

October 2018

October 21 - next
Mission Study gathering

Second Presbyterian Church in New York City

262 Years of Ministry

A SECOND LOOK

An Invitation to the Life and Work of Our Community of Faith and Fellowship

IN SESSION: News from the Summer 2018 Session Meetings
by Nancy Hughes, Clerk of Session

Session approved . . .

- * The Deacons' recommendation to donate the remaining \$1,000 in the 2018 Benevolence allotment to the New Sanctuary Coalition.
- * Asking our World Communion Sunday guest preacher, the Rev. Alex Awad, for recommendations about how to disburse our church's portion of the special denominational offering for Peace and Global Witness, in the service of peace in the Middle East.
- * The Christian Education Committee's selection of Keion Jackson as our new Sunday School teacher. "Mr. K" will start on September 30th.

We are talking to the Presbyterian Foundation about how to implement online giving and planned giving. The Stewardship Committee continues to work on the fall pledge drive for 2019 pledging.

Session and trustees plan to meet jointly with the ARS Committee and leadership team in October.

Rev. Borden will take Study Leave October 8 - 14.

FROM THE PASTOR

The fall season is off to a great start at SPC! In September, we celebrated the Kirking (blessing) of the Alexander Robertson School in worship, and enjoyed a lovely reception with ARS families and friends. We welcomed not one but two wonderful additions to our staff (see back page).

And that's just the beginning. We look forward to our World Communion service on October 7, and to our next **Congregational Mission Study Gathering after worship on October 21.** The session and trustees are already pondering the mission of this church, and have been studying the Great Ends of the Church in the PC(USA). In September, we focused on "the proclamation of the gospel for the salvation of humankind." I invited people to come up with other ways of saying that – and challenged them to proclaim the Gospel in 7 words (or less!). Here are some of their responses: Called to cherish and serve one another. **Love God. Love your neighbor. Don't stop.**

God loves everyone, no matter what. God lives with us; we live through God.

God loves you; return his love. **God promises us a life transformed.**

The next question is: how does SPC – or should or can – SPC proclaim that good news to all people? That is a question we all must consider. So join us on October 21! Meanwhile, I leave you with my "mini-gospel": God loves us. All. Always. Don't fear.

*Grace and peace,
Rev. Lindsay*

Second Presbyterian Church

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Rev. Lindsay Borden, Interim Pastor

Eunjung Ahn, Minister of Music

Worship at 10:15 a.m.

Seeking a better world together

New Faces at Second Presbyterian Church

Kyunghee “Katy” Kim, Choir Section Leader

Many of you have already met (and heard!) our new soprano section leader and soloist, Ms. Kyunghee Kim. Kyunghee (who also goes by “Katy”) received her Bachelor’s degree from Seoul National University and her Master’s degree in Voice from the Manhattan School of Music. Married and the mother of three children, Kyunghee lives in Nyack, New York and loves to go hiking near Bear Mountain Park and to travel around the world to meet new people and experience new cultures. Along with baritone soloist and section leader Liang Zhao, Katy is a blessing to our SPC Choir and our wonderful music program, so skillfully led by Eunjung Ahn. We are thrilled that Kyunghee has chosen to share her considerable gifts and bright spirit with our congregation.



Keion M. Jackson, Sunday School Teacher

Our new Sunday School teacher is Mr. Keion Jackson – Mr. K, to our children. Keion is a graduate of Arts High School (NJ), where he studied Classical Voice and Choral Conducting. A third-year student at New Jersey City University, majoring in Sociology and African American Studies, Keion holds several distinguished positions at NJCU: Associate Vice President of the Black Student Union, Student Chair of the university’s Senate Committee of Curriculum and Instruction, and Associate Campus Minister for Student Engagement. In addition, Keion has written articles on African American life, published by the New Jersey City University Press and several social justice magazines.



In 2018, Keion received a certificate of Christian Ministry from New York Theological Seminary and is an Ordained Minister through the United Church, as well as a board-certified chaplain. He has done internships with the Episcopal Diocese of Newark, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, and Eastminster Presbyterian Church of Pittsburgh. Keion previously served as Christian Education Director at two churches and as music director for three churches before accepting the job as Sunday School Teacher at Second Presbyterian. It is Keion’s goal to receive a Masters of Divinity, and a Doctorate of Philosophy in African American Studies and Sociology from Yale University. He is also discerning a call to ordination to the office of Minister of Word and Sacrament in the PC(USA). Keion will be a great asset to SPC as he nurtures the faith of our children – and what a privilege that we get to be part of his spiritual journey!

Rev. Alex Awad Joins Us for World Communion Sunday

World Communion Sunday (October 7, 2018) is always a special day at SPC, as we worship at 11 am with our partners in ministry, the Chinese Community Church, and share a fellowship meal afterwards. This year, we are delighted that our special guest preacher will be the Rev. Alex Awad, who is serving as a 2018 PC(USA) International Peacemaker. Rev. Awad served as Dean of Students and full-time instructor at Bethlehem Bible College in Bethlehem where he was on the faculty for 24 years. He is a charter member of the college’s Board of Directors and served since 1994 as senior pastor at East Jerusalem Baptist Church. He

is a past board member of the Evangelical Local Council of Churches in the Holy Land, and directed the Shepherd Society, Bethlehem Bible College’s charitable ministry. Alex and his wife Brenda have moved to the Pacific Northwest to be closer to their children.

You can also hear Rev. Awad on Tuesday, October 9, at 10:00 – 11:30 am at the Interchurch Center (475 Riverside Drive), and at 7 – 8:30 pm at Rutgers Presbyterian Church (73rd Street and Broadway).