



## From the Pastor

“God created human beings; he created them godlike,  
Reflecting God’s nature. He created them male and female.

God blessed them:

“Prosper! Reproduce! Fill Earth! Take charge!

Be responsible for fish in the sea and birds in the air,  
for every living thing that moves on the face of Earth.”

-Genesis 1, The Message

Spring has sprung (pollen and all) and with it comes the annual celebration of Earth Day, which this year took place on Saturday, April 22nd. On that same day a large march took place in Washington D.C. called the March for Science. It was not coincidental that these two events coincided. One of the primary focuses of the march was to lift up scientific approaches to protecting the earth for the health and prosperity of future generations.

I find it interesting that a core tenant of scripture and of our Christian faith—caring for God’s creation—is now seen as falling under the purview of science rather than as a primary responsibility of people of faith. It seems to indicate that we, the church, have fallen short our God given purpose in the first chapter of Genesis to be stewards over all the earth. Indeed, although caring for creation certainly still exists as a value in the church, you would be hard pressed to argue that it has been a primary concern over the last 25 years.

Contemporary popular opinion tends to assume that faith and science are diametrically opposed. I disagree with that premise whole heartedly, but on the issue of protecting God’s creation it seems that the goals of science and religion easily align. This month as you continue to enjoy the changing of the season, the blooming of the trees and flowers, the return of the birds and the bees (and even the mosquitos!), consider how you are claiming that call to be responsible for the earth. Perhaps you are planting a bigger garden with water from your new rain barrel, or trying to reduce the amount of trash you produce at home. Maybe you are keeping that bird feeder full or making your home more energy efficient as the summer months approach. You might even want to take the opportunity to learn more about the local environmental issues like restoring the Chesapeake Bay or protecting the James River from coal ash pollution. We live in a beautiful place and God has made it our responsibility to protect it.

Peace *Caitlin Dejeu*

### May Highlights

- |                                       |        |  |        |
|---------------------------------------|--------|--|--------|
| • <b>Spring Picnic</b>                | Page 2 | • <b>50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Taskforce</b> | Page 3 |
| • <b>Richwood Mission Trip Report</b> | Page 2 | • <b>Softball Schedule</b>                     | Page 4 |
| • <b>Southminster Scholarship</b>     | Page 3 | • <b>Southminster Yard Sale</b>                | Page 4 |

### **Spring Picnic**

Southminster will hold its annual spring picnic on Sunday, May 7<sup>th</sup> at 12:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Please bring a side dish or a dessert to share as we gather to celebrate sunny days and enjoy good company. Everyone is welcome.

### **Save the Date for Camp Hanover Day Camp**

Camp Hanover is bringing their day camp to Southminster July 31-August 4, 2017. Day camp is open to children entering K – 6<sup>th</sup> grades; it is not necessary to be a member of Southminster to attend. Camp will be held in the Fellowship Hall and on the church grounds, and will run from 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM.

While Southminster provides the space, Camp Hanover will provide experienced camp counselors who will conduct the daily activities. Days are filled with Bible stories, songs, arts and crafts, nature study, small group games, cooking over a campfire, and getting wet and wacky on Water Day!

The cost of camp is \$100 for the week, per child. Scholarships are available. If cost is a burden, or if you have questions or need more information regarding Day Camp, please contact Sue Rhodes at [cabinsue@verizon.net](mailto:cabinsue@verizon.net) or (804) 639-1096. Registration is now open, and new registrations will be taken through July 26<sup>th</sup>. Register for camp today online at <https://www.camphanover.org/summer-camp/day-camps/traveling-day-camps> or look for registration forms in the Narthex.

## **Church in the World**

### **Richwood Mission Trip**

On Saturday, April 1<sup>st</sup> twenty volunteers from twelve different congregations departed Richmond, bound for Richwood, West Virginia, a small town that suffered severe flood damage in June of 2016. This is Southminster's second such mission trip to Richwood, conducted in partnership with the Presbytery of the James; the first mission trip took place last October. Both trips were led by Brown Pearson.

After a five-hour road trip, the volunteers arrived in Richwood, a formerly thriving lumber and coal mining town. The region has unfortunately been in a steady economic decline for some time, making it even harder to bounce back from a natural disaster like last summer's flood. Some homes in the area are still unlivable, and the local high school was a complete loss. Students in Richwood are now bussed to a neighboring town.

It would be easy to become overwhelmed in the face of such extensive damage, but the team quickly got down to work, focusing on what they could accomplish during their week-long stay in Richwood. Thanks to the efforts of the Richwood Community Service leaders, the team had a specific assignment: assessing and repairing three local homes. The first home needed interior work, including electrical wiring, baseboard heat, lighting, painting, plumbing, and refurbishing the bathroom. The second home needed a new wheelchair ramp. The third home had the added complication of needing extensive cleaning and required the team to build a functioning bathroom.

