

### *From the Pastor*

A year ago, our Leadership and Planning team decided to take a considered look at our capital improvement plans. The committee gathered ideas from many different church members, committees, and staff, and undertook a holistic assessment to prioritize the projects most important to the mission and vision of our congregation. I am so grateful for the energy the Leadership and Planning team gave to this challenge. They dove into research and planning, and after careful consideration they came to session with three recommendations. Here we are several months later and all three of these projects have now been completed! So, I want to take this opportunity give thanks for the work, resources, and vision that went into these three projects.

1. Worship is the center of our life of faith. That is why the upgrade of the lighting in our worship space took top priority. After years of hearing feedback about the need for better lighting in the sanctuary we were able to upgrade our standard bulbs to LED bulbs. This switch increases visibility, especially upstairs and underneath the choir loft, and it provides long-term savings on energy costs. This project was made possible through the responsible stewardship of our church leaders, who have carefully set aside funds for capital improvements like this one.
2. Our second priority came as a recommendation from our staff as a pastoral care issue—the need for better accessibility for wheelchairs and walkers in our church restrooms. With the conviction that no one should ever be deterred from attending church because of their age or ability, the committee recommended designating one of our narthex bathrooms as a unisex, handicap-accessible bathroom. This bathroom now has an open layout for easy maneuverability, complete with a support bar, accessible sink, and external locking door for privacy. This is a high impact project with a small price tag. It was completed through the work of several dedicated volunteers, with funds from our regular operating budget.
3. Finally, the most fun project of the three! The committee recommended the installation of a new playground for our youngest members. Our former playset has served us well for the past 30 years. But even the most solidly built equipment needs updating after being exposed to the elements for so many years. Our dream was to find a new playset that would be of equal quality, built to last for our next generation of Southminster youth. We were able to make this dream a reality because of the financial generosity of the Christopher Stone Memorial Fund. This fund was set up in Christopher’s memory with the intention that it be used to support the children and youth ministry of Southminster. We will dedicate our new playground on May 5<sup>th</sup> at our Spring Picnic with a special thanks to the Stone family and all those who made this project possible.

*Carlin Deyle*

### May Highlights

• <b>Youth Sunday</b>	Page 2	• <b>Director of Faith Formation</b>	Page 3
• <b>Summer Worship</b>	Page 2	• <b>Day Camp</b>	Page 4
• <b>Southminster Scholarship</b>	Page 3	• <b>RISC Nehemiah Assembly</b>	Page 5

## Youth Sunday & Graduate Recognition

On **Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup>** the Southminster Youth will lead us in worship. This is always a special Sunday and this year in honor of the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Mental Health Awareness Month the youth will be lifting up stories, prayers and resources around the importance of mental health.

Youth Sunday is also a day to recognize milestones in the lives of our young people. This year Mitchel Kirtley will be sharing his reflections as a graduating High School senior. We will also recognize all of our other students who are graduating this year. If you have a child or grandchild you would like to be recognized during this service please contact the church office ([office@southpreschurch.org](mailto:office@southpreschurch.org)) with their name and information on or before May 15<sup>th</sup>.

## Summer Worship

We will begin our summer worship schedule on Sunday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>!

**8:45 am- Outdoor Worship in the Chapel in the Woods:** This service is family friendly, active children are welcomed, and dress is casual. Bring a blanket to reserve your spot on a bench or your own lawn chair for extra comfort.

**10:00 am- Gather for Coffee Hour in the Fellowship Hall or on the Playground**

**11:00 am- Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary:** As the choir takes summer vacation, we will be blessed with special solo music throughout the summer season. If you, your children, or grandchildren play an instrument or sing and would like to share your musical gifts this summer please reach out to our Music Director Kimberly Ryan at [keliseryan@gmail.com](mailto:keliseryan@gmail.com).

## *Church in the World*

### Food Closet

Southminster's Food Closet has been a vital mission to our community for decades. Any Chesterfield County residents who call or visit us in need of food are requested to call CCHASM (Chesterfield Colonial Heights Alliance for Social Ministry), which acts as a clearinghouse. Once CCHASM has verified a need, clients are referred to one of over a dozen food closets in Chesterfield County.

Our Food Closet is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM and is staffed by volunteers from Southminster and from Lyndale Baptist Church. We serve as many as four families each day. Clients are provided with groceries that are assembled by the volunteers and are designed to provide breakfast, lunch, and dinner for 3-5 days. Volunteers are never asked to decide if our clients "deserve" food; their main ministry is to serve and to listen, sometimes to pray, as our clients experience this stressful and sometimes embarrassing time in their lives.

