SECOND EDITION February 2019



TACKLE



HUNGER

On Second Thought...

Ever wonder where Valentine's Day comes from? I mean apart from all the legends. What are the real origins of Valentine's Day? Is it a Christian holiday? What should be our answer when someone asks us to be their Valentine? In the spirit of fun — and because I couldn't think of anything to write about this month — I thought I would do some research into the origins of Valentine's Day and place them here at your disposal.

As I did some digging, I found that there are as many "origins" of Valentine's Day as there are arrows in Cupid's quiver! Most of them seem to stem from some pagan ritual or other. (Come to think of it, just about every holiday from Christmas to Mother's Day has its roots in some pagan ritual or other. But that's another article for another month!) The story I came across the most in the most reliable sources centered around a holiday that was celebrated in the Roman Empire as early as 4 B.C. This day was called Lupercalia and was observed from February 13th -15th. Without going into too much detail, it was basically a sexual lottery. Towns all over the empire had a box in which you would place your name. On Lupercalia, you would pull a name at random out of the box and...ahem...couple with a young member of the opposite sex. The next year you got to pick another name. Okay.

The best resources say that this ritual was so ancient that by the 1st century most Romans had forgotten where the holiday came from. That didn't keep them from continuing to celebrate it, however! Well, eventually Christianity spread, and Emperor Constantine declared it to be the official religion of the empire. It seems, however, that Christians didn't care too much for this particular holiday. Something to do with the whole "morality" thing. But they apparently didn't think it was all bad because instead of just getting rid of it, they redirected it.

Pope Gelasius (492-496) thought they could use the whole "box" thing to their advantage, so he initiated a custom of placing the names of saints in the Lupercalia box, which were then drawn out of the box on the former Lupercalia Day – February 14th. Whichever saint you pulled out of the box became the saint you were to emulate for the next year. Not a bad concept. Unless, of course, you were to draw the name of Saint Simeon Stylites, who sat on top of a pillar for most of his adult life, never leaving it for any

reason, as some sort of spiritual discipline. Ummm....yeah.

Okay, great. So, who is Saint Valentine? Again, there are many stories. But perhaps the most reliable is that before Christianity became the "law of the land" he was a martyr for the faith who was executed and buried (supposedly) on February 14th, 269. He did not have anything to do with the encouragement of romantic love. One story says he was a priest who secretly performed marriages when Emperor Claudius II forbade marriage in the empire as a way to ensure that his soldiers had no family ties. (Think of the movie *Gladiator!*) Another story says that while he was in prison for his faith, he cured the jailer's daughter of blindness. Then, the day before his execution on February 14th, he sent a farewell message to the daughter and signed it, "Your Valentine."

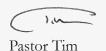
The most accurate records of Valentine's Day show up during the Middle Ages, which is when our modern celebration of the holiday began. By this time, the church's idea that Valentine's Day would be a spiritual, saint-centered holiday had given way to the notion that it was a day devoted to love. One of the first mentions of it as a special day dedicated to lovers occurs in Geoffrey Chaucer's 14th century poem, "Parlement of Foules". Duke Charles of Orleans sent the first Valentine's Day card to his wife in 1415 when he was being held prisoner in the Tower of London. It is still on display at the British Museum. By 1450 Valentine was no longer remembered as the name of a person, but referred, instead, to the name of one's sweetheart. In 1533

a Valentine was a folded piece of paper. By 1610 "valentines" were gifts given to sweethearts. And by the 1800's it had again become messages exchanged by couples.

So...Valentine's Day is not just a holiday manufactured by card companies to increase revenues. It is an ancient celebration of love, though not one rooted in the church or its doctrine. But just to be on the

safe side, this year when someone asks you to be their "valentine", you might want to check and make sure if they are asking you to be their sweetheart... or their martyr!

Grace and peace...