Brown divided up the group into three teams, carefully matching skilled and unskilled volunteers, and they enthusiastically tackled the task set in front of them. Though the work and conditions were difficult, nothing dampened their spirits for long, not even the five inches of snow that fell toward the end of the week. By the time the team departed Richwood, it was with a sense of accomplishment at having made a difference for three Richwood households. To see pictures of our Richwood adventure, visit the photo gallery on Southminster's church website.

## Southminster Scholarship

Southminster has been blessed by the generosity of current and former members who wanted to establish a Scholarship Fund for our youth. Following the death of Zona Willis, half of the Willis Trust distributions have come to Southminster each year, designated to be used for college scholarships. In 2000, an anonymous donor gave \$100,000 to be invested in stocks, the dividends of which go toward scholarships. Current members also contribute to the Scholarship Fund. For the last few years, the Scholarship Committee has reviewed applications and distributed more than \$20,000 each year to eligible students.

The Scholarship Committee and the Session take the responsibility of honoring the donors' wishes very seriously, as well as recognizing the commitment of the students in completing their education and staying active in their church and community. In order to keep with the intent of the donors and changing educational requirements for students, some slight changes have been made to the scholarship guidelines. Applicants must be confirmed members of Southminster, and attend at least two worship services or church-sponsored events each year. We all support the efforts of our youth and want to stay connected with you.

*Kitty Bice, Moderator of the Scholarship Committee*

## Leadership & Planning

### Southminster's Upcoming 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

On May 5th, 1968 a very special worship service was held at the brand new Southminster Presbyterian Church to dedicate our building to the work of God. At that time the building consisted only of the sanctuary with the basement fellowship hall underneath-- but it was an exciting beginning of new chapter in our church's history. Although Porter Street Presbyterian Church had been established since 1870, after almost 100 years the congregation was starting fresh by moving to a new location and taking on a new name.

In May, 2018 our congregation will celebrate 50 years since that first Sunday in our beautiful new church. In honor of that milestone the Leadership and Planning Team is assembling a 50th Anniversary Taskforce to begin planning a celebration. This celebration will both look back at the history of the past 50 years, as well as focusing on the future and dreaming about where the next 50 years will take us. Keep a look out in this space for further information as the plans develop!

## Facilities

### Garden Update

Southminster's ever-expanding garden is already growing by leaps and bounds. A new bed was built on workday, giving us room for additional plants.

Our crop this year includes tomatoes, peppers, romaine lettuce, and kale. We have also increased the number of herbs, given their popularity with our Food Closet clients last summer.

If you haven't seen the new garden, we invite you to stop by and take a look. The garden is located at the back of the church across from the playground.

### Presbyterian Women

#### **Anna Circle**

May 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 PM  
Debbie Greenberg's residence

#### **Martha Circle**

May 3<sup>rd</sup> at 10:30 AM  
Christian Life classroom  
12:00 PM Lunch in Fellowship Hall

#### **Esther Circle**

May 9<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM  
Fellowship Hall

#### **Ruth Circle**

May 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM  
Conference Room

# Special Announcements

## Southminster Softball

The church softball season has begun, but it's not too late to sign up for the Southminster team. Men and women, from teenagers to senior citizens, can come play for as many or as few games as they wish during the season. No experience is required. If you are interested, call or text David Kirtley at 804-674-9625.

All games are held on Friday evenings at Harry G. Daniel Park at Ironbridge (6600 Whitepine Road, Richmond, VA 23237). Please come out and support the team!

## Southminster Team Schedule

<b>April 21<sup>st</sup></b>	7:00/7:30 PM	SPC vs. Bon Air Baptist	Field 8
<b>April 28<sup>th</sup></b>	8:30/9:00 PM	SPC vs. Kingsland Baptist	Field 9
<b>May 12<sup>th</sup></b>	8:30/9:00 PM	SPC vs. Belmont/New Life	Field 8
<b>May 19<sup>th</sup></b>	8:30/9:00 PM	SPC vs. Life Church	Field 8
<b>June 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	8:30/9:00 PM	SPC vs. Commonwealth Chapel	Field 8
<b>June 9<sup>th</sup></b>	7:00/7:30 PM	SPC vs. Woodlake	Field 8
<b>June 23<sup>rd</sup></b>	8:30/9:00 PM	SPC vs. Woodlake	Field 9
<b>July 7<sup>th</sup></b>	8:30/9:00 PM	SPC vs. Kingsland Baptist	Field 9
<b>July 14<sup>th</sup></b>	7:00/7:30 PM	SPC vs. Belmont/New Life	Field 8
<b>July 28<sup>th</sup></b>	9:00/9:30 PM	SPC vs. Bon Air Baptist	Field 8
<b>August 4<sup>th</sup></b>	7:00/7:30 PM	SPC vs. Life Church	Field 9
<b>August 11<sup>th</sup></b>	7:00/7:30 PM	SPC vs. Commonwealth Chapel	Field 9

