

SECOND THOUGHTS

*Walking Prayer
Stations Around the
Campus of Second
Presbyterian Church
throughout July.
All Are Welcome*

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502.895.3483

www.2ndpreslou.org

Facebook: @secondpresbyterian

YouTube: @2ndPresLou

“I have set my bow in the clouds...” *Genesis 9*

Dear Friends,

Our Community Life Assistant, Beth, sent a message to the church staff recently containing two photos. They had been taken by one of the church's neighbors who then shared them with us. They capture a rainbow against a sky full of swirling clouds, bending toward the ground behind the church's steeple. It was a special gift in the middle of an ordinary day.



You may remember that in the biblical story of Noah and the ark the rainbow plays an important part. To Noah and his family, after the destruction and chaos of the flood, God makes the promise of an unbreakable relationship, a covenant. "Never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood...This is the sign of the covenant that I make...I have set my bow in the clouds...When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, I will remember my covenant... When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature." (Genesis 9)

In the worldview of ancient peoples, the rainbow was envisioned as a weapon, the bow of the Divine Warrior who used that bow to shoot arrows of lightning to the earth. To set that bow in the clouds, in the heavens, was to say that the wrath of God was being set aside, that the Holy One was for his creatures, on the side of life forever.

Of course, we know the science behind the appearance of a rainbow and we don't share the worldview of those ancient peoples. But the message, the promise, is as fitting for us as it was for those biblical writers. We are the creatures of a Creator who is for us, not against us. The promise to us is that chaos and destruction is not the end of the story and that the God of Jesus Christ will never abandon us to the powers of death. Our God is on the side of life - for us and for this wondrous creation - forever.

If you have a chance, go to the church's Facebook page and take a look at the photo. If not, imagine it in your mind's eye. There it is - the delightful and fleeting reminder of love that never fails.

Grace and peace,
Steve

Steve Jester is Pastor at Second Presbyterian Church

A Note of Thanks

Dear Second Presbyterian Church Family,

As my last Sunday as Organist approaches on July 19, I want to thank you for your love, support and encouragement in this shared pilgrimage. After 40+ years as an organist, 19 of them here at Second, I am reminded that "Life Is Gift," and it is time to enjoy weekends with Jeff and our three grandchildren.

All of us search for a way to understand what our role in life is. How do we serve? And how do we serve God? My time at Second Church has been one of great joy serving in various positions of music leadership - Organist, Accompanist, Interim Director of Music, Children's Choir, Youth Choir and Handbell Director.

I am grateful to have served alongside:

- Steve Jester, who graciously supported the music program;
- Jim Rittenhouse, an extraordinary gift and a consummate musician with the heart of a minister. (it only took me 10 years to get him here).

- the Choir, which is the heart and soul of this music ministry, along with the Octet, which makes the finest music possible.

And finally, thank you to this congregation for embracing our family. Our children, Grant and Katherine, were nurtured in the vibrant Children's ministry, Choir programs, and Youth groups. We chose this church for the quality of worship and music that we continue to be known for - including one of the best organs in town, the mighty Casavant! We look forward to remaining a part of this family of faith.

As this ending brings a new beginning, I look forward to the next season of life and whatever surprise God has in store for me. I will always be grateful to have served this special church and feel deeply blessed to have known each of you.

Love,
Paula



Our Youth Choir, CANTUS, celebrated their year-end with a ZOOM AWARDS CEREMONY .

Special rewards recipients included:

Henri Pecceu - "Most Adaptable"
Harrison Palmer-Ball - "Most Valuable Watcher"
Bella Tilford - "Rising Star"
Isabella Recktenwald - "Most Valuable Player"
Beatrice Roussel - "Unsung Hero"
Jennifer Miller - "Heart and Soul Award"
and Elise Williamson - "Youth Choir Cross Award"



Our gratitude to all parents, students, Ricky Case (Assistant), Harrison Palmer-Ball (Helper), and Paula Roberts, who has been our accompanist for many years

(We will miss you, Miss Paula!)



