

**Large Print Bulletins and Assistive Listening Devices are available.
Please ask an usher.**

**THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT**

APRIL 3, 2022

8:30 AND 11:00 A.M.

**The Congregation will speak aloud the bold print in responsive readings.
* Please rise in body or spirit.**

GATHERING

*Worship begins with God. God takes the initiative and calls the Church into being.
In the name of Christ, we heed God's call and gather as the community of faith.*

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME

PRELUDE *O Welt, ich muß dich lassen, Op. 122, No. 3* J. Brahms

*** CALL TO WORSHIP (RESPONSIVE)** *PSALM 43: 16-21*

Thus says the Lord, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters.

Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old.

I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?

I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.

The wild animals will honor me, the jackals and the ostriches;

for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert,

to give drink to my chosen people, the people whom I formed for myself

so that they might declare my praise.

*** PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Gracious God, in order that the children of earth might discern good from evil you sent your son to be light of the world. As Christ shines upon us, may we learn what pleases you, and live in all truth and goodness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*** HYMN NO. 645** *Sing Praise To God Who Reigns Above* MIT FREUDEN ZART

Sing praise to God who reigns above, the God of all creation,

the God of power, the God of love, the God of our salvation.

With healing balm my soul is filled, and every faithless murmur stilled:

to God all praise and glory!

What God's almighty power has made God's gracious mercy keepeth;

by morning glow or evening shade God's watchful eye ne'er sleepeth.

Within the kingdom of God's might, lo! all is just and all is right:

to God all praise and glory!

The Lord is never far away, but, through all grief distressing,

an ever-present help and stay, our peace and joy and blessing,

as with a mother's tender hand God gently leads the chosen band:

to God all praise and glory!

Thus all my toilsome way along I sing aloud thy praises,

that all may hear the grateful song my voice unwearied raises.

Be joyful in the Lord, my heart; both soul and body, take your part:

to God all praise and glory!

* **CALL TO CONFESSION**

* **PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (*UNISON*)

O Loving Christ, you shared the extravagant love of God for all of us through your life, ministry, and sacrificial death. We say love is so amazing, so divine, demands our all, but we confess that we hold back. We are careful in our commitment to you. Forgive us. Inspire us, as you inspired Mary, to love you extravagantly. May you see that love expressed in the way we devote our lives to you and to the Gospel you preached. We pray this in your holy name. Amen.

(Silent Confession)

* **CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us; Christ, have mer -
cy up - on us; Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

* **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

* **PASSING OF THE PEACE** (*RESPONSIVE*)

Jesus said: "Peace I leave with you;
my peace I give you.
Not as the world gives do I give to you.
Let not your hearts be troubled or afraid."
The peace of Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

Let us greet one another with the sign of peace.

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

Gathered in God's name, we now open ourselves to God's life-giving Word.

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN (11:00)

The children will remain with their families rather than come forward.

ANTHEM

Lacrimosa
SPC Chamber Choir

W.A. Mozart

Full of tears will be that day
When from the ashes shall arise
The guilty man to be judged;
Therefore spare him, O God,
Merciful Lord Jesus,
Grant them eternal rest. Amen.

GOSPEL LESSON

JOHN 12:1-8

NT. P. 106

SERMON

NOT A TIME TO BE PRACTICAL PRESBYTERIANS

Jody Welker

* **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.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (*RESPONSIVE*)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts!

We lift them up to the Lord!

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Eternal God, holy and mighty,
it is truly right and our greatest joy
to give you thanks and praise,
and to worship you in every place where your glory abides.

We need not hide ourselves from you,
before whose justice no one can stand.

Your mercy was proclaimed by the apostles and the prophets,
and shown forth to us in Jesus Christ.

You give your law to guide us, and you promise new life for all,
that we may live to serve you among our neighbors
in all we do and say.

Therefore, we join your long procession of pilgrims
praising you along the way.

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly. Reign-ing God of
pw'r and might. Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry,
All cre-a-tion seeks your light! Bless-ed is the One who
comes in Your name. Bless-ed be the Lord most High!

Remembering your boundless love for us in Jesus Christ,
we offer you our praise,
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died; Christ is ris - en;
Christ the Lord will come a - gain.

Holy God, pour your Spirit on us,
that we may know Christ in the breaking of bread,
and that in word and deed,
we may be channels of your love, peace, and justice
in the world.

A - men. A - men.
A - men. A - men.

Take my silver and my gold; not a mite would I withhold;
take my intellect and use every power as thou shalt choose,
every power as thou shalt choose.

Take my will and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is thine own; it shall be thy royal throne,
it shall be thy royal throne.

Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store;
take myself and I will be ever, only, all for thee,
ever, only, all for thee.

