

# The Spire

February 2017

Southminster

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Monthly Newsletter

## Worship in February

February 5

Luke 7:1-17

9:00 a.m. Traditional Service

11:00 a.m. Contemporary Service

Communion

February 12

Luke 7:18-35

10:00 a.m. Single Service

11:00 a.m. Congregational Meeting

February 19

Luke 7:36-50

9:00 a.m. Traditional Service

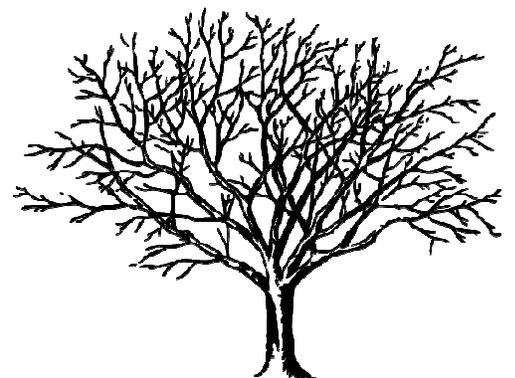
11:00 a.m. Contemporary Service

February 26

Luke 9:28-45

9:00 a.m. Traditional Service

11:00 a.m. Contemporary Service





## Dear Members and Friends of Southminster,

We have made our way through January's Mission month and now look ahead to a month focused on Justice. February is Black History Month, and throughout the month, our Justice Team will lead house discussions on Racism and its effects regarding our congregation and community. I hope you will plan to participate in as many of the discussions as you can.

On Martin Luther King Day, I was able to be with a number of our members along with a church filled with those of all races coming together to discuss racial issues in our communities. I am so proud to be a part of a congregation that takes seriously Christ's call to love our neighbors as ourselves. May God be with us as we study together this month and discuss how we might make a difference in our community. We will be continuing through the gospel of Luke in February as we journey toward the cross in the season to come. Our Scripture lessons for the coming month will be the following:

2/5	Luke 7:1-17	Raising the Widow's Son and the Faith of the Centurion
2/12	Luke 7:18-35	Are You the One?
2/19	Luke 7:36-50	Forgiven at Jesus' Feet
2/26	Luke 9:28-45	Transfiguration

We will have Southminster's Annual Meeting on Sunday, February 12. This meeting will take place immediately following ONE worship service at 10:00 a.m. Regarding other business, we will be launching the Congregational Assessment Tool for our congregation. This instrument is an online and paper survey that will help us gain a deeper understanding of the health of our congregation and will inform us how we will be led into the future. We need all members and friends of Southminster to take the survey in the next three weeks.

On Wednesday, March 1, Lent begins with our journey toward the cross, culminating on Easter, April 16. Through this season, we will have a Lenten Dinner Series on Tuesday evenings from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., beginning March 7 and ending April 4. The series will feature dinners prepared by small groups within our congregation followed by a video series by Ray Vander Laan and discussion. Childcare will be provided during the series as well. I hope you will join us for these Lenten Dinners. I am looking forward to this time of spiritual growth as we prepare to celebrate the resurrection.

It is a great privilege to serve with you in this time. I look forward to the coming weeks in February and our journey together to the cross. And as always, I'll see you in church!

Pastor David Carlton

## The Path to the Cross



We invite you to journey with us on the path to the Cross this Lenten season when Southminster hosts a 5-night Lenten Dinner Series on Tuesday evenings, beginning March 7 and continuing through April 4. Dinner will be in the downstairs Community Room beginning at 6:00 p.m. and followed by a Ray Vander Laan video at 6:30 and group discussion from 7:00 – 8:00. Childcare will be provided.

We hope you will join us on as many Tuesdays as you can as we walk the path to the cross.



## Dear Friends,

Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.

Galatians 6:2, NRSV

The year is off to an exciting start here at Southminster. We had a wonderful Mission month in January, and February ushers in Justice month. I hope you will be able to attend at least one Tuesday night discussion on racism, hosted by the Faith in Action team. It is sure to be an informative and meaningful time and details are enclosed.

In November, the council approved beginning a Stephen Ministry here at Southminster. In January, I spent a week of my study leave attending Stephen leader training. This spring you will learn a lot more about Stephen Ministry. I am very excited about all of the wonderful gifts this new ministry will bring to our church. Stephen Ministry is Christ caring for people through people. It is one-to-one lay caring ministry that takes place in congregations. Stephen Ministry congregations equip and empower lay caregivers—called Stephen Ministers—to provide high-quality, confidential, Christ-centered care to people both within and outside their congregations. Stephen Ministers undergo 50 hours of training and care receivers are paired with a Stephen Minister of their same sex. At each point in a person's life, there is usually a time when they would benefit from the caring presence of a Stephen Minister.