4 worship & celebration

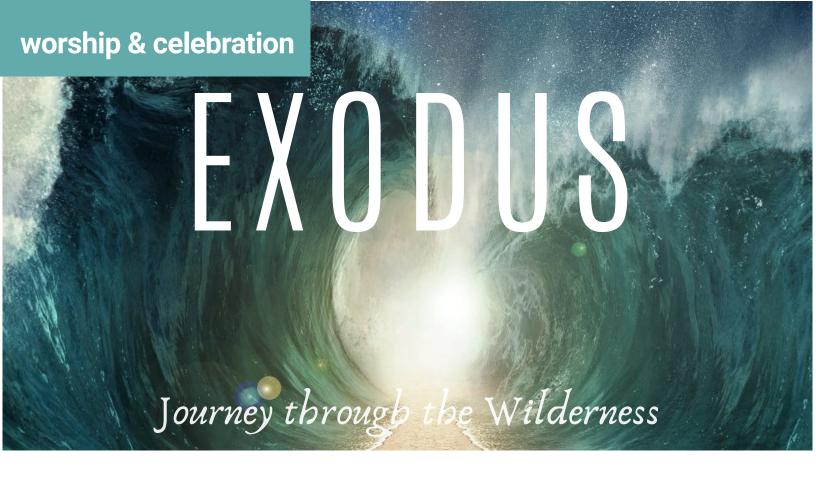
5 discipleship

6 care & compassion

12 preschool

13 service & outreach

14 stewardship



Upcoming Sermons/Topics

Our sermon series Exodus: Journey through the Wilderness continues in February. The book of Exodus contains some of our most beloved stories: the birth and calling of Moses, the Ten Plagues, the parting of the sea, the giving of the Ten Commandments, the incident of the Golden Calf, and God's covenant with Israel. Join us as we journey through the wilderness with the Israelites from now until Palm Sunday and experience God's faithfulness again and again.

Feb. 3rd	Exodus: Journey through the Wilderness Israel's Deliverance	Exodus 12-15
Feb. 10th	Exodus: Journey through the Wilderness Crisis in the Wilderness I	Exodus 15-16
Feb 17th	Exodus: Journey through the Wilderness Crisis in the Wilderness II	Exodus 17
Feb 24th	Exodus: Journey through the Wilderness Jethro's Visit	Exodus 18

SCOUT SUNDAY

Scout Sunday will be Sunday, February 3rd. For over 100 years Boy Scouts has enjoyed the support of religious organizations. Our own Troop 6 was founded on

January 29, 1915 and is the oldest troop in the Great Smoky Mountain Council. Second Presbyterian Church has been the charter organization since 1916. Together we have enriched the spiritual lives of youth for over four generations. We will celebrate this long history of common service in worship together, as members of Troop 6 will join us in worship.



February's Second Sunday Service at 6:00 p.m. will be held in the sanctuary, led by Carson-Newman University's "Redemption." Under the direction of Dr. Angela Holder, Chair and Professor of Music, Redemption is an auditioned small ensemble of singers and instrumentalists that performs in concerts and chapels on campus and takes numerous off-campus trips to area high schools and churches. Their repertoire includes a blend of choral and contemporary Christian music.

discipleship

Women's Connection at Montreat (August 9-11)

Last year, several women from 2nd attended the Women's Connection Conference; and we hope others will consider joining us this year for a weekend of fellowship, thought-provoking speakers and workshops, and the beauty of Montreat.

This year's keynote speaker is Valarie Kaur, a civil rights activist, award-winning film maker, faith leader, and founder of the Revolutionary Love Project. The UKirk students heard Valarie speak at College Conference a few years ago and are still talking about it. Her message is sure to be engaging and inspiring!

The dates are August 9-11, and the cost varies depending on your rooming preferences. If you're interested in going, please contact Sarah Morgan. If you want to learn more about the conference, visit their website:

www.montreat.org/events/women.

Church Family 'Round the Table

Our Wednesday night *Church Family 'Round the Table* will be held on the **second** Wednesday of February, rather than the normal 1st Wednesday of the month. The theme will be *Trusting God's Call*.

