



The Messenger

Southminster Presbyterian * June 2025

roof tiles awaiting installation; Suzu, Japan

Building Season

By the time June rolls around, you can tell it's building season. Hardware store parking lots are full. Drive through a neighborhood on a Saturday morning and you'll hear power tools, spot fresh paint on fences and porch swings, and maybe smell someone's first barbecue of the season. Traffic cones dot the landscape as road work begins (who am I kidding? Every season is road work season in Boise!)

There's something about longer daylight and clearer skies that compels us to fix what's broken, to build what's needed, or to finally get around to the projects we've been talking about for years.

It's true for churches, too. At Southminster, summer isn't exactly quiet. It's just a different kind of busy. While the program year may wind down, there are still sermons to write, ministries to tend, and justice to pursue. There's also a sacred kind of tending that happens more quietly... checking in with one another, making space for prayer and sabbath, sharing meals and memories and hopes for what comes next.

This is building season.

We build faith, not just in Sunday School or sermons, but in conversations around fire pits, in choosing kindness during heatwaves and long travel days, in wondering aloud how God is present in what feels like a holding pattern.

We build community, not through packed calendars, but through showing up: when

someone is grieving, when a neighbor needs a hand, when the Spirit nudges you to write that card or make that call. These small gestures are mortar between the bricks of belonging.

We build justice, even when it's slow going. One letter, one protest, one policy change, one shared story at a time. Justice work is rarely flashy, but it is deeply faithful, and it is always needed.

And sometimes, we build nothing at all... because rest is holy too. Because weeds and schedules and souls need tending before anything new can grow. Even God, after days of creative labor, chose to rest awhile.

So whatever kind of building you're doing this summer, may it be grounded in grace, reinforced by hope, and built to last in love.

I hope to see you in worship, or online, or out on the streets.

God's Peace

TJ



(he/him)

Announcement Board

Pentecost – June 8

You're invited to wear red on Sunday June 8 as we celebrate Pentecost together in worship. We'll also receive the Pentecost Offering, one of the four special offerings of the PC(USA). This offering supports ministries for children, youth, and young adults locally, nationally, and around the world.

Sabbath Worship – June 14!

Heads up! In June, the 2nd Saturday falls late on the calendar. Sabbath Worship will be June 14. (Sunday services are the 1st, 8th, 22nd, and 29th).

Two Summer Sermon Series

Some words change everything. In the second half of June, a three-week series called "Letters to the Church" will help us explore words that have shaped (and will continue to shape) the church. Together, we'll consider what it means to live faithfully, pursue justice, and leave behind a legacy grounded in love.

- June 15 - A Letter from Paul
- June 22 - A Letter from Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
- June 29 - A Letter from Us to the Future Church

While June brings thoughtful reflection, the second series (July and August) will bring a more playful turn: "The Gospel According to Board Games." Join us all summer as we explore big faith questions through the wisdom (and chaos!) of your favorite childhood games.

HAPPY PRIDE MONTH!

Happy Pride Month to all of our LGBTQIA+ members and friends. Southminster proudly affirms and celebrates the worth and dignity of all people, recognizing that every person is a beloved child of God.

How Not to Be Afraid:

Summer Discussion Series

This summer, Pastor TJ is leading a gentle, reflective book discussion based on *How Not to Be Afraid* by Gareth Higgins. We'll gather twice (once at the beginning of summer and once at the end) as a book-end for a summer of independent "soulwork." Between sessions, participants are invited to engage with a companion handout of weekly reflections inspired by the book's themes. Our conversations will be grounded in compassion, curiosity, and courage for uncertain times.

- Wed. June 18 at 1:00pm in Genesis Room
- independent, self-guided reflections during summer
- Wed. August 13 at 1:00pm in Genesis Room

This is a hybrid gathering—you're welcome to join us in person or via Zoom (link.spcboise.org/study). Contact TJ if you'd like help getting a copy of the book or want to know more.

