

**From:** Southminster Presbyterian Church <office@sminster.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, June 26, 2020 12:01 PM  
**To:** irwink@woh.rr.com  
**Subject:** News & Notes for June 26, 2020



## NEWS & NOTES

June 26, 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

*Two people read the same Bible.  
One sees reasons to love.  
The other reasons to hate.  
One sees unity.  
The other, division.  
One finds prejudice.  
The other, equality.  
One discovers compassion.  
The other, indifference.  
One goodwill.  
The other, malice.  
Two people, one book.  
One book, two views.  
The book is the mirror.  
The reflection is you.*

I came across the anonymous quote above, and it really spoke to me. I remember back in my first ethics class in seminary when the professor divided the room into 2 halves. No matter what our opinion really was about a controversial topic, he told us which side of the classroom would be for it and which side would be against it for purposes of discussion. Then, he said, "Prove it from the Bible." Everyone could do it! Clearly, you can twist the words of

Scripture to mean what you want them to mean, especially if you “cherry pick” verses and ignore the context.

It seems like there are too many Christians these days claiming that their understanding of controversial or “hot button” topics is the only opinion that a real Christian can have. I have to believe that it makes Jesus sad when anyone arrogantly claims to know the only Christian answer to complex issues.

I guess that is why I like thinking about the fact that the way we interpret the Bible often is a reflection of who we are and how much our heart is, or is not, filled with God’s love. It’s a good thing for all of us to consider, especially as we navigate the difficult times in which we live.

Jesus said, “Do not judge, so that you may not be judged.” (MT 7:1) Perhaps this is a good time for you and me to remember those words and to do our best to reflect kindness, love and compassion in all that we do and say.

Peace and blessings,  
Nancy

### **LAURA’S WEDDING REGISTRY**

Join us for pastor Laura Nile’s drive-by surprise bridal shower this Saturday from 11 a.m. to noon. You don’t need to bring anything, but you are welcome to bring a card and/or a gift.



If you wanted to get her a gift but couldn’t think what to give her, you can go to their “ZOLA” website and order online from their wedding registry. They will be notified of your gift immediately, and it can be sent directly to them. <https://www.zola.com/wedding/niletuell/registry>

**CHILDREN AND YOUTH**



**SIGN UP HERE FOR VIRTUAL VBS**

Next week (June 29-July 3) from 10:00-12:00 p.m. we will have Virtual VBS! This is going to be an exciting time to reconnect with other children from the church and community! This is going to be an exciting week as we talk about Compassion through 5 different stories from the Bible!

On Sunday, June 28, from 2:00-4:00 p.m. we're asking for families that have registered to come pick up their packet at the church parking lot by the Pavillion.

The Virtual VBS is going to be a lot like typical VBS with Arts/Craft, Bible Lesson, music, snack, and movement time.

On Friday, July 3, we will be gathering at the church for VBS with a cookout lunch afterward. We'll be sending out a RSVP link to families to make sure we have enough food.

Please note that we are asking \$5 donation per person to help with supplies.

If you have any questions please contact [Josh](#) for any questions.

**SIGN UP HERE TO VOLUNTEER FOR VBS**

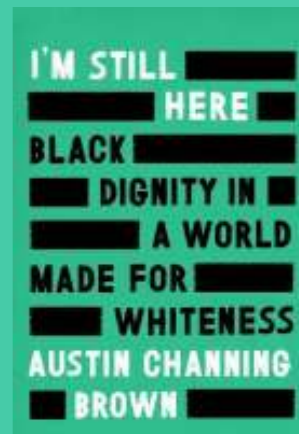
We're going great with our volunteers and thank you for everyone who has stepped up. If you're available to help cook and serve the lunch on Friday, we'd love to have you. If you're not able to volunteer this week, please keep our children, parents, and volunteers in your prayers.

If you have any questions please contact [Josh](#).

## ADULT EDUCATION

### JUNE BOOK CLUB

Have you been struggling to get a copy of our June Book Club book, "[I'm Still Here](#)"? Well, good news- it's back in stock! The book is quite short and you've still have time to read it before the book club session. Even if you don't have time to finish the book, you can still join the book club and participate in the discussions!



The next meeting is on Monday June 29th, 6-7 p.m. (SPC Pavilion) If you have any questions please contact [Laura](#).

### VIRTUAL BIBLE STUDY

Are you missing the Sunday morning New Testament class? Or do you wish you would have started the class? Whether you've missed a class or never started, you can jump in with online videos! Steve and Helen Davis have been recording the classes so you can watch and comment on the YouTube videos. It's a great way to keep learning during quarantine. You can find all the videos on the [private page of the website](#) password: w1nd0w

## IMPORTANT ! NEXT PHASES OF CHURCH REOPENING AND SAFETY MESSAGE

**Currently groups of 10 or less can have meetings at Southminster.**  
*Please check with office to schedule groups.*  
*Worship will continue to be through livestream services.*

**August 2, 2020 is the target date**

**for in-person worship services.**

*We will continue livestream for those not ready to come back*

**Office Information**

*Due to Covid 19 the office hours are M-F 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Anyone entering the common area or the reception area of the office must wear a mask. For safety reasons only 2 people are allowed in the common / reception area of the office at one time. Please wait outside if more than 2 people are in the office.*

*(Please see the following information from our safety team.)*

**Phase Two: Limited Office and Small Group Opening  
June 1 -August 1, 2020**

- 1) Anyone entering the building (including staff and volunteers) is asked to perform a self-health-assessment beforehand. (*temperature check, no cough, no flu-like symptoms*).
- 2) **Anyone in the church is required to wear masks in public spaces,**
  - a. maintain six-foot distancing, and wash hands upon entering building (*Alcohol gel available at all entrances and office*).

**Thank you for keeping yourself and everyone safe!**

**NOTES OF INTEREST**

**OFFICE**

The office will be closed Friday July 3, in observance of the 4th of July holiday!



**STUDY LEAVE**

Nancy will be on study leave June 29-July 5. If you have pastoral needs please contact [Rev. Laura Nile](#).

**CONTRIBUTIONS**

**ELECTRONIC GIVING** is a convenient, easy way to support Southminster Church. You can give anywhere at anytime from your computer, smartphone or tablet. You can set up recurring payments and never worry about bringing your checkbook again. There are several ways you can get started today!



\*Click [here](#) for full instructions.

\*Click [here](#) to donate on our website.

\*Contact Sharon Ark at [Sharon@sminter.com](mailto:Sharon@sminter.com) for assistance.

\*Mail your check to the church at 7001 Far Hills Ave, Dayton, OH 45459 or drop it by the office.

### Southminster Contributions – 2020\*

Period	Budgeted Contributions	Actual Contributions	Excess/ (Shortfall)
Last Week	\$10,591	\$3,258	\$(7,333)
Year to Date	\$264,775	\$217,726	\$(47,049)

Southminster Presbyterian Church | 7001 Far Hills Avenue, Dayton, OH 45459

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