



the Dialog

August, 2007

Southminster Presbyterian Church

On the Fly – August, 2007

Are we really beginning the last month of summer? Where did it all go? June was definitely about the cicas for me. August? Well, partners, I think the highlight for August will be Vacation Bible School. I've volunteered to be the Storyteller for the week, and I think it will be a blast.

Definitely, the July highlight for me was the Presbyterian Youth Triennium. At the last two Trienniums I have been part of a nine-member Care Team responsible for the 4-5,000 youth in attendance at the Triennium. I just love the energy experienced throughout the event, and I'm most impressed with the worship that engages the young people. I'm also pretty jazzed about the small groups that each youth is a part of throughout the event. It was very exciting having one of our own, Dana Storey, attend this year's Triennium as a youth participant. It was great seeing her meet other youth from our Presbytery and others from as far away as Barrow, Alaska. I've asked Dana to write a little about her experience at Triennium. As you read Dana's words, think about this summer's highlights for you and those highlights you remember from your summers gone by.

Cheers and Blessings!
Lucia

The theme of the Presbyterian Youth Triennium this year was "Hope Is in Our Midst." Through the week I, along with 4,999 other youth, learned six valuable lessons on hope. The first lesson was "Hope in Our Gathering: Seeing the Signs." In order to see the hope that exists in our everyday lives, we need to open our eyes to it. The second lesson was "Hope in Our Chaos: Trusting in God." There are terrible crimes and disasters happening every day around the world. Through all the chaos in our lives, we need to find the hope in the disaster and turn to God and trust in Him. The third lesson we learned was "Hope in Our Doubts and Fears: Claiming our Call." Our doubts and our fears in life can't hinder us from being what we are called to be and do. The fourth lesson was "Hope in Our Heart: Waiting Expectantly." This lesson was crucial to the whole theme.

The hope in our hearts is an important hope that helps us in times of strife. The fifth lesson was "Hope in Your Face: Showing up Unannounced." This kind of hope is always there, whether you want it to be or not. This hope shows up when you least expect to see it, yet it should be acted upon, just like any other hope. Lastly and most importantly was "Hope in Our Midst: Get It Done." This sixth lesson ties all the others together. Hope may be everywhere we turn, but good is only done when that hope is acted upon. The man who gave the sermon on that day told us to go out and tell the pregnant teenager there is hope, to the tsunami victims, that there is hope, to the abused and the used, that there is hope, and the church, no matter what troubles are going on there, that there is hope.

While learning all these lessons we had one sermon preached daily. This was always my favorite part of the day, not only because the sermons were absolutely amazing, but because each time was a different preacher. Being in worship with so many other youth and adults was a serene feeling. This feeling is hard to explain, but just seeing thousands of other Presbyterians worshipping with me was a feeling I had never had before. On Saturday we all took communion. This communion was the most meaningful to me. I had always understood why we take communion, but I had never had such an eye-opening experience in my life. To hear the thousands of "the body of Christ" and "the blood of Christ" was just an amazing moment, and in that I saw hope.

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Help us find our next Director of Christian Education

Are you interested in the direction Christian Education will take at Southminster?

If so, you might be just the person we need to help search for our next Director of Christian Education. A search committee is now being formed. If you are interested please contact Chris Kozich (Personnel), Melissa Nachman (Nominating), or Deb Bohi (Christian Ed.).

We also did a vigil worship. We got to light candles and we all just stood there digging into our hearts and trying to release the despair we had hidden. Our candles were lit by passing it on to each other. This was the place where I saw the most hope. People were able to dig deep into their souls and release the tension there, and for me there were doubts and concerns I didn't even know I had. I saw random strangers comforting each other and murmuring words of encouragement and love to one another. This was what we were taught all through the week. This, I knew, was what hope truly looked like.

What I miss most from Triennium is the youth and chaperones from the Chicago Presbytery. I got so close to all nineteen of them and it was so hard to let go. These people were with me on my journey at Triennium. We were able to depend on each other, believe in one another, and grow in faith together. We got to experience all the marvels of Triennium together, and that ties us together for life. I also knew that this was hope, that we could all get along upon meeting each other and sharing our love for Christ in one another.

*This whole trip, to me... it was all hope.
Dana*

**The rains are coming –
Let's help Southminster**

RAISE THE ROOF!



This month, the flat portions of Southminster's roofs will be replaced, and tuckpointing work will be done.

The total cost is projected to be \$40,700, but may increase if rotted wood is found beneath the existing roof. Southminster's savings account is limited and cannot cover this major expenditure.

