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Dear Friends,

Most of us are familiar with the practice of "giving something up" for the season of Lent. It's the driving force behind the fish fries that take place in various Roman Catholic parishes all over this city during those six weeks, which reflects the idea of giving up meat for a time.



Giving up chocolate or alcohol or binge watching some Netflix series is a discipline, a sign of repentance, of changing the direction of our lives and focusing on what is essential.

Another way to observe Lent is to take on a discipline – volunteering in a homeless shelter, visiting lonely and isolated people, perhaps reading through the Psalms or the Gospels or recommitting to regular worship attendance. Beginning March 1st, the first Sunday in Lent, another opportunity for a Lenten discipline will begin. For the five Sundays of March, we will offer a preaching series on prayer, based mainly on my learnings and experiences during last summer's sabbatical. I will also offer a Sunday school class those five Sundays focusing on different aspects of prayer. I will share some of the images of my travels captured on the smart phone camera as a way of experiencing prayer visually.



3701 Old Brownsboro Road Louisville, Kentucky 40207

502.895.3483

www.2ndpreslou.org

A popular Christian writer has said that when the church isn't teaching its people how to pray; it has lost its reason for existence. That may sound a bit extreme or dramatic, but the point is that our reason for existing is to be a people who are attentive to the presence and purposes of God and who respond in joyful obedience. Also implied in that statement is that prayer is not something we pick up by osmosis, something natural, but a discipline that must be taught.

For the most part, we in the mainline churches have done a woeful job of teaching and practicing prayer in recent decades. Many of us hold to first-grade understandings of prayer or are discouraged by something that seems so daunting and foreign. I invite you to join with brothers and sisters in faith to take on a discipline during the Lenten season as we explore the riches and depths of prayer.

Steve

Steve Jester is Pastor at Second Presbyterian Church



music



Splendor of the Baroque Sunday, March 15, 3 p.m.

Second Presbyterian Church Sanctuary Choir & Double-Octet

Baroque Chamber Ensemble Alice Culin-Ellison, concertmaster * Paula Roberts, continuo Jim Rittenhouse, conductor



Daniel Gilliam of WUOL presents a pre-concert talk at 2:30 p.m.

Works of Bach, Buxtehude, Purcell, & Schutz performed by professional 16-voice ensemble, mass choir and period instruments.

SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

3701 Old Brownsboro Rd., Louisville

Concert is free.

An offering will be taken to benefit:



www.2ndpreslou.org

502.895.3483



Series Donors - Because of your generosity, we were able to collect more than \$1,200 for U.C.H.M.! *THANK YOU!*

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Gifts in Honor or Memory:

In memory of Niels O. Ewing by Dixie M. Baird
In memory of daughter Elizabeth Ashley Dozier by Andrew Dozier
In memory of wife Nancy Cooper by Andrew Dozier
In honor of Silas Edinger by Evie and Charlie Edinger
In memory of Spencer Harper Jr. by Carol Sharpe Harper
In memory of Bartow Willingham by Emily Willingham

The Music Program Endowment Fund; The Judith Brown Music and Mission Fund; The Rosemary Schwartzel Music Fund; The Memorial funds of Tinsley Campbell, Katie Castner, Ellie McCandless and Ellington Bartow ("Bart") Willingham; An anonymous gift

If you are interested in donating to the Concert Series, or to any of the funds listed above, please make checks payable to **Second Presbyterian Church** and mark on the memo line either "Concert Series" or "Donation to ['name of fund']". You may place it in the offering plates, or send to the attention of Jim Rittenhouse at the church. You are welcome to give online at 2ndpreslou.org/giving.

Worship and Music and Fellowship in February was filled with *Amazing Grace!*

Our church family celebrated our mission to share grace with one another and the world around us - and our worship was led by members of all ages . We broke bread together, and shared sweet fellowship with one another. Thank you to all who lifted our hearts to a "more profound Alleluia!"











Bravo to our Chapel Choir members who attended the Choristers Guild Children's Choir Festival on February 22 - Scott Davis, Will Dierking, and Samantha Rogers. Special thanks to Christina Recktenwald, their director, for her masterful preparation of these young singers, and to Lorie Williamson and Chelsea Beasley for their partnership.

Finally, KUDOS to our amazing Music Committee for hosting this great event:

Bonnie Boram, Erin Dierking,

Jodie Goldberg, and Karen Hadley!





