

The Spire

Summer 2019 www.speah.org

Southminster
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Time to Connect

Summer is here! Let's take advantage of this great time of year to get to know our neighbors. Think about this: "How can I grow in a relationship this summer with people who live near me? Here are some ideas:

- Ask a co-worker or neighbor to go to lunch. Or bring your lunches, sit together, and find out what they like to do, where were they born, what are their hobbies.
- Make a pitcher of lemonade or iced tea, sit on your porch or front step on a nice summer evening, and invite neighbors or people strolling by to have a drink and chat.
- Walk around your neighborhood and talk to neighbors who are outside. Introduce yourself, ask people where they're from, where they grew up, what activities they like—really listen!
- Have a barbeque, and invite your neighbors. Ask them to bring a dish to share, then share each other's company.
- Do you have young children? Who else in your neighborhood has young children? Why not set up a playdate with the kids, and get to know the other moms in the neighborhood. Find out what you have in common.
- Attend your town's events. Go to a parade, walk around a street fest, enjoy a concert in the park. Get to know others you see doing the same.
- Get together with neighbor families and host a movie night, a pool party, or a picnic at a park.
- Stop by a new neighbor's home with a plate of something tasty, and welcome them to the neighborhood or offer to show them fun places to go nearby.
- Invite neighbors for dessert. You provide ice cream and have each neighbor bring a different topping.
- Ask a few neighbors to help you organize a neighborhood block party. Invite everyone on your street!

Modified from "Watch God at Work!" by Fran Goodrich, *Q Place Blog Editor*



Dear Friends,

Let anyone who is thirsty come to me, and let the one who believes in me drink. As the scripture has said, "Out of the believer's heart shall flow rivers of living water."

~ John 7:38

Summer is finally here, and for many of us, spending time in the water is a summer tradition. Whether swimming, fishing, or enjoying time at a lake or beach, we are refreshed and calmed by water. Our bodies are 70% water. We need water to live. Water quenches our thirst.

In the Gospel of John, Jesus explains that he will give us living water, and it will flow from our hearts. This image of living water is a symbol of the Holy Spirit. I preached about this on June 23. If you missed my sermon, you can listen to it on our website to learn more. On that Sunday, I asked each of us to think about what we thirst for and how we will meet Jesus this summer so he can quench our thirst with living water. Our spiritual lives need living water that only Jesus can provide.

So how will you deepen your relationship and meet Jesus this summer? If you need some suggestions, please email or call me. This summer, meet Jesus and receive his living water.

In Christ's
The Reverend Elizabeth Nickerson



Summer Bible Series

Join the conversation in the chapel on Sunday mornings at 11:10 a.m. when Kjirsten Almos, former Southminster Children's Ministry Director, facilitates a series on The Book of Leviticus. She'll talk about ritual, legal, and moral practices, which may seem like an odd choice for our Adult Education Summer Series, but Leviticus reveals God's love for the people of Israel, and it can affirm our faith. Please join us this July to gain an understanding of how this book resonates with our faith journeys today.



July 7: Overview and orientation

July 14: Sacrificial system and The Day of Atonement

July 21: The Holiness Code

July 28: The Year of Jubilee and Festivals

Text Your Offering



Looking for a convenient way to keep up with your church offerings? **Just text 73256, type SPCAH, and press Send.** The reply text you receive will provide a secure link where you can enter the amount of your gift. It's that easy!

You can also give a gift by going to spcah.org, clicking on the About tab along the top of the Home page, and choosing Online Giving - New.

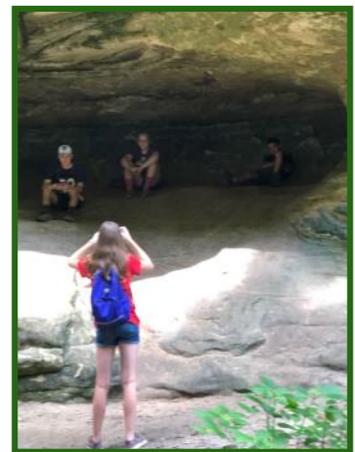
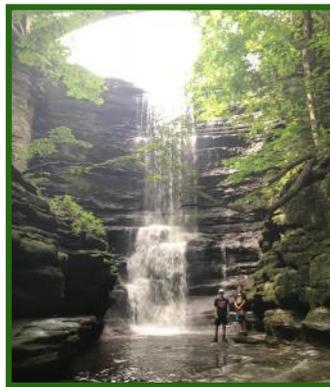


Dear Friends and Church Family

SPC Youth are geared up for a fun-filled summer! It all started when we had a blast at our first summer Game Night that included pizza, relay races, and a scavenger hunt inside the church. Then, just last week, a group of 11 high school youth traveled on a retreat to several Illinois state parks: Starved Rock, Matthiessen, and Buffalo Rock. Our theme, Finding God All Around Us, found us seeking Him out on hiking trails, prayer walks in the woods, during labyrinth journaling, and even on an awesome water park adventure! We also had a chance to play games, enjoy some quiet time, and make new friends. We plan to gather again soon for BBQ and Basketball. Summer is off to a great start!

