



WE'RE RAKING IN OUR BLESSINGS THIS MONTH AT SECOND PRES!

Fall is here, and so is a full month of activities, opportunities, and worshipping at Second Pres! Read below for ways you can volunteer, worship, and learn with us in October.

PLEASE WELCOME OUR NEW MUSIC DIRECTOR, BRIAN TANAKA!

We are thrilled to invite everyone to extend a warm and heartfelt welcome to Brian Tanaka, our new Director of Music at Second Pres!

Brian is no stranger to Bloomington. He and his wife, Alex, are excited to return to the community they call home, now with their newborn son, Julian. A 2011 graduate of University High School and a 2015 graduate of Knox College, Brian has deep roots in Central Illinois and is eager to reconnect with familiar faces while building new relationships in our congregation.

Over the past 15 years, Brian has faithfully served the church as a Certified Church Musician, worship leader, and choral director, honing his craft and enriching congregations through the power of music. Most recently, he served as Director of Music at Westlake Hills Presbyterian Church in Austin, Texas, where he developed vibrant worship experiences, nurtured choirs of all ages, and encouraged collaboration between musicians and the wider church community.



Brian brings with him not only exceptional musical skill but also a passion for using music as a way to inspire worship, build community, and draw us closer to God. He looks forward to sharing his gifts of choral leadership, collaboration, and worship planning with us, and we are excited to see how his ministry will bless and enrich the life of Second Pres.

ANNUAL SECOND PRES BONFIRE AT THE PARKER'S FARM: SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5

Mark your calendars! You won't want to miss the Annual Second Pres Bonfire at the Parker's Farm on **Sunday, October 5 from 3:00–5:00 p.m.** This tradition is a time to step outside the church walls and enjoy the warmth of fellowship and the joy of being together as a church family!

We'll have the classics ready for you: hot dogs, buns, condiments, and plenty of supplies for making s'mores. Nothing says fall quite like roasting marshmallows over the fire and enjoying a gooey treat with friends! We invite you to bring along a favorite side dish or dessert to add to our potluck-style meal. We recommend bringing lawn chairs, blankets, and bug spray, so you can settle in and fully enjoy the afternoon.

The Parkers have once again graciously opened their beautiful farm to us, located at **29129 E 900 Rd, Ellsworth, IL**. Their generosity makes it possible for us to enjoy this special setting surrounded by open skies and the crisp, refreshing air of early October.

Come as you are, bring your appetite, and get ready for a cozy evening around the fire!



ANNUAL BONFIRE

Parker's Farm
29129 E 900 Rd. Ellsworth, IL

SUNDAY
OCT 5
3 - 5 PM





EARTH CARE

Serving and Preserving God's Creation

The McLean County Household Hazardous Waste Collection event is scheduled for Saturday, October 4, 2025. This free service provides Illinois residents with a safe way to properly dispose of harmful materials that should never go into the trash or poured down drains.

Accepted materials include items such as oil-based paints, used motor oil, pesticides, old gasoline, pool chemicals, cleaning products, mercury, solvents, antifreeze, hobby chemicals, fluorescent lamp bulbs, and even vapes. A full list of acceptable items is available at HHWmclean.org.

To keep traffic moving smoothly, the collection will operate on an appointment-only system. Residents are encouraged to carpool hazardous waste with neighbors to reduce wait times. Please note that business or commercial waste cannot be accepted by law, and certain items like latex paint, electronics, appliances, medications, propane tanks, and farm waste are not part of this collection.

The event is open to all Illinois residents, not just those in McLean County. Volunteers are also needed to help the event run smoothly, and sign-ups are available online. For full event details and to schedule an appointment, visit HHWmclean.org. Residents without internet access may call 309-468-6449 for assistance.

The Ecology Action Center, which organizes the collection, will provide reasonable accommodations for those who need them. Requests can be made at ecologyactioncenter.org/accommodation or by calling 309-454-3169 x11 at least two weeks in advance.

This event offers the community an important opportunity to safely clean out garages, basements, and sheds while protecting local soil, water, and air quality.

