

South Park Presbyterian Church  
1501 30th Street  
Rock Island, IL 61201-3797

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Permit #70  
Rock Island, IL 61201-3797

### Education Opportunities Sundays at 9:00

The children's combined class meets upstairs in the Ed. Center, as does Jr. Church.

**Kerygma - Library** (Carol Hough)

**An Introduction to the Book of Confessions**  
(Mar. 18-Apr. 15)  
in Fellowship Hall (Rev. Juan Jimenez)  
(Searchers will join this class)



Church Office: 786-6466 Fax: 786-6470 Pastor Virginia Murray's Cell No. (309) 716-9515  
Email address: donnab@spchurchqc.org Website: www.spchurchqc.org  
Church Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 8:00-4:30 p.m.

Touchpoints is published monthly by South Park Presbyterian Church  
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No Subscription Charge to members and friends

SOUTH PARK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

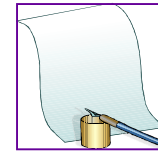
VOLUME 25, ISSUE 3

MARCH 22, 2007

# TOUCHPOINTS



## Thank YOU!



### From the Pastor's Pen

*Thank you to each and every one who has made my first few weeks here a joy and a delight. Jasper (my dog) and I are settling in well in spite of the first few days of cold, icy weather.*

*I want to extend a special note of thanks to all who prepared a home for us. We are renting a house on 20<sup>th</sup> Ave. which is quite comfortable and meets our needs nicely. It is a small house with a large yard which is just perfect for us. The house needed considerable cleaning and also required some furnishings. A number of people jumped in to help and when we arrived our new home was ready to live in. I had suggested to the Interim Search Committee that we save on moving costs by just gathering up a few things here rather than moving a truckload. Thanks to you the plan worked well. I brought clothes, books and few kitchen appliances with me and you did the rest. I greatly appreciate your work and generosity and the church saved some dollars.*

*I also want to thank our dedicated staff. They have stretched themselves to accommodate my endless questions and everyone has pitched in to do extra duty when necessary. They have all been challenged by the need to "orient" three different Interim Pastors in a short period of time but they are up to the task and do it with generosity and grace!*

*Finally thanks to all of you in the congregation who have also shared information, invited me to your meetings and welcomed me with open arms. Your words of encouragement are invaluable!*

*I am excited about what we can accomplish together in the days and weeks to come!*

*Rev. Virginia Murray*

**Please Note:** *I have changed my cell phone number to: (309) 716-9515. Please call me at this number if you have an emergency that occurs outside of church office hours.*

## Touchpoints Publication Schedule

Next Touchpoints will be mailed on Thursday, Apr. 26. The deadline for articles to be submitted is Sun., Apr. 22.

### Church Services Schedule

(see enclosed April calendar for all events)

**Church Office Hours: Mon.-Fri., 8:00-4:30**

#### Sunday, April 1 Palm Sunday

Communion  
Parish Nurse  
9:00 Church School  
10:00 Worship  
Sanctuary

#### Sunday, April 8 Easter

7:30 a.m. Sunrise Service Church Patio  
8:30-9:30 a.m. Easter Breakfast Dining Room  
10:00 Worship Service Sanctuary

#### Sunday, April 15

Churches United Food Pantry  
Parish Nurse  
9:00 Church School  
10:00 Worship Service  
Sanctuary

#### Sunday, April 22

Recycling  
9:00 Church School  
10:00 Worship Service  
Touchpoints articles due  
Sanctuary

#### Sunday, April 29

9:00 Church School  
10:00 Worship Service  
Sanctuary

*Hallelujah!  
Christ the Lord is Risen!*



## Holy Week Easter Schedule

### Sunday, April 1

#### Palm Sunday

Worship with Holy Communion

### Thursday, April 5

#### Maundy Thursday

6:00 Seder Dinner in Dining Room

### Friday, April 6

#### Good Friday

7:00 p.m. - Good Friday Service

### Sunday, April 8

#### Celebration of the Resurrection

7:30 Sunrise Service at Church Patio  
8:30-9:30 Easter Breakfast in Dining Room  
10:00 Worship Service

### Easter Breakfast

The Fellowship Committee will be serving Easter Breakfast on Sunday morning, April 8, from 8:30 - 9:30.

