

MARCH 2021 | Volume 55 - Issue 3

SECOND THOUGHTS

Lenten plans and Easter Services, page 3.



Sharing grace ...

Second Presbyterian Church
www.2ndpreslou.org

Contents

Worship.....	3
Music.....	5
Weekday School.....	7
Children.....	8
Youth	9
2PK & 2PY Mission	10
Formation.....	11
Mission	13
Fellowship.....	17
FYI.....	18



3701 Old Brownsboro Road

Louisville, Kentucky 40207

502.895.3483

www.2ndpreslou.org

Facebook: @secondpresbyterian

YouTube: @2ndPresLou

Our Mission

*Sharing the grace of God
with one another and the
world around us.*

“Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come” (Mark 13:33)

Dear Friends,

It’s not easy, is it? “It” being staying alert. When for many each day is pretty much like the one before. When we’re working from home and spending too much time on Zoom calls. When we cling to every morsel of hopeful news and then shake our heads in frustration when word comes of variants and challenges to vaccine distribution. It leads to a kind of numbness in which being creative, taking initiative, and staying positive takes great effort and energy.



In previous generations, the periods after Christmas and after Easter in the church year were known as “Christmastide” and “Eastertide.” Someone on the church staff has designated the period we’re living through as “Covidtide.” Indeed. More of the same, day after day. Uncertainty about what’s next. Trying not to let fear drive our thoughts and actions. It’s not easy to stay alert in Covidtide.

Jesus wasn’t talking about staying alert in general in the quotation above from Mark, but about a lifestyle of watching and waiting for his promised return and the coming of God’s kingdom in its fulness. He was, I think, speaking of an active waiting, not just getting through the day or killing time hoping that something exciting or important will happen. Instead, Jesus teaches us that our job is to live expectantly, listening for his voice, watching for his presence amid the ordinary, the routine, the same old same old. That’s what the gifts of worship, Bible, prayer, and opportunities for costly service are about. By God’s grace, they position us to be alert to the risen Christ who is still with us, still speaks to us and through us, still calls us to follow him and shows us the way.

The traditional understanding of Lenten discipline is making a decision to give something up – sweets, alcohol, caffeine, trash television – as a way of focusing our attention on the call to sacrifice something in service to God. That practice has its merits. But how about, this year, making your Lenten discipline the taking up of a particular discipline – regular prayer time, Bible study, commitment to the work of one of our mission partners – as a way of staying alert to the voice and presence of Jesus? In this “Covidtide” we’re living through, it may be the best way to shake off that lethargy and discover again the joy and wonder of service to the Lord of life.

Grace and Peace,
Steve

*Steve Jester is Pastor at
Second Presbyterian Church*

worship

ORDINARY HOPE LENT 2021



Our season of Lent at Second is a discipline of discovering the way of Christ in our everyday encounters. Through faith formation, prayer and worship, and the creative expressions of music, poetry and art, we will open our senses to living the way of Hope.

Discover ORDINARY HOPE:

Monday Devotions - Each Monday morning, one of our ministry or pastoral staff will share a devotion or prayer practice based on our themes for the week. Included with each devotional will be suggestions for a more hands-on experience for families with children of all ages. An email with the link to this service goes out every Monday morning.

Mid-Week Prayer - Each Wednesday at noon we will meet for a mid-day Prayer Service on Zoom. We will hear scripture and pray together for the needs of our community, the world and ourselves. Links will be sent each week.

Wednesdays Together - For the weeks of Lent, we will again meet for our weekly meal and formation activities for adults and children where we will take a deeper look into the theme of the week. On March 10, 17, and 24 there will be an opportunity for our children to be a part of a Palm Sunday video (see page 6). Under guidelines for reopening, this opportunity is limited to 25 participants. Reservations are required.

Lenten Recitals @ Noon - Our virtual series continues on Thursdays throughout March. Organist Sam Libra has arranged 30-minute recorded recitals to be presented on our YouTube Channel. From the Lenten music for organ from Brahms to Bach, and music for the cello and oboe, and Pergolesi's *Stabat Mater*, these will be rich times for meditation and inspiration. See page 5 for details.

Sundays of Lent Through March 28

Morning Prayer at 9 a.m. -

Scripture read and proclaimed, Psalms and inspirational texts shared through music. Capacity of 25; registration required. See page 4 for details.

Worship for the Lord's Day at 11 a.m. -

Live-streamed services continue, and will explore the themes of our Lenten discipline, with the Word proclaimed and seasonal music offered.

Beginning March 21 with Confirmation Sunday, our 11 a.m. service will be in-person once again, with limited capacity based on safe distancing. All safety protocols will be observed, and registration is required to attend. See page 4 for more information.

Holy Week and Easter Celebrations -

Our journey through Christ's Passion and Resurrection as a community will be a mixture of in-person and live-streamed services. We will share the Lord's Supper and our community in Christ's mission, witness Jesus' sacrifice on Good Friday, and triumphant "Alleluias" on Easter morning. See plans on page. 4.

