



# Keyhole Press

## Southminster Presbyterian

October 2022



### *From the Pastor*

Hello to you.

We have all in one or other way encountered the person on the street corner holding up the sign “Repent.” Sometimes the sign is big enough to carry the entire Bible verse: “Repent, for the Kingdom of God is at hand!” The message is seemingly that you better get ready for the judgment of an angry God who will punish you for your sins. The presumed solution is to join the church and believe the right set of religious ideas.

Jesus’s very first message in the Gospels, normally translated as “repent,” “convert,” or “reform” in Mark:15 and Matthew 4:17, is the Greek word *metanoia*. It quite literally means to change “your mind.” Yes. You read correctly. Jesus' first word to us was “change” your mind. Richard Rorh comments on this saying: “What we have translated as *repent* is not a moralistic or churchy word at all, it is a clear strategy for enlightenment for the world.” Once one accepts ongoing change as a Christ-given reality and a central program for oneself, one tends to continue growing throughout all of one's life.

The source of our life, Jesus the Christ, knows that self-critical, yet not negative people, will always keep growing and engaging with the world around them. The alternative, to use our minds to close down, to close off and avoid change is the breeding ground for personal and Kingdom deprivation leading to a hunkered down life of nothing more than being in survival mode. No wonder Jesus’s first message to us is: “The Kingdom of God has come in Me. Change your mind so you can be enlightened and in and through you, the world.

“Joy to the world, the Lord has come.” Indeed, He has. As God promised. Trust Him. Change your mind. He keeps His promises. You shall be enlightened. So shall his world.

Blessings,

*Rev. Jock O’Connell*

**Fall Festival and Homecoming****Saturday, October 29th and Sunday October 30th**

Southminster will hold its annual Fall Festival on Saturday, October 29<sup>th</sup> from 3:00-5:00 pm. This is a fun intergenerational event held every year—so no matter your age, we invite you to put on your favorite costume and join in on the fun! There will be games, activities, prizes and snacks for everyone. We will also have a pumpkin decorating contest and a costume contest and, of course, lots of candy! Also, please bring a non-perishable item to donate to our Food Closet.

On Sunday, October 30<sup>th</sup>, Southminster will have a special worship service recognizing our unity as part of the body of Christ, followed afterward by a time of intergenerational fellowship. Children are invited to dress up in their costumes again, and after the service we will have a Halloween Egg Hunt (similar to our Easter Egg Hunt). Anyone wishing to donate candy for this event, please put it in the designated box in the Fellowship Hall. If you have questions, or you would like to help out with any of the activities, please contact Rev. Mary Bielen at [mary@southpreschurch.org](mailto:mary@southpreschurch.org).

***Church In The World*****Rise Against Hunger Event**

We are very excited to once again host this meal packing event with Rise Against Hunger on **Sunday, October 16<sup>th</sup>**. If you've participated in this before, you are already excited. If this will be your first time, you will not be disappointed. Our Sunday worship of God will include this energizing, inspiring experience to provide meals for those affected by natural or man-made disasters.

**What time do we meet on October 16<sup>th</sup>?**

10:30 AM	Gather for snacks in the narthex
11:00 AM	Brief service in the sanctuary
11:15 AM	Report to the Fellowship Hall for instructions
11:30 AM	Begin the work!
1:30 PM	Clean up

**What is the work?**

We will have a variety of stations for multiple jobs: filling bags with prepared dried foods (soy, veggies, rice, vitamins); weighing and sealing the bags, boxing up the bags. We also need 'runners' to take the products from one station to another – kids are great at doing this! Some tasks are for those who can stand; others are suitable for those who need to sit! There is a job for just about everyone!

*Continued on Page 5*

**Commitment Sunday**

I've always been a Presbyterian. My parents, their parents and most of their parents before were also Presbyterians. The common denominator with all of them was they just never talked about money. This certainly included their financial support of their churches. I can still remember my mom asking dad if he had turned in their pledge for the coming year. He always replied, "I've taken care of it Miss Julia." And he had. As they got older and began to travel more, I began to pay their bills using their check book. While they were away. Their church commitment was one of the checks that I wrote each month. Mom and dad's devotion to their church has always served as an example to me. With Commitment Sunday coming up in November, I hope all of us recognized the countless blessings that we share. And how much our church is a part of those blessings. So please remember to support our church during Commitment Season. Your financial support is vital to the many ministries that we sponsor and to the overall health of our church itself. **On November 20<sup>th</sup>**, let's all be able to say, I've taken care of it."

