

Second Life

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2018

WEDNESDAY EVENING LENTEN STUDY: SIDEWAYS GLANCES AT THE SEVEN DEADLY SINS

On Wednesday evenings during Lent, through a different lens each week, we will look at the seven deadly sins. Please join us at 5:45 p.m. for a meal from Parish Chef Helen Pribesh (\$5 per person, kids 6 & under FREE) and then for a different and distinct program each week.



Wednesday, February 14: Ash Wednesday
LUST: "Giving Love a Bad Name: David, Bathsheba, and 7 Deadly Sins"
(2 Sam. 11:1-12:8)

Join us for our meal at 5:45, some singing of love songs in the fellowship hall from 6:25-6:40 (it is, after all, Valentine's Day as well), and then our Ash Wednesday service in the sanctuary, which highlights how King David's missteps and snowballing sin help us—during Lent—to look at our own lives.

Wednesday, February 21

ENVY: FROM CONFLICT TO PEACE IN MODERN ISRAEL: CHALLENGES IN DAILY LIFE with Nancy Chapman and Craig Wansink

Join Craig and Nancy as they reflect on some of their personal experiences in Israel (during their January tour and travels there), including their reflections on envy and some fascinating challenges in that country:

Why have Christian priests viciously attacked each other in Jerusalem's Church of the Holy Sepulcher? Why are Bibles not allowed on the Temple Mount? Why do some ultra-orthodox Jewish men throw chairs at women who pray at the Western Wall? What is so controversial about where the U.S. embassy to Israel is located? What constitutes "Jewishness" and who determines that?



Wednesday, February 28

ANGER: GOD'S STORY, OUR STORY with Judy Tressel

In "God's Story, Our Story" members of the Second family offer personal stories on their faith and life. These talks create meaningful opportunities for greater understanding and connection, encouraging each of us to think about what has shaped us and given our own life meaning. Join Judy Tressel as she reflects on her spiritual journey.

REJOICING WITH AVA

Out of 190 applications, Ava Libbey was chosen for one of 36 positions in the Senate Page program. For nine weeks she is working in Richmond from 8:30 to 5:00, on Monday through Thursday, and then for half a day each Friday. She is home each weekend for just enough time to have her uniform laundered and pressed. When you see her, Ashley, Vickie, or Tom, please offer your congratulations. We are so proud of Ava and excited for her to have this experience.



FROM THE PASTOR: THE SEVEN DEADLY SINS

In the early 1970s, Karl Menninger wrote a classic book entitled *Whatever Became of Sin?* The book highlighted the ways in which people have stopped framing weaknesses and faults in their lives as “sin.” But sin absolutely is a reality. We can’t focus on it too much; we need to focus on moving beyond it. But we also can’t ignore that which leads us astray from God. Maxie Dunnam and Kimberly Dunnam Reisman, in a book entitled *The Workbook on the Seven Deadly Sins*, remind us of how each of these sins can cause decay, weakness, and corruption in our lives. The following quotations in particular stand out to me, because each one makes me pause and think.

—SLOTH: “Laziness prevents us from loving. Loving requires decision; it’s a matter of the will. We decide to love . . . If love were feeling, Jesus couldn’t command us to love.”

—AVARICE: “Avarice is self-love in one of its most perverted forms. It is protecting ourselves and hoarding what we have. We can hold a penny so close to our eye that it blocks out the sun. Avarice does that. It blocks out the light and concern for others. We have never known a happy miser.”

—LUST: “Lust is the craving for salt of a person who is dying of thirst.” (Frederick Buechner)

—GLUTTONY: “Gluttony has no perspective; it is excessive and preoccupied with satisfying self. Feasting keeps perspective; it celebrates God’s bounty, and encourages eating with a grateful heart and sharing with others.”

—PRIDE: “Genuine humility is never weak. . . . We make a big mistake when we begin to think that sinful pride can be overcome through self-contempt. That’s not humility. Humility enhances our self-worth and makes us more like Christ.”

—ENVY: “Envy is calculating; love and mercy are not . . . Not only does envy refuse to recognize God’s goodness to us, it refuses to rejoice in God’s goodness to others.”

