

Second Edition

MAY 2022 ISSUE

On Second Thought...

This month I begin my sabbatical. I am so deeply grateful to the Session and to this congregation for offering me this time of rest and renewal. I have been asked a number of questions about my sabbatical time, so I thought I would answer some of the ones I have heard most often.

When exactly is your sabbatical?

I will be away from May 23rd through September 5th. I will be back in the office on Tuesday, September 6th. So, basically, Memorial Day through Labor Day.

What will you be doing on your sabbatical?

In consultation with the Pastoral Relations Team, I have put together a plan that is equal parts relaxation and study. My primary study goal is to begin work on a book I have been wanting to write for a number of years. I also have about 20 books that I haven't had time to read the last few years, and I plan on working my way through those. I will be visiting the Abbey of Gethsemane, a Trappist monastery near Bardstown, KY, for a weeklong silent retreat. Finally, there are 5 congregations in different parts of the country that are doing some interesting things in ministry and mission that I think might help our congregation. I will be visiting each of these congregations during the summer.

On the relaxation side, I have three trips planned. Thanks to Terry & Kay Weaver, who have generously offered me the use of their timeshare, I will be visiting Hilton Head with a couple of friends and one of my brothers to play golf for a week. My wife and I are going to Bonaire for a week of scuba diving, something we used to do often but haven't had the chance to do in about 10 years. Finally, our family will be going to Universal Studios in Orlando for a family vacation. (Okay – maybe not a lot of relaxation, but hopefully a lot of fun.)

Does this mean you are going to leave 2nd?

Absolutely not!!! In fact, just the opposite. I have been a pastor for almost 22 years and there is some inevitable spiritual burnout and fatigue that comes along with serving that many years without a break. A sabbatical is a chance to take a break from the daily/weekly grind of ministry and hit the reset button in order to gain new energy and excitement for the work of ministry. My hope is that this sabbatical will allow me to continue to serve 2nd Presbyterian faithfully and energetically for many years to come – provided you'll still have me!



Who's going to be in charge while you're gone?

The Session will be in charge of the congregation, just like always! So, things should continue right along as they have in terms of our ministries, missions, and programs. Pastor Sarah will be acting Head of Staff, overseeing the day-to-day functions of the church office. Sarah will also be providing leadership for worship, funerals, pastoral care, and all the other things pastors of congregations do throughout the week. She has been here 4 years, now, and knows this congregation and its members as well as I do. She will be a wonderful pastor to you while I am away.

Will we see you at all during your sabbatical?

Sadly, the answer to this question is no. While I love you all dearly, for a sabbatical to accomplish its purpose, a pastor must completely step away from the congregation. I will not be checking emails and I respectfully ask that you not call or text me during this time. This also means that I won't be here for fellowship events, worship, activities, or even funerals. (This is always the hardest part of a sabbatical for any pastor or congregation.) You will be in capable hands with Pastor Sarah and she will be able to meet any and all pastoral needs you may have while I'm away.

Will Pastor Sarah need any help?

ALL pastors need help! In the Presbyterian Church, we affirm the Priesthood of All Believers – which means we are all ministers of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Ministry is not reserved for any one person or class of people. That said, a pastoral sabbatical is a great time to think of ways that you can engage in the ministry of the church, since many pastors (me being one of them) often take on too many responsibilities that can be done by many others. So I imagine if you reach out to Pastor Sarah and ask – *What can I do? How can I be of help?* – she will have an answer for you!

Know that I will miss you while I am away, but I look forward to returning in the fall and hearing all the great stories of what God has continued to do through you over the summer!

Grace and peace...

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Upcoming Sermon Texts and Topics

May 1 John 21:1-19

Do You Love Me?

