

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

2022 - 2023

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

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# WELCOME TO SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

WORSHIP • LEARNING • FELLOWSHIP • SERVICE

- If you have any questions about the church, please visit [www.spres.org](http://www.spres.org), call us at 540-343-3659, or email [info@spres.org](mailto:info@spres.org).
- The church building is entirely handicap-accessible, and the elevator makes it possible to reach all three levels with ease.
- Second Presbyterian Church is honored to offer an excellent preschool program, expanded to provide full-day options for those who need it. If you would like more information, visit [www.sprespreschool.com](http://www.sprespreschool.com) or call 540-342-6405.

View the online calendar: [www.spres.org/connect/calendar/](http://www.spres.org/connect/calendar/)



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Second Presbyterian Church Roanoke



## JOIN US FOR RALLY DAY ON SEPTEMBER 11

We have come to call the first Sunday after Labor Day when we kick off a new church program year “Rally Day.” To rally means to come together again to renew an effort; to join in common cause; to recover and rebound after illness; a mass meeting of people for a purpose. Each of these definitions seems appropriate just now as we begin a new program year of Christian nurture and discipleship.

Just two years ago, Christian education at Second was completely remote. Rally Day was a YouTube premiere, and education took place in living rooms and around breakfast tables via take-home kits, Zoom screens, and prerecorded videos. We learned that we could try new things and continue learning together even across time and space.

In 2021, hybrid was the theme. Rally Day was outside and distanced, though yummy treats and warm fellowship reminded us of the good old days! We outfitted classrooms to make the in-person and virtual experiences as close as possible. We started the church school year with some classes live and some recorded. As the year progressed, more and more people felt safe to return.

This year, we are excited for a new and special way to kick off the school year together. Join us for a Rally Day breakfast on September 11 at 9:45 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. Visit with friends and learn about exciting educational opportunities at Second for all ages. A special preview video will be made available online for anyone who is unable to join us.

Friends, let us give thanks for the gift of being together!

### RALLY DAY SCHEDULE:

- 8:45 a.m.      Worship, Sanctuary
- 9:45 a.m.      Pancake Breakfast & Rally Day Presentation, Fellowship Hall
- 10:15 a.m.     Confirmation Class Orientation, Chapel
- 11:00 a.m.     Worship, Sanctuary/Live stream
- 5-6:30 p.m.    Youth Group, Intersection  
Kids’ Fellowship, Fellowship Hall, Playground & Children’s Music Suite

# CHRISTIAN ED CALENDAR 2022-2023

## SEPTEMBER

- Rally Day (Begin SS, Youth Groups, Choirs, CWW): Sun. Sept 11
- First Day of Regular SS: Sun. Sept 18

## OCTOBER

- All-Youth Retreat at Craig Springs Retreat and Conference Center: Sat-Sun. Oct 1-2
- World Communion Sunday: Sun. Oct 2
- Trunk or Treat: Sun. Oct 30

## NOVEMBER

- Annual Gals' Gathering Women's Retreat: Fri-Sat. Nov 11-12
- All Saints Sunday: Sun. Nov 6
- Edmunds Lectures: Sun-Mon. Nov 6-7
- Preschool Sunday: Sun. Nov 13
- Advent Family Workshop: Sun. Nov 20
- Thanksgiving (office closed): Th-Fri. Nov 24-25
- Advent Begins: Sun. Nov 27

## DECEMBER

- Annual Christmas Dinner & Children's Pageant: Sun. Dec 11
- Christmas Eve: Sat. Dec 24
- Christmas Day (No SS): Sun. Dec 25
- Christmas Day Observed (office closed): Mon. Dec 26

## JANUARY

- New Year's Day (No SS): Sun. Jan 1
- January CE Pancake Breakfast: Sun. Jan 8
- Confirmation Sunday: Sun. Jan 8
- MLK Day (office closed): Mon. Jan 16

