

SECOND EDITION

JULY 2023



SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH - WWW.2NDPRES.ORG

ON SECOND

Thought...



You know that device that we carry around in our pockets? The one we use to access apps, surf the web, text our friends, check social media, scan our boarding passes, read the news, play games, order groceries, pay for things, turn on the lights at home, navigate to unfamiliar locations, and occasionally – only occasionally – talk to another human being? You may call it a phone, but it is certainly much more than that. According to the tech industry, its proper name is a “user interface” or UI. It’s a device that helps us interface with other people, computers, machines, and software that supposedly make our lives easier or better. And it’s a very different thing from the “phones” that many of us grew up with.

When my son was in 3rd grade, we went to see the movie *Aliens in the Attic*. Early in the movie, the main characters had rented a cabin in the woods and were settling in. They were in the kitchen, unpacking their supplies. My son leaned over to me and asked, “Dad, what’s that on the wall?” I hadn’t even paid attention to it but after his question, I realized what he was asking about. It was a telephone – a green, hanging-on-the-wall, *rotary dial* telephone. So I leaned back over to him and said, “It’s a telephone.”

A few minutes went by and my son leaned in to ask another question. “Dad, how would you even *use* a phone like that?” His young mind had been pondering for several minutes how such a telephone might work, and he hadn’t been able to figure it out. It’s not like he hadn’t ever seen a phone hanging on the wall before. His grandparents have one at their home, but it’s a *push-button* digital phone. What he couldn’t work out was the rotary dial! “I’ll tell you on the way home,” I replied.

This was in 2009 – not that far removed from a time when most people still had home telephones and could actually remember *using* a rotary phone.

It seems that now, in 2023, we are light years away from that world. The rotary phone was gradually displaced by push-button phones and was finally discontinued in 1986. (Though my aunt continued to use hers until her death in 2002!) This means, essentially, that people over 65 probably used a rotary phone regularly, people between 40-65 have some familiarity with one (even though they may not have used one regularly), and anyone under the age of 40 has likely *never* used a rotary phone!

So why this focus on the rotary phone? Well, it occurs to me that the church might be in the same situation as the rotary phone hanging on the wall. It’s like something from a different time, something young people look at but isn’t familiar to them and they have no idea how to use it. For older folks it’s still very comfortable. For middle-aged folks it can be a comforting reminder of times gone by. But for those under 40 it’s kind of foreign and not very user-friendly, compared to other structures and institutions. This could explain why the average age in the majority of Presbyterian congregations is rising and why younger people aren’t engaging. It’s not that they’re not interested in interfacing with the Holy, it’s that they don’t know how to use the interface.

So I’m wondering – is the church a rotary-dial phone in a user interface world? What if we stopped thinking about the church as a building, a fixed place where we go to interface with the Holy? What if, instead, we thought of the church as a cool, multifunctional UI that helps people connect and “interface” with each other, with our community, and with God? And what would that look like for our congregation if we did?

Grace and peace...

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UPCOMING SERMON TEXTS & TOPICS

We are continuing our parallel sermon series in July. Pastor Sarah will be focusing on passages from the Psalms while Pastor Tim continues his series called *The Fatherhood of God: Seeing God Through a Father's Eyes*.

July 2nd	Ephesians 1:13-10	<i>The Fatherhood of God: Adopted by God</i>
July 9th	Matthew 7:7-12	<i>The Fatherhood of God: Adoration</i>
July 16th	Hebrews 12:7-11	<i>The Fatherhood of God: Boundaries/Father Knows Best</i>
July 23rd	Psalms 86:11-17	<i>Mercy & Grace</i>
July 30th	1 John 3:1-6, 18-21	<i>The Fatherhood of God: A Big, Big Love</i>



OUR NEXT 5TH SUNDAY WORSHIP IS
JULY 30TH.

WORSHIP THAT DAY WILL BE IN THE
FELLOWSHIP HALL AND WILL BE A
LITTLE LESS FORMAL THAN USUAL.