The menu will consist of a "Breakfast Casserole" (eggs, potato with sausage or bacon) fruit cup, breakfast pastries, and beverages. Your cost will be:

\$5.00 for adults  
\$2.00 children under 12

Fellowship Committee/Jan Fitzpatrick



## Church Events Calendar

### April 1 - April 7

#### Mon., Apr. 2

1:00 Circle of Faith

7:00 C.E.

#### Tues., Apr. 3

9:30 Circle of Virtue in church Fellowship Hall

3:15 Tutoring (and every Tues.)

6:30 Handbells (and every Tues.)

6:30 Fellowship

7:00 Outreach

#### Wed., Apr. 4

7:30 Choir Rehearsal (every Wed.)

#### Thurs., Apr. 5

9:30 PW Mission

6:00 Maundy Thursday Seder Dinner

### Fri., Apr. 6 - Good Friday

Office Closed

7:00 Good Friday Service

### April 8 - April 14

#### Mon., Apr. 9

Office Closed

4:00 WEM

6:30 Personnel

6:30 JCVC at South Park

7:00 Worship/Music

#### Tues., Apr. 10

3:30 Stewardship

7:00 Circle of Love

#### Wed., Apr. 11

1:30 Finance

6:30 Church in Society

#### Thurs., Apr. 12

10:00 PP&E

6:00 Men's Brotherhood

7:00 Covenant to Care

#### Sat., Apr. 14

9:30 Book Club in church Library

### April 15 - April 21

#### Mon., Apr. 16

1:00 Prayer Shawl Ministry in Library

6:30 JCVC at Broadway

#### Tues., Apr. 17

6 a.m.-7 p.m. Election Day

#### Wed., Apr. 18

5:00 Meal Site

#### Thur., Apr. 19

6:30 Prayer Shawl Ministry in Library

### April 22 - April 30

#### Mon., Apr. 23

9:12 Foot Clinic

1:30 PW Coordinating Team

6:30 Session

#### Tues., Apr. 24

12:00 VIP

7:00 Covenant to Care

#### Thurs., Apr. 26

7:00 Deacons

Touchpoints mailed

#### Mon., Apr. 30

6:30 JCVC at Good Shepherd



### Sunday Attendance:

	Feb 25	Mar 4	Mar 11	Mar 18
10:00 Service	N/A	134	100	122

### Income:

Mar 4	\$	32,413.85
Mar 11	\$	3,953.62
Mar 18	\$	3,705.94
Mar Food Pantry	\$	93.50



### Name Change:

Delores Wiederkehr to Delores Kirkwood

### Address Change:

Jenny Archibald  
9600 Turkey Hollow Road  
Taylor Ridge, IL 61284

### Telephone Number Change:

Wendy Terronez  
(309) 299-9223

### Deaths: Ruth Foss, James Neifing, Kermit Schroder

**Meal Site** - Thank you to those who provided food and helped serve at the Meal Site on Wed., Mar. 21. There will be a sign up sheet in the Parlor in April if you would like to help provide food for the Apr. 18 Meal Site.

# PARISH NURSE CORNER MRSA Infection



Methicillin-resistant staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) infection is caused by staphylococcus aureus bacteria - often call "staph". Years ago, a strain of staph started in hospitals that was resistant to broad-

by Joanne Stice

spectrum antibiotics commonly used to treat it. It was one of the first germs to be resistant to all but the most powerful drugs.

Staph bacteria are normally found on the skin or in the nose of about one-third of the population. Health people can have staph and not have any ill effects. Staph bacteria are generally harmless unless they enter the body through a cut or wound. They can cause only minor skin problems in healthy people. In older adults and people who are ill or who have weakened immune systems, ordinary staph infections can cause serious illness called MRSA or MERSA. Today MRSA is responsible for many serious skin and soft tissue infections and a serious form of pneumonia. Vancomycin is one of the few antibiotics still effective against hospital strains of MRSA infection. The drug is not effective in every case.

### Signs and Symptoms:

Staph infections generally start as small red bumps that are like pimples, boils or spider bites.

They can quickly turn into abscesses or can be confined to the skin. The can also cause infections in the bones, joints, surgical wounds, bloodstream, heart valves, and lungs.