* **BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Take My Life

HENDON

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

The Reverend Jody Welker

The Reverend Lindy Vogado

The Reverend Alisa Secrest

Dr. Bevan Keating, Director of Music and the Arts Ministry

Grant Wright, Interim Director of Children's Ministry

Adam Savacool, Organist

Ushers: (8:30) Don and Libby McDaniel, Chris McDaniel (11:00) Edwin, Christin
and Caroline Hankins, Jennifer Rigsby, Leslie McCormack

Communion Servers: (8:30) Tom Hicks, Jean Kohler, Bob Skinner (11:00) Julie and
Mike Honeycutt, Chris Herring, Mary Helen Henry, Monica Christenson,
Kim Truslow, Phillip Boggs

For a full listing of prayer concerns, please call the
Care and Concern line at (501) 227-6117.

DID YOU MISS ONE OF THE SERMONS? If so, you can listen to recent sermons on the church website at secondpreslr.org. Click on "Worship and Music," then click on "Listen to Recent Sermons." To receive a copy of a sermon either by e-mail or regular mail, contact Karin Howze, karinhowze@secondpreslr.org or (501) 227-0000. Printed copies are available in the Narthex and the church office.

STATEMENT OF WELCOME AND INCLUSIVENESS

As one part of the church of Jesus Christ, we are inspired and guided by Christ's vision of God's realm—one that includes all who seek to love God and neighbor.

Second Presbyterian Church welcomes all people.

As a congregation of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), we invite those who respond in trust and obedience to God's grace in Jesus Christ to become part of the membership and ministry of the church.

We would be pleased to have you join us in our journey of faith, regardless of age, race, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, economic or family status, ethnic background, mental or physical abilities.

600 PLEASANT VALLEY DRIVE
LITTLE ROCK, AR 72227

OFFICE: (501) 227-0000
FAX: (501) 227-6513

CARE & CONCERN LINE: (501) 227-6117

WWW.SECONDPRESLR.ORG

A CONGREGATIONAL MEETING has been called for today following all services and at 12:15 p.m. on Zoom. You will hear the Church Nominating Committee recommendations for members to serve on the Session and the Diaconate.

UPDATE FROM THE SECOND PRESBYTERIAN SESSION: On March, 22, 2022, the Session has adopted a COVID policy based on the CDC Community Level Guidelines. Copies of the policy are printed and available. *To keep up to date with community levels, please take note of signage on the doors to the church.* We welcome masks to be worn at any time and are also grateful that anyone can still join in worship online via livestream or participate through Zoom.

THE SECOND CONNECTIONS EMAIL is sent to the congregation on Sunday mornings; it contains special announcements as well as Sunday School, Bible study, special classes and studies, meetings and other information, including Zoom links. If you would like to receive this email or have any other questions about church wide communication information, please contact Carrie Johnson at carriejohnson@secondpreslr.org.

SUPPORT THE MINISTRIES OF SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH: Your generosity is a meaningful expression of your faith in God and your commitment to Christ's work in the world. Contributions can be made to the 2022 Annual Budget, Second Vision Capital Campaign, Memorial Gifts and the Birthday Fund. You may support the ministries of our church by placing your offering in the offering plate as you exit the Sanctuary, through online giving at secondpreslr.org/giving or mailing a check to the church office, 600 Pleasant Valley Drive, Little Rock, Arkansas 72227.

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP: We are resuming coffee fellowship time on Sunday mornings. Stop by the Northwest entry, have a cup and chat with friends!

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL: In-person and virtual Sunday School classes start at 9:50 a.m. Contact Grant Wright (grantwright@secondpreslr.org) for more information.

MAUNDY THURSDAY, APRIL 14, 6:00 P.M., GREAT HALL: This service will include a simple meal, communion, hymns, scripture, foot washing, and a homily. Since a meal is included in this service, the kitchen staff needs to know how much food to prepare. The registration deadline is Sunday, April 10. Register here with the QR code or visit our website at secondpreslr.org.



SECOND HALL SUNDAY SCHOOL DURING LENT: MARCH 6-APRIL 10 *Forgiveness: A Lenten Study* by Marjorie J. Thompson Forgiving others and humbly asking for forgiveness are central disciplines for all Christians. Lent is an appropriate time to deepen our understanding and practice of forgiveness. In six brief chapters, Marjorie Thompson, author of best-selling book *Soul Feast*, addresses six themes related to biblical examples and real-life situations. **Leaders: Alisa Secrest, Rabbi Gene Levy, Randy Bear, Alan Bell, Beth Sigler, Vernon Markham.** This class will meet each Sunday at 9:50 a.m. in Second Hall and on Zoom. Contact Jeannie Ford (jeannieford@secondpreslr.org) or see the Sunday morning Second Connections email each Sunday morning for Zoom information.

