



# Keyhole Press

## Southminster Presbyterian

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November 2021

### *From the Pastor*

Friends,

This Stewardship season we are thinking and praying together about how Christian life includes cycles of exile and return. Stories of being lost and then found, being broken and then healed, being oppressed and then freed fill the scriptures.

And yet: there's one more step in the dance of Christian life. There is exile, there is return, and then there is a third movement: being sent back out into the world. That sending out is for the sake of our neighbors and creation as a whole. It's being commissioned, sent for the sake of God's love and justice, God's future of hope.

Southminster is a community of return, a place of homecoming. And it's also a community of sending, a place that commissions us as agents of God's love and grace, so that all may experience a sense of homecoming into God's new world of compassion, dignity, and joy.

Sunday, November 14th is Commitment Sunday. Hopefully you've been praying this year's Giving Prayer over these last weeks. Hopefully your prayers are helping to clarify how, with the Spirit's wisdom, you can contribute to the ongoing returning and sending that makes Southminster who we are today, and who we'll be tomorrow. It is my dream that Southminster will be even stronger tomorrow than it is today, and that strength comes from us all coming together in hope and commitment to God's vision of a better future.

Christianity was made for this: building bridges of homecoming and commissioning, sending and return, welcoming the stranger and being sent forth to visit the sick and imprisoned. Southminster is made for it, too, as is each one of us, a child of God in the image of God. To be clear, though: we are made to do this together, offering up all our skills, our hopes, our ideas, our money, and our hearts to answer God's call.

So, find the pledge card we sent you a few weeks ago and plan on joining us on Sunday, November 14th either online or in person. If you have misplaced it, just let us know and we'll email you another! With a past so full of grace, our future, thanks be to God, is likewise full of hope.

Thank you for your generosity and leadership — and see you on Commitment Sunday, November 14th!

Peace,

*Pastor Caitlin*

## Commitment Sunday

Join us on Sunday, November 14th for Commitment Sunday! Please bring your pledge cards with you to dedicate during worship as we celebrate our commitment to God's mission at Southminster for the coming year. We will also be recognizing our volunteers and staff with our annual awards for Community Spirit, Project Visionary and more! Stewardship season is the time to take a step back, give thanks, and remember why our faith community is so important to us. So I hope you will join us on Sunday, November 14th!

## Lessons and Carols 2021

Our wonderful Sanctuary Choir is hard at work preparing an exceptional musical celebration for the Christmas season. The choir will feature guest singers and will be joined by a string quartet for this special service. Our program features favorite Christmas carols in addition to moving musical selections by Rutter, Luboff, Arnesen, and more.

The service follows a structure which dates back to the late 19th century. It features nine scripture lessons recounting the miraculous story of Jesus' birth, followed by a prayer and a carol or other song that reflects on the lesson's message. Join us for our *Festival of Lessons and Carols* service on **Sunday, December 19th at 11:00 AM**, followed by hot cider and cookies in the Fellowship Hall.

## Church In The World

### RISC Community Problems Assembly

RISC's first big assembly of the 2021-22 year is Thursday, November 9, at 7:00 PM. All Southminster team members - and anyone interested in learning more about RISC - are invited to gather in the Southminster Sanctuary to participate via a satellite zoom meeting. Over 600 RISC members will be participating from their home churches. This facilitates preventive Covid measures and the ability to caucus our own SPC members to register our votes with the larger group.

This is the assembly when RISC will determine which of the many aspects of environmental justice will be our focus for the coming year, based on the wishes of all RISC team members. If you'd like to know more, please contact Shelley Murray. To learn more about RISC (Richmonders Involved to Strengthen Communities) and our social justice pursuits, contact Shelley Murray, Rich Kowalski, or Jan Belote. You may also visit <https://www.risrichmond.org>.

### CCHASM Thanksgiving Baskets

CCHASM has set a goal this year to provide 10,000 families with Thanksgiving baskets. To help them reach their goal, Southminster has pledged to contribute 25 baskets. We are proud to report that as of this newsletter printing, we have assembled 24 baskets, meaning we will reach and likely exceed our pledge!

Food may be brought to the church through **Sunday, November 7th**. You can find the shopping list in your Sunday bulletin and on our website. Be sure to check out our tracking board at the back of the sanctuary to see what items we need.

