

From: Southminster Presbyterian Church <office@sminster.com>
Sent: Friday, August 28, 2020 2:15 PM
To: irwink@woh.rr.com
Subject: News & Notes for August 28, 2020



NEWS & NOTES

August 28, 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

A Special Outdoor Worship Service:

On Wednesday, September 16, from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m., we will have an informal worship service in the back parking lot and green space of the church! Please bring your own fold-out chair and dress casually.

We will wear masks, and since we have such a big “back yard” and parking lot, it will be easy to keep 6-feet or more apart from one another. Just being outside makes us more safe than we could be in an enclosed space.

Please mark your calendars now for this opportunity to worship in-person!

Re-opening of Sunday In-Person Worship Services

POSTPONED:

While we had hoped to start having in-person worship services in early September, Montgomery County is in the red risk level zone again. Therefore, according to our church’s protocol, we have to put the re-opening on hold. Please read the Constant Contact email that I sent out earlier today for more information.

Peace in a Pandemic

This Scripture is one that often brings me comfort. I hope it helps you, too:
The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to

God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. (Philippians 4:5b-7)

As this pandemic drags on, it can be exhausting, and some people are experiencing a feeling of anxiety under the surface, even though they might try to repress it. There are no simple answers. Prayer and quiet time with God are the best ways I know to move toward more inner peace.

Psychologist Karen Hofmann suggests a few other things you can do to help you through this difficult time:

- **Allow yourself to feel:** There is so much change and loss of what was predictable. Every person had set plans of some sort for the near future, such as vacations, visits with friends and celebrations. It is normal to feel grief and loss over the things you once anticipated. Allow yourself to feel those things so that you can move forward.
- **Stay present:** Although there are a lot of unknowns at this time, it's important that you don't allow fears about things that are out of your control to consume you. Focus on the things that you can control and for which you are grateful. If you are worrying all the time, you are focusing too much on the future. Meditation and prayer can help.
- **Establish a routine:** Having a routine can help you gain more of a sense of control. Try starting your days by doing things that are productive, such as reading a book or taking a walk. If you are working, take time to get some fresh air whenever you can throughout the day. Try to engage in some fun, relaxing activities in the afternoons or evenings.
- **Set boundaries:** For some, staying home may be difficult due to a toxic environment, but setting boundaries and saying "No" when you can may be helpful. Keeping yourself busy and getting outside for a break are some other practices. If you are in the work place and you feel unsafe, share your concerns with someone who can encourage others to wear their masks and keep a 6 foot distance from one another.
- **Stay connected:** Social distancing does not mean social isolation. You can still stay connected to friends, family and a network of support through phone calls, texting, video chatting and social platforms. When you are experiencing stress, sadness, worry or anything else, talking to someone can always help you work through whatever you're dealing

with. (I would add, that you can call a pastor if that would be helpful, too!)

Peace and blessings,
Nancy

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

CHILDREN'S VIRTUAL WORSHIP TIME

Children's Worship will be this Sunday from 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

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS (This Sunday!)

Blessings of the Backpacks will be outdoors this year on August 30. If you would like to drive up and receive a blessing please come from 12-12:30 p.m. There will also be a walk up time for a blessing from 12:30-1:00 p.m. We would love to see you there and please invite someone to join you.

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS VOLUNTEERS

Not a child going back to school soon but you want to be a part of Blessings of the Backpacks? Great! Church members are invited to participate in our drive-thru blessings in the following way:

1. By 11:50 a.m. park in the lower parking lot.
2. Find a socially-distanced spot along the edge of the upper parking lot to place a camp chair.
3. Make a sign wishing the students a safe & fun school year and be ready to wave at the kids who come through to receive their school-year blessings.
4. Don't forget your face mask! Even though we're outside, we want this event to be safe for all!

NEXT PHASES OF CHURCH REOPENING AND SAFETY MESSAGE

*Currently groups of 10 or less
can have meetings at Southminster.*

*Please check with the office
to schedule gatherings inside or at the Pavilion.*

*Service will remain online-only
until Montgomery County goes down to a Safety Level II
(orange) long enough for our Safety Team and Session to
approve re-opening.*

We will continue livestream even when the Sanctuary is open.

Office Information

The office hours are currently M-F 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

*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.)

