

The Messenger

Southminster Presbyterian Church ~ July 2020

Here's an extended version of what many of you received by email on June 14.

To my Southminster family,

It is with a full heart that I tell you I have just been called to be the pastor of Calvary Presbyterian Church in San Francisco. I am both excited about this new call and heartbroken at the prospect of leaving you.

I know this is how pastoral relationships work. Pastors are called to congregations, and we all become integral to each other's lives, and then God calls pastors to other congregations, and the rending of the relationship feels like heartbreak. Because it is.

David Whyte, whose book I read through in my morning meditation videos this spring, describes heartbreak like this:

"Heartbreak is unpreventable; the natural outcome of caring for people and things over which we have no control, of holding in our affections those who inevitably move beyond our line of sight. Heartbreak begins the moment we are asked to let go but cannot.... If heartbreak is inevitable and inescapable, it might be asking us to look for it and make friends with it, to see it as our constant and instructive companion, and perhaps, in the depth of its impact as well as in its hindsight, and even, its own reward. Heartbreak asks us not to look for an alternative path, because there is no alternative path. It is an introduction to what we love and have loved, an inescapable and often beautiful question, something and someone that has been with us all along, asking us to be ready for the ultimate letting go."

It is time for our "letting go".

I was called as your Pastor in June 2008. I am so thankful for each of those twelve years. It feels like almost no time has passed since I arrived, and also as if a lifetime has been lived together.

You have loved me and my family well, and for that I am eternally grateful. Elliott was 9 and Alden was 12, when we showed up. And you helped us raise them well. It was always our hope they would develop meaningful relationships with adults who weren't related to them. *Mission accomplished.* Thank you for the way you cared for my family.

Justin has commitments with his job that will keep him in Boise for the time being, and we will be commuting between two homes, so you may see him around town.

I have attempted to show up, listen, wait, and lead. I have tried to inspire Elders to dream dreams and cast vision. I have tried to equip Deacons to offer a ministry of compassion and care. I have followed your wisdom when you sent me to visit, invited me to pray, or allowed me to serve. I have gathered and felt your feedback, and it has changed me, has made me smoother and softer in some places, and stronger and more passionate in others.

You have been supportive, encouraging, curious, and grace-filled as we discerned and pursued our shared mission and vision through these years. I'm so grateful for you, for your tenacious spirit of mutual forbearance, deep hospitality, and commitment to sharing God's radical welcome with the world. I'm forever grateful for our time together.

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I apologize for any way I have hurt any of you. I trust God's forgiveness, but ask yours for any ways I led you too forcefully or not clearly enough, or spoke too quickly or not carefully enough. I trust God will bring you new leaders and new voices that this congregation and community can hear and support. I trust you will continue to hold onto one another and continue your journey extending God's welcome. I hope you will listen carefully for the voices at the margins of this church and community, and continue to give your time, effort, and resources to serve them as siblings, as God's family.

I hope some who left or found themselves unable to worship and serve through this congregation while I have been your pastor will find their way back into these halls, and will be welcomed home with open arms and hearts, with grace and forgiveness.

The Session has called a Congregational meeting for July 11, during worship, where the call between us as pastor and congregation will be dissolved, and we will bless one another as we move to the next chapters in our lives. I will lead worship and preach with you 4 more weeks. My last day as your pastor will be July 11.

Leaving you in the midst of this pandemic adds another layer of grief. We will have to be imaginative about new ways to say goodbye and mark this transition.

In the remaining weeks together, I will listen, and will do what I can to set you up through and beyond this transition. I look forward to every moment we have left with hope and love for you all. Thank you for breaking my heart— breaking it open wide enough to receive the gift of your love, which has given me a foretaste of God's mercy and grace.

A word about social media and future boundaries—in previous years, when a pastor moved away to retire or take a new call, you didn't see each other at the grocery stores and your lives were able to separate more naturally. Now, we can still see each other on Facebook, or Twitter, or Instagram, or blogs. Because of social media, it will require more intention on our parts to separate. I will need to focus attention on a new congregation. You will need to focus attention on a new pastorate. It wouldn't be fair to your new pastor if they were to arrive and discover a congregation still emotionally attached to the last pastor.

