



Second Edition

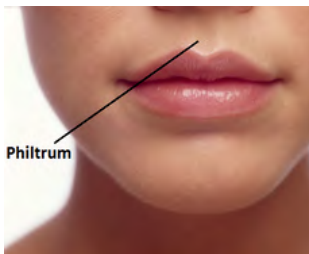
MARCH 2020 ISSUE

On Second Thought...

One of the things that makes humans unique is our curiosity. We humans have a deeply curious nature. The roots of our curiosity can be linked to a trait of the human species called neoteny. This is a term from evolutionary theory that means “the retention of juvenile characteristics.” It means that as a species we are more child-like than other mammals. Some of this is physical – we are relatively hairless compared to other mammals, and we have a large brain relative to the size of our body. It also includes, however, behavioral characteristics such as an inherent playfulness and an intense curiosity to learn more.

Every parent who has ever answered countless “why’s” on a trip knows that our curiosity is insatiable. This isn’t always a negative, though. One of the reasons adults love to be around children is the child-like wonder with which they view the world. Seeing the world through a child’s eyes is like opening a treasure trove of things we had forgotten even existed.

Adults who are able to carry this child-like curiosity into adulthood are often people who change the world. Think of George Washington Carver looking at a peanut and asking, “What else could I do with this?” More often than not and for more of us than not, however, our curiosity is focused on the minor details of our lives. Our curiosity has us doing utterly unproductive things – like reading news about people we will never meet, learning about topics we will have little use for, exploring places we will never come back to, or going down a rabbit hole of YouTube videos. We are insatiably curious about things that have little to no impact on our lives or the world around us, like how many cat videos have been posted this week, or trying to figure out what that little indentation between our nose and our lip is called. (I Googled it for you – it’s called a philtrum, which is Greek for “love charm”.)



Lent is a time to indulge our curiosity. It is a time to ask questions of ourselves. Not frivolous, meaningless questions, but deep and abiding spiritual questions. Lent is a time to “check-in” with ourselves through prayer, fasting, acts of service, worship, and studying God’s Word to find out where we have drifted in our relationship with God and where we need to reconnect with him. Lent is a time to recommit to being curious about important things, like how we can make the world better, how we can glorify God, and how we can serve others in God’s name.

This Lent, Pastor Sarah and I will be addressing some of Our Most Critical Questions on Sunday mornings. These questions are ones that we are often curious about but don’t ask because we are afraid of what the answer might be. Questions like: What Do We Do When Faced with Temptation? Does God Still Love Me, Even Though...? Does God Still Work Miracles? Is It Okay to be Angry with God?

I hope that you allow yourself to ask meaningful questions this Lenten season, that you allow your curiosity to run free, and that you join us in worship during this holy season to explore these spiritual questions without fear. May your Lenten journey be filled with wonder!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "J.M." or similar.

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Upcoming Sermon Texts & Topics

During Lent, Pastors Tim & Sarah will examine some of **Our Most Critical Questions**. Here's what's on the schedule for March:

March 1st What do we do when we face temptations? (Matthew 4:1-11)

March 8th Are we born again? (John 3:1-17)

March 15th Does God Still Love Me, Even Though...? (John 4:5-42)

March 22nd Does God still work miracles? (John 9:1-41)

March 29th Is it okay to be angry with God? (John 11:1-45)

28 Then they "yoked themselves to the "Baal of Peor,
29 they provoked the LORD to anger with their deeds,
and a plague broke out among them.
30 Then "Phineas stood up and intervened,
and the plague was stayed.
31 And that was "counted to him as righteousness
from generation to generation forever.
32 They "angered him at the waters of Meribah,
and it went ill with Moses on their account,
33 for they "made his spirit bitter,¹
and he "spoke rashly with his lips.
34 They did not "destroy the peoples,
"as the LORD commanded them,
35 but they "mixed with the nations
and learned to do as they did.
36 They served their idols,
which became "a snare to them.
37 They "sacrificed their sons
and their daughters to "the demons;
38 they poured out innocent blood,
the blood of their sons and daughters,
whom they sacrificed to the idols of Canaan,
and the land was "polluted with blood.
39 Thus they "became unclean by their acts,
and "played the whore in their deeds.
40 Then "the anger of the LORD was kindled against "his people,
and he abhorred his "heritage;
41 he "gave them into the hand of the nations,
so that those who hated them ruled over them.
42 Their enemies "oppressed them,
and they were brought into subjection under their power.
43 "Many times he delivered them,
but they were rebellious in their "purposes
and were "brought low through their iniquity.
44 Nevertheless, he looked upon their distress,
when he "heard their cry.
45 For their sake he "remembered his covenant,
and "relented according to "the abundance of his steadfast love.
46 He caused them to be "pitied
by all those who held them captive.
47 "Save us, O LORD our God,
and "gather us from among the nations,
that we may give thanks to your holy name
and glory in your praise.
48 "Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel,
from everlasting to everlasting!
"And let all the people say, "Amen!"
"Praise the LORD!