(left) CANTUS rehearsing for leading worship in our Morning Prayer Service, on June 28

worship

Sunday Morning Prayer



Service for Justice and Peace: July 5, 7 p.m.

In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage . . . to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.
-Brief Statement of Faith

Please join us for a brief service, which will include prayers, responsive liturgies, and music that remind us of our call to us to work alongside Christ and one another for justice and peace in our community, church, and the world.

This service will take place in the circle drive outside of the chapel, weather permitting. We will observe the same safety protocol as our Sunday Morning Prayer services. Please wear a mask, bring your own chair or blanket, and maintain social distancing at all times. All are welcome!

Many thanks for all who make our Morning Prayer a success!

We are grateful for our Worship and Property Committee Task Force who have pledged their support and time to make sure all our attendees are safe and comfortable in our outdoor time. Special thanks to Connie Smith for her work to gather ushers each week. Keith DeCosta is indispensable in setting up, and our Octet members and Paula Roberts have led us so beautifully.
Praise be for a time to worship together each week at 9.

Worship Opportunities each Sunday in July:

9 a.m. Morning Prayer: Chapel Drive Area (Outside)

11 a.m. Livestream Service on YouTube - Channel 2ndpreslou

Info about 9 a.m. protocols, bulletins, and links are found on our website.

Our worship this Summer explores the meaningful ways the 12 Steps of addiction recovery intersect and illuminate the everyday living out of our faith. Here are upcoming themes and Scriptures:

July 5 - Willingness - John 5:1-9 * July 12 - Humility - Matthew 20:29-34

July 19 - Love - Matthew 7:1-5 * July 26 - Justice - Matthew 5:21-24

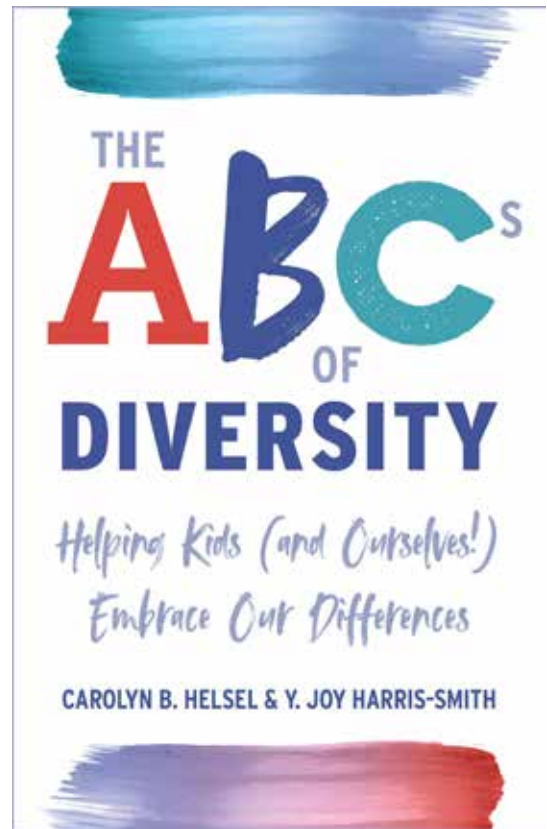
Conversations with Children about Race

We are living in difficult times. It is hard to know what to say, what to do, how to help, and sometimes who to help. As I was watching current events unfold, my first thought was to shield my youngest child from the images that were all around us. To shelter her from the nonstop news footage that permeates our lives.

Thankfully, I soon came to realize that sticking my head in the sand would do nothing to help my child understand the world in which we are living. Pretending that societal problems do not exist will do nothing to help my child navigate the world in which she lives not only now, but also as an adult when I will no longer be by her side.

