

# THE SECOND SHEET

Monthly Newsletter of Second Presbyterian Church



Photo from Youth Sunday, February 8. See more on p. 4.

## SECOND PRESBYTERIAN

*Finding direction by following Jesus.*

### — In this issue —

Pastor's Notes	1-2
Trent Symposium, Habitat	3
Youth & Young Adults	4
Sustainability Spotlight	5
Christian Education	6-7
Congregational Life	8-9
News & Notes	8
Financial Focus	10
Lenten Series	10
Calendar	11
Easter Flower Order Form	12

## PASTOR'S NOTES - DR. GEORGE C. ANDERSON

### SCAPEGOAT.

The word comes from Leviticus 16 and the ancient ritual of the Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur). Two goats were chosen. One was sacrificed. Over the other, the high priest confessed the sins of the people before sending it into the wilderness, symbolically carrying those sins away.

In 1530, William Tyndale translated the Hebrew phrase as “escape goat.” Over time, the words merged into the one we use today: *scapegoat*.

The ritual was not primitive crowd control. It was a dramatic reminder that sin is real, communal, and heavy—and that it must be dealt with. But over time, the word has taken on a darker meaning. A scapegoat is now someone blamed for troubles they did not cause. History shows how often societies, under stress or fear, choose a person or group to carry collective frustration. Foreigners, political opponents, racial minorities, the wealthy, the poor—when anxiety rises, someone is usually singled out.

The crucifixion of Jesus exposes this pattern. The Gospels portray him as the innocent one onto whom fear, envy, and anger were projected. In that sense, Jesus becomes the last scapegoat—not because God required a victim, but because the cross reveals and absorbs the violence of scapegoating



## THE SECOND SHEET

of Second Presbyterian Church  
214 Mountain Avenue, SW  
Roanoke, VA 24016  
Phone: 540-343-3659  
Fax: 540-345-2747  
E-mail: [info@spres.org](mailto:info@spres.org)  
Website: [www.spres.org](http://www.spres.org)

*The Second Sheet* is published monthly. Submissions are due by noon on the second Wednesday of each month, unless otherwise noted.

You may view  
*The Second Sheet* online at:  
[www.spres.org/connect/newsletter/](http://www.spres.org/connect/newsletter/)

To receive a full-color copy by email or to report a change in contact info, please send a request to [andrea@spres.org](mailto:andrea@spres.org).

The church occasionally uses photos of people and groups on the website and in publications. Those objecting to the use of their photos (or photos of their minor children) should so inform the church.

## CONNECT WITH US

Enjoy listening to podcasts? Listen to our sermons on *Second on the Mount*, and our podcast for children and families, *Child of God with The Rev. Elizabeth Link!*  
[www.spres.org/connect/podcasts/](http://www.spres.org/connect/podcasts/)



@SPRESROANOKE

## PASTOR'S NOTES - DR. GEORGE C. ANDERSON

*continued from page 1 . . .*

itself. And the risen Christ does not return with vengeance. He returns with forgiveness.

To follow Jesus is to step away from the mob. It is to acknowledge our own sin rather than project it onto others. It is to accept grace and refuse the easy relief that comes from blaming someone else. Lent invites us to see how quickly we join the crowd—and Easter proclaims that, in Christ, we can find freedom from that need.

As we move toward Holy Week, perhaps we can watch for those moments when the spirit of accusation rises around us. And perhaps, by grace, we can choose instead the reconciling spirit of Christ.

(Brian Zahnd quotes are taken from his chapter, “Jesus Against the Crowds,” from his book, *A Farewell to Mars*, David C. Cook publisher, 2014.)

## A WORD OF THANKS FOR AL MCLEAN

During the late worship service on Sunday, February 22, we gave thanks for the faithful service of Al McLean at Second Presbyterian Church. A member of the congregation since 1975, Al has shared his gifts generously over many years. He has taught adult Sunday School classes since 1987, served as a member of the College of Elders since 1989, and provided leadership as chair of the Second Fund Directors, the Trent Fund Committee, and the Legacy Committee. In 2007, his faith and commitment to the well-being of the church led to his election as a trustee.



We are grateful for Al's steady leadership, wise counsel, and deep love for this congregation, and we thank him for the example he has set as a devoted servant of Christ at Second Presbyterian Church.

