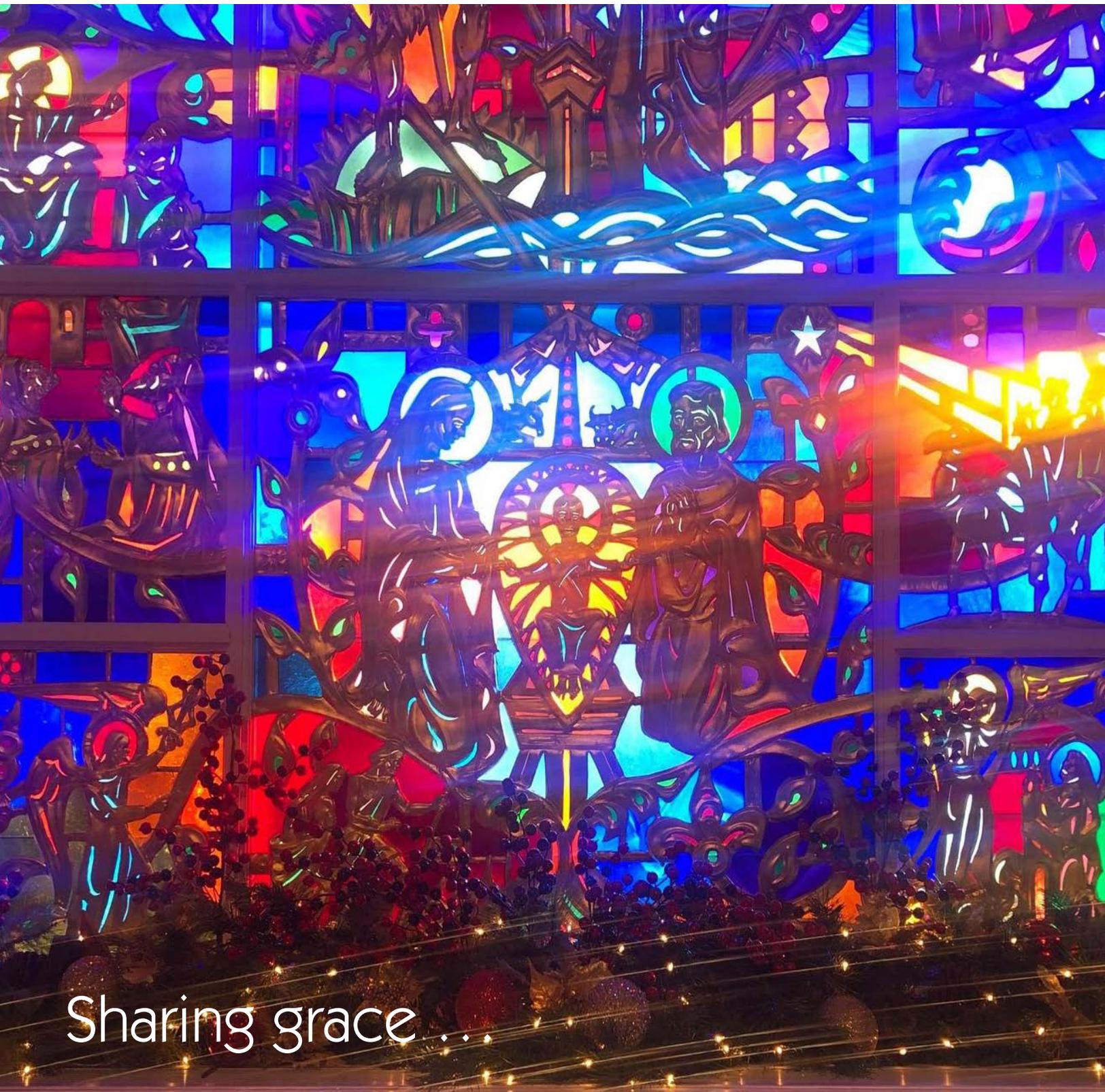


SECOND THOUGHTS

A monthly reflection on the ministries of Second Presbyterian Church of Louisville



Sharing grace . . .

Contents

“And she gave birth to her first-born son and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.” (Luke 2:7, RSV)

Dear Friends,

There are stories we love to tell, again and again, and stories we love to hear, again and again. There are stories that, despite the frequent re-telling, don't seem to lose their richness and impact on our lives. It could be the story of how you met your spouse, what it felt like to see your child come into the world, the overwhelming sense that God was present in that particular place or relationship or struggle, the transforming experience of being with someone beloved in their last days or moments. Those kinds of stories tell us and others where we come from, what we value, what shapes us and gives us identity.



