

A Guide for Proportional Giving

Seek a level of giving that avoids the guilt of giving too little and the anxiety of giving too much. Find the level of giving that is a joyful expression of your faith. Find the level of giving that helps you know you are a generous person, not a greedy one, a giver and not a taker, the steward of your resources rather than its slave. Seek to grow in God's grace, and then reflect that growth in your stewardship.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SYMPATHY

Sympathy is extended to Clint and Nancy Hopkins on the death of Clint's sister, **Anita Hopkins Cox**, on Friday, September 20, 2024.

Sympathy is extended to Kathy and Vic Gilchrist on the death of Kathy's father, **Robert B. Fay, Sr.**, on Wednesday, October 9, 2024.

COMMITMENT SUNDAY

Today is Commitment Sunday. Commitment cards have been mailed, placed in the pew racks, and can be requested from an usher. Additionally, you may call or email Church Administrator, Nathan Anderson (540-343-3659; admin@spres.org), to communicate your financial commitment.

Music

We welcome back **Cara Hubbard** to Second. Cara taught music courses and accompanied the choirs at Roanoke College from 2009-2023. She served as accompanist for the Roanoke Symphony Chorus for seven years, and has music directed and played various musical theatre productions in the area since 2006. Her 39-year teaching career includes high school band and choral directing in WV and GA, and a faculty position in a performing arts high school in Atlanta, GA. She holds degrees in music education from West Virginia University and Florida State University. Her newest adventure is the formation of a music trio—the Star City Cover Girls—that provides entertainment for civic group functions and retirement facilities in the Roanoke Valley.

We thank the Chancel Choir for its presence at both services, plus John Frank and his crew which provides breakfast for the musicians: *Luann Fitzpatrick, Nancy Henry, Nancy and Clint Hopkins, Pam and Trip Kreger, Angie and Jim Pittendrigh*. We appreciate you!

HURRICANE HELENE RELIEF: As news reports began surfacing about the devastation caused by Hurricane Helene, staff and many church members immediately began searching for ways to help. We have made calls and spoken to people, churches, and organizations on-ground to see where our resources are best used right now. Second Presbyterian's designated Hurricane Helene Relief will go to support Black Mountain Presbyterian Church of NC, who has set up a local food distribution site, portable bathrooms, and gathering space for those in need and needed supplies for the area. They are in coordination with Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Montreat Conference Center, Presbytery of Western NC, and Cajun Navy 2016. **Please note "Helene Relief" on any contribution made through the church.**

PRESCHOOL SUNDAY IS OCTOBER 20: All Preschool Families are invited to this special worship service, and we hope to see a strong turnout of support from our congregation! We'll gather in the Fellowship Hall at 9:45 a.m., for a Hallelujah Mountain story time with Pastor Elizabeth Link. Preschool children in the Threes and PreK classes will perform during the 11:00 a.m. service. Following their performance, Mrs. Lori will then take children upstairs to participate in our "Children Worship and Wonder" program. Nursery care is provided for younger siblings. It is sure to be a special morning; we hope you'll join us!

THE WEEK AHEAD

Today, October 13

COMMITMENT SUNDAY

- 8:15 am: Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room
- 8:45 am: Worship Service with Choir, Sanctuary
- 9:30 am: Chancel Choir Breakfast, Fellowship Hall
- 9:45 am: Handbell Choir Rehearsal
- 9:45 am: Sunday School
- 11:00 am: Worship Service with Choir, Sanctuary/Live Stream
- 4:00 pm: Class of 2027 Elder Training, Session Room
- 5:00 pm: Kids' Fellowship, Fellowship Hall
- 5:00 pm: Parenting Group, Hospitality Room
- 5:00 pm: Youth Group
- 5:30 pm: Welcome Families to the Alexa House

Monday, October 14

- 5:30 pm: Service and Outreach Committee Meeting, Zoom and Session Room
- 6:30 pm: Al Anon & Alateen, Trent Classroom, Reading Room, Library
- 6:30 pm: Cub Scouts, Cafe
- 6:45 pm: Scouts

Tuesday, October 15

- 9:30 am: Staff Meeting

Wednesday, October 16

- 8:05 am: Preschool Committee Meeting, Hybrid
- 12:00 pm: Bible in Black and White, Fellowship Hall
- 12:00 pm: Bulletin Article Deadline
- 5:15 pm: Finance Committee, Zoom and Session Room

Thursday, October 17

- 7:15 am: Men's Bible Study, Reading Room/Zoom
- 5:00 pm: Property Committee Meeting, Session Room/Zoom