## TRENT SYMPOSIUM FOR NEWLY ORDAINED MINISTERS

FRI.–WED., APRIL 17–22

The Kittye Susan Trent Symposium for Newly Ordained Ministers is a congregation based continuing education event for newly ordained ministers. From April 17–22, we will welcome eight ministers from across the country to Roanoke to participate in this program. On Sunday, April 19, the participants will join us in worship and attend our Sunday school classes. While they are with us, please join us in welcoming them into our vibrant congregation as we worship and learn together. The participating ministers this year are:



- Nicholas Carson, Westminster Presbyterian Church of Greenville, SC
- Emily Knoth, First Presbyterian Church of Wichita, KS
- Joseph Jumper, Shallowford Presbyterian Church of Atlanta, GA
- Emily Rhodes Hunter, Blacksburg Presbyterian Church of Blacksburg, VA
- April Martin, Shandon Presbyterian Church of Columbia, SC
- Letarshia Robinson, Oakland Avenue Presbyterian Church of Rock Hill, SC
- Heather Woolard-Lawson, Shandon Presbyterian Church of Columbia, SC
- Kelsey Martin, Celebration of Life Presbyterian Church of Mesa, AZ

## CONGREGATIONAL DINNER & PROGRAM | TUESDAY, APRIL 21 @ 6:00 P.M. | REGISTER BY APRIL 12

On Tuesday, April 21 at 6:00 p.m., we will have our annual Trent Symposium Dinner. During this time, we will enjoy a meal together followed by a program offered by Elizabeth Hinson-Hasty titled, “Sustaining Rootedness in an Age of Fragmentation.”

### Details (Menu from Lib & Amy Catering):

- Apricot Dijon Glazed Pork Tenderloin, Fresh Green Beans with Pancetta, Roasted Garlic Rosemary Potatoes, Spring Mix Salad, Rolls, and Assorted Desserts.
- **Cost:** \$15 per adult | \$7 for children ages 5–12 | Children under 5 free.
- **Register by Sunday, April 12 by scanning the QR code or via [www.spres.org](http://www.spres.org).**

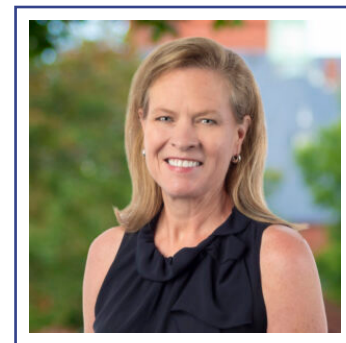


### About the Program: “Sustaining Rootedness in an Age of Fragmentation”

Within the context of the 16th-century reformations, John Calvin envisioned the local congregation as the nexus of social change, with tremendous potential to model alternative ways of living and to create communities of belonging. Elizabeth Hinson-Hasty will draw upon new research being done by religious leaders and scholars in Brazil, the Netherlands, and South Africa to invite you into a conversation about how remaining rooted within the Reformed tradition can be life-giving, sustaining, and transformative as the nation and churches experience a great deal of growing cynicism and instability.

### About the Speaker: Elizabeth Hinson-Hasty

Elizabeth Hinson-Hasty is the J. Roy Davis Chair of Theology and History at Union Presbyterian Seminary. She is often called upon to speak or preach on matters of faith and public life. Her most recent book, *Authentic Christian Freedom: Deconstructing the American Gospel of Liberty*, was featured among the top book recommendations made by *The Presbyterian Outlook* in 2025. She and her husband, Lee, make their home in Charlotte, NC. You can learn more about her current research and other interests at [elizabethhinsonhasty.com](http://elizabethhinsonhasty.com).



# BUILD IT TOGETHER

## 2026 HABITAT FOR HUMANITY BUILD | START DATE MARCH 26

Get ready! We're about to kick off our 2026 Partnership Build with Habitat for Humanity alongside St. John's Episcopal—and we need YOU! We'll be serving on the 1st/3rd Saturdays, as well as the 2nd/4th Thursdays. Volunteers of all skill levels are welcome; no experience necessary. Whether you're a seasoned builder or brand new to construction, there's a place for you on this team. Our start date is March 26. **Sign up today by scanning the QR code, or via the SignUpGenius found on our website [www.spres.org](http://www.spres.org).**





Photos from Youth Sunday, February 8.

