THE SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH in the CITY OF NEW YORK

Pastoral Newsletter for November 2021



Just about ready to open our doors again!

Dear Friends in Christ,

Thanksgiving Day is drawing near, I think we at Second Presbyterian Church have much to be thankful for. We will soon reopen our doors for Sunday worship on a regular basis (God and Covid willing, as I always hasten to say). We can be thankful for the blessing, however bittersweet, of at last formally commending our sister Vivian and brother Ted to the eternal care of a merciful God. We give thanks for Zoom worship – and give equal thanks that we will soon not have to rely on Zoom worship! You will, by God's grace, call a new pastor before too long. And best of all, you are still the church, still here, still beautiful and faithful and loving the world. And the world needs your love.

Soon you'll be getting a letter from me, asking you to make a financial commitment to the church for the coming year (and to fulfill your pledge for the current year!). Money isn't everything – but it's one way to keep the church going, and one very concrete way to show your commitment to the church. So, please look out for the letter, prayerfully consider what you can give in the coming year and return your pledge card. The dollar amount is far less important than the affirmation that you are committed to the future of your church.

WORSHIP: SUNDAYS at 10:15 AM on ZOOM through November 21 In PERSON and on Facebook beginning November 28

For the Zoom link or dial in number, please contact Virginia Danner, Office Manager, Mondays – Thursdays, at: (347) 918-7914, vdanner@secondpresbyteriannyc.org

Second Presbyterian on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/Second-Presbyterian-Church-NYC-1414346825462648/

Memorial Service for Vivian Tom Saturday, November 6, 2 PM

At The Second Presbyterian Church and live streamed on Facebook (Video will remain available on FB.)

I lift up my eyes to the hills; from where will my help come? My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth. ~ Psalm 121:1-2



Memorial Service for Rev. Theodore S. Voelker Saturday, November 13, 2 PM

At The Second Presbyterian Church and live streamed on Facebook (Video will remain available on FB.)

They shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. ~ Isaiah 2:4



Ted and his beloved wife Barbara

NOVEMBER AT SPC In-Person Sunday Worship Resumes November 28!

Sunday, November 3, 10 AM Sunday School, 10:15 AM Worship: On Zoom. This is World Communion Sunday. Bring something special to eat and drink with Jesus today! And consider contributing to the PCUSA Peace and Global Witness Offering.

Saturday, November 6, 2 PM: Memorial service for Vivian Tom, in the sanctuary and on Facebook.

Sunday, November 7, 10 AM Sunday School, 10:15 AM Worship: On Zoom. Daylight Savings Time ends. We will mark All Saints' Day and celebrate communion.

Wednesday, November 10, 3 – 4 PM: The Pastor Is In.

Thursday, November 11: Veteran's Day. The Church office is closed.

Saturday, November 13, 2 PM: Memorial service for Ted Voelker, in the sanctuary and on Facebook.

Sunday, November 14, 10 AM Sunday School, 10:15 AM Worship: On Zoom.

Wednesday, November 17 12 noon: The Monthly Wednesday prayer group will meet on Zoom. Please contact Rev. L or Karen Amrhein if you're new to the group and would like to join us. **3 – 4 PM:** The Pastor Is In!

Sunday, November 21, 10 AM Sunday School, 10:15 AM Worship: On Zoom. This will be a Prayer and Fellowship gathering. The sermon will be available ahead of time on the website.

Thursday, November 25 – Friday, November 26: Thanksgiving Holiday

Sunday, November 28, 10:15 AM Worship: IN PERSON AND Live-streamed! If attending in person, please arrive promptly, with your masks. Some details above, and more info will be sent out closer to the date. This is the First Sunday of Advent! And we will hear from the Pastor Nominating Committee.

OFFICE NOTES

Sexton Pete Spano is on vacation November 4 - 19.

Once we return to in-person worship, we'll go back to a regular monthly newsletter, with only a short email each Saturday, with the Facebook link.

Yes, it's almost Thanksgiving — and almost time for pie!

And cake, a big old roast turkey or a chicken stir fry or a delicious deli sandwich.

Whatever your food preferences, I hope you'll hope you'll find time to cook, if that gives you pleasure; or to gratefully enjoy someone else's cooking.

I think of how often we hear of Jesus sharing a meal with others, and of how essential table fellowship was to his ministry. We don't get many details, but I think we can assume there was wonderful storytelling and much joy at those meals.

If every Sunday is a little Easter, then perhaps every meal shared with love is a little sacrament – certainly, an occasion of grace.

As they say in Italy: "Mangia bene, ridi spesso, ama molto." "Eat well, laugh often, love much!" I think Jesus did.



God be with you until we meet again.
Life, love and light,
Rev. Lindsay

Second Presbyterian Church in the City of New York

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