The Southminster Food Closet could not operate without the support of our members and our partner churches. Many of you have contributed groceries or have given to the Food Fund. We receive regular donations of food from Swift Creek Presbyterian, Lyndale Baptist, St. David's Episcopal, First Congregational Christian, Providence United Methodist, and Lutheran Church of Our Saviour. We also rely on money raised by our monthly Sensability Offering, which in April raised a record \$333.10.

If you are interested in helping with this ministry, the scheduling can be arranged to suit your preferences. Please call Shelley Murray (897-3571) for more info.

**Southminster Scholarship**

The youth and young adults in our congregation have been blessed by the generosity of former members who setup endowments in their estate planning documents or in honor of loved ones, as well as current members who contribute to the Scholarship Fund. 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 Session takes the responsibility of honoring the donors' wishes very seriously, as well as, recognizing the commitment of the students in completing their education and the staying active in their church and community. Applicants must be confirmed members of Southminster and attend at least two worship services or church-sponsored events each year.

*Kitty Bice, Moderator of the Scholarship Committee*

**Leadership & Planning****New Staff**

Earlier this year the session voted to designate the funds to open a new staff position. This new Director of Faith Formation position will provide opportunities for intergenerational fellowship and growth for all of our members, with a particular focus on children and families. This position is designed to replace the position of Pastoral Assistant within the next year. It will also allow our Pastor to continue prioritizing her core duties of worship, administration, and pastoral care.

We are excited to welcome Caitlyn Hathaway who will begin in this new 10 hour/week position on May 1st. Caitlyn is a first-year student at Union Presbyterian Seminary. Prior to coming to Southminster Caitlyn graduated from Presbyterian College, served for a year as a Young Adult Volunteer with the PC(USA) and served on the staff of Shandon Presbyterian Church in Colombia, South Carolina. Caitlyn will also expand her role with us next fall by serving as our Seminary Intern. Please help us give her a warm Southminster welcome!

**Facilities****Work Day Thanks & Kudos**

Thank you to all who turned out for our Spring Work Day! We had a record turnout and got a lot of work done making our church welcoming and tidy. Small repairs were done throughout the building. New dry erase boards were hung in adult classrooms, the Southminster garden was prepped for growing season, and all of our windows and doors were cleaned. A wonderful team of workers in the kitchen dug deep into all of the cabinets and drawers- clearing out unused items, reorganizing, and even adding new contact paper to the shelves. Thank you to everyone who contributed!

**Presbyterian Women****Ruth Circle**

May 7<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 PM  
Conference Room

**Anna Circle**

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

**Martha Circle**

May 1<sup>st</sup> at 10:00 AM  
Christian Life classroom

**Esther Circle**

May 14<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM  
Fellowship Hall

**Southminster Yard Sale**

Southminster will hold a yard sale on Saturday, June 15th from 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM. The proceeds from the yard sale will support church projects including missions. Everyone is invited to donate items for the sale. **Please note that we will not accept the following items: Shoes. Car Seats. Mattresses. Televisions (other than flat screen). Weapons. Large furniture items (i.e. entertainment centers).**

This year we will accept clothing for all ages. Items must be gently used, clean, and in good condition.

Donations may be dropped off in the Fellowship Hall on the following dates. Receipts will be given upon request. Please do not bring items to the church outside of the designated drop-off hours. If you cannot make it to one of the scheduled drop-offs, please contact David Huff, Dianna Scott, or Dixie Kovacs to schedule a time.

Thurs. May 30	5:00 – 7:00 PM	Sat. June 8	3:00 – 5:00 PM
Sat. June 1	3:00 – 5:00 PM	Tues. June 11	5:00 – 7:00 PM
Tues. June 4	5:00 – 7:00 PM	Thurs. June 13	5:00 – 7:00 PM
Thurs. June 6	5:00 – 7:00 PM		

We are in need of volunteers to help take in donations, set up, work on the day of the sale, and packing up the leftover items to give to Goodwill. Sign-up sheets for volunteers will be available in the Narthex. If you would like to volunteer or have any questions about the yard sale, please contact Dixie Kovacs (804-745-0963), David & ChiChi Huff (804-276-8538), or Dianna Scott (804-398-0226).

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

Camp Hanover will bring their traveling day camp to Southminster from July 29 – August 2, 2019. Day camp is open to all children entering K – 6<sup>th</sup> grades; neighbors, friends, and visitors are welcome. 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.

