second chronicles

October & November 2021

Fall Into October Worship

10/3	**Rev. Cheryl Galan** is the Interim Executive Presbyter of Carlisle Presbytery. She will share a message of hope and challenge before we celebrate the Lord's Supper together.
10/10	**Sarah Hostetter,** our Pastoral Intern, will help us see how we can all be encouragers in Christ, just like St. Paul was (check out Philippians 4:4-9).
10/17	**Feel Like You're Being Followed?** Jesus does. Pastor Jeff will lead us in reflecting on what following Jesus can look like for us today.
10/24	**Rabbi, Teach ...** -- What did Jesus say about the offering? He transformed it from a transactional obligation to an act of worship and devotion. Pastor Jeff will draw on his knowledge of ancient Jewish customs to help us see how giving to God is an expression of
10/31	**Reformation Sunday!** We can barely imagine how the Reformation led by Martin Luther and codified by John Calvin more than 500 years ago, changed the way Christians looked at everything: government, grace, and even giving.

Give Thanks for November Worship

11/7	**Anniversary Sunday!** This date is 50 years to the day when we first dedicated our Sanctuary – and our brand new building -- to God's glory. We'll celebrate the Lord's Supper and remember with joy the vision and sacrifices made by previous members of our Second Fami-
11/14	**On Veterans Day Weekend**, Pastor Jeff will interview Col. Aaron Dixon, a student at the U.S. Army War College, about his faith and how he expresses it in the course of his duties, on and off the battle-field. We will recognize our veterans and highlight the Christian val-
11/21	**Thanksgiving Sunday!** We'll respond to God's gifts by presenting our own gifts, tithes, and estimates of giving for 2022.

Advent is a time brimming with possibility—reminding us of the possibilities when God first said, "Let there be..." and there was.... In a series of worship services we will say to God, "Let there be..." Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love. Sarah Hostetter, our Pastoral Intern, will get us started on November 28, the first Sunday of Advent.

Book of Genesis

Written by Kei Miller

Suppose there was a book full of only the word,
let – from whose clipped sound all things begin:
fir and firmament, feather, the first whale – and suppose

we could scroll through its pages every day
to find and pronounce a Let meant only for us–
we would stumble through the streets with open books,

eyes crossed from too much reading; we would speak
in auto-rhyme, the world would echo itself – and still
we'd continue in rounds, saying let and let and let

until even silent dreams had been allowed.

Fall Fellowship at Second Church

Wednesday, October 6, 6 PM - Dessert and Ice-cream on the patio – bring along your favorite dessert (homemade or store bought is great!) and we'll provide the ice cream and drinks!

