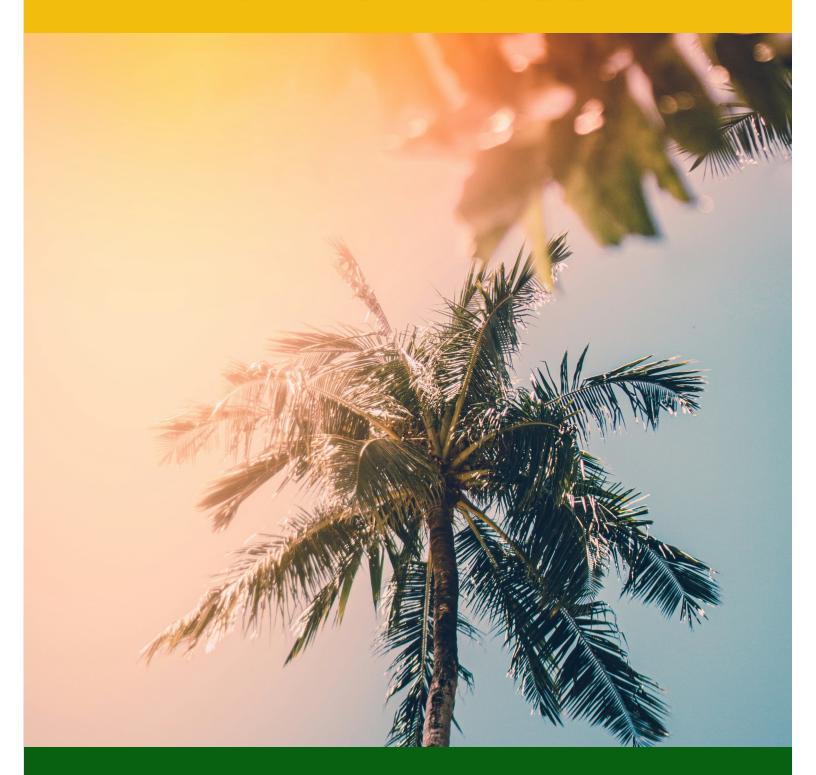
second chronicles



SUMMER 2025

WHAT'S COMING UP IN WORSHIP?

Worship in June



June 1 – Rev. Yvette Davis will be our guest preacher. She is the director of the Popel Shaw Center for Race and Ethnicity at Dickinson College. Before that she was ordained in the Methodist Church. She has also served as an adjunct professor at West Chester University of Pennsylvania, the director of Training and Leadership Development for POWER Interfaith, and the director of the Office of Urban and Global Ministries of the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference of The United Methodist Church. Rev. Davis and Pastor Jeff met last fall on the set of To Kill a Mockingbird, in which Rev. Davis played the lead role of Calpurnia. They have collaborated on bridge building and inter-racial understanding projects ever since. Pastor Jeff will lead other portions of worship.

June 8 – Fire Power! – God has blessed the church – including our Second Family – with the power of the Holy Spirit, but what does God want us to do with that power? On Pentecost Sunday we will think about this question. Pastor Jeff is preaching.

June 15 – There is More – Many young people are dealing with a kind of malaise that previous generations didn't experience in the same way. This seems to be leading to a decline in rates of marriage, parenthood, and even lasting friendships. God has good news for these folks: there is more to life than work, survival, and dopamine scrolling and swiping. Pastor Jeff is preaching on Father's Day.

June 22 – Entertaining Angels – Lots of people have said lots of things about migrants in recent years. But what does God say about migrants and migration in the Bible? Pastor Jeff will help us see why Second Church is committed to helping migrants of all kinds through ministries like the Fruitbelt Farmworkers Christian Ministry and Project SHARE.

June 29 – We Finish to Begin – How can faithful people think about our own mortality and death? The Bible tells us that the grave is actually a gateway to a new life. In light of this hope, Pastor Jeff will help us think critically about our national obsession with youthfulness, longevity, and survival at all costs.

Guest Preachers this Summer

Several terrific retired pastors will be leading us in worship this summer when Pastor Jeff is on study leave and vacation. Here are their names and the Presbyterian congregation's they retired from.