All Kinds of Awesome

Join us for a community picnic, celebrating "all kinds of awesome" on June 21st at 6pm in The Grove. Bring a picnic dinner, a blanket, a lawn chair or whatever you need to be comfortable. If you have yard games, bring them! We'll have a keyboard set up if anyone wants to play something for the group! All ages of humans and well-behaved dogs are welcome. Please leave alcoholic beverages at home.

Save The Date: Boise Pride 2025

Are you ready to share God's inclusive love with our community? Boise Pride will be September 6-7, 2025. Southminster will again host a booth on Saturday and Sunday, and also hope for a large turnout for the parade on Sunday morning. Want to help with planning? Be in touch with Pastor TJ or Rebekah Harvey, the chair of our Peace, Justice, & Outreach Committee.

Bread for the World Advocacy Summit

Please keep in your prayers Ann Agnew, Randy & Cheryl Marshall, and Pastor TJ as they travel to Washington, D.C. June 9-11 to participate in the Bread for the World Advocacy Summit. Alongside advocates from across the country, they'll be meeting with lawmakers and policy leaders to urge action on hunger, poverty, and economic justice locally, nationally, and globally. By God's grace, may their efforts bear fruit in the work of justice and compassion.

Grace Jordan Pantry Summer Plans

Grace Jordan Elementary School will be a school district site for a free breakfast and free lunch program this summer. This means the school building will be open and the visitors will have access to the pantry.

The pantry will be set up like normal and families/students will be able to "shop" it. The school does not need many canned items this summer. Spaghetti/pasta and sauce seems to be something that goes quickly. Mac & cheese, ramen, shelf stable milk, peanut butter and jelly, granola bars, cereal, rice, dried beans, flour and sugar and then most hygiene household items also go quickly (laundry detergent, dryer sheets, dish soap, shampoo/conditioner, deodorant, toothpaste and toothbrushes, bath/shower soap, toilet paper, paper towels, combs, brushes, feminine hygiene products.)

More information to come based on response to the pantry.

Just One Thing

Are you feeling helpless about the state of the world? Do you find yourself paralyzed when you watch the news? If this is you, come and join Just One Thing, a group sponsored by our Peace, Justice, and Outreach Committee. We will talk about our concerns, but we will not stop there. We also want to notice glimpses of grace and focus on that "just one thing" we can do to help, whether that is pray, write letters, or find a way to ground ourselves in our own community and church. Meetings will vary according to interest, and everyone is welcome when they can attend. This group meets on the first Sunday of each month at 5:00pm in the Jean Moore Lounge.

226th General Assembly Updates

Wait... we're still talking about the 2024 General Assembly? Yes! After overtures are debated, perfected, and approved at our denomination's General Assembly (which took place June–July 2024), any proposed constitutional amendments must then be ratified by a majority of the 166 presbyteries nationwide.

As of May 2025, all 13 amendments have officially been ratified and will go into effect this July. Of particular note to Southminster: two of these amendments—advocated for by the Covenant Network of Presbyterians—now explicitly include “gender identity” and “sexual orientation” among the protected classes in which the church commits not to discriminate.

Thank You to our Leaders!

Thank you to our outgoing elders and deacons who will complete their terms of service in June.

- **Elders:** Evelyn Cates, Carla Middleton, Bruce Mohr, Juno Van Ocker
- **Deacons:** Katie & Theresa Fuze, Betty Grisso, Sara Nevill, Judy Varvel, Carolyn Warner

And thank you to our incoming officers who will begin their term in July!

- **Elders:** Genny Crume, Peter Fridel, Larry Hansen
- **Deacons:** Ann Agnew, Dena Duke (2nd term), LeAnn Mohr, Steve Piontek, Helen Winkle

Well done, good and faithful servants. Well done.

An Invitation from Church Women United

Join us June 6 at 10:00am for tea and conversation with community organizer Anise Welty, volunteer with Sierra Club, Reclaim Idaho and her own Hyde Park Fellowship.

A high school senior this fall, Anise started door knocking at the age of 12. Learn how our young people are answering the call and moving forward!

