



From the Pastor's Desk

I'm so ready for this to be over.

Have you said those exact words recently? It could be in reference to the election that's happening on November 5th; it could have been something you said while waiting for the doctor to visit with you after a scan; it could be in reference to a sporting event for a child or grandchild (we've all been there!); it could be something you've said as a child waiting for your parents to leave church/work/school. It is the waiting that's hard.



As Christians we are a people who wait. That doesn't mean we are good at it or that we enjoy it. What it means is that we are a people who have incorporated into our theology and practice the need to wait. To wait for Jesus to return; to wait for God to hear our prayers; to wait for the next worship service; to wait for God's reign to come to fruition. In addition, there is the waiting for the sting and pain of death to subside, the joy to diminish following a birth or wedding, or the wondering about what might come next after a big decision.

What we've also incorporated into our theology is that we don't wait alone. And we incorporate that into our theology because if we read through scripture we quickly notice that humans experience all that life can offer – joy, pain, suffering, excitement, relief, hope (to name a few) – and in each instance, God is there with us. As we enter this month of November and begin to look to December (I can sense some of you wanting to put up those Christmas trees!), let us remember who we are and whose we are.

We are a people who wait; and we are a people who do not wait alone.

Siblings in Christ, I know there are moments we want to pass quickly. They are painful because the waiting can feel like it is too much, and you can't do anything else. I also know that Christ created the church for a reason – to be a physical manifestation of the truth of the gospel: That we don't wait alone. We wait together in worship every Sunday, in our small groups and Bible studies, at the Fall Fellowship gatherings, in prayer, in care we provide to one another, and when we show up for one another.

In my Pastoral Care and Theology Class in seminary, I marveled at a fellow student who succinctly summarized what we'd learned. Over the course of the semester, we listened to our professor reveal all the challenges to providing pastoral care as well as all the joys. We'd read books and articles and done countless one-on-one and group sessions to understand how to be there for our future congregants and on the last day of class she said, "So it sounds like pastoral care is showing up, asking, 'How are you?' and then listening."

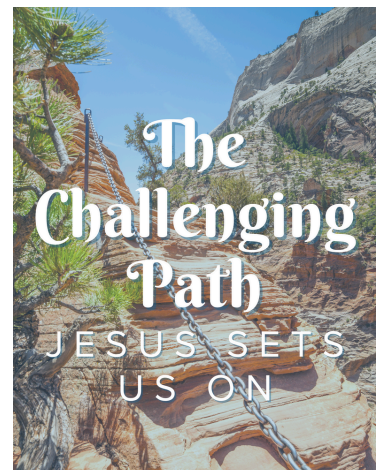
That's it – that's how we wait with one another and God. May it be so.

In Christ,
Rev. Ben

Preaching Series

This life of discipleship to which Jesus calls us isn't easy. As we'll see in this preaching series, we'll experience storms, desires for greatness, great expectations from Christ, and a familiar story that reminds us of what it means to be a neighbor. Join us as we explore how challenging the path is that Jesus sets us on – and how he accompanies us every step of the way.

- Oct. 27: Luke 8:22-25 *Jibe Ho*
- Nov. 3: Luke 9:18-27 *The Messiah Among the Saints*
- Nov. 10: Luke 9:46-48 *True Greatness is Whimsical*
- Nov. 17: Luke 10:1-12, 17-20 *Here's What You'll Be Doing...*
- Nov. 24: Luke 10:25-37 *Won't You Be My Neighbor?*



Notable News



Stewardship Appeal 2025

Our 2025 Stewardship Appeal continues today, and we are grateful to God for all those who've pledged and invite those who haven't to prayerfully consider completing an Estimate of Giving card.

Don't forget to include your decade for the *Decades Challenge*! We'll celebrate the decade with the most participation at the Hanging of the Greens breakfast on **December 1**.

Return your Estimate of Giving card so your decade can win! You can use the QR code to make your 2025 Estimate of Giving, or go to the church website.