If true change to our culture is to come, we must instill the need to change or at least an awareness of the problems that face us, into the next generation. Conversations about race and racism in our country need to start young and then continue. Pediatrician and child health advocate Jacqueline Dougé, M.D., states, "you can start having conversations about race in preschool. Children can internalize racial bias between the ages of 2 and 4."

Where to start? Our Weekday School director, Hayley Abell, has compiled a list of books to bring an awareness to diversity, racism, and prejudice. It is a thorough listing of mostly children's books and can



be found under the "Resources" tab on our website, 2ndpreslou.org.

Several books and articles that have been passed on to me include:

The ABCs of Diversity: Helping Kids (and Ourselves!) Embrace Our Differences by Carolyn B. Helsel and Y. Joy Harris-Smith.

Something Happened in Our Town: A Child's Story About Racial Injustice is a book for children about a police shooting by clinical psychologist at Morehouse School of Medicine. Marietta Collins, Ph.D.

Both books and more can be found included in a wonderful article from the *New York Times* entitled, "These Books Can Help You Explain Racism and Protest to Your Kids" by Jessica Grose.

I encourage you to be the example. Start the conversation. Start it early. Continue it through adolescence so that our children will be able to engage it as adults.

Blessings to you in Christ,

Lorie Williamson, Director of Children's Ministries



youth

Devotional Contributors: Wisdom of 2PY

A devotional was created by 2PY alum and gifted to our graduated seniors to travel with them on their journeys ahead.

Thank you to all the contributors:

Logan Sexton	Brooks Owen
Henry Wilmes	Maddie Duane
Eloise McCarthy	Hannah Leggett
Grady Shiflet	Andrew Moloney
Elizabeth Scinta	Maggie Dickman
Henry Snyder	James Seiler
Toby Nutt	Amy Nutt
Andrew Edwards	Mary Claire Duncan
Collier Clay	Pastors, Nathan Sautter and Jordan Akin
Jayla Johnson	Sam Parker
Todd Lyles	



MONTREAT AT THE FARM

SATURDAY, JULY 18

MEET AT THE NUTT FARM @ 2PM FOR MONTREAT IN A DAY!

879 GALBRAITH ROAD
PLEASUREVILLE, KY

RSVP AND PAY BY JULY 10TH TO
CBEASLEY@2NDPRESLOU.ORG

COST \$30 INCLUDES A T-SHIRT AND MEAL

PARENTS: WE INVITE YOU TO JOIN US FOR WORSHIP AT 9:00 PM

Twilight Zone

2020 has been full of uncertainty, worry, questions, and a lot of free time. With no sports to watch on TV, events being canceled and places being closed, the country has had its eyes first on this nasty coronavirus and second the police brutality and protests. With the culmination of these events including hornets and this dust cloud from the Sahara Desert, it feels almost as if we have been in an episode of The Twilight Zone. Specifically, the episode "Monsters Are Due on Maple Street."

In this episode, a meteor speeds overhead which causes odd occurrences such as flickering of lights, and the inability to start cars. Neighbors blame neighbors on this random loss of electricity, and a friend even kills his beloved neighbor. In the end, the audience discovers this was an experiment created by a couple of aliens to see the effects on human beings' minds.

At the end of the episode the writer, Rod Sterling, says a few words as a conclusion: "The tools of conquest do not necessarily come with bombs and explosions and fallout. There are weapons that are simply thoughts, attitudes, prejudices to be found only in the minds of men. For the record, prejudices can kill and suspicion can destroy...And the pity of it is that these things cannot be confined to the Twilight Zone."

This episode was created in 1960. It is striking how accurate those words still are today, 60 years later. I pray that this year's events will lead to positive change in our society.

I know that we are all being inundated by resources - what to watch, listen to, and read. However, on our resources page on Second's website, you will find resources for all ages.

I hope you all are finding a whole lot of joy and peace in our chaotic world. Remember that God's great love will lead us through, for God is our peace in our troubled seas.