July 6 – Jim Richards – Cape May, NJ
July 13 — Jeanette Mater – Dickinson, PA
July 20 – Scott Bowerman – Central, Chambersburg, PA
July 27— Dave Wright – Gettysburg, PA
August 3 – Jim Richards
August 10 – Dave Wright



We're excited to welcome Scott Bowerman to our pulpit—July 20

This will be his first time preaching for our Second Family. Scott recently retired as pastor of Central Presbyterian Church in Chambersburg. Educated at Princeton Theological Seminary and Drew Theological School, he also served churches in South Carolina and Virginia. Scott and Susan have been married for 44 years and have three grown children and five grandchildren. He is an avid cyclist and (by his assessment) a mediocre golfer.

Our Session

Every Presbyterian congregation is led by a group of elected Elders who seek to discern and follow God's will for their church family. The Elders, including Dr. Gibelius, form what we call, "the Session." Most Elders are assigned to an area of responsibility, such as Funding, Facilities, Personnel, Adult Ministry, or Children, Youth, and Family Ministry. This year's ruling Elders are:

Roger Serr
Nancy Ritchey
Dave Brown
Cindy Sutton
Jerry Wilkes
Sally Kerstetter
Willa Jean Harner

Elizabeth Connelly Kate Cook Jimenez Susan Hartman Trevor Herman Diane Tokach Adriane Bailey, Clerk

Our Deacons

Soon after Jesus's resurrection and Pentecost the infant church was growing so fast that the leaders appointed a group of faithful people to focus on caring for members in need (Acts 6:1-7) Today that work is carried out by our Board of Deacons. The name "Deacon" comes from the Greek word for servant or minister, diakonos. Deacons can serve singly or in pairs. They are assigned to connect with and care for one of four groups of Second Family members and friends. Deacons work with each other cooperatively to cover everyone in their group. This year's Deacons are:

Charlie Bailey
Gretchan Naugle
Susan Kennedy
Susan Blackburn
Kim Bollinger, Moderator
Kathy Day
Lynn Kennaly
Dave Kennedy
Tom Kennedy
Laurel Spruill

Konnie Serr Lillian Wong George Vaites Jim Wolford Deb Brandberg Deb Kelly Karen Stanford Mike Stanford Delores Wolford Mary Zeladonis

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We Keep Your Donations Safe — You can be sure that your financial gifts are kept safe at every stage. We've recently upgraded our security procedures so that all mail received at the church through the US Postal Service is secure from the time it arrives until the time it is opened. We now have a locked mail-box on Garland Drive. Once retrieved all mail is stored for sorting in a locked cabinet. Then, once sorted, mail designated for our Treasurer, Terry Brown, is placed in his own locked mailbox above the safe in the Volunteer Center's Work Room. We also have a heavy duty safe where cash and checks are kept until deposited.

Where There's a Will There's a Way— You can bless your Second Family through your will. It's easy! Just name Second as a beneficiary along with other people and organizations that you trust and want to see prosper in the future.

Thank You, Betty Bowes and Sylvia Rambo!—The Session has received notice that Betty and Sylvia included their Second Family in their estate plans before they passed into "the church triumphant." Hallelujah! Their gifts will become part of the Generations Fund, which is designed to provide resources for our Second Family long into the future.

Please Check Your Giving Statements Regularly — Your Second Family protects your giving in many ways. There are safeguards built into the system at every stage to ensure that gifts are properly accounted for. You are one of the most important safeguards. Please take a moment to review your most recent paper giving statement for accuracy. Paper statements are sent approximately quarterly; you can review your giving records at any time online by checking your confidential Church Community Builder (CCB) account. If you need help accessing CCB or have any other questions about your statement, please immediately contact Nancy Ritchey, our Financial Income Secretary, by phone or email: 717-448-6926 or NancyJ7oSL@gmail.com. Thank you for helping us to help you!

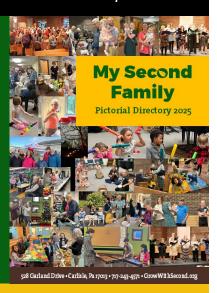


A Fire Drill on Pentecost?

Yup! On June 8, the Sunday when we will celebrate the Holy Spirit descending like fire on the disciples, we also have a fire drill at the end of worship. The Safety and Security Team of the Session thought the timing was perfect to remind everyone of how to evacuate the building safely in an emergency. As an added bonus for after the drill, there will be an interactive area outside with working fire extinguishers and fire blankets for you to try and even a real Carlisle fire truck to explore.

Second Family Directories

Available— If you would like a copy of the latest version of our pictorial directory of members and friends of Second Church, just request one from directly our Communications Coordinator, Destinee Friskey (Destinee@GrowWithSecond.org) or any staff member. We want you to know who's who in your Second Family, while keeping your personal contact information private. You can help us with this by using directory information only for purposes of personal connection and not business solicitation. You can also help others by ensuring that the information listed for you is accurate.





