

SECOND EDITION

December 2016



On Second Thought...

Let's play a game of word association. I'll say a word and you say the first word that comes into your mind. Ready? Holiday: _____. Family: _____. Christmas: _____. I don't know what word (or words) you chose, but there's one word that fits well into all those blanks. Tradition.

This time of year brings with it lots of traditions; traditions that make the holidays feel like the holidays and traditions that, if not observed in some way, can be keenly missed. Growing up there was the smell of the cookies mom made, dad starting his shopping on Christmas Eve, always opening one present on Christmas Eve (a pair of pajamas from Uncle Frank and Aunt Rip), getting to drink Coca-Cola with breakfast on Christmas Day, going to the Christmas Day family worship service at church, then spending the afternoon at my grandmother's house with all of my cousins, aunts, and uncles.

For 20 years the family that lived next door to us growing up invited our family to their home on Christmas Eve. Not just our immediate family, but they opened their home to our extended family, as well. Through the years that became Christmas for us. Then in 2007 the mother of that family passed away. That year our family celebrated Christmas Eve in our own home, with no extended family. My father, in a unilateral and earth-shaking decision, announced that we needed to shake things up and that he was going to grill steaks, instead of the traditional Turkey dinner. And you know what? It was delightful! Thus, a new tradition was born. Sometimes traditions change.

I once heard Lou Holtz say, "Tradition is always under construction." What an interesting statement. I think what he is getting at is that part of what makes our traditions so special is the history behind them, but we must always be aware of the need to adapt our traditions to current circumstances for them to remain relevant. We must never forget the reason behind the tradition; what causes us to establish the tradition in the first place. If external circumstances change, we must look at the underlying reason and ask ourselves, "What is really important here? And how do we go about emphasizing that?" If a few changes need to be made to do that, then it just

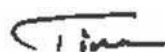
gives more people an opportunity to be involved in the construction of the tradition.

One of our most beloved traditions here at Second Presbyterian Church is our Christmas Eve worship. Many people come to the service, many that are not even part of our church family, and that is a wonderful thing. In the past there have often been two services; this year there will be only one at 7:00 p.m. As December 25th falls on a Sunday morning, we also have a unique opportunity this year to celebrate not only Christmas Eve with our church family, but Christmas morning as well. Can you think of a better way to celebrate the birth of Jesus than by coming to church on Christmas morning?

I know that many of you have your own Christmas morning traditions – presents and breakfast, toys and games, reading the paper or going to grandma's. But I ask you, what is behind all the traditions? What is it that is really important here and how do we go about emphasizing that? "Jesus is the reason for the season," the saying goes and we need that saying to remind us that Christmas is not about presents and parties and cooking and reunions and decorations, as important and lovely as those things are.

We will gather in the sanctuary on Christmas morning for one worship service at 10:00 to sing our favorite Christmas carols, hear the joyful news of our Savior's birth, and to hear about how some of our most beloved Christmas traditions came to be. We will come together as a church family to celebrate Emmanuel – God with Us! What a wonderful way to spend the morning. I look forward to being with you on Christmas Day, on Christmas Eve, and throughout the entire Advent season.

Grace and peace...



Pastor Tim





inside this edition

DECEMBER

4	worship
7	fellowship & congregational care
17	200th anniversary
18	preschool
19	spiritual formation
20	service & outreach
22	church business

AN ADVENT SERMON SERIES

THE GHOSTS OF CHRISTMAS

BEGINNING NOVEMBER 27



Second Presbyterian Church presents an Advent Sermon Series based on Charles Dickens' beloved tale, A Christmas Carol. The series is called Ghosts of Christmas and seeks to discover what this classic Christmas story, which is as relevant as it has ever been, says to us today as we examine, one by one, the ghosts that appear to Ebenezer Scrooge. Perhaps we, ourselves, will be haunted by these ghosts as we prepare for the coming of Christmas.

