

From: Southminster Presbyterian Church <office@sminster.com>
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To: irwink@woh.rr.com
Subject: News & Notes for December 20, 2019



NEWS & NOTES

DECEMBER 20, 2019

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



**SHARON ARK is our new
BUSINESS and FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATOR!**

Since 2008, Sharon Ark has done an excellent job as Southminster's Financial Administrator while being a positive, thoughtful presence around the office. She has managed to get more done in her part-time hours than anyone I have ever known. Now, she will be our Business Administrator, too! How fortunate we are that this responsible, hard-working, kind employee, who already knows and cares about our congregation, will be taking on both of these positions!

Since October, Sharon has already been filling in for many of the Business Administrator's duties, both enjoying the work and doing it well. Of course, we do not expect her to put in 40 hours plus her original 17. To that end, our Property Manager, Christian Zennie, will begin offering tours of the building and scheduling room rental for outside groups; and the Personnel Team will consult with the Communications Team about what they see as the need for some part-time help related to the website and marketing.

Sharon has a degree in Accounting. She is married to her high school sweetheart, Reese, who has helped us with a few building issues in past years. Her children, Ashley (30) and Connor (19), as well as her granddaughter, Alayna (9), are the lights of her life. Sharon enjoys camping, biking, kayaking, and loves to bake with her granddaughter. She is excited to be working full-time at Southminster and looks forward to getting to know even more members of our congregation.



THANK YOU, HEATHER GREENE!

For about a year, Heather Greene has been one of the workers in the nursery on Sundays and has supported our "Mom to Mom" group as well as assisting with other childcare needs. Now, she is leaving to pursue a new career opportunity with more hours. The congregation will miss Heather and her son Caiden's presence in the nursery, but we wish her the best. Thank you, Heather, for faithfully nurturing and caring for the youngest members of our church!

THIS SUNDAY

THE REDEMPTION OF SCROOGE

Date: Sunday, December 22

Time: 8:45 - 9:45 a.m.

Location: Hospitality Room

This video-based growth group will explore the world of Scrooge, Tiny Tim and the Cratchits through the lens of faith.

Facilitated by Steve Davis

SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

Date: Sunday, December 22

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Location: Sanctuary

The choir will be singing a cantata and leading the congregation in the singing of carols, alternating with readings from Scripture that tell the story of Christmas. Come and join us for this beautiful service.



THE JOY OFFERING

Date: Sunday, December 22

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Location: Sanctuary

The Joy Offering is our fourth special offering that Southminster supports. The Joy Offering supports our church's past, present and future leaders. It provides funds to be used to provide financial support and grants for current and retired Presbyterian church workers in their time of need. It provides income supplements for workers, helps workers by providing housing supplements and those in times of great financial need due to unforeseen circumstances. This offering also provides education and leadership development skills at Presbyterian related schools and colleges. Thank you for giving. *The Mission Team*

BLUE CHRISTMAS TREE

The Stephen Ministry Team has provided a *Blue Christmas Tree* as a means of support for those with concerns on their hearts this Christmas Season. Our tree is set a little away from the other decorations in the Sanctuary. There will be paper 'ornaments' there for you to write prayer requests or even just a name of someone dear, or for whom you have concerns. Members of the Stephen Ministry Team will take these names and requests and offer up prayers of support to God, on your behalf or theirs, to help you through sadder or worrisome moments. So on a Sunday Morning, take a few quiet moments to sit by our *Blue Christmas Tree*, then hang an ornament in honor of your loved one.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

CHRISTMAS EVE PAGEANT!

The final rehearsal for the Christmas Eve pageant will be Sunday, December 22, 11 a.m. - 12 p.m. We will meet in the Hospitality room and rehearse in the sanctuary. Everyone in the play should plan to arrive at church at 5:30 p.m. on Christmas Eve with either plain black or white clothes on to go under their costumes. Contact Kim Catchpole or Laura Nile for more information.