How to Ruin a Scammers Day — June 16, 11am —

Scammers take advantage of our fear and trusting nature. But if we remember a few simple principles we will be able to shut them down before they can do us harm. God wants us to be "as wise as serpents and as innocent as doves;" but God doesn't want us to be victims. Pastor Jeff — who has experienced his fair share of scam attempts— will help us spot their bait and reject it with confidence, and maybe even a sense of humor! Bring a friend!



Facilities Updates:

Over the next few months, the Facilities Team will be working on weeding, barking, and other landscaping work. We'll be finishing up the installation of river rock around the church building. You'll also see an exterior furniture refresh as we work on powerwashing and staining benches and handrails on the patio.

Opportunities to Serve and Connect at Second

June/July

The Serve Team will once again collect school supplies to support United Way's Fill the Bus Campaign. A bin will be available in the Volunteer Center at the end of June.

August

The school supplies collected in July are donated at a local event called Carlisle 4 Kids which takes place at the Expo Center. There are lots of opportunities to volunteer. Reach out to Vicki Lantz if you want to volunteer. Second Church participates at the Expo by giving away dye free Otter pops (think ice pops with less sugar and no dyes). If you would like to sponsor a \$15/80 count box, click on the link below or give online or put a check in the Offering box, Make sure you put Otter Pops in the memo line.

Teams that will continue through the summer months:

Grounds help over the summer—mulching and weeding are the main focus. **Denny Wimer is the lead**.

Greeters—as people walk in the door. Julie Rhen is the lead.

Hosts —think Usher, but it's about welcoming members into the Sanctuary, counting heads, perhaps helping Pastor Jeff by passing out or collecting papers, etc. **Sue Wimer is the lead.**

Taking the offering box to the front—this is a good place for our children and youth to be involved. Sign up at the host station at the back of the church, ask one of the hosts if you cannot find it.

Valet—99.9% of the time it's simply helping members and guests out of their cars who have difficulty getting in and out or have a walker or wheelchair. Rarely, but it is in the job description you might be asked to park a car. **Denny Wimer is the lead**.

Church Closer—each Sunday members of Second Church turn out the lights and make sure the doors are locked after Worship. We are in need of one other person to cover the third Sunday of the month. There is no need to wait until every person has left the building. As soon as Worship is over, this person begins to turn out lights in areas that are unoccupied. As you turn off the lights, you will secure the exterior doors in the Rotunda Lobby and Narthex Lobby. If you find you need to switch, the others on the list are always willing to make a switch or take an extra Sunday.

Our current Building Closers are Denny Wimer, Mark Smith, Sharon Gardner, Jim Wolford and Dave Brown (Substitute). Reach out to Vicki Lantz if you are willing to join our team.

Community Meals— If you like to cook or be part of a team providing food to those in our community who need a meal.

- Second Church provides Breakfast at The Breakfast Table to over 150 members on the 5th Sunday (3-4 times a year). Reach out to Kathy Beck.
- Community CARES welcomes meals and food donations, check out their website: morethanshelter.org
- St. Paul Lutheran Church in Carlisle offers a meal every Wednesday Night and welcomes new volunteers. They feed anywhere from 60-100 people. Second Church currently serves dinner on the 5th Wednesday of the month. Reach out to Roxanne Hagenbuch.
- Diane Tokach leads a group of teams who provide meals for the Salvation Army's My Brother's Table.
- Safe Harbour, Inc. Grab a group of friends and provide dinner for the residents of Safe Harbour.

Contact Vicki Lantz (vicki@growwithsecond.org or 717-609-6113) for information about these opportunities.

Fill the Bus School Supplies List

- □ Crayons
- □ Glue Sticks
- □ 6 Pens
- □ Pack of #2 Pencils
- □ Large Eraser
- □ 6 Mechanical Pencils
- □ Pack of Asst. Highlighters
- **□** Pencil Holder
- □ Children's Scissors
- □ Draw String Bag
- ☐ Pack of Loose Lea **Paper**

- **Paper**
- □ Pocket Folders w/ **Prongs**
- □ Pack of Colored Pencils/Markers
- □ Spiral Notebooks
- □ 1"3 Ring Binder
- □ Elementary Girl **Backpack**
- □ Elementary Boy Backpack
- □ Middle/Highschool **Girl Backpack**







Thank you from the Serve **Team & Community Cares**

A big thank you to all the members & friends of Second Presbyterian Church who donated items for the Welcome Home Kits for Community Cares. Due to your generous donations we can complete

More Welcome Home Kits

and keep this greatly needed & appreciated Serve Team project going.

