

SECOND EDITION

SEPTEMBER 2023

SEPTEMBER 10TH
LUNCHEON AFTER WORSHIP

LEARN WHAT 2ND PRES CAN DO TO IMPACT
POVERTY AND HOMELESSNESS IN OUR CITY.



SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH - WWW.2NDPRES.ORG

ON SECOND

Thought...



Don't know if you saw this or not, but a Dutch photographer and artist named Bas Uterwijk recently used cutting-edge A.I. technology to produce what is likely the most accurate depiction to date of what Jesus may have looked like. Uterwijk has a background in computer-generated images and special effects. He used software that utilizes a neural network trained on photographs and paintings of thousands of human faces, making it possible to combine multiple sources of faces, merging them into a synthesized version of Jesus' face.

Uterwijk included many different artists' renditions of Jesus of Nazareth from Byzantine and Renaissance origin, including Leonardo DaVinci, along with the Shroud of Turin, and paired those with cultural and geographical information and photographs of people from the Middle East. Tweaking the ethnicity to a more convincing Middle-Eastern face and changing the hair and beard to a more credible length and style for the time and region in which Jesus lived, he came up with a realistic artistic impression of how Jesus of Nazareth possibly could have looked. Here it is:



So what do you think?

Throughout history, artists have depicted Jesus in many different ways. Most have tended to make Jesus look culturally similar to the time and place in which they live. (Witness the many fair-skinned, blonde-haired, blue-eyed paintings of Jesus!)

Of course, we will never know what Jesus really looked like, but what I like about this picture is that it incorporates the work of many different artists from many different cultures while adjusting for the fact that Jesus was a Middle-Eastern man from Ancient Israel. Plus, he looks very kind and welcoming!

While it's interesting to imagine what Jesus actually looked like, in the end it really doesn't matter. What matters is that Jesus meets us wherever we are, however we are, and invites us into a relationship with God through him. If you like picturing Jesus the way he has been depicted by Uterwijk, great! If not, that's fine, too. What's important is that we picture Jesus in whatever way is most helpful to us so that we might have a relationship with him.

Grace and peace...

TABLE OF CONTENTS

3. WORSHIP 10. GO

6. CONNECT 12. SUPPORT

9. GROW



follow us on social media



www.2ndpres.org



www.youtube.com/@2ndPresKnox/



[instagram.com/2ndpresknox/](https://www.instagram.com/2ndpresknox/)



[facebook.com/SecondPresbyterianChurchKnoxville/](https://www.facebook.com/SecondPresbyterianChurchKnoxville/)

UPCOMING SERMON TEXTS & TOPICS

Pastor Tim will wrap his sermon series, The Fatherhood of God: Seeing God through a Father's Eyes on September 3rd.

On September 10th we begin a 7-week sermon series on the book of Daniel. Written about the lives of good and faithful Jews exiled in Babylon, Daniel was written to provide encouragement to Jews living as a minority under foreign rule. It reflects on the question, "How do we live with hope?" in the midst of pain, suffering, violence, and endless sorrow. Daniel is extremely relevant to us today as it presents a portrait of how to live faithfully as God's people in a land in which God's people are not in control, where worship of God is not at the center of public life, and where the cultural expectation is that everyone will bow to the will of the culture.

September 3rd Psalm 36 **Fatherhood of God: Scarcity vs. Abundance**

September 10th Daniel 1 **Daniel: Spiritual Resiliency**

September 17th Daniel 3 **Daniel: The Danger of Idolatry**

September 24th Daniel 5 **Daniel: The Writing on the Wall**



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

09.01 ELIZABETH SEASTRUNK

09.02 BILL BROOME

09.03 NAN SWEITZER

09.04 HENRY CASEY

09.06 CLARA HARDIN

09.07 JIMMY CHEEK

09.07 DONNA DOWNEN

09.11 DREW WALL

09.11 SCOTT FARRIS

09.12 NANCY SMYTHE

09.15 JERRY YOUNG



09.17 GIL TURNER

09.23 DONNA MATLOCK

09.24 ELSIE DODSON

09.24 LISA HENLEY

09.26 ROBERT MORGAN

09.26 PAM TURNER

09.26 BRENT BEALS

09.27 KATHY TALLENT

09.29 BRAYDEN BEETS

09.30 LINDA SUE BYRD

IF WE INADVERTENTLY MISSED SOMEONE...HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

PLEASE HELP US UPDATE OUR RECORDS SO WE'LL HAVE YOUR SPECIAL DAY ON FILE.!