## YOUTH

I cannot tell you how many wonderful things were said of our youth on Youth Sunday! I have received and I am still receiving many kind notes and many words of gratitude for the work and witness of our young people in worship. Each year the Youth amaze everyone with their beautiful liturgy, music, and sermons. All glory to God as we *nurture our nature* as children of God!

March provides rhythm and opportunities for gathering as we now move into the Lenten season. This season will allow our youth time to reflect, ask deep questions of faith, and consider how God's grace meets us where we are and extends love to us in all our brokenness. And as we get closer to spring, our focus will shift to nurturing God's gift of creation. Come join us Sunday nights from 5:00 until 6:30 at the Intersection as we grow together in body, mind, and soul!

– Ben Brannan

## YOUNG ADULTS

### WHIST GAME NIGHT | MARCH 22

Mark your calendars for March 22: WHIST NIGHT! Whist is a classic four-player, trick-taking card game, typically played in two partnerships, using a standard deck. And the excitement only rises when you have competing teams. Teams of 4 compete to win the most hands, as 2 players from each team travel to other tables to play. But... is this night just about playing cards? No! This style of Whist provides the opportunity to meet everyone in the room, share in some friendly competition, and join in fellowship with others. And perhaps even find out you have a new favorite card game... or card-playing partner. Capacity is 40, so register now if you plan to come! To register, scan the QR code or visit [www.spres.org](http://www.spres.org).



## — MISSION PARTNER FOCUS —

**LEAP (LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL AGRICULTURE PROJECT)  
POP-UP SUNDAY SCHOOL, MAY 3**

Last August, Second Presbyterian's Outreach Offering went to support Local Environmental Agriculture Project (LEAP), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization based in Roanoke and started in 2009.

Recently, several members of the Green Team had the opportunity to sit down with LEAP's Executive Director, Maureen Best, to learn more about their mission and vision in preparation for a Pop-Up class on May 3. We were surprised and humbled. Honestly, we had no idea of the scope and scale of their work. Here are their guiding principles:

- *We believe that all people should have affordable access to the food that feeds them and their families. We believe that farmers and food producers should be able to have viable businesses.*
- *We value and honor all people. We work to see, hear, listen, and understand the food community at all levels.*
- *Our region's people, animals, and environment have wide-ranging and different needs. We seek to understand the complexity of these systems.*
- *We are rooted in trusting relationships with community members, businesses, organizations, and governments to collectively support our food community.*
- *We serve our community with passion, love, and humility.*

LEAP is dedicated to creating and growing programs that support our local food community and building a more equitable food and farming system. LEAP creates community spaces where people can access fresh, local food through three community gardens, a light processing kitchen and five food outlets: 1) Grandin Village Farmers Market, 2) West End Farmers Market, 3) LEAP Mobile Market, 4) LEAP Farm Share, and 5) the LEAP Community Store.

To make fresh food more affordable to those with limited food budgets and reduce food insecurity in our community, LEAP raises money to operate the Harvest Bucks program, which provides a \$1 for \$1 match for fresh fruits and vegetables to participants of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), and Medicaid.

Last August's Outreach Offering supported LEAP's Harvest Bucks program, helping individuals and families continue to improve their nutrition security and autonomy, while helping to grow strong and economically viable markets for local farmers. To learn more, visit [leapforlocalfood.org](https://leapforlocalfood.org).

In LEAP's 2024 Annual Report, Maureen Best (pictured at right) ended her opening remarks expressing thanks, **"A big thank you to all of our amazing partners, staff, volunteers, farmers, market vendors, and community supporters! Thank you for believing in and helping us achieve our vision of robust, abundant, and equitable local food systems! We look forward to continuing our work together in the months and years to come!"** Second Presbyterian looks forward to hosting the LEAP Pop-Up on Sunday May 3. Save the date and please join us.



**GREEN TEAM**

*Grounded by Scripture, Informed by Science.*



MAR  
1<sup>ST</sup>

**MARCH 1 | 9:45 A.M. | CHAPEL**

Join us on March 1 for Pop-Up Sunday School in the Chapel, featuring guest speaker Isabel Thornton, Founder and Executive Director of Restoration Housing. Isabel will share an update on Trinity Commons, the exciting transformation of Trinity United Methodist Church (just across the street from Second Pres.!) into affordable senior housing and a community gathering space. In 2023, Trinity UMC entrusted Restoration Housing with stewardship of their historic property, and in early 2024 the organization acquired the site. Plans include the adaptive reuse of the 1922 Church Annex into 15 affordable rental units, while the 1903 Sanctuary will remain a space for community life. Construction began in 2025. Come learn how this project is meeting a vital community need and continuing Trinity's legacy of service.

