



Alex Evans, Pastor

From Alex's Study

Dear Church Family,

When I was a graduate student at Yale Divinity School, I got more acquainted with the preaching and passion of William Sloane Coffin. Coffin served as the Chaplain to the Yale community in the turbulent 1960s. During my year in New

Haven, Coffin served as Pastor of Riverside Church in NYC; I often caught the train to worship at Riverside. I wrote a paper on Coffin's life, his preaching, and his ministry.

William Sloane Coffin used to say that "the smallest package in all the world is a person all wrapped up in himself."

As we seek to follow Jesus, in faith and through God's Spirit, we are constantly striving to open our hearts, to tear off the wrappings that invariably get us and keep us all wrapped up in ourselves.

One of the ways we seek to tear off these wrappings is through regular **worship**. When we know that our lives belong to God, when we know God's blessings, we seek to worship God with regularity and commitment. We come together to sing, pray, listen to God's Word and respond with our lives.

Another way we seek to throw off the wrappings of selfishness is through **growth in faith**. We come with our questions and our doubts, our hopes and longings, and seek to be continually transformed, individually and together, as trusting and serving disciples.

We also give space and energy to programs and projects that feed the hungry, house the homeless, tend to the sick, support prisoners, tutor children, encourage law enforcement personnel, and bear Christ's light near and far. We stretch ourselves into justice and advocacy efforts, into partnerships across oceans and throughout the PC(USA). We seek to **serve as Jesus served**.

Perhaps one of the clearest and regular ways that we seek to resist the tendency to be "wrapped up" in ourselves is through **STEWARDSHIP SEASON**.

Instead of finding ourselves "wrapped up" in ourselves, faithful stewards reflect sincere gratitude and devotion to God's work. The Biblical tool to help us deal with

our inclination to be wrapped up in ourselves is the instruction **to tithe**. Tithing encourages us to trust God and serve God with all we have and all we are.

We are invited to reach deep into our abundance in order to share God's love and abundance with the world.

This Stewardship season we celebrate all that we are **doing well** – in worship, in growing disciples and building community, in bearing God's light in this city and around the world. That means caring for our building, supporting our staff, maintaining effective programs and ministries, and doing God's important work at Second Presbyterian. We are stewards of God in this place.

This Stewardship season we strive to do **new things** – strengthen an emerging campus ministry with VCU, deepen our efforts in justice and advocacy through RISC and other endeavors, connect more with our partners at Ebenezer Baptist, nurture our significant ties to Union Seminary, offer more worship services, and more.

This Stewardship season we also seek to **do some things better** – continue to improve our aging facility, be more open to the city as a downtown church, improve our Christian Education program, and more.

As faithful stewards, none of us can be wrapped up in ourselves. Thanks for your sincere prayers and pledges, your love and devotion as we **serve together** and as we move through this wonderful and important Stewardship Season.

Alex

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE SESSION MEETING

At the October meeting of the session

- ♣ The Board of Trustees announced that Second Church will be receiving (1) approximately \$400,000 from the Arthur Graham Glasgow Trust, (2) \$140,000 from stock shares generously given by an active members of Second, and (3) \$50,000 from the estate of Helen Bowler, a faithful member and church officer of Second for many years.
- ♣ The Session adopted a motion from the Board of Trustees that 100% of the first two gifts be used to pay down a loan from BB&T.
- ♣ It also adopted a Child Protection Policy recommended by the Christian Education Council.
- ♣ It approved a motion from the Property Council's Special Committee for Renovating the Altrium Area to re-carpet and reupholster furniture in the living room where most visitors and members enter, replace the hall carpet on the Second Floor, and install new flooring in the Dining Room.
- ♣ Elder Elsa Falls was elected by Presbytery at its October meeting as a Commissioner to the General Assembly of the PC(USA).



STEWARDSHIP AND COMMITMENT SEASON



One month every year we take time to reflect on God's call to stewardship, individually and as a community of Christ. We celebrate our life together and pledge to one another our commitment of time, talent and financial resources to support the life of the church in the year ahead.

This year, please prayerfully consider increasing your support for the important work Christ has put at our doorstep in the city. The Lord has blessed us; now let us be a blessing to the world. "Go out into the world in peace, have courage, hold on to what is good, return no one evil for evil, strengthen the faint-hearted, support the weak, help the suffering, honor everyone, love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit." *I Cor 16:33; II Tim 2:1, Eph 6:10;*

I Thes 5; 13-22; I Peter 2:17.