Celebrating

Second Presbyterian Church's

50 YEARS AT 528 GARLAND DRIVE

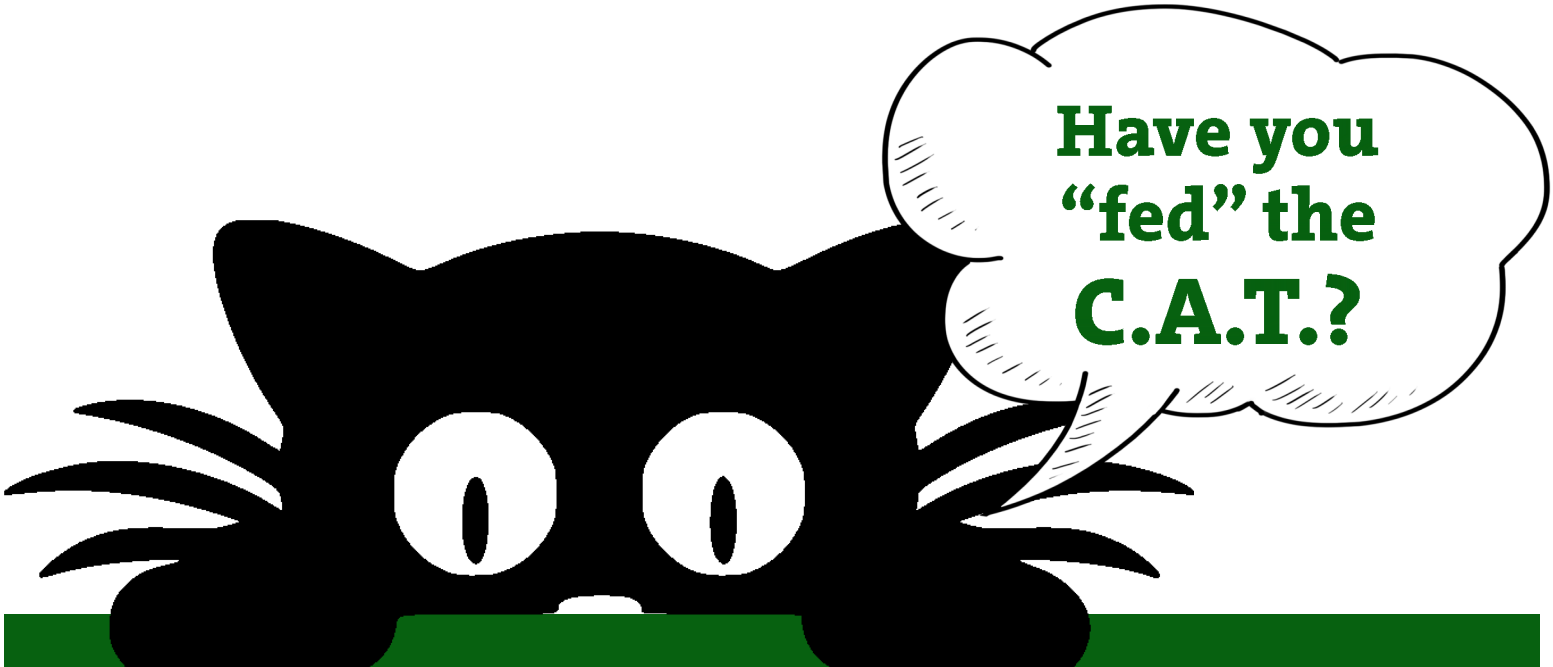
Sunday November 7
Following worship

Coming On December 12, 6 PM – Hot Chocolate & Carols

Held outside. Sponsored by CYF and Adult Ministry.

Coming in October...a Zoom Bible Study

Dori Hjalmarson, our Presbytery Co-Worker in Honduras, will facilitate via Zoom. Stay tuned for more information or contact Vicki@growwithsecond.org to be informed.



Congregational Assessment Tool

Have we heard from you? A big high paw (high five) to everyone who has already filled out the CAT.

For those of you who haven't, please don't forget to feed your Second Family CAT!! The Congregational Assessment Tool is a survey that will help us chart the future for pastoral leadership and ministries. It is an opportunity to hear what you think and make confident decisions based on your perspectives. The Second Church's CAT will be open until 2 October. Your opinion is important to us; purrfect in every way. Thank you for taking time to Feed the CAT! Need a survey? Email "CAT" to Info@growwithsecond.org.

SecondKids & SecondYouth News

JAM Continues!

For children PreK through 5th Grade.

Please join us in-person at 9am on Sundays.

For a fun filled morning of games, stories and study while we continue to deepen our relationship with Jesus.

Please contact kyle@growwithsecond.org for more info.

