

What's First

at
Second Presbyterian Church
February 2026

Our Vision

*As members of Second Presbyterian Church,
We gather in worship;
We grow in God's Word;
We serve in Jesus' name.*

Session

Moderator

William C. Seay, Jr.

Clerk of Session

Bettie Guthrie

Class of 2026

Beverly Coleman
Carl Guthrie

Class of 2027

Bettie Guthrie

Committees

Building & Grounds

Carl Guthrie

Finance

Office & Personnel

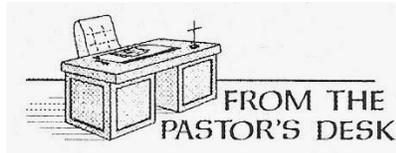
Garland Harrison

Outreach

Carole Ellis
Kimberly Jones

Worship/Education

Alice Martin



Thomas Paine was an English political essayist and Revolutionary. He was expelled from Britain for his criticism of the Monarchy, his

open support for American Independence as well as for other accusations. Benjamin Franklin aided Paine's immigration to America. Some historians conclude that he may have also been the first immigrant the American Revolutionary leaders swore in as an American citizen.

This past Friday, January 15, 2026 was the 250th anniversary for the publication of "Common Sense," Paine's most famous pamphlet. It was first printed on Franklin's Philadelphia press on 10 January 1776. In it, Paine argued that Americans should know it was "Common Sense" to continue fighting for independence from British rule. America, he argued, had already begun to rule itself. And the new nation had more than enough resources to support the people as well as to become a thriving world power. "Common Sense" remains both a historical and philosophical masterpiece.

King Solomon taught us, however, about Common Sense's original source and of the ways it is such a beautiful gift. God is its' provider so that we may know the right, just, and fair ways to treat each other. Common Sense, King Solomon further explained, gives Wisdom to the Heart as well as Knowledge to the Mind to bring us Joy in The Lord; it is thus a Heavenly Treasure!

What a Loving and Rewarding God we have! Let us therefore better understand that He needs us to Follow and Serve Him so that we may be enlightened at Heart with His Loving Wisdom!

It is simply Common Sense.

"Common Sense is a Heavenly Treasure Given To The Honest." (Proverbs 2:7)

William C. Seay, Jr.

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

Bettie Guthrie, Clerk of Session

Stated Session Meeting November 23, 2025; Ratify Electronic Vote December 9, 2025 and December 31, 2025.

Stated Session Meeting; Approved September 28, 2025 Stated Session Meeting: Ratified the Electronic Vote of December 9, 2025 and December 31, 2025.

Received the September and October Treasurer's report.

Approved Clerk of Session request to contact POJ with regard to the lack of manpower for a small member church.

Approved Staff Christmas bonus.

Approved the annual POJ Covenant

Electronic Vote December 9, 2025– Ratify approval of Rev. Carson Rhyne as Pulpit Supply on December 14, 2025. Pastor William is not available.

Electronic Vote December 31, 2025: Ratify the approval of the 2026 Budget; and approve AA's request to use McIlwaine Hall for their anniversary breakfast on Monday, January 26, 2026 9:00 a.m. – noon.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

December 2025 FINANCIAL REPORT

	December	Year to Date
Income	\$20,015.00	\$147,165.50
Expenditures	\$12,756.43	\$152,407.36
Gain/Loss	\$ 7,258.57	-\$ 5,241.86



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN: Alice Martin, Moderator



Susan Lobaugh delivered 10 bags of food to the DCU Hope Center. What a generous congregation we have! This donation will help so many in our community during this cold winter season.

Thank you so much!

**Morning Circle will meet
Tuesday, February 3
10:30 a.m.
In the Parlor**

62nd LENTEN SERIES 2026

This will be the 62rd year that the Presbyterian Women have sponsored Lenten services and luncheons during Lent. This year, Wednesday, February 18, Ash Wednesday will begin the 2026 series.