2ND WEDNESDAYS @ 2ND PRES

Beginning this fall, we will meet monthly for a fellowship dinner followed by a program on the 2nd Wednesday of each month. Dinner will be at 6:00 p.m. and will be catered by Eva's. The cost for the dinner will be \$10 per person, with a \$25 family maximum. At 7:00 p.m. we will have a program that will last about an hour. Childcare will be available.

Additionally, the choir (minus the student singers) will rehearse at 7:00 p.m. This monthly choir rehearsal is for those who would like to sing in the choir but feel they might need additional time to work on the music. Matt will be able to spend this time drilling down on notes and parts so that Sunday morning rehearsals can move a little faster. If you've been thinking about joining the choir, this is your opportunity! Perhaps you would like to join for the Advent season and would like to learn that music early. This is your chance to give it a shot without the pressure of rehearsing right before worship.

On September 13th, our 2nd Wednesday program will be presented by our Church Administrator, Bonnie Smith. She will be introducing us to our new church connection software, Realm. You can read much more about Realm elsewhere in this newsletter, but Realm is a program that connects congregations to one another and to the ministries of the church. It can be used on a desktop, laptop, tablet, or on a smartphone. Bonnie will be showing people how to get signed in to Realm, to input basic information, and will give a basic tutorial on how to use it. If you have a smartphone, tablet, or laptop, please bring it with you! More classes will be offered at future times throughout the fall in small groups designed to give one-on-one instruction and hands-on use.

Future programs on 2nd Wednesdays will include offerings like guest lecturers on topics such as church history or Biblical archaeology, intergenerational game and activity nights, performances by groups like The Word Players, presentations by mission partners, and Bible study.

We hope you will join us for 2nd Wednesdays @ 2nd Pres at 6:00 p.m. on the 2nd Wednesday of each month!



Realm is the church connection software that the 2nd Presbyterian Church has been using since the beginning of the year to support the work, ministries, and members of our congregation. **Realm** was developed to help us all better connect and serve in ministry, as well as to help the church staff in their daily work with church members. It can be used on a desktop, laptop, tablet, or smartphone.

If using the software on a desktop or laptop computer, **Realm** can be accessed through a browser window or by downloading software. If using a tablet or smartphone, **Realm Connect** is an app that can be downloaded for either Android or iPhone. Leaders of groups will find that they can do more administrative tasks on the computer than on their smart devices and thus may want it in both places.

Realm provides users access to information about church activities in real-time and also allows them to access the 2nd Pres Knox virtual directory (including pictures), sign up for events, pay for special things (like fellowship events or dinners), and make or view donations and pledges.

Bonnie will be introducing **Realm** to the congregation at our inaugural **"SECOND WEDNESDAY"** dinner, on September 13. Please come see what **Realm** is all about and how it can help you with "all things 2nd"!

For those who want to get a head-start:

The week prior, on Thursday, September 7th, each member and regular attender whose email is on file at the church will receive an invitation to set up a **Realm** account. This is legitimate! Please follow the link and the simple instructions given. You can do so on either a computer, a smartphone, a tablet, or all three!

Each person's username will be the email we have on file for you (the one we will use to send the link), and you will need to set up a password: 8 characters mixed with at least one uppercase letter, one lowercase letter, one numeral, one special character. You will use the same username and login on all your devices. There will also be a step-by-step guide in the Friday, September 8th e-News that will walk you through the steps if you need help over the weekend.

If you do set up your account that weekend, go to the events tab and register for the September 13th 2nd Wednesday **Realm** Rollout. There will be a drawing from among those who pre-register to receive a gift from Bonnie's trip to Scotland!

If you prefer to wait till the Wednesday night presentation, that's fine, too! Come, listen and learn.

