

My final meeting with James Boice took place about ten years later, just a few days before he died. A group of us from the church had gone to his home to see him for a last time and to sing some of the hymns he had written and which were set to music by Paul Jones. The last of these hymns we sang was in my view Boice's best: *Come to the Waters*, a hymn gathering together all the "water of life" themes in the Bible as they flow from the gospel. (If you want to feel the very heart-beat of James Boice's ministry, just sing this hymn!) Sitting on the couch with Jim afterwards, he grabbed my arm and in his cancer-weakened voice he said to me, "Rick, do you see what I am saying in that hymn? It all flows to Jesus and out from him. Don't ever forget that!" By God's grace, I don't believe I ever will forget it, and I will certainly never forget the inspirational, Christ-centered life and ministry of my friend and pastor, James Montgomery Boice.

Not long after that final meeting, I had the privilege of preaching the evening sermon at Tenth on the Sunday after Dr. Boice died. Dr. Philip Ryken and I had scripted that Sunday, with him preaching a pastoral message of comfort to the congregation in the morning and with me preaching a memorial message that evening. I chose as my text 2 Kings 2:11-15, the ascension of Elijah in a chariot of fire. One reason for selecting this text was that when I had learned weeks earlier that Dr. Boice would soon die of cancer, I had gotten onto my knees and prayed for God to give me double the portion of the Spirit so as to be one of those who would carry on Jim's work. In the sermon I wanted to point out that we as a congregation could take up Boice's legacy, like the mantle that fell from Elijah's ascending chariot, and carry it on by holding forth the convictions he had taught us from God's Word. A couple of days before preaching the sermon, however, Dr. Ryken gave me a cassette tape of a message Boice had preached on that passage. I had thought that Jim had never preached from that text, but it turned out that he had done so for his tenth anniversary as Tenth's pastor. In that sermon, Boice revealed that when he was a seminary student at Princeton in 1960, his father had called to tell him about the sudden death of Donald Grey Barnhouse, then pastor of Tenth Church and Boice's pulpit hero. Jim related how when he heard the news, he fell to his knees in his room and prayed for God to give him double the portion of Elijah if he was to take up the mantle of so great a man as Barnhouse. I ended up telling this story in my memorial sermon for Boice, pointing out that he was, like us, simply a man of faith who had prayed to be used by God. It is therefore our sovereign and gracious God who deserves the praise and glory for the life and ministry of James Montgomery Boice, as Dr. Boice himself would be the first to insist. If we will pray for the same - for God's mighty Spirit to equip us to minister the gospel truth to our generation - we can expect God to do great things through our labors as well.

Dr. Boice's favorite benediction from the Bible says of God that "from him and through him and to him are all things." Paul concludes, "To him be glory forever. Amen" (Rom. 11:36). It was James Montgomery Boice's own glorification to leave us and be with God, ten years ago, having devoted his life and labors to the praise of God's glorious grace. Last week we remembered Dr. Boice's ministry by singing his hymn, *Come to the Waters*, and this week we will sing his hymn based on Romans 3:21-26, *Heaven's Gift*.

May the Lord bless you all this week.
In Christ's Love,
Pastor Rick Phillips

CHURCH INFORMATION

Website: www.secondpca.org
Telephone: Office (864) 232-7621

Fax: (864) 232-7622 * **Email:** info@secondpca.org
Office Hours: Monday - Friday 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Information Centers: Church Services information 1 * Directions 2
Hospital Information 3 * Upcoming Events 4 * Church Directory 5 * Monthly Activities 6

Church Services: Sunday: Sunday School - 10:00 AM
Morning Worship - 8:30 and 11:00 AM * Evening Worship - 6:00 PM

Wednesday: Supper, Bible Study and Prayer Meeting - 5:45 PM

Radio Broadcast: Sundays, 9:00 AM, Station WLFJ 660 AM

Upcoming Events

June 18	Senior High Dinner
June 19	VBS Workday
June 20	The Lord's Supper at the Evening Worship Service
June 21	No Young At Heart
June 21-25	Vacation Bible School
June 23	CE Committee Meeting
June 27	St. Andrews Youth Choir-Evening Worship Service
June 27	Evangelism/Church Growth Committee Meeting
June 29-July 2	General Assembly, Nashville Tennessee
June 30	No Wednesday night activities

July 4th Fellowship Supper

The Deacons will be preparing a Hotdog/Hamburger supper immediately following the evening worship service on Sunday, July 4. We will also have our first ice cream social following supper. (There will not be an ice cream social in June.) There will not be any church activities on Wednesday, June 30.

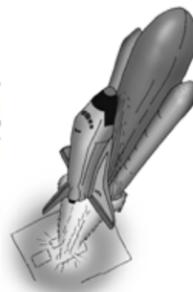
VBS Workday & Setup

Saturday, June 19

10:00 AM in the gym

**We need several men to help put up the mission control.
Call Sandy Waugh with questions.**

Prepare for Lift Off!