Advent Worship and Fellowship Opportunities

December 11th	Christmas Caroling to Shut-ins	3:00 p.m.
December 14th	Wednesday Night Celebration	6:00 p.m.
December 24th	Carol & Candlelight Service	7:00 p.m.
December 25th	Christmas Day Worship	10:00 a.m.
January 1st	Covenant Renewal Service	11:00 a.m.



Christmas Day

This year Christmas Day falls on a Sunday. Sunday School will be cancelled and worship will be at 10:00 a.m. It will be a Service of Lessons, Carols and Traditions and we will have the opportunity to sing many of our most beloved Christmas carols, along with learning about some of our most cherished Christmas Traditions. Start a new family tradition by celebrating the birth of our Lord in worship together.

New Year's Day

On Sunday, January 1st, we will celebrate a Covenant Renewal Service. The first of the year is the perfect opportunity for us to renew our covenant with God and hear of God's covenant faithfulness to us. Yes – we know it is the day after New Year's Eve! But that won't stop us from ringing in the New Year in the most appropriate way possible – by rededicating ourselves to God and God's mission in the world!

Pledge Cards

If you have not yet turned in your stewardship pledge for 2017, you may do so by mailing it to the church office, dropping it off during office hours, or placing it in the offering plate on Sunday. Extra pledge cards are available in the Atrium and narthex. Your support for the mission and ministry of Second Presbyterian Church is needed and appreciated.

Poinsettias in the Sanctuary

Please find the poinsettia reservation form included in this issue of the Second Edition. You may also pick up a reservation form in the narthex or the atrium to place a poinsettia in the sanctuary or make a contribution toward the cost of decorating the church.



Pastor Tim's installation commission — Left to right: Terry Crow (ruling elder, Westminster Presbyterian Church), Mancil Milligan (ruling elder, 2nd Pres), Matt Ribble (ruling elder, Graystone P.C.), Jennifer Fouse (teaching elder, Foothills Presbytery), Tim, Wendy Neff (teaching elder, Bethel P.C.), Bill Barron (teaching elder, Honorably Retired), and Andy Morgan (teaching elder, UTK UKirk ministry).



FIRESIDE CHATS WITH TIM

Our Fireside Chats continue in December and January. These small group meetings will be hosted both in homes and at the church and are an opportunity for deeper conversation in a more intimate setting than large group functions allow. Each meeting is being hosted by a member of the congregation and is limited to no more than 15 people.

Coffee and light refreshments will be served and each meeting should last around 90 minutes. At the meetings Pastor Tim will be asking questions about our experiences at Second Presbyterian Church and about our hopes and dreams for the future of our congregation. This is a wonderful opportunity for Tim to get to know us and to learn our stories. It is our hope and desire that everyone will attend one of these meetings.

The schedule of meetings, along with the location and the hosts, can be accessed on the church website. You can sign up on the website, in the atrium on Sunday mornings, by calling Sarah Doyle at the church, or stopping by the church office during the week.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



The four new members: Seth Reynolds, Tuesday Reynolds, Margaret Walther (in front) and Cathy Gray.



Cathy Gray

A native of Sevier County, Cathy worked for several years in Real Estate and administration. She was an administrative assistant for ten years at Science Hill High School, Johnson City, Tennessee. She has been employed by South College since 2011 in the School of Pharmacy and serves as the Student Records Coordinator. Jim is an Honorably Retired member of the Presbytery of East Tennessee, serving on the Congregational Development Team. A graduate of Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary, he served churches in Tennessee and North Carolina. Jim enjoys woodworking and is a volunteer with Prison Visitation and Support (Philadelphia) at the US Prison McCreary in Pine Knot, Kentucky. Jim and Cathy have three children, Jason, Shawn, and Ashlee.



Margaret Walther

Margaret was born and raised in Toledo, Ohio. She spent a number of years in northern New York (primarily Rochester), but has also lived in Colorado and Ohio. Margaret lived in Tennessee for 16 years, moving away in 2010, but moved back in 2014. She is a retired nurse and has three children and six grandchildren. She enjoys her church, music, cooking and reading.



