

APRIL 2021 | Volume 55 - Issue 4

SECOND THOUGHTS

Outdoor prayer service returns May 2, page 3.



Sharing grace ...

Second Presbyterian Church
www.2ndpreslou.org

Contents

Worship.....	3
Music.....	4
Weekday School.....	6
Children.....	7
Youth	9
Formation.....	11
Mission.....	13
Fellowship.....	18
FYI.....	19



3701 Old Brownsboro Road

Louisville, Kentucky 40207

502.895.3483

www.2ndpreslou.org

Facebook: @secondpresbyterian

YouTube: @2ndPresLou

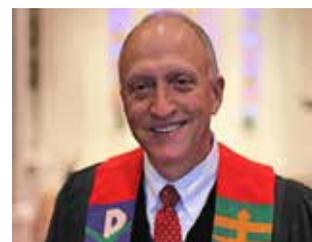
Our Mission

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

*You are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was
crucified: he has been raised, he is not here.
(Mark 16:6)*

Dear Friends,

On a recent bike ride I crossed the Big Four bridge into Indiana. It was a warm Saturday afternoon with plenty of sunshine. I don't think I've ever seen the bridge as crowded as it was that day. I slipped on a mask and pedaled my way carefully through throngs of families, couples, teenagers, older adults all taking advantage of the glorious weather and view from the bridge. There was a feeling in the air of new life, new beginnings. That same feeling welled up in me. It felt something like hope.



The next afternoon, I enjoyed another ride with a friend. We rode all through downtown from east to west and then down Portland Avenue before turning around to return down Bank/Market Street. The streets were almost empty. Instead of scenic views there were streets filled with garbage and cracks and potholes, small houses that needed lots of work, homes and businesses shuttered. There were, of course, exceptions, but I wondered as I glided past on my expensive bike how it would be to live there and not just be a tourist. When so much around you is discouraging, where do you find hope?

There's hope, and then there's HOPE. Hope is a sense of possibility and potential, the ability to start over, the promise of a better tomorrow. Hope comes from walking in the sun with someone you love, enjoying the splendor of God's creation. Hope comes from getting that second vaccine or knowing that it's your turn soon. Hope comes from the birth of a child, a new relationship, a promotion or the job of your dreams.

HOPE is something else. It's the assurance and the trust that in spite of current circumstances, in spite of no end in sight to the struggle, in spite of profound suffering, in spite of crushing disappointments, we believe our lives have meaning and purpose, that we aren't alone or abandoned, that we are precious creations dear to the heart of our Creator. That kind of hope is what Easter is all about. Jesus' profound physical and spiritual suffering, the terrifying display of human ignorance and cruelty, the seemingly all-powerful darkness of the tomb does not have the last word. God takes what is really and truly dead and gives new life. A way appears when we perceive only dead ends. We hear our human "No!" answered by God's resounding "Yes!" We call that HOPE "resurrection" life, a way of being both now and forever that is God's gift.

Hope is a beautiful thing. We can't live - at least can't live well - without it. HOPE that springs from Jesus' resurrection and the promise of our own has the power to transform our lives and the life of the world. Christ is risen! He is risen, indeed! A blessed Easter to you all!

Grace and Peace,
Steve

*Steve Jester is Pastor at
Second Presbyterian Church*

In-Person Services Continue at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m.

On Confirmation Sunday, March 21, our 11 a.m. services reopened open for in-person worship. Thank you to our Worship Committee and Usher Team under the leadership of Connie Smith who continue to help us enter our Chapel and Sanctuary safely, and with joyful spirits!

We will continue to accept reservations for our 9 a.m. Morning Prayer in the Chapel, and 11 a.m. Service of the Lord's Day. Reservations open the Monday prior, and close the Thursday prior to each Sunday. The 11 a.m. Service will continue to be live-streamed.

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 the 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.

Outdoor Morning Prayer Resumes May 2



We meet again at 9 a.m. in the Chapel Drive beginning May 2. No reservations needed. Watch Seconds-to-Go for more details!

THE SONG GOES ON

For more information about Music at Second: jrittenhouse@2ndpreslou.org

Our Lenten Recital Series - a Huge Success!

