



# The Messenger

Southminster Presbyterian \* April 2026

## Holy Week Is Here. Come If You Can.

I'll be honest with you: Holy Week is one of my favorite weeks of the year.

That probably sounds like something a pastor is supposed to say. But I mean it in the way you mean it about a meal you've been looking forward to — the kind where you actually clear your schedule and show up hungry.

There's something that happens when a community moves through the whole story together. I'm talking about the whole narrative arc: the triumphal entry into the city (as we celebrated last Sunday), the strange intimacy of a shared table on Thursday, the horrific silence of a Friday, the in-between dark of a Saturday night that refuses to stay quiet.

This year we're walking that arc alongside our neighbors, as we have for several years now. On Thursday, April 2, we gather with First Presbyterian for Maundy Thursday worship, as we celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord's Table and remember the commandment to love. On Friday, April 3, Good Friday comes home to Southminster, and we'll sit with the weight of it together. On Saturday, April 4, we join a number of other local congregations at All Saints Episcopal for the Ecumenical Easter Vigil — now in its second year, and already feeling like something we don't want to give up. It's one of the oldest forms of Christian worship: fire and darkness and water and word, moving toward the first whispered alleluia of Easter.

And then Sunday morning. *You know what Sunday morning is.*

You don't have to come to all of it (though of course, your pastor encourages you to!). Perhaps, if you've never experienced a Good Friday service, or if the Easter Vigil is still unfamiliar, this is a year to try something new. These aren't obligations. They're invitations: into depth, and community, and a story bigger than any one of us.

Holy Week has a way of doing something to you that a single Sunday can't. It asks more. It gives more.

Come if you can. Bring someone. Stay curious.

God's Peace

TJ



(he/him)

### Holy Week Worship Schedule

Thu. 4/2 at 7:00pm - Maundy Thursday  
Worship (at First Presbyterian)

Fri. 4/3 at 7:00pm - Good Friday Worship  
(at Southminster)

Sat. 4/4 at 7:00pm - Ecumenical Easter Vigil  
(at All Saints Episcopal)

Sun. 4/5 at 9:30am - Easter Sunday Worship

# Announcement Board

## **Easter Egg Hunt - Sat. 4/4**

We'll be welcoming our community to The Grove (just off our church parking lot) for the annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday April 4 at 11:00am. Volunteers should arrive between 9:45-10:00am to help hide eggs. You should join us for the fun, and invite others to join you!

## **Bunny Hop Dinner & Dance**

Following Sabbath Worship, Saturday, April 11, we'll have a 50s style diner dinner with chicken, meatloaf, mashed potatoes & gravy provided. Potluck side dishes, desserts and fun! Stay for a dance, conversation, and laughter after dinner. Sign up to help, and to come, in the narthex (or contact the church office).

## **No "Just One Thing" in April**

Our monthly "Just One Thing" gathering will not meet in April, in observance of Easter Sunday. The next gathering will be May 3.

## **One Great Hour of Sharing Offering**

On Easter Sunday (April 5), we will collect the One Great Hour of Sharing offering, one of the three special mission offerings of the PC(USA). Those who took a "Gracie" fish bank home with them are asked to return their bank by Easter morning. You can also participate in the offering by looking for a OGHS offering envelope, or writing a check to Southminster with OGHS in the memo line. In receiving this offering, we join with Presbyterians from all over the nation in supporting hunger relief, disaster assistance, and economic redevelopment efforts around the world. When we all do a little, it adds up to a lot!

## **Theater & Theology with TJ**

### **Tues 4/28 at 7:00pm**

Grace and law. Redemption and relentless pursuit. The dignity of the poor and the corruption of power. *Les Misérables* has been wrestling with these questions since Victor Hugo put them on the page in 1862... and they're just as applicable today.

Join Pastor TJ for a special "Theater & Theology" conversation on Tuesday April 28 from 7:00-8:30pm in the Cana Room for a lively conversation about the theological and ethical considerations of *Les Mis*. Whether you've seen the Broadway Tour (coming to the Morrison Center April 21-26!), watched the film, read the novel, or just know that you're supposed to cry during "Bring Him Home," you're ready for this conversation. All are welcome.

## **Welcome Our New Childcare Attendant!**

We are delighted to welcome Lily Woodbury to the Southminster family as our new childcare attendant! Lily brings years of childcare experience and an enthusiasm that kids will notice immediately. A graduate of Meridian High School and Arizona State University, Lily is ready to bring an inclusive welcome to the youngest children in our midst.

