

What's First

at
Second Presbyterian Church
January 2025

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 2025

Alice Martin

Class of 2026

Beverley Coleman
Carl Guthrie

Class of 2027

Bettie Guthrie

Committees:

Building & Grounds

Carl Guthrie

Finance/Stewardship

Beverley Coleman

Office & Personnel

Outreach

Elizabeth Schoeb
Carole Ellis
Kimberly Jones

Worship/Education

Alice Martin



God Bless Us, Everyone." One of the most famous Christmas as well as literary quotes of all time. Spoken by Tiny Tim, the lame son of Bob Cratchit, bank clerk to the infamous miser, Ebenezer Scrooge in Charles Dickens's classic, "A Christmas Carol." What a wonderful gospel lesson Tiny Tim's words teach us even into the current holiday season.

Tiny Tim walked on one crutch likely from rickets, a common yet curable malnourishment affliction amongst the children of the British poor although one to cause sudden death if not properly treated. Yet his good dear father carried him upon his shoulders- a familiar depiction in illustrations as well as in film and theatrical productions. Tiny Tim also had only a small goose portion to eat.

The Cratchits could not afford a Christmas Turkey. That changed, however, when a beautiful heart changed Scrooge, he sent the biggest turkey in Camden Towne to the Cratchit's as a surprise. He was a poor, needy child. Yet Tiny Tim was far wealthier than Scrooge as well as are many in our world, today. He was incredibly rich in love!

Tiny Tim's parents and siblings gave all of themselves to make certain he had the best loving comfort as the Ghost of Christmas Present allowed Scrooge to witness. Tiny Tim therefore knew he was blessed and thus thanked and asked God for more of the blessing of which he knew he had much-Love. Hence the meaning of his inspiring words.

May God and Savior be praised for Tiny Tim, our humble yet wealthy Teacher of the Word! Let us pray that his words guide us in the Spirit to make each other richer than ever- in God's Love!

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK - Continued

It is also Our Heavenly Father who has already made us wealthy by giving us Jesus Christ, His Only Begotten Son, to bring us Life Eternal by the Cross, and who taught us the Power of Love. Let us therefore keep spreading the wealth.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

"It is Faith, Hope, and Love that remain. Yet the greatest of these gifts is Love."
(1 Corinthians 13:13).

William C. Seay, Jr.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

INCLEMENT WEATHER CHURCH CLOSING REMINDER: Turn to WTVR Channel 6 to hear if Second Church will be closed for inclement weather.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to Jason Martin Gill. In December he graduated from Virginia Tech with his Doctorate in Education. Jason is the husband to Heather Nichols Gill and father to Madison and Caleb. Heather is the daughter of Dale and Diane Nichols and the granddaughter of Dorothy Riggan. Good job!

SYMPATHY

Our Christian sympathy is extended to the family of Janet G. Newcomb upon the death of her mother, Eleanor L. Garrison.

IN MEMORIAM

Eleanor Lake Garrison

May 10, 1931 - November 25, 2024

JANUARY PW MISSION PROJECT

Gloria Summers, Mission Chair.

Blanket Sunday - January 12 is a special mission opportunity that can involve all ages. Blankets enable Church World Services (CWS) to respond to disasters at home and around the world. Please support this worthy cause and **purchase a blanket for \$10.00.**



Please help us reach our goal of sending 30 blankets to those who need them. A special envelope will be in the bulletin. Make checks payable to Presbyterian Women and note Blankets on the memo line.

OUTREACH

Elizabeth Schoeb, Carole Ellis, Kimberly Jones, Co-Chairs.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

Pray For:

Church Family and Friends - Thelma Kirkland & family, Eleanor Garrison's family, Eva (Becky Lancaster's great niece), Bill and Mona Ellis, Ralph Lovejoy's family, Liam Clegg (grandson of Bettie & Carl Guthrie), Alice Kropp, Rudy Rowland, Rev. Paul Bonham, Dorothy Riggan.

Our World/Community - Those affected by Hurricanes Milton and Helene as they will be in recovery mode for a very long time. Tim Smith told at the Men's Breakfast of the devastation and how humble and thankful the people in the North Carolina area were for the help he and others are providing. World Peace! Homeless, especially during these cold months.

FOOD OFFERING- "Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God." - Hebrews 13:16

Suggestions for food offerings which are collected each Sunday for Downtown Churches United- cereal, soups, stews, chili, pasta and sauces, cake mix, frosting.