Peace,
Jordan

Youth Calendar

2020 Date

Wednesday, July 8
Saturday, July 18

Sunday, July 26
Monday, July 27
Wednesday, Aug. 5

Event

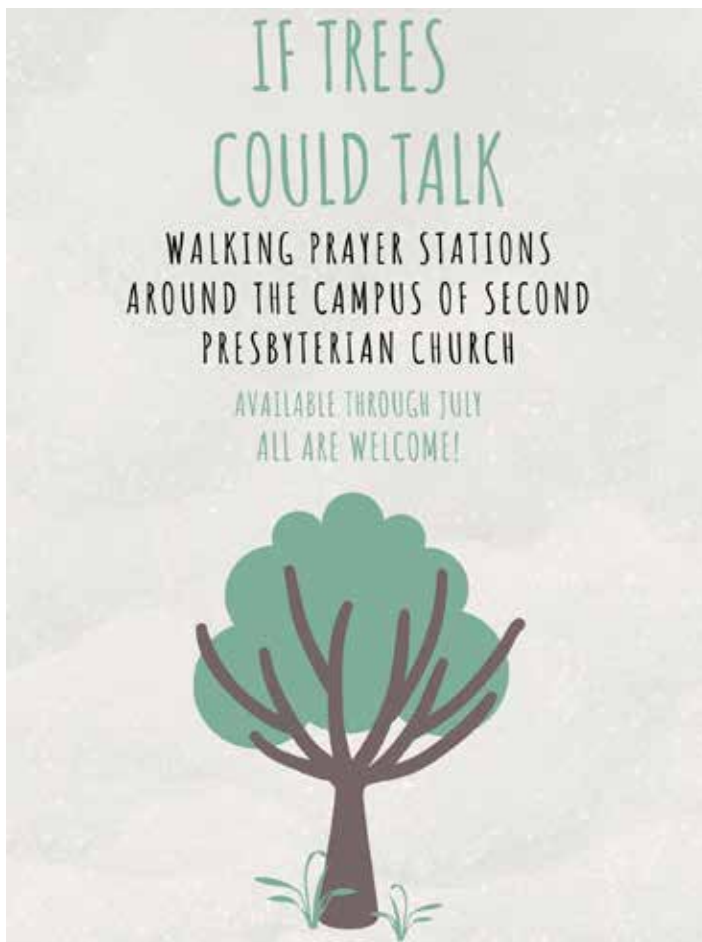
Open Gym Outside, 7-9 p.m.
Montreat In a Day at Nutt Farm, 2 p.m.
Confirmation Sunday
West End School Clean Up
Wednesday Nite Bite - Location TBD

2020 Date

Thursday, Aug. 6
Sunday, Aug. 9
Sunday, Aug. 23

Event

Dinner For Graduated Seniors - Location TBD
6th Grade Welcome Party - More info to come
Parents Informational Meeting, Virtual, 12:30 p.m.



Walking Prayer Stations

Although the building is closed, our church grounds are still open! Throughout July there will be prayer stations centered around trees of the Bible that will be set up outside across the church's campus. Each station includes a reading from the Bible, a story, questions for reflection, and a hands-on component.

Please come and participate whenever it works best for you! For questions, please reach out to Teresa at tlarson@2ndpreslou.org.

Men's Bible Study

Men's Bible Study will continue to meet via Zoom at 7 a.m. on Friday mornings, (except July 3 for the holiday). Marty Soards, Professor of New Testament Studies at Louisville Seminary, is leading an overview of the New Testament using *An Introduction to the New Testament, Abridged* by Raymond Brown.

The topics for July will cover the Second Letter to the Corinthians and the Book of Romans.