Saturday, October 23rd, 2-4 PM

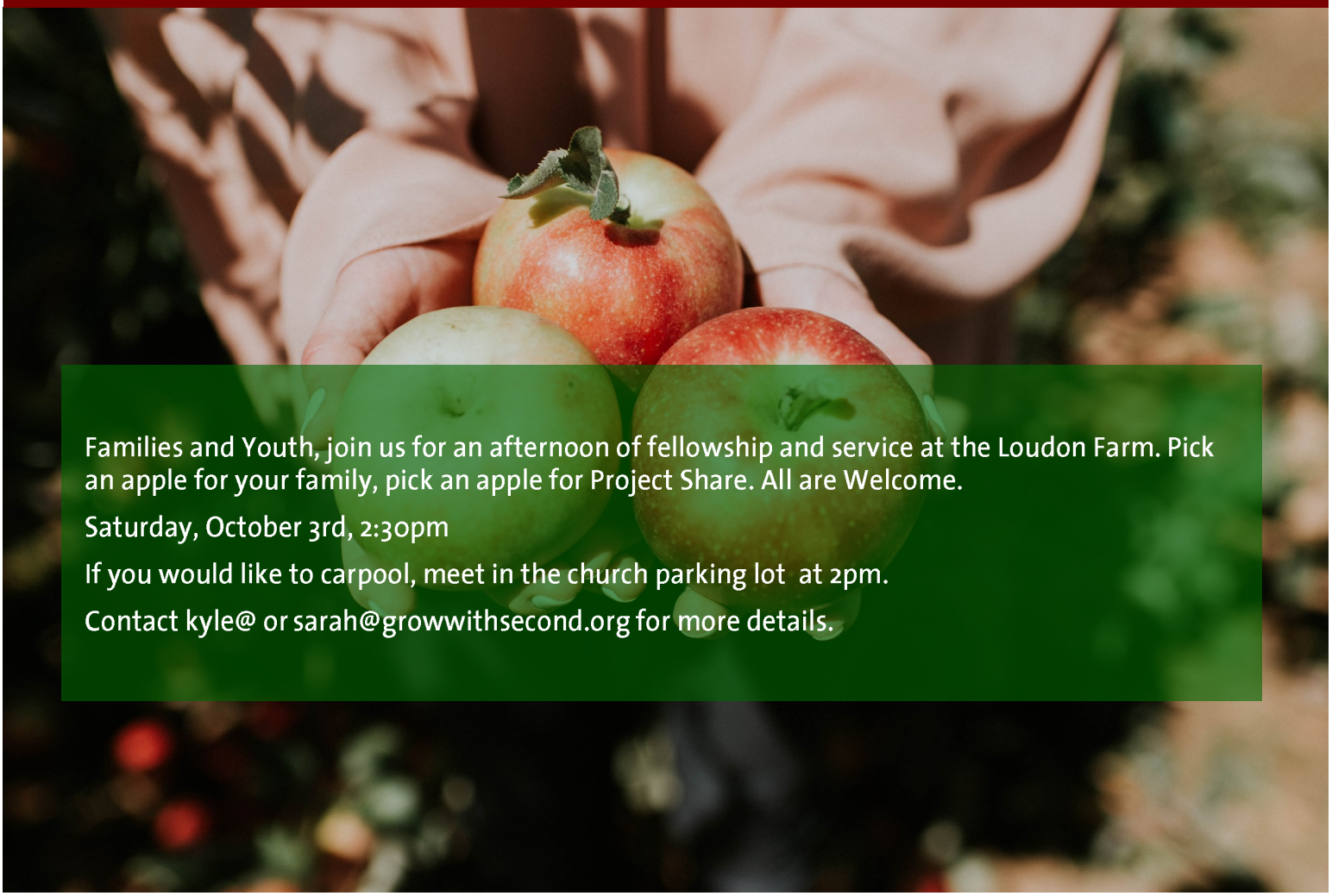
Kids come in costume and enjoy a fun, safe trick or treating experience.

Adults, we need you to decorate your trunks and hand out candy for our youngest Second Family.

All, we will accept all candy donations, look for boxes in the narthex.

...stay tuned for more CYF events as we move safely forward for the year.

CYF and Serve Apple Picking



Families and Youth, join us for an afternoon of fellowship and service at the Loudon Farm. Pick an apple for your family, pick an apple for Project Share. All are Welcome.

Saturday, October 3rd, 2:30pm

If you would like to carpool, meet in the church parking lot at 2pm.