As we develop this ministry, please prayerfully consider if you might benefit from participating in this transformational ministry.

Faithfully,

The Reverend Elizabeth A. Nickerson



*Christ caring for people through people*

# STEPHEN MINISTRY

## Dear friends,



Our country has experienced a lot of turmoil recently. I know this has been on many hearts and minds as we look towards the future. These topics are hard for adults to grapple with and adjust to, so this raises the question, how do we approach this with our dear children?

Little ears pick up more than we may realize. Whether from news, family, or other children, kids are aware of these political tensions. At the very least, they are usually able to repeat what they hear. Now, there isn't anything wrong with having political opinions, but they are something which needs to be handled with care around kids. The younger the child, the more black and white their thoughts are, and people are thought to be categorically good or bad. This becomes difficult to reconcile as they get older and start to see that the world is grayer than that. Even at young ages, strong, hurtful biases can form. As Christians, we are called to love others. Sadly, this is countercultural to the world we live in, a world filled with mistrust, fear, anger, and hate. We cannot start soon enough to teach our children the importance of our task to love others.

Southminster does a fantastic job of reaching out and caring for those in need. We have had a great month focusing on our mission efforts, and now we will turn to social justice. However, one other important lesson we must remember and teach to our children is to love those who disagree with us.

Loving those who disagree with us does not mean giving up the fight for justice, and it doesn't mean condoning everything they may think or do. However, it does mean that we treat them as fellow humans. I hope our thoughts, words, and actions can reflect our Christian love. If we do that successfully, our children and others will see the difference. We can build bridges to create positive change in our world, and we can train our kids to be leaders in this world. This is not an easy task, but it is the one Christ left for us. I hope we see the future as the time to help bring the kingdom come.

God bless,

Kjirstin





# The Blessings of Serving as a Stephen Minister

Since 1975, more than 600,000 Christian men and women from all walks of life have trained and served as Stephen Ministers. Most became a Stephen Minister as a way to help others who were hurting—but they quickly discovered that God blesses them in amazing ways in return.

“Stephen Minister training has helped me grow—personally, spiritually, and professionally. I use my Stephen Ministry skills all the time with patients, peers, and physicians. Stephen Ministry has made a big difference in my own life and in my congregation.”

*Anna, Registered Nurse  
Hendersonville, Tennessee*

“The assertiveness skills I learned through Stephen Ministry gave me the courage and confidence I needed to be a more effective supervisor in my secular job—and to be more assertive in my personal relationships. Thank you for helping me develop these vital skills.”

*Elizabeth, Rehabilitation Counselor  
Madison, Wisconsin*

“Stephen Minister training taught me not just how to be a caregiver, but how to live life in a new way—being Christ to other people. It’s an awesome blessing to be used by God to bring hope and healing to someone else. I am humbled.”

*Mike, Carpenter  
Kennesaw, Georgia*

“Being a Stephen Minister has taught me to rely on God instead of always trying to fix things myself. I’ve learned what to say, how to listen, and what to do during a crisis. It’s a great feeling to provide people with the spiritual care and support they need.”

*John, Physician  
Greenwood, South Carolina*

“Stephen Ministry has enhanced every relationship I have. Now I can listen and be there without feeling like I must rush in and try to fix things. (My 15-year-old finds this a great blessing!) I’m much more at peace in difficult situations because I realize that it’s not me—but Christ within me—who does the work.”

*Susan, Licensed Massage Therapist  
Saint Petersburg, Florida*

“Since becoming a Stephen Minister, I’ve experienced a richness of God’s grace beyond anything I could have imagined. To truly listen with the ears of Christ, to see others through his eyes, to know his heart, to see Jesus working through you to touch the life of someone else is a window into heaven.”

*William, Business Owner  
Katy, Texas*



## The Blessings of Serving as a Stephen Minister

“Being a Stephen Minister is much bigger and better than just helping other people. It becomes part of you—it changes you for the better. My faith is stronger. I’ve learned to listen, care, pray aloud, and be more assertive. I love it! With God’s help I’ll continue to grow through this wonderful ministry.”

