



# *the Dialog*

July, 2007

Southminster Presbyterian Church

## **On the Fly – July, 2007**

I can't tell you how much fun it's been for me to make the rounds and attend your committee meetings. I have learned so much about Southminster and about your wonderful volunteers who care for the many areas of this church. I wish that each volunteer at this church was mentoring another person to see and learn all that was being done in each area in the life of this church. I also wish that each member of the church would take the time to just attend some of these committee meetings so they could get a glimpse of some of the excitement of the wonderful things going on within this church. Let me share two stories with you.

During a Mission Study Group meeting, I was present when one of those ah-ha moments happened. The Mission Study is designed to not only secure the latest information about who a church is, but to be an avenue for issues, needs, and tendencies of a church to surface. As the Mission Study Group was taking a hard look at the Christian Education area, there were some things that they became aware of as the evening unfolded. While Christian Education has always been a high priority, the group could see that there were areas our church could step up and revision what we want to accomplish.

Overall, a church must ask itself, what is it we're trying to accomplish as a church; what we feel Christ has called us to accomplish. If we merely want people to join; have we succeeded? If we want to train up disciples of the faith; have we succeeded? If we want people of all ages to be engaged as fully as they can be in the life of the church; have we succeeded? If we want to give people faith skills they can use in their day-to-day life at school, in their families, at play, at work, in their neighborhoods and anywhere in the world; have we succeeded? If we want all the people who walk in the doors of this church to know the gift of belonging to a membership where everyone knows everyone else; have we succeeded? What is it that we are trying to accomplish?

During a monthly meeting of the Knitting Circle, I listened to the conversation that occurs as the knitting

needles are clicking away. They converse about some of the people who have had needs in the congregation and in the community. As the morning comes to an end, they decide who might be in need of one of their many prayer shawls. They spread their completed shawls on

*(Continued on page 2)*

## **Saying Goodbye to Laura...**

It is with sadness that Southminster Presbyterian Church accepts the resignation of our Christian Education Director, Laura Crawford. However, we share in Laura's joy as she looks forward to new challenges in Sterling, Illinois, where she will be teaching a 2<sup>nd</sup> grade bilingual class, starting this Fall. Laura's last day at Southminster will be July 17, 2007.

In Laura's letter of resignation, she imparted the following message for Southminster:

I want to thank the congregation for the years that I have spent here at Southminster. They have been a blessing to me, as the congregation has supported me both professionally and personally. This is a congregation with a lot of gifts and a will to share them. I feel that together we have done some substantial work for the Kingdom while I have been here, and I am sure that Southminster will continue to follow God into exciting ministry in the future.

Blessings on all of you.

We extend our best wishes to Laura Crawford in her new career and the next stage of her life in Sterling, Illinois.

Join us during church on Sunday, July 15, to recognize Laura for her service to Southminster. There will also be a reception during the coffee hour after church to thank Laura and wish her well as she embarks on this new adventure.

Please see page 5 for more Christian Ed./Personnel Committee news.

a table and think about the person the shawl will be given to. As they make a selection, they gather around the shawl and pray for the person(s) who will be the recipient(s) of the shawl(s). On the particular day I last visited, the group got pretty excited knowing that they were nearing their 100<sup>th</sup> gift shawl given away. In just a few short years, this group of women had knitted over 100 shawls to present as a symbol of this congregation's love surrounding someone in need. I am in awe of their work. Has this group accomplished what it set out to do? I would have to say they have far exceeded anything they could have individually envisioned.

I leave you with a short segment of text I read this past week.

*It is said that management and business guru Peter Drucker once walked into a boardroom of a major company that was in a severe slump and asked one question: "Gentlemen, what is your business?" It seemed like a silly question. As the story goes, many people tried to answer Drucker's question; to which he simply replied again, "What is your business?"*

*Over an hour later, the people in that boardroom finally understood his point. They had somehow lost their vision and purpose. It caused their sales and profitability to slide. But they didn't realize it until someone like Peter Drucker asked a seemingly stupid question.*

Using Peter Drucker's example, I'll just ask you two simple questions to consider as a church

1. What is our business at Southminster?
2. How's business?

Now I'll tweak the question a bit for your personal use.