—ANGER: “We must always seek to be sure that our anger is righteous and our indignation moral. George Matheson prayed, ‘O Lord, Thou knowest that I do well to be angry, but I have mistaken the times.’ That may be the right prayer for all of us.”

Each week as we gather and join in the communal confession of sin, part of what we are doing is recognizing that sin gets in the way of our relationships with others and with God. Part of what we are doing is acknowledging that we were created by God, for God, and that our hearts find no true rest until we find ourselves in God. Please join us this Lent in worship, in Sunday School, and on Wednesday evenings.

With blessings,
Pastor Craig



WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP DINNER VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY



After almost 10 years of coordinating the dinners for the women’s fellowship, Arlene Baragona would like to offer this volunteer opportunity to other women. The Women’s Evening Fellowship dinner is on the 4th Monday of every month at 6PM where women gather to relax, enjoy a meal together in a local restaurant, discuss their lives, and share prayer concerns. If you are interested in coordinating these monthly dinners, please see Arlene Baragona. Thank you!

SERMON SERIES

AMERICAN IDOLS: OVERCOMING 7 OF OUR MOST FAVORITE SINS

Gluttony, Envy, Lust, Pride, Sloth, Anger, and Greed. Since the Middle Ages, Christianity has pointed to these sins or tendencies as separating us—or ripping us away—from God. Most of these sins represent good gifts from God that we have a tendency to misuse. During the seven weeks of Lent, join us as we focus on the gifts beyond the sin, as we consider how we can live lives worthy of our calling.

Feb. 18 **“Godliness Combined with Contentment”**: Beyond Greed

(Matthew 6:19-24; 1 Tim. 6:6-10)

Feb. 25 **“You Will Be Like God”**: Beyond Envy

(1 Samuel 18:1-16; Mark 9:30-37; Matthew 5:1-12)

Mar. 4 **“Man Shall Not Live on Bread Alone”**: Beyond Gluttony

(Proverbs 23:1-3, 19-21; Luke 7:33-34; Matthew 4:1-11)

Mar. 11 **“Do All Things through Him”**: Beyond Sloth

(Proverbs 6:6-11; Philippians 4:8-13)

Mar. 18 **“I Am My Beloved’s”**: Beyond Lust

(Song of Songs 7:10-13; 1 Thessalonians 4:1-8; Matthew 5:27-28)

Mar. 25 PALM SUNDAY **“Seeking How to Destroy Him”**: Beyond Anger

(Matthew 5:21-22; James 1:19-20; Mark 11:15-18)

Apr. 1 EASTER SUNDAY **“Emptied Himself”**: Beyond Pride

(Luke 18:9-14; Phil. 2:4-11)



FAITHFUL NEIGHBORS BLOOD DRIVE AT TEMPLE ISRAEL



LOCATION ADDRESS: 7255 Granby St, Norfolk, VA 23505

PHONE NUMBER: (757) 489-4550

DATE: SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4

TIME: 9:30AM - 2:30PM

Every year Second helps to host two “Faithful Neighbors” blood drives with Temple Israel. On Sunday, February 4 the drive will be at Temple Israel. Please consider saving lives by donating blood. You can call Temple Israel to make an appointment, or go to www.redcrossblood.org and enter: “faithful” to schedule. Please note, you do not have to have an appointment to give blood. You can simply show up the day of the drive and they will fit you in their schedule!

Also, Temple Israel normally supplies Second with volunteers for our drive, and *they are requesting one morning volunteer for their drive*. If you are interested in this opportunity, please contact Alice Allen-Grimes at jgrimesiv@cox.net or 622-0372.

MIDDLE/SENIOR HIGH YOUTH: FEBRUARY ACTIVITY

Please be on the lookout for news on the February youth activity. Emails and an announcement will be made within the upcoming week. If there are any questions, please be in touch with Philip Ndahi. 757-752-3307

MISSION OPPORTUNITIES AT SECOND



There are many opportunities for assisting missions this winter.

In February, around Valentine's Day, the Women of the Church plan to collect for Links of Love. Links of Love is sponsored by Presbyterian Women in our synod to benefit the Sunnyside retirement communities in western Virginia. Every penny raised goes directly to resident support, in particular the Fellowship Fund which helps residents purchase little "luxuries" (like slippers or a soda when they've run out of money).

