

# Second Edition

NOVEMBER 2021 ISSUE



# On Second Thought...



Other than Easter and Christmas, Halloween has always been our family's favorite holiday. It's just so much fun! I think we probably have more Halloween decorations than any other holiday, with the exception of Christmas.

Friendly ghosts, funny witches, pumpkin lights, and Pirate Pete adorn our front porch this time of year, welcoming Trick-or-Treaters to our house.

When the kids were little we would dress up in our own costumes and walk the neighborhood with them on Halloween night. Mamaw and Pap would come visit so someone was at home to hand out the candy. Now that the kids are too old for Trick-or-Treating we no longer dress up. But we do sit on our porch and welcome the children as we "ooh" and "aah" over their costumes and put candy into their already bulging bags of sweet treats.

When I was a child and went Trick-or-Treating, candy bars were regular, full-size bars. That's all that was available back then, I guess. Sure, sometimes I got a popcorn ball or some candy corn. One lady in our neighborhood gave out small bunches of grapes in little Ziploc bags! Mostly, though, it was candy bars - full-size Snickers, Hershey bars, Almond Joys, Heath Bars, Mars Bars, Reese's Peanut Butter Cups, Milky Ways, 3 Musketeers, or Baby Ruths.

Now, however, there are several different sizes of candy bars for Halloween (and I guess other times of the year, too). There are king-size, full-size, fun-size, and bite-size of just about every major brand. We always get variety bags of the fun size because, well, fun! The king-size ones are out of the question; who does that? The bite-size ones are too small; they just leave you wanting more and they make you look stingy or cheap. The full-size ones are too big; they take up too much room in the bag, have too much sugar and calories for little ones, they are expensive, they force you to commit to only one brand, they make the neighbors look bad, plus, while the kids might like them they make the parents wonder what kind of old kook you are!

Fun-size candy bars are just the right size. They have all of the flavor of the full-size bars without all the calories, carbs, and sugar. The chocolate to filling ratio is smaller, so they are healthier. You don't have to commit to just one kind of bar. You can put four different ones in the bag and it's the same as giving out a full-size bar but the kids get to sample a variety of treats. It's a win-win!

A lot of you have told me you are worried about the size of our congregation. *There aren't as many people here as there used to be. We can't do all the things we used to. The sanctuary just feels so empty. No one comes on Wednesday nights anymore. We need to grow or we are going to die.* I have heard variations on these statements for the last 5 years and I think it's time to change our mindset. I think instead of thinking of our congregation as "no longer full-size", it's time to start thinking of our congregation as fun-size!

A fun-size congregation has all of the flavor of a full-size one without all of the baggage. You know, a big staff, high administrative costs, anonymity of members, the so-called sacred cows, only one "right" way to do things, and so on. In a fun-size congregation everyone knows everyone and is invested in each other's lives, the pastor to member ratio is smaller, and there can be more room for variety among its membership. A fun-size congregation can experiment, try new things, find what works, and let go of what doesn't. A fun-size congregation can be healthier, it doesn't have to be one-size-fits-all, it can find more room for difference and diversity.

I once read this unique and interesting definition of fun: *Fun is the feeling of finding something new in something familiar.* In a fun-size congregation everything is still familiar, but there is the possibility of finding something new as we find new ways to answer God's call to be his witnesses. Even by just making small variations to things we've always done we can experience them in new ways.

I would like to challenge you to find the fun in being a welcoming, faithful, and hopeful community; to find the new in the familiar. Let's think of new ways we can follow Jesus and serve him in the world *just as we are right now*. Let's be who we *are* rather than who we think we are *supposed* to be.

The Christian Church in America isn't the same as it was 50 years ago. We are not the same congregation we were 50, 25, or even 10 years ago. And that's okay. After all, fifty years ago very few people gave out fun-size bars. Now, it's the #1 choice for Halloween candy. There's a reason for that. Come on - it'll be fun!