Deadly! - A Wed. Night Study

Join Pastor Tim in the Fellowship Hall on Wednesdays in February at 6:05 p.m. to as we examine the so-called Seven Deadly Sins to see what they are all about, why they have been lifted up as the most dangerous sins, and what it all means for Christians living in the world today.

Session Meeting in February

Due to a men's home basketball game on the 3rd Tuesday of February, the Stated Session meeting for February will take place on the 4th Tuesday of the month, February 26th.

Annual Congregational Meeting and Souper Bowl Luncheon

The annual meeting of the congregation of Second Presbyterian Church, Knoxville, will be held following worship on Sunday, February 3rd. The Annual Report for 2018 will be presented at the meeting, which will include the budget for 2019, along with reports from the various ministry teams. Additionally, we will renew Pastor Tim's Terms of Call. The meeting portion of the luncheon should take no more than 20 minutes.

The Annual Congregational Meeting is being held in conjunction with the Souper Bowl luncheon, a church-wide Soup and Salad Luncheon following worship. The Souper Bowl of Caring is a nation-wide effort to reduce hunger and poverty in communities. Young people all across the nation collect canned food and money to support local charities. Monetary donations allow charities to buy

food in bulk in order to maximize the impact that every donation has on reducing hunger. Our young people will be collecting nonperishable food items and donations for hunger relief following worship and at the luncheon.

We are asking everyone to sign up to bring either soup, salad, bread, or dessert. (Please bring soup in a crock pot.) Sign up sheets are available in the Atrium and online via the bottom of the home page on the church website. The sign up link is also provided in our weekly email blasts. Food & Friends will not meet away from the church on this day, but all young adults are invited to come to the Fellowship Hall for the luncheon. We hope that everyone will join us for Food, Fellowship and a little Church Business after worship on February 3rd.

Nominating Committee

The Officer Nominating Committee, composed of Jimmy Cheek, Bobbie Denton, Mary Farmer, Elizabeth Rochelle and Tim Wright asks you to submit the names of individuals you think will serve our congregation well as elders. We seek to nominate four individuals for your consideration for the class of 2022. You may submit your recommendations using the insert in the February 3rd or 10th Sunday worship service bulletin. Forms will also be available at the Congregation's Annual meeting. As an alternative, you may e-mail your recommendations to any of the following:

Jimmy Cheek at jcheek@utk.edu
Bobbie Denton at bobbiedenton@gmail.com
Mary Farmer at farmerhom@aol.com
Elizabeth Rochelle at elizrochelle625@comcast.net
Tim Wright at otwright47@gmail.com

Thank you!

February Lunch Bunch

Lunch Bunch will meet Tues. Feb.5th at 11:30. Our speaker is Celia Gruzalski, director of CADES (Concord Adult Day Enrichment Services). Please bring a covered dish to share. Everyone is invited. For information or reservations Please call Mariann Thuesen at: 865-253-7653.

To Kill A Mockingbird

Pastor Tim will be playing the role of Atticus Finch in Oak Ridge Playhouses' upcoming production of *To Kill a Mockingbird*. Performances are February 15-24 and tickets are on sale now. You can purchase tickets at www.orplayhouse.com.or by calling the box office at 865.482.4877.

New at the Library

The 2018 hit movie "Won't You Be My Neighbor" is now available in the church library. Sign the checkout card on the back of the case and drop the card in a wooden box on top of the card catalogue. The Good Neighbor by Maxwell King is the first full length biograph of Fred Rogers. Also available is a collection of essays by Pulitzer award winning writer Marilynne Robinson When I Was a Child I Read Books.

Wonder by R. J. Palacio the story of a handicapped boy whose parents decide that he needs to be part of the world. This work of fiction was a Readers Group selection and is a gripping read for adults and youth. The book was a gift to the library. Tempting the Throne Room by John Quillen is also available. This is the story of the author's adventures and perils during the 2013 Pakistan Climbing season.

