



# Second Sharing

## Second Presbyterian Church

*Dedicated to Jesus Christ, we are committed to making a difference by caring for one another, growing in our ministries, and reaching beyond ourselves.*

KAIROS CORNER

August, 2026

### *People of the Promise* 2026—2027 Program Year Theme

I struggle to believe August is already here. Doesn't it feel as if we just turned the page from 2025 to 2026? But here we are, with a new school year soon to begin for our children. And it won't be long until our church calendar returns to its more familiar regular schedule.

In anticipation of our new program year that begins in September, I want to spend the weeks between now and then in the Book of Genesis. That's the first book in the Bible, and it tells the story of our beginning. God's creative word calls forth a world held by the promise of God. Here's what the next six Sundays will include:

#### **Genesis: The Call of God's Promise**

|                    |                                 |                                                |
|--------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| <b>August 2</b>    | .....Genesis 12:1-9.....        | <i>With Nothing but a Promise and a Prayer</i> |
| <b>August 9</b>    | .....Genesis 18:1-15.....       | <i>Is Anything Too Wonderful for God?</i>      |
| <b>August 16</b>   | .....Genesis 22:1-14.....       | <i>A Promise in Peril</i>                      |
| <b>August 23</b>   | .....Genesis 32:22-31.....      | <i>When the Struggle Is Real</i>               |
| <b>August 30</b>   | .....Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28..... | <i>God's Dangerous Dreaming</i>                |
| <b>September 6</b> | .....Genesis 45:1-15.....       | <i>When Grace Does Its Work</i>                |

But that's just the beginning. God's promise, which appears early in Genesis, is a constant theme throughout the scriptures. And that's why **People of the Promise** will serve as our theme for the new program year. God makes promises to us, and we make promises to God and one another. And we need each other within the community of faith to encourage our faithfulness to the promises we make.

These verses from the Hebrews offer a vision of what it means for us to "keep a firm grip on the promises that keep us going." They will become the foundation which guide our ministry together throughout the year.

#### **Hebrews 10:23-25 (The Message)**

*Let's keep a firm grip on the promises that keep us going. He always keeps his word. Let's see how inventive we can be in encouraging love and helping out, not avoiding worshipping together as some do but spurring each other on, especially as we see the big Day approaching.*

#### **Hebrews 10:23-25 (The Common English Bible—CEB)**

*Let's hold on to the confession of our hope without wavering, because the one who made the promises is reliable. And let us consider each other carefully for the purpose of sparking love and good deeds. Don't stop meeting together with other believers, which some people have gotten into the habit of doing. Instead, encourage each other, especially as you see the day drawing near.*

Because we belong to God and to one another, God has made us **people of the promise**. I look forward to the ways we will continue to "spark love and good deeds" in one another as we hold onto the promises of God which hold us.

In hope,  
Pastor John

# The Call of God's Promise

Sermons from Genesis

August 2 - September 6

Summer Worship  
10:00 am

*Communion First and Third Sunday  
(Regular Worship Returns September 13)*



We are looking for **children and youth** to volunteer to **pour the water into the baptismal font** on Sunday mornings during our **Summer Worship at 10:00 a.m.**

Participants will carry the water pitcher in from the back of the sanctuary, up the steps to the chancel, and pour the water into the font. In general, we are looking for one person each week. Siblings can carry the water together if they wish, or really young children could choose to walk in with their parent or grandparent. **Scan the QR code to sign up today!**



## SANCTUARY FLOWERS



Would you like to provide flowers for the chancel that beautify our worship on Sunday morning? If so, you are welcome to give flowers in memory and/or honor of loved ones, or in celebration of a milestone.

To reserve a Sunday, please scan the QR code. You can also contact Shawn Phelps ([shawnp@2preslex.org](mailto:shawnp@2preslex.org) or 859-254-7768) if you would like for her to place your order.