In-Person Worship Begins Again March 21

On Confirmation Sunday, March 21, our 11 a.m. services will be open for in-person worship. Our church staff and Re-opening Task Force have reviewed the guidelines set by our Session, the Mid-Kentucky Presbytery's recommendations, and current CDC and state advice in making this decision.

We will be following all the protocols for opening set in October (available at 2ndpreslou.org/resources), including: required reservations for in-person services, wearing masks, temperature checks, and spacing 6 feet or more. Per the recommendations of the Presbytery and CDC, there will not be congregational singing.

The 9 a.m. Prayer Service in the Chapel will continue to be offered with the same capacities and protocols. Reservations are required for attendance. Registration link will be available via email or on our website on Wednesday mornings.

HOLY WEEK and EASTER

We will have several opportunities for worship during this special season in our Christian journey.

PALM SUNDAY - March 28 - 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. We will join with the exultant crowd and contemplate the beginning of Christ's way to the Cross. Our Prayer Service is in the Chapel at 9 a.m., and the 11 a.m. Service is in-person and live-streamed.

MAUNDY THURSDAY - April 1 - 7 p.m. We gather as Christ-followers around the table and share communion as we consider the night that Jesus shared himself. Our Pastors lead us in prayer and the Word. Music will be shared by our Octet, and Samuel Libra, organist. The service will be in the Sanctuary and open to limited capacity in-person worship, as well as live-streamed. Reservation required.

GOOD FRIDAY - April 2 - 7 p.m. Our traditional Tenebrae Service includes Scripture and music that finds us at the foot of the Cross, knowing Jesus' full sacrifice. The Word will be read, and music provided by our musicians. The service will be in the Sanctuary at 7 p.m. and open to limited capacity in-person worship, as well as live-streamed. Reservation required.

EASTER SUNDAY - April 4: Three services for celebrating the Resurrection of Christ!

- 8 a.m. - Sanctuary Service (in-person - reservation required)
- 9:30 a.m. - Outdoor Service in the Chapel Circle (no reservation required; bring your own chair.)
- 11 a.m. - Sanctuary Service (in-person - reservation required; live-streamed)

More details about how to reserve and when, along with contingency plans for weather impact on the outside service and details of the Easter services will come by special email in the next two weeks.

Church Building Now Open to Small Groups

Our church is now open to small groups of 25 or fewer. Protocols will need to continue to be closely followed: all participants are to sign in, have their temperature noted, wear masks, and maintain physical distance while in the building. Those who have symptoms consistent with COVID are asked not to participate. For anyone desiring to meet: their committee or small group needs to call Lisa Bickett at 895-3483 or email lbickett@2ndpreslou.org to check the calendar and reserve a space.





Through a Glass ...A Virtual 2020-2021 Season

RADIANCE OF TWO

Thank you, Second Presbyterian Church, and all our supporters and donors, for another exciting Virtual Concert on February 21. We featured some of our favorite artists of Louisville, and heard impeccably performed music from a variety of styles. A special thanks to Jose Elizondo, composer, for his generosity of time and his beautiful music.



If you have not donated to WOMEN'S GLOBAL CANCER ALLIANCE, please do so by visiting www.womensgca.org/donations/donate-now/

LENTEN RECITALS @ NOON

THURSDAYS VIRTUALLY ON YOUTUBE 2NDPRESLOU

March 4 - *CHANGE* Works for cello by Bach, and for cello & organ by Boëllmann and Hailstork Lillian Pettitt, cello; Samuel Libra, organ

Lillian Pettitt, Assistant Principal Cellist of the Louisville Orchestra, performs excerpts from J. S. Bach's incomparably beautiful cello suites. She is joined by organist Samuel Libra in music of 19th-century French composer Léon Boëllmann and Adolphus Hailstork of Old Dominion University in Virginia.

March 11 - Pergolesi's *Stabat Mater* - Meditations on the Passion from the perspective of Mary Emily Yocum Black, soprano; Laura Atkinson, mezzo-soprano; Samuel Libra, harpsichord

One of the more haunting texts of Christian history, the *Stabat Mater* is a 13th-century meditation on the agony of Christ's mother as she weeps at the foot of his cross. Italian composer Giovanni Battista Pergolesi composed this setting in the 18th century, interweaving two female voices with instrumental accompaniment in a work that both delights and devastates.

March 18 - *CHANGE* Pieces for oboe and organ by Handel, Morricone, and others Jennifer Potochnic, oboe; Samuel Libra, organ

Oboist Jennifer Potochnic of the University of Louisville joins Samuel Libra in a program of music for oboe and organ, including *Gabriel's Oboe* from Ennio Morricone's score for the 1986 film *The Mission*.

March 25 - Works for organ by J.S. Bach in honor of his birthday Samuel Libra, organ

No composer is more celebrated for his organ works than J. S. Bach, so we celebrate his birthday (on March 21) with a concert of his works. Second Presbyterian Organist Samuel Libra performs music Bach wrote for the season of Lent, capping it off with the lauded *Passacaglia in C-minor*, BWV 582, a tour de force work written when the composer was just seventeen years old.