### Causes:

#### Unnecessary antibiotic use in humans.

For years antibiotics have been prescribed for colds, flu and other viral infections that don't respond to these drugs, as well as other simple bacterial infections that normally clear on their own.

**Antibiotics in food and water.** prescription drugs aren't the only source of antibiotics in the

USA. Antibiotics can be found in beef cattle, pigs, and chickens. The same antibiotics then find their way into municipal water systems when the runoff from feedlots contaminates streams and groundwater. Routine feeding of antibiotics to animals is banned in European Union and many other industrialized countries. Antibiotics given in proper doses to animals who are sick don't appear to produce resistant bacteria.

**Germ mutation.** Even when antibiotics are used properly, they contribute to the rise of drug-resistant bacteria because they don't destroy every germ they target. Germs that survive treatment with one antibiotic soon learn to resist others. Bacteria mutate so much quicker than new drugs can be produced, so some germs end up resistant to just about everything.

### Risk Factors:

- A current or recent hospitalization.
- Residing in a long-term care facility.
- Invasive devices - catheter, IVs or feeding tubes.
- Young children - cuts or scrapes.
- Participating in contact sports - skin to skin contact or cuts and abrasions.
- Sharing towels or athletic equipment.
- Having weakened immune system.
- Living in crowded or unsanitary conditions.

### Treatment:

Vancomycin or other antibiotics are used. Sometimes the doctor will drain the abscess to try to treat rather than use antibiotics.

### Prevention:

The best way to prevent the spread of germs is to wash the hands frequently. In the hospital people with MRSA are put in isolation and visitors and healthcare workers are required to wear protective garments and must follow strict handwashing procedures.

Joanne Stice, Parish Nurse

**Church Women United** - Upcoming Human Rights Celebration, sponsored by the Church Women United Local Units, will be at The Mark of the Quad Cities, Moline, on Sat., Mar. 31. Sign-in at 9:00 a.m. with brunch at 9:30. Cost is \$10, payable with registration, no later than Mon., Mar. 26. Make checks payable to Church Women United and send to Rosemary Ward, 1420 25th Ave., Moline, IL 61265. Vince Thomas will be honored with the Human Right Award at this event. The offering will be for the ongoing work of Church Women United nationally as they work for peace and justice.

**Circle of Virtue** - will be meeting on Tues., Apr. 3, at 9:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

**Book Club** - We will meet on Sat., Apr. 14, at 9:30 a.m., in the church Library. The book for the month is *Marley and Me* by John Grogan. Call Dorothy Meyer, 793-1323, if you have any questions.

**Covenant to Care** - The scheduled meetings for April are:

Thurs., Apr. 12, 7:00 p.m. at Jerry & Donna Schroeder's home.

Tues., Apr. 24, 7:00 p.m. at Margaret Grossman's home..

If you have any questions, please contact Brenda Thompson, 788-7769.

**Men's Brotherhood** will meet Apr. 12, in the church Dining Room at 6:00 p.m. The cost is \$6.00. Reservations are needed (if before the meeting you find that you are not able to attend, please call Gary or Bob, numbers below, to cancel your reservation). We have a great program for you. We have Mr. Hignight from Hignight Florist and the P.W. will be planning the menu. It's always good. If you want to come and you don't get a call from our calling committee, give Gary Hendren, 788-9442, or Bob Coatney, 788-2620, a call. It is a great time of fellowship. See you on Apr. 12.



**V.I.P.** - We will meet on **Tues., Apr. 24, at noon**, for the monthly potluck in the church Dining Room. Everyone is invited to enjoy fellowship, good food and a bundle of laughs..

Our program will be "Humor is Chocolate Cake for the Soul" presented by LaNeva Birkel. LaNeva will share her collection of humor with us.

Serving as your hosts will be Jean Wilson, Kay Pierceson, Shirley Work and Barbara Weber. Frances Langston will give devotions. LaNeva Birkel will MC. **Call a friend or neighbor and offer them a ride.** Please bring your own table service and a dish to share. Beverages will be furnished.

