

What's First

at
Second Presbyterian Church
April 2021

Celebrating 170 years of ministry for Christ

Our Vision

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

Session:

Moderator

Rev. Arch Wallace

Clerk of Session

Bettie Guthrie

Class of 2021

Karen Graham
Lindsay Gray
Diana Hollars
Dorothy Riggan

Class of 2022

Patricia Bonham
Joseph Chamberlain
Dennis Harrison
Alice Martin

Class of 2023

Carl Guthrie, Sr.
Gloria Rose
Mark Stevens
Wendy Stevens

Committees:

Congregational Care

Dorothy Riggan

Building & Grounds

Carl Guthrie

Education

Gloria Rose

Finance

Karen Graham
Susan Crew

Office & Personnel

Patricia Bonham

Witness & Service

Joseph Chamberlain

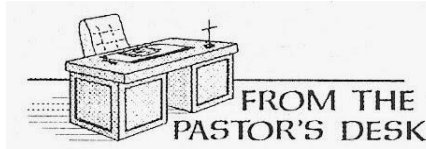
Worship &

Celebration

Alice Martin

Stewardship

Mark Stevens



Jack Hayford is a preacher and educator living and serving our Lord in California. Years ago he

told the Parable of the Penny in one of his Easter Sermons, using it to illustrate the sweep and wonder of the Easter message. In a slightly altered form, the Parable goes like this:

A man was leaving a meeting one day and saw a penny on the floor near the exit of the building. He passed it by, thinking, it's only a penny, but when he got to his car, something stirred him to go back for the penny. He wondered if the Holy Spirit was urging him to act to teach him the value of each person as God sees them, especially those of such little significance as a penny.

In the days that followed, he found another penny in his garden as he was preparing it for the seeds of spring. He wondered how it got there. It was dirty and if he hadn't been digging it would have been lost forever. He wondered again if God was speaking to him about the worth of every person—especially because of the Easter story.

Two weeks later in the Atlanta airport he saw another penny, this one wedged in the escalator from the train to the gates. He picked it up knowing that if he had not, it would have been crushed and destroyed in the mechanism of the escalator as it receded into its casings. He thought about the rescue of Easter.

Two days later, he found another penny in the men's room of a restaurant. He hesitated to pick it up, but believing these pennies he was finding were signs from God, he picked it up with towels and cleaned it thoroughly before leaving with it. These are not all the pennies he found. It would take too long to describe each incident, but each one had a story as to how it got where it was. He marveled that each story was different, and that each penny was apparently lost and abandoned. Yet, he realized as he rescued each one that this was the same approach God has taken toward us.

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK - CONTINUED

The lesson was that there are no worthless persons to God, and it doesn't matter where we come from or what our condition, God will lean down, pick us up, clean us off, and make us a part of His Kingdom.

This Parable of the Penny is our story. We too are lost and often inconsequential to others, but when our Father finds us, when Christ comes to us in his own voice or through someone in our Christian family, God is saying, you do count, you are important to me; you are the one I sent my son to seek. May the joy of this Easter season lead you all to be found, that your joy might be complete.

THE PREACHER'S CORNER

The schedule for Worship for the month follows. You are encouraged to read the scripture before coming to Worship and to meditate upon their meaning as you consider the title of the sermon. The Reading with the asterisk will be the one emphasized in the sermon. (N.B. The pastor advises there can be changes in the scheduling, as circumstances require.)

April 4, Easter Sunday, Communion
Scriptures: Isaiah 49:1-7; John 20:1-10*
Sermon: Do You Have To See To Believe

April 11
Guest Minister: The Rev. Keith Johnston

April 18
Guest Minister: The Rev. Keith Johnston

April 25
Scriptures: 1 Peter 3:1-9; John 21:10-17*
Sermon: He Will Forgive Even You

WHO AM I?

I was the younger son and I left home early. I went to a distant country from my home in Israel. I squandered the inheritance my father gave me because I liked wild living. Soon, I was broke. I took any job just to survive. I even tended one man's pigs, even though I knew it was the lowest of jobs. I was so hungry every day and was ready to give up. Then, I came to my senses. I realized how good it was to live with my father. I decided to go home and admit my failure and ask for just a little to eat. As I neared our family home in Israel, my father saw me coming and ran out to meet me. He welcomed me home and had a feast to celebrate my return. The only words I could say to my father when he got to me were, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son." My father listened and then gave me a hug, welcoming me home, telling me he loved me and always would. Who Am I?

