

Second Presbyterian Church

We are . . .
 a family of Christians,
called by God and empowered by the Holy Spirit,
TO SHARE THE GOOD NEWS OF GOD'S GRACE AND LOVE,
 to care for one another,
AND TO SERVE JESUS CHRIST
 in our community and throughout the world.

2018 SPC SESSION AND MINISTRY TEAMS

Larry Hull, Clerk of Session

DISCIPLESHIP

Marie Finch
 Sandy Simmermon
 Ben Foster
 Ann Byrd Porter

MISSION AND STEWARDSHIP

Alice Allen-Grimes
 Joe Morgan
 Denise Tinkham
 Philip Ndahi
 Rich Voter

ADMINISTRATION

Rob Courtois
 Dave Horner
 Bill Reed


STAFF

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Amanda Besso, <i>Nursery</i>		
Tom Libbey, <i>Facility Manager</i>		
Helen Pribesh, <i>Parish Cook</i>		
Barbara Watson, <i>Housekeeper</i>		

Our pastor since 2010, Dr. Craig Wansink received his Ph.D. in New Testament from Yale University, after having graduated from seminary in Chicago, and having studied at universities in Japan, Jordan, Germany, and Israel. Since 1993 he has been a Professor of Religious Studies at Virginia Wesleyan University, where he also serves as the Brock Director of the Center for the Study of Religious Freedom. Craig is married to Nancy Chapman, and his two children—Katrina and Teddy—are college students.

Rev. Catherine Hart Monroe, our Covenant Associate Pastor for Discipleship & Spiritual Formation, received her M.Div. from Union Presbyterian Seminary in 2016. She and her husband, Chuck, live in Norfolk with their three children, Whitley, Hart, and Alden.


Isaac Thomas, our Pastor of Music, Outreach, and Technology, joined the SPC staff in 2014. He received his education at John Brown University and The University of Texas at Arlington. He is a published composer and has served as conductor for contemporary Christian recording artists Twila Paris and Fernando Ortega. He is a recent graduate of Dubuque Theological Seminary via the Commissioned Lay Pastor program. Additionally, he completed a six-week piano course through The Juilliard School under the instruction of Dr. Michael Shinn, Chair of Keyboard studies.



AFTER JESUS DIED:
 YOUR JOURNEY
 IN THE BOOK OF ACTS

*"Everything Held in Common:
 Trusting in God"*

Second Presbyterian Church, April 15, 2018



On the whole I do not find Christians, outside of the catacombs, sufficiently sensible of conditions. Does anyone have the foggiest idea what sort of power we so blithely evoke? Or, as I suspect, does no one believe a word of it? The churches are children playing on the floor with their chemistry sets, mixing up a batch of TNT to kill a Sunday morning. It is madness to wear ladies' straw hats and velvet hats to church; we should all be wearing crash helmets. Ushers should issue life preservers and signal flares; they should lash us to our pews. For the sleeping god may wake someday and take offence.

Annie Dillard, Teaching a Stone to Talk

www.philpchurch.com

Whether we are old or young, whether we are first-time or longtime worshipers, whether we come full of doubts or confidence, joy or sorrow, in this place we all are family, because of what Jesus did for us on the cross. Welcome

“These large birds, [cranes] who fly great distances across continents, have three remarkable qualities. First, they rotate leadership. No one bird stays out in front all the time. Second, they choose leaders who can handle turbulence. And then, all during the time one bird is leading, the rest are honking their affirmation. That’s not a bad model for the church. Certainly we need leaders who can handle turbulence and who are aware that leadership ought to be shared. But most of all, we need a church where we are all honking encouragement.” —Bruce Larson

“God is a heart reader, not a lip reader.” —Kaylee Mumby

GATHERING MUSIC

Isaac Thomas, piano

WELCOME

***THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

The peace of Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

Greet your neighbor with the peace of Christ.

