



From the Pastor

Dear Southminster Family,

Caitlin Deyerle left me with the privilege of writing to you for this September newsletter--the first one of the new school year! This week, as I have been thinking of you and what I wanted to say to you, my heart has been filled with one sentiment: a huge amount of gratitude. We are in the 6th month of a very challenging season. We haven't been able to gather for fellowship for some time, our school year is going to look very different, and most of us are still worshipping online. In the face of transition after transition, of technology mishap after mishap, you have remained faithful, gracious, and patient.

I have been especially grateful for you in these last few weeks while Rev. Deyerle has been on parental leave. So many of you have stepped in and stepped up to help the rest of the staff and I fill in all the roles Caitlin typically serves. We haven't done a "Moment for Gratitude" in worship in a while, so I wanted to take this opportunity to express our gratitude today. Though none of the following people would ever ask to be publicly recognized (and some may even be have a bone to pick with me for "embarrassing" them!), their work to serve this church family deserves to be noticed!

I am grateful for:

- Rev. Rosalind Banbury, for faithfully leading us in worship and moderating our session
- The session, particularly our Clerk, Anne Smith, for going above and beyond in your roles as elders
- Soundboard volunteers, for working hard to learn new technology (and answering my frantic phone calls even when the problem was very obviously "operator error")
- Compassion Camp volunteers, for being willing to try something new so that we could still provide a fun summer camp for our kids
- Kimberly & Gabriella, for going above and beyond your roles to provide us with beautiful music
- And for all of you who have joined us for worship, in-person or online, for the grace and patience you have had with us as we have worked to figure out a new way of worshipping during a pandemic

In these last few weeks, we have truly seen the Body of Christ at work! So much would not have been possible without each of you offering up your unique gifts and skills. You make the life of this church possible! I hope you realize how special you are, Southminster—it is the grace you give, the love you extend, and your willingness to pitch in that makes you who you are. I think I speak on behalf of the entire staff when I say, "We are so grateful!"

Peace,

Caitlyn Hathaway

Save the Date: Rally Day & Blessing of the Backpacks September 13th

Join us for worship Sunday, September 13th, for a combined Rally Day & Blessing of the Backpacks service! In order for us to bless the backpacks on the 13th, the **deadline for the School Supplies Drive will be September 6th**. We hope to “see” you there, online or in-person!

Sunday School Update- Fall 2020

We will be offering two adult Sunday School classes this fall: Contemporary Issues and Christian Life. Contemporary Issues will continue to meet via Zoom. Christian Life will meet in person in their regular classroom, but will expand into the Food Closet room to better social distance.

Due to COVID-19, we will be unable to hold in-person Sunday School for children until at least January, 2021. We are saddened by this, but we know it is the best way to keep both our children and our volunteers safe and healthy!

Instead, we will be offering weekly at-home faith formation resources for families. Starting September 13th, we will be posting weekly devotionals for all ages on our website, along with an opening prayer video from one of our Sunday School teachers. The devotionals will come from “Faith @ Home” a blog from the Episcopal Church, and each one includes 4 different devotionals: one each for small children, elementary age, youth, and adults. So adults can join in too! You can find the weekly devotionals here:

<https://www.southpreschurch.org/faith-at-home.html>

Church in the World

School Supply Drive

As we all know, our local school systems are facing unique challenges going into the upcoming 2020-2021 school year. But thanks to the generosity of our members we will be getting 42 Chesterfield County students started off with all the tools they need to learn.

Thank you to everyone who has brought supplies by in person, had them shipped to the church, or given monetary donations to the School Supply Fund. We would not have been able to do this without you, and we appreciate your adaptability! Our partners at Chesterfield Mental Health have expressed their deep gratitude for Southminster’s determination to carry on with our School Supply Drive in spite of the challenges posed by Covid-19.

The School Supply Drive will culminate in the Blessing of the Backpacks at our 11:00 AM service on Rally Day, Sunday, September 13th.

Flu Shot Clinic

Mark your calendar for Wednesday, October 7th from 6:30 PM – 7:30 PM. Our local Rite Aid store pharmacist will once again sponsor a Flu Shot Clinic at Southminster Presbyterian Church.

The Flu Shot Clinic will take place in the Fellowship Hall. All attendees are asked to wear masks and we will be observing social distancing. Don’t forget to bring your RX insurance card with you for billing. For questions, contact Laura Pearson at 804-387-3913.

Congregational Meeting Sunday, September 27th

The session has called a congregational meeting for Sunday, September 27th immediately following worship for the purpose of electing elders for the class of 2023. The nominating committee will be nominating **Mary Stahl, Mary MacKenzie Swenck, and Terry Liendecker**. This meeting will be held both in-person, for those joining us for worship in the sanctuary, and on Zoom, for those joining from home via phone or computer. This will be a new experience for us all to hold a congregational meeting that includes both online and in-person options, but it is the best way to allow as many members as possible to participate in this congregational business.