NOTES OF INTEREST

CHRISTMAS MUSIC DONATION

2019 Christmas Music Donation

Enclosed is my gift to the Music Fund to help provide music and instrumentalists for our Christmas music.

Your Dedication will be displayed in the Worship bulletin:

Circle one: in honor of in memory of as a gift

Name(s) of person/people you are honoring/remembering:

Examples of Dedications:

Mr. & Mrs. John Doe, in memory of Eleanor Doe.
Mary Smith, in honor of Jane Doe

Your Name _____

Phone _____

Please make checks payable to Southminster Presbyterian Church, put "Christmas Music 2019" on the memo line, and include the check with your order. (If you donate in **cash**, please attach it to this form.)

Deadline for donations is December 22, 2019.



OFFICE NEWS The last day for signing and printing of checks is Monday, December 23. Please turn in all **Green Sheets** before this

date. Sharon Ark will be in the office on Tuesday, December 31, at noon, to make the last deposit of the year. **The office will be closed Tuesday, December 24, at noon through, Wednesday January 1.**

IN THE COMING WEEKS

INTERGENERATIONAL CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

The 6 p.m. Christmas Eve Service is an intergenerational service and Christmas pageant. Often, worship services are designed with adults in mind, even when kids are present and expected to participate. This service is designed in the opposite way—we hope that our youngest worshippers feel as though this Christmas Eve service is especially for them *and* we hope that adults can joyfully worship alongside them. This service is for children, those with children, and those who were once a child. Yes, that means everyone! The service will have ways for everyone to participate from singing to coloring to lighting electronic candles.

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

At 8 p.m., we will have our traditional Christmas Eve service that ends with the singing of “Silent Night” as each person lifts a candle to illuminate the darkness with the light of Christ. You may have special meals to prepare, presents to wrap, and family to entertain. Yet, being a part of the evening Christmas service will bring you close to the heart of Christmas as we rejoice in the hope, the promise, and the love that was born into our world in Jesus Christ.



EPIPHANY FEAST

Date: Sunday, January 5

Time: 5:30 p.m.

Place: CFC

We will celebrate with a candlelight dinner, singing, and a procession of the magi as we hear their story from

Scripture. Start off the New Year with this truly beautiful and meaningful experience for the whole family.

Ham, rolls, drinks, & the special Epiphany Cake will be provided.



PLEASE BRING,

a vegetable or other side-dish (no desserts, please)

IF YOU CAN,

help us before the day of the Feast any of these ways:

Donate a pre-cooked, packaged boneless ham (Contact the office. It can be left in the large walk-in refrigerator in the kitchen no later than Jan. 2.)

Lend us candleholders or a candelabrum. Bring them a day or 2 in advance with your name taped to the bottom. We need plenty of them, and we will keep them safe. You can take them home again after the event.

Bring cut real greenery *and leave it in a plastic bag under the pavilion outside by Friday, Jan. 3.*

PLEASE SIGN UP IN ADVANCE so we will know how much ham to bring and how to set up the tables. You can sign up in the Narthex or at office@sminster.com. *Include your name, number of adults and children, and let us know if you will be helping us with any of the items listed under "IF YOU CAN" above.*



THE CASTLE

Date: January and February 2020

Place: Sign up in the Narthex

2020 is another year in which we as members of Southminster can serve our neighbors up the street. Located at 133 N. Main Street, "The Castle is a gathering place of trust and friendship which supports adults with mental illness and disorders to achieve their highest level of competence and independence." For years our church has donated food items monthly to The Castle and we plan to continue this mission in the new year. The January and February sign-up sheets are now available on the Mission Board in the Narthex. Please consider donating to such a worthy mission.

CALLING ALL BABY BOOMERS

Are you interested in joining a new social group, with friends to get together, once a month for faith, fun and fellowship? If so, there will be signup sheets in the Coffee Corner and a meeting after worship on

January 19 at 11:15 a.m., in the Sanctuary Lounge. If you have questions please see Tammy Caskey, Kathy Jester or Holly Woods.

