

THE SECOND SHEET

Monthly Newsletter of Second Presbyterian Church



Kirk Hall transformed into an Egyptian throne room for children's Morning VBS, "Joseph's Journey." See more on pp. 8–9.

SECOND PRESBYTERIAN

Finding direction by following Jesus.

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PASTOR'S NOTES - THE REV. ELIZABETH N.H. LINK

NEW BEGINNINGS

There is something about August that makes me think of new beginnings.

While January may mark the start to a new calendar year, August marks the start of a new season for many of us. Backpacks are readied, classrooms are prepared, family routines begin to shift from the laze of summer, and our church calendar begins to fill with opportunities for worship, education, fellowship, and service.

Of course, not everyone enters the season this way. Some are eagerly anticipating what lies ahead; others are facing uncertainty, grieving the end of an all-too-short summer, or worried about the season to come. Some in our church family are sending children off to kindergarten or college. Others are grateful for the familiar rhythms of a predictable schedule. Whatever this season holds, we trust that God meets us here.

On August 1, our high school youth will return from a week at the Montreat Youth Conference. We pray they will have grown in faith



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You may view
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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.

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/



@SPRESROANOKE

PASTOR'S NOTES - THE REV. ELIZABETH N.H. LINK

continued from page 1 . . .

and friendship. On August 21, over 90 of us will gather for our church retreat, a chance to step away from the busyness of daily life and enjoy the gift of Christian community. And on August 30, we'll celebrate Rally Day and share a churchwide picnic at Braeloch as we kick off another year of Sunday school and ministry together.

It's easy to think of these simply as events on the calendar. But each is an opportunity for God to shape us. Through worship, shared meals, conversation, laughter, and study, God's Spirit continues the lifelong work of forming us into the people Christ calls us to be.

The Apostle Paul reminds us that Christ "keeps us in step with each other. . .nourishing us so that we will grow up healthy in God, robust in love" (Ephesians 4:16, *The Message*). Growth is never just an individual endeavor. We grow in faith through community as we worship together, encourage one another, bear one another's burdens, and serve alongside one another.

As we begin this new season together, my prayer is that we would come with open and expectant hearts. God is faithful. The same God who has guided us through every season is preparing the way ahead for us all.

So, whether you're helping unpack a teenager's bag from Montreat, shopping for school supplies, looking forward to the church retreat, or simply returning to a familiar pace after summer travels, know there is a place for you at Second. I continue to find myself grateful for this congregation, for the ways you've cared for one another throughout the summer, and for the opportunity we'll have to welcome Dr. Anderson back from his time of sabbatical renewal. I look forward to what God will continue to do among us in these weeks and months ahead.

Elizabeth Link

RALLY DAY PICNIC

RALLY DAY PICNIC: “THIS IS OUR STORY” **SUNDAY, AUGUST 30 | 10:00 A.M. | @ BRAELOCH PAVILION** **REGISTER BY AUG. 21**

Join us for worship and a picnic celebration at Braeloch Pavilion (the farm of Nancy and Al Hammond located at 2353 Hammond Dr, Vinton, VA 24179) on Sunday, August 30. Worship will be at 10:00 a.m., with lunch to follow. We look forward to this time of fellowship outdoors with a picnic buffet-style meal from Three Li'l Pigs Barbeque (options will be available for dietary restrictions—i.e. gluten free, vegan).

Following lunch, you're invited to stick around and learn about CE programs for the fall. We hope you'll also enjoy fellowship, fishing at the pond, as well as a bounce house, face painting, balloon art, and other fun activities! We want this special day to be a great kick-off to the fall at Second.

Commonwealth Coach and Trolley will once again provide transportation for those wanting a ride to Braeloch from the church. **VOLUNTEERS** are needed for setup, clean up, and to bring desserts. If you can help, sign up via the [SignUpGenius](#) linked in the registration form. *Scan the QR code to register by Friday, August 21.*



STEWARDSHIP

STEWARDSHIP 2026: “WE ARE NEEDED”

Every year, our Stewardship Committee invites the congregation to reflect on a theme that helps shape our understanding of generosity and discipleship. This year's theme is both simple and hopeful: “We Are Needed”. That theme grows out of an important conviction: we believe God has entrusted something precious to this congregation.



We also recognize that we are living at a particular moment in our community and our culture. Many people are searching for hope, authentic relationships, thoughtful faith, and opportunities to make a meaningful difference. Reflecting on those realities, we became convinced that God has positioned Second Presbyterian Church to respond with compassion, wisdom, generosity, and grace. That is why we are needed.

