



The Messenger

Southminster Presbyterian Church
January 11, 2018

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The Annual Meeting of the Congregation

Sunday, January 21st at Noon

Agenda:

- ◆ **The Distribution of the Annual Report**
- ◆ **A Review of 2017 Year-End Financial Report**
- ◆ **The Presentation of the 2018 Budget**
- ◆ **Action on the Pastors' Terms of Call**

Please plan to stay for this important meeting!

Following the Congregational Meeting, the Youth will be having a Soup Lunch as a fundraiser through donations for lunch. This summer the youth and their sponsors will go to Memphis, TN to work with the Memphis Youth Mission. Come enjoy fellowship and warm soup and support the youth of Southminster Presbyterian Church.

The Souper Bowl of Caring!

Each January, Southminster participates in the Souper Bowl of Caring. Throughout the month of January, we collect cans of nutritious soup. The soup drive ends on Super Bowl Sunday, February 4th. We engage in a friendly competition, keeping "score" this year between the men and women. As always, the real winners are the hungry families that come to our ministry partners who distribute food throughout the year.



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**ASH WEDNESDAY – PANCAKE SUPPER**  
**February 14<sup>th</sup>, 5:00-6:45 p.m.**

Mark your calendars for the fun-filled SPW-sponsored Pancake Supper on Ash Wednesday prior to the worship service at 7:00 p.m. Some special features will add to the fun this year – festive Valentine/Love décor, heart-shaped cookie cutters to transform pancakes, pancake races for the kids, and making special “Alleluia” wands to be hidden in the sanctuary until Easter morning! This will be a great way to both celebrate Valentine’s Day with your loved ones, and celebrate the start of the Lenten season. See you in the Fellowship Hall to fill your stomach and then in the sanctuary at 7:00 to feed your spirit. Pancake tickets are \$6/adults, \$4/kids through 6<sup>th</sup> grade, and \$15/family maximum

**The MESSENGER**  
 Jeffrey C. Clayton, Pastor  
 Karen Wright, Associate Pastor  
 Mark Ball,  
 Director of Music/Organist  
 Lynn Tolson, Church Secretary

**Stewardship Update – Last Year and this Year!**

On behalf of the Session, the Stewardship Committee once again expresses its deep gratitude for your generosity and commitment to the financial life of our ministry. We are grateful for the prayers and the response when we communicated about our needs for both 2017 and for our upcoming budget year. Here is some pertinent information:



**COFFEE HOUR HOSTS**

Jan. 14 - Evangelism  
 Jan. 21 - Book Club  
 Jan. 28 - Stewardship

**ATTENDANCE**

|      |    |                    |
|------|----|--------------------|
| Dec. | 24 | 122 (10:00 am)     |
| Dec. | 31 | 84 (10:00 am)      |
| Jan. | 7  | 19 (Morning Light) |
|      |    | 104 (11:00 am)     |

**JOYS AND CONCERNS**

Prayers for **DeAnn Warner** who is receiving palliative care at home after a recurrence of lymphoma. Prayers for **Susan Anderson** and family as she cares for her father, Howard Fenton, who has been diagnosed with cancer. Prayers for **Bill and Ginny Kadyk** as they continues to cope with Bill’s Huntington’s disease and their move to St. Louis. Prayers for **B.J. Diedrich, Walt Gehlbach, Jim and Carolyn Klamm, Jim Dollins, Suzanne Webb and Harriette Coughenour** who are residing in care centers. Prayers for **Phyl Smith** as she continues to experience ongoing medical concerns.