Our sincere thanks to Organist Samuel Libra who assembled a five-week series that had more than 1,000 viewers over its course. Each program featured music appropriate for Lent, and consummate performances by Samuel, Lillian Pettitt, Emily Yocum Black, Laura Atkinson, and Jennifer Potochnik. Our gratitude goes to Virginia Fortner and Evan Vicic who gave expert work as our Audio and Video engineers. Thanks, too, to all who watched, and who supported these programs through your financial support. *Glory to God for the ways grace is shared through music!*



Second's Musical Groups Continue to Meet

Sanctuary Choir

Each Wednesday

Over the next few weeks, our Choir will meet via Zoom, and in person outside to learn music, and share in fellowship. Look for our Summer Choir plans in May's edition of Second Thoughts.

Austin Memorial

Handbells

Each Tuesday from 7-8 p.m.

Austin Bells is the primary group to help in our worship experience. We rehearse in a hybrid fashion - most are in-person. We are grateful to be able to lead worship over the next several weeks.

Golden Bells

Each Tuesday, 12:45-2

Our wonderful group of ringers who want to learn how to play and enjoy each other's company meets in-person. Contact **Bonnie Boram** at bborameaol.com.

Our Children from Second are Stars!!

Thanks to our Children's Music Team, our children and parents, and Lorie Williamson for helping to make our PALM SUNDAY video! "Hosanna!"





Thanks to Our Concert Series Donors!

We are grateful for the support of our many patrons. These gifts ensure our Series continues to offer inspiring music that glorifies God, and continue to make our day-of-concert offerings to our ministry partners. In addition, our Donors allowed us to direct our giving for the programs to The Hildegard House and to the Women's Global Healthcare Alliance – more than \$3,000 in online and mail-in donations.

Joe Arterberry
Paul and Mary Ayers
Sandy Bailey
Jim and Mary Beard
Larry and Bonnie Boram
Ann Buckman
Tim and Sharon Clark
Richard and Elizabeth Clay
Edith Courtenay
Laura and Brian Cromer
R. Keith Cullinan Family Foundation
Alice Virginia Dodd
David and LeeAnn Dorsey
Gordon and Marilyn Duke
Martha Dupps
John and Christine Ellis
Mary Sue Ewing
Sherry Farson
Keltie Ferris
Margaret Flowers

Joan and LaMar Gaston
Holly and Joe Gathright
Betty and George Gibbs
Jodie Goldberg
Jean Groskreutz
Lee and Jack Hancock
Tom and Judy Hettmansperger
Bob Hilgers and Melinda Mast
Woody and Missy Hitt
W. W. and Constance Hobson
John and Nancy Hubbard
Charlie and Edith Huber
Steve and Diana Jester
Portia H. Leatherman
Eric and Susan Lehmann
Jean Maxwell
Linda and James (“Scotty”)
McArthur
Jack Jr. and Susan Moss

Lynn and Karen Ogden
Acton Ostling, Jr.
Tom and Jeannette Pardue
Frank and Amy Parker
Vickie and June Prince
Margaret Cregor Radford
Madge and Gorman Roberts
Louise B. Seiler
Carole and Daniel Shomer
Gene and Connie Smith
Martha Spencer
John and Bonnie Stone
Walt and Odetta Tucker
Tom and Sandall Tyrell
Beverly S. Wahl
Edith Wells
Kaaren Westlund
Joan Whittenberg
Edward Wilson
Susan and David Wood

Gifts in Honor or Memory:

In memory of Winnie Burdette Johnston by John and Cheeky Bahe
In memory of Niels Ewing by Dixie M. Baird
In memory of Virginia Keeney by Gary and Virginia Buhrow
In memory of Bill Duncan by Ed and Mary Glasscock
In memory of Niels Ewing by Nancy Jones
In memory of Ellie McCandless by David McCandless
In memory of Carolyn Siler Browning by Jeff and Paula Roberts
In memory of Ross and Reba Snodderly by Jeff and Paula Roberts
In memory of Wayland Rogers by Sue Rogers
In memory of Jerry Pence by Larry Sloan
In memory of Maude Baker by Edith Tidwell
In memory of Bartow Willingham by Emily Willingham
In honor of The Octet and Jim Rittenhouse by Guy Younce
In honor of exceptional musicians of Louisville by Jim Burnett

The Music Program Endowment Fund; The Judith Brown Music and Mission Fund; The Rosemary Schwartzel Music Fund; The Memorial funds of Tinsley Campbell, Katie Castner; Ellie McCandless and Ellington Bartow (“Bart”) Willingham

