



From the Pastor's Desk

Good ministry breaks things, so long as it leads to Christ.

You heard me preach those words repeatedly on Sunday, September 22 and I keep saying them in my mind. Those words are jarring as they make us think of brokenness and no one wants broken things. Just think about how I felt this morning when I packed up my stuff at home and began carrying it to the car. I had perfectly balanced my keys, wallet, phone, water bottle, and coffee cup in my hands while my backpack rested on one shoulder. Agilely navigating the opening and closing of our doors – both the house and car doors – led me to believe I was good until I stepped awkwardly on a loose piece of mulch in the sidewalk. Boom.

It happened. The coffee cup slipped out of my hand and fell to its demise, broken on the driveway. That's what we think of when we think of brokenness. And that's a big part of what I preached – much in our lives proclaims brokenness, causing us to have to pay attention to what we do next. It makes us think about how brokenness slows us down, makes us think about things we don't want to think about, and forces us to deviate from predetermined plans. But that's only if we think about brokenness on a human level.

This is where that second phrase in the sentence above shines brightly. So long as it leads to Christ. Brokenness is a given in our lives, and so is Christ. So how do we develop and nurture ministries and worship services and small groups and care and our giving and our facilities so that the brokenness is a means to better understanding what Christ is doing in our lives? How do we pay attention to Christ's invitation to see the brokenness of our lives as a means of connecting deeply with Christ and the grace he offers?

Good ministry breaks things, so long as it leads to Christ. You are going to hear that again and again in the coming weeks and months as it is a proclamation that Christ has got us and is inviting us to pay attention to what we are doing. Don't get me wrong, this will be hard and it'll require us to pay close attention to what's happening and how it is – or isn't – working. But I can't imagine a better group of disciples to do this with than each of you!

Take a few minutes to peruse this edition of Second Press and see where God is inviting you to come help us break some things that'll lead us all to Christ! Know that I'm praying for you and look forward to seeing you in worship soon.

In Christ,
Rev. Ben



Preaching Series

A Ministry Only Christ Could Build: Stewardship

Only Christ could build a ministry that is sustainable and life-transforming. In this three-week Stewardship series, we'll explore how Christ built his ministry using the resources near him to transform the world. It is our belief that those same resources are here at Second and with God's help, we can use them to do great ministry in Little Rock and beyond.

- Oct. 6: Luke 8:1-3 *The Overlooked People in Christ's Ministry*
- Oct. 13: Luke 8:4-15 *The Wide Reach of Christ*
- Oct. 20: Luke 8:16-21 *Jesus Is Coming For You!*

Notable News



Stewardship Appeal 2025

Join us for worship on October 6, 13 and 20. **Dedication Sunday is October 20** when we'll turn in our pledge cards and celebrate what Christ is building at Second Pres. You can use the QR code below to make your 2025 Estimate of Giving.



Fall Gatherings

Sign up with the QR code below for one of our Fall Gatherings for stewardship and fellowship.



New Members



Laura and Matthew Gabbard
joined 9/1/2024



Barbara (Barbie) Stutts
joined 9/15/2024



Doug, Rachel, Hadley and Hudson Barr
joined 9/21/2024

PEACE AND GLOBAL WITNESS OFFERING: Each year on World Communion Sunday, we participate in the PC(USA)'s Peace and Global Witness Offering. Gifts received for this special offering are used to support the denomination's Presbyterian Peacemaking Program as well as local peace-making efforts in our community. This year the local portion of our offering will go to support the Interfaith Center of Arkansas. This year we will receive this offering on **Sunday, October 6**. (You can also use the QR code.) Please give generously to support the work of peacemakers in our community and world.



Feeding all who enter.

Connect & Learn

Second Hall Sunday School

Presbyterianism 101 September 29-October 20 9:45am

Join us for a five-week class exploring Presbyterian beliefs, church governance, and key decisions from this past summer's General Assembly that impact our church today. This class is led by our pastors.



