

# SECOND EDITION

FEBRUARY 2024

FEBRUARY

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SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH - [WWW.2NDPRES.ORG](http://WWW.2NDPRES.ORG)

# ON SECOND

## Thought...



Thanks to a quirk of the earth's orbit and the combined efforts of Roman Emperor Julius Caesar and 16th century Pope Gregory XIII, every four years we add an extra day to the end of February to create a leap year. As this happens to be one of those "every fourth years," I've been thinking about Leap Day celebrations.

Although women are now free to propose marriage to their partner at any time they choose, for centuries it was solely the gentleman's prerogative. Since the 5th century, however, tradition has held that on February 29th women could turn the tables and propose marriage to their sweetheart. Scottish women intending to propose marriage would wear red petticoats to give their love fair warning and any Scottish man who refused a proposal from a woman on February 29th could be fined. In Denmark, if a man refused a woman's proposal on Leap Day, he had to furnish her with 12 pairs of gloves. In Finland, a man who declined a proposal had to provide enough fabric to make a skirt.

Speaking of proposals, here's a Leap Year story of a different kind of proposal. People who are born on February 29th are known as leaplings. In 1988, Mary Ann Brown and Birdie Lewis, two leaplings living in Anthony, a town that straddles the Texas-New Mexico border, approached the town council

with a proposal to create a festival to celebrate Leap Day and their fellow leaplings. The festival was approved and the town of Anthony is now known as the Leap Year Capital of the World. Every four years leaplings and their families travel from all over the world for a four-day-long festival featuring music, food, vendors, and fun.

I love that two people saw something that wasn't being done that they thought should be done, and so they just made a proposal to do it and did it. That's the way we should be! If we see something or think of something that needs doing, we don't have to wait around for someone else to make it happen. Like those leaplings in Anthony – or those women proposing marriage – we can make it happen ourselves!

What things have you been thinking about that need doing? How can you make it happen? Leap to it!

Grace and peace...

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# UPCOMING SERMON TEXTS & TOPICS

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and with it we will begin a new sermon series – Jesus' Most Pointed Questions. Jesus is often thought of as giving answers but, actually, he's full of questions. Even as a boy he was found sitting among the teachers in the temple asking them questions. (Luke 2:47) In fact, Jesus is recorded as asking 307 questions in the Gospels. Some of them are easily answered while others have no obvious answer. And some of them are more important – more pointed – than others. This Lenten season, we will be looking at 9 of Jesus' Most Pointed Questions to see how they might help us on our Lenten journey of self-reflection.

February 4th	Colossians 2:4-23	Christianity Made Simple: Spirituality Made Simple
February 11th	Colossians 3:1-17	Christianity Made Simple: Living the Christian Life
February 14th	John 1:35-42	Jesus' Most Pointed Questions: What Are You Looking For?
February 18th	Mark 10:35-52	Jesus' Most Pointed Questions: What Do You Want Me to Do?
February 25th	John 5:1-15	Jesus' Most Pointed Questions: Do You Want to Be Made Well?



## 2nd Wednesday Dinner & Ash Wednesday Service FEBRUARY 14TH



The season of Lent begins on Wednesday, February 14th. This is also a 2nd Wednesday, so we will have our regular 2nd Wednesday dinner\* at 6:00 p.m. Following the meal, we will celebrate Ash Wednesday at 6:45 p.m. with a service of Imposition of Ashes in the Sanctuary.

\*Menu: Kathy Duggan and Margaret Walther will be preparing the dinner which will be a baked potato bar (with various toppings including chili) and a green salad. Please bring a dessert to share with others




**2nd Presbyterian Church** will once again be joining with other houses of worship in Knoxville to celebrate and proclaim messages of Love during February. In a world of so much divisiveness, the Purpose of the **Love Your Neighbor (LYN)** initiative is to help our community realize there are far more common core values that unite us than there are that divide us. We believe an effective way to do that is to profess a unified message of love, respect, and kindness for each other from our diverse religious bodies.

This is the fourth year we have joined with other congregations to highlight a message of love during February and this year we are also joining together for a community-wide service project. This year we are loving our neighbors by collecting food for Second Harvest Food Bank from Feb. 1-22. This is traditionally the slowest month of the year for 2nd Harvest collections. Your donation may be left in the Atrium at the church.

# SCOUT SUNDAY

## FEBRUARY 4TH



For over 100 years Boy Scouts has enjoyed the support of religious organizations. Our Troop 6 was founded on January 29, 1915, and is the oldest troop in the Great Smoky Mountain Council. Second Presbyterian Church has been the charter organization since 1916. Together we have enriched the spiritual lives of youth for over four generations. We will celebrate this long history of common service together, as members of Troop 6, and their families will join us in worship.