## FEBRUARY

- Youth Sunday: Sun. Feb 5
- Sr. High Faith and Sexuality Retreat: Fri-Sat. Feb 10-11
- Ash Wednesday: Wed. Feb 22

## MARCH

- Trent Symposium for New Ministers: Fri-Wed. March TBD

## APRIL

- Palm Sunday: Sun. Apr 2
- Easter (No SS): Sun. Apr 9
- Easter Monday (office closed): Mon. Apr 10

## MAY

- Senior Recognition Sunday: Sun. May 7
- Youth End of the Year Party/ Lock-in: Sat-Sun. May 20-21
- Last Day of Sunday School: Sun. May 21
- Pentecost: Sun. May 28
- Memorial Day (office closed): Mon. May 29

## JUNE

- Evening Vacation Bible School: Sun-Wed. June 11-14
- Juneteenth (office closed): Mon. June 19
- High School Mission Trip: Sun-Sat. June 25-July 1\*

## JULY

- Middle School Youth Conference or Mission Trip: Sun-Sun. July 9-16\*
- Morning Vacation Bible School: Mon-Th. July 24-27
- Montreat High School Youth Conference: Sun-Sat. July 30-Aug 5\*

\*Summer dates not confirmed until Nov 1, 2022.

# PODCASTS AND SPECIAL EVENT

## EDMUNDS LECTURE SERIES

### November 6 & 7 featuring Dr. Ben Witherington III (Sanctuary)

The Edmunds Lecture Series of Second Presbyterian was established in 1985 by S. Spencer "Buddy" Edmunds as a way of honoring his father's commitment to joining scholarship with congregational life. Dr. Spencer Edmunds served Second Presbyterian as its Senior Minister from 1923-1941. The lectures continue to attract outstanding preachers and theologians to educate and inspire the Roanoke Valley.

The 2022 Edmunds Lecture will take place on November 6 & 7. Bible scholar Dr. Ben Witherington, Amos Professor of New Testament for Doctoral Studies at Asbury Theological Seminary, will be our speaker. His lectures will center on "A Singular Jesus in a Pluralistic Culture" and the Beloved Disciple, "Beloved but Unknown."

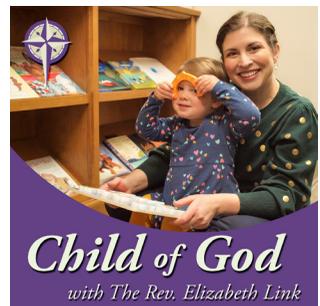
*This special event is sponsored by the Trent Fund of Second Presbyterian Church.*

## SECOND ON THE MOUNT PODCAST

No matter where you are on the journey of faith, God's Word has something to say to you. *Second on the Mount* is a collection of sermons from Second Presbyterian on Mountain Avenue in Roanoke, VA. Listen to the encouraging words of ministers George Anderson, Elizabeth Link, Ben Brannan, and occasional guests as we journey together, finding direction by following Jesus. Whether you are near or far, have a quiet moment or are on the go, you can easily listen on your podcast app of choice or stream online from our website. New episodes are published weekly; subscribe to be notified when a new sermon is available!

## CHILD OF GOD PODCAST

Join Rev. Elizabeth Link for *Child of God*, a podcast for children and families. Each episode shares a story about God's people and the ways we are a part of God's family. The episodes are brief, but meaningful, and you can catch them while traveling in your car, while doing chores, or getting ready for bedtime, naptime, or to start your day! Subscribe and listen to *Child of God with the Rev. Elizabeth Link* on your favorite podcast platform, or by visiting [www.spres.org/connect/podcasts/](http://www.spres.org/connect/podcasts/).



