

THE PATH OF WORSHIP



MORNING WORSHIP

8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Sermon and Liturgical Schedule

June 7 Graduate Recognition Sunday; Communion
Pastor Megan preaching



Youth Worship...

Whoever said worship time *has* to be boring for youth. . . was WRONG! If you are in grades 6 through 12, you are invited to take part in our **Youth Worship** at 11 a.m. on the third Sunday of each month. This “service” is thought-provoking, full of music (with the Southminster Band), and very interactive. Please join us! If you have any questions, contact Pastor Megan or Robyn Kleinschmidt.

Just a reminder...

The summer Sunday worship schedule **begins on June 7**, with one service at 10 a.m., and ends on September 6.



Southminster Music and Arts Academy



Southminster Music and Arts Academy is now enrolling students for lessons in piano, guitar, and other instruments as well as in voice and dance and in *Kindermusik*, which is designed for very young children. For more information, check out the Church web site or contact the Church office.

Service of Healing Prayer, 4 p.m.

June 14 Teacher Recognition Sunday
“Planting the Seeds of Faith”
2 Corinthians 5:6-10 and 14-17 and Mark 4:26-34

June 21 Father’s Day
“Wake Up, God!”
Psalm 9:9-20 and Mark 4:35-41

June 28 Steve Davis preaching

If you are an elder or deacon serving now or with past service and would like to be on a communion team or to be on the substitute list, please contact Phyllis Strayer, 433-2133, or by e-mail, phyllisstrayer@gmail.com.



The Window

Your SPC Fortune Cookie

Before you criticize someone, walk a mile in their shoes. (That way, if they get angry, they are a mile away and barefoot.)



THE PATH OF COMMUNITY

Remember in your prayers...

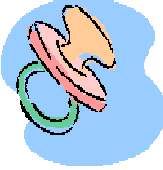
Jay Coe, Jim Custer, Gladys and Richard Eichhorn, Joyce and Jim Fisher, Elizabeth Joy, Elsie Nelson (Lisa Kelchner's mother), Dorothy Putzier, Edith Rhodes, Milton Simmons, Don Snyder, and Paul Tootle (Mary Fonteles' father).



Military: Jason Nilsen - Korea - (Friend of Robyn Kleinschmidt's)

Living with cancer: Margaret Barclay, Carl Day, Roger Carlyle (Jackie Lindsey's father), Mary Martin (Holly Woods' mother), Karen Mergy (Mary Fonteles' sister), Roger Penrod (Jackie Lindsey's brother-in-law), Irene Tipsword and Blake Williams (Kathy Johns' brother-in-law).

Congratulations and Blessings to: Carey and Rachel Tapp in the birth of their daughter, Alexandra Jacie Tapp, born on April 20. Charles and Wanda Tapp are the proud grandparents.



Our heartfelt sympathy to: Steve and Helen Davis in the death of Helen's aunt, Gloria Lee, of TX, who died on Friday, May 18.

Jim and Pam Moore in the death of Pam's uncle, Walter Jones, who died recently.



Thank you so much for the cards and good wishes. They were appreciated. Also thanks to Bill, Jane, Ian, Garrett, and Katlin, who made many of our favorite meals and brought them to us.

Again, our thanks to all of you.

Gert and Don Barlow



I want to thank Sue and Megan for coming to the hospital to visit with and pray for Jim. Several others from the Church came also, and it means so much to have their love and support. Jim had pneumonia and three blood clots but is back at Liberty now.

Thank you also for all the cards and phone calls. This is a wonderful congregation, and I really appreciate you all.

Love, Pat Custer

You are the best! Thanks to everyone who supported me during my surgery and recovery: Sue and Megan for their faithful visits even when I was less than gregarious, the several guys who'd had similar stuff who visited me both before and after surgery, many members who came to see me in the hospital and at home, the Cooks for Christ gang who prepared and delivered a fabulous feast, my new walking buddy, and all who sent cards to lift my spirits. I'm making good progress. Praise the Lord! Thanks to all!

George Lawson



The Ministry of Listening



Remember a time when you were really cared for? Chances are it was when someone focused on you and what you had to say—someone who listened to how you felt instead of telling you how you should feel or what you should do. Jesus modeled good listening. He demonstrated how much he truly cared for people and was able to give what was needed.

Listening is a powerful ministry tool. But it takes energy and commitment to listen well. Stephen Ministers learn and practice listening skills. By restating key thoughts and ideas, they demonstrate that they are focused on the person and on what is said. Stephen Ministers bring Christian care to people in need, in word and deed, by listening and comforting.

Please prayerfully consider: Am I being called to this ministry? To learn more, plan to attend an informational session on Sunday, June 7, at 11:15 a.m. in the Adult Lounge.



