

From: Southminster Presbyterian Church <office@sminster.com>
Sent: Friday, July 24, 2020 12:00 PM
To: irwink@woh.rr.com
Subject: News & Notes for July 24, 2020



NEWS & NOTES

July 24, 2020

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

LINES FROM LAURA

I returned home after my two weeks away for my wedding and honeymoon to find my home garden had changed significantly while I was gone. My tomato plants are now taller than I am, but my kale plants were enjoyed by the local bunnies instead of the humans they were planted for. Such is the life of a gardener.



My raised bed of tomato plants is absolutely overflowing, so it can be hard to see the weeds that have also made it their home. As I've tended to the plants this week, I've found several bindweed shoots. They grow practically overnight and twist their way up, up the tomato plants. If given enough time, they can grow over 20ft and will choke the plants out for good.

My preaching professor in Seminary said that everyone who preaches the gospels should also be a gardener. Now that I'm both, I understand why she said it. When I see the bindweed quickly overtaking the plants I've tended to so carefully, I think of Jesus' parable of the Sower in Matthew 13, where seeds grew up but were choked out by the weeds. The bindweed reminds me how easy it can be for sin, anger, jealousy, or contempt to twist their way into my life. I work *so hard* to cultivate the Fruits of the Spirit, but if I'm not careful, those "weeds" can choke out love, joy, peace, and patience from my life.

How is the garden of your soul these days? What fruits are you cultivating? Are there weeds that have sprung up without you noticing? My therapist once told me that “**what we pay attention to grows.**” I have found that to be true in so many areas of my life. When life is hard (and life is so hard for so many of us right now!), I have to remind myself to pay attention to the things I want more of— more joy, more love, more patience for myself and others, more kindness, more gentleness.

My prayer for you this weekend is that you will take some time to do some good old fashioned soul care. Tend to the garden in your soil- fertilize what you want to see flourish and do the hard work of yanking out the weeds that need to go. And if you have some extra time, I hope you experience the simple joy of getting your hands dirty in God’s creation and tending to the beautiful Earth we have to steward.

Blessings,
Pastor Laura

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

CHILDREN'S VIRTUAL WORSHIP TIME

Children's Worship starts this Sunday at 9:15 - 9:45 a.m. It will be a time for the children to gather, check in with each other and maybe sing a song or two. Pajamas and breakfast always welcome! Please sign in with the Zoom link listed below.

Join Zoom Meeting



<https://zoom.us/j/92142261443?pwd=SkIjS2dlRDJvaFBseGJtVE5rK1g5QT09>

Meeting ID: 921 4226 1443
Password: 4BfMSd

ADULT EDUCATION

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.*

September 6, 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 -September 6, 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!

ACCESSING THE LIVESTREAM SERVICE

There are 4 different ways you can access the Livestream on Sunday mornings:

1. Follow the link in the Saturday email
2. Click on the link on the "[Livestreamed Services](#)" page of the church website
3. Type in "Southminster Presbyterian Church" into YouTube
4. Subscribe to [our YouTube Channel](#) and the videos should pop right up when you go to YouTube on Sunday mornings.

Should all else fail, recordings of the previous broadcasts can be access from [our Worship Videos](#) page or [our YouTube channel](#).

Thank you for your understanding and patience as we continue to evolve this ministry!

NOTES OF INTEREST

VACATION

Nancy will be on vacation July 20 - July 26. If you have pastoral needs please contact [Rev. Laura Nile](#).

Christian will be on vacation July 27-Aug. 4. If you need building assistance please call the office at 937-433-1810.

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 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	\$6,573	\$(4,018)
Year to Date	\$307,139	\$279,442	\$(27,697)

* as of June 20, 2020

FOLLOW UPDATES HERE:



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