

This would include conduct, speech, and the way he treats people. A man who is harsh, worldly, divisive, or argumentative should not be called as an elder. Positively, an elder should exhibit a godliness that is worthy of emulation from others. Hebrews 13:7 exhorts us: "Remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God. Consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith" (Heb. 13:7). These words should be able to be said of any men we call to the office of elder. This does not mean that they have to be perfect, but it does mean that their conduct, speech, and treatment of other people should cause praise to redound to God for the power of His gospel and should be a worthy example for other Christians to follow. The Session will ask pointed questions about the nominees' private life during their interview. But you should vote for a man you personally respect both for his blamelessness and his godliness.

- *Rule of his own house.* The Bible says that one way we should evaluate elder candidates is by considering the way they rule their own households. The logic is that "if someone does not know how to manage his own household, how will he care for God's church?" (1 Tim. 3:5). This does not call for the harassment of an elder candidates' wife or children! Rather, it urges us to consider if these are families who are faithful Christians, active in the ministry of the church, promoting peace and godliness, and growing in the grace of the Lord. If an elder's wife is not respectful of her husband, this does not argue well for his fitness. Likewise, an elder is to "keep his children submissive" (1 Tim. 3:4). This does not mean that elders' or pastors' kids should never do anything wrong – we bear little sinners, not little angels! – and it does not warrant their harassment or excessive scrutiny being placed on them. Nor does it require for an elder candidates' children to all be converted, since this is outside his control. But it does mean that the children of an elder candidate should be active and well-behaved within the church, and that they bear the marks of faithful, godly parenting in the candidate's home.
- *Of good repute outside the church.* An elder should be respected in the world for integrity, faithfulness, and godliness. To be sure, many godly men will be hated by the world. But the way that elders conduct their public affairs should win general admiration. Likewise, a man who is engaged in public scandal in which he is at fault, whether moral or not, should not be made an elder in the church. Paul says, "He must be well thought of by outsiders, so that he may not fall into disgrace, into a snare of the devil" (1 Tim. 3:7).

I am quite sure that we have more than two men who meet these qualifications, which speaks to God's blessing on our church. It is the Lord who provides leaders for His church, so we should pray for Him to provide according to His all-wise and omniscient counsel and for the Holy Spirit to indeed lead our congregation in this selection. Let me conclude with my personal thanks to all the men who were nominated and attended the elder training class. May each of them be blessed by knowing the esteem and affection of the people of God.

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 - 5:45 PM * Prayer Meeting and Bible Study - 6:45 PM

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

Upcoming Events

May 26	WIC Book Club
May 28	Wedding of Meredith Altman and Daniel Evans
May 29	Congregational Meeting to elect Elders
May 29	Hymn Sing
May 30	Church Office Closed for Memorial Day
June 1	WIC Council
June 5	Ice Cream Social
June 6	Diaconate Meeting
June 6-10	General Assembly in Virginia Beach
June 8	Pastoral Care Committee Meeting
June 12	Worship & Music Committee Meeting
June 12	VBS Meeting
June 13	Session Meeting
June 14-15	WIC Circles
June 18	Youth/Young At Heart Cookout
June 19	The Lord's Supper at the evening service
June 20-24	Vacation Bible School
June 22	CE Committee Meeting
June 23	WIC Book Club
June 25-July 2	Peru Mission Trip
June 26	Evangelism/Church Growth Meeting

New Location for Lost and Found

Lost and Found articles can be placed and retrieved in the bathroom hallway beside the Gresham Conference Room. Items will be kept for no longer than 3 weeks and then given away. Parents help us keep the gym clean by keeping track of clothes, books, glasses and phones. Use the green bookshelf in the hallway as the place to find and store lost and found items. Expensive items such as jewelry, keys, etc will be kept in the church office.

Sympathy

We wish to express our Christian love and sympathy to Pastor Rick Phillips and his family in the death of his mother, Mrs. Margaret Phillips. Mrs. Phillips went home to be with the Lord on Friday, May 20, 2011. We also express our Christian love and sympathy to the family of Mrs. Doris Miller, who went home to be with the Lord on Saturday, May 21, 2011. Our prayers are with these families during this time of grief and sadness.

"And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also."

John 14:3

New Baby

We rejoice with Brian and Maria Bassett in the birth of their son, Matthew Stone Bassett on Monday, May 23, 2011. Matthew weighed 8 pounds, 6 ounces and was 20 inches long. Both mother and son are doing well.

Thank You

Dear Church Family,

Thank you for your love and support and many prayers over the last six months since my diagnosis with Hodgkins disease. My treatments have now ended and at this point there is no detectable cancer. I will have periodic follow up tests. Your overwhelming response to my illness, for me and for my family, has touched my heart. The Lord has blessed me in many, many ways. Thank you again.

In Christ, Jane Rainey

The Church Office will be closed Monday, May 30.

Vacation Bible School

June 20-24 * 8:45-12:00

Prepare for the sea voyage! Vacation Bible School begins soon! Second Presbyterian Church will be gearing up sea explorers for a voyage on the deep sea with Jonah. Every sea explorer should register so that we can put you on a crew for your adventure! Go to www.secondpca.org and click on:

Helpful Resources
VBS Registration (at the bottom)
Fill out form and send!

Ice Cream Social

Come join us for a Second Pres. tradition....

Our first ice cream social of the season will be Sunday night June 5, after the evening service. Come enjoy some refreshing ice cream and wonderful fellowship. The church will provide the ice cream and toppings.

Hymn Sing

Sunday, May 29

Following the evening service in the sanctuary. A special time of fellowship as we sing your favorite hymns from the Trinity Hymnal.