**Online Giving**

As we reflect on our gifts this Stewardship season I find myself being so grateful for the tools of technology that have allowed so many of us to continue sharing our financial gifts in safe and convenient ways over the past year. We have seen a significant increase in the number of members using our online giving portal or setting up automatic bill pay through their preferred bank. Scheduling an automatic recurring gift not only benefits members, it also offers the church a more stable income through low attendance seasons of the year like the summer.

If you would like to learn more about setting up an online recurring gift you can go to our website, <https://www.southpreschurch.org/giving.html>, or contact Finance Chair David Huff at 804-276-8538.

**Leadership & Planning****Elder Training**

Our class of 2024 elders will have a training retreat on Saturday, November 6th. This annual training for our incoming elders is a really meaningful time of developing relationships, reflecting on our individual calls to serve, and learning about the culture of leadership we are building at Southminster. Please be in prayer for our new elders as they begin to dig into their commitment to service that they may find joy, fellowship, and renewed spiritual depth in this season of preparation.

**Covenant Pastor Update**

The search for our new part time Covenant Pastor is now underway! This person will focus primarily on faith formation and pastoral care. The session has elected Anne Smith, Frank Grier, and Matt Briggs to serve as the search committee. If you have any recommendations of candidates, or questions about the process please contact one of the members of the search team. Once they have interviewed and selected a candidate they will present that person to the session for final approval. At that point we will be excited to announce our new staff member to the congregation. Please be in prayer for our search committee and potential candidates during this time.

**Facilities****Inclement Weather Policy**

In case of inclement weather on a Sunday morning, the decision to cancel services will be made by the pastor and the facilities chairperson by 7:30 AM.

By 8:00 AM, closing notices will be submitted to local Richmond CBS, NBC, and ABC stations, a notification will be sent to the email list, and a notice will be posted on the church Facebook page. You may also call the church office where the voicemail message will be updated with appropriate information.

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

November 2<sup>nd</sup> at 2:00 PM  
Fellowship Hall

**Anna Circle**

November 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30 PM  
Debbie Greenberg's residence

**Martha Circle**

November 3<sup>rd</sup> at 10:00 AM  
Conference Room

**Esther Circle**

No meeting planned for November

## Congregational Care

Caring for one another is a part of our calling as a faith community. It's something that we all take part in, whether it be through sending cards, making phone calls, or lifting one another up in prayer each week. Southminster also has many ways for people who have skills and talents for caregiving to use their gifts. One of those is our Pastor's Aides, who make phone calls once a month to check on everyone in the congregation. I hope you take the opportunity to answer their calls each month and grow to feel comfortable sharing prayer requests and updates with your Pastor's Aide. The work they do really helps keep us all connected!

As the pandemic wanes I am excited to see some of our other caregiving ministries returning. We have wonderful folks, our Care-ful Chefs, who create frozen meals ready to deliver for those times when cooking is too much. Many members who have skills as knitters and crocheters keep us supplied with prayer shawls and baby blankets to literally wrap someone up in God's love. And of course, we have our great volunteers who love to visit and bring care bags to members going through a tough time.

We all participate in creating a congregation marked with care and compassion and the pastoral staff is a part of that as well. As restrictions have loosened Rev. Deyerle has been able to return to doing hospital visits, and she continues to keep up with many homebound members though phone calls and cards. If you ever have a need for a pastoral visit, or just someone to talk to confidentially about spiritual, physical, or emotional needs, Rev. Deyerle is in the office Monday-Thursday from 9am- 5pm. During office hours you can reach her at 804-276-1749. If you have an after-hours pastoral emergency please do not hesitate to call or text her cell phone, 505-401-5467.

## 2021 Poinsettia Dedications

Poinsettia dedications are a wonderful way to remember and honor loved ones during the holiday season. The poinsettias will decorate the Sanctuary on December 12<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>.

Order forms will be available in the bulletins beginning in November. You may also order by contacting the church office at [office@southpreschurch.org](mailto:office@southpreschurch.org). **The poinsettias will cost \$11.00 each this year.** Checks should be made payable to Southminster. Orders must be received by Monday, November 29<sup>th</sup>.

