

Ken Irwin

From: Southminster Presbyterian Church <office@sminster.com>
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Subject: News & Notes for November 17, 2017



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

NEWS & NOTES

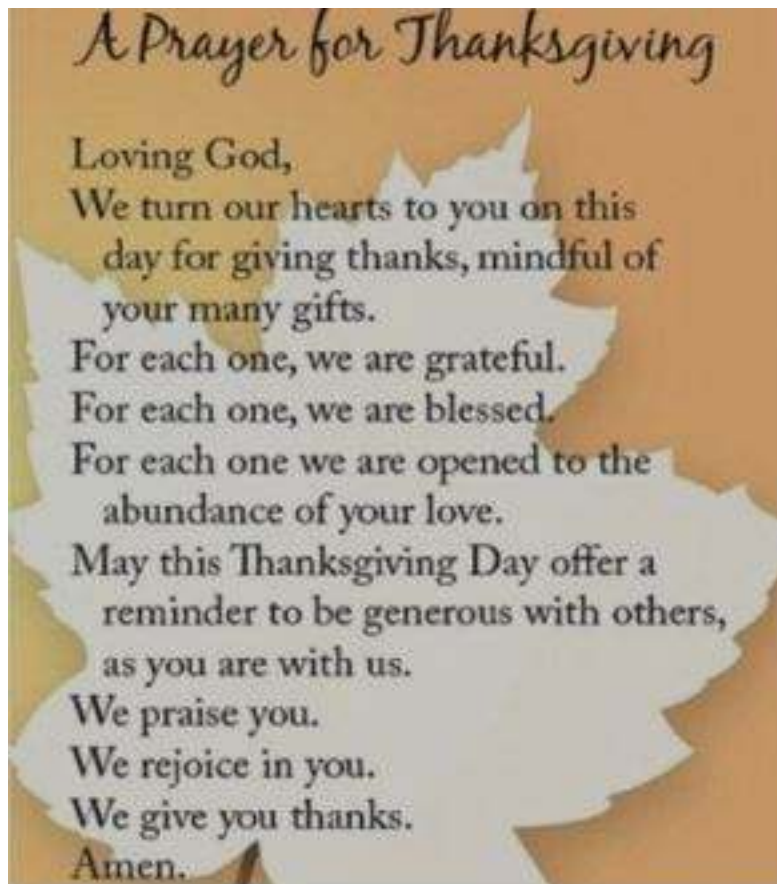
November 17, 2017

**JOIN US FOR A THANKSGIVING SERVICE
THIS SUNDAY!**



This Sunday, we will be giving thanks to God for all of life's blessings. We will sing some of the traditional Thanksgiving hymns and offer our prayers of thanksgiving to God. Remembering folks who lack food security, you are invited to bring canned goods and other

food pantry donations and place them on the Communion Table when you arrive in the Sanctuary. Some of our youth will be on hand to help anyone who may have difficulty going up the stairs to the table.



PLEASE TURN IN YOUR PLEDGE CARDS

This Sunday, we hope we can all include our pledge cards for 2018 as we place our offerings in the collection plates. If, for some reason, you did not receive a pledge card, you can find one at the table in the Narthex, near the main doors to the Sanctuary. If you need more time to consider what you might offer to God through your pledge, please mail or email your pledge to [Lynn Grubb](#) or stop by the office. Our Stewardship Theme this year is "What Do You Value?" If our life in Christ is a priority, perhaps we can put a greater value on offering our gifts through the church more than some of the other ways we use our resources.

BUILDING FUND PLEDGE CARDS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE

If you also would like to pledge toward the building fund, those pledge cards are also on the table in the Narthex near the sanctuary doors. The pew envelopes include the building fund, too, so you can

contribute at any time. As you can imagine, keeping up this building is a huge expense, and we can use all the help we can get.

UPCOMING EVENTS

PARENTS' NIGHT OUT - TONIGHT!

Date: Friday, November 17, 2017

Time: 6:00-9:30pm

Location: CFC

This is an opportunity for parents to get a free evening out on a regular basis while the children have a fun evening at Southminster. Children can bring their own sack dinner or fast food. The littlest ones will hang out in the nursery while the older kids (usually 3 years and up) play in the CFC.

GUSTAFER YELLOWGOLD

Date: November 25, 2017

Time: 11:00am

Location: CFC

Gustaf Yellowgold will be back again this year to present his entertaining, enjoyable music and characters to the children of Southminster and the community at large. Invite your friends!! If you have any questions, you can contact [Erin](#) for more information.