Tuesday and Seth Reynolds

Tuesday Reynolds was born and raised in Blountville, TN. She spent most of her 20's as a professional singer & dancer and the highlight of her career was singing on The Grand Ole Opry. Tuesday received a degree in Special Education from Cumberland University and spent the last 15 years in the school system serving students with special needs. She currently works with Project Search, an internship program at East Tennessee Children's Hospital for adults with developmental disabilities. Her most important job, however, is being a mother to Seth and Lily.

Seth Reynolds is a 15 year-old Sophomore at Bearden High School. He plays trombone in the Bearden Band and hopes to play soccer for the Bulldogs in the spring. Seth enjoys hiking, science fiction books and movies, playing Disc Golf, UT football and basketball, watching The Walking Dead, and, of course, video games. He was born in Atlanta, where his dad was in seminary at the time, and is an avid fan of the Atlanta Falcons!

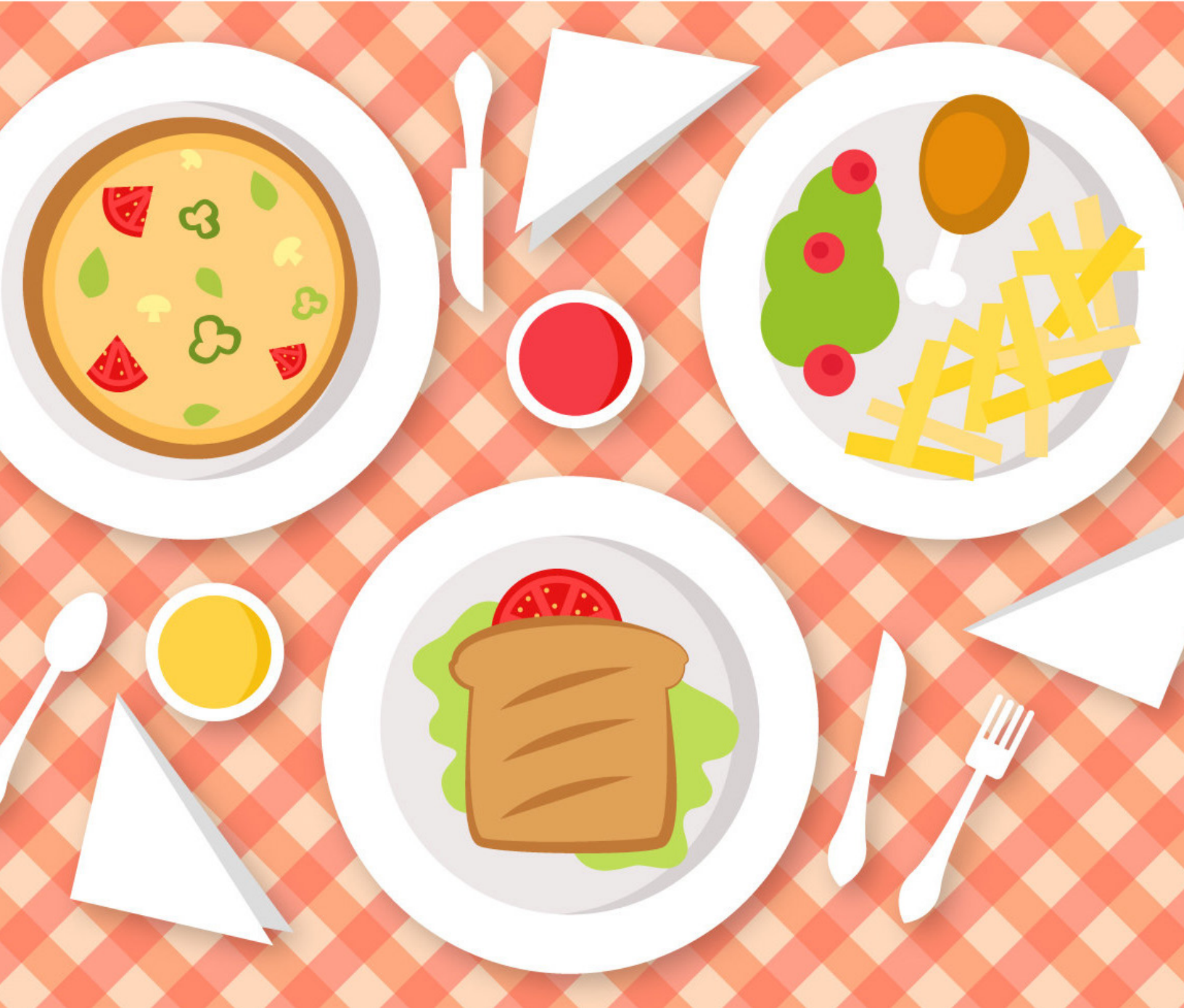




Young Adult Meals **Volunteers Needed!**

The Evangelism and Church Growth Team is seeking hosts to help with **a new ministry to Young Adults on Sundays**. Starting in January, any college student or young adult who would like to enjoy some fellowship and share a meal together will be invited to **meet after worship for lunch at a local restaurant**. Each Sunday the congregation will provide a host, or hosts, who will choose the restaurant and accompany the group. The host will pay for the meal and be reimbursed by the church.

We will have a training session in December for hosts so that we can begin this ministry as soon as the students return from Christmas break. **If you are interested in being a host, please contact Dana Hendrix** (dhendrix@aol.com) **or Pastor Tim** (treynolds@2ndpres.org) and let them know. Nothing is required except a friendly personality and a desire to be around young people!



December Lunch Bunch

Ecumenical Bell Ringers - directed by
Ric Sidey, the former choirmaster at
St. John's Episcopal Church

Tuesday, December 6 at 11:30 a.m.

Presbyterian Women

Presents:

“Singing and Ringing”

Featuring: Coke Morgan



Tuesday December 13th at 11:30

Lunch is only \$10.

