



# The Messenger

Southminster Presbyterian \* June 2026

## Prayers for Fellow Travelers

The church has always been in the business of “sending people,” and this June, a handful of Southminster folks are doing exactly that! Through the prayers of our congregation, a part of each of you is traveling with them.

Billie F. and Randy M. are heading to Washington, D.C. on June 9–10 to sit down with the offices of Idaho’s congressional delegation, on behalf of people they will never meet, to make the case that no one should go hungry. They go as advocates with our mission partner **Bread for the World**, hand carrying the letters our congregation has written to their senators and representatives. They also carry the conviction that faith has something to say about food. Bread believes that hunger can be solved in our lifetime. Billie and Randy are helping that vision move forward.

I’ll also be traveling to the East Coast this June. I was invited to serve as the preacher and keynote leader for two weeks of **Massanetta Springs’ Middle School Youth Conferences** in Virginia. Picture hundreds of middle school youth, ready for a week of fun after having just finished the school year. The incredible thing about this PC(USA) camp and conference center is that the conferences are planned and implemented by a group of faithful, inspirational high schoolers. My job as the keynote speaker is simply to help their vision come alive. The theme chosen this year is peace — internal and external. Timely.

From there, I’ll trade in my summer camp t-shirts for my **Covenant Network of Presbyterians** co-moderator hat. I’ll head from

Virginia to Milwaukee for the PC(USA) General Assembly, representing CNP as I join the wider church as it does the slow — sometimes maddening, often genuinely moving — work of discernment together.

Shana Woodbury will also be in Milwaukee for **General Assembly**, representing Snake River Pres-bytery as a Ruling Elder Commissioner — beginning with virtual committee work on June 22 before traveling for in-person plenary sessions June 25 through July 2. It is no small thing to show up for the church at that level, and I am grateful she is willing.

None of this is glamorous travel. It requires time and energy, not to mention the special kind of exhaustion that comes from being away from home. But it is also the kind of going that has always defined this community. Southminster has never been content to be a congregation that simply tends its own garden. We send people. We pray them forward. We trust that presence matters, even when the outcomes are uncertain.

So this June, while some of us are away, I hope you’ll hold these travelers in your prayers. Not just for safe flights and good weather, but for the courage and clarity to show up well for the work they’ve been called to do. In that way, a part of you will be traveling, too.

God’s Peace

TJ

(he/him)

# Announcement Board

## Church On The Go!

Whether you're traveling this summer or simply worshipping from home, remember that our church website has a one-stop landing page for Online Worship! There, you'll find the weekly bulletin, a virtual friendship pad, online giving, and an archive of past worship videos. It's never been easier to stay connected to your faith community, no matter where you are!

[www.spcboise.org/worship](http://www.spcboise.org/worship)

## Pastoral Care Coverage in June

While Pastor TJ is away this month, emergency pastoral care coverage will be offered by others.

- June 14-21 - Shana Woodbury, CRE
- June 22-July 2 – Rev. Seth Wheeler

For urgent pastoral needs during these dates, contact information for Shana and Seth is available in the church directory. You may also call the church office and press #3 to be forwarded directly to their cell phone.

## Celebrating the Gifts of Women

On June 7, we gather for a worship service that has become one of the highlights of our year. Deanna W. will preach, Shana Woodbury will preside at the Table, and women will lead throughout — as liturgists, as musicians, as the voices that call us to prayer and send us into the week. We will also celebrate the installation of incoming Presbyterian Women of Southminster officers, commissioning them for the year ahead. Come ready to give thanks — for the women who have shaped this congregation, and for those who continue to lead it forward.

## Two service opportunities:

We are in need of individuals who would like to serve as ushers during church services. Ushers ensure people have bulletins, provide information (location of the nursery, Pray-ground and restrooms)

and take up the collection. The more volunteers we have the better we can rotate individuals and provide backups as needed.

We are also in need of individuals to help teach Sunday School. Cheryl M has graciously volunteered to be the primary teacher, but we need others to assist her. Again, if we have more than one volunteer we can rotate individuals and provide backups.

When it comes to ushers and teachers many hands help lighten the load. If either, or both, of these opportunities interests you please contact Peter F and he will get you plugged in.

## Introducing Interfaith Justice Idaho

Many of you know the interfaith advocacy work that has shaped our community over recent years. That work just took a significant step forward. Interfaith Justice Idaho has officially launched as a 501(c)3 nonprofit — bringing together two long-standing organizations, the Interfaith Equality Coalition and Interfaith Alliance of Idaho, into one cohesive voice for justice in our state. As an affiliate of the national Interfaith Alliance, IJI will work to champion religious freedom, protect democracy, and build inclusive communities, with particular attention to those on the margins.

