

SOUTH PRESBYTERIAN

an Acts of Faith Community

- "The Church has Left the Building" -



In 2014, after 170 years on Mt. Hope Avenue in Rochester, New York, South Presbyterian Church discerned that they were called to take the energy and excitement of their Spirit-led congregation and move out into the community. Why expect people to come to one building for their needs to be met when Jesus went to the people; he didn't expect them to come to him. And so South created the Acts of Faith Model of Ministry® which, in many ways, is a 21st century embodiment of the first century Christian community.

An Act of Faith (AoF) is an organic grass-roots ministry growing out of the needs of the people. It may be overtly "religious" like a Bible Study, or not, such as a community choir. This model believes that we don't have to be talking about God all the time in order to be spreading the Good News; it believes that as we live out our faith and build community, people will "bump up against Jesus" through us. Therefore, if two people share a need or interest, we will sponsor their program for three months. How to determine whether, or not, to continue it after three months? Easy. Answer one question: **Does it create energy and excitement?** Believing that everything the Holy Spirit touches generates energy, excitement and holy presence that is felt by the people associated with it, South says that if an AoF does that, it continues; if it does not, they discontinue it immediately and await the movement of the Spirit to direct their next endeavor. And don't worry, **you don't have to get rid of your building to get out into the community and become more missional!** It just happened to be what South was called to do. The AoF Model, though, calls for us to **create communities based on shared faith experiences and question** and to do it where the people already are!














Updated: 07-20-23

<p>Both in-person and online groups to discuss the streaming series, <i>The Chosen</i> and the ways that it relates to our own spirituality.</p> <p>Contact the Church Office for more information regarding days, times & links.</p>	<p>Cuppa the Bible ONLINE BIBLE STUDY</p> <p>You supply the "cuppa" - the Spirit supplies the message</p> <p>Zoom Lectionary-based. MONDAY, 10:30 a.m.</p>	<p>EVENING PRAYER</p> <p>Prayer Service in real time THURSDAY, 6 p.m.</p>	<p>Uploaded services in advance of Sunday worship.</p> <p>Recorded by volunteer leaders at home and edited by our staff. "Script" is provided; 4-6 days to record your 5-minute piece. If you wish to join us,</p> <p>Contact the Church Office</p>
<p>Fellowship of Faith</p> <p>Positive, Progressive Prophetic & Pragmatic</p> <p>Weekly worship . Music—Prayer—Preaching Sacraments—Scripture</p> <p>SUNDAY, 1 p.m. St. John's Meadows</p>	<p>food for thought Community Book Group</p> <p>Building community through our love of books, ideas, and each other. Group meets weekly (zoom) and once a month in person while zooming.</p> <p>Zoom HYBRID</p> <p>Check Online Calendar</p>	<p>Living Bread ministry</p> <p>Homemade bread as a reminder that "we are with you" and are nurtured by the Spirit of Christ, the Living Bread.</p> <p>Contact the Church Office</p>	<p>LOVE-JOY FELLOWSHIP</p> <p>Time to socialize and be the church at rest.</p> <p>SEASONAL GATHERINGS AS POSSIBLE</p>
<p>25 Matthew</p> <p>Monthly Volunteering with un-housed, hungry and poor at the local Catholic Worker ministry - St. Joseph's House of Hospitality.</p> <p>Hands-on; Hearts engaged.</p> <p>Contact the Church Office</p>	<p>25 Discussion Groups</p> <p>Periodic Justice-Oriented Serialized Classes</p>	<p>New Life Food Cupboard</p> <p>Emergency Food support for those who need it.</p> <p>2nd, 4th, and 5th THURSDAYS 9:30 a.m. — Noon Congregation Beth Shalom (1161 Monroe Avenue, 14620)</p>	<p>Ring for JOY!</p> <p>Adult Bell Choir open to all. No prior experience or audition required. Vacations in summer.</p> <p>WEDNESDAY, 5:30 p.m. St. John's Meadows (1 Johnsarbor Drive, 14620)</p>

Please check the **website calendar** (see reverse side) for up-to-date information. **ALL TIMES ARE EASTERN U.S.**

These are South's current Acts of Faith. Everyone is welcome, regardless of religious belief, faith tradition, or lack thereof. Come on ... check us out!

Additional AoF's on Reverse

 <p>TUESDAY, 2PM Brickstone Horizon Room Limited enrollment per section Contact the Church Office</p>	<h2>WORSHIP WITH US <u>IN REAL TIME/YOUR TIME</u></h2> <p>24/7 WORSHIP on YouTube: <i>South Church Rochester</i></p> <p>Daily meditations with the pastor and Weekly worship services — including sacraments, singing, prayer, reflection, and scripture</p> <p>Thursday Evening Prayer Service: <i>Zoom</i></p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> <p>Sunday 1PM in person— Fellowship of Faith</p> </div>		 <p>Fellowship of Faith</p>  <p>PRAYERFUL PAUSE</p>
 <p>Sing for Joy!</p> <p>Mid-week opportunity to sing church- and non-church songs.</p> <p>No Audition. Vacations in summer. WEDNESDAY 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. St. John's Meadows</p>	<p>Periodic Gen-Z Gatherings focused on Sustainability of the Environment Their Souls and Themselves</p> <p>Contact the Church Office for upcoming plans</p> 	<p>Online Bible Study for Thinking & Questioning People.</p> <p>FRIDAY, Noon to 1 p.m. Contact the Church Office for the Zoom Link</p>  <p>Zoom</p>	 <p>FIREBIRD SPIRIT</p> <p>By harnessing the Firebird Spirit, South resources and supports other transforming churches & institutions.</p> <p>Professional experts from multiple disciplines and denominations provide insight through the Firebird team that works across the country sharing lessons learned and solutions pioneered by South Church and others.</p> <p>Firebird Spirit provides consulting and coaching services to individuals, churches, and judicatories.</p> <p>Contact Kevin Fuller, Director of Operations (kfuller@firebirdspirit.org) to schedule a visit or plan a workshop in your area. (585) 476 - HOPE (4673)</p>
<p>Weekly, we produce DVD's of our COMPLETE worship services for those without internet connection. eWorship Leaders record elements of the service on their phones or other devices and email them to our staff who compiles and edits for upload to our YouTube Channel: South Church Rochester. That video is burned to a DVD and delivered or mailed to those who cannot attend in person.</p> <p>Other churches and/or pastors are invited to arrange with us which portions of worship you would like to record for your people. Together, this "modular approach" to worship videos can be timely and personally tailored to your community.</p> <p>Contact us if you would like to purchase DVD's or want to explore creating videos either by yourself or using our modular model.</p>			
<p>So ... when someone asks "Where's your church?" we can <i>literally</i> say: "Where would you <i>like</i> us to be?" because we are currently in 8 neighborhoods in Rochester, Brighton, and Henrietta, at 6 different locations and ONLINE we have regular participants in five different states. And isn't that what it means to be the Body of the Risen Christ? We are a small church of only 35 official members, but our 15 Acts of Faith reached at least 341 different people in the course of the year. And while a small percentage participated in more than one AoF, that gave us 6,068 contact points where people "bumped up against Jesus" through us in person or on zoom in this post-COVID world! When you add our 2,433 YouTube views, there were close to 8,500 opportunities for the Spirit to work through us in touching the lives of others and sharing the Good News.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;">     </div>			



We proudly say, **"The Church has Left the Building"** and we are quick to pray:
"Put us where you want us, and show us what to do!"



For updates, to learn more, or to contact us, please visit the website. **www.SOUTHPC.org/welcome**

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