

Second Edition

JANUARY 2020 ISSUE



On Second Thought...

I can't believe 2020 is already here. Honestly, I never really thought that far ahead when I was younger. The year 2000 was the big milestone everyone talked about reaching. No one really talked much about what happened after that.

Once we had all survived Y2K, the arguments started over how to refer to the first few years of the new millennium. Was it the "aughts" or the "tens" or the "ones"? Some people insisted on saying the whole number - two-thousand-and-eight. Others tried to shorthand things, as we had in the 20th century - twenty-oh-eight. The closer we have gotten to 2020, however, the latter has caught on. Thank goodness. Saying "two-thousand-and-nineteen" is such a burden.

I think the disagreement will end at the beginning of next month. Everyone already knows how to say "twenty-twenty" - we've used it for years to describe "perfect" vision! We think that it must be some elaborate measurement, some objective reality that scientists and eye doctors came up with to denote vision that is perfect. That isn't the case, however.

Twenty-twenty vision is actually a relative term. It isn't meant to describe "perfect" vision, but rather "normal" vision. By looking at lots of people, eye doctors decided years ago what a "normal" human being should be able to see when standing 20 feet away from an eye chart. If you have 20/20 vision, it simply means that when you stand 20 feet away from the chart, you can see what the "normal" human being can see.

Of course, as we all know, there's really no such thing as normal. However, there *is* a standard that we are trying to reach with our eyesight, and many of us need some help to reach it. I can never remember having 20/20 vision without the assistance of corrective lenses, but for a long time my vision has been 20/20...with help. In order to reach the standard, I need help from an optometrist, an optician, and the technicians who make my glasses and my contact lenses. These are people I am very grateful for in my life!



Our spiritual lives are the same way, with one major exception. No one except Jesus has hit the standard. All the rest of us need help. The Good News is that we receive all the help we need from God. God helps us in several ways: through Scripture (John Calvin used to refer to Scripture as the spectacles which help us to see God clearly), through the people in our faith community, through the guidance of pastors and mentors and teachers, and - most importantly - through the grace of Jesus Christ.

**"The Good News is
that we receive all
the help we need
from God."**

A few years ago, the Session of 2nd Pres wrote the following words:

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

We call this our Vision Statement. I think this year, however, I am going to refer to this as our **2020 Vision**. It is the standard we are striving to reach as a community of faith in Jesus Christ.

We can do it, with God's help.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J. M.' or similar, enclosed in a simple, curved line.



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Upcoming Sermon Texts & Topics

Pastors Tim & Sarah will continue to follow the Revised Common Lectionary for 2020 (see November's Second Edition). Here are the sermon texts and topics for January:

Jan 5th	Praising God in Community (Ephesians 1:3-14)
Jan 12th	Hearing the Voice of God (Psalm 29)
Jan 19th	Remembering MLK (Psalm 139)
Jan 26th	Who Do We See When We Look at Jesus? (Matt. 4:12-23)

December

Guests and Visitors

First-Time Visitors

Glen & Kathy Frohlich
Cameron, Whitney & Graham Marchant

Regular Visitors

Eric Batts
Linda Boyd
Eugene & June Burke
Alex Cooper & Ruthann Froberg
Lindsey Cope & Elizabeth Seastrunk
Jane Creed
Kira Evans
Maggie Foster-Tobin

Katie & Oliver Keene
Jennifer Levy-Tatum
Reileigh & Shawna Lister
D'Ann & Terry Mimbs
Henry Naff
John Quillen
Karen Vance
Elisa White

January

Birthdays

1/1

Betty McCollum

1/6

Allene Miller
Jeannie Ullrich
Nancy Weigel

1/16

Leslie Testerman

1/21

Fran McLean
Frieda Sims
Susanne White

1/4

Dana Hendrix

1/17

Gerry Turner

1/9

Amy Cross
Tim Wright

1/18

Genevieve Turner

1/22

Monica Casey
Arleen Reilly

1/5

Fay Carr
Bo Daugherty
Cathy Gray
Seth Reynolds

1/10

Marjorie Reynolds

1/20

Mary Porter
Peter Ullrich

1/25

Willis Mashburn

1/15

Morton Rose

1/26

Jean Frazier

discipleship

Wednesday Night Dinner and Programs Resume January 8th

Our Wednesday night dinner and activities will resume on January 8th with dinner at 5:30 p.m. Even though it's not a first Wednesday of the month, it's the first Wednesday we'll be back! So we'll be having our Intergenerational Family 'Round the Table program. Our theme this winter and spring will be God and God's People, an exploration of the opening stories of Genesis. These stories tell us about who God is, God's relationship with the creation, especially human beings, and the responsibilities humans have for the care of the earth.