FUTURE REALM TRAININGS

For the rest of the fall, Bonnie will be offering classes designed to give **Realm** users one-on-one instruction and hands-on use in a small group setting. Participants should bring their smartphone, laptop, or tablet – whatever device(s) they want to use for **Realm**. There is no need to sign up for the classes in advance and they will be held on the following days/times:

3rd week monthly

Anyone: Wednesdays at 9 a.m. and 10 a.m.; Thursdays at 12 p.m. and 1 p.m.

4th week monthly

Leaders of Groups: Wednesdays at 10 a.m. or Thursdays at 1 p.m.

STARTING ON SEPTEMBER 17 2ND PRESBYTERIAN DISCOVERY CLASS

Our next Discovery Class will be held on four consecutive Sunday mornings, September 17th through October 8th at 9:15 a.m. in the Library/Fireside Room. The Discovery Class is for those who want to know more about being Presbyterian, more about the 2nd Presbyterian Church, or who are thinking of uniting in membership with this congregation. Pastor Tim will lead discussions on Presbyterian theology, the history of the 2nd Presbyterian Church, and how our congregation organizes itself for mission and ministry. At the conclusion of the class, those who are not already members will be given the opportunity to unite with this congregation in membership, should they so desire. A New Member Sunday will be held shortly thereafter.

If you are interested in being part of the class, have questions, or cannot attend on Sunday morning but are interested in attending the class on another day/time, please contact Pastor Tim at treynolds@2ndpres.org.

WOMEN'S RETREAT

COMING TO SECOND

The Presbyterian Women at Second Church are sponsoring a new venture –they are providing a one-day retreat for women of all ages, church members, and visitors to take place in our church facilities on

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2023,
FROM 9:30 A.M. -3:00 P.M.**

There will be a \$25.00 registration fee. (Lunch will be provided as well as child care if needed).

For some time the PW leadership has noted the difficulty of our church women to find time in their very busy lives to meet for worship, study, and social sharing. We wish to offer this first-time opportunity for the young, the old, and all the “in-betweens” to join together for spiritual growth, sharing of hopes and fears, and the joy of uniting in Christian fellowship.

Ladies—would you give this retreat the opportunity to demonstrate its value to you personally and to the spiritual life of Second Church?

The Rev. Dr. Meredith Loftis, Associate Pastor at First Presbyterian Church, Knoxville, Tennessee, will be the retreat leader. Sarah Morgan of Second Church has graciously agreed to be our retreat advisor at this event. More detailed information will come soon.



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN AT SECOND BEGIN NEW 2023-2024 STUDY YEAR

The Presbyterian Women's organization of Second Presbyterian Church will begin its 2023-2024 monthly meetings on **Tuesday, September 12, 2023, from 10:00-11:30 in the Fellowship Hall.**

We will follow a program format similar to last year's plan with a hymn, mission report, and a new Bible Study plan entitled "Sacred Encounters: the Power and Presence of Jesus Christ in Luke-Acts". This study builds on last year's study of Gentiles who joined the Way in the first century A.D.

We invite all church members and visitors who can schedule a day meeting to join us in study and worship in informal, welcoming sessions. All men and women are invited! Mark your calendars for the second Tuesday in each month from September through June 2023-2024. (except for no meeting in January).

BACK^{TO}SCHOOL WEST VIEW

WORKDAY — On August 5, Second Pres for the 15th year helped prepare West View Elementary School for the new school year. Volunteers worked inside helping with classrooms, bulletin boards, the library, and sorting/inventorying school supplies. Outside work included weeding, preparing beds, planting flowers, and cleaning the grounds. In conjunction with Westminster Presbyterian and Clear Defense Pest Control, there were 51 volunteers.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES — The congregation was very generous in donating school supplies as requested by the teachers at West View. Two large loads of donated supplies were delivered to the school a few days before the workday.

Here is a link to a related article in **KnoxTNToday**
<https://www.knoxtntoday.com/multiple-partners-supports-west-view-elementary/>

Thank you to all of our
Volunteers!