BLESSING BOX-A BIG thanks for your donations. We have been told neighbors, students and homeless have been visiting our box, so you are a blessing indeed! We hope with your help we can continue to supply our box, but we will need everyone's help. A few suggestions: socks, mittens, hand warmers, oatmeal packets, tea bags, instant coffee, canned food with ring pulls. You probably have good ideas, too! Just think, "If I were to visit a box like this, what would be the best items that would keep me going?"



Thank You!

Thank You!

The church is beautiful but even more so during the Christmas holidays. Sunday, December 1 was the first Sunday of Advent and we had the Chrismon Tree up and decorated thanks to Susan Lobaugh, Alice Martin and Gloria Summers. William Spencer did a fantastic job of getting the tree in place.

Poinsettias and fresh greens were used to decorate the sanctuary on Friday, December 13. Thank you to Alice Martin and Pattie Bonham for their talent to help make the church welcoming and beautiful. Let us never forget Jesus is the reason for the season.

Thank You!

FINANCE COMMITTEE: Beverley Coleman, Chair.

OCTOBER 2024 FINANCIAL REPORT

	October	Year to Date
Income	\$ 6,530.00	\$114,492.39
Expenditures	\$10,941.19	\$146,519.42
Loss	-\$ 4,411.19	-\$ 32,027.03



Please remember to turn in your Pledge Card!!

ANNUAL STATEMENTS AVAILABLE BY REQUEST
Annual statements on giving will not be mailed except by special request. If you desire a statement, let Becky know by January 15.

January Birthdays

- 1 Bill Kropp
- 6 Reps Haskins
- 12 Linnea Pittman
- 15 William Graham, Sr.
- 19 Ross Johnson



- 21 Donna C. Harrison
- 23 Karen Graham
- 26 Rev. Paul Bonham

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

Bettie Guthrie, Clerk of Session

Stated Session Meeting December 1, 2024 and
Electronic Vote November 4; November 29, December 2, 2024

Stated Session Meeting:

Session did not meet in November.

Approved the minutes of the Stated Session Meeting October 24, 2024; Ratified the Electronic Vote of November 4, 2024; November 29, 2024.

Received the October Treasurer's report.

Approved the recommendation from Building and Grounds Committee, Carl Guthrie for the use of the Sanctuary on December 14, 2024, 2:00 p.m. for the Ralph Lovejoy memorial service.

Approved the recommendation from Building and Grounds Committee for the 2025 committee members: Carl Guthrie, chair, Bettie Guthrie, Susan Lobaugh, Bill Ellis.

Approved the recommendation from Finance Committee, Beverley Coleman for the 2025 committee members: Beverley Coleman, chairman, Susan Crew, Jeanne Johnson, Carl Guthrie, Wayne Tucker.

Approved the recommendation from Worship Committee, Alice Martin for the 2025 committee members; Alice Martin, chair, Susan Lobaugh, Gloria Summers, Wayne Tucker, Pastor William Seay, ex-officio.

Approved the motion from Clerk of Session, Bettie Guthrie to approve the 2025 Covenant with the Presbytery of the James in the amount of \$1,000

Electronic Vote, November 4, 2024:

Approved the Worship Committee's recommendation to have Rev. Aggie Walker to preach on Sunday November 10, 2024 as Pulpit Supply.

Electronic Vote, November 29, 2024

Approved the recommendation from Building and Grounds Committee, Carl Guthrie to allow First Baptist Church to use McIlwaine Hall for their church service on Sunday, December 1, 2024, 11:00 a.m. Their church furnace is not functioning.

Electronic Vote, December 2, 2024

Approved the 2025 Budget.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Fri.	Sat.
JANUARY 2025						
			1 Happy New Year Church Office Closed New Year Holiday	2	3	4
5 11:30 a.m. Worship	6 10:30 Worship Committee	7 10:30 Morning Circle	8	9	10	11
12 Blanket Sunday 11:30 a.m. Worship	13	14	15 12 noon "What's First" Articles for Feb. due.	16	17	18
19 11:30 a.m. Worship	20	21	22	23	24	25
26 11:30 a.m. Worship 12:45 p.m. Session	27 10:30 a.m. PWCT Meeting	28 8:00 Men's Breakfast Meeting	29	30	31	

*Second Presbyterian Church
419 West Washington Street
Petersburg, VA 23803*

Address Correction Requested