Why should you consider making a gift to help pay for the roof work?

Q: Does fixing the roof help to feed the poor?

A: No. However, completing the roof work right away will minimize interior damage, preserving more funds for Southminster's ministries, including local and international mission giving.

Q: Does fixing the roof help to spread the Good News of the Gospel?

A: No. But having a sound church building helps Southminster to conduct its worship and outreach programs.

Q: Will my contribution make a difference?

A: Yes! Every dollar given for the *Raise the Roof* campaign helps Southminster to avoid increasing its mortgage or dipping into its savings account. We may eventually need to explore these options (for example, when the peaked roofs need to be replaced or refurbished), but prayerfully hope that our congregation and friends will help us to pay for as much of the current work as possible with their gifts.

Won't you please consider making a special donation, to help Southminster stay high and dry?

You may donate by returning a response card (mailed out last month, or available in the pews) to Southminster, or by sending a check with "Raise the Roof" or just "Roof" in the memo line. We plan to complete this special campaign by September 9, 2007, and ask that all gifts be made by that date, if possible. Check out the Rainbow display in the Narthex to see weekly updates of the total giving to the *Raise the Roof* fund.

Southminster will gratefully accept all donations for this project. If excess funds are collected, Southminster will set them aside for future roof work or tuckpointing projects, or for the repair of interior water damage.

**All women are invited to
make music with us!**

The Men's Choir had their turn in June, and now Women's Choir will get a chance in August. Ladies, stay after worship on August 5 for a rehearsal, and we'll sing in worship on August 12. This is a great opportunity for all those women who love to sing but can't join us on a weekly basis during the program year.

Questions? Please call Darlene at the Southminster office: 469-9149.



If you like attending worship services, greeting friends and visitors, and serving the church, we have a job for you—as an usher. Anyone interested please contact Lanny Russell for more information: call 815-748-1654 or email lansonrussell@aol.com.

Have you seen any of these...?

We are missing some of our dark blue "Sing the Faith" hymnal supplements. If by any chance you have inadvertently carried one home, will you please return it to the sanctuary? Thanks!



2007 Vacation Bible School

Avalanche Ranch: A Wild Ride through God's Word!

As we're putting the final touches on the August *Dialog*, the Ranch is an Avalanche of activity! Ropin' and ridin' and bringin' in the herd... Well, make that stories and games and crafts—and a daily lesson about God.

Everyone who is participating in VBS—and all those who'd like to see what we've been doing all week—are invited to Family Night on Thursday, August 2, from 7:00-9:00 p.m. We promise fun for everyone, and a chance for the kids to show what they've been learning. Saddle up and c'mon along!



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Children's Sunday Morning

Every Sunday through Labor Day:
9:45-10:30 God So Loved the Worlds
Summer Sunday School

The children continue their summer-long voyage to carry the gospel to imaginary planets throughout the universe.

PARENTS—please remember to help your children earn stars to spend in our spaceship commissary. They will bring home a crew handbook with verses and stories and suggested activities for each week. Remember that YOU need to listen to them recite verses and stories (simplifying the task to fit your child's ability and interest) and help them do the service and exploration projects. Then initial the appropriate boxes and have them bring their books to church on Sunday.

We still need your help...

Please continue to sign up in the narthex to help with the children's Sunday morning space adventure. No special training or astronaut equipment needed. Just sign up and show up. (Check in downstairs before the service, attend the first part of worship, and then come down with the children after the Children's Moment.)

We also need people who can staff the spaceship commissary store. This is open right AFTER worship for about 15 minutes. Training takes a few minutes and can be done over the phone or before the service on Sunday. Sign up in the narthex.

In addition, there is a sign up sheet by the nursery door where you can volunteer to care for the smallest members of the Southminster Community.

MISSION

Summer SPC Mission Update

Hope everyone is enjoying this beautiful summer that God is bestowing upon us!

Mission needs continue ALL year, so please prayerfully consider the following:

1. Thanking God for His blessings and protection of Megan Bohi and Peter Davidson, who had a wonderful experience with our sister church in Cuba while at the Youth Leadership Conference. (Look for an accompanying article on the next page.) We look forward to their sharing their experiences with the congregation before leaving for college.
2. You can still help with the SPC team that is providing meals for PADS to feed 65 people on Saturday, August 11. The SPC PADS team did a great job on July 14 bringing food to Evangelical Covenant Church. At the site, we team up with Joshua Road Church of Wheaton which provides the overnight staffing while we provide the dinner meal, makings for Sunday breakfast, and bag lunches for 65. If you wish to help on August 11 please call Deb Bohi (469-9404), Melissa Nachman (312-933-3147) or Betsy Rogers (858-3538). **A big thank you to all who helped with this mission outreach in July, and thanks in advance for August!**
3. PRC (People's Resource Center) still needs volunteers to help staff their food pantry this summer. Volunteers organize and sort food donations and assist clients through the lines and to their cars with groceries. Flexible shifts are available. To volunteer call Kristin Holmes at 682-5402 ext 243 or visit the website at [www. peoplesrc.org](http://www.peoplesrc.org).

