

From: Southminster Presbyterian Church <office@sminster.com>
Sent: Friday, March 27, 2020 12:00 PM
To: irwink@woh.rr.com
Subject: News & Notes for March 27, 2020



NEWS & NOTES

March 27, 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

Dear Friends in Christ,

I hope you received the email that was sent to you about the Session's decision to extend the church building closing through April, when we will reassess the situation. Live-streaming will continue. I am mostly working from my church office, and the rest of the staff is mostly working from home.

At the virtual Session meeting earlier this week, I shared the following list of what I consider to be the priorities for Southminster during this difficult time. Our elders agreed with these goals. Some of the ideas under the headings are already in place, and some are things that I am hoping we can do. If you have an idea of a way to carry out one of these priorities, I'd love to hear from you. Realistically, we may not be able to accomplish all of the suggestions into the ministry of the church right now, but it is good to think and dream together as we strive to be the head, heart and hands of Jesus Christ in the world.

**WHAT IS IMPORTANT
FOR THE CONGREGATION
OF SOUTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
AS WE MOVE FORWARD DURING THE VIRUS QUARANTINE?**

1) Feel spiritually fed

- **Worship** service on Sundays and Maundy Thursday, spiritual guidance through Holy Week
- **Opportunities for adult spiritual formation and education**
 1. Possible pastor-led Zoom discussion, Facebook Live, etc. and/or a guided meditation, reading of Scripture and prayer
 2. Steve Davis will post his classes
 3. Possible Zoom discussion groups
- **Opportunities for youth:** Virtual Youth Group with Pastor Laura
- **Opportunities for children:**
 1. Bedtime stories with Pastor Laura twice a week
 2. "Children and Worship" videos with Marianne Farmer

2) Feel cared for

- Pastor Nancy is doing a lot of **pastoral care phone calls**
- (Right now, the nursing homes, rehab centers and hospital won't allow clergy visitation.)
- **Care Connection** is making phone calls on Sundays (from their homes) and letting Pastor Nancy know when there is a concern.

3) Feel connected.

- Having **staff meetings** through zoom
- **Presby Groups & Small Groups** staying in touch through calling, email, Zoom, or Skype
- **Session, Teams and Deacons** continuing to meet virtually, even if briefly, to make contact and think about the future together.

4) Finds ways to answer their call to service:

- Encourage members to **reach out to each other** within the congregation
- Encourage members to find ways to **reach out to people beyond the congregation**
- Continue to support the **Food Pantry** (Note: We may need more volunteers)
- Ask the **Mission Team** to consider other possibilities.
- (Note: On their own initiative, a small group is sewing masks for Hospice.)

As always, I hope that you are staying safe and well. Contact me if you need anything. I miss you and will be so happy when we are together again.

*Peace and blessings,
Nancy*

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

FISH SOUTHEAST FOOD PANTRY



Although we're all hunkered down to obey the governors shelter in place order, the FISH Southeast Food Pantry is permitted to operate as an essential entity due to its mission to provide food to the economically disadvantaged. Many of our dedicated team have chosen to continue delivering food weekly, but we do have some deliverers who have chosen to stay safe, and stay at home.

If you are looking for a way to help your neighbors, but haven't found that outlet yet, please consider stepping up to deliver food to needy local residents in the Centerville area during this crisis. We have modified food handling and interaction procedures to maintain social distancing at all times to keep both our deliverers and clients safe so you will not put yourself at any more risk than any other out-of-home excursion.

Our clients need our help, and with the downturn in the economy and unemployment skyrocketing, we will be needed more than ever in the coming weeks and months. Please consider reaching out and offering to help! Contact mission@sminster.com or call Kevin Dickson at (937) 304-6293 if you'd like to volunteer!

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 if you are interested or have questions.

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.

ADULT EDUCATION

[VIRTUAL BIBLE STUDY](#)

Stay connected with the Adult Bible Study by watching a video presentation with Steve Davis. Click [here](#) to see this weeks lesson, which will cover the Passion and Crucifixion as told in the Gospel of Matthew.

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. With appreciation, The Stewardship Team.

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

[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>

CONTRIBUTIONS

Southminster Contributions – 2020*

Period	Budgeted Contributions	Actual Contributions	Excess/ (Shortfall)
Last Week	\$10,591	\$10,383	\$(208)
Year to Date	\$127,092	\$116,974	\$(10,118)

* as of March 23, 2020

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

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