**Leadership & Planning**

**Congregational Meeting**

Please join us for the called Congregational Meeting at 11:00 AM on Sunday, October 16th to elect the Elder Class of 2025. This brief meeting will immediately precede our Rise Against Event. Watch your upcoming bulletin inserts for the slate of incoming elders.

We would like to thank the Nominating Committee of 2022 for all of their hard work in ensuring that Southminster's Session elders represent the integrity and energy needed to help set the church's vision, determine its direction, and design the ministries and mission initiatives of the church over the next few years

**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.

<p><b><u>Presbyterian Women</u></b></p> <p><b>Ruth Circle</b> October 4th at 2:00 PM Conference Room</p> <p><b>Anna Circle</b> October 4th at 6:30 PM Debbie Greenberg's residence</p> <p><b>Martha Circle</b> October 5th at 10:00 AM Conference Room</p>
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### **CCHASM Thanksgiving Baskets**

Southminster is proud to support the CCHASM Thanksgiving Basket program which provides families in need with a full holiday meal. Items for the Thanksgiving Baskets can be brought to the church on Sundays or any time during normal office hours. You may give individual items from the list below or put together an entire basket. You can also help by making a monetary donation to the Thanksgiving Basket fund. Food should be brought to the church no later than **Sunday, November 6<sup>th</sup>**.

### **Contents Of A Full Thanksgiving Basket**

- |   |                                    |   |   |
|---|------------------------------------|---|---|
| 1 | 40 oz can of yams / sweet potatoes | 2 | Boxes of stove top dressing               |
| 1 | 13 oz box of mashed potatoes       | 2 | Cans or packages of gravy (no glass jars) |
| 1 | 14 oz can of cranberry sauce       | 1 | Box of hot chocolate                      |
| 2 | 15 oz cans of corn                 | 1 | Box of tea bags                           |
| 2 | 15 oz cans of green vegetables     | 1 | Large box or bag of cookies               |

### **All Saints Sunday**

Sunday, November 6th is All Saints Sunday. We will have a special moment in our worship service to honor the Southminster members who have died since last November. We also want to make space to remember any friends or family you have lost this year. If you have someone whose name you would like to be read as a part of our All Saints Sunday prayer please add their name to the list in the narthex or send their name to [office@southpreschurch.org](mailto:office@southpreschurch.org) by November 1st.

### **Extended Communion**

Southminster will resume extended communion for member who are homebound, but would still like to receive the sacrament. If you are interested in receiving home communion, please contact Jennifer Weddle at [jwedle726@comcasat.net](mailto:jwedle726@comcasat.net) or 804-690-7185.

### **Session Highlights**

- Next Session Meeting will be November 6th at 12:30 PM.
- Fall Festival/Homecoming Weekend Oct 29 – 30
- Approval for wedding reception at church on November 19th for Michaela Williams
- Approval for purchase of new refrigerator for kitchen.
- Congregational Meeting date will be set once there is a full slate of officers.

**Rise Against Hunger Event, continued from Page 2****How do I sign up?**

**PLEASE REGISTER!** The registration deadline is Sunday, October 9<sup>th</sup>.

In order to participate, you will need to register yourself as a volunteer. We need LOTS of volunteers! You have 2 options:

1. There will be a sign-up table in the narthex beginning on Rally Day, September 11th.
2. There is a link on the Southminster website where you can register:

[Southminster Presbyterian - Home \(southpreschurch.org\)](http://southpreschurch.org)

**How can I support this program if I am unable to attend?**

Southminster has funded this project through the budget. You may use the online registration link (above) to make a donation that will support emergency relief for Ukraine. Learn more about Rise Against Hunger here: [Home - Rise Against Hunger](#)

**Southminster Notes**

*Dear Southminster Family,*

*I wanted to write this note to show my appreciation for all of the get well wishes, prayers, and cards I received during my recent hospitalization. Your thoughtfulness helped me so much during my recovery. Knowing that I had the support of everyone in the Southminster family made it so much better!*

*Sincerely,  
Jacob Wetzel*

*Dear Southminster,*

*First I would like to thank you all for giving me faith, wisdom, and support all throughout my childhood and as I continue on into my next chapter in life. Now, I would like to say a huge thank you to you all for the financial support I have been blessed to receive to help continue my education. Truly without you all I would not be the person I am today. I cannot wait to be back during my break!*

*Best regards,  
Bella Paterson*

*Dear Southminster Friends,*

*This past weekend as we celebrated my mom's 95 years on this planet, I was reminded of all your kind gestures and expressions of such compassionate concern over these past few years as she declined and I was back and forth to North Carolina. I know how many of you have walked the same path, and I'm so grateful to have received your generous and gracious gifts. We say this all the time because it's true: we are so blessed to be part of this Southminster family. Thank you again and again*

