

Heights Happenings

An informational newsletter of:



I AM THE **CHURCH** WHEREVER I AM

THE **COUNCIL**

Our church family at Southern Heights has just completed a milestone that we've not experienced in a really long time! Our beloved Pastor Dan gracefully retired as of the end of April 30. As with the many running races he has completed, he finished his time with us strong and committed to this church family. For that we are grateful! We were able to celebrate the legacy he left for us at Southern Heights with a weekend full of memories and stories along with a lot of laughter and many tears too. What a blessing he and Merrilee have been to us. We wish them God's best as they see how they can continue to serve God in the coming years.

We continue to support and pray for our Transition Team that with the help of our consultant Sam Hamstra is searching for the next lead pastor of our church family. They work regularly and hard. They have finished the First Phase of our search process which involved Information Gathering (meetings, surveys and face to face visits with church family members). The Second Phase is now in full swing and includes opening up the search for candidate applications and beginning interviews.

As part of the Information Gathering phase in the lead pastor search, the elders and deacons held many meetings with the members of our districts with one major goal -- to listen. Hopefully you were all able to participate in one of those visits. It was a great time to get caught up with each other (and in some cases

to get to know each other!) and we had some really good open conversations about our hopes for the future of our church. Some good feedback was passed over to the Transition Team to help in the lead pastor search. All the elders and deacons agreed that although we all get so busy, we want to make sure to schedule more of these regular visits.

Also, as of May 1st, we welcomed Pastor David Sieplinga, our interim pastor who will serve with us until God leads a permanent pastor to us. Pastor David has served other churches as an interim pastor and understands the process a congregation goes through in the transition between lead pastors. We look forward to the messages he will deliver each week and the support and wisdom he will give to our staff and elders and deacons.

This next phase of our church life has been referred to as a "new book". Although we will miss Pastor Dan, we've welcomed Pastor David and we look forward to our next pastor (and God knows that person's name already!), we need to remind ourselves that WE are the church and all of us have a role and gift to share. Let's pray for each other and for the work that will continue through us all.

Sandy Vroegop

<p>I AM God's MASTERPIECE <i>Relationship with Jesus</i> GROWING more like Jesus</p>	<p>THE CHURCH God's MOVEMENT <i>Relationship with believers</i> SUPPORTING one another</p>	<p>WHEREVER I AM God's MISSION <i>Relationship with the world</i> GOING & CONNECTING with people</p>
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Change a Life with Your Change:

Greetings from your deacons!
A big “thank you” goes out to the congregation for your generosity in donating to the change for change box in the lobby. We are happy to report that \$60 in coins and bills went toward the purchase of 42 bus tokens, which are given to KDC. These are then given to people who need them for transportation to doctor appointments, job interviews, etc. What a joy it is to buy and present these literal tokens of love!

Another delightful task of the deacons is the mailing of college care packages to our full time college students, near and far. Without the congregation’s heaping helpings of candy, gum, granola bars, home-baked goods, etc., this would not happen. Nine boxes were packed by the deacons and sent to: Ellie Baas, Bethany Dunham, Josh Dunham, John Michael Garcez, Kelly Higgins, Erin Koning, Karly Root, Ben Van Zoest, and Calvin Voss. Postage for these packages was also made possible by donations. All of this generosity shows that you dear people of Southern Heights are being the church at church.

We thank you!
Karen Merchant &
Your Southern Heights Deacons



Caring Ministry Partnership

Southern Heights has a partnership with Pine Rest Christian Mental Health Services. This partnership is called CAP or Church Assistance Program.

Through this program there are several services available to the families of Southern Heights at no charge.

In your mailbox in the lobby you will find a guide to your benefits.

Here are a few I think are noteworthy:

- Up to 3 confidential visits with a Christian counselor at Pine Rest Counseling Center in Kalamazoo or Portage. This is for each member of your family, for 2019, free of charge
- Legal consultation
- Financial consultation
- Elder Care consultation
- Crisis Hotline staffed 24/7

Please see the guide in your mailbox for more details and contact information. All the services provided are confidential; any information Southern Heights receives does not contain names.

I am excited that we are able to offer our church family these services. Pine Rest has an excellent reputation and the offices for counseling in Kalamazoo are convenient.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns you may have. I would be happy to help you.

Deb Bos

Two Great Events
On One Big Weekend...