POP-UP SUNDAY SCHOOL ↗



MAY  
3<sup>RD</sup>

**MAY 3 | 9:45 A.M. | CHAPEL**

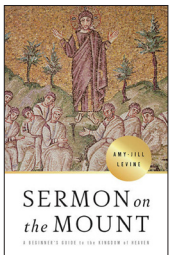
Join us on May 3 for Pop-Up Sunday School hosted by Second's Green Team. We will welcome guest speaker Maureen McNamara Best, a passionate advocate for local food and vibrant farming communities. Maureen has spent more than two decades working at the intersection of food, agriculture, and community—from teaching high school agriculture and supporting migrant farmworkers to researching local food systems and public health. Now a Bloomberg Fellow at the Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health, she studies how food systems shape community health and well-being.

Maureen will share about her work with LEAP (Local Environmental Agriculture Project), which nurtures our region's food community by supporting farmers, markets, and initiatives that prioritize health, dignity, access, and abundance. Come learn how local food connects us—to the land, to one another, and to a more hopeful, healthy future for Southwestern Virginia.

**WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY | RESUMES MARCH 5**

*Thursdays, 10:30–11:30 a.m. in the Session Room*

Join us for a six-week women's study exploring Jesus' most profound and memorable teachings in Matthew 5–7. What did the Sermon on the Mount mean to Jesus' first listeners, and how does it continue to speak to us today? Together, we'll consider the historical and theological context of these teachings and reflect on how Jesus' words offer a roadmap for faithful living. Using *Sermon on the Mount: A Beginner's Guide to the Kingdom of Heaven* by Dr. Amy-Jill Levine, we'll explore how Jesus' message grows out of his Jewish tradition and continues to challenge, inspire, and shape hearts and minds across the centuries. Registration is available on Realm and via the QR code below.



**Dates:**

- March 5, 12, 19, 26, (No meeting April 2 – Maundy Thursday), April 9, 16
- \*A limited number of books are available for purchase in Elizabeth Link's office, or you make pick up a copy from your favorite book seller.

**3RD-5TH GRADE COMMUNICANTS' CLASS |**

**MARCH 22 | NOON–1:30 P.M.**

*Parents & Children Invited to Attend Together (Lunch provided)*

Children and parents are invited to explore the meaning of the sacrament of communion together. As a part of Christ's Church, children are always welcome at the Lord's Table. This learning opportunity is offered to help children understand more fully what happens when we celebrate communion and why.

We will meet on Sunday March 22 in the Session and Hospitality Rooms, following the 11 a.m. worship service. This is ahead of the Maundy Thursday (6 p.m.) and Easter Sunday worship services (8:45 a.m. and 11 a.m.) when communion will be served. It's a wonderful opportunity to learn about and then partake in this sacrament together. **Please register on Realm via the QR code by March 16 so we may have an accurate count for lunch, and indicate whether you will need childcare for any younger children.**



## EVENING VBS | June 7–10 (Sun.–Wed.) | “PAYING ATTENTION TO GOD IN DAILY LIFE”

- We’re excited to kick off the summer with our Evening Vacation Bible School, beginning **Sunday evening, June 7**, with a shared dinner and opening program. Adults are invited to join a special study led by mission co-worker **Dr. John McCall**, who will guide us in diving deeper into Scripture and growing together in faith.
- Meanwhile, children (Pre-K through 5th grade) will enjoy a **theatre-themed VBS experience**, full of creativity, storytelling, and faith-filled fun! Childcare will also be available for our youngest participants. Don’t miss this wonderful opportunity to learn and grow as a church family, side by side across generations.
- **Adult Evening Study Theme, *Paying Attention to God in Daily Life*:** Following Jesus is a lifelong journey of growing in His love. As we learn to love God and our neighbor, the pace and pressures of daily life can easily distract us from spiritual growth. Yet God continually invites us to notice His presence. During our evenings together, we’ll explore practical and meaningful ways to cultivate an attentive, God-centered life in the midst of everyday routines.
- **Scripture & Session Themes:**
  - *Sunday Evening: Paying Attention to God Through Prayer* — Matthew 6:5–13
  - *Monday Evening: Paying Attention to God Through the Bible* — Revelation 10:9–10
  - *Tuesday Evening: Paying Attention to God in Community* — Acts 2:42–47; John 13:34–35
  - *Wednesday Evening: Paying Attention to God as We Serve* — Matthew 20:25–28

• **About Our Speaker:** Dr. John McCall has served as a mission co-worker in Taiwan for 29 years, teaching Preaching, Spiritual Theology, and Pastoral Ministry at the three Presbyterian seminaries in Taiwan and in China. He has also pastored three churches in the United States. John’s ministry, both in Asia and in the US, focuses on helping people cultivate a vibrant, world-blessing faith.