Elderberries

A Fifty-Plus Ministry for Seniors

Elderberries: Spring is here, and summer is right around the corner! Seniors, you won't want to miss our next Elderberries gathering on Friday, June 5, at 11:30 a.m. in the CFC. Our guest speaker Charles Shoemaker, Executive Director of Five Rivers MetroParks, will highlight summer activities for seniors at area parks. Enjoy a good meal while visiting with friends. Cost: \$5. Please sign up in the narthex, or call the Church office by June 2.

Please remember the deadline for the newsletter is always the 15th of the month.

Summer 2009 Prayer-Walking!

Put on your walking shoes, and join in a prayer-walk this summer. The benefits of prayer-walking are many. A prayer-walk can be a means of exercise, a time to share in thoughtful conversation with a friend, an opportunity to reflect on life situations or upcoming decisions, a chance to ponder scripture or other significant reading, or a time to pray for the needs of family and friends and our world. Perhaps most importantly, prayer-walking is an invitation to slow down and appreciate the wonder of God revealed in creation.



Prayer Walking

Scheduled prayer-walks will occur on Tuesday mornings at 9:00 a.m. on the following dates (location in parenthesis): June 16 (Sugar Creek MetroPark), June 30 (Cox Arboretum), July 14 (Smith Gardens), July 28 (Stubbs Park), and August 11 (Grant Park). Please meet at the designated location between 8:45 and 9:00 a.m. A scripture passage or reading will be provided for each walk. Prayer-walk dates, locations, and addresses are printed and available in the Church Narthex. Bring a friend or neighbor; children and teens are also encouraged to attend. At the conclusion of each walk, we will gather briefly to thank God for blessings received and grace for the day. Hope to see you on the trails!

Health and Wellness Committee

The Window

Grief Support Group

Finding healing through loss and grief is a difficult journey but one that finds support and encouragement in community. At Southminster we desire to help. A grief support group gathers on the second Wednesday of each month to offer such support. If you are experiencing loss, we hope you will consider joining us. Our next gathering is Wednesday, June 10, at 7 p.m. in the Coffee Corner. For more information, please contact Jane Hancock at 433-0972.

Service of Healing Prayer, June 7

A service of healing prayer will be held on Sunday, June 7, at 4 p.m. in the Sanctuary. This quiet service includes special music, the reading of Scripture, a short meditation, and the sacrament of Holy Communion. It is designed to bring comfort and encouragement to any person experiencing sadness, physical struggle or illness, or other forms of uncertainty. It also offers spiritual rest and renewal in the midst of active life. The theme for the June service is "The Gift of Deficiency," based on John 4. Margaret Silf writes, "The Samaritan woman at the well would never have met Jesus if she'd had a water supply at home. It is in what we lack that we are most open to all we can become." We hope you will join us and invite others who may benefit from this time.

Prayer and Presence Committee

Southminster Lamb Ministry

We started our lamb ministry in 2007. Since then, many lambs have found their way to new homes, leaving our sanctuary in the safe, loving arms of their new owners or taken to give to others who will love and care for them. Each lamb has been blessed through love and prayers offered during worship, studies of the Word, and various worship and music activities throughout Southminster. The lambs share the love and support we offer to each other and to the community.

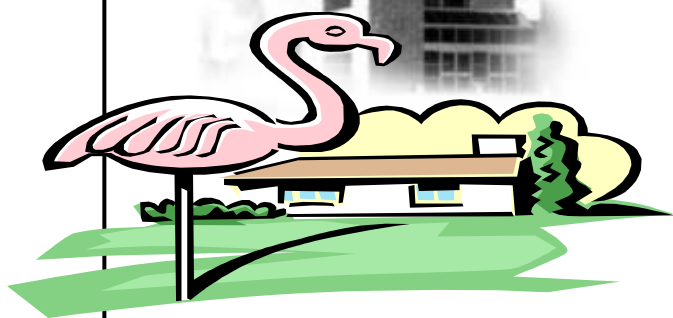


As Jesus, the Good Shepherd, loves you and watches over you, we also want you to know that all in need are in the prayers of our congregation.

Say hello to our lambs next time you are in Church, and wish them well in their travels.

Your shepherd,
Olivia Ireland

A Word from Pastor Megan...



Last month I went out for the evening. When I returned, I noticed several strange shapes in my yard that I couldn't quite make out in the dark. As I got closer, I realized there was not one but over 50 pink flamingoes "standing" in the grass. Upon closer inspection, I found that there were even a few flamingoes nested in the trees. On the front porch was a note from the youth, who had "redistributed" the flamingoes from Monica's garage onto my yard. The next morning we cleaned up the flamingoes (and forks), with the exception of one flamingo who "stood" defiantly in a tree, refusing to come down. We didn't have the heart to remove him; so he is still happily nested there, with the spring flowers budding around him.