Children, Youth, and Families Ministry

CYF this Summer - News from Bekah Barlow

Our ministries for Children, Youth, and their Families (CYF) continue to grow. We have been excited to see more children in our congregation and pray that God continues to bless the youth ministry at Second!

- SecondKids will continue to meet on a regular basis throughout the summer and will have several activities for children and some for families as well that will be scheduled soon.
- The Nursery will be open and staffed each Sunday.
- KidsPraise will happen in some form every Sunday during worship.
- Shine! is having monthly events with Pastor Jeff, starting with the June 7 Morning of Service at Community CARES.

With some respite from the hectic schedule of the school year, parents may want to consider the downtime an opportunity to check in with their children spiritually. Here's an article from Janet Denison to give you inspiration!

5 Ways to Include Jesus in Your Summer, by Janet Denison

No early morning alarms, carpool lanes, and homework projects. The unscheduled—or less scheduled—days of summer have begun!

You and your kids will enjoy the summer days ahead. Even for those who work outside the home, summer life is usually slower and vacations are ahead. Plan to enjoy the great gift of family this summer!

These months offer some opportunities to help your children spiritually as well. They might not be in a classroom, listening to teachers—but they are listening.

How can you help them hear a lot and experience a lot of Jesus this summer?

Invite Jesus into your day and expect him to come.

Every day can start with a prayer, with all the kids or one-on-one, that includes their requests for the day and thoughts of others. But a very important part of those prayers is watching to see how they are answered. Those answers will prompt some great "Jesus" conversations this summer.

Fill your home and car with Christian music.

There is so much to learn about Christ and experience through music. Tune your television and your radio to music that glorifies the Lord. Your kids will learn a lot from the lyrics and hopefully sing some of those thoughts and words to Jesus.

Help your kids serve Jesus and others.

They can read books about Jesus to younger kids and answer their questions. They can help with a VBS or at a mission. They can shop with you for others, mow an elderly person's lawn, or, for someone who's not able, walk their dog. If you pray for a chance to serve, Jesus will answer that prayer, and your kids will learn the sacrifice and blessing of helping others.

You probably spend more time with your kids during their days in June, July, and August. It's a good time to work on the basics.

A lot of "good" manners are also "God" matters. Connect the two.

- Running ahead to hold the door for the mom with the baby carrier or stroller.
- Reaching things from the shelf at the grocery store for the person in the motorized cart.
- Noticing the person in line who needs to go first.
- Responding to others with respect, even when that same respect has not been returned.
- Handing a water bottle or fast-food voucher to the person with the cardboard sign.

I'm sure you can think of more!

Family habits can become Jesus habits. Just connect the behavior with the One you are really serving.

Finally, Mom and Dad, simplify and set apart your summer for Christ.

We all want our kids to walk with and serve Jesus. Truthfully, the most important way to invite Jesus into your kids' summer is to invite him into yours. If your kids see you find joy in Jesus, serve Jesus, study and speak to Jesus, chances are, they will too.

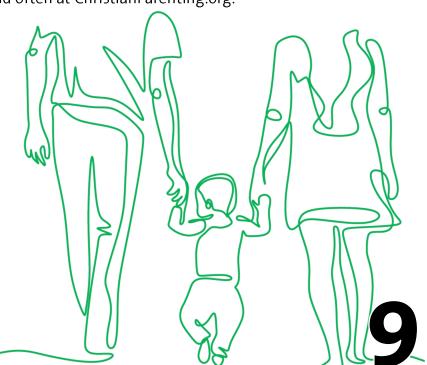
Faith and spirituality will be caught, as much as taught. If your kids know you need Jesus, they will likely realize they do too.

Psalm 16:11 says, "You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore."

Celebrate these wonderful days we call summer! Some of your best family times are just ahead. So take a few minutes now to pray that those moments will include the presence of Jesus, and those family times will become eternally greater.

Bless all of you as you work to raise your children to know and love the Lord!

Janet Denison teaches others to live an authentic faith through her writing, speaking, and teaching ministry. She blogs weekly at <u>Foundationswithjanet.org</u> and often at ChristianParenting.org.



