

South Church Life / April 2024



Moving into our 4th Century 1723-2024



Easter Sunday, March 31, 2024



GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

Tuesday, April 2
7:00 pm

COMMUNION WORSHIP

April 7 at 10:00 am

DEACON OFFERING

Sunday, April 7

BIBLE STUDY

Sundays at 11:15 in the
Lounge

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

Tuesday, April 16
7:00 pm

SESSION MEETING

Thursday, April 18
7:15 pm

DEACONS MEETING

Sunday, April 21
11:15 am

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

Tuesday, April 30
7:00 pm

NEWSLETTER

DEADLINE

Please submit any
articles or notices
for the next edition of
South Church Life
by Friday,
April 26

From the Session

The Session met on March 21, below are a some highlights:

- Three sets of banners celebrating Ordinary time, Easter and Christmas will be purchased and set to debut later this year or early next year.
- Some fencing proposals were discussed for the garden.
- A new Bible study highlighting the Gospel of John will commence sometime in April.
- Deacons will do a Minute for Mission on the third Sunday with donations due on the fourth Sunday of the month.

“Stump the Pastor and the Gospel of John”

Beginning this Sunday, and running through Pentecost, we are going to share a Bible study on the Gospel of John on Sunday mornings, following Coffee, in the Leiby Lounge, the delightful parlor to the left as you come up the steps into the Church House.

But the other part is to answer whatever questions people might have about the Bible. Have you wondered about something? Ask away. I only reserve the right to research or double check my response in the intervening week. I am sure I will be asked if there will be a prize if someone can stump the pastor in this enterprise. The best I will promise is recognition for the most intriguing things that arise (according to what I find intriguing, hee hee).

As to our gospel, it is my understanding that the Bible Study conducted by Pastor Frank took the synoptic Gospels, Matthew, Mark, and Luke as its focus. The piece of the Bible that is translated first and most often, the piece that is most often its own ‘pamphlet’ is the Gospel of John. John presents us with one of four points of view through which the inspiration of God is shared with us about the life, work, and mission of Jesus Christ.

Peace,
Pastor Peter

One Great Hour of Sharing

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the One Great Hour of Sharing offering. \$1,245.35 was received. This offering provides funding for Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Self-Development of People Fund, and the Presbyterian Hunger Program providing much needed assistance to many projects nationally and internationally, including refugee and earthquake assistance programs.

Deacons’ Ministry of Compassion

The deacons collect offerings on the first Sunday of every month. These donations support the work that they do, such as: preparing and delivering Easter baskets to local food pantries, providing assistance to members and non-members in need, hosting church events such as the congregational picnic and strawberry festival and annual donations to charities.

Weekly Flower Dedications

Special days, events, or anniversaries may be remembered and beloved individuals may be honored by dedicating the beautiful flowers on the chancel each week. The cost is \$35.00 (checks should be made payable to *South Presbyterian Church*). You may take the flowers after the service or pick them up during the week by contacting the Church Administrator or leave them for the Deacons to deliver to someone who needs encouragement. *Please sign up on the list in Heritage Hall* or contact the Church Office to reserve your dedication.



Technological Advancement Continues!

Movie nights await! Video conferences can be ours! Programs in the Auditorium will take great steps forward with our new screen set up over the stage.

After having been in the works for some time, we have taken a joyful step forward in easing the multiple uses we can have for the auditorium. One switch up and one switch down, the rest is automatic. The only manual labor is opening the stage curtains, but since their upgrade (thank you Marie Fuchida), even Pastor Peter can open them without incident.

Having said all that, there is still a tutorial for all persons interested in being certified to use the new tech. Please contact Lisa Hayes or Pastor Peter to set up a time to learn the system. Is that a little over the top? Well, this is a precious investment of church resources to improve our capabilities as a community-shared location and as a house of God.

