

# SUNDAY, APRIL 7, 2024

## THOUGHT FOR MEDITATION

*Forgiveness is life's greatest need and love's hardest work. Forgiveness is only possible through the miracle of God's gracious work in our lives. Without God's help, it is impossible to forgive, or be forgiven.*

~ Delmer William ~

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

**THE SANCTUARY FLOWERS** are given to the glory of God by Ken and Patti Dobbins in memory of their parents, Robert & Martha Califf and Ed & Amolene Dobbins, and of their daughter-in law, Courtney Dobbins.

**CHILDCARE SUNDAY MORNINGS** is available 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.

**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.

**CHILDREN'S SERMON!** Families of little ones, we are excited to announce that instead of having the "Time with the Young Church" during worship (except for Communion Sundays), children through 5<sup>th</sup> grade will be given their own message in one of the Kingdom Keeper Wing classrooms during the time of the sermon in the service. They will then return to the service at an appropriate time. The first Children's Sermon will be on April 14<sup>th</sup>. If you have any questions, please contact Jennifer at Stampfel at [jennifer@spchurch.org](mailto:jennifer@spchurch.org).

**THE SOUTHMINSTER CAFÉ** is open from 8:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. in Rec Hall. Please come in for donuts, bagels, fruit, coffee, tea, or juice, anytime throughout the morning.

**ADULT SUNDAY SEMINAR:** This class meets at 10:00 a.m. in the Chapel and is open to all adults and high school students. Beginning this 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.

### APRIL MISSION OPPORTUNITIES:

**Hunger Offering** ~ The April Hunger Offering will be collected to purchase McDonald's Gift Cards to be included in the winter kits of warm outerwear that we offer to homeless individuals in Pittsburgh. 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 and throughout the month of April. You can also give online or by mailing a check to the Church Office.

**Community 3-4-1** ~ On Wednesday, April 10, 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 at St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Brookline, located on the corner of Brookline Boulevard and Glenarm Avenue and you can help pass out the meals there at that time. For questions or to volunteer, please contact Pastor Fred at [info@spchurch.org](mailto:info@spchurch.org) or call the Church Office.

**BAKERS WANTED!** As part of our Scottish Sunday worship service and celebration we will be offering Scottish shortbread along with our usual refreshments. Donations of this traditional treat are requested from members or friends who wish to share their gifts with the congregation in this way. For more information please feel free to contact Shannon Neemes at [shannon\\_neemes@yahoo.com](mailto:shannon_neemes@yahoo.com) or 412-759-2679.



**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, today from 12:00 - 2:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. A light lunch will be provided. Anyone assisting in youth or children's ministries will need to have clearance forms completed, and are encouraged to attend. Those unable to join in the training today should contact Jennifer at [jennifer@spchurch.org](mailto:jennifer@spchurch.org) to learn more.



**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!

**SOUTHMINSTER EARLY LEARNING ACADEMY** is currently enrolling students ages 1 year to Kindergarten for the 2024-2025 school year. If you are interested in registering your student or would like more information, please contact Lori Guenther at [lori@spchurch.org](mailto:lori@spchurch.org) or 412-770-8095.