**Southminster Presbyterian Church**

**Christ the King/Reign of Christ Sunday**

**November 24, 2024**

**9:30 a.m.**

Find the link for the service on one of these sites:

1) on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SouthminsterGlenEllyn/>
2) our YouTube channel:
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPgWICngOvkmR1OXgCG_wiA/live>

3) our web site: <https://www.southminsterpc.org/>

If the video feed is interrupted during the service, we will continue to record and then post the full video on Facebook and our web site as soon as possible.

 Gathering Music/PhotoStory: “Our New Members”

 Welcome, Announcements, and Moment for Mission

 Lighting the Candles (Revelation 19:16)‬‬‬‬‬‬‬‬‬‬‬‬

**On his robe and on his thigh he has a name inscribed, “King of Kings” and “Lord of Lords.”**

  Prelude

[Please remain seated as we begin worship.]

 Hymn: *10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)*  pg. 2, gold supplement

 Call to Worship  (Psalm 100)

 Leader: Make a joyful noise to the Lord.

 **People:** **Let us worship the Lord with gladness and singing.**

 **All:** **We enter your gates with thanksgiving and your courts with praise.**

 Hymn 367: *Come, Ye Thankful People, Come*  (verses 1, 2)

 Prayer of Confession: (unison)

**Lord of All and Eternal King, you have blessed us, but often we forget all the many ways you have touched our lives. You ask us to share love and life, but we run so fast just to stay in the same place that we miss your generosity. Help us to look to you and trust your faithfulness in plenty and in want. Forgive us and fill our hearts with gratitude. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

 (Time of silence for personal prayer and confession)

 Declaration of God’s Grace/The Good News of Jesus Christ (Psalm 103:8-12)

 Leader: The Lord is compassionate and gracious.

 **People:** **The Lord is slow to anger, abounding in steadfast love.**

 **All:** **In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

 Response 582: *Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me*

**Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,**

**And to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,**

**And to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.**

**As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.**

**World without end, without end. Amen.**

**World without end, without end. Amen.**

**World without end, without end. Amen.**

**As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.**

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 The Passing of the Peace

 Word with Children: The Thank Offering Deb Bohi
 Children worshiping in the sanctuary, please come forward.

People will sing as they come forward:

Hymn 647: *Give Thanks*

**Give thanks with a grateful heart;**

**Give thanks to the Holy One,**

**Give thanks because we’re given**

**Jesus Christ, the Son.**

**Give thanks with a grateful heart;**

**Give thanks to the Holy One,**

**Give thanks because we’re given**

**Jesus Christ, the Son.**

**And now let the weak say, “We are strong”;**

**Let the poor say, “We are rich**

**Because of what the Lord has done for us!”**

**And now let the weak say, “We are strong”;**

**Let the poor say, “We are rich**

**Because of what the Lord has done for us!”**

**Give thanks. Give thanks.**

CCLI Song # 20285

Henry Smith

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As the children leave:

 *Give Thanks* (sing twice)

**Give thanks with a grateful heart;**

**Give thanks to the Holy One,**

**Give thanks because we’re given**

**Jesus Christ, the Son.**

 Prayer for Illumination

 Scripture Lessons:  Ezekiel 36:26  Pew Bible, p. 805 (O.T.)

 Jeremiah 31:31-34 Pew Bible, p. 735 (O.T.)

 Sermon: “At the Heart of the Matter” Pastor Wendy Boden

 Reception of New Members

 Presentation of New Members: Shelley Barlow, John Pezl, Rebecca (Becca) Storey

 Words of Scripture

 Profession of Faith

 Renunciation

 Affirmation of Faith: *The Apostles’ Creed*

 Leader: Do you believe in God the Father?

 **All**: **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of
 heaven and earth.**

 Leader: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

 **All**: **I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord,
 who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,
 suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried;
 he descended to the dead.
 On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,
 he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
 and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

 Leader: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

 **All**: **I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,
 the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
 the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

 Question of Membership

 Leader: Do you promise to be a faithful member of this
 congregation, giving of yourself in every way, and
 so fulfill your calling as a disciple of Jesus Christ
 the Lord?