1. What is your business?
2. How's business?

Cheers and Blessings as we continue on in our exciting adventure together!

Lucia

### **An invitation from Lucia: Try a New Class!**

Sunday, July 1, at Southminster at 8:00 a.m., I'm beginning a weekly informal class. The class will center around the scripture that will be used the following Sunday. We'll unpack the texts and see what it says to us and to our daily living. I'm calling the class The Daily Grind because there will be coffee provided and the content of the class will influence our daily living. At some point down the road, we may move this class to a different time or location, but we'll see where things lead us. Consider yourself invited!



## **Women's Breakfast — July 2**

Here's a reminder for the next Women's Breakfast to be held on Monday, July 2, 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.

## **Summer Mission Opportunity: PADS**

We were asked by Evangelical Covenant church in Glen Ellyn to help cook food for the homeless that frequent their PADS site on Saturday night, July 14, and Saturday night, August 11. Deb Bohi and Betsy Rogers are coordinating the effort to provide breakfast and dinner on those dates. Melissa Nachman is coordinating the bag lunch effort with the Sunday school. She is asking the Sunday school children to make and bag the lunches. Interested children and their parents will meet at the church on those Saturday mornings at 9:30 to make sandwiches and put the lunches together.

At the site we are teamed with Joshua Road church from Wheaton; a church of 45 people who meet in each other's homes. They will provide the overnight staffing. We will provide and serve the dinner meal and leave the makings for the Sunday breakfast, which they will serve the next morning.

If you wish to provide help with this effort, please contact one of us: Deb (469-9404), Melissa (312-933-3147), or Betsy (858-3538). And to those that have already volunteered their help, thank you.

## **Make Music with Us!**

We tried something new last summer, and we had such a great time with our church family at the *Family Barbeque and Sing* that we decided to do it again! Let us do the cooking for you and join us for our Annual Family Barbeque and Sing on Thursday evening, July 19. We'll start the evening off with dinner at 6:00 followed by a short family singing practice from 6:45–7:30. We'll learn a hymn to sing together as an Anthem for the Sunday service on July 22. Child care will be provided.

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.

And we still can use vocal and instrumental soloists, duos, trios, ensembles, etc. Let's work together to make a joyful noise unto the Lord!

For more information, please call Darlene at the South-



## 2007 Vacation Bible School

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

Howdy!!! This year at Southminster, we are trekking through the great outdoors on some wild Bible adventures!

**WHERE:** SOUTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
680 S. Park Blvd, Glen Ellyn, IL 60137  
(630) 469-9149

**WHEN:** Monday-Friday, July 30- August 3, 9:30 a.m. – Noon  
\*\*\* And don't forget about the Family Hoe-Down Thursday night, August 2, from 7:00-9:00!!  
The kids will be showing off what they have accomplished over the course of the week! \*\*\*

**WHO:** Children age 4 (by July 30) and up.

Register as soon as possible! A registration form is included in the printed *Dialog* or will be an attachment to the email if you receive your church news electronically. Or you can always go to our website and download a registration form: [www.sminsterpc.org](http://www.sminsterpc.org).



minster office: 469-9149.

### **From our Youth Director:**

#### **Parents of youth!**

I would like to meet with you July 8 after worship to discuss summer and upcoming fall activities and plans. Please join me after church for about a half hour to find out what is happening with us this summer!

#### **Sixth-graders (meaning all those who have just completed 5<sup>th</sup> grade)!**

The youth group would like to invite you to join us officially on July 8 to kick off your entrance into SPY. Please join us for games and Bible study at 7:00 p.m. on July 8!! We look forward to seeing you there!

See you soon,  
Jessica

### **Keep Your Pledge Current**

During the summer some of us miss worship services due to vacations and various summer activities. These activities sometimes result in members not being able

to keep their pledge payments up-to-date. If you find yourself in this situation, please remember that you can always mail your pledge to the church to the attention of the TREASURER. By doing this you can still enjoy the summer and keep your pledge current, thereby helping Southminster to keep its payments current.

### **Gallery News**

Enjoy the great art hanging in the gallery for the summer. You guessed it – our very own Sunday school children are the proud artists. Be sure to tell them how wonderful it is!