A copy of our church's new history <u>Reflections of Second Presbyterian Church</u> is available. Finally hot off the press, <u>Becoming Mrs. Lewis</u> by Patti Callahan is the remarkable story of Joy Davidman who became the wife of C. S. Lewis.

Remember to sign the checkout cards and drop them in the wooden box on top of the card catalogue. Call Liz Peebles for information or questions (865-660-9597).

Senior Exercise Class

The Senior Exercise Class has room for new members. We meet Mondays and Wednesdays from 9:00-10:00 a.m. in the Mary Chambers Room.

We start with light aerobic warmups. We do standing and chair exercises with strengthening, flexibility and balance emphasized. Our instructors have many years of experience in leading exercise groups.

The cost is \$2.00/session and equipment is provided. For more information call John Reynolds at 588-0085.

2nd Readers

When? Wednesday, February 20th

Where? Church Time? 3:15 p.m.

Title: Storied Life of A J Fikry
Author: Gabriella Zevin

Leader: Leslie



The 2nd Readers Group collected over eighty animals for Judge Swann



Wednesday Night Shenanigans!



Presbyterian Women February Report

The women of Second Presbyterian Church first organized themselves as a service group in 1868 and have continously contributed their services to God through the church into the 21st century.

Presbyterian Women, with Catherine Beals as Moderator, has completed a restructuring of the organization and we will be reporting to the congregation monthly about PW's activities with an open invitation to all the women of the church and visitors to join us in one or more of our four circles at any time! PW will also hold all-circle group luncheon/program meetings at announced times to include all men and women and visitors of Second Church.

*Arts and Crafts Circle, led by Cheryl Ragsdale (865-684-8999), meets the third Thursday each month at 10:00 at Second Church in Room 56, across from the Library.

During the winter months the circle is concentrating on the knitting of prayer shawls to give to those with serious illness and/or are homebound. There will also be an opportunity for knitting and crocheting instruction.

*House and Garden Circle, led by Ileen Cheek (865-247-5258), meets the fourth Tuesday each month at 10:00, first gathering in the atrium to start the morning's activity somewhere in the church.

Their most recent project was the decoration/removal of decorations for Christmas, including the receiving, preparing, and caring for the poinsettias. The circle has immediate plans for a reorganization of closets and storage spaces in Second Church facilities. Gardening projects will begin with springtime.

*Bible Study Circle, led by Helen Grant (865-693-1980), meets the second Tuesday each month

from 10:00-11:00, in the Mary Chambers Room. Each lesson is complete and all visitors are welcome to attend one or all study classes as they wish.

This year the circle is studying a series on "God's Promise: I Am With You" using examples from both the Old and New Testaments to illustrate God's faithfulness to be with us in both good and bad times.

The study for Tuesday, February 12, 2019, is entitled "God With Us When We're Powerless" and uses as scripture 2Chronicles 20:1-30 and Deuteronomy 20: 1-4. The February study focuses on Jehoshaphat, a rare good ruler of the southern kingdom (Judah), who did seek God in his life and in his actions as a king.

*Mission Circle, led by Charlotte Klieman (865-922-8453), meets the fourth Wednesday at 3:00 each month to gather in the atrium to begin the day's activity. The goal for the year is to learn more about our community's missionary efforts as well as to continue to support Second Church's own mission outreach.

On November 30, 2018, the Mission Circle visited Susannah's House, which is housed in the former Wesley House on Dameron Avenue near I-275 and Baxter Avenue. Susannah's House is a non-profit, faith-based ministry providing an intensive outpatient recovery program for mothers recovering from substance abuse. The program is licensed by the Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services. Our Mission Circle was given a tour of the house and an explanation of the program for mothers determined to recover from opioid addiction. Staffed by professionals in recovery and social services fields and volunteers from the Knoxville community, Susannah's House is in its fifth year of service during which it has served more than 175 women and their children at no charge.



Presbyterian Women at Susannah's House.