 **New Members**: **I do.**

 Congregational Prayer (unison)

**O God our Father: we praise you for calling us to be a servant people, and for gathering us into the body of Christ. We thank you for choosing to add to our family sisters and a brother in faith. Together, may we live in your Spirit, and so love one another, that we may have the mind of Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom we give honor and glory forever. Amen.**

 Welcome New Members and Presentation of Gifts

 Leader: Welcome to this ministry of Jesus Christ.

 Congregational Response (unison)

**With joy and thanksgiving we welcome you to share with
us in the ministry of Christ, for we are all one in him.**

*Please greet our new members – Shelley, John, and Becca –
in the narthex following the service.*

 Hymn 643: *Now Thank We All Our God*

Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer

 Leader: Lord, in your mercy,

 **People**: **hear our prayers.**

**The Lord’s Prayer:**

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come,
thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into
temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power
and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Offering of Ourselves and Our Gifts

[The offering plate is at the back of the sanctuary. Please leave your gift or pledge
in the plate on your way into or out of worship.]

 Offertory Anthem: *Let All Things Now Living*

 \*Response: *For the Beauty of the Earth* Hymnal #14, verse 5

**For thyself, best gift divine
To the world so freely given;
For that great, great love of thine,
Peace on earth and joy in heaven:**

**Lord of all, to thee we raise
This our hymn of grateful praise.**

Public domain

 Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication

 Thanksgiving Hymn Medley

 Hymn 336: *We Gather Together* (verses 1, 2)

 Hymn 37: *Let All Things Now Living* (verse 1)

 Charge and Benediction

 Leader: Now go and serve the Lord,
 **People: For we are blessed to be a blessing! Alleluia, amen!**

 Postlude

**Participants and Technical Crew**

Rev. Wendy Boden

Liturgist: Ann Anderson
Greeter/Fellowship: Sue Knisely (and all deacons for Pie Fellowship)
Musicians: Tom Anderson, the Southminster Choir
Worship Associate: David Kozich
Tech support: Chris Kozich, Blair Nelson

The flowers today are in memory of Dan Bohi from his family.

If you are online, we’re glad to have you! Using the comments section on Facebook, you can say hello, ask for words of peace, or request prayers.
If you are present for worship, please wear a name tag; they are on the Mission shelf in the Narthex and on the shelf across from the church offices. Following the service, you are invited by the deacons to gather for a time offellowship in the narthex – they’re serving pie today!

**Sunday Morning Adult Ed. Bible Study,** **11:15 a.m.:** If you’re at church and wish to join us, get your coffee at fellowship time and then find Blair in the parlor/library.

You are invited to join us on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/SouthminsterGlenEllyn/>), where we have a live sharing of “**Heart to Heart**” with Pastor Wendy Boden at 4:20 p.m. most weeks Tuesday through Friday.

We continue to be live on **Sunday morning for worship** at 9:30 a.m. (slideshow beginning at 9:15) on YouTube at
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPgWICngOvkmR1OXgCG_wiA/live>

or on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/SouthminsterGlenEllyn/>

If you are watching from home on Facebook, please check in and say hello so we can see that you have joined us. This is one way to make worship less “remote” and strengthen community at Southminster.

*The live video will appear about 15 minutes before the scheduled start time.*

*If for any reason the feed falters, rest assured that a recording will be posted to Facebook and You Tube as soon as possible.*

You can also find links to recordings of the weekday sessions, special services, and Sunday worship posted on our web site: <https://www.southminsterpc.org/> or by going to our YouTube channel:
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPgWICngOvkmR1OXgCG_wiA/videos>

**Photo Stories/PowerPoints help us feel connected!**Photo Stories/PowerPoints help us prepare for worship, connect with one another, and make sure that our at-home people get both sound and sight. In December you are invited to share Christmas-related photos:
 **December 8: “Candles**” – Please send by Thursday, December 5.

 **December 15: “Angels**” – Please send by Thursday, December 12.

 **December 22: “Christmas Trees**” – Please send by Thursday, December 19.

 **December 29: “Christmas PJs**” – Please send by Thursday, December 26.

**Send photos to our dedicated email address, used just for photos:**PhotoStory@Southminsterpc.org**.** (If you only have hard copies of your photos, please leave
them in the photo box on Pastor Wendy’s desk, labeled with your name and the date they are to be used.)