If you are interested in donating to the Concert Series, or to any of the funds listed above, please make checks payable to **Second Presbyterian Church** and mark on the memo line either “Concert Series” or “Donation to [‘name of fund’]”. You may place it in the offering plates, or send to the attention of Jim Rittenhouse at the church. Or you can give online at 2ndpreslou.org/giving.

weekday school

Compassion

Compassion is a big part of outdoor learning, as to be in nature is to grow more in love with the land and its inhabitants. Fear can be a factor when exploring outside, and for good reason at times, but it can get in the way of compassion. Once curiosity takes over, however, fear takes a back seat and care for the outside world increases. A classroom of 3 year olds found a huge worm outside during carpool one March morning. One child joyfully scooped it up to show her friends as they arrived, holding it gently so as to keep it safe.

As the small group walked toward the building, they noticed that a large puddle had formed over the drain from the morning's rain showers. As they checked it out, they were surprised to see a bright orange lizard deep in the puddle. The class ran inside to put their belongings away and gathered their individual exploration buckets and shovels. Sadly, when they went back to the puddle, the lizard had crawled out and been run over by a car. The children showed sadness and sympathy for the lizard and quickly decided to bury it. They chose the taxus bush (also known as the Jungle Zoo, Monkey Bush and the Climbing Tree) to lay him to rest. They worked together to dig a small hole, covered him with dirt and then poked sticks into the ground to mark his site with the guidance of their teacher. When compassion is honored in education and given space to be practiced, children can grow into stewards of the world around them. Showing kindness to creatures, respecting the health of habitats and being mindful of our impacts on the environment are all values that develop from spending time in nature.



children

Sunday School

April's Sunday School will be based on the story of The Lorax by Dr. Suess. This Children's classic provides a wonder opportunity to learn about the gift of creation and how we are called to be good stewards of that gift. Please take the time to have a movie night at home with your family. Craft bags will be available in their usual spot underneath the portico beginning Sunday, April 11th. Videos will be sent out each Sunday through the Children's newsletter, 2PK, and will be on the church's website the following week under the resource tab.



Holy Week Bags

Holy Week bags for children are available now! Children will gain a greater understanding of the events leading to Easter Sunday through crafts, an Easter scavenger hunt and an outline of the week explaining this most important journey in ways children can understand. Bags may be picked up under the portico near door #3.

Wednesdays Together

After a six-week series, Wednesdays Together has ended until the Fall. The children enjoyed participating in games, musical activities, fun at the playground and storytelling. In the accompanying photo, Kate and McClain Watkins, May and Bebe Davis and Patrick McNally are all moving to music learned for Palm Sunday.



Childcare Is Back!

Childcare will once again be available for children ages 4 and under beginning on Easter Sunday. Registration is a must and can be done when registering for the service you will be attending. At this time, children K-5 will be asked to sit with their families during worship. A children's bulletin will be provided as well as extra resources in the children's resource room located adjacent to the Narthex.

children: summer ministries

Camp Registration Begins April 1!

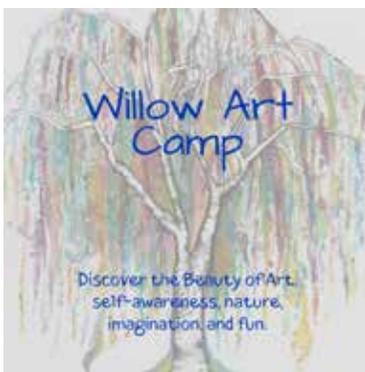
Smiley Camp: June 14-18 and June 21-25 • Willow Art Camp: June 1-4 and July 26-30
VBS/Project Serve: July 12-16



All Summer events at Second Presbyterian Church will operate according to the current guidelines set forth by our Session, the Mid-Kentucky Presbytery's recommendations and current CDC and state, during the weeks the camp is in session and will be running at a limited capacity.

Smiley Camp will resume this Summer for two weeks in June. The first week will be June 14-18 with the theme "Buses, and Boats, and Balloons, Oh My!" The second week, "Under the Big Top," will run June 21-25. Potty-trained 3's through 6 years are welcome to attend Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. for one week at the cost of \$200 or two weeks for the cost of \$350.

For more information please visit the church's website, www.2ndpreslou.org/ministries/children or contact Kim Pitchford, Director, at kpitchford@2ndpreslou.org.