By popular request we will again feature “Members Art Show” for the holiday season. The display will be hung the week of November 12 and remain hanging until mid-January. Please get busy over the summer and create beautiful things to hang or finish those you’ve been working on for no matter how long! There will be a sign-up sheet in the fall or you can call Linda Ellinghausen at 469-9039.

Thanks for your support,

Linda

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

### Children's Sunday Morning Calendar

July 1

9:45-10:30 God So Loved the Worlds  
Continue at the jungle planet Rahasa  
(God's Promise to Abraham)

July 8

9:45-10:30 God So Loved the Worlds  
Continue at the jungle planet Rahasa  
(King David Worships)

July 15

9:45-10:30 God So Loved the Worlds  
Travel to the water planet, Vet  
(Jeremiah delivers a message from God)

July 22

9:45-10:30 God So Loved the Worlds  
Continue at the water planet, Vet (Jesus' Baptism)

July 29

9:45-10:30 God So Loved the Worlds  
Continue at the water planet, Vet  
(Jesus forgives a woman.)

The children continue their summer-long voyage to carry the gospel to imaginary planets throughout the universe. The first two Sundays of July we will be visiting the jungle planet Rahasa, where the inhabitants are looking for a promised leader to unite the various tribes. Perhaps the story of Abraham can help them to trust that God's promises do come true in their season. Currently, some tribes are ruled by a king who is suffering under the stress of his job. Maybe he could learn from King David's example and trust God to help him in his work.

On July 15 we will discover a new planet, Vet. This planet is entirely covered by water. The beings who live here are struggling with questions of right and wrong. Those who are determined to follow the right path are searching for a ritual to signify their commitment. We will use the stories of the prophet Jeremiah and of Jesus' baptism to address these concerns. On the other hand, the beings on Vet are not very gracious toward those who break the community's rules. We will take the message of Jesus' forgiveness to them.

**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.

Remember—we're counting on everyone to do their share to keep our Christian education programs running smoothly.

### Untrivia Question of the Month

Q—In the previous *Dialog*, we were talking about Jezebel and her reputation... What happened in the rest of the Bible?

A—Well, I'm afraid that you will need to answer this on your own. Unfortunately, this is the last *Dialog* article that I will share with Southminster. And I've only gotten about a fourth of the way through this wonderful book. I suggest that you take up the story at the sixteenth chapter of I Kings, and continue reading. There are a lot of great stories there, many of which we rarely read.

Keep reading!  
Laura

### From Your Library: Many Thanks!

Thanks to everyone — those who contributed books, those who bought books, and all who helped — for the great support of the Used Paperback Book Sale. The approximate profit (approximate because a few people still owe some money) was \$180.00, which benefits the Southminster Library.

Watch for some wonderful new items we'll be able to buy with the money we raised.

Your library volunteer,  
Cyndy Buening

## Christian Ed. Personnel Changes

From Chris Kozich, Moderator of the Personnel Committee:

The Christian Education and Personnel Committees are happy to announce that Lisa Frey has accepted an invitation to become Southminster's Interim Christian Education Director, starting in August. Lisa will be performing about half of the CE Director's tasks, with the Christian Education committee volunteers handling the rest of the work, on a short-term basis. The Christian Education Committee recently met with Laura to go over the list and allocate the work among the various committee members and the interim director.

A Christian Education Director Search Committee is being formed. Its initial task will be to define the duties and role of Southminster's Christian Education Director, and then report back to Session on its recommendations. Session has approved the formation of the search committee, and the hiring of Lisa Frey as Interim Christian Education Director.

## "Raise The Roof" (or rather, Roofs): A Note from the Property Committee

Some of you may have noticed. A few of you have been rained on standing in the choir room. The flat roofs on the church addition are leaking. There are leaks in the narthex, the stairwell, the choir room, the parlor, the men's and women's bathrooms, and even in closets. The flat roofs are 17 years old. They have completely worn out and must be replaced before the leaks do more damage to interior walls. Bandaid fixes won't help any more.