APRIL PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN NEWS: *Presbyterian Women Gathering*, Tuesday, April 12, 10:00 a.m. in Second Hall and on Zoom. All women are invited to join for this time of Bible study, music, and prayers. Grant Wright will lead the Bible study: *What Our Grandmothers Taught Us: Lesson 8* on Mary. All are invited to bring larger size diapers, wipes, or non-peanut butter snack packs to support our April Community Mission organization, Pulaski County Family Services. Thank you! Contact Jeannie Ford for Zoom information. *Together in Service:* Tuesday, April 19 at 9:30 a.m. All women are invited to join at the Disaster Assistance Center at Ferncliff to assemble disaster kits.

SAVE THE DATE: May 15—Sunday morning worship and an all-church lunch for a *Festival of Friends* as Jeannie Ford retires after thirty years of Christian Education ministry. Further information and lunch reservation information will be coming soon.

CHEESES WITH JESUS is a pairs and spares adult group, for those between 'young adult' and retirement. Normally, we meet twice per month, on the second and fourth Wednesday evenings. New friends are always welcome! Our next meeting will be on Maundy Thursday (April 14). We will gather in the Great Hall at church, sitting together for the Maundy Thursday service. The service includes a light meal, music and scripture, homily and foot washing (strictly voluntary). After the service we will 'reconvene' at Taziki's (8200 Cantrell Road, across from Trio's) for a drink, a snack, or dessert.

AFGHAN WELCOME PROJECT: Our Afghan families could use your help! We would like to give our sponsored family's school aged children the opportunity to expand their English reading, speaking, and math skills over the summer. If you would like to spend a couple of hours a week this summer with some really great kids who love to learn, please contact Dora Jane Flesher or Julie Font.

SPY UPDATES: SPY Youth is excited to announce our musical production for 2022! After our unexpected two year hiatus, we are ready to celebrate our rich history of building community through the performing arts with a special **SPY Musical Showcase**. There is a part for everyone! The performances are scheduled for **Friday, April 29 at 7:00 p.m. and Sunday, May 1 at 2:00 p.m.** To sign up and to get all the details, check the weekly e-loop and the church's website or contact Sharon at sharonhoward@secondpreslr.org.

FAMILIES WITH YOUNG CHILDREN MINISTRY: "Mid-Week Sabbath" Need a moment of rest? Parents may join us Wednesday evenings March 2 - May 4 from 6:00 - 7:15 p.m. in the Church Library for casual fellowship. No expectations, no preparation, just come and "be". March 2 we will do a "book swap" - bring your favorite children's or adult's books to lend, borrow or barter! **FWYC Family Retreat Saturday, May 14, 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.** We're getting ready for our Family Retreat and we're hoping you'll join us this year for a day of faith, family, fun and fellowship! We'll spend a day together at Ferncliff Camp & Conference Center) and enjoy some time in nature, service projects, and plenty of free time built in! Lunch provided. Visit <https://forms.gle/pua8LockJyjeAkbf8> to register. Contact Dania Edwards at daniedwards@secondpreslr.org for any questions or concerns. **FWYC Spring Gathering** Sunday, April 10, 3:30 p.m.- 6:00 p.m. Join us at the Big Maumelle Pavilion at Pinnacle State Park and spend some time outdoors with your church family! Please bring a dish to share for dinner. We'll play, share a meal, craft, and have a volunteer opportunity to pick up litter in the area. The pavilion is by the visitors center, 11901 Pinnacle Valley Rd, Little Rock AR 72223. At the fork approaching the visitors center, take the left towards the boat ramp. [THIS WILL TAKE THE PLACE OF SUNDAY DINNER APRIL 10.] Please RSVP to Dania Edwards daniedwards@secondpreslr.org.

MOTHER'S DAY MUSICAL will begin rehearsals on Wednesday, March 9, 6:00-7:15 p.m. All Kindergarten through Fifth Graders are invited to join us. For more information, contact Mary Ibis, maryibis@secondpreslr.org.

FWYC APRIL MOMS NIGHT OUT: Join us in the Great Hall for an Easter Cookie Decorating class on Friday, April 8 at 7:00 p.m. Go home with beautiful sugar cookies decorated by you to share with your family! Pop-Up, dinner and a movie with Mr. Grant and Miss Mary available for kids at the church from 5:30-8:30 p.m.

FERNCLIFF SUMMER CAMP: Ferncliff registration is open! Now's the time to register for a week of fun, sun, and faith for children and youth of all ages. Overnight and Day Camp spots are available. Learn more and sign up online at ferncliff.org. Can't wait for summer? Come visit Ferncliff for Family Day on Saturday, April 9, for a cookout, lunch and tons of camp activities.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: Registration for our "God's Big Garden" environmentalism-focused VBS is open now! VBS is from June 13-17, 2022, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., with before and aftercare options. Register online via the QR code found on the tables in the back of the sanctuary, or contact grantwright@secondpreslr.org. Youth and adult volunteers always needed.