*Grace and Peace,  
Shelley Murray*

*Dear Church Family,*

*Thank you for all the cards and calls I received while recovering from knee replacement surgery. My recovery continues to go well, and I hope see you all again soon,*

*Peace,  
Sue Rhodes*

## October Birthdays

- 2 Joey Williams
- 3 Matt Briggs, Michelle Paulson
- 4 Winki Lampe
- 6 Audrey Pearson
- 7 Cathy Kirtley
- 9 Amy Pond
- 12 Macy Bowser
- 13 Marley McDonald
- 15 Jan Belote, Frank Willis
- 20 David Kirtley
- 21 Jerry Davis, Mike Ferguson, Sarah Hollingsworth
- 23 Cathy Manke
- 24 Dorothy Dixon
- 26 Samantha Waldron
- 28 David Williams

## October Anniversaries

- 6 Gary & Melanie Miller (38)
- 6 Lee & Natalie Spillman (15)
- 14 Chuck & Debbie Greenberg (50)
- 15 Larry & Bernie Chamberlain (45)

## October Schedules

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

### Communion Team

October 2: Team 1 (Unit/Intinction)

### Elder Greeters

- 2 Mary Stahl
- 9 Robin Lapsley
- 16 Clay Spillman
- 23 Rich Kowalski
- 30 Anne Smith

### Facility Stewards

- 2 Clay Spillman
- 9 David Huff
- 16 David Kirtley
- 23 Dennis Stone
- 30 Eddie Pearson

### Ushers

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

### Visitation Team

- 9 Bonnie & Rich Kowalski
- 23 Bonnie & Rich Kowalski

### Food Closet

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

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

# Southminster Presbyterian Church

## October 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 9:30 AM: RMTA Event 7:30 PM IPCN
2 <b>Communion</b> 10 AM: Sunday School 11 AM: Worship 3 PM: IPCN	3 12 PM: Chair Yoga 6 PM: BSA Scouts 7:30 PM: IPCN	4 <b>Food Closet</b> 2 PM: Ruth Circle 6:30 PM: Anna Circle 7 PM: Girl Scouts 7:30 PM: IPCN	5 10 AM: Martha Circle 4:30 PM: RISC Team Meeting	6 <b>Food Closet</b> 10 AM: Balladeers 6 PM: Bell Choir 7 PM: Choir Rehearsal	7 7:30 PM: IPCN	8 7:30 PM IPCN
9 10 AM: Sunday School 10:15 AM Pastor's Aids 11 AM: Worship 3 PM: IPCN	10 12 PM: Chair Yoga 6 PM: BSA Scouts 7:30 PM: IPCN	11 <b>Food Closet</b> 7 PM: Girl Scouts 7:30 PM: IPCN	12 <b>Food Closet</b>	13 <b>Food Closet</b> 10 AM: Balladeers 6 PM: Bell Choir 7 PM: Choir Rehearsal	14 7:30 PM: IPCN	15 7:30 PM IPCN
16 10 AM: Sunday School 11 AM: Worship 11 AM: Congregational Meeting 11 AM: Rise Against Hunger Event 3 PM: IPCN	17 12 PM: Chair Yoga 6 PM: BSA Scouts 7:30 PM: IPCN	18 <b>Food Closet</b> 7 PM: Girl Scouts 7:30 PM: IPCN	19 <b>Food Closet</b>	20 <b>Food Closet</b> 10 AM: Balladeers 3 PM: LVS Cooking 6 PM: Bell Choir 7 PM: Choir Rehearsal	21 7:30 PM: IPCN	22 7:30 PM IPCN
23 10 AM: Sunday School 11 AM: Worship 3 PM: IPCN	24 12 PM: Chair Yoga 6 PM: BSA Scouts 7:30 PM: IPCN	25 <b>Food Closet</b> 7 PM: Girl Scouts 7:30 PM: IPCN	26 <b>Food Closet</b>	27 <b>Food Closet</b> 10 AM: Balladeers 6 PM: Bell Choir 7 PM: Choir Rehearsal	28 7:30 PM: IPCN	29 7:30 PM IPCN <b>Fall Festival</b>
30 <b>Homecoming</b> 10 AM: Sunday School 11 AM: Worship 3 PM: IPCN	31 <b>Halloween</b> 12 PM: Chair Yoga 6 PM: BSA Scouts 7:30 PM: IPCN	Notes				

**SOUTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

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

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

Return Service Requested

**October 2022**

**Homecoming Weekend**

October 29<sup>th</sup> ~ Fall Festival

October 30<sup>th</sup> ~ Homecoming Service

*Details Inside*



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.