## Session Highlights

- Approved Matt Briggs, Frank Grier, and Anne Smith to serve on a Covenant Pastor search committee.
- Heard report from the latest Presbytery meeting held in October 16th.
- Donation from the Brammer Trust approved to be disbursed for mission purposes.

## Progressive Dinner

The Southminster Progressive Dinner will take place on Saturday, December 11<sup>th</sup>. Dinner guests will progress from host house to host house, beginning with appetizers at 6:00 PM, followed by dinner at 7:15 PM and dessert at 9:00 PM. The cost of the dinner is \$16.00 per person. RSVP and hosting forms will be available in the Narthex. Brown Pearson is also actively seeking host homes for the dinner. If you are interested in hosting or have questions, please contact Brown at 804-347-8895.

## Oyster Roast

Brown Pearson will host the annual Men's Oyster Roast at his cabin on the Pamunkey River on Saturday, November 6<sup>th</sup> from 1:30 PM – 6:00 PM. Southminster men ages 8 and over are invited to spend an autumn Saturday in the country. RSVP and information forms can be found in the Narthex. Please sign up by November 1<sup>st</sup>. Contact Brown Pearson (804-347-8895) for more information.

## Student Piano Recital

The Southminster congregation is invited to come to my students' recital on November 20<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 PM, at Southminster. Students from 2nd grade through high school will perform a piano pieces in our sanctuary.

I'm asking only vaccinated families to attend, although there may be some unvaccinated children there. I'm also asking that everyone be masked and socially distanced for the sake of keeping everyone safe. Although we usually follow our recital with a social, we won't be doing that for this recital. I'm looking forward to when things can be more normal in the future. But I do hope you are entertained, and hear some beautiful music!

Musically Yours,  
*Gabriella Ryan*

## Directory Updates

### **Mark Endries**

8400 Sir Sagamore Court  
N. Chesterfield, VA 23237  
804-513-1336

### **Susan Pharr**

Preferred Phone:  
804-690-5436

### **Andrew & Marit Smith**

1807 Timbermead Court  
Henrico, VA 23238

Andrew: 804-516-7562

[j.asmith223@gmail.com](mailto:j.asmith223@gmail.com)

Marit: 804-814-4349

[marit.smith27@gmail.com](mailto:marit.smith27@gmail.com)

### **Virginia Wagstaff**

4511 Morgal Street  
Rockville, MD 20853

### **Ken & Kathy Brammer**

342 South Drive  
Kilmarnock, VA 22482

## ***November Birthdays***

- 1 Ron Hepp
- 3 Rick Schaffer
- 4 Patricia Ervin
- 5 Robin Lapsley
- 7 Amanda Bunkholt
- 8 Rick Abbott
- 9 Dave Thomas
- 11 Donna Medicus, Eric Stahl
- 12 Clara Damron, Jean Derrenbacker
- 13 David Huff
- 15 Tammy McDonald, Geoffrey Campbell
- 16 Debbie Dugger, Marcia Shipley,
- 17 Caroline Solaimani, Brian Singleton
- 23 Jim Dugger
- 25 Abigail Deyerle, Andrew Swenck
- 26 Mike Cifelli
- 27 Mark Williams
- 28 Melanie Miller, Tim Weddle
- 29 Mel Bookman

## ***November Anniversaries***

- 2 Katie & Justin Roland (2)
- 3 Russ & Deb Ellenberg (42)
- 3 Jane & Brent Tarter (21)
- 5 Andrew & Natira Bookman (8)
- 5 Andrew & Marit Smith (5)
- 7 Gary & Anne Smith (40)
- 19 David & Lynne Reeser (4)
- 29 Earl & Donna Medicus (47)

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

## ***November Schedules***

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

### **Communion Team**

November 7: Team 3 (Unit)

### **Elder Greeters**

- 7 Terry Liendecker
- 14 Jan Belote
- 21 Matt Briggs
- 28 Frank Grier

### **Ushers**

- 7 Dennis Stone, Chuck Greenberg,  
Marsha Lane, Guy Dixon
- 14 Dennis Stone, Chuck Greenberg,  
Marsha Lane, Guy Dixon
- 21 Laura Pearson, Dianna Scott, Frank & Joyce Grier
- 28 Laura Pearson, Dianna Scott, Frank & Joyce Grier