BLOCK PARTY

SATURDAY, JUNE 29 from 5-7pm



Join us outside in the parking lot for grilled burgers and hot dogs, there will be a bounce house and games for the kids. Come and go as you please, meet your neighbors, and everything is FREE!

&

PET SUNDAY

SUNDAY, JUNE 30 from 10:30a - 12:30p



10:30a will be an outside church service where pets are welcome
11:45a we will have some hotdogs, and have a pet fashion show.
The children will vote for the winner and there will be prizes. Again, it's FREE!

Join us and tell your friends.
Everything is FREE!



Are you good at smiling? We are looking for a few more people wanting to greet one Sunday per month (or be a substitute once in a while). We are happy to train you in the basics of smiling and handshaking. Kidding aside, this is an important role at Southern Heights. The greeter's is the first smile a new guest sees and it sets the first impression. Won't you join us? Please see Joy Veltkamp or Judy Jones, or email the office (shcrc1@gmail.com).



Some new and exciting things are in the works for the Life Group Ministry! We are looking forward to rolling out a new online enrollment process for new and existing Life Groups this fall! We will have two open enrollment periods each year, in the fall and before the Campaign begins. Both of these are great times to join or try a new group! We are also looking forward to starting some new Life Groups, including one geared toward families with young children. This group will get together 3 times each month; one time for the women, one time for the men, and once for the families to come together and do something fun! If you have any ideas, thoughts or questions regarding Life Groups, I'd love to hear from you!

Alyssa Noonan
(shlifegroup@gmail.com or 269-217-3523)



Join us on Wednesday, May 29 from 6 to 7:15pm in the lower level fellowship hall for our last Potluck Prayer and Praise for the season.

Here is what to bring based on the first letter of your last name...

- | | |
|-------|------------------|
| A-F | Salads |
| G-L | Side dishes |
| M-R | Desserts |
| S-Z | Beverages |
| | (water provided) |
| Staff | Main Dishes. |

It will be a wonderful time of fellowship and praise. See you there.



LUNCH BUNCH

Every Sunday after the worship gathering people will go out to lunch together. It is a great way to make new friends.

Join us for Lunch Bunch this Sunday!

This is our yearly schedule. Updates and changes may occur throughout the year, see our online calendar at www.s-heights.org for the most current schedule.

