



Second Press

Volume 36 Issue 5 May 2018



Alex Evans, Pastor

Dear Church Family,
I have been doing lots of thinking and praying recently about INTEGRITY.

INTEGRITY is, we can agree, something of first importance. We want it in our spouses, friends, and children. We want

it in our elected leaders and community leaders. We want it in our corporations and the products they manufacture. In some ways, INTEGRITY is like good weather – everyone is in favor of it. And when integrity is lacking, everyone is concerned.

The word – *integrity* – comes from the same Latin root as *integer*. Do you remember that word from your school days? *Integrity* historically has been understood to carry much the same sense as *integer*, the sense of *wholeness*. A person of integrity, like a whole number, is a whole person, a person somehow undivided. Integrity implies a completeness, a serenity, as the person always tries to live in the commitment and the knowledge of living rightly, doing rightly. Stephen L. Carter, a professor at Yale, wrote a book entitled *Integrity*, and says “a person of integrity lurks somewhere inside each of us: a person we feel we can trust to do right, to play by the rules, to keep commitments.”

Carter also goes on to discuss integrity and how it always requires three steps: 1) *discerning* what is right and what is wrong; 2) *acting* on what you have discerned, even at personal cost; and 3) *saying openly* that you are acting on your understanding of right and wrong. The first criterion captures the sense of moral reflectiveness and self-awareness. The second brings in the ideal of an integral person as steadfast, which involves not just thinking or saying things, but commitments. The third reminds us that a person of integrity is unashamed of doing the right thing.

Think for a moment about the people in your life whom you admire, or have inspired you, the most. Give thanks to God for individuals who lived with integrity, faith, and grace.

Of course, while integrity can touch all of life and all faith traditions, Jesus speaks often about things that relate to this important concept. Matthew 5 – the Sermon on the Mount – calls disciples to be people of wholeness and integrity. Jesus invites us to be undivided in living for God, to be “pure in heart,” to be sincere and sacrificial in serving God: “unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the Kingdom of heaven.” Jesus calls for a wholeness and a faithfulness where our thoughts AND actions, our intentions AND achievements, reflect generous love, sincere devotion, and sacrificial living that point toward the kingdom of God.

In another familiar verse, the letter of James says this: “let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; ... rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and ... be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. (James 1:19-22)

We can all agree that our lives, our community, our nation and world need more integrity. Some say we need to return to the good old days when we had a lot more of it. Others say we have never had enough of it. Whatever we say, we know God calls us to be people of sincere integrity. Let us strive to “do justice, love kindness and walk humbly with God” always.

See you around in worship and work at this wonderful church.

Alex

Session Highlights

At its April meeting, the Session heard:

- ◆ Strong financial reports indicating a surplus in the current budget and a healthy Capital Reserve fund;
- ◆ The kitchen renovation project is on schedule and within budget;
- ◆ A fantastic group of 14 individuals will be traveling this summer on the Guatemala Mission Trip;
- ◆ The RVA Street Singers will be performing their debut concert in partnership with VCU's Women's Choir on Sunday May 6.

Pentecost Offering Can Send a Child to Camp Hanover

The Pentecost Offering on Sunday, **May 20** focuses on youth and young adults. This year 40% of the offering will benefit children whose parents are immigrants or refugees by providing them with a scholarship to grow and learn at Camp Hanover.

What a great opportunity! The program cost for an elementary child is \$300 a week.

At the denomination level, this special offering builds a solid foundation of faith formed from childhood through young adulthood, supporting youth ministries and the Young Adult Volunteer Program. By giving to the Pentecost Offering on Pentecost Sunday, we are nurturing the faith of those who are the church to come—children, youth, and young adults.



Please make a gift on May 20 that will support children in Richmond, and at the same time join with the worldwide church in building for our future, building individual lives of faith.



**“O God, from my youth you have taught me,
and I still proclaim your wondrous deeds.”**

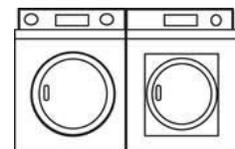
~ Psalm 71:17



A "good news" request!