THEOLOGY ON TAP

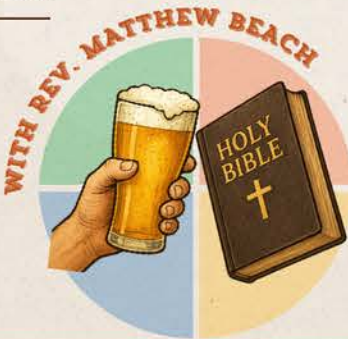
OCT | 2

PAXTON BUILDING
207 E WASHINGTON ST.

6-7:30 PM

FREE CHILDCARE
AT SECOND PRES

PARKING CAN BE FOUND
ON THE STREET,
IN THE PNC LOT,
OR AT SECOND PRES



SECOND PRES

GROUP *Sale*
SPOTLIGHT

SHARING

We share our Z-racks, baskets, shoe racks, display racks, and more with several area churches and organizations.

First Presbyterian Church, Trinity Lutheran Church, Wesley United Methodist Church, and various other groups connected to Second Pres. borrow items to use for their sales.

Our caring and kindness continues all year long.



SECOND HALF

FALL HELPING HANDS
Cleanup Day

NOVEMBER 8 (RAIN DATE: NOVEMBER 15)

People needing yard work can call Kim Pare at the church or Gene Gant at 309 - 963- 4361.



TRICK OR TREAT

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 24 FROM 5-8 P.M.

We're teaming up with Downtown Bloomington for their Trick or Treat event! We are still looking for donations. Donations of candy, Play-Dough, glow sticks, small games or similar small items for children are needed by Monday, October 20 to be passed out during the downtown Bloomington Trick or Treat. Donations and questions may be directed at Jamie Kaiser!

Presbyterian Women



"BIRTHDAY LUNCH"

BIBLE STUDY DEVOTIONS BY
YVONNEL DUTOIT
MISSION: ROBOTICS TEAM

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 21
F100C
9:30 A.M.



BIBLE LESSON 1

FINDING OUR RESILIENCE:
MARY MAGDALENE
THE TOWER BY JEANNIE SWANSON
MISSION: PW PLEDGE &
THANK OFFERING

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16
F100C
4:00 P.M.

All are welcome to attend. Contact Barb Flint grand45fli@gmail.com for Lydia Circle or Sandy Groves slittle@ilstu.edu for Ruth Circle.



Take a look below to see all the Adult Christian Education opportunities for this semester! ACE is held in the Chapel (unless otherwise noted) after worship service on Sundays. For questions, contact Scott Hamilton at hamilton.r.scott@comcast.net.

October 5	David Anderson, Practicing the Way
October 12	Matt Burgess, Home Sweet Home
October 19	Little Children of the Philippines
October 26	Bible Trivia with Family Ministry
November 2	Hospitality/Safety Training
November 9	Veterans' Breakfast – NO CLASS
November 16	Fraud Class with the Normal Police with Hospitality & Membership
November 23	Rev. B. Elliot Renfro, Grief Presented by Second Half
November 30	Advent Class with Jamie Kaiser
December 7	Advent Brunch – NO CLASS
December 14	Advent Class with Rev. Trey Haddon
December 21	Advent Class with Rev. Trey Haddon



BLOOD DRIVE

Thursday, October 23
1:00 pm – 6:00 pm
F100A

Feeling a little squeamish? You're not alone—but donating blood is surprisingly easy, and it's one of the most powerful ways to help save lives. So ruffle those feathers, summon your courage, and join us for the final Red Cross Blood Drive at Second Pres in 2025!

Whether you're a seasoned donor or a first-time hero, we make it simple:

- Sign up online with RapidPass at RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass
- Or contact Karen LaVoie at 928-713-6996 or karenlavoie41@gmail.com.
- Karen will also be outside the Sanctuary on Sunday, October 12 and 19, before and after church to help you sign up in person.

Bonus Perks!

Every donor receives a \$10 e-gift card and is entered to win a \$5,000 prize—because bravery should be rewarded!

So don't cluck around—be bold, be generous, and be part of something life-changing. The coop is counting on you!