The cost of camp is \$150 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 1<sup>st</sup> for paper registrations and through July 19<sup>th</sup> for online registrations. Register for camp today online at [www.camphanover.org/southminster19](http://www.camphanover.org/southminster19) or look for registration forms in the Narthex.

**Bible Fun Week for Toddlers & Preschoolers**

During the week of Day Camp, July 29 – August 2, we will offer a special program of Bible stories and fun activities for toddlers and preschoolers. The toddler program will run from 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM. Parents are welcome to drop their children off for all or part of the fun, or stay and play themselves.

Sign up sheets for participants and volunteers are available in the Narthex. If we have a need a nursery will be provided. For more information or to volunteer, contact Laura Pearson at [LauraPearson53@gmail.com](mailto:LauraPearson53@gmail.com) or 804-387-3913.

## RISC Nehemiah Assembly

“The culminating event of the entire year for RISC and congregations!”

This RISC event at 7:00PM on May 2nd, held at Good Shepherd Baptist Church (1127 N 28<sup>th</sup> Street), is surely its biggest meeting, but thrives only if partner congregations participate. As the newest partner congregation, Southminster received recognition at the Justice Rally in early April. Twelve Southminster members were there to represent our church, and RISC has asked us to triple that number for the Nehemiah Action.

This year’s plan is to continue trauma informed response programs for schools and to stop the Richmond eviction crisis through the Affordable Housing Trust Fund and Eviction Diversion Programs. Your presence offers crucial support to RISC, who will be asking local decision makers to commit to funding these programs and to create policies that solve these community problems. As a church committed to “Loving God and Neighbor”, we must partner with our sister and brothers, the many faith communities of Richmond, to tackle problems too big for any one faith body to tackle alone.

### Remember in Prayer

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

### Southminster Notes

I am so very thankful for all the cards, phone calls, and expression of kindness from so many members of our Southminster family during my brother Bob’s hospice care and passing. Your thoughtfulness and concerns are greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,  
*Winki Lampe*

Thanks for the snacks and treats. It means a lot to me to have your support. Thanks again to Southminster for the love and support.

*Trenton Williams*

Dear Church Family,

I want to say thank you for the care package I received. It was a wonderful surprise to get so many goodies! Thank you!

*Michaela Williams*

Southminster Presbyterian Church,

I would like to thank each of you for your prayers, visits, cards, phone calls, and the great number of Southminster members at the funeral service of Gloria. Our minister Rev. Caitlin did a lovely job. Thanks to all.

*Bob Hall*

## ***May Birthdays***

- 1 Lauren Weddle
- 2 Bobbi Briggs
- 9 Guy Dixon
- 10 Ron Howlett, Don Watkins,
- 12 Ron Crenshaw
- 13 Bob Hall
- 14 David Stahl
- 15 Margaret Hall, Ryan Willis
- 16 Linda Abercrombie
- 22 Lindsey Hamlin, Laura Pearson,  
Kate Bunkholt, Owen Bunkholt
- 23 Ron Witcher
- 24 Elizabeth Waldron
- 25 Susan Pharr
- 29 Wendy Hevener, David Reeser

## ***May Anniversaries***

- 16 Marty & Dixie Kovacs (55)
- 17 Mike & Cindy Ferguson (22)
- 21 Jeff & Tammy McDonald (36)
- 24 Ron & Cindy Howlett (39)
- 30 Mark & Tracey Williams (27)

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

## ***May Schedules***

### **Communion Teams**

May 5: Team 2 - Intinction

### **Elder Greeters**

- 5 Marty Kovacs
- 12 Matt Briggs
- 19 Naomi Campbell
- 26 Tracey Williams

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

### **Facility Stewards**

- 5 Mark Endries
- 12 Brown Pearson
- 19 Ben Nwoke
- 26 Bob & Marty Griffin

### **Door Greeters**

*If you would like to volunteer to be a door greeter in May, please contact Eniko Ferenczy at [eferenczy@gmail.com](mailto:eferenczy@gmail.com) or 804-276-1749.*

### **Ushers**

- 5 Kathy Liesfeld, Pat Thomas,  
Ron Hepp, Jacob Wetzel
- 12 Kathy Liesfeld, Pat Thomas,  
Ron Hepp, Jacob Wetzel
- 19 Youth Sunday
- 26 Frank & Joyce Grier,  
Terry Liendecker, David Huff