PW March Luncheon

On Tuesday, March 12th at 11:30 a.m. everyone is invited to the "Time Marches On" PW program and luncheon. Lunch is catered by Eva's (\$10).

The program will feature Joanie La Torre, the owner of Black Bear Clock Repair (Sevierville area Shop & Great Smokies Flea Market Booth E15). Black Bear Clock Repair is family-owned and operated for two generations. Black Bear repairs services and sells antique timepieces. These can also be brought to the Flea Market on Fridays and Saturdays.

Joanie is a timepiece expert with the Antique Road Show. Besides evaluating timepieces, Joanie will entertain you with stories about Antique Road Show. Currently, Joanie is participating in the filming of a new PBS series, The Governors' Mansions.

Bring your favorite antique clock, watch, music box, chronometer or barometer for a free appraisal and historical background of the piece. (Please come between 11 and 11:30 if you bring an item for appraisal.) For a reservation call Mariann Thuesen at (865)253-7653 by March 5th.

2018 Christmas Caroling Pictures...













february birthdays

Lindsay Casey 2/1
Ken Frazer 2/5
Herb Cleveland 2/8
Neal Peebles 2/9
Joanna Montgomery 2/10
Leilla White 2/10
Bobbie Denton 2/12
Phyllis Robinson 2/12
Dotty Barbour 2/14
Christina Young 2/14
Margaret Walther 2/16
Joyce Robertson 2/19
Doug Barbour 2/24
Bill Ragsdale 2/24
Haley Wall 2/29

january visitors

Becky Hamblin Todd Ouillen John Quillen Jennifer Levy-Tatum **Marley Hayes** Steva Harrod **Henry Neff Betty Reynolds Matthew Lowe** Sarah Cooper **Fawn Crawford Carlton Seward Carter DePoy Andy Morgan Derek Bowers** Matthew Lowe **Jack Marshall Lucas Schmidt Henry Naff Ginny Williams Zach Burch** Joanne Mounger **Daniel Mounger** George Lane Yar Wei **Eric Ange Brent Walther Dennis Bailey Nataly Bennett** Marianne Sheffield **Trell Stroud Stephanie Cummings**

The High Five Award

The High Five Award for February

is being given to Tim Wright. Tim

grew up at Second and has served

the congregation in numerous capacities throughout his life. Currently, Tim serves on the Session, the Budget & Finance team, and is chair of the Personnel Team and the Officer Nominating Team. Tim has helped to conduct annual performance reviews for the staff, regularly checks in with staff members to make sure needs are met and concerns are heard, and was instrumental in rewriting the Personnel Manual for Second Presbyterian Church. This past fall Tim & Patsy invited all returning college students to their house for lunch following Sunday worship, a gesture of hospitality that inspired folks at Sequoyah Hills and Fountain City Presbyterian churches to do the same. Tim is a great "goodwill ambassador" for the congregation, regularly inviting new folks to worship with us and going out of his way to welcome visitors and get to know them. In his spare time, Tim volunteers with Volunteer Assisted Transportation, a ministry that provides rides for seniors and persons with disabilities who need assistance for travel to important appointments. If that's not enough, in the past year Tim has ministered to his own family by taking the entire crew on an RV trip out west and on a cruise! Tim is a great husband, father, grandfather, elder, mentor, church member, and disciple of Christ who truly embodies what it means to serve others with his life. So next time you see Tim, give him a big High Five!





Dana Hendrix reading with the Toddler Bears class on January 9th.

SPC Preschool Readers

SPC Preschool is looking for volunteers to come read to the children on the second Wednesday of the month at 9:30 a.m. Books will be provided but if you have a childhood favorite you are welcome to bring that as well! Sign up in the atrium.



service & outreach

FISHing in February

Please help to support the FISH Ministry by catching and releasing (in the Atrium) the following:

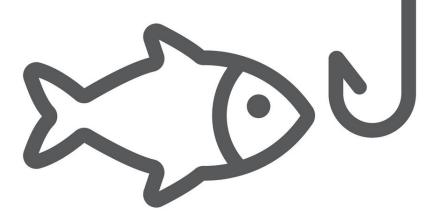
- 1. Small sizes of personal care items: toothpaste, toothbrush (child sizes fine); deodorant, shampoo
- **2.** Adult diapers---medium and large sizesthese are mostly asked for by women.
- **3.** Toilet paper---giant packages fine.-They send one roll per order.
- 4. Small size dish washing detergent.