# SUNDAY MORNINGS

## NURSERIES

**(Infant, Toddler, 2's and 3's Room, near Fellowship Hall)**



Nursery Coordinator: Aubrey Beeson

The nursery is open and available for infants and toddlers during both morning worship services and Sunday school. During the Sunday school hour, volunteer teachers lead toddlers and the 2's and 3's in a special, age-appropriate class. Nursery staff and volunteers are under the nursery coordinator's supervision.

## WORSHIP

**CHILDREN, WORSHIP, & WONDER (CWW)**



**Pre-K through 1st Grade**

**(Children's Worship Center, Third Floor)**

Volunteer Coordinator: Amanda Copeland

During the Sunday school year, children ages pre-k through first grade enjoy their own special time of worship and wonder at CWW. Following the Children's Time during the 11:00 a.m. worship service, children are excused to the Children's Worship Center on the third floor. They learn the stories of our faith and worship God in a setting and style geared toward their needs and stages of development. Biblical stories are told in the context of a worship experience that includes singing, response time, and "the feast." We hope this will nurture their innate sense of wonder as they develop a sense of awe and reverence for worship.

For more information or to serve as a storyteller or greeter for CWW, contact Amanda Copeland ([ahcopeland@gmail.com](mailto:ahcopeland@gmail.com)).

## FOR CHILDREN

### PRESCHOOL

**(4-year-old Sunday School, near Fellowship Hall)**

Children will enjoy learning about God's Word through many different learning styles. Teachers work with children using age-appropriate lessons and play through art, music, and storytelling. This class will use curriculum which walks through key Old Testament and New Testament Bible stories each year.

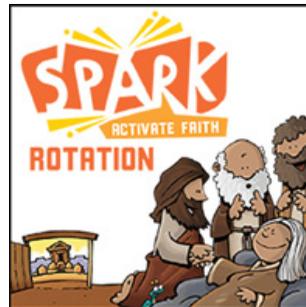
### THE RIVER (K-3RD GRADE)

**(Third Floor)**

Volunteer Coordinator: Maria Blackshaw

Younger elementary aged children will enjoy our Workshop Rotation Model Sunday school called *The River*, a name the children chose themselves. Using the *Spark Rotation* curriculum, kindergarten through third graders will spend four weeks on a Bible story, and visit different workshops each week in order to experience the same story from different perspectives. The workshops include "MArts" (Music & Arts), "God's Table" (Cooking), "Holy Word, Holy Motion" (Bible Storytelling through games and drama), and "Holy Explosion" (Science). This year, *The River* will study the following units:

- The First Sin (Genesis 3:1-24)
- Abraham and Sarah (Genesis 12:1-9, 18:1-15, 21:1-7)
- Hannah and Samuel (1 Samuel 1:-27, 3:1-20)
- Jesus is Born (Matthew 1:18-25, 2:1-12; Luke 1:26-58, 2:1-20)



- Four Friends (Luke 5:17-26)
- Mary and Martha (Luke 10:38-42)
- Palm Sunday – Easter Sunday (Luke 19:28-40, 23:26-56, 24:1-12)
- Lydia (Acts 16:11-15)
- Fruits of the Spirit (Galatians 5:16-26)

### 4TH & 5TH GRADE FAITH IN ACTION (Third Floor)

Each week during Sunday school, 4th & 5th graders will gather together to learn about God's Word for their lives. Each semester they will have the opportunity to put God's Words to action as they work together on a special mission project. This class will use *Holy Moly* curriculum, which walks through key Old Testament and New Testament Bible stories.

## FOR YOUTH

### MIDDLE SCHOOL COMPASS CLASS (The Intersection)

This middle school class will explore faith and build upon the basics they learn as children, connecting scripture with their daily lives. This fall, the class will be using the PC(USA)'s *Faith Questions* curriculum to respond to real faith questions posed by Presbyterian youth from across the denomination. Each unit encourages young people to look to Scripture, as well as our faith traditions, in relevant and responsive ways.