## Southminster Yard Sale

Southminster will hold its first yard sale and bake sale on Saturday, June 24<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM. The proceeds from the yard sale will go to next year's mission fund. We invite all members and their families and friends to donate items for the sale. **Please note that we will not accept the following items: Clothing. Shoes. Car Seats. Mattresses. Televisions. Knives.**

Donations may be dropped off in the Fellowship Hall on Thursday evenings from 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM, from June 1<sup>st</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup>, and on Saturdays from 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM from June 3<sup>rd</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup>. Receipts will be given for all donations. Please do not bring items to the church outside of the designated drop-off hours.

We are also in need of volunteers to help on the day of the sale and to donate baked good for the baked sale (jams and jellies are also welcome). Sign-up sheets for volunteers will be available in the Narthex beginning on June 4<sup>th</sup>.

## Session Highlights

- Approved the movement of 18 individuals to the inactive roll.
- Met with Rich Hinchberger of the POJ Vision 20/20 Team and completed a questionnaire.
- Heard a report on the Community Yard Sale from Dianna Scott.
- Reviewed a report for the Leadership and Planning Committee regarding status of Ministry teams and planning related to the a 50 year anniversary celebration for Southminster.

## Remember in Prayer

Please pray for our military personnel, John Bowles, Lillian Brooks, Wanda Carneal, Mike Cifelli, Jean Collier, Carson Crenshaw, Ron Crenshaw, Matt Davis, Pete Gillispie, Bob Griffin, Carolyn Griles, Anna Hall, Bob & Net Hall, Ann Kearns, Bev Lamberton, Nellie Long, Earl Medicus, Lynda Reed, Adele Robertson, Eileen Robison, Louis Schelter, Eddie & Jenny Schiller, Betty Smith, Lynn Sutton, Dave Thomas, Howard Vann.

## Directory Updates

**Art & Ginny Williams**

804-210-0221

**Norma Poole**

919-377-8607

**Terry & Shelley Hamlin**

[shelleyrhamlin@gmail.com](mailto:shelleyrhamlin@gmail.com)

[terryrhamlin@gmail.com](mailto:terryrhamlin@gmail.com)

## Southminster Notes

Dear Southminster Family,

I want to thank you all for the many prayers lifted up on my behalf prior to, during, and after surgery, for my recovery. Also, a special thank-you to Rev. Caitlin Deyerle for being there to pray with my family and me prior to my surgery and for her other visits and follow-up phone calls. I would also like to thank all who came to visit, the many cards and phone calls, and flowers. Also, a big thank-you to Rich & Bonnie Kowalski who drove all the way to Amelia to deliver an Easter lily on Easter Monday, and for a wonderful visit.

Sincerely,  
*Wanda Carneal*

Dear Southminster Family,

Thank you so much for the loving care package. You can rest assured it went to good use! It's always a treat to receive the Valentine's care package and reminds me how blessed I am to have been raised with all of you!

Love,  
*Marley McDonald*

Dear Southminster Family,

Thank you so much for the thoughtful care package. You all are so kind to think of me and I enjoyed all of the wonderful treats. I'm so lucky to have such a loving and generous church family,

Love,  
*Kate Grier*

Dear Southminster Family,

Thank you so much for all the cards, kind words, and condolences for the recent passing of my mother, Shirley Dixon.

Sincerely yours,  
*Guy, Dorothy, and Chelsea Dixon*

## ***May Birthdays***

- 1 Melissa Rhodes Moore, Lauren Weddle
- 2 Bobbi Briggs
- 9 Guy Dixon, Heather Bailey
- 10 Ron Howlett, Don Watkins,  
Parker Fitzgerald
- 12 Marshall Chamberlain, Ron Crenshaw,  
Brad Howlett, Neil Raetz
- 13 Bob Hall
- 14 David Stahl
- 15 Margaret Hall, Ryan Willis
- 16 Linda Abercrombie
- 17 Art Wiggins
- 20 Jackson Tully
- 22 Lindsey Hamlin, Laura Pearson
- 23 Ron Witcher
- 25 Susan Pharr
- 29 Wendy Hevener, David Reeser

## ***May Anniversaries***

- 16 Marty & Dixie Kovacs (53)
- 17 Mike & Cindy Ferguson (20)
- 21 Jeff & Tammy McDonald (34)
- 24 Ron & Cindy Howlett (7)
- 30 Mark & Tracey Williams (25)
- 30 John & Marie O'Connor (8)