¹ Or they rebelled against God's Spirit

BOOK FIVE

Let the Redeemed of the Lord Say So

107 "Oh give thanks to the LORD, "for he is good,
for his steadfast love endures forever!
2 Let "the redeemed of the LORD say so,
whom he has "redeemed from trouble,¹
3 and "gathered in from the lands,
from the east and from the west,
from the north and from the south.
4 Some "wandered in desert wastes,
finding no way "to a city to dwell in;
5 hungry and thirsty,
their soul "fainted within them.
6 Then they "cried to the LORD in their trouble,
and he delivered them from their distress.
7 He led them by "a straight way
till they reached "a city to dwell in.
8 "Let them thank the LORD for his steadfast love,
for his wondrous works to the children of man!
9 For he "satisfies the longing soul,
and the hungry soul he fills with good things.
10 "Some sat in darkness and in "the shadow of death,
prisoners in "affliction and in irons,
11 for they "had rebelled against the words of God,
and "spurned the counsel of the Most High.
12 So he bowed their hearts down with hard labor;
they fell down, "with none to help.
13 "Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble,
and he delivered them from their distress.
14 He brought them out of "darkness and the shadow of death,
and "burst their bonds apart.
15 "Let them thank the LORD for his steadfast love,
for his wondrous works to the children of man!
16 For he "shatters the doors of bronze
and cuts in two the bars of iron.
17 Some were "fools through their sinful ways,
and because of their iniquities suffered affliction;
18 "they loathed any kind of food,
and they "drew near to "the gates of death.
19 "Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble,
and he delivered them from their distress.
20 He "sent out his word and "healed them,
and "delivered them from their destruction.
21 "Let them thank the LORD for his steadfast love,
for his wondrous works to the children of man!
22 And let them "offer sacrifices of thanksgiving,
and "tell of his deeds in "songs of joy!
23 Some "went down to the sea in ships,
doing business on the great waters;
24 they saw the deeds of the LORD,

¹ Or from the hand of the foe

The background of the entire page is a photograph of several white snowdrop flowers with green stems and leaves, growing out of a layer of white snow. The snow is in sharp focus in the foreground, showing its crystalline texture. The flowers are slightly out of focus in the background.

Fifth Sunday Worship

On March 29th, worship will be held in the Fellowship Hall like it is any time there's a fifth Sunday in the month. This time will look a little different. The Care and Compassion Ministry Unit is hosting a "brunch church". Come hungry and ready for a time of food, fellowship, and worship.

February

First Time Visitors

Grayson Davidson

Raleigh Lish

Izzy Fenech

Regular Visitors

Eric Batts

Linda Boyd

Eugene & June Burke

Alex Cooper

Lindsey Cope

Carter DePoy

Kira Evans

Ruthann Froberg

James Gilmer

David Horne

Derryl Kasler

Katie & Oliver Keene

George Lane

Brenda & Paul Lutz

Pam Maples

Sherianne McCoy

Rob Meyer

Henry Naff

Mary Stewart Neely

John & Andrea Nelson

Elizabeth Seastrunk

Robert Stevens

Megan Thibert

Karen Vance

Pat Winger

March Birthdays

Charles Wu 3/01

Doug Matthews 3/06

Ally McLean 3/08

Lucy Brittian 3/10

Jan Barber 3/11

Beth Robertson 3/12

Terry Weaver 3/14

John Gill 3/17

Nancy Montgomery 3/22

Sydney Jones 3/23

Charlotte Klieman 3/25

Ann Payne 3/29

Mariann Thuesen 3/30

First Sunday Youth Fellowship



The youth had a blast at Skatetown last month. This month, they'll work together to see if they are able to crack the code and make it out of a breakout room! Stay tuned to see if they make it out!



