

Southminster Presbyterian Church

connections

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April 2013

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Southminster Connections

A monthly newsletter published on the 4th Wednesday of the month by Southminster Presbyterian Church.

**Please submit articles by
April 15 for the
May issue**

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Peg's Perspectives – April, 2013

Remember those seeds we sowed on the first Sunday of Lent? That Sunday initiated the theme for this Lenten Season: "fasting from violence; sowings seeds of peace." During Lent, the worship services focused on different types of violence...and the various ways we can respond to violence in peace-making ways. That first Sunday, the seeds were sown to symbolize the concrete actions we would take during Lent to overcome some type of violence and become peacemakers. Some of you took your seeds home to nurture and grow...I took many of the containers to my home for the season. On Easter Sunday, we'll see how the "real seeds" have sprouted during Lent.

I've been impressed with the sprouts in the containers I took home. Even in this not-so- sunny Oregon climate, there are a good many little seedlings ready to transplant to the garden. I know that not all of the seeds actually sprouted; some didn't get enough sun, some weren't planted deeply enough...but on the whole the little "peace garden" looks good.

Hopefully the commitments we each made to "sow peace" will have the same results. During Lent the presentations at worship suggested a variety of actions we could do individually, and as a congregation, to overcome violence in our culture. We talked about using our creative talents to help create a more peaceful world. We had panels of congregation members with expertise in the areas of mental illness and domestic/sexual violence offer resources and suggestions on ways to support and respond to people living with mental health concerns or in abusive situations. We co-sponsored a program on March 24 to help people with differing ideas on gun control to listen to each other; hopefully to take some of the hostility out of such conversations.

We've all received information on ways to effectively sow seeds of peace and abstain from violence. But information alone is seldom a sufficient motivator for us to make changes... and making peace is all about changing habits. Making peace challenges us to make better use of creative and intellectual talents for the betterment of society. It challenges us to look at ourselves and the origins of the frustration, anger or fear which can lead to violent interactions. It challenges us to find more positive ways to deal with those feelings so our interactions are more peaceful. It challenges us to consider some of the "myths" about being peacemakers: 1) It's easy for some people to be one

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(not so; we all have our "triggers"; those events and people that "push our buttons".) 2) Being a "peacemaker" means letting others "walk all over you" (nothing is farther from the truth; peace thrives only through mutual respect).

How to respond when respect is **not** mutual is the really huge question which is tearing apart relationships, our nation as well as the world...and sometimes our denomination. As people of faith, the wisdom we have are the teachings of Jesus (and indeed most of the world religions): to love God above all else; to live with compassion for ourselves and for others; to seek the common good in all we do. Those are the seeds we can sow if we want our world to be a Peace Garden. It is absolutely not easy. But then, the followers of Jesus were never promised an easy...only a life of meaning.

May this Easter and spring season be a season of meaning and joy!!

Peg Pfab

Prayer Concerns

Please contact the church office for updates.



The Alzheimers Café -- Friday, April 12, 6:30pm

Topic: "Home Safe Home"

Keeping your loved ones safe

Southminster Life



Super Wednesdays for 2013

NEW First Wednesday of the month. Come at 10:00 a.m., pour yourself a cup of coffee, tea, or hot chocolate; find yourself a comfortable chair in Room 7 and watch a full length movie. On April 3rd we hope to be showing "The Life of Pi". If you have seen it—come and see it again and share your thoughts about it during the discussion after we have all viewed the movie together.

Everyone is welcome, men included. Hope to see you on Wednesdays.

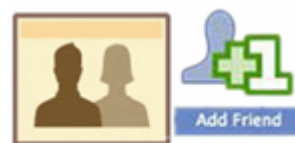
Facebook Facebook Facebook Facebook Facebook

Stumped on how to join Southminster's Facebook Group?

Troubleshoot tips:

1. Any member of the group can "Add" a person who has a Facebook account.
2. Phone the office on Tuesday and Thursday to get further assistance from Ashley Mueller.

The office number is (503)644-2073.



Groups

*Reminder: The Southminster Facebook Group is Closed Group.

This means, "Anyone can see the group and who's in it.

Only members see posts" (Facebook).