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

## ***May Schedules***

### **Communion Team**

Team 4

### **Elder Greeters**

- 7 Rick Schaffer
- 14 Deb Ellenberg
- 21 James Deyerle
- 28 Moses Adiele

## ***May Schedules, cont.***

### **Facility Stewards**

- 7 Mark Endries
- 14 Dixie Kovacs
- 21 Matt Briggs
- 28 Ben Nwoke

### **Door Greeters**

- 7 George & Barbara Reid
- 14 Rick & Pat Abbott
- 21 George & Barbara Reid
- 28 George & Barbara Reid

### **Ushers**

- 7 Gail DeCosta, Rich & Bonnie Kowalski,  
David Huff
- 14 Jan Belote, Kathy Liesfeld, Jane McGee,  
Pat Thomas
- 21 Jan Belote, Kathy Liesfeld, Jane McGee,  
Pat Thomas
- 28 Gerry Doyle, Johanna Williams,  
Frank & Joyce Grier

### **Flower Delivery**

- 7 *Communion: No Flowers*
- 14 Karen Stafford
- 21 Karen Stafford
- 28 Jan Belote

### **Food Closet**

- 2 Mary Stahl, Betty Smith
- 4 Debbie Crenshaw, Jane McGee
- 9 Terry Liendecker, Margaret Hall
- 11 Edna Warncke, Liz Snead
- 16 Gail DeCosta, Bonnie Kowalski
- 18 Jane Tarter, Rachel Clay
- 23 Terry Liendecker, Betty Smith
- 25 Mary Stahl, Melba Jolly
- 30 Liz Snead, Edna Warncke

# Southminster Presbyterian Church

## May 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b> 10 AM: Balladeers 6:30 PM: Cub Scouts	<b>2</b> Food Closet 7 PM: Anna Circle 7 PM: Girl Scouts 7:30 PM: IPCN	<b>3</b> 10:30 AM: Martha Circle 12 PM: Martha Luncheon 6 PM: Pot Luck	<b>4</b> Food Closet 7 PM: Presbyterians	<b>5</b> 7:30 PM: IPCN	<b>6</b> 7:30 PM: IPCN
<b>7</b> <b>Communion</b> 9:45 AM: Sunday School 11 AM: Worship 12 PM: First Sunday Prayers 12:30 PM Spring Picnic 3 PM: IPCN	<b>8</b> 10 AM: Balladeers 6:30 PM: Cub Scouts	<b>9</b> Food Closet 10 AM: Esther Circle 7 PM: CTTW Meeting 7 PM: Girl Scouts 7 PM: Ruth Circle 7:30 PM: IPCN	<b>10</b> 7:30 PM: Choir Rehearsal	<b>11</b> Food Closet 7 PM: Presbyterians	<b>12</b> 7:30 PM: IPCN	<b>13</b> 7:30 PM: IPCN
<b>14</b> <b>Mother's Day</b> 9:45 AM: Sunday School 10:15 AM: Pastor's Aid 11 AM: Worship 3 PM: IPCN	<b>15</b> 10 AM: Balladeers 6:30 PM: Cub Scouts	<b>16</b> Food Closet 7 PM: Girl Scouts 7:30 PM: IPCN	<b>17</b> 7:30 PM: Choir Rehearsal	<b>18</b> Food Closet 7 PM: Presbyterians	<b>19</b> 6 PM: Girl Scouts Movie Night 7:30 PM: IPCN	<b>20</b> 7:30 PM: IPCN
<b>21</b> 9:45 AM: Sunday School 11 AM: Worship 12:30 PM: Session Meeting 3 PM: IPCN	<b>22</b> 10 AM: Balladeers 6:30 PM: Cub Scouts	<b>23</b> Food Closet 7 PM: Girl Scouts 7:30 PM: IPCN	<b>24</b> 7:30 PM: Choir Rehearsal	<b>25</b> Food Closet 7 PM: Presbyterians	<b>26</b> 7:30 PM: IPCN	<b>27</b> 7:30 PM: IPCN
<b>28</b> 9:45 AM: Sunday School 11 AM: Worship 3 PM: IPCN	<b>29</b> Memorial Day Office Closed 10 AM: Balladeers 6:30 PM: Cub Scouts	<b>30</b> Food Closet 7 PM: Girl Scouts 7:30 PM: IPCN	<b>31</b> 7:30 PM: Choir Rehearsal			
		Notes				

**SOUTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

7500 Hull Street Road

N. Chesterfield, VA 23235-5810

Phone: 804-276-1749

[www.southpreschurch.org](http://www.southpreschurch.org)

[office@southpreschurch.org](mailto:office@southpreschurch.org)

**Return Service Requested**

**May 2017**



**Chapel in the Woods**  
begins on June 11<sup>th</sup>

Join us at 8:45 AM on Sunday  
mornings for an informal service  
in our outdoor chapel

Would you like to receive your newsletter electronically?

Send an email to [office@southpreschurch.org](mailto:office@southpreschurch.org) with *Add Me To Newsletter List* in the subject line.