### • For 4 Year Olds–Middle School: Children’s Theatre Camp



- This summer, we’re thrilled to welcome back Meghan Griffith as the leader for our Evening VBS Children’s Theatre Camp! Children are welcome to bring friends.
- *Registration will be published soon.*



## MORNING VBS: JOSEPH’S JOURNEY | July 20–23 (Mon.–Th.), 8:30 a.m.–12 noon

- This year’s Morning Vacation Bible School (Pre-K–5th grade) will explore the inspiring story of Joseph from the book of Genesis. Together, children will discover how God was always with Joseph (like God is always with us) through challenges, change, and moments of great need.
- Our VBS programs thrive thanks to the energy and commitment of our youth and adult volunteers! If you’re interested in helping with crafts, games, storytelling, or snacks, we’d love to have you join the team. To volunteer, please contact Maria Blackshaw (maria@spres.org) or Meredith Koliba (meredith@spres.org).

*Registration for Morning VBS will open this spring.*

### • VBS After Care Camps\*, July 20–23 (Mon.–Th.), 12 noon–4:00 p.m.

We’re pleased to again offer VBS After Care Camps for families seeking extended care during VBS week! In partnership with local sports and arts organizations, children will enjoy fun, enriching afternoon “mini camps” held right here at the church. This opportunity allows families to take full advantage of the free Morning VBS while adding engaging afternoon activities. Please note that space will be limited and a fee will apply for the aftercare portion. *Additional details and registration links will be available when VBS registration opens in the spring.*

*\*Note: After Care Camps are open to Kindergarten–5th grade children.*

## CHURCHWIDE RETREAT | August 21–23, 2026

- Save the date for our next Churchwide Retreat at Eagle Eyrie Conference Center in Lynchburg, VA! We’ll gather for a weekend of worship, fellowship, recreation, and renewal surrounded by beautiful mountain scenery. Our guest speaker, Dr. Rachel Thompson Orfield, will lead us in times of reflection and spiritual growth as we explore what it means to live faithfully and joyfully in community.
- *Registration will begin this month—see the website for more information.*



## THE BIBLE IN BLACK & WHITE | SPRING SESSION BEGINS APRIL 8

Wednesdays in April (Beginning April 8) | 12:00 p.m. | Fellowship Hall

“Like I Was Saying...” – Conversations Today

This spring, the Bible in Black & White will pick up where our fall study left off. After exploring the long, layered conversations Jesus has in the Gospel of John, we will now turn to our own conversations—especially the ones we hesitate to have. What does it look like to speak truthfully and listen deeply in a divided world? Can Jesus teach us not only what to say but how to say it—with humility, courage, and love?



THE  
BIBLE IN  
BLACK  
&  
WHITE



Using Scripture as our foundation, we'll also draw on other resources that help us navigate difficult conversations with grace—knowing when to speak, when to stay silent, and how to stay connected even when we disagree. Come ready to reflect, engage, and grow in the sacred art of conversation.

**Dates:** April 8, 15, 22 & 29

**Location:** Second Presbyterian Church

**Facilitators:** Dr. Bill Lee, Dr. George C. Anderson, and ministers of other sponsoring churches.



ListenWIFI App



## NEW ASSISTIVE LISTENING EQUIPMENT IN THE SANCTUARY

**Stream audio over WiFi straight to your smartphone and Bluetooth equipped hearing aid!**

Have you heard the news of the Assistive Listening upgrade in our sanctuary? Made possible through the generosity of the Second Fund, our new ListenWIFI system allows worshippers to stream sanctuary audio directly to their smartphones using a simple app and a designated WiFi network. For those with Bluetooth-enabled hearing aids, this means you can connect your phone and stream audio straight into your hearing aids for a clearer, more personalized listening experience. You may also use your own headphones if they connect to your phone—just bring them with you to worship. A simple instruction sheet is available at the back of the sanctuary; ushers will be happy to help you find the Assistive Listening guide. Want to download the app in advance? Scan the QR code, and then follow the remainder of the instructions once in the sanctuary. If you're curious about the system or would like help getting set up, contact Andrea Boone ([andrea@spres.org](mailto:andrea@spres.org)).