### CONFIRMATION CLASS (The Intersection)

Confirmation means study and commitment to the major teachings of the Christian faith. This year, our combined class will follow the *Confirm Not Conform* confirmation curriculum, which

helps youth claim their place in the priesthood of all believers. By engaging youth in Scripture, tradition, reason, and experience, *Confirm not Conform* empowers youth for ministry and empowers them to think deeply about their own faith. Teachers and mentors build important and lasting relationships with the young people of this class, and work as a team to support and love these students throughout the year and beyond. This year's confirmation class (which traditionally takes place in 8th or 9th grade) is open to all youth who are in 8th grade or older who seek to be confirmed as full, active members of the church.

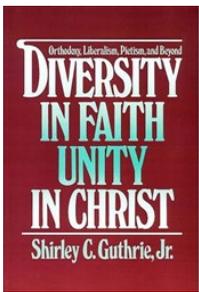
### SR. HIGH COFFEE AND CONVERSATION (The Intersection)

The Senior High Sunday School will be a conversation-based class focused on scripture and how it relates to our everyday lives. This class encourages youth to be vocal about the questions they have about faith, seek understanding from one another, from scripture, and from tradition, and explore aspects of faith through fun and fellowship. In the spring, the class will learn about the traditions and worship of Presbyterians, but will also explore different denominations, even visiting worship at a few nearby churches. If students can't be present every week, we still encourage them to come whenever they are able. Volunteers often provide breakfast, so come hungry!

## FOR ADULTS

### REFORMED AND ALWAYS REFORMING (Trent Classroom, Hybrid)

Facilitators: Dr. George Anderson, Suzanne Fischer, Al McLean, Christal Pearson

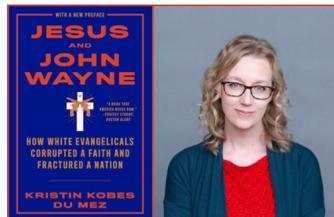


Why is it that people who read the same Bible and talk about the same Christ have trouble getting along with each other and committing themselves to a common witness in the world? Join the Reformed and Always Reforming class this fall as they tackle such important questions through the insightful lens of Shirley Guthrie's book *Diversity in Faith – Unity in Christ*. Together, the class will work to better understand their own beliefs, learn from one other, and grow more open to working for greater union in addressing serious issues in the life of faith today.

**THE OPEN DOOR CLASS  
(Session Room, Hybrid)**

*Facilitators: Nancy Gray, David Howell, Nancy Morris, Therry Neilsen-Steinhardt, Bruce Stockburger*

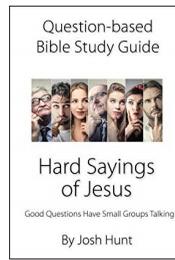
This fall, the Open Door Class takes on a study of acclaimed scholar Kristin Kobes Du Mez's book *Jesus and John Wayne*. Described as a sweeping, revisionist history of the last seventy-five years of white evangelicalism, Du Mez describes how fundamentalist evangelical Christians have replaced the Jesus of the Gospels with an idol of Christian nationalism and rugged masculinity. All are welcome to join in exploration of this engaging and challenging work. For more info, contact Kay Saleeby ([kaysaleeby@hotmail.com](mailto:kaysaleeby@hotmail.com)).



**COVENANT CONVERSATION  
(Reading Room, Hybrid)**

*Facilitators: Jeff Hobbs, Robin Hobbs, Cindy Waters*

Something special happens when people come together to talk about faith. Exploring God's Word in community leads us to hear and understand it in new ways. In questions asked and conversations shared, God's Word comes alive. Join Covenant Conversation this fall as they explore important and engaging questions of faith about God, knowledge of the holy, and the hard sayings of Jesus using the *Question-based Bible Study* as their guide. Come explore your own theology, bring your questions, your faith, and your doubt to this safe and welcoming group.



