30 PM: IPCN</p>	<p>13 6 PM: Bell Choir 7:15 PM: Sanctuary Choir</p>	<p>14 Food Closet Maundy Thursday 7 PM: Maundy Thursday Service</p>	<p>15 Good Friday 7:30 PM: IPCN</p>	<p>16 7:30 PM: IPCN</p>
<p>17 Easter 10:30 AM: Egg Hunt 11 AM: Worship 3 PM: IPCN</p>	<p>18 Office Closed 10 AM: Balladeers 12 PM: Chair Yoga 6 PM: BSA Scouts 7:30 PM: IPCN</p>	<p>19 Food Closet 7 PM: Girl Scouts 7:30 PM: IPCN</p>	<p>20 6 PM: Bell Choir 7:15 PM: Sanctuary Choir</p>	<p>21 Food Closet 10 AM: Triad Meeting</p>	<p>22 7:30 PM: IPCN</p>	<p>23 7:30 PM: IPCN</p>
<p>24 10 AM: Sunday School 11 AM: Worship 12 PM: Reception for Brett Eisenhauer 3 PM: IPCN</p>	<p>25 10 AM: Balladeers 12 PM: Chair Yoga 6 PM: BSA Scouts 7:30 PM: IPCN</p>	<p>26 Food Closet 7 PM: Girl Scouts 7:30 PM: IPCN</p>	<p>27 6 PM: Bell Choir 7:15 PM: Sanctuary Choir</p>	<p>28 Food Closet</p>	<p>29 7:30 PM: IPCN</p>	<p>30 8 AM: Trophy Judging 7:30 PM: IPCN</p>
Notes						

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www.southpreschurch.org

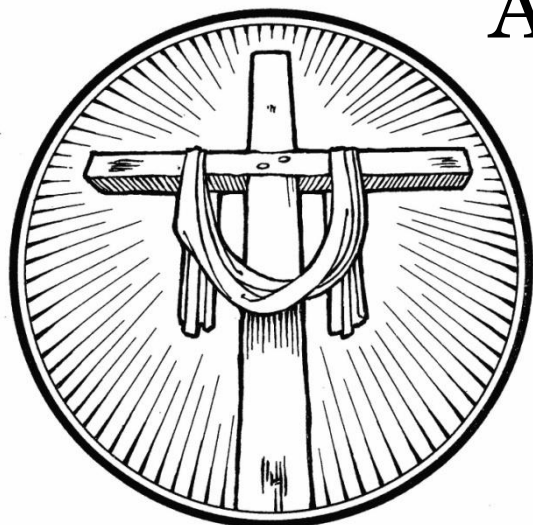
office@southpreschurch.org

Return Service Requested

April 2022

Easter Sunday

April 17, 2022



10:30 AM Easter Egg Hunt

11:00 AM 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.