**Open Sundays: September 13, October 4,  
October 18, October 25 and more!**

## BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS!



Students, teachers, administrators, coaches, staff members, and anyone involved in education are invited to bring your backpack, or other tools of your office, to worship on **Sunday, August 9th during the 10:00 worship.**

We will pray for our schools and universities and all who learn, teach, or serve within them. And we will send those gathered at the front into their places of learning to live as a disciples of Jesus Christ by loving, serving and living in peace. **Invite your friends and neighbors to join you! And don't forget your backpack!**

## MEMBER AND OTHER NEWS



**Member Nancy Brown** helped organize a Patriot Concert at Richmond Place on July 3rd. Nancy played during the sing along on her piano that she moved from her home when she and her husband, Glenn, moved to Richmond Place. The concert was lots of fun, featured wonderful patriotic music and a crowd of over 50 people participating!

## FINANCE NEWS

**Thank you** for your financial support during the summer months as we continue to maintain our ongoing service to our community and each other.

Please note 2nd quarter statements have been sent and if you did not receive yours, or have any questions, please contact Scarlet Hall, Director of Finance ([scarleth@2preslex.org](mailto:scarleth@2preslex.org)).



BY MAIL

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ONLINE

[www.2preslex.org](http://www.2preslex.org)



TEXT

Text **73256** and type  
**2preslex** as the message  
and follow the prompts

## A NOTE FROM OUR NEW HANDBELL DIRECTOR



Hello, everyone! I am so excited to begin this new chapter as director of the Carillon Handbell Choir and to make music with all of you.

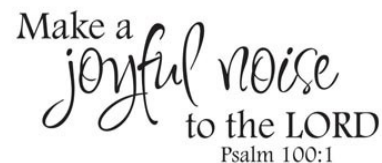
Handbells are a wonderful way to build community, grow musically, and praise God together. Whether you've been ringing for years or have never picked up a bell before, I would love for you to join us. **No previous experience is required**—just a willingness to learn and have fun! Handbells truly take a team, and there is a place for every ringer.

Our regular rehearsals will be held on **Wednesday evenings from 5:30–7:00 p.m. beginning September 9th** as we prepare music for worship throughout the year. If you've ever been curious about handbells, this is the perfect time to give them a try.

I look forward to meeting many of you in the coming weeks and sharing the joy of making music together. **I hope you'll consider joining us!**

Julianna Nitz  
Carillon Handbell Director

## MUSIC NEWS



**The Summer Choir will sing all Sundays in August!** All adults and youth are welcome to us in the choir loft at 9:30 a.m., to prepare for the 10:00 service. Music and folders will be available.

In preparation for our return to two services in September, the Covenant Choir will resume **Thursday evening rehearsals on August 20th, 7:15–8:30 p.m. New members are very welcome!**

Questions? Contact Gary L. Anderson, Director of Music ([ganderson@transy.edu](mailto:ganderson@transy.edu) or 859-317-3353).

## BACKPACK BUDDIES



For over 17 years, Second Presbyterian has partnered with God's Pantry to be a "buddy" for a school in Lexington, picking up shelf stable food, packing it into bags each week of the school year and delivering it to our partner school.

With the generosity of 2 Dudes owners, Andrew and Kirsten Carey, their moving company provides pick up, transport and unloading the monthly deliveries from God's Pantry directly to our church. **That is where YOU as a volunteer come in....**volunteers from family units, friends or groups come together to pack either at church or at your home or meeting spot and deliver those bags to the Family Resource Coordinator at Cardinal Valley Elementary.

**We deliver 100 packed bags once a week, each week that school is in session.** Just think....a minimum of 100 bags each week school was in session for 17 years---- and we used to pack 125 until budget cuts went into place....**YOU can be a part of this vital ministry for the students at Cardinal Valley!** If you have questions, need more information, or would like to sign up to be responsible for a week's packing, **contact Evelyn Kramer ([Ebkramer55@yahoo.com](mailto:Ebkramer55@yahoo.com))**.

## CHECK OUT OUR NEW CHILDREN'S LIBRARY!

Come check out our new Children's Library located on the **3<sup>rd</sup> floor Children's Wing**. There are picture books that focus on different faith topics available to "check out" along with a parent guide/follow up questions for your child and activities to go along with the story!