*Doris, Cafeteria Assistant  
Jacksonville, North Carolina*

“Stephen Minister training has given me skills I use all the time with my patients, particularly when they experience a crisis, large or small. It enables me to provide a level of emotional care that enhances the clinical care we provide.”

*Barbara, Dental Hygienist  
Saginaw, Michigan*

“Stephen Minister training has helped me relate better to family, friends, neighbors—everyone I meet. I’ve experienced the fruit of the spirit—love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, gentleness, and self-control. God is part of my daily life more than ever before. It’s been a real blessing.”

*Maria, Mother  
Ridgefield, Connecticut*

“Being a Stephen Minister has been a blessing in so many ways. It’s drawn me closer to God. It’s allowed me to be Christ’s presence to another person—an amazing feeling. And it’s made me part of a loving, caring family of Stephen Ministers and Stephen Leaders who support each other in their ministry.”

*Frank, U.S. Navy (Retired)  
Ballwin, Missouri*

“My faith has grown, my prayer life has doubled, and I know how to really make a difference in people’s lives. I’d encourage anyone who has the chance to become a Stephen Minister.”

*George, Architect  
Prairie Village, Kansas*

“God gave me a heart for other people. Stephen Ministry gave me the skills I needed to minister to other people and bring God’s love into their lives during a time of deep need. I’m humbled and awed God can use me like this.”

*Charlotte, Case Management  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania*

“Without a doubt, serving as a Stephen Minister has been the most rewarding, growth-producing, meaningful thing I’ve ever done!”

*Don, Electrician  
Highland, Michigan*

“I’ve been a Stephen Minister for nearly ten years and can truly say it becomes a part of your life. I’m more in tune with people’s needs. I always do my best to listen, care, and model the love of Jesus. It’s such a blessing to see God working through me to change lives.”

*Phyllis, College Math Instructor  
Shoreview, Minnesota*

“Stephen Ministry has given me a way to serve God more faithfully by being his presence to those in need. In the process God has blessed me with skills I didn’t know I had and enriched my life in more ways than I could ever imagine.”

*Gene, Aerospace Engineer  
Manassas, Virginia*

**Youth @**  
**Southminster**

**Kjirstin Almos, Children's and Youth  
Ministry Director**

[Kjirstin@spscah.org](mailto:Kjirstin@spscah.org)

**Youth Game Night**

There will be a game night for the youth on Sunday, February 26th at 6:30-8:30 PM. Dessert will be served after some group games.

Youth in grades 6-12 are invited along with any friends. Please

RSVP to Cathleen Freels

([celfreels@hotmail.com](mailto:celfreels@hotmail.com)) or Kjirstin

Almos ([Kjirstin@spscah.org](mailto:Kjirstin@spscah.org)).

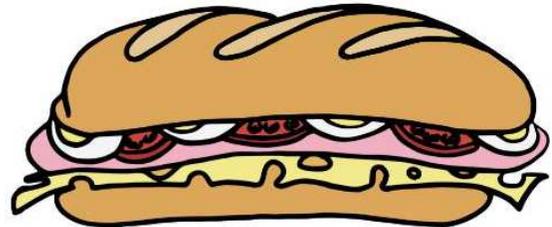
**Superstart Event for  
Sixth Grade Students**

Superstart is an event for fourth, fifth, and sixth grade students. It is a two day event that is full of drama, fun, music, worship, food, cooking contests, and more! Kids all over Chicagoland will go to Naperville on March 17-18, starting Friday evening and dismissing Saturday evening at 5 PM. This year's theme is Recipe for Generosity, and we will learn about God's generosity for us through food!

Friends absolutely welcome to come with! We will stay over at a church close to the event site on Friday night.

Transportation will be provided. Cost per child is \$45 (scholarships are available). Families must RSVP by Monday, February 13. Please send RSVP's and any questions to Kjirstin Almos ([Kjirstin@spscah.org](mailto:Kjirstin@spscah.org)).

**Superbowl  
Subs!**



**The Superbowl is February 5th! Be sure to pick up your ordered subs from the downstairs kitchen this Sunday. Subs will be available starting at 10:00 AM.**



## Children's Times

**Kjirstin Almos, Children's and Youth  
Ministry Director**  
[Kjirstin@scah.org](mailto:Kjirstin@scah.org)

### Pajama Party!

Want an excuse to wear pajamas outside the house? Come to Southminster's Pajama party on February 19th at 5:30-8:00 PM! Kids up to fifth grade and parents are both invited. Parents are expected to stay throughout the event if a child is under four old. For children 4 and older, parents have the choice to stay. There will be pizza, games, popcorn, and music! Pajama wear is optional, but highly encouraged!

