



# **Second Edition**

**FEBRUARY 2022 ISSUE**

# On Second Thought...



Ah, February! The month when we celebrate love.

Our culture today seems obsessed with the idea of love. Songs, movies, dating apps, clothing, fragrances, advertising, cars, and entire industries revolve around the promise of fulfillment through the love of another person. The Beatles gave us the promise and hope quite succinctly (and repetitively):

*All you need is love, love is all you need.*

America has taken this to heart. As pastor Glenn McDonald writes: *In our society, true love is the ultimate prize. If the Bible says God is love, America says love is god.*

The Bible does, indeed, say that God is love. Not only that, the Bible says that God is the source of all love.

“This is love: it is not that we loved God but that God loved us. We are able to love because God first loved us.” (1 John 4:10&19)

The Bible also says a great many other things about love, as well, most of them being commands to love and instructions about how to love.

Perhaps you know that other cultures often have many different words for our single English word, love. The Greeks were one of these cultures and when Jesus talks about love or Paul writes about love, there are often different words with subtly different meanings that are used – all translated into English as the same word, love.

*Eros* is sexual love; *storge* is strong affection for; *philia* is friendship; and *agape* is a deep, abiding, unconditional, covenantal love. (The Greeks had others, but these are the ones used in the New Testament.)

The one most used to describe how God loves us and how God calls us to love him and others in return is *agape*. It was a word that was rarely used in Greek culture, maybe because it was so rarely seen or thought possible. When Paul writes about love in 1 Corinthians 13, this is the word he uses. *Agape* is the love we are called to show one another and the world. This can only be done if we recognize that the one and only source for this love in all the universe is God. And when God is the source, there is always more than enough love to go around.

There was a song written by Hal David and Burt Bacharach that was recorded and made popular in 1965 by Jackie DeShannon. Perhaps you remember it – *What the World Needs Now Is Love*. I don't know whether or not Mr. David had the idea of *agape* love in mind when he wrote the lyrics to this song. I do know, however, that the idea expressed in this song has never been more relevant than it is right now.

The world needs the *agape* love of God more than ever, needs to hear the message that God loves them unconditionally more than ever. More importantly, the world needs to *feel* God's *agape* love through the love of those who claim to know and love and follow him.

To that end, Second Presbyterian is excited to partner with other houses of worship along Kingston Pike for the third year in a row in the **Love Your Neighbor 2022** event on the weekend of February 11-13.

On this weekend, faith communities of various denominations will share an uplifting, affirming message that is centered on the power of love. We hope it will serve as a powerful signal to Knoxville that our diverse faith communities always have more in common than we have that divides us.

We have a limited number of yard signs available, should you like to place one in your yard to advertise the event. There will also be a sign in front of our church on Kingston Pike advertising our participation in this event.

I hope that you make plans to join us for worship that weekend – even if we are still virtual – as we proclaim the power and the unity of God's love. I can't think of a more important message for our world right now.

Grace and peace...

A simple, stylized signature or mark, possibly a cursive 'J' or a similar character, written in black ink.



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# Upcoming Sermon Texts and Topics

We are currently following the Revised Common Lectionary, the shared three-year-cycle of Bible readings used across many different denominations from multiple nations around the globe. If you would like to engage with your own lectionary resources in preparation, we are currently in Year C.

|               |                       |                           |
|---------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| FEBRUARY 6TH  | 1 CORINTHIANS 15:1-11 | GOD'S GRACE               |
| FEBRUARY 13TH | 1 CORINTHIANS 13:1-13 | THE NATURE OF LOVE, PT. 1 |
| FEBRUARY 20TH | LUKE 6:27-38          | THE NATURE OF LOVE, PT. 2 |
| FEBRUARY 27TH | EXODUS 34:29-35       | THE VEILS WE WEAR         |



# ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The Annual Congregational Meeting will take place following worship on Sunday, February 13th, provided we have returned to Phase Orange by then. If we are still in Phase Red, the Session has set an alternate date for Sunday, February 27th. In either case, the meeting will be held in conjunction with the Souper Bowl fundraiser and luncheon. (So what if the Souper Bowl is a couple of weeks after the Super Bowl?) The luncheon and the meeting will take place in Hudson Hall.

