

# Second Edition

JULY 2021 ISSUE



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# On Second Thought...

This month the 4th of July falls on a Sunday. While Presbyterians don't usually observe or celebrate secular holidays in sacred worship, the juxtaposition of Independence Day and The Lord's Day does give us a chance to pause a moment before the waving of the flag and the shooting of fireworks and reflect on our identity as disciples of Jesus Christ living in the most powerful nation on earth.

For many Christians, the convergence of The Lord's Day and Independence Day is a happy one, a welcome opportunity to wear flag lapel pins or ties, sing *America, the Beautiful*, and give thanks to God for the blessing of living in a land that is free and prosperous and where we have the freedom to worship as we choose. For many, there is no conflict between love of God and love of country. Waving the flag and worshiping Jesus go together like apple pie and homemade ice cream.

But for many others, American Independence Day and The Lord's Day lie together less easily. There is a tension between the two that is highlighted when the two are celebrated on the same day. The cross and the flag are both demanding symbols, competing against one another for our deepest loyalty, devotion, and allegiance. For many, the coming together of The Lord's Day and the Nation's Day makes visible a decision that faces us every day, even though we aren't always aware of it. It's the same choice Joshua presented to the Israelites just before crossing into the Promised Land: *Choose this day whom you will serve.*

Most of the time the choice between God and country is not put so starkly. Part of the pride in being American is knowing we were founded on something greater than one person's vision, that we stand for ideas like freedom and equality. We remember those who have sacrificed for these ideals, that we are part of something bigger than ourselves, and that we - each one of us - can help build it, defend it, make it stronger. There is something very basic and very good about being proud of one's native land, something very natural about placing our hands over our hearts as we sing the national anthem and say the pledge. Most of the time, for most people, the choice between the love of God and the love of country is not an either-or decision.

However, when American Independence Day and The Lord's Day fall on the same day, the tension between



being a citizen of the country and a citizen of the Kingdom of God comes starkly into view. Whether we are aware of it every day or not, there is a tension between our national pride and our commitment to worship and serve Jesus Christ. Jesus gives his disciples their mission at the beginning of Acts: *You will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.* Jesus calls his disciples to reach every nation, to stop at no border, to respect no division of race or nationality. Jesus' mission is a global mission, not a national one.

Americans often forget that the Gospel of Jesus Christ existed long before Columbus sailed the ocean blue. We must always remember that the Gospel crossed many borders to get here, that if the Gospel had only one flag it never would have gotten to Europe, much less America. We must remember that if Jesus had thought love of God and love of country were one and the same, he would have ignored everyone outside of Israel. But he didn't. And for that we should be truly thankful.

For most of us, we can have it both ways. We can watch the fireworks and pray the Lord's Prayer. We can pledge allegiance to both the flag and the cross, without much chance of doing a disservice to either, recognizing that we have many allegiances to give in this world.

But in some ways, ways both large and small, there come occasions for all of us when we have to choose whom will we serve, which passport we carry, which allegiance finally claims us. There inevitably come occasions when duty to country will conflict with duty to Christ, when the demands of our citizenship on earth will be at odds with the demands of our citizenship in heaven. We would do well to remember our baptism in those times, that we are first and foremost citizens in the Kingdom of God, the God who made heaven and earth and before whom nations rise and fall.

Grace and peace...

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J. M.' or similar, written in a cursive style.

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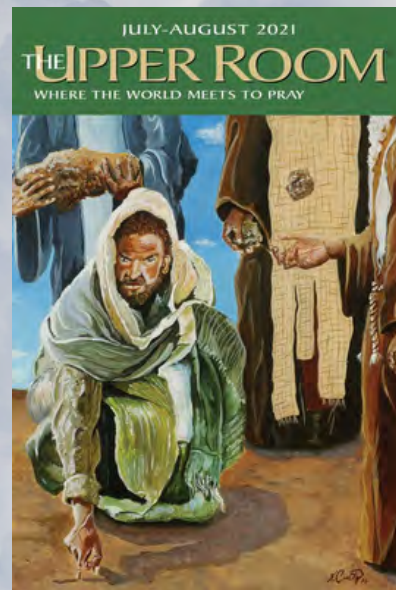
# UPCOMING SERMON TEXTS & TOPICS

Our Acts series in July will focus on the 2nd Missionary Journey of the Apostle Paul. It starts with a disagreement between Paul and Barnabas over the inclusion of John Mark on the journey. The two part ways over this and Paul is joined by Timothy as his traveling companion. We will follow them to Philippi, then Thessalonica, and finally to Athens.

<b>July 4th</b>	Acts 15:36-16:10	Paul, Barnabas, John Mark & Timothy
<b>July 11th</b>	Acts 16:11-40	Paul and Silas in Philippi
<b>July 18th</b>	Acts 17:1-15	The Empire in an Uproar
<b>July 25th</b>	Acts 17:16-34	Paul in Athens

**The July - August  
Upper Room Devotionals  
are available!**

Copies are located in the vestibule, as well as at both entrances to the sanctuary.



