

second chronicles



April & May 2023

Holy Week & Easter Worship



Palm Sunday – April 2 – We'll celebrate the Lord's Supper, put ourselves into the Palm Sunday procession (spiritually, at least), and receive palms to wave in honor of Jesus. A lunch in honor of Al Speers' life will follow the service. Please RSVP at GrowWithSecond.org

Maundy Thursday – April 6 – A candlelit worship service including the Lord's Supper and scripture readings recounting the last hours of Jesus' passion will be offered at 7pm. Come at 6pm for a Second Family dinner.

Easter Sunday – April 9 – We'll come together for a special celebration at 10:30am (in the Sanctuary or online). Start looking forward to festive music (including the Hallelujah Chorus!) and an Easter message of hope. Bring a friend!

Lots to look forward to in Worship after Easter

April 16 – Dr. Marcellus Taylor will be our guest preacher.

May 14 – We'll celebrate mothers in worship.

May 21 – Ordination of Officers, followed a mini-reception in the Narthex.

May 28 – Pentecost Sunday – On Memorial Day weekend we'll find out what the Holy Spirit has to do with the Empress of Ireland, and you.



Rev. Dr. Marcellus Taylor, Ed.D.

Congregational Meeting to Elect Elders and Deacons, May 7

You can join this important meeting in person or on Zoom (check the website and May 7 Connect Card for the link).



Easter Offering

You Can Help Turkey & Syria

In 2018, Second Church began collecting money through the Easter Offering to support missions. That first year, we held our Buckets of Love, Bags of Hope Campaign. We solicited money and supplies to make disaster relief buckets for clean-up (trash bags, liquid soap, gloves, etc.) and bags of basic toiletries (soap, toothbrush, band aids, wash cloth, etc.) Since then, our Easter Offering has supported Craig Presbyterian Church devastated by Mississippi Flooding. In 2020 we did not ask for any money due to Covid, but you sent it anyway. This allowed Pastor Jeff to provide support to people who reached out to Second Church when they thought they had nowhere else to turn. In 2021, with many still out of work from the pandemic, Samaritan Fellowship saw an increase in requests for items such as rent, electricity, and water bills and we supported their ministry. 2022 saw the beginning of the war in Ukraine. We sent money through PC(USA) to support their efforts to keep Ukrainians safe, provide aid and relief.

In 2023, we have an opportunity to help a community suffering unimaginable devastation through two organizations. The Serve Team is asking for your help to provide meals to the men, women, and children affected by the earthquakes in Syria and Turkey. We will do this through an organization called World Central Kitchen. WCK is first to the frontlines, providing meals in response to humanitarian, climate, and community crises. We will also aid in the clean-up efforts by sending a portion of the Easter Offering to PC(USA) to support the efforts of the people on the ground providing humanitarian aid.

During Lent, we are encouraged to travel to the other side, just as Jesus crossed the Sea of Galilee to minister to people who were “others,” “outsiders,” and beyond God’s grace. We have been encouraged to be challenged by someone whose faith might be other than ours and informed by people we think of as different. And though we may never get to go to the other side to meet the people of Syria and Turkey. Through your generosity this Easter season: Second Church can show the love of Christ, we can extend God’s grace when they need it most.

Honor a Loved One this Easter with Flowers

We decorate the Sanctuary chancel on Easter Sunday with flowers.

Use the giving page of the website, or send a check to the church. Please mark in the memo line “Easter flowers”. Include a note with your requested dedication name:

In Honor of (name)

In Memory of (name)

To the Glory of God by (name)

The last day to dedicate a flower is Palm Sunday.



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— A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR JEFF GIBELIUS

“Let Us Go to the Other Side....”

—Mark 4:35

You may wonder why I’m so passionate about “going to the Other Side” with Jesus. I think it’s how I grew up. I had lots of “other side” experiences without knowing it. Along the way, I learned a lot about other people and cultures.