I love Southminster too much to want to jeopardize any future relationships for you. I won't 'unfriend' church members on social media, but I will 'unfollow', and I will refrain from 'liking' or commenting on your posts. I encourage you to 'unfollow' me as well, but if it is easier for you to 'unfriend' me for a time, so that my posts won't be in your newsfeed, I support that.

I won't respond to private messages, or emails, or phone calls about how things are going at church.

I also will not be available to preside at funerals, weddings, or baptisms after July 11.

All of these boundaries will carry with them pain at the reminder of the change of our relationship and the end of my pastorate with you, but they are important parts of the transition and the healing needed for new relationships to form.

Being your pastor has been such a gift in my life. I am thankful for the Pastor Nominating Committee that took a risk on a rookie pastor. Thank you Julie Anderson, Larry Andrews, Evelyn Cates, Cassie Lillard Dickerson, Rex Reagan, Steve Sanderson, and chair, Martin Downey. You faithfully represented Southminster for me, setting up the best 'first call' I could have had.

Blessings for the gift of this journey we have had. My prayers continue for the next steps.

In Christ,
Marci

Session

Larry Andrews	208-888-2795
Roger Brown	208-238-1381
Lori Casady	208-841-0566
Evelyn Cates	208-376-9336
Julie Estrera	214-236-0608
Carol Garrison	208-841-4339
Bret Gertje	208-949-8697
Brenda Janzen	505-385-9535
Liz Leonardson	907-957-0285
Cheryl Marshall	208-327-0347
Bruce Mohr	208-869-9661
Kiran Spees	360-337-9852

Deacons

TBD
Susan Buffington
TBD
Genny Crume
Michelle Green
Mary Poston
Wilma Luke
TBD
Susan Pohl
TBD
Denise Smithers
Abby Wolford

Family Group

#1	
#2	503-939-4764
#3	
#4	208-484-7830
#5	310-405-3140
#6	760-419-6633
#7	208-297-5217
#8	
#9	208-345-9621
#10	
#11	208-989-9495
#12	740-504-5434

As we transition to an Interim Pastor, please contact a member of Session or your Deacon if you have a church need that arises during this time.

Pam O'Connor	208-869-0321
Martha Daltoso	208-602-4035
Jayne Black	208-761-3210
Judy Evans	208-272-1381

EMAIL/TEXT SCAMS

People, (very bad people) keep pretending to be Pastor Marci by putting her name in their caller id or email headers. It appears you are getting messages from me, asking you for gift cards. Nobody from Southminster will ever ask you to text them a picture of a gift card you have purchased. Please call the police and report the number. Or block the email from your account as a scam. If you have questions, please call the church to ask to confirm. Please do not give them money or gift cards. Thank you.



Scholarships are available for students who attend Southminster Presbyterian Church and are planning on attending a post-secondary school full-time for the 2020-21 academic year. Please request an electronic version of the application by emailing Jill at jillg@growrasmussen.com or give the office a call at 208-375-5330 and Susan will mail you one.

All applications must be emailed to Jill Gertje or delivered to the Church no later than 4:00 p.m. on July 9, 2020.

Do you have a portable room Air Conditioner not being used? Would you be willing to loan it to the church for the summer? The temporary church office does not have AC and the office can get a bit warm by the afternoon. Let Susan know if you can help her out.



Heartfelt thanks to all those involved in providing the beautiful music that stirs and comforts our souls: from the pianists, organists, singers and bell players to the people working the sound boards and cameras so that we can hear their offerings of meditation and beauty in our own homes - thanks so much!

NEW ADDRESSES

Andy & Chris Dahlke
422 Cedar Pass Dr
Corpus Christi, TX 78413

Jim & Leila Inlow
4115 E Clocktower Lane T 256
Meridian, Id 83642



Those Participating in Worship this Month

July 5th

Preaching: Marci Glass
Liturgist: Brenda Janzen
Greeter: Genny Crume
Special Music: Michelle Greene

July 11th—Sabbath Saturday

Preaching: Marci Glass
Liturgist: Judy Evans
Greeter: Abby Wolford

July 19th

Preaching: Deanna Watson
Liturgist: Carol Garrison
Greeter: Wilma Luke
Special Music: Jill Gertje

