

SPIRE



SECOND
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

January 2009
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Annual Congregational Meeting and Luncheon Sunday, January 25, 2009

Stepping Up To Mission

Please note the schedule for that Sunday morning:

- 9:30 to 10:20 Worship in the Sanctuary
- 10:30 to 11:05 Congregational Annual Meeting in the Sanctuary
- 11:15 to 12:05 Worship in the Sanctuary
- 12:15 Celebration Luncheon in the Community Room

Features of the annual meeting will include election of Elders, Deacons

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Stepping Up to Mission is the theme of this year's Congregational Meeting and celebration luncheon to be held on Sunday, January 25.

To encourage participation in the annual meeting by members of the congregation who attend both the 9:30 and 11:00 worship services, the meeting will be held **BETWEEN** the services.

The *Spire* is published monthly by



**SECOND
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

7700 North Meridian Street, Indianapolis, IN 46260

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Director of Communications

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP HOURS

8:15 a.m.—Chapel
9:30 a.m.—Sanctuary
11 a.m.—Sanctuary

FAMILIES@FIVE WORSHIP

5 p.m.—Chapel (Resumes at Lent)

SECOND@SIX CASUAL WORSHIP

6 p.m.—Sanctuary

**SERVICE OF COMMUNION
& WHOLENESS**

10:35 a.m.—Chapel

TELEPHONE/FAX NUMBERS

Church Office
(317) 253-6461 (phone)
(317) 252-5590 (fax)

Inspirational Phone Message
(317) 259-5715

Children's Circle
(317) 252-5517

Childcare Reservations
(317) 252-5519

CenterPoint Counseling
(317) 252-5518

WEEKLY RADIO PROGRAM

Sunday, 9:30 a.m. on
WXNT 1430AM

OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Friday
8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Saturday 9 a.m. to noon

Candidates for Church Officers

One of the most important committees of Second Church is the Church Nominating Committee, whose members are selected anew each year. The members of the 2008 Nominating Committee, led by Elder Cynthia Wilkens, are: Jon Atkins, Gretchen Brown, David Haboush, Audrey Pelham, Ruth Rogers, Bill Sando, Chip Smitson, Sue Thatcher, Kristin Ullom, Tim Wright and Bob Zoccola.

From the nominations submitted by members of the congregation for the officers of Elder, Deacon, Youth Deacon and the 2009 Nominating Committee, the process of selection began in early September and was completed in late November. After careful, prayerful deliberation every Monday evening during those three months, the candidates for the offices of Elder, Deacon, Youth Deacon and the 2009 Church Nominating Committee were determined.

The candidates' names will be presented at the Congregational Meeting on January 25, 2009, in the Sanctuary between the 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. worship services.

For Elder: Scott Enright, Rik Hagarty, Jeff Kittle, Kyle Lanham, Leslie Morgan, Blake Neubauer, Connie Price, Julie Richardson, Dick Ristine, Ann VanMeter.

For Deacon: Scott Burns, Shirley Calhoun, Jennifer Dennison, Cathy Donaldson, Barbara Hamilton, Eric Kropp, Becky Malick, Craig Mann, Mary Ann Meshberger, Jan Millholland, John Otteson, Paul Reis, Joey Shannafelt, Jim Shaw, Kimber Whyte and Brant Wright.

For Youth Deacon: Kevin Harris and Mitch Merritt.

For Church Nominating Committee 2009: Dave Cook, Bob Falk, Gracia Floyd, John Herder, Sr., Kathy Lee, Sue Miller and Cynthia Roberts.

The Church Nominating Committee of 2008 wishes to thank the members of Second for giving them the opportunity to serve in this important work in the life of our church. To God be the Glory!

SPIRITUAL GROWTH

Introduction to the Enneagram

Have you ever wished for a deeper understanding of your own spiritual identity? The retreat *Introduction to the Enneagram*, led by Sr. Maureen Mangen, CPPS, will provide an opportunity to explore an ancient tool for self-understanding and transformation.

Here are some comments Don Riso and Russ Hudson, founders of the Enneagram Institute, have made about the Enneagram. "If we reflect for a

“So then, you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and members of the household of God...”