May 8 John 10:22-30

My Sheep Hear My Voice

May 15 John 13:31-35

Love One Another

May 22 Psalm 67

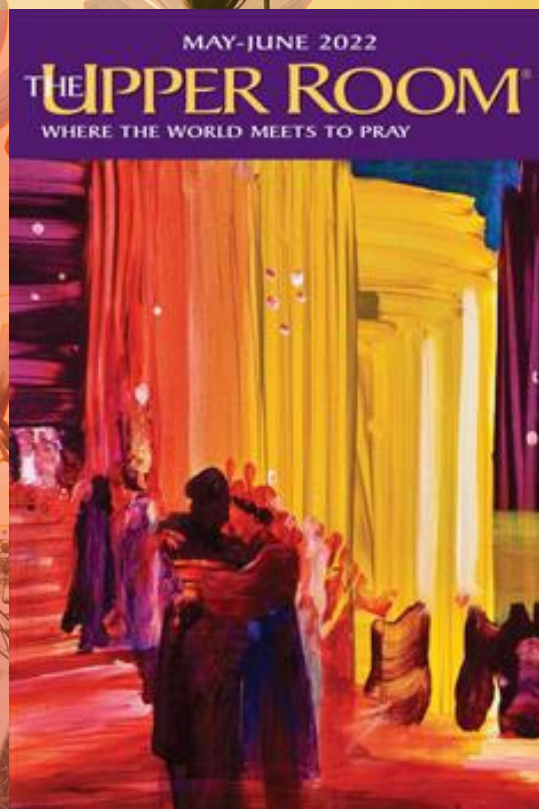
Blessed to Be a Blessing

*May 29 Rev 22:12-14,
16-17, 20-21*


*John's Epilogue and
Benediction*

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.

**The May - June
Upper Room
Devotionals
are available!
Copies can be
found in the
vestibule &
narthex.**



MAY BIRTHDAYS



05.01	Bruce Foster, Max Jones, Paul Sexauer
05.02	Ruth Ewald
05.05	Kathy Duggan, Marty McLean
05.07	Gregg Pruitt
05.11	Cleston Jones
05.13	Redmond Sweitzer
05.14	Frank McClelland
05.15	Joe Beals, Tuesday Reynolds, Ellen Rochelle
05.19	Brice Gilmer
05.22	Matt Mimbs
05.23	Holly Grimm
05.24	Neal Henley
05.25	Duane Grieve
05.28	Margaret Sullivan
05.30	William Pruitt
05.31	Leslie Matthews, Jennica Ullrich

*If we inadvertently missed someone ... Happy Birthday!
Please help us update your records at the church
so we'll have your special day on file next year!*

Graduation Celebration
Sunday, May 1st
12:00 pm (following worship)

We will host a Graduation Celebration to honor our 2022 graduates following worship on Sunday, May 1st. There will be a Taco Bar for \$8 per adult (kids eat free). Our 2022 graduates (pictured below) are **Dale Henley** and **Kylie Beets** (high school) and **Lindsay Casey** (college). Baskets for each are in the church office if you would like to drop off a card or a gift. Let's give them a loving send-off!



Dale Henley



Kylie Beets



Lindsay Casey

Class of 2022



welcome, little ones!

Church-wide Baby Shower
Sunday, May 15

12:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall with light refreshments

Please RSVP by May 9 to lmrhenley@gmail.com.

Please join us to honor the newest members of our congregation and their parents:

Doux (born Dec 2021), daughter of Beth and Daniel Robertson

Brentley (born Feb 2022), son of Zachary Burch and Ginny Williams

Nina Marie (due Aug 2022), daughter of Kylie Beets and Xavier

Perez, granddaughter of Holly Grimm

Please bring gifts for each to the shower. There are also baskets in the church office, so if you are unable to attend but would like to drop off a gift or card, please stop by.

Easter

@

2nd





Yes!! the PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S group
at SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH will meet
Tuesday, May 10, 2022.

9:30 – 10:00 Coffee and snacks

10:00 – 11:30 Program

Fellowship Hall

Please join us for:

Sharing time

Prayer and Hymn Singing

Bible Study on one of Jesus' ancestral Grandmothers

AND

An in-depth report by Charles White on Second Church's own top-rated, fully
accredited PRESCHOOL – one of Second's oldest mission outreach programs.

NOTE: All recommended Covid protocols will be followed!



2nd Readers

May 11 at 11:30 a.m.
Buckingham Clubhouse

Charlotte Klieman will lead our discussion of Knoxville's own Kreis Beall's
The Great Blue Hills of God.

Brink your lunch and drink.

There are three copies of this book floating around,
or it is available from Amazon for about \$24.

Call or text Margaret Sullivan at (865) 588-3103
if you are interested or want more information.
We would love to have others join us in this book group at Second!



ST. MARK'S CHILDREN'S HOME AND ORPHANAGE

Second Church's relationship with St. Mark's Children's Home and Orphanage in Tanzania began in 2018 when Rev. Jim Gray (retired minister attending Second) and Lisa New (President/CEO of Zoo Knoxville) approached the Service and Outreach committee for support for the home. Lisa had recently led a tour group to Tanzania, where she had been very impressed by the tour director and safari guide and what he was doing at St. Mark's and what he hoped to do.