Peace,
Pastor Peter

South Church at Work



Ken Stevens, Diane Nafash and Susan Woods preparing the palms for Palm Sunday



Palm Crosses prepared by Kathy Cerny were distributed on Easter Sunday



Mary Dessanti starting to work on the South Church Garden



Six Techno-Words

There are six big, technical words from the Christianity lexicon of techno-babble that I want to introduce today. These are:

1. Prayer
2. Contemplation
3. Mission
4. Theology
5. Worship
6. Evangelism...

First, “techno-babble” is a delightful word that I wish I could remember the source of. It is used to describe the unique vocabulary that arises around any specialized topic that creeps out of mainstream understanding. Science and technology are the most obvious partakers in this attempt to carve out specialized dialects within the English language, but we Christians have our own.

As we are a Christian organization, most of these terms should be familiar to us to see, if not to define. My growing edge is in the term ‘contemplation’. A more typical word in the Christianity lexicon has to do with ‘mysticism’.

Over the Lenten Season and into Holy Week, it was my desire to introduce the mission statement and the core values of this church into the preaching arc. This is to tie our ‘playbook’, the Bible, into our ‘team’, the South Presbyterian Church (and I apologize for anyone who does not like sports team metaphors).

But our mission and our core values, they all flow from the story of Jesus’ Resurrection for us. A Christian’s hope flows from our Lord Jesus Christ.

From who we are, from our central narrative, for me, the next question is ‘how then do we do this thing?’ That is what we shall share in the coming weeks. If I am going to use a sports team metaphor, I will bring balance and use a mathematics metaphor as well.

Do you remember graphing with the X and the Y axes? One up and down, the other side to side (yes, vertical and horizontal). On the horizontal axis, consider the law of God as given to us by Jesus. Love God with everything and Love your neighbor as yourself. Label that axis as ‘expectations’ of the faith. On the vertical axis, list ‘thought’, ‘word’, and ‘deed’, labeling this axis the ‘how we behave in our faith’.

Six boxes, to be filled in with the list of six from our techno-vocabulary list. Not because I say so (God forbid) but because these are all implicit in the readings for this season, all drawn from the first letter of John (as opposed to his gospel-he has 3 letters).

It is all about how we live in to what Jesus expects of us in the ways that we live our lives. The Lenten Season was about ‘what’ we believe as South Presbyterian Church. The Easter Season is about ‘how’ we accomplish it.

Peace,
Pastor Peter

Law: Jesus Said	Love God	Love Neighbor
How?		
Thought	Contemplation	Theology
Word	Prayer	Evangelism
Deed	Worship	Missions

SOUTH CHURCH DEACONS

40 Easter Baskets were prepared and delivered to the Center for Food Action in Englewood in time for Easter.



GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

Help and encouragement after the death of a spouse, child, family member, or friend

GriefShare is a special bi-weekly seminar and support group designed to help rebuild your life after losing a loved one. Our group is led by caring people who have experienced grief and want to help you through the difficult days ahead. We know it hurts, and we want to help.

For more information please call South Church at 201-384-8932

Every Other Tuesday

7:00pm – 8:30pm
In the Auditorium

2024
April 2, 16, 30

This year South Church is excited to offer the latest version of GriefShare, **GriefShare 4.**

* It is not required to attend all or consecutive sessions.

www.southpresbyterian.net/griefshare

GRIEF SHARE

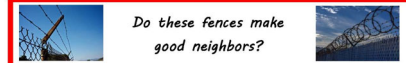


Blessings to the Steiger Family!

Katya Ann, daughter of Judy Steiger, grand-daughter of Jeff Steiger was baptized in the South Church Sanctuary on March 24th.

Sign up to Host Coffee Hour!

Volunteering to host coffee hour is easy and appreciated! Just stop in the Church House before worship to drop off some snacks for sharing, set up the table and head to church! Volunteers will help you clean up. The sign up sheet is located in the Church House Auditorium.



Do these fences make good neighbors?

