

# Second Life

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2019

## LENT AT SECOND

### LENT WEDNESDAYS: AROUND NORFOLK WITH THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

*This year during Lent, each week we will be focusing on the fruit of the spirit as we engage in some unique activities, a number of them away from the church building. Please join us each Wednesday for a fun and meaning-filled evening together.*

#### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6, A DINNER & A FAMILY-FRIENDLY ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE:

##### ***From Self-Indulgence to Self-Control***

Our Ash Wednesday service begins at 6:30PM. If you have purple clothing, please wear it and join us for a tactile and family-friendly service, including imposition of ashes. If you are able, please join us at 5:45 p.m. for a meal in the fellowship hall, along with some fun and meaningful (deliberate!) table conversation as we begin this season of Lent.



#### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13, A DINNER & GOD'S STORY, OUR STORY:

##### ***With Tami Ndahi, Seeking to be Faithful***

From 5:45 to 6:30, join us for dinner (\$5 per person, kids 6 & under FREE), and then for reflections from Tami Ndahi. In "God's Story, Our Story" members of the Second family offer personal stories on their own faith journey and life. These talks create meaningful opportunities for greater understanding and connection, and they encourage each of us to think about what has shaped us and what has given our own life meaning.

#### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20, AROUND NORFOLK AT TEMPLE ISRAEL FROM 6:30-8:30PM:

##### ***A Typical Purim Celebration . . . And West Side Story***

Rabbi Panitz has invited us to a special Jewish holiday. Please come together with fellow Second Presbyterian members as we join our sister congregation Temple Israel in celebrating Purim. Purim is a particularly unusual holiday. It is raucous, it involves reading the entire book of Esther, it is loud, and—in the case of Temple Israel—it also this year involves a parody of the musical *West Side Story*. Please join us at 7255 Granby Street at 6:30PM (as you face the temple on Granby Street, enter the ground level door on the right). We look forward to your joining us on an evening you will not forget.



#### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27, A DINNER & PROGRAM WITH MISSIONARIES FROM THE MIDDLE EAST:

##### ***Patience in the Life of a Missionary***

Please join us at 5:45PM for a meal in the fellowship hall, and then from 6:30 to 7:15 our mission partners Jake and Anna will reflect on the challenges and engaging aspects of work in the Middle East. *Dinner will be made by our children and youth on this night!*

## LENT AT SECOND

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3, AROUND NORFOLK AT THE MONROES' HOUSE FROM 5:45-7:15PM:**

***Taste and See that the Lord is Good: Thinking about Goodness Through an Intergenerational Potluck Dinner***

Please plan on arriving between 5:45 and 6:00PM at 960 Jamestown Crescent, for a potluck dinner beginning at 6:00PM. Please bring an appetizer, salad, main course, or dessert, and join in an evening of fellowship and meaningful reflection together.



**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10 AROUND NORFOLK AT THE BOLD MARINER:**

***Gentleness—and Beer—in Christian Faith***

Join us from 6:00 to 7:15PM at the Bold Mariner Brewing Company (just 6 minutes away from the church at 2409 Bowdens Ferry Road; a brewery owned by new member Kerrie Stacks, and her husband Michael). We'll meet in the side room where we will talk, have some light snacks, try new beverages, and—at 6:45—have a 15 minute PowerPoint talk on "Why Beer During Lent was an Important Christian Tradition."

**THEN, INSTEAD OF MEETING ON WEDNESDAY, JOIN US ON THURSDAY, APRIL 18 . . .** a meal at 6:00PM, followed by FOUR TROMBONES and a very special Maundy Thursday service. Put it on your calendar now!

## FROM THE PASTOR: FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

"They'll know we are Christians by our love." When I was a child, I sang those words with enthusiastic fervor, largely because the song had a nice beat. It felt like it was lifted from a Native American rawhide drum or dance. As I grew older and then realized that sometimes we Christians aren't always known for our kindness and loving behavior, I didn't care for the song at all. It felt like hyperbole or pride. But then, again later, when I actually listened to the song, I realized that the song points to the future, to a hope that one day people will look at us and see something so different and so meaningful in our love that they will realize that it comes from a different source. Like when Dorothy Days says, "I really only love God as much as I love the person I love the least." Love that people actually would notice would be a very different kind of love, a self-sacrificial love.