PRAGMATIC PRESBYTERIANS

Early in 2023, a small group of church members and friends formed a group determined to combat the problem of poverty in America. We called ourselves **Pragmatic Presbyterians**, because we realized many of us were spending a lot of time talking about poverty, but wanted to become active participants in overcoming the problem.

As a basis for our work, we read Matthew Desmond's Pulitzer Prize-winning book, **Evicted: Poverty and Profit in American Cities**. We learned:

- America has the resources to end poverty in our nation.
- The number one cause of poverty in America is the lack of affordable housing.
- Adequate housing is a human right.
- There are organizations working tirelessly to provide shelter, not just for those who can afford it, but for everyone.

We looked at more of Desmond's work (his second book is titled **Poverty, By America**), perused websites, and pooled our knowledge to discern where to focus our efforts. After careful consideration and discussion, we invited Carolyn Hanson from Compassion Coalition to speak with our group. From Carolyn, we learned:

- About 50 churches in Knox County work together through Compassion Coalition to combat poverty.
- Combining efforts means more needs of impoverished individuals and families are met in our city and county.
- Training and resources are provided that specifically focus on overcoming poverty right here in Knoxville.

Following Carolyn's presentation to the Pragmatic Presbyterians, we met with the GO Team to discuss becoming a member congregation of the Compassion Coalition. The Team was supportive and provided the initial donation required to join. We had the opportunity the week before Easter to partner with another church providing temporary housing for three families. We helped clean the home before the families arrived for a week's stay and provided the Saturday dinner for all. The work was so satisfying we want to extend these opportunities to our entire congregation.

Pragmatic Presbyterians are working with our existing ministry teams to inform our congregation about the opportunities that are available to respond in gratitude to God's love and grace by serving Him among Knoxville residents who are experiencing the impacts of poverty.

Please be sure that you have saved this date!

- **September 10, 2023**, immediately after worship, the GO Team and CONNECT Committee will host a Compassion Coalition Kick-Off lunch with Carolyn Hansen as our guest speaker. She's a dynamic, passionate, inspiring leader who will provide an overview of Compassion Coalition's work and amaze all with the wonderful opportunities to partner with others and care for people in need in our community.
- Our goal is simple: to ensure that all God's children have what they need to be the hands and feet of Christ in the world.
- Please plan to join us on September 10th. There's no need to RSVP, except for anyone who would like to have child care. We'll arrange that for those who need it. The CONNECT Committee and GO Team are hosting the luncheon. There is no cost to attendees.

COMPASSIONATE Cuisine

Compassionate Cuisine finds it hard to continue twice-a-month meals.

We need your HELP to continue!

**Call Leslie Matthews (865-765-0549)
or Liz Peebles (865-660-9597).**

Compassionate Cuisine is a food ministry that provides meals to the sick and homebound.



silent **AUCTION**

**THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE UKIRK SILENT AUCTION FUNDRAISER
SEPTEMBER 29TH FROM 6:00 P.M. -8:00 P.M.**

UT UKirk, the Presbyterian Campus Ministry, will host an open house and silent auction to raise money for this wonderful ministry.

Our house is at **1831 Melrose Ave, Knoxville, TN 37916** and there is some parking available on-site and public parking nearby. If you are donating an item, please bring it to UKirk or give it to a board member by September 22nd.

We hope that you will also come out for the Open House and Auction to see the UKirk House, meet the students, and learn more about our campus ministry.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE AUGUST 2023 STATED SESSION MEETING

- Received the Treasurer's Report.
- Received reports from the Preschool and Ministry Teams as information.
- Received the report on the Presbytery of East Tennessee August Meeting as information.
- Elected Elders Terry Weaver, Angela Jones, and Monica Casey to prepare a draft Anti-Racism Policy.
- Approved to form a task force to study the short-term needs of the Church and how those needs would be financed out of the current budget and then look at the issues raised by the Budget Sustainability Task Force and rank what alternatives will work long term.
- Approved to reimburse Jessica Lewis \$808.25 for the remaining "on campus" expenses she incurs from attending classes at Dubuque Theological Seminary in August. The amount brings her "on-campus" reimbursement to her \$1,000 cap for such expenses.
- Approved the addition of Pat Bailey and Charlene Cotton as money counters. The Money Counting Team members will be Pat Bailey, Charlene Cotton Margaret Sullivan, Margie Gill, Mary Kay Sullivan, and Treasurer, Susanne White.