Habitat for Humanity Honor

Second Pres is being honored by Habitat for Humanity of Central Arkansas's at its annual Gratitude Gathering this month for our long history as a founding partner of the Central Arkansas chapter. Many thanks to our numerous church members who have been active leaders and volunteers for Habitat for Humanity. Habitat for Humanity is one of the many organizations our church supports each year through our Outreach Ministry.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY
of Central Arkansas



The Reverend Maggie Johnson Phillips

Congratulations to Reverend Maggie Johnson Phillips on her Ordination as Minister of Word and Sacrament in the PC(USA) and installation as Associate Pastor of Young Adults and Worship Arts at Village Presbyterian Church in Prairie Village, KS on October 20, 2024. Maggie, son of Carrie and Michael Johnson, and sister to Nora and Cade, grew up at Second Pres and was actively involved in its children and youth activities and ministries. She was a youth elder and on the SPC staff, too. Congrats, Maggie!



Congratulations, Matt!



Matt Hancock, son of former Second Pres pastor Rev. Steve and Missie Hancock, has been inducted into the University of North Alabama Athletic Hall of Fame. The induction ceremony was October 12, and Missie and Steve were able to attend, as well as a number of other family members, friends, and former teammates.

Connect & Learn

Second Hall Sunday School *An Exploration of Genesis* Sundays in November 9:45am

Dr. Robert (Bobby) Williamson, Jr.
Professor of Religious Studies at Hendrix College



Stephen Ministry Training Class Begins in January

Stephen Ministry is a lay ministry that provides care and outreach to people who are hurting. Stephen Ministers meet weekly with their care receiver to listen, care, pray and embody God's presence in the person's life.

We are currently recruiting new people to join our training class which will begin in January.

Are you compassionate? A good listener? Supportive? Empathetic? These are all skills that Stephen Ministers use in our caring relationships. However, no one has every gift and that's where training comes in. At the end of training, you will have learned many new relationship skills that will equip you to confidently serve someone who is hurting.

Choose to believe that God can use any of your gifts that you offer to Him. God isn't asking you to be anyone other than who he designed you to be. No matter who you are, watch with humble amazement as God uses your willing, obedient, ordinary life to accomplish extraordinary things in His name.

Sign up today for Stephen Minister training by calling the church office. For more information, talk with Rev. Alisa Secrest alisasecrest@secondpreslr.org.

Usher and Greeter Sign Up



We all have hands. Hands can wave. Hands can shake other hands. Hands can shake other hands. 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

Did you know... about Second Presbyterian's first building?

Second Presbyterian's first building is located at the northwest corner of 4th and State streets in Little Rock. On November 21, 1882, the Arkansas Gazette noted that "The church is small, but a gem in its way, combining beauty and comfort at once. It is a great convenience to dwellers in the west end, who reside a mile or two from the First Presbyterian Church, on Scott Street, and allows them to worship at their own doors, as it were." The building remained the home of Second Presbyterian until 1925 when the congregation moved to 3rd and Gaines and the building became home to the Church of Christ. 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!



Presbyterian Women November 2024

Let's Be Thankful! It's Birthday Time! In 1888, the Women's General Missionary Society called upon women to give a "thank offering to her Lord" and support mission initiatives at home and abroad. Today we continue to answer that call through support of the PW Thank Offering. When we come together to pool our money as Presbyterian Women we can make a much greater impact than we can on our own. With the help of this money, babies receive a warm welcome in the world, children and youth are cared for, and vulnerable people encounter the love of God through people who accompany and advocate for them.



Presbyterian Women's Phoebe and Martha Circles will meet **Tuesday, November 12** at 10:30am in Second Hall and the Thank Offering will be received. Anna Circle will meet on Sunday, November 17 at the home of Catherine Allsbury, 32 Kanis Creek Place. For more information, contact Emily Hall at emily1hall@icloud.com or Alisa Secrest at alisasecrest@secondpreslr.org.

1st and 3rd Bible Study

Mondays, November 4 and 18 from 9:30-11am in Second Hall. We are 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.

