

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

You love your children. You want them to grow up to be responsible, loving citizens of God's world with a strong faith that will see them through the tough times as well as the times of joy. But raising children these days is a daunting task. **Let your church help you.** When we baptize children the congregation takes a very serious vow on behalf of your child. In that vow the congregation promises to help you raise your child to know Jesus Christ to love Him and serve Him.

To keep this vow we provide an education program designed to meet just those needs of your child. We have **regular classes for the young children** each week plus **an outstanding confirmation program** for the older youth. In addition we have an active **Youth Group for Jr. and Sr. High** youth that gives our young people a chance to explore their faith in ways that relate to their daily lives. Of course we had an energetic Vacation Bible School this past summer as well. We

take these programs very seriously and hope you will maximize these opportunities for your family.

August 24
Educators Brunch
11:30 a.m.

September 7
Genesis Sunday
(Sunday School begins at 9:00 a.m.)



with
Ice Cream Social
and Lunch
following worship service

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, 8:00-3:30 p.m.

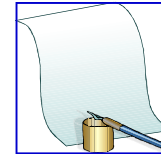
Touchpoints is published monthly by South Park Presbyterian Church
1501 30th Street, Rock Island, IL 61201-3797
No Subscription Charge to members and friends

SOUTH PARK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

TOUCHPOINTS

VOLUME 26, ISSUE 7

JULY 31, 2008



From the Pastor's Pen

It's Been a Great Journey!!

Wow! What a journey this has been as we have worked together for over a year and a half to make South Park a church God can be proud of. As I prepare to leave at the end of August I look back with joy and delight at what we have accomplished.

Yes, we have hit a few speed bumps along the way but you have handled those with grace and dignity. We have successfully eased our way over those bumps and are making significant strides in our ministry both to those in the church and those in our community.

You have given generously of your time, your talent and your money to touch the lives of so many with the love of Jesus Christ. And that generosity of Spirit has been and continues to be blessed by the God who looks to us to do His Will here on earth.

This is a "can-do" church. Success breeds more success. Our education program is thriving with a staff of highly talented people dedicated to our children. We have greatly expanded our worship with an additional service each Wednesday morning plus a new program of services at Friendship Manor where a number of our folk now reside. The new piano is a welcome addition in making our services meaningful and inspiring. We have more Fellowship activities than ever. Deacon's ministry is on the go.

We are constantly improving our outreach in mission to those around us. The tutoring program will begin again in September. The Meal Site program continues to expand. The offerings for the Church of Peace social network are amazing. Your response to the needs of flood victims was outstanding. Contributions to all special offerings (Joy Offering, Peacemaking, and One Great Hour of Sharing, Blanket Sunday) have helped many.

We are rapidly moving toward being a church focused on living as God asks. There is still a lot to be done but we are headed in the right direction.

We have visitors each week and several have chosen to join the church.

You can be proud to be a part of God's ministry in this place. I pray for God's continuing blessing upon you as you seek to serve Him.

Rev. Virginia Murray

Touchpoints Publication Schedule

Next Touchpoints will be mailed on Thursday, August 28. The deadline for articles to be submitted is Sun., August 24.

Church Services Schedule

(see enclosed August calendar for all events)

Church Office Hours: Mon.-Fri., 8:00-3:30

Sunday, August 3

10:00 Worship Service

Communion

Sanctuary

Wednesday, August 6

11:00 Mid-week Worship Service

Sunday, August 10

10:00 Worship Service with child Baptism of Thomas Elliott

Blanket Sunday

Sanctuary

Wednesday, August 13

11:00 Mid-week Worship Service

Sunday, August 17

Churches United Food Pantry

Parish Nurse

10:00 Worship Service

Sanctuary

Farewell Luncheon for Pastor Virginia following worship service in Dining Room

Wednesday, August 20

11:00 Mid-week Worship Service

Sunday, August 24

Pastor Virginia's last day with us

Recycling

10:00 Worship Service

Sanctuary

with child Baptism of Hayden Vance

Educator Brunch following service

Touchpoints articles deadline

Wednesday, August 27

11:00 Mid-week Worship Service

Points of Interest

Blanket Sunday - Did you ever see a suffering child and just want to scoop that child up and wrap them in a warm, cozy blanket? In times of tragedy it is difficult to know just how to help but here is one simple solution. **Reach in your wallet and pull out a few five dollar bills. Each of those will wrap that child up for you.** The offering will be received on Aug. 10 during worship. Mail-in donations are also very welcome.