Music Ministries at Second

Do you ever sing a song that feels like it wraps you up in a blanket and provides all the security you need? For moments, we can be transported to the comfort of God's loving embrace through a hymn like *The King of Love My Shepherd Is* (ST. COLUMBIA), based on an Irish melody, with text by Henry Williams Baker. If our Lord is the King of love, and this Good Shepherd leads us through verdant pastures with celestial food, surely we have nothing to fear. Even when we are tempted and find ourselves in the darkest of valleys, God will meet us there and guide us with the cross. May Jesus' unction (anointing) with grace be bestowed upon you.

The King of love my shepherd is, whose goodness faileth never; I nothing lack if I am his and he is mine forever.



Summer Pick-Up Choir - Second Sundays

Rehearsal at 9:30 am June 8, July 6, August 10

Want to get involved with the music ministry with instrumental or vocal music?—Reach out to Dir. of Music Ministries, Michelle Trefren - michelle@growwithsecond.org

Summer 2025 Community Arts Connections to Second—Check out what our members and volunteers are doing this summer!

- Kings Gap Music on the Mountain First Sundays, 2-6:30pm, June, July, Aug, Sept a great time for fellowship!
- A Summer's Night Recital Series July 24, 7pm (St. Patrick's Shrine Church, Carlisle) Elder Leah Gibson performs (as well as other dates in other locations throughout the summer)
- Shakespeare: Page to Stage July 24-27, 7pm Alyanna Montgomery performs as Bonvolio, the peace-maker
- Audience of One A Christian musical June 27, 28, 29 (The Junction Center, Manheim, PA) Second
 guest guitarist, Randy Zwally, will be playing for this premier musical about a youth choir that opts out
 of its summer choir tour in favor of a concert, just for God, on a mountaintop.
- June Shomaker Summerfair Concert: Harrisburg Symphony on the campus of Dickinson College- July 6,
 8pm



Easter Flower Donations Were Given By:

Bill Spruill
Kathy Beck
Susan Blackburn
Josh Kerstetter
Carol Pardridge
Chris Zeladonis
Sandra Goodling
Jane Showalter
Bill Turer
Carol Williams

Julie Estes, for those loved dearly

Elizabeth Ditenhafer in memory of Dave Ditenhafer

Sarah Larouche in memory of Vivian Brown and Joan Differt

Adriane Bailey in memory

Adriane Bailey in memory of Mindy Schlacter and Sharon Bailey

Deb Brandberg to the Glory of God

Mary Kutz in memory of Dave Kutz

Micki Paxton in memory of Alex Burgin

Carole Rollins in memory of Miles Cowdrey

Karen Schultz in memory of beloved parents

Denny Wimer in memory of Andy and Polly Miller

MEMBER MINISTRIES AT SECOND CHURCH

PW in Second Church is On Point this Summer!

In Person Meeting June 4th at Second, 4-6PM. Cookies and lemonade will be served!

PW Pop Ups!— We will be hosting PW Pop Ups! service projects. June 8th we'll collect donations for Operation Sweet Freedom and August 3rd collect donations for Domestic Violence Services of Cumberland and Perry Counties. Details to follow!

On Point! Potluck Picnics

- June 11th, at Lynn Kennaly's house @ 12 pm. Bring a dish to share! We will be making cards for the Veterans home.
- July 7th, at Second @ 5pm. Bring a dish to share! We will collecting feminine hygiene products for YWCA. BINGO and Tupperware games!
- Aug. 4th, at Second @ 5pm. Bring a dish to share! We will be collecting items for Safe Harbour. Canning 101 lessons from Diane!

Domestic Violence Services Lunches— We will be preparing lunches for DVS on June 10th and July 1st. Please sign up to help prepare lunch for 10 adults/5 children. Contact Lynn/Diane.

Field Trip! August 1st, meet at church at 9:30 am for a 10 am tour and birdhouse making at Meadow-brooke Gourds. Group picture and lunch afterwards!

PW Presbytery Meeting— August 16th at Green Ridge Village. Details to follow!

Join us for some or all activities! Get to know your Presbyterian Women Group in Second!