The best part of all our gatherings is that we continue to journey together in fellowship. We are becoming more aware of God's presence in our lives, whether we find Him at the movies, on hiking trails, or in the blessings all around us.

In Christ,
Kari
Youth Ministries Director





Dear Friends

Summer is here, and school is out, but it's still a busy place for children here at Southminster. Summer Sunday school is in high gear Sunday mornings at 10:00 a.m. Tuesdays through Thursdays, our halls are full of Sunny Days' preschoolers, while kids' yoga classes and other programs fill up the rest of our week.

Summer Sunday School - All children are welcome:

Sunday mornings June 2 – August 25 at 10:00 a.m. No registration required. Infants through Preschool play in our Nursery with Ms. Wendy, and big kids grades K - 5 do activities with Ms. Jill. (Sorry, no Sunday school July 26. It's Family Camp. We're off eating s'mores!)



Plastic cap collection has ended, but the creative fun is only beginning! Our Southminster kids will help create beautiful artwork with our colorful caps. We've started a summer series with a sunny mosaic near the education wing doors. Check out this fun piece of art titled, "Growing with God at Southminster." Again, thank you all for dropping off your caps and helping us teach our children to Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle. Watch for more pieces of cap art to be displayed around the church.



We had snow on Easter, so why not a little chilly-fun in July? Exciting plans are being made for our **Summer "FROZEN" Family Worship Service, Sunday July 21, at 10:00 a.m. in the sanctuary.** Families and children of all ages are invited to this service to enjoy an interactive worship experience highlighted by the singing performance from our Frozen Jr. Setting-the-Stage children. Afterward, frozen treats will be served outside under our tent. Mark your calendars, and don't miss this exciting morning of worship with our young families and friends.



Reminder! **Friday, July 12, is the last day to register for our fun Family weekend getaway at Stronghold Family Camp, July 26 - 28.** Bring the whole family to enjoy a great weekend outing in beautiful Oregon, Illinois. We'd love to have your family and friends join us. To register, visit the Children's Events page of our website: <https://spcah.org/childreneyouth/childrens-events/> If you have any questions, please email me at jill@spcah.org.



We've dusted off our old popcorn maker and are getting ready for **Southminster's Family Outdoor Movie Night on Thursday, August 1 (rain date August 2).** Pack a family picnic, bring your lawn chairs, and drop in anytime, beginning at 5:30 p.m. We'll enjoy music, bubbles, and games on Southminster's front lawn before the movie begins around 8:15. **FREE POPCORN!** Sign-up on the Education Wing bulletin board or email jill@spcah.org to RSVP AND to find out what movie we'll be watching!

Blessings,

Jill

Director of Children's Ministry



For Your Marriage

Gratefulness at the end of each day fosters genuine happiness. Make a list with family members of what you are thankful for today.

~ foryourmarriage.org

Southminster Annual Shoe Drive

Once again, Southminster will be collecting new or gently used shoes for its annual Share Your Soles Shoe Drive coming up in September. Please begin saving shoes now for this very worthwhile cause. Acceptable shoes must not have holes; still have soles, not worn off on the bottom; clean and can withstand heavy wear. As long as the soles are in good shape, they can be donated.

Shoes of all types and sizes are needed:

Athletic shoes, sandals, school shoes, dress shoes, work shoes, snow boots, flip flops, walking shoes, slippers, soccer cleats, football cleats, wrestling shoes, high heels, etc. The greatest need is always children's shoes.

This drive has had such great success in the last few years. Thank you all for your generous donations! **Shoes can be dropped off through September in the collection boxes located at the front doors by the elevator and outside the church library.**

Share Your Soles is a charitable organization dedicated to donating shoes to those in greatest need around the world. This organization has shipped over 2 million pairs of shoes to over 40 locations in the U.S. and worldwide.



SAVE THE DATE

A Community Hike to End Hunger

Hosted by Southminster

Walk with us

October 20, 2019

Church World Services - Crop Hunger Walk - Ending Hunger One Step at a Time

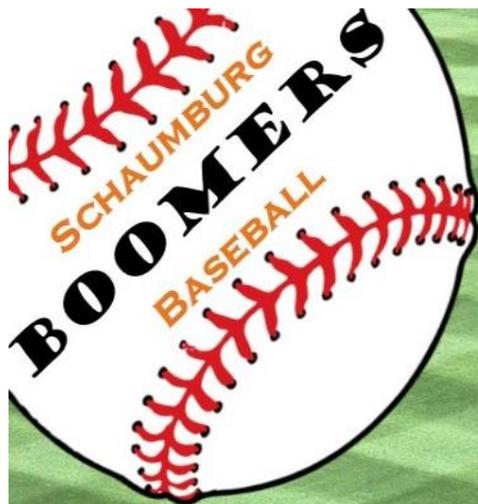
Meals on Wheels



Once again, Southminster is looking for volunteers to help deliver Meals on Wheels to local seniors during August. Individuals or teams may sign up on the kiosk in the Welcome Area for one or as many days as you like.