(EPHESIANS 2:19)

Dear Friends,

We identify ourselves in so many different ways. When we are introduced to someone at a gathering, the first questions may be: “What do you do?” or “Where are you from?” or “Tell me about yourself.” We may say that we are a computer analyst, a homemaker, a college student, a salesperson, a medical technician or an attorney. We may say that we are a Hoosier, a midwesterner, a Buckeye, a transplant from California or a new resident from Malawi. We may identify ourselves as a Republican, a Democrat, an Independent or a Libertarian. We may say that we are married, single, a parent or a grandparent. More basic than any of these aspects of our identity is our identity in Christ. We are followers of Jesus Christ. As followers of Jesus Christ, we belong to the church.

What does it mean to belong to the church? To belong to the church is to be a part of Christ’s body or, as we hear in Ephesians, it is to be “members of the household of God.” We are saints together. Even on days when I don’t feel especially “holy,” I remind myself that being a saint is not about my perfection, but God’s grace. A saint is someone called out by God to live a life that glorifies God and serves the neighbor. We are saints together. We encourage one another in this calling to follow Jesus. We support one another, forgive one another and even challenge one another to respond to God’s word in our daily living.

As we enter the new year, I want to challenge us to live into our calling by making three spiritual practices central in our lives:

- ❖ Worship regularly, pray daily and give faithfully. Through worship, daily devotions and generous giving we are reminded that we belong to God and live our lives to God’s glory.
- ❖ Participate regularly in a small group that nurtures the spirit, feeds the mind and helps us be accountable to one another. In a large church, it is essential that we find a smaller group where we have a sense of belonging—whether it is a Bible study, a choir, a reunion group, a youth group or the Men’s Breakfast.
- ❖ Serve others through some relationship beyond our normal circle of family and friends—whether it is building ramps, welcoming visitors, keeping the nursery, stocking the food pantry or delivering Christmas Benevolences. God meets us in the stranger and changes us through our encounters with others.

Who are we? We are “no longer strangers and aliens, but citizens with the saints and members of the household of God.”

Together in Christ,



Lewis F. Galloway



moment, we may realize that what our hearts yearn for is to know who we are and why we are here.” “As many people now know, finding our own basic personality type can be a fascinating journey of discovery. It can also help us recognize many unrecognized features of our personalities . . .” “The Enneagram is an invaluable tool for the growth of consciousness in human beings. . . . Through self-observation, we can come to a deeper level of self-awareness and self-realization. Through this process, things can begin to change. Transformation becomes not just an

idea, but a reality. When enough individuals begin to change, the world will begin to change.”

Introduction to the Enneagram will be held from 7 to 9 p.m. on Friday, January 30, and from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, January 31, 2009. Saturday lunch will be provided. Cost is \$40. The deadline for registration is January 25. This retreat is offered by the Spiritual Formation Ministry Team of Second Presbyterian Church.

Bible Ministry: Now on Firm Footing

“The Bible is like an old-fashioned child. It doesn’t speak to strangers, and it only speaks if spoken to,” said the late John O’Neill, New Testament professor, University of Edinburgh. Dr. James Miller, Senior Pastor, First Presbyterian Church, Tulsa, Oklahoma, recently related this quotation by his treasured mentor.

Turning strangers to the Bible into good friends of The Good Book is the goal of the Mission Bible Ministry. By placing Bibles into people’s hands, this ministry enables individuals “to speak” to God, through prayerful reading and study of His Holy Word. Through the pages of the Bible, God speaks to them, providing direction, insight and assurance for their lives.

Since its inception in 1997, the Mission Bible Ministry has given away more than 16,000 Bibles to individuals in our congregation, community and world. These include English (and Spanish) toddler, preschool, storybook, kindergarten, grade school, teen study and adult. Each is labeled “A Gift from Second Presbyterian Church” and contains a bookmark and printed homily from American Bible Society.

Bibles are distributed to mission trips, projects and causes, and ultimately donated to: Winter Warmth, Easter Benevolence, Vacation Bible School, Back-to-School Benevolence, Habitat for Humanity, Take it to Town, Lighthouse Mission, Shepherd Community, Julian Center, Damien Center, Kairos Prison Ministry and Raphael Medical Clinic. Recently, Bibles were sent to flood victims in southern Indiana and a mission in the Philippines and Uganda.