Please RSVP to Kjirstin Almos ([Kjirstin@scah.org](mailto:Kjirstin@scah.org)) with how many people are attending (adults and children), ages of kids, and any dietary concerns. We hope to see you there!



### Save the VBS Date!

Vacation Bible School 2017 at Southminster will be June 19-22, Monday-Thursday at 5:30-8:00 PM. This year's theme is Safari to Tanzania. Official registration will open in the spring. Children 3 years old (potty trained) - leaving fifth grade this school year are welcome to participate!



**Superstart is an event for fourth, fifth, and sixth grade students. It is a two day event that is full of drama, fun, music, worship, food, cooking contests, and more! Kids all over Chicagoland will go to Naperville on March 17-18, starting Friday evening and dismissing Saturday evening at 5 PM. This year's theme is Recipe for Generosity, and we will learn about God's generosity for us through food! Friends absolutely welcome to come with! We will stay over at a church close to the event site on Friday night. Transportation will be provided. Cost per child is \$45 (scholarships are available). Families must RSVP by Monday, February 13. Please send RSVP's and any questions to Kjirstin Almos ([Kjirstin@scah.org](mailto:Kjirstin@scah.org)).**

# Southminster Presbyterian Church

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[www.facebook.com/spcah](https://www.facebook.com/spcah)

Dear Members and Friends of Southminster,

Here comes the C.A.T.! At the January 23 Council Meeting, it was decided to accept Chicago Presbytery's generous offer to provide the Congressional Assessment Tool (C.A.T.) free of charge to our congregation, during this interim time period.

What is the C.A.T.? It is a 100 question assessment that will provide a clear picture of our church at this time, and where God is leading us in the future.

Our purpose in doing this assessment is:

- To get an accurate snap shot of where the congregation is now and where we want to go in the future.
- To provide our Pastoral Nominating Team with information to use when choosing our next called pastor.
- To provide pastoral candidates with a clear picture of Southminster and it's vision for the future.

What we are asking you to do:

Between February 12 and March 5 go on line and take the C.A.T. A web link will be sent to you through the E-Blast. It will also be accessible on our web site [www.spcah.org](http://www.spcah.org) by scrolling to the bottom of the web page and click on the cat picture. If you need help or a paper copy see Diane Ahlquist at the church office.

Set aside a 30 minute time period to take the assessment. It must be completed in one sitting.

Answer all questions. Omissions will void your assessment. It is anonymous.

We want **everyone** who is a member or attends regularly to complete the C.A.T. assessment, including all youth who have been confirmed.

Once the assessment is complete (March 5, 2017) and analyzed, we will be receiving a Vital Signs Report from the consulting firm. The results will be shared with the congregation in late April or May.

Let your voice be heard! Our goal is 100% participation to insure an accurate picture of Southminster now and to guide our future planning.

Sincerely,

Your C.A.T. Team



Paul Bourke, Kathy Gudonis, John Nowak, Jessica Leffelman, Sandy Pifer, Jane Reinschmidt, Rich Reinschmidt, Barb Schwarting, Melissa Smith, Tim Sullivan, Jean Walker, and Mary Kay Walsh. You may contact Sandy Pifer at [lucille111@aol.com](mailto:lucille111@aol.com) or call 847-204-5060 for more information.



## The Counseling Corner at Southminster

### *Making a Difference in our Community*

A good rule for going through life is to keep the heart a little softer than the head.  
- *Changing Times*

The following is excerpted from "Odd Behavior" by Rebecca Webber, which appeared in the January 2016 issue of *Psychology Today*.



Most people are dealing with something. Often it is a work-related issue, family concern, health problem, financial difficulty, or fear of losing a job. In addition to these big problems, there are several things we can cherry pick and become upset about if we read the paper and look at what is going on in the world. For example, are we united or divided? Equally important is to consider how we are managing our emotions. What are we doing or not doing to make the world a better place? I don't believe ranting and raving is useful. Also, in my experience, heated arguments result in neither party being heard. How do we express our feelings in a healthy respectful way and feel heard?