What gives us that confidence is not that we believe we are exceptional, but that God has faithfully shaped this congregation over many generations. Long before any of us arrived, faithful members worshiped here, prayed here, taught children, cared for neighbors, welcomed strangers, and gave generously so Christ's ministry could flourish through this congregation. Because of their faithfulness, we have inherited far more than buildings or financial resources. We have inherited a living ministry that continues to bear witness to God's love in our community and beyond. Now we have the privilege of carrying that legacy forward.

God has entrusted something precious to this congregation. We are today's stewards of yesterday's faithfulness and tomorrow's hope. May each of us discover anew the joy of taking our place in Second Presbyterian's continuing story.

— Your Stewardship Committee

– NEWS & NOTES –

Flowers | **June 14** – Given by Therry Neilsen-Steinhardt in honor of her sister's birthday and her fine family, David, Anna and Celyn..... **June 21** – Given in loving memory of Stewart Butler Baucom and Dr. Bud Stockton by the Remaines, Stocktons and Webbs..... **June 28** – Given by Martha and Brady Anderson in celebration of their 50th wedding anniversary..... **July 5** – Given in loving memory of William and Jane Battle by the family.

Open Flower Date | **Aug. 2:** Sunday, August 2 is the final available summer date for anyone wishing to sponsor flowers in the sanctuary. Please contact Denise Revercomb to see if the date is still open (540-588-5111; revercomb@cox.net).

Sympathy | Our sympathies extend to Robin and Thomas Roberts and family on the death of Robin's brother, Charles Eaton Robinson III of Lynchburg, VA, on Tuesday, June 9..... Our sympathies extend to Laura McKaskel and family on the death of her aunt, Ann Fichtenger "Tanky" Stephenson, who died on Sunday, June 14..... Sympathy is extended to Katherine and Daniel Hughes on the death of Katherine's mother, Ann Miller, on Friday, June 19. We also hold in prayer their children Allyn, Bob, and Jake and their families.

Concerns | BJ Millar, Campbell Tims.

New Arrival | Congratulations to Elisabeth Bivens on the arrival of her grandson, Theodore Daniel Hildenbrandt, born on Friday, May 22 to parents Hailey and Mana Hildenbrandt of Boston, MA. Proud great-grandparents are Dr. Carl and Mary T. Bivens, and aunt is Rebecca Bivens..... Congratulations to Bonnie and Pegram Johnson on the arrival of their new grandson, Archer Garrett Uptegraft, born on Tuesday, June 23 to parents Greer and Colby Uptegraft.

Baptism | During worship on Sunday, June 28, Victoria Lawson and Carrington Dudley presented their daughter, Pierce Elizabeth Lawson, for the Sacrament of Baptism. The presiding elder was Frank Pruette.

2PC CLUBS FOR CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

2026–27

Sign Up Online by September 13, 2026

Looking for a small group where you can build friendships and enjoy your favorite hobbies? 2PC Clubs are the perfect place to connect! Check out the clubs available below and sign up by Sunday, September 13 at www.spres.org, via the QR code, or by calling the church office. You may sign up for more than one club. If you are already involved in a club, please sign up again so we have an accurate count of participants. Club coordinators will contact members by phone or email; the first meetings will be in October.

- **BOOK CLUB** – Church members select and read new books each month and gather to discuss.
- **COFFEE CLUB** – Church members meet monthly at local coffee shops. A different location is chosen each month.
- **KNITTING GROUP** – Church members meet in the church parlor on Thursday mornings to knit hats for Highland Park Elementary school children. Novice knitters or anyone wishing to learn to knit is welcome.
- **LUNCH BUNCH(ES)** – Church members gather monthly at a local restaurant for lunch.
- **MORNING WALKING CLUB** – Church members meet once a week or every other week to walk on the greenway or other local sites.
- **MOVIE CLUB** – Church members meet monthly at a local movie theater.
- **PICKLEBALL GROUP** – Church members who wish to play will gather at a local court once every two weeks. Novices and newcomers welcome! Location(s): TBD.
- **RESTAURANT CLUB(S)** – Church members meet at local restaurants each month; each month would be a different venue.
- **ROOTS AND WINGS** – Church members of college age students gather once a month for a meal or event, rotating locations each month.

Scan the QR code to sign up for a club!



BUILD IT TOGETHER | 2026 HABITAT FOR HUMANITY BUILD

Our Habitat home is currently under subcontractor work as specialized finishing work is completed. We are hopeful that construction will be finished and the home ready for dedication by the end of August—a joyful milestone that will celebrate the partnership, generosity, and hard work that have made this project possible.