Thank You!

Thanks to everyone who decorated the Christmas tree with gloves and hats for West View students. They were delivered to the school the week that school began in January and were gratefully received.

Please read the note below from Susan V. Martin, Community School Coordinator at West View Elementary School:

"THANK YOU SO MUCH! What a nice surprise to have such nice items to give students. We appreciate it very much! Susan"



Highlights from the January Session Meeting

- Received reports from the Preschool and Ministry Teams as information.
- Received the financial report from the Treasurer.
- Approved the 2019 Budget as presented by the Budget and Finance Team
- Approved moving the \$71,588 Cassidy Gift into the Unrestricted Mission SPC Endowment Funds.
- Established a Mission Endowment Operating Income string to be used each year by the Service and Outreach Ministry Unit.
- Approved support for the 2019 PCUSA Offerings.
- Matt Casey was elected to represent the Church at the February 9, 2019 Presbytery of East Tennessee Meeting at Rivermont Presbyterian Church in Chattanooga.
- The Annual Congregational Meeting was called for February 3, 2019.
- The Session thanked Marianne Nichols for her nine years of outstanding service to Second Presbyterian Church.
- Temporary Designated Associate Pastor Sarah Morgan's employment contract was renewed for another year.

Church Financial Report

	2018 Actual	2018 Budget
Pledged Offerings	\$510,112	\$490,420
Non-pledged Offerings	\$103,248	\$55,000
Preschool	\$20,000	\$20,000
Other	\$157,048	\$143,700
TOTAL GIVING	\$790,408	\$709,120
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$723,613	\$765,695
NET	\$66,795	(\$56,575)

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28 Alzheimer's Meeting 8:00

27 Exercise Class 9:00 Line Dancing 4:00

26 FISH Ministry 9:00 PW House & Garden 10:00

25 Exercise Class 9:00 BSF 5:15

24 Sunday School Fellowship Time 10:30 Worship 11:00 Food & Friends 12:15

Handbells 4:30 Wed. Night Dinner 5:30 Bible Study 6:05 Chancel Choir 7:00

Session Meeting 6:00 Boy Scouts 7:00 Men's Basketball 8:30

Email Blast Submissions Due



Second Presbyterian Church 2829 Kingston Pike Knoxville, Tennessee 37919 Office.865.523.2189 Fax.865.637.2617 Preschool.865.523.9997 www.2ndpres.org

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Pastor Sarah Morgan Transitional Associate Pastor smorgan@2ndpres.org

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THE SECOND EDITION

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ELDERS

2019 CLASS

Ed Batts
Donna Matlock
Tim Wright
Marty McLean

2020 CLASS

Jimmy Cheek Clara Hardin Doug Matthews Margaret Walther

2021 CLASS

Monica Casey Betsy Foster John Henley Cleston Jones

Rev. Tim Reynolds, Moderator Nancy Montgomery, Clerk

"Ruling elders, together with teaching elders (pastors), exercise leadership, government, spiritual discernment, and discipline and have responsibilities for the life of a congregation as well as the whole church, including ecumenical relationships."

PC(USA) Book of Order G-2.0301

PC(USA) Book of Order G-2.0201

MINISTRY TEAMS AND CHAIRPERSONS

Worship & Celebration

Doug Matthews & Betsy Foster

Discipleship

Ed Batts & Monica Casey

Service & Outreach

Donna Matlock & Clara Hardin

Stewardship

Jimmy Cheek & John Henley

Care & Compassion

Marty McLean & Margaret Walther

Preschool BoardCleston Jones