

## Worship in the Season of Easter

Easter sets the spiritual compass for all Christian worship  
Every Sunday is a witness to the new life of the resurrection!

### Sunday, May 15

“A Song About Christian Leadership” - Reverend Pierce  
Celebrate Communion and the Presentation of Bibles to  
Third Graders

### Sunday, May 22

“The King” - Reverend Davies  
Confirmation Sunday - celebrating the faith journeys  
of our 8th Graders

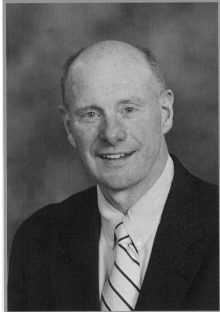
### Sunday, May 29

“The Challenge of Polytheism?!” - Reverend Pierce

### Coming in June:

- 6/5 - Reverend Linda McCarty, Guest Worship Leader
- 6/12 - Celebrate Pentecost! The birthday of the church
- 6/19 - Summer Worship Begins (one service at 9:30 a.m.)





## The Acts 16:5 Initiative and Southminster

The Acts 16:5 Initiative is alive and well at Southminster. I like to think of it as a spiritual enzyme that is creating new church chemis-

tries of "invite, nurture and go." Reminder: Acts 16:5 is designed to help us engage in a deliberate process of congregational transformation that is both communal (serving our church family) and missional (reaching our surrounding community). Some of the building blocks of this transformational ministry include WORD-SHARE-PRAYER where the preaching text of Sunday is studied and discussed by ministry teams and groups throughout the week. This "scripture of the

week" becomes a spiritual thread that connects our people to God's word and ultimately to worship. (You can find the WORD-SHARE-PRAYER scripture of the week both in the church office and linked on the church's website (spcah.org).

We also have an Acts 16:5 Vision Team: Char Schumann, Keith North, Kathy & Bob Erickson, Laura Mendelson, Cindy Gray, Andrew, and Eva, and me, and each of us is linked to ministry team(s). Part of our function is to help these session teams create ministries that serve our church family and engage people beyond the church in ways that are attractive and faith-filled. A key concept to Acts 16:5 is "adaptive ministries"—finding ways to "do church" that we haven't yet tried.

I believe every church is unique and that we are to be "spirit-fed and spirit-led." Acts 16:5 is one way for us to be open to the leading of the Holy Spirit and to nudge us into taking risks for Christ.

Please keep our Acts 16:5 vision team and your church's future in your fervent prayer and care. As we remember and celebrate 50 great years of ministry/mission, let us open our hearts and lives to God's transformative future.

God is so good! May Blessings,  
Pastor Steve

## Welcome New Southminster Members!

Help us in welcoming two new families to our Southminster Family. When you see them around church, feel free to introduce yourself. We welcome them as a wonderful addition to our church family!



Sandy and Hristo Ushev  
daughter Elizabeth



Carrie and Eric Stiefvater  
children Chloe and Kyle



## Cross of Christ Jesus: Part 2

Through the ages, Christians have been comforted by the Bible's numerous placements of both the incarnation (God comes to us through Jesus) and the atonement (the cross is a saving power). Presbyterian pastor and scholar Ken Bailey, with whom I had the privilege of studying with for a month in 1989, has revealed several of these places in the Gospel of Luke. Ken grew up in Egypt with his Presbyterian missionary parents, later living and teaching throughout the Middle East. Like Jesus, Ken worked with the peasants in the villages, seeing the world through their eyes. Middle Eastern peasantry remains conservative, especially the religious establishment, and

even more so in the occupation by an imperialist such as Rome.

Jesus spoke to the Pharisees, who divided the world between the religious and the irreligious (sinners). Tax collectors were seen as sinners, and worse, collaborators with Rome. Imagine the scene when Jesus welcomed sinners! Jesus also welcomed shepherds, considered by the rabbis to be "people of the land," and to be avoided. Yet having the responsibility to care for a hundred sheep was considered a great responsibility by the sheep's owner.

Jesus asked, "What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness, and go after the one which is lost, until he finds it? And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing" (Luke 15:4, 5). Ken believes that Jesus was saying, "You lost your sheep. I went after it and

brought it home. Now you have the gall to come to me complaining?! Don't you realize that I am making up for your mistakes?"

When the Good Shepherd finds the lost sheep in its need, the sheep becomes a symbol for repentance. The sheep accepts being found, a sign of restoration also found in the meaning of the Cross of Christ Jesus.

No wonder that an olive-wood carving of a shepherd carrying a sheep around his neck is a best seller in the village of Bethlehem. I brought two of them home to enhance my rejoicing prayers that Jesus found even me.