My parents participated in “Fresh Air” experiences for “underprivileged” kids from the “inner city.” For several summers we hosted Laverne, a young Black girl, about my sister’s age. She was likely from Albany, or maybe New York City, and came to stay with us for “fresh air” out in the country for two weeks each year. When I was in high school we became a foster family to Jenny, who had recently been discharged from the local reform school and needed a place to stay while she finished her high school degree. The pastor of the Lutheran Church I attended was best friends with the local Catholic priest, and he made a point of telling us this in a time when friendships between diehard Catholics and blue blood Protestants were rare. When I was small we vacationed annually on Cape Cod with several other families, including Susan and Judy, whom I assumed were just friends. It was only years later that I realized that Susan and Judy were more than friends.

I think God was preparing me all along through these and other experiences to be the kind of person who sees people on “the Other Side” as friends to be discovered rather than broken people who need to be fixed. Through my work with you at Second Church I think we are showing the people of Carlisle that we can have strong disagreements and clear differences, but also respect and care for one another. Thanks for having the faith and courage needed to go to the Other Side for Christ.

Summer at Second Includes Sabbatical Part 2

We are making plans now for June, July, and August. One thing we already know is that Pastor Jeff will be completing his sabbatical this summer, from June through mid-August. Pastors at Second are granted an extra amount of time off for study and spiritual renewal every seven years. Rev. Gibelius took half of that time last summer, to study in Greece and Turkey, and will complete his sabbatical this summer. He has completed 15 years of service here.



Thank You for Giving to the Every Member Offering!

We have received \$6735, representing 217 members of our Second Family. It’s not too late to make your offering (suggested amount: \$31/member). This offering supports our Presbytery, Synod, and National Church.

Second Circle on Thursday—2 Opportunities: A Day Retreat in April and a Sharing Group Meeting at the Church

We are welcoming new individuals to join our group. We have been meeting for several years, reading books about the spiritual life, sharing our thoughts, and learning from each other. Now we would like to invite you to join our group. We meet Thursday afternoon at the church twice a month.

We will be finishing our current book (*Where God Was Born: A Daring Adventure Through the Bible's Greatest Stories*, by Bruce Feiler,) in the next month or so. Then we will begin *Dakota* by Kathleen Norris.

We are also planning a day retreat to a local retreat house in April, to spend the day together for praise, reading, reflection and sharing, Oh yes, and a really good lunch together. You are welcome to join us for that day. Details are being settled now, but let us know if you are interested and we will be sure you have the information.

If you have any questions, please ask one of us. We are looking forward to sharing with you about our group and what we are doing.

Al Speers To Be Remembered on April 2

Al recently died at age 92 after decades of service to his Second Family, both as a staffer and as volunteer. He was an ardent supporter of Penn State, loved tutoring math at Carlisle High School, and supported local arts in many ways. Over the years he taught and mentored literally hundreds, if not thousands, of students. Al did not want a formal memorial service; his family, however, has given their blessing for this celebratory lunch on April 2. All are welcome.

RSVP at GrowWithSecond.org





Mary Zeladonis, Church Treasurer, Announces Retirement

Mary joined our staff in March 2018 and has served with distinction for the past five years. During that time she participated in a full audit of our finances, updated our accounting software, and greatly expanded our online giving participation. While she is retiring from the staff at the end of May, she is not leaving our Second Family. Please thank her when you see her.

Church Treasurer Staff Position Available

Mary Zeladonis is retiring at the end of May. We are looking for a part-time person to follow in her footsteps. You can work from home or an office in the church building. Set your own hours. This is a salaried position. Candidates should be familiar with Quickbooks or similar small business bookkeeping software. Interested? Please contact Elders Melinda Sebring or Deborah Sweaney from the Funding Committee and they can get you in touch with the right people.

Leaders Wanted, Valued, and Needed

One of the strengths of Presbyterian congregations around the country is that they aren't run by Pastors. Instead, Elders (volunteers) and Pastors (staff) share responsibility for guiding the congregation and other volunteers and staff "run" the ministries of the congregation. In this sense, all Presbyterian congregations function like families, with every member of the family contributing to the strength of the family through helping to lead.