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Summer Mission Update (continued)

4. PRC is getting PLENTY of canned goods and juices for the food pantry but NEEDS the following: *Ketchup, Tuna Fish, Spaghetti/Tomato Sauce, Peanut Butter, Jelly, Diaper/Baby Wipes, Laundry Supplies, Toilet Paper/Paper Towels, Shampoo/Toothpaste.* Even though we suggested bringing fruit juices for our offering on the first Sunday in August, we suggest that you choose something from this list instead. Thank you for your continued support of this long-standing SPC local mission.

5. We would love some younger members to join the Mission Committee. Dana Storey has joined our group and added a wonderful perspective. Of course ANYone who has a heart for mission is encouraged to join our committee. **We need you!** Questions? Call Mission Moderator Sarah Allen (988-8231).

6. Mission Committee is currently exploring a possible weekend Mission trip, as it seems many members cannot afford to take a week off from work. If this is something you might participate in, would you let someone on the Mission Committee know?

In His Service,
SPC Mission Committee
Moderator Sarah Allen, Deb Bohi, Jim Bonde, Norm Ellsworth, Gretchen Fleming, Lew Garrison, Donna Marton, Bill Shepherd, Dana Storey

Our sister church, the Presbyterian Reformed Church in Guanabacoa, Cuba

Two young people from Southminster—Megan Bohi and Peter Davidson—joined a group of other young people from the Presbytery of Chicago to attend a youth leadership conference in Havana, Cuba, from July 9-12. Megan and Peter then spent three days in Guanabacoa, hosted by Pastor Abel and the members of our sister church. We asked Megan and Peter to tell us a little about their trip. At a later date (but before they head off to their college campuses), we hope to have an opportunity for them to tell us more, and for Southminster members to ask them questions.



Yours in Christ,
Gretchen Fleming

El Amor De Dios (God's Love): Our Trip to Cuba

Our trip to Cuba was more than we ever imagined it could be. We attended a Youth Conference near Havana and visited our sister church in Guanabacoa. We walked around the city, talked about what it means to be a leader, played games, went to the beach, and came home sunburned; but, more than meetings or games, we forged relationships and experienced God's love working within these people and within their lives. Thank you, Southminster, for giving us the opportunity to spend time with Abel, Sara, Mayra, Abelito, David, and the rest of the wonderful church family in Guanabacoa. Thank you for helping us to learn about leadership at the conference, and to share that time with new friends. Thank you for the medicines, toys, baseball gloves, and other things you helped us bring to our Sister Church, and for the gifts of love they have given us in return. Thank you, Southminster, for giving us this opportunity.



Please keep the Church Family at Guanabacoa in your hearts and in your prayers.

Megan Bohi and Peter Davidson

From Your Library

It is really hot now and the perfect time to pick out and check out some really "hot" library books for those relaxing moments on the porch or patio or riding in the car... or as you sit on the beach. (Please be gentle with our books!) A display of summer books for all ages will be on the library table this month. They may be about summer and summer activities, or books that are just considered lighter fare or fun for quick summer reading. And keep watching the table, because what is out there will change a little every week as books go out and others take their place.

Your library volunteer,
Cyndy Buening

Just for Women

Women's Breakfast — August 6

Here's a reminder for the next Women's Breakfast to be held on Monday, August 6, at the IHOP at Danada Square East. We're an informal group of women who want to take some time to get to know one another better. Questions? Call Joan Koska at 469-7935.

S.O.L.A.C.E. is planning 2 outings in the next few weeks. Please contact Barb Seymour at 752-0656 if you would like information on either or both of these events: the Wheaton Symphony Orchestra concert at Glenbard South High School on Friday, August 3, at 8:00 p.m.; the First Folio Shakespeare Festival presentation of "Richard III" at Mayslake on Sunday, August 12, at 8:00 p.m.