Willow Art Camp will take place again this Summer June 1-4, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. and July 26-30, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. for potty-trained 3's through 7 years. The first week will concentrate on "Art from Around the World" while the second week will introduce children to "Famous Artists." Cost for this camp is \$195 per week.

For more information please visit the church's website, www.2ndpreslou.org/ministries/children or contact Kristen Hayden, Director, at kristencissell@hotmail.com.

Vacation Bible School will take place July 12-16 from 9 a.m.-noon for potty trained 3's through completed 3rd graders. "Come to the Table" invites children to see that God loves and welcomes all people and challenges them to share that same love and hospitality in their everyday lives. Bible lessons are taught through art, science, games, story and snacks making it a great week of fun and learning. Cost for the week is \$25 per participant.

For more information please visit the church's website, www.2ndpreslou.org/ministries/children or contact Lorie Williamson, Director of Children's Ministries, at lwilliamson@2ndpreslou.org.



Project Serve will run simultaneously with Vacation Bible School, July 12-16 from 9 a.m.-noon. Completed 4th and 5th graders will put God's love and welcoming of all people into action with "Project Serve - Come to the Table" where they will spend the week completing service projects on campus as well as throughout the community. Cost for the week is \$25 per participant.

For more information please visit the church's website, www.2ndpreslou.org/ministries/children or contact Lorie Williamson, Director of Children's Ministries, at lwilliamson@2ndpreslou.org.

Confirmation



"I believe that God is graceful and protecting."

~ Robert Farnan

"I believe that the Holy Trinity encourages us to love like Jesus, and open our arms to anyone just as He did."

~ Lily Rogers

"I believe I am a faithful, loving child of God."

~ Johnny Burrice

"I believe the Holy Spirit is God's spirit that lives around us and in us. It helps guide us to do the right thing and helps us learn from our wrongdoings."

~ Stella Powers

"I believe God is everywhere and will always be with me. God will always forgive me and guide me through tough times in my life."

~ Merritt Walker

With great joy and celebration, we welcome our newest members of Second Presbyterian! On Sunday, March 21, five confirmands professed publicly their faith and to assume greater responsibility in the life of the church, and God's mission in the world.

Pictured from left to right: John Burrice, Robert Farnan, Stella Powers, Merritt Walker, and Lily Rogers.

Open Gym



Open Gym returned for a 6-week run on February 2 after a Covid-19 pause. Eighteen masked youth and adults participated in socially distanced games and devotionals during this time, under the

leadership of Toby Nutt, Rob Reuther, John Davis, Todd Lyles, and Jordan Akin. We are looking forward to a return to normal activities next year.

2PY Calendar

- Apr 1 Maundy Thursday Service, 7 p.m.
- Apr 2 Good Friday Service, 7 p.m.
- Apr 4 Easter Sunday (No Sunday School)
- Apr 10 Cedar Ridge Work Day, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.
- Apr 18 HS Montreat Final Payment Due
- Apr 25 Senior High School Breakfast and Recognition



Confirmation Sunday
Top: presentation of the confirmands
Center left: Stella Powers with Mentor Kelly Gant
Center middle: Lily Katherine Rogers with Mentor Nancy Hubbard
Center left: Merritt Walker with Mentor Allison Duncan
Bottom left: John Robert Burrice with Mentor Todd Lyles
Bottom right: Robert Patrick Farnan with Mentor John Davis

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 class is led by Dr. Acton Ostling, Jr. and will be meeting in-person at 10 a.m. in Room 252 beginning March 21. If interested in receiving the announcements or emails, whether or not you are a regular member, please email Dr. Ostling at lingjr@twc.com. For more information about Dr. Ostling's class, visit the Adult Education page on our website.

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 with 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.

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

4/2	Pages 142-152 - Chap 10, General Observations on Christology.
4/9	Pages 155-161 - Appendix 1, Royal Messianic Hope for Israel.
4/16	Pages 162-170 - Appendix 2, Resurrection of Jesus
4/23	Pages 171-177 - Appendix 3, Did NT Christians call Jesus God?
4/30	Pages 177-185 - Appendix 3, Did NT Christians call Jesus God? (<i>continued</i>)

To join via the Zoom link, contact Beth via email, bethh@2ndpreslou.org.