Happy Birthday

07.01	Zach Burch	07.20	Cathy Briscoe
07.06	Cyrus Whitaker	07.22	Joan Riedl
07.07	Kirsty Bleyl	07.23	Nina Perez
07.07	Patsy Wright	07.23	Audrey Brown
07.09	Marion Frazer	07.23	Annie Liu
07.10	Liz Peebles	07.25	Rachel Penmore
07.10	Lily Wu	07.25	Daniel Robertson
07.12	Ben Bowlen	07.28	Helen Grant
07.14	Thomas Turner		



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

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING SUNDAY, JULY 9TH

After the worship service on Sunday, July 9th, there will be a congregational meeting to elect a 4th elder to the session class of 2026.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S JUNE PICNIC

The Presbyterian Women of Second Church completed their 2022-2023 monthly program year with a meeting/picnic at the First United Methodist Church Pavilion—thanks to First Church for the loan of its lovely outdoor meeting space near the river! The featured PW June program focused on some missionary activity in China in the 20th and 21 centuries.

Charlene Cotton provided her recollections of her grandparents who spent many years in the Methodist missionary field some time in early 20th-century China. Charlene brought several items for display from her missionary grandparents.

Courtney Tilford, now with the Emerald Youth Foundation, shared memories of her two missionary trips, serving both in rural and city areas of China in recent years. Courtney also brought several items of interest from her time in China.

In 2022-2023 Presbyterian Women was in a rebuilding phase as it reactivated its full PW program after the pandemic years when only its Arts and Crafts group was active under the leadership of Cheryl Ragsdale.

During 2022-2023 PW extended its participants to both men and women of the church and also welcomed interested guests to all monthly meetings. The program's emphasis was hymn singing with John Laster as a music leader, a study on several missions, and a Bible study on the Gentiles of the first century A.D. by Helen Grant.

The Presbyterian Women's leadership team invites all in the church and any visitors to attend our 2023-2024 program year, if you can attend during the daytime. We meet on the second Tuesday each month—September through June, 10:00-11:30. [Oh, yes, watch for a future announcement about a coming special event in November].



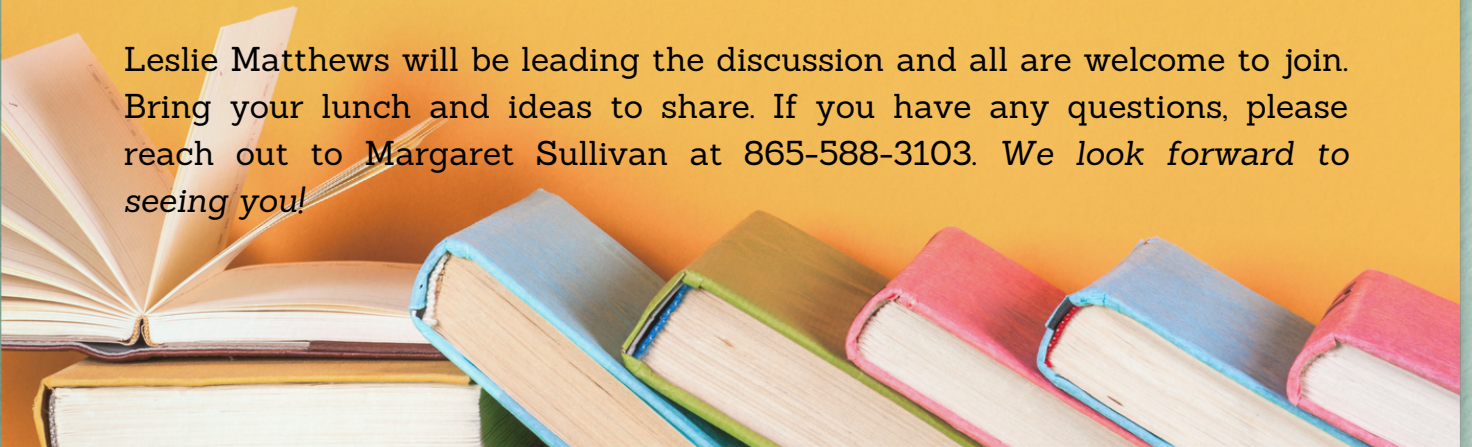


JULY 12 , 11:30 a.m.

BUCKINGHAM CLUBHOUSE

We will be having a discussion on Elin Hilderbrand's book, *The Island*. Copies of the book were distributed during the May meeting and can also be borrowed from the public library.