Joyful wishes in being found each day by the Good Shepherd,

Pastor Barb

## F@H – Jesus, Fashion, and Dating

On May 1, the *Faith at Home* team met for another workshop; this one about *Jesus, Fashion, and Dating* for 12-14 year-olds and their parents. What an important topic! (But all F@H workshops are like this—important enough to whisk kids from the worship services.)

As kids grow, they inevitably battle with their appearance, style, acceptance, interest-in-that-cute-someone-over-there as well as what the Lord would have them do in all that craziness. So what does Jesus have to say about fashion and dating? Well, as you may have guessed, he was sort of silent on the subject, since the culture back then did not deal with dating per se and the dress code was pretty standard. And when Jesus is silent on an issue, it's a good assumption that he favored his Jewish heritage and what they had to say on the matter. So what about that Old Testament?

The only time the Bible (NIV version) mentions the word "fashion" is in Exodus 28:15 where it says "Fashion a breastpiece for making decisions." In this verse, "fashion" is the verb, and what we're talking about is the noun (you know: cool clothes, the latest style, etc). But it is interesting to see how it applies: *we should wear whatever would help us make good decisions*. Does what you wear and what you present to the world help you to make good decisions and thrive and live like Jesus? Or do they put you in an awkward or bad situation?



Often times we feel powerless in this big, bad world, but we should remember that in our own world we influence people all the time. We can't help it. What we do or don't do, say or don't say, or even wear speaks to and shapes our surroundings and those in it. So we ask: Do our choices concerning dress help us and others to make good decisions, or not? Do our choices foster love, service, respect, and focus, or do they foster objectification, self-service, disrespect, and distraction? It's worth thinking about for all of us, not just the 12-14 year olds. Let everything we do glorify God and work for His purpose and the coming of His kingdom.

Happy dressing, Southminster; see you and your statement to the world soon!

Andrew



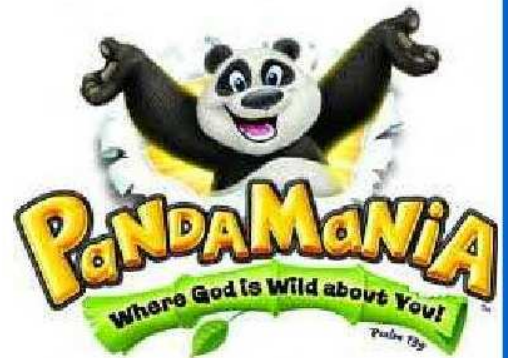
Eva Speedy, Children's Ministry Coordinator  
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 847-392-1060 email: [eva@spcah.org](mailto:eva@spcah.org) [www.spcah.org](http://www.spcah.org)

## PandaMania - Vacation Bible School

*A wild celebration of God's unconditional love!*

Sunday, July 10 to Thursday, July 14  
 Evenings from 5:30 to 8:30 PM

At PandaMania - *Where God is Wild about You*, kids will discover that God has a purpose and a plan for everyone and that he crafted each of us with his own loving hands. PandaMania is filled with incredible Bible-learning experiences kids will see, hear, touch, and even taste! Bible Point crafts, team-building games, cool Bible songs, and tasty treats are just a few of the PandaMania activities that help faith flow into real life!



**HOW TO REGISTER** - Complete the form below or register online at [www.spcah.org](http://www.spcah.org).

Be sure to register early, we are limited to 80 participants!

**FOR AGES** - Ages 3 years - 5<sup>th</sup> grade (completed)

**COST** - \$25 per child (Financial assistance available)

**OPTIONAL NIGHTLY DINNER** - Monday to Thursday from 5:00 - 5:30 PM

To keep our VBS a safe and fun place to be, we request that you please stay with your child until they head upstairs for the Sing and Play Splash.

Child's Name (First & Last)	Completed Grade	Sex M/F	Age	Allergies /Other	Optional T-shirt? S - M- L -XL

Tuition \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Optional: T-shirt(s) \$ \_\_\_\_\_ CD \$ \_\_\_\_\_ DVD \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Total Due = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Optional: T-Shirts \$5 each, CD's \$7 each, DVD's \$15 each

Please make checks payable to Southminster Presbyterian Church with VBS in the memo.

Parent/guardian (First & Last):	
Home Address:	
Email:	Church:
Home Phone:	In Case of Emergency, contact:
Cell Phone:	Emergency Contact Phone:

**MEDICAL TREATMENT RELEASE** - As parent or legal guardian, I authorize the medical treatment of my son/daughter by the staff at Southminster Presbyterian Church in the event of a medical emergency during which I cannot be reached.