Rev. Archibald Wallace

MEMORIAL LILIES



Lilies will be used to decorate our sanctuary for Easter. Call the church office by **March 28** to notify Becky of your memorial listing. Please have your lilies at the church by **10:00 a.m.** on **Friday, April 2.**

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

Easter Sunday, April 4, 2021

“You Shall Be Called Repairers of the Breach.” (Isaiah 58)

One Great Hour of Sharing is the single, largest way that Presbyterians come together every year to work for a better world. This offering provides relief from natural disasters, food for the hungry, and support for the poor and oppressed. Each gift helps improve the lives of the suffering and the vulnerable through three life-saving programs.

36% - Hunger Program

32% - Disaster Assistance

32% - Self-Development of People (Helping victims of floods, earthquakes, fires, droughts, wars, revolutions, etc.)

We will receive the **One Great Hour of Sharing** offering on **Easter Sunday, April 4**. Envelopes will be available in the bulletin.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Sacrament of Holy Communion will be celebrated
Sunday, April 4 and at the

April Men’s Group Breakfast

The Men’s Group Breakfast will be held on Tuesday, April 27 at 8:00 a.m. McIlwaine Hall. Please contact the church office if you plan on attending (804)732-6531.

January 2021 Finance Report: Karen Graham, Chair.

	January	Year to Date
Donations	\$13,592.00	\$26,941.00
Expenditures	\$11,656.75	\$25,130.76
Gain/Loss	\$ 1,935.25	\$ 1,810.24



Following Session approval, the Finance Committee has submitted a second application for a Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loan/grant through the Small Business Association (SBA) in the amount of \$15,500. We are awaiting a response from the SBA as to whether or not the application is approved. Funds would be used for salaries and utilities.

WHO AM I? ANSWER: Luke 15:11-22. This human parable is our story. No matter what we do, God will always look for us to come and will always welcome us home. Thank God for Easter!

A BIT OF CHURCH HISTORY “BULLETINS”

This is the beginning and end of an article sure to get your heart racing. Proceed at your own risk. We have bound volumes of our bulletins from October 1923 to the present. The basic information on our bulletins, front and back covers is fairly standard. It includes church name, address, pastor name, student assistant, secretary, director of Christian education, organist, choir director, sexton, treasurer, office hours, phone #, services schedule, foreign missionaries, mission of the church, scripture, session, deacons, Sunday school staff, Women's Auxiliary (w\omen of the church), circle leaders, young people's league, (senior high's), home mission society, men's mission group, men of the church, usher's guild, trustees, boy scouts, date of organization, note of being listed on the national register of historic places, and identifying the congregation as belonging to the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A).

In 1929 a large picture was added of the church and the manse. From that time to the present, a picture remains on the cover. This picture has changed over the years. The manse disappeared from the bulletin in 1928. The original steeple was blown off by a strong storm on Feb. 22, 1862, and replaced in 1902, blown off again in 1954 during hurricane Hazel and replaced in 1984. During the depression years, there were no locally produced covers. On Sunday December 19, 1937, the first bulletin in color is seen.

In June 1963, bulletins showed the pulpit area. Church pictures returned in July 1967, showing that the steeple was missing. In June 1984, the steeple appeared again on the bulletin. From Nov. 1985 to Dec. 2000 the bulletin grew from 8 ½ x 5 ½ to 9x6 and the church picture filled the front cover. From 2001 to the present the bulletin returned to its standard size with the church picture and six lines of information.

I don't know about you, but I'm exhausted. Susan Lobaugh, Historian

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS: Bettie Guthrie, Clerk of Session **Stated Session February 28, 2021** **Cyber Meeting: March 3, 2021**

Stated Session Meeting February 28, 2021

- ❖ Approved the minutes of the Stated Session Meeting January 24, 2021 and Cyber Meetings February 8, 2021, February 12, 2021.
- ❖ Received the Treasurer's report.
- ❖ Received the annual Audit report from Wendy Stevens.
- ❖ Approved the removal of the Blessing from mandatory use during worship because of a conflict with BOO W-3.0502.