Austin Memorial Handbells will participate in the Handbell Assoc. of America Area 5 Regional Handbell Festival.

Come see the *free* performance at the Downtown Marriott Ballroom at 5 p.m., Saturday, March 7!

children

LENTEN SUNDAY SCHOOL

MARCH 1-APRIL 5

Learning to Pray

DURING THIS LENTEN SEASON, YOUR CHILD
WILL BE LEARNING THE MANY DIFFERENT
WAYS WE CAN TALK TO GOD

JOIN US EACH SUNDAY IN LENT FOR
HANDS ON LEARNING AND SUGGESTIONS
FOR PRAYER









Upcoming Dates

March 1st

Lenten Sunday School Begins; K-5th grades

March 15

Children's Ministry Committee Meeting 9:45 a.m. in Room 216 (behind the Chapel)

March 18

WDS Chapel at 11:15 a.m.

March 21

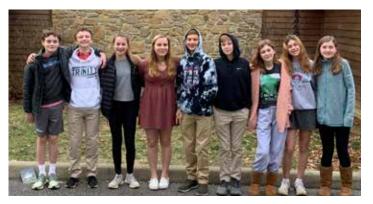
Parent's Night Out; 5:00-8:30 p.m.

March 29 (1st Sunday of Spring Break)

PreK-3rd grades combined Sunday School (dismiss from Worship) Club 45- no Sunday School



Why Can't I See Signs of God?



Our confirmands went on a weekend-long retreat together to learn more about one another, learn more about what we believe, write our faith statements, and grow deeper in our faith. Saturday afternoon, they had a chance to ask any theological question that might have not been answered yet. What happens after we die? When will Jesus come back? Is hell real? Does God see when I do bad things? All these questions are what I consider pretty normal questions from 8th graders. These aren't easy questions to answer, not even for adults, and I would never pretend to think that I know all the answers to these questions, but I did feel prepared for them. I anticipated them. Then, I read a question I was not anticipating. "Why can't I see signs of God?" We hear all of the stories where God's presence is so obvious, like the burning bush, parting of the Red Sea, feeding of the 5,000. This youth yearned for a sign like that, a sign from God that was so obvious, it was hard to miss - like an advertisement on a blimp. And, if I'm being honest, there are times I wanted so badly for God to give me an obvious sign, a clear answer. I think what the person who wrote this question was really trying to get at is, why is it so difficult for us to see God in our lives sometimes? Where do we see God? When do we feel the presence of God?

My theological education taught me to look for the extraordinary within the ordinary. We are trained to seek God among the ordinary and be inspired out of everyday life. But because we are moving through life so quickly, sometimes, we forget to be intentional to seek out the presence of God in our daily lives.

Our goal here at Second Presbyterian is to make sure by the time our youth graduate from high school, each youth has seven trusted adults they feel they can reach out to whenever they might need any support. Often, when youth are asked if they can think of seven adults, I can think of more adults in our church than they who would be happy to chat with or help them. Sometimes, we forget just how big our community of supporters is. I think we all need to hear that some youth

days. I want to believe that we are more loved than we will ever know. Just like God loves us more than we can imagine. And it is through relationships like those with adults who support our youth, and the relationships among the youth themselves, that God is present. When do you feel God's presence? Where do you see God?

~ Jordan

Jordan Akin is Associate Pastor for Youth at Second Presbyterian Church.



Youth Calendar

March 1	Café 917
March 3	Parent/ Youth Open Gym Night
March 8	Café 917
March 9	Café 917
March 15	Café 917/Bellewood/ Confirmation Rehearsal
March 9	High School Girl's Bible Study 8 p.m., Heine Brothers
March 22	Confirmation Sunday/ Café 917
March 23	High School Girl's Bible Study, 8 p.m., Heine Brothers
March 29	No Café 917- Spring Break
April 5	No Café 917- Spring Break
April 19	HS Montreat Final Payment Due

formation



All women are invited to join our Circle of Friendship and Horizon's Bible Study, which meets on the 2nd Tuesday of each month, September - May, at 10:30 a.m. at the church.

We will meet on Tuesday, March 10, for a study of Lesson 7 in Love Carved in Stone: A Fresh Look at the Ten Commandments entitled "Words of Love: Do Not Steal" Exodus 20:15 and Matthew 25:31-46. In Biblical times, people considered everything they had as a gift from God. Jesus instructs us that what we do for others, we do for him. For questions/information about Presbyterian Women, please contact Amy Parker at 897-5076 (home) or amyparker158@hotmail.com.