Parent/Guardian Signature  \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**PHOTO POLICY** - We will be taking photos of our VBS participants for our website and our monthly Spire. Individual participants will NOT be identified in any photos.

I grant permission for my child to be included in pictures connected with VBS.

Parent/Guardian Signature  \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## FAITH COMMUNITY HOMES

Invites you to its

# 3<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL GOLF SCRAMBLE

**Traditions at Chevy Chase Golf Club**

**1000 N. Milwaukee, Wheeling, IL**

**Saturday, May 21, 2011**

**12pm - 1:20pm: Bag Drop & Registration**

**1:30pm Scramble: Modified Shotgun Start**

**6:30pm - 8:30pm: Dinner, Awards & Raffle**

Join the fun and help support Faith Community Homes as they host their Third Annual Golf Outing on May 21, 2011, beginning at noon at Chevy Chase Golf Club, 1000 N. Milwaukee Ave., Wheeling. Faith Community Homes reaches out to low income, employed, and employable families with children by helping pay a portion of each sponsored family's housing costs for two years. In addition, these families receive guidance from trained volunteer mentors who meet with them weekly, guide them in creating budgets, help them with financial skills, and aid them in developing realistic short and long-term goals.

For more information, please call the Faith Community Homes office at 847.342.0846 or visit [www.fchommes.org](http://www.fchommes.org) for registration form and on-line payment.



### Thanks from Christopher House

Thanks to everyone who contributed so generously to the Christopher House Baby Shower. The Auxiliary could not have done it without your support! Fifteen babies were at the April 6 shower (the youngest only 5 days old!), along with their mothers, a few fathers, and some grandmas. The mothers were each able to select a few items to take home with them, and the remaining gifts will be used to replenish the baby supply closet. Thanks again for your continued support of this program.

### Celebrating Our Southminster Family

Become a part of our 50-Year Reunion! Contribute a current picture of you or your family and a picture from when you first became a church member, include your name and the year the picture was taken, and drop your pictures off at the office. We will include them in our **Church Family Special Album** to be displayed on the bulletin board outside the office. We hope you'll participate in honoring our 50 years together. Please submit your pictures ASAP!!!

Nan Gregory and Nancy Tostlebe Gregory



### New Vander Laan Series: "God Heard Their Cry"

Do you sometimes waver in living out your faith fearlessly?

Filmed on location in the Holy Land, Vander Laan's eighth volume of Faith Lessons explains how God answers the cry of His persecuted people and proclaims himself LORD to them and their oppressors. Join us each Sunday in May at 10 a.m. in the chapel to discover how to live out your faith more boldly.

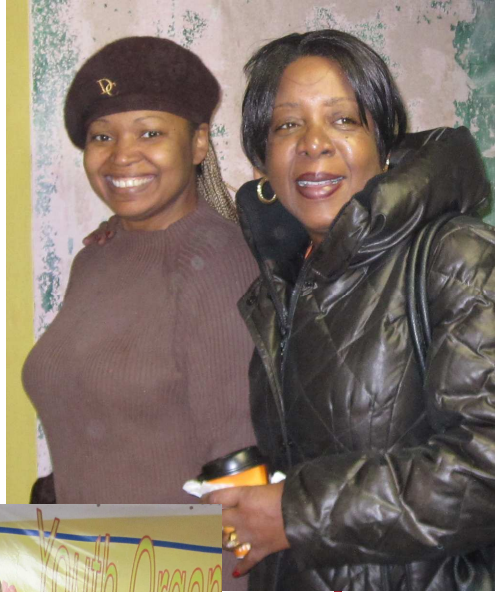
May 15      God Heard Their Cry  
May 22      Finger of God: The Plagues  
May 29      Watch with Me: Israel Leaves Egypt

## Kidz Korna Youth Organization

Kidz Korna Youth Organization is an urban voice in action for youth. Kidz Korna's Director, Delece Williams, is an energetic young woman dedicated to improving her area of Chicago. One of her recent accomplishments is the major renovation of a facility housing an after-school program for At-Risk kids, which includes revamping the basement to be used as a television studio for the kids' TV productions. Check out [www.kidzkorna.com](http://www.kidzkorna.com) for more information.

Over a four-day period, Ann Shibayama, Mary Ann Maytum, Ed and Kathy Gudonis, Paul Bourke, Keith North, Pat Ritchie, Sandy Pifer, and Jean Walker cleaned, installed new lights, fixed light fixtures, painted and attached plexiglass to a shelving unit, installed a window in the office area, enlarged the bathroom, installed a new vanity and utility sink, and scraped and painted the kitchen area and two downstairs rooms. While there is still a lot more work to do, the change is incredible.

