



From the Pastor

Dear Southminster,

It started in a frenzy. This week. Holy Week. People's hosannas echo throughout the mountainous region. "Save us!" they cry out, creating a royal carpet of coats, cloaks, and tree branches for this proclaimer of good news as He enters Jerusalem.

This He, we must not forget, is Jesus, the Cross-Shattered Christ. The one who later this week, on Good Friday, gurgled from the cross "It is finished". It is not a death gurgle. "It is finished will not be, as we know from the tradition of the ordering of these words from the cross, His last words. "It is finished" is a cry of victory. It is the triumphant cry that what he came to do has been done. All is accomplished, completed, fulfilled work.

The work that is finished, moreover is the cross. He will be and is resurrected, but the resurrected One remains the One crucified. The Gospel of John makes explicit what all the Gospels assume – that is, the cross is not a defeat but the victory of our God. "Now is the judgement of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself" (John 12:28-32). That "lifting up" is the cross, the exaltation of the Son by the Father, making possible our salvation. Crucifixion is the way God rules. Crucifixion is Kingdom come. Crucifixion is life giving

God has finished what only God could finish. Christ's sacrifice is a gift that exceeds every debt. Our sins have been consumed, making possible lives that glow with the beauty of God's Spirit.

Blessed Holy Week to each one of you.

Rev. Jock O'Connell

Holy Week & Easter Schedule

Palm Sunday, April 2nd

11:00 AM Service

12:00 PM “Food From Around the World” Potluck Lunch

Maundy Thursday, April 6th

6:00 PM Service

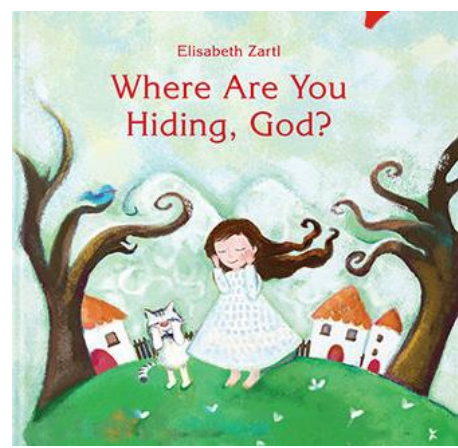
Easter Sunday, April 9th

10:00 AM Service

11:00 AM Easter Egg Hunt on the playground

New Children’s Books

Southminster librarian Jan Belote has recently selected and purchased several new titles for our children’s book collection. We invite members of all ages to check them out! The children’s books are stored in the white bookcase at the back of the Sanctuary. Some of the featured titles include:



Church In The World

One Great Hour of Sharing

One Great Hour of Sharing is our first PC(USA) special offering of 2023. 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. Applications and guidelines will be available at the church. Applications are due by June 15, 2023.

Leadership & Planning

Pastoral Care Staff Vacancy

In our last newsletter we reported that the search team for our new Faith Formation professional had completed the first phase of the search, updating and finalizing the job description to more accurately reflect the needs of the Southminster congregation.

On the recommendation of the search committee and advisors at Union Theological Seminary, the name of the position has been changed to Congregational Care and Spiritual Formation. The position has been posted on the seminary website. Many thanks for our search team for their continued hard work, and our advisors at the seminary for their assistance.

Livestream Enhancements Project

For the past several months, a team from Southminster has been working diligently on a project to improve the church’s livestream broadcast to members and guests who remotely join Sunday worship services on-line, from home or elsewhere. As this has become an important part of our ministry, there is great need to stay connected to church members who are unable to worship in-person. The team – consisting of David Flynt, Frank Grier, David Huff, Robin Lapsley, Jock O’Connell, and Gary Smith – has identified a plan to simplify the current livestream process, while improving the quality of our broadcast to viewers at home and building capability for future enhancements. Several financial gifts are making this project possible, including a significant gift from the family of Shirley Martin, monetary proceeds from the sale of New Covenant Presbyterian Church, and an individual donation for a new computer. The team is very grateful for these wonderful gifts – making this project possible. Work will begin in April, and the team is excited to see the outcome.

<p><u>Presbyterian Women</u></p> <p>Martha Circle April 5th at 10:00 AM Conference Room</p> <p>Ruth Circle April 4th at 2:00 PM Conference Room</p> <p>Anna Circle April 4th at 6:30 PM Debbie Greenberg’s residence</p>
--

Special Announcements

Bible Fun Week 2023

Save the Date: July 24th – July 28th

Calling all parents and grandparents, neighbors and friends! Before you know it, summer will be upon us, which means it is time to save the date for Bible Fun Week. Come learn and grow in faith with us as we explore Heroes in the Bible! Through stories, songs, crafts and activities we will once again bring God's Word to life. Come join in the fun. Invite your friends and neighbors.