Music @ WEDNESDAYS Together

We welcome all our Children aged 3-5th grade to join us at Wednesdays Together for sessions in March. These will be outside, weather permitting. We will be learning a song and creating a video for PALM SUNDAY!

March 10 and 17: Music, fun, and learning a special song for Palm Sunday as part of "Learning Together"

March 24: Palm Sunday taping

**Reservations are required,
and we will follow the regular schedule:**

5:30-6:00 p.m. Dinner in the Great Hall

6:00-7:00 p.m. Adult Class, *Life Together* and Children's Class, *Learning Together* (age 3- 5th grade)

The link to a required RSVP will be in Seconds to Go each week

**Be sure to watch our Children's Choir videos from January and February on our YouTube playlist:
<https://bit.ly/2MulJkY>**



Find yourself a place in our music ministry ... Second continues our strong commitment to using our gifts to share the grace of God in Worship and in our Community!

For more info: Jim Rittenhouse, 645-2256 or jrittenhouse@2ndpreslou.org

Foundational Work

Last month, my husband and I watched *The Last Dance*, a docuseries on Netflix about the 1990s Chicago Bulls team and the final season for both Michael Jordan and the coach, Phil Jackson. Growing up idolizing Michael Jordan like so many others, it was riveting to learn more about his personal story as well as how the team became so successful. While watching, I was struck that if you look at basketball completely objectively, it is simply an act of putting a ball into a hoop, over and over. This is how all ball sports work: you get a ball into a particular area to win some points, including tennis, my favorite sport to watch. All in all, if aliens came to Earth and wanted to learn about humans, part of what they would see is us going berserk as we watch others move around balls.

So what makes basketball truly meaningful, then? I realized that it is all the behind-the-scenes and even invisible parts. It is the training of the players to achieve high levels of physical stamina and fitness. This takes dedication and hard work. It is the repetitive practice of a team learning how to think and move as one. It is the mental challenge of accepting and learning from mistakes and losses and the resilience built through the process. It is teammates learning how their strengths fit into creating a dynamic whole. It is the perseverance and self-awareness developed when players dig and find they have more to give in a game than they think. It is the fulfillment, confidence and purpose individuals discover through growth and opportunity. It is also the sense of self and boundaries with others cultivated through handling fame, the press, and people's expectations for someone as big as Michael Jordan. And for the fans, it is representation, community, and pride. In effect, what is seen during a basketball game - the points, the wins, the losses

- is the surface of the ocean. All the mental, physical, relational, emotional, and even spiritual development that occurs to prepare for and play the game are the miles of water and life below the surface.

Education is like this, too. What is most obvious on the surface are letters, numbers, and grades. Underneath the academic learning and success are years of foundational work. This starts in infancy with children making meaning of the world around them through their sensory systems, bonding with their families and caregivers, establishing movement through their motor systems, beginning to learn language and more. As children move through the early childhood stages of development, they mature, strengthen, deepen, and refine their abilities and understandings. It is going from mark making as a toddler to drawing and writing to represent thinking as Kindergartners. It is learning to understand a native language as an infant to hearing speech to begin reading. It is observing facial expressions and tones of voices as babies to deciphering more complex social cues as they get older. It is growing from natural egocentrism when very young to taking others' perspectives. It is babbling and single-word utterances to presenting ideas orally and problem-solving with peers. And just like putting a ball in a hoop, there is more than meets the eye to constructing with blocks, painting at an easel, caring for a baby doll, exploring outside, and playing Hide-and-Seek. The big developmental celebrations, such as learning to walk, count or read, are the culminating events for children after months and years of repetitive practice, productive struggle, motivation, maturation, and the skillful guidance of those who love them. It is precisely these small learning moments, visible and invisible, each day that create the miles of water and life below the surface. The capabilities, confidence, independence, and resilience that follow ebb and flow as children navigate new challenges at every stage. And just like the Chicago Bulls, they have fans at school and at home cheering them on.

*Hayley Abell, Director
2nd Pres Weekday School*

Our Infant-Toddler Program helps provide the foundational work needed for healthy children.



children

Sunday School

A huge "Thank you" to Nolan and Evie Hughes and Grace Gillis for helping lead us in our craft for "Horton Hears a Who" Sunday School.

March's Sunday School will be based on the story of Moses. Please take the time to have a movie night at home with your family. For middle to older elementary aged children, we suggest the movie "Prince of Egypt" while younger elementary and preschool may enjoy the Veggie Tales movie, "Moe and the Big Exit."

Both movies will support discussion of the Jewish tradition of Passover and how that tradition fits with Easter. Craft bags will be available in their usual spot underneath the portico beginning Sunday March 7. Videos will be sent out each Sunday through the Children's newsletter, 2PK, and will be on the Church's website under the resources tab the following week.



Lorie Williamson is Director of Children's Ministries at Second Presbyterian Church

Holy Week

Be on the lookout for take-home bags for Holy week with activities for Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday. The full meaning of Easter cannot be understood without taking the whole week into consideration. Big concepts explained in simple ways will help children and families alike understand the events of the most important of Christian holidays. Bags will be available March 21 under the portico.