The Rahmatys - the church's resettled Afghan family - have purchased a house! They will be moving soon and now need a washer and dryer.

If anyone is considering an upgrade soon and wishes to donate their outgoing machines, please contact Greg Dickie or Terry Sheets. *Thank you!*



Adult Education in May



May 6

Parents of Young Children
Nursery or Playground

We will meet in the Playground if the weather is nice!

May 6, 13, 20

Dining Room Class

We Choose Welcome: Richmond Refugee Resettlement

Sponsored by Mission Council, this study will focus on refugee assistance and challenges in the metro Richmond area.

*On **May 6**, Kate Ayers, director of Reestablish Richmond will speak on their mission of helping refugees settle into Richmond while maintaining ties to their home culture.*

*On **May 13**, the class will view and discuss the film, *To Breathe Free*, focusing on a Syrian family fleeing the civil war.*

*The series will conclude on **May 20** with an emphasis on refugee advocacy, featuring Lana Heath de Martinez from the Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy.*

Bible Study
Room 308 (Pastor's Classroom)

Led by Franklin Reding

Faith and Literature
Suite 301

May 6 ~ Post-war art with Janice McMurray and Judy Holloway leading. "Assorted Moderns" p. 520 and "Georges Braque and the American Abstract Artist" p. 523.

May 13 ~ "The Beginning of a Story" by Elizabeth Taylor (not that actress), p. 667.

May 20 ~ "The Ladder" by V.S. Pritchett, p. 673.

Kroger Community Rewards benefits our Walk-In Ministry

Did you know?

Giving More Back to the Community: Kroger is committed to helping our communities grow and prosper. Year after year, local schools, churches and other nonprofit organizations will earn millions of dollars through Kroger Community Rewards. Kroger Community Rewards makes fund-raising easy...all you have to do is shop at Kroger and swipe your Plus Card!

Sign In or Create an Account to Enroll by going to www.kroger.com and selecting Savings & Rewards — then select Kroger Community Rewards. You can "search all" or type in "2nd" in the search box, and our church will come up. Our ID # is 86217. (There are other "Second" churches but ours is listed as "2nd Presbyterian.")

Second Church is blessed with members who have enrolled in this program; Second receives a check quarterly that benefits the Walk-In Ministry.



Final Sunday Lunch of the Season! On the *First Sunday* May 6



Menu

Rice Salad (Chicken or Vegetarian)
Green Salad (Italian or Ranch)
Fresh Fruit
Assorted Desserts

Alternative Option for Kids or Youth:

Hot Dog
Chips
Applesauce



Adults and Youth \$8; Kids (10 and under) \$5



Connections and Conversations at Covenant Woods—Monday, May 21—3:30 pm

Another meet and greet with Alex and Kathryn will be held at Covenant Woods on Monday, May 21 at 3:30 pm. All are welcome.



UKIRK
 CAMPUS
 MINISTRIES

Another amazing semester is coming to a close for UKirk

As I write this our students are gearing up for final exams and looking toward summer transitions, so please keep all of them in your prayers!

April was a great mixture of programs for us. We started the month with a bonfire as a way for everyone to relax and unwind. Then, one of our very own students, Aaron Keen, led a presentation and conversation about the intersection of sex and spirituality. He spent a good part of the semester doing the research for one of his classes on this topic and gave a wonderful presentation on everything he learned. It is such a gift when our students pursue their interests and share them with the entire group!

Kathryn Lester-Bacon came and led our Third Thursday worship, and we finished the month with a night of focusing on spirituality so that our students will feel calm before exams start.



Keep an eye out for the UKirk Update newsletter which will be published later this month and will contain more details about what our spring semester was like and some of our future plans. Thanks again to all of the wonderful volunteers who brought us delicious meals this year! We wouldn't be UKirk without all of U! =>

Peace,
 Molly

What do the Child Care Center and UKirk have in common? (Besides the Hawes Building)

UKirk is a vital ministry of Second Presbyterian Church. Campus ministry programs keep college students and young adults connected to church, provide a sense of family, and encourage young adults to remain (or become) active and grow in their faith after they've left home.