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# UPCOMING SERMON

## TEXTS & TOPICS

We're in the home stretch with the finish line in sight! This month we will wrap up our journey through Acts. You will remember that Paul maintained his innocence before Felix and then Festus, and requested a trial before the Emperor's Tribunal in Rome. After appearing before Agrippa, Paul was sent to Rome, but was shipwrecked along the way. This month we will see what happened to Paul on the island of Malta, then follow Paul to the end of his journey as he finally arrives in Rome.

November 7th	Acts 28:1-10	Paul on the Island of Malta
November 14th	Acts 28:11-16	The Journey to Rome
November 21st	Acts 28:17-31	Paul in Rome
November 28th	Luke 1:26-38 Matt. 1:18-21	The Angel Gabriel Visits Mary & Joseph





This year's Advent theme is "Making Room." As we prepare for the holidays, many of our homes and lives will transition to accommodate decorations, guests, celebrations, and meals. It is a time of year when our calendars, hearts, and bellies can become quite full. In the midst of these preparations and busyness, the season of Advent acts as a loving reminder for us to make room for Jesus. This does not mean we are to set up a guest room for Christ, but it also doesn't mean that we are to relegate his presence to a tiny nativity set on the mantle either.

We are called to make room for Jesus in our daily lives: in our homes, in our relationships with others, in the ways we spend our time, in our care for creation, and in the ways we see the world around us. May this season of Advent be a call to you and your family to make room in your time and space for the presence of Christ.

**November 28th - Making Room for What is to Come**

Luke 1:26-38      The Angel Gabriel Visits Mary & Joseph  
Matt. 1:18-21

**December 5th - Making Room to Welcome Others**

Luke 1:39-45, 56      Mary Visits Elizabeth

**December 12th - Making Room for Worship**

Luke 1:46-80      The Songs of Mary & Zechariah

**December 19th - Making Room for Wonder**

Luke 2:8-15, 20      The Shepherds Share the Wonder of God

**December 24th - Making Room for the Word, Jesus Christ**

Luke 2:1-21      Christmas Eve  
John 1:1-18

**December 26th - Making Room for Wholeness**

Luke 2:22-38      Simeon & Anna

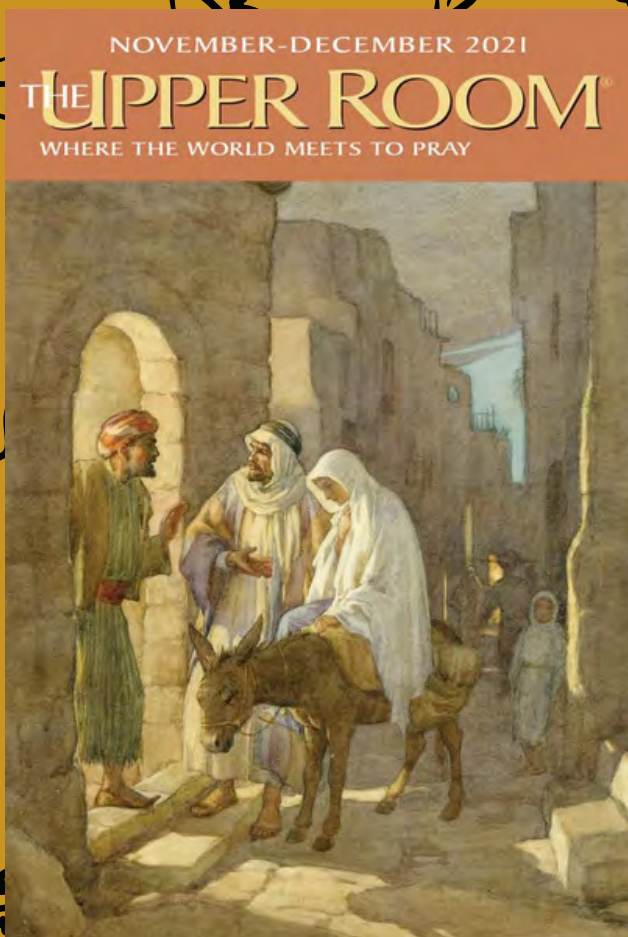
**January 2nd - Making Room for the World (Epiphany)**

