

NEW ARRIVAL

OPEN FLOWER DATES: The following dates are available for anyone who would like to sponsor flowers in the sanctuary: Oct. 18; Nov. 29; Dec. 27. Please contact Denise Revercomb to see if the dates are still open (540-588-5111; revercomb@cox.net).

YOUNG ADULT TRIVIA NIGHT AT WASENA TAP HOUSE | MONDAY, SEPT. 28
| 7:30 P.M.: The young adults at Second Pres are a fun-loving group of those in their 20s and 30s who love to connect, talk, and learn. Join us tomorrow night at Wasena Tap House for trivia night! Contact Ben Brannan with questions (benb@spres.org).

POP-UP SUNDAY SCHOOL | “THIS IS OUR STORY: REFORMED SACRAMENTS”
| OCT 4 | 9:45 A.M. | FELLOWSHIP HALL: Join Elizabeth Link on October 4 to learn what makes Second Presbyterian unique. What makes our understanding of Baptism and Communion distinctly Reformed? We'll explore the meaning of the sacraments in our tradition and consider how these practices tell the story of who we are as God's people.

BLOOD DRIVE @ ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH | WEDNESDAY, OCT. 7 | 12:00–6:00 P.M.: Second Presbyterian is joining forces with St. John's Episcopal for a joint venture blood drive. Visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter "St Johns" to schedule an appointment. Get a \$15 e-gift card when you give blood at a Red Cross Blood Drive Sept. 21–Oct. 18. Give the gift of life by donating blood!

Today, September 27

Monday, September 28

Tuesday, September 29

Wednesday, September 30

Thursday, October 1

Friday, October 2

Saturday, October 3



Administrator

Trustees

Clerk of SessionTreasurers

Missionaries

National:

Local:

Preschool

For upcoming events, a library of sermons, office hours, and more, visit our website:

www.spres.org

SECOND
PRESBYTERIAN

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

Sunday Morning Worship

Early and Late Services

September 27, 2026



PASTORAL STAFF

Dr. George C. Anderson, Senior Pastor

The Rev. Elizabeth N.H. Link, Executive Pastor

The Rev. Benjamin S. Brannan, Associate Pastor for Youth and Young Adults

Large-print copies of services may be requested from an usher.

MEMBERS OF THE SESSION OF SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Elders - Class of 2026Elders - Class of 2027

Mia Copeland
Rebekah Gunn
Beth Vaught Jenkins
John Jessee
Patty Lemon
Jim Pickens
Dave Speno
Maria Ward

Elders - Class of 2028

Amanda Copeland
Suzanne Fischer
Dan Hodges
Carol Moneyemaker
C.J. Swanson
Stephen Waskey
Kevin Young

SEPTEMBER 27, 2026
WORSHIP AT 8:45 & 11 A.M. | 11 A.M. IN PERSON & ONLINE
EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Gathering Music *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise* Robert W. Thygerson

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God* James Pethel

*Call to Worship¹
Arise, shine; for your light has come
and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.
For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples;
But the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you.
Nations shall come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.
You shall be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice.

*Hymn No. 720 *Jesus Calls Us*
Two-Cents-a-Meal
(8:45 A.M.) Emory Anderson (mother, Virginia)
(11:00 A.M.) Grove and Bridger Revercomb (parents, James and Ainsley)

Call to Confession
Prayer of Confession
Merciful God, we confess that we are often too quick to judge and too certain that we know who belongs and who does not. We see the faults of others more easily than our own. We are eager to pull out the weeds we see around us, while overlooking the ways we ourselves have failed to bear good fruit. Forgive us when we allow resentment to take root, when we nurture division instead of reconciliation, and when we withhold grace from those who need it. Give us patience with one another and humility about ourselves. And as we wait for your harvest, help us encourage one another toward love and good deeds, so that our lives may bear the fruit of your kingdom.

Minister to us in the silence.