For almost twenty years Coke made his living as an opera singer and actor who was based out of Los Angeles and New York City. Currently, he is a Communications Associate at Fellowship Church in Knoxville and also teaches voice.

Coke is no stranger to Second Presbyterian Church members and guests. He is well-known for his beautiful singing and sharing of his faith. He has had leading roles in recent community theatre productions and will be singing in the Nativity Pageant. After years of working in New York City, Knoxville is fortunate to have him back and SPC Presbyterian Women is blessed to have him perform for our December luncheon.

Coke Morgan



Preceding and following Coke's performance ("warm-up" group and finale) Presbyterian Women is pleased to have handbell duets by Jan Barber and Arlys Milligan. Brenda Goslee, Second Presbyterian Church (SPC) Organist will accompany the performers on piano.

Don't miss this very special event!!

**If you are not in a PW Circle, contact Liz Peebles for a reservation by Thursday December 8th.
enp3613@gmail.com; phone: 247-4503 or 660-9597 (cell)**



January 10, 2017

Presbyterian Women

Lunch 11:30 (\$10)

Back by popular demand!

WordPlayers,

Company of Christian theatre artists,
will be back for an encore performance
featuring a new skit

and

a new theme for Playback.

This was a lot of fun last year.

Plan on being present for the Encore.



THANK YOU!

The Mission Committee wants to thank everyone who made Second Presbyterian Church's return to participation in Operation Christmas Child a success.

First of all, we are grateful to Mary Farmer for taking charge of the event—suggesting participation, coordinating, obtaining materials, publicizing, setting up the collection area in the Atrium, and then with publicity, logistics, Etc.

Last, but certainly not least, a **BIG THANK YOU** to everyone who shopped for and filled one or more boxes and to all who made shipping donations.

44 boxes have been brought to the church.

You have brightened the Christmas Season for a child (and probably yourself as well.) It is a very worthwhile and also satisfying experience.





MARIANN & JIM THUESEN WANT TO

thank you

FOR THE CALLS, CARDS, VISITS, FOOD AND WELL WISHES THAT
BROUGHT MARIANN COMFORT AND HELPED HER TO HEAL.



