

**From:** Southminster Presbyterian Church <office@sminster.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 20, 2020 11:01 AM  
**To:** irwink@woh.rr.com  
**Subject:** News & Notes for March 20, 2020



## NEWS & NOTES

March 20, 2020

*To be the head, heart and hands of Jesus Christ, driven by God's love for our church and the world beyond.*

### NOTES FROM NANCY

**Hi everyone! How are you doing? I miss seeing your shining faces around the church and hope you are well. While we are practicing social distancing, we also want to find ways to keep up our connections in our church family. Below are some of the things we are doing now or planning to do soon. Do you have other ideas we might consider? I'd love to hear them! Email or call me! This is a time when creativity and out-of-the-box thinking can be exciting!**

**WORSHIP:** Right now, we are live-streaming the worship service on our website at [www.sminster.com](http://www.sminster.com) at 10 a.m. on Sundays. If you miss it, you will be able to see it under "recorded services" by Monday morning. It is quite easy. Just go to the website, and right under the word, "Welcome," you will see the directions. We hope this Sunday to improve the sound quality and to zoom in more on the person who is speaking. It is a work in progress, and Laura and the MarCom (Marketing and Communications) Team did an amazing job of getting the right equipment and figuring out how to do this in just 2 days for last Sunday!

**ADULT EDUCATION:** Steve Davis will soon be recording his class. Perhaps we can think of some other possibilities, too!

**CHILDREN:** I called Marianne Farmer today, and she will talk to someone on our MarCom Team about the possibility of showing a video or live-stream of her reading a Bible story and/or offering something close to what she usually does for our “Children and Worship” program. I think it would be a comfort to the children to see her. Additionally, we will look into ways to offer some online face-time interaction between the children.

**FELLOWSHIP GROUPS:**

Ralph and Janice Young had a wonderful idea that they have started in their Lambda Presby-Group. One at a time, they all take turns emailing the whole group about what has been going on in their lives. It is a great way to get to know each other better and even to encourage and inspire each other. Maybe you are in a group that would like to do something like this!

**PASTORAL CARE:**

Much of my pastoral care has to be over the phone right now. Please put my cell phone number into your phone. (I sent it out in the last News and Notes. It starts with a 732 area code.) If you have a concern, need to talk, would like for me to have a prayer with you over the phone, or you want to share a concern for someone else, please contact me! You can usually get me at the church number 937-433-1810 during the day, too.

I realize that this is particularly difficult for those of you with loved ones in nursing homes and rehab centers since they are no longer letting family or even clergy into the facilities. When I went to visit a member in the ICU four days ago, I think I was the only visitor in the hospital, and they are asking that clergy only come for extreme emergencies. Still, I can have prayer over the phone with you or your loved one, so please don't hesitate to contact me.

Our Care Connection callers are still calling members on Sundays and checking in with them for prayer concerns or other needs. (They are calling from their homes, so you will not see the usual church number on your phone.) I would encourage our members to call and send cards to others in the congregation.

Our members have contributed to an emergency assistance fund, so if you are in need of some help, please let me know.

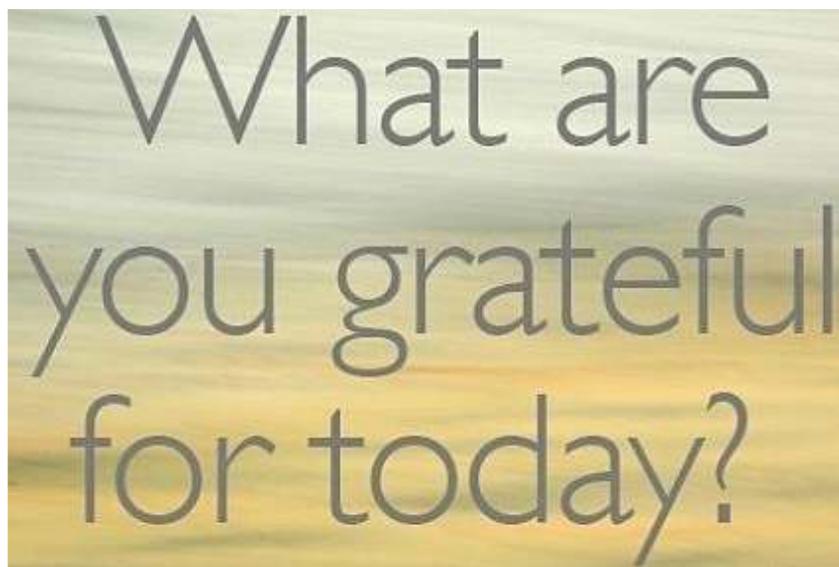
**TEAM MEETINGS:** We can use Zoom, Skype, conference calls or email, depending on what the team leader wants to do. If you need help with one of these options, contact the church office, and we can get someone from the MarCom Team to call you and help you through it.