Save the Date!

Willow Art Camp

June 1-4 and
July 26-30

Smiley Camp
June 14-18 and
June 21-25

VBS/Project Serve
July 12-16

Willow Art Camp
Art lessons based on the beauty of self-awareness, nature, imagination and fun!
Kristen Hayden, Director

June 1-4
Art from Around
the World
Tues. - Fri.
9am-2pm

July 26-30
Famous Artists
Mon. - Fri.
9am-1pm

Potty trained 3's - 7 years
\$195/week

Register now at:
[www.2ndpreslou.org/ministries/children/Art Camp](http://www.2ndpreslou.org/ministries/children/Art%20Camp)

SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
3701 OLD BROWNSBORO ROAD 40207

Buses, and Boats, and Balloons, Oh My!
June 14-18

SMILEY CAMP
SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Potty trained 3's - 6 years
\$200- 1 Week or \$350 - 2 weeks

REGISTRATION BEGINS APRIL 1ST!

**UNDER THE BIG TOP
JUNE 21-25**

Kim Pitchford, Kpitchforde2ndpreslou.org
[www.2ndpreslou.org/ministries/children/Smiley Camp](http://www.2ndpreslou.org/ministries/children/Smiley%20Camp)

Confirmation Retreat



We were fortunate enough to safely have a day-long retreat at Louisville Seminary. We spent our day learning about sacraments, stuffing goody bags for Bellewood, playing games, hiking, and writing faith statements. It was wonderful to be together and have a space where we were able to process the confirmation experience together.



Above, confirmands at Louisville Seminary.

Far left, stuffing goody bags

Center, writing faith statements



2PY Mission

2PY Serves

In January, our mission project was to collect both welcome baskets and Valentine's Day goody bags for Bellewood's staff and a couple of cottages. We exceeded the number of welcome baskets we hoped to collect! Thanks to all who helped to share the grace of God through these items.



**Join us for
Open Gym!**

Jordan Akin is Associate Pastor for Youth, Second Presbyterian Church

2PY Calendar

3/2:	Open Gym, 7-9 p.m.
3/7:	Confirmation Sunday School, 9:45 a.m. 6-12th grade Sunday School, 12:30 p.m.
3/9:	Open Gym, 7 - 9 p.m.
3/10:	Lunch Bunch, noon
3/14:	Confirmation Sunday School, 9:45 a.m. Confirmation Rehearsal 6-12th grade Sunday School, 12:30 p.m.
3/15:	Montreat deposit due
3/21:	Confirmation Sunday School, 9:45 a.m. Confirmation Sunday 6-12th grade Sunday School, 12:30 p.m.
3/24:	Lunch Bunch, noon
3/28:	Spring Break, no Sunday School

2PK Mission

The Mission of the Month for March is Buckhorn Children and Family Services located in Buckhorn, Ky. 2PK can get involved by providing arts & crafts items for the children that reside there. Please have your child choose & shop for an item or items from the list that they would like to give. Any of the dollar stores around the city would be a great place to start for this mission. Perhaps your children could contribute their own money as well for this effort!

Buckhorn needs arts and crafts supplies, including

- craft paper
- sketch paper
- colored pencils
- craft kits
- easels and canvas
- water paint
- washable acrylic paints
- brushes.



2PY Mission

A poster for "CAN OPENER WARS CURRENT STANDINGS" with a blue background and yellow confetti. It features three medal icons: a gold medal with the number 1, a silver medal with the number 2, and a bronze medal with the number 3. Next to the gold medal is the word "JUNIORS". Next to the silver medal is "TIE SENIORS, SOPHOMORES, FRESHMEN". Next to the bronze medal is "6TH-8TH (ONE TEAM)". There are two open boxes of donuts. At the bottom left, the word "EXTENDED" is written in large, white, slanted letters. At the bottom right, a white box contains the text: "GET YOUR DONATIONS IN BY MARCH 15TH AND HELP YOUR GRADE WIN DONUTS!".

A poster for Buckhorn Children & Family Services with a pink background. At the top is the organization's logo. Below the logo, the text reads: "Happy Easter Season 2PY! During the month of March, our mission project will be collecting and assembling Easter basket items for teen girls at Buckhorn. Please look for the sign-up in the weekly 2PY newsletter." At the bottom, there is an illustration of a white rabbit in a basket, and several colorful Easter eggs (yellow, white, orange) on grass.

adult faith formation

Unless otherwise directed, Zoom links to Adult Studies programs are found in *Seconds to Go*. You may also contact the church office to receive the information, 502-895-3483.

Biblical Studies

The Biblical Studies class covers historical, critical scholarship related to the Bible. In-person class meetings depend upon the church's in-person worship service schedule. Biblical Studies will meet at 10 a.m. any time that there are in-person services. While the church building is closed, Biblical Studies has a remote class session via email each week. For anyone interested in receiving these sessions, whether or not you are a regular class member, please email Dr. Ostling, lingjr@twc.com.