**Calling all musicians, vocal or instrumental!** If you would like to offer your musical gifts in worship, please talk to Tom Anderson at the piano after the postlude, during fellowship, by text at 651-246-5029, or by emailing the office (admin@southminsterpc.org) and we’ll forward your message.

**Notes from Blair Nelson:**
**Adult Education**: Our study of Matthew’s gospel resumes today at 11:15 a.m. in the Parlor/Library after being preempted the last couple of weeks. We are in passion week in Matthew’s story, and the tensions are building. Jesus has some hard things to say as he moves toward the trial and the cross. But, of course, it all ends well, especially for us.

**Youth**:  We have no event this weekend but bring your family to the **Advent Candle Workshop** after worship. Our next event is **Pizza & Games** on Dec. 1. Also, our revival of the Charlie Brown Christmas Party and Lock-In will be Dec. 20. Come to spend the night, sleep little, laugh a lot, eat munchies, and play games. Be sure to bring stuff to sleep on/in and whatever you need to get you through the night. (I recommend a toothbrush.)

**From the Christian Education Ministry**: **Family Advent activity today**
We hope you signed up to join us to join us today at 11:15 a.m. for a family Advent activity: making beeswax Advent candles. We will meet in the classroom by the nursery.

**From the Mission Ministry:
Share the Spirit**It is that wonderful time of year when we support People’s Resource Center’s Share the Spirit program to provide gift cards and some small presents to brighten the Christmas season for those they serve – families in DuPage County that need assistance with their living expenses.

People’s Resource Center (PRC) is requesting donations of gift cards, specifically $25 cards for Jewel, Mariano’s, Target, or Walmart. In a win-win for PRC and Southminster, you can order cards through our Jubilee Bucks sales! You can begin ordering gift cards on Sunday, November 10 through Sunday, December 1. (Bobbi Frey will hold the Share the Spirit orders received during November and place them all – along with the regular orders – on December 1.) There will be a special green Share the Spirit order form available on the nametag shelf at church that lists the Jubilee Bucks cards supporting this program.

If you would rather purchase an actual gift, PRC is requesting the following:
 NEW books (ages 0-17)
 NEW family games
 NEW stuffed animals for children under age 1 (12” or smaller )
 NEW with tags blankets (no hand-made blankets)
 ***Gifts must be at church no later than Sunday, December 8, at 11:00 a.m.***Thank you for supporting this program and helping those families in need.

**OTC Medicines for our Cuba sister church/ Bring donations by DEC 15th**

**Over-the-counter medicines – large bottles if possible (will be doled out in small bags). Save money by buying generic. Best prices: Target, Walmart, Amazon**

Ibuprofen (eg. Advil, Motrin) 200 mg tablets (*containers of 200 pills or more)*
Naproxen Sodium (eg. Aleve) 220 mg tablets (*containers of 300 pills or more)*Antifungal creams (eg. Clotrimazol) 2 oz. or 60 gm tube
Triple antibiotic ointment 1 oz. or 28 gm tube
Hydrocortisone cream 1 oz. 28 gm tube or 2 oz. 60 gm tube
Medicines for stomach (eg Omeprazol, Famotidine ) 20 mg. tablets
Benadryl Adult 25mg tablets 100 count (Generic Equate ok)
Children’s Complete CHEWABLE Vitamins (**not gummies**)
Children’s Tylenol CHEWABLE 160 mg tablets (Generic EQUATE 160 mg tablets)
Children’s Benadryl CHEWABLE 12.5mg tablets (Generic ok)
Children’s Ibuprofen CHEWABLE 100 mg tablets (Generic Equate 48 count ok)
Antibacterial EQUATE Fabric Band-Aid- various sizes

**From the Worship Ministry**
**It’s not too early to think about Christmas poinsettias!**In anticipation and celebration of Christmas, poinsettias will grace the sanctuary on Christmas Eve – Tuesday, December 24. They may be taken home after the Christmas Eve service.
We are ordering 12 red 2-stem 6.5” plants and 4 white (slightly larger) 2-stem 7.5” plants. Order yours by signing up in the narthex by Sunday, December 15. Thank you to everyone who orders, helping keep this beautiful tradition of poinsettias adorning the sanctuary on Christmas Eve.