We still are not close to that. Today I'm watching news reports on challenges within the United Methodist denomination, and I see a wide variety of individuals—with an extremely wide array of perspectives—who aren't communicating those perspectives with love. And Presbyterians aren't that different from them.

How do people know we are Christians? By our love? By our patience, joy, or self-control? The apostle Paul says that we should be able to identify Christians through nine fruit of the Spirit, nine characteristics that flow from those individuals, because they are rooted in God.

Each of us is full of all sorts of stuff. It grows in us, because of the ways we think, act, or spend our time. Paul says that if we are rooted in God, some clear characteristics—or fruit—come forth from us. Others will see in us patience, gentleness, self-control, peace, and joy. That is the sort of stuff that spills out of our interactions when we are with others.

I know that sometimes when I am stressed out, it isn't peace or patience that spills out in my encounters. Rather, maybe others will see fear, frustration, or irritability. But I have been blessed to see Christian friends whose fruit I hope to emulate or grow into.

Lent—the time before Easter—is a time for us to get rid of bad behavior and embrace new ways of living. Please join us in worship and on Wednesday evenings for the next seven weeks, as we try to cultivate in our lives the kind of fruit that matters.

With love,  
Pastor Craig

## KNOWN BY YOUR FRUIT: LENT SERMON SERIES

When you are pressured or stressed, what do people see? Something life-giving? Something depressing? Something that empowers or motivates others? When we are pressured, what seeps out of our lives sadly is what we fill our lives with. If we rely on ourselves, what comes out is rarely pretty. The apostle Paul says that a spiritually healthy person will be characterized by the fruit of the spirit. Cultivating those nine fruits—and moving beyond unhealthy aspects of our life—is our focus for our Lenten series this year. Join us.

**March 6:** ASH WEDNESDAY—From Self-Indulgence to Self-Control

*Daniel 1:1-21; Mark 1:12-13*

**March 10:** From Inconstancy to Faithfulness

*Lamentations 3:22-23; Matthew 24:14-30*

**March 17:** From Indifference to Kindness

*Titus 3:3-11, Ephesians 4:25-32*

**March 24:** From Restlessness to Patience

*Colossians 1:10-11; 3:12-13*

**March 31:** From Our Selfishness to Goodness

*Psalms 51:1-12; Mark 10:17-22*

**April 7:** From Imperviousness to Gentleness

*Proverbs 15:1-4; 1 Peter 3:13-19*

**April 14:** PALM SUNDAY—From Stress to Peace

*Psalms 119:165; John 14:25-31; Mark 11:1-10*

**April 19:** GOOD FRIDAY—From Fear to Love

*1 Corinthians 13:4-13; John 3:16-21*

**April 21:** EASTER—From Sin to Joy

*Isaiah 35:10; Philippians 4:4, 8-9; John 20:11-18*



## MISSION AND SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

### NORFOLK EMERGENCY SHELTER TEAM (NEST):

NEST 2019 is March 13 to 20 at Royster Presbyterian. Second is recruiting volunteers for Thursday, March 14; Friday, March 15; and Saturday, March 16. Sign up sheets are located outside of the sanctuary. Volunteers are needed for serving dinner, guest registration, overnight monitoring, and serving breakfast.

### SPC NEST COORDINATOR:

Carolyn Clark will wrap up her leadership in 2019. She welcomes members interested in leading Second's NEST participation in 2020 to join her this year for orientation. If you have interest or questions, you may contact Carolyn or Rich Voter.



### ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING OFFERING:

The One Great Hour of Sharing special offering will be held on Palm Sunday (April 14). For 70 years, Presbyterians around the world have joined together in this ecumenical effort to share God's love through ministries that provide relief to those affected by disasters, food for the hungry, and support toward the self-development of poor and oppressed communities.

### PARK PLACE CHILD LIFE CENTER (PPCLC):

Volunteers are needed for the fine arts classes held after school Tuesdays and Thursdays, particularly during breaks between college semesters, when student interns are unavailable. If you would like to help, you may contact our partner liaison, Bill Armstrong, at 757-625-0148.