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

formation

On Race and Faith

In response to the recent deaths of George Floyd, Ahmaud Arbery, and our own Breonna Taylor, many in our community began asking what they can do and how we as a community of faith should respond. The Adult Education Committee felt the best place to start was to further understand the way racism is embedded into the very fabric of our society and even in our own lives. So on Tuesday nights we have begun a conversation on Race and Faith to unpack this reality from a theological and biblical perspective. We began by thinking about racism as a sin and by listening to the experience of Rev. Camille Williams-Neal, a member of our congregation, during the first three weeks. We hope you will join us for the second half of the conversation in July as we turn toward our own lives and how we can respond to the call of Jesus "to love our neighbors and work for justice." If you are looking for resources please check the website 2ndpreslou.org/resources for a reading list, videos and other resources to engage in the conversation.

Schedule

July 5: Prayer Service for Justice and Peace 7 p.m.
Outside the Chapel

July 14: The Intersection of Race and Gender:
continued conversation with
Rev. Camille Williams-Neal

July 21: Privilege and Implicit Bias

July 28: The Beloved Community and Now What?

The Zoom link is sent out in Seconds to Go each week.

Morning Joy Taking a Break

Morning Joy will be on break for the months of July and August. We look forward to seeing you again in the fall!





Refugee News for June

Our refugees are weathering the pandemic fairly well. They are still working and completing online classes. Four used laptops generously donated by congregational members, which are making a big difference in their lives. Schoolwork and processing papers for work and KRM have gotten much easier. Everyone sends a big thank you for your support!

KRM is being challenged by fewer refugee arrivals and revenue loss. They are trying hard to help refugees in Louisville as they face job losses and food insecurities. Your participation in Second's Covid-19 Emergency Fund means a lot. It helps KRM cope with needs for the refugees, programming, and employee salaries.

We are now co-sponsoring a young mother (Ekyochi, pictured right) and her 3-year-old son (Juma). They arrived from Congo in February and we began our sponsorship May 1. This sponsorship has been "Covid style." All communication and interaction has been online or by interpreted phone calls. Since they arrived just before our pandemic shutdown, they have been coping in a small apartment. Furniture and household items were supplied from storage at KRM. Your refugee committee has provided rent/utilities, some clothing for mother and child, kitchen items, Kroger cards, and books and toys for Juma. Dare to Care began supplying food in June. Any donated

items must be mailed first to KRM; they will deliver to the home. If you have small items, contact Chris Ellis to arrange "no touch" pickup outside the church. This will then box them to mail.

KRM is in need of furniture donations. They will arrange to pick up large items from your house with appropriate social distancing. If you wish to try this, let Chris know.

Thanks for all you do to support refugee sponsorship. We are all in this pandemic together!

Refugee Committee, Mission



Welcome Ekyochi!



Martha Pecceu with Eyoichi

Pathways Supports Cabbage Patch



During the month of May, the Pathways Sunday School Class collected much-needed supplies for families served by The Cabbage Patch. On May 30, 2020, Pathways dropped off carloads of these supply items to The Cabbage Patch.

Update From Stewardship and Mission

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

Certainly the members of Second live our mission statement. With the generosity of our time, talents, and wealth, we are making a difference both to ourselves and the communities around us, locally and abroad. Every two months, you will hear from both Stewardship and Mission committees on our financial status as well as things our church community is involved with.

Finances:

1. 2020 pledges: \$1,276,835. MAP goal- \$1,300,000
2. 2020 money received from pledges: \$680,651.34
3. 2020 non-pledge income: \$28,037.99.
4. 2020 per-capita income: \$10,275. Represents 411 members' payments.
5. Covid-19 response: \$80,000 collected and \$60,000 distributed to our different mission partners.

Did you know our church helps with the following:

- Resow fields where a mudslide destroyed crops for our El Salvador partners.
- Meet needs of Bellewood and Brooklawn for a daily cost of \$300 to care for one child.
- Contribute \$3000 for needed sheets for The Healing Place when the new men's facility opened.
- Help with costs for our refuge families of monthly rent and utilities of \$1,050.
- Provide \$5000 in scholarship funds to Cedar Ridge Camp.
- Provide volunteers for Friday lunches at West End School and financial resources as needed.
- Send cash immediately to all mission partners in need.
- Meet needs of Buckhorn for daily cost of care of \$235 and \$299 if psychiatric care is needed.