Our library is a neuro-inclusive space; you will find a white basket with various fidgets, noise silencing headphones (cleaned weekly), feelings chart, etc. **All are welcome to come explore, read, and color!**



## JUSTICE MINSITRY

*And let us be concerned about one another  
in order to promote love and good works.*

Hebrews 10:24



As Second's Justice Ministry Team nears the end of our congregational investment drive (currently, 70% of our \$16k goal reached), we are also planning our **September-October House Meetings**.

The purpose of these gatherings is to build and strengthen relationships within our church family, tell the Biblical story of justice, reflect together what community problem(s) impact us or those we love and how justice is possible when we serve together with our BUILD (Building a United Interfaith Lex. through Direct Action) family for the common good of ALL.

Our concerns, our stories, our experiences are imperative since BUILD's Justice members will VOTE at the Community Problems Assembly, November 5th, which 'new' urgent problem to research and take to Action next April. Over the next few weeks, Shawn Caudill and Judy Maxson will be inviting you into our homes for these sacred conversations. If we miss connecting with you, please don't hesitate to contact one of us! The Microtransit, Villages (Eldercare) and Renters' Concerns issue campaigns are now in the monitoring stage; currently all are progressing as planned, commitments made by our public officials at the Nehemiah Action observed.

Since 2003 we have affirmed the many positive returns on our **investments**; affordable housing fund, whole school restorative practice program at FCPS, healthcare for the uninsured, drug treatment program for women in Fayette County jail (men already had this service for many years!), mental health court and more. We **invest** our time and resources to sustain our independence by making our own collective decisions, to ACT on our values, to strengthen/build relationships in order to affect systemic changes, to support our staff salaries, host community events and to train team leaders.

**Justice Ministry Members:** please turn in your pledged investment asap. Thanks! *Abundant gratitude to our church family and friends who have already supported the BUILD mission with their generous investment gift and for those prayerfully considering to do so.* Please make check payable to **BUILD** with Second Presbyterian on the memo line by August 20th. Either mail check directly to **BUILD, PO Box 21874, Lexington, KY 40522** or give to **Shawn Caudill or Judy Maxson**. Many Thanks! for investing in the well-being of our neighbors in need throughout our beloved city.

## FOR THE HEALTH OF IT

*Every prudent man acts out of knowledge.*  
Proverbs 13:16



Health information is everywhere and easy to access, but is it all reliable? Who hasn't gotten lost on social media while tracking down a topic? How can you tell the good from the bad? Certainly discuss with your health care provider the information you find to determine whether it's true and is it good for you in particular. To decide if a website is trustworthy look at the About Us page . . . who runs the site? Do they provide a way for you to contact them with questions or feedback? In general, reliable health information is found on sites run by:

- **Federal government agencies**
- **Medical schools**
- **Large professional or nonprofit organizations, such as American Heart Association**

Is the purpose of the website to inform the public or sell products or promote opinions? Is the information up to date? Where is the information sourced? A very reliable source to use is [medlineplus.gov](http://medlineplus.gov) - your tax dollars at work to educate the public. Bottom line is always take your questions and concerns to your care provider so you can work together as a team!