Please note: ***The Flower fund is getting low.*** There are many unpaid flower orders on the narthex chart. If you ordered flowers this year, please pay as soon as you are able. You might consider bundling your check for a past arrangement as well as one coming up before the end of the year. (If you’re not sure whether you paid for a flower arrangement, check with Sarah Allen or look at the chart in the Narthex – paid orders are marked PD in red marker.) Thank you for your support of the Flower Ministry.

**From the Stewardship Ministry**We will begin our budget process for 2025 at the December 17 Session meeting. It would be helpful to have all our pledges in by then. By pledging, you help us plan for the year ahead, ensuring that we can continue to share God’s love in meaningful ways. Every gift, no matter the size, makes a difference.

Thank you for being a faithful steward of the blessings God has entrusted to you.

Stewardship Moderator,
Jay Lerch
jaylerch@sbcglobal.net

**Presbyterian Women** **(PW)**

**Today we will receive the Thank Offering**. The Thank Offering gives PW a tangible way to express their gratitude for the special blessing in their lives. Throughout the year PW around the world collect coins on a daily basis to give thanks for the blessing they received that day. In November, those coins are received by the local church and forwarded to the Presbyterian Women Churchwide. These offerings are used to fund various PW ministries worldwide to benefit women and children. *Although this is a PW offering, we encourage everyone to participate in this offering by adding your offering to the bowl.*

Next month is our **Christmas Salad Luncheon** on Friday, December 13, at 11:30 a.m. Each person should bring a favorite salad to share and a serving utensil. We will gather in the Narthex for a time of fantastic food, fellowship, and fun. Following the luncheon, we will move to the Sanctuary where Derek Buckley will entertain us with beautiful songs of the season.

Don’t forget that December 13th is the first day we will begin collecting books for the **Annual Book Sale** that will begin at our meeting on January 19. Books will be stored and sorted in Fellowship Hall. A little red wagon will be available for book drop off.

**A note from Barb:** **The puzzles are back – have fun and help SCARCE**!
A friend from my church volunteers at SCARCE and often has boxes of donated jigsaw puzzles that need to be assembled so they’ll know whether all the pieces are there. I have several puzzles in the church office (under the front edge of the desk). Take one home, assemble it, and then put a note on the box: “All pieces here” or “Pieces missing.” Then bring it back so I can return it to SCARCE. (They have other things they can do with puzzles that are missing pieces – using pieces for art projects, for instance, or simply recycling the cardboard.)

**Jubilee Bucks: Next order date is December 1**
Your next chance to order Jubilee Bucks gift cards will be next Sunday, December 1—order for yourself and for Christmas giving! Through the rest of this month, you can use a special form to **order gift cards for PRC’s Share the Spirit project** through our Jubilee Bucks sales! PRC is requesting $25 cards for Jewel, Mariano’s, Target, or Walmart. Look for the special green order forms for Share the Spirit on the nametag shelf at church—order through Sunday, December 1; Bobbi will save all the special orders and combine them with the regular orders on Dec. 1. For more information about Share the Spirit, scroll up to see the Mission Ministry notes.
And thanks to all who order Jubilee Bucks—our year-to-date total of “free” money earned now stands at $1,841.68!

**Donations for PRC (People’s Resource Center)**:
Our weekly donations are greatly appreciated! Every bit helps! Each client receives between 70-100 pounds of food per visit! PRC receives, rescues, sorts and distributes about 40,000 pounds of food per week. Thanks to all! If you’d like suggestions for the most needed items for the PRC food pantry, there are lists of suggested donations in one of the literature stands on the shelf in the main hallway that is across from the church offices.

**Care Notes:** “In everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.” -Philippians 4:6
Even though we aren’t all together for worship, we are still collecting prayer requests! Please email or leave a message on our answering machine at 630-469-9149 if you won’t be present to fill out a prayer request slip.

