



SOUTHMINSTER

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

December 2018

www.southminstertaylor.org
office@southminstertaylor.org



Arise, shine,
for your light has come.

Isaiah 60:1



From the Pastor

My favorite comic strip is Calvin and Hobbs, a narrative world which I'm sure I've passed on to both of my kids in various subtle ways. For example, in the comic strip Calvin is told by his father that a long time ago (when the dad was a kid), the world was in black and white just like the old grainy black and white photos Calvin occasionally encountered. Color came to be one day in the 1960s when the whole world went from the black and white world of his dad to the full-color world of Calvin in an instant. I'm sure at some point when my kids asked about the funny black and white pictures of their great grandparents in the family photo album we occasionally perused, I told them that was how the world used to be: black and white. Color, the kind of color they saw all around them, was a recent thing.

In a nutshell, that would be John's advent story. There are no shepherds and angels, no stables and heavenly choruses in John's Advent narrative. John says that for a very long time, the world had been enveloped in dingy dark greyness. The whole world felt like a late December afternoon when everything is shrouded in darkness that feels out of time but simply is. Into this blanket of darkness, the flash of Advent happened:

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

John. 1:14 ESV

Advent, says John, is like the Old Testament stories about when God was experienced and known. “Glory” was the word so often used when people came into an encounter with God: an overpowering light that surpassed in both luminosity and spectrum anything in their experience. This explosion of light and color, this “glory,” took up residence in our world at Advent; it pitched its tent in the grayness that the creation had become. In that grayness, it radiated grace and truth, the kind of grace and truth that can only come from beyond the grayness and darkness.

John goes on to say that the grayness simply couldn’t make any sense of the light. If the news of a virgin giving birth is for Matthew the paradox of Advent, and if the baby which surpasses in greatness even Emperor Augustus is Luke’s great paradox, then for John the paradox of Advent is light which cannot be grasped by the darkness it eclipses. Just as in Matthew and Luke, Advent isn’t about what makes sense or is part of our regularly ordered experience; Advent is about a dazzling light that shatters the grayness of our existence and calls us to something beyond the normal: grace and truth.

Welcome to John’s Advent celebration: the light is breaking upon us. Celebrate the light.

2018 Bible-in-a-Year Journey

Saturday December 1		Isaiah 15-16
Monday December 3		Isaiah 17-18
Tuesday December 4		Isaiah 19-20
Wednesday December 5		Isaiah 21-22
Thursday December 6		Isaiah 23-24

Friday December 7	Rev. 1-2	Isaiah 25-26
Saturday December 8	Rev. 3-4	Isaiah 27-28
Monday December 10	Rev. 5-6	Isaiah 29-30
Tuesday December 11	Rev. 7-8	Isaiah 31-32
Wednesday December 12	Rev. 9-10	Isaiah 33-34
Thursday December 13	Rev. 11-12	Isaiah 35-36
Friday December 14	Rev. 13-14	Isaiah 37-38
Saturday December 15	Rev. 15-16	Isaiah 39-40
Monday December 17	Rev. 17-18	Isaiah 41-42
Tuesday December 18	Rev. 19-20	Isaiah 43-44
Wednesday December 19	Rev. 21-22	Isaiah 45-46
Thursday December 20	John 1-2	Isaiah 47-48
Friday December 21	John 3-4	Isaiah 49-50
Saturday December 22	John 5-6	Isaiah 51-52
Monday December 24	John 7-8	Isaiah 53-54
Tuesday December 25	John 9-10	Isaiah 55-56
Wednesday December 26	John 11-12	Isaiah 57-58
Thursday December 27	John 13-14	Isaiah 59-60
Friday December 28	John 15-16	Isaiah 61-62
Saturday December 29	John 17-18	Isaiah 63-64
Monday December 31	John 19-21	Isaiah 65-66

Nurture

Marnie Winkelman/Wendy Woodley

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from your Nurture Committee! Thanks to everyone that has helped with our young people throughout the year, we appreciate your continued support.

December 2nd marks the beginning of Advent. The Discovery Zone lessons for the month of December are the “Jesus is Born” stories. Lessons begin on December 2nd and will conclude on December 23rd. Discovery Zone will not be held on December 30th.

On December 9th we will once again be distributing Illustrated Bibles to children age 4 through 3rd grade that have not previously been given one through either baptism or Discovery Zone. Please let Wendy know by December 2nd if your child has not yet received one.