For me, one such story is the story of what happened last Christmas Eve at Second Presbyterian Church. We were about nine months into the pandemic, struggling with finding ways to connect with each other in meaningful ways. Many of us were mourning the loss of Christmas traditions and gatherings. I must admit that as a church staff we were feeling disheartened, facing the probability of preaching, playing, praying, and singing to an otherwise empty sanctuary. We pondered various options, none satisfactory, until we stumbled upon the idea of an outdoor Christmas Eve service in the area between the Chapel and the library.

It was bitterly cold and windy as the sun began to set with a few snowflakes gently settling to the ground. People began to arrive, and they kept coming. Some 160 eventually showed up to hear the familiar story, hear (and quietly sing) the familiar songs, to raise a candle and wipe away a tear during “Silent Night.” We were together as best we could be, united by the story of a God who loves us so profoundly as to be born among us as one of us. The story of the God who comes to us as a vulnerable infant is one we never seem to tire of hearing.

We'll tell the story again this Christmas Eve, sharing the Good News with friends in the pews and friends online. I expect we'll be a lot more comfortable—at least warmer!—this year. This story of Emmanuel, “God with us,” defines us as, again and again, we tell it, hear it, and live it out in our lives for the sake of God's beloved children who long for “heavenly peace.” A blessed Christmas to you all!

Grace and peace,
Steve

Pastor of Second Presbyterian Church

- Worship & Music 4
- Concert Series..... 6
- Children 7
- Youth 8
- Adult Formation 9
- Weekday School 10
- Mission..... 12
- Staff Updates..... 14
- Presbyterian Women 15
- Presbyterian Union..... 16
- SPOT Groups..... 17
- FYI 18

SECOND Presbyterian CHURCH

3701 Old Brownsboro Road
Louisville, Kentucky 40207
502.895.3483

www.2ndpreslou.org

Facebook: [@secondpresbyterian](https://www.facebook.com/secondpresbyterian)

YouTube: [@2ndPresLou](https://www.youtube.com/@2ndPresLou)

Our Mission:

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

Await

ADVENT AT SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

ADVENT WORSHIP & MUSIC

Sundays, December 5, 12, & 19 at 8:30 a.m. & 11 a.m.*

December 5 - An Advent/Christmas Concert with Harry Pickens (Live stream Only*), 7 p.m.
Join Harry Pickens, a master of improvisational jazz piano, as he presents a live-streamed and “soul-streamed” concert of seasonal musical favorites.

December 12 - Awaiting Joy: A Musical Worship Celebration - 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m., Sanctuary
(Live streamed at 11 a.m.*).

Our Sanctuary Choir, Octet, Austin Memorial Handbells, Children's Choirs, and Chamber Orchestra present our journey of expectation, and the revealing of the Great Mystery of the Christ-Child.

December 19 - Christmas Carol-Sing - 6 p.m. in the Chapel -Neighborhood caroling to follow.
Bring your whole family as we share our favorite carols, enjoy some hot cocoa and goodies, and take to the neighborhood to share grace with our community.

December 21 - Longest Night Service - 7 p.m. in the Chapel - A service on the Winter's Solstice for an opportunity for those experiencing struggle and loss, or the darkness that can be experienced this time of year. Advent hymns, prayers, and readings will be guided by our pastoral and ministry team.

CHRISTMAS AT SECOND

December 24 - Christmas Eve Family Candlelight Service, 5 p.m. in Sanctuary
(Live streamed beginning with pre-service music at 4:50 p.m.)*

Lessons & Carols Candlelight & Communion Service, 9 p.m. in Sanctuary
(Live streamed beginning with pre-service music at 8:50 p.m.)*

December 26 - First Sunday of Christmas
One Service at 11 a.m. in Sanctuary *(Live streamed)*

January 2 - Second Sunday of Christmas with Communion
One Service at 11 a.m. in Sanctuary *(Live streamed)*

*LIVE STREAMS AT YouTube 2ndPresLou

BEGINNING DECEMBER 19, CANDLES & COMMUNION SETS AVAILABLE
FOR PICKUP FOR CHRISTMAS EVE LIVE STREAM WORSHIPERS UNDER PORTICO

Awaiting Joy

A MUSICAL CELEBRATION OF JOY SUNDAY

Sunday, December 12

8:30 and 11 a.m.*

Sanctuary

*Live streamed at 11

SANCTUARY CHOIR, AUSTIN HANDBELLS,
CHILDREN'S CHOIRS, CHAMBER ORCHESTRA & ORGAN

A LIVESTREAM-ONLY EVENT

An Advent & Christmas Concert



Harry Pickens
Jazz Pianist

Sunday, December 5
7 p.m.