The next First Sunday Youth Fellowship will be March 1st!

Care & Compassion



LUNCH BUNCH

Lunch Bunch will meet Tuesday, March 3rd at 11:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. This is a catered lunch and will cost \$10.00 per person.

For reservations, please call John Reynolds at 865-588-0085, or Mariann Thuesen at 865-253-7653 by March 1st.

Our speaker will be Jim Ford. His topic is "Life Experiences". He will also lead our Pre-K class from the church preschool in a line dancing demonstration.

All are invited to attend!



News from Presbyterian Women

The women of Second Church and the UKirk Presbyterian campus ministry at UT thank those at Second Church who have been providing a meal at UKirk the fourth Wednesday of each month during this fall and winter. There is a need for volunteers to help with providing the March and April meals for student UKirk members. One can either provide food or the funds to purchase food. Contact Ileen Cheek (865-247-5258) for more information.

The Presbyterian Women's group at Second Church welcomes all, ladies and gents, to its March 10 spring meeting with Bible Study from 10-11, catered lunch at 11:30 and a program on the Elephant Sanctuary in Tennessee. Contact the church office for lunch reservations.

The Mission Circle visited the Love Kitchen on February 26th to help assemble boxed meals for shut-ins.

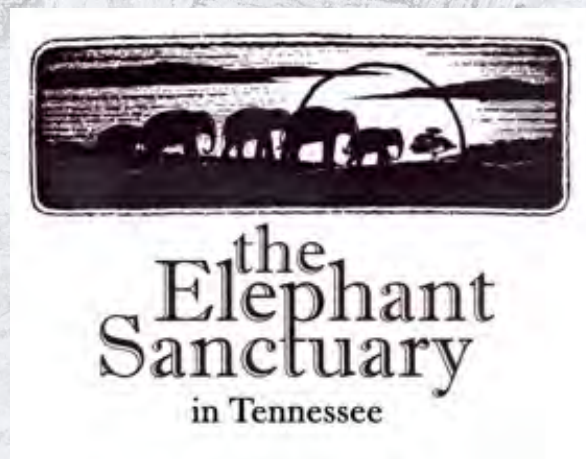
The Arts and Crafts Circle invites all who want to learn to knit to contact Cheryl Ragsdale (865-247-5258). This circle will be working on three projects this spring: (1) knitting "joey" pouches for the orphaned baby kangaroos in Australia; (2) caps for the homeless; and (3) prayer shawls for shut-ins.

The monthly Bible Study Circle is studying the Ten Commandments this year, but cancelled the February session due to bad weather. The March session will discuss the fifth and sixth commandments. Contact Helen Grant for more information (865-693-1980).



**Everyone is invited to join the herd!
Tuesday March 10th at 11:30 a.m. we will have a
fabulous lunch and program for only \$10!**

**Don't forget to reserve
your place at the luncheon
& Elephant Sanctuary presentation
by Erin Combs, EleAmbassador for**



**Sponsored by PW.
Call Mariann Thuesen by March 7th at
(865) 253-7653 or email Donna at
dmatlock@utk.edu.
PW members will
be called.**

FISH

FISH is a hunger relief program, which began in England in 1961, led by Anglican pastor Rev. Derick Eastman and layman Dr. Donald Richards. The name is derived from the early church use of the fish symbol to identify one as a Christian, and sometimes to be a sign of distress and in need of help.

The program began in the U.S. in 1964 In Massachusetts, led by Rev. Robert Lee Howell and William Turpin. Turpin discovered FISH while in England on a State Department assignment.