# Happy Birthday!

**02.01** LINDSAY CASEY  
**02.09** NEAL PEEBLES  
**02.11** CAMERON KITE  
**02.12** BOBBIE DENTON  
**02.12** PHYLLIS ROBINSON  
**02.13** GARRETT KITE  
**02.14** BECCA KITE  
**02.14** CHRISTINA YOUNG  
**02.16** MARGARET WALTHER  
**02.19** PATTON LEWIS  
**02.21** ANDREW BUTLER  
**02.23** LEONARD BAILEY  
**02.24** BILL RAGSDALE  
**02.24** DOUG BARBOUR  
**02.29** HALEY WALL

**IF WE INADVERTENTLY MISSED SOMEONE...HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**  
PLEASE HELP US UPDATE OUR RECORDS SO WE'LL HAVE YOUR SPECIAL DAY ON FILE.

**ANNUAL  
CONGREGATIONAL  
MEETING**



**SOUPER  
BOWL**



**The Annual Congregational Meeting will take place following worship on Sunday, February 11th.**

The meeting will be held in conjunction with our annual Souper Bowl fundraiser and luncheon. The luncheon and the meeting will take place in the Fellowship Hall. An electronic signup sheet has been created so you can sign up to let us know what kind of soup you are bringing to share with everyone. A link to the signup is on the home page of our website or you can scan the QR Code here. If you don't want to sign up electronically, just call the church office and let us know. Our young people will be collecting canned goods and/or monetary donations for hunger relief in our community.





JOIN US FEBRUARY 14TH  
@ 11:30 A.M. / LIBRARY



The February book is  
The Marriage Portrait by Maggie O'Farrell.  
Leslie Matthews will lead the discussion.

Bring your lunch, and thoughts,  
and let's have a good time of fellowship!

## PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN RESUMES STUDY YEAR FEBRUARY 13, 2024

On Tuesday, February 13, at 10:00 in the Fellowship Hall, the Presbyterian Women's group at Second Church will resume its monthly meetings after a bad weather break in January. We invite all church members and visitors, both men and women, to attend if you have a couple of daytime hours to share with other 2nd church folks. Wintertime gives us a special need to interact, socialize, and learn together. Gather with us to share the joy of Christian music, mission outreach, and Bible study.

1. Our very talented church organist attends each meeting to share with us the story and music of a favorite hymn.
2. Our Feb. mission outreach introduces a very simple and cost-free way to provide the homeless some small comfort in a very bleak environment.
3. The Bible study continues a study of Jesus' outreach to one of God's least ones—a disabled man who cannot care for himself. ACTS 3:1-10.

Join us—we need your presence as one of God's children!

PRESBYTERIAN  
WOMEN

# MORTON'S BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION



## 2023 FISH NUMBERS REPORT

We are in operation once a month, every 4th Tuesday, taking phone calls, fulfilling orders (picking and packing), sorting for delivery areas, and delivering those items directly to individual households in public housing, single-family homes, apartments, trailers, and motels.

- What we stock, pack, and deliver: dry and canned goods, shelf-stable milk, bread, household supplies, personal toiletries, adult and child disposable diapers, and pet food
- 2023 households served: **253**, for an average of **21/month**
- 2023 total people served: **1,015** for an average of **85/month** and an average **household of four**

### How YOU can support our decades-long Fish Pantry mission:

- 1) Volunteer to pick and pack, deliver, or both. It's just one day/month (always the 4th Tuesday) for a few hours. The number of households we deliver to is limited only by the number of people available to participate as drivers and co-drivers.
- 2) Donate to the Fish Pantry designated fund via Realm (click Fish in the drop-down) or by check (Fish in the memo line). All purchased food (primarily from Second Harvest) and other items are paid for out of this fund, not from the church operating budget.
- 3) Track the toiletries needs list in the Friday emails and purchase those items online for delivery to the church, or buy local and drop in the Fish bin in the hallway between the atrium and the kitchen.



# GO TEAM REPORT

## January 2024

The **GO Team** is responsible for extending the ministry of 2nd Presbyterian beyond the church walls, both locally and globally, through financial donations and volunteer activities. They rely on the generosity of the congregation to fund their efforts and welcome recommendations for donations and volunteer opportunities.

The **GO Team** provides monthly reports to the congregation on their charitable disbursements and volunteer activities.

January is not a big month for financial disbursements since the church budget has not been finalized. However, two disbursements were made:

- **Presbytery of East Tennessee** - \$1,100. This will be the monthly disbursement for the year for a total of \$13,200. Each year PET suggests and requests an appropriate amount as a Pledge/Support from each church.
- **Utopia Foundation** - \$3,000. This is the amount required in January each year as Michael Marks' tuition. Michael attends an international boarding school in Tanzania and Second Pres. has supported his education for several years. He is doing well in his studies and is involved in athletics as well. Michael is a child from Saint Marks Children's Home and Orphanage which serves the Maasai community. Robert Marks Moshi, Director of Saint Marks, visited us in 2023. Utopia Foundation in the U.S. accepts and forwards donations to Saint Mark's. For more information visit <https://www.utopiafound.org/programs/st-marks-childrens-home>



## VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES FOR NOVEMBER, DECEMBER, AND JANUARY



- **November 29** – 5 volunteers prepared 500+ meals for delivery at the Love Kitchen. In addition, the group packed 250 bags of special items to accompany food deliveries and sorted fruit donations.
- **December 29** – 4 volunteers served breakfast to 24 people in the Family Resource Center at Volunteer Ministry Center (VMC).
- **January 3** – 2nd Pres. and Westminster Pres. jointly provided a breakfast for the teachers at West View Elementary School. This was a work day before the start of classes. This was also an opportunity to

deliver and present the hats and gloves knitted by the craft group as well as those purchased and donated by the congregation.