**SECOND HALL SUNDAY SCHOOL: APRIL 24-MAY 22, SUNDAY AT 9:50 A.M.
IN SECOND HALL AND ON ZOOM**

*Half Truths: God Helps Those Who Help Themselves and Other Things the Bible
Doesn't Say* By Adam Hamilton

They are simple phrases. They sound Christian—like something you might find in the Bible. We've all heard these words. Maybe we've said them. They capture some element of truth, yet they miss the point in important ways. Join Adam Hamilton in searching for the whole truth by comparing common Christian clichés to the message and ministry of Jesus. The clichés include:

- Everything happens for a reason.
- God helps those who help themselves.
- God won't give you more than you can handle.
- God said it, I believe it, that settles it.
- Love the sinner, hate the sin.

Contact Jeannie Ford (jeannieford@secondpreslr.org) or see the Sunday morning Second Connections email each Sunday morning for Zoom information.

SISTER ACT *A Praeclara and Wildwood Park for the Arts Production* April 1-10, 2022 at Wildwood Park for the Arts Tickets: www.wildwoodpark.org. When disco diva, Deloris Van Cartier, witnesses a murder, she's put in protective custody in the one place the cops are sure she won't be a found: a convent! Disguised as a nun, she finds herself at odds with both the rigid lifestyle and uptight Mother Superior. Using her disco moves and singing talent to inspire the choir, Deloris breathes new life into the church and community but, in doing so, blows her cover. Soon, the gang is giving chase, only to find them up against Deloris and the power of her newly found sisterhood. Filled with powerful music, outrageous dancing, and a truly moving story, Sister Act will leave audiences breathless. Starring Second Presbyterian's own Janette Robinson as Deloris, as well as other members of the Adult Choir as a bevy of quirky nuns and off-the-wall henchmen, *Sister Act* is a sparkling tribute to the universal power of friendship and a reason to REJOICE!



We are currently receiving commitments to the 2022 annual stewardship campaign. 89% of the Estimate of Giving cards have been received. With additional gifts, the total is \$1,869,727. If you have not made your commitment, there are four ways you can turn in your Estimate of Giving card:

- Place it in the offering plate today
- Mail it to the church
- Complete it online through our church's website at www.secondpreslr.org
- Scan the QR code



2022 DAILY DEVOTIONS FOR LENT: These devotions are based on the Spanish poet Antonio Machado's poem, "Walker." Machado writes: "Walker, there is no road, the road is made by walking." Machado's poem resonates because it feels as if there is no road in front of us. The soil of our well-worn Lenten path has been overturned by the pandemic. If we want to follow Christ this Lent, we'll need to prepare the way and make the road. We'll need to rethink and recreate our Lenten practices. This six-week set of Lenten devotions includes daily reflections and prayers written by *Outlook* Editor Teri McDowell Ott. Each week we will make the road to Jerusalem through the following themes: Walking through Lent, Walking in the wilderness, Walking in prayer, Walking with others, Walking in hope, Walking through Holy Week. How can you get them? *Printed copies will be available on a table in the Narthex.* You may also receive these readings by email. If you would like to receive an email (during Lent) with a PDF of the week's daily readings, please contact Jeannie Ford (jeannieford@secondpreslr.org).

FWYC SUNDAY DINNERS: *Sundays through May 2022, 4:00-6:00 p.m.* We realize over the past 2 years it has been hard to keep connected with one another at the church. With so much recent change and the pandemic, we feel it is very important to keep our church family relationships alive and well. The McCormacks have graciously offered to host our church families over the next few months. We're calling it "Sunday Dinner." *Every Sunday from 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.* Just attend when you can/want to, or even every week if you want! If you have a Youth, they will be carpooled down to church for SPY meetings if they're participating. Main dish provided, bring a side dish or dessert to share. Their address is 2 Northwest Ct. Little Rock, AR 72212. Contact Dania (daniaedwards@secondpreslr.org) with questions or to ask what's for dinner!

EASTER EGG HUNT: Kids from toddlers through 5th grade are invited to our Easter egg hunt! Come to the church on April 16 (the day before Easter!) 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. for an egg hunt, storytelling, and Easter games!

USHER/GREETER VOLUNTEERS ALWAYS APPRECIATED: Those who serve as ushers and greeters for our worship service are providing a ministry of hospitality for members and visitors to our church. Along with providing an important leadership role for worship, those who serve as ushers and greeters are also afforded a wonderful opportunity to meet and work alongside other members of the congregation. You may contact the following deacons who serve as usher captains to volunteer as ushers or greeters.