Friday, October 18

Saturday, October 19

Staff

- Administrator*
Nathan Anderson
- Choir Director*
Dr. Jeffrey Sandborg
- Organist*
Marianne Sandborg
- Engagement Coordinator*
Connie Polly
- Children's Ministry Coordinator*
Maria Blackshaw
- Parish Associate for Visitation*
Nancy O. Gray
- Pastors' Assistant*
Meredith Koliba
- Secretary*
Stacy Moore
- Church Accountant*
Libby Smith
- Media and Communications Specialist*
Andrea Boone
- Media Assistant*
Rachel H. Vogado
- Church Sexton*
John Brady Anderson

Trustees

- Ron Ayers
- Mary Ann Johnson
- George A. McLean, Jr.

Clerk of Session

- Bill Durham
- Ken Lyons (Asst. Clerk)

Treasurers

- Joe Miller
- Bob Martin (Vice Treasurer)

Missionaries

- National:*
Beth-El Farmworker
Ministry; Wimauma, FL
- Local:*
Presbyterian Community
Center, Roanoke, VA

Preschool

- Alice Light, *Director*
- Lori Privott, *Asst. Director*
- 540.342.6405
- www.sprespreschool.com

For a list of church Committee Chairs, visit: www.spres.org/about/leadership/

For upcoming events, a library of sermons (audio & text), and more, visit our website:

www.spres.org



SECOND PRESBYTERIAN

Finding direction by following Jesus.

214 Mountain Avenue, SW
Roanoke, VA 24016
540-343-3659 • info@spres.org
• www.spres.org •

Sunday Morning Worship

Early and Late Services

October 13, 2024



Invest in Hope

PASTORAL STAFF

Dr. George C. Anderson, Senior Pastor

The Rev. Elizabeth N.H. Link, Executive Pastor

The Rev. Benjamin S. Brannan, Associate Pastor for Youth and Young Adults

Large-print copies of services may be requested from an usher.

MEMBERS OF THE SESSION OF SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Elders - Class of 2024

Maria Blackshaw
Pattie Clevenger
Nancy Gray
Robin Hobbs
Alice Holman
Kenneth Laughon
Betsy Prillaman
Chrissy Underwood

Elders - Class of 2025

Ginger Avis
Susan Carter
John Caudill
Kandy Elliott
Lucinda Hancock
Mark Lawrence
Megan Moore
Darin Pearson

Elders - Class of 2026

Mary Airheart
Margaret Ashburn
Chasity Fitzpatrick
Barry Green
Sally I'Anson
Drew Kepley
Randy Rhea
Ken Sizemore

OCTOBER 13, 2024

WORSHIP AT 8:45 A.M. AND ON SITE & ONLINE AT 11:00 A.M.
TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
COMMITMENT SUNDAY¹

Gathering Music *Now Thank We All Our God* Crüger/Steven Quesnel

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude *Lift High the Cross* Setting by Paul Manz

*Call to Worship (from Philippians 4:4-7)

Rejoice in the Lord always!

Again, I say, rejoice!

The Lord is near!

Again, I say, rejoice!

Do not worry about anything; instead, pray to God about everything.

**Because the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding,
will guard our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.**

With thanksgiving, let us worship our God!

Anthem *Death Shall Not Destroy My Comfort* arr. Mack Wilberg
Cara Hubbard and Marianne Sandborg, Piano

Death shall not destroy my comfort Christ shall guide me through the gloom
Down, He'll send some Heav'nly convoy To escort my spirit home.

Oh, hallelujah! How I love my Savior! Oh, hallelujah! That I do
Oh, hallelujah! How I love my Savior! Mourners, you may love Him too

Jordan's stream shall not o'er flow me While my Savior's by my side
Canaan, Canaan lies before me! Soon I'll cross the swelling tide. (Refrain)

See the happy spirits waiting On the banks beyond the stream!
Sweet responses still repeating "Jesus! Jesus!" Is their theme.

(11:00 A.M.) A Time for Children

*Children, Worship, & Wonder participants (Pre-K-1st grade)
excused after Children's Time.*

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

**Abundant God, who continually gives life in perfect love, who
transforms sadness into joy, and despair into hope, great is your
faithfulness. We are weak, but you are strong. Our ways are flawed,
but your ways are true. We cling to possessions, but you freely give.
Forgive us. Redeem us. Transform us. Take away all that burdens us
and weighs us down, freeing us to receive the weightless wonder of
your mercy.**

Speak to us in the silence; we are ready to listen.