New Year's Resolutions

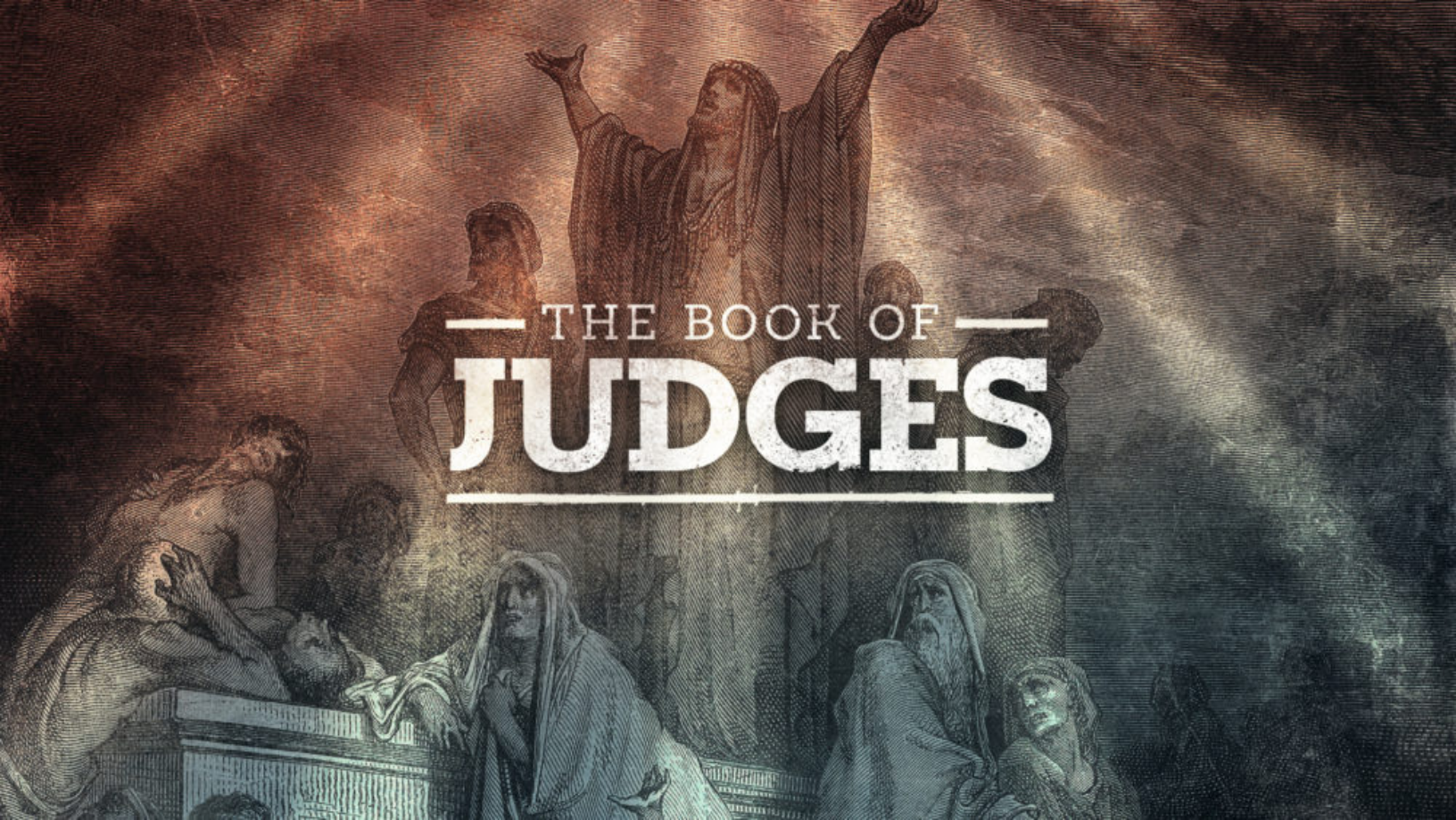
1. Attend Sunday School

2.