NEW MEMBER CLASS: SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16

Interested in becoming a member of Second Pres? Join our new member class on Sunday, November 16! Class will begin after the 9:00 a.m. service has finished. Class will last about 90 minutes and a light brunch will be served. If you are interested, please call the church office to reserve a spot at 309-828-6297.

Communion at Second Pres

Look below to see the 2025 dates that communion will be available at Second Pres during worship service:

- **October 5:** World Communion Sunday
- **October 26:** Reformation Sunday
- **November 2:** All Saints Day
- **November 23:** Christ the King Sunday
- **December 7:** Children's Program
- **December 24:** Christmas Eve



On Sunday October 19th, we're excited to announce that one of our global mission partners, Little Children of the Philippines, will be joining us and participating in our worship service! Cerila Patrimonio from Dumaguete City in the Philippines and new CEO Brittany Foster from LCP's U.S. Headquarters will also present an ACE class after the service. Please join this us at this class and enjoy some apple cider and donuts while Cerila shares her amazing story and Brittany gives us an update on the mission!



HIGI KIOSK AT SECOND PRES

A HIGI kiosk, provided by Aetna Health Insurance, has been installed at Second Pres near the Jefferson St entrance to support the clients of Jobs Partnership (formerly Joycare). The HIGI kiosk discreetly monitors vital health indicators such as blood pressure, weight, and body mass. Its primary aim is to maintain comprehensive health records for Jobs Partnership clients.

In the 1970's, WACC added health clinics, swimming classes, cooking and sewing, and English as a Second Language (ESL). Second Pres contributed a Pac-A-Sac program and weekly food pantry. In 1978, a fire destroyed the church building. Our church leaders decided to rebuild the community center with offices, a community room, after school space, and a gymnasium. In 1984, the center was rebuilt with Second Pres management and financing. The Building Committee was made up of Rev. Phil Queen, Earle Johnson, Jr., Rev. Richard Hanson, John Harris, Wesley Wilcox, and Harry Riddle, Jr., Architect.



Western Avenue Church Fire



Western Avenue Community Center Today

In 2022, Second Pres deeded the WACC building to the Center with our support continuing financially and spiritually. Much needed changes were made with upgrades to the exterior and interior of the building. This was made possible by strong community support and the generosity of the Tinervin Family Foundation. The youth and after school programs are still thriving. The athletic programs are an area of focus. Other offerings are "Seniors on the Go," weekly health and exercise activities, monthly Bingo, quarterly dinner dances and field trips. Translation and interpretation services are offered for our immigrant community. Western Avenue Community Center serves 2,000 families per year! Michelle Cervantes is the new Executive Director.

On February 4, 2025, Mike Jones, an actively involved former WACC Trustee, spoke during our "Minute for Mission" conveying the deep gratitude from the WACC Board and staff for the Second Pres legacy of generous support over the years. He recognized three of our members as recent WACC contributors: Charla Cullen, John Schoening, and Denny Steele. Our thanks to Second Pres member Mike Manahan who served recently as a Western Avenue Community Center Trustee.

Second Pres continues to support WACC through our 2PC Foundation and the Group Sale.

🎵 *And the Beat Goes On* 🎵
Thank you Second Pres!

FROM THE HERITAGE ARCHIVES

PAST, PRESENT & FUTURE: WESTERN AVENUE COMMUNITY CENTER



Our Second Presbyterian Church's Past, Present and Future continue to be "The Heart of Christ in the Heart of the Community!!" Western Avenue Community Center, referred to as "WACC," continues as our legacy of ministries and missions keeping Christ's love and light shining throughout our community.

100 years ago, Second Pres financed and built the Western Avenue Church and Community Center. Additionally, our church staffed the venture with Second Pres members serving on the Board of Trustees. This was and continues to be a LOVE gift made available to All in the Bloomington/Normal/McLean County Community. Western Avenue Community Center, located at the corner of Western Avenue and Locust Street, will celebrate its centennial anniversary in June 2026. This will be a Milestone Event!

In 1926, Rev. Frank Breen, Second Pres's Minister of Christian Education and Associate Pastor, along with community leaders, held a campaign to raise \$35,000 to buy property and build a church and community center. It was to be a church and a social, religious, educational and recreational center for all age groups. In 1931, Rev. Breen resigned his position at Second Pres to become the pastor of the Western Avenue Church and Community Center.