10-9-8-7-6. . . It's almost time to launch Genesis 1: Space Probe! We will begin our VBS mission at Second Presbyterian Church on Monday, June 21st. Make sure to come prepared! You will need to sign up for this adventure by going to www.secondpca.org and filling out the registration form. The following "equipment" will be needed for your mission:

1st - 6th graders: Bring your "Galaxy Guide" - Bible - make sure that it has your name in it.

Begin learning your first memory verse:

K4-K5 - "Come, let us bow down in worship. . ." Psalm 95:6a

1st - 2nd graders - "The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth. . ." Acts 17:24a

3rd - 6th graders - "The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples built by hands." Acts 17:24

Invite someone to join you on this space mission!

Saint Andrews Youth Choir

We welcome the Saint Andrews Youth Choir to our evening worship service on Sunday, June 27. The choir will also be singing at the Greenville Rescue Mission on Monday, June 28, at 11:00 am. The Youth Choir will bless us with the Choral Introit, the Anthem, the Offertory Anthem, and the Choral Response.



WIC DAY OF PRAYER

Saturday, June 19, 2010

9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Church Fellowship Hall

Drop in anytime between 9:00 am and 1:00 pm and join other ladies in the church for a season of prayer.



The final payment of \$150 for the Sr. High beach trip is due to Gabe by Sunday, June 27.

The final payment of \$200 for Jr. High camp is due to Seth by Sunday, June 27.

Music Notes

- ◆ This Sunday morning, June 20, (Father's Day), the Wee Worship Choir will sing the introit for the 11:00 am worship service. Please have them come to the choir room immediately after Sunday School (around 10:45 am). They will sing and then return to their families.
- ◆ "Beautiful music is the art of the prophets that can calm the agitations of the soul; it is one of the most magnificent and delightful presents God has given us." ~Martin Luther~ Please consider using your gift and joining the choir. Now is a good time to join and we have room for all voice parts. Please call Elizabeth Guest with any questions. (313-0193)

General Assembly

The 38th PCA General Assembly will be June 29-July 2 in Nashville, Tennessee. Pastor Phillips, Pastor Spears, Pastor Fluhrer, RE Melton L. Duncan, RE Doug McDaniel, and RE Ken Safford will be attending from our church. You can log on live to the meetings and worship services from the floor of the Assembly by going to www.pca.com.

Important Announcement from the Diaconate

On Thursday, June 17th, the Deacons will close the church parking lot for paving and painting. They have requested that all members please make other parking arrangements (around the church) if you have business at the building that day. Cars on the lot must be moved/towed for work to go forward. Please see John Gray if you have any questions.

Deliberate Design --- Not Accidental Adaptation!

The creation Study Group presents Don Batten, PhD, University of Sydney (Australia) on Thursday, June 24th, 7:30 PM in the Sanctuary. Come hear about his 20-year research in environmental adaptation of tropical/subtropical fruits (e.g., mangoes, lychees, etc.). He overturned evolutionistic ideas of random adaptation in favor of the genetics of Genesis, i.e., built-in genetic design. This research advanced science and proper crop management to the benefit of people's livelihoods. See yellow CSG card for details.

New Addresses

David and Sharon Lock
1512 Southern Drive
Birmingham, AL 35242

Jack Denton
National Healthcare
Room 121
850 E. Butler Road
Greenville, SC 29607

Please change your church directory.

Please direct all comments, suggestions, and questions about the newsletter and/or the bulletin to Mr. Melton L. Duncan, Media Chairman.
southron@charter.net

Church Calendar

Sunday, June 20
 8:30 AM **MORNING WORSHIP**
 9:50 AM Children's Chapel
 10:00 AM **SUNDAY SCHOOL**
 11:00 AM **MORNING WORSHIP**
 4:30 PM VBS Teachers' Meeting
 5:30 PM Prayer in the Chapel for the Congregation and Officers
 6:00 PM **EVENING WORSHIP**
 6:30 PM Wee Worship Choir

Monday, June 21
 8:45 AM Vacation Bible School

Tuesday, June 22
 8:45 AM Vacation Bible School
 6:00 PM Boy Scout Troop 828

Wednesday, June 23
 8:45 AM Vacation Bible School
 5:00 PM CE Committee Meeting
 5:45 PM **Family Night Fellowship Supper**
 6:30 PM Musical CAT Kids
 6:45 PM Youth Bible Study
 6:45 PM Adult Bible Study and Prayer Meeting

Thursday, June 24
 8:45 AM Vacation Bible School

Friday, June 25
 8:45 AM Vacation Bible School
 6:30 AM Men's Bible Study

Saturday, June 26

Remembering Our Fathers

We thank our Heavenly Father for godly, faithful,
 loving, and honest earthly fathers.

