

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SYMPATHY

Our sympathies extend to the family and loved ones of **Joseph Glenwood "Pete" Lawson**, who died on Monday, November 11, 2024. Our prayers are with his daughters Victoria, Whitney, and Anne Taylor. A memorial service in celebration of Pete's life and Christian witness will be held on Monday, November 18 at 11:00 a.m. in the sanctuary with a reception to follow in Fellowship Hall.

HUNGER BUSTERS TODAY: Throughout the month of November, middle school youth have been collecting canned goods for the Presbyterian Community Center's food pantry. Canned goods may be dropped off in the Fellowship Hall until noon today. The PCC's food pantry is an important resource for our city. Thanks to all those who have contributed food for this event and for helping to feed those in need in Roanoke!

CHURCH PHOTO SHOOT TODAY: The 6th and 7th grade Sunday school class members are reviving their annual service project during the Sunday school hour today. Middle schoolers will be briefly visiting all classes and morning events to take photos so they can later create and craft beautiful, handmade Christmas greeting cards for church members who are unable to attend services in person.

ADVENT WORKSHOP | NOVEMBER 24 | 4:45-6:30 P.M. | FELLOWSHIP HALL | RSVP BY TOMORROW: The annual Advent Workshop is a wonderful opportunity for households of every size and generation to join together for a special project that will help get your home ready for the season. This year, the CE Committee plans to help you make a nativity scene! Participants will sand, paint and glue pre-cut wooden blocks (up to 6.5" tall) to create a full nativity set. A potluck dinner is on the menu, so we hope you will come, bring a favorite dish to share, enjoy the good food and fellowship, and craft with family and friends! *One nativity scene per family.* **Schedule:** 4:45-5:30 p.m. Dinner (beverages and hot chocolate bar will be provided); 5:30-6:30 p.m. Craft time; 6:00 p.m. Kids' Fellowship participants dismissed for pageant rehearsal (until 6:30). **Please RSVP online at www.spres.org by Monday, November 18 so that we have enough craft supplies prepared.**

DRUMSTICK DASH: It's time to sign up for the Drumstick Dash event to benefit the Rescue Mission! Taking place Thanksgiving morning at 9:00 a.m., run, walk, and virtual run/walk events are available. If you have plans to attend, consider joining the Second Presbyterian Team! When registering online, click to join an existing Team Challenge and select Second Presbyterian under Churches from the list. There will be special recognition given to the largest church group participating. So head to <https://www.drumstickdash.net/> and sign up for the Second Presbyterian team!

CHRISTMAS DINNER & PAGEANT DEC. 8 @ 5:00 P.M. | FELLOWSHIP HALL | RSVP BY NEXT SUNDAY NOV. 24: Mark your calendar for our church family Christmas Dinner & Pageant on the evening of Sunday, December 8! Dinner by Lib & Amy Catering begins at 5:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. After dinner, we recess to the sanctuary for the traditional Christmas Pageant with music by the children and youth. Come join the festivities! Reservations are not complete until payment has been received. **Register online at www.spres.org. The deadline for receiving reservations and payment is Sunday, November 24.**



THE WEEK AHEAD

Today, November 17

Hunger Busters
8:45 am: Worship Service, Sanctuary
9:45 am: Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room
9:45 am: Handbell Choir Rehearsal
9:45 am: Sunday School
11:00 am: Worship Service, Sanctuary/Live Stream
12:00 pm: Youth Hunger Buster Event, Fellowship Hall
4:00 pm: Class of 2027 Elder Training, Session Room
5:00 pm: High School Friendsgiving, Polly Home
5:00 pm: Kids' Fellowship, Fellowship Hall
5:30 pm: Welcome Families to the Alexa House

Monday, November 18

11:00 am: Memorial Service for Pete Lawson, Sanctuary with Reception in Fellowship Hall
4:00 pm: Pre-Finance Meeting, Session Room
6:30 pm: Al Anon & Alateen, Trent Classroom, Reading Room, Library
6:30 pm: Cub Scouts, Cafe
6:45 pm: Scouts

Tuesday, November 19

9:30 am: Staff Meeting
5:15 pm: Finance Committee, Zoom and Session Room

Wednesday, November 20

8:05 am: Preschool Committee Meeting, Hybrid
12:00 pm: Bulletin Article Deadline for Nov 24 and Dec 01
5:15 pm: Session Meeting, Session Room/Zoom

Thursday, November 21

7:15 am: Men's Bible Study, Reading Room/Zoom
10:30 am: Women's Bible Study, Session Room

Friday, November 22

Saturday, November 23



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
November 17, 2024



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

NOVEMBER 17, 2024

WORSHIP AT 8:45 A.M. AND ON SITE & ONLINE AT 11:00 A.M.
TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST¹

Gathering Music *Rigaudon* André Campra

Welcome and Announcements
Minute for Mission *Local Office on Aging* Ron D. Boyd, President and CEO

Prelude *Festival Prelude on "Old 113th"* Gilbert M. Martin

*Call to Worship (adapted from Ecclesiastes 3)
For everything there is season,
and a time for every matter under heaven.
A time to be born,
and a time to die.
A time to plant,
and a time to pluck up what is planted.
A time to break down,
and a time to build up.
A time to weep,
and a time to laugh.
A time to mourn,
and a time to dance.
A time to work
and a time to worship.
Now is that time.
Let us worship God.