Well folks, we are in the final days of wrapping up the Journey through the Bible in a year. Great job to those of you that continued the daily self-study reading plan throughout 2018. What a great accomplishment for those of you that hung in there! Thank you Pastor Clint for guiding us on this amazing and enlightening journey.

Pat Fraser is once again directing the annual Christmas play. The play will be performed on December 16th during the 11:00am worship service. All of our young people are being encouraged to be involved in taking part in this production. Rehearsals will be during the last part of the 10am Discovery Zone hour on December 2nd, 9th and dress rehearsal on December 16th.

Sunday evening youth group meetings for middle and high school are combined and meeting at the same time, everyone grades 6 through 12 meet from 6-7pm on Sunday evenings. Meetings this month are December 2nd from 6-7pm and December 16th from 6-7:30pm for Christmas cookies and a movie. The youth will not meet on December 23rd or 30th. Giovanna is always looking for additional adults to assist with the weekly youth group meeting, please let her know if you would like to help out with one of the meetings.

Mission outreach at Cass Community Services is on Saturday morning, December 22nd. This is a monthly outreach program done by the youth on the fourth Saturday of the month. Meet at the church at 8:15am and return at 12:30pm. Anyone interested in mission work is encouraged to join the youth in this endeavor. Service work is executed in a different way every month and the youth have enjoyed their experiences at Cass.

The 2019 Presbyterian Triennium event “Here’s My Heart” will take place July 16th through 20th at Perdue University in Indiana. Michelle Hintz and Rich Pratt have agreed to go as advisors with the youth group and Pat Fraser will go as a Small Group Leader. Triennium is open to youth that are entering freshmen through graduating seniors. This is five days of conversation, recreation, worship, learning and fun. The youth will learn what it means to serve Christ with intelligence, energy, imagination and love. Cost is \$645. for youth and \$665. for those 18 years and older.

Please save your recyclable holiday deposit bottles and cans throughout the month of December and first week of January for the Youth Triennium Bottle Drive. Ask your family friends and neighbors to save them too! We would be happy to pick them up or you can drop them off at church on Saturday, January 5th from

10-Noon or on Sunday, January 6th. Please let Wendy or Giovanna know if you need pick up service.

Book Club

Joyce Rowley

For a variety of reasons, we did not meet on November 9 for our monthly discussion. Notice the change in discussions for the following months.

Note the order of the books that we will read in the coming months:

be

January 11 – Take Me With You by Catherine Ryan Hyde

February 8 – We may be discussing Mitch Album’s new book, The Next Person You Meet in Heaven. (Maybe this could be a Christmas list suggestion????)



Please join us, helping us make decisions regarding future books we would enjoy reading in 2019. We are always looking for something new and different to be reading.

Barring any unforeseen circumstances, we always gather about 10:30 a.m., on the second Friday of each month, in either the Double Classroom or Fellowship Hall and are generally on our way by the Noon Hour. We are a very informal group and we always are happy to see new faces. Please remember it is not necessary to have read the book – if you would like to join us, just to see what our discussions entail, we would welcome your presence. As we always say, “Give it a try – you may find you will like it”, or “life is too short not to try something new” ☺

Church Life

Gus Cline

Our annual Christmas Dinner/Party is set for Sunday December 9th beginning with Social time at 5:00 followed by dinner at 5:30-5:45. This year our Inside/Out theme is centered around not only our regular church families but also inviting families from our community to come for a nice meal and a time of Christmas fellowship they might not otherwise get to experience. We hope you can join us and you can sign up in fellowship hall after services or contact the church office.

Pastoral Care team continues to provide various levels of care to over 20 church members and friends. Cards, gifts and communion will be part of our December activities. We recently attended a Stephen's Ministry workshop and are excited about the possibility of bringing this ministry to Southminster in the future. More details about this will be coming in 2019. We are always looking for more people to join this growing ministry and anyone interested please contact Gus Cline or Pastor Clint. Have a wonderful and joyous Christmas season!



Pastoral Care Committee

Mary Cline

Your Pastoral Care Committee is busy helping 20 members and friends who have various needs from Hospital, Rehab facility, Home Medical to Homebound. We are currently meeting twice a month to keep track of those in need and add others as needed. We would welcome anyone to our team who would be interested in helping us in our mission to minister to others.