Meals on Wheels serves virtually every community in America and has more than two million staff and volunteers who deliver nutritious meals to senior that enable them to live independent, dignified lives. If you have questions, please call Ellen Riggs at 847.660.4999. Thank you!

Schaumburg Boomers Baseball



**JOIN US FOR A
NIGHT AT THE PARK**

*Friday, August 16
beginning at 6:30 p.m.*

- \$9 Tickets
- \$5 Food Voucher (optional)
 - * hot dog, chips, soda
- Free Parking
- Postgame Fireworks

For more info or to order tickets, call Garland 847.226.6539 or email him gbr1020@aol.com.

Care Ministry / Deacons for July

Every member and friend of Southminster is assigned a parish, which is overseen by deacons. Deacons can bring meals to you when you're sick, help provide transportation if needed, pray with you about a concern, or connect you with other resources at the church. Please call the deacons of the month who can connect you with our caring ministry and your deacon.

David McCallum & Karey Bourke are your Care Ministers / Deacons for July



David McCallum
847.797.1778



Karey Bourke
847.758.1195



MOPS

Mothers of Preschoolers

Meetings for Moms @ Southminster

Meets 1st & 3rd Mondays of the month
*except September

10:00-11:00 a.m.
Childcare available

*September 9, 23
October 7, 21
November 4, 18
December 2, 16
January 6, 20
February 3, 17
March 2, 16
April 6, 20
May 4, 18
June 1, 15

#TOTHEFULL

TO THE FULL

REGISTER for 2019-2020 at www.mops.org/join

- Enter group code L287
- \$31.95 online registration fee
- \$5.00 childcare fee per meeting or \$50.00 for the year (payable in the fall)
- Questions? Email Liz Nickerson at liz@spcah.org

Helping Those in Need

Are you looking for a local volunteer opportunity? Would you like to get involved with a neighbor in need? Faith Community Homes provides rent assistance to help working, low-income families achieve financial stability, and they are looking for volunteer mentors to assist them. Volunteer mentors work in pairs, assisting a family in making and following a realistic budget and developing attainable goals. Best of all, mentors form a two-year relationship with a family, providing them support and guidance to get back on their feet.

Faith Community Homes



Time commitment is four hours a month, and training is provided. To learn more about this opportunity that shines a little more light in our community, please call Sarah Harte, Faith Community Homes Program Manager, at 847.342.0846 or email her sarah.harte@fchomes.org.

Justice Wins!

SPC's Faith in Action team is pleased to report on several victories in our justice work with the Community Renewal Society (CRS)!

Housing as a Human Right, SB 1780 (HFA3), passed the Illinois General Assembly on May 31 with significant bipartisan support. This legislation will bring Illinois' law in line with the federal fair housing standards and align the rules for housing and employment under the Illinois Human Rights Act. Landlords can no longer refuse to rent or otherwise deny housing to someone because they have an arrest not leading to a conviction, a juvenile record, or a criminal history record that has been ordered expunged or sealed. [Read more.](#)

On April 25, the Cook County Board of Commissioners voted on the floor in support of the Just Housing Amendment to protect housing applicants with records from discrimination. The amendment requires landlords and real estate agencies to determine whether a person has met financial and other qualifications before considering that person's criminal history and prohibits blanket bans on criminal records as well as housing discrimination on the basis of arrest records, juvenile records, and records that have been expunged and sealed. People with records, like everyone else, deserve a place to call home. [Read more.](#)

CRS has been part of a lawsuit that was just settled with the City of Chicago. The settlement has a significant impact on crisis intervention and diversion practices of the Chicago Police Department. [Read more.](#)

Both the Illinois House and Senate passed SJRCA 1, which will put the Fair Tax on the ballot for voters to decide. Governor Pritzker also signed the [rates bill](#), SB 687, for the Fair Tax on June 5. These new rates will go into effect if voters approve the constitutional amendment on the fall 2020 ballot. CRS has been working on the Fair Tax for almost eight years as a member of the [Responsible Budget Coalition](#). [Read more.](#)

We have been calling on the Illinois Supreme Court Commission on Pretrial Practices to recommend that the Supreme Court of Illinois adopt the proposed rule to prohibit incarceration due solely on the inability to afford a money bond. Every year, more than a quarter of a million people are incarcerated while awaiting trial in Illinois. These individuals are treated as if they are guilty until proven innocent and are locked up most often because they can't afford to pay a money bond. Wealth-based incarceration is destroying our communities by separating parents from their children, workers from their employment, and caregivers from those who need them most.

If you have questions about SPC's justice work or how you might participate, please call Cindy Greenwood at 847.404.8404 or Linda Waycie at 847.577.6307.

