

# What's First

at  
Second Presbyterian Church  
January 2026

## Our Vision

*As members of Second Presbyterian Church,  
We gather in worship;  
We grow in God's Word;  
We serve in Jesus' name.*



FROM THE  
PASTOR'S DESK

“God Bless Us, Everyone.” One of the most famous Christmas as well as literary quotes of all time. Spoken by Tiny Tim, the lame son of Bob Cratchit.

San Francisco's Golden Gate Bridge construction began on January 5, 1933 and was completed on May 27, 1937. It was the world's longest bridge span at the time. A walk across this American world wonder is most captivating! The journey back across to the city, however, is evermore soothing. The brightly shining sun over both the bay peninsula and the Pacific opposite the shady, valley side gives sense of renewal.

The same feeling we have when our good shepherd, Jesus Christ turns us around from a faded past or less successful present and guides us into a brighter, more hopeful future. The Savior will lead. Yet we must be willing to follow.

"As you therefore accept Christ Jesus as Lord and Savior, so walk in Him." (Colossians 2:6)

**William C. Seay, Jr.**

### Session

#### **Moderator**

William C. Seay, Jr.

#### **Clerk of Session**

Bettie Guthrie

#### **Class of 2026**

Beverley Coleman  
Carl Guthrie

#### **Class of 2027**

Bettie Guthrie

#### **Committees:**

#### **Building & Grounds**

Carl Guthrie

#### **Finance/Stewardship**

#### **Office & Personnel**

Garland Harrison

#### **Outreach**

Carole Ellis  
Kimberly Jones

#### **Worship/Education**

Alice Martin

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **INCLEMENT WEATHER CHURCH CLOSING**

**REMINDER:** Turn to WTVR Channel 6 to hear if Second Church will be closed for inclement weather.

# Thank You!

The church is beautiful but even more so during the Christmas holidays. Sunday, November 30 was the first Sunday of Advent and we had the Chrismon Tree up and decorated thanks to Susan Lobaugh, Alice Martin and Gloria Summers. William Spencer did a fantastic job of getting the tree in place.

Poinsettias and fresh greens were used to decorate the sanctuary on Friday, December 12. Thank you to Alice Martin and Susan Lobaugh for their talent to help make the church welcoming and beautiful. Let us never forget Jesus is the reason for the season.

Thank You!

## FINANCE COMMITTEE

### NOVEMBER FINANCIAL REPORT

	November	Year to Date
Income	\$14,105.00	\$127,150.50
Expenditures	\$15,932.14	\$139,650.93
Loss	-\$ 1,827.14	-\$ 12,500.43



Please remember to turn in  
your Pledge Card!!

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ANNUAL STATEMENTS AVAILABLE BY REQUEST  
Annual statements on giving will not be mailed except by special request. If you desire a statement, let Becky know by January 11.

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## **PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN:** Alice Martin, Moderator

**CIRCLE MEETING  
TUESDAY - JANUARY 6  
10:30**

**Come join us for great fellowship,  
Bible lessons and mission projects!**

### **PW MISSION PROJECTS**

**17 Operation Christmas Child Boxes  
9 Salvation Army Christmas Stockings**

**Thank you for all your help in making these projects a success!**

### **LENTEN SERIES 2026**

This will be the 62<sup>rd</sup> year that the Presbyterian Women have sponsored Lenten services and luncheons during Lent. This year, Wednesday February 18, Ash Wednesday will begin the 2026 series. Brochures will be handed out soon for you to have and for you to take to friends and neighbors to invite them to come. Pastors participating are listed:

Feb. 18	Rev. Jeff Butler, Woodlawn Presbyterian
Feb. 25	Rev. Ken Goodrich, Colonial Heights Presbyterian
Mar. 4	Rev. Katherine Jackson, Honorably Retired
Mar. 11	Rev. Rob Dawson, First Baptist, Petersburg
Mar. 18	Rev. Carson Rhyne, Honorably Retired
Mar. 25	CRE William A. Seay, Second Presbyterian

As usual, a delicious luncheon follows the service.