Pathways

Members of the Pathways Class are united in their pursuit of knowledge of biblical, historical and social issues, and all other facets that lead to a balanced Christian life. The class is also a community that has a yearly retreat, a Derby party, and a Christmas get-together along with other social events. We also have a mission component and try hard to provide a hands-on mission opportunity at least four times a year.

The class meets on Zoom each Sunday at 9:45 a.m. with moderator Elizabeth Clay. If interested in joining the class, please email Elizabeth at eclay412@gmail.com.

Reading the Bible

The Reading the Bible Class meets on Zoom each Sunday at 10 a.m. and is moderated by Marty Soards. Please contact Marty Soards at marion.soards@att.net for questions or if you are interested in joining the class.

2nd Sunday

2nd Sunday is for parents of children from birth through teenage years. The class meets on the second Sunday of each month and deals with issues facing young parents trying to raise faithful children in this tumultuous and ever-changing world. Class members share experiences and ideas, to help each other find ways to make God the center of our families.

The class meets on Zoom the second Sunday of each month at 10 a.m. with moderators Lee and Vic Baltzell.

Race Matters

The "Race Matters" study group is held every other Monday at 7 p.m. on Zoom.

Morning Joy

Join us Thursday mornings at 9:45 a.m. on Zoom for Morning Joy with Rev. Steve Jester.

Men's Bible Study

Men's Bible Study will continue to meet via Zoom in March at 7 a.m. on Fridays. The schedule for the month is as follows:

Study material: *An Introduction to New Testament Christology* by Raymond E. Brown

3/5:	Chap 9, pp. 126-132, Christology in Preministry Terms
3/12:	Chap 9, pp. 133-141, Christology in Preministry Terms, continued
3/19:	Chap 10, pp 142-152, General Observations on Christology
3/26:	Appendix 1, pp 155-161, Royal Messianic Hope for Israel

To join via the Zoom link, contact Beth via email, bethh@2ndpreslou.org or find the link and topic in the weekly *Seconds to Go* email.

Sisters in Spirit

In 2021, Sisters in Spirit will continue to meet on the second Tuesday, by Zoom for now. We will finish Max Lucado's *You'll Get Through This: Hope and Help for Turbulent Times* ahead of our original schedule, so please let Ann Fleming know if you have a short study for April and May. To join this study, contact the church, bethh@2ndpreslou.org.

- March 9 – Chapters 14 & 15

America's Unholy Ghosts: A Study

Beginning January 25, Parish Associate Elizabeth Clay has led a group in an examination of the book *America's Unholy Ghosts*, which examines the DNA of the ideologies that shape our nation, ideologies that are as American as apple pie but that too often justify and perpetuate racist ideas and racial inequalities. MLK challenged us to investigate the "ideational roots of race hate" and *Ghosts* does just that by examining a philosophical "trinity"—Thomas Hobbes, John Locke, and Adam Smith—whose works collectively helped to institutionalize, imagine, and ingrain racist ideologies into the hearts and minds of the American people.

As time passed, America's racial imagination evolved to form people incapable of recognizing their addiction to racist ideas. Thus, *Ghosts* comes to a close with the brilliant faith and politics of Martin Luther King, Jr. who sought to write the conscience of the Prophetic Black Church onto American hearts, minds, and laws. If our nation's racist instincts still haunt our land, so too do our hopes and desires for a faith and politics marked by mercy, justice, and equity—and there is no better guide to that land than the Prophetic Black Church and the one who saw such a land from the mountaintop.

We will meet via Zoom from 7-8:30 p.m. on Monday, March 8 and 22.

Please contact Elizabeth Clay if you are interested in joining us.

WEDNESDAYS *Together*

2021 Spring Schedule and Class Offerings

February 17 - March 24

5:30-6 p.m. Dinner in the Great Hall

6-7 p.m. Adult & Youth Class,
Life Together and
Children's Class, *Learning Together*
(age 3- 5th grade)

The link to a required RSVP will be in
Seconds to Go each week

Presbyterian Women of Second

Greetings! Presbyterian Women of Mid-Kentucky Presbytery invite you to join us for our 2021 Annual "Virtual" Spring Gathering "The Beauty of the Earth" on Saturday, March 20, 2021, at 10 a.m. Our speakers will be Sam Avery, author and renewable energy advocate and Margaret Stewart, poet and environmental preservation advocate, with music by members of Beulah Presbyterian Church. The Spring Gathering Offering will be dedicated to the "Open Table Ministry" at Beulah, which provides meals to the homeless in the Fern Creek area. Checks can be made payable to PW Mid-KY, designated Spring Gathering Offering and sent to JoAnna Overstreet, PW Mid-KY Treasurer, 4102 Spring Park Lane, Louisville, KY 40218. To receive the direct Zoom link and an agenda, please RSVP to Amy Parker at amyparker158@hotmail.com or (502) 641-9204 (call or text).

Since we still face the challenges of Covid-19, we will not meet in March. We will continue to pray for one another and for healing and peace in our community and the world.