Covid-19 Emergency Mission Fund Update

The Mission Committee created the Covid-19 Emergency Mission Fund in April to provide financial resources to our mission partners locally and internationally as they seek to provide food, housing and clothing to some of the most vulnerable in our community. Many of our partners are seeing increased need, and Second Presbyterian has been able to faithfully meet those needs. As of the end of June, we have raised \$35,500 from the congregation, and Session has set aside another \$75,000 from our budget and cash reserves for a total of \$110,500 for our partners. What an amazing gift of "sharing God's grace with those around us"! Below is a list of all the partners that have received support. Check the website 2ndpreslou.org/covid-19 for video messages from our partners and to give to the fund.

The Healing Place
 Kilgore Samaritan Counseling Center
 Cedar Ridge Camp
 Kentucky Refugee Ministries
 Bellewood and Brooklawn Children's Services
 United Crescent Hill Ministries
 Habitat for Humanity
 Collectivo Esperanza
 Christians for Peace in El Salvador (Crispaz)
 Reformed Calvinist Church in El Salvador, Rosario de Mora

ATTORNEYS

WE ARE LOOKING FOR YOU!



METRO CHRISTIAN LEGAL AID NEEDS VOLUNTEERS!

MCLA is in need of attorneys willing to volunteer by offering legal consultation on virtual calls between 4:00 PM and 6:00 PM on Wednesdays and Thursdays starting on July 8th.

MCLA is working with Cabbage Patch to help clients who have family law or eviction issues due to the pandemic

If interested in serving, please contact Chelsea Beasley at the church, 895-3483 or by email, cbeasley@2ndpreslou.org

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.



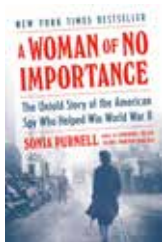
Book Notes

We will have a Zoom meeting on Tuesday, July 7, 10 a.m. to discuss *Olive, Again*, by Elizabeth Strout.



Anne Stanley Hoffman has chosen this sequel to the Pulitzer Prize winning novel *Olive Kitteridge*, which was published in 2008.

Olive, Again contains a collection of short stories featuring a myriad of inhabitants of Crosby, Maine, the setting for the first book.



On August 4, our focus will be *A Woman of No Importance* by Sonia Purnell, the biography of Virginia Hall, an American woman from Boston who became one of the best leaders of the French Resistance in WWII. We will talk with Ellie Moore about Hall's amazing spy network.

On the first Tuesday of every month we will hold a Zoom meeting through January 5, 2021.

The next Zoom meeting will be July 7 at 10 a.m. To join the Zoom meeting, go to <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89471915069>. A reminder will be sent out each month.

Join us anytime. We faithfully support UCHM food closet. Jean O'Brien, (502) 897-0950, or jeanobrien502@gmail.com.



Sisters in Spirit

Sisters in Spirit will be meeting Tuesday, July 14, at 5:30 p.m. (*please note earlier time to allow those who also want to attend Race and Faith conversation at 7 p.m.) on Ann Fleming's porch and patio

to allow social distancing. Ritu Furlan will lead the group on "Thanks" from Anne Lamott's *Help, Thanks, Wow: The Three Essential Prayers*. Bring your own beverage. There will not be nibbles. For more information about the group, contact Ann Fleming, annrfleming@gmail.com.



Walkers

Walkers will meet at a place to be determined; July 7 and 24. To learn more, please contact Bev Wahl at (502) 423-9271 or bevwahl41@gmail.com. New walkers are encouraged to join.



Busy Needles

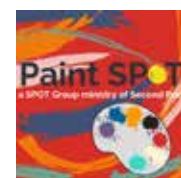
Busy Needle members are currently working on making study blankets for Cabbage Patch teens who will be attending college for the first time this fall.