- We finished calendar year 2017 with a (\$10,390) deficit. We had adequate unrestricted cash reserve to cover this shortfall in funds. We enter the 2018 budget year with \$19,398 in unrestricted cash reserve.
- As we noted in our letter in early December, we received 14 new pledges for 2018 and 61 of our pledging families raised their pledge for this year, resulting in almost \$40,000 in new giving that we did not have in 2017. Thank you so much!
- As we also noted in December, unfortunately we lost about \$53,000 in giving that we did have in 2017 but will not have in 2018.
- The Session will meet in called meeting Saturday, January 13<sup>th</sup> to approve a final budget for 2018. The Stewardship Committee will be recommending a balanced budget of \$462,850 at that time.
- In light of the need to make some reductions, the goals that guided this recommendation were to maintain the salary and benefits structure for our staff and to minimize cuts to our mission giving.

Thanks again for all that you do for us in your financial support, your gift of time, and your sharing of your many gifts to keep our ministry vital and to continue to make a difference here in our local area and throughout the world to help create the beloved community of love, compassion, and justice Christ intends for the world.

**SPW News...**

- Second Saturday Breakfast will be held on January 13 at the **HyVee Market Grille** (8501 W. 95th St., OPKS), 9:00 am. Carpool at the church at 8:30. All girls and women are really welcome!
- **Bible Study Circles will meet on Tuesday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>**, at 6:30 and 9:30 AM at the Church and at 7:00 PM at Helen Wycoff’s to study Lesson 5, "In Community with the Tradition of the Past"
- The next Board meeting will be **February 6<sup>th</sup>** at 9:00 am
- Save the Date: **Spring Gathering of Presbyterian Women of Heartland Presbytery** will be Saturday, April 21, 2018 in Leavenworth. Enjoy P-Dubs from other congregations!



**CHRISTMAS IN JULY!**

Yes, we are already thinking about Christmas – in July!  
 Your SPW Board is planning a fun event, and we are hoping to get everyone on board for the fun. If you don't know already, our Presbyterian Women contribute greatly to outreach projects in our community and around the globe. Every fundraiser we sponsor allows us to do this wonderful giving. And that is also true of "Christmas in July." We are planning an event on Saturday, July 14, from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. to provide a nice

brunch/lunch, crafts, "treasures," and used books for sale. We are already looking for everyone to help us – do you make a craft you might donate? do you have some used books? do you have "treasures" around your house that you could pass along? Would you like to teach a craft to a class and then have them donate? Think this all over, mark your calendar, and let the SPW Fundraising Committee know of your interest (Denise Blinn, Becky Hull, Ruth Davidson).

**WISH YOU HAD STARTED? START NOW!**

It's still not too late to get into *The Year of the Bible* program. There are still a few books available in the church office, or you can join the Facebook Group page by requesting permission from Pastor Karen (it is a closed group and she has to enter your name). Each day the Bible readings are posted on the Facebook Group page for your reference. Normally you can complete the readings in about 20 minutes each day. Make it your personal challenge for 2018. Reading the scriptures each day has great potential for your spiritual growth and also connecting our congregation in this study together.

Year of the Bible – December questions:

1. Where was John when he received the message of Revelation?
2. Which Psalm affirms that the Lord knows all about us, wherever we are?
3. What is John told when he weeps because no one is worthy to open the scroll sealed with seven seals?
4. In Amos, God says that he wants nothing to do with Israel's festivals, assemblies, offerings, and worship because the people are lacking two highly important things. What are they?
5. What does John see when the Lamp opens the seventh seal?
6. What reason does Jonah give for fleeing to Tarshish rather than going to Nineveh as God had commanded him?
7. In what chapter of what book is the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem foretold?
8. In Micah we read that which God considers good – what the Lord requires of us – essentially three things. What are they?
9. According to Revelation, the "mark of the beast" is a name, represented as a number, which people will be forced to bear if they hope to participate in trade and commerce. What is the number?
10. Which chapter of what prophet is the source of the quotation used by Paul, "The righteous live by their faith"?
11. The Gospel of John quotes the words, "They look on the one whom they have pierced," at the crucifixion of Jesus. From which prophet does John take the quotation?
12. Why will there be no temple in the new Jerusalem?
13. Which prophet tells us that a messenger will be sent to prepare the way before the appearance of the Lord?