3.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES:

Faith, Science & The Future (Rm 221) - Current events through the lens of faith
Bible Discovery Class (Barbour Room) - *This Present Word* curriculum
The Pilgrim's Class (Library) - Currently studying *Galatians*



Wednesday Night Bible Study

What happens when Israel settles in the Promised Land and forgets their God? The book of Judges answers this important question with difficult, and sometimes disturbing, stories of Israel's leaders and people. After the death of Joshua, the people of Israel begin a repeated downward spiral. The Israelites adopt the corrupt practices of the Canaanites, which leads to a cycle of sin, oppression, repentance, deliverance, and peace. Each cycle is worse than the last, and each deliverer is not as strong, or as good, as the previous one.

The book of Judges highlights six judges during this time and shows their increasing corruption. These judges start off fairly well (Othniel, Ehud, Deborah) but become increasingly worse (Gideon, Jephthah, Samson). The book ends with two very disturbing stories that show how incredibly lawless the people have become. The result is summed up in the final verse of the book, Judges 21:25 – *In those days there was no king in Israel; all the people did what was right in their own eyes.*

We hope you join us on Wednesday nights this winter and spring as we study this exciting book of stories from the early days of Israel's time in the Promised Land. Most people are not taught these stories as children and few have studied them as adults. Fair warning – most are PG-13 and a few are rated R!



WINTER WEATHER POLICY

Now that winter is here it's a good time to remind everyone of our policies for inclement weather!

Sunday Worship: Worship will never be cancelled due to weather. Please use your own discretion in deciding whether or not to come. Safety is of primary importance; stay home if you don't feel you can make it here safely. You can always watch on the website!

Wednesday Night Activities: The Wednesday Night Dinner, Bible Study, Youth Activities, Handbells, and Choir Rehearsal follow the Knox County Schools schedule. If Knox County Schools are closed or dismissed early, then these activities will be cancelled. For those without children in school, please remember to check on this. Sometimes school is cancelled and there's no snow to be seen!

All Other Activities (Committee meeting, Sunday School, etc.): These will be determined on a case-by-case basis. The chairperson or teacher or person-in-charge will make the decision and contact participants. The church office will be closed only in the event of extreme weather.



Story-Time with the Knoxville Symphony

On Thursday, December 5th, our Preschool students enjoyed story-time with members of the Knoxville Symphony. This program of the KSO combines children's literature with classical selections and sound effects. Stories included: *Papa, Please Get the Moon for Me* by Eric Carlisle, *There's No Place Like Space* by Tish Rabe, and *Alien Invaders* by Lynn Huggins-Cooper. Musical excerpts included: *Sunrise Quartet*, first movement (Haydn), "Aquarium" from *Carnival of the Animals* (Saint-Saens), *Claire de Lune* (Debussy), and *The Planets*, (Holst).

FSF

First Sunday Fellowship



We had a great time in December making cookies and having a White Elephant gift exchange!

We're headed to Jump Jam for this month's First Sunday Fellowship! We'll leave from church right after worship, so dress accordingly or bring a change of clothes. We'll stop and grab lunch on the way.

Tickets have already been purchased, and there are 20 of them, so bring friends! The cost will be \$5/person.



care & compassion



We had sixteen folks go caroling on the afternoon of December 15th. Our fearless leader, Matt Mimbs, kept us on key as we spread Christmas cheer. Matt's mom, D'Ann, even donated new caroling song books! We visited Betty McCollum, Ann Payne, Morton & Emily Rose, Jerry & Christina Young, and ended the day at the Adult Sunday School party hosted by Caroline Buckner. A good time was had by all!





Our Hat and Mitten tree is looking full! We have lots of hats and gloves for younger children, but in hanging them, we realized we don't have gloves to fit the older children.

If you are still interested in contributing, please consider the bigger children, too.

Thank you for all you have done to make this a warmer Christmas and New Year for the children of West View!

Lunch Bunch will meet on Tuesday, January 7th in the Fellowship Hall at 11:30 a.m.

John Reynolds will present an illustrated talk on Three Ghost Railroads of the Knoxville area.

For reservations, please call John Reynolds (865-588-0085) or Mariann Thuesen (865-253-7653). This is a catered lunch and will cost \$10.00 per person.

All are welcome to attend!



**Lunch
Bunch**





The Second Presbyterian Readers met at Caroline Buckner's home for the December meeting. The covered dishes were outstanding! Caroline's beautiful Christmas decorations were a treat.

The Group, with the help of church members, collected 105 stuffed animals. Those have been delivered to Judge Irwin. Thank you, Second Presbyterian members, for your overwhelming generosity!