Saturday, March 7, 10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m., the

women at Harvey Browne Presbyterian Church invite us to join them for a Church Women United World Day of Prayer service, followed by a light lunch. The title is "Rise, Take your Mat and Walk" and is written by the Christian women of Zimbabwe.

Saturday, **March 21**, the Annual Spring Gathering of Presbyterian Women of Mid-Kentucky, "The Beauty of the Earth," will be held at Beulah Presbyterian Church, 6704 Bardstown Road, 40291. Coffee/Fellowship 9 - 10 a.m., Meeting/ Worship 10 - noon, followed by lunch. Sam Avery, author and renewable energy advocate, and Margaret Stewart, poet and advocate, will address the topic of environmental protection. For the mission challenge, we will be collecting Hygiene Kit items for PDA: Cotton hand towels (16" by 28"), wide-tooth combs, and one inch width band aids. The luncheon fee is \$10, payable to PW Mid-KY, sent to JoAnna Overstreet, 4102 Spring Park Lane, Louisville, KY 40218. Questions, contact j.overstreet@twc.com or 502-897-0129.

Presbyterian Union A Monthly Discussion Group sponsored by Second Presbyterian & Highland Presbyterian churches



Tuesday, March 3, at 11:30 a.m.

Sharon Darling

Strengthening and Empowering Families to Help Break the Cycle of Generational Poverty

Sharon Darling, President and Founder, National Center for Family Literacy, is well recognized for her contribution in helping millions of families climb out of poverty and into self-sufficiency.

Where: Vincenzo's, The Courtyard Room

105 South 5th Street

Lunch: Buffet salad and entree, dessert, iced tea

\$16 including gratuity; please pay at the door by cash or check Cost:

RSVP: Ann or Ivan Schell by 4 p.m. Monday, March 2

at adschell@bellsouth.net or (502) 894-8440





Thursdays ~ Morning Joy

Coffee in Fellowship Hall A & B from 9:15 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. Discussion begins at 9:45 a.m.

At Morning Joy, we are studying the book of John.

For those who wish to participate, a discussion group will meet each week following the lecture, at 11 a.m.

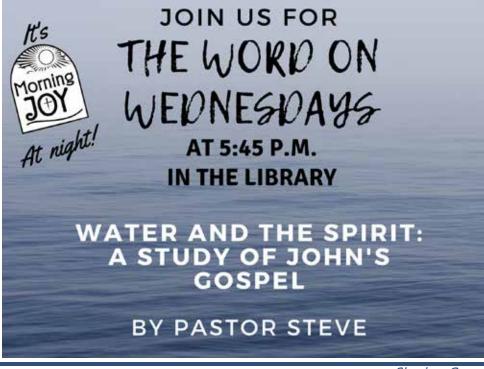


Grief Group Meeting

For more information or to RSVP, please contact Elizabeth Clay, eclay@2ndpreslou.org.

We will meet in the parlor at 10 a.m. on the following dates:

March 16; April 20; May 18



mission

Refugee News for March

Spring is fast approaching and we are awaiting details about a new group of refugees scheduled to arrive at Kentucky Refugee Ministries (KRM). A few families are coming in, in spite of national policy restrictions, and they are being warmly welcomed. A family came in recently that was assigned to Northeast Christian sponsorship, and three more are tentatively planned to arrive before the end of May. Our good friend at KRM, Maha Kolko, reports that a family of three or four from Iraq should be arriving in May, if all goes well. She feels they might be a good fit for our congregation. We have been hoping for children to sponsor since the beginning of this adventure! Watch for more details in the near future. When we have arrival time and family specifics, we will send that information out to you so that we can fulfill clothing and furniture needs.

Our busy refugee, Nedal, has started a new job, thanks to guidance from friends here at Second and the employment specialists at KRM. He is

working at UPS Worldport, airport location. He works at night, so he can go to college classes during the day. This UPS benefit makes it possible for him to work toward his second degree. He is always looking ahead!

Recent refugee stories have been in the news. Second tries to respond when possible and appreciates your help in bringing needs to everyone's attention. We make every effort to reach out to those in challenging situations. Thanks to all of you for your hard work!