Expressions

Michele Hintz

Micro Clothes Closet: Fall 2018 (continuing) - Utilizing the Faith in Action Phase I Grant received from Presbytery, we continue coordinating with Kinyon Elementary on providing clothing items and other supplies that the school needs during the year. We will fulfill their 'wish list' that they will be sending monthly to us by purchasing the items and delivering to them.

They were grateful to receive these deliveries and we will look for this to expand as the months move forward, particularly with the cold weather and need for extra layers of clothing. Watch for postings on how you can help the committee with purchasing items and delivering them – we will continue to use the grant money as far as it will take us, and then will be asking for donations from the congregation.

Grief Share - Fall 2018(continuing) – Southminster is partnering with Allen Park Presbyterian Church on holding joint Grief Share sessions. This will add to the resources we have available to run



this support.

the program as well as expand the locations to host them. This fall it is being hosted at the Allen Park location, and Southminster will host the next sessions in the winter. Grief Share sessions are on Wednesdays from 6:30-8:00pm at Allen Park and will continue through Dec 12th. This is open to the community – please share with those that might be in need of

Christmas in the Neighborhood: This year we will again be focusing on being God's Disciples in our church's neighborhood by adopting 5 families in need that have children attending the neighborhood elementary school. We are working with Principal Sweet at Kinyon to receive information for some families that need help at this time (and aren't receiving help from other groups) as well as friends of the church that we were notified about.

We will help in the form of clothing, food, toys, toiletries, crock pots, and any other specific item, such as pet food if they own a pet, if it is needed. This would encompass the entire family – adults included. We are planning to have the names and information out by Sun, Dec 2nd – please watch for updates. We will ask for items to be returned back to the church by Sunday, Dec 16th, with delivery sometime the following week. Please let anyone on the Expressions team know if you would like to help in more depth with this project.

Inside/Out Christmas Dinner – Sunday, Dec 9th @ 5pm – working in tandem with the Church Life committee, we are co-hosting a Christmas dinner where we will be inviting guests that are clients at Fish & Loaves Food Pantry who may be food insecure and sharing our traditional Southminster dinner with them. Please see the details on the dinner itself from the Church Life article – we hope you are planning on attending with your family and can share the joys of the season by serving others.

****We are planning to give each guest family that attends from Fish & Loaves a Crock Pot Gift Package to take home with them. If you would like to help with this gift, please consider donating a Crock Pot – we are looking to collect 22 Crock Pots total, and would appreciate if anyone would like to help in this area. We will have a sheet on Sun, Dec 2nd for anyone to sign up to bring them back to the church by Sunday morning, Dec 9th so we can assemble them after church to be ready for the dinner that afternoon. Please see anyone on Expressions for more information.

Christnet – Wed, Dec 26th & Fri, Dec 28th – We will again be helping our neighbor church friends at Journey of Hope (on Pardee) who will be hosting Christnet for the last time in their church the week of Dec 23rd. Southminster will be specifically hosting Wednesday and Friday evenings that week (26th & 28th). We will be looking for volunteers to sign up for shifts to cover dinner time, and the hours through the evening/night/morning as well including breakfast. Please watch for more details and sign-up sheets as the month progresses. As this is during the holiday week and many families may be out of town, we will really be looking for help to cover this and are hoping if you are in town that you will consider donating your time to share in the holiday season with others less fortunate.

Next meeting: Committee Day – December 2nd @ 12:30pm
(please note time change for today only!)

We would like to encourage anyone interested in joining the Expressions Committee to come to our next meeting and learn about how YOU can help spread God's plans for helping in our Neighborhood!! Hope to see you there!

Deacon and Greeter Schedules

Deacons Duties December

Communion Setup - Nancy Gillespie

Communion Cleanup - All Deacons

Pew Patrol - Sue Frederick

Coffee Cleanup - Scott Barclay

Greeters - December 2 Mary Cline December 9 Pat Tucker

December 16 Kandi Wood December 23 Nancy Gillespie

December 24/30 Mary Cline

Session Motions

November 15, 2018

Connie Dainus, Clerk

Motion from the finance committee to set up an endowment fund if needed. Motion carried.

Motioned by worship committee to repair the organ. Motion carried.

Motion by nurture committee that any unspent money presently in budget line item 1648 Youth Group be transferred to the fund at the end of this year. Motion carried.

Motion by nurture committee to request finance to set up a separate line item budget for 2019 named Regular Youth Expense. Motion carried.

