

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

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Permit #70  
Rock Island, IL 61201-3797

**Christian Education**  
**9:00 a.m. on Sundays**

**God's Wisdom Honors Children**

Second Annual Human Rights  
Celebration and Brunch

Sponsored by

Church Women United

Rock Island/Milan, East Moline/Silvis units  
March 29, 2008

iwireless CENTER, Moline, IL

Registration 9:00 a.m.

Brunch and Celebration 9:30 a.m.

Cost: \$10.00

Honoree: BETHANY FOR CHILDREN & FAMILIES

Brunch reservations should be made by Mar. 21

**Send your check to: Harriet Plutz**  
**3022 18th Avenue**  
**Rock Island IL 61201**

**CHURCH WOMEN UNITED**  
**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER**

**PLACE:** First United  
Presbyterian Church  
1604 West 1st Street Milan

**DATE & TIME:** March 7, 2008

**REGISTRATION:** 9:00 a.m.

**OPENING:** 9:30 a.m.

**LUNCH:** \$5.00

**Reservations by Monday, March 3**  
**Call reservations to Frances Langston 786-1462**



Church Office: 786-6466 Fax: 786-6470 Pastor Virginia's Cell No: (309) 716-9515

Pastor Virginia Murray's Personal Email address: vmurray1@sbcglobal.net

Pastor Virginia Murray's Church Email address: virginiam@spchurchqc.org

Administrative Assistant Email: 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

1501 30th Street, Rock Island, IL 61201-3797

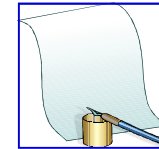
No Subscription Charge to members and friends

**SOUTH PARK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

# TOUCHPOINTS

VOLUME 26, ISSUE 2

FEBRUARY 28, 2008



**From the**  
**Pastor's Pen**

### *Spring is A'Comin!*

*Wow! This has been a long, difficult winter. But today there are definite signs of spring. The sun is out, the air is warming, the ice is melting! Even the trees and shrubs are beginning to swell in anticipation of buds.*

*For most of us it is none too soon. We have all grown weary of the struggles necessitated by winter. The New Year may be January 1 on the calendar but in our hearts it really occurs when the first crocus pushes up through the snow.*

*In a sense it is the absolutely perfect time for Easter. What better news could we celebrate than the resurrection of Jesus Christ!*

*This year we will have a full array of worship services to lead us through Holy Week and the experience of Easter. Please keep this copy of 'Touchpoints' handy to consult for dates and times. It is important that we participate in Christ's crucifixion (Maundy Thursday and Good Friday) if we want to truly understand and appreciate the resurrection. Yes, Easter is a joyous, splendid celebration but it is so much more to us if we have immersed ourselves in the events leading up to it.*

*Also mark your calendars for **Tuesday, March 4** when we join with sister Presbyterian churches of the Quad Cities for the next **Lenten experience**. This will be our turn to host this annual event. We gather at 6:00 p.m. for a **light supper of soup and dessert and then worship together. You will be finished by 7:15 p.m.***

*In the meantime enjoy the coming of Spring!*

*Rev. Virginia Murray*

# Touchpoints Publication Schedule

Next Touchpoints will be mailed on Thursday, Mar. 27. The deadline for articles to be submitted is Sun., Mar. 23.

## Church Services Schedule

(see enclosed March calendar for all events)

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

**Sunday, March 2** **Communion**

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

**Wednesday, March 5**

11:00 am Mid-week Worship Service

**Sunday, March 9** **Gifts of Women Sunday**

**Daylight Savings Time Begins**  
9:00 Church School  
10:00 Worship Service Sanctuary

**Wednesday, March 12**

11:00 Mid-week Worship Service

**Sunday, March 16** **Palm Sunday**

Churches United Food Pantry  
Parish Nurse  
9:00 Church School  
10:00 Worship Service Sanctuary  
11:15 Pancake Brunch Dining Room

**Wednesday, March 19**

11:00 Mid-week Worship Service

**Thursday, March 20**

7:00 Maundy Thursday Worship Service

**Friday, March 21**

7:00 Good Friday Worship Service

**Sunday, March 23**

Recycling *Easter*  
7:00 Sunrise Service  
8-9 Easter Breakfast  
9:00 Church School  
10:00 Worship Service Sanctuary  
Touchpoints articles due