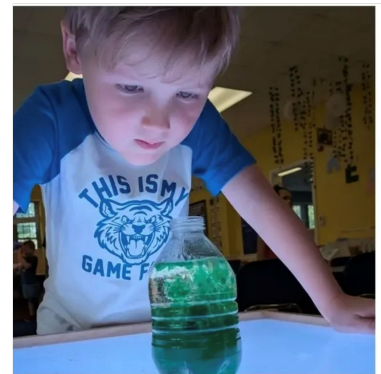
**Jackie Graves, Parish Nurse**

## AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Annie Deitz
- 2 Chris DeHoag
- 3 Marilee Varner, Charlie Smith, Russ Coffey
- 4 Martha Deener
- 5 Kathy Coyer, Kayla Monohan
- 7 Betsy Strong
- 8 Lynn Reynolds, Jane Justis
- 9 Bill Barr, Jon Chait
- 10 Rachael Gilbert, Carson McCloud, Berkley Reed
- 11 Nathan lee, Alice Thornton
- 12 Tari Keller
- 13 Carrie Dycus, Walker Hancock
- 14 Beth Phillips, Larry Simpson
- 17 Suellen Ferraris
- 18 Andy Henderson, Margaret Johnson, Tom Eblen
- 19 Joy Aten
- 20 Lana Singleton, Isobel Chewning, Shelby Chapman
- 21 AliceAnn Sanders, Rebecca Clay Edwins, Erin Shainfeld, Larry Stull
- 22 Debbie Beckett
- 23 Kathie Eads, Jack Evans, Jenny Walker
- 25 Chris Briggs
- 27 Lenn Harrison
- 29 Grace Byars, Laura Edwins, Isabel Pedersen, Nancy Heckman
- 30 Janice Leake
- 31 Seth Stallard, Chloe McIntosh, Cathy Cooper-Weidner, Mitchell Edelman

## ECUMENICAL PRESCHOOL SUMMER CAMPS!

- **June camp was all about Science!** The campers made elephant toothpaste, shrinky dink germs, painted with magnets and lemons, played with pop rocks and made homemade lava lamps!
- **July camp was all about Fairy Tales!** The campers read a fairy tale book each day and made a craft to go along with the story. It was a 'magical' week!



## Children and Youth



We hope you all have had an amazing summer! With the start of the new school year upon us, we have a lot of information to share about our upcoming Children and Youth Ministry events:

- **August 9:** Blessing of the Backpacks during 10 am Worship Service
  - **August 16:** WOW children hosting Lemonade in the Courtyard
  - **August 23:** Youth Fellowship Kick-Off ➡
  - **August 30:** Downtown Youth Group Kick-off at Faith Lutheran (5:00-7:00 pm)
- \*\*\*\*\*
- **September 13:** Sunday School Kick-off Breakfast in the Fellowship Hall from **9:40-10:40 a.m.** (Grades Pre K-12th grade will depart for Sunday School following the breakfast).

- **When:** Sunday, August 23rd
- **Time:** 11:00 - 12:30 pm
- **Where:** Second Church

**All rising 6th through 12th graders** are invited to our first Youth Event of the year!

We will meet for Lemonade in the Courtyard and then head to the youth room for lunch and fellowship. **Invite a friend!**

It will be a great time to welcome our rising 6th graders and connect after summer!



Information about opportunities for Sunday School, WOW (Children's worship) and more will be mailed to the home of our families and available on our website soon! We look forward to continuing to offer fun ways to connect and grow spiritually with our children this year! Please email Jenna Coy ([jennac@2preslex.org](mailto:jennac@2preslex.org)) with questions.



Special thanks to **Abigail Royal**, Director of Children's Choir, who brought in her accordion for the children to play during WOW (Worship Our Way).

## Calendar

### Monday, August 3

9:30 a.m. Coffee & Conversation

### Tuesday, August 4

10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting (CMR)

### Wednesday, August 4

6:30 a.m. Men's Book Study (Zoom)

### Saturday, August 8

9:00 a.m. Saturday Book Group (Forum Room)

### Sunday, August 9

9:30 a.m. Summer Choir Rehearsal

10:00 a.m. Worship

11:00 a.m. Lemonade in the Courtyard

11:15 a.m. Deacons Meeting (202)

### Monday, August 10

9:30 a.m. Coffee & Conversation

6:00 p.m. Mission Committee (Room 202)

### Tuesday, August 11

10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting (CMR)

5:30 p.m. Needlepoint Group (Forum Room)

### Wednesday, August 12 (Fayette County School Begins)

6:30 a.m. Men's Book Study (Zoom)

### Saturday, August 15

9:00 a.m. Saturday Book Group (Forum)

### Sunday, August 16

9:30 a.m. Summer Choir Rehearsal

10:00 a.m. Worship

11:00 a.m. Lemonade in the Courtyard

11:15 a.m. Session (Forum Room)

### Monday, August 17

9:30 a.m. Coffee & Conversation

### Tuesday, August 18

10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting (CMR)

1:00 p.m. Prayer Shawl (204)

5:00 p.m. APNC Training (202)

6:00 p.m. Preschool Open House

### Tuesday, August 18

10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting (CMR)