UKirk is not just a vital ministry for the students it serves, but for our church as well. We have invested in the UKirk ministry and the young adults it serves. In turn, the young adults are inclined to invest in the church that supported them. I have proof. Not only was I an active member of my Presbyterian Campus Ministry group, as I'm sure many others in our congregation were, but also two of our teachers at the Child Care Center came to us through UKirk. (Thank you for the referral, Molly Spangler!)

Eric Harvey and Martin Lederle-Ensign both grew up in the Presbyterian Church and came to Second because of UKirk. Now they're both giving back to our church and our community serving as assistant teachers in our toddler classes. In addition to giving daily love and care to our little ones, the men also share their musical talents with the children each week when they put on their Wednesday morning concerts.



"Mr. Eric" has been singing, playing the guitar and learning the kids' favorite songs from the latest Disney movies since he got settled on staff here in the fall. We are all thrilled to add Martin's immense musical talents

to the 2PCCC concerts. "Mr. Martin" has introduced the children (and staff) to the rich array of musical instruments he plays, including the violin, mandolin, banjo, musical saw, kazoo and jaw harp. If you're in the area on a Wednesday morning, drop by! The concerts usually last for about half an hour starting around 10:45.



DANCE RECITAL Come see how the children's year of dance lessons have paid off. The spring recital is **Friday, May 18** at about 4:15 pm in the chapel.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY If you are willing and able to volunteer to help watch kids and babies during nap time so 2PCCC employees can have time together for staff development, please contact me. I'll put your name on a list, and reach out to you when we schedule staff development days (at most once a month) to see if you're available. (We'd need you from 12:30 - 3:00.)

Thank you to Katherine Berry, Betty Dickie, Vicki Douglas, and Ginger Evans for volunteering at the Center to allow our employees the time to meet together and have staff development in April.

~Ginger Hudson

Second Seniors—Westover Plantation Tour—Thursday, June 14

The Second Seniors task force is delighted to offer a private guided tour of Westover Plantation on the James, the Byrd ancestral home, followed by lunch at the Charles City Courthouse Grill, on Thursday, June 14.

The home is not open to the public and is accessible only by invitation, so this is a very special treat!

Cost of the tour is \$25. There will be a sign-up sheet on the Deacon's Desk with instructions.

We will meet downtown and carpool to Westover for the tour beginning at 10:30 am.



Sunday, May 6	Confirmation Class and Senior High Church School + Church Lunch Youth Group in evening	9:30 am 5:00-7:00 pm
Sunday, May 13	Confirmation Class meets at 9:30 to go over statements Mother's Day ~ Spoil Your Mother ALL DAY!	9:30 am
Tuesday, May 15	Confirmation Class meets in the evening with Session	6:00 pm
Sunday, May 20	Pentecost ~ Confirmation Class joins the Church! WORSHIP NITE + End of the year PARTY!	9:30 am 5:00-7:00 pm

Circle 1 Meets May 1

Circle 1 will meet on Tuesday, May 1 at 10:30 am at the residence of Dot Apperson, Westminster Canterbury (Apt. 408), and will enjoy a potluck lunch afterward.

Anne Foard will lead the concluding Bible study. Bring a Bible and a dish to share. New friends are always welcome!

For further information contact Dot at 264-6784.

Updates from Guatemala Mission Partners



Our prayers are with **Emerson Morales**, a long-time friend of Second, on the death of his father after a brief struggle with cancer. His father was a beloved pastor and an important mentor for Emerson who has been installed to succeed his father at the church and take his mantle of leadership.

Although Emerson will not be able to continue with CEDEPCA as the director of the Intercultural Encounters program, he plans to assist in a part-time capacity and will lead the group coming from Second in July.

Leslie Vogel, our mission co-worker who served with Emerson in the Intercultural Program at



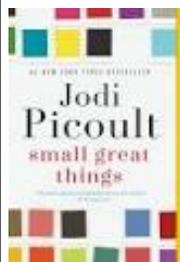
CEDEPCA, has accepted a new position with the Presbyterian Church (USA) and begins June 1 as the Regional Liaison for Mexico and Guatemala. Leslie brings a deep knowledge of the culture and the important issues facing the people in this region, and is well qualified to interpret the mission and ministry of our partners to U.S. congregations.