As of the time of this publication, a date has not been set. Check out the weekly Pastor's Letter emails or church bulletins for updates!

CAPSTONE SERMON | SUN., AUGUST 9

Our Pastoral Intern Kylie Young will preach her Summer Internship Capstone Sermon following worship on August 9 in the chapel. All are invited to join.

GALS' GATHERING @ ALTA MONS | NOVEMBER 20–21 (FRI.–SAT.)

Registration details to come.

We hope you'll save the date for this year's overnight Gals' Gathering, *Advent Waiting*, at Alta Mons. We will welcome guest speaker Rev. Donna Hopkins Britt, Pastor of Buchanan Presbyterian Church. Registration details to come—stay tuned!

Our theme *Advent Waiting* invites us to enter the sacred mystery of the season through hope, peace, joy, and love. As we gather for worship, prayer, and reflection, we'll explore what it means to wait with expectation for the coming of Christ—and discover that God's greatest gifts often meet us in the waiting.

MEN'S RETREAT @ EAGLE EYRIE | OCTOBER 23–24 (FRI.–SAT.)

Register today by scanning the QR code!

This year's Men's Retreat, October 23–24 at Eagle Eyrie in Lynchburg, VA will explore the theme, *Virtuesmaxxing: Either the Next Big Thing or What We Were Supposed to Be Doing All Along*, with guest speaker Carter Brothers.



Today's culture seems to be all about maxxing. Social influencers tell us to be all about "looksmaxxing." Our politicians seem to be more and more interested in "vicemaxxing." All the while, the rest of us just experience more and more "sadmaxxing" as loneliness increases and happiness decreases. This fall, the men of 2PC will gather to confront these challenges by "virtuesmaxxing" at Eagle Eyrie on October 23 and 24. Carter Brothers will lead the charge while looking at the Christian virtues highlighted in Tolkien's *The Lord of the Rings* and how his story about wizards, hobbits, and elves (oh my!) can teach us how to be more fully human in the 21st Century. We will worship together, feast together, laugh together and, of course, fellowship together!

Music will be led by Chris Vogado, Pastor of Salem Pres, and we're glad to extend an invitation to the men of Salem Pres this year, too! We hope you'll join us!

Register by Wed., October 14.

VIRTUESMAXXING

Either the Next Big Thing or What We Were Supposed to Be Doing All Along

MEN'S RETREAT 2026

October 23–24 (Fri.–Sat.) | Eagle Eyrie

Ft. Guest Speaker Carter Brothers

REGISTRATION:

Cost: \$75

Register by Wed, Oct. 14.

YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS



Photos from the DR Bibles & Bricks Youth Mission Trip.

YOUTH

This summer has been filled with amazing experiences for our youth and adults: we traveled to San Juan de la Maguana in the Dominican Republic to serve alongside Solid Rock International; we helped lead Vacation Bible School at two local churches and labored in the heat at the construction site of new school classroom at Lucille Rupp; we volunteered with our very own Vacation Bible School here at Second shepherding our young disciples through the desert, prison, and the palace as we learned about the stories of Joseph; and then we headed to Montreat Youth Conference to join over 600 siblings in Christ from around the country in exploring what it means to “wander and wonder!” What-A-Summer! God is at work!!

Want to read more about these experiences? Check out the BLOG! <https://www.spres.org/connect/blog/>

... And the fun continues into August with...

Youth Work Days on Aug. 9 & 12. To get us (and the Intersection) ready for the new program year, we will gather for two work days: August 9 from 12 noon–2:00 p.m. and August 12 from 9:00 a.m.–12 noon. We will clean, hang some decorations, restock and organize supplies. Your help is greatly appreciated!

And... the Churchwide Retreat at Eagle Eyrie is coming up August 21–23! The youth will fellowship with church members of all ages for part of the weekend as we explore what “love builds up.” Then, for the other part of the weekend, the youth head out for their own adventure on Saturday!

YOUNG ADULTS

YOUNG ADULTS AT THE RIDGEYAKS BASEBALL GAME | AUG. 19

2PC Young Adults are invited to join for a baseball game on Wednesday, Aug. 19 to cheer on our Salem RidgeYaks as they take on the Wilson Warbirds. First Pitch is at 6:35 and all friends, partners, companions, neighbors are welcome to join! RSVP to Ben by Aug 14 to secure your ticket (benb@spres.org)!

MEET YOUR RALLY DAY PICNIC PLACE SETTING

The August Spotlight features exciting news about the **Rally Day Picnic**. Drum roll please! This year's picnic lunch place setting will be 100% compostable. In other words, zero waste—nothing going into the landfill! Zero waste equals zero greenhouse gas emissions. And no one will have to ask what item goes into what bin. Being 100% compostable means that all materials—plates, spoons, knives, forks, cups, napkins, food and beverage will go directly into compostable bins provided by Star City Compost (SCC).