**Mark your calendars now!**

On the agenda will be a recommendation to amend the By-laws, reducing the number of Directors of the Corporation (Ruling Elders on the Session) from 24 Directors divided into three classes of eight, to 12 Directors divided into three classes of four. This change needs to be made to reflect the current makeup of the Session.



# Organist Search Team Update

The organist search team has received 7 applications for the church organist position so far. We are in the process of screening and interviewing the applicants.

We feel that there are several viable candidates among the applicants and we invite the congregation to be in prayer for our discernment. We want to find the right person, not just the next person. Fortunately, Justin Brueggeman, who has been our guest organist for the last several weeks, is available on an interim basis through May, so we do not have to be in a hurry. However, we hope to fill the position by the spring.

If you have thoughts you would like to share with us, please let us know.

The members of the organist search team are: Margie Gill (chair), Sandra Butler, Kathryn Freeman, Matthew Mimbs, Marian Thuesen, Patricia Winger, and Tim Reynolds (ex officio).

# Supervised Ministry Intern – Pt. 2!

Many of you may remember that Jessica Lewis served a Supervised Ministry Internship here this past fall as part of her Master of Divinity studies at Dubuque Theological Seminary. She was responsible for participating in worship leadership, leading some of our Bible studies, and she designed and coordinated our Advent theme, Making Room. This spring, from the first of February to the end of April, Jessica will once again be learning about ministry in a congregational context as she serves a second Supervised Ministry Internship with us. Her responsibilities this time around will be somewhat different.

Pastoral Care: Jessica will be participating in and learning about pastoral care in a congregational setting. She will be doing hospital, nursing home, and bereavement visits alongside Pastors Tim and Sarah and reflecting on those visits together with them. She will also be doing some home visits, delivering the flower arrangements prepared from Sunday's arrangement, and delivering Compassionate Cuisine meals. So if Jessica calls you to schedule a visit, please welcome her as you are comfortable doing so!

Mission: Jessica has been tasked with learning about needs in the community and what agencies are doing to meet those needs, especially those agencies with whom our congregation has a relationship. Jessica will visit and meet with leaders from one agency each week to learn about their ministries and how they partner with us and other local congregations to serve the community. Some of the ministries she will visit are: Volunteer Ministry Center, Emerald Youth Foundation, Interfaith Health Clinic, Montgomery Village, UKirk @ UTK, West View Elementary, Morgan Scott, Sunset Gap, Volunteer Assisted Transportation, and others. She will also be meeting with our FISH ministry coordinators and participating in that ministry of the congregation.

She has also been tasked by the seminary of finding ways to “practice the presence of Christ” in the community outside the church, and to gather a team of folks together to find ways to do the same thing on their own and then meet to discuss what they are learning. She will be contacting some members of the congregation to be part of this “praxis” team.

Since Pastor Sarah is the Pastor for Congregational Life & Mission, she will be supervising Jessica during this internship. While she won't be as visible as she was last semester, Jessica will still have multiple opportunities to grow and develop her skills for ministry, while learning compassion and care in and from this wonderful faith community. Please keep Jessica in your prayers this semester.



# Sunday Worship in Phase Red

During Covid Phase Red we strongly encourage you to worship with us virtually from home. However, by vote of the Session, in-person worship will continue during Phase Red for those who wish to worship in the sanctuary. The Worship Ministry Unit has implemented the following Phase Red worship protocols:

