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### *Southminster Presbyterian Church*

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Issue 2

## *"The Message//Remix//Solo" (or) Southminster Reads Through the Bible*

Starting Ash Wednesday, February 6, 2008, join your Southminster family in reading through the Bible in one year. Together we will connect deeper with God by exploring scripture through "*The Message//Remix//Solo*," an innovative devotional by Eugene Peterson.

Don't miss Super (Solo) Sunday, February 3, 2008! One service of worship at 9 a.m. and at 10 a.m. Pick up your complimentary copy of "*The Message//Remix//Solo*" in the Chapel (one per home/extra copies available for purchase).

So God's message to us takes root, we want all members to support each other through regular dialogue about what we are learning. On Super (Solo) Sunday, you are encouraged to select one or more of the following encouragement/small groups ...

\*Bible Buddy Group  
\*Telephone Tree Group \*Pastor's Blog  
\*Email Group \*Bible Scholar Small Group \*Bible 101 Group  
\*Pastor's Brown Bag Lunch Group \*Men Only Group

\*Women Only Group  
\*Couples Group \*Moorings Group \*Loop Group  
\*Morning, Mid-day or Evening Group

\* Your group ....

A Read Through Significant Passages of the Bible in 365 Days  
A Life-Transforming Experience!

## “The Bible ~ God’s Word”



Our Southminster Vision Statement says,

*As His disciples, centered in scripture  
we teach the Bible, God’s Word, ...*

2008 is a year for each of us, all of us –individually & together – to be centered in scripture. I am so excited about The Message//Remix//Solo – our total church read through the Bible.

In the first week of February, each household in the church will receive one copy of SOLO – a Bible study devotional. I invite, encourage, and challenge you to read – with me – through the Bible. Each day there is a short scripture, a seed to start us thinking about the scripture, an invitation to pray, and an action step.

We will start our read through the Bible on Ash Wednesday (2/6) – the first day of Lent. Lent was originally a period of preparation for becoming a baptized member of the church. Later it became associated with developing spiritual practices to strengthen the faith of believers. The intentional reading of scripture is one of the great spiritual disciplines of our faith.

SOLO will be my first experience, in thirty-four years of ordained ministry, of being a part of a church that is committed to reading through the Bible.

Alone and together, “*as His disciples,*” let us be “*centered in scripture*”... “*God’s Word.*”

Growing spiritually with you, Steve Pierce

### From the Matsushimas in Minnesota --

Aki and I wish to deeply thank all of you who have so solidly supported and sustained us over the last nine weeks while we have been at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester. Your prayers have surely helped to bring incredible healing and strength. After five weeks in the hospital and a month of outpatient recovery, Aki is now walking around the hotel, enjoying normal meals and sleep at night, and eagerly awaiting a healthy life ahead. This weekend we expect to return briefly to Illinois, then fly to our second home in Williamsburg for a leisurely month of rest and recovery in a bit warmer climate. Know that our hearts and thoughts are with you! We couldn't have a more wonderful church family, and we'll see you soon!

Gratefully, Kathy and Aki



### Dear Southminster Friends,

My husband, Matt, and I would like to express our deepest and heartfelt thanks for all the prayers, cards, emails, and words of encouragement we have received from you, our friends at Southminster. Your loving concern and support have been such a strength and comfort to us both at this uncertain and unsettling time, as Matt awaited and underwent prostate cancer surgery. We appreciate your continued prayers during Matt's recovery and pray that God will continue to bless you and others (like our family!) through you.

In Christ's love, Pastor Lolly

## Be Awakened by Christ!



In the midst of our busy, chilly world, taking a cozy winter nap sounds just right, as if we were dead to the world. The disciples thought Lazarus had fallen asleep, but Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus has died; I am going there to awaken him" (John 11).

To Mary and Martha, Jesus comforted them saying, "I am the resurrection and the life, and everyone who LIVES (zoe) and believes in me will never die." Our baptism gives us the power of Jesus' Spirit within us to become fully alive with the transformational life (zoe) in Christ.

Find a quiet place and a quiet moment, slowly breathing the life of Jesus' presence within. Let your heart and mind say, "Jesus, my LIFE (zoe)." Let Jesus speak of resurrection and life to you.

Blessings on being awakened by Christ to new life in each day of 2008,  
Pastor Barb Longwood

## 100% Mission Campaign

Here is a great, innovative mission project from one of our families: They had a party for their friends and on the invitation asked their guests to bring a food donation. These many bags of groceries were delivered to the church and then taken to a food pantry.

WHAT WILL YOU DO FOR THE 100% MISSION CAMPAIGN????

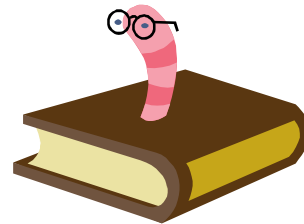


## Thank You, Southminster

The morning of Saturday, December 15 was an exciting and wonderful time in Fellowship Hall. Because of your generosity, we provided food and gifts to 100 individuals at Christopher House. A big thank you to all the Deacons who helped package and load the truck along with others who came with gifts and stayed to help. A big thank you also to Jeff Miller who donated his truck and Erik Sealund for delivering our gifts. Thank you one and all!

## Southminster Book Group

The book group selected the following books for the next three months: *Consequences* by Penelope Lively for Tuesday, February 19, 7:30 p.m. at Mary Kay Walsh's house; *The Namesake* by Jhumpa Lahiri on Tuesday, March 18, and *The Shadow Catcher* by Marianne Wiggins. More information on the books will be available in the church office. Questions? Call Mary Kay at 847.255.5941 or email at [mwalsh1018@aol.com](mailto:mwalsh1018@aol.com). Guests are welcome at any and all times!



## Lent 2008 (The Message//Remix//SOLO)

To support our whole-church commitment to read through the bible in 2008,  
the worship focus this Lent is "*The Message: You and God.*"  
This theme reflects our journey of reading through the Bible that begins on Ash Wednesday.  
The preaching texts for the five Sundays in Lent are the day readings from  
The Message//Remix//Solo.

### *Ash Wednesday: February 6*

6:00 p.m. Light Dinner  
7:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday Worship - Sanctuary  
And, first day of SOLO

### *Sunday, February 10*

Solo - Day 5: Exodus 16:9-16  
Worship Focus: Faithfulness in Times of Testing

### *Sunday, February 17*

Solo - Day 12: Numbers 14:17-24  
Worship Focus: Forgiveness

### *Sunday, February 24*

Solo - Day 19: Joshua 1:1-9  
Worship Focus: Spiritual Courage

### *Sunday, March 2*

Solo - Day 26: Ruth 3:1-2, 4, 8-13, 16-18  
Worship Focus: Inclusivity

### *Sunday, March 9*

Solo - Day 33: 2 Samuel 7:18, 20-23, 28-29  
Worship Focus: Deliverance

Holy Week is March 16 - 23!