Currently in Phase Two: Limited Office & Small Group Opening

- 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, or contact with those who have tested positive for Covid*).
- 2) **Anyone in the church is required to wear mask in public spaces,**
 - a. Make every effort to 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!

ADULT EDUCATION

NEW TESTAMENT GROUP GOES ZOOM

The Adult New Testament group will begin meeting by Zoom call. The meetings will occur on the second and fourth Sundays of each month from 2:30-3:30 p.m. and will be repeated on the second and fourth Mondays of each month from 7:00-8:00 p.m. The Monday meeting will cover the same material as the preceding Sunday's meeting. The group will begin by

studying the story of Jesus' passion, death and resurrection as recorded in Luke and then move into the Book of Acts.

The next meeting is on September 6.

The Zoom format will provide a great opportunity for fellowship and interactive learning. If you're missing the Sunday morning group meetings (or wish you would have joined) or are just looking for a chance to beat the quarantine blues and visit with other folks, we have a place for you! If you're interested in participating, please contact Steve Davis by phone (937-885-0574) or email (steve.davis@thompsonhine.com).

Steve and Helen Davis will continue taping the group meetings and posting them on the private page of the website password: w1nd0w.

NOTES OF INTEREST



ANNOUNCEMENT FROM RUTH!

Joe and I are so happy to announce the arrival of Baby Whatley in February 2021! We are excited about this new chapter in our lives and cannot wait to share tons of adorable photos of our baby girl this coming Spring!

THE CASTLE

Dear Southminster Congregation,

Due to the pandemic, we have not been able to provide monthly food donations to The Castle. This non-profit which is located at **133 N. Main Street in Centerville** is a "gathering place of trust and friendship which supports people with mental illness and disorders to achieve their highest level of competence and independence." In a recent Dayton Daily News article was a list of items needed by The Castle.

- Paper Products : napkins, paper towels, paper plates and cups, plastic silverware
- Gift Cards: Sam's, Kroger's and gas cards
- Art Supplies: Sharpie markers, acrylic paints, sketch books, card stock, paint brushes, poster board
- Kitchen Supplies: Individual packets of cream & sugar, decaf coffee, drink mixes, gift cards for supplies

- Monetary donations are always appreciated and can be mailed to the above address.

Donations may be dropped off between 9 a.m. – 5 p.m., M-F. Please go to the back door on the porch.

Let's continue to show Southminster's support for our neighbors by donating to The Castle. Thank you!

WORSHIP TEAM NOTICE **FLOWERS! FLOWERS! FLOWERS!**

We have decided it's time to again have flowers on the Communion Table on Sunday Mornings, and we are inviting you to help provide them. You may choose a Sunday that is close to a special date you would like commemorated, or you can simply choose an open date to provide a bouquet to the Glory of God. The type of flower or color scheme can also be requested. The typical cost is \$40, which includes a discounted delivery fee of \$5. The following dates are available: October 11 & 18; November 8, 15, 22, 29; and December 6 & 27.



If you signed up on the Flower Calendar in the Narthex earlier this year, someone will be contacting you ahead of your specified date. For more information, or to contribute a flower arrangement, please contact Lois Thorp at lois.thorp51@gmail.com; or Liz Taylor at elizabethtaylor333@yahoo.com.

HYMNAL CHECKOUTS

To save paper and staff resources, we will stop printing the music to the hymns in the digital bulletins starting in September. If you are worshipping at home and would still like the sheet music to reference, you can now check out a physical hymnal from the church office. You can come by any time during office hours (9:30-12:30, M-F) and check one out for the duration of at-home worship.

BELL CHOIR

We are so excited to have ensemble music at Southminster once again. If you or a loved one misses creating music with a church, community, or school ensemble, the bell choir is accepting new members! Bell choir is a safe, easily socially distanced music ensemble that requires no prior experience and all ages are welcome! Contact Ruth at ruth.mappes@gmail.com if interested.



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!

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@sminster.com for assistance.

*Mail your check to the church at the address listed below.

Southminster Contributions – 2020*

| Period | Budgeted Contributions | Actual Contributions | Excess/ (Shortfall) |
|--------------|------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| Last Week | \$10,591 | \$10,608 | \$17 |
| Year to Date | \$360,094 | \$333,258 | \$(26,836) |

* as of August 24, 2020

FOLLOW UPDATES HERE:



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