(Answers on back page)



**January Birthdays**

- 1 - Devin Blinn, Helen Wycoff
- 2 - Suzanne Webb
- 3 - Kärin Forsburg
- 4 - Jacob Ellis
- 6 - Molly Jorgenson, Mary Morris
- 7 - Marilyn Lake
- 10 - Bev Morris, Daniel Amstein, Spencer Cumming
- 12 - Tara Alley
- 14 - Nancy Fischer,
- 15 - Christopher Rooney
- 17 - Amy Lutz, Tristan Stathas, Miles Potter
- 18 - Jerry Thornburgh
- 19 - Tom Ellis
- 21 - Chark Lyon
- 22 - Brad Amstein, Rita Williams, Jessica Lyon
- 23 - Will Athon, Alina Smith
- 25 - Jennifer Cumming, Isabella Prudente
- 26 - Karen Wright
- 27 - Harper Fry, Jacob Burgoon
- 28 - Henry Miller, Ruth Ann Unruh, Joe Athon,
- 30 - Charla Blankenship
- 31 - Cassie Hasler, Bill Robinett

**IHN Training for Volunteers**  
**Wed., January 17th**  
**6:30-8:30 pm**  
**Overland Park Church of Christ**  
**13400 W 119th Street**  
**(NE Corner of 119th & Pflumm)**  
**No RSVP needed!**  
**Training starts & ends on time!**



## MISSION MATTERS: WHEN WAS IT THAT WE SAW YOU? (Mt. 25)

**January 14 – SERVING NEAR AND FAR** – Our Board of Deacons will talk about the various agencies supported by Southminster with mission dollars and Deacon liaisons. Learn more about the Little Red Wagon and who receives the donated items; the Souper Bowl of Caring, which is just around the corner; and the Noisy Offering and Southminster's support of the Fletchers, mission co-workers in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

**January 21 – SERVING ON-GOING AND NEW COMMITMENTS TO MEXICO** - We have exciting news about a new 2018 venture in Mexico and a Living Waters for the World installation. We will also recall how Southminster has sent mission teams to Mexico in the past. This on-going relationship is an important story for all to hear.



## Craft Group Project

Did you know that Southminster formed a craft group last year? We are six women who like to knit or crochet and decided to have a project. We chose to make red neck scarves for patients at Overland Park Regional Hospital. Discharged patients would receive a red scarf. If you like to knit or crochet, would like to help with or new project, we'd love it. We meet the second and fourth Thursdays at 1:00 pm in the library. Don't want another meeting, you can help from home. Red Heart yarn is about \$3.00 per skein and color must be red and the pattern would be provided. If interested or have question contact Shirley Smith, 913/236-9133. We hope this project sounds interesting to you.!



## HARVESTERS

Our next day for working at Harvesters is Tuesday, **February 13**. Meet at church at **9:30 am** to carpool; we will work 10:00-12:00 and will be back to church around 12:30. Please contact Pam Nitsche, (913) 963-5006 (cell), [pnitsche@kc.rr.com](mailto:pnitsche@kc.rr.com) if you would like to join us on February 13.

Answers – December:

1. He was on the island of Patmos.
2. Psalm 139
3. He is told not to weep because Jesus Christ can open the scroll.
4. The people are lacking justice and righteousness.
5. John sees seven angels with seven trumpets standing before God.
6. Jonah says he knew that God was gracious, and therefore he feared that God would forgive the people of Nineveh if they repented.
7. The birth of Jesus in Bethlehem is foretold in Micah 5.
8. To do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with God (Micah 6:8)
9. The number is 666
10. "The righteous live by their faith" comes from Habakkuk 2:4.
11. Zechariah 12:10
12. There will be no temple in the new Jerusalem because the Lord God and the Lamb will themselves function as the temple, that is, the place where God and human beings meet.
13. Malachi 3:1



RETURN SERVICE REQUEST

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