Motioned by Building and Grounds committee to accept Northern Grounds' bid for removal for the 2018/2019 season. Motion carried.

Motioned by Building and Grounds committee to repurpose the deacon storage room to new office space primarily to be used for accounting purposes. Motion carried

Motioned by Building and Grounds Committee to place notes on the cars that park in our lot to register their cars in case they have to be moved. Motion carried.

Financial Picture

Income \$34,530.55 (As of Nov. 21, 2018)

Expenses \$17,371.84 (As of Nov. 21, 2018)

Balance \$17,158.71

YTD Income \$145,476.52

YTD Expenses \$133,018.51

Balance \$12,458.01

Expenses due by Nov. 30: Approximately \$8,600.00 (Organ Repair, FICA, Per Capita, Property Insurance). This does not include estimated \$4,300.00 for regular monthly bills such as gas, phone, salaries etc.

Building and Grounds

Dave Bullion



We are finalizing the office renovation plans. Session has approved the repurposing of the old deacons storage room . We will be making it an accounting office for Kay and Connie. There was discussion of knocking out the closet wall thus connecting the two offices. After discussions with those involved it has been decided to leave

then as two separate work spaces. This will help us out as we do the demolition and rebuild. We are trying to do this renovation with as little disruption to the office work/services as possible. We will be able to focus on one work space at a time. We'll start in the new office space first as (since it is empty anyway) we will be able to completely finish it before starting on the main office. I will keep you posted as we work through this exciting remodel.

We have installed new heat tape on the over hang going into the fellowship hall and main door into the church. In the past we have had issues with ice damming causing the over flow to fall to the walkway below and icing up. This made the entryways very dangerous. Hopefully the heat tape will prevent this by continuing to heat the eaves and gutters and let the ice and snow melt and

flow down the gutters. We also have a new snow blower. The old one had seen better days and wasn't worth fixing.

One final thing.... The building and Grounds committee and I personally would like to be among the first to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and the Happiest of New Years. May you and your families be blessed with the many gifts God has to offer. The first of which is family. No matter the dynamics family is the ones you can count on. So on that note , Thanks for being a part of my family. You don't have to be related biologically to be family. You just have to be there for each other.

Senior Lunch

We will meet for our Senior lunch program on **Monday, December 10th at 12 noon.** The menu will be Pasta and dessert for a small donation of \$3.00. Plan to attend and bring your friends. This is open to ages 55 and older.

Memorials

Ed Vandercook given by Joyce Rowley

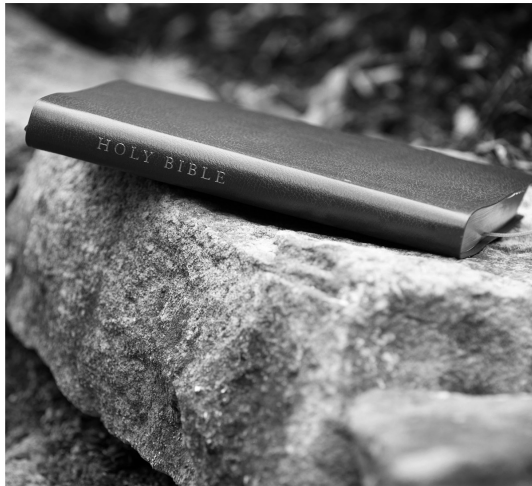
Wauline Tunesi given by Bonnie Lynne Dawson

December Anniversaries

William & Genevieve Cairns	12-27	66 Years
Patricia & Michael Lalinsky	12-17	14 Years

December Birthdays

Patricia VanHook	12-6	Gary Cash	12-19
Susan Grove	12-7	Shirley Petlicki	12-20
Michelle Nutter	12-10	Scott Fraser	12-20
Tim Barclay	12-13	Mary Denise Wright	12-24
Ken Renner	12-14	Andrea Held	12-25
Samantha Shinavier	12-15	Shirley Aue	12-25
Bruce Aue	12-15		



The **WORD** became flesh
and **LIVED** among us ...