I admire pink flamingoes. What makes them so fantastic is that they are exactly who they are, with no apology. In their pink splendor, they stand proudly on their metal poles in a way that the passerby cannot help but laugh (which, by the way, is what my neighbors did the next morning). The flamingo is not a normal, suburban lawn ornament nor does it pretend to be. Pink flamingoes belong in Florida at an attraction, not in an Ohio front lawn. The flamingo knows this is not its home, but it is here temporarily; so it does not attempt to blend in by hiding behind a tree or painting itself brown. Instead the flamingo exists in the Ohio lawn as it is, without conforming to its surroundings.

So it is with us as Christians. We are called to live in the world, to be with people, to reach out to those in need, and at the same time to not be conformed to the values of the world but instead to be who we are called to be by God. We become pink flamingoes that refuse to conform to the values of materialism, power, and popularity--refuse to blend into our suburban surroundings and instead seek to follow the way of Christ, choosing generosity over materialism, humility over power, hospitality over popularity. We are pink. We are plastic. We are unashamed.

ATTENTION YOUTH!

Hey Middle and High Schoolers!

A big **THANK YOU** from the youth to everyone who came out for bingo night! We were able to collect a barrel full of food for the food pantry, and we raised \$300 to donate to River of Hope, a horse ranch that provides counseling for children and youth. We even had a visit from Sweet Pea, the horse! Thank you also to everyone who donated items for the Children's Hospital. The youth went to play bingo with the children in May and had a great experience spending time with them.

Mark your calendars for these events coming in June:

- **End-of-school luau**, Friday, June 5. Join us at Jill Parker's home for swimming and food to celebrate the beginning of summer!
- **Senior Recognition**, June 7. Let Pastor Megan know if you can come so the congregation can hear more about your plans after graduation!
- **Youth Worship**, June 21, 10 a.m., in the Community Room! Come for food and a worship service designed just for you.
- **Mike's Chair concert**, June 21, 6 p.m., in the Sanctuary. Check out their myspace page to hear their songs. Grab a friend—or ten—and get ready for an awesome night!
- **River of Hope mission trip**, June 22 to 26. Signups are due to Megan by June 1. We will meet at the Church each morning at 8:30 to travel to the ranch, and we will return home by 5 p.m. The total cost for the week is just \$30! We will be helping with camp maintenance and arts and crafts, leading devotions, and helping with the horses. Middle and high school students are invited to come!
- **Bibles and Bagels** at Panera in downtown Centerville, June 29, 10 a.m. Grab your Bible and come for breakfast and discussion!

Pastor Megan will be out of town for vacation and study leave from June 10 to 20. She will have her e-mail and cell phone if you have any questions while she is away!

THE PATH OF LEARNING

Kirkmont News



Southminster encourages children and adults to be aware of the wonderful summer camping program at our Presbytery's Kirkmont Center in Zanesfield, Ohio. There are camps for everyone—beginner's camp, kid's camp, grand camp, quilter's camp, junior camps, youth camps, and more. Check out the website (kirkmontcenter.com), and note the insert in this newsletter. Applications are available at the Education table in the Narthex or by contacting Jeanne McIver. A limited number of scholarships are available.

New Committee of the Learning Council: Weekday Learning Committee

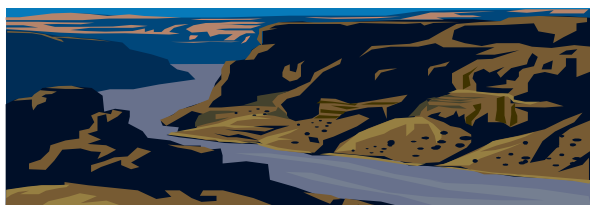
A group that includes Barbara Dettenmayer, Gretchen Cleaves, Jill Parker, Lisa Gaines, Steve Davis, Dorothy Douglas, Erinne Johnson, and staff members Megan Collins and Jeanne McIver has been formed and has met to evaluate and plan the Wednesday evening learning programs.

Children

On May 31, the children's workshops will celebrate Pentecost with a special one-hour, three-workshop program of learning about the meaning of this season.

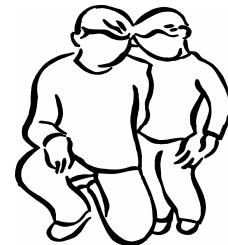
Beginning in June, summer workshops will be offered following the Word with the Children for children who have completed second through fourth grades. The focus of the curriculum, *Worship4Life*, will be Baptism and Communion. Children and Worship will also continue through the summer for ages 4 through first grade.