1:00 p.m. Prayer Shawl (204)

5:00 p.m. APNC Training (202)

6:00 p.m. Preschool Open House

### Wednesday, August 19

6:30 a.m. Men's Book Study (Zoom)

6:00 p.m. Preschool Open House

### Thursday, August 20

6:00 p.m. Preschool Open House

7:15 p.m. Covenant Choir Rehearsal

### Saturday, August 22

9:00 a.m. Saturday Book Group (Forum Room)

### Sunday, August 23

9:30 a.m. Summer Choir Rehearsal

10:00 a.m. Worship

11:00 a.m. Lemonade in the Courtyard

11:00 a.m. Youth Fellowship Kick-Off

### Monday, August 24

9:30 a.m. Coffee & Conversation

### Tuesday, August 25

10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting (CMR)

6:30 p.m. CROP Walk Rally (FH)

### Wednesday, August 26

6:30 a.m. Men's Book Study (Zoom)

12:00 p.m. Backpack Buddies

### Thursday, August 27

7:15 p.m. Covenant Choir Rehearsal

### Saturday, August 29

9:00 a.m. Saturday Book Group (Forum Room)

### Sunday, August 30

9:30 a.m. Summer Choir Rehearsal

10:00 a.m. Worship

11:00 a.m. Lemonade in the Courtyard

5:00 p.m. Downtown Youth Group (Faith Lutheran)

### Monday, August 31

9:30 a.m. Coffee & Conversation

## BACK TO SCHOOL



**Coffee and Conversation:** Do you need any of these things? A chance to connect with others. A safe place to talk about your faith or your fears—or even the mundane things of your life. A time to unwind with others as you begin your week. If so, then join Pastor John, various staff members, and unknown others from the congregation, each **Monday morning from 9:30—10:30 am (or so) in the Gathering Place.** There will be no agenda, other than talking together and sharing life. Hope to see you there!

### ⇒ Women's Saturday Discussion

**Women's Saturday discussion** group meet **each Saturday at 9:00 a.m.**, in the Forum Room. Contact Amy Palmer (859-825-8703) for details.

### ⇒ Men's Book Study

**Men's Book Study** meets each **Wednesday (6:30-7:30 a.m.)** by zoom. Contact Shawn Caudill ([timothy.caudill@uky.edu](mailto:timothy.caudill@uky.edu) or 859-608-6662) for zoom instructions and details on the book they are discussing.

### ⇒ Prayer Shawl Ministry

The **Prayer Shawl Ministry** group will knit or crochet together on the Third Tuesday of the month at **1:00 p.m. in-person (Room 204) at Second.** Contact Kathy Blomquist ([kbbloomquist@gmail.com](mailto:kbbloomquist@gmail.com)) with questions or details.

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**BACK TO SCHOOL SUPPLIES FOR CHILDREN AT WESTMINSTER VILLAGE**



It's that time of year when the new school year is just around the corner and your help is needed in making sure that the **students of Westminster Village** have a great start for the new year! If you would like to help, please visit the Gathering Space where a table is set up with listings and examples of things needed. If you don't feel up to ordering online or facing the crowds in the stores to shop, you can make a donation to Second Pres and note that it is for the *Westminster BTS Supply Drive* and someone will do the shopping for you. **Items needed include the following:**

- |                                                      |                                      |
|------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Large backpacks for our older students               | Dial soap bars                       |
| Small to medium backpacks for younger students       | Men's deodorant                      |
| Zipper pencil pouch that will fit in a 3 ring binder | Women's deodorant                    |
| (with mesh or clear front)                           | Mini packs of kleenex                |
| Black (only) fine tip dry erase markers              | Soft toothbrushes                    |
| Black (only) blunt tip dry erase markers             | Toothpaste                           |
| Paper towels                                         | Unopened bags of panties for girls*  |
| Clorox wipes                                         | Unopened bags of underwear for boys* |
| Full size boxes of Kleenex                           |                                      |
| Medium to large bottles of hand sanitizer            |                                      |
| Mini bottles of hand sanitizer (for backpacks)       |                                      |

\*All sizes are needed