DEAR SPC MEMBERS,

THANK YOU

FOR THE CARDS, COOKIES, LETTERS, VISITS AND
PRAYERS WHEN I WAS SICK. I CANNOT EXPRESS
HOW GRATEFUL I AM FOR YOU AND I WOULD BE
GLAD TO DO ANYTHING IN RETURN FOR THE
KINDNESS AND SUPPORT YOU HAVE SHOWN ME.

DON OWENS

2nd Readers

When? *Wednesday, December 21*
Time? 12:00p.m.
Where? Luncheon at the home of
 Caroline Buckner
Title: Mr. Ives Christmas
Author: Oscar Hijuelos
Leader: Group

When? *Wednesday, January 18*
Where? TBD
Time? 3:45p.m.
Title: An Invisible Thread
Author: Laura Schroff
Leader: Catherine Beals



The Congregational Care Committee

would like to express gratitude and a special thank you to all those who contributed to Pastor Tim's installation reception on October 23rd.



December Birthdays

Kylie Beets	12/01	John Matlock	12/21
Janet Bower	12/01	Lynda May	12/22
Barbara Bragg	12/01	Emily Tinsley	12/22
Thew Warren	12/02	Betty Copeland	12/23
Anne McWhirter	12/04	Ileen Cheek	12/24
Eric Wallace	12/10	Carl Ensor	12/28
Allan Bartlett	12/15	Abraham Ullrich	12/29
Jean Clark	12/16	Emily Jones	12/31
Nettie Downen	12/18		



The Christmas Joy Offering

will be received on December 18, 24, and 25. It will be divided between the following two programs: 50% to the Board of Pensions assistance to Presbyterian Church workers and their families and 50% to Presbyterian related racial ethnic schools and colleges.

From Your 200th Anniversary Committee

Co-Chairs, Arvillee and Helen Grant

Christmas greetings from the 200th Anniversary Committee! We pause in our continuing series of Second Edition articles featuring snippets from our church's past.

In September and November 2016, we printed Part One and Part Two of Second Presbyterian Church's "prehistory" entitled, "Before There Was a Second Presbyterian Church." In the January 2017 issue of the Second Edition we will conclude the "prehistory" with Part Three which summarizes the movements of the Scot-Irish immigrants in America who became the founders of Knoxville/Knox County and established its first Presbyterian Churches in the late 1700s. Beginning in February 2017, we will resume monthly articles covering parts of our church's history beyond the coverage in our two existing histories (copies of which are in our church library).

The Committee invites you to read the following Christmas memory from one of our Committee members, Leslie Testerman, who describes a favorite memory in her family "treasures" which took place in Second Presbyterian Church's third building located on Church Street in the spot downtown where the Knox County Public Library's main library sits today.

Leslie's personal memory is just the first of many memories the Committee hopes to collect from all of you as we move toward our anniversary celebration in October 2018. Please begin to rummage in your own memory bank about events related in some way to Second Church that hold a special place in your heart.

The recording of these memories will preserve so much of the congregational life of the church beyond statistics, Session minutes, and newspaper accounts. We know that you have special memories that describe Second Church's past in a very warm and special way. Please share them with us so that those memories can live on as a part of Second Church's future. Call us at 693-1980 or leave a message in the 200th Anniversary Committee's box in the church's workroom.



A CHRISTMAS ROSE—This tableau of the Scheur-
enberg painting, "Madonna, Child and Shepherd Boy,"
will be presented at a 3:30 p. m. Sunday service at
Second Presbyterian Church. The Madonna is Mrs.
John W. Testerman; the Child, John Wesley Testerman
Jr., 5-month-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Testerman, and
the Shepherd Boy who offers a rose, John H. Leshar Jr.,
son of Dr. and Mrs. Leshar.

A Favorite Christmas Memory

by Leslie Testerman

It was December 1955, and we, John Jr. (5 months old), and myself were asked to portray Mary and Baby Jesus in the Christmas tableau at Second Presbyterian Church downtown on Church Street.

