



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

May, 2026

Three things were on my mind when I wrote last month's newsletter article: the then approaching Holy Week and Easter, summer worship planning, and the congregational survey. Beginning with the only one still ahead of us, I have some further thoughts to share.

Summer Sermon Series—Last month, I sought your help in developing this summer's preaching plan. (I often select a summer theme to guide our thinking, though the sermons almost always stand alone.)

These were the questions I asked you to respond to:

- **What is your favorite hymn?** (Bonus sub-question: What makes that hymn your favorite?)
- **How would you complete this sentence: I wish the preacher would talk about....** (Variations of this include things like, "I can't stop thinking about...." "I don't know how to deal with....")
- **What is one story from the Bible you believe should live in everyone's heart?** (You knew this was coming, right? Why do you think this story is one we need?)

I received one emailed response and one hand-delivered list of favorite hymns. I'm grateful for them. But I'd love to hear from you. Answer any or all of the above questions. ***Please let me know what you're thinking as soon as possible, either by email (johnl@2preslex.org), in writing, by phone, or in person when we're together.***

Looking back from this side of Easter morning, I find myself giving thanks for the services we offered during Holy Week. The choir's glorious requiem on Palm Sunday, the mid-day services with neighboring congregations, our Maundy Thursday meal and service in the Fellowship Hall, and our brief meditative service on Good Friday deepened my sense of God's love. These services were great preparation for the joy that filled our sanctuary and world on Easter morning. I'll say again here what I've said before: I am grateful to Gary and Martha, our guest musicians, and the amazingly faithful members of our Covenant Choir. In these remaining days of the Easter season, may you listen for the Risen Savior who continues to call you by name.

While the information from the recently completed Congregational Survey is just now being distilled, I am grateful for the 250+ responses received. A quick scan reveals the many things we love about our congregation, as well as some things that need our attention. You will hear much more about what we are learning over the next several months.

I'll close with this echoed reminder: Easter continues. The survey responses will give us some direction. And don't forget to send your responses to the summer sermon series questions.

With deep gratitude for our life together,

Pastor John



Beginning Sunday, May 24th, we will transition to our summer worship schedule. We will gather as one community in person or by livestream from the sanctuary for a service of worship at **10:00 am**. We will celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper on the first and third Sundays of each month. We will follow this summer schedule through Labor Day weekend.

Lemonade in the Courtyard will take place each Sunday beginning May 31st through September 6th following the 10:00 a.m., service. This great way to get to know others in our church family!



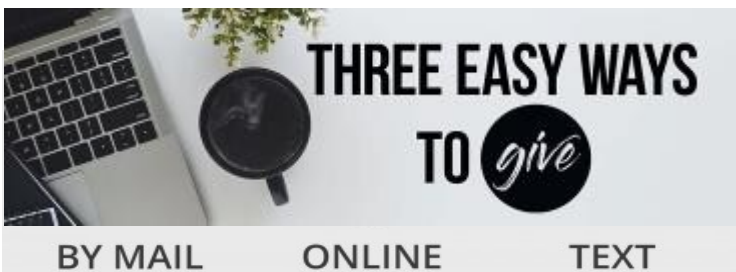
If you or your family (or group) would like to host, please scan the QR code to sign up.

FINANCE UPDATE



Please remember to support the church through the summer months, as we continue to maintain our ongoing service to our community and each other.

Please contact Scarlet Hall, our Director of Finance, (scarleth@2preslex.org or 254-7768) or if you have any questions about making a donation to the church.



Second Church
460 E. Main St.
Lexington, KY 40507

www.2preslex.org

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

MEMBER NEWS

Congratulations To:

- **C.J. and Amanda Leopold** on the birth of daughter, **Juniper Joy Leopold**, on April 16th. *Grandparents are Greg and Julia Leopold.*
- **Geoffrey Doherty and Adriel Wilson** who were married in our sanctuary on April 18th.
- **Martha Anderson** who was honored by The Lexington School for **50 years** of bringing music and inspiring generations of students with her joy, passion and dedication. A special flag was raised in her honor as a tribute to her extraordinary legacy.



