

*Welcome to Southminster
Christ's love is here for YOU!*

WELCOME, Friends in Christ! We are glad you chose to worship with us today, and hope that you will be blessed by our time of praise and worship. We pray that you feel welcome and that you will join us again soon. Everyone is asked to sign the Friendship Pad and visitors are asked to include their name and address so that we may acknowledge your visit.

Prayer Requests:

Sick and Shut-in—Jan Boehm in home Hospice, O. B. Chaffee in Hospice at Signature Health Care Center in Marietta, Jeff Curlee surgery in January, Golda Fuller, Bill Hammond, Jamee Johnson, Stella Moore (Ken's mother), Ify Nonyelu (family member of B. Q. Orinika), Kaye Schuler, Janet Wright @ PV

Traveling Mercies—Esther Hegngi traveling to Cameroon

Military Service—Pfc. Jorgen. "J.J." Larsen—Marine serving in Afghanistan, Spc. Mikayla Larsen—Army Reserve, Chris LaVine Arme serving state side

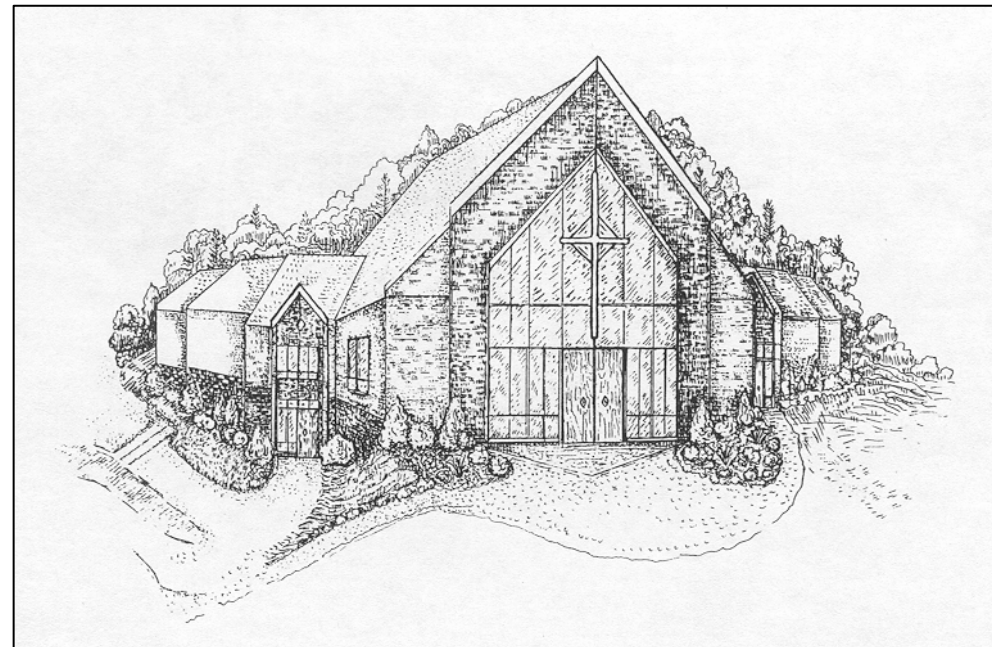
Julius Nyaga Church— our sister church in Magumoni Parish in Kenya

December 25, 2011 – Prayers for: The future of our country; for elected officials; for peace and order. Pray for our troops and for their families. Pray for the families of those who gave their lives for their country; for those who have been wounded and for their families. Pray for those separated from their families during the holidays.

This Week's Calendar:

Today	Dec. 25	Christmas Day	
		11:00 a.m.	Worship – The Sacrament of Holy Communion
		11:30 a.m.	Children's Church
Sunday	Jan. 1	10:30 a.m.	Choir warm-up
		11:00 a.m.	Worship – The Sacrament of Holy Communion & PATH Offering

Southminster Presbyterian Church



Welcome! There's a place for YOU at Southminster!

*Proclaim Build Create Serve
The Reverend Peter M. Paulsen, Minister*

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Southminster Presbyterian Church

December 25, 2011, 11:00 a.m. — Christmas Day

Gathering

OPENING VOLUNTARY

(Please use the time before the service begins to review the announcements in the bulletin and to quietly prepare your heart for the worship of God.)

STRIKING OF THE HOUR

GREETINGS, WELCOME, AND RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP

*CALL TO WORSHIP—Isaiah 52

One: How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation!