Await On Our YouTube Channel:
2ndPresLou

Longest Night Service

December 21 -
7:00 p.m.

in the Chapel
A service on the
Winter's Solstice
for an
opportunity for
those experiencing
struggle and loss,
or the darkness
that can be
experienced this
time of year.
Advent hymns,
prayers, and
readings will be
guided by our
pastoral and
ministry team.



carol sing

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19 * 6 P.M. * CHAPEL
NEIGHBORHOOD CAROLING TO FOLLOW

CONCERT SERIES DONORS

We are grateful for the support of our many patrons—some who have given in memory and honor of those who have loved the music programs of Second Presbyterian or who have given specifically for the 2021–2022 Concert Series. These gifts ensure our Series continues to offer inspiring music that glorifies God, and that we can continue to take our day-of-concert offerings to our ministry partners.

(as of November 19, 2021)

Sandy Bailey
Larry & Bonnie Boram
Ann Buckman
Tim & Sharon Clark
Richard & Elizabeth Clay
Peter & Lorrie Conway
Edith Courtenay
John & Elaine Crockett
R. Keith & Teri Tafel Cullinan
Alice Virginia Dodd
David & Lee Ann Dorsey
Gordon & Marilyn Duke
John & Christine Ellis
Mary Sue Ewing
Sherry Farson
Keltie Ferris
Roberta Fischer
Margaret Flowers
Lamar & Joan Gaston
Holly & Joe Gathright
Ed & Mary Glasscock
Jodie Goldberg

Lee & Jack Hancock
A. Davis & Jane Frith Harcourt
Elizabeth Haynes
Tom & Judy Hettmansperger
Woody & Missy Hitt
W.W. & Constance Hobson
Wallace & Louise Horine
Charlie & Edith Huber
Jim & Mary Jean Kinsman
Portia H. Leatherman
William & Carolyn Lewis
Richard & Jean Maxwell
Linda & James (“Scotty”) McArthur
Ed & Susan McShane
Jack Jr. & Susan Moss
Lynn & Karen Ogden
Patricia C. Ogden
Acton Ostling Jr.
Tom & Jeannette Pardue
Frank & Amy Parker
Vicki & June Prince
Margaret Putney

Margaret Cregor Radford
Ivan & Ann Schell
Louise B. Seiler
Carole & Daniel Shomer
Larry Sloan
Connie & Gene Smith
Chip & Susan Snyder
Martha Spencer
John & Bonnie Stone
Mary Hillerich Tabler
Ellen Miller Timmons
Tom & Sandall Tyrrell
Bob & Ann Colbert Wade
RoseAnn Wagner
Beverly S. Wahl
Edith Wells
Kaaren Westlund
Revs. Camille & Bob Williams-Neal
George Wombwell
Susan & David Wood
Jesse & Susanne Wright

Gifts in Memory or Honor

In memory of Harvey E. Groskreutz by Jean Groskreutz
In memory of Ellie McCandless by David McCandless
In memory of Gorman Roberts and Ross & Reba Snodderly
by Jeff & Paula Roberts
In memory of Lewis Washington, Jr. by Lynn Thompson
In memory of Bartow Willingham by Emily Willingham



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

Children



We recently said goodbye to dear childcare worker Betsy Byrnes, whose last Sunday was November 14th. Betsy began her time at Second Presbyterian Church over twenty years ago. She worked with all children during her time here, but was hired as a specialist for children with special needs. She made children feel safe and gave them comfort in group settings. Often, she would take extra walks with children who needed some space and made countless trips escorting children to the bathroom. Each year on Senior Recognition Sunday we would look at the bulletin together and she would point out all the kiddos that were “hers.”

Betsy’s full-time job was with Kaleidoscope, a day health center for younger adults. She served as a supervisor for her team, providing a safe, fun filled, family-like environment for participants who benefit from therapeutic, structured activities and nursing services. The center encourages its members to participate in life to the best of their abilities. She has shared many stories with me about those she cares for, and I know she brings as much joy to them as they bring to her.

We will miss Betsy, but wish her well. Thank you for being so faithful throughout the years. May the future bring you peace, hope, joy, love, and a few more minutes of sleep each Sunday morning.

Lorie Williamson, *Director of Children’s Ministries*

Parents’ NIGHT OUT

December 18

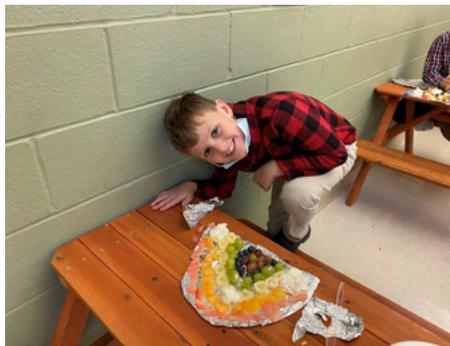
5:00 p.m.—8:30 p.m.