- **Abigail Royal** who received the UK Marching Band and School of Music **2026 Michael Turpin Band Leadership Award**. This award is given to those who demonstrate dedication, loyalty, and service to the University of Kentucky Marching Band.



We Express our Love and Sympathy To:

- **Becky Edwins** on the death of her sister, Robin Jackson.
- **Ben Dycus and family** on the death of his father, Rick Dycus, on April 29th in Cynthiana.

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.

We still have many open Sundays! To reserve a Sunday, please scan the QR code. You can also contact Shawn Phelps (shawnp@2preslex.org or 859-254-7768) if you would like for her to place your order.



Special Music In May and More!

- ◆ **May 10:** Kids for the Kingdom Choir will sing at the 11:00 a.m., service.
- ◆ **May 17:** Carillon Handbell Choir will ring at both the 8:30 and 11:00 a.m., services
- ◆ **May 24:** Summer Worship begins at 10:00 a.m. through September 6th

The Covenant Choir will welcome 'summer singers' beginning May 24th, when we move to one service at 10:00 a.m.



The Summer Choir will rehearse at **9:30 a.m., in the choir loft.** There are no Thursday evening rehearsals. Music will be distributed and we will learn an anthem in less than 30 minutes! Robes will not be worn and **all youth and adults** are welcome to join us!

The Summer Choir will sing in worship on May 24th and all Sundays in June!



WITH GRATITUDE FOR YOUR MINISTRY AND BLESSINGS ON YOUR JOURNEY



Following her recent ordination, **Ms. Donna Phillips** has accepted a shared call with Mt. Lebanon Presbyterian and Henryville Community Presbyterian in Indiana. We at Second are honored to have been part of her journey.

Donna's gift for music has been present since childhood. Though she now leads with confidence, she describes her younger self as shy and hesitant. She attended the University of Kentucky, earning a degree in Music Education, but her first teaching position left her disappointed and searching for what God had next.

That path led her to Second Presbyterian Church in 1996 through mentors and former Second Pres choir members, Herman Rowlett and Kenton Cooper, with whom she had performed in *The Stephen Foster Story*. Here at Second, Donna's talents were recognized and put to use immediately. She became a section leader, soloist, children's choir director, and eventually bell choir director. In 1997, she introduced the first Children's Christmas Pageant beginning a cherished church tradition. Who can ever forget "The Three Wise Dads"?

At Second, Donna also experienced a profound spiritual shift from the traditions of her childhood through her friendships in the choir. During her first Maundy Thursday service, she encountered what she later called "God's music of silence." In that moment, she knew she had found her church home. The faith she discovered here—rooted in love, grace, and discipleship—transformed her relationship with God and set her on a new path.

In 2006, Donna returned to the University of Kentucky to pursue a Master's in Sacred Music while working at Shakertown, where many were blessed by her presentations on Shaker music and culture. It was during this time that her sense of calling deepened. Encouraged by her father and guided by others, Donna took a leap of faith and enrolled at Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary.

Through Donna's faithfulness, our lives together have been touched and transformed through music. As she often reflects, her path was not traditional and not the one she would have chosen, but it is a beautiful one. Thank you, Ms. Donna, for sharing your talents and letting us sing along with you on your journey. We are blessed. **The Carillon Handbells will ring at both services on May 17th. This will be Donna's last Sunday with us and hope all will come and wish her farewell as she continues her faith journey.**

Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation. Let us come before Him with thanksgiving and extol Him with music and song

Children and Youth Ministry

Children

- May 3:** End-of-Year Sunday School Sharing with Families at **9:40 am in the Sanctuary**
- May 3:** Alight End of Year Party (12:15-1:45 pm)

Youth

- May 3:** DYG Outing at Main Event (4-7 pm)
- May 17:** Youth Fellowship End of Year Party at Champs (2-4 pm)
- May 31:** Senior Recognition: Lemonade in the Courtyard Celebration ➡



Attention Graduating Seniors - If you are a senior graduating from college or high school, please send us the following information so we can recognize you at the 10:00 service on **May 31st!**

Full Name, High School or College were you are graduating from and future plans and a **photo** to include in our June *Second Sharing* newsletter. Please send your senior's information and picture to Jenna Coy (jennac@2preslex.org).