**CONFIRM NOT CONFORM FOR ADULTS  
(Location TBD, Fall Series)**

*Facilitators: Christina Croteau, Shelley Lyons, Donna Wardell*

Geared toward the parents of confirmands, this 8-week companion class will parallel parts of what our 8th grade youth will be learning in confirmation this year. Participants will be invited to ask questions they have always wanted to ask and explore their faith from an adult perspective. The emphasis will be on building an authentic faith, and lessons will cover basics on the Bible, creeds, sacraments, and topics which may have been ignored or lost in the mists of time. **Class begins September 18.**

**POP-UP SUNDAY SCHOOL  
(Fellowship Hall, first Sundays)**

*Facilitators: Varied*

Gather the first Sunday of the month for POP-UP Sunday school. Drop in for an interesting

topic or guest speaker. Topics will include updates from our mission partners, stories from the history of Second, religion in art, and other important topics facing the modern church.

**BELIEVING AND BELONGING  
(Hospitality Room, Seasonal)**

*Facilitators: Dr. George Anderson and Rev. Elizabeth Link*



Join our senior minister Dr. George Anderson for a seasonal two-week class on what it means to be a Presbyterian, and what it means to be a member of Second Presbyterian Church. This is a great class for visitors and new members! **The fall class will meet September 18 and 25.**

**SUNDAY EVENINGS**

**KIDS' FELLOWSHIP: AGES 4 THROUGH 5TH GRADE**

**(Sundays 5-6:30 p.m., Fellowship Hall)**

Kids' Fellowship begins with dinner provided by families for children ages 4 years old through fifth grade. After dinner, the children divide by age and progress through an engaging evening of recreation and music. Children will have the opportunity to run and play, experience Bible stories through Story and Stretch, and enjoy the opportunity to make music through a special weekly music experience.

As part of the Sunday Night Kid's Fellowship, the Music Experience (formally known as Children's Choir) will gather upstairs in the Children's Choir Suite in two separate groups at two separate times—divided by age. Music will

focus on FUN, using voices, instruments and movement while preparing a Christmas Pageant to be presented on December 11 and a Sunday worship service in the spring.

**YOUTH CHOIR: MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH  
(Seasonal)**

On scheduled Sundays before and in preparation for a performance date, Youth are invited to join Choir rehearsals in the Youth Music Room. Details and dates to be announced. Performances will include the Christmas Pageant, Youth Sunday and a Sunday worship service in the spring.

**YOUTH GROUP**

**When:** Sunday nights, 5:00-6:30 p.m.

**Who:** 6th-12th graders and Youth Advisors

**Where:** The Intersection

**What:** Middle and High-school Youth gather to build relationships and connect with each other and with God. This time is set apart to enjoy food, fellowship, and fun while exploring various aspects of faith. This year's Youth Group theme is *Lighthouse of Love!* We will explore the various aspects of faith that call us to be the light in the world, as we reflect and follow the light of Christ's love. We begin each evening with a shared meal, and then share in some faith-filled fun! Friends are welcome to join!

*In addition to our weekly email, we will send out text message reminders and alerts. This is for both parents and youth! There are three ways to join the text list. If you are interested in joining, contact Ben Brannan for details (Parents, see note on next page).*

\*For parents: If you have a child in both middle and high school, you will be added to both text lists, as well as the general Youth Group list.

### SUNDAY NIGHT PARENTING GROUP (Sundays at 5 p.m., Reading Room)

Facilitator: Rev. Elizabeth Link

It can be hard to broach difficult subjects with our children. As Christians, however, we know we have a role to play in shaping young children's hearts as they grow to encounter difficult realities in our world. Each evening, join this group of adults exploring ways to equip themselves to have difficult but important conversations with the children in their lives about faith, care for the environment, ways to treat our neighbors, and other important issues for today. Come every week, or join in for particular discussions you are interested in. This class meets in conjunction with our Kids' Fellowship and Youth Group schedules, and will begin in October.

check in with each other, and enjoy moments of connection and learning. These nights center around a shared meal and an activity—devotional, craft, game—and the bonds created are long-lasting and meaningful. This group is led by Valerie Brannan and Rebekah Gunn. Contact Ben Brannan for more information.