- **January 17** - 7 volunteers for lunch at Knox Area Rescue Ministries (KARM). Cancelled for weather – rescheduled soon

**GOing and Serving in 2024 – Watch for volunteer opportunities**

## HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE DECEMBER ELECTRONIC MEETING AND JANUARY STATED SESSION MEETING

- Received the Treasurer's Report.
- Received reports from the Preschool and Ministry Teams as information.
- Approved the cost of renting a van for caroling on Sunday, December 17, 2023 be paid for from the Student Ministry Designated Fund.
- Elected Elder Mary Kay Sullivan to represent Second Presbyterian at the February Presbytery of East Tennessee Meeting.
- Approved the 2024 Budget.
- Renewed the Transitional Designated Associate Pastor Contract for 2024.



## DECEMBER BUDGET REPORT

	DECEMBER	YTD	BUDGET
<b>TOTAL GIVING</b>	\$83,539.72	\$848,261.09	\$784,417.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	\$75,985.21	\$781,001.29	\$819,176.00
<b>EXCESS(SHORTAGE)</b>	\$7,554.51	\$67,259.80	( \$ 34,759.00 )

# FEBRUARY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 1 p.m. GO team (Barbour Room)	2	3
4 9:15 a.m. Choir Practice 9:30 a.m. Elementary Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Faith, Science & The Future Sunday School (Barbour Room) 10:30 a.m. Worship	5 10 a.m. Staff Meeting (Barbour Room) 3 p.m. Budget Finance Coord 4:30 p.m. Cross Ministries Board Meeting (Barbour Room)	6 4:30 p.m. CONNECT team (Barbour Room) 5:00 p.m. Facilities Support (Zoom)	7 2 p.m. Compassionate Cuisine (Room) 6:30 p.m. Bible Study (Library)	8	9	10 10 a.m. Presbytery Meeting (Cook)
11 9:15 a.m. Choir Practice 9:30 a.m. Elementary Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Faith, Science & The Future Sunday School (Barbour Room) 10:30 a.m. Worship 11:30 p.m. Souper Bowl & Annual Meeting	12 CCR & C (Fellowship Hall)	13 10 a.m. Presbyterian Women (Fellowship Hall) 6:00 p.m. Worship team	14 11:30 a.m. 2nd Readers (Library) 6:00 p.m. 2nd Wednesday Dinner (Fellowship Hall) 7 p.m. Ash Wednesday Services (Sanctuary)	15 10 a.m. Arts & Crafts 1:00 p.m. Realm 102 (Small Conference Room)	16	17
18 9:15 a.m. Choir Practice 9:30 a.m. Elementary Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship	19 10 a.m. Staff Meeting (Barbour Room) 12:00 p.m. Preschool Board Meeting (Zoom)	20 6 p.m. Deadline for 2nd Edition Articles 6:00 p.m. Session Meeting (Barbour Room)	21 9 a.m. CCR&R (Fellowship Hall) 9 a.m. Realm 101 (Small Conference Room) 10 a.m. Realm 102 (Small Conference Room)	22 1200 p.m. Realm 101 (Small Conference Room)	23	24
25 9:15 a.m. Choir Practice 9:30 a.m. Elementary Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship	26	27 9 a.m. Fish Pantry (FF Barbour)	28 10 a.m. Realm leaders training (Small Conference Room) 6:30 p.m. Bible Study (Library)	29 10 a.m. Realm leaders training (Small Conference Room) 6:30 p.m. Bible Study (Library)		

The events included in this calendar will take place as listed if we are in COVID Phase Green or Yellow, BUT NOT if Red.

Please see the home page and calendar on our website, [2ndpres.org](https://2ndpres.org) with up-to-date information on COVID Phase changes and new criteria, as well as real-time calendar updates.



THE SECOND EDITION  
SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
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#### CLERGY STAFF

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*Responding in gratitude to God's love and grace,  
we are a welcoming, faithful, and hopeful community,  
following Jesus and serving him in the world.*

#### ELDERS

##### CLASS OF 2024

Ileen Cheek

Joe Clarke

Angela Jones

Mary Kay Sullivan

##### CLASS OF 2025

Zachary Burch

Lisa Henley

Elizabeth Seastrunk

Terry Weaver

##### CLASS OF 2026

Leonard Bailey

Doug Barbour

Monica Casey

Clara Hardin

#### MINISTRY TEAMS & MODERATORS

##### WORSHIP

Ileen Cheek

Elizabeth Seastrunk

##### CONNECT

Joe Clark

Terry Weaver

##### GROW

Zach Burch

Monica Casey

##### GO

Leonard Bailey

Clara Hardin

##### SUPPORT

Mary Kay Sullivan

Angela Jones

Doug Barbour

##### PRESCHOOL

Lisa Henley