

“Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus.”
Hebrews 12:1-2

Dear Southminster,

75 years ago, on September 23rd 1951, a group of individuals gathered for worship at Hickory Grove elementary school. It was the first worship service for Southminster Presbyterian Church.

Even though we worship on different ground today, we would not be here without those original witnesses who sang and prayed and broke bread together not knowing what might come of it. Their commitment to that emerging faith community now allows us, all these years later, to continue their ministry as a cloud of witnesses supporting and serving one another, both now and in the future.

This stewardship season, let us give thanks for this cloud of witnesses that surrounds us as we run the race set before us. Your session shares with you some of the plans they have for 2027 and the resources needed to transform those plans into reality. I hope you will consider how you might take part in sustaining our congregation in 2027.

Southminster may have moved addresses and evolved over the last 75 years, but some things remain the same: This good and faithful cloud of witnesses continues to surround us as we fix our eyes on Christ and run the race set before us. Thanks be to God!

Blessings,
Rev. Caroline Barnett

SAVE THE DATE!

Join Southminster on **Sunday, November 1st** as we celebrate our commitment to the Church! We will have one worship service at 11am, followed by a luncheon with guest speakers Marcy & Tom Langhofer, founders of Do Good for Erin.



HOW TO PLEDGE

Your pledge helps us plan for the upcoming year. Please return pledges to the church by Sunday, November 1st.

1. Mail or bring your card to the church.
2. Complete the EFT (electronic fund transfer) and place in the church treasurer's mailbox.
3. Or fill out a digital pledge card on the "Give" section of our website. (Scan QR code)



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In This Cloud of Witnesses



FIXED & FOCUSED - HEBREWS 12:1-3
BY MOLLY COURCELLE

2027 Stewardship Campaign



Southminster Presbyterian Church
All Are Welcome

In This Cloud of Witnesses: Looking Ahead to 2027



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

- Support families with children and youth. We are excited to expand our opportunities for our families with preschoolers to gather and grow together.
- Provide faith exploration for all ages through Bible studies, discussion groups, guest speakers, and devotionals.



STEWARDSHIP & PERSONNEL

- Continue to steward our financial resources for Southminster's ministry.
- Anticipating the completion of a strategic plan in 2026, we plan to implement the proposed objectives to live out our mission and strengthen our congregation's future.
- Provide cost of living increases for our staff.

2027 Proposed Budget

Building and Grounds	\$109,240
Christian Education.....	\$10,000
Engagement	\$6,500
Family Life	\$3,500
Stewardship and Per Capita.....	\$19,310
Worship	\$19,100
Personnel	\$259,850
Mission Giving	\$47,500
Total 2026 Proposed Budget:	\$475,000

FAMILY LIFE

- Collaborate with the Engagement committee to plan opportunities for Southminster to enjoy one another's company.
- Connect our homebound members of the church even when they are not physically present.



BUILDING AND GROUNDS

- Repair and update our building including addressing large projects (resealing the parking lot, replacing HVAC units).
- Manage our relationships with our building partners ensuring good use of our spaces by the congregation and community.

ENGAGEMENT

- Collaborate with the Family Life committee to plan opportunities for Southminster to enjoy one another's company.
- Reach out to our wider community through events (Donuts & Dumpsters, PrideFest, Old Shawnee Days) & publicity (our exterior signs, new T-Shirts).



WORSHIP

- Celebrate the 75th anniversary of Southminster in 2027 with special music, guest preachers, and worship services.
- Fully fund choral support in the operating budget.