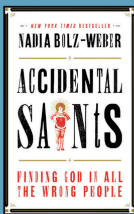
The reason we are using Nadia's book is that she is the 2024 Cotham Lecturer at Westover Hills Presbyterian Church on November 16 and 17. Churches and Bible studies across Little Rock are reading Nadia's book in preparation for her leading the lecture.

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!).

1st and 3rd Bible Study

STUDYING REV. NADIA BOLZ-WEBER'S
BOOK, ACCIDENTAL SAINTS



NEXT MEETINGS ARE NOVEMBER 4 & 11
9:30-11:00 AM | SECOND HALL

Connect & Learn Continued

The Merry Widows

Merry Widows will have two (2) lunches in November – early in the month, so we don't crash into the Thanksgiving! Widows are invited to join for lunch on one of these dates, depending on their schedules. **November 9** and **16**, 2024; 11:30 a.m.

Meeting Place in November: U.S. Pizza Co. in the Heights (corner of Kavanaugh and Taylor) Please contact Anne Crow (501-554-1603) or Catherine Allsbury (501-256-3452) so we know how many to expect.



Cheeses With Jesus



CWJ meets on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday evenings each month. New this year is the 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. Next meetings: **November 13**: 32 Kanis Creek Place and **November 14**, 1 Cape Cod Court. Topic: Poverty and Wealth in Luke. Please contact Catherine Allsbury (revbury@gmail.com) or Justin Villines (villinesjustin@gmail.com) for more information.

Jingle Jam!

Junior Artist Ministry (JAM)

Participants in JAM will be sharing a song of gratitude on November 10 in worship. Jingle JAM starts **November 13**. Each year the children (ages K-5th grade) at Second Pres present the Christmas story in worship. Beginning November 13, JAM will be preparing the Symbols of Christmas for December 22. This is a much larger presentation and will need all hands-on deck to pull it off well. Please consider signing up for the JINGLE JAM Series Nov. 13 - Dec. 18. \$25 per child to cover the cost of food. Use the QR code to register or contact Doug Barr at (901) 606-6292. Now is the time to join the Junior Artist Ministry!



SPY Kids Pumpkin Bread Baking

Join us **November 17** from 3:30 - 4:30pm in The Great Hall kitchen as we make pumpkin bread for our friends at home. Bring a mixing bowl, a utensil (whisk or spatula), and invite a grandparent to help us out in the kitchen! Its a great way to work together for the benefit of the church family.





Hanging of the Greens December 1

Welcome Advent with a festive breakfast, decorating the church, and communion worship.

**Breakfast at 9:00 a.m.
Decorating the Church at 9:45 a.m.
Single Worship Service 11:00 a.m.**

Scan QR Code
to Register



Please register for breakfast
\$10 per adult
\$5 for kids over 3

Second Presbyterian Church Environmental Stewardship November Tips

We throw away 2.5 million plastic bottles every hour (22 billion plastic bottles every year)! If you use a disposable container, prepackaged food, and disposable forks for lunch, you will make between 4 - 8 ounces of garbage every day, that's 45 - 90 pounds of garbage per year! So give a reusable lunch a try.



- Carry your lunch in a lunch box, a reusable bag or at least a brown bag made from recycled paper.
- Try a reusable container for your drinks.
- Use reusable containers for your sandwiches and desserts.
- Use reusable forks, spoons and knives or wash plastic ware and use it again.
- If you are hosting Thanksgiving Dinner, encourage your guests to bring reusable containers for leftovers. Then you won't need to use disposable containers to send leftovers home.

For more information, you can see also:

<https://www.cbf.org/document-library/education/Eco-tip-reusable-lunch-box373c.pdf>

<https://www.recycleacrossamerica.org/recycling-facts>

Second Sunday Lunch: November 10

Second Sunday lunch will be Sunday, **November 10**, in the Great Hall. The menu is: meatloaf, mashed potatoes, green beans and carrot cake. You can register with the QR code, on the church website or by calling the church office. We hope to see you there!



Second
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Second Sunday Lunch

November 10 in the Great Hall

YOUTH MINISTRY

November 2024



SPY LOCK IN

Join us for the Annual SPY Lock In on November 8th over in the Youth Building. Arrive at 6:00PM for make your own pizzas, midnight outing, games and movies all night. This is for Middle and High School students.