July 26th

Preaching: Deanna Watson
Liturgist: Bruce Mohr
Greeter: Denise Smithers
Special Music: Bell Ensemble

Coordinators

Liturgists ~ Kiran Spees
Greeters ~ Genny Crume
Ushers ~ Andy Winkle

Dawn Phillips	2nd
Linda Tuley	2nd
Sue Whitted	2nd
Andy Winkle	2nd
Julie Estrera	3rd
Betty Grisso	7th
Liz Leonardson	7th
Sara Nevill	9th
James Buffington	20th
Christian Middleton	20th
Rita Multerer	23rd
Larry Chase	31st
Harvey Pitman	31st

If we missed your birthday please let the office know.



If you pay the annual fee for water rights on a property in the New York Irrigation District, but are not able to use your irrigation water, you can temporarily transfer your rights to the church. In return, we will provide you with a letter of receipt that you may use for tax purposes. Call the church office 208-375-5330 and a form will be sent to you.

This project is slowly moving forward as we wait to hear from the Boise School District or individual schools. The school district is making changes so the students needs are also going to change. We hope to have all the answers by mid-July. If you wish to donate to this project please make your check payable to PWS and state it is for the backpack project. Mail to Southminster Presbyterian Church, 6500 W. Overland Road, Boise, Idaho 83709. Questions: feel free to call Rae Buse 208-841-0127 or Phyllis Sanderson 208-860-5438.



It is time once again for the annual financial review. Please contact Cheryl Marshall if you are interested in helping us out as "many hands make light work"!

PWS Moderator Musings

The Coordinating Team (CT) met and outlined a great prospect of programs for the up coming year for PWS.

If the virus allows us, we'll be meeting on the first Wednesday of Sept for an overview of the Horizons' Bible Study. The Hopefully Yours Sale has been tentatively scheduled for October 16 & 17. The plan is to combine it with the Bazaar. Previous donations for HYS have maximized available space. So no other donations are necessary. Thank you to Carolyn and Lindy for spending their time pricing items. Crafts for the Bazaar are still needed so don't forget to be creative this summer and share your talents.

Helen Winkle
208-375-7810

July

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Narcotics anonymous 5:45	2 TV Caduceus 7:00pm	3	
5 Worship on the grove & online 9:30am AA Group 4-5pm	6 AA Men's Group 7pm	7	8 Narcotics anonymous 5:45	9 Scholarship deadline 4pm TV Caduceus 7:00pm	10	11 <i>Sabbath Saturday</i> Worship on the grove & online 5pm
12 AA Group 4-5pm	13 AA Men's Group 7pm	14	15 Narcotics anonymous 5:45	16 TV Caduceus 7:00pm	17	18
19 Worship on the grove & online 9:30am AA Group 4-5pm	20 AA Men's Group 7pm	21 Newsletter deadline	22 Narcotics anonymous 5:45	23 TV Caduceus 7:00pm	24	25
26 Worship on the grove & online 9:30am AA Group 4-5pm	27 AA Men's Group 7pm	28	29 Narcotics anonymous 5:45	30 TV Caduceus 7:00pm	31	

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Boise ID 83709-2099

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Deadline

The deadline for the
August Newsletter
is July 21st

**An open and affirming community, celebrating God's love for all
by seeking a caring and just society: there is a place for you here.**

Issue 2020:07 The Messenger

This monthly periodical is published by Southminster
for free distribution to congregation and friends.

Pastor	Rev. Marci Auld Glass
Liz Leonardson	Commissioned Lay Pastor
Administrative Assistant	Susan Dunn
Custodian	Sam Davila
Organist.	Susan Pohl
Choir Director	Claudia Sutherland
Handbell Director	Phyllis Tincher
Sabbath Musician.	Sean Rogers
Nursery Coordinator	Claeo McDermott
Clerk of Session	Jill Gertje

Southminster Presbyterian Church

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Web: www.spcboise.org

Church Office Summer Hours

Tuesday-Wednesday-Thursday 9AM to 3PM

Hours are subject to change

Closed Monday and Friday and Holidays

If you no longer wish to receive this publication
please notify the church office.



"If telemarketers call, invite them to church."