JULY BUDGET REPORT

	JULY	YTD	BUDGET
TOTAL GIVING	\$72,629.46	\$554,970.68	\$784,417.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$55,336.94	\$444,741.71	\$819,176.00
EXCESS (SHORTAGE)	\$17,292.52	\$110,228.97	

SEPTEMBER 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
27 9:30 a.m. Faith, Science & The Future (Barbour) 10:30 a.m. Worship	28 LABOR DAY CHURCH CLOSED	29	30	1 31		2
3 9:30 a.m. Faith, Science & The Future (Barbour) 10:30 a.m. Worship	4 LABOR DAY CHURCH CLOSED	5 4:30 p.m. CONNECT Team (Barbour Room) 5:00 p.m. Facilities Support (Zoom)	6 2 p.m. Compassionate Cuisine (Atrium)	7 1 p.m. GO Team (Barbour Room)	8	9
10 9:30 a.m. Faith, Science & The Future (Barbour) 10:30 a.m. Worship 11:30 a.m. Compassion Coalition Luncheon	11 3:00 p.m. Budget & Finance (Zoom)	12 6:00 p.m. WORSHIP Team (Barbour Room)	13 6 p.m. 2nd Wednesday Dinner & Program	14	15	16 10:30 a.m. Ann Payne Memorial
17 9:15 a.m. Discovery Class (Library) 9:30 a.m. Faith, Science & The Future (Barbour) 10:30 a.m. Worship	18 10 p.m. Staff meeting (Barbour Room) 12:00 p.m. Pre-School Board Meeting (Zoom)	19 6 p.m. Session (Barbour Room)	20 9 a.m. Realm 101 (Small Conference Room) 10 a.m. CPM meeting (Barbour Room) 10 a.m. Realm 102 (Small Conference Room) 2 p.m. Compassionate Cuisine (Atrium)	21 10 a.m. Arts & Crafts (Room 227) 12 p.m. Realm 101 (Small Conference Room) 1 p.m. Realm 102 (Small Conference Room)	22	23
24 9:15 a.m. Discovery Class (Library) 9:30 a.m. Faith, Science & The Future (Barbour) 10:30 a.m. Worship 3:00 p.m. Baby Shower (Mary Chambers Room)	25 9 a.m. Fish Pantry (Fellowship Hall) 1 p.m. GROW team meeting (Zoom)	26 9 a.m. Fish Pantry (Fellowship Hall) 1 p.m. GROW team meeting (Zoom)	27 10 a.m. Real Leaders Class (Small Conference Room)	28 1 p.m. Real Leaders Class (Small Conference Room)	29	30

- 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
2829 KINGSTON PIKE
KNOXVILLE, TN 37919

CLERGY STAFF

Pastor Tim Reynolds

Pastor/Head of Staff

treynolds@2ndpres.org

Pastor Sarah Morgan

*Transitional Associate Pastor for
Congregational Life & Mission*

smorgan@2ndpres.org

PROGRAM STAFF

Matthew Mimbs

Director of Music & Arts

mmimbs@2ndpres.org

John Lasater

Organist

jdlasater77@gmail.com

Holly Grimm

Children & Youth Ministry Coordinator

hgrimm@2ndpres.org

SUPPORT STAFF

Bonnie Smith

Church Administrator

bsmith@2ndpres.org

Marta P. Villalta

Media & Communications Coordinator

mvillalta@2ndpres.org

Julie Hill

Receptionist

2ndpresJulie@gmail.com

PRESCHOOL STAFF

Linda Sue Byrd

Director

lsbyrd@2ndpres.org

Holly Grimm

Assistant Director

hgrimm@2ndpres.org

CONTACT US:

Second Presbyterian Church

2829 Kingston Pike

Knoxville, TN 37919

Ph. 865.523.2189

Fax 865.637.2617

www.2ndpres.org



*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

Doug Barbour

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