Join us in the Channing Room (south wing) of Boise Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 6200 N Garrett St, Garden City.

Ministry Appreciation: Clerk of Session, Jill Gertje:

We are so grateful to have an AMAZING Clerk of Session. Jill is not only responsible for taking down the minutes of every Session meeting and sending them out to the session members, she also has to report them to Presbytery yearly where they are reviewed and corrected (Jill's were PERFECT). But here are some of the Clerk's OTHER duties we never think about:

- Tracking and submitting reports from all committees for the Annual Congregational Meeting
- Filling out the yearly statistical reports for General Assembly
- Distributing news from General Assembly and the presbytery to various committees
- Tracks the membership rolls, recording births, deaths, transfers, and baptisms
- Sending out the monthly docket for upcoming Session meetings
- Being the contact person for outsiders wanting to know who to contact about various projects, problems, concerts, voting, etc.

Thank you Jill for doing such a WONDERFUL job!

Participating in Worship this month

June 1

Preaching: Marianne Paul
Liturgist: Ann Dearson
Ushers: Noreen Pusey, Sarah Nevil,
Sue Olszewski
Nursery: Rebekah Harvey

June 8

Preaching: TJ Remaley
Liturgist: Carol Town
Ushers: Carla Middleton, Sue Olszewski,
Bruce Mohr, Juno Van Ocker
Nursery: Ann Agnew

June 14 – Sabbath

Preaching: TJ Remaley
Liturgist: Peter Fridel
Ushers: Judy Varvel, Juno Van Ocker,
Noreen Pusey
Nursery: Cheryl Marshall

June 22

Preaching: TJ Remaley
Liturgist: Deanna Watson
Ushers: Prsicilla Oja, Sue Olszewski,
Bruce Mohr
Nursery: Rae Buse

June 29

Preaching: TJ Remaley
Liturgist: Jill Gertje
Ushers: Andy and Helen Winkle,
Carla Middleton
Nursery: Cheryl Marshall

June Birthdays

Bret Gertje	1
Beth Baker	4
Claudia Sutherland	4
Evan Chambers	4
Randy Marshall	4
Joe Icenhower	5
Michael Severtson	11
Steve Crume	13
Lorie Icenhower	16
Roger Hiles	16
Susan Pohl	20
TJ Remaley	21
Ian Bott	25
Marilyn Fredricks	27
Sharon Nuxoll	30

If we missed your birthday,
please let the office know



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:30 Worship 11:00 Puppets 3:00 Tree Ciity Chamber Players Concert 5:00 Just One Thing	2	3 7:00 Deacons	4 11:00 PW Gathering	5 12:00 Al-Anon 1:00 Dominoes 7:00 Book Club	6 7:30 AA	7 10:00 Women's NA 10:00 NOW
8 Pentacost 9:30 Worship 11:00 Puppets	9 12:00 Al-Anon 7:00 Men's AA 7:00 OA	10 11:30 Men's Lunch @ Casa Mexico	11	12 12:00 Al-Anon 1:00 Dominoes	13 7:30 AA	14 10:00 Women's NA 5:00 Sabbath
15	16 2:00 Al-Anon 7:00 Men's AA 7:00 OA	17 7:00 Session	18 1:00 How Not to be Afraid Study	19 12:00 Al-Anon 1:00 Dominoes	20 7:30 AA	21 10:00 Women's NA 6:00 All Kinds of Awesome Picnic
22 9:30 Worship 11:00 Puppets 6:00 Brewed for Thought	23 12:00 Al-Anon 7:00 Men's AA 7:00 OA	24 11:30 Men's Lunch @ Life's Kitchen	25	26 12:00 Al-Anon 1:00 Dominoes	27 7:30 AA	28 10:00 Women's NA
29 9:30 Worship 11:00 Puppets	30 12:00 Al-Anon 7:00 Men's AA 7:00 OA					



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Boise ID 83709-2099

Electronic Service Requested

An open and affirming community seeking a caring and just society

Issue 2025:6 The Messenger

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

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Sabbath Musician Sean Rogers
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