INQUIRER'S CLASS

Date: Sunday, November 26, 2017

Time: 11:30am

Location: Community Room

Interested in membership?

Interested in just learning more about Southminster?

If so, please join us after worship at 11:30 a.m. for a gathering with the pastor and members of the church who would like to listen to your questions and share their perspectives on our congregation. Gather by the Welcome Center desk after worship, and we will go together to the Community Room. Our meeting should last about an hour and a half, so grab some coffee and a treat and join us! If interested, please email [Lynn](#) or call the church office at 433-1810. If you are interested in membership but cannot make that date, please contact pastor [Nancy](#).

ELDERBERRIES

Date: December 1, 2017

Time: 11:00am

Location: CFC

Elderberries will be entertained by our very own *A Great Start Preschool*. Christina Miller will provide us with an overview of their educational program followed by the preschool children sharing their talents. It should be great fun for us all! A \$7.00 donation is requested from those who can provide it. A brown bag lunch may be brought in place of lunch if desired. Sign-up sheets are in the Narthex below the bulletin board or on the counter outside the church office or you may make a reservation by calling the office. Lunch is roast pork, mashed potatoes, green vegetable, cranberry salad and cookies.



BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

Date: December 2, 2017

Time: 9:00am-11:00am

Location: CFC

Santa will be making an appearance during breakfast! We hope you will join us! If you have any questions, contact [Erin](#).



HANGING OF THE GREENS AND FAMILY ADVENT CELEBRATION

Date: Sunday, December 3, 2017

Time: After 10:00am Worship Service

Location: Sanctuary

Come to worship on this first Sunday of Advent and stay after to help us hang the greens! When the decorating is done, we will head down to the CFC for lunch and a little singing. Please bring a salad or dessert and leave it in the kitchen before worship. Although reservations are not required, please sign up in the Narthex if you plan to attend so that we can provide enough pizza. Thank you!



SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

Date: Sunday, December 17, 2017

Time: 10:00am

Location: Sanctuary



The choir will lead the congregation in the singing of carols, alternating with Christmas readings from the Bible.

FA LA LA! LET'S GO CHRISTMAS CAROLING!

Date: Sunday, December 17, 2017

Time: 5-7pm

If the season is incomplete unless you can sing songs of the season to appreciative audiences, plan to go caroling with Southminster members and friends, children and youth and Southminster Boy Scouts. We will go to 2 or 3 retirement communities and perhaps some homes of shut-ins to sing the familiar carols. Specific information to come. Suggestions appreciated. The group will travel in the Boy Scout bus. Sing on key or off but with gusto! (song sheets provided)

If you play a guitar, "uke" or mandolin, plan to use it!! Also we would like some ideas for simple ornaments to give to our audiences. Sign up in the Narthex or outside the church office. Details will follow but immediate questions AND IDEAS should be directed to [Phyllis Strayer](#) or 433-2133.



CHRISTMAS EVE MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE

(4th Sunday in Advent)

Date: Sunday, December 24, 2017

Time: 10:00am

Location: Sanctuary

This service will have a special emphasis on the children but will also include meaningful worship for adults.



CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLE LIGHTING AND COMMUNION WORSHIP SERVICE

Date: Sunday, December 24, 2017

Time: 8:00pm

Location: Sanctuary



For additional upcoming events, be sure to visit our [website](#)

GROWTH GROUPS

MARY HAD A BABY: AN ADVENT STUDY BASED ON AFRICAN AMERICAN SPIRITUALS

Dates: Beginning Sunday, December 3, 2017

Time: 8:45-9:45am

Location: Hospitality Room

This 4-week study will focus on four compelling African American spirituals: "Mary Had a Baby," Rise Up Shepherd and Follow, "Children Go Where I send Thee (You)," and "Go, Tell it on the Mountain." We will engage the Scriptures on which the lyrics are based, learn the historical context which shaped these songs and listen to the songs (and reflect on the beautiful harmonies). All are welcome!

For more Growth Group information,
be sure to visit our [website](#).

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

REQUESTING DONATIONS FOR FOOD PANTRY

Thank Offering Sunday is this Sunday, **November 19**. Please join the Mission Team by bringing canned and boxed food for the Food Pantry. *Don't forget to also make your Thank Offering by putting it into a special envelope or mention Thank Offering on a plain envelope and check!*



The Food Pantry has a need for jars of spaghetti sauce, boxes of elbow, rotini, pasta shells, and spaghetti pasta, cans of vegetables including Northern, green or black beans, corn and canned fruit, and boxes of cereal. Donations are always welcome but please mark your checks as for the Food Pantry. Place your food on the Communion Table when you enter the Sanctuary. Thank you for your participation and your Thank Offering.