Water 2 Wine – Wines from Down Under

Our next meeting of Water 2 Wine is scheduled for **Sunday, April 7th at 2:00pm** at the home of Sharon and Jeff Tefelske. Note that this month, we are back to meeting the first Sunday of the month.

This month we will be enjoying the wines from Australia and New Zealand. Once regarded as a haven for cheap poor quality wines, both areas are now considered some of the best wine growing regions in the world.

As a reminder, please RSVP to water2wine_smp@yahoo.com to ensure that we have enough wine and bring 2 wine glasses to the meeting. We have a suggested donation of \$10 per person to cover the cost of the wine.

Congregational Meeting – Sunday, April 28

The Session has set the spring congregational meeting for Sunday, April 28, following the 10:00am worship service for the election of new Elders and Deacons. The people nominated for Elders for a three year term are: Debbie Wilkins, Laurie Going, Steve Tidrick; nominated for a one year term is Kathie Huddleston. Nominated for Trustee for a three year term is Dick Burnham. Deacons nominated for a three year term are Damon Apostalon, Judy Mohney, Marie Mann, and Crystal King. Please plan to attend.

Welcome Ashley Mueller, Our Newest Staff Member

Ashley Mueller has joined the Southminster staff as an Office Assistant, aiding Mary Winn in the church office. Ashley will be familiar to many of you. She grew up at Southminster; has participated in a number of Mission trips, both as a high school student and later as a volunteer with the youth program. Ashley will be working in the office (especially working with social media & the newsletter) on Tuesdays and Thursdays. If you are at Southminster on those days, stop and welcome Ashley to this added phase in her relationship to the congregation.

"The Celebration Continues!"

The 35th Annual Celebration of Creativity was held at Southminster February 28–March 3 this year and preliminary sales reports show gross sales of \$74,530 for the weekend--our highest sales ever! Payout to the 85 participating artists was \$51,300 and we are happy to be able to support them by providing a quality local venue for showing their work! In addition, there was a steady flow of visitors over the weekend, and many people were introduced to Southminster for the first time. Expenses and post show sales are still coming in and there will be a final accounting report in June when we have closed the books for the show.

THANK YOU to everyone who contributed to the success of this year's show. It takes many hands and countless hours to produce such a high quality event--selecting and inviting artists, cleaning and painting fixtures, creating beautiful displays, making and attaching labels, providing security, moving chairs, preparing and serving refreshments.....

We could not have created such a beautiful and successful show without all of you wonderful Southminster volunteers!

Your 2013 Art Show Committee Leadership Team

Marylou Belknap-Jones, Jean Collins, Michele Greenwood, Sharon Johnson, Rebecca Martinson, and Sharon Tefelske

Civil Conversation on Second Amendment

We had approximately 55 people at the event, which was well received. A special thanks to panelists from Southminster: Warren Aney, Sue Kozak, Michael Malley; to Don Ludwig and Mark Mullins for facilitating table discussions...and a Huge thank you to Rick Collins for designing and leading a program that helped people remain "civil" in our conversation!...and learn!

Presbytery Women Spring Gathering 2013

The Presbytery of the Cascades invites you to our Spring Gathering Saturday April 20, 9:30am-2:30pm at the Presbyterian Church of the Siuslaw (3996 Highway 101 North, Florence, Oregon). Several events will be taking place this Saturday; Keynote Speaker Barbara Clark will give us an up-close of Human Trafficking in Oregon, Worship and Communion led by Rev. Isabelle Davis and Rev. Carolyn Hampton introduces the Bible Study, An Abiding Hope: The Presence of God in Exodus and Deuteronomy. Register by April 13, 2013 by sending (includes lunch) to Sharon Fries, PW Treasurer, 1142 SW West Hills Place, Corvallis, OR 97333. Bring stories of your mission and activities to share and make a weekend of it at the Oregon Coast.

Silent Auction



Save the Date!
Sunday April 28, 2013

Silent Auction
To benefit the Southminster
Spokane Mission Trip (Westminster House)
9:00am–12:00pm

If you know of a business in the community who might like to donate something for the auction or if you have something you would like to donate, contact Don Ludwig, 644-2073 or 819-2442.

Deadline is Sunday, April 21 to make donations.