### **Visitation Team**

- 7 Karen Stafford
- 14 Riki Stone
- 21 Riki Stone
- 28 Riki Stone

### **Food Closet**

- 2 Lyndale, Barbara Reid
- 4 Jane Tarter, Cheriene McCall
- 9 Lyndale, Mary Stahl
- 11 Gail DeCosta, Bonnie Kowalski
- 16 Lyndale, Margaret Hall
- 18 Gail DeCosta, Bonnie Kowalski
- 23 Melba Jolly, Barbara Reid
- 25 Closed—Thanksgiving
- 30 Lyndale, Shelley Murray

# Southminster Presbyterian Church

## November 2021

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<b>1</b> 10 AM: Balladeers 12 PM: Chair Yoga	<b>2</b> Food Closet 2 PM Ruth Circle 6:30 PM: Anna Circle 7 PM: Girl Scouts 7:30 PM: IPCN	<b>3</b> 10 AM: Martha Circle 6 PM: Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:15 PM: Choir Rehearsal	<b>4</b> Food Closet 6 PM: Girl Scout Service Unit Meeting	<b>5</b> 7:30 PM: IPCN	<b>6</b> 1:30 PM: Oyster Roast 7:30 PM: IPCN
<b>7</b> All Saints Sunday 10 AM: Sunday School 11 AM: Worship 3 PM: IPCN	<b>8</b> 10 AM: Balladeers 12 PM: Chair Yoga 6 PM: BSA Scouts 7:30 PM: IPCN	<b>9</b> Food Closet 7 PM: Girl Scouts 7 PM: RISC Gathering 7:30 PM: IPCN	<b>10</b> 6 PM: Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:15 PM: Choir Rehearsal	<b>11</b> Food Closet	<b>12</b> Sigma Chi Installation 7:30 PM: IPCN	<b>13</b> Sigma Chi Installation 7:30 PM: IPCN	
<b>14</b> Commitment Sunday 10 AM: Sunday School 10:15 AM: Pastor's Aid 11 AM: Worship 3 PM: IPCN	<b>15</b> 10 AM: Balladeers 12 PM: Chair Yoga 6 PM: BSA Scouts 7:30 PM: IPCN	<b>16</b> Food Closet 7 PM: Girl Scouts 7:30 PM: IPCN	<b>17</b> 6 PM: Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:15 PM: Choir Rehearsal	<b>18</b> Food Closet 10 AM: Triad Meeting	<b>19</b> 7:30 PM: IPCN	<b>20</b> 3 PM: Piano Recital 7:30 PM: IPCN	
<b>21</b> 10 AM: Sunday School 11 AM: Worship 12:30 PM: Session 3 PM: IPCN	<b>22</b> 10 AM: Balladeers 12 PM: Chair Yoga 6 PM: BSA Scouts 7:30 PM: IPCN	<b>23</b> Food Closet 7 PM: Girl Scouts 7:30 PM: IPCN	<b>24</b> 6 PM: Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:15 PM: Choir Rehearsal	<b>25</b> Thanksgiving Office Closed	<b>26</b> Office Closed 7:30 PM: IPCN	<b>27</b> 7:30 PM: IPCN	
<b>28</b> 10 AM: Sunday School 11 AM: Worship 3 PM: IPCN	<b>29</b> 10 AM: Balladeers 12 PM: Chair Yoga 6 PM: BSA Scouts 7:30 PM: IPCN	<b>30</b> Food Closet 7 PM: Girl Scouts 7:30 PM: IPCN					
			Notes				
			Daylight Savings Time begins on November 7th!				

**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)

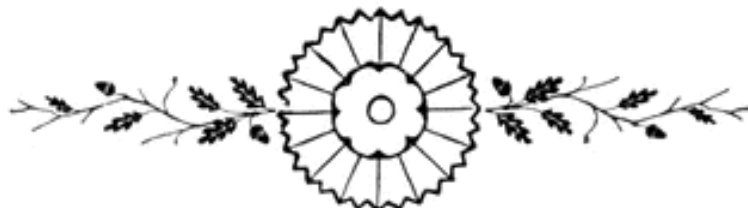
Return Service Requested

**November 2021**

**Commitment Sunday**

November 14, 2021

Join us for service at 11:00 AM



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.