

What's First

at
Second Presbyterian Church
November 2022

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

Rev. Arch Wallace

Clerk of Session

Bettie Guthrie

Class of 2022

Patricia Bonham
Joseph Chamberlain
Dennis Harrison
Alice Martin

Class of 2023

Carl Guthrie
Mark Stevens
Wendy Stevens

Class of 2024

Bettie Guthrie
Garland Harrison
Venable Johnson

Committees:

Congregational Care

Elizabeth Schoeb

Building & Grounds

Carl Guthrie

Finance/Stewardship

Patricia Bonham
Mark Stevens

Office & Personnel

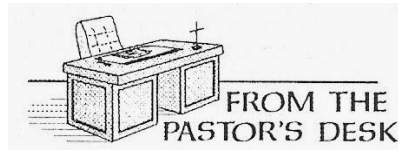
Patricia Bonham

Witness & Service

Joseph Chamberlain

Worship/Education

Alice Martin
Venable Johnson



Earlier this year the Congregational Care Committee of Session and I began work on a document which our members and friends could use to

convey to those who follow when we pass all of those things we wish we had said and done. The document is not a Will or a Power of Attorney or a Final Directive about extraordinary actions to keep us going in a last illness. Instead, it a host of instructions and thoughts about those things we wish we had written down, such as Funeral Plans, Obituaries, Next of Kin, Contacts, Accounts, Passwords.... The list goes on. There are over twenty categories.

The Document now exists and is called "A Last Gift" (For My Family and Friends). It is meant to be completed with your pastor. It is meant to be part of a short period of reflection with your pastor about your wishes. The intent is for it to be filled out by hand, with the original taken with you and stored in a safe place but not in a lock box or safe where immediate access would be denied. It is also the intent of the Committee that a copy be made while you are at the church, so that copy can be placed in a sealed envelope with your name on it and stored in the church's safe until needed.

The document can be changed in whole or in part at any time by doing it all over or by inserting a page or removing a page. It is in notebook form for that purpose instead of being in a bound form like a Booklet. The Committee encourages you to review it once a year thereafter, updating it as you wish. It is your Document, your Last Gift to loved ones and family. It is your blue-print to those who will have the job of settling your affairs.

It is not intended for computer fill out, as the time spent with clergy will help both be better prepared when the day of departure finally comes.

If you are interested in completing A Last Gift, please call the church office, where appointments of an hour each can be scheduled on certain Mondays of the month and on any

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK CONTINUED

Wednesday. Our church Administrator will have the calendar and can make the appointments. Liz Schoeb and I will have one in church to show you what it looks like beginning the first Sunday in November.

Because we thought this information would be of value church wide, we presented it to the Presbytery and it has been approved and is now available for dissemination Presbytery wide. Both Liz and I hope that what started here might bring peace and joy to so many others.

WHO AM I?

Some called me the greatest prophet. I doubt it, but I was willing to serve when the Lord asked, whom shall I send to warn my people of the tragedy that was coming unless they repented and of the hope that is coming in the Servant, the full revelation of the Messiah. My ministry began in 740 BC and ran through 701 BC. I was a contemporary of Amos, Hosea and Micah. I lived to 681 BC and saw many of God's prophecies come true. I am best known as the prophet of the coming Messiah. Handel used many of my verses in his music—The Messiah. My writings can be summarized as pronouncing judgment and offering hope of a future beyond imagination, a future that would come to pass in Bethlehem. Who am I?

Rev. Arch Wallace

FINANCE COMMITTEE: Pattie Bonham & Mark Stevens, Co-Chairs.

SEPTEMBER 2022 FINANCIAL REPORT

| | September | Year to Date |
|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| Income | \$12,572.16 | \$101,830.18 |
| Expenditures | \$17,772.44 | \$120,764.71 |
| Loss | \$ 5,200.28 | \$ 18,934.53 |



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN: Alice Martin, Moderator

November Mission Project: Gloria Summers

“SOCKS FOR SENIORS”



This is one of our favorite projects, and it is certainly appreciated by all that receive them. Please bring socks or slippers with grippers on the soles.

All sizes, all colors, for men & women are needed.

Please place them in the designated basket in the back hallway.



WORSHIP COMMITTEE: Alice Martin, Chair.

**THANKSGIVING SERVICE
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20
3:00 pm
Joint Service by
Second Presbyterian Church
First Baptist Church**

This year, we will gather at First Baptist with Rev. Wallace giving the sermon. Our PW group will provide homemade treats to hand out in baggies as we leave. Please come join in this special service as we give thanks for the many blessings God has given us.