The Picnic Czars, recognizing the importance of making the Rally Day Picnic more sustainable, partnered with the Green Team, Congregational Life Committee, and SCC to make it happen. This small act of faith is a reminder that small choices add up to meaningful change and care for God's creation.

The Rally Day Picnic is one of the highlights of the church year with approximately 300 people attending. Please plan to join your church family for our exciting Rally Day Picnic at Braeloch Pavilion at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday, Aug 30. We look forward to this time of worship and fellowship outdoors with compostable, zero waste, sustainable place settings and reusable hand-made table cloths.



As Zero-Waste Chef author Anne Marie Bonneau put it, ***“We don’t need a handful of people doing zero waste perfectly. We need millions of people doing it imperfectly.”*** Whether you’re embracing more sustainable habits or purchasing more environmentally friendly products, every act of stewardship counts. We hope that after reading this, you’re feeling inspired to create less waste and adopt a more sustainable lifestyle.



GREEN TEAM

Grounded by Scripture, Informed by Science.



*For surely I know the plans
I have for you, says the Lord,
plans for your welfare and
not for harm, to give you
a future with hope.*

— Jeremiah 29:11



MORNING VBS | “JOSEPH’S JOURNEY” | JULY 20–23

A heartfelt thank you to all of our wonderful Morning Vacation Bible School volunteers! Because of your time, energy, creativity, and care, we had a fantastic week together learning about the story of Joseph in Genesis.

As we journeyed through Joseph’s life, from prison to palace, we discovered how God remained faithful through every twist and turn. Through Bible stories, music, crafts, games, and fellowship, our children explored themes of God’s faithfulness, forgiveness, and providence, and were encouraged to trust that God is with us in every season of life.

Our mission project for the week supported the Presbyterian Community Center’s food pantry. Thanks to the generosity of our VBS families and church members, we raised more than \$1,200 to help provide food for neighbors in our community! We are so grateful to everyone who contributed and helped our children experience the joy of serving others.

Thank you again to everyone who made Morning VBS such a meaningful and memorable week. We give thanks for the many ways God was at work in our children, volunteers, and church family!

WE LOOK FORWARD TO THE TRENT GET-AWAY @ EAGLE EYRIE, AUGUST 21–23!

Guest Speaker: Dr. Rachel Thompson Orfield
Theme: “Love Builds Up: Unity, Conflict, and Grace in the Body of Christ”

KIDS’ FELLOWSHIP KICK-OFF: FAMILY DINNER, SEPT. 13 @ 5:00 P.M.

To celebrate the beginning of the year, we’ll gather for a family dinner in Fellowship Hall, generously provided through a grant from the Trent Fund for Christian Education.

After dinner, children in Pre-K through 5th grade will be dismissed for an evening of fun and games as we begin our new year together.

While the children are enjoying their program, adults are invited to stay for a brief but meaningful conversation about children’s spiritual development and practical opportunities for Christian nurture and faith formation at home. We’ll also share what to expect from our children’s ministry this year and ways your family can be involved.

We hope you’ll make plans to join us on Sunday, September 13 as we reconnect, share a meal, and launch another wonderful year of growing in faith together.

FALL WORSHIP SCHEDULE BEGINS SEPT. 13 “This Is Our Story”

Sunday morning and evening educational programs for all ages will begin on September 13. We will return to our 8:45 and 11:00 a.m. worship hours, with Sunday school at 9:45 a.m., Children, Worship, & Wonder during the 11:00 a.m. worship hour, and youth group and Kids’ Fellowship at 5:00 p.m.

Christian education is a gift, and it is our prayer that this year may be the opportunity you’ve been searching for to grow deeper in faith and build connection within the Body of Christ.



