

# What's First

at  
**Second Presbyterian Church**  
**October 2023**

## 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. Susie Atkinson

#### **Clerk of Session**

Bettie Guthrie

#### **Class of 2023**

Carl Guthrie

Mark Stevens

Wendy Stevens

#### **Class of 2024**

Bettie Guthrie

Garland Harrison

Venable Johnson

#### **Class of 2025**

Alice Martin

Kathleen Muller

Robert Muller

#### **Committees**

#### **Building & Grounds**

Carl Guthrie

#### **Finance/Stewardship**

Mark Stevens

#### **Office & Personnel**

Garland Harrison

#### **Outreach**

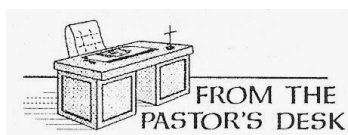
Elizabeth Schoeb

Wendy Stevens

#### **Worship/Education**

Alice Martin

Venable Johnson



The cool temperatures and slight breezes are hinting that the leaves will be changing colors soon. In our culture, lots of things change in the fall season.

Schoolchildren change grades. Budgets are revised to prepare for the new fiscal year in January. Light weight clothes are put away as we pull out our sweaters and coats. And a few things have changed here at Second Presbyterian Petersburg.

The biggest change is that I have been chosen to be your new Covenant Pastor! Everyone has been so welcoming and helpful. I feel as though I've known you for years rather than weeks. I'm looking forward to all the worship services, luncheons, and outreach events that are in planning for this year.

I led my first communion service for you all on World Communion Sunday on Oct. 1. This service was started in a Presbyterian church in Pennsylvania in 1934 and each year since we have held a special service commemorating the unity of Christian churches all over the world. Taking time to remember we all worship the same Lord helps us find our commonalities so that we may better understand one another. Hopefully, when we understand another's point of view, we can work together for peace throughout the world.

We will celebrate All Saints Day on the first Sunday of November. The service will remember all of the members, family members, and friends who joined the Church Triumphant this year. Please send the names of folks you would like to include in our celebration to Becky or myself so we can be sure not to miss anyone.

The first Sunday of November is also the day we "fall back" in time. Be sure to set your clocks on Saturday night to one hour earlier. We don't want you to miss the service!

May God bless us with renewed energy as autumn continues and bless our ministries as we go out in Jesus' name!

Your pastor, Rev. Susie

## OUTREACH

Elizabeth Schoeb and Wendy Stevens, Co-Chairs

- ❖ Sick and Shut-ins - Please remember them with cards and calls.
- ❖ The Monthly Food Offering will be received each Sunday in October. Recipient: DCU Hope Center.

### 2023 Peacemaking Offering

World Communion Sunday - October 1, 2023

Proclaim Christ's Peace

*"You are with me."*

*Psalm 23*



On World Communion Sunday we celebrate that Christ's peace extends throughout all creation. We celebrate that we are all together at the communion table in God's house. We celebrate that we are offered what we need to continue the work of building the household of God with active peacemakers here at home and around the world. Extending the peace of Christ is part of an active, engaged faith – a witness to what it means to us to be the Church, together.

The Peacemaking Offering supports a variety of peacemaking efforts: 25% is retained by congregations, 25% is used by synods and presbyteries, and 50% supports the work for peace and reconciliation being done by Presbyterians across the globe.

Please be generous in your support of the Peacemaking Offering to be received on World Communion **Sunday, October 1** and pledge to work with your congregation for peace in your community.



**PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN:** Gloria Summers

### PW OCTOBER MISSION PROJECT OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD



PW has joined the Witness and Service Committee for several years now working together on this project. We are hoping to fill 10 boxes this year. Listed below are items we need.

Nail clippers    brushes    sunglasses    small games: card games    dominoes    checkers  
jump ropes    yoyo's    school supplies: pens    regular pencils    rulers.

Please place items in the marked basket in the back hallway. These special boxes bring so much joy at Christmas time to children in need, so we are so grateful for your help again making this project a success.

## CHEMO CADDIES



Thanks to everyone who donated items for our chemo caddies. Because of your generosity, we were able to fill ten bags for the SRMC Cancer enter.

## October Birthday

2 Susan Andrews  
3 Joseph Chamberlain  
Cheryl Smith  
6 Denise Hargrave  
Matthew Pittman  
10 Thelma Kirkland  
11 Cynthia Smith  
12 Martha Epes Johnson  
17 Becky Lancaster



18 Keith Snavelly  
25 Venable Johnson, Jr.  
Robert Muller  
27 Anne Webb Fenessy  
29 Dale Pittman  
30 Miles Gregory Kropp  
31 Gena Wallace

**WORSHIP/EDUCATION COMMITTEE:** Alice Martin/Ven Johnson

Scratch up your brains --- it's  
**QUIZ TIME** again!!

Can you unscramble the names of these Bible people?