- The worship service will be geared towards those worshipping from home and will be the same format as the virtual worship services that we utilized for most of 2020 and the first part of 2021.
- The cameras will be placed in the chancel area and those leading worship will interact with those at home through the cameras to give those worshipping from home a fulfilling worship experience. Liturgists may choose to be in person or to pre-record their parts of the worship service. The sermon may be presented live or it may be pre-recorded. This will be at the discretion of the pastor who is preaching. The choir will consist of scholarship singers only and they will wear face coverings at all times. Worship leaders will wear face coverings at all times, except when speaking to the congregation through the camera.
- The sanctuary will be open for those who wish to be present in-person for the worship service. Entry into the sanctuary will be through the main sanctuary doors only. All other entrances to the building will be locked on Sunday mornings and all other areas of the building will be closed.
- In-person worshipers are required to wear face coverings. Pews will be taped off and in-person worshipers are asked to maintain physical distance from one another while in the building. Ushers will not be present and bulletins will be left in baskets at the entrances to the sanctuary. There will also be no nursery. In-person worshipers are asked not to sing during the service but are welcome to read along with the spoken liturgy in the bulletin during the service. The sanctuary screen will not be active. There will be no offering collected, however offering plates will be placed at the sanctuary entrances. Please be advised that views may be obstructed for those worshipping in-person by the cameras located in the chancel area.
- Prior to worship, the above protocols will be explained to those who are present for worship. Once the service begins, those leading worship will speak directly to those at home through the cameras and will not interact with those who are present in the sanctuary.
- Following worship, those who are present in-person are asked to exit the building immediately. Pastors will not greet in-person worshipers at the door and individuals will not be allowed to congregate or fellowship in the sanctuary following worship. Those wishing to visit may do so outside in the sanctuary courtyard.



# February Birthdays

**Lindsay Casey**

**02/01**

**Margaret Walther**

**02/16**

**Neal Peebles**

**02/09**

**Patton Lewis**

**02/19**

**Leilla White**

**02/10**

**Joyce Robertson**

**02/19**

**Bobbie Denton**

**02/12**

**Doug Barbour**

**02/24**

**Phyllis Robinson**

**02/12**

**Bill Ragsdale**

**02/24**

**Christina Young**

**02/14**

**Haley Wall**

**02/29**



# DISCOVERY CLASS ON ZOOM

**We will be holding our next Discovery Class on Zoom! The Discovery Class is for those who want to know more about being Presbyterian, more about 2nd Presbyterian Church, or who are thinking of uniting in membership with this congregation.**

**Pastor Tim will lead discussions on Presbyterian theology, the history of 2nd Presbyterian Church, and how our congregation organizes itself for mission and ministry. At the conclusion of the class, those who are not already members will be given the opportunity to unite with this congregation in membership, should they so desire.**

**A New Member Sunday will be held shortly after we return to Covid Phase Orange.**

**The class will occur on three consecutive Mondays – Feb. 7, 14, 21 – at 6:00 p.m. and will last for approximately one hour each.**

**If you are interested in being a part of the class, please contact Pastor Tim at [treynolds@2ndpes.org](mailto:treynolds@2ndpes.org).**





**It's once again time for our Souper Bowl Fundraiser to help combat hunger in our community. The Souper Bowl of Caring Fundraiser is a nation-wide effort to reduce hunger and poverty in communities. Youth across the nation collect money to support local charities. Monetary donations allow charities to buy food in bulk to maximize the impact that every donation has on reducing hunger.**

**As we have done in the past, we will have a luncheon of soups following worship in conjunction with the Annual Congregational meeting. This is currently scheduled for February 13, but if we are still in Phase Red at that point the alternate date is February 27. If we are still in Phase Red at that point, the meeting and luncheon will be rescheduled for a Sunday in March.**

**For those who would like to make a monetary contribution for the Souper Bowl of Caring, Second Presbyterian Youth will be collecting donations regardless of what phase we are in. Donations collected will be sent to KARM. Please write Souper Bowl in the memo line of your check when you drop it off or send it to the church office.**

**Please see the Friday email for a link to sign up! If you are not on our email distribution list and would like to be, contact Audrey in the church office (865.523.2189 or [ajohnson@2ndpres.org](mailto:ajohnson@2ndpres.org))!**



# **WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNER AND BIBLE STUDY**

Our discussion of the Gospel of Mark, led by Kathy Duggan, continues in February. During Phase Red the discussion is held on Zoom. A link is sent out on Wednesday mornings. If you are not our email distribution list and would like to be added, please email [ajohnson@2ndpres.org](mailto:ajohnson@2ndpres.org). The study will begin at 6:30, but you are welcome to log on earlier for virtual fellowship.