Please save the Zoom link and phone number below for this special meeting. It will also be shared via the weekly email leading up to the meeting and in the live-stream of worship on the 27th. Please contact the church office if you would like special coaching in order to participate in the zoom meeting.

Topic: Congregational Meeting for the Purpose of Electing Elders for the Class of 2023

Time: Sep 27, 2020 11:45 AM

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83941223526?pwd=K111ZHZJN0FXb0ZrcTRFcjRWOWpCUT09>

Call: 646-558-8656

Meeting ID: 839 4122 3526

Passcode: 982831

Amendment To The Southminster Bylaws

The Southminster Session realized that changes in our process would need to be implemented before we could safely hold a Congregational Meeting, so a new bylaw amendment was approved at the last Session Meeting held on August 9th, 2020. It reads as follows:

Adopted Bylaw Amendment 8/9/2020**Section III addendum:**

“In the event of unusual circumstances, it may become necessary to hold a congregational meeting by electronic means. The normal two-week notice prior to the meeting will apply, with the additional offer of technology training to any members who need or want it. This procedure shall be employed only as long as a situation making in person meetings inadvisable exists.”

On Sunday September 27th, this will give all members the ability to vote in person at the end of the 11 am service, or by voting online through the comments during the livestream, or by phone. If anyone has questions concerning this process or needs training on how to vote online; please contact Anne Smith, the Clerk of Session at 4aftsmith@gmail.com or 804-516-7563.

Special Announcements

Southminster Ringers 2020

This fall, be a part of Southminster's music ministry! We are bringing back the bell choir with weekly Wednesday evening rehearsals starting September 2nd and monthly Sunday performances

Due to Covid-19, we will be refraining from in-person singing until it is considered safe. If you have been a part of the Sanctuary Choir or the bell choir in the past, or if you are looking for a new way to share your gifts and be a part of our worship services, this is the perfect opportunity! No experience is required, and basic music reading skills will be taught as we learn each piece of music. You are especially encouraged to join us if you do have music reading skills.

The Bell Choir will wear masks and practice social distancing. Rehearsals will be held in the Sanctuary. Email Kimberly Ryan at keliseryan@gmail.com for more information or to volunteer to be a part of the Southminster Ringers in 2020!

Chair Yoga Update

We know that many of you have been missing our weekly chair yoga sessions at Southminster. While we still do not have a definitive restart date, we hope to be able to welcome everyone back to class at some point this fall. We will continue to touch base with our instructor Pam, and will keep everyone up to date!

Presbyterian Women's Circles For September

Martha Circle: Wednesday, September 2nd at 10:00 AM in the Conference Room. Please wear your masks, and we will social distance.

Esther Circle: No plans to meet in September

Anna Circle: No plans to meet in September

Ruth Circle: No plans to meet in September

Session Highlights

- Approved without objections Sunday School Staff and new online curriculum for Fall
- Approved Communion dates for the 2020/2021 church year
- An addendum to Section III of the church bylaws to allow for Congregational Meeting by online technology for specific situations was approved
- Motion passed to call a Congregational Meeting for the purpose of electing slate of officers for 2023, on Sunday September 27th at 11:50 PM

Facility Highlights

Because many of you have not been able to be at Southminster in person over the past several months, we thought it might be fun to highlight what's new in and around the church building.

The first things you might notice on entering the building are the automatic hand sanitizing stations at each major entrance. These along with our bins of disposable masks, handwashing signage, cleaning stations, and social-distancing zones in the pews are all our way of looking after the health and safety of our members and our staff.

If you venture into the Sanctuary, you might see the new brass cross that is now the centerpiece of our table. The cross is an anonymous gift and will be enjoyed by Southminster members for generations to come. Leaving the Sanctuary and taking the left-hand exit toward the playgrounds, you will find that David and ChiChi Huff have been hard at work creating a beautiful set of terraced flower beds that are now overflowing with greenery.

While changes are often exciting, we must also highlight the volunteers and staff who have been faithfully attending to Southminster's day-to-day Facility needs: Brown Pearson for keeping the Facility Committee organized. David & ChiChi Huff and Jim Hall for keeping our grounds neat and tidy. Dennis Stone for keeping our lights and plumbing in good repair. Lynn Hodges for tending to the church garden. And our custodian, Nancy, for keeping our building clean.

Remember in Prayer

Please pray for our military personnel, Pat Abbot, Jean Collier, Bob Davis, Matt Davis, Mark Endries, Carolyn Griles, Bob Hall, Ann Kearns, Bev Lamberton, Marsha Lane, Alberta Lindsey, Shirley Martin, Jane McGee, Earl & Donna Medicus, Adele Robertson, Billy Smith, Liz Snead, Dave Thomas, Howard Vann, Ryan Witcher.

Southminster Notes

Dear Southminster Family,

I just wanted to write and say thank you all for giving me this very generous scholarship. I was speechless when I opened the envelope. This money paid a large portion of my fall tuition, and I'm forever grateful for your generosity. The church's support has meant so much to me, and I look forward to sharing my journey with all of you.