VBS—REGISTRATION IS OPEN!!



Join us each night from **June 8-11 from 6:00-8:00 p.m.**, for faith-building, fellowship, and fun at Vacation Bible School!

VBS is for ages ***3 thru completed 5th grade** **All children must be fully potty trained and be able to use the bathroom unassisted.* **Scan the QR code** to sign up your child(ren). **Friends are welcome!**

Do you have sleds, skis, ice skates, snowboards, etc. and/or fake evergreen trees we can borrow for VBS decorations? If so, please email Jenna Coy (jennac@2preslex.org).



Volunteers are still needed! 5th graders will be Group Assistants - they help the adult/youth leaders, but also get to participate in all activities with their group. **Scan the QR code to sign up today!**



The youth did a fantastic job on **Youth Sunday, April 26th!** Special thanks to **Jenna Coy and Katie Baird** and all the youth who participated.

JUSTICE MINISTRY NEWS

But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream. Amos 5:24



Nearly **1200** Justice Seekers attended the Nehemiah Action April 14th; **69** represented **Second Church**.

We heard enlightening messages and challenges from Rev. Gaines- Consolidated Baptist, Rev. Adams- Open Door Church, Rev. Moore-First African Baptist, Rev. Chenowith-Unitarian Universalist and compelling testimonies from our neighbors.

We celebrated with *A Caring Place* the successful establishment of Lexington's first **Village** in the Beaumont/Gardenside area. Lextran Director Fred Combs shared a **Microtransit** update on the specific steps accomplished to launch a pilot program this Fall in NW Lex. He thanked the 8 councilmembers present for their support and partnership making the pilot possible.

Excellent News! Because of our people power, **BUILD Won** these huge commitments for **Renters' Concerns!** Commissioner of Housing, Charlie Lanter for making code enforcement data more accessible and transparent so our community can clearly see which landlords and properties are putting tenets at risk. Vice Mayor Wu for working with his office to ensure the support needed to make this happen. Vice Mayor Wu and Councilmember James Brown also committed to co-hosting a stakeholder's meeting in January to bring the right people to the table and move toward long-term, strategic policy solutions for renters. It was gratifying to hear each city leader publicly thank BUILD for caring about our neighbors, establishing working partnerships and our persistence in making our city better for all.

Justice Ministry Network Members: Our Celebration/ Investment Drive Kickoff is Monday, June 8th at Mary Queen School. Food/Fellowship 6:30, Meeting at 7 PM. Plans are underway for a spirited, exciting fun evening for all! We invest to truly own our organization; to sustain our independence, make our own collective decisions, do our own research. We have witnessed many times over these past 23 years the positive returns on our *investments for justice*. **Where our treasure is, there our hearts will be also.** Matthew 6:21

Questions? Concerns? Please contact Shawn Caudill (timothy.caudill@uky.edu) or Judy Maxson (jke659@gmail.com)

STOCK THE PANTRY

The Mission and Outreach Committee invites you to help stock the shelves of the Family Resource food pantry for the summer months for the families at **Cardinal Valley Elementary School**,

During May, a table is set up in the Gathering Place where donations can be dropped off; please remember that all items must be in sealed boxes/original wrapping and **no expired items**. Items most needed are:

Pasta
Tomato Sauce
Canned Meats
Canned Fruits
Cereal
Tortillas
Bagged White Rice
Ramen Noodles
Granola Bars
Boxes of Saltine Crackers
Dried Beans (especially black beans)



Second Church will again be taking a trip to the village of San Luis. We have a wonderful working relationship with the community and are excited to go back **June 20th—June 30th**.