WITNESS & SERVICE COMMITTEE: Joseph Chamberlain, Chair.

2022 CHILDREN'S THANKSGIVING OFFERING

The Children's Thanksgiving Offering will be received on **Sunday, November 20**. This offering has supported four agencies in the Synod of the Mid-Atlantic for over 50 years: Edmarc Hospice for Children, Presbyterian Children's Home of the Highlands, Presbyterian Home & Family Services and Volunteer Families for Children. Please make your checks payable to Second Presbyterian Church and mark in the memo line Children's Thanksgiving Offering.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE COMMITTEE: Elizabeth Schoeb, Chair.

- * Please continue to remember our sick and shut-ins in your prayers or with a card, call or visit.
- * Hunger Corner: The Monthly Food Offering will be received on Sunday, November 6. Recipient for this month is Downtown Churches United Hope Center.

SYMPATHY

Our Christian sympathy is extended to the family of Albert L. West upon his death on September 5, 2022.

ALBERT LEIGH WEST
JULY 11, 1932 - SEPTEMBER 5, 2022

November 6, 2022 Daylight Savings Time Ends!!!
Set your clock back one-hour Saturday night before you go to bed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY - The Church Office will be closed Thursday, November 24 and Friday, November 25 for Thanksgiving.

“WHAT’S FIRST” DEADLINES

✧ **November 9** for December Articles

✧ **December 7** for January 2023 Articles

These new dates are due to Thanksgiving and Christmas Holidays.

COMMUNION SUNDAY
November 20 – Christ the King Sunday

STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY
November 20

STEWARDSHIP SEASON 2022

Stewardship season at Second Church is now well underway. Your stewardship team has set a goal of \$110,000 for this year’s campaign and will be providing updates as we move forward through November and beyond. The campaign kicked off on September 11th with stewardship talks by Mark Stevens and Pattie Bonham announcing the theme of “Joyful Giving - Joyful Living.” This was followed on October 16th by an amazing skit from the creative duo of John Michael and Kim Jones and will continue on November 13th with a presentation by Venable Jones, then conclude on Dedication Sunday November 20th with the presentation of our pledges. In recognition of pledges received each one will be acknowledged with the gift of a small volume of psalms that center around the theme of joyful living. You will find this year’s stewardship letter and a pledge form included below and are encouraged to prayerfully consider what you might joyfully contribute to enable Second Church to live out its mission of *Gathering in Worship, Growing in God’s Word, and Serving in Jesus’ Name*.

Second Presbyterian Church

Confidential NO. _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Financial Stewardship Commitment 2023

Grateful for God’s love in Jesus Christ, I (we) make the following commitment to support the mission of the church.

\$ _____ per - week - month - annual - other (circle one)

Your gift is fully deductible in accordance with rules issued by the IRS.

I (we) wish to receive information about giving through Estate Planning.

Keep this portion as a record of your financial stewardship commitment for the year 2023.

My (our) financial commitment
\$ _____

Per – week -- month – annual -- other
(Circle one)

But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ’s gift. Eph. 4:7

SECOND PRESBYTERIAN T CHURCH

Dear Friends in Christ,

When was the last time you felt good about anything? Or peaceful and secure? In today's world finding an answer to those questions might well give each of us pause. Amidst the strife and calamity glaringly featured in all media platforms there seems very little to take joy in or feel calm about. Wars and threats of war, natural catastrophes, widespread looting and thievery, random murder and violence, social injustice, political unrest - the list seems endless. How could anyone feel good and safe, much less take joy in living in today's world?

And yet, and yet, there is still much to be grateful for and many opportunities to experience joy. Chances are that if you think about it you will remember the last time you helped someone, friend or stranger, when they were in need. Or the time you were able to share talent and energy in a group effort to improve your community or to solve a local problem. The memories of these experiences that make us feel good and peaceful revolve around our pleasure in giving of ourselves. But frequently they are a one-off occurrence not often repeated and so the feel-good moment is fleeting and soon dominated again by the ever present news cycle.

There is a cure for this situation that has its roots in the much-loved psalms of David, one who endured his share of tribulations but turned to God repeatedly for solace and joy.