Church areas deserving a closer look

Southminster has some truly outstanding features that we often take for granted. Consider the following:

Narthex Windows – Have you closely checked out the beautiful stained glass art hangings in the narthex? The colorful craftsmanship was painstakingly done by member Ralph Linde. The various scenes change with the passing sun. Take a few minutes and take a closer look while having coffee.

Steeple/Cross – The high point (literally!) of Southminster is our gleaming steeple and cross over the old church entrance. This inspiring structure has survived high winds, storm leakage and inquisitive birds. Take a closer look, especially on those nice days when the sky is blue.

Gallery Art – We often just walk past truly outstanding art displays in our long hallway. These inspiring displays are coordinated by member Linda Ellinghausen and feature work by talented local artists. Each artist is exhibited for about two months, with work done by our Sunday school children on display during the summer. Take a closer look.

Memorial Garden – Our special landscaped garden adjacent to the church parlor is a splendid place for visiting and solemn remembrance. Inspect the memorial bricks, benches and fountain, and plan to stay awhile. The tasteful vegetation takes on different appearances throughout the year.

Fellowship Patio – The shaded picnic tables near the Fellowship Hall entry make an ideal place for group get-togethers. Most of the construction was completed by then-Eagle Scout Drew Henkels. It's a fine place to visit, especially when the weather cooperates. (Another Scout Project is currently in progress under the direction of Peter Davidson. More on this later).

Photo Panels – Above the nametag shelf in the main hall are current photos of church elders and deacons.

Across from these church leaders are photos of past Southminster pastors. Why not pause and say thanks for the efforts of these and past Southminster folk who have led our church through the years?

The point of all this? Just to take time to take a closer look at some special areas in our church. You will find it rewarding.

Care Notes

Reprinted from the weekly E-Notes

From July 25: Thank you, Lord, for the joy of new life: Jacob Mitchell Falkman, born July 18. Congratulations to proud parents Sharon and Chad and big sister Samantha. We share the pride and concern for New Cadet Bennett Long who has begun his basic training at West Point. May the God of healing and hope sustain those who are recovering from surgery or facing continuing treatments: Corinne Morris, Bruno, Diane, Mary, Gilda, and Frank.

From July 18: Our prayers for strength and health continue for all those with medical concerns: Betty Seaton recovering from surgery; Louanne Jourdan's sister, Becky, in intensive care; Lindsey Matthias in the hospital; LeRoy fighting cancer; Tony Smith recovering from a heart attack, and Russ struggling with old age. We extend our sympathies and ask for God's comforting hand upon those who have suffered losses: the family of Jill Helfrich and Gary and Wendy. Prayers for Nina and all those who are seeking new job opportunities.

From July 11: We share the joy of Eriel Reimers that her grandson Josh is home from Iraq. We ask our God who brings comfort to stand with those who have experienced deep sorrow this week: Matt and Jennifer Evans, whose 7-year-old daughter, Megan, drowned Saturday; and Larry Haler and Karla Murphy, who have recently lost their mothers.

From July 3: We ask for healing and strength for those who have health concerns, especially for Ed Kowal who is undergoing chemo and radiation again. We pray that families who have suffered losses will feel the comfort of God's love: the Swiss family on the loss of their uncle, Henry Vorlicek; and the family of Nick Samardja. We share the joy of Warren and all those who are able to enjoy retirement.

Our Congregational Care Committee is here to assist you in time of need. Please call Congregational Care Co-Moderators Paul Jeziorski (858-1465) or Andrea Schmidt (629-4526) or Helping Hands Coordinator Ginny Kline (668-7374).

Pastoral Care: Call Pastor Lucia Oerter at 630-390-6823 (cell phone) or 630-469-9149 (church office).

Golf outing to benefit Presbyterian Camps

The 5th Annual Presbyterian Camps Golf Outing on August 27 at Naperbrook Golf Course in Plainfield welcomes all golfers, at all levels of play. Registration and continental breakfast begin at 8:00 a.m.; shot gun start at 9:00 a.m. Pick up information in the narthex or on the nametag table, or go to www.prescamps.org and click "Special Events."

For questions please contact:
 Ken Groenewold at 708-228-3298,
 email: groenjk@aol.com
 Douglas McCoy at 630-768-4717,
 email: roycemccoy@comcast.net



Your participation benefits the programs of Presbyterian Camps at Saugatuck.



Eat out and support the People's Resource Center (PRC) Food Market with "Dine Away Hunger" on Wednesday, August 15



Since 1975

Plan on eating out on August 15 and help the fight against hunger in DuPage County. As part of the PRC's "Dine Away Hunger" fundraising program, the following restaurants in Wheaton have pledged 10% of their sales on the 15th to benefit the PRC's food market, the largest countywide food pantry in DuPage County.