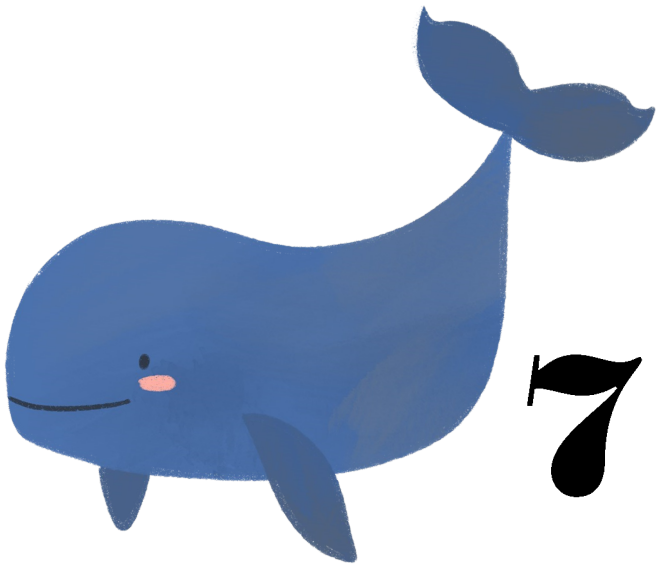
Contact kyle@ or sarah@growwithsecond.org for more details.

The Breakfast Table: October 31, 9 AM

The Breakfast Table occurs on Sunday mornings at 9 am at New Life Community Church. This is an opportunity for those in need of a meal to receive one on Sunday morning. You are invited to participate by providing food (juice, casseroles, breakfast food, fruit, muffins, and drinks) or to serve the meal. Please sign up to let us know how you would like to volunteer (serve or provide food) at growwithsecond.org/serve.

Whale of a Sale: Fall 2021

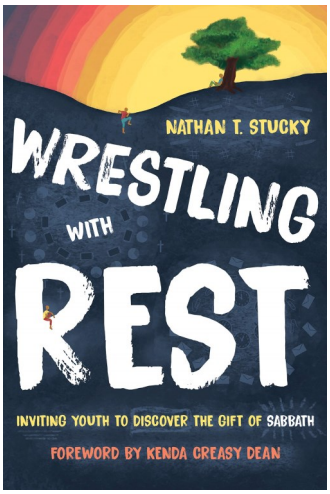
Presbyterian Women has made the difficult decision to not hold a fall sale out of an abundance of COVID concern.



HELLO SOON TO BE FRIENDS,

My name is Sarah Hostetter, the new Pastoral Intern here at church, and I am so excited to become a part of your Second family. Something you might learn about me is that I am a "half-book" kind of gal. I start a lot of books, and I always mean to finish them, but then I hear about another good book and I get pulled into it before I finish the first. So if you have this same tendency, then I am sorry because I have another fantastic book to recommend for you in this month's Chronicle. I loved this book so much I actually finished it!

In my years of Youth, College and Young Adult Ministry, a topic that we regularly discussed was the importance of Sabbath rest or holy rest (which I tend to use interchangeably). I would tell them it is not just an "adult" need, but truly a "person" need. I found that as kids go back to school they create habits and establish patterns to help them survive, and stay on top of everything. However, holy rest, or let's be honest, rest period, does not make it in.



Nathan Stucky, a once Mennonite, now Presbyterian professor at Princeton Seminary, wrote a book that I love called, *Wrestling with Rest: Inviting Youth to Discover the Gift of Sabbath*. Stucky highlights the importance of rest, or specifically Sabbath rest, in the lives of young people rather than the usual focus of, "Work hard. Receive reward. Repeat" (Stucky, 22). Nathan Stucky journeyed through this project for multiple years partly because he did not want his kids to ever feel that they are only loved because of what they do, but loved even before they existed.

In Stucky's first chapter, "Wrestling with Rest: Whoever Said This Was Easy?" Stucky starts with a story of a boy who does a lot of really good things, but his worth is wrapped up in what he does. Church and charity events were even a part of this unhealthy belief that if he does a lot of good things, God will love him more. I think many of us fall into this mentality, not just young people. It is not that doing all of these good things makes him a bad person, but it does shift the way he thinks about how his relationship with God should operate. In the following chapters Stucky tries to help the readers see that busyness does not make us better Christians.