**Wednesday, March 26**

11:00 Mid-week Worship Service

**Sunday, March 30**

9:00 Church School  
10:00 Worship Service Sanctuary



## Holy Week Easter Schedule

**Sunday, March 16**

**Palm Sunday**

10:00 Worship with Holy Communion

**Thursday, March 20**

**Maundy Thursday**

7:00 p.m. Worship Service

**Friday, March 21**

**Good Friday**

7:00 p.m. - Good Friday Service

**Sunday, March 23**

**Celebration of the Resurrection**

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

**Easter Breakfast**

The Fellowship Committee will be serving Easter Breakfast on Sunday morning, March 23, from 8:00 - 9:00 a.m. 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



# Church Events Calendar



**Week of March 2-8**

**Mon., March 3**

1:00 Circle of Faith  
3:00 Personnel  
3:15 Tutoring (also March 10)  
7:00 C.E.

**Tues., March 4**

9:00 T.O.P.S. (every Tues.)  
9:30 Circle of Virtue in Dining Room  
7:30 Handbells (every Tues.)  
7:30 Fellowship  
7:30 Membership Development

**Wed., March 5**

7:00 Choir Rehearsal (every Wed)

**Thurs., March 6**

9:30 PW Mission  
7:00 Covenant to Care

**Sat., March 8**

9:30 Book Club

**Week of March 9-15**

**Mon., March 10**

4:00 WEM  
7:00 Worship/Music

**Tues., March 11**

1:00 Finance  
3:30 Stewardship  
7:00 Circle of Love

**Wed., March 12**

6:30 Church in Society

**Thurs., March 13**

10:00 PP&E

**Week of March 16-22**

**Mon., March 17**

1:00 Prayer Shawl Ministry

**Tues., March 18**

7:30 Covenant to Care

**Wed., March 19**

5:00 Meal Site

**Thurs., March 20**

7:00 Maundy Thursday Service

**Fri., March 21**

Office Closed  
7:00 Good Friday Service

**Week of March 23-29**

**Mon., March 24**

Office Closed  
1:30 PW Coordinating Team  
6:30 Session

**Tues., March 25**

12:00 VIP

**Wed., March 26**

**No Choir Rehearsal**

**Thurs., March 27**

7:00 Deacons

**Sunday Attendance:**

	Jan 20	Jan 27	Feb 3	Feb 10
10:00 Service	77	129	95	76
	Feb 17	Feb 24		
	80	106		

**Income:**

Jan 20	\$3,200.00
Jan 27	\$4,181.53
Feb 3	\$8,036.89
Feb 10	\$2,950.50
Feb 17	\$2,140.00
Feb 24	\$4,517.00
Feb Food Pantry	\$162.50



**Deaths: Dean Robinson**

**Meal Site** - Thank you to those who provided food and helped serve at the Meal Site on Wednesday, February 20. There will be a sign up sheet in the Parlor in March if you would like to help provide food for the March 19 Meal Site.

**PNC Update** - The Pastor Nominating Committee is diligently working on a weekly basis. We have received PIFs from interested pastors and we are beginning to read them and sort through the information they contain. We still have a long way to go, but we are moving forward in this journey. Pray for our guidance in selecting the most qualified candidate. *Carol Hough, PNC Member*

**P N U R S E  
A R I S H  
C O R N E R**



**Hiatal Hernia**

Hiatal hernia is a weakness or stretching of the hiatus (an opening for the esophagus) located in the diaphragm (the broad, thin muscle separating the chest cavity and the abdominal cavity). When

by Joanne Stice

this opening becomes weakened, gastric (stomach) acid flows backward from the stomach into the esophagus and irritates it. The stomach may even protrude into the lower chest.

**Signs and symptoms:** Usually develops within 1 hour or more of eating. "Heartburn" (burning sensation in the area of the heart and behind the breastbone). May be confused with heart attack symptoms. Belching or burping. Swallowing difficulty (rare).

**Causes:** Unknown

**Risks:** Congenital weakness in the muscular ring of the diaphragm through which the esophagus passes and empties into the stomach. Abdominal injury, causing tremendous pressure that tears a hole in some part of the diaphragm. Chronic constipation and straining during a bowel movement. Obesity. Pregnancy. Constant straining or lifting with tightening of abdominal muscles. Smoking. Age over 50.

**Possible complications:** Bleeding from the esophagus. Misdiagnosis as a heart attack.

**Treatment:** Diagnosis-esogastrosocopy (passage of a viewing tube down the throat into the esophagus). The primary goals of treatment are to relieve symptoms and to manage and prevent complication. Raise the head of the bed 4 to 6 inches; this allows gravity to keep the stomach acid away from the hernia. Don't wear tight pantyhose, girdles, belts or pants. Don't strain during bowel movements, urination or lifting. Surgery to close the weakness in the diaphragm and keep the stomach in place.