Assurance of Pardon

*Hymn of Response No. 581 *Gloria Patri*
(8:45 A.M.) *Affirmation of Faith The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the
Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate was
crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose
again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right
hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge
the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic
church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection
of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Concerns

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer *Glory to God*, p. 35 (using debts, debtors)

(11:00 A.M.) Anthem *Tē Invocamus* Johann Georg Albrechtsberger
We call upon you, we praise you, we beseech,
our hope, our honor, deliver us, revitalize us, o blessed Trinity.
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Prayer for Illumination

(11:00 A.M.) Sacrament of Baptism -Tucker Hill McGhee
Presiding Elders: Frank and Lorah Pruette
*Hymn of Preparation No. 482 *Baptized in Water* (v. 3)
*Affirmation of Faith The Apostles' Creed *Glory to God*, p. 35
Children, Worship, & Wonder participants (Pre-K–1st grade) excused after the baptism.

Scripture Reading² Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43 New Testament p. 789
Hebrews 10:24 New Testament p. 979
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

Sermon *Stirring Up Good* Dr. George C. Anderson

A Moment for Reflection

Call to Discipleship
Offering^{3**}
Offertory *Dear Lord and Father of Mankind* Albin C. Whitworth
Ritual of Friendship
(Please sign the Friendship Pad, pass it along to others
in your pew, then return it to center.)
*Doxology (Hymn No. 606)
*Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn No. 463 *How Firm a Foundation*

*Charge and Benediction

(11:00 A.M.) *Choral Response

Postlude *Marche Religieuse, in F* Alexandre Guilmant

¹*Please rise.*



BULLETIN NOTES

¹ TODAY'S CALL TO WORSHIP comes from Isaiah 60:1-3 & 5a.

² IN JESUS' PARABLE an enemy secretly sows weeds among a farmer's wheat. The Greek word translated "weeds" refers to tares, a plant that closely resembles wheat while it is growing. That is why the farmer refuses his servants' request to pull up the weeds immediately: in trying to remove the weeds, they might also destroy the wheat.

³ THE OUTREACH OFFERING for September will support *Feeding Southwest Virginia*. September is Hunger Action Month, a time for each of us to work together and serve our neighbors in Roanoke. Food insecurity is a situation that anyone can experience, and is often the result of a lost job, an unexpected medical expense, or the rising cost of everyday expenses like food and housing. More than 16,000 neighbors experience food insecurity in Roanoke City, leaving many families feeling stretched and uncertain as they work to ensure the people they care about have enough food to thrive and be healthy. FSWVA is grateful for our long-time support of their programs including the Community Solutions Center Neighborhood Pantry on Melrose Avenue, work with Agency Partner food pantries across Roanoke, work with Carilion Hospital on the Food Farmacy program, and children's programs such as the Kid's Farmer's Market and Backpack programs for local schools. Almost one-quarter of children in Roanoke City experience food insecurity, but with our support during the past year, FSWVA distributed more than 42,600 meals to our neighbors in Roanoke. When neighbors care for neighbors by giving, volunteering, and speaking up on behalf of their community, we can move caring into action. **As of Monday, September 21, \$3,314 has been collected.**

Undesignated cash gifts are given to the Outreaching Offering. If you would like your gift to benefit the church, please designate "Second Presbyterian."

Monthly Food Collection for PCC: The food items for the month of September are canned chili and beef stew. Pull top cans preferred. A donation bin is in the coat closet (please check the expiration date before donating).

CCLI #2642604. | ONE LICENSE, License #A-742472.

THIS SUNDAY

Baptism: During the 11 o'clock service this morning, McLendon and Dylan McGhee will present their son, Tucker Hill McGhee, for the Sacrament of Baptism. The presiding elders will be Frank and Lorah Pruette, Tucker's grandparents.

Flowers: The flowers are given to the glory of God by David and Judy Brondyk in celebration of their 54th anniversary. *Arranged by Karen Davidson.*

Ushers: (8:45) Rebekah Gunn (head), Daniel Gunn, Chrissy Underwood, Ellie Underwood. (11:00) Ken Sizemore (Head), Bev Fitzpatrick, Shirley Fitzpatrick, Nancy Sizemore.