### **Flower Delivery**

- 5 Communion
- 12 Karen Stafford
- 19 Karen Stafford
- 26 Karen Stafford

### **Food Closet**

- 2 Jane Tarter, Margaret Hall
- 7 Terry Liendecker, Lyndale Baptist
- 9 Gail DeCosta, Bonnie Kowalski
- 14 Becky Rowan, Mary Stahl
- 16 Jane Tarter, Lyndale Baptist
- 21 Margaret Hall, Mary Stahl
- 23 Barbara Reid, Jane Tarter
- 28 Shelley Murray, Lyndale Baptist
- 30 Gail DeCosta, Bonnie Kowalski

# Southminster Presbyterian Church

## May 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>5 Communion</b> 10 AM: Sunday School 11 AM: Kehillah 11 AM: Worship 12 PM: First Sunday Prayers 12:30 PM: Spring Picnic 3 PM: IPCN	<b>6</b> 8 AM: Lifeline Screening 10 AM: Balladeers	<b>7 Food Closet</b> 2 PM: Ruth Circle 7 PM: Anna Circle 7 PM: Girl Scouts 7:30 PM: IPCN	<b>1</b> 10 AM: Martha Circle 6 PM: Pot Luck 7:30 PM: Choir Rehearsal	<b>2 Food Closet</b> 7 PM: Presbyterians	<b>3</b> 2 PM: LVS Cooking 7:30 PM: IPCN	<b>4</b> 7:30 PM: IPCN
<b>12 Mother's Day</b> 10 AM: Sunday School 10:15 AM: Pastor's Aid 11 AM: Worship 3 PM: IPCN 6 PM: Youth Sunday Prep	<b>13</b> 10 AM: Balladeers 11 AM: Chair Yoga 6:30 PM: BSA Scouts	<b>14 Food Closet</b> 10 AM: Esther Circle 7 PM: Girl Scouts 7:30 PM: IPCN	<b>15</b> 7:30 PM: Choir Rehearsal	<b>16 Food Closet</b> 7 PM: Presbyterians	<b>17</b> 6 PM: Girl Scouts Movie Night 7:30 PM: IPCN	<b>18</b> 12 PM: IPCN Event 7:30 PM: IPCN
<b>19 Youth Sunday</b> 10 AM: Sunday School 11 AM: Kehillah 11 AM: Worship 12:30 PM: Session 3 PM: IPCN	<b>20</b> 10 AM: Balladeers 11 AM: Chair Yoga 6:30 PM: BSA Scouts	<b>21 Food Closet</b> 5:30 PM: Girl Scout End of Year Ceremony 7:30 PM: IPCN	<b>22</b> 7:30 PM: Choir Rehearsal	<b>23 Food Closet</b> 7 PM: Presbyterians	<b>24</b> 7:30 PM: IPCN	<b>25</b> 7:30 PM: IPCN
<b>26</b> 10 AM: Sunday School 11 AM: Worship 3 PM: IPCN	<b>27 Memorial Day</b> Office Closed 10 AM: Balladeers 6:30 PM: BSA Scouts	<b>28 Food Closet</b> 7 PM: Girl Scouts 7:30 PM: IPCN	<b>29</b>	<b>30 Food Closet</b> 5 PM: Yard Sale Intake 7 PM: Presbyterians	<b>31</b>	
		Notes				

**SOUTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

7500 Hull Street Road

N. Chesterfield, VA 23235-5810

Phone: 804-276-1749

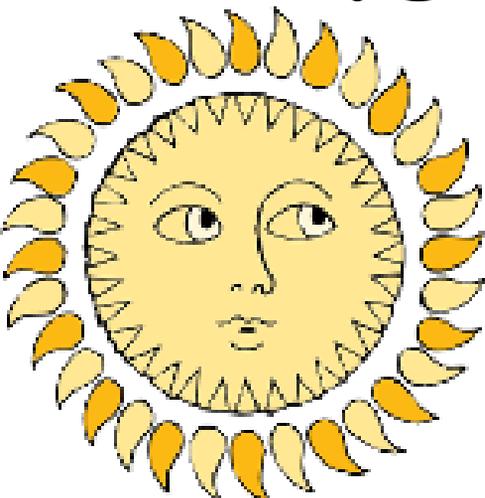
[www.southpreschurch.org](http://www.southpreschurch.org)

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

**Return Service Requested**

**May 2019**

**Spring Picnic &  
Playground Dedication**



**Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup> at 12:30 PM**

Please bring a side dish  
or dessert to share.

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.