We dressed in appropriate costume and waited in the adjoining room for our particular tableau to be presented. The little children, who were also in our tableau, surrounded baby John, hugging him. One precious little girl even kissed him on the cheek.

We were positioned and waited for the HUGE opaque glass window/partition that separated a classroom from the sanctuary to descend. (That window/partition was lowered on occasion for an overflow crowd in the sanctuary; it was raised to accommodate meetings and classroom use—it did make a grinding noise when lowered!)

While we sat as still as possible, scripture was read, and everyone sang "Silent Night". It was a very special, meaningful occasion for us. There was even a photo in the newspaper.

A few days later, John Jr. broke out with Chicken Pox. It was a light case.



Thank A Teacher projects at the preschool



Musical and Auction!

The Preschool of 2nd will be having a Preschool Musical on Thursday 12/8/16 at 5:30pm. All of our preschool friends from Infants to Preschool will be sharing their musical voices as we celebrate the birth of our Savior! Our preschool will also be hosting the 2nd annual Teacher Auction to benefit our scholarship fund this same evening. Many of our teachers will be offering their services such as babysitting and other fun things to be auctioned off with all proceeds going to our scholarship fund. Please join us for a fun and exciting evening.



Preschool students working on their Thank A Teacher projects

WEDNESDAY NIGHT ACTIVITIES ON CHRISTMAS BREAK

Our final Wednesday night dinner and fellowship of the year will be on December 14th. We will gather for dinner as we normally do. At 6:00 p.m. the children of our Preschool will present a Christmas program, followed by a short skit, and then our own Chancel Choir presenting a program of Christmas music. Even if you don't want to come for dinner we hope that you can join us for the program at 6:00 p.m. Wednesday activities will then be on Christmas break. We will resume our regular schedule on Wednesday, January 11th.

Calling All Carolers

Christina Gore and Jan Barber are looking for a small group of folks willing to go Christmas Caroling with the youth on Sunday afternoon, December 11th, at 3:00p.m. Jan will set up a few home visits to our shut ins and we hope to sing 3-4 carols at each house. Adult carolers may be called on to help with transportation depending on the number of volunteers. If you are interested, please contact Jan at 765-0437 to sign up.



West View Angel Tree

Providing gifts for needy children

The staff at West View has identified eight students who need Christmas gifts due to home and family situations. There is a tree in the atrium with paper ornaments attached. Each child has five ornaments with sex, age, and gifts needed on it. Please take one or more ornaments, buy the gifts, wrap them, and place them under the tree before December 18th.

The Mission Committee asks for generous support - remembering that, "It is more blessed to give than to receive."





Outdoor Work Day

Second Presbyterian Church

Saturday, December 10th

8:30a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Highlights from the October Session Meeting

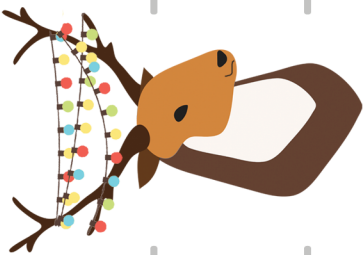
- Approved the Minutes of the Stated Session Meeting on October 18, 2016 and the Called Session Meeting on November 13, 2016.
- Received reports from the Deacons and church committees as information.
- Received the financial report from the Treasurer.
- Approved using any loose money in the Christmas Eve Offering for the PCUSA Joy Offering.
- Approved 7:00pm as the time of the December 24th Christmas Eve Service.
- Approved a gift in appreciation for the Pre-School Staff Members.
- Received the report from Neal Peebles on the Presbytery of East Tennessee November Meeting.