Bible request forms are available at the front desk. Completed forms (with purpose of request, number of

Bibles required, age of recipients and date Bibles are needed) should be given to Judy Muirhead, Mission Bible Ministry Coordinator, via her church mailbox.

Initially, Bibles were obtained through donation of used volumes from members. The Mission Bible Purchase Fund was created to provide money to buy new Bibles. The Purchase Fund was completely dependent on voluntary contributions. Through the years, members have been most generous. Even so, with increasing demands and escalating costs for Bibles, the Purchase Fund was often close to depletion. Consideration had been given to terminating the Bible Ministry for lack of funding.

Last summer, a magnificent gift of \$100,000 was received from an anonymous donor to create a separate Mission Bible Ministry Fund within the church endowment. The intent of the donor was to establish a \$100,000 fund which would provide enough funding over and above that amount to cover the annual budget for this ministry continuously over time.

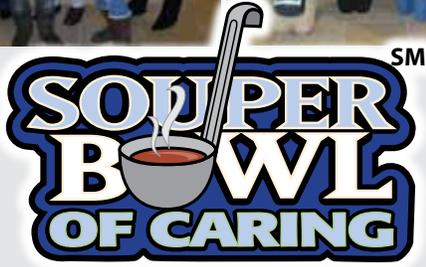
Each year, 5% of the three-year rolling average of this new Mission Bible Ministry Fund will be transferred to the original Mission Bible Purchase Fund, for ongoing purchases of new Bibles. It is hoped that the Mission Bible Ministry Fund will continue to grow each year through donations, general and those in honor/memory of loved ones.

You may now contribute to the Bible Ministry in two ways. Write checks for the Mission Bible Purchase Fund to: “Second Presbyterian Church,” with “Mission Bible Purchase Fund” on memo line; or, checks for overall Mission Bible Ministry Fund to: “Second Presbyterian Church” with “Mission Bible Ministry Fund” on the memo line. If the gift is in honor/memory of someone, please so indicate.

We’re forever grateful to that most generous anonymous donor. Because of that individual’s vision and supreme beneficence, the Mission Bible Ministry is now assured a long, bright future. One can only begin to imagine how many strangers to the Bible will be turned into friends in the years ahead through continuation of this ministry. We encourage you to become a member of this ministry, a ministry which puts the Word of God onto the hands of those unable to afford a Bible.

Questions? Contact Judy Muirhead, at marm2@comcast.net, 815-9336, or Amy Lee, administrative assistant, Rev. Dave Berry, 253-6461, ext.332.





Unleash Your Souper Power

In 2008, over 14,000 churches and other organizations raised over \$10.2 million for hunger-related charities around the country. Our own Second Presbyterian was one of the top churches in the nation, bringing in nearly \$22,000 and over 2500 items of food.

The Souper Bowl of Caring was born in 1990 when a Presbyterian Youth Group gathered for a party on Super Bowl Sunday. A prayer was offered "Lord, even as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game, help us be mindful of those who are without a bowl of soup to eat." In response to that prayer, groups have set aside the first Sunday in February to collect money and food items for hunger-related charities in their communities.

As in past years, Second Church will collect monetary donations and food items to support the Westminster Food Pantry. Non-perishable food may be dropped off at the church throughout January, with the final collection on Sunday, February 1. Donation envelopes for Souper Bowl are in the pew racks, and on February 1 the youth will collect your donations in soup pots following each of the worship services. Coin collection banks will be available soon. Let's try to surpass last year's totals! Questions may be directed to Rev. Rachel A. Wann at 253-6461.

Disaster Assistance

Second Presbyterian Church responded to the food crises in Haiti by Contributing \$10,000 to the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance program (PDA).

According to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance partner, Christian Aid, in a statement to members of the Action by Churches Together (ACT) alliance, Hurricane Ike's "pelting rains couldn't have come at a worse time for Haiti." Four storms have hit Haiti in recent weeks, resulting in what Christian Aid said was possibly, "lasting damage to Haiti's rice bowl." The rice bowl is a farming area whose revival is needed to assist a country trying to struggle out of a new round of food crises.