**Friends,****You are all invited to offer prayer for people whether they are members or not. It would be a joy and very helpful to know how people are doing. If you have submitted a person to be prayed for, please send an update to the office once in a while. Thank you! Pastor Wendy**

***New requests and updates are italicized in our prayer list.***

**Joys and Concerns** ***The flowers today*** *are in loving memory of Dan Bohi from his family. His birthday would have been on Wednesday.***We give thanks to God for joys.** *- Lauren Hammer has her driver's license!***We pray for the whole world and our nation:**
  - We lift up the President, the president-elect, and all elected officials. We pray for God's hand to direct their hearts and minds. May they lead our nation with godly intentions. We pray for the healing and unity of our country and ask that all people model love and justice.
  - Victims of disastrous flooding in eastern Spain
  - Peace for Haiti and Sudan; Hamas, Israel, the people of Palestine, Iran, and the tangle of interests in the Middle East; Ukraine and Russia, Korea – both North and South
  - We pray for an end to gun violence in our nation. *In one day (last Sunday, November 17) there were 99 shooting incidents in 31 states plus the District of Columbia, leaving 30 people dead and 83 people injured.* To see current statistics for shootings in this country, go to <https://www.gunviolencearchive.org>.
  - We continue to pray for peace in the world
**Blessed are those who mourn**:
  - Andrea Schmidt and all her family on the death of her mother, Gail Johnston, on November 1
  - Angela Smith and her family on the passing of her father, Franklin Keith Beeler, on October 30
  - Prayers for the family and friends of Caroline Linde, and especially for Ralph
  - For those we name in our hearts and hold dear
**We lift up those who are affected by cancer, as well as their support systems**:
 *- Barb Doppelt’s friend Ginny, undergoing treatment for leukemia*
  - Pray for Al Marcus, Susie Salins’ father, who has lung cancer.
Please help us pray for your family and friends by updating your loved ones’ information with the church office. We support them and you in their journey.
  - We continue to pray for: Kim, Mark, Frank B., Katie B., Tom G., Frank L., Jean K., Jan M., Nikki M., Rebecca M., Tim O., Betsey P., Laura P., Cis R., Gerry S., Marta S., Meagan S., Mary T., Shelayne, and others we name in our hearts.
**We pray for all who are recovering or dealing with mental or physical health or other challenges**:
 *- We pray for Heidi Shierry with additional health concerns.
 - We lift up Linda Wolf Jeziorski and her husband, Paul. Linda fell and has been admitted to CDH.
  - Pete Petersen asks prayer for his cousin, James Marohn, who has entered hospice care.*  - Pastor Wendy’s bonus dad, Frank, who is in severe back pain with no cause yet diagnosed
  - Susie Salins is doing well following back surgery
  - Kim Gosney’s sister, Amy, is not out of a coma
  - Joan Koska has moved; her new address is 14800 S. Van Dyke Rd., Apt. 1215, Plainfield, IL 60544. Cards are welcome, but no visitors, please.  - Donna Marton’s family asks prayers for Mark’s housing options, that he would be able to transition easily to the next room or facility.
  - Jim Smith, at Brookdale, and all who are in care centers
  - Those trying to conceive and struggling with infertility
  - Prayers for all who are looking for meaningful employment
  - All those who have medical concerns, upcoming medical procedures, or chronic pain
  - For those who are depressed
  - Difficult marriages
  - We continue to pray for: Barb (Deb’s cousin), Brandon, Joe M., Felice T., Isabella, Kathy, Linda T., Mya, Oaklen, Phyllis L. Phyllis is grateful for prayers and is doing better.
**We pray for the Jeremiah 29 discernment task force** and all of us as we seek God’s will for Southminster in the 21st century. May we all be attentive to the Holy Spirit’s leading.
**Prayers for our worshiping community** as we discern together God’s call on SPC for the 21st century.

**Caring for you!**Our **Congregational Care Committee** is ready to assist in time of need. If you need assistance from the Congregational Care Ministry or Helping Hands in November or December, call Deacon Sue Knisely (630-776-7998). You may call Pastor Wendy Boden on her cell or home phone (if she has shared the numbers with you) or leave a message for her at the church office: 630-469-9149. Email Wendy at wendy@southminsterpc.org. (Please note that she can only read email when she is in the office.) You may also call your deacon if you need help from the church.