In chapters two and three, "Rest is for the Weak...and You'll Die Without it," and "Anxious for Rest...Anxious at Rest," Stucky explores how resting can be a way to counteract this busyness mentality, and that real holy rest can help us see our worth in a new light. Stucky does point out that a problem that young people have is that they are a part of a world that identifies rest as weak. To go even further, although rest is supposed to ease stress and anxiety, many young people complain that rest creates more anxiety. So Stucky, focuses a lot on the science behind healthy rested young people vs. the cultural realities that oppose this notion.

In Stucky's fourth chapter, "On the Seventh Day, God Rested," he talks about how Sabbath Rest does not diminish our accomplishments and effort, rather it enlivens our work, and it gives it meaning and purpose. Sabbath Rest helps us to see that we do not receive God's love because of what we do, but because of being beloved children of God. Once we have this new understanding of who we are in Christ it changes how and why we do something.

Finally, in chapter 5, "Jesus and Sabbath," Stucky addresses the question many people ask about resting: "wasn't Jesus busy on the Sabbath, and blatantly chastising religious leaders for their rigid and legalistic views of God and God's laws (like laws about the Sabbath)?" Stucky helps us see that what Jesus was doing on the Sabbath was not striving for accomplishment and achievement, but striving to enable people to experience a little more of God's love.

Stucky does not just challenge young people to participate in Holy Rest, but parents as well, for we cannot push our children to practice Sabbath Rest if we are not practicing ourselves. Kids will learn as much or more from watching their parents live their lives, as they will from listening to what their parents try to teach them.

I truly love this book, and remember having a hard time putting it down. If this preview has intrigued you, feel free to reach out. I would love to have more conversations with you about this inspiring and informative read, and may even re-read it alongside you!

I close with this quote from Stucky:

> "GOD'S INVITATION CONTINUES, BUT WE MUST REST IF WE WANT TO HEAR IT"
>
> (Stucky, 122).

May this inspire you to slow down and hear God's invitation to you today, and help a young person you love to do the same.

Blessings,
Sarah Hostetter

Check out this book:

Stucky, Nathan T. *Wrestling with Rest: Inviting Youth to Discover the Gift of Sabbath*. William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company: Grand Rapids, 2019.

Stewardship 2022

Giving is GROWING

You can grow closer to God and God's people with exercises. One of them is by practicing the spiritual exercise of generous giving. Are you growing in your faith? Then your giving will likely grow, too, as a result. Not growing in your faith? It could be that your giving has grown stagnant. This year's stewardship theme connects our giving with gratitude, duty, vision, sacrifice, devotion, and joy.

Please begin praying now about your giving goals for 2022 – not just your financial giving to God, but also your service to God by helping others. Stewardship Sunday is November 21.

Moment of Remembrance in the Memorial Garden – November 7 (Anniversary Sunday) – 9:45am. Join Pastor Jeff in the Interment area of the Memorial Garden to remember all those dear ones whose ashes are interred there. Anyone who wishes to "give thanks and remember" is welcome to participate.

Grace Notes

from Michelle Trefren, Director of Music Ministries

Sometimes words are hard to find. What's on the tip of your tongue may not always match what's at the bottom of your heart. Other times when we are so moved, we may feel as though our breath was taken away by something so awe-inspiring, or perhaps by something so devastating. In all of these scenarios, we can find power in our breath, and in turn, our song.

When you can't find words, you can find your breath.

Find it now. Breathe. IN through your nose, all the way around to your back, and OUT, completely out your mouth until your ribs have fully descended.

When you find your breath, exhale on a whispered "Ah."

Exhale completely. Breathe in deeply over three to five counts, releasing your stomach muscles.

Hum a note, any note. Then another, higher or lower. Try adding other notes in, taking full deep breaths anytime you need to.

Can this morph into humming a familiar song to you? The Doxology perhaps?

Praise God from whom all blessings flow...DEEP BREATH - take all the time you need to exhale completely and inhale completely through your nose...

Praise Him all creatures here below...DEEP BREATH...

Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts...DEEP BREATH...

Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost...DEEP BREATH...

Amen.

At a loss for words? Find your breath and feel the Holy Spirit enter and enliven your cells into song!

Second Presbyterian Church
528 Garland Drive
Carlisle, Pa 17013

Stewardship 2022

Giving is GROWING