**FACEBOOK:** I thought I might share a post on Facebook each day with a hymn or a song that you might like to hear, along with other posts of encouragement or information. Check in to the Southminster page each day to see what is there!

### **GRATITUDE**

*In the midst of this frightening virus and the frustrations of self-isolating, we still have much for which we can be thankful. We have shelter, enough food and water, people we care about in the world and those who care about us, a church family, LOVE, and faith in God who loves us more than we can imagine.*

*What are YOU thankful for? If you want to share some of your thoughts on this with others, send me an email, and perhaps I can print some of them on a Constant Contact email to the congregation. I would love to hear from our teens and children, too! If you send a photo of your child's picture of "What I am Thankful For," I can include it, and I'm sure it will bring a smile to many faces!*



**IN SYMPATHY**

Last Monday, I went to Kerry Breed's house to have a prayer with her, and she died peacefully that night. Many of you didn't get the opportunity to get to know her because she was flying back and forth so much to get treatments for her cancer with a specialist in NYC. Becoming a member of the church just this month was a precious thing to her, and knowing that she was in the congregation's prayers was a great comfort and light in her life. Her husband, John, also joined the church. It has to be particularly difficult to be grieving in this time of social isolation for Coronavirus. Please keep John, their son, and the rest of the family in your prayers. I will send out a Constant Contact email about Kerry next week.

Peace,  
Nancy

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

**BUILDING AND GROUNDS TEAM** is looking for new members. Prior knowledge is not required but is helpful! We meet the second Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. All you need is a willingness to learn, a friendly attitude, and an interest in supporting Southminster's valuable property. Please email [Linda.Meily@gmail.com](mailto:Linda.Meily@gmail.com) if you are interested or have questions.

**CHURCH CLEAN-OUT DAY** Is cancelled on March 21. Look for a new date soon.

**MEDIA VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!** The Worship Team is in need of a few volunteers to help with Media on Sunday Mornings. You would be contributing to the smooth running of the Worship Service and your commitment would be only one Sunday per month. If this interests you, please contact Elizabeth or Helen Davis for more information.

## COLORING TO EASE ANXIETY

The "Illustrated Ministry" resource program has sent out free coloring pages geared more toward **adults and teens** as a stress-reducing activity during this time when so many people are anxious. [Click here](#) for a free download.

## CHILDREN AND YOUTH

## **SAVE THE DATE FOR VBS!**

Vacation Bible School will be June 15-18. If you are interested in volunteering, contact Pastor Laura Nile.

## **NOTES OF INTEREST**

### **STEWARDSHIP UPDATE**

Please remember that the ministry of the congregation and the responsibilities of the staff continue even when you are going to worship services in the privacy and safety of your home. With your timely donations we will be able to pay the Church's bills. If you wish to give through our website, here are the instructions. Go to our website, [sminster.com](http://sminster.com). On the home page, in the upper right hand corner, there is a button called GIVE. Click on GIVE, and an online donation page will appear, and you can create a profile or "log in", if you have already created a profile.

With appreciation, The Stewardship Team.

**THE CONGREGATIONAL MEETING** to consider being a host site for Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) is postponed until further notice.

### **JOB OPPORTUNITIES**

Southminster has several job openings for the nursery, a part time Children's Director and a part time Marketing Coordinator. If you know someone that is interested please have them apply at [sminster.com/careers](http://sminster.com/careers).

### **DR. WOLFELT NEW DATE**

Southminster will be hosting Dr. Alan Wolfelt, a noted and best-selling author, educator, and renowned grief counselor, on July 27 from 7-9 p.m. If you would like to sign up for this free event please call the church office or go to <http://bit.ly/2020WolfeltCommunity>

### **WANTED: E-MAIL PRAYER CHAIN PARTICIPANTS!!**

The only requirement to join is the desire to pray for others. When you receive the prayer request via email, there is no need to pass it on...ONLY TO GOD!! Just PRAY!! All prayer requests are confidential. Please contact Judy Murphy at [lucy1942@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lucy1942@sbcglobal.net) to be added to the email prayer chain. "LORD, TEACH US TO PRAY." Luke 11:1

# CONTRIBUTIONS

## Southminster Contributions – 2020\*

Period	Budgeted Contributions	Actual Contributions	Excess/ (Shortfall)
Last Week	\$21,182	\$12,439	\$(8,743)
Year to Date	\$116,501	\$106,591	\$(9,910)

• as of March 16, 2020

• This is for the two week period of March 3 thru March 16

For convenience, you can [payonline](#) at our website.

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