Unusual emotions tend to swirl within us, and they aren't easily named. But it may be useful to stop, examine them, and put them into words. "When we label an emotion it might make it more manageable," says Seth J. Gillihan a clinical assistant professor of Psychology at the University of Pennsylvania. "It might not change the emotion, but it does allow us the possibility of choosing our response." There are no agreed-upon definitions of *emotions*. Making them meaningful so you know what they are can help you understand what you should do about them.

Author of the forthcoming book *How Emotions are Made*, Lisa Feldman Barrett might be a good resource for a category of emotion, like anger. Emotions don't come in neat little boxes, according to Mark R. Leary a professor of psychology and neuroscience at Duke University. "If you can't tell what you're feeling, then it's a lot more puzzling to know how to react."

You are not alone. Whatever you're feeling right now has been felt by someone else. One of the biggest challenges we all face is mastering our feelings. Our world is in conflict, which may evoke anger, fear, or tenderness, but it's never just one emotion. Conflict and ambivalence are part of the human condition. When we can name the feelings and begin to claim them, we can have more control and feel better. I encourage you to explore your emotions put them into words and you can learn a lot about your internal self. You can also apply the skills of emotional interpretation in your daily life. If you take a moment to recognize how you feel, you can also take a moment to decide how you want to react. We are perfectly imperfect and would do ourselves a favor by thinking about progression rather than perfection

Warm Regards,  
Cynthia Apelbaum CADC LPC  
Cynthiaapelbaum@gmail.com

## Start Out the New Year with Justice



### Racism: Why Should I Care?

Hosted by SPC's Faith in Action team, this four-week series features conversations about racism and how it impacts us as individuals and as a faith community. The following meetings will be held from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. on Tuesdays in February at various SPC members' homes. Come to as many as you can! Please sign up in the foyer after Sunday worship. Contact Cindy Greenwood at 847.404.8404 if you need a ride.

February 7: Cindy Greenwood's home, 524 S. Patton Ave., Arlington Heights

February 14: Suzanne Mulligan's home, 151 W. Wing St., Arlington Heights

February 21: Mary Kay Walsh's home, 39 S. Kaspar, Arlington Heights

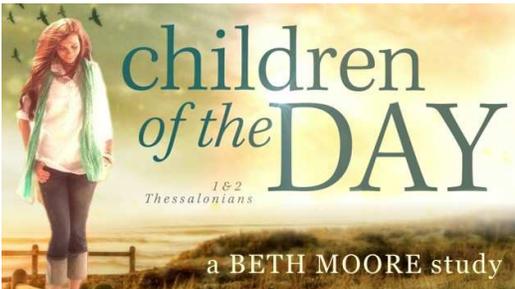
February 28: Linda Waycie's home, 603 Windsor Drive, Mt. Prospect

# Growing in Grace Women's Bible Study

*You are children of the light and children of the day. We do not belong to the night or to the darkness.*

*Thessalonians 5:5*

Join us for our Winter/Spring study, *Children of the Day*, and walk the shores of Thessalonica with Beth Moore and this verse-by-verse Bible study of 1 and 2 Thessalonians. During this nine session study, you'll learn how to let go of past mistakes and discover that your circumstances are not coincidental—God's timing is impeccable! Whether you're facing family crises, medical diagnoses, relationship troubles, doubts, or fears, you'll come away encouraged that you are exactly where Christ wants you to be!



- Small Group Discussion & DVD presentation
- No Bible Study Experience required
- *Children of the Day* Workbook cost \$10.00
- Scholarships available
- Childcare Available upon Request

SPC Contact: Kathy Erickson 847.297.8360

## Loving Hands Stitchers

On behalf of our ministry, we want to thank all of you who visited us on Sunday, January 22, to take a look at our display table showcasing our handiwork. I was also grateful for those who attended the Adult Education hour when many wonderful ministries and missions were introduced. It was exciting to see how many of you appreciate what we are doing in our ministry. As you saw, we make a great variety of items for charitable organizations and St. Alexius Hospital. It's such a great feeling to know we can bring comfort or a smile to someone who needs it! We hope we inspired some of you to join us and try your hand at stitching again.

Many of you dear people are donating plastic bags and were interested to see how we will use them. We will transform these plastic bags into mats for those less fortunate. It takes about 700 bags to produce one mat, so please keep saving those bags! On Saturday, February 4, Loving Hands will be meeting at 10:00 a.m. in the SPC library for a brief meeting and our usual show-and-tell. We will then be working for a good part of the day flattening, folding, cutting, looping, and crocheting our plastic yarn (PLARN). Anyone is welcome to come help or just observe. For more information call Jan Mossman 847.259.2679 or email [silkpalette@gmail.com](mailto:silkpalette@gmail.com).