Assurance of Pardon

*Response of Praise No. 581 *Gloria Patri*

*Affirmation of Faith (from A Declaration of Faith, chapter 10, section 5)

In Christ the new world has already broken in and the old can no longer
be tolerated. We know our efforts cannot bring in God's kingdom. But
hope plunges us into the struggle for victories over evil that are possible
now in the world, the church, and our individual lives. Hope gives us
courage and energy to contend against all opposition, however invincible
it may seem, for the new world and the new humanity that are surely
coming. Jesus is Lord! He has been Lord from the beginning. He will be
Lord at the end. Even now he is Lord.

Concerns

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer *Glory to God*, p. 35 (using debts, debtors)

Anthem

Saints Bound for Heaven arr. Mack Wilberg

Our bondage it shall end by and by,
From Egypt's yoke set free, hail the glorious jubilee,
And to Canaan we'll return by and by.

Our deliv'rer he shall come by and by.
And our sorrows have an end with our three-score years and ten,
And vast glory crown the day by and by.

And when to Jordan's floods we are come,
Jehovah rules the tide and the waters He'll divide,
And the ransom'd host shall shout "We are come."

Then with all the happy throng we'll rejoice.
Shouting glory to our King, 'Til the vaults of heaven ring,
And thro' all eternity we'll rejoice!

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading Matthew 13:24-30 New Testament p. 789
Romans 8:24-25 New Testament p. 915

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Sermon

The Witness of Hope Dr. George C. Anderson
"Invest in Hope" Sermon Series

(11:00 A.M.) *Hymn No. 692 *Spirit, Open My Heart*

Call to Discipleship

Offering^{2**}

Offertory *Jesus Calls Us O'er the Tumult* Dale Wood

Ritual of Friendship

*(Please sign the Friendship Pad, pass it along to others
in your pew, then return it to center.)*

*Doxology (Hymn No. 606)

*Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn No. 697 and Procession of Joyful Stewards *Take My Life*

*Charge and Benediction

Postlude

Chaconne

Louis Couperin

**Please stand in body or spirit.*



** Scan to Give

BULLETIN NOTES

¹ **ON COMMITMENT SUNDAY**, individuals in the Second Presbyterian Church community make financial promises to the work and witness of the church in the coming year. In the Presbyterian tradition, the pledge (a financial promise) is a celebration of the privilege of the commitment of our lives in a response of gratitude for God's grace. Pledges are placed in a "Blessing Box" on which is inscribed a symbol portraying God's grace and our response. During the last hymn and Procession of Joyful Stewards, the Blessing Box is carried to the front of the church. Those members and supporters of the work and witness of the church who are prepared to make their financial pledge then follow to place that pledge in the box as an act of joyful commitment. The individuals who carry the box forward are trustees of the church, symbolizing the responsibility of the church in being good stewards of those funds in support of the ministry of Christ's church. The trustees of Second Presbyterian are Ron Ayers, Mary Ann Johnson, and Al McLean.

² **THE OUTREACH OFFERING** for the month of October will go to *Restoration Housing* to help replace the porch on the Patterson Avenue project. The house will be a treatment facility for pregnant and postpartum women with substance use disorder and their infants. The project is part of a partnership involving Carilion Clinic, Anderson Treatment, and the Twelve Foundation. Once this rehab work is complete in early 2025, the Grove on Patterson will serve up to 16 women and 16 infants at any given time and will be a critical resource for families in Roanoke. After rehab work began in early August of this year, Restoration Housing's contractor uncovered significant deterioration of the front porch roof that was not originally evident when the project was first budgeted. There is now a budget shortfall of \$15,000 to cover the expenses to replace this roof, which wraps around three quarters of the perimeter of the first floor of the house. Any contributions made will go directly toward this budget shortfall to help replace the historic front porch roof. **As of Tuesday, October 8, \$410.00 has been collected.**

Monthly Food Collection for PCC: The food items for the month of October are **rice and dried beans**. A donation bin is in the coat closet; please check the expiration date before donating.

Death Shall Not Destroy My Comfort, Arr., Mack Wilberg. © 1998 Oxford University Press. All rights reserved. Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE, License #A-742472. All rights reserved.

Sants Bound for Heaven, Arr., Mack Wilberg. © 1998 Oxford University Press. All rights reserved. Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE, License #A-742472. All rights reserved. CCLI #2642604. ONE LICENSE #A-742472.