*Hymn No. 250 *In the Bulb There Is a Flower*

(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 Confession²
Holy One, You are the same yesterday, today, and always. You have welcomed us to take refuge in You, our Rock and our Salvation. Yet, we act as ungrounded people, as a ship without mooring, dangerously tossed in the sea. We are affected more by our circumstances than we are grounded in Your promises and Your character. We consume vast quantities of media, but willfully neglect worship, study and prayer. Please forgive us. Grow in us a desire to be reformed in Your image.

We have more to confess in the conversation of silence.

Assurance of Pardon

*Response of Praise No. 581 *Gloria Patri*

*Affirmation of Faith³
We believe God calls us to a faith that is both Reformed and always being reformed. We affirm the sovereignty of God, the grace of Christ, and the transformative work of the Holy Spirit. We believe that God continually works within and among us, calling us to deeper understanding, repentance, and renewal. Trusting in the Spirit's guidance and reliant on God's grace, we resist complacency and seek to reflect God's will in ever evolving ways.

Concerns

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

(11:00 A.M.) Anthem *For All the Blessings of the Year* arr. Lloyd Larson
For all the blessings of the year, For all the friends we hold so dear,
For peace on earth, both far and near, We thank Thee, Lord.
For life and health, those common things, Which every day and hour brings,
For home where our affection clings, We thank Thee, Lord.
For love of Thine which never tires, Which all our better thought inspires,
And warms our lives with heavenly fires, We thank Thee, Lord. Amen.

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading Isaiah 43:19-21 Old Testament p. 582
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

Sermon *Illusions and Dreams* Dr. George C. Anderson

A Moment for Reflection

Call to Discipleship
Offering^{4**}
Offertory *Let All Things Now Living* Gilbert M. Martin
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. 766 *The Church of Christ Cannot Be Bound*

*Charge and Benediction

(11:00 A.M.) *Choral Response

Postlude *Lead On, O King Eternal!* Robert W. Thygerson

**Please stand in body or spirit.*

BULLETIN NOTES

¹ **NOTES ABOUT WORSHIP:** Worship is intentional address of God. It goes beyond rituals or songs; worship is a heartfelt response to who God is and what God has done. Through worship, believers express gratitude, humility, and reverence, whether through prayer, singing, giving, or acts of service. Worship aligns our hearts with God, reminding us of God's presence and claim on our lives. It is both a personal and communal experience.

² **PRAYER OF CONFESSION:** The novelist, Flannery O'Conner, in *Mystery and Manners: Occasional Prose*, grieved over those who do not recognize the need for both the Prayer of Confession and the Assurance of Pardon. She said, "Our age not only does not have a very sharp eye for the almost imperceptible intrusions of grace, it no longer has much feeling for the nature of the violences which precede and follow them." In offering our Prayer of Confession and hearing the Assurance of Pardon, perhaps we can see ourselves more sharply.

³ **THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** today is an affirmation to affirm the Credo of the Reformed Faith as "Reformed and always being Reformed."

⁴ **THE OUTREACH OFFERING** for the month of November will support the Local Office on Aging's (LOA) meal programs: *Meals on Wheels* and *Diner's Club*. The Meals on Wheels program provides a hot, nutritious lunch to homebound elderly who have no one to provide lunch for them. Diner's Club meets monthly to provide a meal, program, and fellowship to seniors in communities who need socialization and nutrition. LOA provides the resources necessary to help our aging population remain in their home and live independently for as long as possible. LOA administers more than 30 community services providing nutrition, education, advocacy, and socialization to enhance quality of life in the home, encourage aging in place to avoid early institutionalization, provide caregiver support, and advocate for quality services, medical care, and housing for the elderly. **As of Thursday, November 14, \$1,454.50 has been collected.**

Monthly Food Collection for PCC: November's food collection will support the middle school youth Hunger Busters event. Please check expiration dates before donating.

For All the Blessings of the Year. Text: Albert H. Hutchison. Music: OLDBRIDGE, Arr. Lloyd Larson. © 1990 Beckenhorst Press. All rights reserved.
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THIS SUNDAY

Flowers: The flowers are given to the glory of God by Nancy Henry in loving memory of the **Rev. David L. Henry.**
Arranged by Alison Conte.