Robert Marks Moshi is director and doctor for St. Mark's and was its first orphan. The orphanage was established by Scottish missionaries, who adopted Robert. Robert and all of the children are members of the Maasia tribe. The founders respected the Maasia culture and traditions, but also introduced the children to Christianity.

Robert is well-educated and recognizes the importance of education for the children and hopes to establish a school at St. Mark's. In the meantime the children are sent to boarding schools.

Second's mission has been to fund tuition for Michael, a bright little boy now ten years old. In 2019, Donna and John Matlock joined a Zoo tour and met

Michael and Robert. Covid prevented a planned visit from Robert two years ago. But we are delighted that he is able to be with us in worship Sunday, May 8, to give us an update on Michael and St. Mark's and his hopes and plans for the future.



Mission Chronicles

Montgomery Village Ministry



Second Presbyterian Church has supported Montgomery Village Ministry in many ways. The Ministry was started in 1975 by a group of South Knoxville pastors and church leaders. Montgomery Village is a public housing development of two-story apartments near Maryville Pike.

The purpose of the Ministry is to meet the spiritual, educational, and economic needs of the Village residents. It is located in various facilities provided by Knoxville's Community Development Corporation (KCDC). The second director of the Ministry was Dorothy Duggan, a Second Church member. From 1998 to 2011, the Ministry operated or was connected with a Child Care Center located at first in the Village, then in a nearby building. Connie Steele, a Second Church member, was instrumental in starting and operating the Center.

At various times the Ministry has provided Sunday School, worship services, a lending library, adult literacy classes, summer youth camp, cooking classes, and a Christmas gift shop. The long-time Thanksgiving dinner was done last year as 400 take-out dinners. The Ministry hopes to resume ministries that have been restricted because of the pandemic, such as support groups and Bible study. Free Bibles are offered for anyone to take home. Computer internet access is available to residents who do not have it. Community garden space is available adjacent to the Ministry. We have arranged for vaccination clinics at the Ministry recently.

New programs are being planned in cooperation with South Knoxville churches, Compassion Coalition, and the Beacon of Hope project at nearby Vestal United Methodist Church. An example would be financial independence courses for Montgomery Village residents, to be given at Vestal UMC.

Dear Members of Second Presbyterian Church,

Thanks be to God that our prayers for reconnection are being answered! Based on recent conversations with multiple partners, I know significant effort has been invested in returning to a pre-pandemic routine, particularly in welcoming more face-to-face interactions with others. With the arrival of spring and warmer temperatures, we are hopeful to see even more people return to group activities and serving in the community.

Did you know the most common reason a person comes to Knox Area Rescue Ministries is because of a lack of connection? While tragedy, addiction, or joblessness may play a role, the lack of a support group leaves many with no options other than KARM.

More Connection Opportunities

Volunteering has historically provided a chance for people to gather. After two years of waiting, we are reconnecting with many who stepped away and we are welcoming many first-time volunteers. We have two volunteer teams to help you connect at KARM (volunteer@karm.org) and KARM Stores (volunteer@karmstores.com). Both teams would love to talk with you about creating the right opportunity for those at Second Presbyterian to reconnect while serving together.

Gift Cards to KARM Stores

Last, but certainly not least, we're excited to share more gift cards with you. The generosity of those at Second Presbyterian allows us to share these resources with you. Please continue to share the story of Corners Of Your Field and how we meet needs through our partnership.

During January, February, and March, KARM Stores received 36 donations from those connected to Second Presbyterian. We are excited to deliver \$130 in gift cards so you can help those you know.

Thank you for remaining connected and consistently investing in our partnership. We are excited to see what lies ahead for all of us.

... Because of you, your gifts [\$10,000 for DR000156 Disaster Relief - International Refugee Programs Ukraine], and faithfulness, we are able to say with a full and grateful heart that in the midst of chaos, and through the many *via dolorosas* (ways of suffering) God's people endure, there is hope, help and healing. Thank you, in the name of the suffering and risen Lord.