\$15 per child, \$25 Family Cap

Pack a dinner and have the kiddos (birth–5th grade) join us for a fun filled night of crafts, gym time, story telling and more!

Contact Amy Heckmann—aheckmann@2ndpreslou.org—by Monday, December 13th with questions and to reserve your spot!

November Sunday School for 2PK was based on the story of Noah’s Ark. 2PK enjoyed a hands-on cooking rotation of Noah’s Ark where they learned the importance of obeying God’s Word and God’s faithful promises.



Youth



Open Gym: Every Tuesday 7–9 p.m. Every Tuesday evening from November until March, Todd Lyles and Toby Nutt lead our youth in a variety of games. It is a time where our youth (and adults) are free from expectation or worry over homework and school and are able to have some fun and a Bible lesson. Our group from November 23 is pictured to the left, when many of our Open Gym alumni were home from college for Thanksgiving break.

6-12 GRADE WELCOME TO THE ANNUAL

2PY CHRISTMAS PARTY

December 12, 2021 at 7 p.m.
Bring a \$5 white elephant gift!

Duane residence
91 Warrior Road
Louisville, KY 40207

2PY Calendar of Events

- Dec. 2 HS Girls' Christmas Party: 6:00 p.m. @ Noosh Nosh
- Dec. 5 Sit in 11 a.m. Worship
- Dec. 12 2PY @ 11:00 a.m. 2PY Christmas Party, 7:00 p.m.
- Dec. 19 Sit in 11 a.m. Worship
Ski trip final deposit due
- Dec. 26 No 2PY
- Jan. 2 Sit in 11 a.m. Worship
- Jan. 9 2PY resumes

2PY WINTER RETREAT

January 14-17, 2022
Peek'n Peak



Final Payment due December 19
(Total Cost - \$450)

Questions? Email Chelsea Beasley at cbeasley2ndpreslou.org

Adult Formation

*Zoom links to adult education programs can be found in Seconds to Go.
You may also contact the church office: cbeasley@2ndpreslou.org or 502-895-3483.*

Biblical Studies

The class is led by Dr. Acton Ostling, Jr. and meets in-person on Sundays at 9:30 a.m. in Room 252. 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 the class, visit the Adult Education page on our website. This fall, the class will be dealing mainly with the figure of the historical Paul. The stories in the Acts of the Apostles seem to be imaginative expansions on hints from his authentic letters. What can be gleaned from what Paul himself says in his letters?

Pathways

Led by Elizabeth Clay, the Pathways class meets on Sunday mornings at 9:45 a.m. in Fellowship Hall A and via ZOOM. Pathways is a group of folks who enjoy thinking and talking about life, faith, the Bible, and the intersection of the three. Please come join us!

Reading the Bible

Dr. Marty Soards of Louisville Presbyterian Seminary leads this class on Sundays at 9:45 a.m. in the Parlor and on ZOOM. We will be studying Romans 15–16. In these two chapters the Apostle Paul discusses personal issues and the life of the Roman Christian community in ways that provide theological insight into the life of the early church and to Paul's understanding of God's work in and through Jesus Christ and, in turn, Christian life. If interested in joining, or if you have any questions, please email marion.soards@att.net.

Film Fellowship

The Film Fellowship group will meet next on Sunday, December 5 from 4:30-6:30 p.m. for a potluck gathering. On this auspicious day, avid film and baseball fan STEVE JESTER will lead us in a discussion of *42*, the film documenting the life of Jackie Robinson, the first black athlete to play in Major League Baseball. All film and/or baseball fans are welcome to this hybrid-format potluck gathering, so drop by for some good food, fun, and fellowship! Room TBD.

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, led by moderators Lee and Vic Baltzell.

Our next session is December 12 at 9:45 a.m. in Rm 251. Childcare will be provided.

Sisters in Spirit

Mark your calendar for the upcoming gathering of Sisters in Spirit Tuesday, December 14 at 7:00 PM at Sallye Pence's for a time of holiday cheer! Please RSVP to Selina Costley at sjc@iglou.com.

Men's Bible Study

Men's Bible Study meets via Zoom at 7 a.m. on Friday mornings. Dr. Marty Soards, Retired Professor of New Testament Studies at Louisville Seminary, is leading an overview of the Life Together Dietrich Bonhoeffer. In his book Bonhoeffer discusses practices of personal prayer, worship in common, work and service to others. Specific topics/readings are assigned each week.