While working at this facility, we have learned a great deal about the amazing work that Delece and others are doing to help the youth in this Chicago area. Special thanks go to everyone who worked, prayed, and gave their financial support. Mission projects near home are fun and rewarding for everyone. We hope many more of you can join us for the next one.



# MAY 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1</p> <p><b>9 am Traditional Worship</b></p> <p>10 am Learning Opportunities*</p> <p><b>11 am Contemporary Worship</b></p> <p>3:30 pm Vespers @ The Moorings</p>	<p>2.</p> <p>7:00 pm Deacons Meeting</p> <p>7:00 pm Worship Ministry Team Meeting</p> <p>6:30 pm Discipling Ministry Team</p>	<p>3 </p> <p>9:30 am <i>Beth Moore Book Group</i></p> <p>1:15 pm "♥ of a Woman"</p> <p>7:00 pm Jubilee Ringers</p>	<p>4 </p> <p>7:00 am <i>Men's Sharing</i></p> <p>7:15 pm Sanct Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>5 </p> <p>7:00 pm <i>Men's Bible Group</i></p> <p>7:00 pm Praise Singers</p> <p>8:00 pm Central Road Band Rehearsal</p>	<p>6 </p>	<p>7</p> <p>8:00 am PDO Registration for new families</p> <p>6:30 pm Concert- The Crossing – Sanctuary</p>
<p>8</p> <p><b>9 am Traditional Worship</b></p> <p>10 am Learning Opportunities*</p> <p><b>11 am Contemporary</b></p> <p></p>	<p>9</p> <p>1:30 pm Mission Min. Team</p> <p>1:00 pm Jubilee Team meeting</p> <p>7:15 pm Youth Ministry Team Meeting</p>	<p>10 </p> <p>1:15 pm "♥ of a Woman"</p> <p>7:00 pm Jubilee Ringers</p>	<p>11 </p> <p>7:00 am <i>Men's Sharing</i></p> <p>7:15 pm Sanct Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>12 </p> <p>7:00 pm <i>Men's Bible Group</i></p> <p>7:00 pm Praise Singers</p> <p>8:00 pm Central Road Band Rehearsal</p>	<p>13 </p>	<p>14</p> <p>12:30 pm Ladies Luncheon – The Chapel</p>
<p>15 Communion</p> <p><b>9 am Traditional Worship</b></p> <p>10 am Learning Opportunities*</p> <p><b>11 am Contemporary Worship</b></p> <p>12:15 pm Children's Min. Team meeting</p> <p>4:00 pm Session</p>	<p>16</p> <p>6:00 pm <i>LUV Group</i></p> <p>7:15 pm Church Life, Property, and Personnel Min. Teams</p>	<p>17 </p> <p>9:30 am <i>Beth Moore Book Group</i></p> <p>1:15 pm "♥ of a Woman"</p> <p>7:00 pm Jubilee Ringers</p>	<p>18 </p> <p>7:00 am <i>Men's Sharing</i></p> <p>7:15 pm Sanct Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>19 </p> <p>7:00 pm <i>Men's Bible Group</i></p> <p>7:00 pm Praise Singers</p> <p>8:00 pm Central Road Band Rehearsal</p>	<p>20 </p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22 Confirmation</p> <p><b>9 am Traditional Worship</b></p> <p>10 am Learning Opportunities*</p> <p><b>11 am Contemporary Worship</b></p>	<p>23</p> <p>7:00 pm Session</p>	<p>24 </p> <p>1:15 pm "♥ of a Woman"</p> <p>7:00 pm Jubilee Ringers</p>	<p>25 </p> <p>7:00 am <i>Men's Sharing</i></p> <p>7:15 pm Sanct Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>26 </p> <p>7:00 pm <i>Men's Bible Group</i></p> <p>7:00 pm Praise Singers</p> <p>8:00 pm Central Road Band Rehearsal</p>	<p>27 </p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29</p> <p><b>9 am Traditional Worship</b></p> <p>10 am Learning Opportunities*</p> <p><b>11 am Contemporary Worship</b></p>	<p>30</p> <p></p> <p>Office Closed</p>	<p>31 </p> <p>1:15 pm "♥ of a Woman"</p> <p>7:00 pm Jubilee Ringers</p>				

\* Learning Opportunities: Adult Discipling, Kiddie Kingdom, Kingdom Doors, Jr. High, Sr. High  
 Pastors Days Off: Steve - Thursday and Saturday, Andrew – Tuesday and Saturday