Annual All-Church Picnic Sunday October 6

Ferncliff Camp and Conference Center

Don't miss our annual all-church, all-ages picnic at Ferncliff on Sunday, October 6, beginning at 12:30 p.m. If you haven't registered, just come out and pay at the door or use the QR code. Enjoy lunch, lawn games, a fishing tournament, rocking chairs, canoeing, volleyball, tours of the grounds, and more. The cost is \$12 per person (over age 10), \$5 for children between 4 and 10 years old and up to \$48 per household. No charge for those age 3 or under.



Did You Know...About the Heritage Room?



Second Presbyterian Church has a rich history in Little Rock since its founding in 1882. Originally located in downtown Little Rock at 4th and State Streets and then at 3rd and Gaines Streets, we moved to our current location in the late 1960s as development in the city (and our members) moved west away from downtown. The Heritage Room, which is on the north side of the building next to the Library, is a great resource for anyone exploring our congregation's history. The room not only contains records related to the history of Second Presbyterian Church, it also has rotating exhibits focused on an aspect of the church's history. So, if you're looking to learn more about Second Presbyterian Church and its long history in Little Rock, check out the resources in the Heritage Room. Also, keep watching for more fascinating facts about Second Presbyterian's past!

Usher and Greeter Sign Up



We all have hands. Hands can wave. Hands can shake other hands. Hands can hand out bulletins...or pass offering plates, making for a hospitable worship experience for all. *All Hands Say Hello!* Use the QR code for the Usher and Greeter Sign Up!

BE THE HANDS AND FEET OF CHRIST



- ◆ MONDAY PASTORAL CARE
- ◆ MEAL CARE
- ◆ MEMORIAL RECEPTIONS
- ◆ LOVE IN ACTION
- ◆ CARDS AND PRAYER

READY TO GET INVOLVED?
CONTACT REV. ALISA SECREST
AT ALISASECREST@SECONDPRESLR.ORG

Connect & Learn Continued

Acolytes

Training: October 13 and October 20 at 10:00am



Training Class
October 13 & 20 10:00AM

Acolytes

4th-8th Graders
Acolyte | Beadle | Crucifer



Have you wanted to be an acolyte during worship? For the past two years our 8th grade girls have lead the way demonstrating to the congregation how Youth can lead in worship. But now we want to open the opportunity to all 4th-8th graders. This leadership opportunity is available at 11:00am Worship.

If you want to sign up, you must attend our training session on October 13 during Sunday School at 10:00am in the sanctuary. Then please follow the link below and sign up for the four positions available each Sunday.

These are your four options:

- Acolyte (2) - carries in the light, and lights the front candles
- Beadle (1) - carries in the Bible, and places it on the table
- Crucifer (1) - leads the way, carries in the cross, and places it in stand by baptismal font

Presbyterian Women October 2025

Look What's Happening at PW!

Presbyterian Women's Martha and Phoebe Circles will meet at different places on **Tuesday, October 8**. Martha Circle will gather at the Youth Building at 11:00am with a salad buffet. Phoebe Circle will meet at the home of Jeannie Ford (2916 Lee Avenue) at 10:00am with a potluck brunch. Anna Circle will find fellowship and Bible study at the home of Catherine Allsbury (32 Kanis Creek Place) on Sunday, October 20 at 4:30pm.

All will study Lesson 2 of *Let Justice Roll Down*.

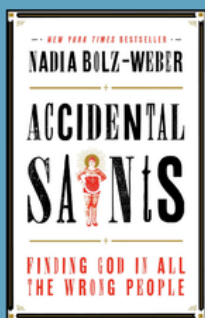
Our mission projects for October are Ferncliff Camp and Conference Center and Presbyterian Hunger Program which primarily focuses on Southeastern India. Oh yes! Eight amazing women gathered at the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) building at Ferncliff on September 17 and put together 86 school kits and 32 health kits. Thank you, ladies. Please feel free to join us anytime!

Peace, Emily Hall, PW Moderator



1st and 3rd Bible Study

1st and 3rd Bible Study



RETURNS MONDAY, OCTOBER 7
9:30-11:00 AM
SECOND HALL



We are restarting our Bible Study on **Monday, October 7** from 9:30-11am in Second Hall. We'll meet in October and November on the 1st and 3rd Mondays and will be studying Rev. Nadia Bolz-Weber's book, *Accidental Saints*. You can purchase the book by going to Wordsworth in The Heights (they have copies) or buy it on Amazon; we can also purchase a copy for you, if that's easier.