Roger Sutfin did a lot of work in defining the roof problems and soliciting multiple bids. At the June meeting, the Session approved a bid from Spandikow and Sons Roofing to replace both flat roofs and to tuckpoint the walls directly adjacent to them which are also leaking water under the roof's surface. They guarantee their workmanship for 10 years and the materials for 20 years. This will stop the leaks in the flat roof. The work will begin right after Vacation Bible School in August. Our bill will be \$40,700 plus a slight bit more if we have to replace any rotten boards. This is an expense that we will have to raise the money to cover.

The Property Committee has worked together with the Stewardship Committee and will be presenting a "Raise The Roof" campaign in July and August. Together, we will step up and be good stewards of the building God has entrusted to us to use for continuing Christ's ministry here at 680 S. Park Boulevard.

Thanks,  
Betsy Rogers, Moderator  
Property Committee

## MISSION

### Gifts Grow 2007 Recap

*"He will not forget your work and the love you have shown Him as you have helped His people and continue to help them."*

—Hebrews 6:10

The Mission Committee would like to thank everyone who has supported mission activities throughout this past year. Through your gifts to our Special Offerings, *Gifts Grow*, and your donations of time, talent, and supplies to various causes, SPC members continue to be the face of Christ to those in need.

### Gifts Grow History

Year	Total	Congregation	Mission Members	Total # Donations	Total # Donors
2004	\$1971	\$1251 (63%)	\$720 (37%)	20	15
2005	\$3924	\$3004 (76%)	\$920 (24%)	44	25
2006	\$2810	\$1250 (45%)	\$1560 (55%)	49	27
2007	\$4158	\$2133 (50%)	\$2025 (50%)	72	42

### OF NOTE:

1. This was our best year ever for the *Gifts Grow* campaign!
2. Giving is still being split – about 50% from Mission Committee members and 50% from Congregation.
3. Big donations greater than \$100 were up (10 out of 72 donations for \$2200).
4. We engaged 17 new donors this year.
5. Number of donations still higher than number of donors as many donors give to multiple causes.
6. Increased support by church officers.

### 2007 Gifts Grow Donations

	Total	100% Match
CUBA (10)	\$819	\$1638
BRIDGE (6)	271	542
HOSPICE (5)	290	580
OPP INT (5)	425	850
XMAS (3)	95	190
FAMILY SHELTER (6)	165	330
PRC (10)	375	750
PADS (5)	195	390
DUPAGE CLINIC (8)	1,145	2,290
HEIFER (8)	230	460
WALK-IN (4)	115	230
UNDESIGNATED (3)		33
GRAND TOTAL:	\$4,158	\$8,250

Southminster continues to give generously overall to Mission. In 2005 SPC donated to relief efforts: \$7,644 for Tsunami and \$3,080 for Katrina. Below is a recap

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of Special Offering donations. All these donations are above and beyond the designated Session Mission budget for Southminster.

<u>Special Offerings</u>				
	2004	2005	2006	2007
Peace	0	0	\$425	10/07/07
Joy	\$4060	\$4455	\$2788	12/24/07
OGHS	\$1419	\$1470	\$2002	\$2534

Mission Committee is always looking for new members who have an interest or heart for mission. The committee meets the first Tuesday of each month. For further information, contact Sarah Allen, Mission Moderator (email: [RidesRowdy@aol.com](mailto:RidesRowdy@aol.com); phone: 988-8231).

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

We wish the best to Peter Davidson and Megan Bohi for an enriching and enjoyable time at the youth leadership conference they will be attending in Havana, Cuba, from July 9-12, followed by three days hosted by our sister church in Guanabacoa.

Gretchen Fleming and Bill Curry are planning another trip to visit our sister church from November 11 or 12 through November 18 or 19 (exact dates depend on when flights will be going there). If you are interested in being a part of this visit or simply have questions, please see Gretchen or Bill or contact them at 630-858-9377. Those who are interested in going need to have a passport and make their interest known **by August 1, 2007** in order to allow enough time to obtain visas.

At the June meeting, the Session voted to invite Pastor Abel Mirabal and his wife Sara to be guests of our church again in the spring of 2008, probably during the month of May. You will be hearing more about plans for this visit and possibilities for all church members to be involved.