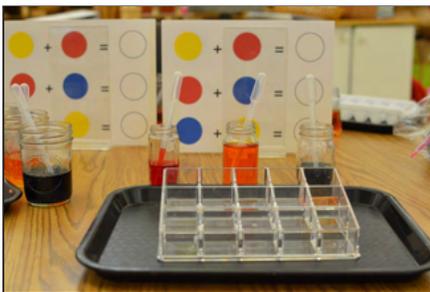
from the Weekday School

Zooming In: A Look at Some of Our Educational Influences

Hayley Abell, Director

Education is not preparation for life; education is life itself. -John Dewey

As progressive educators, there are several educational psychologists, theorists and leaders in child development who we look to as experts in the field. They are people who closely observed children, watching their play and documenting their learning. They also noted what external and internal stimuli affected their happiness, learning and focus, and what gave them purpose. Some of these people who inform our philosophy and pedagogy at 2nd Pres began their work in the 1800s, such as John Dewey. He promoted and tested his dreams for educational reformation through “progressive” schools from 1898-1916. He believed that a child was not an empty vessel to be filled up by the learned, but a person fully designed to make connections through an active, constructive and reflective process. Like Maria Montessori, who said, “What the hand does the mind remembers,” Dewey believed *doing* naturally yields *thinking* which results in *learning*. This is why, at 2nd Pres, we put such emphasis on providing hands-on and real life experiences for our students.

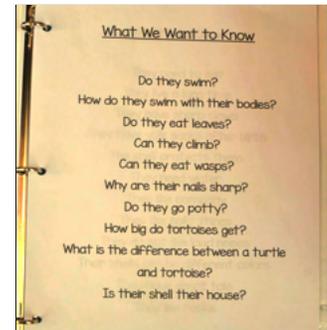


What a child can do today with assistance, she will be able to do by herself tomorrow. -Lev Vygotsky

Lev Vygotsky is another of our educational heroes. Hailing from the early 1900s in Russia, he observed children carefully, finding that they continue to progress in development and understanding in social contexts with just enough help and encouragement. He gave us the term “Zone of Proximal Development,” which means that people of all ages can reach their next stage of development in any area with a “more knowledgeable other” providing the right amount of scaffolding to help them make the leap. We view teachers as facilitators of learning who closely watch, listen and assess their students to offer the right amount of support and challenge for children to move to the next level of development. Since we teach to the whole child, this means we scaffold social/emotional, physical, cognitive, creative, and language development.

We see and honor children as intelligent, capable and competent individuals who can be the “more knowledgeable other”. Like teachers, they can help their friends learn something new, as well. Our blended classrooms are founded on this principle where the older children serve as mentors and leaders to their younger classmates. This is also

why we invite productive struggle, the practice, space and time a child needs to hone a new skill. We honor children's ideas, interests and theories and see them as important, driving components of curriculum. They influence the materials we put out, the topics we investigate and the direction of classroom inquiry. Together, the teachers and children build their understanding of the world together. Loris Malaguzzi, cofounder of one of our greatest educational inspirations, the early childhood schools in Reggio Emilia, Italy, described it as this: "Learning and teaching should not stand on opposite banks and watch the river flow by; instead, they should embark together on a journey down the water. Through an active, reciprocal exchange, teaching can strengthen learning how to learn."



Are we forming children who are only capable of learning what is already known? Or should we try to develop creative and innovative minds, capable of discovery from the preschool age on, throughout life? -Jean Piaget

Lastly, Jean Piaget, a Swiss clinical psychologist from the 20th century has given us his detailed theory of the stages of cognitive development children follow through maturity if nurtured and enriched. Physicians, educators and psychologists refer to his work to this day. He became an educational theorist who believed that education was the answer to social reform and the continuation of progress in the world. Piaget wholeheartedly argued that the development of the mind through experience, investigation, discovery and invention is the way to live fully in the world and be an agent of change in it. And for a child, this comes back to play. Through play and active engagement with materials and others, children begin to discover the world, make sense of it and form understanding. Our Infant/Toddler, Preschool and Kindergarten programs at 2nd Pres promote this, and we are always striving to fulfill it in more meaningful and effective ways. Your children are powerful already, and we, as their teachers, work at being facilitators of their research of the world.



Mission

December Mission of the Month

Make a special gift to our missionaries who are faithfully serving our neighbors throughout the world.

Sherri & Dustin Ellington

Zambia

Dan & Elizabeth Turk

Madagascar

Karla Koll

Costa Rica

Donations can be made to Second Presbyterian Church
Designate Missionary Christmas fund on donation

Thank you for your support,
Mission Committee

Holiday Food Distribution at Peace Presbyterian

Our dates to help prepare and distribute food at Peace Presbyterian are a little different this month due to Christmas. We will be assisting on Friday, Dec. 17th and Saturday, Dec. 18th. If you would be interested in helping out for one or both of those days, we'd be glad to have you. We also have openings for volunteers throughout the coming year.