## Care Ministry / Deacon of the Month



Nan Gregory  
847.392.6763



Doris Chute  
847.619.8314

Every member and friend of Southminster is assigned to a parish which is overseen by two deacons. Deacons can bring meals to you when you are sick, help provide transportation if needed, pray with you about a concern, or connect you with other resources at the church. Please call or email the deacon of the month who can connect you with our caring ministry and your deacon.

**Nan Gregory and Doris Chute** are your Care Ministry / Deacons for February.



## What is the rest of the story?

*I ran in the rain at noon on New Year's Day. This marks my 7th run in 7 days. I have never exercised in any capacity 7 days in a row. Now I feel lots of pressure, like I do every New Year's Day: Run every day for a month! Run every day for a year! Write every day! Never yell again! Never cheat on gluten and dairy! Call grandma every week! There are so many ways I could improve my body, mind, spirit, and relationships. I hope this year I'll practice "gentle" discipline in all these areas. Allowing that kind of grace would change everything.*

*~Aimee Fritz, Family Compassion Focus*

My friend Aimee's comment caught my eye as I scrolled through my Facebook newsfeed. New Year's—with all its promise of new beginnings, renewed commitments and a chance to *put things right—again*—is actually a cruel sort of torture for a perfectionist. The hard reality is this: January's resolutions often lose their steam. That's why I loved Aimee's phrase, *gentle discipline*.

But what exactly did Aimee mean by *gentle discipline*? When I asked her, here's what she said:

*As a lifetime perfectionist, I struggle being gentle with anything. I talk to myself in harsh, demanding, shaming words, and assume God does, too. So if I set a goal to run or write everyday and fail at it, I feel like the scrawny kid on the football field with the mean coach spitting in my face while he yells at me. I'm too old for that. I need to quit that team. I cannot be a perfectionist anymore. "Gentle discipline" means being a patient friend to my own self, receiving the grace that Jesus promises in the Bible. If my best friend missed a goal, I wouldn't pin her to the wall and yell in her face. I would sit quietly with her, listen to her reasons why she missed it, and offer encouragement.*

*To achieve "gentle discipline," try choosing a word for the year instead of a list of resolutions. I chose the word Umbrella the night my family voted for our compassion focus. In the choices I make as a mom, wife, friend, runner, writer, and volunteer, I can gently ask, does this provide shelter from the storm for my family, my body, my soul, the people I'm trying to serve? Is it safe to invite this person, activity, or attitude so close to me under my umbrella? My arm is getting tired, Lord, will you please hold this umbrella for me, and invite whomever you want to share the space under it with me?*

This is great advice for living out the Mission of God. We often beat ourselves up when we fall short of our spiritual goals—we miss a day or a week (or more!) in our scheduled daily Bible readings, sleep through our alarm and prayer time, or shy away from spiritual conversations. Let's face it. When Christians are presented with Jesus' commission to make disciples, most of us feel that same sense of guilt, shame, or other negativity. So how do we begin? Like Aimee did, choose one word for the year. A word that serves as a gentle discipline, a grace-full reminder, to help you move forward in meaningful connections and conversations with people where you live, work, and play? Maybe your word could be *notice or welcome*.

But gentle discipline acknowledges that we don't jump to new behaviors in one big leap. We don't go from never exercising to running every day. Change comes in small steps. Using that analogy, you can slowly begin to cultivate a life that gently and lovingly shares the good news—just one word can be one step in the walk of being part of the joy of the Great Commission.

This year, what could your word be?

*Pam Klein is editor of On Q  
And her word for 2017 is Listen.*

## Digital Soundboard Class

Our new digital soundboard should arrive in February! There will be an introductory training class that is open to anyone who is interested. We will have several basic setups pre-programmed into the board. From there, we will have the ability to make basic adjustments from anywhere in the sanctuary using a church iPad! Curious? Want to know more? Enjoy experimenting with technology? Know someone outside the church who might be interested? High School students are welcome to be a part of this team. For more information, please email Sue at [sue@spcah.org](mailto:sue@spcah.org).