Farewell Luncheon

for

Rev. Virginia Murray

Sunday, August 17

11:30 a.m.

in Dining Room

This luncheon will give us opportunity to share our heartfelt thanks to Virginia for her time of service at South Park Church. Everyone is welcome.

(Monetary gifts may be dropped off or mailed to the church office.)



Church Events Calendar



Week of August 3 - August 9

Mon., August 4

3:00 Personnel
7:00 C.E.

Tues., August 5

9:00 T.O.P.S. (every Tues.)
10:00 Vision Council
6:30 Fellowship
7:00 Membership Development

Thurs., August 7

Drop-off for Rummage Sale starts today
7:00 Covenant to Care

Sat., August 9

9:30 Book Club

Week of August 10 - August 16

Mon., August 11

4:00 WEM
5-7 Special evening drop off for Rummage Items
7:00 Worship/Music

Tues., August 12

10:00 Worship at Friendship Manor
12-7 Unpack and Sort for Rum. Sale
1:00 Finance
3:30 Stewardship

Wed., August 13

8:30-3:00 Unpack and Sort for Rum. Sale
5:00 Meal Site
6:30 Church in Society

Thurs., August 14

8:30-3:00 Unpack and Sort for Rum. Sale
10:00 PPE

Fri., August 15

8:30-6:00 Rummage Sale

Sat., August 16

8:30-12:00 Rummage Sale

Week of August 17 - August 23

Mon., August 18

1:00 Prayer Shawl Ministry
6:30 Session

Tues., August 19

7:30 Covenant to Care

Wed., August 20

5:00 Meal Site
6:30 Church in Society

Week of August 24 - August 30

Mon., August 25

9-12 Foot Clinic
1:30 PW Coordinating Team

Tues., August 26

12:00 VIP

Thurs., August 27

7:00 Deacons

Sunday Attendance:

	June 29	July 6	July 13	July 20
10:00 Service	166	83	132	99

July 27

10:00 Service 98

Income:

June 29	\$3,581.88
July 6	\$8,589.12
July 13	\$6,349.00
(Combined July 20&27)	\$4,461.46
July Food Pantry	\$133.00



Birth: Olivia Marie born to parents: Jason & Amy Strandberg

New Members:

Thomas & Kathryn Elliott
1425 24 1/2 St.
Rock Island, IL 61201
(309) 558-8924

Deaths: Gary Ostrom, Angela McCarrell (granddaughter of Don & Bette Samuelson)

Meal Site - Thank you to those who provided food and helped serve at the Meal Site on Wednesday, July 16. There will be a sign up sheet in the Parlor in August if you would like to help provide food for the August 20 Meal Site.

PARISH NURSE CORNER



Pseudogout

Pseudogout is an acute inflammatory form of arthritis that usually involves the large joints of the body. Pseudogout involves deposits of crystals in and around the joints like gout. It primarily affects older people

and is more common in men than women. It is usually characterized by acute attacks and the disease often progresses without attacks.

Signs and Symptoms:

Acute attacks of swelling and pain in one or more of the joints.

Joints involved are usually the knee (50%) of the time, ankle, wrist and shoulder.

Attacks may last for two or more days.

Experience freedom from pain or less pain between attacks.

Limitation of motion of a joint.

Fever.

Causes:

Deposits of crystals formed of calcium in the synovial (joint fluid). Why the crystals is formed is unknown.

Increased Risk:

Trauma.

Aging.

Patients hospitalized for other medical or surgical illnesses.

Metabolic diseases - Hypothyroidism, hyperthyroidism, gout, and amyloidosis.

Treatment:

Diagnosis is made by microscopic exam of a sample of joint fluid. This can determine if it is gout which is caused by a different urate crystal.

Treat any underlying metabolic disorder.

Drainage of the inflamed joint.

Moist, warm compresses applied to the affected joint.