Matthew 2:1-12      The Visit of the Magi

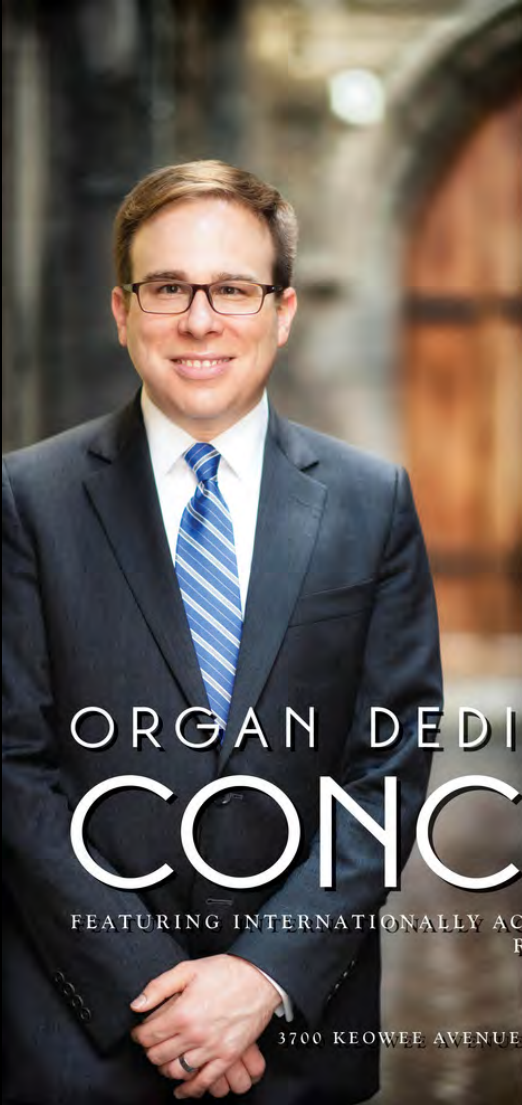
# Don't Forget to Fall Back!



Set your clocks **back one hour** before going to bed on **Saturday, November 6th**, or you'll be an hour early for worship on **Sunday, November 7th!**



**Pick up your  
November-December  
*Upper Room*  
Devotionals!**  
**Copies are available in  
the vestibule and  
narthex.**



SEQUOYAH  
HILLS  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH  
INVITES  
YOU

NOV  
04  
—  
7P

# ORGAN DEDICATION CONCERT

FEATURING INTERNATIONALLY ACCLAIMED ORGANIST  
ROBERT MCCORMICK

3700 KEOWEE AVENUE | KNOXVILLE, TN 37919



**Join Sequoyah Presbyterian Church  
for their Organ Dedication Concert  
with  
Robert McCormick**

**November 4 at 7pm.**



# ORGAN DEDICATION CONCERT

**JOIN US ON NOVEMBER 4, 2021**

**7:00 P.M. | IN THE SANCTUARY**

FOR A CONCERT WITH  
INTERNATIONALLY ACCLAIMED  
ORGANIST ROBERT MCCORMICK

ON SEQUOYAH HILLS  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH'S  
NEW ALLEN DIGITAL  
FOUR MANUAL ORGAN

**ALL TO THE GLORY OF GOD!**



# November Birthdays

Angela Jones 11/02

David Eldridge 11/14

Bob Cross 11/03

Parker Dodson 11/18

Joe Clarke 11/05

William Owen 11/18

Bennie Myers 11/05

James Morgan 11/19

Bob Campbell 11/07

Tom Sullivan 11/20

Rachel Rogers 11/07

Mancil Milligan 11/21

Miller Callaway 11/09

Mary Nell Pruitt 11/22

Ed May 11/09

Jim Gray 11/29

Marsha Grieve 11/11

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.