Mail in your pledge cards, or bring them to Commitment Sunday on **November 13**. Contact the Chair of Stewardship and Commitment Council, Jeff Gallagher, with any questions or comments.



WESTMINSTER CANTERBURY CORNER

Westminster Canterbury's annual Fall Craft Fair is scheduled for Fri., November 4, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., and on Sat., November 5, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. in the Commons and Center Lobby. It's a wonderful chance to start your holiday shopping. 32 resident,

staff, and community crafters will display a variety of tempting choices, and you will enjoy seeing many hand crafted products. Remember that a percentage of all sales will benefit the Fellowship Fund.

The Pastoral Care Series of lectures will present Michael A. Gillette, Ph.D., speaking on *End of Life Issues* on Monday, November 28 at 10:30 a.m. in the Montague Chapel. He will discuss the ethical issues that accompany aging and practical ways to plan for future health events. He will review paternalism, distributive justice and the ethical justification of intervention. Dr. Gillette has taught philosophy, published articles on clinical ethics and is Clinical Assistant Professor of Family Medicine at the University of Virginia School of Medicine. He is President of Bioethical Services of Virginia, Inc. This event is free and open to the public.

Your Advocate,
Sue Clewell, 330-7828

ADVOCACY COMMITTEE—Upcoming RISC event



Our involvement with RISC continues to blossom. We are joining our voices and our hearts in advocacy of a better Richmond. Following the training event in October, along with other congregations we are excited to participate

in a major event at **St. Paul's Episcopal Church** on **Monday, November 7th at 6:30-8:30 pm**. We hope that many from our congregation will be present at this significant advocacy event that will help us plan and move forward into the new year for a more just and wholesome Richmond. Check with Kathy Prior and John Moeser for more information.

We encourage you to check out the websites for Better Choices for Virginia (www.betterchoicesva.org); RISC (www.risrichmond.org); and for the Virginia Interfaith Center (www.virginiainterfaithcenter.org).

Coffee and tea with BOAZ & RUTH

Perhaps you know Boaz & Ruth as a reentry program or a thrift shop or a moving company, but it is more. Boaz & Ruth is an organization founded and guided by a belief in the transforming power of God in human relationships. Based on the Biblical account of Boaz & Ruth this ministry believes that the same mighty power that brought these two together in marriage will heal our city as people come together across racial, economic, and geographic divisions.

Since its founding by Martha Rollins in 2002, B&R has opened five fledgling businesses in the commercial corridor of Highland Park in which more than 200 trainees have learned and practiced the job and life skills they need to re-enter our community after incarceration. Another 300 men and women have been employed in a partnership with Richmond's Department of Public Works. The organization's positive presence has contributed to a 61% decrease in crime in the neighborhood from 2003-2009; and to date, B&R has renovated a dozen commercial and residential buildings.



Boaz & Ruth has been called to work for a healthy city, where society's outcasts belong and have much to share with the "inner circle." Founder Martha Rollins notes that our prisons are filled with gifted people who have used their gifts in the wrong way. "Part of our mission is to release these gifts back to society."

Boaz & Ruth's vision for a healthy Richmond is also Second's vision for the healing of the inner city. Our church supports this vision and the work of Boaz and Ruth both financially and with many volunteers from our congregation.

Come learn more about this vital ministry in which we are partners when we welcome some folks from B&R at an informational reception on **Nov. 2 from 6:45-7:45 p.m. in the dining room.**

NOMINATING COMMITTEE calls for candidates for the Class of 2015

The Nominating Committee, which is made up of representatives from the congregation, is charged with putting together a slate of names of officers – elders, deacons, and trustees – for the Class of 2015. Please prayerfully consider people who you feel would best serve Second in one of these capacities.

You may download the Nomination Form for Church Officers from the church's website (www.2presrichmond.org) or pick up from the credenza in the hallway. Forms may be given to Bryan Carr (Chair) or Tom Edmonds. You may also place in the collection plate or Dorothy DeJong's mailbox, mail it to the church office, or email it to ddejong@2presrichmond.org.