**Medication:** Antacids, these are more effective

for some persons when they take them 1 hour before meals and at bedtime. Others find them more helpful 1 or 2 hours after meals and at bedtime. Stool softeners. Drugs which hasten gastric emptying may be prescribed.

**Activity:** Don't bend over or lie down immediately after eating.

**Diet:** Avoid large meals. Eat 4 to 5 small meals a day. Don't eat for at least 2 hours before bedtime. Lose weight. Frequent symptoms may disappear with weight loss. Avoid alcoholic beverages, caffeine-containing beverages (coffee, tea, coca, cola drinks) and any other food, juice or spice that aggravates symptoms. Eat slowly. Notify doctor if you have symptoms of a hiatal hernia and you have the sensation that food stops beneath the breastbone. Call immediately if pain is accompanied by shortness of breath, sweating or nausea. Vomiting of blood or recurrent vomiting occurs.

Joanne Stice, Parish Nurse

**Faith Journey** - The Session is exploring ways to provide more activities and opportunities for our more "seasoned" members to follow their faith journey with other members of the congregation, the neighborhood and community.

However, we feel it would be foolish to make plans without your input. What activities would you make use of? Our Wednesday morning mid-week worship service is blossoming. The light lunch has been a favorite - would you have fun staying for an afternoon of conversation, Bible study, games, exercise, card playing, speakers, genealogy classes, **life story writing**, meals or activities after church on Sunday? Group will start March 5 at 1:30 p.m. Please talk to Annette Iglehart: 788-6200.



**Points of Interest**

**Circle of Virtue** - We will meet on Tues., March 4, at 9:30 a.m. in the Dining Room. *Maxine Patterson*

**Book Club** - We will meet on Sat., March 8, at 9:30 a.m. in the South Park Church Library. Everyone is welcome. We will read and discuss the book, One Child by Toren L. Hayden. Call Dorothy Meyer, 793-1323, if you have any questions.

**Covenant to Care** - We will meet Thurs., March 6, 7:00 p.m., at Jesse & Lee Evans and on Tues., March 18, 7:30 p.m. at Jerry and Donna Schroeder's home.

**V.I.P.** - VIP will meet on Tues., March 25 at noon for our monthly potluck in the dining room. Everyone is invited to gather for good fellowship music and fun. Our program will be Gary Berg, who will play guitar music from Classical, Flamenco, Jazz, Finger-style blues and slow contemporary music. The host committee will be Barbara Weber and Elnora Benson. Betty Miller will give devotions, LaNeva Birkel will be our MC. Please bring a dish to share, your own table service with a cup and/or a glass. Beverages are provided.

Anyone that is unable to attend the potluck is welcome to come for the program at 1:00/1:45. Come, bring a friend and have fun, and take home a smile in your heart. For more information call 787-3830. *VIP/D. & B. Berg*

**Easter Flowers** - Purchase your Easter flowers to honor "loved ones". They will be used to grace the Sanctuary on Easter Sunday. You may place your order after a Sunday service or by mailing this order form to the church office by Friday, March 14.



**MEMORIAL  
EASTER FLOWER  
ORDER FORM**

Please fill out the order form and mail to:

**EASTER FLOWERS**  
c/o South Park Presbyterian Church  
1501 30<sup>th</sup> Street, Rock Island, IL 61201

*Don't forget to include your check  
in the correct amount,  
per plant ordered, designated  
"EASTER FLOWERS"  
and payable to  
South Park Presbyterian Church.  
Orders must be received no later than*

**Friday, March 14**

**TYPE OF FLOWER (check one):**

*Lily (\$8.00) \_\_\_\_\_ Tulip (\$8.00) \_\_\_\_\_  
Daffodil (\$8.00) \_\_\_\_\_ Hyacinth (\$8.00) \_\_\_\_\_*

**In Memory of:**

**From:**

*(Please pick up your flowers following the  
Easter Sunday morning worship service. Af-  
ter Sunday, April 6, the flowers remaining  
will be removed from the church.)*

**Lenten Services** - Once again the local Presbyterian churches are joining together for worship services during Lent from 6 p.m.-7:15 p.m. Mark your calendars and plan to attend. This is an excellent opportunity to focus our minds and spirits on the incredible love of God through Jesus Christ. There will be a brief time of worship and a light supper consisting of soup, bread and dessert. Remaining services are:

March 4        South Park  
March 11       Milan

**Economic Stimulus Package** - Individuals who do not normally file an income tax return because of low income or social security income only, should consider filing a return this year to get the stimulus payment.