**COFFEE FELLOWSHIP WILL RESUME ON  
JULY 4TH IN THE ATRIUM, PRIOR TO  
WORSHIP.**



# *Organ Recital*

David Stultz' last Sunday with us will be Sunday, July 25th and he will offer an organ recital that afternoon at 5:00 p.m., with a farewell reception to follow.

The Worship Ministry Unit is appointing an Organist Search Work Group to search for a new organist.

If you are interested in serving on this Work Group, please let Pastor Tim, Margie Gill, Ileen Cheek, or Matt Mimbs know of your interest.





# JULY BIRTHDAYS

**Zach Burch**  
**7/01**

**David Frazier**  
**7/18**

**David Stultz**  
**7/01**

**Joan Riedl**  
**7/22**

**Marion Frazer**  
**7/09**

**John Campbell**  
**7/24**

**Elizabeth Peebles**  
**7/10**

**Daniel Robertson**  
**7/25**

**Lily Wu**  
**7/10**

**Helen Grant**  
**7/28**

**Thomas Turner**  
**7/14**

Please note: We take special care in insuring that all *active* members' birthdays are included on this list, if you notice a discrepancy, kindly advise the church office.

Thank you.



# PARENTS' NIGHT OUT!

On Saturday, July 10th, the Youth Group will host a Parents' Night Out at the church from 5:00-9:00 p.m. Members of our Youth Group, along with Tim & Tuesday Reynolds, will hang out with our youngest members while their parents are free to have a date night, go shopping, or just take a nap! We will have games and activities for the older kids, along with plenty of love and care for the babies.

Drop-off will be in the Atrium any time after 5:00 p.m. We will be there until 9:00 p.m., but if your child's sleep schedule prompts you to pick up your child earlier, that's okay, too. There is no charge for this - it's not a fund raiser. It's our Youth Group's gift to the families of the church who have young children. We look forward to seeing your children (or grandchildren!) on Saturday, July 10th!





# WHITEWATER RAFTING

On Monday, June 14th, members of our youth group, accompanied by Pastor Tim and Holly, took on the Class III&IV rapids of the Middle Ocoee River.

A few fell out along the way but were quickly recovered, and everyone made it safely to the end of the trip. Though all were a bit waterlogged at the end of the day, a good time was had by all!

When you see Kylie or Lily, ask them about "riding the bull"!





# WHITEWATER RAFTING





# Anya Graduates

*On a blustery May 9, 2021, Maryville College held its outdoor 2021 graduation ceremony following masking and other Covid protocols. Among the graduates and college officials holding on to caps and gowns that windy day, Anastasia (Anya) Dunn was present.*

*You may remember Anya, one of two Maryville College students who became the first recipients of Second Presbyterian Church's new 200th Anniversary Scholarship Fund awarded in 2018 during the church's 200th anniversary celebration of its founding. The other scholarship winner, Cameron Moore, graduated from Maryville College in the class of 2020.*

*In 2020 Anya Dunn was awarded a second 200th Anniversary Scholarship during her junior year at Maryville College, as she maintained her outstanding academic record while receiving other honors and scholarship recognition.*

*Anya received her Bachelor of Arts in biochemistry with a double major in Health & Wellness and American Sign Language & Deaf Studies. She was nominated as an Outstanding Senior, received the LeQuire Award (given to a senior pursuing a career in the field of medicine), and received the Liberal Arts Award (for a senior with the highest grade point average in all core classes taken at Maryville College).*

*Since graduation, Anya has begun a summer's training position at the East Tennessee Children's Hospital, continuing her long time interest in pediatrics. She plans to continue her academic pursuits this fall, first planning to attend graduate school to train as a Physician Associate, then continuing her long range goal of caring for and advocating for pediatric patients and their families. She hopes to attend a worship service at Second Church this summer to thank our congregation for the support and encouragement the members gave during her years at Maryville College.*

*The congregation of Second Presbyterian Church maintains its commitment to its endowed 200th Anniversary Scholarship Fund which remains invested with the East Tennessee Foundation. While the principal has not yet reached its first goal of \$200,000, the value of the fund grows as donations are added, with only the earnings being used to finance the annual undergraduate college scholarships at UT and Maryville College.*





# NEW MEMBERS!



**Willard Carr**

Willard grew up in Halls and graduated from The University of Tennessee – Knoxville with a major in Accounting. He has four grown children living in the Greater Knoxville area. Willard is a Certified Public Accountant and established his residence and public accounting office in Oak Ridge, Tennessee in 1972. He continues practicing on a part-time basis with his son. Willard moved to Knoxville after his marriage to Fay Bailey in 2015. Fay has been very supportive in his decision to join Second Presbyterian Church. Willard looks forward to being a part of the church family.

**John, Rachel, and Faye Penmore**

John and Rachel Penmore have been in Knoxville for almost two years and were so happy to welcome their daughter Faye in April. Rachel is the campus minister at UKirk UTK and John is an elementary school teacher. They enjoy hiking, camping, kayaking, and getting into nature whenever they can with their dog Frank. They are excited about having Second as a church home and look forward to creating community here.