Lesson 7 of the *Horizons* Bible Study "Into the Light," by P. Lynn Miller, is "Creation Laments," using Isaiah 24 and Romans 8 to reflect upon the "consequences to humanity's choices, consequences for all creation." Scripture mentions many elements of creation with the potential to lament – water, air, trees, animals, mountains. As we consider the "thin places" in our own lives, places we have been, or envisioned, where we have felt the assurance of God's presence, may we be mindful of our human choices that cause the earth to lament. We pray, "Creator God, when you made this world, you knew that it was good. May we be stewards of your creation in such a way that everyone may see its goodness, now and into the future."

The presbyterianwomen.org website has opportunities to order the *Horizons* Study book, subscribe to the *Horizons Magazine*, follow a blog with insights to this study, as well as find information about Presbyterian Women in God's world.

May the love of Christ and the joy of our friendships be with you, now, as always, in Christ,

Amy Parker, Moderator
Amyparker158@hotmail.com
(502) 897-5076



Presbyterian Women

News From Our Refugee Families



**“For I was a stranger and you welcomed me.”
Matthew 25:35**

The Amiri family is well on the path to resettlement. Mr. Amiri is applying for jobs that will allow him to be close to home during Khatul’s pregnancy. Their baby girl is due to arrive in May, joining her three sisters. This happy event will be celebrated with a virtual shower, hosted by the Refugee team, on April 18. All are invited. We have already gathered some items. If you have baby gear to donate or would like to attend, please contact Kathy Oyler (kathy@oyler.net).



Cultural adjustment is on-going and, of course, in pandemic-mode. Bibi and Anosha, the oldest Amiri daughters, spent a wonderful afternoon at the Kentucky Science Center with Charlotte Pecceu and a friend. Both Amiri girls are in school, NTI, learning English. They greeted us with their now familiar smiles, a shy “Hello” and home-made Valentines. The exchange of cards and friendship continues!



In honor of International Women’s Day 2021, Second and Kentucky Refugee Ministries (KRM) will host a dinner for refugee African women. Our Congolese friends, Genereuse, Judith and Immaculee, will attend along with Ekyochi, their teachers and interpreters. Other immigrant women from Francophone Africa will join them through our connection with the Alliance Française of Louisville. We are really excited about the community that happens around good food, good stories, and good support for our refugee women.

With these families, Second is phasing out active support as they achieve sustainable status. KRM continues contact and support as needed. We anticipate more opportunities with other “strangers” this year. In his sermon from February 7, “Not Forgotten,” Rev. Steve Jester charged all to lift up the “forgotten” and the “abandoned.” On Mission, we are grateful for the chance to put these words into practice.

Peace,

Refugee Team / Mission Committee



Kilgore Samaritan
COUNSELING CENTER



Kilgore Garden Tour 2021

Supporting the Kilgore Samaritan Counseling Center

Plans for the 21st Annual Kilgore Garden Tour are under way, with six local gardens and two homes open for touring. The dates are June 12 and 13.

Patrons can visit the gardens both Saturday and Sunday, 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. each day. Tickets are \$35 and will be available online and at several locations after May 15. Visit our website, kilgoregardentour.org.

Locations

- Norbourne Blvd. in St. Matthews
- Dunvegan Road
- Hunting Creek
- the Gardens at the Avish
- Anchorage
- Peewee Valley!

Volunteers Needed!

To be a part of this exciting event, please call the church, 502-895-3483, or Joan Gaston, 502-896-8322.

Sponsorship

Letters to sponsors went out in October. We are happy to report receipts of over \$18,000 – a good start toward our goal of \$50,000. Sponsorships begin at \$250 and are due by March 1. Last year the Home and Garden Tour netted \$58,000 for the Kilgore Center.

The garden tour is the major fundraiser of the Kilgore Samaritan Counseling Center, a ministry of Second Presbyterian Church.



Special Event: “Flower School 101”

Flower School is coming as a special lead-in to Garden Tour 2021. Michael Gaffney, Executive Director of American School of Flower Design, will present two sessions on flower design on Friday, June 11, at Second Presbyterian Church, barring Covid-19 restrictions.

Session one will offer a lecture and demonstration from 9-11 a.m., in which Michael will create 10 arrangements that will be auctioned later.

Session two, 1-3 p.m., will include demonstrations to help patrons create three of their own arrangements. All materials will be supplied. There will be a book signing between sessions.

Tickets:

Both sessions: \$150

Morning session only: \$75

Morning session and Garden Tour ticket: \$100

Tickets will be available online.



Thanks from a Habitat for Humanity Family



We will always be thankful to Second
 For all that you did for our Family
 on our Habitat for Humanity home, the
 volunteers from the church taught us
 so much and we appreciate all their effort
 God Bless you

Abdullah, Yasmine, Samir, Tahira, Aya

Healing Place Receives Much-Needed Supplies



THE HEALING PLACE

In the month of January, 20 bags of needed items were collected for the Healing Place. Thank you for your contribution!