The Rev. Dr. Laurie A. Kraus
Director, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance

2nd Pres Generosity

Updates from the Session

Highlights from the April 2022 Stated & Called Session Meetings

- Received reports from the Preschool and Ministry Teams as information.
- Received the Treasurer's Report
- The incoming Elder Class of 2025 was examined and approved.
- Approved ordaining Elizabeth Seastrunk and Zachary Burch and installing Terry Weaver, Elizabeth Seastrunk, Zachary Burch and Lisa Henley as Elders on May 1, 2022.
- Elected Dean Farmer to represent the Church at the Presbytery of East Tennessee Meeting on Tuesday May 17, 2022 at the Sequoyah Birthplace Museum in Vonore.
- Changed to the CDC metric for describing Covid-19 levels and that interpreted the Covid-19 ratings in the following ways: Low - Similar to current Green precautions; Medium - Similar to current yellow/orange precautions and High- Similar to current red precautions.
- Approved sending a check to West View Elementary School for the purpose of funding new playground equipment.

MARCH BUDGET REPORT

	MARCH	YTD	BUDGET
TOTAL GIVING	\$98,061.42	\$242,799.43	\$780,570.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$77,313.02	\$191,411.36	\$784,242.10
EXCESS/(SHORTAGE)	\$20,748.40	\$51,388.07	---

1 Communion Sunday 9 ⁴⁵ a FSF Sunday School Class (Barbour) 11a Worship with Ordination of new Elders 12p Graduation Celebration Luncheon (FH)		3 6p CONNECT Leadership Team (Barbour) 7p Boy Scouts	4 9a CCRR Meeting (FH) 2p Compassionate Cuisine Home Meal (Gym) 5 ⁴⁵ p Pizza prior to Small Group (MCR) 6 ³ p Small Group Discussion, Gospel of Mark (Library)	5 12p Colossians Study (MCR) 1p GO Leadership Team (MCR) 2p Knoxville Symphony Orchestra Rehearsal (Sanctuary)	6 Church Office Closed	7 8a UTK Academic Enrichment Upward Bound Summer Orientation (Sanctuary & Gym)
8 Mother's Day 9 ⁴⁵ a Robert Marks Moshi (FH) 11a Worship 12p Reception for Robert Marks Moshi (MCR)	9 6p GROW Leadership Team (Zoom)	10 10a Presbyterian Women (FH) 4p Kathryn Paden recital rehearsal (Sanctuary) 5p FACILITIES SUPPORT Leadership Team (Zoom) 6p WORSHIP Leadership Team (Zoom) 7p Boy Scouts	11 11 ³ a 2 nd Readers Book Club (Buckingham) 5 ⁴⁵ p Pizza prior to Small Group (MCR) 6 ³ p Small Group Discussion, Gospel of Mark (Library)	12 12p Colossians Study (MCR)	13 Church Office Closed 6p Kathryn Paden voice studio recital (Sanctuary)	14
15 9 ⁴⁵ a FSF Sunday School Class (Barbour) 11a Worship 12 ³ p Baby Shower (FH)	16 12p Preschool Board Meeting (Zoom)	17 6p Session Meeting (Zoom if Covid Red) 7p Boy Scouts	18 2p Compassionate Cuisine Home Meal (FH)	19 10a Arts & Crafts (Rm 227) 12p Colossians Study (MCR)	20 Church Office Closed <i>Deadline for articles for June issue of 2nd Edition (bsmith@2ndpres.org)</i>	21 9a TOT Basketball (Gym) 2p Knoxville Symphony Orchestra rehearsal (Gym)
22 9 ⁴⁵ a FSF Sunday School Class (Barbour) 11a Worship	23	24 9a FISH pantry (FH) 7p Boy Scouts	25	26	27 Church Office Closed	28
29 9 ⁴⁵ a FSF Sunday School Class (Barbour) 11a Worship	30  Memorial Day Holiday Church Office Closed Preschool Closed	31 7p Boy Scouts	<div> <h2>2022 May</h2> <p>The events included in this calendar will take place as listed if we are in Covid Phase Yellow, or Green.</p> <p>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.</p>  </div>			



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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 2023

Tracy Horton
Neal Peebles
Charles White
Tim Wright

CLASS OF 2024

Ileen Cheek
Joe Clarke
Angela Jones
Mary Kay Sullivan

CLASS OF 2025

Zachary Burch
Lisa Henley
Elizabeth Seastrunk
Terry Weaver

MINISTRY TEAMS & MODERATORS

Worship

Ileen Cheek
Elizabeth Seastrunk

Grow

Zachary Burch
Terry Weaver

Go

Tracy Horton
Tim Wright

Connect

Joe Clarke
Lisa Henley

Support

Neal Peebles
Mary Kay Sullivan
Angela Jones

Preschool Board

Charles White