## – NEWS & NOTES –

**Flowers | Jan 18** – Given in memory of Laura Pickard Richards, David Edwin Pickard, Richard Carey Pickard, and Dick Richards by Patti and Charlie Palmer..... **Jan 25** – Given with love and gratitude by Lauren Ellerman and family in memory of Lauren's mother, Patricia Morgan..... **Feb 1** – Given by Rosemary Francis in loving memory of her husband, John R. Francis..... **Feb 8** – Given by Nick, Alison, Laura and Nicholas in memory of Elena Conte.

**Sympathy |** Preschool teacher, Dawn Brimer, passed away on Saturday, December 27, 2025. She worked with the infant class for two years and loved all of her babies. Our prayers are with Dawn's family, the preschool staff, and all those who cherish her memory..... Our sympathies extend to Betty Boxley on the death of her husband, Frank A. Boxley on Sunday, January 25. Our prayers are also with their children, grandchildren, and extended family.

**Concerns |** Patsy Chaney, Hayden Hollingsworth, CW Houghton, Agnes Reid Jenny, Campbell Tims.

## — WELCOME NEW MEMBERS OF SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH —

### WELCOME JILL AND MIKE SISK

We welcome Jill and Mike Sisk to Second Pres, who joined by reaffirmation of faith on September 28, 2025.

Jill grew up in Charlotte, NC, and attended UNC Chapel Hill before later earning her BSN in Nursing from UNC Charlotte as part of a second career. She now works for the Veterans Affairs in Salem, where she is grateful for the opportunity to care for those who have served our country. Her journey reflects both dedication and compassion, and she brings a heart for service to our church family.

Mike grew up in Kings Mountain, NC, and was born in Kingston, TN. He attended NC State in Raleigh, earning a degree in Parks and Recreation Management, and now works in banking in consumer lending. In his free time, Mike enjoys golfing, spending time with family, watching sports on TV, and reading. Together, Jill and Mike look forward to building friendships and growing in faith within the life of the congregation.



We are grateful to have them as part of our church family and look forward to serving alongside them in the years to come.

### MEET DAVID BICKFORD

We're happy to introduce David Bickford, who joined the church by reaffirmation of faith on October 12, 2025.

Born in Norfolk, David lived in Roanoke until 1969, when his father's work led the family to Chicago, then Cincinnati, and later Philadelphia. In 1990, he returned to Roanoke, which he is grateful to once again call home. David earned a degree in Geology from the University of Kentucky and later completed a degree in Economics from Villanova. Between his studies, he conducted research in coal, and over the years he has enjoyed a wide range of unique professional experiences—working as a deep-sea scalloper, serving as a touring LPGA caddy, working in graphic arts and printing, and spending 30 years as a personal caddy at a local club.



David enjoys painting watercolors, working jigsaw puzzles, and reading. He also finds joy in yard work, climbing and hiking, and practicing yoga. David looks forward to deepening his faith and building connections within the life of the church.

### INTRODUCING BEN HARRIS

We welcome Ben Harris, who joined by letter of transfer on November 2, 2025.

Ben grew up in Fincastle in Botetourt County, and has lived in Botetourt his entire life. He attended Virginia Western Community College and became a certified massage therapist. Over the years, he has served in a variety of meaningful roles, including working as a hospice therapist with Carilion and serving for 20 years as an electrician, working part of that time at RMH. He is currently part of the team at Good Samaritan Hospice.



In his free time, Ben enjoys golf, swimming, reading, traveling, and playing music. Ben is the husband of Joyce Harris, a long-time member of the church, and we are delighted to officially welcome him into membership.

### LAURA MCKASKEL JOINS SECOND

Laura McKaskel became a member of Second Pres by reaffirmation of faith on November 9, 2025, and we are delighted to welcome her into the life of the congregation. Laura is the daughter of the late Sue Stanley, whom many of you knew.