Please contact Jodie Goldberg (303jodie@gmail.com) if you would like to join us!



On November 6, members of Second continued to help build a home for Louisville resident David with Habitat for Humanity. Thank you to all who contribute to this build sponsored by the Mid-Kentucky Presbytery.

Seen in the photo on the left (R-L): David (the homeowner), Karen Hadley, Allison Davis, Jordan Akin, John Davis, Henry Snyder



Kilgore Garden Tour News



The Committee of the Kilgore Garden Tour has been able to schedule seven gardens for the 2022 Tour to be held on June 11 and 12. One home will be open for touring.

Members are currently contacting sponsors for the event. Sponsorships begin at \$250 and can be sent to the Center at any time during the year. Anyone wishing to be listed in the tour program as a sponsor call Ann Fleming at 502-553-4371.

The Kilgore Samaritan Counseling Center is a mission of the Second Presbyterian Church and serves the entire Louisville community. It is open to the public, and no one is turned away. The Garden Tour provides much needed funds for those unable to pay the full fee. For more information about the Garden Tour, please contact Janet Davis at 502-592-2915.

from the Refugee Committee



Kentucky refugee Ministries (KRM) has welcomed 79 Aghan individuals, 23 of whom arrived this past week. They have secured and furnished apartments for all. In addition, KRM continues to welcome refugees from other corners of the world and Cuban clients. All of these arrivals, an unprecedented number, have been covered by 2nd and other Louisville Presbyterian churches, PCUSA other denominations, Louisville synagogues and the River Road Mosque. It has been a tremendous interfaith effort to meet the current need.

All six Abdulkarims arrived November 9th, exhausted yet thrilled to be welcomed by 2nd Pres members and friends. The family is quarantined in their apartment, awaiting Covid vaccines. Medical visits are happening this week. Our team is communicating via phone and text and have dropped off a few loads of groceries along with coats, shoes, hats, scarves and gloves for every family member. Maha, the KRM case worker for the family, is deeply grateful for our help with medical calls and advocacy for the Abdulkarim during this time.

Many thanks to many of you who rushed to donate both new and gently used warm winter wear. When we drove up once to drop off food, they all came rushing out of their apartment decked out in full winter gear. Looks like it will take a while for them to acclimate to our cold weather!

We are eager to spend more time with them after their quarantine and vaccinations and will update as soon as we are able. To join our mailing list, please contact kathy@oyler.net or mnpeccu@yahoo.com

EL SALVADOR PARTNERSHIP VISIT

FEBRUARY 11-18, 2022

\$250.00 Deposit

Due Dec. 15, 2021

**FOR MORE INFO CONTACT:
CBEASLEY@2NDPRESLOU.ORG**

**Intergenerational Partnership
Visit to Rosario de Mora,
El Salvador**

*** Open to Middle/High School
youth and adults**

Purpose:

- To build relationships with partner, the Reformed Church of Rosario de Mora, El Salvador; to know Christ amongst the people of El Salvador.
- To gain a greater understanding of cross cultural mission engagement.
- To spend time with and help refurbish a water system in the Rosario de Mora community.
- To learn about PCUSA mission efforts through the work of mission worker Kristi Van Nostran.

**Cost is approximately \$1,495
This includes airfare, food,
transportation & lodging**

Staff updates

Over the past several months, Second has experienced a number of staffing transitions, which you have surely felt. We have bid farewell to beloved members of our staff as they moved on to other callings: Beth Haendiges, Chelsea Beasley, and Assoc. Pastor Nathan Sautter. We have been grateful for your patience as we fill in the gaps and welcome new members of our team, including Tanner Williams.

Our team continues to transition as we search for a successor to Virginia Fortner, our former Worship & Formation Assistant. Chelsea Beasley has graciously agreed to return as a part-time interim to assist with our Mission and Formation ministries as we search for a permanent applicant. Samuel Libra, our Organist and Communications Assistant will now be assisting with Worship and Music ministries.

We thank you for your continued forbearance and prayers as your staff continues to evolve. If you are unsure of who now serves the various committees and ministries of Second, you can consult the list to the right. Please bear in mind that your questions to staff may be redirected to the appropriate person as we navigate new roles.