In this country where 2.3 million people are at moderate to acute risk of food insecurity, damage to agricultural production is critical.

In the northern Haitian city of Gonaives, Christian Aid reported, "waters were rising even as aid groups struggled to reach people with little or no access to food or water for days. The entire country is affected and most departments are isolated."

There is massive destruction in agriculture, which has to be seen in the context of the prevailing food crisis and political instability in the country. The immediate needs are for food, water, clothing and medicines.

ACT members, including Christian Aid, have postponed response to damage caused by the previous hurricanes, taking note that emergency responses are not related to one hurricane only but to a sequence of storms following each other.

ACT members are assessing the situation and coordinating their plans to respond, with effort to ensure efficiency and avoid duplication in areas where several ACT members are present.

In addition, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance is in contact with our partner, Peasant Movement of Papay (MPP). MPP, a Presbyterian Hunger Program partner, has been working in the Central Plateau and was very involved in responding to previous flooding in Gonaives, Haiti, caused by Hurricane Jeanne in 2004.



Westminster Choir College

Enjoy vocal perfection, both "Sacred and Profane," when the Westminster Choir College sings at Second Church, Wednesday, January 14 at 7 p.m.

Appearing as part of our Music and Fine Arts ANIMA SACRA series, the 33-voice group, directed by Joe Miller, features singers from the Princeton, New Jersey, school. Its 2009 season includes a Midwestern concert tour, recording projects and performances as Artists in Residence at the Spoleto Festival U.S.A. and at Carnegie Hall.

Praised by the *New York Times* as "excellent and astounding, with full-bodied and incisive singing," the choir will feature sacred works by Bach, Tas, Taverner, Desprez, Vierne and Martin. Earthly delights are represented by Tormis, Britten and Whitacre, with a special tribute to Moses Hogan.

Adult admission is \$15. Students and Seniors are \$10. Children 18 and under admitted free.

T Purchase tickets online at secondchurch.org, (select Event Registrations) or call 726-5402.

McFarland Hall *Art Gallery*

Between Paper and Palette is a group of watercolor artists, many of whom have won awards in the Hoosier Salon, Watercolor Society of Indiana, South Side Art League and Indiana Artists Club, as well as some national awards. The exhibit, entitled *Lifting the Spirit*, may be viewed in McFarland Hall from January 11 through February 28.

Mark Your Calendar

The New Century string quartet (Dean Frank and Louise Alexander, violins; Susan Chan, viola; and Dennis McCafferty, cello) will be performing Sunday, March 1, at 3 p.m. Indianapolis' finest string quartet presents an intriguing program that explores the link between creativity and affliction in two quartets of Robert Schumann and Edward Elgar. A free-will offering will be collected.



IndyOpera to visit Children's Choirs

Sunday, January 11, at 11:15 a.m., Second's Children's Choirs will kick off the New Year with our friends from IndyOpera. The Indianapolis Opera Ensemble will present *Fumbelina* with music by Gilbert & Sullivan; story adapted by Denise Page Caraher. The previous Sunday, January 4, our choirs will enjoy a special learning session about the work during the regular Children's Choir time.

Poor, clumsy Fumbelina. She doesn't do well in sports, in cooking class, in school—in anything, so it seems. Set to the frolicking music of Gilbert & Sullivan, Fumbelina's adventures abound with mishaps and lots of memorable characters such as the charming rodent, Mr. Mole. When she finally performs an unselfish act of kindness, Fumbelina realizes that doing something for others is more satisfying than doing something for herself. In the act of truly helping someone else, she no longer worries about what people think of her. We all have that something special inside of us, and when we discover and use it for others, we soar!

"To stand in prayer with families who have lost a loved one is a grace-filled moment...To hear the prayers of families who are asking for grace from God to truly forgive the perpetrator is for me a sign of God's presence."