The reason we are using Nadia's book is that she is the 2024 Cotham Lecturer at Westover Hills Presbyterian Church on November 16 and 17. Churches and Bible studies across Little Rock are reading Nadia's book in preparation for her leading the lecture.

Join Rev. Robert Lowry and Rev. Ben on the 1st and 3rd Mondays in October and November.

NOTE: Our first meeting will provide an overview of the book and we'll send out another email in the coming weeks with a specific reading guide (at this point in time, just start reading and enjoying Nadia's wonderful book!).

Connect & Learn Continued

The Merry Widows

We're off to a great start! Fun fact: Widows often don't get many social invitations, so we're inviting each other! We'll meet monthly for lunch, conversation, and sharing stories. In October, we're expanding to three gatherings so more can join us. **October 12, 19, and 26 at 11:30 a.m. at U.S. Pizza Co. in the Heights.** Please RSVP to Anne Crow (501-554-1603) or Catherine Allsbury (501-256-3452).

Cheeses With Jesus



Back by Popular Demand – CWJ will continue meeting on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday evenings each month. New this year will be a 2nd and 4th Thursday group! These two opportunities to gather will cover the same content so there is no need to attend both. Just pick the group that works best for you. Inspired by Rev. Ben's preaching series on Luke, we will be studying selected passages from the same Gospel. **Meetings will be: October 9, 10, 17 and 23. Wednesdays, October 9 and 23,** will be at Justin's home: 8301 Evergreen Dr., LR 72227. Please contact Catherine Allsbury (revbury@gmail.com) or Justin Villines (villinesjustin@gmail.com) for more information.

Fall Family Camp Out



Join the **Children & Families Ministry** at our annual fall campout. This year, we are excited to spend time together at the McCormack lake house on Bull Shoals Lake in Diamond City, AR. Weekend starts Friday, October 11; join us for a night or both nights whatever your family's schedule allows. \$50 family fee will help the food and cleaning crew cost.



JAM Series II

JAM Series II will kick off **October 16**, 5:15-6:30pm. We will be preparing to perform November 10 in worship.

Now is the time to join the Junior Artist Ministry! All children kindergarten to 5th grade are welcome. Scan the QR code to RSVP for this next Jam Session!



YOUTH MINISTRY

September 2024



YOUTHQUAKE

SPC brought 33 participants to YouthQuake at Ferncliff this year! YouthQuake is a Presbytery of Arkansas youth retreat to promote bonding and faith development across the state. Our focus bible verse was 1 Cor. 16:14 "Do everything in love."



YOUTH GROUP & SUNDAY SCHOOL

Our Youth are following two different styles of Christian Education this fall. The Sunday School classes are following Feasting on the Word's lectionary based lessons to grow their biblical knowledge. Our Youth Group is taking a journey through faith as we compare the experiences on a road trip to the discovery of faith in Christ.



Color Run + Capture the Flag 8/25





CARDBOARD VILLAGE NIGHT

In support of our friends at The Van, a mobile shelter that locates and loves our unsheltered neighbors, we hosted Cardboard Village for a second year! Youth ate a soup kitchen style meal, prepared by SPY Kids, listened to real accounts of individuals experiencing homelessness, and built their own cardboard house in the parking lot to sleep in over night. This event is for educational purposes, so that our Youth and families may experience and learn the difficulties those experiencing homelessness combat on a daily basis.



Halloween Carnival

Mark Your Calendars for October 20!

Get ready for a fun-filled afternoon at our Halloween Carnival on October 20 at 4:00pm! This exciting event is a family favorite featuring costumes, games, candy, and festive activities for all ages. There will be a Trunk or Treat, too! More details coming soon! Contact Elizabeth Cahoon with questions at elizabethcahoon@secondpreslr.org.

Donate to Second Presbyterian Church's Sock Drive!
Please bring any size socks to be donated to CANVAS Community. In partnership with *Second Presbyterian Preschool*, we are collecting throughout the month of October. Last year, we were able to donate over 400 pairs of socks! Let's keep it up, Second Pres! Contact Doug Barr for more information at (901)606-6292.