*Once we return to Phase Orange*, sandwiches, drinks, and snacks will be served beginning at 6:00, followed by a group discussion at 6:30. Text or call Kathy Duggan at 865-441-8683 if you plan to attend so we can have enough food. If you are not a planner, come anyway and we won't let you starve! We would love to have you, reservation or not. We will try to arrange childcare if you let us know in advance. Otherwise, children will be welcomed and appreciated.

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## **A MESSAGE FROM JAN BARBER!**

I wish to send a giant thank you to the beautiful congregation of 2nd Presbyterian. I am overwhelmed by the outpouring of love as evidenced in the number of cards and gifts I received and the very generous Love Offering that was gifted to me.

My time with you as your Visitation Minister is a cherished memory and I am grateful to each and every one of you for making that a possibility and a reality.

With much Love,  
Jan Barber



# SERVICE AND OUTREACH MISSION CHRONICLES - SUNSET GAP



Second Presbyterian Church is grateful to be a supporter of the Sunset Gap Community Project. Sunset Gap was started as Juniper School by the United Presbyterian Church in 1899, meeting the educational needs of this isolated, rural community.

In 1928, the needs changed and a new building was added that served as a clinic for Typhoid and Tuberculosis patients.

The 1950's brought organized recreational activities such as baseball, sewing, and crafting groups to Sunset Gap. Farming practices were also improved.

The community opened a preschool and began the boy/girl scouts in 1964. The thrift store and home repair mission camps also began that same year.

The Board of National Missions turned the mission over to the Synod of the South in 1968.

501(c)3 status was gained in 1993.

The food distribution program was eased by the opening of the Food Pantry.

Holston and East Tennessee Presbyteries signed covenants in 1995.

The various ways Sunset Gap serves the community at the present is:

- Food Distribution & Garden

Feeding the local population affected by hunger and immobility while supplementing processed food with fresh produce.

- Clothing & Household Goods

Supply new and gently used items so neighbors' dollars can stretch while providing emergency supplies.

- Mission Camp & Home Restoration

Restores homes free of charge for people disabled, elderly, or just do not have the means to make their home livable.



# Updates from the Session

## Highlights from the January 2022 Stated Session Meeting

- Received reports from the Preschool and Ministry Teams as information.
- Received the Treasurer's Report.
- Elected Tracy Horton to represent Second Presbyterian at the February 12, 2022 Presbytery of East Tennessee Meeting which will be on Zoom.
- Elected Mancil Milligan to his third year of a three year term as Treasurer.
- Elected Mancil Milligan as President and Treasurer and Nancy Montgomery as Secretary of the Corporation as needed by IRS Rules.
- Approved the Schedule for serving Communion (the first Sunday of the month and Maundy Thursday).
- Approved the collection of the four PCUSA Special Offerings: Peace and Global Witness, One Great Hour of Sharing, Pentecost, and Christmas Joy.
- Called the Annual Congregational Meeting for February 13, 2022 with a backup day of February 27, 2022.
- Renewed the contract for the Transitional Designated Associate Pastor, Sarah Morgan.
- Approved the recommendation by the Pre-School Board to remove the requirement for the Pre-School to provide payments to Second Presbyterian Church for personnel costs for food prep and cleaning as required in the "Financial Understanding between Church and Pre-School dated November 25, 2008." The pre-school provides their own person for food preparation now.
- Adopted the 2022 proposed budget for Second Presbyterian Church.

## DECEMBER BUDGET REPORT

|                   | DECEMBER             | YTD                 | BUDGET              |
|-------------------|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| TOTAL GIVING      | <b>\$81,751.63</b>   | <b>\$780,463.67</b> | <b>\$788,556.00</b> |
| TOTAL EXPENSES    | <b>\$98,498.50</b>   | <b>\$743,454.41</b> | <b>\$788,556.00</b> |
| EXCESS/(SHORTAGE) | <b>(\$16,746.87)</b> | <b>\$37,009.26</b>  | ---                 |