# Wednesday Night Dinner and Bible Study

Bible study is on Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. in the Mary Chambers Room. We gather at 6:00 p.m. for a meal together prior to the study. We will continue with everyone bringing their own “brown bag” dinner through the end of December, regardless of which Covid Phase we are in.

This fall we are studying The Kingdom Parables of Jesus, those parables in which Jesus says, “The Kingdom of Heaven is like...” The format is lecture/small group discussion. Pastor Tim reviews the story for 10 minutes or so and then we break into small groups for discussion questions together. The discussion questions are provided.

November 3rd	The Wedding Party	Matthew 22:1-14
November 10th	The 10 young Bridesmaids	Matthew 25:1-13
November 17th	The Valuable Coins	Matthew 25:14-30
November 24th	Thanksgiving break - no meeting	



# Youth Cabin Retreat!

We studied scripture about Disconnection and Reconnection with God and each other, played games, shared meals, and enjoyed quality time hanging out together!

It was a great time to finally be able to reconnect with each other!





Dear Second Presbyterian,

As some of you may have heard, I have decided to really and truly retire this December. This was not an easy decision, but one it is time for me to make. Thank you does not come close to expressing my gratitude for all that you and this opportunity have given me. Please know that I love you and will always carry a part of this great congregation in deep places within my soul. Below is my attempt to share some of my feelings with you.



Much Love,  
Jan

### ***Moving On***

Sometimes I feel like I may be hanging on a bit too long  
Like the last pink blossom on the Mimosa  
Or the last red leaf of the Dogwood  
Or the last Dandelion seed that refuses to let go despite the winds of change blowing by

Maybe the path to my next chapter lies in uncharted territory  
Finding adventures I've yet to experience  
Traveling to unexplored arenas  
Or allowing myself to Just Be

And while I love my life as it is, I know there is more out there  
More discoveries to make  
More hikes to take  
More snuggles to receive from cherished little ones

So I step out in faith  
Creating my future as I go  
Depending on guidance from the Divine  
Who knows my heart and desires better than I know myself.

I will miss this chapter....  
The tears and the laughter  
The joys and the sadness  
The special intimate moments  
But I will carry them with me always  
For you will be forever in my heart.

And so it is with Infinite Love and Gratitude that I say Thank You,  
Thank You for the opportunity to Love On the people of this church.  
Thank You for 6 years of respect and appreciation  
Thank You for having my back in times of uncertainty  
And Thank You for allowing me to be among you and with you and part of you for these precious years  
And May God always hold You in the Palm of His Hand.





# *Second Readers*

## *Stuffed Animal Collection*

The Second Readers group is once again collecting stuffed animals for Judge Irwin's juvenile court. These animals are given to children coming through his court and provide much comfort to these children who are experiencing very stressful circumstances.

Animals may be left in the box in the Atrium/Narthex or if you prefer, you may make a donation and we will shop for you. The animals must be new and hopefully smallish, about 12–16 inches. Please, none of the huge ones.

Thank you for your support and let's remember these families in our prayers.

Questions, call Margaret Sullivan. 865–588–3103.





## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**

### **Compassionate Cuisine Is In Need of Volunteers!**

**This is a program that takes home cooked meals to many of our shut ins and folks who may be struggling on a long term or short term basis.**

**We cook and deliver on the first and third Wednesday of the month.**

**If you are interested in helping with this sweet ministry, please contact Jan Barber (865-765-0437) or Leslie Matthews (865-765-0549) and we will help you find your spot!**

**Thank you to our regulars and welcome new volunteers!!!**



# Report from September West View Partner Coalition Meeting

## Update:

- They are seeing a higher number of students/families experiencing homelessness than in previous years and are working to connect those families with local agencies who can offer assistance.
- An after school program for students is being held at a local apartment complex and has been beneficial for those involved. There is hope that more students will take advantage of the program.
- The school has begun hosting family events, in which families are invited to come and participate in activities like a movie night or game night. Each of these events is open to a different small group within the school.