Refugee Committee Mission



Meet Christian Gausi, recipient of a scholarship to Justo Mwale University (JMU) in Zambia given by Second Presbyterian. Because of this scholarship, Christian was able to enter JMU in the BTh1 program.

Christian expressed his gratitude: "I would like to thank you so much for the provision of all the funds that I should learn well and serve

God at the end. God bless you so much and meet your needs."

While not ordained, Christian has served as a director of spiritual affairs at Ekwendeni College of Health Sciences, Malawi.

He asks for prayers for his family and studies and that he remain faithful to God.



Save the Date

20th Anniversary Kilgore House & Garden Tour May 16 & 17, 2020, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. — Rain or Shine

6 beautiful gardens in Indian Hills & Crescent Hill, Tickets: \$35

The Tour is a ministry of Second Presbyterian Church & St. Francis in the Fields Episcopal Church, benefiting the Kilgore Samaritan Counseling Center.

www.KilgoreCounseling.org



Kilgore Corner

The Failure of Syntax

The late Edwin Friedman, rabbi, family therapist, author, and leadership consultant, wrote:

"The colossal misunderstanding of our time is the assumption that insight will work with people who are unmotivated to change. Communication does not depend on syntax, or eloquence, or rhetoric, or articulation but on the emotional context in which the message is being heard. People can only hear you when they are moving toward you, and they are not likely to when your words are pursuing them. Even the choicest words lose their power when they are used to overpower. Attitudes are the real figures of speech."

Teddy Roosevelt is credited with saying, "People don't care how much you know until they know how much you care."

If someone were to ask me what my best relationship advice is, I would have to echo the words of Friedman and Roosevelt above. But, as we all know, it's much easier to give advice than it is to put advice into practice. What would it require of us to put this advice into practice? We would have to take some time to

pause and consider the "emotional context" of the situation – what are you feeling, what are they feeling? How can we "move toward" one another, rather than put more distance between us? As Friedman suggests, perhaps most important to keep in mind is that communication is not just about "insight" or information being conveyed, but the emotions underneath.

Thank you for your partnership in ministry! As always, we are here for you, your family, your friends, and we remain committed to our mission to provide quality, holistic, and faith-sensitive care to anyone who wants it. Please don't hesitate to call us at (502) 327-4622, or email me at bwinstead@kilgorecounseling.org with any questions. I would love to hear from you!

Peace, Barry

Barry Winstead is Clinical Director at Kilgore



March Mission of the Month



Located in the scenic Appalachian Mountains of eastern Kentucky, our residential campuses in Buckhorn and Pine Ridge offer secure, compassionate, and therapeutic communities to our kids. Here they will know that they are someplace safe, different, and special.

ITEMS NEEDED

- White Towels, Hand Towels and Washcloths
- White Twin Sheet Sets and Pillowcases
- Toothbrushes and Toothpaste
- Roll-on Deodorant, Hair Gel, and other
 Feminine Hygiene Products

- Used or New CDs of Current Music
- Used or New G Rated DVD movies
- Nerf Sports Equipment
- Scrapbook Materials
- Jigsaw Puzzles

A Note From the Cabbage Patch Christmas Basket Committee

For Valentine's Day, we asked several children at The Patch "What is love?" Here is what 12-year-old Jaime said: "Love is when you share your food, even if there isn't a lot of it. If you love somebody, you will be OK to be hungry. Love is better than food!"

Our friends at Second Presbyterian were VERY generous this year in sharing love with the families of The Cabbage Patch for Christmas.

Let me share a few AMAZING facts with you:

- We raised \$26,839
- We helped 20 families

- We provided food and gifts for 61 individuals
- We wrapped over 300 gifts
- Over 279 volunteers gave their time
- Together, we volunteered over 690 hours

Yes, those statistics are amazing, but it goes far deeper!

- Because of you, 20 families did not have to go into debt to provide Christmas gifts and meals for their children.
- Because of you, 61 individuals woke up on Christmas morning and felt the love of Christ with each gift they unwrapped.

- Because of you, Cabbage Patch families will have access to utility and rent assistance and the food pantry throughout the winter months.
- Because of you, struggling families will have a voice of encouragement and helping hand to help them find long-term solutions to the complicated problems of grip of poverty.

Thank you! We give thanks to God for your generosity through which we have profoundly changed the lives of at-risk children and families.