RINGING THE CHIMES

BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS

PRELUDE “*Praeludium in G Major*”—Music by Nikolaus Bruhns (1665-1697);
Featuring Dr. James Kosnik, organ

CALL TO WORSHIP

We rejoice, O God, in the Spirit which worked through ancient people of faith to call them from a distant land to a land which they did not know.

We rejoice, O God, in knowing that the Spirit which led our ancestors through the wilderness continues to guide us today.

We give you thanks, Almighty God, for those who walked along the Way, for their faithfulness to our Lord Jesus Christ and their steadfast love for you.

We give you thanks, Almighty God, for those whose dedication to the Gospel has brought us closer to you. Amen.

***HYMN #555** “*Let All Creation’s Wonders*”

***CONFESSION OF SIN**

Gracious God, we confess that we have longed too much for the comforts of this world. We have loved the gifts more than the giver. In your mercy, help us to see that all the things we pine for are shadows, but you are substance; that they are quicksand, but you are mountain; that they are shifting, but you are anchor. Guide us. Redeem us. Inspire us. We pray in Jesus’ name. Amen.

***MUSICAL RESPONSE #436 (vs. 1)** “*How I Love You, Lord, My God*”

—Words by Ada Roeper-Boulogne; Music by Joseph Parry
***How I love you, Lord, my God, you, my rock and fortress strong;
Constant refuge, mighty shield—I will praise you in my song.
Snares of death entangled me; hellish torrents frightened me;
But you heard my desperate cry, and your hand has set me free.***

***WORDS OF GRACE**

God is slow to anger and full of compassion.
He forgives all who humbly repent and trust in his Son as Savior and Lord.
There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

— **We Hear the Word** —

TIME OF DISCOVERY #26 (vs. 1) “*He’s Got the Whole World in His Hands*” —Traditional Spiritual
***He’s got the whole world in his hands. He’s got the whole wide world in his hands.
He’s got the whole world in his hands. He’s got the whole world in his hands.***

For those desiring childcare, the nursery is available during the service for children five years of age and younger. In addition, there is a “family room” available at the back of the sanctuary.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Acts 4:32-5:11

(page 122; large print pages 148-149)

SERMON

“‘Everything Held in Common’: Trusting in God”

—Dr. Craig Wansink

HYMN #327 “*When we Walk with the Lord*” (Trust and Obey)

— **We Respond to God’s Word** —

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name.

Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

If you have a request you would like the congregation to pray for, please fill out a prayer request form (found in the friendship register) and place it in the offering plate. We will include that request in the bulletin for a month, unless you request for us to leave it longer.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING: THE SHARING OF OUR LIVES AND GIFTS

OFFERTORY “*Our Father Who Art in Heaven*”—Music by Max Reger (187-1916);
Featuring Dr. James Kosnik, organ

***THE DOXOLOGY #965** “*Praise God, from Whom all Blessings Flow*”

—Words by Thomas Ken; Music by Louis Bourgeois

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** The Apostles’ Creed

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead;
He ascended into heaven and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

***HYMN #256** “*They’ll Know We Are Christians By Our Love*”

— **We Are Sent in Christ’s Name** —

***BENEDICTION** (from Romans 15:13)

Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing,
so that you will abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

***POSTLUDE** “*Toccatà*”—Music by Charles Marie Widor (1844-1937);
Featuring Dr. James Kosnik, organ

“There are some men and some women in whose company we are always at our best. While with them we cannot think mean thoughts or speak ungenerous words. Their mere presence is elevation, purification, sanctity. All the best stops in our nature are drawn out by their conversation, and we find a music in our souls that was never there before.” —Henry Drummond

“I love that word ‘encourage’ — when you do it, you literally put ‘courage in’ to that person. Someone who may be more battered than you know, closer to going down or giving up than you could imagine. You never know when your encouragement might literally be the difference in that person’s life. When you’re bruised and hurting, it’s that person in your corner who can get you back in the ring for another round.” —Ron Hutchcraft

As you leave Second, live each day by leaving a meaningful legacy for your life: be rich toward God.