Suggestions for Silent Auction Donations

Delectable wines / Gift Certificates
Theme Baskets (i.e. Sports gift basket)
Vacation rentals / Air Miles / Excursion
Professional Services / Time & Talent

Support our Southminster Mission Trip to Spokane as we lead a Music, Art & Sports Camp for children and participate in building projects with the Westminster House Neighborhood Center.

July 6-13, 2013

"MAKING A DIFFERENCE"

Mission Survey about Rebuilding and Habitat

We had 45 people answer the survey. The results will be posted on the Mission Kiosk in the Peterson Gallery. The survey has indicated that we want to be involved but this can be difficult due to our busy lives and due to the physical abilities needed for the events. Some commented about the skills needed to be on a construction site for Habitat. It can be hard to feel like one is useful. Some commented that they are burned out. Some say it is hard to give a full day to an event due to jobs and schedules. The Mission Committee is interested in your opinions. Please see the survey at church and give any comments to Karen Wittenburg at kwittenburg@comcast.net. At this time we will participate in Rebuilding Together on April 27. We do not have a Habitat date at this time.



Rebuilding Together – April 27, 2013

This is an event which makes a difference in our community.

The organization picks some low-income homeowners who need help maintaining their homes. Our congregation helps in several ways.

We become a work crew doing the house maintenance, help with registration, and help deliver lunches to the work crews. This year we will again help with an exterior home painting job. We start at 7:00am on April 27 by meeting at

the Beaverton United Methodist Church. A public official usually gives a speech and then the work crews go out to a work site. Please let Karen Wittenburg know if you can be part of this event. Also, tell her if you will be part of the work crew, registration, or lunch delivery. Karen Wittenburg 503-641-8369 kwittenburg@comcast.net.

Vose Elementary Clean Up

Vose Elementary PTO would love if any Southminster folk can volunteer to help clean-up around the school on April 20th between 9am-12pm.
Phone the office to sign-up (503)644-2073.



Session News

The next time you see a member of Session, give him or her a pat on the back and offer to buy them a cup of coffee! They work hard on behalf of the church.

The three trustees (Craig Butler, Curt Sand and Sue Kozak) keep an eye on the budget and expenditures (we're on track this year, though the heating costs (natural gas) have been unusually high) and the number of people paying their per capita share (that is calculated by and goes to the Presbytery) is a bit ahead of expectation. This is good news, since the church budget makes up the difference.

The Session voted to accept Judy Mohney into membership and to allow communion at the Maundy Thursday Roman Supper event.

Debbie Wilkins, in her capacity as chair of the Nominating Committee, announced the nomination of these people for upcoming terms as Deacons or Elders. The Elder who will serve as a trustee is mentioned separately, as the person is recruited specifically for this job.

Elders for three-year terms

Laurie Going

Steve Tidrick

Debbie Wilkins

Elder for a one-year term (due to the resignation of an Elder before his term was complete)

Kathie Huddleston

Elder Trustee for three-year term

Dick Burnham

Deacons for three-year terms

Damon Apostalon

Crystal King

Marie Mann

Judy Mohney

Peg presented her monthly report (a list two pages long of what she has been doing on behalf of the church).

With the time remaining in the two-hour meeting, the Session began considering the different processes it could use to seek a new pastor.

Carmel Bentley

Session Scribe

Sing Here Now Choir

Sing Here Now

Choir for people with Early Memory Loss in Beaverton



Photo courtesy of Self Communications and Images, LLC

“There’s something for everyone...great music!”

No previous choir experience necessary—just a desire to sing with others.
Ten weekly sessions beginning Tuesday, April 30, 2013 from 11:00am – 12:30pm
Southminster Presbyterian Church | 12250 SW Denney Road | Beaverton, OR 97008
Enrollment limited – register soon!

A partnership between the Alzheimer’s Association – Oregon & EarthTones Music Therapy Services



To register, or for more information, please contact:
Chris Nelson | Program Coordinator—Alzheimer’s Association Oregon Chapter
chris.nelson@alz.org | (503) 416-0207

Summer Special Musicians

We are inviting Musicians to play or sing for each service during the Summer starting June 16 to September 1, 2013—June 16, 23, 30 & July 7, 14, 21, 28 & August 4, 11, 18, 25 and September 1. If you are interested in sharing your talent and gift with us, please email me with your 3 choices of available Sundays at RupardMusic@gmail.com.