A Note from John Hubbard on Stewardship

Our new mission statement is "Sharing the grace of God with each other and the world around us." Steve and Nathan are doing a wonderful job preaching on the meaning of grace and how it relates to our church. Both ministers pointed out in the annual meeting one way we can appreciate grace is by telling stories on the ways our congregation reaches out to the world around us. This came to life in January with an outpouring of your time and treasures to the women and men who are discovering new lives at The Healing Place.

At present our church uses 11.6% of its annual budget for missions outside the walls of our church. The mission committee recently recommended to session that the amount be 15% due to our capabilities.

Let 2020 be the year we go from Fundraising to Faithraising to reach all our potential in time, talent, and treasure given to what God wants and not what the church needs.

John Hubbard is chair of the Stewardship Committee

Children demonstrate how competent they are every day. Much like the adage, "You get more of what you focus on," we find signs of this competency when we look for it. Humans are imperfect, and there are areas of challenge and greatness in all of us. However, when we focus on competency in children, they show us how capable they already are through their actions

and words, and the implicit logic of these. We see their abilities to collaborate and find patterns in the world, like Noa and Maggie pictured above. We find children demonstrating a new mathematical skill or scientifically exploring the properties of sand. We observe these skills and so much more when we look for competency.

In order to see it, children (and teachers) must have TIME. Time to observe, time to play, time to interact, time to be curious, time to think. We honor this through

our commitment to both the importance of openended play and the time we give in our classroom schedules, from infants through Kindergarten. It is in their play that children naturally engage with materials, watch and interact with their peers, and follow their curiosities to make discoveries and learn. Frances and David Hawkins, celebrated educators from Boulder, Colorado, called this "messing about." They concluded after decades of observing children that when schools provide children time and materials with which to "mess about," we allow their innate learning systems to engage. We support their natural competencies as learners. This also lines up with the teaching beliefs we are inspired by from the worldrenowned schools in Reggio Emilia, Italy. They believe that children are born with "100 languages," or a multitude of competencies as learners that are often taught out of them in the name of education.

weekday school

There are ways for us to encourage and support continual development of competency in the children we serve at Second Presbyterian, year after year. Experience allows children (and adults) to build upon their trust in themselves. Experience can look like "messing about" time. It can be an opportunity to help solve a classroom problem. It can include chances for the children to vote and share their voices democratically in their learning communities. It can also be time and space for children to figure out a challenge on their own instead of doing it for them. In all these experiences, we communicate: You are capable. When we pause and watch, we notice when to step in to guide and bridge children's thinking so they can accomplish new levels of understanding or ability. Teaching in this way sends the message: We know you and believe in you. When we check our own biases and open our eyes to what really is, we see that the human potential is far greater than the made-up limitations we put on others or ourselves.

With this state of mind, we warmly and confidently convey to children: Take the next step. As educators, we work together to send messages of capability, belief and empowerment to the children, so they continue to trust in themselves and grow their competencies. We are their community: Pausing, watching and staying open to what they are capable of, when to step in, and how to let them fly.

~ Hayley Abell Hayley Abell is the Director of the Weekday School



fellowship

SPOT Second Presbyterian Options Tagethe

A small group ministry of Second Presbyterian Church

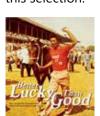
SPOT serves to unite people who share a common interest and deepen their faith in Christ through building relationships and reaching out to others.



Book Notes

The book for discussion at our March 3 meeting is *Inheritance* by Dani Shapiro. In a world of ancestry.com and 23andMe.com, "you may discover things about yourself and/or your family members that may be upsetting."

This memoir follows the author as she uncovers some startling things about her life – at age 54. She begins a journey to find the truth. Thanks to Linda Wood for this selection.



On April 7, we will enjoy reading about the Backside at Churchill Downs, "The most storied race track in the world, home of the Kentucky Derby and the epicenter of Kentucky's Equine industry."

Holly Gathright has chosen this new book, entitled *Better Lucky Than Good*, just in

time to bring it home for your Derby guests to read! The book recounts the history and personal experiences of 32 people who are devoted to the horses and work, living in this unique community.

Join us anytime. We faithfully support UCHM food closet. Jean O'Brien (502) 897-0950 or jeanobrien502@gmail.com.



Walkers

The SPOT Walkers will meet March 4 and 18. They meet at 9 a.m.

Sandy Bailey (502) 429-6840 sdb1205@bellsouth.net



Pilates

Classes are held Mondays at 5:30 p.m. in the church Narthex. All you need to bring is your own Pilates mat and \$10.