In 1969, Laura moved with her family from New Orleans to Boone, NC. She treasures the years she spent growing up in the mountains, which she considers a wonderful environment for family life. She earned a Bachelor of Science in Health Education from UNC Greensboro and later completed her MBA at Appalachian State University. Over the course of her career, she served in several professional roles, culminating in her work as a Senior Assessor for the Navy League of the United States, from which she retired. Today, she happily calls Roanoke home and deeply enjoys the community.



Laura loves reading, visiting with family, and watching a good movie. She looks forward to becoming more involved in the church, and we are grateful to share in this new chapter of faith with her.

*New member articles submitted by Connie Polly, Engagement Coordinator.*

CONTRIBUTIONS TO SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH – JANUARY 2026

**Edmunds Lecture Series Fund**

In honor of **Spencer Edmunds** by  
Betty Wetherington

**William R. Klein Continuing Education Fund**

In memory of **Virginia Blain** by  
Chip and Jill Lennon

**Organ Maintenance Fund**

In memory of **Lewis Nelson** by  
George and Millie Anderson

**Property Maintenance and Repair Fund**

In memory of **Frank Boxley** by  
George and Millie Anderson

**Martin Youth Fund**

In honor of **Rev. Ben Brannan and the Youth** by  
Jim and Peggy Baynton

**Music Fund**

In memory of **Mary Spicer** by  
Jim and Peggy Baynton  
In memory of **Elaine Baynton** by  
Jim and Peggy Baynton  
In memory of **Virginia Blain** by  
Jeff and Marianne Sandborg  
In memory of **Peggy Strong** by  
Carole Mayberry  
In memory of **Dee Moore** by  
Mary Phillips



Other funds are available for your contributions. Please contact Nathan Anderson, Church Administrator, at 540-343-3659 or admin@spres.org. This list includes donations received between January 1-31, 2026.

*\*We sincerely regret any errors or omissions in this list. Please contact the Church Administrator to help us get it corrected.*



**“ON THIS ROCK” LENTEN SERMON SERIES**

“On this rock I will build my church.” Jesus says to Peter. On the authority of that promise, the Roman Church has named its popes. But what did Jesus really mean? That Peter’s faith so solid, so unshakable, that it could bear the weight of the church? If so, it is striking that the Gospels tell us just as much about Peter’s failures as they do about his faith—his impulsiveness, his misunderstandings, even his denial of Jesus.

So what is this “rock” on which the church is built? In our Lenten sermon series, *On This Rock*, we will get to know Peter more deeply, in both his courage and his fragility. And in doing so, we may come to understand not only what Jesus was saying about Peter, but also what he is saying about us: that God builds the church not on perfection, but on grace-filled, imperfect faith.

**2026 LENTEN WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

**Midweek Reflections | Wednesdays in Lent**

- Feb. 25–April 1: “The Other Disciples,” Weekly Kairos Reflections via YouTube and Facebook

**Maundy Thursday | April 2**

- 6:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Worship, Kirk Hall

**Sunday Mornings, Palm Sunday, and Easter**

- 8:45 a.m. Early Service, Sanctuary
  - 9:45 a.m. Sunday School\*
  - 11:00 a.m. Late Service, Sanctuary/Live Stream
- \*There will be NO Sunday school on Easter Sunday, April 5.