Co - Moderators
Lynn Kennaly <u>dkennaly@yahoo.com</u>
Diane Tokach drosen1057@gmail.com

Updates from the Aziz Family

In 2022 Second Church responded to God's call to help refugees from Afghanistan to resettle in our area. We were blessed to be matched with the family of Col. Aziz Azizullah, who worked closely with U.S. military leaders during the war. Col. Azizullah recently spoke to about 40 people in our congregation about the progress his family has made in the past few years and the issues migrants face in America right now as government funding has been eliminated for many of the programs that made his success possible. Congregations like ours are being asked to do whatever we can to make up that difference. Col. Azizullah now works with the International Service Center in Harrisburg, helping legal migrants to find the resources they need to learn English, start contributing to the workforce, and so on. When he spoke to our congregation he shared his great appreciation (please see his letter to the congregation) and invited his sixth grade daughter, Parwana, his eldest child, to speak to the group. Here's what she said:

My name is Parwana Azizi. I was born in 2013 in Kabul, Afghanistan,

and raised in a loving home with my parents, siblings, my grandparents, and extended family. My father served as a high-ranking colonel in the Afghan National Army Special Operations and worked closely with U.S. forces. Life was full of joy and dreams until everything changed on August 15, 2021.

When the Taliban took over Kabul, my family's safety was in danger because of my father's military ties. We lived in fear while my father went into hiding. Our home became a place of worry and sadness, and my education, like that of all Afghan girls, was taken away.

On August 26, 2021, my family was evacuated by the U.S. military. We left with nothing but the clothes we wore. After spending time in refugee camps in Germany and New Jersey, we were resettled in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, with the help of the International Service Center.

Even in the U.S., things weren't easy. My father went from being a colonel to working in a warehouse. We stayed in a hotel for two months. Life was hard, but we never gave up.

Thanks to volunteers from the Second Presbyterian Church in Carlisle, we found kindness, support, and a path to rebuild our lives. They helped us find a home, enroll in school, and adjust to a new life.

I started school in South Middleton, then transferred to Mooreland Elementary, where amazing teachers helped me learn English and catch up. In 2024, I began attending Lamberton Middle School. I've made the Distinguished Honor Roll three times.

My family continues to grow and thrive:

My father works hard every day to sup-

My mother brings warmth to our home.

My aunt graduated from Shippensburg University.

My uncle completed plumbing training and works full-time.

My siblings are doing well in school.



port us.

Still, not all our stories have found peace. My grandparents, who once held our family together with wisdom, love, and strength, remain in Afghanistan, living under constant fear and uncertainty. They are elderly and vulnerable, with limited access to medical care, food, and basic resources. Every phone call with them is both a blessing and a heartache. We're grateful to hear their voices, but it hurts to know how much they endure in silence.

Separation weighs heavily on us. My parents carry the worry in their eyes, especially my father, who feels powerless to protect those he once could. I often think of my grandparents' stories, their sacrifices, and their gentle hands that raised generations. They should be resting in comfort and dignity, not living in fear and hardship.

We are deeply thankful to the Second Presbyterian Church and everyone who supported us, from U.S. soldiers to kind neighbors. You didn't just help us survive, you helped us rise.

Today, I am not just a refugee. I am a student, a dreamer, and a voice for Afghan girls who are still waiting to be free.

To them, I say: I see you. I will speak for you, and I will succeed for you.

To those who helped us: Thank you for giving us not just a home, but a future filled with hope.

April 20, 2025

Dear Esteemed Members of Second Presbyterian Church,

On behalf of myself and my entire family, I would like to extend our deepest and most heartfelt gratitude to each one of you for the extraordinary support, kindness, and compassion you have shown us since our arrival in the United States.

Words cannot fully express how much your unwavering support has meant to us during one of the most challenging transitions of our lives. From helping us find a home, enrolling our children in school, and providing transportation, to offering financial assistance, cultural guidance, and emotional support, you have been there for us in every way imaginable. Your generosity and empathy have truly made us feel welcome, safe, and part of a caring community.

The path of resettlement is never easy, but thanks to your involvement, our journey has been filled with hope, dignity, and encouragement. Your thoughtful acts of kindness not only met our practical needs but also touched our hearts and uplifted our spirits during a time when we needed it the most.

Your church community has exemplified the very best of humanity, extending friendship and care across cultures and differences. We are honored and blessed to have had the support of such selfless individuals, and we will never forget the role you played in helping us rebuild our lives with strength and confidence.

We are especially grateful not only for the help you have already given us, but also for your ongoing support and care. As we continue working toward full independence and integration into our new community, we still need your guidance and assistance. Knowing that we are not alone on this journey gives us great strength and reassurance.

Please accept our sincerest thanks and appreciation. We pray for continued blessings upon each of you, and we hope to one day give back to others in the same meaningful way that you have given to us.

With heartfelt gratitude and respect, Azizullah Aziz & Family