March Mission of the Month

Buckhorn Children & Family Services

Below is a list of most needed items for Buckhorn. Please drop off under the portico (use any type bag or box) any time Sunday or during office hours through the week.

- Shampoo
- Body wash
- Deodorant
- Toothbrush and toothpaste
- Feminine products
- Plastic shower caddys for individual girls' items
- Shower flip flops
- Pillows and pillow cases
- Bath towels (white)
- Hand towels (white)
- Wash cloths (white)
- Kitchen towels
- Laundry detergent (ALL brand, allergen free)
- Pencils
- Loose leaf paper
- Non-wire bound composition books for journaling
- Folders
- Twin size bed sheets
- Mattress covers
- Card games
- Board games
- Jigsaw puzzles
- Books and magazines
- Sudoku, Crossword and word search books

Busy Needles Provides Comfort to Many

With the creation of SPOT groups at Second Presbyterian Church, a group of ladies, led by Mary Ayers and Bev Wahl, formed a group of knitters and crocheters to make prayer blankets to share with members in time of special prayer needs. These items after being made are blessed in a church service before being given to the recipients. Today not only are they continuing to make the prayer blankets, but they select other special projects, such as 52 hats for the men at Healing Place, study blankets for college students from Cabbage Patch, baby items, stuffed dolls and toys for children and more. When the group hears of a need they try to fill it.

Busy Needles welcomes any knitters or crocheters to join the group, Just call Mary, 791-2505, or Bev, 423-9271, to get started on a project. The group hopes soon they will be able to meet together once again in the Parlor to work on our projects and enjoy fellowship together.



Above: blessed prayer blankets.

Left: 52 hats for the Healing Place.

fellowship

SPOT

Second Presbyterian Options Together

A small group ministry of Second Presbyterian Church

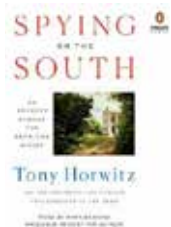
SPOT serves to unite people who share a common interest and deepen their faith in Christ through building relationships and reaching out to others.



Book Notes

Book Notes will meet via Zoom, at 10 a.m., March 2, and will discuss *Spying on the South*, by Tony Horwitz. The book

chronicles several trips made by Frederick Law Olmsted, throughout the South in the 1850s. The New York Daily Times had commissioned Olmsted to travel to, and describe, conditions below the Mason-Dixon Line with regard to slavery and its effects on the economy and culture. Horowitz compares the 1850s journals to his findings today. This is a fascinating choice by Anne Stanley Hoffman.



Busy Needles

To learn more about Busy Needles, please contact Mary Ayers, (502) 429-3415 or marywayers@aol.com; or Bev Wahl at (502) 423-9271 or bevwahl41@gmail.com.



Walkers

To learn about the program, please contact Bev Wahl at (502) 423-9271 or bevwahl41@gmail.com. New walkers are encouraged to join.



Paint SPOT

Linda Wood (502) 893-3330
el.wood@twc.com



Our book for April 6 is *American Dirt*, by Jeanine Cummins. It is the story of a mother and son, the only survivors of a drug cartel massacre, and their attempt to escape and start a new life in the United States. This is "a book to honor the hundreds of thousands of stories that may never be told." Thanks to Vicki Prince for her selection.

Please take canned fruit and vegetables, pasta and sauces to United Crescent Hill Ministry. There is a profound need for food at this time. Join us anytime. We faithfully support UCHM food closet. Jean O'Brien, jeanobrien502@gmail.com, (502) 897-0950.



Pilates

Susan Schmidt (502) 523-5934
puremovementlv@gmail.com



Dinner Groups

Jennifer Scott (502) 326-3145
jscott@cabbagepatch.org



2nd Act

2nd Act remains waiting for a time to perform again. Susan will share more if the current situation changes. Susan Langford, toursplus@aol.com or (502) 897-3789.



Prayer Group

Beth Haendiges (502) 895-3483
bethh@2ndpreslou.org

Join One of Our Grief Groups

Traditionally, when we think of grief, we think of the feelings of loss, anger, and denial we have when someone close to us has died. But grief can come from many other losses - retirement, physical limitations due to aging or medical conditions, divorce, caring for a loved one who is ill, and many others.

We have launched two separate grief groups, one for those who are grieving the loss of a loved one and a separate group for people experiencing grief from life's other losses.

The group focusing on those who have died will meet twice a month for six to eight months. The other will meet monthly. At least in the beginning, we will meet via Zoom.

We will talk about the stages of grief and many of the feelings and thoughts people have as they work through grief. There is no "right" way to grieve. Everyone grieves in their own way, but it can be helpful to share with others who are traveling the same road.