Second will partner with Royster Memorial to host Norfolk Emergency Shelter Team (NEST) guests from Wednesday evening, March 14 to Wednesday morning, March 21. NEST Coordinator Carolyn Clark will be recruiting folks for hosting evening meals, registration and overnight monitoring.

Other volunteer opportunities are listed in the table of volunteer opportunities included with this newsletter.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL: 9:45 -10:30 a.m., Fellowship Hall SINNING LIKE A CHRISTIAN / THE WORKBOOK ON THE 7 DEADLY SINS

Join a number of different members of our congregation, along with Rev. Catherine Hart Monroe, as they lead us in a study of the seven deadly sins. These discussions will grow out of Will Willimon's book *Sinning Like a Christian* and Maxie Dunam and Kimberly Dunnam Reisman's *The Workbook on the 7 Deadly Sins*. Be a part of an important study, as we seek to deepen what we experience in worship.



ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (5 YEAR OLDS THROUGH 5TH GRADERS) SUNDAY SCHOOL (Sunday mornings, 9:45-10:30 a.m.) BEYOND THE SEVEN DEADLY SINS THROUGH THE STORIES OF JESUS

Join Pastor Craig, Philip Ndahi, and important helpers (including our youth) as we think about the things that lead us astray and—through the stories of Jesus—how God helps us grow. Join us in the large upstairs Sunday School room, each Sunday at 9:45 a.m.!

AT VIRGINIA WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY

February 27

When God Isn't Green: A World-wide Journey to Places Where Religious Practice and Environmentalism Collide

Tuesday, 11 AM – 12 PM Blocker Hall Auditorium

Law professor and humorist **Jay Wexler** writes that . . .

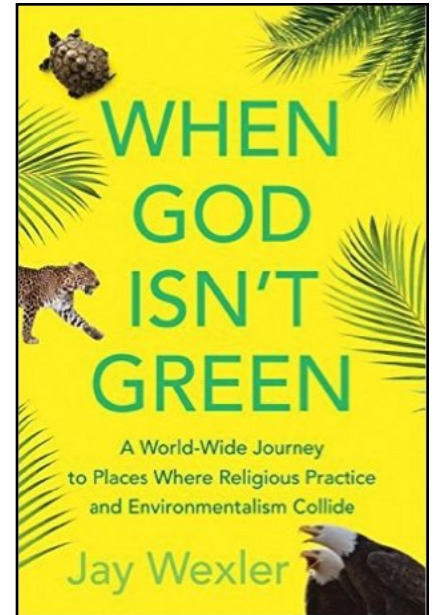
-In New York, Miami, and other large US cities, Santeria followers sprinkle mercury in their apartments to fend off witches, poisoning those homes for years to come.

-In Central America, palm frond sales to US customers for Palm Sunday celebrations have helped decimate the rain forests of Guatemala and southern Mexico.

-In Israel, on Lag B'omer, a holiday commemorating a famous rabbi, Jews make so many bonfires that the smoke can be seen from space, and trips to the emergency room for asthma and other pulmonary conditions spike.

Those are only three examples of Wexler's exploration around the globe, in his asking "Can religious practice and environmentalism coexist?" Join us as he addresses that question at Virginia Wesleyan.

Jay Wexler is a professor at the Boston University School of Law, where he's taught church-state law and environmental law since 2001.



PIPE ORGAN AT SECOND

Join us for the second Sunday of each month—January through April—as our friend Dr. James Kosnik helps lead us in worship.



There is definitely a place for YOU at Second Presbyterian!

FEBRUARY 2018

Thursday, February 1
Essentrics Exercise Class - 1:00PM [Fellowship Hall]
Women's Bible Study - 2:00PM [Library]

Friday, February 2
Men's Breakfast - 7:00AM [d'Egg]

Saturday, February 3

Marty Terry's Birthday

Sunday, February 4
Discipleship Classes - 9:45AM [SPC]
Choir Rehearsal - 10:30AM [Choir Room]

Faithful Neighbors Blood Drive - 9:30AM to 2:30PM [Temple Israel]
Worship - 11:00AM [Sanctuary]
Session Retreat - 1:00PM [Church of the Good Shepherd]
SAA - 7:00PM [Fellowship Hall]

Monday, February 5
Al-Anon - 7:30PM [Fellowship Hall]