Rev. Frank Breen



Youth Activities

WEEKLY AT SECOND PRES

EVERY SUNDAY

- 8:30 am: Sunday Morning Brunch
- 9:00 am: Worship Service
- 10:15 am: ACE (Adult Christian Education)
- 10:15 am: High School Brunch

EVERY TUESDAY

- 6:00-8:00 pm: FTC Robotics
Lego League Robotics
- 7:00 pm: Scouts Troops 903 and 9903

EVERY WEDNESDAY

- 6:00-7:30 pm: Preschool Ministry (90 min.)
- 6:00-7:30 pm: K-5th Kid's Ministry (90 min.)
- 6:00-7:30 pm: 6-8th YOUth Ministry (90 min.)
- 6:30-8:00 pm: Chapel Choir Rehearsal

EVERY THURSDAY

- 11:30 am: Thursday Prayer Lunch
- 12:00 pm: Rotary Club Luncheon

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------|
| 1: Mike Ireland | 15: Micah Worth |
| 1: Susanna Juvinall | 16: Jonathan Brunner |
| 1: Mike Laffey | 16: Laurie Sprague |
| 1: Jean Pankonin | 17: Srinidhi Gurijala |
| 1: Sam Schmale | 19: Gary Fleming |
| 2: Janet Adkins | 19: Tracy Klawitter |
| 2: Mary Moore | 20: Dave Brownell |
| 3: Natalia Komar | 20: Mary Flannery |
| 3: Mateo Miranda | 20: Vicky VanCauwenberge |
| 3: Elaina Murphy | 21: Kimberly Grill |
| 3: Paul Outlaw | 21: Jack Harris |
| 3: Sawyer Worth | 21: Alison Kennedy |
| 4: Noah Nold | 22: Asher Nicolas |
| 4: Hillary Schmale | 25: Peter Brandt |
| 5: Anita Brock | 25: Maria Lamb |
| 8: Jane Kuchefski | 26: Constance Busch |
| 10: Dennis Brent | 26: Stevie Joslin |
| 10: Jack Crowe | 27: Arnav Chauk |
| 10: Terry Fry | 27: Brittany Howes |
| 10: Trey Haddon | 28: Lyn Hruska |
| 10: Angie Orrick | 29: Steven Brucker |
| 11: Brent Brucker | 29: Bonnie Grizzle |
| 12: Ruth Breuer | 29: Ashley Haddon |
| 13: Cheryl Jackson | 20: Laura Amble |
| 14: Ann Durand | 30: Barry Weer |
| 14: Dawn Laffey | |

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Financial Summary through August 31, 2025 - Actuals compared to the Prorated Budget

	Actual	Prorated Budget	Net Result
Contributions	\$712,006	\$722,819	-\$10,813
Other Receipts	\$196,146	\$135,276	\$60,870
Estate Gift	\$19,989	\$ -	\$19,989
Foundation Support	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$ -
Expenses	\$1,063,978	\$1,037,806	-\$26,172
Net Total	-\$35,837	-\$79,711	\$43,874

Contributions are unfavorable compared to the prorated budget by \$10,813. Other Receipts are favorable being \$60,870 greater than the prorated budget and include \$80,516 transferred from Foundation for the door repairs and sanctuary caulk repairs. Additionally, during the first eight months of the year the church received a generous estate gift of \$19,989 and \$100,000 of the budgeted Foundation support was needed to support church operations. Expenses are unfavorable as they are \$26,172 greater than the prorated budget and include \$33,125 spent to fix the Prairie Street and Jefferson Street doors and \$47,391 spent to repair the caulk around the sanctuary stone. This provides a \$43,874 favorable variance for the first eight months of 2025. The 2025 annual budget includes a \$51,214 deficit.

Stewardship Sunday was Sunday, September 7th. As of September 29th, the church collected 99 stewardship cards totaling \$668,880.

If you have any questions, please contact Mark Wylie, the finance elder, or Joanne Randolph in the church's finance office.



Follow us on Facebook, Instagram and YouTube!



fb.com/secondpres



@secondpresblono



youtube.com/secondpres