**Bearing Fruit – April 18, 2021**

**Youth with a Mission**

This past year has been a watershed year. While we may look forward to getting back to normal, post-Covid some things will never be the same. We missed out on having our annual Talent Show last year because of Covid. This year our Talent Show will have both recorded and live portions. Maybe that will be a new thing we keep on doing.

Over the years the Talent Show has been a family night full of laughter and fun. Our 2021 edition of the Talent Show has an added depth - we need to laugh together as the world has gotten a lot more serious. With this backdrop of a need to laugh all the more, we are approaching Talent Show in a new way. Not only will there be acts or “talent,” people will also be sharing their favorite jokes. If you feel shy about sharing your favorite joke, just call Blair at 630-917-6035 and he will find someone to tell your joke on your behalf! You have till Sunday noon to call and offer one of your jokes.

Our Talent Show is not just about laughter, it is also an important way for us to financially support our Youths’ Mission Trip. This year’s trip is to Mission, South Dakota, part of the Rosebud Reservation of the Lakota people, for a week of workcamp. These camps have a huge impact on the people they serve, through home repair and painting. They also have an amazing impact on our youth through the immersive service experience, the program times, and the time spent on the road and at the camp with each other. It is a Christ-centered week of devotion to others and to their spiritual lives. Of course, this year all depends on what is going on with Covid, but Group Mission Trips has made a great number of changes to the camp to make it as safe as possible. Please pray that the camp takes place and that all—youth, adults, and residents—keep well and are blessed by their time together.

You will find the Talent Show this Sunday beginning at 5:00 p.m. live streamed on our Facebook and YouTube channels. Here are the links:

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SouthminsterGlenEllyn/>

You Tube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPgWICngOvkmR1OXgCG_wiA/videos>

This is a fundraiser, so if you are writing a check to Southminster, please indicate on your memo line that it is a donation for the Youth Mission Trip. Tell your family and friends about the show, too. There will be a GoFundMe page for non-church members to use to donate. Please do not use that page if you are a member of Southminster, because, of course, GoFundMe gets a cut.

Future fundraisers will be car washes, so keep your eyes open for that, and, of course, our annual Rummage Sale June 5-6 (or the following weekend if the weather is bad). So please think of that when doing your spring cleaning. Please price the items you donate to the sale. Stickers will be available at church, but you can save yourself the trip by using masking tape. We will be delighted to receive your “rummage” Sunday, May 30, in Fellowship Hall. Helping our Youth demonstrate God’s love is one way we bear the fruit of God’s love.