Our next meeting will be the third Wednesday in January at 3 pm in the church library. Please bring suggestions for our 2020 reading list. Mary Farmer will lead a review of *Queen Bee* by Dorothea Benton Frank.

Second Readers welcomes any newcomers who would enjoy a reading group. Please join us in January!



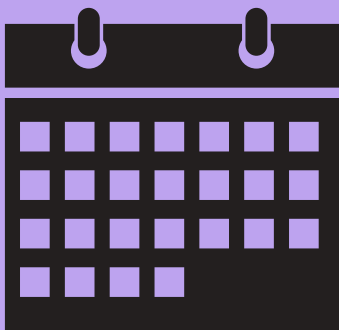
NOVEMBER BUDGET REPORT

	November	YTD	Budget
Total Giving	\$83,718.95	\$665,157.92	\$713,087.00
Total Expenses	\$54,646.40	\$653,002.88	\$782,706.00
Excess/(Shortage)	\$29,072.55	\$12,155.04	(\$69,619.00)



Thank you to everyone who remembered our family with cards and gifts during the Christmas season. You're the best!
- TIM, TUESDAY, SETH & LILY GRACE

IF YOU HAVE NOT TURNED IN A PLEDGE CARD for 2020 there is still time to do so. Pledges need to be in by the end of the year for budget consideration. If you need a pledge card there are some available in the narthex and in the atrium. All pledges are confidential. Please consider making a pledge to support the ministry of Second Presbyterian Church in 2020!



Save the Date!

Our Annual Congregational Meeting will take place in conjunction with the Souper Bowl luncheon following worship on Sunday, February 2nd. The luncheon and the meeting will take place in the Fellowship Hall. In addition to receiving the Annual Report, we will be voting on elders for the Session Class of 2023. Mark your calendars now!

<h1>JANUARY</h1>			1 Church Office Closed 	2	3 Church Office Closed	4
5 9 ³⁰ a Sunday School 10 ³⁰ a Fellowship 11a Worship 12p First Sunday Youth Fellowship	6 4 ³ p The Cross Ministry 5p BSF	7 9a Staff Meeting 11 ³⁰ a Lunch Bunch 5p Facilities Team 6p Stewardship Team Care & Compassion 7p Service & Outreach Boy Scouts 8 ³⁰ p Basketball	8 4p Line Dancing 5 ³ p Wed Nt Dinner 6p Bible Study 7p Chancel Choir	9	10 Church Office Closed	11
12 9 ³⁰ a Sunday School 10 ³⁰ a Fellowship 11a Worship 12p Food & Friends	13 5p BSF 6p Discipleship Team	14 10a PW Bible Study 6p Worship Team 7p Boy Scouts 8 ³⁰ p Basketball	15 3p 2 nd Readers 4p Line Dancing 5 ³ p Wed Nt Dinner 6p Bible Study 7p Chancel Choir	16 10a PW Arts & Crafts	17 Church Office Closed	18
19 9 ³⁰ a Sunday School 10 ³⁰ a Fellowship 11a Worship 12p Food & Friends	20 MLK Birthday Church Office Closed 12p Preschool Board 5p BSF	21 9a Staff Meeting 6p Session Meeting 7p Boy Scouts 8 ³⁰ p Basketball	22 4p Line Dancing 5 ³ p Wed Nt Dinner 6p Bible Study 7p Chancel Choir	23	24 Church Office Closed	25
26 9 ³⁰ a Sunday School 10 ³⁰ a Fellowship 11a Worship 12p Food & Friends	27 5p BSF	28 9a FISH Pantry 10a PW House & Garden 7p Boy Scouts 8 ³⁰ p Basketball	29 4p Line Dancing 5 ³ p Wed Nt Dinner 6p Bible Study 7p Chancel Choir	30	31 Church Office Closed	



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THE SECOND EDITION
SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
2829 KINGSTON PIKE
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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 2020

Jimmy Cheek
Clara Hardin
Doug Matthews
Margaret Walther

CLASS OF 2021

Monica Casey
Betsy Foster
John Henley
Cleston Jones

CLASS OF 2022

Dean Farmer
Margie Gill
Patricia Kennedy
Marty McLean

MINISTRY TEAMS & MODERATORS

Worship & Celebration

Doug Matthews
Betsy Foster

Discipleship

Monica Casey
Patricia Kennedy

Service & Outreach

Clara Hardin

Care & Compassion

Margaret Walther
Marty McLean

Stewardship

Jimmy Cheek
John Henley
Dean Farmer

Preschool Board

Cleston Jones