John 1:14, NRSV

Upcoming Dates

Sat Dec 1	10:00 a.m. <i>Hanging of the Greens</i>
Sat Dec 1,15,29	6:00 p.m. Bowling Skore Lanes
Sun Dec 2,9,16,23	10:00 a.m. Discovery Zone
Sun Dec 2,9,16,23,30	11:00 a.m. Worship
Dec 2,16,	6:00 p.m. Combined Youth Groups
Sun Dec 9	<i>Inside/Outside Christmas Party</i>
Mon Dec 10	12:00 p.m. Senior Lunch
Wed Dec 12	10:30 a.m. Ruth Circle
	6:30 p.m. Worship Committee
	6:30 p.m. Allen Park Presbyterian
Thurs Dec 6,13,20,27	8:00 p.m. Band Rehearsal
Sun Dec 16	6:30 p.m. Sarah Circle
Wed Dec 19	6:30 p.m. GriefShare final meeting
Thur Dec 20	7:00 p.m. Session
Sat Dec 22	Newsletter Deadline
	8:15 a.m. Cass Comm. Social Ser.
	Youth
Mon Dec 24	Christmas Eve
	7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service
Tue Dec 25	Christmas Day
Mon Dec 31	New Year's Eve

Prayers

FOR THOSE HEALING IN THE HOSPITAL
Joe Viesthaler (Rehab Aue & Barclay family)

Emily Evans (Donnan friend)
Judy Nowak (Beaumont, Oakwood)

FOR THOSE HEALING AT HOME

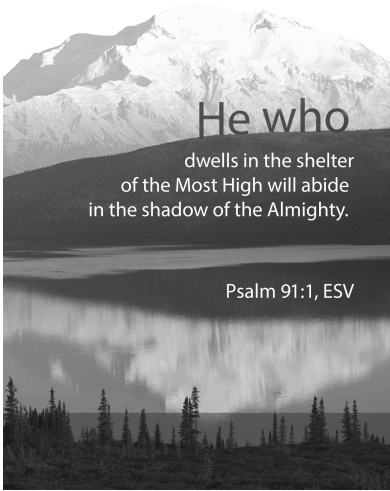
Jerry Kirkland, Vorrey Holmes, Pat Morton, Mary Denise Wright, Shirley Aue, Laurie Barclay, David Grove, Don Hardy, Jan Waid, Dave Fraser, Jean Page, Marnie Winkleman, Dale Simon, Sue Smith, Del Wonnacott, Sue Landis

PRAY FOR THOSE NEEDING LONG-TERM AND EMOTIONAL SUPPORT

Laura Fowler (Carol Jones family), Marge Bernadine, Barb MacDonald, Joan Watson, Sandy Tipshus (Vicki Simon sister), Debra Creech, Patricia Kurish, Donna Clark, Joe Kurish (Elda Moore children), Laura Mount (Fred Mount daughter), Jerry Pawelczyk (Shirley Petlicki friend), Ralph Schall (Hope Lambrix uncle), Sheila Morais, Dorothy Davies (Judy Nowak friend), Barbara Willis (Terri Donnan friend), Steve Premo, Tammy Lathrup, Mickey Corcoran & families, Sarah Tyler (Stephanie Pratt friends), Chuck Stevens, Carol Barnard, Darcy Matthies, Ed Schenken (Jean Page friend), Brian (Gloria Olsowy friend), Ann Rowley Smith (Joyce's daughter), Brenda Price (Cash family), Michelle Sample (Dale and Vicki Simon's daughter), Nancy (Marlene Jones sister), Paula Schultz (Laurie Barclay friend), Dave Consiglio & Jason Dornoff (Sue Frederick friends), Kristy McMillan (Patty Lalinsky friend), Andrea Green, Karen S (Daniel Bartok friends), Jamie Crigger (Phyllis Hunt friend), William & Brenda Martinelli (friends of Southminster), Carolyn Politi (Shirley Aue friend), Nan Bouchard, Elda Moore, Ken Renner & Sue Landis, Michael & Linda Crosby (Shirley Petlicki family), Gordon Watson (Joan Watson family), Terry Price (Candy Cash father), Joseph Michael, Ray Shulaka, McKenzie Markovich (Dave Calendine friends), Krystina Gollner, (Dave Calendine family)

THOSE WHO SERVE OUR COUNTRY

Our President & Cabinet, Robert
Fraser, Bradley Schleicher II,
Kevin Moody, Stacy Denise Cain,
Ryan Bies, Kenny Trapp



Southminster Presbyterian Church
21845 Wick Road
Taylor, MI 48180

Weekly Worship Schedule:

Family Worship Service 11 am
Discovery Zone (Learning Time) 10 am
High School Groups 10 a.m.

Return Service Requested

Contains Time Sensitive Information
Please Do Not Delay Delivery