## **Presbyterian Advocacy Hour**

The PC(USA) Office of Public Witness hosts a monthly series called the "Presbyterian Advocacy Hour" via Zoom on the 4th Wednesday of each month at 10:00am MDT. Each session begins with spiritual grounding before moving into in-depth analysis of key issues facing our nation and world. There will also be opportunities for networking, movement-building, and community organizing efforts. Advance Registration is required, by visiting: <http://pcusa.info/advocacyhourregistration>

## Sawtooth Summer Camp

Parents & Grandparents—are you looking for some summer relief? Camp Sawtooth is ready to welcome children and youth for a week of fun. They will have a wonderful time making new friends, learning about God's love, and enjoying the beauty of the mountains, while you will have some much needed rest. For more information and to register online, visit [www.campsawtooth.org](http://www.campsawtooth.org).

- Grades 3-4 (June 29-July 1) - \$225
- Grades 5-6 (June 21-26) - \$350
- Grades 7-9 (July 12-17) - \$350
- Grades 10-12 (July 5-10) - \$425

## A Note About Building Access

Our building doors operate on an automated schedule: unlocked when groups are gathering, re-locked once meetings begin. If you arrive and find a door locked, it's probably the system working as intended.

We want to share that recently, someone attempted to gain entry to the building during a time when it was secured. Staff responded, law enforcement was called, and the situation was resolved. Out of care for our community, we wanted you to hear this directly from us rather than through the grapevine.

If you ever notice something that feels off around our building, please don't hesitate to let a staff member or Building & Grounds Committee Elder know. We're grateful for a community that looks out for one another.

## Spring Book Club Picks

- April 9: *This Time Together: Laughter and Reflection* by Carol Burnett
- May 7: *The Correspondent* by Virginia Evans

## Adult Education Schedule

### April 19 & 26: Reflections on Theology Beer Camp 2025

Join Billie Farley for two sessions actively reflecting on her experiences at an unique conference built around historical and current Christian theological thought and diversity. Theology Beer Camp 2025, hosted by Tripp Fuller of Homebrewed Christianity, created spaces and experiences for 600 folks wanting to explore their faith stories and relationships along side theologians, scholars, God Podcasters, and authors while focusing on providing time and opportunities to build relationships. We will view and discuss video clips and materials harvested from the 3 day camp-like experience as well as try out a few similar activities.

### May 3: Is Religion Being Shaped by AI?

Artificial intelligence is no longer a distant technological curiosity — it's reshaping how we work, communicate, learn, and make decisions. The church is not exempt from that reshaping. On Sunday May 3 (11am-12:15pm), we'll welcome Rev. Dr. Andy Morgan as our guest presenter for a special Adult Education session entitled "How Religion Is Being Shaped by Artificial Intelligence." Andy has an M.Div. and M.A. of Christian Education from Union Presbyterian Seminary, and a Doctor of Ministry from Candler School of Theology at Emory University. He is the Director of Family Faith Formation at First Presbyterian Church of Knoxville, TN, serves as a spirituality consultant for an AI startup, and has become one of the PC(USA)'s leading voices on the ethical use of AI in ministry and congregational life.

### May 17 & 24: Bread for the World

Come join our letter-writing campaign asking for more federal support of nutrition programs. Last year "Bread" was able to claw back an increase in the Child Tax Credit and to persuade Congress to fully fund WIC at \$7.6 billion for 2025!!!

## Participating in Worship this month

### April 5 - Easter

Preaching: TJ Remaley  
Liturgist: Cheryl Marshall  
Ushers: Bruce Mohr, Carla Middleton,  
Andy and Helen Winkle

### April 11 - Sabbath

Preaching: TJ Remaley  
Liturgist: Ann Dearson  
Ushers: Judy Varvel, Noreen Pusey,  
Sara Nevill

### April 19

Preaching: TJ Remaley  
Liturgist: Carol Town  
Ushers: Priscilla Oja, Juno Van Ocker,  
Betty Grisso

### April 26

Preaching: TJ Remaley  
Liturgist: Michelle Green  
Ushers: Andy and Heien Winkle,  
Carla Middleton, Bruce Mohr