REMEMBER, children will be welcomed to the Discovery Canyon for Vacation Bible School, August 3 through 7. Save the dates, and watch for signups. Does anyone have plastic rocks that they would loan to VBS? Contact Jeanne McIver (jeanne@sminster) for more information.



Becoming the Parent God Wants You to Be...

One night a father overheard his son pray, "Dear God, make me the kind of man my dad is." Later that night, the father prayed, "Dear God, make me the kind of man my son wants me to be."



Who do you think your child wants you to be? Perhaps, praying together, you will become the man, the dad, that God has intended you to be. God will answer your prayers because you are trusting in him to do so.

The following is a poem which so eloquently describes the qualities that God uses when preparing a man to become a dad.

What Makes a Dad

God took the strength of a mountain,
The majesty of a tree,
The warmth of a summer sun,
The calm of a quiet sea,
The generous soul of nature,
The comforting arm of night,
The wisdom of the ages,
The power of the eagle's flight,
The joy of a morning in spring,
The faith of a mustard seed,
The patience of eternity,
The depth of a family need.
Then God combined these qualities.
When there was nothing more to add,
He knew His masterpiece was complete.
And so, He called it. . . Dad

God bless all the Fathers, and have a very Happy Father's Day!

Priscilla Stapleton

Young Family Cookout...



Families with children in elementary school or younger are invited to the young family cookout on **Saturday, June 6, at 5 p.m.** Bring something to grill and a side dish to share. Let Pastor Megan know if you would like to attend!

Mike's Chair Concert
Sunday, June 21



Join us for a concert with the Christian band **Mike's Chair** on Sunday, June 21, 6 p.m., in the Sanctuary. Mike's Chair is a young Christian rock band that will be traveling through the Dayton area and will perform a free concert here at Southminster! A love offering will be taken to thank them for their generosity. Invite a friend and come join us for a wonderful night of music! Contact Pastor Megan with questions or if you would like to help with food or housing for the band!

M M, R & R (Men's Messages, Read and Reflect)

Fame

*For merit lives from man to man,
And not from man, O Lord, to thee.*

The man, then, who does right and seeks no praise from others shall be rewarded by his Father; and his reward will be precious to him.

No man can be the disciple of Christ and desire fame. To desire fame is simply selfishness that would be proud if it could. Fame is the applause of many, and the judgment of the man is foolish.

Aspiration is the sole escape from ambition. He who aspires—that is, does his best to rise above himself—neither lusts to be higher than his neighbor nor seeks to mount in his opinion. What light there is in him shines the more that he does nothing to be seen of men. He loves not his own soul but longs to be clean.

Don Dameron

THE PATH OF INVITATION

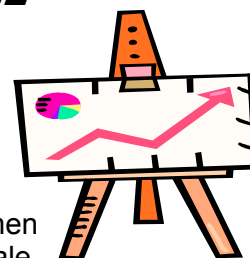
Americana Festival Helpers Are Needed

The Invitation Council is looking for volunteers to set up and serve at our booth to promote Vacation Bible School during this year's Americana Festival on the Fourth of July. Setup is between 7 and 9 a.m. We need two to three volunteers per hour between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Please contact Mary Baez, 269-2615, or sign up in the Narthex if you can help. Thank you!

THE PATH OF SERVICE

It Was a Success!

Thank you to everyone who ordered flowers and Posy Power from our annual Presbyterian Women of Southminster's flower sale fundraiser. We also thank all who volunteered by taking orders and by helping on delivery day and all who held the project in prayer. When the final profit figure is available, we will publish it in the bulletin. Enjoy your beautiful flowers, and remember to order from us again next year!



Mom to Mom group, PWS

THE PATH OF STEWARDSHIP

Jerry's Corner...

It finally came--warm weather, that is! Our "Garden Twins" have been busy with planting--everything from flowers to vegetables. Marge Genis has planted some vegetables in the three little gardens near Alex-Bell Road, for the food pantry. Thanks, Marge. Shirley Oglesbee could use some help with keeping the weeds at bay near the Gary Haines Pavilion. In fact, the Twins could use any help available. Got a couple of hours? We have mulch at two locations (back parking lot and the upper parking lot) for the gardens and flower beds. Workers, it's first come, first served!



I want to thank the Alpha Presby Group for their great work in planting the flowers in the area just outside the windows behind the information desk in the Narthex.

Essential Landscaping will again be mowing our grass this year. If you need any landscaping, give Steve Campbell a call at 384-0440.

Enjoy the nice weather, and I hope to see you in church.

Jerry