

# EASTER SUNDAY, MARCH 31, 2024

## THOUGHT FOR MEDITATION

*You don't understand Easter if it doesn't scare you. This is not a sentimental spring holiday that glibly reassures us everything will turn out as we had planned. Easter has very little to do with our plans. It has everything to do with the unpredictable work of our Savior. Not even death could keep Jesus from bringing us back to God.*

~ Craig Barnes ~

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**WELCOME:** In the name of Jesus Christ, we welcome you to this Celebration of Worship. May we, each one, by the power of the Holy Spirit experience a close communion with God and a warm fellowship with one another.

**MEMORIAL FLOWERS:** Thanks to all who donated the flowers for our beautiful spring displays this morning. Please feel free to pick up your flower/s after each service.

**CHILDCARE SUNDAY MORNINGS** is available most Sundays for infants to 4 years from 8:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the Childcare Room of the Kingdom Keepers Wing which is located off the Rec Hall. This morning however there will be no Childcare or Sunday School.

**CHILDREN'S PRAISE PACKS**, containing coloring pages and other activities for kids to learn about today's message, are available at the Sanctuary entrances and at the Crossings worship service. Please return the bags at the end of the worship service.

**THE SOUTHMINSTER CAFÉ** is usually open from 8:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. in Rec Hall, where you can come in for donuts, bagels, fruit, and beverages, anytime throughout the morning. There will not be café refreshments offered this Easter Sunday.

**ADULT SUNDAY SEMINAR:** This class will not be meeting this morning however it usually meets at 10:00 a.m. in the Chapel and is open to all adults and high school students. Beginning next week Pastor Doug will lead us in discussing *The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe*. You may have seen the blockbuster movie. You may even have read the book or the whole Narnia series. But what do you know about C.S. Lewis, the man behind the book? He was one of the most published authors of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, a professor of medieval literature at Oxford and Cambridge, a man who loved long walks, going to a pub to drink beer, smoke his pipe and tell jokes with friends. Join the Adult Sunday Seminar in April as we look at the life and writings of C.S. Lewis, whose faith and writings are still contemporary, encourage us in our own lives and challenge us to grow in our faith.

**TODAY'S MISSION OPPORTUNITY:** One Great Hour of Sharing provides a way to change lives in Christ's name through the ministries of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People. From initial disaster responses to ongoing community development, your gifts provide safety, sustenance, and hope to individuals and communities in need. The One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) offering will be received this morning; You can use one of the envelopes provided at the Crossings table or in the Narthex, or donate online with a note for OGHS, or by mailing a check (indicate OGHS in the memo line) to the church office.



**OUR ANNUAL PROGRESSIVE DINNER** returns Saturday, April 20 from 5:00 – 9:00 p.m. (early departure fine, of course!). You're invited, and friends and family are welcome. Meal addresses (four stops over the evening) will be provided at the opening appetizer location. Please RSVP by April 7 to [spchurchlife@gmail.com](mailto:spchurchlife@gmail.com), and if willing to host, please indicate your preferred course to serve and the number of people you can host (between 8 and 12 guests per course is typical). The cost is \$10 per person for non-hosting guests. We look forward to seeing you!



**BLOOD DRIVE:** Southminster will be hosting a Blood Drive on Sunday, April 21 from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the Rec Hall. To schedule an appointment to donate: Go to [vitalant.org](http://vitalant.org) and search with Account Code UG0010147 or call 877-25VITAL (877-258-4825). Walk-Ins are also welcome.

**THE MONTHLY "LUNCH BUNCH":** Please join us on April 28 for our next outing to get to know other members of our church family. Meet at the front of the Sanctuary right after the 11:00 a.m. service. Names will be randomly picked to form groups of 4-8 people. You'll meet your group, decide where to go, and head out for lunch. (Everyone will pay for their own meal.)



**MOVIE NIGHT!** Please join us on Monday, April 29 for "Dream Horse 2020", a Welsh film based on a true story. We'll begin with pizza at 6:00 p.m. and the movie will start around 6:45, followed by an insightful discussion led by Elaine Wertheim. RSVP's are encouraged: [spchurchlife@gmail.com](mailto:spchurchlife@gmail.com). There is no charge but a freewill offering will be taken.

**ADULT INTEREST CENTER:** The Adult Interest Center hosts a gathering for South Hills seniors on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Fridays of the month at 11:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. Please join us and invite a friend to enjoy the fun, fellowship, and food! (The meal is at Noon for the cost of \$9.00). We will be enjoying a "Pursuit of Trivia" on Friday, April 5<sup>th</sup>. On April 19<sup>th</sup> speaker Jeffrey Deceder will give a talk entitled "Fun From Within". On May 3<sup>rd</sup> we will have the Vintage Radio Players perform an old time radio show. On May 17<sup>th</sup> speaker Andy Quinn will present a "History of Kennywood". For more information email Fred Barnes at [fred@spchurch.org](mailto:fred@spchurch.org).

**SOJOURNER HOUSE FUNDRAISER:** Ladies are invited to the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Victorian Tea to support this organization providing residential rehabilitation for women in recovery. The event is Sunday, April 14 from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. at the Omni William Penn Hotel. The ticket price for Southminster members is \$95. RSVP to Sue Robinson at [sbr611@comcast.net](mailto:sbr611@comcast.net) or 412-849-3936.

**SAFE CHURCH:** Please join us for training on our Safe Church policies and procedures, on Sunday April 7<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 - 2:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. A light lunch will be provided. Elders, Deacons, Sunday School teachers, youth volunteers and other volunteers should attend.

#### **APRIL MISSION OPPORTUNITIES:**

**Hunger Offering** ~ The April Hunger Offering will be collected to purchase the McDonald's Gift Cards which we include in the winter kits of warm outerwear that we give to homeless individuals in Pittsburgh each year. This can provide a much needed meal and hot drink to someone walking the streets in the winter. The Hunger Offering will be received at the worship services on Sunday, April 7, 2024 and throughout the month of April. You can also give online or by mailing a check to the Church Office.

**Community 341** ~ On Wednesday, April 10, 2024 Southminster will be the hosting meal partner for *Community Three for One*, a ministry that offers free weekly take-out meals to individuals and families in neighboring Brookline.

There are a variety of ways you can get involved. You can help prepare the food in the Kitchen at Southminster beginning at 1:00 pm or you can arrive later at 3:30 pm to help assemble and pack the meal bags for transport. The distribution itself begins at 5:00 in the Hall at St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Brookline, located on the corner of Brookline Blvd. and Glenarm Ave. and you can help pass out the meals there at that time.

For further inquiries or to volunteer, contact Pastor Fred at [info@spchurch.org](mailto:info@spchurch.org) or call the Church Office.



**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL!** Save the dates for "The Great Jungle Journey" themed program: July 22 – 26 from 9:00 a.m. to noon. Exciting details to come! If you are interested in volunteering, please email Jennifer at [jennifer@spchurch.org](mailto:jennifer@spchurch.org) or register using the following link: <https://southminster2024vbs.myanswers.com/jungle-journey/>. Registration for the kids will open soon!