We need providers of all types, workers, helpers and any with a heart for service. This group first assembled in 1993 and some in the group have made more than twenty of the mission trips.

Why should you come?

- you feel called to serve people in great need
- you want to build bridges of faith and love with the community

What skills are needed?

- we need doctors, dentists, nurses, technicians or others with clinical skills
- we need helpers, pill counters, baby holders, children entertainers
- we need people who know how to pitch in and fill in where needed
- **we need you!**

For questions or more information, please contact **Scott Walz** (scott@studiowalz.com / 859-396-3231).

FOR THE HEALTH OF IT

Whether you turn to the right or the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying "This is the way; walk in it".

Isaiah 30:21



Parents do everything they can to keep their children safe. That effort has paid off as nationally the rate of children dying in pedestrian crashes has dropped by 39% since 2000. However the alarming findings of teen death rates from unsafe pedestrian habits is twice that of younger children.

Distraction by mobile technologies is a big part of this. An observational study by Safe Kids found that 1 in 5 high schoolers and 1 in 8 middle schoolers crossed streets distracted. Most frequently the distractions involved texting or headphones. Girls seemed more distracted than boys. 78% of teens perceive the most at-risk age group for pedestrian injuries to be one other than their own. **What can we do?**

- Talk to your kids, especially teens, about the dangers of distraction and the importance of putting down devices when crossing streets.
- Start the discussion about safely using technology when kids first get mobile devices- and keep talking about it!
- Set a good example of what crossing the street safely looks like. Emphasize that we never assume drivers will slow down or not turn that corner just because you have the right of way.

This is a serious problem that needs us to be aware, alert, and listening as we walk.

Jackie Graves, Parish Nurse

MAY BIRTHDAYS

1. Bob Dickson, Christine Privott
3. Gene Brockopp
5. David Porter, Tom Kluemper, Susan Lambing
6. Dell Littrell
7. Joann Atcher, Carolyn Brown
8. Terri McLaughlin, Greg Repass
9. Pam Mitchell, Rob Kirkpatrick
10. Jean Endicott, Don Hardwick, Susan Gilliam, Ellie Murphy
11. Caroline Friesen, Victoria Skinner
12. Savannah Spencer, Kevin McCalla, Caroline Costich
13. Lori Polly
14. John Thomas, Amelia Adams
15. Melanie Gabbard
16. Michael Kilgore
17. Jim Potts, Anne Deck, Judy Johnson
18. Ben Crittenden, Elizabeth Post, Edith Bare
19. Steve Byars
20. Carol Behr, Nancy Thoma, Robin Norton, Jeffrey Oldham
21. Michael McLaughlin, Kevin McGuffey
23. Donna Phillips, Laura James, Luke Wrede
24. David Carman
28. Luke Wilson, Ross DeAeth
29. Avery Gray, Andy Hoyt
31. Jacob Caudill, Zach Thornton, Ben Thornton, Rodgers Clark



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



- **Water Pourers:** Looking for children and/or youth to pour the water into the baptismal font on **Sunday mornings at 10:00 a.m.**
- **Host Lemonade in the Courtyard:** Beginning May 31st through September 6th following the 10:00 a.m., service. **This great way to get to know others in our church family!**
- **Vacation Bible School:** We are currently needing additional volunteers to help **June 8-11 (6:00-8:00 pm).**

Calendar

Friday, May 1

5:00 p.m. Preschool Movie Night (FH)

Saturday, May 2

9:00 a.m. Saturday Book Group

Sunday, May 3

8:30 a.m. Worship

9:40 a.m. Sunday School Sharing (Sanctuary)

11:00 a.m. Worship

12:15 p.m. Alight

4:00 pm DYG (Main Event)

Monday, May 4

9:30 a.m. Coffee & Conversations

Tuesday, May 5

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

12:30 p.m. OLLI Class (Forum Room)

7:15 p.m. Chamber Chorale Rehearsal

Wednesday, May 6

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

Thursday, May 7

7:15 p.m. Covenant Choir Practice (Chapel)