## How You Might Get Involved:

- Volunteers are welcomed for the after-school program.
- Partners [that includes 2nd Pres.] are welcome to attend the family night events.
- The school is always interested in having “lunch buddies” to go to the school and eat lunch with a student on a regular basis.
- Offer encouragement to the staff with cards, treats, etc.

**If you want to know more about any of these updates or getting involved, contact Pastor Sarah.**



**When a stranger resides with you in your land, you shall not wrong him. The stranger who resides with you shall be to you as one of your citizens; you shall love him as yourself, for you were a stranger in the land of Egypt” [Lev 19:33-34].**

The Service and Outreach Ministry Unit recommended to the Session, and the Session approved, an appropriation of \$10,000 from the Mission designated fund to Massanetta Springs for the purpose of supporting Afghan refugees on its campus.

Massanetta Springs is a Christian organization whose mission is to provide a place for all people to experience GOD through renewal, discovery and hospitality. Our youth have attended summer programs there and Pastor Sarah Morgan serves on the Board of Directors.

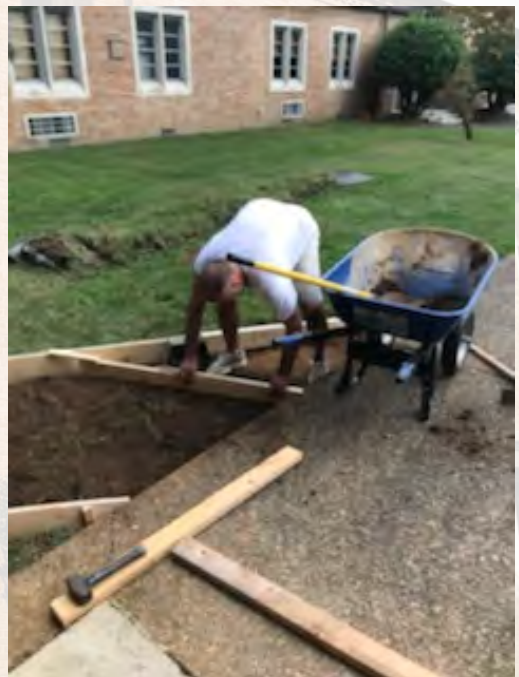
Massanetta Springs, in partnership with Church World Services’ Refugee Resettlement Program, hopes to raise up to \$200,000 in \$30,000 increments to provide temporary housing, meals and support for at least 50 refugees. 100% of our contribution will go toward the costs of welcoming Afghan refugees.



# NEW CONCRETE RAMP

Many thanks to Charles White and his father, Jim, who built a new accessible ramp into the Sanctuary Courtyard from the breezeway.

Great work, Charles & Jim!





# HAPPY THANKSGIVING



The Church Office will be **closed**  
Thursday, November 25th for  
Thanksgiving.

The Preschool will also be **closed**  
Thursday November 25th and  
Friday November 26th.

THANK  
YOU

**WEST VIEW SCHOOL THANKS  
those from Second Presbyterian  
Church who purchased or donated  
to the sale of School Coupon Books.  
\$810.00 was given, an amount  
that helps this small school  
tremendously!**



# UPDATES FROM THE SESSION




## Highlights from the October 2021 Stated Session Meeting

- Received reports from the Preschool and Ministry Teams as information.
- Received the Treasurer's Report.
- Approved appointing two people to assist the East Tennessee Foundation in selecting the Scholarship Recipients of the 200th Anniversary Fund.
- Elder Tim Wright will represent the Church at the November Presbytery of East Tennessee Meeting on November 9, 2021.
- Authorized the disbursement of \$10,000 from the Mission Designated Fund to Massanetta Springs in order to provide meals and meeting space to Afghan refugees.
- Jan Barber, Visitation Minister, will be retiring at the end of this year. The Session approved Reverend Morgan assuming her Visitation duties.
- Approved a Sabbatical for Reverend Reynolds for the Summer of 2022 and an additional \$5,000 from the personnel budget for his use during that time.