Anyone that is unable to attend the potluck is welcome for the program at 12:45/1:00. **Come and take home a smile!!**

VIP/Jan Fitzpatrick

**Women of South Park** - Broadway Presbyterian Church, 710-23rd St., Rock Island is hosting a Spring PW Gathering on Monday, Apr. 23, at 5:30 p.m. You are invited to a presentation of "Preacher Woman", a play by Louise Epperson about the life and ministry of Louisa Mariah Woosley, the first Presbyterian woman to be ordained. A catered spaghetti supper follows in the Fellowship Hall. Supper reservations are required - \$6.00 per person. Contact Lois Larson, 764-3968, or Ginny McKee, 786-5985. Reservations deadline is Friday, Apr. 13. Invite a friend - you don't have to be a PW to come. Child care provided.



**Coming:  
Sunday, April 29**

February brought trying times for many of our members and friends. Those with no power learned just how much we depend on our comforts. Doing without is the normal life for many people in Rock Island. The Church in Society Committee is forming a bond with the Church of Peace and their Emergency Assistance Program to allow our church members to help some of the citizens of Rock Island. Your first opportunity is coming on the fifth Sunday of April. On that Sunday we will be collecting personal hygiene products. **Toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, tissues, shampoo, deodorant, Qtips, combs, lotion** - think of all the things we use others may not have. Look for the boxes in the Parlor April 29. **Let's fill them!**

**Communion Sign-Up** - The Session has agreed to add more communion Sundays instead of just the 1st Sunday of the month. With these added Sundays we need to be aware of the fact that we need more people to sign up for being servers and also we need people to sign up to bake (or prepare) bread and to help set up for these extra communion Sundays. Both sign up sheets are on the bulletin board in the Narthex. Please consider being a server or to prepare the elements. Thank you.

*Carol Hough, Worship & Music*

**Per Capita Update** - Per capita payments fund Synod, Presbytery and General Assembly, who in turn provide support and resources to our church. South Park's obligation for per capita in 2007 is \$10,220.08. If you have not as yet given the \$25.57 for each church member of your household, in addition to your pledge, we ask that you consider doing so. Thank you to those members who have already made this commitment.

The Stewardship Team

**Circa 21 Cook Books** - The Fellowship Committee will be selling "Church Basement Ladies Casserole Cookbooks". Circa 21 is publishing all 95 recipes that were submitted for the contest, listing the name that submitted the recipe and the name of the church. SPPC was not one of the chosen recipes. The cost is \$5.00 for the cookbooks. The cookbooks will be available after March 31st in the Parlor.

**Books** - Our church is fortunate to have both an adult and children's library. There is a wonderful collection of all kinds of books. The children's books are beautiful. These books are available to you with a simple sign out. Betty Kramer (who loves "her" South Park so dearly) has come up with an idea to share some of these. Look for part of the collection on a table in the Narthex.

**Reminder** - Those who have made reservations to attend the **Church Basement Ladies** play at Circa 21 on May 9th need to pay the \$33 due in cash or check made payable to Jan Fitzpatrick. This amount is due by April 15th.

*Jan Fitzpatrick*

**Nominating Committee** - We regret that in last month's issue of Touchpoints the name of Murray Pople was not listed. Listed below is the current complete list of Nominating Committee members:

- Joyce Hendren, Elder and Chair
- Joanna Brooks
- Chris Hong, 2nd Elder
- Frances Langston
- Virginia Plutz
- Murray Pople
- Sue Roberts
- Emma Vandercar, 3 year term



**Thank You** - I would like to thank everyone who purchased a QC Dining Club book. I am happy to report 122 books were sold which gave South Park Church a profit of \$1,220. I hope you enjoy using your books.


*Dick Yates*

**With My Thanks** - I want to thank everyone for your prayers, cards, letters and phone calls during my recent stay in the Washington DC area. With God's help and your encouragement, I am feeling much better. It is great to be home. Thank you once again.

*Dorothy Meyer*

**Thank You** - to all who prayed for my son-in-law who underwent heart surgery earlier in March. The surgery was successful. Your prayers and support were greatly appreciated.

*Cheryl Pople*



***Our Deepest Sympathies to...***

*...the family and friends of **Ruth Foss**, who passed away on March 6, 2007.*

*the family and friends of **James Neifing**, who passed away on March 10, 2007.*

*...the Schroder family upon the recent death of **Kermit Schroder** on March 12, 2007.*

## Are We Presbyterians Ready to Explore the Unknown?

The unknown can be frightening! Centuries ago, the unknown at the sea's horizon was a long fall off of the world. Throughout history, many were not afraid of the unknown whether it was explorers, inventors or the group of men who started this country. The Wright brothers figured out how to get a plane in the air. Later, another person by the name of Yeager was not afraid of an unknown called the sound barrier and flew a rocket plane faster than the speed of sound.