THIS SUNDAY

Flowers: The flowers are given to the glory of God by the church.
Arranged by Karen Davidson.

Ushers: (8:45) Robin Hobbs (Head Usher), Jeff Hobbs, Mary Evelyn Russell.
(11:00) Betsy Prillaman (Head Usher), John Prillaman, Taylor Prillaman, Meghan Prillaman.

Greeters: (8:45) Elizabeth Vacher. (11:00) Cathy and Terry Lauver.

AV Technicians: Darin Pearson, Doug Settles.

Children, Worship, & Wonder: "The Promised Land." Greeter, Jacquie Lockett. Storyteller, Sarah Wilson. Program Coordinator, Rhessa Bailey.

NURSERY: Our Sunday Morning Nursery is looking for additional staff. If you or someone you know (15 years or older) is interested in a very part-time position (8:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m., Sundays), please contact Nursery Coordinator, Aubrey Beeson (aubreyb7887@gmail.com). Thanks!

PRESCHOOL AFTER CARE HIRING: The preschool is hiring for after care positions to help with infants and toddlers a couple days a week. The flexible hours are 12:45 to 5:45 p.m. Please reach out to Alice Light, Director, at alight@spres.org with interest or any possible leads.

THE BIBLE IN BLACK & WHITE | WEDNESDAYS, OCT. 16 & 23 | 12:00 P.M. | FELLOWSHIP HALL: Join Drs. Bill Lee and George Anderson will lead this growing study in a discussion of Walter Brueggemann's book, *Delivered into Covenant: Pivotal Moments in the Book of Exodus*, and will focus on the last half of the book which was not covered in April's session. All are welcome to attend. No registration necessary. Lunch will not be served, however you are welcome to bring your own.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY | THURSDAYS @ 10:30 A.M. | SESSION ROOM: In *Reading Genesis*, Marilynne Robinson insists that modern readers have largely misunderstood the literary and theological significance of the Bible. Among the most salient causes of this misunderstanding, she argues, is our tendency to read ancient texts through modern categories—history, myth, fiction, nonfiction—that do not map neatly onto ancient literature. The result is a never-ending and mostly unnecessary debate between those who approach Genesis as a catalog of events and those who read it as mythic pastiche, pieced together from various ancient sources. The goal of Genesis, in her estimation, is not to offer a play-by-play of primeval events but to give a theological account of who God is, who we are, and how we should live together in light of that theology. Join Elizabeth Link this fall as we uncover this ancient text anew. Contact Meredith Koliba (meredith@spres.org) to register.

UNDERSTANDING ALZHEIMER'S AND DEMENTIA SEMINAR | OCTOBER 20 @ 5:00 P.M. | SESSION ROOM: Brooke Gill, the Program Manager for the Central and Western Virginia Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association will present a program on Sunday, October 20, at 5:00 p.m. in the Session Room. Designed for awareness for caregivers and others, the topic "Understanding Alzheimer's and Dementia" will cover basic information on the difference between Alzheimer's and dementia, stages, risk factors, research, and FDA-approved treatments. **RSVP by TOMORROW, Monday, October 14 at www.spres.org or by scanning the QR code.**



TRUNK OR TREAT | SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27 | 4:00 - 6:00 P.M.: The 4th Annual 2PC Youth Trunk or Treat will be on October 27 in the Mountain Avenue Parking Lot from 4 to 6 p.m. This event brings our neighbors, our preschool, our mission partners, and local schools together for a SPOOKtacular night of fun and fellowship! The youth create games for all the kids to play, while members of our church volunteer to decorate their trunks and pass out candy! This is a church-wide, neighborhood, and community event that highlights our focus on mission and outreach. We will be collecting canned food donations at the event to go towards our Middle School Hunger Busters Initiative which takes place during the month of November! Want to help? You can donate candy or sign up to decorate your car. Contact Ben Brannan and sign up today (benb@spres.org)!