## SEPTEMBER BUDGET REPORT

	SEPTEMBER	YTD	BUDGET
TOTAL GIVING	\$35,720.04	\$596,568.73	\$788,556.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$75,286.48	\$529,277.45	\$788,556.00
EXCESS/(SHORTAGE)	(\$39,666.44)	\$65,141.28	---



	<b>1</b> 6 <sup>3</sup> p BSF (All Facilities)	<b>2</b> 9a Staff Meeting 5p Facilities Committee 6p Care & Compassion 7p Service & Outreach 7p Boy Scouts	<b>3</b> 2p Compassionate Cuisine (FH) 6p Wednesday Night Dinner 6 <sup>3</sup> p Bible Study	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> Church Office Closed 4p Headrick/Miller Wedding Rehearsal	<b>6</b> 4p Headrick/Miller Wedding  <b>DON'T FORGET TO "Fall Back" TONIGHT!</b>
<b>7</b> <b>Communion Sunday</b> 9 <sup>45</sup> a FSF Sunday School Class (Barbour Room) 11a Worship	<b>8</b> 6p Discipleship 6 <sup>3</sup> p BSF (All Facilities)	<b>9</b> 6p Worship & Celebration 7p Boy Scouts	<b>10</b> 12p 2 <sup>nd</sup> Readers 6p Wednesday Night Dinner 6 <sup>3</sup> p Bible Study	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> Church Office Closed	<b>13</b> 9a Teams of Tomorrow Event (Gym)
<b>14</b> 9 <sup>45</sup> a FSF Sunday School Class (Barbour Room) 11a Worship	<b>15</b> 12 <sup>3</sup> p Preschool Board 6 <sup>3</sup> p BSF (All Facilities)	<b>16</b> 9a Staff Meeting 6p Session Meeting 7p Boy Scouts	<b>17</b> 2p Compassionate Cuisine (FH) 6p Wednesday Night Dinner 6 <sup>3</sup> p Bible Study	<b>18</b> 10a Arts & Crafts (Room 227) 12p Budget & Finance Committee (Zoom)	<b>19</b> Church Office Closed	<b>20</b> <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Edition Deadline</b>
<b>21</b> 9 <sup>45</sup> a FSF Sunday School Class (Barbour Room) 11a Worship	<b>22</b> 6 <sup>3</sup> p BSF (All Facilities)	<b>23</b> 9a FISH Pantry (FH) 7p Boy Scouts	<b>24</b> <i>No Wednesday Night Activities</i>	<b>25</b> <b>Thanksgiving Day</b> Church Office Closed Preschool Closed 	<b>26</b> Church Office Closed Preschool Closed	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> 9 <sup>45</sup> a FSF Sunday School Class (Barbour Room) 11a Worship	<b>29</b> 6 <sup>3</sup> p BSF (All Facilities)	<b>30</b> 7p Boy Scouts	<p>The events on this calendar will take place if we are in Covid Phase <b>Orange, Yellow, or Green</b>. Alternate plans (outdoor, virtual, etc.) will be communicated by the church office or the coordinator of that event if we return to Phase <b>Red</b>. Please see the home page of our website (2ndpres.org) to determine what Covid Phase we are in.</p> 			





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#### CLERGY STAFF

Pastor Tim Reynolds  
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[treynolds@2ndpres.org](mailto:treynolds@2ndpres.org)

Pastor Sarah Morgan  
*Transitional Associate Pastor for  
Congregational Life & Youth*  
[smorgan@2ndpres.org](mailto:smorgan@2ndpres.org)

#### PROGRAM STAFF

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#### PRESCHOOL STAFF

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Holly Grimm  
*Assistant Director*  
[hgrimm@2ndpres.org](mailto: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 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