Right now your Second Family needs leaders at every level of ministry. We need people to help organize our worship volunteers (Join our Worship Advisory Team), guide our Nursery volunteers (Join the Children, Youth, and Family Committee), and supervise our contractors on some upcoming building maintenance and construction projects (the Facilities Committee needs you). Many of these leadership positions involve small amounts of time each week or for a very limited time; most of the responsibilities can be done remotely from home through Zoom, email, and our Virtual File Cabinet. Even if you've never thought of yourself as a leader, the time has come for you to picture yourself in a new way. We will train and equip you for success at whatever level you choose. Pastor Jeff Gibelius or Vicki Lantz, Coordinator of Adult Ministry, can get you started.

Thank You Officers!

The following people answered God's call and served to the best of their ability during an especially challenging season of ministry for our Second Family. Please thank them for their dedication, compassion, and creative leadership.

Retiring Elders

Skip Brown
Adriane Bailey
Debbie Masland
Mike Varner

Retiring Deacons

Linda Anderson
Joy Burkholder
Elizabeth Connelly
Joyce Moser
Gretchen Naugle
Shelley Raker
Nancy Ritchey
Laurel Spruill

Church is Not a Spectator Sport

Watching the March Madness basketball tournament is a blast and watching Sunday afternoon football on TV is a family tradition in many homes. But God needs you *IN* the game, not watching it.

The people who grow the most spiritually are usually the most committed and involved. There are exceptions, but in most cases faith follows connection. The more connected you are to your Second family, the more friendships you build, the more you rely on God for decision making, and the more God plays a part in your daily life. If you're wanting to grow spiritually, you may need to get off the sidelines and get into the game.

Consider joining one of our boards, committees, teams, task forces, or ministries. And you can even start your own member ministry.

Boards

We have two boards of officers: Elders (a/k/a the Session) and Deacons. Officers are elected and ordained. You must be a church member to be an officer. Elders meet monthly; Deacons do not have regular meetings.

Committees

Formed by Session – there are 6 standing committees: Personnel, Funding, Facilities, CYF (Children, Youth, and Family Ministry), Adult Ministry, and Nominating. Committees meet approximately monthly and are led by an Elder. Committees create and oversee their own Teams, Task Forces, and Ministries to accomplish their work.

Teams

Formed by a Committee or Session – these standing entities focus on a general area of responsibility under a committee. For example, Facilities has a Grounds Advisory Team and a Tech Advisory Team. Adult Ministry has several teams: Serve, Connect, Worship Advisory, and Care. The Session has a Strategic Guides Implementation Team. Teams can be led by any member of the congregation. Teams meet as needed and report to whomever created them.

Task Forces

Formed by a Committee or the Session – these are short-term, time-limited groups that address a specific issue or project. They can be led by any member of the congregation. Current task forces include the Mission House Task Force (Session), and Hiring Task Force (Personnel). Task forces meet as needed until disbanded and report to whomever created them.

Ministries

Examples include the Tech Operations Ministry, Second Singers, JAM, Thursday Bible Study, etc. Ministries are not decision-making groups; they are **DOING** groups. They are accountable to and supported and funded by the Committee, etc., that created them. Congregational Ministries can be led by anyone; they need to be connected to a committee. Ministries include more volunteers than any other entity by far.

Member Ministries — these are similar, but not supervised, funded or supported by a committee. You have lots of freedom to do what God is calling you to do. Any staff member can get you more information on how to create your own Member Ministry, like the Prayer Shawl ministry, Brown Baggers, Women's Dinner Group, and the annual Craft Bazaar.

Any staff member can help you join the group of volunteers that's right for you and your faith journey.

SECONDKIDS & SECONDYOUTH NEWS

Faith, Family and Fellowship Gatherings

We have created a space for parents to gather on Sunday afternoons at 3:30 in meeting room A. We just finished our 4-week guide to helping families explore ways to make faith stick in the lives of their children. We enjoyed great conversations, a guided curriculum, wonderful fellowship, and a meal with everyone at the end. The children enjoyed playing in the nursery and the big kids enjoyed playing in our downstairs spaces with our child care volunteers. We will most likely launch a spring gathering, dates are to be determined.