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.





HALLOWEEN CARNIVAL

We want to thank our 75+ volunteers for helping host this year's Halloween Carnival! The joy of this community is infectious!

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

November

- 11/3 9:45AM Class - The Lord's Prayer with Alisa
- 11/10 No Class (Youth Lock In Weekend)
- 11/17 9:45AM Class - The Apostle & Nicene Creed with Lindy
- 11/24 9:45AM Class - Church History



Acolytes

4th-8th Graders

Acolyte | Beadle | Crucifer



Life Together in October



October was full of joy and community at Second Pres! From children leading us in World Communion Sunday worship to our Fall Gatherings to the Pride Parade to the Halloween Carnival and Trunk or Treat and exciting SPY events, we loved every moment spent together.

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

1 | Page

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.



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, November 12**. 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) *Joanne Riddick, *Rebecca Boggs, *Susan Badgett, *David Beach, *Sarah Broyles, *Margo Shoffner, *Dave Grunewald, *Bob McQuade, *Sam Highsmith, *Alan Bell, *Grady McCoy, *Collins Andrews, *Aileen Moore

We celebrate with Guy and Karin Howze in the birth of a grandson Dakota Alan Adams on 10/3. Parents are Jody and Veronica Adams; Turner Lloyd and Ella Taylor who were married on 10/5. Parents are Amy and John Lloyd; Carrie and Mike Johnson, Nora, Maggie and Cade, on the ordination of Maggie Johnson Phillips 10/20 as a Minister of Word and Sacrament and her installation as Associate Pastor for Village Presbyterian Church in Kansas City; Kyle Christenson and Eberle Yarborough who were married 10/19. Parents are Matt and Monica Christenson; Jim and Bea Malcolm on the wedding of their daughter, Anna, who got married 10/19. Christian Huisman and Ashley Nipps on their wedding on 11/2. Parents are Clarke and Cindy Scott Huisman. Grandmother is Helen Scott.

Our sympathy goes to Jerry Herron on the death of his wife Betty Herron on 10/1; Brian and Kathryn McMillian on the death of Brian's father Bud McMillian on 10/4; Sandra Rogers on the death of her step mother Susie Gearing from Livingston, TX; Craig Rookey in the death of his sister Lorene Magenheimer; Sandy Newberg in the death of her husband Dick Newberg on 10/23; Helen Claire Brooks and Katherine Lawson in the death of husband and father Teryl Brooks on 10/26; Dudley and Linda Shollmier in the death of Dudley's brother Ken Shollmier; Susan Woodyard on the death of her sister Mary Carolyn Ross from Amarillo, TX; Hallie and Craig Rookey, Stephen, Christopher, Shannon, and Deborah in the death of mother and grandmother Hallie Simmins on 10/29. Rob and Debbie Bass, Anderson and Walter and family in the death of mother and grandmother Joan Bass on 11/1.

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

Associate Pastors

Rev. Alisa Secrest

Rev. Lindy Vogado

Rev. Elizabeth Cahoon

Parish Associate

Dr. Robert Williamson

Director of Music and the Arts

Dr. Bevan Keating

Director of Children and Families Ministry

Doug Barr

Assistant Director for

Children and Families Ministry

Maggie Kirchner

Interim Assistant Music Director

Melanie Hanna Ezell

Organist

Adam Savacool

Business Administrator

Aileen Moore

Director of Planned Giving

Malinda Kirchner

Facilities Manager

Guy Howze

Facilities Consultant

David Beach

Administrative Associates

Karin Howze

Carrie Johnson

Tracy May

Food Service Manager

Brenda Majors

Child Care Coordinator

Karin Howze

Sextons

Logan Humphrey

Janie Rash



600 Pleasant Valley Dr.
Little Rock, AR 72227

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

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 1744
Little Rock, Arkansas

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.



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



Second
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

November 6, 2024

Second Press

A publication of Second Presbyterian Church
in Little Rock, Arkansas