Bible Fun Week is open to children ages 2 through 5th graders. (We ask that children who are not potty trained be accompanied by a parent or caretaker.) We encourage older youth to come and participate as young leaders. Look for sign up forms and more information in the Narthax and on the church website. An organizational meeting for volunteers who wish to help will be held on Sunday, May 7th after church in the Parlor. For more information, please contact Laura Pearson.

Manchester Concert Series Welcomes "The River Trio"

Join us on Saturday, May 6th at 4:00 PM for the third installment of our Manchester Concert Series. We are excited to welcome back Demas Boudreaux, former music director for Southminster Presbyterian Church, and his ensemble, "The River Trio."

The River Trio has been making music together for over a decade, offering mid-twentieth century jazz standards and the songs from before and around the Second World War. Typically, they play at private parties and events, but the group has offered to play for our Manchester Concert Series to help restock the Food Closet. Currently, Demas is music director at Saint Andrew's Episcopal Church in Oregon Hill and is delighted to come "home" to Southminster to see so many of you from years ago.

Admission to the concert is \$10.00 per person in support of the musicians, plus one non-perishable item for the Food Closet. This concert is open to the public. Please invite your family and friends!

Session Highlights

- It was approved to proceed with the installation of the upgraded audio-visual system for the Sanctuary to improve the livestreaming.
- "Meal of All Nations" potluck lunch to be held on Palm Sunday after worship. Chicken and spaghetti will be provided. People may sign up to bring a side or dessert.
- Bible Fun Week will be held during the week of July 24th – 28th.
- Approved the hiring of a bookkeeper under a contract basis to assist the Treasurer with accounting of the church.

Disaster Relief Mission Trip ~ Coming in May

Once again, I am putting a team together to help with the recovery from Hurricane Ian in Southern Florida. We have been to Little Gasparilla Island, Florida twice, and they were devastated. However, the damage also goes deep inland. This trip is being sponsored by the Presbytery of the James, with logistics and accounting provided by Southminster Presbyterian Church and myself, Brown Pearson. The dates are **May 13th through May 21st, 2023**. We are going inland this trip to Hardee County, FL to the town of Wauchula. It is a small community with much devastation and not much help so far.

As usual, we need able bodied people who can get in there and get to work. Any skill level is helpful at this point in time. These people will have been over 6 months and homes are still a mess. We are scheduled to be doing rebuild. I am looking forward to having a team of 24.

We have a place to stay with a kitchen. We will need to cook our own meals, so we can either get a volunteer to be our cook, or we can divide the job up. We will need our own air mattresses (or use their cots) and sleeping bags.

I promise you three things – 1. We will do manual labor (at your own pace) and you just might develop a skill you never thought you would have – 2. You will have one of the most positive experiences of your lifetime – 3. You will be making a huge difference in the lives of a number of very grateful people.

If you have an interest in being a part of this mission, please contact myself, Brown Pearson, at cbpearson3@erg-homes.com. I will be delighted to answer any questions you might have.

Directory Updates

Mark Endries

3609 Muirfield Green Place
Midlothian, VA 23112

Southminster Notes

I want to thank my Southminster family for the thoughtful cards, calls, emails, and texts I received after my knee surgery. Your thoughts and prayers no doubt helped my recovery. I am truly blessed!

Curtis Radt

What a delicious meal! It was perfect and no problems eating it with no bottom teeth. Thank all of you for all your hard work to feed people in need. Everything was absolutely wonderful! And the angel that made the beautiful prayer shawl. What a blessing. Thank you all so much! God bless each and every one of you!

*Blessings,
Peggy J. Morrow-Sanders*

April Birthdays

- 2 Madison Pinchbeck, Pat Stells
- 3 Chelsea Dixon, Kate Osborne
- 4 Charlie Bunkholt
- 5 Jack Daniel, Trenton Williams,
Lynne Reeser
- 6 Isabella Paterson
- 7 Chris Endries
- 9 Cindy Howlett, Lee Spillman
- 12 Ron Raetz
- 14 Bonnie Endries
- 15 Natira Bookman
- 17 Mitchel Kirtley
- 18 Andrew Smith
- 20 Shirley Reed
- 21 Marsha Lane
- 22 Elizabeth Adiele
- 23 Joyce Lapsley
- 25 Erin McDonald
- 28 Edna Warncke
- 29 Declan Bowser, Bonnie Davis,
Mary Stahl, Ginny Ball
- 30 Crosby Solaimani