#### Midweek Manna Fall Dates:

September 21	November 16
October 5	November 30
October 19	December 14
November 2	

#### MIDWEEK MAN-NIGHT

**When:** 1st Tuesday nights throughout the year

**Who:** Middle & High School Boys

**Where:** Locations vary

**What:** These first Tuesday gatherings offer the young men of our church an opportunity to grow in faith together. Activities may include some form of outdoor fun, indoor game, a meal/fellowship and conversation. The times of each event will be determined by the scheduled activity. If interested please contact Ben Brannan.

#### Midweek Man-Night Dates:

October 4	February 7
November 1	March 7
December 6	April 4
January 10	May 2

#### YOUNG ADULTS (Every other Thursday)

Second Presbyterian's Young Adults group is an active group of men and women in their 20s and 30s. We all are at different stages in our life,

and this group provides opportunities to gather to eat, to have fun, and to explore faith in varied ways. The Young Adults try to meet every other Thursday either at someone's home or out for a fun activity, typically beginning at 6:30 p.m. If interested, please email Ben Brannan. In addition to email reminders, we will begin to utilize the power of text-messaging. To join the text list, contact Ben Brannan for details.

#### MEN'S MORNING BIBLE STUDY (Thursdays, 7:15-8:15 a.m., Session Room, Hybrid)

Facilitators: Rev. Ben Brannan and Aaron Copeland

On Thursday mornings join a Bible study open to all men of the church from 7:15-8:15 a.m. in the Session Room/Zoom. Each week we will dive deep into the sermon Scripture from the previous Sunday, as we seek to understand what the sermon and the scripture passage call us to be and do in the world today.

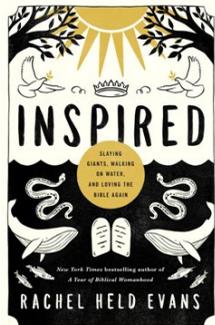


#### WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY (Thursdays Beginning September 29, 9-10 a.m., Session Room)

Facilitator: Rev. Elizabeth Link

If the Bible isn't a science book or an instruction manual, then what is it? What do we mean when we say the Bible is inspired? Using Rachel Held Evans' 2018 book *Inspired: Slaying Giants, Walking on Water, and Loving the Bible Again*, we will explore some favorite Bible stories

and possible interpretations. Together, we will explore the many ways that the Bible is not a static work but a living, breathing, captivating, and confounding collection of books that is able to equip us to join God's loving and redemptive work in the world.



#### THE BIBLE IN BLACK & WHITE (Wednesdays, Oct 5, 12, 19, & 26, 6-7 p.m., Fellowship Hall)

Facilitators: Dr. George Anderson, Dr. Bill Lee

This fall, Dr. George Anderson and Dr. Bill Lee will offer a second installment of *The Bible in Black and White*. Over four Wednesday evening sessions throughout October, they will look at key moments in the Bible: the Sermon on the Mount, Peter's vision of a feast of Gentile foods, the Jerusalem Council, and the encounter with the woman at the well. They will remain attentive to the ways those key moments



THE  
BIBLE IN  
BLACK  
&  
WHITE

have been understood within the white and black communities. All are welcome!

\*\*For more information or to receive the Zoom link for any of our adult Sunday or midweek classes, please contact Pastors' Assistant Meredith Koliba in the church office or at [meredith@spress.org](mailto:meredith@spress.org).

## MIDWEEK

#### MIDWEEK MANNA

**When:** Wednesday nights, 6:30-8:00 p.m.

**Who:** High School Girls

**Where:** Homes of church members

**What:** This group of high-school girls gathers to take a break from their hectic schedules,

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