Thank you for your interest,

SeungJin Bae
Director of Music



Earth Day Evening of Music and Song Friday, April 19, 7:30 to 9:00pm

Celebrate Earth Day with an evening of music and song at the First Unitarian Church., SW 12th and Salmon St., Portland, in Eliot Chapel. Pianist Michael Allan Harrison will be featured as well as Sky in the Road, Raphael Spiro String Quartet, and Portland Peace Choir. The format draws on Taizé, an ecumenical tradition from France that involves meditative singing, candle lighting, and time for reflection. Donations requested for rental of space. RSVPs appreciated at Center for Earth Leadership, 503-244-0026 or Jeanne@earthleaders.org.

Women's Retreat



**37th Annual
Southminster Women's Retreat
May 3-5, 2013**

***Pathways To
Authentic Connections***

Feel the spiritual bond of women

Explore tools for creating deeper connections

Experience moments of discovery

Feedback from past retreats tells us that bonding with other Southminster women is one of the most treasured benefits each year. Building on that concept this year's theme is "Pathways to Authentic Connections". Come prepared to explore pathways to building relationships while taking opportunities for courage and discovery, through small group conversation, meditation, creative expression and activities that explore our retreat theme. Feel the spiritual bond of women and be inspired, supported and loved.

We have been fortunate to have Pastor Peg Pfab join us for our community's retreat weekends for over 10 years. Our final retreat prior to her retirement will be a special celebration of the role she has played in the development of our community.



New in 2013! We will explore our retreat theme with "Plein Air" painting! No experience needed, and we supply the water colors and paper, instructions and site maps.

Women's Retreat

Women's Retreat FUNd (emphasis intentional)

The women of Southminster created a perpetual fund to support participation in the annual retreat. During registration we provide an opportunity for continued contributions to the FUNd. Regular additions keep our FUNd healthy and allow us to continue to offer scholarships to our community, or offset other retreat expenses. Thank you for considering even the smallest donation!

Registration Includes

In addition to the afore-mentioned goodies, your registration includes:

- ✓ 2 nights at Tilikum Retreat Center in Newburg, Oregon
- ✓ 5 fabulous "home cooked meals", starting with Friday dinner and including Sunday breakfast
- ✓ Most rooms are 3 beds with private bath/shower
- ✓ Multiple outdoor and indoor spaces inviting you to read, journal, sip your coffee and chat awhile, or simply gaze at the beautiful surroundings
- ✓ Use of Tilikum's woods, trails and lake (canoes available Saturday!)
- ✓ Coffee, tea, and hot chocolate available 24 hours/day

=====

Registration Form

Contact Information:

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Email (if you are able to receive your confirmation information via email):

Registration Option:

- (1) **\$ 155** Basic weekend retreat price for 2 nights and 5 meals
- (2) **\$ _____** Scholarship Request (All requests receive a confirmation call and are handled with complete confidentiality.)
- (3) **\$ _____** Tax-deductible donation to the Women's Retreat FUNd for use in Scholarships.
- (4) **\$ _____ TOTAL Amount** – Check Only - Due by May 1, 2013. Checks should be made out to *Southminster Presbyterian Church*, with "women's retreat" in the memo field. Drop off payment and registration in the church office.

Other Information:

I am interested in carpooling as a: _____ Driver _____ Passenger

I have special dietary concerns or requests for the Tilikum cooks (circle all that apply):

Gluten Free Dairy Free Diabetic Food Allergy: _____

Ways You Can Help:

I'd love to lead grace before a meal (scripture, song, or poem): _____ Yes _____ No

I'd love to help Peg with Sunday morning worship: _____ Yes _____ No

Registration Questions?

Please contact Karen Wittenburg : 503-641-8369 or kwittenburg@comcast.net

The Fine Print: Your spot is reserved when payment is received. Confirmation notices, including "what to bring" and maps, will be emailed the week of April 22nd.

Children's News



What's Happenin'??

Children's Ministry – April 2013

Every Sunday Morning...