Medications:

Nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs to control acute attacks.

Pain medication may be prescribed.

Corticosteroid injection into the joint to relieve symptoms.

Activity:

Avoid putting weight on affected joint during acute attack.

Once pain subsides, begin range of motion exercises or isometric exercises to maintain strength.

Joanne Stice, Parish Nurse

Schedule physicals, eye and dental exams. Check with the doctor to see if you are due for a Tetanus shot.

Ministry with Church of Peace - We are so fortunate to be in a position to support a major mission of the Church of Peace. As you know that church is located in an area of the city where many very needy folk reside. Church of Peace has put into place an excellent ministry to those folk by partnering with other Rock Island Churches.

We are proud to be one of those partners! Each month we collect specific items (toiletries, diapers, hygiene products, etc.) that are distributed along with items from the Food Pantry to those most desperately in need.

Each month we do something different: In May folks from South Park manned the Food Pantry and donated a large collection of toiletries. Now we are looking to donate canned fruit and peanut butter for this month's pantry needs.

Book Club - We will meet on **Sat., Aug. 9**, at 9:30 a.m. in the South Park Church Library. Everyone is welcome. We will read and discuss the book, **The Uncommon Reader** by Alan Bennett. Call Dorothy Meyer, 793-1323, if you have any questions.

Covenant to Care - We will meet on **Thurs., Aug. 7, 7:00 p.m.**, at **Jesse & Lee Evans' home**.

Our second meeting will be on **Tues., Aug. 19, 7:30 p.m.**, at **Margaret Grossman's home**. If you have any questions, please contact Brenda Thompson.

V.I.P. - VIP will gather on **Tues., Aug. 26**, at noon for our monthly potluck, fellowship and learning in the Dining Room. Our program will be **"The Jewel of Africa"**, presented by Karen Hindhede. Karen teaches English at Blackhawk College. She was in the Peace Corps from 1994-1996 where she taught English in Zimbabwe. This program promises to be a very interesting one as she focuses on cultural norms/traditions, education and other things as well.

The host committee will be Kent & Mary Jones and Don & Marilyn Sale. LaNeve Birkel will be our MC. Please bring a dish to share and your own table service along with a cup and/or glass. Beverages are provided.

Anyone that is unable to attend the potluck is welcome to come for the program at 12:45/1:00. Come, bring a friend and have fun as we learn. For more details call 787-3830.

VIP/D. & B. Berg

CHURCH RUMMAGE SALE

(sponsored by Session)



Proceeds for the General Budget

Team Leaders:

Annette Iglehart, Betty Miller, Judy Yates

Friday, August 15 8:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m.
Saturday, August 16 8:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

and at the same times above
Lunch Counter/Bake Sale

How You and Your Family Can Help:

- ☺ **Drop off for Rummage Sale starts: Thurs., Aug. 7 (Special Drop-Off, Aug. 11, 5-7 p.m.) NO rummage accepted after 3 p.m. on Wed., Aug. 13 NO furniture or heavy items**
- ☺ **Sign up sheets in the Parlor through Sun., Aug. 12:**
 - Unpack & Sort**
 - Tues. Aug. 12 12-7 p.m.**
 - Wed. Aug. 13 8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.**
 - Thur. Aug. 14 8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.**
 - Sale Days**
 - Fri. Aug. 15 8:30-6:00 p.m.**
 - Sat. Aug. 16 8:30 a.m.-12 noon**
 - Cleanup**
 - Sat. Aug. 16 Noon til ???**
- ☺ **Donate baked goods and/or money for lunch supplies.**

If any questions, please contact: Annette, 788-6200; Betty 786-5335; or Judy, 787-1422.



♪ Thanks on a Musical Note ♪

This article is to honor Pastor Virginia Murray - to say **thank you** for sharing your ideas, your Christian philosophy on life and your endeavors to help each and every one of us to see beyond the dark clouds and to realize, yes, it is possible to grow in faith and spirit and to strengthen our relationship with our Lord Jesus Christ.

The choir thank you for your support and your appreciation for the role Christian music plays in our everyday life and especially our worship service.

As you leave us you will leave us with the opportunity to continue with many wonderful ideas for our congregation here at South Park and we send with you our prayers and support for your new adventure.

