

# SUNDAY, APRIL 28, 2024

## THOUGHT FOR MEDITATION

*“Who do you say that I am?” A question Jesus asks Peter, and Peter responds with “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” The response of affirmation pleases Jesus. But suppose I view it as an invitation. Suppose I consider that the question is directed not only to Peter but to me, not as a quiz but as an invitation to explore exactly who and what Jesus is in my life. That is the invitation extended to each of us.*

~ Richard B. Patterson ~

## 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 in loving memory of Ann Thompson, by her husband, Don, and family.

**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 MESSAGE:** The children will be given their own message during the time of the sermon, in one of the Kingdom Keepers Wing classrooms, then return to the service. If you have any questions, please contact Jennifer 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. Pastor Doug will be leading the class in April to explore 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. Please join us!



**APRIL MISSION OPPORTUNITY:** 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. The Hunger Offering will be received at the worship services throughout the month of April. You can use the designated envelopes available at the crossings table and in the Narthex, write a check with “Hunger Offering” in the memo line, or make your donation online.

**LISTENING SESSIONS:** We as session members have come to understand that changes in leadership have been very troubling for many of us at Southminster. In order to address some of the pain our members feel, Session would like to invite members to small group meetings where we can listen as you share your concerns. In a few days, you will have an opportunity to register to attend a listening meeting that will suit your schedule. Meetings will be led by session members, consist of 10 or fewer individuals, be a place where you can share your concerns so that we as a Congregation can heal and move forward together.

**\* A CONGREGATIONAL MEETING** will be held on Sunday May 19 immediately following the 11:00 a.m. worship service. This annual meeting will include the 2023 Financial Report and the Election of Elders and Deacons.

\* **SCOTTISH SUNDAY.** Join us on Sunday, May 5, for Southminster's 53<sup>rd</sup> annual celebration of Scottish Sunday. The 11 a.m. Celebration of Worship will start with a procession into the Sanctuary to lead special music and worship as once again we commemorate our Scottish Presbyterian heritage. Immediately following worship, the celebration continues on the Southminster lawn (or in Fellowship Hall if it's rainy). Come join us for worship, music, fellowship, and homemade shortbread.



**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). 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).

**THE ANNUAL WOMEN'S RETREAT** will be May 10 and 11 at Sandscrest Retreat Center in Wheeling. We will carpool as much as possible. If you want to start early, some women leave the church parking at 11:30 a.m. Friday to go to lunch and browsing in Wheeling, then go on to Sandscrest. Dinner starts at 6:00 p.m. Breakfast is at 8:00 a.m., and Lunch is at 12:15. Please tell me of any allergies or dietary issues. The event includes 3 (delicious 😊) meals, bed linens, and amenities - way above glamping! The fee is \$160, which can be paid by check mailed to the church with "Women's Retreat" in the memo line, or online with "Women's Retreat" indicated in the Notes section. Please RSVP by May 3 to Gwen Hepler: [eslgwen@yahoo.com](mailto:eslgwen@yahoo.com) to allow for planning and preparation. Hope to see you there!

**A PARENTS NIGHT OUT** will be held on Friday, May 3 from 5:00 – 8:30 p.m. Kids through fifth grade are invited for a fun night with dinner, a movie, and craft activities. (Children must be potty-trained to attend.) The event will be held in Fellowship Hall and there is no charge. Please RSVP with the names and ages of the kids to Cecile Usner at [dino@alumni.psu.edu](mailto:dino@alumni.psu.edu), or call the church office: 412-343-8900.

**ELDER AND DEACON NOMINATIONS:** The Nominating Committee is looking for church members who feel a calling to serve the church as deacons and elders. If you are interested, or if you would like to recommend someone, please contact Chris Porretta at [chriscporretta@yahoo.com](mailto:chriscporretta@yahoo.com).



**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 May 23.

**HELP WANTED:** We're looking for additional volunteers to staff the Reception Desk in the mornings or afternoons. Receptionists answer the phones, give access to the building, and may help assemble Sunday bulletins. Training is provided and the position offers great benefits ... staff appreciation, prompt attention to visitors, and a pleasant interaction with callers. It's also a great way to provide meaningful service and to interact with members and friends as you offer a warm welcome and assistance to others. For more information, please contact Paula Iannotta at [paula@spchurch.org](mailto:paula@spchurch.org) or 412-343-8900.

\* **NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS**