



the Dialog

November, 2008

Southminster Presbyterian Church

Grace Notes

Dear Friends,

Early in my time at Southminster Jesus' parables of the "treasure hidden in the field" and the "pearl of great price" settled in my mind and heart. What it holds for our ministry together remains unclear for me at this time, except to say the gospel of Jesus Christ is worth everything we have, and Jesus Christ invites us to share in the lifetime adventure of the gospel. That adventure is not only for the life to come, but life right here and right now. I believe that as we live our lives together we will make a difference in Glen Ellyn and the world through our participation in the Kingdom of God.



At the installation service Sunday afternoon people were invited to renew their baptismal vows. This was open to everyone in attendance, not just members of Southminster, not just Presbyterians, but to all of us who

love Jesus Christ. This was not rebaptism, but a renewed commitment to Christ's Kingdom. After we affirmed our vows people were invited to come forward to dip their hand in the baptismal font. In the font was my gift to each person through Jesus Christ: a pearl. There are still pearls waiting for folks who may not have attended or may not have read the directions on the back of the bulletin. They are waiting for you in the font at the back of the sanctuary. They are given with love and available to all of us. Let them remind you of the value of the gospel and the life that we are called to through our Lord and Savior. May you be renewed in your ministry and in your life.

May the Grace of God enfold you, may the love of God go with you, and may the peace of God keep you each and everyday.

Take it from here.

Love,
Wendy

On November 1 we received by email the following message from Pastor Abel of our sister church in Guanabacoa, Cuba:

From: The Presbyterian Reformed Church in Guanabacoa

To: Our dear Southminster Church



Beloved in the Lord:

We know that tomorrow will be a special day of commemoration and of joy for the Installation of Pastor Wendy Boden who will lead and instruct you in the perfect love of God.

We want in this brief message to bring to you our most sincere congratulations for this happy event for which we have prayed together for a long time, until seeing the response of God.

To you, dear Pastora Wendy, an embrace in Christ and all our support during this beautiful journey that you have decided to walk together with the faithful in your new congregation.

Peace in Christ from the Congregation in Guanabacoa.

*In the perfect love of God,
Pastor Abel Mirabal Padilla*

Have you considered becoming a member?



There will be an **Inquirers' Class** (inquiring into membership at Southminster) offered Sunday, November 16, at 11:00 a.m. We'll meet in Fellowship Hall; bring your calendars with you so we can schedule two additional class sessions.

If you are interested, please call the church office at 630-469-9149 or email sminster@ameritech.net.

A.M. Circle will host book discussion at November meeting

Morning Circle is reading the book "Three Cups of Tea" by Greg Mortenson and David Oliver Relin to be discussed at the November 21st meeting. There may still be books available for purchase at \$9 each (pay Betsy Rogers) on the narthex shelf. If not, check the library or see if another circle member has finished reading her book.

Morning Circle will meet in the parlor on Friday, November 21, at 9:30 a.m. to discuss this book. All are welcome to come – join in or just listen to the discussion.

To college students...

(or parents of college students):

Do you want to read the weekly E-Notes and/or receive the Dialog through email? Get those addresses to us and we'll add you to the list.



Pennies for PADS

A few weeks ago in Sunday School, we read a story about Victoria Bowman. Victoria, a remarkable kid from Nashville, Tennessee, showed us that anyone can hear God's call. She felt God calling her to be a missionary – which led her all the way to Kazakhstan. Victoria wanted to prove that even a small donation could go a long way in helping people in need. She decided to collect enough pennies to stretch an entire mile. With the help of her church, she was able to accomplish this goal.

After hearing this story, we decided that we would like to collect a mile's worth of pennies and donate the money to our PADS mission. It will take 84,480 pennies to make a mile. Please bring in your extra pennies that you have at home so we can reach our goal by the end of the year. We have placed a box in the narthex to collect the pennies, and we will periodically update the congregation on our progress; watch E-Notes and future Dialogs.

Thank you for your support in helping Southminster's young missionaries.

Southminster Presbyterian Church Mission Statement

Our mission is to provide a spiritual home where people can

- Encounter God as revealed in Jesus Christ,
- Worship, strengthen, and renew their faith,
- Educate themselves and their children according to the teachings of God, as expressed in the Bible, and
- Respond to God's grace by living as God's disciples and actively serving others

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Children's Sunday Morning Calendar

Nov. 2, 9, 16, 23

Theme: "God Keeps Promises" Gen. 26-50

9:30 a.m.

Children worship with their families through the Children's Moment and then go downstairs to their classes (Nov. 16 preschool-2nd grade children will sing in worship)

9:45-10:30 a.m.

Regular Sunday School (Preschool—2nd grade will have music and then Sunday school the first 2 Sundays of November)

Nov. 30

No Sunday School (Thanksgiving weekend; children will worship with their families)

After a very exciting October, now in November we build on living God's Word through loving each other. The children will engage in stories and activities that will challenge their thinking about God's promises and forgiveness and what they mean to us now.

November Birthdays!

Let us celebrate our children as they grow in stature and God's wisdom.

Roxann Johnson	Nov. 3
Allison Alcock	Nov. 8
Kristen Gibson	Nov. 13
Lauren Alcock	Nov. 20



Special Event for 3rd-5th Grades "Midnight Bible Discovery"

The plans are all in place for our "Midnight Bible Discovery" event on Friday, November 7, from 8:00 p.m.-11:00 p.m. All we need now are the willing hearts and minds of all third through fifth graders. Besides our Bible adventures, we will also be doing Acolyte training and re-training for any children who are interested. A letter with the details was mailed to families, but if you need more information, please call Laura Baer at church (630-469-9149).

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CHRISTIAN ED.*(Continued from page 2)***“Cold Hands, Warm Hearts”****November Sunday School Fall Mission Project**

Please remember to have the children bring youth-size mittens and hats during the month of November for “Share the Spirit” for People’s Resource Center. We’re collecting these items from November 2-23.

Children will sing in worship November 16

The children preschool through second grade are singing in worship on Sunday, November 16. Please have your children in the sanctuary at 9:00 a.m. to get them warmed up and comfortable.

Christmas Program

We are already planning this year’s Christmas Program, “Do You Hear What I Hear?” which will be performed during the service on Sunday, December 14.

Children, youth and confirmands will be participating – sharing the Christmas Story and singing some traditional carols including, “O Little Town of Bethlehem” and “Away in a Manger.” Darlene Crilly will practice with the children on Sunday mornings during Sunday School, and we will also send the music home with the children so that you can practice with them.

Saturday, December 13, from 10:00 a.m. until noon will be our only rehearsal for the program, so please mark your calendars now!

If you would like to help with costumes (angels, sheep and shepherds) or have any questions please call Ann Anderson or Laura Baer.

From the Library

Don’t forget to stop by the library display in the narthex for your fall and Thanksgiving reading and audio needs. We have a wide range of materials for you.

Your Library volunteer,
Cyndy Buening

Bible Study Texts

The Adult Ed. Bible Study will be choosing our texts for November from the Revised Common Lectionary:

November 2

Joshua 3:7-17; 1 Thessalonians 2:9-13;
Matthew 23:1-12

November 9

Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18;
Matthew 25:1-13

**November 16**

Judges 4:1-7; 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11;
Matthew 25:14-30

November 23

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24; Ephesians 1:15-23;
Matthew 25:31-46

November 30 – First Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 64:1-9; 1 Corinthians 1:3-9; Mark 13:24-37

MISSION:**Southminster Mission Update**

What a beautiful autumn the Lord has given us with the gorgeous leaves falling and the crisp, cool air. Thanks to all of you who Baked Up Nice Surprises (BUNS) for CNS Hospice in October. They were deeply appreciated! Thanks also to everyone who donated to the Peacemaking Offering on World Communion Sunday. Nearly \$400 was collected versus \$290 in 2007. Thanks Be to God.

Fall is always a busy time for Missions at Southminster. We hope you will find one or more places to give of your time, talents, or monies to the many local outreach missions we support during this time. Listen to your heart and follow Christ, sharing thanks for all He has provided.

Cuba Medicine Drive: A delegation from Southminster, including some of our college youth, will visit our sister church over New Year’s week. We are once again collecting OTC (over the counter) medications to share with our fellow brothers and sisters-in-Christ. There is a great need for vitamins, especially for the AIDS patients who are being served at the local medical clinic run by their church. A list of medications is listed elsewhere in the *Dialog* and will also be included in the Sunday bulletins. We are collecting medications the first two weeks in November. The collection box will be in the narthex. Please give generously!

Share the Spirit: Our annual *Share the Spirit* Christmas tree will be up in the narthex the middle of November until December 7. Each Christmas season, Southminster collects new toys, games, books, gift certificates or household items for Peoples’ Resource Center clients, who are able to “shop” for gifts for their families at the DuPage County Fairgrounds. Southminster has always been a dedicated supporter of this program. Thanks in advance for your loving generosity of gifts and/or time to this mission. (*See accompanying article*)

Sunday School Mitten & Hat Tree: Please support our Sunday school children in their collection of new mittens and hats for PRC’s *Share the Spirit* Program. This is a **NEW** project this year. All *Share the Spirit* cli-

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Mission

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ents are able to select a new hat and mittens for each family member as part of their gift selection at the DuPage County Fairgrounds. Let's cover the tree with colorful mittens, gloves and hats and share the warmth and love they provide to those in need!

Christmas Joy Offering: This offering will be collected throughout December, and it will be dedicated on Christmas Eve. Look for further details in the December *Dialog*.

Mission Committee has been working hard on a comprehensive booklet describing the various local mission opportunities for members of SPC. Look for it in the narthex in mid November. Our committee is ALWAYS looking for new energy, ideas, and members. Come join us! Meetings are held the first Tuesday of the month.

Thankful for His Love,
Southminster's Mission Committee

**Mission Focus:
Share the Spirit 2008**

Christmas is soon approaching! Southminster is once again reaching out to community members in need, through the People's Resource Center *Share the Spirit* Program at the DuPage County Fairgrounds. This very successful program served over 800 local families in 2007. PRC sets up a holiday "store" where clients select new toys, games, books, small appliances, and kitchen items. They also need food and gift certificates to purchase their holiday meals and shop for older children.



Look for the Christmas tree display in the narthex starting in mid-November. Take one of the ornaments marked with the donation of your choice (gift certificate, toy for girl age 0-3, etc.) All items must be new and unwrapped. A list of donation suggestions will be on display. All donations must be brought to Southminster **by Sunday, December 7.**

SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY: Join a dedicated team of SPC volunteers to help clients select gifts for their families at the DuPage County Fairgrounds on December 8 from 12:30-3:30 p.m. Come "*Share the Spirit*" of our Lord's birth and join us in this most special "hands-on" mission. The look of joy and appreciation on the faces we served was a real holiday highlight for those of us who helped last year. To volunteer, please sign up on the mission board in the narthex or call Sarah Allen at 630-988-8231 and leave your name and number.



During this past month, Pastor Abel's congregation has been able to purchase a car, a 1953 Chevrolet, from funds they received from members of the First Presbyterian Church in Thomasville, Georgia. So far they have used this car to transport some of the church members who are not able to walk to church easily because of distance, age, or disability.

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

Six people from Southminster are planning to visit our sister church from December 28, 2008 to January 5, 2009. They are: Sue Clary, Peter Davidson, Drew Hensels, Val Kaskovich, Bill Curry and Gretchen Fleming. We thank God that we have been able to obtain airline reservations. Over the holiday period flights were somewhat difficult to secure even as early as the beginning of October!

Can you donate over-the-counter medications?

In connection with the trip, we are collecting over-the-counter medications that have been requested by our sister church. The following are needed:

- Multivitamins—especially for adults but also for children
- Vitamin B Complex
- Vitamin C
- Vitamin E
- Vitamin A
- Ibuprophen
- Naproxen sodium (e.g. Alleve)
- Glucosamine Chondroitin
- Antacid tablets
- Prevacid (Lansoprazole)
- Zantac (Ranitidine)
- Prilosec (Omeprazol)
- Triple antibiotic (e.g. Neosporin)

We will collect medications through November 15. Please place your donations in the designated box in the narthex.

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Sister Church...*(Continued from page 4)*

At this time of year the church in Guanabacoa is also harvesting some fruits and vegetables from the garden in the courtyard, some from seeds that Southminster church members gave them. There are also some flowers blooming from seeds that Sara was given by Southminster members. Included here are (1) a picture of greens and okra growing in the garden (Sara in the background) and (2) a picture of some of the flowers that have come into bloom.



Yours in Christ,
Gretchen Fleming

Property Committee: Huge Win for Clean-Up All Stars

Autumn is the time for exciting football games. It's also the time for impressive victories by willing volunteers at Southminster.

As with the Spring Clean-Up, the Autumn session on Saturday, October 11, was blessed with perfect weather—and a very productive team of workers. It's challenging to list the many achievements of the day, but here's a sampling:

The gallant outside squad made great use of our mechanized equipment as many trees and shrubs were cut, pruned, and branches set aside for chipping. The Memorial Garden was trimmed and cleaned, as were other flower beds and floral areas. The Southminster landscape was prepared for winter through clean-up of debris and accumulated summer material. The net result was beautification of our splendid property.

Meanwhile, the inside platoon polished pews, cleaned kitchens, filled possible mouse entry locations with steel wool, installed and aligned sanctuary lighting, and cleaned storage areas and closets. Carpet areas were vacuumed and offices and classrooms cleaned. The de-humidifier was turned to full power to dry out our water control room. By the end of the day, the interior was gleaming!

Indeed, the semi-annual clean-up was as productive as it was inspired. The Property Committee gratefully thanks the following 31 volunteers who worked so well together: Craig Allen, Sarah Allen, Laura Baer, Wendy Boden, Andrea Davidson, Lizzy Davidson, Kathy

Davidson, Norm Ellsworth, Camille Grabski, Ron Grabski, Sarah Hiller, Ginny Kline, Ed Koska, Joan Koska, David Kozich, Steve Kozich, Ralph Linde, Sandy Lopata, Blair Nelson, Sandy Phee, Betty Pitts, Joan Posejpal, Betsy Rogers, Floyd Rogers, Bill Shepherd, Marie Shepherd, Jim Smith, Grace Van Beveren, Ian Van Beveren, Barbara Zink, and Dave Zink. Many thanks, folks... we'll see you in the spring of '09.

A note to some of our strong young people: We could use some help from strong folk who can haul out our weekly trash containers. The big cans are on wheels and the heavy work is down-hill. If you can help, please call Bill Shepherd at 630-469-7705. Many thanks.

Care Notes

Reprinted from the weekly E-Notes

From October 29: We give thanks for the successful surgeries of Grace and Becky. We are so glad that Frank is much better and is returning home. May they all continue to heal. We ask for your healing touch and your gift of strength to be with Ann and Jack Thorne; with Russ and all of those who are struggling with Alzheimer's, with Donna and Richard as they struggle with infection, with Keith and Kara in their difficult pregnancy, and with Bobby struggling with post-traumatic stress. Be with the Melka family as they mourn the loss of George. We ask for the Lord's special help for those struggling with cancer: Mac, Barbara and Bob facing surgery, and Sandy and Tony undergoing treatment.

From October 22: We celebrate Paul and Suzanne's sixth wedding anniversary and pray for many more to follow. We celebrate the birth of Jack Stoops, son of Regan and Katie, and pray that the Lord guide him through life. We celebrate the safe arrival of the container of books and supplies in Ghana – may the contents help those in need. We celebrate our confirmation class and ask God to shower them with powerful love. We ask for healing and strength to be with Bell seeing a specialist tomorrow and with Courtney's grandparents experiencing health issues. Be with the Cassidy family as they mourn the loss of Patrick and with the families of those who lost loved ones in the Air Angels crash last week. We pray for world leaders through these times of stress, for the Lord's help in India and with our mission trip to Cuba, and for our stewardship efforts to fund the work we do in Jesus' name.

From October 15: We celebrate with Traci Smith and Elias on their marriage. We celebrate that we live in a country where we are able to vote and are grateful for that responsibility. We thank you for the volunteers who help at the DuPage Convalescent Center – it is a mission of mercy. We ask for God's healing touch and gift

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of strength to be with Randy struggling with addiction, with Scott Othoson in advanced stages of Crohn's disease, with Donna Coleman hospitalized for a spinal infection. We see God's hand at work with Pete Derba whose life was saved by four off-duty emergency medical technicians when he collapsed last week. Be with the Fishel family as they mourn the loss of Jim and with the family of Richard Hourigan as they mourn his death October 14.

From October 8: We ask for our gracious God's healing touch to be with Tony who has been diagnosed with cancer, Stephanie hospitalized with pancreatitis, and with Miriam in Cuba being treated for cancer. Be with the Kruger family as they mourn the loss of husband and father, the family of John Trynzolyn who died last week, and the Wilson family as they mourn to loss of former Southminster member Audrey. Please help Gretchen and Wayne deal with the difficulties brought on by his service in Iraq. We ask God's help for our troubled world; help us to learn peace and love.

From October 1: We thank the Lord for Austin on his 3rd birthday and for the blessings of families; our own church family, the global church family, and our own personal families. We know that we can rely on our God and our families in times of stress. We give thanks that John Wallace has been released from the hospital. We ask for God's healing touch to be with Kameron who suffered a broken neck but, thank you Lord, no paralysis. Be with the Trifone family as they mourn the loss of their son, Bradd.

Our Congregational Care Committee is here to assist you in time of need. If you need assistance from Congregational Care or Helping Hands, call Moderator Andrea Schmidt (630-629-4526) through November 11. After that date call Suzanne Tennyson (630-236-3682).

Pastoral Care: Call Pastor Wendy Boden at 630-917-6033 (cell phone), 630-790-0487 (home phone – note that they eat supper from 6-7:00 p.m.), or 630-469-9149 (church office). You may email Wendy at church at wboden@ameritech.net.

Please be sure to record Wendy's phone numbers at your home, in your cell phones, etc. We will no longer include her phone numbers in the answering machine message that you hear when you call the church outside of office hours.

*Go and bear fruit,
fruit that will last...*
John 15:16



*Endowment
Funds Ministry*

**Have You Remembered
Southminster Church
in Your Will?**



**Count
your
blessings**

*Count your blessings instead of your crosses;
Count your gains instead of your losses.*

*Count your joys instead of your woes;
Count your friends instead of your foes.*

*Count your smiles instead of your tears;
Count your courage instead of your fears.*

*Count your full years instead of your lean;
Count your kind deeds instead of your mean.*

*Count your health instead of your wealth;
Count on God instead of yourself.*

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 Nov 08 calendar.pdf.

For Your Information...

Church Office: Office hours: Monday-Friday – 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
phone: (630) 469-9149 fax: (630) 469-7923
email: sminster@ameritech.net

Wendy Boden, Pastor

Home (They eat dinner from 6:00-7:00 p.m.): 790-0487

Email at church: wboden@ameritech.net

Darlene Crilly, Director of Music

Home: 968-0591

Laura Baer, Interim Dir., Christian Ed. Office hours: 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Cell: 596-7935

Home: 790-2730

Barb Doppelt, Administrative Assistant

Christian Education: Deb Bohi 469-9404

Clerk of Session: Kathy Davidson 858-2205

Congregational Care: Andrea Schmidt 629-4526

...Helping Hands:
until 11/11/08 Andrea Schmidt 629-4526
11/11-1/13/09 Suzanne Tennyson 236-3682

Deacons: Sandy Lopata 469-7552

Endowments: Ron Birchall 665-3124

Fellowship: Bob Carlson 469-9091

Finance: Tom Frey 469-3858

Financial Secy. (re pledges) Jim Smith 858-6520

Membership: Ginny Kline 668-7374

Mission: Sarah Allen 790-8231

Nominating: Norm Ellsworth 858-7449

Personnel: Linda Jeziorski 858-1465

Property: Betsy Rogers 858-3538

Publicity: Susie Salins 545-2993

Stewardship: Chris Kozich 545-1237

Treasurer: Pat Muehl 260-8884

Web Site: Floyd Rogers 858-3538

Worship: Caroline Linde 469-9482

Youth Action Team Sean Salins 545-1237

Church Officers 2008-2009

Session

Kathy Davidson, Clerk

Elders:

Ron Birchall

Deb Bohi

Norm Ellsworth

Marge Engdahl

Margaret Fournier

Tom Frey

Rebecca Hecker

Linda Jeziorski

Steve Johnson

Ginny Kline

Caroline Linde

Betsy Rogers

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Sandy Lopata

Donna Marton

Shari Park

Trudy Reed

Floyd Rogers

Andrea Schmidt

Tricia Smith

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Jack Thorne

Rita Zapel

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