Tuesday, February 6
SAA - 12:00PM [Fellowship Hall]

Wednesday, February 7
Men's Bible Study - 6:30AM [Fellowship Hall]
Choir Rehearsal - 7:30PM [Sanctuary]
SAA - 7:30PM [Library]

Thursday, February 8
Essentrics Exercise Class - 1:00PM [Fellowship Hall]
Women's Bible Study - 2:00PM [Library]
Handbell Practice - 7:00PM [Upstairs Classroom]

Friday, February 9

Sam Stearns & Peggy McPhillips' Birthday
Men's Breakfast - 7:00AM [d'Egg]
Sandwich Making - 12:00PM [Fellowship Hall]

Saturday, February 10

Sean Franklin & Alice Allen-Grimes' Birthday
Second Saturday - 9:00AM [PPCLC, SPC, & PPUMC]

Sunday, February 11
Linda West & Mildred Berryman's Birthday
Discipleship Classes - 9:45AM [SPC]
Choir Rehearsal - 10:30AM [Choir Room]
Worship with Dr. Kosnik - 11:00AM [Sanctuary]
SAA - 7:00PM [Fellowship Hall]

Monday, February 12
Al-Anon - 7:30PM [Fellowship Hall]

Tuesday, February 13
Triple S Circle - 10:30AM [Fellowship Hall]
SAA - 12:00PM [Upstairs Classroom]

Wednesday, February 14 ASH WEDNESDAY
Men's Bible Study - 6:30AM [Fellowship Hall]
Wednesday Night R&R - 5:45PM [Fellowship Hall]
Ash Wednesday Service - 6:45PM [Sanctuary]
Choir Rehearsal - 7:30PM [Sanctuary]
SAA - 7:30PM [Library]

Thursday, February 15
Michael Finch & Anne Baylor's Birthday
Essentrics Exercise Class - 1:00PM [Fellowship Hall]
Women's Bible Study - 2:00PM [Library]
Handbell Practice - 7:00PM [Upstairs Classroom]

Friday, February 16
Ben Foster's Birthday
Men's Breakfast - 7:00AM [d'Egg]

Saturday, February 17

Sunday, February 18
Discipleship Classes - 9:45AM [SPC]
Choir Rehearsal - 10:30AM [Choir Room]
Worship - 11:00AM [Sanctuary]
SAA - 7:00PM [Fellowship Hall]

Monday, February 19 PRESIDENT'S DAY
Catherine Hart Monroe & Phil Lingamfelter's Birthday
Men's Evening Fellowship - 6:00PM [Orapax]

Tuesday, February 20
SAA - 12:00PM [Fellowship Hall]
Session Meeting - 6:00PM [Fellowship Hall]

Wednesday, February 21
Men's Bible Study - 6:30AM [Fellowship Hall]
SAA - 7:00PM [Library]
Wednesday Night R&R - 5:45PM [Fellowship Hall]
Choir Rehearsal - 7:30PM [Sanctuary]
SAA - 7:30PM [Library]

Thursday, February 22
Essentrics Exercise Class - 1:00PM [Fellowship Hall]
Women's Bible Study - 2:00PM [Library]
Handbell Practice - 7:00PM [Upstairs Classroom]

Friday, February 23
Men's Breakfast - 7:00AM [d'Egg]

Saturday, February 24
Bill Wooldridge's Birthday

Sunday, February 25
Alice Wang's Birthday
Discipleship Classes - 9:45AM [SPC]
Choir Rehearsal - 10:30AM [Choir Room]
Worship - 11:00AM [Sanctuary]
SAA - 7:00PM [Fellowship Hall]

Monday, February 26
Women's Evening Fellowship - 6:00PM [Mack's Barge]
Al-Anon - 7:30PM [Fellowship Hall]

Tuesday, February 27
SAA - 12:00PM [Fellowship Hall]
VWU Lecture - 11AM [Blocker Hall Auditorium]

Wednesday, February 28
John Cabeen & Lisa Drago's Birthday
Men's Bible Study - 6:30AM [Fellowship Hall]
Wednesday Night R&R - 5:45PM [Fellowship Hall]
Choir Rehearsal - 7:30PM [Sanctuary]
SAA - 7:30PM [Library]

Dr. Craig Wansink

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SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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