Church Financial Report

Period ended Oct. 31, 2016	Jan-Oct. 2016 Actual	Jan-Oct. 2016 Budget	2016 Annual Budget
Pledged Offerings	\$356,048	\$386,972	\$464,366
Non-pledged Offerings	\$82,703	\$25,000	\$30,000
Preschool	\$28,999	\$26,667	\$32,000
Other	\$125,631	\$119,511	\$143,414
TOTAL GIVING	\$593,381	\$558,150	\$669,780
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$540,585	\$558,150	\$669,780
NET	\$52,796	\$0	\$0



2016



DECEMBER

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
4 Communion Sunday School 9:30 Fellowship Time 10:30 Worship 11:00	5 Officer Nominating Committee 5:00 Men's BSF 5:30	6 Joy Singers 10:30 Lunch Bunch 11:30 Facilities committee meeting 5:00 Committee meetings 6:00 Line Dancing 6:00 Boy Scouts 7:00	Email Blast Submissions Due Line Dancing 10:00 PET brown bag lunch 12:00 Wed. Night Dinner 5:30 David Goslee's Class Women's CG 6:00 Chancel Ringers 6:00 Chancel Choir 6:45	1 Rhythmic movement 10:30 Margret Orr memorial 1:00	Church office closed TIPS 3:00	2 Church office closed TIPS 3:00
11 Sunday School 9:30 Fellowship Time 10:30 Worship 11:00 Youth Caroling 3:00	12 Officer Nominating Committee 5:00 Men's BSF 5:30	13 PW Board meeting 9:30 PW Circles 10:15 Joy Singers 10:30 PW Lunch 11:30 Joint Session/Diaconate 6:00 Line Dancing 6:00 Boy Scouts 7:00	Email Blast Submissions Due Line Dancing 10:00 Wed. Night Dinner 5:30 Program- Preschool, Choir 6:00	8 Rhythmic movement 10:30 Preschool program 5:30	Church office closed	9 Church office closed Work Day 8:30
18 Sunday School 9:30 Fellowship Time 10:30 Worship 11:00	19 The Cross Ministry Board Meeting 4:30 Officer Nominating Committee 5:00	Second Edition Submissions Due Joy Singers 10:30 Line Dancing 6:00 Boy Scouts 7:00	Email Blast Submissions Due Chancel Ringers 6:00 Chancel Choir 6:45	15 Rhythmic movement 10:30	Church office closed	16 Church office closed Christmas Eve Service 7:00pm
MERRY CHRISTMAS DAY! 25 Worship 10:00am	26 Church office closed	27 Line Dancing 6:00 Boy Scouts 7:00	Email Blast Submissions Due	29 Rhythmic movement 10:30	Church office closed	30 Church office closed New Year's Eve





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THE SECOND EDITION
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

ELDERS

2017 CLASS

Kim Elrod
Mancil Milligan
Neal Peebles

2018 CLASS

Dick Dodson
Dana Hendrix
Lisa Henley

2019 CLASS

Ed Batts
Donna Matlock
Tim Wright

Rev. Tim Reynolds,
Moderator
Nancy Montgomery, Clerk

"Ruling elders, together with teaching elders (pastors), exercise leadership, government, spiritual discernment, and discipline and have responsibilities for the life of a congregation as well as the whole church, including ecumenical relationships."
PC(USA) Book of Order G-2.0301

DEACONS

2017 CLASS

Cleston Jones
John Reynolds
Laura Turner

2018 CLASS

Sandra Butler
Charlotte Klieman
Marty McLean

2019 CLASS

Jim Ford
Angela Jones
Lily Wu

Cleston Jones, Moderator
Sandra Butler, Clerk

"The ministry of deacon as set forth in Scripture is one of compassion, witness, and service, sharing in the redeeming love of Jesus Christ for the poor, the hungry, the sick, the lost, the friendless, the oppressed, those burdened by unjust policies or structures, or anyone in distress."

PC(USA) Book of Order G-2.0201

**COMMITTEES
AND CHAIRPERSONS**

Christian Education
Elder Ed Batts

Congregational Care
Elder Kim Elrod

Evangelism
Elder Dana Hendrix

Facilities/Security
Elder Neal Peebles

Missions
Elder Donna Matlock

Personnel/Stewardship
Elder Lisa Henley

Worship & Music
Elder Ed Batts

Endowment
Mancil Milligan