*Karla Husted*  
*Thomas Hammar's Office, CPA*  
*309-788-5543*

**Head Start/Preschool Program** - Rock Island/Milan School District #41 is taking applications for the 08/09 school year for children ages 3, 4, and 5 not eligible for kindergarten, whose families reside in the Rock Island/Milan school area. Applications are being taken from 7 a.m. - 3 p.m., Monday through Friday at the Head Start/Preschool office, 2101 6th Avenue, Rock Island. For more information, or to schedule an appointment at a different time, call the Head Start/Preschool office at 793-5900, ext. 241.

*Hallelujah!*  
*Christ the Lord is Risen!*

### **From the Music Department**

As we think about music in our church we realize how vital it is to our worship service. We express our love of God through our congregational singing, adult choir, bell choir and of course our youth choir.

The bells are beautiful to listen to and also beautiful to watch. Their message is very clear. We are praising God through musical talent and instruments at South Park Church.

The adult choir bring the message of "here we are to worship".

The **youth choir** is always inspiring and I am richly blessed to be able to direct and teach them the important role Christian music will play in their lives. I believe that the youth choir is potentially one of the greatest agencies that the church possesses for building future strength. No other organization has greater natural opportunity for training in those qualities that characterize strong Christian faith. Other youth organizations are character-building, but the youth choir offers the opportunity of responsibility for the worship attitudes of the entire congregation.

When the youth enter the sanctuary as a youth choir, they become ministers of music and efforts to meeting that obligation create a consciousness of worship to a degree that is otherwise difficult to attain. I believe that what the children and youth absorb consciously from their association with fine music, high ideas, and participation in public worship may have greater values than what we consciously teach them. Changing the name of the youth choir to 'Joyful Sounds' would be very fitting for these motivated youth. Let us as Christians support our music ministry in praise, thanksgiving and prayer.

**Alleluia! Alleluia!**

*Kenn Logan, Director of Music*

**Tutoring** - I followed the children to the elevator to wish them a final "Happy Valentine's Day" and they chorused back "Happy Valentine's Day to you." They then trekked off for their homeward drive in our church van each carrying a Valentine sack containing a book, a pencil and assorted goodies. And so ended another tutoring session with the children increasing their learning to read and also learning that people care. As always, there is an open invitation to visit a session and discover the warmth and caring taking place from 3:15 to 4:30 on Mondays at South Park in the Ed. Center.

*Patty Henneman*

**Thank You** - a belated but sincere thank you to Joanne Stice for her hospital visits and following phone calls during and after my surgery last October and my current chemotherapy. Thanks to the Prayer Shawl ministry for my beautiful shawl (it goes with me to chemotherapy), especially to Harriet Plutz for her delivery and visit (with lots of empathy and good information). Thanks to the Deacons for my yummy "Thinking of You" bag and to Carol Pearson for delivering it on a less than pleasant weather day. Thanks to Carol Kramer for covering the church school class I had committed to before learning of my cancer diagnosis. Thanks to everyone for their prayers and good wishes, communicated to me by my sister, Sue Gordon. I have been suffering with severe cold neuropathy from one of my chemo drugs, so I haven't been to church (or much of anywhere, other than work and the doctor), but have changed drugs and the neuropathy is improving, so I hope to see all of you soon and to be a contributing part of my church family again!

*Lisa A. Gisel*

**Thank You** - to John & Marilyn Terry and Dick & Judy Yates for collating the Annual Report in January. It was very much appreciated.

*Office Staff*

**Thanks to My Church Friends** - for their love and support in the passing of my husband Dean.

*Irene Robinson*

**Thank You** - to South Park Presbyterian Church for your generous contribution of \$50.00 to the Marine Toys for Tots Foundation.

*William J. Grein*  
*Maj, USMC (Ret)*

**Thank You** - to South Park Presbyterian Church for your donation of hand knitted hats and gloves.

*Mrs. Teresa Campbell, Secretary*  
*Rock Island Primary Academy*

**Thank You** - to South Park Presbyterian Church for your gift in support of Christian Care's ministry to help the homeless, hungry, and abused in our community.

*Deb Walker & the Staff*  
*Christian Care*