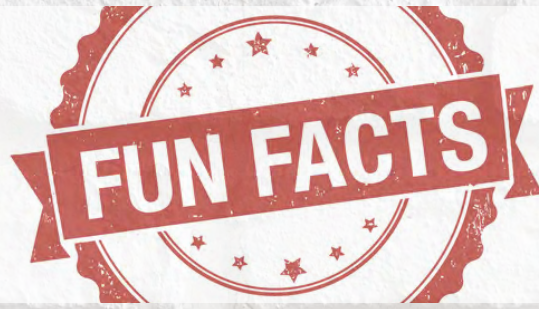
The all-volunteer FISH was launched in Knoxville February 15, 1972. According to Second's Historical Resume, written as part of the Tennessee Homecoming 1986 celebration, the church has participated in the program since 1977. Early volunteers Ethel and Lawrence Ritchie are credited with creating the list of food given to provide the most nutrients.

The program operates in two ways. Those with transportation can visit one of several Hospitality Pantries. Those without transportation call a central number which is forwarded to the church or agency serving that day. The telephone volunteer obtains information from the caller as to the number of people, location, special needs, etc. Baggers assemble the food. Two-man driver teams deliver the food.

We have a group of dedicated volunteers, but we need more. More drivers mean more people can be served. More baggers make quick work. For a more detailed description of what a FISH day looks like, you can speak with Caroline Buckner (531-8867) or Joe Clarke (335-0421), both of whom are experienced volunteers. New volunteers are always paired with experienced ones. If you have a few hours to give on the fourth Tuesday of the month, you could be most helpful and enjoy the good fellowship as well. Even occasional help would be appreciated. Please call the church office and give Audrey your contact information.

You can also help by placing donations to FISH in the bins under the coat rack off the Atrium. Donations of personal hygiene items, which cannot be purchased with food stamps, are especially appreciated: toothpaste, lotion, deodorant, shampoo, and bar soap.





How Well Do You Know Your Staff?

In last month's newsletter, we included a fun fact about each member of the staff at Second Pres and asked for YOU to guess which fact was about each staff member! Check out the answers below!

Were your guesses correct?

This staff member once spent Christmas Eve in Bethlehem.

Matthew Mimbs - Director of Music and Art

This staff member once played Stephen Foster's mother in an elementary school play and sang "I Dream of Jeanie with the Light Brown Hair".

Jan Barber - Visitation Minister

This staff member once spent New Year's Eve in Times Square.

Sarah Morgan - Transitional Associate Pastor

This staff member worked as a character actor at Walt Disney World.

Audrey Johnson - Church Administrator

This staff member is fluent in Spanish.

David Stultz - Assistant Director of Music and Organist

This staff member's first job was as a finance and insurance person for a motorcycle dealership.

Linda Sue Byrd - Preschool Director

This staff member worked as a lifeguard in high school and college.

Tim Reynolds - Pastor and Head of Staff

This staff member is an accomplished tap dancer – and has the video footage to prove it!

Justin Lattimore - Sexton

This staff member used to spend summers on the family farm shucking corn and breaking beans and is now the only one left in the family still growing the family heirloom green beans, which date back to the 1930's.

Holly Grimm - Children's Ministry Director





Livi Fenech is a freshman at UTK majoring in Communication Studies and minoring in Theatre. She is from Canton, Georgia but has lived in Knoxville the last few years. She enjoys singing with her a capella group, reVOLution and Chamber Singers at UT.



Miles Jenkins (tenor) is a graduate of the University of Montevallo in Alabama where he received his Bachelor of Music degree in vocal performance and music education. He studied voice with tenor Roderick George and received stage and acting training from Charles Wood. Miles is currently a graduate student and teaching assistant at the University of Tennessee – Knoxville where he is also an active member of the Knoxville Opera Studio. He is pursuing his Master of Music degree in vocal performance and studies voice with Andrew Skoog. Miles is a native of Birmingham, Alabama.



Hi! My name is **Annie Liu** and I'm currently a freshman at UTK! I'm from Laramie, Wyoming (originally but I've lived here for 3 years). I'm studying Global Studies and Geography and I'm very glad to be part of this amazing church.



Spencer Morrell - I'm a native of Greeneville, TN, where I picked up a passion for singing in church and at school. I graduated from the University of Tennessee last year with a degree in History with minors in Political Science and Religious Studies. I am now pursuing a Master's degree in Teaching at Tusculum University. I enjoy watching sports and I love to watch and participate in musical performances. Second Presbyterian has been a great place to sing with a loving, vibrant congregation. I'm excited to be a part of the Second Pres. Music ministry!