### THE ANNUAL SAINT COLUMBA ECUMENICAL MINISTRIES BASKETS OF LOVE DINNER AND AUCTION:

This event will be held on Saturday, April 6 at Bayside Presbyterian Church, Independence Boulevard, Virginia Beach. Many unique baskets have been donated for you to bid on which will help the homeless. Some examples are: Panhandler Emergency Kit; Museum of the Bible tickets, and Lottery Money Tree. Anyone from Second that would like to attend can get a complimentary ticket from Joe Morgan.

## FOR FAMILIES, CHILDREN, & YOUTH

### **Nursery/Elementary Fellowship: Wednesday, March 13 at 6:15PM:**

All nursery and elementary aged disciples are invited to a St. Patrick's Day party with Amanda Besso and Maddy Tamburo! Put on your leprechaun hats and come have some fun—the party will feature activities such as fruit loop rainbows, coloring sheets, and games!

### **Middle/High Youth Mission: Serving a Dinner at NEST - Friday, March 15 at 6:30PM:**

This month all middle and high youth are invited to help serve dinner to the homeless at NEST. It is located at Royster Presbyterian Church, 6901 Newport Ave. Please meet at Royster Presbyterian at 6:30PM to help with dinner set up and then we will serve dinner to the guests.

### **Assist with Worship - Sunday, March 17 during worship:**

Every third Sunday of the month PWSJC needs 4 volunteers to usher and 1 volunteer to serve as liturgist for worship. Please see Katie White if your child or youth would like to participate in worship in these meaningful ways.

### **Nursery/Elementary Mission: "Make a Meal for Your Second Family" - Wednesday, March 27 at 4:30PM:**

On this evening, the younger disciples are invited to help make a simple meal for their church family. They will help make the salad, rolls, & dessert followed by helping to serve the meal!

### **Confirmation Class - March 3 through April 21:**

SPC has 5 youth who started confirmation class in February. Confirmation is a time for youth to explore their faith by thinking about God, the Bible, worship, and the church in community with one another. Please pray this will be a meaningful experience for our confirmands!



## AT VIRGINIA WESLEYAN

Monday, March 4, 7-8:30 PM, Batten Center, Pierce Suite

### ***Divorce, the Bible, and Religious Faith***

• Rabbi Michael Panitz, Father Jim Parke, and Rev. Christa Springstead

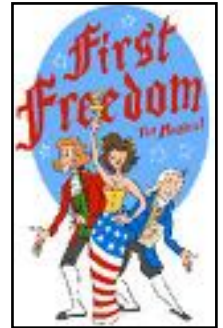
The members of this panel will discuss how people within their traditions understand the passages in scripture that condemn divorce.

Thursday, March 7, 7-8:15 PM, Blocker Hall Auditorium

### ***America's First Freedom Conflicts Then and Now: Musical Theatre and the Founding Fathers***

• Rob Lauer, Award-winning Playwright

In 2003, award-winning playwright Rob Lauer was commissioned to write "First Freedom"—a musical play depicting the events leading up to the passage of Thomas Jefferson's Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom. In the process, Lauer became convinced that musical theatre—a highly-stylized, American-born art form—was the perfect vehicle for presenting more nuanced depictions of our nation's founders. Music videos and a reader's theatre presentation from "First Freedom" are incorporated into this lecture.



Thursday, March 14, 11-11:50 AM, Blocker Hall Auditorium

### ***Taking Back the Bible: Elizabeth Cady Stanton's Scriptural Battle on Behalf of Slaves and Women***

• Dr. Craig Wansink and VWU senior Jake Stokke '19

The 19th-century abolitionist Elizabeth Cady Stanton was not a religious person, but she recognized how people in her day frequently used the Bible to justify slave hunting and the suppression of women's rights. Using scripture then as a leverage point, she wrote two visceral and provocative works: *The Slave's Appeal* (1860) and *The Woman's Bible* (1895, 1898), which fought both slavery and the suppression of women's rights.

Thursday, March 14, 7-8 PM, Blocker Hall Auditorium

### ***Religious Ways to Justify Genocide***

• Dr. Sara Sewell

If religious ideals represent appeals to people's best instincts, how and why do religious instincts sometimes become distorted in ways that lead not only to hatred and murder of others, but even to systemic genocide? In the 20th and 21st centuries, examples of such genocide are not limited to places like Nazi Germany and Myanmar. Join us as Sara Sewell highlights the complicated relationship between religion and genocide, and points us to concerning trends and the need for crucial conversations.