YOUTH GROUP SCHEDULE

Friday & Saturday, November 4th - 5th	Youth Group Lock-In (with Laser Tag)
Sunday, November 13th (1PM - 3PM)	Service Sunday with the Walk-In Ministry of Second Presbyterian Church (Led by Elva Mapp)
Sunday, November 20th (5PM - 7PM)	Spirituality Sunday - Midrash (led by Andy Morgan and Cam Thomas)
Sunday, November 27th (5PM - 7PM)	Study Sunday - "Jesus' Gift" - A study of Jesus' life and death (Led by Andy Morgan)
Sunday, December 6th (5PM - 8PM)	Fellowship Sunday - Annual Christmas Party at the Home of Allison and Vernon Mays.
Sunday, December 11th (1PM - 3PM)	Service Sunday - Caroling



VCU PRESBYTERIAN FELLOWSHIP—its happening!

Presbyterian Fellowship of VCU now meets every **Tuesday at 7:15 PM** at **Second Church!**



If you are a college student or know a college student, send them our way for a good meal, fellowship and devotion. For more information contact Howard Dudley at howard.dudley@gmail.com.

YOUNG ADULTS

You are invited to join us on **Thursday, October 20th** and again on **Thursday, November 17th** for our Faith Discussion Group. This is an opportunity for questions and fellowship! Contact: howard.dudley@gmail.com.

DOWNTOWN COMMUNITY'S THANKSGIVING SERVICE



St. Paul's Episcopal Church will host the Downtown Community Ministries Thanksgiving Service on **Sunday, November 20 at 6 p.m.** Alex Evans, Pastor of Second, will be preaching. Music for the service will be coordinated by David Sinden, Minister of Music at St. Paul's, and the choirs from the DCM churches have been invited to participate. A fellowship reception will follow the worship service.

SERRV SHOP opening... mark your calendars!



When: Sundays after worship on **November 27th** and **December 4th**
Where: Heritage Room

You are invited to purchase handcrafted items made by disadvantaged artisans and farmers in developing regions of the world. SERRV is a nonprofit marketing organization whose purpose is to promote progress in developing regions of the world by purchasing and marketing their handcrafts. If you have any questions please contact Genie Schutt, 358-7921. Zuni peanuts will be available for purchase during this time.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR FELLOWSHIP AND RELAXATION ...



FRIDAY FILMS

Mark your calendars for **November 25th**. That's the date of the November gathering of the movie group at church—FRIDAY FILMS. If you like movies, and enjoy talking about them with friends, this is an event you won't want to miss!

It's informal. It's adult. It's for men and women and friends. It's once a month (usually on the 4th Friday). There's no cost. There's no membership requirement (come when you can). You don't need to be a movie guru (though gurus are welcome). There will be a variety of films (your suggestions are welcome). It'll be fun, serious, educational, and inspiring—IF you are there.

Plan on a couple hours for the film and about a half hour for discussion. The parking deck will be closed, but there is plenty of on-street parking after 6pm. **Doors are open from 6:45 - 7:00pm. We'll be at the door to let you in, but at 7pm will go upstairs to the second floor theater to view the film.**

Invite a friend, and come join us!



SOFT YOGA CLASS

Each Thursday join us for the **Soft Yoga Class** in the Chapel at noon. This class is for all ages and everyone. \$10 per class and the peaceful benefits are amazing!

HAPPENINGS...

LITERARY CIRCLE

Tuesday, November 8th at 7:30 pm

Book: *Run* by Ann Patchett

Hostess: Cindy Bland, 1806 Oakdale Ave, 23227



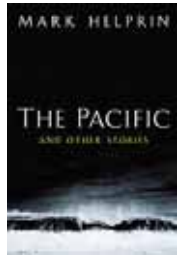
If you have any questions, contact Melissa Schutt: mcschutt@gmail.com, tel.: 929-3231.

DAY BOOK GROUP

Tuesday, November 15th at 10:00 am

Room 303 of the Virginia Building

Book: *The Pacific and Other Stories* by Mark Helprin



All are welcome.

SECOND SUNDAY AT SECOND

Join your church family for good food and fellowship on *Sunday, November 13th* immediately following worship.

Menu

Chicken Pot Pie
Spinach Salad
Assorted Desserts



Tickets may be purchased at the Deacons' Desk - \$7 adults, \$5 youth, \$4 kids 10 & under.



Our Bible Study for the year on "The Beatitudes" begins on Tuesday, October 4 and will continue the first Tuesday of each month, October-May.

Circle One - will meet in the Tower 6th floor lounge at Westminster Canterbury at 11:00a.m. Please bring your Bible and a sandwich to share.

Circle Two - will meet at Sharon Moeser's home, 1400 Brookland Parkway, 23227) on November 1, 11:00 a.m.. Please bring your Bible.