10:00am	Children's time in worship
10:15am	Off we go to Sunday School!
10:55am	Children's Sing Along
11:00am	Dismiss
11:15am	Choir Rehearsal

April in the Godly Play Classroom

"Look-fors"

- April 7 - Easter Wrap and Review
- April 14 - Jesus and the Twelve
- April 21 - World Communication
- April 28 - Synagogue and the Upper Room

April in the Joyful Path Classroom

"Look-fors"

- Learning From Mistakes
- Connecting With Kindness
- Sharing
- Self Control

Hello April! The Recycled Art project is coming up on April 21. This is a "make at home", and bring it in to be displayed in the Gallery. Volunteer training coming up on April 28 from 11:30 till about noon. Aleta Parker was kind enough to turn the soil in the Garden Beds! Nicole and I will take turns planting and maintaining the Garden with our respective groups on Sundays as the crops grow. Thank you for the new faces who have been volunteering with the children!

Almost everyone has a background check done, check with Mary if you aren't sure.

Please check with me if you haven't filled out a current registration form for your kiddo!

As always – Mr. Maldarelli

Student Communique — April 2013

www.southmin.org/students

Sunday Mornings: Worship 10:00am

Connections & Everyday Leadership 10:15am

- April 7** Grades 5-7 with Marcia; 8/High with Don in Loft
- April 14** **Grades 5-7 with Marcia; 8/High with Don in Loft**
- April 21** Grades 5-7 in Room 9 with Marcia; 8/High with Don in Loft
- April 28** Mini Breakfast for all youth! 8/High= Auction; Grades 5-7 TBD
Silent Auction April 28, 9am-Noon (See below)

April Youth Group Meetings

Middle School – DV8

- April 7 – Lunch and Something! Ultimate Frisbee at VOSE School! 11:30am-1:30pm
- April 21 – Wacky and Wild Game Night! Capture the Flag anyone??? 5:30-7:30pm
Don't forget to support our Silent Auction! – Sunday, April 28 8:30am-12:00pm

8/High School – SNL

- April 7 – Dinner and Movie Night! 5:30-8pm. See Don for movie suggestions
- April 21 – 11:30am-12:30pm – Silent Auction Planning Meeting
- April 27 – Silent Auction Set up and preparations – 10:00am
- April 28 – Silent Auction fundraiser – Spokane G.P.S. Mission Trip!

Silent Auction on April 28, 9:00am-12:00pm

All youth are encouraged to help procure donations. All proceeds raised will benefit the Spokane G.P.S. mission trip. If you know of a business in the community who might like to donate something for the auction or if you have something you would like to donate, contact Don Ludwig (503)819-2442. Deadline for donations is Sunday, April 21st.

Support our 8/High School mission trip to SPOKANE

July 6 - July 13, 2013

Adult Education

Help Us Build New Learning Communities!

For the past six months, a special committee has been responsible for Sunday Starter, our weekly 9:00am adult discussion series. This has enabled the "regular" Adult Education committee to focus on creating a new vision for adult learning at Southminster. You may be shocked to hear this, but we believe the best approach is to stop having monthly committee meetings! Instead, a small group of leaders will work informally to convene temporary "working groups" to organize individual events and series.

We want to convene a kickoff meeting in April to brainstorm what adult learning might look like at Southminster during the coming time of transition. We'd like input from as many diverse voices as possible on the following:

- Decide on a new name or "brand" for Adult Education...something along the lines of "Learning Communities"
- Brainstorm how to take advantage of alternative modes of learning that are springing up at Southminster: science discussions at McMenamin's, ongoing discussions like Sunday Starter, community events like Alzheimer's Cafe, Facebook discussions, etc.
- Recruit a rather large group of people who would volunteer to serve on a temporary working group occasionally, when the topic inspires them and their schedule permits
- Agree on a process for how to convene working groups and how to manage communication

If you are interested in providing input or help for this effort, please contact Mark Mullins at markmpdx@gmail.com or [503-608-0411](tel:503-608-0411). Our tentative plan is to schedule the meeting on **April 21 at 11:30am**, right after Sunday services.

Sunday Starter

Sunday Starter meets before church at 9:00am in Room 7. General discussion topics range from discussion of various parables, immigration policies, and issues of poverty, marriage equality and the study of comparative religions. We would love to have you join us for an hour of discussion, education and fellowship.

Calendar of Events

See Website- Calendar