Easter Egg Hunt

April 1 at 10am

Families, please join us for an Easter Egg Hunt which is open to all. Our hunt will be inside, with eggs scattered throughout the church. There will be golden eggs which give you prizes and older children and youth, you are welcome to participate in an egg-scavenger hunt.

Gifting Bibles

Is your youth in 2nd or 3rd grade or 5th or 6th grade? If they have not received a Bible, we will be blessing them with Bibles in Worship on April 30. Please let me know if your youth will be joining us for this event and would like to receive a Bible. For more information please contact sarah@growwithsecond.org



Celebrating our Graduates

We would like to start collecting photos and graduation announcements from our high school and college graduates. The ceremony will be during worship in June, but we would like to begin gathering the details. Please send me a photo and a little summary of what your youth or college student is doing after graduation.

Summer to Serve

Our summer of service is in the works, but dates will be posted closer to June. We will be providing opportunities for families to join together and serve our Carlisle community. We hope you will join us this summer as we grow together, grow closer to God, and grow closer to our neighbors on the margins.



MEMBER MINISTRIES



Our **Spring Whale of a Sale** is Saturday, April 22. Please think about volunteering at Whale of a Sale!

Set-up: We need strong men and women to help with initial table and rack moving. This year we are going to do this on Monday April 19, from 8—noon. All of our tables, racks, etc, are now stored at church, so this will be easier. Volunteer help is also needed daily during Whale week to unpack and display inventory.

Donations of food for the workers is also greatly appreciated!

Drop-off of sale items: Monday, April 17, noon to 4 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday 8:30 to 4, Wednesday 8:30 to 7:30, and Friday 8:30 to noon.

Sale day requires a lot of help from 6 am to 3 pm even if can only donate a few hours.

Clean-up is sale day at 3 pm.

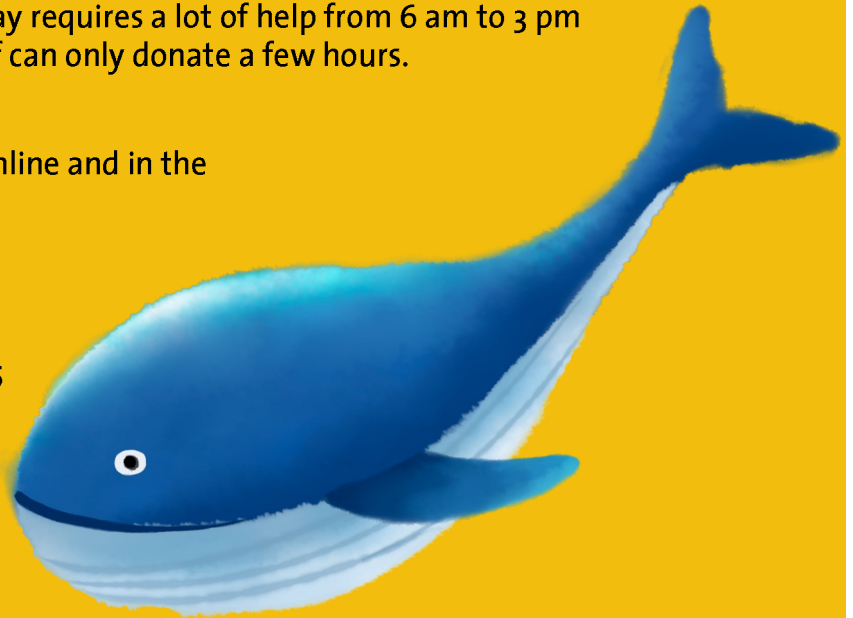
Volunteer sign-up will soon be available both online and in the church narthex before worship.

If questions, contact:

Sandra Goodling, goodlingsandra@gmail.com

717-422-7009

Carol Turner, cturn717@gmail.com, 717-462-4875



WHALE OF A SALE
April 22



REMINDER:

Giant grocery cards are available for purchase the third Sunday of each month. Proceeds benefit mission giving. Thank you.

second
presbyterian church
528 Garland Drive
Carlisle, Pa 17013



Easter
SUNDAY
• HE IS RISEN •

Celebrate @ Second, April 9, 10:30 AM