**Regular Office Schedule: The church office is closed on Mondays and Wednesdays.**Barb’s regular schedule is to be in the office Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays from approximately 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. while her son attends his day program on those days. Mondays and Wednesdays she works from home.

Grace and peace to you! Remember that we love God, neighbor, and one another. Our address is 680 South Park Blvd., Glen Ellyn, IL 60137 if you would like to set up an online account with your bank or mail in your pledge. Online giving through Vanco is also now an option –for details contact Ron Birchall.

**Dates to remember this week:** **Sunday, November 24**
 **Worship** at 9:30 a.m. - in person and also live on Facebook **Fellowship with pies(!)** in the Narthex following worship
 **Staff meeting** at 11:00 in the Pastor’s office
 **Family Advent Candle Workshop** at 11:15 a.m. in the classroom
 next to the nursery
 **Adult Ed. Bible Study** at 11:15 a.m. in the Parlor/Library
**Monday, November 25 – Pastor’s Sabbath** Schaumburg homeschool “Friendsgiving” in Fellowship Hall 3:00-5:00 p.m. **Tuesday-Friday –** **Pastor Wendy’s Heart to Heart** on Facebook live at 4:20 p.m.  **Tuesday, November 26
 Staff** calendar meeting at 12;30 p.m. in McHenry Parlor/Library A.A. meets at 7:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall
**Wednesday, November 27** **eNotes go out, but it is also the deadline for the December *Dialog***
**Thursday, November 28 – Thanksgiving Day** *All creatures of our God and King, lift up your voice and with us sing,
 Alleluia! Alleluia!* **Friday, November 29**
 Church office closed.
 A.A.at 6:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall
**Next** **Sunday, December 1 – *First Sunday of Advent*
 Order Jubilee Bucks** for yourself and Share the Spirit by emailing
 bobbifrey@aol.com by 9:00 p.m.
 **Worship** at 9:30 a.m. - in person and also live on Facebook **Fellowship** in the Narthex following worship
 **Staff meeting** at 11:00 in the Pastor’s office
 **Adult Ed. Bible Study** at 11:15 a.m. in the Parlor/Library
 **Youth: Pizza & Games** at 4:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall

**Covid – where are we now?**Covid spiked in recent months, so we have continued having a “comfort zone” toward the back of the sanctuary. You may, of course, continue to wear a mask, if you so choose.

**Bearing Fruit – November 24, 2024**

**Giving Thanks!**

Two wonderful and special events will happen during worship this today. We will receive three new members: Shelley Barlow, John Pezl, and Rebecca (Becca) Storey. Our PhotoStory is a way for you to get to know them better.

Also today during worship we will receive the Women’s Thank Offering. A bit of history from the Presbyterian Mission Agency:

The PW Thank Offering originated in the late 1800s with Eliza Clokey of Springfield, Ohio. She planned to ask each woman to give a gift in addition to her usual contribution to the Women’s General Missionary Society of the United Presbyterian Church of North America as a “thank offering to our Lord.”

In 1888, the women designated a day for prayer and thanksgiving when this special offering should be received. These sacrificial gifts, it is said, saved our denomination's worldwide missionary movement. Though the thrust of how and where the money was used changed over the years, the “thank offering to her Lord” continued to be an important part of United Presbyterian Women’s giving.

More History
During the first year of our pastor’s tenure, the then-moderator of the Presbyterian Women, Caroline Linde, asked how the Presbyterian Women’s Thank Offering could be received during worship. Our pastor suggested that it would be good during the children’s moment. A new tradition was begun!

Southminster Presbyterian Church’s women have continued this ministry. You will find jars of spare change filled with pennies, nickels, dimes, and quarters in many of our homes. Regardless of size, each gift is an act of gratitude for what the Lord has done. Each woman gives as she has felt blessed by the Lord, and men and children of the congregation are invited, as well. Let us all give thanks to the Lord as we come forward to receive the Thanks Offering, singing *Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart*; the words are printed in our bulletin. Who knows where our blessings will blossom!

After worship, we will also celebrate Thanksgiving as a worshiping community and enjoy Thanksgiving pies! Some call this Sunday “Pie Sunday,” but we know it as Thanksgiving Sunday. In the end, we bear the fruit of God’s love by expressing our thanks to our Lord.