CONTRIBUTIONS TO SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH | JUNE 2026

Music Fund

In memory of **Bob Miller** by
Phil and Linda Shiner
In memory of **Hayden Hollingsworth** by
Jeff and Marianne Sandborg
In memory of **Ann Miller** by
Jeff and Marianne Sandborg

William R. Klein Continuing Education Fund

In memory of **Hayden Hollingsworth** by
Ken and Stacy Potter
In memory of **Bill Neal** by
Pam and Trip Kreger
Dot Dunbar
In memory of **Virginia Blain** by
Barry and Becky Wirt

Parsons Maintenance Fund

In memory of **Tanky Stephenson** by
Barry and Becky Wirt
Jerry and Jane Cheadle
Martha and Nelson Teague
Millie and George Anderson
In memory of **Ann Miller** by
Millie and George Anderson

Mountain Avenue Fund

In memory of **Hayden Hollingsworth** by
Phil and Linda Shiner
In memory of **Ken Tuck** by
Phil and Linda Shiner
In memory of **Bill Neal** by
Nancy Parrott
Janet Lloyd
Bob Graham
In memory of **Ann Miller** by
Dan and Suzanne Brown
In memory of **Tanky Stephenson** by
Dan and Suzanne Brown
Blake and Rebecca Watts



SCAN
TO
GIVE

Trent Fund

In memory of **Patsy Chaney** by
Tom and Charlene Mercure

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 June 1–30, 2026.

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



PRESCHOOL ENDOWMENT IN ACTION

Check out the fantastic new canopy over the preschool playground's Tot-Lot! We are grateful for the ways the Preschool Endowment is working to improve the safety and experience of our preschool children and staff.

PRESCHOOL AVAILABILITY AND HIRING

The preschool has a few spots open in the Twos Plus and Threes classes for the new school year, beginning mid-August. There is also space on the waitlist for Young Twos and Pre-K. Please email Preschool Director Alice Light (alight@spres.org) to learn more or enroll. Additionally, the preschool is hiring Infant Assistant Teachers for the morning and afternoon positions. Contact Alice Light with interest.

CALENDAR - AUGUST 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Montreat High School Youth Conference
2 10:00am Worship Service, Sanctuary & Live Stream	3 6:30pm Al Anon & Alateen, Trent Classroom, Reading Room, Library 6:30pm Cub Scouts, Cafe 6:45pm Scouts	4 6:00am Voting Polls, Kirk Hall 9:30am Staff Meeting	5 12:00pm Bulletin Article Deadline for Aug 9 and Aug 16 5:15pm Personnel Committee, Zoom and Session Room	6 10:00am - 11:00am Knitting Group, Hospitality Room 4:00pm Christian Education Committee Meeting, Reading Room/Zoom 5:00pm Property Committee Meeting, Session Room/Zoom	7	8 SCAN TO VIEW THE DIGITAL CALENDAR 
9 10:00am Worship Service, Sanctuary & Live Stream 11:15am Capstone Sermon with Kylie Young, Chapel	10 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	11 9:30am Staff Meeting 5:00pm Congregational Life Meeting, Zoom 5:15pm Trent Fund Subcommittee, Trent Room	12 11:00am Memorial Service for Ann "Tanky" Stephenson, Sanctuary with Reception in Fellowship Hall 12:00pm Second Sheet Article Deadline 5:00pm Green Team, Zoom/Trent Classroom 5:15pm Worship & Music Committee, Zoom and Session Room	13 10:00am - 11:00am Knitting Group, Hospitality Room	14 12:00pm Stewardship Meeting, Zoom and Reading Room	15
16 10:00am Worship Service with baptism of June Early, Sanctuary & Live Stream 11:15am CWW Training with Lunch 5:30pm Welcome Families to the Alexa House	17 6:30pm Al Anon & Alateen, Trent Classroom, Reading Room, Library 6:30pm Cub Scouts, Cafe 6:45pm Scouts	18 9:30am Staff Meeting	19 4:30pm Finance Committee, Zoom and Session Room	20 10:00am - 11:00am Knitting Group, Hospitality Room	21 Church Retreat	22 Church Retreat
23 Church Retreat 10:00am Worship Service, Sanctuary & Live Stream 5:30pm Welcome Families to the Alexa House	24 6:30pm Al Anon & Alateen, Trent Classroom, Reading Room, Library 6:30pm Cub Scouts, Cafe 6:45pm Scouts	25 9:30am Staff Meeting	26 12:00pm Bulletin Article Deadline 5:15pm Session Meeting, Session Room/Zoom	27 10:00am - 11:00am Knitting Group, Hospitality Room	28	29
30 10:00am Rally Day Picnic Sunday at Braeloch Pavilion	31 6:30pm Al Anon & Alateen, Trent Classroom, Reading Room, Library 6:30pm Cub Scouts, Cafe 6:45pm Scouts		Calendar Info as of July 14			

MONTHLY FOOD COLLECTION FOR PCC: Food items for the month of August are **canned beans (pinto, baked beans)**. 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

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SECOND
PRESBYTERIAN

Rally Day

PICNIC & FALL KICKOFF

Sunday, Aug. 30, 2026

10:00AM @ Braeloch

*Learn more and RSVP by
August 21 at www.spres.org.*