Ministry Support Staff	
Lisa Bickett <i>Pastoral Assistant</i>	
Finance	Personnel
Property	Session
Stewardship	Trustees
Samuel Libra <i>Organist & Communications Assistant</i>	
Worship	Music
Communications	
Tanner Williams <i>Receptionist & Administrative Assistant</i>	
Deacons	Outreach
Fellowship	SPOT Groups
Chelsea Beasley <i>Interim Formation Assistant</i>	
Adult Education	Children
Youth	Mission



Poinsettia Donations due Dec. 10

On November 21st, a team of volunteers prepared our worship spaces for the seasons of Advent and Christmas—and they’re looking stunning! Wreaths are hung, trees erected and bedecked, the crèche laid out with care. All that’s missing are the bounteous arrays of poinsettias that we’re so accustomed to seeing, lighting up our Sanctuary with sprays of dazzling red. If you would like to help us complete our Christmas decoration, you can donate a poinsettia in honor or memory of a loved one.

Each plant is \$30 and can be taken home with you following the 11:00 a.m. Worship service on Sunday, December 26th.

Donation forms and envelopes are available at the office front desk and narthexes of the Chapel and Main Sanctuary.



Presbyterian Women of Second

Good News! The Presbyterian Women of Second will meet together at the Church on Tuesday, December 14th at 10:00 a.m. for Bible Study and fellowship in Room 252. We look forward to being together and welcome all women at Second to join us. (Due to Covid-19, masks are required in the church.) A ZOOM option will also be made available.

Once again, Presbyterian Women (and anyone else wishing to donate) will have an opportunity to make Christmas a happier time for families through United Crescent Hill Ministries Christmas Connection. As last year, there will be no need to shop because the parents in each family will purchase the gifts for their children. The parents will receive a \$100 gift card for presents and a \$25 Kroger gift card for each child. Any donation amount is welcome and a check for any amount may be sent to UCHM, 150 State Street, Louisville, KY 40206. Please be sure to write CHRISTMAS CONNECTION on the “memo” line. Due to the time frame of getting the gift cards to the parents, donations need to be received by December 6th. You may also give online through the following link: <http://www.uchmlouky.org/christmas-connection-sponsorship-sign-up/> We have been wonderful supporters of this program in the past. The folks at UCHM are very grateful for our generosity in bringing a little happiness for their clients to this blessed holiday. Thank you for your continued support! Ruth Fitzwater, *Mission Coordinator*

The 21-22 Horizons Bible study “What My Grandmothers Taught Me” by Merryl Blair explores the women in the lineage of Jesus. The title of Lesson 4 is “Ruth and Loyal Love”. The Book of Ruth begins “In the days when the Judges ruled” and “there was a famine in the land.” Naomi and her husband, along with their two sons, flee Bethlehem and become refugees in a foreign land. In time, Naomi is widowed and left to raise her two sons, alone. Her sons marry local women, Orpah and Ruth, who become widows, as well. When Naomi hears news that the Lord has lifted the famine, she decides to return home. She tells her daughters-in-law to go back to the homes of their mothers. Orpah accepts Naomi’s reasoning, but Ruth follows Naomi. She demonstrates her loyal love, hesed, to Naomi with the promises “Where you go, I will go; where you lodge, I will lodge; your people shall be my people, and your God shall be my God.” On their return, Ruth gleaned a field owned by Boaz. Boaz offers Ruth food and water. He commends her for her actions adding, “May the Lord reward you for your deeds, and may you have a full reward from the Lord, the God of Israel, under whose wings you have come for refuge.” Ruth praises Boaz for bestowing his loyal love, hesed, upon her.

presbyterianwomen.org website has opportunities to order the Horizons Study book, subscribe to the Horizons Magazine, 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



Hope & Healing While Grieving

Our culture puts a great emphasis on being happy and joyful. During the Christmas season this is particularly true. Sometimes we need to be able to acknowledge to ourselves and others that we aren’t feeling joyous, especially during the holidays.

Hope and Healing While Grieving is a safe place for anyone who is grieving the loss of a loved one. We meet at 11:30 am on the first and third Wednesdays of each month, December 1 and 15. Please contact Elizabeth Clay, eclay@2ndpreslou.org, if you have questions or are interested in joining.

Presbyterian Union

A Monthly Discussion Group Sponsored by Second Presbyterian and Highland Presbyterian Churches

On the first Tuesday of each month (usually), people gather downtown for the fellowship of a lunch, followed by a speaker and discussion around a wide variety of topics - church and culture issues, faith questions, the changing face of Louisville, topics of personal interest. Think of it as a quick retreat with some friends from different places to think about the world of work and living from a different direction. All are welcome, so please invite guests.

Topic: “We **are** winning the war on cancer.”

Speaker: Jason Chesney, M.D., PhD.
Chief Administrative Officer /Director of U of L Brown Cancer Center

Dr. Chesney is currently conducting new clinical trials of a novel cellular immunotherapy called Tumor Infiltrating Lymphocytes (TILs) for the treatment of melanoma, lung, cervical and head and neck cancers.