Sisters in Spirit

In 2021, Sisters in Spirit continue to meet on the second Tuesday, by Zoom for now. For April and May, we will study Priscilla Shirer's seven-session study *Discerning the Voice of God*. We hope you will mark your calendars for the second Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. to join us. Order your copy today and make this a new spring priority. To join this study, contact the church, bethh@2ndpreslou.org.



Beginning April 15, Morning Joy will begin a new 7-week series where Pastor Steve will lead a study examining "I Have Seen the Lord": Exploring the Resurrection of Jesus."

The class will meet every Thursday at 9:45 a.m. for seven weeks, ending on May 27. We will continue to meet through Zoom, but we are also inviting anyone interested in meeting in person to email Chelsea at cbeasley@2ndpreslou.org.

Presbyterian Women of Second

Easter Greetings to all! With the continued challenges of Covid-19, we will not meet in April. We will continue to pray for one another and for healing and peace in our community and the world.

The Horizons Bible study "Into the Light" by P. Lynn Miller Lesson 8 is "God Laments". In Hosea 11:1-9, God laments the broken relationship with "his children" of Israel, "the more I called for them, the more they went from me." And yet, God's "parental" response is to communicate His love and care for His people, "my compassion grows warm and tender" and "I will not come in wrath." In Luke 13:34-35 and 19:41-44, Jesus laments that the people of Jerusalem have not recognized Him, that He himself came from God and would lead to peace. These scriptures illustrate God's ability and willingness to lament. And as we are made in the image of God, we are given His permission to lament. Practicing lament can help us to reject the apathy we see in society and provide us with a path toward hope in God and in God's promised future. We can lament to let the world know that the world will not change us. We will remain faithful to the God who is faithful to us, knowing that even we ourselves, with our limitations, our failures, the things we do, the things we

don't do, the ways we disappoint God, cannot stand between us and His love. Romans 8:38-39 says, "For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers...nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Closing Prayer: "Forgive us, O God, when we cause you sorrow. Have mercy on us when we give you less than our best. Our hope is truly in you: in who you are and in your love for us. We give you thanks that your love is stronger than our failings. Amen"

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
 Amparker158@hotmail.com
 (502) 897-5076



Presbyterian Women

pastoral care

Caregivers Need Care, Too!



Are you helping a loved one with impairments related to aging, disability, or a mental disorder? Are you taking care of someone who has a chronic illness or disease, managing medications, or taking care of household chores, meals, healthcare for someone who cannot do these tasks alone? If you answered yes to any of these, then you are a caregiver.

Caregivers hold it all together or have the overwhelming feeling that you have to hold it all together because no one else can. Caring for your loved one can lead to isolation, depression, chronic health issues, and poor quality of life for the one providing care. The Deacons here at Second Pres see how important it is to support its members who hold the role of caregiver.

So, to "Care for the Caregiver" the Deacons will begin by offering remote monthly Zoom meetings that will provide resources, education, and a safe space for support and assist in finding solutions to your most pressing needs.

They will meet on the second Monday of the month in the late afternoon and if you are interested in joining or learning more info please contact Beth (bethh@2ndpreslou.org) in the office or reach out to Deacon Cathy Hollander.

Grief Groups Taking a Break

Our Grief Groups will finish up their course in April. A new Grief Group will start in July. Please contact Elizabeth Clay, eclay@gmail.com, if you are interested in joining.



April Mission of the Month

Cedar Ridge Camp and Retreat Center

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

- Tempura paint
- Elmer's glue
- Paper plates
- Paper bowls
- Paper cups
- Popsicle sticks
- Pony beads
- Seed beads
- Wooden beads
- Washable markers
- Permanent markers
- Crayons
- Contact paper
- Food coloring
- Sidewalk chalk
- Gimp string
- Embroidery thread/
- friendship
- bracelet string
- Paint brushes
- Measuring cups and spoons
- Scissors
- Pencils
- Colored pencils
- Tie dye kits

2PY & 2PK Mission

April Family Work Day at Cedar Ridge!

On April 10, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., parents, youth, and kids are invited to help Cedar Ridge prepare for summer camps and for some time of fun and fellowship! We will be doing some light yard work, eating lunch, and enjoying some outdoor games and activities on campus such as gaga ball and hiking. Please sign up by contacting Chelsea at the church office, cbeasley@2ndpreslou.org.



PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE

OUT OF CHAOS, HOPE

The Presbytery's Mid-Kentucky Mission Committee is organizing Disaster Relief Hygiene Kits. This is a special collection in addition to our Mission of the Month. There will be a box labeled "Presbyterian Disaster Assistance" under the portico. You are invited to contribute one particular item or several different ones. This collection will be during the month of April.

The following is the list of needed items:

- Toothbrushes - individually packaged in original wraps, no multiple packs
- Wide tooth combs
- Nail clippers
- Hand towels - no microfiber
- Wash cloths - no microfiber
- Soap - individually packaged in original wraps, no multiple packs
- Band aids

Celebrating our Refugees

There were several opportunities to celebrate milestones in the lives of our sponsored families. Mission hosted a dinner in honor of International Women's Day. It was an excuse to bring together the Congolese sisters (2019), Ekyochi (2020) and other African friends from the Alliance Française. Wonderful conversation and connections were made over a meal. Six countries were represented and at least four languages spoken!



The Amiri daughters, Anosha (6) and Bibi (8), celebrated International Polar Bear Day at the Louisville Zoo. WDRB filmed them as they watched Qannick (the 9-year-old Alaskan female) play. So, they made the local news, learning about all that their new city has to offer!



Also, Anosha and Bibi just started school at Fern Creek Elementary. The whole family had a school tour the day before it began and loved seeing the outdoor play space and clean, bright classrooms. This is the first formal education for the girls. They had backpacks, water bottles, masks and new shoes for Day 1. Thank you, friends and volunteers, for helping prepare them for this important step!

The Refugee Team invites you to our next event, a virtual baby shower for Khatul Amiri - April 18, 2 p.m. All are welcome. Contact Kathy at kathy@oyer.net to RSVP for the Zoom by April 12th. We have a list of needed baby gear and a registry for the Amiri.



Please keep our refugees close to your hearts and in your prayers. Thank you for your generous donations to them as they get established in new homes. The resiliency and new life that these families bring to our community is truly a reason to celebrate.

Peace,

Mission Committee, Refugee Team



At this time, the reception of refugee families by Kentucky Refugee Ministries is paused until the Presidential Determination letter is signed. As soon as that step happens, we will be waiting for a good match with a new co-sponsored family. It may happen over the summer.

In the meantime, KRM's excellent

work continues with asylum seekers. Job loss, food shortages, and Covid-19 illness have hit these families hard. If you have job connections that may be useful for placements, please let our team know.

Second's Covid Emergency Fund continues to address their most urgent needs. Your donations have made a huge difference in this community. Thank you!

Hope in Suffering: Stories from El Salvador

As we pulled into the community in Rosario de Mora so many familiar faces were waiting to greet us. However, I could tell this visit would be different. There was not the full community gathering, there was no community meal, there were not as many children running around, we had masks on and were greeted with fist bumps. Repeatedly we heard the familiar words, "We can't believe you came to visit! It is such a gift to see you, thanks be to God!" And they meant them in a new way.

El Salvador like much of the world went into quarantine in March 2020 and was not opened until late August. The quarantine was strict, and the government used fear as well as police checking IDs whenever you left your home to keep the quarantine enforced. Amid all of that they were devastated by multiple tropical storms that destroyed crops. Through the Covid-19 Mission Emergency Fund 2nd

was able to provide much needed food and seeds to re-grow crops. As we climbed down the mountain this year, they were harvesting sorghum for which we had provided the seeds.

Each and every year I am amazed at the resilience and faith of our brothers and sisters in the Reformed Church in El Salvador but even more so this year. They spoke with clarity about God's provision, God's grace, and God's presence in the midst of a difficult year. They were grateful for our partnership and reminded me that they pray for us regularly. But above all they continued to hope in the truth that God is with them and for them. May we also be reminded and trust in God's presence that is always with us.

~ Nathan Sautter is Associate Pastor for Community Life.



Above: The Women's Sewing Co-op in Rosario de Mora

Above left: Election Observers from the Reformed Church

Left: Worship at the Reformed Church in San Salvador



You Made a Difference in March



Thanks to all who donated to our March Mission of the Month, United Crescent Hill Ministries! The Mission Committee took two carloads of food pantry items to our mission partner this month.

2PK Mission

2PK made Valentine's Day cards for the elderly population at UCHM! These cards were a big hit!



2PY Mission

The majority of the population served by UCHM does not have can openers to open the cans they receive from the food pantry. The youth decided to do something about this! As a part of the March Mission, 2PY competed by grade to see which grade could collect the most can openers for UCHM. The sophomores were the winners! A total of 25 can openers was collected!