Brochures will be handed out for you to have and for you to take to friends and neighbors to invite them to come. Pastors participating are listed:

Feb. 18	Rev. Jeff Butler, Woodlawn Presbyterian
Feb. 25	Rev. Ken Goodrich, Colonial Heights Presbyterian
Mar. 4	Rev. Katherine Jackson, Honorably Retired
Mar. 11	Rev. Rob Dawson, First Baptist, Petersburg
Mar. 18	Rev. Carson Rhyne, Honorably Retired
Mar. 25	CRE William A. Seay, Second Presbyterian

As usual, a delicious luncheon follows the service.

Luncheon: \$6.00

Presbyterian Women Mission Project: Gloria Summers, Chair.

February 27 – We Love Our First Responders, Cookie Day!

This PW project has become a big hit with our congregation and with our first responders.

Please add a few bags of cookies to your shopping list for these deserving workers to help show them we care and appreciate their good work. It will surely brighten their day!



OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Carole Ellis and Kimberly Jones, Co-chairs.

PRAY FOR:

CHURCH FAMILY AND FRIENDS - Thelma Kirkland, Wayne Tucker, Keith Snaveley, Bonnie Snyder, Alice Martin, Dorothy Riggan, Alice Kropp, Amy Rush, Whitney Palmore, Bill and Mona Ellis, Eva (Becky's niece), family of Pam Harville.

WORLD AND COMMUNITY - Hannah's Home (Regenesis Recovery) A transformative twelve-month biblical-based Christian residential program designed to support mothers who are grappling with addiction. Check out their coffee shop - Market St. Coffee-111 N. Market Street.

“Let us think about each other and help each other to show love and do good deeds.”
Hebrews 10:24

BLESSING BOX SUGGESTIONS- Scarves, hot chocolate mix, stocking hats, toilet paper, canned soups, tea and coffee.

DCU FOOD PANTRY SUGGESTIONS - Peanut butter, jelly or jam, cereals, canned meat and fish, pasta.

Collection boxes are in the back hallway. Thanks to each of you who donate to these two causes.

SYMPATHY

Our Christian sympathy is extended to the family of Susan Andrews upon the death of sister, Carol N. Stromberg.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



The Sacrament of Holy Communion will be celebrated on **Sunday, February 1.**

THANK YOU

Dear Second Church,
Thank you very much for the Amazon gift card. I really appreciate it!
Love,
Madison Gill

My Second Church Family,
I appreciated the waxed Amaryllis so much you gave me for Christmas. It is blooming beautifully and I am enjoying it so much. Thank you for all your cards, calls and blessings.
Ethel Peterson

Dear Second Church Family.
I would like to thank you for my special Christmas gift of goodies and beautiful Poinsettia.
Dorothy Riggan

Dear Friends at Second,
I would like to thank the Session, Presbyterian Women, Presbyterian Men, and members of the congregation for their cards, delicious goodies, and generous Christmas gifts. Your thoughtfulness is greatly appreciated. I hope you and your families have a very healthy and Happy New Year!
Becky Lancaster

Dear Friends at Second,
Thank you for your generous Christmas gifts and delicious Christmas treats.
William Spencer, Sexton

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

6 Robert T. Fitts (Robbie)
9 Frankie Groux



16 Ethel Peterson
John Michael Jones
23 Abby Schoeb Binter

INCLEMENT WEATHER

Turn to WTVR Channel 6 to hear if Second Church will be closed.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
FEBRUARY 2026						
1 11:30 Communion Sunday	2	3 9:15 PWCT Meeting 10:30 Morning Circle	4	5	6	7
8 11:30 Worship	9	10	11	12	13	14 
15 11:30 Worship	16	17	18 12 noon Deadline for March "What's First" 12:15 62 nd Lenten Series Begins Followed by Lunch	19	20	21 Presbytery of the James Meeting
22 11:30 Worship	23	24	25 12:15 Lenten Series Followed by Lunch	26	27	28

Second Presbyterian Church
419 West Washington Street
Petersburg, VA 23803

Address Service Requested