CONFIRMATION 2025

SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS



Adult Leadership:
 Marie Holder - Teacher
 Ann Burnside - Teacher
 Alex Honeycutt - Field Trip Coordinator
 Elizabeth Cahoon - Youth Pastor



October

- 10/6 9:45AM Class - Second Presbyterian Day
- 10/13 9:45AM Class - Heretics R Us
- 10/20 9:45AM Class - A Made Dash through the Bible
- 10/27 9:00AM Field Trip - Greek Orthodox Church

Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church
 1100 Napa Valley Drive Little Rock, AR 72211
 Worship @ 10:00-11:30AM



2025 Confirmation Class and Mentors

Sunday School
 Sundays
 MS Class
 HS Class
 9:45-10:45AM
 Youth Building

Confirmation
 Sundays
 8th Graders
 9:45-10:45AM
 Youth Building

Youth Group
 Sundays
 4:30-6:30 MS
 6:00-6:30 Dinner
 6:00-8:00 HS
 Youth Building

YOUTH MINISTRY
 Regular Programming

MS GIRLS
MS Girls Bible Study
 Wednesdays
 5:30-6:30PM
 Library

MS BOYS
MS Boys Small Group
 Coming soon!

HS
HS Small Group
 Wednesdays
 7:00-8:00PM
 The Hankins

Contact Elizabeth Cahoon
 for more information
elizabethcahoon@secondpreslr.org

NOVEMBER 7 — 10 2024

ADULT QUAKE '24

COST: FOR NOV. 8, FRIDAY - NOV. 10, SUNDAY
 \$275 (DOUBLE) // \$380 (SINGLE)

W/ OPTIONAL ADD-ON -- NOV. 7, THURSDAY
 (\$125, DOUBLE // \$175 SINGLE)

NEED FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE?
 COUPON CODES ARE AVAILABLE! EMAIL SARAH@SARAHLEER.COM

LifeQuest of Arkansas
 An endless passion for living and learning

LifeQuest will celebrate our Founders Day on October 23 by honoring Chuck Chappell, Bob and Norma Moore, and David Miller. Join us for lunch by making your reservation by Sunday, October 20: 501-225-6073.

Registration for Winter Term opens on December 10 on the LifeQuest website: lifequestofarkansas.org

Bring a friend to LifeQuest! Come visit for a day for free to see LifeQuesters in action! Come by the LifeQuest Office to get a temporary nametag. Office hours are Monday – Thursday, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Life Together in September

September was full of meaningful activities—from SPY Cardboard Village and YouthQuake to the Blessing of the Animals, property work day, fellowship events, and thanking David Beach for his 30+ years at Second Pres.



Peace and Possibilities: Practical Preparation for End of Life



A Guide to Funeral Planning
Second Presbyterian Church

I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord.
John 11:25

Peace and Possibilities, our guide to end of life and funeral planning, has recently been updated and reprinted. Our aim is to provide helpful resources so that you can prepare your loved ones with helpful information they will eventually need. Whatever your age, stage, and health, having your affairs in order is an act of love you can provide your loved ones. You can pick up the new Peace and Possibilities booklet at the church front desk. If you wish to meet with a pastor to “pre-plan” your memorial service, contact Rev. Alisa Secrest for consultation and filing your preferences with the church.



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Facing grief? Come to the monthly Faith and Grief community support group for encouragement and listening. It is a safe place to sit and listen and a safe place to name your loved one, if you like. We meet the third Tuesday of the month in Second Hall at Noon. The next meeting will be **Tuesday, October 15**. Lunch is available. Please let us know of your plans to attend by registering through the office or at faithandgrief.org.

Stephen Ministry

*CELEBRATING 32 YEARS OF STEPHEN MINISTRY AT SECOND PRESBYTERIAN!
commissioned May, 1992*

If you or someone you know is hurting and you would like more information about receiving Stephen Ministry care, please contact any of our Stephen Leaders.