Love

Jacob Wetzel

Southminster Family,

Thank you all so much for your outpouring of love and well wishes on the birth of our second daughter Rose Elizabeth Deyerle! All of your cards fill our fireplace mantle and bring a smile to our faces each day. We are enjoying the very sleepless but joyful first month of her life, as is her big sister Abigail!

Love,

The Deyerles

September Birthdays

- 2 Carson Crenshaw
- 3 Ryan Endries, Betty Smith
- 5 John Lampe
- 6 Lynda Reed
- 8 David Carter
- 11 Gene Rhodes, David Singleton
- 12 Tom Murray
- 14 Matt Davis
- 18 Gail DeCosta
- 19 Alberta Lindsey
- 21 Martina Mazzamuto
- 22 Virginia Wagstaff
- 23 Richard Jordanger
- 24 Mike Bowser
- 25 Rich Kowalski, Casey Brammer
- 28 Phillippa Solaimani
- 30 Mary Ann Hepp, David Knight, Norma Poole

September Anniversaries

- 1 Mel & Linda Bookman (47)
- 5 Mark & Pattie Pinchbeck (22)
- 6 David & Kerry Knight (17)
- 8 Don & Diane Watkins (41)
- 10 Robin & Joyce Lapsley (37)
- 11 Jerry & Aileen Davis (49)
- 12 Jim & Ada Park (61)
- 13 David & Mary Stahl (33)
- 16 Rich & Bonnie Kowalski (53)
- 16 Curtis & Karen Radt (40)
- 23 Rick & Ann Schaffer (31)
- 27 Bob & Betsy Zehner (54)

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

September Schedules

If you at any time are not comfortable with being physically present on your scheduled Sunday, please notify your schedule's organizer.

Elder Greeters

- 6 Eddie Pearson
- 13 Marty Kovacs
- 20 Matt Briggs
- 27 Frank Grier

Facility Stewards

- 6 Mark Endries
- 13 Mark Pinchbeck
- 20 Marty Kovacs
- 27 Matt Briggs

Ushers

- 6 Kathy Liesfeld, Pat Thomas, Ron Hepp, Jacob Wetzel
- 13 Frank & Joyce Grier, David Huff, Terry Liendecker
- 20 Frank & Joyce Grier, David Huff, Terry Liendecker
- 27 Dianna Scott, Laura Pearson, Jerry Davis, Matt Briggs

Food Closet

- 1 Shelley Murray, Terry Liendecker
- 3 Jane Williams, Lyndale Baptist
- 8 Mary Stahl, Jane Tarter
- 10 Jane Williams, Lyndale Baptist
- 15 Gail DeCosta, Bonnie Kowalski
- 17 Lyndale Baptist, Jane Williams
- 22 Mary Stahl, Margaret Hall
- 24 Jane Tarter, Terry Liendecker
- 29 Gail DeCosta, Bonnie Kowalski

Southminster Presbyterian Church

September 2020

| | Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|---------------------|---|--------------------|
| | | | 1 Food Closet 7:30 PM: IPCN | 2 10 AM: Martha Circle 7 PM: Handbell Rehearsal | 3 Food Closet | 4 7:30 PM: IPCN | 5 7:30 PM: IPCN |
| 6 9 AM: Outdoor Worship 11 AM: Worship 3 PM: IPCN | 7 Labor Day Office Closed | 8 Food Closet 7:30 PM: IPCN | 9 7 PM: Handbell Rehearsal | 10 Food Closet | 11 7:30 PM: IPCN | 12 7:30 PM: IPCN | |
| 13 Rally Day 9 AM: Outdoor Worship 11 AM: Worship 3 PM: IPCN | 14 6 PM: BSA Recruitment Event | 15 Food Closet 7:30 PM: IPCN | 16 7 PM: Handbell Rehearsal | 17 Food Closet | 18 7:30 PM: IPCN | 19 9 AM: BSA Recruitment Event 7:30 PM: IPCN | |
| 20 9 AM: Outdoor Worship 11 AM: Worship 12:30: Session Meeting 3 PM: IPCN | 21 6:30 PM: BSA Scouts Outdoor Meeting | 22 Food Closet 7:30 PM: IPCN | 23 7 PM: Handbell Rehearsal | 24 Food Closet | 25 7:30 PM: IPCN | 26 7:30 PM: IPCN | |
| 27 9 AM: Outdoor Worship 10 AM: Personnel Meeting 11 AM: Worship 11:45 PM: Congregational Meeting 3 PM: IPCN | 28 6:30 PM: BSA Scouts Outdoor Meeting | 29 Food Closet 7:30 PM: IPCN | 30 7 PM: Handbell Rehearsal | | | | |
| | | Notes | | | | | |

SOUTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Phone: 804-276-1749

www.southpreschurch.org

office@southpreschurch.org

Return Service Requested

September 2020

Rally Day

Sunday, September 13th

9:00 AM Outdoor Worship

**11:00 AM Worship &
Blessing of the Backpacks**

Join us as we celebrate the start
of a new Southminster year



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.