APRIL WORSHIP USHER CAPTAINS

8:30 A.M.

Chris McDaniel

9:00 A.M.

Tracy Sykes

11:00 A.M.

Jennifer Rigsby
Christin Hankins



**STEPHEN
MINISTRY**

*And we know that in all things God works for the
good of those who love him.*

– Romans 8:28a

Second Presbyterian Church is a Stephen Ministry congregation. We provide confidential Christian caregiving to hurting people. To find out more about Stephen Ministry or to receive a Stephen Minister's care, call Associate Pastor Alisa Secrest at (501) 227-0000. Pastor Alisa will work with you to decide if Stephen Ministry will be a good fit for you and your unique situation.

CALENDAR

SUNDAY, APRIL 3

*Congregational Meeting
Worship 8:30, 9:00, 11:00
Sunday School 9:50
Confirmation 1:30
*SPY Musical Rehearsal 2:30
*FWYC Sunday Dinner 4:00
Youth Ringers 4:30
MS & HS SPY 5:30 GH
Evening Ringers 6:00

MONDAY, APRIL 4

Day Ringers 11:30
Pastoral Care 1:30
Prayer Shawl Ministry 3:00

TUESDAY, APRIL 5

MGM Men’s Bible Study 7:00
Tuesday Night Ministry Meetings
5:00, 6:00 and 7:00
WWJB 7:00

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6

Staff Meeting 9:00
Children’s Choir 6:00
*Mid-Week Sabbath 6:00
9:00 Music Rehearsal 6:00
*SPY Musical Rehearsal 6:00
Belonging Ministry 7:00

THURSDAY, APRIL 7

Alzheimer’s Caregivers Support Group
1:00
Praelara Ringers 5:30

FRIDAY, APRIL 8

Our House Cook Team 3:00
Confirmation Visit Temple B’nai Israel
4:30
Moms Night Out 5:30
SPY Kids Pop-Up 5:30

SATURDAY, APRIL 9

Confirmation Retreat 10:00

SUNDAY, APRIL 10

Palm Sunday
Worship 8:30, 9:00, 11:00
Confirmation Retreat 9:00
Sunday School 9:50
*SPY Musical Rehearsal 2:30
*FWYC Spring Gathering 3:30
Officer Training 4:00
MS & HS SPY 5:30 GH
Youth Ringers 4:30
Evening Ringers 6:00

* Denotes announcement in bulletin

EASTER LILY ORDER FORM



Easter is a time to remember the special people in our lives—those who have gone from us, and those who are still enriching our lives! Place an Easter lily in the sanctuary in their memory or in their honor. A list of those being honored and remembered and their donors will be printed as a special insert in the Easter bulletin. The cost per plant is \$15. Checks may be made out to the church and marked “Lily Fund.” Fill out the form below and return it to the church or order

online at secondpreslr.org. (A 3% processing fee applies to online orders.) The deadline for ordering lilies is Thursday, April 7.

I/We would like to purchase _____ lily/lilies.

Enclosed is a check for \$ _____.

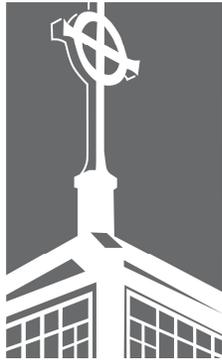
PLEASE PRINT

In memory of

In honor of

Name(s) of donor(s)

VISION STATEMENT



INVITED
BY CHRIST
IMPACTING
THE WORLD
INCLUSIVE
OF ALL

CHURCH OFFICERS

SESSION

CLASS OF 2022

Phillip Boggs
Sharon Downs
Mike Paulus
Leah Shell
Chris Villemez

CLASS OF 2023

Bracy Cross
Kim Dunnagan
Susan Marsh
Garry Mertins
John Ransom

CLASS OF 2024

Marge Anna Luttrell
Barry McViney
Somerset Sea
Joseph Yancey
Carol Young

YOUTH ELDER

Charlie Henry

DIACONATE

CLASS OF 2022

Tracy Armbruster
Horacio Gomez
Melissa Hendricks
Annette Hurley
Woody Jolley
Janna Michael
Rebecca Ring
Tracy Sykes
Kim Truslow
Justin Villines

CLASS OF 2023

George Babb
Mary Carolyn Bailey
Abby Considine
Anne Grimes
Natasha Graf
Chris Herring
Alex Honeycutt
Amy Lallier
Elizabeth McGuire
Brother Nipper
Jennifer Rigsby
Bob Skinner
Linda Van Hook

CLASS OF 2024

Chris Boggs
Amber Griffin
Christin Hankins
Diane Holt
Kathryn Hyde
Katie King
Ann Norwood
Shannon Rookey
Lisa Skultety
Marsha Taylor

YOUTH DEACONS

Kennedy Griffin
David Rich

Class of 2025 Elder Nominees

Elder – Alicia Byrd

Alicia Byrd is married to Sam Byrd; their children are Eli and Emily. She is an Assistant Professor of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at UAMS. Alicia has been a member of Second Presbyterian for 20 years. She has previously served as a Deacon and on the Nominating Committee. She has taught children's Sunday School and confirmation, baked bread for the journey and for doorstep visits, helped with SPY musicals, and attends the Parenting of Teens Sunday School class.