We hope you will each find your home in one of these circles as we study and grow together in our faith and discipleship.

MICAH NEWS

We are so happy to welcome new tutors this year: Kay & Phil Schulz, and Sharon Heiberg. There's always room for more, so consider joining our team!



The school is currently asking for classroom assistants who can help at the school one day a week (your choice of day) for an hour or two. Some of the duties include: helping organize materials, cutting and sorting papers, filing papers, helping facilitate classroom activities with students. If you can help with this or wish to find out more about Chimborazo and our mission there, please contact Ele Bigger (323-5803 embigger@verizon.net).

CHRISTMAS GIFTS FOR THOSE IN NEED

This November and December we want to collect items to be given to those in need. As you shop for your family and friends, remember to purchase these items and bring them to church. What a great way to celebrate the gift of Jesus Christ to the world!

For Children at Chimborazo

- ♣ socks and underwear - sizes 5-12
- ♣ winter jackets and coats - new or gently used & clean

For Our Walk-In Neighbors

- ♣ warm hats and gloves - men's and women's

Second Press Deadline for December! Please submit all items for the November issue of *Second Press* by **November 21, 2011**. Please send email submissions to newsletter@2presrichmond.org or you may leave a printed copy at the desk. Please make sure print copy submissions are a readable format, please print if possible.

NOVEMBER CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30 9:30am - Church School 10am - Choir rehearsal 11am - WORSHIP @ 5 North 12:15pm - Coffee Hour 8pm - Comfort & Care	31 10:30am - Walk-in 12pm - AA 5:30pm - 2PCCC Harvest	1 5:30pm - Advocacy Cte 7:30pm - VCU Presbyterian	2 5pm - CE Council 8pm - Mission Council 8:15pm - Handbell 7:30pm - Choir rehearsal	3 12pm - Yoqa 8pm - Bicentennial Gala at	4 6pm - Youth Lock In @ at the church	5 Assisting Families of
6 9:30am - Church School 10am - Choir rehearsal 11am - WORSHIP @ 5 North 12:15pm - Coffee Hour	7 10:30am - Walk-in 12pm - AA 8:30pm - RISC follow-up	8 4:30pm - Property Council 7pm - Acts of Faith Kickoff 7:30pm - Literary Circle 7:30pm - VCU Presbyterian	9 11:45am - 2PCCC Chapel 12:30pm - Kerygma 4:30pm - Budget and 8:15pm - Handbell 7:30pm - Choir rehearsal	10 12pm - Yoqa 8pm - Deacons	11	12 Assisting Families of
13 Dedication Sunday 9:30am - Church School 10am - Choir rehearsal 11am - WORSHIP @ 5 North 12:15pm - Second Sunday 1pm - Youth Groups	14 10:30am - Walk-in 12pm - AA 5:30pm - Worship Council	15 10am - Dav Book Group 5:30pm - Council Chairs 8pm - Session 7:30pm - VCU Presbyterian	16 8:15pm - Handbell 7:30pm - Choir rehearsal	17 9am - Third Thursday Team 12pm - Yoqa 8pm - Young Adults 7pm - Crossover Worship	18	19 Assisting Families of
20 9:30am - Church School 10am - Choir rehearsal 11am - WORSHIP @ 5 North 12:15pm - Coffee Hour 5pm - Youth Groups @ at 8pm - DCM Thanksgiving	21 Newsletter submission 10:30am - Walk-in 12pm - AA	22 7:30pm - Choir rehearsal 7:30pm - VCU Presbyterian	23 11:45am - 2PCCC Chapel 12:30pm - Kerygma 8:15pm - Handbell	24 Office closed	25 Office closed	26
27 BERRY Shop 10am - Choir rehearsal 11am - WORSHIP @ 5 North 12:15pm - Coffee Hour 5pm - Youth Groups @ at	28 10:30am - Walk-in 12pm - AA	29 7:30pm - VCU Presbyterian	30 8:15pm - Handbell 7:30pm - Choir rehearsal	1 12pm - Yoqa	2	3 Assisting Families of



Stay current, check out the Second Church Event Calendar on our website

www.2presrichmond.org





Second Presbyterian Church
OF RICHMOND VIRGINIA

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Come out to the RISC event!
Monday, November 7th, 6:30-8:30 pm
At St. Paul's Episcopal Church

SERRV Shop
Sundays, Nov. 27th and Dec. 4th

Children's Thanksgiving Offering
Sunday, November 27th