To get directions and supplies for this project please contact Mary Ayers at (502) 429-3415 or marywayers@aol.com; or Bev Wahl at (502) 423-9271 or bevwahl41@gmail.com



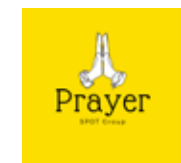
2nd Act

2nd Act will prepare for a new show once the social distancing is less restricted. Susan Langford, toursplus@aol.com or (502) 897-3789.



Paint SPOT

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



Prayer Group

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



Pilates

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



Dinner Groups

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

Session Highlights for June 2020



By Jennifer Ferguson, Clerk of Session

At the June 18, 2020 stated session meeting held via Zoom:

- The Session received the Clerk's Report, the Minister's Report, the Deacons' Report, the Financial Report and various other monthly Committee Reports;
- The Finance Committee reported that Second remains in strong financial shape thanks to the continuing pledges and donations from our congregation. Revised financial projections forecast that Second may break even this year;
- Worship reported that the Morning Prayer outdoor service has been very well received;
- The Property Committee reported that the parking lot has been resealed and restriped, the irrigation system has been expanded, a church boiler is being assessed for repair or replacement and much church maintenance has been done since building closure; and
- Session approved the allocation of an additional \$25,000 of operating cash to the COVID-19 Emergency Relief Fund to support our Mission Partners working with those in need.

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

Building Use Policies Regarding Social Distancing

The Building and Property Committee has created a list of required steps to take in order to use the building:

- Masks are required; use of hand sanitizer is recommended.
- Temperatures will be checked at the door.
- Entry and Exit through designated doors only.
- All those entering must sign visitor log.
- Proceed directly to your meeting site; do not wander the building.
- Must maintain social distance of at least six (6) feet between people.
- One person may use a designated restroom at a time.

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding!

Updates to Directory

Due to clerical errors, the following individuals were either not included in the directory or had incorrect information:

We apologize for any inconvenience these errors have caused. The online directory has been updated accordingly.

Sissy Helm

(wrong email)
sissywhelm@gmail.com

Laura Durham

901 Glenbrook Rd.
Anchorage, KY 40223
(502) 533-1714

Mary Elizabeth Hancock

(not listed with her family)
Ms. Hancock should be listed with her husband, Dr. Mark Severtson, and their children, Jack and Kate

Carol Swearingen

1409 Mockingbird Terrace Drive
Louisville, KY 40241
mobile: (502) 500-6168

Liz Swearingen

Alex Swearingen-Edens, Cary Edens
4101 Stoneview Dr. #4
Louisville, KY 40207
email: ebswear@yahoo.com
Ms. Swearingen was inadvertently listed with her ex-husband.

If as you go through your directory you find errors, please let Beth Haendiges know at bethh@2ndpreslou.org or (502) 895-3483; we will print a listing of updates in November.



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nsautter@2ndpreslou.org

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

Jim Rittenhouse Director of 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

Paula Roberts Organist
proberts@2ndpreslou.org

Jackie Grimley Bookkeeper
jgrimley@2ndpreslou.org

Lisa Bickett Pastoral Assistant
lbickett@2ndpreslou.org

Elizabeth Clay Parish Associate
eclay@2ndpreslou.org

Teresa Larson Seminary Intern
intern@2ndpreslou.org

passages

We remember in prayer...

Robert Nichols and his family on the death of Robert's brother, James F. Nichols, 6/14/20.

Walt Baker and his family on the death of Walt's wife, Maude Baker, 6/8/20.

The family of Dianne Sisson on her death, 6/6/20.

The family of Jeanette Priebe on her death, 5/30/20.

Patty Dailey on the death of her mother, Betty Doering, 5/30/20.

Betsy Byrnes and family on the death of her husband, Terry Byrnes, 5/26/20.

The family of Anne Mobley on her death, 5/26/20.