SEMINAR ON GRIEF AND HEALING | NOVEMBER 7 @ 5:30 P.M. | SESSION ROOM: For those who have experienced loss the holidays can be a painful time, stirring up grief in acute ways. Again this year, the Congregational Life Committee invites members of our church and community who have experienced the loss of a loved one to come together for a special seminar on the topic of grief and healing during the holidays. On Thursday, November 7, from 5:30-7:00 p.m. in the Session Room, presenters Frannie Gaeta, LCSW, and Stephanie Pratola, PhD, Clinical Psychologist, will share about coping with grief during the holidays, about Carilion's various grief support groups, and lead the attendees in creating a Soul Collage of their loved one. **Please RSVP by Monday, November 4 at www.spres.org or by scanning the QR code.**



MEN'S RETREAT 2024 | NOVEMBER 8 & 9 | EAGLE EYRIE CONFERENCE CENTER: This year's Men's Retreat is November 8-9 (Friday-Saturday) at Eagle Eyrie Conference Center in Lynchburg, VA, an 80-minute drive from the church. Our guest speaker will be the Rev. Chris Vogado, Pastor of Salem Presbyterian Church. It is a great way to relax and unplug for the weekend, engage in discussion about work-life balance, what it is to be a Christian in 2024, and to meet other men of the church. This year's theme is "Rock of Ages: Evolving Sound, Evolving Faith." We will explore together the evolution of Rock N' Roll music starting with the Big Band era, to iconic groups and singers of the 1960s, and on to the present day. As we consider the past, present, and future of popular music, we might just find some very interesting parallels that inform the past, present, and perhaps the future direction of the mainline church in our country. In the words of Sonny and Cher, . . .

. . . "The beat goes on," and so, too, does our faith and new expressions of church. The cost for the retreat is \$75 per person. **Registration and payment are due by Friday, October 25. Scan the QR code or visit www.spres.org to learn more and register!**



GALS' GATHERING 2024 | NOVEMBER 15 & 16 | ALTA MON'S CAMP AND RETREAT CENTER: Register soon for our women's overnight retreat this fall, November 15-16 (Friday-Saturday) at Alta Mon's Retreat Center in Shawsville, VA, just 40 minutes from the church. Our guest speaker will be renowned author and speaker, Hannah Anderson. We hope you'll join us for this special, overnight event for women in our church to grow closer to one another and closer to God through study, conversation, crafts, and shared meals. Throughout our weekend together we'll explore our theme and reflect on Jesus' words from Matthew 11:28: "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." Come learn humility from the lilies of the field and from the One who is humility Himself. Remember who you are and who you are not, and rediscover the rest that comes from belonging to Him. The cost for the retreat is \$100 per person. **Registration and payment are due by Friday, November 1. Learn more and register today by scanning the QR code or visiting www.spres.org!**



KNITTED HATS FOR HIGHLAND PARK ELEMENTARY STUDENTS: As fall begins and the weather starts to cool, we are reminded that the knitting season is upon us! Please help us keep the children of Highland Park Elementary School warm this winter. For those wishing to knit, yarn and knitting instructions are located in the closet in the Hospitality Room (there is PLENTY of yarn to choose from!). This program was started by our beloved Margaret Foss. Finished hats and scarfs should be returned to the same Hospitality Room closet by early December. Contact Emily Mallory with questions (540-344-1780). Thank you to our faithful knitters!

OPEN FLOWER DATE: The following date is available for anyone who would like to sponsor flowers in the sanctuary: Dec. 8. Please contact Denise Revercomb to see if the date is still open (588-5111; revercomb@cox.net).
A Note on Flowers: Reformed theologians have said that God's goodness and grace is generally revealed in creation and specifically revealed in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. It is highly fitting that the backdrop for worship on Sunday mornings is both a flower arrangement, symbolizing God's providential care, and the cross, symbolizing God's grace in Christ. The beauty of the arrangement lifts our hearts as we prepare to worship. The Flower arrangements are normally provided by a donor, and often to honor or remember someone. Please contact Denise Revercomb (see contact info above) if you would like to help call your church family to worship.

— OCTOBER COLLECTIONS | SERVICE & OUTREACH —

OCTOBER LINEN COLLECTION FOR FAMILY PROMISE: We are collecting new pillows, hand towels and washcloths for Family Promise during the month of October. Items can be placed in the labeled container in the Coat Closet at church. Thank you for your care of our partner in ministry and the families they serve!

OCTOBER WALMART GIFT CARD COLLECTION FOR WEST END CENTER YOUTH: During the month of October, the Service and Outreach Committee will be collecting Walmart gift cards to give to the West End Center to be included in the Christmas bags given to each child who is a part of their program. The cards should be from Walmart in \$10, \$15, or \$20 amounts. You can leave them in the box provided at the front desk on Sundays or in Meredith's office during the week. Thank you, Second congregation, for your generous giving.

I have already communicated my financial commitment.

Invest in Hope

Part of my worship is giving back to God—with joy and gratitude—from all that I have received. I have communicated my financial support of this church and its ministry, and I place this slip in the Blessing Box as a tangible way of participating in this act of worship.