Yours in Christ,  
Gretchen Fleming

### **Care Notes**

Reprinted from the weekly E-Notes

From June 27: We pray as a community of believers, together seeking God's healing presence in our lives and our world: for Steve Johnson and family on the death of his mother, Arlene; for Sue Clary and her family and especially her parents: William that he have peace and Gloria as she deals with major life changes; for Darlene's mother, Stella, having leg amputation surgery on June 27 after many months of fighting infections; for Tom recovering from surgery; Nick nearing the end of his life; Russ struggling with old age; and

LeRoy fighting cancer; and for Bobby, Evan, and all who serve in places torn by war.

From June 20: Frank and Donalyn Bellinger give thanks for their wonderful new caregiver, Dorothy. Prayers for those with health needs go to Dorothy and Don; Anne, sister-in-law of the Koskas, who had surgery Monday; and Barbara Melka having surgery tomorrow. May God comfort those who mourn: Rich on the death of his wife, Theresa, and Wendi Hutchings and the Olsen family on the death of Wendi's husband, Eric, in an accident. We pray for James, trusting in the God who knows all his needs.

From June 13: A joy from our sister church in Cuba: Mayra Pardo Ramirez, a youth leader, has been accepted into the seminary there! Praise be to God! Congratulations to Keegan on his graduation. We ask God to lay healing hands and bring comfort to many of our friends and loved ones: Grace, recovering from surgery on Monday; Muriel Miller's daughter Gretchen, hospitalized with Crohn's disease; and Brenda who has been diagnosed with Parkinson's.

From June 6: Thanks to God for much improvement in the condition of Olga, who is back home and doing well after an operation for a hip fracture (Olga, 95 years old, is a member of our sister church in Cuba.); for Frank Bellinger's caregiver, Stanly, who has been with him for a year and a half and is now returning to Poland; and for Jay who is being honored at a retirement party. We extend our sympathies to former members Mel and Fluryanne Leach on the recent death of Mel's father, Arthur, whose gardening skills beautified our property for many years. We lift up others who mourn: The Doyle family whose son-in-law was killed in an accident last week, and the families of Ellen Plassmann and Carl Fliss.

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 Marie Shepherd (469-7705).

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

Dear Members of Southminster,

I wanted to thank you for your thoughtfulness during my dad's (Leo McQuillen) passing. I appreciated the visitors at his visitation and the food brought by Mrs. Kline. My parents held Southminster closely in their hearts. Also, thank you for the pink rose welcoming my daughter Jessica to this wonderful world. Your care and concern mean a lot!

Thanks again,  
Jennifer Cook

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 July 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](mailto:sminster@ameritech.net)

**Lucia Oerter, Interim Pastor** After hours: 630-390-6823  
**Laura Crawford, Director of Christian Ed.** After hours: 630-668-5056  
(through July 17)  
**Lisa Frey, Interim Director of Christian Ed.** After hours: 630-784-0398  
(beginning in August)  
**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**

<b>Christian Education:</b>	Deb Bohi	469-9404
<b>Clerk of Session:</b>	Kathy Davidson	858-2205
<b>Congregational Care:</b>	Paul Jeziorski	858-1465
	Andrea Schmidt	629-4526
<b>Helping Hands (May/June)</b>	Marie Shepherd	469-7705
<b>Deacons:</b>	Dan Bohi	469-9404
<b>Endowments:</b>	Ron Birchall	665-3124
<b>Fellowship:</b>	Bob Carlson	469-9091
<b>Finance:</b>	Tom Frey	469-3858
<b>Financial Secy. (re pledges)</b>	Jim Smith	858-6520
<b>Membership:</b>	Melissa Nachman	469-8515
<b>Mission:</b>	Sarah Allen	790-8231
<b>Mission Study Group:</b>	Betsy Rogers	858-3538
<b>Nominating:</b>	Melissa Nachman	469-8515
<b>Pastor Nominating Committee</b>	TBA	
<b>Personnel:</b>	Chris Kozich	545-1237
<b>Property:</b>	Betsy Rogers	858-3538
<b>Stewardship:</b>	Chris Kozich	545-1237
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Pat Muehl	858-2698
<b>Web Site:</b>	Floyd Rogers	858-3538
<b>Worship:</b>	Caroline Linde	469-9482
<b>Youth Action Team</b>	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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Glen Ellyn, IL 60137