If you are interested in joining either group, contact Elizabeth Clay (502) 409-3230 or at eclay412@gmail.com.

fyi

Session Highlights from February 18, 2021

At the February 18, 2021, stated Session meeting held over Zoom:

- Session received the Clerk's Report, the Minister's Report, the Deacons' Report, the Financial Report and various other monthly Committee Reports;
- The Clerk reported that the Annual Statistical Report, the Necrology Report and the 2021 Terms of Call were submitted to the Presbytery. The official Session Minutes for 2020 have also been prepared. The Annual Meeting of the Corporate Officers took place just after the Annual Meeting of the Congregation on January 31, 2021;
- Session approved the Finance Committee recommendation that Monroe Shine be retained to prepare the annual audit;
- The Re-Opening Task Group reported that they will be meeting to review re-opening policies and protocol in light of Jefferson County's return to an "Orange" designation with regard to COVID risk.
- The Governance Task Group met for the first time and will begin work on establishing guidelines and procedures for the Church Nominating Process.
- The Insurance Advisory Group met to discuss the church's insurable exposures and review Second's current insurance coverages.
- The timing and feasibility of having a Session retreat in the future was discussed.
- The following people were elected to church positions:
 - Charles Bond as Treasurer and Dan Russell as Assistant Treasurer;
 - Karen Hadley, Jodie Goldberg, Sarah Gilford and Ricky Case as Second's commissioners to the Mid-Kentucky Presbytery;
 - Deb Vetter as a member of the Personnel Committee.
- The assignments of elders to the various church committees were reviewed.

A copy of the approved Minutes of Session is available in the church office.

Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer Ferguson
Clerk of Session

Easter lilies are being offered to members who wish to honor/remember individuals. The cost is \$25. Please complete this order form and make your check out to Second Presbyterian Church, specify: Easter Flowers. Leave the form and check in Beth H's mail-box in the office reception area. Or, you may mail it to Second Presbyterian Church, attention: Beth, 3701 Old Brownsboro Road, Louisville, Kentucky 40207.



The deadline for ordering is Tuesday, March 23.
Please print clearly.

Name of donor(s): _____

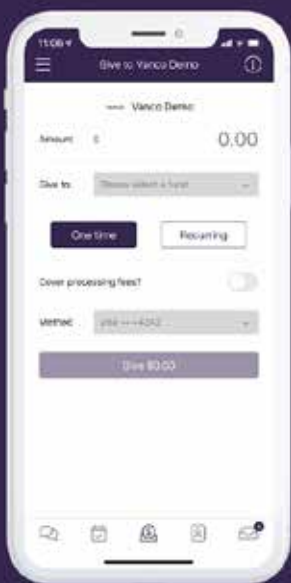
In honor/memory of: _____

(Circle one)

**Don't forget to pick up your Lily after the 11 a.m. Easter Service.*

There Are New Ways to Donate

Please Download Our New App!



- Search your app store for: **Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement**
- When you complete the installation, on the app login screen, tap "Create Profile" (one-time setup) and follow the prompts. After creating your profile, you are on the Groups & Chat screen.
- To make a donation, select the "\$" icon at the bottom of the app. It will take you to a secure external website "eservicepayments.com", to set up a separate giving profile (one time).
- To donate each time thereafter, log in and select "Add transaction".

AVAILABLE IN
EVERY APP STORE



Text to Give

- Text 844-584-2059 and enter the amount you wish to donate.
- You will receive a text with one-time set up instructions



For help, text "assist". To donate, enter amount, and specific fund, if any (ex: 10 COVID). Fund categories can be found on our website, or within the app donation icon. Donations without a specific fund name will go into the general fund.



Periodicals
Postage Paid at
Louisville, KY

Second Thoughts (UPS 488-060). Published Monthly.
Postmaster, send address changes to:
Second Thoughts, c/o Second Presbyterian Church
3701 Old Brownsboro Rd
Louisville, KY 40207

Staff

Rev. Steven P. Jester Pastor/Head of Staff
sjester@2ndpreslou.org

Rev. Nathan Sautter Associate Pastor for Community Life
nsautter@2ndpreslou.org

Rev. Jordan Akin Associate Pastor for Youth
jakin@2ndpreslou.org

Jim Rittenhouse Director of Worship and Music Ministries
jrittenhouse@2ndpreslou.org

Lorie Williamson Director of Children's Ministries
lwilliamson@2ndpreslou.org

Hayley Abell Director of Second Presbyterian Weekday
School, habell@2ndpreslou.org

Lisa Bickett Pastoral Assistant
lbickett@2ndpreslou.org

Chelsea Beasley Formation Assistant
cbeasley@2ndpreslou.org

Beth Haendiges Community Life Assistant
bethh@2ndpreslou.org

Keith DeCosta Sexton
kdecosta@2ndpreslou.org

Samuel Libra Organist
slibra@2ndpreslou.org

Virginia Fortner Worship & Music Assistant
vfortner@2ndpreslou.org

Jackie Grimley Bookkeeper
jgrimley@2ndpreslou.org

Elizabeth Clay Parish Associate
eclay@2ndpreslou.org

Paula Roberts Organist Emerita

passages

We remember in prayer...

Debbie Kelsey and her family on the death of her father, Dr. Edward Crawford Hightower, Jr., 2/23/21.

Cathy Hollander and her family on the death of Cathy's mother, Linda Myrick Crump, 2/14/21.