1. RAMHAAB \_\_\_\_\_
2. SLZAAUR \_\_\_\_\_
3. TGLOAIH \_\_\_\_\_
4. LLHDEAI \_\_\_\_\_
5. OONSMLO \_\_\_\_\_

## **SESSION HIGHLIGHTS: Bettie Guthrie, Clerk of Session**

### **Session Highlights**

**Stated Session Meeting June 25, 2023, Called Session Meeting July 30, 2023**

**Electronic Vote, August 14, 2023**

Approved the minutes of the Stated Session Meeting June 25, 2023; Called Session Meeting July 30, 2023; Electronic Vote August 14, 2023.

#### **Stated Session Meeting, June 25, 2023.**

- ❖ Approved Stated Session Meeting minutes of June 25, 2023; Called Session Meeting July 30, 2023; Electronic Vote August 14, 2023.
- ❖ Received the June and July Treasurer's Report.
- ❖ Approved Building and Grounds request to replace the air conditioner (compressor and air handler) and bring the 3 cost estimates back to Session for their review.
- ❖ Approved Ad Hoc Committee "Together Versus Separate" proposal to approve Rev. Carson Rhyme to head up the committee project for two years. The proposal includes measurement for success and his leadership to include a monthly \$25 stipend to cover his services, gasoline, and other incidentals.
- ❖ Approved the request from Gloria Rose to have Rev. Wallace perform her funeral service in the sanctuary, visitation in the Parlor and reception in McIlwaine Hall.
- ❖ Approved the Covenant Pastor Search Committee for a Called meeting on July 30, 2023 to meet with Rev. Susie Atkinson.

#### **July 30, 2023 Called Session Meeting:**

Rev. Susie Atkinson was interviewed and the Covenant Agreement approved with Rev. Atkinson.

#### **August 14, 2023, Electronic Vote**

Approved Building and Grounds request from Shining Light Pentecostal Holiness Church to use McIlwaine Hall on September 2, 2023, 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. and September 30, 2023, 2:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

## **WORSHIP/EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

**Alice Martin and Venable Johnson, Co-chairs**

#### **WORSHIP NEWS - Upcoming dates for Autumn:**

OCTOBER 1 – World Wide Communion Sunday, the day that congregations around the world celebrate the Lord's Supper.

NOVEMBER 5 – Remembrance Sunday – This year we will remember those in our church family that went to be with our Lord in the past year.

NOVEMBER 19 – Joint Thanksgiving service with First Baptist Church. This will be our third year worshiping with our friends next door. The service will be held at Second and Rev. Robert Dawson will lead the service. Our PW group will provide light refreshments for all. Please plan to be with us on each of these special occasions.

**EDUCATION** – The Fellowship Sunday School Class is off to a good start with our study of "Proverbs." Did you know that King Solomon wrote most of them? Come and join the group - 9:45 Sunday mornings.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE:** Mark Stevens, Chair.

**AUGUST 2023 FINANCIAL REPORT**

	August	Year to Date
Income	\$ 6,515.00	\$ 84,483.01
Expenditures	\$11,313.48	\$ 97,003.15
Losses	-\$ 4,798.48	\$ 12,520.14



**Bible Quiz Answers:**

1. Abraham, 2. Lazarus, 3. Goliath, 4. Delilah, 5. Solomon

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**The Sacrament of Holy Communion  
will be celebrated on  
World Communion Sunday, October 1, 2023**

**Liturgists – October**

**1 Wayne Tucker  
8 Wendy Stevens  
15 Ven Johnson  
22 Karen Graham  
29 Mark Stevens**

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**NOVEMBER 5, 2023 Daylight Savings Time Ends!!!**

Set your clocks back one-hour Saturday night, Nov. 4  
before you go to bed.

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**SYMPATHY**

Our Christian sympathy is extended to the family of The Rev. Dr. Carroll A. Londoner, former Interim Pastor, upon his death on September 3, 2023.

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IN MEMORIAM  
THE REV. DR. CARROLL A. LONDONER  
MARCH 4, 1934 - SEPTEMBER 3, 2023

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Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
<b>October 2023</b>						
<b>1</b> 11:00 a.m. World Communion Sunday and Peacemaking Sunday Monthly Food Offering and Peacemaking Offering Rec.	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>  10:30 Morning Circle	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> 9:30 Chancel Choir  11:00 a.m. Worship	<b>9</b> 10:30 Worship/ Education Committee	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> 9:30 Chancel Choir  11:00 a.m. Worship	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>  12 noon “What’s First” Deadline for Nov.	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>  9:00 a.m. POJ (Virtual)
<b>22</b> 9:30 Chancel Choir 11:00 a.m. Worship 12 noon Congregational Mtg. 12:15 p.m. Session	<b>23</b>  11:00 PWCT Meeting	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> 9:30 Chancel Choir 11:00 a.m. Worship/Hymn Sing	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> 				

Second Presbyterian Church  
419 West Washington Street  
Petersburg, Virginia 23803

Address Service Requested