# RECONNECTION SESSIONS

During July and early August, Pastors Tim and Sarah will be holding a series of 6 small group Reconnection Sessions at the church. This will be a chance for us to get together and reconnect with one another following the pandemic, as well as to process together what we've been through during the previous 16 months. We will have a chance to share and name struggles, difficulties, and losses, along with unexpected blessings we may have experienced during the pandemic.

Each session will last approximately one hour and will be limited to 8 participants. (If sessions fill up, more will be added.) There is a link on the home page to sign up for these Reconnection Sessions, or you can sign up by calling or emailing Audrey in the church office. All sessions will be in the Fireside Room (Library) and will be held on the following dates/times:

**THURSDAY, JULY 8 @ 1PM**

**MONDAY, JULY 12 @ 7PM**

**TUESDAY, JULY 20 @ 7PM**

**THURSDAY, JULY 29 @ 2PM**

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 1 @ 1:30PM**

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 11 @ 5:30PM**

We will conclude our time of reconnection with a Service of Healing & Wholeness in the sanctuary on Sunday, August 15th at 6:00 p.m. You do not need to have attended a Reconnection Session to attend the Service of Healing & Wholeness. We hope these Reconnection Sessions will be a chance to reconnect with some old friends, and maybe to connect with some new ones. We look forward to seeing you there.





# FISH NEEDS

**IF YOU LIKE TO SHOP, THE FISH PANTRY MISSION IS IN NEED OF THE FOLLOWING HOUSEHOLD AND PERSONAL ITEMS:**

- DISH SOAP**
- BATH SOAP**
- SHAMPOO**
- TOOTHPASTE**
- DEODORANT**
- TOILET PAPER**

**OUR ONCE-A-MONTH FISH TEAM RECEIVES PHONE CALL REQUESTS FOR FOOD AND ADDITIONAL ITEMS. THEY THEN SORT, PACK, AND DELIVER THEM TO EACH CLIENT'S HOUSEHOLD.**

**ALL DONATIONS SHOULD BE NEWLY PURCHASED, AND ANY QUANTITIES WOULD BE GREATLY APPRECIATED.**

**THEY CAN BE DROPPED OFF INTO THE "FISH" BIN THAT SITS ON THE FLOOR IN THE COAT RACK AREA JUST OFF THE ATRIUM.**



# UPDATES FROM THE SESSION

## HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE JUNE 2021 STATED SESSION MEETING & CALLED SESSION MEETING

- RECEIVED REPORTS FROM THE PRESCHOOL AND MINISTRY TEAMS AS INFORMATION.
- RECEIVED THE TREASURER'S REPORT.
- APPROVED THE TRANSFER OF BURNETTE NICOLE CROMBIE FROM THE INACTIVE ROLL TO WESTMINISTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, KNOXVILLE.
- RECEIVED WILLARD CARR AND KIM HUDGENS BY REAFFIRMATION OF FAITH AND JOHN PENMORE BY LETTER OF TRANSFER INTO THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE CONGREGATION.

## MAY BUDGET REPORT

	MAY	YTD	BUDGET
TOTAL GIVING	\$28,581.33	\$385,727.96	\$788,556.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$51,659.01	\$263,489.42	\$788,556.00
EXCESS/(SHORTAGE)	(\$23,077.68)	\$121,238.54	---



# July

				1	2 Church Office Closed	3
4 <b>Communion Sunday</b> <b>Independence Day</b> 9 <sup>45</sup> a FSF Sunday School Class (MCR) 11a Worship	5 <b>Independence Day</b> <b>Observed</b> Church Office Closed Preschool Closed 4 <sup>3</sup> p The Cross Ministry	6 9a Staff Meeting 5p Facilities (Zoom) 6p Care & Compassion (MCR) 7p S&O (MCR)	7	8 1p Reconnection Session (Library)	9 Church Office Closed	10 5p Parents' Night Out
11 9 <sup>45</sup> a FSF Sunday School Class (MCR) 11a Worship	12 7p Reconnection Session (Library)	13 7p Eagle Scouts Ceremony (Sanctuary)	14 12p 2 <sup>nd</sup> Reader's Book Club (Library)	15 10a Arts & Crafts (Room 227)	16 Church Office Closed Preschool In-service Day	17
18 9 <sup>45</sup> a FSF Sunday School Class (MCR) 11a Worship	19 Preschool In-service Day 12p Preschool Board (Zoom)	20 <b>2<sup>ND</sup> EDITION DEADLINE</b> 9a Staff Meeting 7p Reconnection Session (Library)	21 10a Comm. on Prep. For Ministry (Barbour Room) 2p Compassionate Cuisine (FH)	22	23 Church Office Closed	24 9a Session Retreat (MCR)
25 9 <sup>45</sup> a FSF Sunday School Class (MCR) 11a Worship 5p David Stultz Farewell Recital	26	27 9a FISH Pantry (FH)	28	29 2p Reconnection Session (Library)	30 Church Office Closed	31





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Pastor Sarah Morgan  
*Transitional Associate Pastor for  
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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