Leslie Matthews will be leading the discussion and all are welcome to join. Bring your lunch and ideas to share. If you have any questions, please reach out to Margaret Sullivan at 865-588-3103. We look forward to seeing you!



The GO team seeks 2nd Pres volunteers to help pack food. If you would like to help, please consider these opportunities:

Wednesday, July 19 (5 people)
10 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Wednesday, July 26 (5 people)
10 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR AN OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE GOD AND YOUR FELLOW MAN?

As many of you know, the LOVE KITCHEN was started in 1984 by sisters Helen Ashe and Ellen Turner, to serve the needy by feeding GOD'S children. While both sisters are now deceased, their legacy continues through the efforts of volunteers. The LOVE KITCHEN has no paid staff, but volunteers serve over 3,000 meals each week.

To sign up and/or ask questions, please call or text Leonard Bailey at (865) 207-4947 or email Lbailey@chartertn.net.

WEST VIEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL WORKDAY

AUGUST 5TH, 2023
8 A.M. - 12 NOON



The community of Second Presbyterian and its friends will meet at

1714 Mingle Ave, Knoxville, TN 37921

to assist in preparing the school for the upcoming academic year.

This will mark the 15th year of our voluntary service at West View!

We require a significant number of volunteers to work both indoors and outdoors on the school premises.

Please look for the sign-up link in all of our July Friday E-news. Make sure to specify your preference for tasks in the comments section.



Contact Leonard Bailey at (865) 207-4947
or Clara Hardin at (865) 803-2942
if you have any questions.

We will also be collecting school supplies!
More information will be in our
weekly e-news.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM JUNE 2023 STATED SESSION MEETING

- Received the Treasurer's Report.
- Received reports from the Preschool and Ministry Teams as information.
- Called a Congregational Meeting on July 9, 2023, to elect a new member of Session for the class of 2026.
- Approved the donation of \$10,000 to Massanetta Springs' "A Place for All Campaign".
- Approved amending Sarah Morgan's contract to cover the total cost of health insurance coverage for her two children.



Bonnie Smith will be out of the office on vacation
from **July 10th-21st.**

Pastor Tim will be away on vacation
from **July 31st-August 6th.**

MAY BUDGET REPORT

	MAY	YTD	BUDGET
TOTAL GIVING	\$67,027.42	\$430,540.83	\$784,417
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$57,300.04	\$303,375.86	\$819,176
EXCESS (SHORTAGE)	\$9727.38	\$127,164.97	(-\$34,759)

JULY 2023

SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT

2 10:30 a.m. Worship	3 10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting (Barbour)	4 Church Office Closed Independence Day	5 4:30 p.m. Connect Team (Barbour)	6 11:30 a.m. East TN Doll Collectors (Mary Chambers) 1:00 p.m. GO Team (Barbour) 5 p.m. Facilities Support (Zoom)	7	8
9 9:30 a.m. Faith, Science & The Future (Barbour) 10:30 a.m. Worship 11:30 a.m. Congregational Meeting	10 10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting (Barbour)	11 6:00 p.m. Worship Team (Barbour)	12 11:30 a.m. 2nd Readers Book Club (Buckingham Clubhouse)	13 6:00 p.m. Preschool Training (Fellowship Hall)	14 8:00 a.m. Preschool Training (Fellowship Hall)	15
16 9:30 a.m. Faith, Science & The Future (Barbour) 10:30 a.m. Worship	17 8:00 a.m. Preschool Training (Fellowship Hall) 9:30 a.m. Preschool Training (Barbour)	18	19 2:00 p.m. Compassionate Cuisine (Atrium)	20 10:00 a.m. Arts & Crafts (Room 227) 4:00 p.m. Deadline for 2nd Edition Newsletter	21	22 10:00 a.m. Session Retreat (Fellowship Hall)
23 9:30 a.m. Faith, Science & The Future (Barbour) 10:30 a.m. Worship	24	25 9:00 a.m. FISH pantry (Fellowship Hall) 1:00 p.m. GROW Team Meeting (ZOOM) 3 p.m. Preschool Graduation (Sanctuary)	26	27	28	29
30 9:30 a.m. Faith, Science & The Future (Barbour) 10:30 a.m. Worship	31					

- 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 & calendar on our website, 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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*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
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

PRESCHOOL

Lisa Henley