Southminster is a member congregation, and Carolyn B. is our voting representative for 2026, helping to guide the direction of the organization's work. Learn more at [www.interfaithjusticeidaho.org](http://www.interfaithjusticeidaho.org).

## A New Cup at Coffee Fellowship

Starting this summer, the coffee you enjoy on Sunday mornings is getting an upgrade... in quality and in conscience. We're trialing Café Justo (Just Coffee) for our weekly coffee fellowship. Café Justo is a grower-owned cooperative based in southern Chiapas, Mexico. A longtime PC(USA) mission partner, their coffee is organic, shade-grown, and delicious!

What makes it different is their “Fair Trade Plus” model. Traditional fair trade is a step in the

right direction, but in that system the growers still see only a fraction of the retail price. Fair Trade Plus cuts out the middlemen entirely — the cooperative handles growing, roasting, packaging, and export, which means the money stays in the community. Growers are paid more than three times the standard fair trade rate, and the cooperative provides health insurance for growers and their families. In short: it's coffee that tastes good and does good.

Your purchases will Go Further! Consider adding coffee purchases for your home use, which will help offset shipping costs for the congregation. See the flyer in the Narthex for more info.

### **Introducing the Heritage Lounge**

Classroom #3 (the second room on the right in the upstairs hallway) is getting a makeover! As we celebrate 70 years of ministry together, that familiar room is becoming the “Heritage Lounge,” a casual gathering space refreshed and decorated with mementos from our life together across the decades. Photos, artifacts, and pieces of our shared story will find a home there. We have no shortage of memories to fill the walls. Fresh furniture to gather around would be a lovely addition too — and if that sounds like something you'd like to be part of, we'd love to hear from you.

### **Grace Jordan Pantry Reminders**

With school out for the summer, we have taken a brief hiatus on our efforts for the Grace Jordan Food Pantry. In August, we will resume collecting food staples, toiletries, and cleaning supplies so the pantry can be fully stocked in preparation for the new school year. Until then, we will gladly accept financial contributions to help us get a jump start on the fall.

### **Beginners' Tai Chi**

Susan P is leading a beginners tai chi class every Tuesday and Thursday morning from 10:00-10:30am. Interested? Come! For more info, contact Susan.

### **Hearts & Hands**

Our June 20th event is from 10am-1pm and in addition to featuring crafting, games, and singing there will also be a pizza lunch. All are welcome and parents can drop off their children for a couple hours to run errands. See you there!

### **Save The Date – Boise Pride 2026**

Are you ready to share God's inclusive love with our community? Boise Pride will be September 18-20, 2026. As always, we will host a booth on Saturday and Sunday. This will also be our 3rd year entering a float for the parade on Sunday morning. We hope for a large turnout, so mark your calendars. Want to help with planning? Contact Abby W. or reach out to the church office.

### **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.

### **Thank You to Our Leaders!**

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

**Elders:** Rebekah H., Cheryl M., and Sue O.

**Deacons:** Darleen B., Dena D., Noreen P.

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

**Elders:** Julie A., Judy E., Billie F., Greg P. (2nd term)

**Deacons:** Rae B., Roger H., Carol T. (2nd term),

Well done, good and faithful servants. Well done.

## Poetry Reading

On Sunday, June 7th at 6:00pm at Ming Studios in downtown Boise, Dena D will be sharing from her new book of poetry entitled *Signs & Psalms* starting off with the poem "Thoughts & Prayers".

Dena has been part of the Just One Thing group that meets monthly to talk about how we move toward hope, truth & justice during these times. Join her on June 7th to hear more about her contribution to this challenging endeavor. You can check with her or go to her website at [atinylight.com](http://atinylight.com) for more information.

## PWS Thoughts for June

The June Gathering at 11:00 AM on June 3rd in the Sanctuary will include the Birthday Offering dedication service. We will potluck in the grove, weather permitting.

June 7th is our women's Sunday. The installation of PWS officers of the Coordinating Team will occur at this service. Shana Woodbury will be officiating. All officers, outgoing, incoming, and returning will be honored. Thanks be to God for our many women always ready to volunteer for our church.

Come to the Genesis room on June 24 at 10:00AM with ideas for next year's programs. There will be no CT meetings in June or July.

Summer is coming and we are all looking forward to some fun and relaxing times. So keep your cool and have a wonderful summer.

Blessings –Mary P, Moderator

## Holiday Bazaar:

### October 23 & 24, 9am - 2pm

The time is coming for the Holiday Bazaar and we hope you have marked your calendar and invited your friends to join you for a fun time of shopping for the upcoming holidays. At the sale you will find jewelry, handmade gifts, baked goods, holiday decorations and so much more.

PWS needs your help providing baked goods and home-made craft items to sell. Please only bring your baked goods to the church on the 22nd.