Come and find out at the **Spring Gathering**

of **Presbyterian Women in Highlands Presbytery**

Parish House of Morristown Church
65 South St, Morristown
(plenty of parking in the Parish House lot, and the building is accessible)

April 13, 2024
9:30 - Registration
10:00 - Introduction of Speaker/program
12:00 - Lunch
1:30 - Worship
2:00pm - Blessings for safe travel home

Our guest speaker is Marianne Montero, who went to the border with the U S A Mission Experience last Fall. She will tell the story of what they saw, experienced, and learned about this region of the country and the issues surrounding immigration.

Women from other Presbyteries are welcome!

Please register with Doris Christians at dorischristians64@gmail.com via e-mail. \$5.00 will be collected as the door for lunch.

There will be lots of information on the Churchwide Gathering, Justice and Peace resources, the Bible Study at Stony Point, making blankets.

Prayer Concerns:

Virginia Atfield for her daughter, Victoria and her niece, Tina; Virginia Atfield's daughter for a friend, John, and his family; Edna Britt for her husband, John; John Britt for his brother, Ronald; Kathy Cerny for her nephew, Kenneth; Amy Cicchella for her mother, Jean Rohrbeck; Mary Dessanti for her brother, Bill; Elaine Gustavsen for Douglas Gustavsen and Emmett Acar; Bill Henderson for Nicole Indelicato and Bill Pezzuti; Tara Henderson-LaStella for Rob Suzzi Valli, Corneille Family and the Valente Family; Jeff Hill for his wife Marsha, long time friends John Dotterweich, and Aziz; Walter Johnson for his wife, Janet; Janet Johnson for her sister, Janice and Glenda and James Burks; Walter and Janet Johnson for Mimi Gonzales, Isabel Walsh, their nephew, Gregory Monto and for their niece, Christine Guider; Cindy Wernli-Kallee for her daughter, Lilah and nephew, Chris Wernli; John Koromhas for his wife Gail; Bob Lilley recovering from surgery; The Lilley Family for Christian Lilley; Joyce McComb for Karolyn Blume; Diane Nafash for her brothers, David Binns and Douglas Binns and her niece, Nicole; Melissa Naylis for her father, Jerry; Juli Nüesch for Bill Dunn facing health issues and Pastor Nate of Trinity Baptist Church; Stephanie Quirk for her friend, John R. French; Yvonne Romeo health concerns; Lora Schade for her brother, Robert Kirsch; Ken Stevens for Connie Mantopoulos; Monica Tietsworth for her husband, Ray; Faye Timmer for her mother and father, Renée and Bob Timmer and ; Bonnie Toeppe health concerns; Donna Totaro for her daughter, Kelly and grandson, Luke; Ken Vogel for his sister-in-law Melissa Vogel; Dottié Wiessner for her nephew, Talbot Barrow.

Long-term Concerns:


Betty Goetschius; Kelly Williams (Dottie Wiessner's cousin).

You may call or email the church office to have your concerns added to our list. Please obtain the person's permission if you want us to pray for someone by name.





April 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 7:00 pm GriefShare: Grief Support Group 	3 8:30 pm Young at Heart/AA	4 6:30 Gentle Yoga 7:40 Hatha Flow (Yoga)	5	6
7 10:00 am Communion Worship & Deacon Offering Coffee Hour 11:15 Bible Study 11:15 am Choir Rehearsal 🎵	8	9	10 8:30 pm Young at Heart/AA	11 6:30 Gentle Yoga 7:40 Hatha Flow (Yoga)	12	13
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21 10:00 am Worship Coffee Hour 11:15 Bible Study 11:15 am Choir Rehearsal 🎵 11:15 am Deacons Mtg.	22	23	24 8:30 pm Young at Heart/AA	25 6:30 Gentle Yoga 7:40 Hatha Flow (Yoga)	26 	27
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South Presbyterian Church

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