— Joe Zelenka, Prayer Vigil Coordinator

Each week, multiple homicides occur in Indianapolis. Following each homicide, family and friends of the victim and Christians from around the city gather at the site of the violent death to pray. Those who gather testify to God's unconditional love, comfort survivors who mourn and seek God's peace on earth and in the city.

Second Presbyterian Church has been invited to participate more actively in this ministry. Please contact Rev. Betsy Wood (bwood@secondchurch.org; 317-253-6461) if you are interested in attending prayer vigils or if you would like to know more.



Save the Dates!

Thursday, March 12,
11:15 a.m

Rev. Karen Lang, Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care, Second Presbyterian Church.

"What's on Your Plate Today?"
Luncheon at 11:15 a.m.

Thursday, May 13, 11:15 a.m.

Carrie Newcomer, Singer & Songwriter, Luncheon at 11:15 a.m.
"Finding Sacred in the Ordinary."

Thursday, May 13, 7 p.m.

An Evening with Carrie Newcomer Concert in the Sanctuary.



Inspiring Speaker Series



continued from cover

and members of the Nominating Committee and the presentation of the budget for 2009. The annual report will be distributed and church officers will be available to respond to questions. A video highlighting the life of the church in 2008 will be shown.

Following the 11:15 worship service, the congregation is invited to join in a lunch celebrating Second's mission outreach in 2008. In a symbolic act of sacrifice, no dessert will be served. The cost of dessert will go to the Indianapolis Interfaith

Hunger Initiative, a mission supported by Second Church. Special mission projects are being planned for the children and youth of the church.

Reservations for the lunch may be purchased online, or on Sundays, January 4, 11 and 18 during coffee hour between the 9:30 and 11 a.m. services, or at the receptionist desk in the Atrium at the church during the week. Tickets will be \$9 for adults, \$6 for children 12 & under, free for children 5 & under, with a \$25 maximum per family.

Again this year, we will have a mission project of hygiene kits, which will be prepared by our children and youth during our extended church school hour from 9:30 – 11:05. The kits will be prepared to support Red Cross disaster shelters and homeless adults in Indianapolis. Our congregation is now preparing to serve as a disaster shelter in the event of a catastrophic event in central Indiana. The Coalition for Homeless Intervention and Prevention (CHIP) will also use the kits in their work to support individuals and families who do not have permanent housing.

Calendar of Events

January 2009

5	❖ Deacons' Dinner and Meetings
6	❖ Prayer Shawl Ministry
7	❖ Parkinson's Disease Support Group ❖ Spousal Grief Support
10	❖ Prebaptismal Conference
11	❖ Choir School Kick-off with IndyOpera
12	❖ Centering Prayer
13	❖ Prayer Shawl Ministry ❖ New Day for Families of Divorce
14	❖ Westminster Choir College ❖ Middle School Winter Trip
15	❖ Official Launch of new Second Presbyterian Church Website
20	❖ Prayer Shawl Ministry ❖ Session Dinner and Meetings
21	❖ Parkinson's Disease Support Group ❖ Spousal Grief Support
24	❖ Marriage Preparation Program ❖ Discovery/New Member Class
25	❖ Annual Congregational Luncheon and Meeting ❖ Marriage Preparation Program ❖ Discovery/New Member Class
26	❖ Sage Council Meeting
27	❖ New Day for Families of Divorce
30	❖ Spiritual Formation Retreat

Please check SecondChurch.org for up-to-date information.

Periodically, in Second Presbyterian Church publications, you will notice small icons next to events. The icons have been placed in these locations to help guide you to "Spread Your Wings" at Second. For a better understanding of these icons, pick up a copy of the opportunities catalog, *Spread Your Wings*, available in the literature racks around the church.

- E Education V Volunteer Opportunities A Adult
- Y Youth C Children

SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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If you have recently changed your e-mail address, please contact the church office at 253-6461 or 2church@secondchurch.org to update our records!



SecondChurch.org version 2.0 to Launch!

New year brings new website: This January, a new and improved SecondChurch.org will offer many additional features that will enable groups to stay connected. Some of the new features will include daily lectionary, photo galleries, password protected group pages and calendars, a media center including video of sermons and some classes and many other features that will enable more timely and effective communication for the congregation and its community. Stay tuned.