Cyber Meeting March 3, 2021

- ❖ Approved Building and Grounds request to resume the Men's Breakfast meetings on March 30 and April 27, 2021 at 8:00 a.m. in McIlwaine Hall. CDC and governors' guidelines will be used for everyone's safety.



**PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN: Alice Martin, Moderator
CANCELLATIONS FOR PW**

**No Morning Circle meetings for April and May
No Ruth Circle meetings for April and May**

PW Area V Birthday Celebration for May 2 is cancelled.

SPRING GATHERING

May 1 will be the date for our PW Presbytery **SPRING GATHERING**. It will be held virtually and information on how to join in the Gathering will be forthcoming. I hope many of us can participate. The Spring Gathering offering will go to **CARES** – right here in Petersburg! CARES (Crisis Assistance Response Emergency Shelter) has been helping those in need in the wider Petersburg area for many years, and it is wonderful that this offering will go to help carry on their good work. Ladies, please make your donations to your circle leader, or send them to the church. Make checks payable to **Presbyterian Women** with **Spring Gathering offering** on the memo line

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN APRIL MISSION PROJECT: Gloria Summers
April 25-Hospice Care “Chemo Caddies” are care packages given to cancer patients.
This year we will focus on items just for adults. Needed items are: neck scarves, lap blankets, bandanas, head coverings, chap stick, hand sanitizer, hand lotion, word puzzle books, colored pencils, adult coloring books, inspirational books, Kleenex, bottled water. We will fill reusable totes with these items and take them to the Petersburg Cancer Center. Please bring any of the items listed to the conference room. All these things will help patients undergoing cancer treatments be more comfortable and relaxed.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE COMMITTEE: Dorothy Riggan, Chair.
Please continue to remember **our sick and shut-ins** in your prayers and with a card or call. They look forward to these things. Let them know we care.

Hunger Corner

The Monthly Food Offering will be received on **Sunday, April 4**. The recipient for this month is Downtown Churches United Hope Center.

SYMPATHY

Our Christian sympathy is extended to the family of Barbara Mangum upon her death on February 28, 2021.

IN MEMORIAM

BARBARA EARDLEY MANGUM

FEBRUARY 17, 1938 - FEBRUARY 28, 2021

EASTER BLESSINGS

We continue to be separated from our church family and friends because of COVID but there may be hope with many of us receiving the COVID vaccination. We have contacted the majority of our church family to help them with registration, appointments, and vaccinations. If you know of someone that needs our help please do not hesitate to contact us.

Carl and I made a nail cross for each of you to wear on your lapel on Easter Sunday. We have mailed or delivered the cross-lapel pins to several of our church family members that cannot join us for Easter service. We will all come together on Easter wearing our nail cross to remember the sacrifice Jesus made for all of us.

While we are apart because of COVID we can be together in thought, prayer and love.

Easter blessings,
Carl and Bettie

Holy Week

Palm Sunday, March 28 - Begin Holy Week with Worship
11:00 a.m. Worship

Good Friday, April 2
10:00 a.m. Lilies delivered to the church to decorate for Easter.

Easter Sunday, April 4 - We continue celebrating the resurrection of our Lord.
9:45 a.m. Church School
11:00 a.m. Worship Service
One Great Hour of Sharing Offering Received
Reminder: Bring fresh flowers for cross.

BIRTHDAYS

April

1 Robin Hines
2 Betty Robinson
7 Gloria Summers
Davidina Tutwiler
9 Jean F. Gill
10 Gabriella R. Pemberton



11 Samuel N. Kirkland, Jr.
15 Russell Garrison
17 Shannon Groux Pemberton
18 Carole Ellis
23 Alice Kropp
28 Betty Malone

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <h1>April 2021</h1>				1	2 10:00 Lilies Delivered	3
4 Easter Sunday 9:45 Church School 11:00 Communion One Great Hour Offering Rec. Monthly Food Offering Rec.	5 Church Office Closed Easter Holiday	6	7	8	9	10
11 9:45 Church School 11:00 Worship	12	13	14	15	16	17
18 9:45 Church School 11:00 Worship	19	20	21 12 noon "What's First" Deadline/ May	22	22	24
25 11:00 Worship 12:15 Session	26	27 8:00 Men's Group Breakfast Meeting	28	29	30	

Second Presbyterian Church
419 West Washington Street
Petersburg, Virginia 23803

Address Service Requested