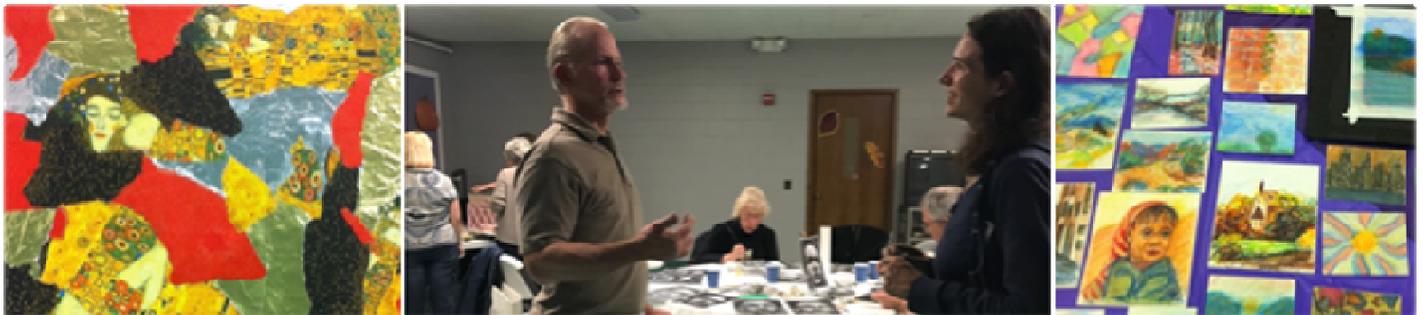


## Scarf Ministry Update

We collected 76 items for our new scarf ministry: 35 scarves, 19 hats, and 25 pairs of gloves! Not only do we have an opportunity to reach out to those who are cold but we also have an opportunity to plant seeds in the folks who stop and take a moment to read our bright orange tags! Our prayer is that they will be inspired to reach out in other ways to those in need. Why do I say that? There was a seed planted in my heart when I saw this idea on Facebook. From a photograph, a new ministry came to life. God truly is the Master Gardener!



## An Invitation to the ArtNet Meetup Group at SPC



Sue Thomson's ArtNet Meetup group meets at SPC the last Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the downstairs Community Room. Professional artists, as well as hobbyists, get together and dabble in various art mediums. Our workshops have included acrylics, watercolors, clay, oils, collage, wire sculpture, sketching, piñata inks, stained glass mosaics, and more. Anyone is welcome to join us! Our next meeting is Tuesday, February 28. Check out our site: <https://www.meetup.com/ArtNet/>



## For Your Marriage

Even if you're not doing anything dishonest or flirting on Facebook or other social media, it can still steal time from your marriage. Take your eyes off your computer or phone and gaze at your beloved for a while.

[foryourmarriage.org](http://foryourmarriage.org)

# Welcome New Members!

## Jim and Sue Thomsen



Jim Thomson sings in the choir at SPC's 9:00 Traditional Service and does sound for the 11:00 a.m. Contemporary Service. Jim also owns the Thomson Allstate Insurance Agency in downtown Arlington Heights and is active in the Chamber of Commerce, Rotary, and the Historical Society.

Sue is on staff as SPC's Director of Contemporary Worship and is a Teaching Assistant at South Middle School. Sue's company, Spiritual Focus Photography, fulfills her creative desires, and she also curates gallery shows and contests at Jim's office and Art Dinner Experiences in Buffalo Grove. You are invited to join Sue at the ArtNet Meetup group, which she hosts here at SPC on the last Tuesday of each month.

## Bob Schmid

Bob Schmid (Sue Thomson's dad) spent his entire career working for Illinois Bell / AT&T. He is a resident of the Moorings and loves jigsaw puzzles! A highlight for Bob this past year was participating in the Honor Flight to Washington D.C. as a World War II Veteran. Bob has 2 children, 5 grandchildren, and this month will become a great grandfather.



## Wayne and Barb Taylor



Barb and Wayne Taylor are delighted to be joining Southminster! A mechanical engineer at NTN Bearing Corporation in Mt. Prospect, Wayne loves problem-solving challenging projects, both at work and at home. He has a special interest in cars and home improvement projects.

Barb is a retired teacher from Arlington Heights District 25. Starting out as a classroom teacher, she switched to reading specialist about halfway through her career. Not ready to give up her passion, she continues tutoring students in reading twice a week. An avid reader, Barb is a member of two book clubs and also plays Mah Jongg weekly.

Barb and Wayne became grandparents about a year ago, and they both enjoy babysitting and traveling in the U.S. and Europe.