CEDEPCA has a close relationship with Second Presbyterian church. We hold them and its director Judith Castaneda in our prayers during the time of transition.

We have had a great response to the Mission Trip ~ 14 participants are headed to Guatemala in July!

Literary Circle

Tuesday, May 8 at 7:00 pm



Literary Circle will meet on Tuesday, May 8 at 7:00 pm at the home of Betty Dickie, 9404 Michelle Place.

Carolyn Brandt will lead the discussion of Jodi Picoult's *Small Great Things*.

Please contact Carolyn (288-2511, crbrandt1412@gmail.com) or Page Wagner, (323-7038) for more information.

Day Book Group

Note the new day

Wednesday, May 16, 10:00 am
Room 308 Virginia Building

The Day Book Group will meet at 10:00 am on Wednesday, May 16 in Room 308, Virginia Building.

The Group will select recommended books for the coming season.

Interfaith Photography Exhibition At Richmond Public Library

Opening Night May 4



This exhibition portrays the daily experiences and challenges of being a person of faith in Richmond, Virginia.

Using a technique called photovoice, a group of twenty Muslims and Christians photographed and discussed what their faith looks like in daily life during the first few months of 2018. Through these they built relationships, understanding, and empathy. This exhibition is the result of those conversations.

Join us Friday, May 4, 6:30-9:00 pm in the 2nd Floor Gallery of the Richmond Public Library (the Main Library at 101 East Franklin Street) for an opening night reception hosted by the photographers, or drop by in the week following to check out the exhibition.

RVA Street Singers Debut Concert with the VCU Women's Choir Sunday, May 6 at 3:00 pm

James W. Black Music Center Recital Hall
1015 Grove Avenue
Free admission ~ open to all

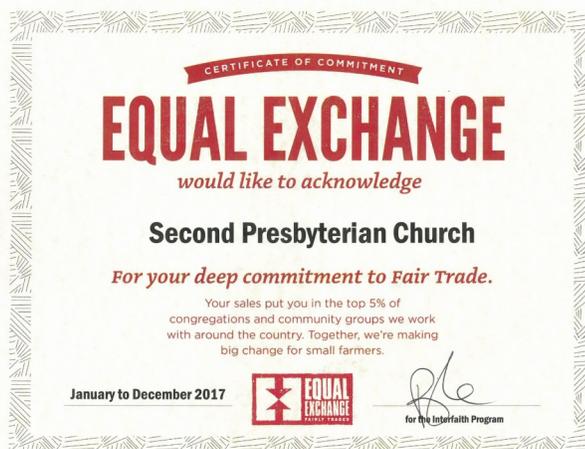


building community through song



Congratulations

to
Second Presbyterian
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and Dan Ream,
Coordinator of
Fair Trade Coffee Sales!



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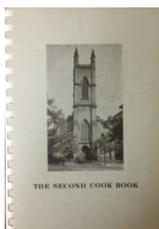
Look Who's Preaching

- May 6 Molly Spangler
- May 13 Alex Evans
- May 20 Kathryn Lester-Bacon
- May 27 Alex Evans

Pentecost
Offering Received May 20

Worship Nite—Sunday, May 20

- 5:00 pm **Worship Service with Communion**
Music led by David Wilson
- 5:45-6:30 pm **End of Year Party for Youth
Program for Adults**
Led by Jessica Bourdon
- 6:30-7:00 pm **Dinner**



CHEESE SOUFFLE Mrs. Zach Toms

1 cup grated sharp cheese
1 cup milk
½ teaspoon salt

Small amt. black pepper & paprika
1 tablespoon butter, generous
3 eggs, separated

Mix cheese, beaten egg yolks, milk, salt, pepper, paprika and butter. Add to egg whites beaten stiff. Cook in buttered dish in hot oven (425 degrees) for 20-25 minutes. Serves four.