ELDERBERRIES

Come Ye, Come Ye

Come to Elderberries, we need you all,
Art Nitsch is our leader and we'll have a ball.
Jacque Ryan needs a rest and is going to retire
She's worked hard for seven years and of her we admire.
Art announced programs he's planned for next year.
They are going to be great, so lend us your ear.
We have wonderful lunches for seven bucks
We can't beat the price, so don't press your luck.
There will be music and good speakers galore
Come, listen and say, "We want more".
We meet the first Friday of each month
Bring a friend and maybe treat her to lunch.
We'll sit with you while you dine
You won't be sorry, I'm telling you true
It's a lot of fun and we'll welcome you.
Pat Custer

THANK YOU

SHOEBOXES FOR VETS

Thank You to the congregation for participating in the Shoeboxes for Vets mission. Even with the shopping time being shorter this year, you came through with enough donated items to provide 112 shoeboxes and two cardboard boxes of board games for the Veterans! Also a big thank you goes to all of those who showed up on a cold snowy Monday morning and worked so efficiently to fill the shoeboxes and load them up for delivery to the VA. All of your efforts are so appreciated by the VA and us. From Brenda and Joe Ricketts.

THANK YOU FROM LYNN GRUBB

I appreciate all the kind notes, gifts and the goodbye party that the staff and office volunteers enjoyed at LaRosa's pizza. I didn't get a chance to say goodbye to many of you, so I wanted to take this opportunity to tell everyone how much I have enjoyed working with

each one of you on projects, media, genealogy, building and grounds, and just the daily camaraderie in the office.

I'm working alone a lot of the time now in my car traveling around and miss the revolving door into my former office some days.

Some of you may not know that I grew up at Southminster Church, was a member of the Ark youth group, and got married to my husband Mark there. So, after many years of being away, it was a special time for me to be able to "come back home" and serve a place that helped to shape and mold me growing up, as well as reacquaint myself with some of the members who knew my family during that time. You all hold a special place in my heart.

If you or someone you know is raising a grandchild or relative and needs support, I facilitate a kinship support group at Fairmont Presbyterian on the 2nd Saturday of the month, 9:30-11:30 a.m.. Please stop by to say hello and/or send a friend or neighbor who is looking for support (there is no meeting in December). [You can find the group at this link](#)

I wish everyone the best for the future and a beautiful holiday! Please stay in touch!

Lynn Grubb
Lynngrubb104@gmail.com

WORK OPPORTUNITY

A GREAT START PRESCHOOL is in need of Substitutes! On occasion, we know in advance when a sub is needed, but sometimes a call off is inevitable and we make a 7 a.m. call. If you are interested in applying for a sub position, please contact me to schedule an interview.

Morning hours- approx 8:30ish-11:30ish
Afternoon hours- approx 11:30ish-2:30ish
Both a.m. and p.m.- approx 8:30-2:30ish

Kindergarten- approx 11:30ish-3:15 *Must have bachelor's degree or higher in education to sub for kindergarten

This year, it has been difficult to find subs, especially in the case of call offs. If you are interested or know someone who might be, please send them my way! Although hours aren't guaranteed, we already know of several dates in March and May that a sub is needed, and I am sure there will be plenty more.

If you are interested, email Christina [at this link](#)

CONTRIBUTIONS

Southminster Contributions – 2019*

Period	Budgeted Contributions	Actual Contributions	Excess/ (Shortfall)
Last Week	\$9,183	\$13,449	\$4,266
Year to Date	\$459,150	\$505,163	\$46,013

* as of December 16, 2019

For convenience, you can [pay on-line](#) at our website



Merry Christmas from Southminster's Staff
Nancy, Laura, Kim, Ruth, Jim, Jenny, Katlin, Sharon, Jerry and Christian



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