Greeters: (8:45) Bill Blaylock. (11:00) Pam and Rick Murray.

AV Technicians: Miranda Moore, Doug Settles.

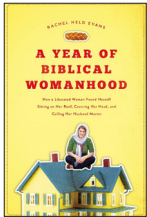
Children, Worship & Wonder: "Listening to One of God's Stories: The Light." Greeter, Maria Blackshaw. Storyteller, Carol Moneymaker. Program Coordinator, Lisa Miller.

THE BIBLE IN BLACK & WHITE | WEDNESDAYS IN OCTOBER | 12:00 P.M. | FELLOWSHIP HALL:

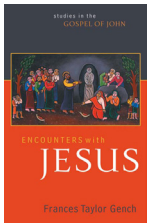
This October, the Bible in Black & White community will consider Martin Luther King Jr.'s "Letter from Birmingham Jail," dated April 16, 1963. We will look at the historical context of the letter, its content, its biblical basis, and the impact it made on the nation during the tumultuous Civil Rights era. Together, we will ask what we modern readers need to gain from its reading to continue the pursuit of justice and understanding today. Dates: October 7, 14, 21 & 28.



WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY | BEGAN SEPT. 10 | THURSDAYS @ 10:30 A.M. | SESSION ROOM: Join Elizabeth Link this fall for an engaging Bible study and discussion based on Rachel Held Evans' 2012 book, *A Year of Biblical Womanhood*. Over ten weeks, we'll read the book alongside Scripture as we wrestle with challenging passages and explore what



faithful biblical interpretation looks like today. Together, we'll approach the Bible with both reverence and curiosity, honoring its historical and cultural context while seeking the liberating, life-giving heart of the gospel. Whether you're a longtime Rachel Held Evans fan or reading her work for the first time, you're invited to bring your questions, your experiences, and your whole self. *A limited number of copies are available for purchase in Elizabeth's office. We hope most participants will be able to purchase books online. Contact Meredith Koliba (meredith@spres.org) to register.*



MEN'S BIBLE STUDY | BEGAN SEPT. 17 | THURSDAYS @ 7:15 A.M. | READING ROOM, HYBRID: The Men's Bible Study at Second meets weekly to read, pray, and be guided by the Holy Spirit as we faithfully interpret Scripture together for our day and time—right here in Roanoke. This fall, we will begin a study of the Gospel of John using a study guide entitled *Encounters with Jesus* by Frances Taylor Gench. Come participate and enjoy what Christ is saying to us through Scripture today. If interested, please reach out to Dave Speno (davidspeno@gmail.com) for information and to be added to the group email list.

MEN'S RETREAT 2026 | OCT. 23–24 | EAGLE EYRIE CONFERENCE CENTER: 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! **Register by Wednesday, October 14.**



GAL'S GATHERING 2026 | NOV. 20–21 | ALTA MONS CAMP & RETREAT CENTER: Women of the church are invited to join us for this special overnight event to grow closer to one another and closer to God through study, conversation, crafts, and shared meals. The theme this year is "Advent Waiting," and our guest speaker is the Rev. Donna Hopkins Britt, Pastor of Buchanan Presbyterian Church. Many of us feel like we are wandering through a kind of wilderness. Yet even in these challenging places, we can prepare the way for the Lord to come to us. Together, we can identify the obstacles that stand in our way and discern how to address them so that the themes of Advent may be more fully seen, experienced, and lived out in our community. Along the way, we will journey through each Gospel, exploring hope through Matthew's perspective, peace through Mark's, joy through Luke's, and love through John's. **Register by Wednesday, November 11.**



PRESCHOOL ENROLLMENT AND HIRING: The preschool has a few spots open in the Threes class for the 2026–27 school year. Additionally, the preschool is looking to hire after care staff for a couple of afternoons each week, 12:30–5:30 p.m. Please email Preschool Director Alice Light (alight@spres.org) to learn more or enroll.