Many are afraid of the unknown and would rather have someone else experience it first to make sure everything is alright. Some get used to their lives the way that are and do not want to change anything, but nothing is forever. My Dad never rode in an airplane, while I had my own plane in which he never rode...but Dad was not one of those who was afraid to try something new; rather, he had a passion and excitement for new state-of-the-art ideas. He formed the first conservation district, farmed on contours, was the first to plant soybeans and use hybrid seed corn, built a large lake and always had the latest farm machinery.

Here on Earth, we get pretty used to our way of life, our daily routine, our 24-hour days and standards of measurement, but we need to put things in perspective. A flea is small to a dog but smaller to an elephant. Our Earth is big but 100 times smaller than the sun. Our solar system is but one of millions in our galaxy. Our space shuttle flies 17,000 miles an hour

and would take over a million light years to leave our galaxy. To carry this to extreme, our Earth could be just a piece of dust in someone else's living room. The Wright brothers first flight was shorter than the wingspan of a Boeing 777.

Although our astronauts had many new experiences on their space trips, they had a stronger feeling about a creator than many might think. Buzz Aldrin said, "It was like God showing me around." And many of these astronauts were from the heartland of the United States and were Presbyterian.

But what about us and Presbyterians a thousand years from now? Do we have the 'right stuff' to introduce a change? Do we have the passion and drive to push for exploring uniting with other Presbyterians? The big opposing view seems to be a deep resentment to merge with Presbyterians who don't look like us. No one said it would be easy and, regardless of the outcome, all of us will be affected by this experience of working for uniting. It wasn't easy for those Colonists back in the old days or as difficult as starting a new church on the frontier. All we have to do is encourage people to realize what the future will bring if we join together and pool our resources or what the future will be like if all of us insist on going our separate ways. In this endeavor, I believe we are the ones to make it work; God is here only to supervise.

*Frank Youngquist,*  
Broadway representative to JCVC

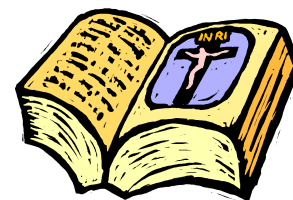
## Sunday Morning 5-Session Course -

Rev. Juan A Jimenez, S.T.B., Presbyterian Church (USA) retired, a frequent visitor to our Sunday worship, is leading a 5-session course, "**An Introduction to the Book of Confessions**", which began on Sun., Mar. 18 and will continue through Sun., Apr. 15 from 9:00-9:50 each Sunday morning in the Fellowship Hall. (Searchers class is participating in this special course.)

This course combines both Church History and Theology and should be helpful to those who may have been wondering whose "confessions" could possibly be included in a book published by the PCUSA! A large-print edition of the Book of Confessions is provided for course participants.

### THE COURSE:

- March 18 The Confessional Nature of the Church
- March 25 Two Creeds of the Ancient Church
- April 1 Six Confessions and Catechisms of the Reformation
- April 8 Two Confessions of the 20th Century
- April 15 A Brief Statement of Faith



## ONE

### Great Hour of Sharing

Who is my neighbor? Luke 10:29

During Lent, especially on Palm Sunday and Easter

In the year since you last gave to One Great Hour of Sharing, there have mercifully been fewer major disasters than in either of the two previous years. Nevertheless, it takes years to recover from the destruction of a hurricane, earthquake, or tsunami, so recovery will continue for some time, though recovery efforts have moved more toward rebuilding. In the past year, thousands of Presbyterians have given their time and talents to helping people in the Gulf Coast region rebuild their homes and lives. In the process of meeting and helping these new neighbors, many of those volunteers have found their own lives profoundly changed by the experience.

At the same time, the ministry of One Great Hour of Sharing is continuing to help our neighbors who have suffered from poverty, hunger, and lack of opportunity find a foothold on more solid ground. Thanks to your gifts, both the immediate and the long-term ministries of One Great Hour of Sharing continue to be a faithful witness to the love of God in Jesus Christ throughout the year and around the world.