Contact Mary P if you have any questions.

## Ministry Appreciation

It is with much appreciation that we recognize the work of Elders Greg P and Andy W in updating our church ground's sprinkler system. Working with Lyda Landscaping they have updated and improved the system, ensuring that we are better stewards of the resources that God has blessed us with.



*Snake River Presbytery met at Camp Sawtooth over Memorial Day with many Southminster folks involved.*

## Participating in Worship this month

### June 7

Preaching: Deanna Watson  
Liturgist: Kiran S  
Ushers: Noreen P, Carol T,  
Sara N, Bruce M  
Nursery: Cheryl M

### June 13 – Sabbath

Preaching: TJ Remaley  
Liturgist: Peter F  
Ushers: Betty G, Carla M,  
Sue O, Juno Van O  
Nursery: Cheryl M

### June 21

Preaching: Seth Wheeler  
Liturgist: Shana W  
Ushers: Judy V, Noreen P  
Andy and Helen W  
Nursery: Cheryl M

### June 28

Preaching: Kiran Spees  
Liturgist: Stacy P  
Ushers: Priscilla O, Sue O,  
Bruce M, Betty G  
Nursery: Helen W



## June Birthdays

Bret G	1
Beth B	4
Claudia S	4
Randy M	4
Michael S	11
Steve Crume	13
Lorie I	16
Roger H	16
Susan P	20
TJ	21
Ian B	25
Marilyn F	27
William VanD	30

If we missed your birthday,  
please let the office know





Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b> 12:00 Al-Anon 7:00 Men's AA 7:00 OA	<b>2</b> 7:00 Deacons	<b>3</b> 11:00 PW Gathering	<b>4</b> 12:00 Al-Anon 1:00 Dominoes 6:00 PSL meeting	<b>5</b> 7:30 AA	<b>6</b> 10:00 Women's NA 10:00 NOW
<b>7</b> 9:30 Worship 11:00 Puppets 2:00 PSL meeting  5:00 Just One Thing	<b>8</b> 12:00 Al-Anon 7:00 Men's AA 7:00 OA	<b>9</b> 11:30 Men's Lunch @ Casa Mexico  5:30 Building & Grounds	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 12:00 Al-Anon 1:00 Dominoes 6:00 PSL meeting	<b>12</b> 7:00 Tree City Chamber Players Concert 7:30 AA	<b>13</b> 10:00 Women's NA 10:00 Session retreat  5:00 Sabbath
<b>14</b> no worship  2:00 PSL meeting	<b>15</b> 12:00 Al-Anon 7:00 Men's AA 7:00 OA	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 9:30 Ruth Circle 10:00 Naomi Circle 1:00 Rachel Circle	<b>18</b> 12:00 Al-Anon 1:00 Dominoes 6:00 PSL meeting	<b>19</b> 7:30 AA	<b>20</b> 10:00 Hearts and Hands craft time  10:00 Women's NA
<b>21</b> 9:30 Worship 11:00 Puppets  2:00 PSL meeting	<b>22</b> 12:00 Al-Anon 7:00 Men's AA 7:00 OA	<b>23</b> 11:30 Men's Lunch @ Life's Kitchen	<b>24</b> 10:00 PC(USA) Advocacy Hour on Zoom 10:00 PW Program Meeting	<b>25</b> 12:00 Al-Anon 1:00 Dominoes 6:00 PSL meeting 6:00 TVCA	<b>26</b> 7:30 AA	<b>27</b> 10:00 Women's NA
<b>28</b> 9:30 Worship 11:00 Puppets 2:00 PSL meeting  6:00 Brewed for Thought	<b>29</b> 12:00 Choristers 12:00 Al-Anon 7:00 Men's AA 7:00 OA	<b>30</b> 11:30 Men's Lunch @ Life's Kitchen				



Southminster Presbyterian Church  
6500 W. Overland Road  
Boise ID 83709-2099

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

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

- Pastor ..... Rev. TJ Remaley
- Clerk of Session. .... Jill Gertje
- Office Manager ..... Alix Paul
- Commissioned Ruling Elder..... Shana Woodbury
- Organist..... Susan Pohl
- Choir Director. ....Claudia Sutherland
- Handbell Director..... Kiran Spees
- Sabbath Musician .....Sean Rogers
- A/V Coordinator .....Claeo McDermott
- Custodian. .... Mike Humbert

**Southminster Presbyterian Church**

6500 West Overland Road  
Boise, Idaho 83709-2099  
Phone: (208) 375-5330

**E-mail Address: [office@spcboise.org](mailto:office@spcboise.org)**

**Web: [www.spcboise.org](http://www.spcboise.org)**

**Church Office Hours**

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.