Friday, May 8

5:00 p.m. HC Banquet (FH)

Saturday, May 9

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

Sunday, May 10 (Mother's Day)

8:30 a.m. Worship

11:00 a.m. Worship

Monday, May 11

9:30 a.m. Coffee & Conversation

1:00 p.m. Beth Wachs Circle (Forum Room)

6:00 p.m. Mission Committee

Tuesday, May 12

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

12:30 p.m. OLLI Class (Forum Room)

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

5:30 p.m. Finance (zoom)

7:15 p.m. Chamber Chorale Rehearsal

Wednesday, May 13

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

Thursday, May 14

7:15 p.m. Covenant Choir Rehearsal

Saturday, May 16

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

Sunday, May 17

8:30 a.m. Worship

11:00 a.m. Worship

12:15 p.m. Session (Forum Room)

12:15 p.m. Deacons (202)

2:00 p.m. Youth Fellowship Event (Champs)

Monday, May 18

9:30 a.m. Coffee & Conversations

Tuesday, May 19

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

12:30 p.m. OLLI Class (Forum Room)

1:00 p.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry

7:15 p.m. Chamber Chorale Rehearsal

Wednesday, May 20

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

Saturday, May 23

9:00 a.m. Saturday Book Group

Sunday, May 24 (Summer Worship Begins)

10:00 a.m. Worship

Monday, May 25 (Memorial Day)

Tuesday, May 26

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

7:15 p.m. Chamber Chorale Rehearsal

Wednesday, May 27

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

12:00 p.m. Backpack Buddies

Saturday, May 30

7:15 p.m. Covenant Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, May 31 (Senior Recognition)

10:00 a.m. Worship

11:00 a.m. Lemonade in the Courtyard

11:30 a.m. VBS Prep



Coffee & 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. If so, join Pastor John and unknown others in the congregation **each Monday morning from 9:30-10:30 am (or so) in the Gathering Place.** There is no agenda, other than talking together and sharing life. *Note: We will not meet on Memorial Day, May 25th.*

⇒ **Beth Wachs Monday Circle** - All ladies in the church are welcome to join us on **Monday, May 11th at 1:00 p.m., in the Forum Room** for refreshments and Bible study.

⇒ **Prayer Shawl Ministry** - Come and join others who knit and crochet together on the **Third Tuesday of each month at 1:00 p.m. at church in room 204.** Questions? Contact Kathy Blomquist (kblomquist@gmail.com).

⇒ **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** - Meet virtually via Zoom on **Wednesday morning from 6:30-7:30 a.m.** Contact Shawn Caudill for more information and the zoom link (859-608-6662 or timothy.caudill@ky.edu).

**Second Presbyterian Church
460 E. Main St.
Lexington, KY 40507**

Church Phone: 859.254.7768
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MOTHER'S DAY OFFERING FOR MEAL ON WHEELS



On **Sunday, May 10th**, mothers around the globe are celebrated...from the U.S. to the Republic of Poland, Australia to Malawi, Mother's Day is a day that focuses on celebrating and honoring mothers or maternal figures for the positive effect they have made in our lives.

Meals on Wheels invites you to remember your mother, grandmother or a special loved one who has made a difference in your life by making a donation to their program. Gifts made to Meals on Wheels in connection with Mother's Day will help provide funding for clients who find themselves struggling to pay the nominal fee for the 2 meals a day, 5 days a week service we provide. All those honored will be listed in *Second Sharing*. Honor your loved one with a gift to Meals on Wheels that WILL make a difference in someone's life!

Checks should be made **payable to Meals on Wheels, notate "Mother's Day Collection" in the memo line**, and mailed to Second Church, 460 East Main St., Lexington, Kentucky 40507.

MOTHER'S DAY COLLECTION FOR MEALS ON WHEELS

THIS DONATION IS MADE IN:

___ HONOR OF ___ MEMORY OF

NAME

PRESENTED BY

PLEASE SEND AN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO (ADDRESS):