Elder – Cotten Cunningham

Cotten Cunningham and his family joined the church in 1997. Cotten is a member of the Barber Law Firm, PLLC. He is married to Gwin Cunningham and they have a daughter Blaine. Cotten has served as a previous Elder and Deacon. He has been a confirmation mentor, usher, communion server, and formerly served on the Annual Stewardship Campaign Committee, Personnel Committee, and Belonging Ministry. Currently he served on the Sexual Misconduct Policy Task Force. Outside of Second Presbyterian Cotten is a member of the Volunteer Organization for Central Arkansas Legal Services and was on the Board of Directors 2019-2021, member of the American Board of Trial Advocates and Henry Woods Inn of Court. He enjoys traveling, thoroughbred horse racing, and the Arkansas Razorbacks.

Elder - Kate Franks

Kate Faust Franks is a life-long resident of Arkansas, born and raised in Helena and at the Helena Presbyterian Church. She graduated from the University of Missouri with a degree in journalism and began her career as a reporter at the North Little Rock Times. She then worked in corporate communications at ALLTEL for 20 years. In 2008, she joined UAMS, where she helps keep patients and staff informed about what's going on in the hospital and clinics. She and her husband, Bill, have two children. Thomas is a junior at The University of the South in Sewanee, TN, and Libby is a freshman at TCU in Fort Worth, TX. Kate is on the board of Ferncliff Camp and Conference Center and previously served as an Elder at Second Presbyterian.

Elder – George Keck

George Keck joined Second in 2014 when he and wife, Ouida, moved to Little Rock from Arkadelphia, Arkansas, where they were long-time members of First Presbyterian Church. George was ordained as an Elder at First Church and served as chair of the Administrative Committee, Worship Committee, clerk of Session, chair of the PNC, member of the Chancel Choir, substitute organist, and conducted the children's choir. As a member at Second George has served as moderator of the Heritage Committee and as a volunteer at Bale Elementary School. He is currently Assistant Clerk of Session and a member of the Heritage Committee. George served on the faculty at Ouachita Baptist University for forty-two years and retired as chair of the Division of Music, the Addie Mae Maddox Professor, and Professor emeritus. He was awarded the Ph.D. in music history from the University of Iowa, and completed post-doctoral study at Harvard and Princeton Universities. Current interests include travel, politics, trying to learn to cook, and volunteering for the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra. George served as president of the ASO Guild and is currently a member of the ASO Advisory Board. He also serves on the Board of the National Federation of Music Clubs.

Elder – Vernon Markham

Vernon Markham is a retired senior account executive with Acxiom Corporation and SAS Institute. He was confirmed at Second, and he and his family have been members since 1983. Vernon is an ordained Elder and Deacon, and he currently serves on the Personnel Committee and Adult Education ministry, and is active in Men's Group Ministry (MGM). He is also assisting with transportation needs for the one of our Afghan families. Previous church involvement includes Heritage Committee, Nominating Committee, Stewardship Campaigns, Confirmation Mentor, Ministry Funding Team, Boy Scout Task Force, Long Range Planning Committee, Fellowship Ministry and Family Promise. Vernon also serves on the Arkansas Presbytery Examinations Subcommittee under the Committee on Ministry. Activities outside the church include President of the Board, Global Ties Arkansas (current) as well as Chairman, Arkansas District Export Council and Wildwood Park for the Arts Board (past), among other organizations. Vernon is married to Jane Markham, and they have two adult children and three grandchildren.

Youth Elder – Eli Gomez

Eli Gomez was confirmed at Second Presbyterian February 23, 2020. He is in tenth grade going on to eleventh next school year. Eli attends Arkansas Virtual Academy which is a statewide school K-12 for virtual students. He is the president of the Gay/Straight Alliance organization at his school and he also is an active member of Future Community and Career Leaders of America. His favorite subjects are history, religion, and government. Now a little about Eli's spiritual life: He didn't really begin to understand his faith until Confirmation where the wonderful Mrs. Jeannie Ford organized and taught so well. That experience enlightened on all the unique and purposeful ministries and programs Second Presbyterian has to offer. Eli views this opportunity that will not only enrich his faith but help and serve others in and outside of our church community.