All: Your sentinels lift up their voices; together they sing for joy as they see the return of the Lord to Zion!

One: Break forth into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem, for the Lord has comforted and redeemed Jerusalem.

All: And all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God!

*HYMN 28

“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O Heavenly Light, on this day the Word became flesh and moved into our neighborhood. We rise to greet you, but do not offer hospitality to all of your children. We are eager to sing praises to you, but slow to serve you by serving others. Draw us into your abundant mercy, and grant us your grace, that we might share your love with our neighbors and welcome the strangers in our midst. Hear us now, O Lord, as we continue to pray silently...*(Please use these moments of silence to offer your personal prayer of confession.)* Amen.

*WORDS OF ASSURANCE—Luke 2:10-11

One: At the time of our Lord’s birth, an angel of the Lord appeared to shepherds in the fields and said to them:

All: Be not afraid; for see – I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord.

One: This is good news. Believe the Gospel and go forth to live in peace.

*GLORIA PATRI

*THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: The peace of Christ be with you!

All: And also with you!

The Christmas Tree Speaks

Verse 5

O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree, beneath your graceful branches.

O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree, beneath your graceful branches.

We see the manger in the stall, where Christ was born to save us all.

O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree, beneath your graceful branches.

Verse 6

O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree, you celebrate Christ’s birthday.

O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree, you celebrate Christ’s birthday.

The crèche recalls old Bethlehem; we hear the angel’s song again.

O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree, you celebrate Christ’s birthday.

The Christmas Tree Speaks © Wendell Karsen and John Kleinheksel, 2011, used with permission.

THE LAW

HYMN RESPONSE (inside back cover)

“*The Christmas Tree Speaks*” (verses 5 and 6)

The Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

CHILDREN’S TIME

DISMISSAL SONG

“*Jesus Loves the Little Children*”

(Children ages three years through fifth grade are dismissed to Children’s Church.)

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 62:6-12

Pew Bible, page 693

NEW TESTAMENT READING

John 1:1-14

Pew Bible, page 91

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

*LITANY FOR CHRISTMAS

One: The Word was made flesh,

All: **Alleluia, Alleluia!**

One: and dwelt among us,

All: **Alleluia, Alleluia!**

One: Jesus, Son of the living God, splendor of the Father, Light eternal:

All: **Glory to you, O Lord!**

One: Jesus, King of glory, Sun of righteousness, born of the Virgin Mary:

All: **Glory to you, O Lord!**

One: Jesus, Wonderful Counselor, mighty God, everlasting Lord:

All: **Glory to you, O Lord!**

One: Jesus, Prince of Peace, Shepherd of souls, perfect in holiness:

All: **Glory to you, O Lord!**

One: Jesus, Friend of all, Protector of the poor, Treasure of the faithful:

All: **Glory to you, O Lord!**

One: Jesus, Good Shepherd, inexhaustible Wisdom, our Way, our Truth, and our life:

All: **Glory to you, O Lord!**

One: Jesus, joy of the angels, and crown of all the saints:

All: **Glory to you, O Lord!**

*PRAYER

SERMON IN CAROLS

Response to the Word

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** The Apostles’ Creed (Traditional)

Page 14 in front of Hymnal

***HYMN 49**

“*Once in Royal David’s City*”

THE EUCHARIST

(Communion will be served by intinction. Please come forward in the center aisle, take a piece of bread from the loaf, dip it in the cup, and return to your seat by the side aisle.)

Offering of our ourselves and our Gifts

(Separate plates are provided for the offering. Please come forward and place your offering in the plate marked with the name of your congregation and held by a member of your church.)

Offertory

***Doxology**

Hymn 592

*Prayer of Dedication

Invitation to the Lord’s Table

Great Thanksgiving

Lord’s Prayer (Traditional)

Page 16 in front of Hymnal

Breaking of the Bread

Communion of the People

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Sending

***HYMN 40**

“*Joy to the World!*” (verses 1-3)

*BENEDICTION

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE—HYMN 40** “*Joy to the World!*” (verse 4)

POSTLUDE

Leading in worship today

The Rev. Dr. John Spangler

The Rev. Peter Paulsen

Ms. Dorothy Young

Elder Ron Whittingham, Woodlawn

Elder Michel Phillips, Calvary

Elder Chris Curschmann, Southminster

Elder Carol Thomas, Woodlawn

Elder David Markle, Southminster

*All who are able, please stand

Nursery provided for infants & children to 3 years—First floor