ANNUAL MINISTRY CALENDAR - 2018-2019

Week of Year	SUNDAY	OUTREACH EVENTS	SPECIAL ITEMS	WELCOME	WEDNESDAY MINISTRIES	SHENANIGANS	MISSIONS	COUNCIL / NOTES	
1	Sep-09	NEIGHBORHOOD SUNDAY			Sep-12			New Life Group Push	
2	Sep-16	KICKOFF - Picture - Taste of Southern Heights	Kickoff Sermon Series		Sep-19	Gems/Cadet/Women/SMASH		Spiritual Gift Survey Push	
3	Sep-23			Dessert	Sep-26	LIFE Groups / SMASH		Promote Financial Peace University for October	
4	Sep-30			Getting Connected	Oct-03	Gems/Cadet/Women/SMASH	Free Bowling - Saturday the 6th		
5	Oct-07				Oct-10	LIFE Groups / SMASH			
6	Oct-14				Oct-17	Gems/Cadet/Women/SMASH			
7	Oct-21				Oct-24	LIFE Groups / SMASH		Oct 23 - Elders and Deacons combined meeting	
8	Oct-28			Pizza w Pastor	Oct-31	No events			
9	Nov-04				Nov-07	Gems/Cadet/Women/SMASH		Clocks Back	
10	Nov-11		Veteran's Sunday / Chili Cookoff		Nov-14	LIFE Groups / SMASH			
11	Nov-18			Dessert	Nov-21	THANKSGIVING SERVICE			
12	Nov-25				Nov-28	LIFE Groups / SMASH		Dec 1 - Prayer Advent Preparation	
13	Dec-02			Getting Connected	Dec-05	Gems/Cadet/Women/SMASH			
14	Dec-09		Congregation Vote on Budget		Dec-12	LIFE Groups / SMASH			
15	Dec-16	KIDS PROGRAM & CHRISTMAS BANQUET			Dec-19	Gems/Cadet/Women/SMASH	Caroling - Dec 19		
16	Dec-23	CHRISTMAS & CANDLELIGHT 24th pm			Dec-26				
17	Dec-30				Jan-02	CHRISTMAS BREAK			
18	Jan-06			Pizza w Pastor	Jan-09	LIFE Groups / SMASH		Annual NCD Survey - Vision Sermon	
19	Jan-13				Jan-16	Gems/Cadet/Women/SMASH	(no) Talent Show - Jan 19th	New Life Group Push	
20	Jan-20		Jan 20 - Family Meeting - Listen more		Jan-23	LIFE Groups / SMASH			
21	Jan-27				Jan-30	P.P.P.			
22	Feb-03	5 Week Churchwide Campaign			Feb-06	Gems/Cadet/Women/SMASH			
23	Feb-10			Dessert	Feb-13	LIFE Groups / SMASH			
24	Feb-17					Feb-20	Gems/Cadet/Women/SMASH		
25	Feb-24					Feb-27	LIFE Groups / SMASH	Skating party - Feb 22	MISSION TRIP TO HONDURAS Mar 1-9
26	Mar-03		Outreach Emphasis Sunday		Mar-06	Gems/Cadet/Women/SMASH			
27	Mar-10		Eld/Deac Nominations		Mar-13	LIFE Groups / SMASH		Clocks Forward	
28	Mar-17		Gems/Cadet Sunday	Getting Connected	Mar-20	Gems/Cadet/Women/SMASH			
29	Mar-24				Mar-27	LIFE Groups / SMASH			
30	Mar-31				Apr-03	SPRING BREAK			
31	Apr-07			Pizza w Pastor	Apr-10	LIFE Groups / SMASH			
32	Apr-14	PALM SUNDAY & "BIG DAY"			Apr-17	SMASH		Ap 18 - Maundy Thursday 6:30	
33	Apr-21	EASTER (with communion on prior Thursday)			Apr-24	LIFE Groups / SMASH			
34	Apr-28		Retirement Party 27th - Last Sunday 28th		May-01	SMASH	Games-May 4		
35	May-05	- Dave Sieplinga	Marathon Sunday		May-08	LIFE Groups / SMASH			
36	May-12	- Sam Hamstra	Mother's Day		May-15	SMASH Transition Prayer Night			
37	May-19	- Dave Sieplinga	Family Meeting		May-22	LIFE Groups / SMASH			
38	May-26	- Dave Sieplinga	Volunteer Appreciation / Memorial Day		May-29	P.P.P.			
39	Jun-02		SMASH Sunday - Cong Vote Elder/Deacon		Jun-05	Summer		9 worship team - 9:45 prayer starts	
40	Jun-09		Installation Elders & Deacons - Pentecost		Jun-12				
41	Jun-16		Father's Day		Jun-19		Camping - June 21-22-23		
42	Jun-23	Block Party - Sat 29th			Jun-26			Elders Retreat - Jun 29 - In/Outgoing - Vision	
43	Jun-30	PET SUNDAY & OUTDOOR SERVICE			Jul-03				
44	Jul-07				Jul-10			Begin Planning for FPU in Oct	
45	Jul-14				Jul-17				
46	Jul-21				Jul-24				
47	Jul-28				Jul-31			Smash ARO - July 27	
48	Aug-04				Aug-07		Picnic at Ramona Park?		
49	Aug-11				Aug-14				
50	Aug-18				Aug-21				
51	Aug-25		Family Meeting - Kickoff Alignment		Aug-28				
52	Sep-01				Sep-04				



ONLINE CHURCH DATABASE

Our church has a database to store information like addresses, phone numbers, groups in which people are involved, special dates, and giving history.

This database is very secure. It allows us to limit what people can and cannot see. For instance, everyone can see names and phone numbers, but only the Counting team and Treasurer can see any giving information.

Staff members cannot see giving info, but they are able to see and use the database according to their needs.

Here's what you can do in the directory:

- 1 - View names, addresses, contact info and birthdates of all the other people in the directory
- 2 - Edit your personal information (if you get a new phone number you can change it in the database)
- 3 - View your giving history (but you cannot view anyone else's)
- 4 - change your password

Go to our website www.s-heights.org
Click on the "Directory" tab.
Enter your login information:

Firstname.Lastname
(Capital first letters, *dot between*, no spaces)