*Offer right sacrifices
and trust in the Lord.
Many are asking, "Who can show us
any good?"
Let the light of your face shine upon
us, O Lord.
You have filled my heart with greater joy
than when their grain and new
wine abound.
I will lie down and sleep in peace,
for you alone, O Lord,
make me dwell in safety. Psalm 4:5-8*

Recognizing the wisdom of David's psalm, this year's stewardship campaign has as its theme "Joyful Giving - Joyful Living." Each time we make our gift to God we experience a joy that does not end with the act itself but continues to dwell within us. And since it is a regular act on our part we have repeated opportunities to experience that joy. As you prayerfully consider your pledge this year remember that when we "*offer right sacrifices*" by making our gifts to the Lord each of us can say along with David "*You have filled my heart with greater joy*" and we will "*lie down and sleep in peace.*"

In joy and peace,

Your Stewardship Team

Mark Stevens, Chair., Pattie Bonham, Bettie Guthrie, Kim Jones, Susan Lobaugh, Venable Johnson

November Birthdays

2 Gary L. Groux
5 Mrs. Bettie Guthrie
6 Rev. Arch Wallace
9 Richard E. Peterson
10 Mrs. Linda Iselin



16 Mrs. Janet Hodges
18 William Jason Nichols
23 David Glass
24 John Charles Martin
26 Billie Graham



SESSION HIGHLIGHTS: Bettie Guthrie, Clerk of Session

Stated Session Meeting Sept. 25, 2022 & October 3, 2022 Electronic Meeting

- ❖ Approved the minutes of the Stated Session Meeting August 28, 2022.
- ❖ Received the August Treasurer's report.
- ❖ Approved Building and Grounds/ Improvement Movement Campaign request to have a Window Dedication on Sunday, November 27, 2022 and to purchase a cast plaque to be displayed in the East Wing to thank those that contributed to the window effort.
- ❖ Approved Building and Grounds/Men's Group request to have a Pot Luck lunch on Sunday, October 16, 2022 following worship.
- ❖ Approved Finance/Stewardship request to move \$11,000 from the Reserve Fund to the Improvement Movement to pay for the final billing of the R.M. Harris painting invoice to correct the Building and Grounds Maintenance line item. Cost of cast plaque is included.
- ❖ Approved Sunday October 16 and November 13 for Stewardship Minute for Mission.
- ❖ Approved Clerk of Session's request to ratify the pulpit supply, Pattie Bonham, on September 11, 2022.
- ❖ Approved the request from Crew/Wright family to use the Sanctuary and parlor on Tuesday, September 27 for their mother's funeral.
- ❖ Approved Crew/Wright family request to have Rev. Dan Hale have the service for their mother, Anne H. Wright.

October 3, 2022, Electronic Meeting

- ❖ Approved Building and Grounds request for an Electronic Meeting on October 3, 2022 for the purpose to approve a request from the Shining Light Pentecostal Ladies Ministry to use McIlwaine Hall on November 5, 2022 for a One Day Women's Conference. Only the Sexton's fee will be charged.

| Sun | Mon | Tues | Wed | Thurs | Fri | Sat |
|--|-------------------------------------|---|---|--|---|--|
| | | 1 10:30 Morning Circle | 2 | 3 5:45 p.m. Chancel Choir | 4 | 5 Reminder: Don't forget to turn your clocks back 1 hour Saturday night. |
| 6 All Saints' Sunday Daylight Savings Time Ends 11:00 a.m. Worship Monthly Food Offering | 7 10:30 Worship Committee | 8 | 9 12 noon "What's First" Deadline for Dec. <u>Note: Change in Date</u> | 10 5:45 p.m. Chancel Choir | 11 | 12 |
| 13 11:00 a.m. Worship | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 5:45 p.m. Chancel Choir | 18 | 19 |
| 20 11:00 Christ the King Sunday/Communion/Stewardship Sunday Children's Thanksgiving Off. Rec. 3:00 Thanksgiving Joint Service First Baptist Church | 21 | 22 8:00 Men's Breakfast Meeting | 23 | 24  Happy Thanksgiving Church Office Closed | 25 Thanksgiving Holiday Church Office Closed | 26 |
| 27 1 st Sunday of Advent 11:00 a.m. Worship 12:15 p.m. Session | 28 10:30 PWCT Mtg | 29 | 30 |  NOVEMBER 2022 | | |

WHO AM I? Answer: Isaiah

Second Presbyterian Church
419 West Washington Street
Petersburg, VA 23803

Address Service Requested