Susan Schmidt 502) 523-5934 puremovementlvl@gmail.com



Prayer Group

Everyone is invited to pray for those on our weekly prayer list on Wednesdays at 10 a.m. in the Parlor.

Beth Haendiges (502) 895-3483 bethh@2ndpreslou.org



2nd Act

If you would like to be involved in a singing ministry that serves our community of persons who are in residential facilities, please consider joining 2nd Act. We are always looking for new members, and this

is the perfect time to join as we will begin rehearsing on March 4 at 10 a.m. in the choir room for our new show of crooner tunes, Broadway songs and uplifting music that will bring joy to others. We rehearse each Wednesday morning from 10 a.m. to noon while learning the show, then take it "on the road" to perform in residential facilities of all kinds each Wednesday morning throughout the rest of the year (excluding July and August). Come join us!

For more information, contact Susan Langford (502) 897-3789 toursplus@aol.com.



Busy Needles

We meet three times a month; see the church calendar online for dates!
Mary Ayers (502) 429-3415 marywayers@
aol.com; Bev Wahl (502) 423-9271
bevwahl41@gmail.com



Paint SPOT

We gather on Thursdays at 1 p.m. in the Youth Suite. For more information, contact Linda Wood (502) 893-3330 el.wood@twc.com



Sisters in Spirit

Author Liz Curtis Higgs will be joining our group on March 10! For this event, we really would like a good turnout, but we need an idea of headcount so we can plan the location appropriately. Please check your calendar and let me know if

you can join us for this special event.

Also, Liz is leading a free 4-week community Bible Study, Jesus Girls, at Christ Church United Methodist on Tuesdays from 10-11:30 a.m. The first session had 375 women! Register at www.ccum.net/calendar



Dinner Groups

Dinner groups continue!

Jennifer Scott (502) 326-3145 jscott@cabbagepatch.org



Session Highlights for January 2020

By Jennifer Ferguson, Clerk of Session

At the February 13, 2020 stated session meeting, the Session:

- Received the Clerk's Report, the Minister's Report, the Deacons' Report, the January 2020 Financial Report and various other monthly Committee Reports;
- Called a special session meeting to receive new members on March 15 between services;
- Approved a motion from the Mission Committee to set an aspirational goal or target of allocating 15% of future budgets to missions supported by Second. The Mission Committee will work to tally Second's mission-giving in all areas so that goal can be better understood;
- Learned that New Goshen Presbyterian's session is considering what, if any, relationship they would like to forge with Second Presbyterian;
- Considered volunteer needs for the February 15
 Mid-Kentucky Presbytery meeting held at Second;

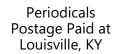
- Discussed topics for the upcoming Session Retreat on February 28 and 29;
- Elected Second's commissioners to the Mid-Kentucky Presbytery for the upcoming year;
- Re-elected Charles Bond as Treasurer, Dan Russell as Assistant Treasurer and Jennifer Ferguson as Clerk of Session;
- Reviewed the assignment of elders to various church committees;
- Discussed holding a joint meeting of elders and deacons in 2020;
- Charged Steve with forming a task group to develop procedures and protocols for security during worship services;
- Discussed ways to better report to the Congregation the work of church committees.

A copy of the approved Minutes of Session is available in the church office.

Easter lilies are being offered to members who wish to honor/remember individuals. The cost is \$20. Please complete this order form and make your check out to Second Presbyterian Church, specify: Easter Flowers. Leave the form and check in Beth H's mailbox in the office reception area. Or, you may mail it to Second Presbyterian Church, attention: Beth, 3701 Old Brownsboro Road, Louisville, Kentucky 40207.

The deadline for ordering is Tuesday, March 31. Please print clearly.

Name of donor(s):	
In honor/memory of:	
(Circle one) *Don't forget to pick up your lily after the 10.50 a m	Factor corvice





Second Thoughts (UPS 488-060). Published Monthly. Postmaster, send address changes to: Second Thoughts, c/o Second Presbyterian Church 3701 Old Brownsboro Rd Louisville, KY 40207

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passages

We remember in prayer...

Jon Reinstine and his family on the death of Jon's father, Franklin Reinstine, 2/12/20.

Peggy Duane and family on the death of Don Duane, 2/5/20.

Marilyn Dukes and family on the death of Marilyn's mother, Helen Hornback Berry, 2/4/20.