### **JANUARY PW MISSION PROJECT**

**Gloria Summers, Mission Chair.**

**Blanket Sunday - January 11** is a special mission opportunity that can involve all ages. Blankets enable Church World Services (CWS) to respond to disasters at home and around the world. Please support this worthy cause and **purchase a blanket for \$10.00**.



Please help us reach our goal of sending 30 blankets to those who need them. A special envelope will be in the bulletin. Make checks payable to Presbyterian Women and note Blankets on the memo line.

## **OUTREACH**

**Carole Ellis and Kimberly Jones, Co-Chairs.**

### **PRAY FOR:**

**CHURCH FAMILY AND FRIENDS** - Family of Paul Bonham, Susan Crew, Bill and Mona Ellis, Eva (Becky's niece), Thelma Kirkland, Keith Snavely, Jack Schoeb, Dorothy Riggan, Wayne Tucker, Liam Clegg (Guthrie's grandson), Amy Rush, Whitney Palmore, Allen and Pam Harville, and Bonnie Synder. Many of our church family members are no longer able to attend Sunday worship services or other church activities. Start your new year by remembering them often with calls, cards and especially your prayers.

**WORLD AND COMMUNITY** - World Peace - "and may it begin with us."

"As we therefore have opportunity let us do good unto all men." Galatians 6:10

**BLESSING BOX** - A BIG thank you to a very generous, unknown person who filled our blessing box to the brim. Suggestions: gloves, hot hand and feet warmers, chapstick, kleenex (sm. packs) and socks, the most requested item.

**DCU FOOD PANTRY SUGGESTIONS** - Canned soups, stews and chili, crackers, canned beans and dry beans.

## **SYMPATHY**

Our Christian sympathy is extended to the family of Patricia Bonham upon the death of her husband, The Rev. Dr. Paul W. Bonham, Jr. on December 4, 2025.

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### **IN MEMORIAM**

The Rev. Dr. Paul Windsor Bonham, Jr.  
January 26, 1936 - December 4, 2025

*"Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord." (Rev. 14:13)*

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## January Birthdays

1 Bill Kropp  
6 Reps Haskins  
12 Linnea Pittman  
15 William Graham, Sr.  
19 Ross Johnson

21 Donna C. Harrison  
23 Karen Graham



## SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

Bettie Guthrie, Clerk of Session

Stated Session Meeting November 23, 2025; Ratify Electronic Vote October 11, 2025 and October 19, 2025.

**Stated Session Meeting;** Approved September 28, 2025 Stated Session Meeting: Ratified the Electronic Vote of October 9, 2025 and October 11, 2025.

Received the September and October Treasurer's report.

Approved Clerk of Session request to contact POJ with regard to the lack of manpower for a small member church.

Approved Staff Christmas bonus.

Approved the annual POJ Covenant.

**Electronic Vote** October 11, 2025– Ratify S.W. Maclin Roofing to repair roof of the Education Wing at a cost of \$34,000.

Ratify Shining Light Pentecostal Holiness Church to use McIlwaine Hall on December 6, 2025, 3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

**Electronic Vote** – October 19, 2025 – Ratify Aggie Walker to be Pulpit Supply on Sunday, October 26, 2025.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Fri.	Sat.
JANUARY 2026						
				<b>1</b> <b>Happy New Year</b> Church Office Closed New Year Holiday	<b>2</b> Church Office Open 9:00 - 12 noon	<b>3</b> .
<b>4</b> 11:30 a.m. Worship	<b>5</b> 10:30 a.m. Worship Committee	<b>6</b> 10:30 a.m. Morning Circle	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b> Blanket Sunday  11:30 a.m. Worship	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>18</b>  11:30 a.m. Worship	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 12 noon “What’s First” Articles for <u>Feb.</u> due.	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b> 11:30 a.m. Worship 12:45 p.m. Session	<b>26</b> 10:30 a.m. PWCT Meeting	<b>27</b> 8:00 a.m. SPC Breakfast Club	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>

Second Presbyterian Church  
419 West Washington Street  
Petersburg, VA 23803

Address Correction Requested



2026