STEWARDSHIP



JANUARY BUDGET REPORT

	JANUARY	YTD	BUDGET
TOTAL GIVING	\$96,434.21	\$96,434.21	\$771,833.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$51,090.69	\$51,090.69	\$777,908.00
EXCESS/(SHORTAGE)	\$45,343.52	\$45,343.52	(\$6,075.00)

Highlights from the February Session Meeting

- Received reports from the Preschool and Ministry Teams
- Received the Treasurer's Report
- Approved the motion from the Staffing Task Force to seek to extend the Transitional Designated Associate Pastor appointment for five additional years from the Presbytery of East Tennessee.



1 9 ³ a Sunday School 11a Worship Time 12p Food & Friends	2 4 ³ p Cross Ministry 5p BSF	3 9a Staff Meeting 11 ³ a Lunch Bunch 5p Facilities 6p Care & Compassion 6p Stewardship 7p Boy Scouts 7p Service & Outreach 8 ³ p Men's Basketball	4 4p Line Dancing 4 ³ p Handbells 5 ³ p Wed Nt Dinner 6p Bible Study 7p Chancel Choir	5	6 Church Office Closed 3 ³ p FOT Event	7 9a TOTS Tournament
8 9 ³ a Sunday School 11a Worship Time 12p Food & Friends	9 12p Pre-School Board 5p BSF 6p Discipleship	10 10a PW Bible Study 11 ⁴⁵ a PW Luncheon 6p Planned Giving Mtg 6p Worship Ministry 7p Boy Scouts 8 ³ p Men's Basketball	11 4p Line Dancing 4 ³ p Handbells 5 ³ p Wed Nt Dinner 6p Bible Study 7p Chancel Choir	12 Audrey Out of Office	13 Church Office Closed	14 10a Elder Training
15 9 ³ a Sunday School 11a Worship Time 12p Food & Friends	16 No BSF	17 9a Staff Meeting 6p Session Meeting 7p Boy Scouts 8 ³ p Men's Basketball 	18 3p 2 nd Readers 4p Line Dancing 4 ³ p Handbells 5 ³ p Wed Nt Dinner 6p Bible Study 7p Chancel Choir	19 Preschool Closed 8 ¹⁵ a Alzheimer's of TN Event 10a Arts & Crafts	20 Church Office Closed Preschool Closed April 2nd Edition Deadline	21
22 9 ³ a Sunday School 11a Worship Time 12p Food & Friends	23 5p BSF	24 9a FISH Pantry 10a House & Garden 7p Boy Scouts 8 ³ p Men's Basketball	25 4p Line Dancing 4 ³ p Handbells 5 ³ p Wed Nt Dinner 6p Bible Study 7p Chancel Choir	26 6p Elder Training	27 Church Office Closed	28
29 9 ³ a Sunday School 11a Worship Time 12p Food & Friends	30 5p BSF	31 7p Boy Scouts 8 ³ p Men's Basketball				



Second Presbyterian Church
2829 Kingston Pike
Knoxville, TN 37919
Ph. 865.523.2189
Fax 865.637.2617
www.2ndpres.org

CLERGY STAFF

Pastor Tim Reynolds
Pastor/Head of Staff
treynolds@2ndpres.org

Pastor Sarah Morgan
*Transitional Associate Pastor for
Congregational Life & Youth*
smorgan@2ndpres.org

PROGRAM STAFF

Matthew Mimbs
Director of Music & Arts
mmimbs@2ndpres.org

David Stultz
Asst. Dir. of Music / Organist
davidstultz12@gmail.com

Holly Grimm
Children's Ministry Coordinator
hgrimm@2ndpres.org

Jan Barber
Visitation Minister
jbarber@2ndpres.org

SUPPORT STAFF

Audrey Johnson
Church Administrator
ajohnson@2ndpres.org

PRESCHOOL STAFF

Linda Sue Byrd
Director
lasbyrd@2ndpres.org

Holly Grimm
Assistant Director
hgrimm@2ndpres.org

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 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