**Can
openers**



Mark your calendars... Flower School 101
is coming to Kentucky!
Friday, June 11 at Second Presbyterian Church
benefitting Kilgore Samaritan Counseling Center



Flower School 101 features a 2-hour lecture and demonstration where Michael will create ten arrangements. Additionally, there is an opportunity for 50 people to attend a 2-hour class where Michael will show you how to create three of your own arrangements.



Michael Gaffney is Executive Director of American School of Flower Design. He is an author of three books including his latest, "American in Paris". He's a designer, inventor and expert on the art of flower design. He's appeared on The Today Show, NBC, CBS and is a featured regular on Hallmark Channel. He lectures in museums worldwide on his "Da Vinci code" of floral design. Michael will reveal all his secrets to perfectly gorgeous flowers every time, how to get fresh flowers to last for weeks in your home, as well as share inside stories behind the scenes from Hollywood to Park Avenue. When not designing flowers, Michael is an avid horseman and polo player.

Check out Michael at www.flowerschool101.com and www.MichaelsFlowerGarden.com.

Friday, June 11th at Second Presbyterian Church, 3701 Old Brownsboro Road

Lecture	9-11 a.m.	\$75
Lecture and class	9-11 and 1-3 p.m.	\$150
Lecture and class + weekend garden tour ticket		\$175
Box lunch from A Full Plate between lecture & class		\$20

Arrangements made by Michael during demonstration will be available for purchase, as well as his bestselling books and Flower Crazy design kits

Space is limited so don't wait! To register, go to <https://kilgorecounseling.org/home-garden-tour/the-tour/>



MEMBERSHIP INQUIRY CLASS



Classes Begin April 25

Are you interested in learning more about
Second Presbyterian Church?
Would you like to meet more members?
Come to the New Member Inquiry Class!

RSVP to Beth
at 895-3483 or bethh@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

Book Notes will meet at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, April 6, at Second Pres in person!

We will discuss *American Dirt*, a novel by Jeanine Cummins.

This is the story of a Mexican mother and her young son, fleeing from a drug cartel, and their harrowing experiences as they try to reach the US border. Vicki Prince chose this timely book.



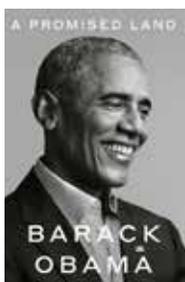
Busy Needles

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.



On May 4, Sharon Stern will present Barack Obama's book, *A Promised Land*.

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



Paint SPOT

The group is back painting on Thursdays at Second. Contact Linda Wood for more information, (502) 893-3330

el.wood@twc.com.



Pilates

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



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

Currently, the group members pray separately. To learn more about this group, contact Beth Haendiges

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



Dinner Groups

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

fyi

Session Highlights from March 18, 2021

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

- Session received the Clerk's Report, the Minister's Report, the Financial Report and various other monthly Committee Reports;
- The Confirmation Class of 2021 was examined and received into membership. The class includes John Burrice, Robert Farnan, Stella Powers, Lily Rogers and Merritt Walker;
- The Finance Committee reported that income in February was strong and year to date income over expenses is positive;
- The Re-Opening Task Group reviewed the worship schedule for the upcoming Holy Week/Easter period and reported that the 9 a.m. Outdoor Service will resume on May 2;
- Dates were considered for the Session Retreat;
- A summary of the meeting of the Mid-Kentucky Presbytery was presented;
- Rev. Sautter reported on his trip to El Salvador; and
- Sharon Clark was elected Clerk of Session.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Ferguson
Clerk of Session

Congregation Is Called to Meet April 11

The congregation is called to meet via Zoom on Sunday, April 11, following the 11 a.m. worship service, to act upon the recommendation from session that Sharon Clark be elected as an elder to serve as clerk of session and proceed to ordination and installation.

Church Building Open to Small Groups

Our church is 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 need to call Lisa Bickett at 895-3483 or email lbickett@2ndpreslou.org to check the calendar and reserve a space.





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...

Karla Renaud and her family on the death of her husband, Ray Renaud, 3/17/21.

Max Taylor and his family on the death of his father, Kent Taylor, 3/18/21.

Elizabeth Haynes and her family on the death of her brother, the Rev. Lewis Marshall Johnson, 3/21/21.