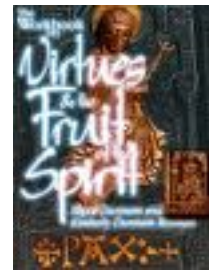
***All events are free and open to the public.***

## DISCIPLESHIP CLASSES

### ADULT DISCIPLESHIP: THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

**9:45 -10:30 a.m., Fellowship Hall, March 3-April 14**

The Lent sermon series focuses on the fruit of the spirit and how we are called to grow. Join Marie Finch and Catherine Hart Monroe, as they lead a discussion of specific scripture passages that highlight who we can become through the fruit of the spirit. (Maxie Dunnam and Kimberly Dunnam Reisman's *Workbook on the Virtue & the Fruit of the Spirit* will inform the discussions each week. If you are interested, it is available on amazon.com).



### KIDS' TRAVEL GUIDE THROUGH THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT: YOUNG DISCIPLES' SUNDAY SCHOOL (5 YEAR OLDS THROUGH MIDDLE SCHOOL)

**Sunday mornings, 9:45-10:30 a.m., Upstairs Classroom, March 3-April 14**

Each Sunday, from March 3 through April 14, join Pastor Craig and important helpers, as we study and experience the nine fruit of the spirit, have a snack, play games, and discover unusual ways in which people pray and understand God in their lives. Join us in the large upstairs Sunday School room, starting March 3 at 9:45 a.m.!

## ESSENTRICS EXERCISE CLASS SPRING BREAK

The Essentrics exercise class will have a lengthy Spring Break this year, from March 21 through April 25 class will be suspended.

If you have not been exercising regularly, or if you have been considering trying this class, joining us when we resume May 2 will be the perfect time to give it a try! Everyone will be rusty, including the instructor! Classes meet from 1-2PM on Thursdays in fellowship hall. Wear a comfortable loose T-shirt and leggings or loose slacks or shorts, bring an exercise mat if you have one, or just a towel, to keep the carpet hairs out of your nose if we lie down.



## FELLOWSHIP DINNERS

### MEN'S FELLOWSHIP DINNER

Come on out at 6PM to share a meal, conversation, and an opportunity to grow.

**Monday, March 18, 6PM** at Degollado Mexican Restaurant, 3814 E. Little Creek Rd.



### WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP DINNER

All women are invited to join together at 6PM to relax, dine, and share in conversation and prayer concerns.

**Monday, March 25, 6PM** at Omar's Carriage House, 313 W. Bute St.

*There is definitely a place for YOU at Second Presbyterian!*

# MARCH 2019

Friday, March 1

Men's Breakfast - 7:00AM

Saturday, March 2

**Nathan Besso's Birthday**

PPCLC - 10:00AM [SPC]

Sunday, March 3

Discipleship Classes - 9:45AM [SPC]

Choir Rehearsal - 10:30AM [Choir Room]

Worship - 11:00AM [Sanctuary]

Confirmation Class - 12:30PM [SPC]

Monday, March 4

**Kathy Stark's Birthday**

VWU Lecture - 7:00PM [Pierce Suite]

Al-Anon - 7:30PM [Fellowship Hall]

Tuesday, March 5

SAA - 12:00PM [Fellowship Hall]

Wednesday, March 6 **ASH WEDNESDAY**

Men's Bible Study - 6:30AM [Fellowship Hall]

**Ash Wednesday Dinner & Service - 5:45PM [Fellowship Hall, Sanctuary]**

SAA - 7:30PM [Library]

Choir Rehearsal - 7:30PM [Sanctuary]

Thursday, March 7

**Jean Morton's Birthday**

Essentrics Exercise Class - 1:00PM

[Fellowship Hall]

VWU Lecture - 7:00PM [Blocker Hall]

Friday, March 8

Men's Breakfast - 7:00AM

**Sandwich Making - 12:00PM [Fellowship Hall]**

Saturday, March 9

**Second Saturday - 9:00AM [PPCLC, SPC, & St. Mary's]**

PPCLC - 10:00AM [SPC]