THE CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND MISSION TEAMS

are joining efforts this Advent season to bring you our Reverse Advent Calendar. What is a Reverse Advent Calendar you ask? Each day in December, instead of receiving a treat or opening a tab, you pick one of the items listed on the calendar to donate for that day. Bring your items to the church, and they will be donated to one of the many missions Southminster supports. Donations will be collected by the children and youth each Sunday in the Narthex. Please join us in helping make this Christmas special for our community.

ARTEMIS CENTER DONATION DRIVE

Andrew Coderre, a Life Scout in Troop 516, wants to make a difference in his community. His current service project is to ask that donations be made to the Artemis Center, a non-profit organization helping victims of abuse.

What to donate: backpacks, pencils, crayons, colored pencils, pencil boxes, notebooks, glue sticks, binders, folders and paper (lined and graph).

Where to donate: Look for the specially marked donation bins at Centerville High School, Kroger (on Rt. 48) and Soutminster Presbyterian Church (in the Narthex). The drive ends December 2. To learn more about Artemis, go [here](#).

INFORMATION OF INTEREST

BUILDING USE FOR INSIDE AND OUTSIDE GROUPS

Please note that we are not accepting outside building use rentals of the church until we can fill the Property Technician position. For inside church-related activities that entail any kind of table set-up and break-down, use of projectors, etc., it is requested that the chair of the committee or the person in charge of the activity fill out an [SPC Facilities Use Application](#) and submit it to the [office](#). Paper copies are also available in the church office.

It is recommended that you submit your form at least **two weeks in advance** so staff can plan for your set-up needs. *We are encouraging ALL groups to do as much self set-up and take down as possible since we do not have a night person.*

CHRISTMAS STAFF GRATUITY

Christmas greetings from the Personnel Team! As this important season rolls around, we all have an opportunity to contribute toward the Christmas Staff Gratuity. If you are able to contribute, please mark

your check or envelope "Staff Gratuity." It can be placed with the Sunday offering, mailed or taken to the church office. As before, I've been told this is not a deductible contribution. All monies will be divided among the 13 members of our wonderful staff. So that we can do this smoothly, please have all contributions in by **Sunday, December 17, 2017**. *Charles Tapp, Personnel Team Chair*

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSING

The church office will be closed for the Thanksgiving holiday, **Thursday, November 23** and **Friday, November 24, 2017**. We will re-open at 8:30 a.m. on Monday, November 27. If you have a pastoral emergency, please contact pastor Nancy on her cell phone: 732-208-3280.

2017 CONTRIBUTIONS

Please remember to submit your final 2017 contributions to Southminster no later than **Friday, December 29, 2017 at 11:00 a.m.** Contributions received after **December 29, at 11:00 a.m.** will be recorded as 2018 contributions.

COFFEE CORNER VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Volunteers are asked to bring nut-free food items for Coffee Corner. It's easy and you DO NOT have to make coffee! Approximately 12 dozen will feed all (cookies, donut holes, etc). Group or individuals can help (individuals need only provide a few dozen). Sign up for 2018 in the Coffee Corner. A 2018 sign-up sheet is underneath the 2017 sheet that is posted in the Coffee Corner. Thank you!

HELP WANTED ON SUNDAY MORNINGS

The church needs someone for Sunday morning duty. We are not asking you to give up your time to worship. But rather we are asking if you might know someone who does not worship on Sunday mornings and would like to earn some money. Hours for this position are approximately 8 AM to 1 PM. Duties include opening doors, turning on lights, setting the heat or air conditioning, monitoring the lower level doors during worship and then securing and locking up after services. This job is not difficult and could be done by anyone from college age to senior citizen as



long as they are trustworthy and reliable. Please direct all inquiries to [Marj Lawson](#) of the Personnel Team.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Visit our website for information about Southminster's [Children's ministry](#) or [Youth ministry](#)

CONTRIBUTION UPDATE

Southminster Contributions – 2017*

Period	Budgeted Contributions	Actual Contributions	Excess/ (Shortfall)
Last Week	\$11,310	\$14,797	\$3,487
Year to Date	\$508,898	\$446,871	(\$62,067)

* as of November 6, 2017

Please give generously!

Stay Connected: Find us on Facebook and visit our [website](#)



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