|  |   |  |   |  |   |                  |
|--|---|--|---|--|---|------------------|
| <p><b>The events reflected on this calendar are those that are currently scheduled in Phase Red.</b></p> <p><b>Please see the home page &amp; calendar on our website, 2ndpres.org, with up-to-date information on Covid Phase changes &amp; calendar updates.</b></p> |   | <p><b>1</b><br/>10a Organ Search Committee (Zoom)<br/>5p Facilities (Zoom)<br/>6p Care &amp; Compassion (Zoom)</p> | <p><b>2</b><br/>2p Compassionate Cuisine (Gym)<br/>6<sup>3</sup>p Wednesday Night Bible Study (Zoom)</p>  | <p><b>3</b><br/>1p Service &amp; Outreach (Zoom)</p>       | <p><b>4</b><br/>Church Office Closed</p>  | <p><b>5</b></p>  |
| <p><b>6</b><br/><b>Communion Sunday</b><br/>9<sup>45</sup>a FSF Sunday School Class (Phone Conf.)<br/>11a Worship</p>  | <p><b>7</b></p>   | <p><b>8</b><br/>6p Worship Committee (Zoom)</p>  | <p><b>9</b><br/>6<sup>3</sup>p Wednesday Night Bible Study (Zoom)</p>                                     | <p><b>10</b></p>   | <p><b>11</b><br/>Church Office Closed</p> | <p><b>12</b></p> |
| <p><b>13</b><br/>9<sup>45</sup>a FSF Sunday School Class (Phone Conf.)<br/>11a Worship<br/>12p Annual Meeting &amp; Souper Bowl Luncheon - if Phase Orange (Gym)</p>   | <p><b>14</b><br/>6p Discipleship (Zoom)</p>  | <p><b>15</b><br/>10a Organ Search Committee (Zoom)<br/>6p Session Meeting (Zoom)</p>                               | <p><b>16</b><br/>2p Compassionate Cuisine (Gym)<br/>6<sup>3</sup>p Wednesday Night Bible Study (Zoom)</p> | <p><b>17</b><br/>12p Budget &amp; Finance Comm. (Zoom)</p> | <p><b>18</b><br/>Church Office Closed</p> | <p><b>19</b></p> |
| <p><b>20</b><br/>9<sup>45</sup>a FSF Sunday School Class (Phone Conf.)<br/>11a Worship</p>   | <p><b>21</b><br/>12p Preschool Board (Zoom)</p>   | <p><b>22</b><br/>9a FISH Pantry (Gym)</p>  | <p><b>23</b><br/>6<sup>3</sup>p Wednesday Night Bible Study (Zoom)</p>                                    | <p><b>24</b></p>   | <p><b>25</b><br/>Church Office Closed</p> | <p><b>26</b></p> |
| <p><b>27</b><br/>9<sup>45</sup>a FSF Sunday School Class (Phone Conf.)<br/>11a Worship<br/>12p <i>Alternate Date If Needed</i> - Annual Meeting &amp; Souper Bowl Luncheon (Gym)</p>   | <p><b>28</b></p>  |                               |   |  |   |                  |





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#### CLERGY STAFF

Pastor Tim Reynolds  
*Pastor/Head of Staff*  
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Pastor Sarah Morgan  
*Transitional Associate Pastor for  
Congregational Life & Mission*  
[smorgan@2ndpres.org](mailto:smorgan@2ndpres.org)

#### PROGRAM STAFF

Matthew Mimbs  
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Ministry Coordinator*  
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#### SUPPORT STAFF

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#### PRESCHOOL STAFF

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Holly Grimm  
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THE SECOND EDITION  
SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
2829 KINGSTON PIKE  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37919

*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 2022

Dean Farmer  
Margie Gill  
Patricia Kennedy  
Marty McLean

##### CLASS OF 2023

Tracy Horton  
Neal Peebles  
Charles White  
Tim Wright

##### CLASS OF 2024

Ileen Cheek  
Joe Clarke  
Angela Jones  
Mary Kay Sullivan

#### MINISTRY TEAMS & MODERATORS

##### Worship & Celebration

Margie Gill  
Ileen Cheek

##### Discipleship

Patricia Kennedy  
Angela Jones

##### Service & Outreach

Tracy Horton  
Tim Wright

##### Care & Compassion

Marty McLean  
Joe Clarke

##### Stewardship

Dean Farmer  
Neal Peebles  
Mary Kay Sullivan

##### Preschool Board

Charles White