Sunday, March 10 **DAYLIGHT SAVINGS**

Discipleship Classes - 9:45AM [SPC]

Choir Rehearsal - 10:30AM [Choir Room]

Worship - 11:00AM [Sanctuary]

Confirmation Class - 12:30PM [SPC]

Monday, March 11

**Betsy Murrell's Birthday**

Al-Anon - 7:30PM [Fellowship Hall]

Tuesday, March 12

**Triple S Circle - 10:30AM [Fellowship Hall]**

SAA - 12:00PM [Fellowship Hall]

Wednesday, March 13

**Judy Tressel's Birthday**

Men's Bible Study - 6:30AM [Fellowship Hall]

**God's Story, Our Story with Tami Ndahi - 5:45PM [Fellowship Hall]**

**Young Disciples St. Patrick's Party - 6:20PM [Nursery]**

SAA - 7:30PM [Library]

Choir Rehearsal - 7:30PM [Sanctuary]

Thursday, March 14

**Pat Robertson's Birthday**

**NEST - Various Shifts [Royster Presbyterian]**

VWU Lecture - 11:00AM [Blocker Hall]

Essentrics Exercise Class - 1:00PM [Fellowship Hall]

VWU Lecture - 7:00PM [Blocker Hall]

Friday, March 15

**NEST - Various Shifts [Royster Presbyterian]**

**Middle/High Youth Mission Project - 6:30PM [Royster Presbyterian]**

Men's Breakfast - 7:00AM

Saturday, March 16

**NEST - Various Shifts [Royster Presbyterian]**

PPCLC - 10:00AM [SPC]

Sunday, March 17 **ST. PATRICK'S DAY**

**Jillian Todd, Linda Norman, & Chris Voter's Birthday**

Discipleship Classes - 9:45AM [SPC]

Choir Rehearsal - 10:30AM [Choir Room]

**Worship with Dr. Kosnik - 11:00AM [Sanctuary]**

Confirmation Class - 12:30PM [SPC]

Monday, March 18

**Ireland Courtois & Larry Hull's Birthday**

Al-Anon - 7:30PM [Fellowship Hall]

**Men's Evening Fellowship - 6:00PM [Degollado Mexican Restaurant]**

Tuesday, March 19

SAA - 12:00PM [Fellowship Hall]

**Session Meeting - 6:00PM [Fellowship Hall]**

Wednesday, March 20

Men's Bible Study - 6:30AM [Fellowship Hall]

**Purim Celebration - 6:30PM [Temple Israel]**

SAA - 7:30PM [Library]

Choir Rehearsal - 7:30PM [Sanctuary]

Thursday, March 21

Friday, March 22

Men's Breakfast - 7:00AM

Saturday, March 23

**Session Retreat - 9:00AM [Virginia Wesleyan]**

PPCLC - 10:00AM [SPC]

Sunday, March 24

Discipleship Classes - 9:45AM [SPC]

Choir Rehearsal - 10:30AM [Choir Room]

Worship - 11:00AM [Sanctuary]

Confirmation Class - 12:30PM [SPC]

Monday, March 25

**Women's Evening Fellowship - 6:00PM [Omar's Carriage House]**

Al-Anon - 7:30PM [Fellowship Hall]

Tuesday, March 26

**Sandy Simmermon's Birthday**

SAA - 12:00PM [Fellowship Hall]

Wednesday, March 27

Men's Bible Study - 6:30AM [Fellowship Hall]

**Young Disciples Mission Project - 4:30PM [Fellowship Hall]**

**Dinner & Missionary Program - 5:45PM [Fellowship Hall]**

Choir Rehearsal - 7:30PM [Sanctuary]

SAA - 7:30PM [Library]

Thursday, March 28

**Josie Voter's Birthday**

Friday, March 29

Men's Breakfast - 7:00AM

Saturday, March 30

**Bill Reed & Philip Ndahi's Birthday**

PPCLC - 10:00AM [SPC]

Sunday, March 31

**John Eley's Birthday**

Discipleship Classes - 9:45AM [SPC]

Choir Rehearsal - 10:30AM [Choir Room]

Worship - 11:00AM [Sanctuary]

Confirmation Class - 12:30PM [SPC]

## SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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