## April Birthdays

Jill Gertje	1
Liam Baker	2
Kathryn Nicholas	6
Steven Piontek	12
John Kriz	13
Ann Agnew	14
Tyler Olszewski	16
Layton Remaley	17
Jonah Baker	22
Brian Savage	28
Maggie Shelley	29
Denise Smithers	30

If we missed your birthday,  
please let the office know

## Ministry Appreciation

We have been having our Hearts & Hands/ Parents Morning Out events monthly, since October, 2025. We've had a small but wonderful group needing volunteers to spend time with our children. Thanks you to Susan Pohl who leads our 30 minutes of music, Cheryl Marshall who comes up with and leads our 30 minutes of games, and Steve Crume helps prepare and clean up snacks. Katherine Jones from Crafted Connection brings in craft materials and leads craft time. We have 3 adults with the children each month and the volunteers are so important to the event. Thank you to Kiran Spees, Carol Town, Judy Evans, Dena Duke, and Rita Wood.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<b>1</b> 11:00 PW Gathering 6:00 Bells 7:00 Choir	<b>2</b> 12:00 Al-Anon 1:00 Dominoes 6:00 TVCA 6:00 PSL meeting  <b>7:00 Maundy Thursday at 1st Pres</b>	<b>3</b> <b>7:00 Good Friday at Southminster</b> 7:30 AA	<b>4</b> 10:00 Women's NA 10:00 NOW 11:00 Easter Egg Hunt  <b>7:00 Easter Vigil at All Saints</b>
<b>5</b> <b>Easter Sunday</b> 2:00 PSL meeting	<b>6</b> 12:00 Choristers 12:00 Al-Anon 7:00 Men's AA 7:00 OA	<b>7</b> 5:30 TVCA 7:00 Deacons	<b>8</b> 6:00 Bells 7:00 Choir	<b>9</b> 12:00 Al-Anon 1:00 Dominoes 6:00 PSL meeting  7:00 Book Club on Zoom	<b>10</b> 7:30 AA	<b>11</b> 10:00 Women's NA  5:00 Sabbath 6:00 Sock Hop
<b>12</b> no worship 2:00 PSL meeting	<b>13</b> 12:00 Choristers 12:00 Al-Anon 7:00 Men's AA 7:00 OA	<b>14</b> 11:30 Men's Lunch @ Casa Mexico  5:30 Building & Grounds 7:00 Spiritual Formation	<b>15</b> 9:30 Ruth Circle 10:00 Naomi Circle 1:00 Rachel Circle  6:00 Bells 7:00 Choir	<b>16</b> 12:00 Al-Anon 1:00 Dominoes 6:00 PSL meeting 6:00 TVCA	<b>17</b> 7:30 AA	<b>18</b> 10:00 Women's NA
<b>19</b> 9:30 Worship 10:30 Sunday School 11:00 Puppets 11:00 Adult Ed.  2:00 PSL meeting	<b>20</b> 8:00 Merry Martha Circle  12:00 Choristers 12:00 Al-Anon 7:00 Men's AA 7:00 OA	<b>21</b> 7:00 Session	<b>22</b> 10:00 PC(USA) Advocacy Hour on Zoom 10:00 PW CT Meeting  6:00 Bells 7:00 Choir	<b>23</b> 12:00 Al-Anon 1:00 Dominoes 6:00 PSL meeting 6:00 TVCA	<b>24</b> 7:30 AA	<b>25</b> 10:00 Hearts and Hands craft time  10:00 Women's NA
<b>26</b> 9:30 Worship 10:30 Sunday School 11:00 Puppets 11:00 Adult Ed.  2:00 PSL meeting 6:00 Brewed for Thought	<b>27</b> 12:00 Choristers 12:00 Al-Anon 7:00 Men's AA 7:00 OA	<b>28</b> 11:30 Men's Lunch @ Life's Kitchen  7:00 Theatre and Theology	<b>29</b> 6:00 Bells 7:00 Choir	<b>30</b> 12:00 Al-Anon 1:00 Dominoes 6:00 PSL meeting 6:00 TVCA		



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Electronic Service Requested

**An open and affirming community seeking a caring and just society**

Issue 2026:4 The Messenger

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

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- Choir Director. ....Claudia Sutherland
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Tuesday-Wednesday-Thursday 9AM to 3:00PM

If you no longer wish to receive this publication please notify the church office at [office@spcboise.org](mailto:office@spcboise.org) or 208-375-5330.