# CALENDAR - MARCH 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> 8:45am Worship Service with Communion, Sanctuary 9:45am POP-UP, Chapel 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship Service with Ordination/Installation Elder Class of 2028 Sanctuary/Live Stream 5:00pm Kid's Fellowship, Fellowship Hall 5:00pm Youth Group	<b>2</b> 6:30pm Al Anon & Alateen, Trent Classroom, Reading Room, Library 6:30pm Cub Scouts, Cafe 6:45pm Scouts	<b>3</b> 9:30am Staff Meeting	<b>4</b> 12:00pm Bulletin Article Deadline 5:15pm Personnel Committee, Zoom and Session Room	<b>5</b> 7:15am Men's Bible Study, Reading Room/Zoom 9:30am - 10:30am Knitting Group, Hospitality Room 10:30am - 11:30am Women's Bible Study, Session Room 4:00pm Christian Education Committee Meeting, Reading Room/Zoom 5:00pm Property Committee Meeting, Session Room/Zoom	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> 8:45am Worship Service, Sanctuary 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship Service, Sanctuary/Live Stream 5:00pm Kid's Fellowship, Fellowship Hall 5:00pm - 6:30pm Parenting Group, Hospitality Room 5:00pm Youth Group	<b>9</b> 5:30pm Service and Outreach Committee Meeting, Zoom and Session Room 6:30pm Al Anon & Alateen, Trent Classroom, Reading Room, Library 6:30pm Cub Scouts, Cafe 6:45pm Scouts	<b>10</b> 9:30am Staff Meeting 5:00pm Congregational Life Meeting, Zoom	<b>11</b> 12:00pm Bulletin Article Deadline 12:00pm Second Sheet Article Deadline 5:00pm Green Team, Zoom/Trent Classroom 5:15pm Worship & Music Committee, Zoom and Session Room	<b>12</b> 7:15am Men's Bible Study, Reading Room/Zoom 9:30am - 10:30am Knitting Group, Hospitality Room 10:30am - 11:30am Women's Bible Study, Session Room	<b>13</b> 12:00pm Stewardship Meeting, Zoom and Reading Room	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> 8:45am Worship Service, Sanctuary 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship Service with Annual Meeting, Sanctuary/Live Stream 5:00pm Kid's Fellowship, Fellowship Hall 5:00pm Youth Group	<b>16</b> 6:30pm Al Anon & Alateen, Trent Classroom, Reading Room, Library 6:30pm Cub Scouts, Cafe 6:45pm Scouts	<b>17</b> 9:30am Staff Meeting 5:15pm Executive Committee Meeting, Session Room/Zoom	<b>18</b> 8:05am Preschool Committee Meeting, Hybrid 12:00pm Bulletin Article Deadline 4:30pm Finance Committee, Zoom and Session Room	<b>19</b> 7:15am Men's Bible Study, Reading Room/Zoom 9:30am - 10:30am Knitting Group, Hospitality Room 10:30am - 11:30am Women's Bible Study, Session Room	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> 8:45am Worship Service, Sanctuary 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship Service, Sanctuary/Live Stream 12:00pm - 1:30pm Children's Communion Class with Lunch, Session Room 5:00pm Kid's Fellowship, Fellowship Hall 5:00pm Youth Group	<b>23</b> 6:30pm Al Anon & Alateen, Trent Classroom, Reading Room, Library 6:30pm Cub Scouts, Cafe 6:45pm Scouts	<b>24</b> 9:30am Staff Meeting	<b>25</b> 12:00pm Bulletin Article Deadline 5:15pm Session Meeting, Session Room/Zoom	<b>26</b> 7:15am Men's Bible Study, Reading Room/Zoom 9:30am - 10:30am Knitting Group, Hospitality Room 10:30am - 11:30am Women's Bible Study, Session Room	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> Palm Sunday Two Cents a Meal 8:45am Worship Service, Sanctuary 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship Service, Sanctuary/Live Stream 5:00pm Kid's Fellowship, Fellowship Hall 5:00pm Youth Group 5:30pm Welcome Families to the Alexa House	<b>30</b> 6:30pm Al Anon & Alateen, Trent Classroom, Reading Room, Library 6:45pm Scouts	<b>31</b> 9:30am Staff Meeting		<b>Calendar Info as of Feb 10</b>		

*MONTHLY FOOD COLLECTION FOR PCC:* Food items for the month of March are **pasta, spaghetti, macaroni, and sauces**. Pull top cans preferred. A donation bin is in the coat closet (please check the expiration date before donating).

SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
214 MOUNTAIN AVENUE, SW  
ROANOKE, VIRGINIA 24016

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
PERMIT NO. 406  
ROANOKE, VIRGINIA

Address Service Requested

## EASTER FLOWERS 2026 | ORDER ONLINE BY MARCH 23

If you would like to give memorial or celebration flowers for the April 5 Easter services, please complete the **ONLINE ORDER FORM** found at [www.spres.org](http://www.spres.org) or by scanning the QR code. We encourage you to complete the online form to ensure spelling accuracy.



Alternatively, you may use this order form and return it to the church via mail or email ([meredith@spres.org](mailto:meredith@spres.org)), along with a check for \$12.50 per plant (note “Easter Flowers” in the item line of your check.). **The deadline for receiving orders is Monday, March 23.**



Please **PRINT** legibly.

In memory of \_\_\_\_\_

In honor of \_\_\_\_\_

Donor Name(s) / Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_