Ushers: (8:45) Mark Lawrence (Head Usher), Manly Aylor, Susan and Tom Blaylock. (11:00) Alice Holman (Head Usher), Barry Holman, Nancy and Jim Pickens.

Greeters: Jim and Angie Pittendrigh.

AV Technicians: Miranda Moore, Doug Settles.

Children, Worship, & Wonder: "Exile and Return." Greeter, Maria Blackshaw. Storyteller, Sarah Wilson. Program Coordinator, Rhessa Bailey.



GABRIEL FAURÉ CENTENARY MEMORIAL CONCERT | NOVEMBER 24 | 4-6 P.M. | OLIN RECITAL HALL AT ROANOKE COLLEGE: Honoring the anniversary of Fauré's death, which occurred on Nov. 4, 1924, this Sunday afternoon concert will feature music for voice and piano, piano solo, and an arrangement of Fauré's famous Pavane, based on one of the composer's chamber performances of the work. Featuring Patricia Clevenger (soprano), Michael Pekel (baritone), Gordon Marsh (piano) and Bryan Moctezuma-Vazquez (flute). Free to the public.

POINSETTIA ORDERS DUE DECEMBER 2: The Poinsettia order form can be found online at www.spres.org; hard copies are available at the front desk. We encourage you to fill out the form online to ensure spelling accuracy. Orders are due by Monday, December 2.

ANGEL TREE FOR LOA | GIFTS DUE BY DECEMBER 1: As we approach the Christmas holiday, our congregation will be helping the Local Office on Aging (LOA) make a difference in the lives of elderly in our community. Approximately 100 Angel Tree Tags are available on the tree located in the stone passageway outside the sanctuary. **Gifts purchased for seniors will be due on or before Sunday, December 1.**



- Local Office on Aging needs volunteers in several ways, including: Drivers are needed to deliver Christmas gifts to seniors between December 16-17. Volunteers are needed to deliver Meals on Wheels—this service is Monday-Friday, takes two hours of your time, and can accommodate all schedules: weekly, bi-weekly, or monthly. If you would like to help, contact Pat Houghton at Picuspholcomb@msn.com or call/text 540-529-1269.

KNITTED HATS FOR HIGHLAND PARK ELEMENTARY STUDENTS: 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!

REMEMBER YOUR COMMITMENT: Commitment cards have been mailed and are available in the sanctuary and at the front office. You can communicate your financial commitment via mail, by phone or email to Church Administrator Nathan Anderson (540-343-3659; admin@spres.org), or by completing a form online (<https://www.spres.org/give/make-a-pledge/>)

VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES: If you're seeking ways to give back and support the community this holiday season, be sure to check the bulletin board outside Fellowship Hall for details. Numerous mission partners are in need of volunteers, and we believe that the gift of your time can truly transform lives. Opportunities are diverse, ranging from tutoring children and youth to assisting with food preparation and pantry stocking, as well as bell ringing for the Red Kettle program, gleaning apples, and more! If you have questions, contact Service & Outreach Chair Alice Holman (aliceholman08@gmail.com).

(See reverse.)

ADVENT SUNDAY SCHOOL SERIES: CHARLES DICKENS' A CHRISTMAS CAROL | FELLOWSHIP HALL, DEC 1, 8 (CHAPEL), 15 (CHAPEL), AND 22 | 9:45AM:

On December 19, 1843, *A Christmas Carol* was published in London, introducing the world to the elderly miser, Ebenezer Scrooge. As Scrooge is visited on Christmas Eve by the ghost of his former business partner, Jacob Marley, and the spirits of Christmas Past, Present, and Yet to Come, we see the ways he is transformed over the course of one night.



Charles Dickens wrote *A Christmas Carol* during a period when the British were exploring and reevaluating past Christmas traditions. On a visit to the Field Lane Ragged School, one of several organizations established to educate the region's most impoverished children, Dickens was inspired. He imagined the tale of a selfish man, redeemed by his exposure and understanding to those less fortunate. The rest is history.

The book has never been out of print, and has been adapted many times over for film, stage, and opera. It is a well-loved tale that has stood the test of time. Debate surrounds the question of whether *A Christmas Carol* is a fully secular story or a Christian allegory. For Christians, it's not hard to see the religious parallels.

Join Carter Brothers and his cast of characters for this Advent season's 4-week course on this classic tale.

Image source: Wallpapers.com

Advent Workshop

Sunday, Nov. 24, 2024 | 4:45-6:30 p.m.

Come ready to craft and fellowship, and bring a favorite dish to share for the Potluck Dinner!

Learn more and register by Monday, Nov. 18 @ www.spres.org