Class of 2025 Deacon Nominees

Deacon – Lauren Gann

Lauren Gann grew up in Little Rock, Arkansas, and has been a member of Second Presbyterian since May 27, 2012. She currently works in communications at Memory Care of Little Rock and is in school to become a nurse. Lauren has previously served the church as a youth elder and is thankful for the opportunity to serve the community again. She enjoys listening to podcasts and walking her dog, Pepper.

Deacon – Jamie Gomez

Jamie Gomez grew up in Gallatin, TN and was a member of Gallatin's First Presbyterian Church. She graduated from Middle Tennessee State University in 2000 with a B.S in Microbiology. Her job search sent her moving to Little Rock where she worked for 15 years at Arkansas Children's Nutrition Center as a Lab Manager. She left the ACNC for part-time work at the Cancer Institute at UAMS. That lasted for two years before she finally found her passion as a professional volunteer and stay-at-home mother. In October 2017, her family decided to visit Second Presbyterian Church. It was not after too many visits that they decided to become members. Jamie started finding many volunteer areas to help at church: Bale Elementary, VBS, Bulletin Boards, Bells, and teaching Children's Sunday School. She was on the Children's Ministry for two years. An active member of Presbyterian Women for the past four years, Jamie has been the PW moderator from 2020-2022.

Deacon - Freddie Jolley

Freddie Johnson Jolley is a life-long resident of Arkansas, raised in Mena. She graduated from Henderson State University with a degree in Business Education. She earned Master's and Doctorate degrees in Education from the University of Arkansas. Her forty years of teaching were at Malvern High, Hall High, Central High and Ouachita Baptist University. Freddie has been a member of Pulaski Heights Presbyterian Church; First Presbyterian Church, Arkadelphia; and Second Presbyterian Church. Woody and Freddie have two children. Melissa Pate is a third-grade teacher in Fulton, MS. Their son, Ted, is a dentist in Little Rock. They have four granddaughters. Freddie currently serves on the Pastoral Care Committee.

Deacon – Diane Karlson

Diane Karlson joined the church in 2016. She is a Registrar with the National Archives at the Williams J. Clinton Presidential Library. Diane is active with the Cheeses with Jesus group, a member of the Belonging Ministry and Prayer Shawl Ministry. She was the Past Chapter President for her PEO and was the Past Regional Reciprocity President. She enjoys cooking and traveling.

Deacon – Johanna Miller Lewis

Johanna Miller Lewis joined the church September 19, 2021. She is a new member of Second Presbyterian Church but a life-long Presbyterian. She is a widow and her husband Michael was not a church-goer, so she returned to the habit after he passed away in 2019. Scooter (20) and Smidge (6), her kitties, keep her company. She has a older sister and brother, three nieces and three nephews, and one great niece and four great nephews. Little Rock has been her home since they moved out here from the east coast so she could to take a job in the UA Little Rock History Department in 1991. She is now an Associate Dean. When you see her you'll notice she has a leg brace;

it's not going away, She has the worst knees ever. The congregation has been most welcoming and she looks forward to giving back.

Deacon – Jo Paulus

Jo Paulus was born in New Orleans, raised in Gould, AR, and has been attending Second Presbyterian Church since the 1970's. She retired from Regions Bank in 1999 after 25 years, and spent another 15 years as an office temp, but currently loves working from home as a transcriptionist for a clinical psychologist. Jo has been active as a former choir member, and current member of the Choir Support Group! She likes to recycle, ring hand bells, help create bulletin boards, deliver Doorstep Bread, man the Welcome Center, usher, greet, serve communion, and make prayer shawls and baby blankets. She served on five mission trips after Katrina to the Gulf coast, and currently is helping with the Afghani families relocating to the Little Rock area. Jo is a founding volunteer at the William J. Clinton Presidential Library and School for Public Service, and she used to coordinate the CrimeWatch program in the St. Charles neighborhood. She attended Hendrix College, and completed her Associates of Arts degree at UALR in May of 2015. In 2019 Jo was matched to her biological family on her dad's side, and this was certainly a life-changing event. Jo has previously served as an Elder at SPC from 2011-2014, Deacon from 2016-2019, and is looking forward to serving again as a deacon.

Deacon – Ashton Pickell

Ashton Pickell and his family have attended Second Presbyterian since 2004. He was confirmed into the church on February 21, 2010. Currently Ashton is an Associate at Pickell Law Firm, P.A. Previously he was active in the SPY youth group, served on the Youth Ministry, sang in the choir. He currently is active in the United Campus Ministry Member of U of A, is a University of Arkansas Undergrad and U of A Law School Graduate, a formerly a member of the Sigma Nu Fraternity, a member of the Hat Club, fluent in German and a novice hiker, guitar player and cook.