Arriving in Louisville in 2003, Chesney has already made a significant impact at the Brown Cancer Center. He has developed new cancer therapy, now in use across the nation, authored 98 peer-review research articles and secured more than \$30m dollars in philanthropic funds and grants to advance cancer research.

Active in professional organizations, Dr. Chesney is a member of the American Association for Cancer Research, the American Society of Clinical Oncology and recently completed a four-year commitment as a standing member of the National Cancer Institute’s Tumor Cell Biology Study Section. He was named the Brinkley Endowed Chair in Lung Cancer Research in 2015 and the James Graham Brown Foundation Endowed Chair in 2017.

He lives in Louisville with his wife, Dr. Alden Klarer, who is a radiation oncologist and their children.

Where: Vincenzo’s, The Courtyard Room, 150 South 5th Street

Lunch: buffet salad and entrée, dessert, iced tea

Cost: \$16.00, includes gratuity and drink

When: Tuesday, December 7 at 11:30 a.m.

RSVP: If you will attend, please notify by 4:00 pm Monday December 6th.
E-mail Ann or Ivan Schell at adschell@bellsouth.net or phone 502-894-8440

Mark your calendars for future meetings (always first Tuesday):

Tuesday, January 4, 2022 – Invitation Extended

Tuesday, February 1, 2022 – Dr. Jesse H. Wright III, “Finding Hope in the Fight Against Depression”

Parking: Parking is on 5th Street either on the street or across Market (one way east) at the Stock Yards parking sign on the south side of Market between 5th and 6th or at the National City Bank Building (entrances on 5th, near Main, and Main Street [one way west] on left immediately before 5th).

Payment: Please pay at door by cash or check.

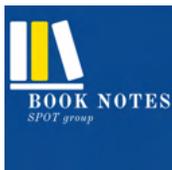
Cancellation: If you make a reservation and do not cancel before 9:00 am on the day of the presentation, we must ask that you pay.





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

December 7, 2021 10 a.m.

Book: *The Mad Women's Ball* by Victoria Mas

This month, we'll discuss another best-selling author: Victoria Mas's book, *The Mad Women's Ball*. The setting is the Salpetriere, a famous mental institution in Paris, circa 1885, where a dance is held for the patients to enjoy and for guests to observe. The book is a captivating historical thriller with enough twists and turns (including hypnotism and "spirits" of the ethereal kind) to keep readers engaged to the end. We will have a special guest, Dr. Jess Wright, who will lend a professional's point of view to this dark, sumptuous tale. You won't want to miss this discussion.

We welcome all readers and people who love to read. Happy reading!

For information or to be added to our mailing list, please contact: Larry Sloan at larry.sloan@yahoo.com Susanne Wright at sjwright@iglou.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.



2nd Act

2nd Act is on hiatus, for more information in the meantime, contact Susan Langford, toursplus@aol.com or (502) 897-3789.



Paint SPOT

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



Dinner Groups

Dinner groups are currently on hiatus. If you have questions, please contact the church office.



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.



Pilates

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

For Your Information

From the November 18, 2021 meeting:

- The Reopening Task Group reported that we will continue with our current policy of highly recommending mask wearing through the holidays due to increased attendance and the current high infection rates.
- The Long-Range Planning Group continues to meet and discuss ideas for long range goals for the church as we move into the future.
- Technology update: Due to the supply chain problems, we are waiting for parts in order to complete the technology upgrades.
- Church Nominating Committee: The committee is currently meeting to name the pastor nominating committee for the associate pastor position. The nominating committee will be comprised of a group of people that will fairly represent the congregation as a whole.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Clark, *Clerk of Session*

A note from the Stewardship Committee

Statements for third quarter activity (only) are being mailed out this week. Please review them and submit any corrections to Jackie in the office.

A gentle reminder: please always indicate what your gift is for in the memo area of your check. Examples include:

- 2021 Pledge or 2022 Pledge
- Per capita
- Concert Series
- Mission of the Month

Thank you all for your generous support of Second and its ministries!



Second Thoughts (UPS 488-060). Published Monthly.

Postmaster, send address changes to:

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Elizabeth Clay Parish Associate
eclay@2ndpreslou.org

Paula Roberts Organist Emerita

passages

We remember in prayer...

Jean Herp and her family on the loss of her Aunt, Betsy Grey, 11/19/2021.

Charlie Castner and his family on the death of his brother, Henry Castner, 11/19/21.

Ruth Fitzwater and her family on the death of her brother, Roy Fitzwater, 10/30/21.

Ellie Davis and her family on the death of her uncle, Rev. Gary L. Marks, 10/28/21.