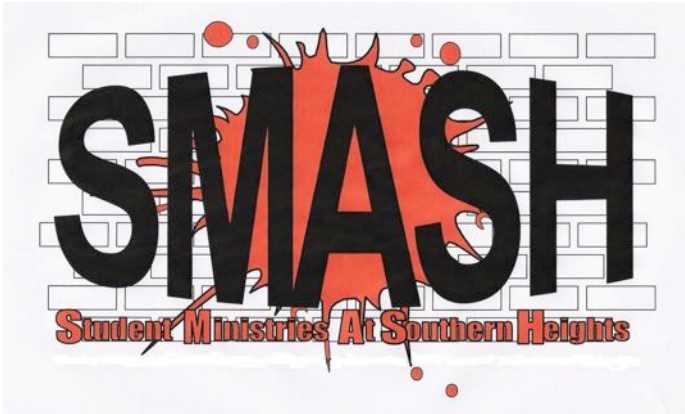
Initial password is either shrcr or shrcr1 (try both)

You may have trouble logging in the first time. That's OK, just email or call Judy at the office and she will assist you so that you are able to access the information you want.

Once you have successfully logged in, you can then view your information. Don't worry about doing anything wrong, you cannot change anything by accident. Even if you add or change your contact info, it will only come to the office as a suggestion first, and must be approved. This keeps everything safe. So go ahead and look around and ask any questions you may have.

We have noticed that many of you are already updating your birthdays and phone numbers. This is exactly what we were hoping you'd do. So keep up the good work. This will allow us all to have the best and most up-to-date information to keep in touch with each other.





Our S.M.A.S.H. season is wrapping up quickly. High school wrapped up on Marathon Sunday: helping at the water station, going to 5 Guys for lunch, and then finishing out the day playing games outdoors at Gracie McDonald's house. We had a great year growing together in God's Word and sharing time together in fun discussions.

Ed Hour is wrapping up on May 19 with our annual breakfast and quiz bowl. We've had a great year catching up with each other over snacks, learning and growing together as we either discuss one of our doctrines or a section of the Bible. We were also able to hear from Sara Baas about her Israel trip.

Middle School wraps up on May 22 with our annual year end bash at Gregg Jones' house. Grilled food, fun games, and a special send off for our 8th graders. Middle School also has had a great year growing together through learning GOSPEL and the 10 Commandments, learning and discussing Jesus' parables, serving together and our fun events.

This summer, we have 2 main events planned: Michigan's Adventure and ARO Mission Trip. On July 14, after our worship gathering, all S.M.A.S.H. students (both middle and high school groups) will head on up to Michigan's Adventure for a fun afternoon of roller coasters and water rides.

On July 27, we're off to Inez, KY to be God's hands and voice in Martin County. We will be spending time interacting with the residents of Inez and surrounding hollers. Our exact jobs will not be known until shortly before we leave as a lot depends on the skill set of our team and what previous teams have completed. There is still room for both adults and students to come along on this trip. We return on August 2nd.

S.M.A.S.H. leaders will be meeting on an overnight retreat in early June where we will be listening carefully to the Spirit's leading to how God wants us to help fulfill our baptismal vows to help raise students as His disciples. We are looking forward to another exciting year as His servants.

Thank you for keeping this ministry in your prayers.



WELCOME
PASTOR DAVID
SIEPLINGA!

We are excited to
have you as our
Interim Pastor.

God Bless You!

People of the Bible

K	Q	F	Q	N	I	V	S	H	D	R	A	M	B	G
E	M	C	O	K	O	G	R	A	Z	N	X	L	M	H
E	V	P	Y	J	A	M	H	J	M	Q	E	Z	N	S
R	L	P	A	B	A	J	O	I	M	S	I	Z	D	T
S	S	M	R	N	B	Y	G	L	A	A	O	J	A	R
D	E	I	J	O	R	N	F	E	O	N	R	N	V	E
S	E	S	T	A	A	B	T	Y	U	S	H	Y	I	T
L	K	H	O	H	H	S	U	S	E	J	Y	Q	D	E
L	H	A	J	M	A	Q	W	T	U	E	H	Q	M	P
E	P	X	H	N	M	D	P	B	P	P	V	A	V	I
J	O	S	H	U	A	A	D	A	E	V	D	E	X	E
Z	H	R	M	J	U	K	W	S	U	A	C	D	X	A
J	O	H	N	L	T	T	O	W	E	H	T	T	A	M
U	L	H	T	U	R	J	G	B	N	P	D	L	P	C
T	Q	F	R	V	F	K	S	J	Y	J	T	T	O	I

ABRAHAM	ADAM	DAVID
ELIJAH	EVE	GABRIEL
JAMES	JESUS	JOHN
JOSEPH	JOSHUA	MARY
MATTHEW	MOSES	NOAH
PAUL	PETER	RUTH
SAMSON	SOLOMON	