*The father of the righteous will greatly rejoice,
 And he who begets a wise child will delight in him.
 Let your father and your mother be glad,
 and let her who bore you rejoice.
 Proverbs 23:24, 25*

*The ladies of the church are cordially invited
 to a drop-in Diaper Shower for
 Lynda Duncan
 Saturday, June 26, 2010
 10:00 AM - 12:00 Noon
 at the home of Julia Holman
 622 Creighton Drive, Taylors, SC 29687 (864-238-8888)*

Remembering One Another

Remember in prayer this week the following member.
 Also, send her a note of encouragement.

Mrs. Aurelia Miller
The Haywood Estates, Room 105
1180 Haywood Road
Greenville, SC 29615

The Second Presbyterian Church

105 River Street
 Greenville, South Carolina 29601-2537

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WORSHIP AT SECOND THE LORD'S DAY JUNE 20, 2010

MORNING WORSHIP
 8:30 AM and 11:00 AM

WHY DID JESUS DIE?

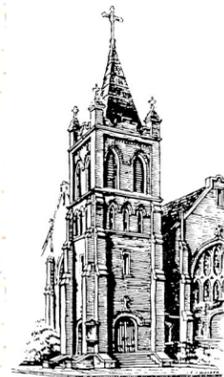
John 19:28-30
 Hymns 607, 254, MR3 (Heaven's Gift)
 Anthem: Eternal Love
 Rev. Richard D. Phillips preaching

EVENING WORSHIP
 6:00 PM

IF ANYONE WOULD COME AFTER ME

Matthew 16:24-28
 Hymns 170, 707, 420
 Psalter: Psalm 82
 Mr. Seth Starkey preaching

«Title» «First Name» «Last Name»
 «Address Line 1»
 «Address Line 2»
 «City» «State» «ZIP Code»



The West End Herald

Vol. LXVIII, Edition 24

The Second Presbyterian Church
 Corner of River and Rhett Streets
 Greenville, South Carolina

June 14, 2010

Letter from the Senior Pastor.... In Memoriam, James Montgomery Boice (1938-2000)

June 15 marks the tenth anniversary of the death of James Montgomery Boice, who was for thirty-two years the pastor of Tenth Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia, the dean of Reformed pastor-scholars in his generation, and my beloved pastor. The enduring image of Dr. Boice in my mind is also the first, when I had walked into Tenth Church for an evening service in 1990: standing in the pulpit preaching God's Word with authority, clarity, and both intellectual and spiritual power. The ten years since his death have seen little decrease in his standing and influence among evangelical Christians. Through his continuing radio ministry on *The Bible Study Hour* and especially through his writings, Boice continues not only to teach the Scriptures and its great doctrines, but he continues to anchor the commitment of his followers and admirers to the inerrancy and sufficiency of God's living Word.

In my opinion, the reason for James Boice's influence and legacy is seldom understood. What was it about him that drew so wide an audience of pastors and lay-people? The answer is that as a Reformed theologian, James Boice was a Christian first. That is, the issues for which he stood were Christian issues: the inerrancy of Scripture, the gospel of faith in Jesus, the sin-cleansing power of Christ's blood, and the Christian witness for the salvation of the lost. It is true that Boice served this Christian and evangelical cause from a distinctively Reformed perspective, but his cause was simply that of Christ and his gospel. It is in this way that Boice so ably advanced the credibility of Reformed theology within evangelicalism, by showing that it is only the Reformed doctrine that can consistently uphold Christian distinctives. Boice taught, proved, and defended Calvinism by teaching, proving, and defending the Bible. On a personal level this Christ-centered priority was also true for James Boice. While Boice was a Calvinist through and through, his passion was for the person and work of Jesus Christ, and his labor was offered in personal service to his living and reigning Lord and Savior. Calvinism was ever the servant of Boice's passion for Jesus and never the master.

One way for me to eulogize James Montgomery Boice is to recount both the first and the last things he ever said personally to me. My first conversation with Boice took place at a congregational dinner of Tenth Presbyterian Church, shortly after I had been converted and joined the church. I remember arriving late for the meal in the church's crowded fellowship hall, filled with circular dinner tables, and seeing no available seat except for one directly next to the senior minister, Dr. Boice. I suppose others were too intimidated to sit next to the great preacher, but I was thrilled. During the meal I recounted to Boice how I had been growing under his preaching and especially how my reading of his books was enriching my soul and leading me into truth. After a bit of this, Boice interrupted me and said, "Young man, you are talking too much about me. I would suggest that you stop reading my books and start reading the Bible for yourself, focusing on the truth that Jesus will teach you by the Holy Spirit." At the time I was downcast over this reproof, but the episode left a permanent impact on me on the importance of being devoted to Christ and his Word rather than the teaching of any man.