Deacon – Scott Polk

Scott Polk and his wife Mary Carole have been members at Second Presbyterian since 1999. Scott is a pharmacist. He and his wife own Polk Pharmacy in England, AR. They have three children, Kirkland, MaryScott and Jack Thomas. He participated in the Medical Mission trip to Haiti. He enjoys tennis, pickleball, golf and boating.

Deacon - Margo Shoffner

Margo is lifelong Presbyterian, who moved to Little Rock from Searcy in 2008. Shortly after moving, Margo changed her membership from First Presbyterian in Searcy to Second Presbyterian in Little Rock. She has served as Elder at both Searcy and here at Second Presbyterian, where she was moderator of Belonging Ministry for three years. Margo is a retired public school teacher. Her family includes a daughter (Brittany), son-in-law (Robert), and 2 grandchildren (Reid and Ella Katherine).

Deacon – Becky Talmage

Becky Talmadge is a twenty-four year old originally from Fredericksburg, Virginia. She grew up in the Presbyterian Church of Fredericksburg and served as a special-term Elder from 2015-2016. Her parents still live in Fredericksburg and attend the church she was raised in, and she loves getting to visit during the holidays. She attended Mississippi State University, where she was a member of the Famous Maroon Band as a saxophone player, and graduated in 2020 with a degree in Business Information Systems. Her younger sister, Rachel, is currently attending MSU. Becky moved to Little Rock in the summer of 2020. She currently works for Dillard's IT as a software developer on the Accounting team. She enjoys spending time with her dog, Danvers, who loves to go on car rides to the different parks around town. On Sunday evenings after church, you can find Becky at the Arkansas Skatium playing ice hockey in the local amateur league! Becky is very involved with the Young Adult ministry, helping to plan and participate in the events they put on. Becky is very excited and honored to have the opportunity to serve as a deacon, and she looks forward to getting to know more of the congregation.

Deacon – Dan Voth

Dan Voth and his family joined Second Presbyterian Church in 2021. Dan and his wife Chrissy have three children. Clara is a junior at UALR, Anna is a senior at Central High and a Lyon College commit, and Ezra is a freshman at Central High. Dan and Chrissy are originally from Oklahoma and their family was active in a local Baptist

church for many years before joining Second Presbyterian. Dan received his Ph.D. in Microbiology at the University of Oklahoma in 2006. After a postdoctoral fellowship at the National Institutes of Health in Montana, Dan was recruited to UAMS in 2009 and is a Professor in the Department of Microbiology and Immunology, serving as Chair of the department since 2019. In his spare time, Dan serves as a volunteer softball and baseball coach. He has coached baseball at Junior Deputy and has served as assistant fastpitch softball coach at Central High since 2018. He also coached league and travel fastpitch softball for 10 years in Maumelle. Dan loves to read, play guitar, and travel with Chrissy and his family when they are not at the ballfield.

Deacon – Galen Wenger

Galen R Wenger, Ph.D. was raised in eastern PA and central NJ. His father was a Mennonite Minister, and Galen joined the Mennonite Church as a teenager. He earned a B.A. degree from Goshen College (Goshen, IN) and a Ph.D. from West Virginia University in Pharmacology and Toxicology. He completed research Fellowships at the University of Colorado Medical Center and Harvard Medical School. Galen and his family moved to Little Rock in 1978 where he joined the Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology at UAMS. He retired in 2014 as Professor Emeritus having serving 36 years on the faculty of UAMS. While at UAMS he taught second-year medical students, Ph.D. graduate students, and ran a nationally-funded research program on drug effects in the CNS. Galen is married to Carolyn Wenger, and they have two adult children and four grandchildren. Galen's hobbies include singing with the River City Men's Chorus, playing tennis, fishing, and biking. He has been a member of Second Presbyterian Church since 2009. He sings in the Chancel Choir, toured the UK and Eastern Canada with the Choir, helped with the Our House ministry and the Disaster Assistance Center at Ferncliff.

Deacon – Bradley Wright

Bradley Wright is married to Jill Wright. They have four children ranging in age from 3 to 13. He is active in the Families with Young Children ministry and enjoys many other activities that involve his children at church. Bradley is the owner of Leafguard of Arkansas and in any spare time he has you can find him watching whatever sport might be happening.

Youth Deacon – Eli Eifling

Eli Eifling has been active in all parts of the Youth and Music programs at Second Presbyterian Church including SPY Kids, Youth Musicals, and Youth Ringers. He will be confirmed on Sunday, April 24, 2022. He's been a regular attendee to Montreat (NC) Music and Worship Conference and Mo-Ranch (TX) Junior High Jubilee. He also enjoys calling Bingo at Presbyterian Village. Eli is a freshman at Joe T. Robinson High School. His parents are Amy Wisdom and David Eifling.