Kay Combs 501-517-5007

Cathy Crass 501-951-5890

Laurie Stueart 501-658-7966

Jana Villemez 501-517-1474

Laura Cook 501-580-0454

Rev. Alisa Secrest 501-227-0000

Those Serving Our Country

Taylor Douglas, son of Susan & Kevin Douglas – San Diego, CA

Jackson Hudkins, son of Jay Hudkins and Becky Latch, RAF Lakenheath, Suffolk, England

Greer Johnson, daughter of Cory and Stephanie Johnson, granddaughter of Kelly & Judy Johnson - Air Force Academy, CO

Jonathan Johnson, grandson of Helen Scott, nephew of Clarke & Cindy Scott Huisman – stationed in CO

Daniel Jones, Marjorie Watkins' nephew, Sarah Ceja's cousin – stationed in Offut AFB, NE

Kyle Rought, Mary Ibis' cousin – stationed in Fort Hood, TX

Cogan Wade – Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune

Bulletin Board

Hospitalized (*Discharged) Susan Badgett, *Ken Cook, *Leah Shell, *Mary Louise Wilson, *Kristin Agar, *Katherine King, *Ed Rogers, *Carolyn Scruggs, *Tom Hicks, *JoAnn McQuade, *George Preiss, *Nancy Hamlin, *Judi Short

We celebrate with Anderson Bass and Kelcee Rosslan on their wedding 9/7/24. Parents are Debbie and Rob Bass; Joanne Riddick on the birth of a new great-grandson born in Ft. Worth. Austin and Vanessa Schoessel on the birth of a new son, Samson John Schoessel. Grandparents are Susan & Bryan Davis and great grandmother Robin Orsi; Barbie Stutts on the arrival of her grandson Ellis Edward Bock on 9/24 to daughter Callie and her husband Adam Bock.

Our sympathy goes to Rod Neal and family on the death of his wife Carolyn Neal on 9/15. Jerry Herron and family on the death of his wife Betty Herron on 10/1.

We would appreciate your help in keeping the church office informed when there is a sickness in your family, when someone is in the hospital, or a death has occurred. Please also keep us updated on the sickness or concern so that the information we have on our Care and Concern Line is accurate. Members and friends can call the Care and Concern Line, (501) 227-6117, on weekdays to receive information about prayer concerns in our church family. We will honor all requests for confidentiality, but in order for us to offer pastoral care we need to be aware of your situation. We also want to know about the joys, accomplishments and achievements of members of the church. Please call Alisa Secrest or Tracy May in the church office with information, (501) 227-0000, or e-mail alisasecrest@secondpreslr.org or tracymay@secondpreslr.org. Thanks for your help!

Sunday Online Worship Service
Available beginning at 11:00am at secondpreslr.org

Second Pres Staff

Pastor Rev. Dr. Benjamin E.E. Kane	Assistant Director for Children and Families Ministry Maggie Kirchner	Administrative Associates Karin Howze
Associate Pastors Rev. Alisa Secrest Rev. Lindy Vogado Rev. Elizabeth Cahoon	Interim Assistant Music Director Melanie Hanna Ezell	Tracy May Carrie Johnson
Parish Associate Dr. Robert Williamson	Organist Adam Savacool	Food Service Manager Brenda Majors
Director of Music and the Arts Dr. Bevan Keating	Business Administrator Aileen Moore	Child Care Coordinator Karin Howze
Director of Children and Families Ministry Doug Barr	Director of Planned Giving Malinda Kirchner	Sextons Logan Humphrey Janie Rash
	Facilities Manager Guy Howze	
	Facilities Consultant David Beach	



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Office: (501) 227-0000
Care/Concern: (501) 227-6117
www.secondpreslr.org

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Giving to Second Pres

Your generosity is a meaningful expression of your faith in God and your commitment to Christ's work in the world. Contributions can be made to the Annual Budget, Memorial Gifts and the Birthday Fund.

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OFFERING PLATE
 You may place your offering in the offering plate during Worship
- 
BY MAIL
 Church Office, 600 Pleasant Valley Drive
 Little Rock, AR 72227
- 
ONLINE
 Scan the QR Code or visit secondpreslr.org/give



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