Participating restaurants include:

Adelle's – Fine American Fare
 1060 College Avenue
 630-784-8015
 (reservations appreciated)

Egg'lectic Café
 221 Town Square
 (Danada)
 630 260-9001

Seven Dwarfs
 917 E. Roosevelt Road
 630-653-7888

Butterfield's
 351 Rice Lake Square
 630-260-1353

Gino's East
 315 W. Front Street
 630-588-1010

Shane's Deli
 201 W. Wesley Street
 630-690-1423

Caponata's Ristorante
 100 N. Hale Street
 630-682-5900

Houlihan's
 321 Rice Lake Square
 630-690-5550

Sally's coffeehouse
 1030 College Ave.
 630-682-4513

County Seat Restaurant
 1515 N. Main Street
 630-665-3580

Muldoon's
 133 W. Front Street
 630-668-8866

Suzette's Creperie
 211 W. Front Street
 630-462-0898

Egg Harbor Café
 208 S. Hale Street
 630-510-1344

Pad Thai, Etc.
 563 Liberty Drive
 630-653-5337

Tate's Old Fashioned Ice Cream
 109 E. Front Street
 630-668-4434

Egg'lectic Café
 145 N. Hale Street
 (Downtown Wheaton)
 630-690-9001

Red Robin Gourmet Burgers
 51 Town Square
 630-784-9055

The program, which began in 2003, operates simply: Diners eat at participating restaurants on the designated day and the restaurants donate 10% of their sales for the day to the PRC Food Market. Diners need not present any forms or coupons for participation.

PRC serves approximately 1,800 low-income DuPage County families each month through its food market and provides families with access to clothing, housing assistance, literacy classes, computer training, art enrichment, holiday help and other programs to help them overcome poverty. All programs at the PRC are offered free of charge, thanks to the generosity of community supporters. More information is available at www.peoplesrc.org.

This is the calendar page in the printed version of the Dialog. If you are receiving the Dialog electronically, the calendar is a separate .pdf file, which you will receive as August 07 calendar.pdf.

For Your Information...

Church Office: Office hours: Monday-Friday – 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
phone: (630) 469-9149 fax: (630) 469-7923
email: sminster@ameritech.net

Lucia Oerter, Interim Pastor After hours: 630-390-6823
Lisa Frey, Interim Director of Christian Ed. After hours: 630-784-0398
(beginning after VBS ends)
Darlene Crilly, Director of Music After hours: 630-968-0591
Jessica Henks, Director of Youth Ministry Cell phone: 816-898-4011
Barb Doppelt, Administrative Assistant

Christian Education:	Deb Bohi	469-9404
Clerk of Session:	Kathy Davidson	858-2205
Congregational Care:	Paul Jeziorski	858-1465
	Andrea Schmidt	629-4526
Helping Hands (July/August)	Ginny Kline	668-7374
Deacons:	Dan Bohi	469-9404
Endowments:	Ron Birchall	665-3124
Fellowship:	Bob Carlson	469-9091
Finance:	Tom Frey	469-3858
Financial Secy. (re pledges)	Jim Smith	858-6520
Membership:	Melissa Nachman	469-8515
Mission:	Sarah Allen	790-8231
Mission Study Group:	Betsy Rogers	858-3538
Nominating:	Melissa Nachman	469-8515
Pastor Nominating Committee	Ron Birchall	665-3124
Personnel:	Chris Kozich	545-1237
Property:	Betsy Rogers	858-3538
Stewardship:	Chris Kozich	545-1237
Treasurer:	Pat Muehl	858-2698
Web Site:	Floyd Rogers	858-3538
Worship:	Caroline Linde	469-9482
Youth Action Team	TBA	

Church Officers 2007-2008

Session

Kathy Davidson, Clerk

Elders:

Deb Bohi	Caroline Linde
Norm Ellsworth	Melissa Nachman
Marge Engdahl	Betsy Rogers
Margaret Fournier	Sandy Royster
Tom Frey	Sean Salins
Rebecca Hecker	Jim Smith
Linda Jeziorski	Pat Wiedner
Chris Kozich	

Board of Deacons:

Dan Bohi	Trudy Reed
Bob Carlson	Floyd Rogers
Paul Jeziorski	Andrea Schmidt
Sandy Lopata	Tricia Smith
Donna Marton	Suzanne Tennyson
Shari Park	Jack Thorne

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