April Anniversaries

- 1 Richard & Barbara Jordanger (62)
- 5 Zachary & Morgan Krigelman (9)
- 6 Andrew & Mary MacKenzie Swenck (10)
- 7 Bill & Patsy Hevener (62)
- 9 Will & Alicia Willis (29)
- 10 Doug & Wendy Briskman (3)
- 12 Clay & Debbie Spillman (43)
- 14 Rick & Pat Abbott (50)
- 20 Dan & Susan Pharr (27)

***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 6 (Maundy Thurs): Team 3

Elder Greeters

- 2 Mary Stahl
- 9 Clay Spillman
- 16 Jerry Davis
- 23 Curtis Radt
- 30 Laura Pearson

Facility Stewards

- 2 *TBD*
- 9 *TBD*
- 16 *TBD*
- 23 *TBD*
- 30 *TBD*

Ushers

- 2 Matt Briggs, David Huff, Marsha Lane, Guy Dixon
- 9 Kitty Bice, Rich & Bonnie Kowalski
- 16 Kitty Bice, Rich & Bonnie Kowalski
- 23 Pat Thomas, Kathy Liesfeld,
Jerry & Cheriene McCall
- 30 Pat Thomas, Kathy Liesfeld
Jerry & Cheriene McCall

Food Closet

- 4 Cheriene McCall, Ann Wilkins
- 6 Bonnie Kowalski, Ann Potts
- 11 Mary Stahl, David Stahl
- 13 Frank Grier, Shelley Murray
- 18 Jane Williams, Rose Spradin
- 20 Melba Jolly, Frank Grier
- 25 Mary Stahl, Ann Wilkins
- 27 Shelley Murray, Bonnie Kowalski

Southminster Presbyterian Church

April 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 8:30 AM: Work Day 7:30 PM: IPCN
2 Palm Sunday 10 AM: Adult Sun Sch 11 AM: Children's Sun Sch 11 AM: Worship 12 PM: Pot Luck Lunch 3 PM: IPCN	3 12 PM: Chair Yoga 6 PM: BSA Scouts 7:30 PM: IPCN	4 Food Closet 2 PM: Ruth Circle 6:30 PM: Anna Circle 7:30 PM: IPCN	5 10 AM: Martha Circle 4:30 PM RISC Team Mtg. 7 PM: IPCN Class (FH)	6 Food Closet Maudy Thursday 10 AM: Balladeers 5:30 PM: Bell Choir 6 PM: Manudy Thursday 7 PM: Sanctuary Choir	7 Good Friday 7:30 PM: IPCN	8 7:30 AM: IPCN Fasting 7:30 PM: IPCN
9 Easter Sunday 10 AM: Worship 11 AM: Egg Hunt 3 PM: IPCN	10 Office Closed 12 PM: Chair Yoga 6 PM: BSA Scouts 7:30 PM: IPCN	11 Food Closet 7 PM: Girl Scouts 7:30 PM: IPCN	12 7 PM: IPCN Class (FH)	13 Food Closet 10 AM: Balladeers	14 7:30 PM: IPCN	15 7:30 PM: IPCN
16 10 AM: Adult Sun Sch 10:15 AM Pastor's Aid 11 AM: Children's Sun Sch 11 AM: Worship 3 PM: IPCN	17 12 PM: Chair Yoga 6 PM: BSA Scouts 7:30 PM: IPCN	18 Food Closet 7 PM: Girl Scouts 7:30 PM: IPCN	19 7 PM: IPCN Class (FH)	20 Food Closet 10 AM: Balladeers 7 PM: Sanctuary Choir	21 7:30 PM: IPCN	22 9:30 AM: RMTA Event 7:30 PM: IPCN
23 10 AM: Adult Sun Sch 11 AM: Children's Sun Sch 11 AM: Worship 3 PM: IPCN	24 12 PM: Chair Yoga 6 PM: BSA Scouts 7:30 PM: IPCN	25 Food Closet 7 PM: Girl Scouts 7:30 PM: IPCN	26 7 PM: IPCN Class (FH)	27 Food Closet 10 AM: Balladeers 7 PM: Sanctuary Choir	28 7:30 PM: IPCN	29 7:30 PM: IPCN
30 10 AM: Adult Sun Sch 11 AM: Children's Sun Sch 11 AM: Worship 3 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 2023

Easter Sunday

April 9, 2023



10:00 AM Worship

11:00 AM Easter Egg Hunt

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.