We leave you with a hymn called South Park Presbyterian Church of Rock Island and we pray that you don't forget the words and that you still hum it often...you can make up your own words according to your experience here and pick your own tune.

We will miss you and we will especially miss our dear friend Jasper. We imagine that he will receive a care package every once in awhile.

The first choir rehearsal will be Wednesday, September 3, at 7:15. We hope to see our past members and we welcome anyone who

would like to be a member of the music ministry of our church.

I conclude with this: It was the first meeting of the choir after the summer vacation. There were new members in addition to the faithful "old guard", and the pastor had dropped in to give a word of welcome, and to express appreciation for all the choir had done in the past. "I'll say one more thing", he concluded, and then leave you to your music." (It is some excellent counsel that comes to us from the fourth century, and was given at the Council of Carthage:)

"See that what thou singest with thy lips, thou believest in thy heart, and what thou believest in thy heart, thou dost exemplify in thy life."

In Christ,
Kenn Logan
South Park Music Ministries

Emergency Assistance Program

In the month of August we will collect diapers and money to buy diapers for the Emergency Assistance Program at Church of Peace. Diapers cannot be purchased with food stamps thus making it a very worthwhile help we can provide. Look for the collection boxes and canister in the Parlor.

Church in Society Committee

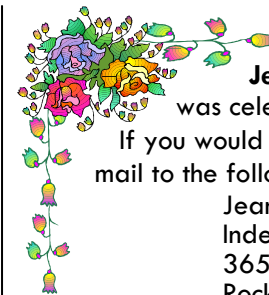
Flood Relief

On Monday, July 7, 19 people from Milan First Presbyterian, Rock Island Broadway, Rock Island Good Shepherd and Rock Island South Park assembled 100 Flood Clean Up Buckets at Broadway. South Park Church contributed 9 complete buckets. On Tuesday, these and 11 other assembled by individuals were delivered to the relief control location in Gladstone, Illinois for use by anyone who is involved with clean up. Each county has their own relief plan and control center. At this time Henderson County think they have enough clean up kits and want more dry laundry detergent, gloves, heavy scrub brooms and heavy squeegees to remove mud from floors.

Relief efforts will continue in Great Rivers Presbytery in Mercer, Hancock and Henderson counties along the Mississippi River. The Presbytery has hired people part time to coordinate our efforts in this relief effort.

The Presbytery has underwritten funds for relief efforts but donations are greatly needed. If you want to donate money, write a check to the South Park Church and mark it Flood Relief and it will get to the proper people to help pay for the buckets already assembled and any future items purchased and donated. If you want to help clean up at a site, contact the South Park Church office and they will get you in contact with the individuals coordinating this effort.

Thank you for your support to date. The damage is great and many people are not allowed to inspect their homes yet as the water is still too high. This effort will continue through the summer and into the fall.



Happy Birthday

Jean Quayle's 89th birthday

was celebrated on July 20, 2008.

If you would like to send a card please mail to the following address:

Jean Quayle
Independence Village B115
3655 N Alpine Rd
Rockford, IL 61114

Congratulations - to Jason & Amy Strandberg upon the birth of their daughter, **Olivia Marie**, on July 14, 2008. She weighed 6 lbs. 9 oz. and was 18" long. Olivia will be welcomed into the family by brother, Seth, who is 3 years old, and also by grandparents, Terry & Sue Gordon and Paul & Sandy Strandberg.

Thank You - A warm thank you to the Prayer Shawl Ministry and to Harriet for bringing it to me. I appreciated her words of prayer shared with Dorothy and I. Gratefully, Les Lind

Thank You - Our heartfelt thanks for your prayers, calls, cards and memorials after the recent death of our granddaughter Angela. A special thank you to Pastor Virginia for organizing and conducting the beautiful prayer service which so many of you attended. Your support meant so much to us and our family.

Sincerely, Don & Bette Samuelson



Our Deepest Sympathies to...

....Don & Bette Samuelson and family upon the death of their granddaughter, **Angela McCarrell**.
....Marilyn Ostrom and family upon the death of **Gary Ostrom**, who passed away on June 26.