Summer Sunday School Class

Join us for our all Adult Sunday School (7th grade—adults) in the sanctuary this summer. The class will begin on June 5 and end on Rally Day, August 28. Mr. Settle will teach us in June and August through the "order of salvation" using some of our favorite Christian hymns. In July, Rev. Robert Spears, Dr. Ben Shaw, and Dr. Jim McGoldrick will survey prayers of the Old Testament.

June 5	(Settle)	"Sin"
June 12	(Settle)	"Grace/Redemption"
June 19	(Settle)	"Calling/Regeneration"
June 26	(Settle)	"Conversion"
July 3	(Spears)	"The Prayer of Moses"
July 10	(Spears)	"The Prayer of Abraham"
July 17	(Shaw)	"The Prayer of Daniel"
July 24	(McGoldrick)	"The Prayer of Solomon"
July 31	(McGoldrick)	"The Prayer of Elijah"
August 7	(Settle)	"Justification"
August 14	(Settle)	"Adoption"
August 21	(Settle)	"Sanctification/Perseverance"
August 28	(Settle)	"Glorification"

Summer Missions Opportunities

- Peru Mission Trip - June 25-July 2 - Trip to Trujillo Peru - construction, evangelism and medical ministries - Approx Cost \$2000/person
 - Richmond Hills (near Savannah), GA - July 18-23 (approx. dates) -- neighborhood VBS and diaconal work - Approx Cost \$200/ person
- If you are interested in either trip, please contact Pastor Spears as soon as possible. (430-7389 cell)

WIC Bible Study

The Tuesday morning WIC Bible Study will be continuing during the summer months with an indepth study of 1 Peter. A nursery will be provided. Visitors and guests are welcome. Dates are:

May 31; June 7 and 28; July 19 and 26; August 2, 16, 23, 30

Church Calendar

Sunday, May 29

8:30 AM MORNING WORSHIP
 9:50 AM Children's Chapel
 10:00 AM CONGREGATIONAL MEETING TO ELECT ELDERS
 FOLLOWED BY ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS
 IN SANCTUARY (7th grade and up)
 10:00 AM CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL (6th grade and under)
 11:00 AM MORNING WORSHIP
 4:45 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal
 5:30 PM Prayer in the Chapel for the Congregation and Officers
 6:00 PM EVENING WORSHIP
 7:15 PM Hymn Sing

Monday, May 30

Church Office Closed

Tuesday, May 31

10:00 AM WIC Bible Study
 6:00 PM Evangelism Explosion Training
 6:00 PM Boy Scout Troop 828

Wednesday, June 1

5:00 PM WIC Council
 5:45 PM FAMILY NIGHT FELLOWSHIP SUPPER
 6:45 PM Musical CAT Kids
 6:45 PM Youth Bible Study
 6:45 PM Prayer Meeting and Bible Study

Thursday, June 2

Friday, June 3

6:30 AM Men's Bible Study

The Second Presbyterian Church

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WORSHIP AT SECOND THE LORD'S DAY MAY 29, 2011

MORNING WORSHIP
 8:30 AM and 11:00 AM

GOD OF OUR SALVATION

Psalm 65
 Anthem:
 He Who Would Valiant Be
 Hymns: 465, 455, 372
 Rev. Richard D. Phillips preaching

EVENING WORSHIP
 6:00 PM

NONE LIKE YOU

2 Samuel 7:18-29
 Hymns: 100, 44, 82
 Psalter: Psalm 109 (verses 1-12)
 Rev. Richard D. Phillips preaching

Remembering One Another

Remember in prayer this week the following member.
 Also, send her a note of encouragement and/or give her a call.

Mrs. Kathleen Cleveland
 109 Blakely Road
 Piedmont, SC 29673
 277-5572



The West End Herald

Vol. LXIX, Edition 20

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

May 23, 2011

Letter From The Senior Minister Elder Election

This coming Sunday, May 29, 2011, at 10:00 a.m., we will hold a congregational meeting to elect two new elders to be ordained as members of our Session. The Session is the ruling body of a Presbyterian church, consisting of the elders of the church and exercising authority and oversight over the church. Second Presbyterian Church ordains its elders for life, which is the best expression of the Bible's teaching, which makes our election especially serious. I trust that upon receiving the slate of candidates the congregation will be praying for God's wisdom in your selection.

Let me recap the process that leads to the congregational vote on May 29. First, the Session voted to recommend to the congregation that two elders be selected. We therefore held a congregational meeting on January 30, 2011, when this recommendation was approved by the congregation. Next, the Session solicited nominations from the congregation from the list of men who met the basic eligibility requirements. These men were invited to attend an elders' training class that I have been conducting on Wednesday nights. We have had up to ten men attending this class, although not all have desired to be placed on the slate for election. This class has concluded with a written examination and a detailed personal examination before the Session, to ensure that all candidates meet the biblical requirements of 1 Timothy 3:1-1-7 and Titus 1:5-9. We have scheduled June 19, 2011, for the ordination of the new elders during our Lord's Day worship.

As we prepare for this significant occasion in our church life, I would like to remind you of the guidance in our denomination's *Book of Church Order*, which summarizes the Bible's teaching on the qualifications of elders. These are matters you should consider – not popularity or worldly attainments – when you vote to elect our new elders.

- *Competent in Human Learning, sound in faith, and apt to teach.* A man who is called to serve as elder should have competent intellectual ability, so as to be able to judiciously assess arguments and arrive at sound decisions. He must especially be sound in his embrace of the system of doctrine taught in the Holy Scriptures. Our church holds the *Westminster Standards* as the true summary of biblical doctrine, so an elder must sincerely uphold this confessional standard. During elder training, I will have gone entirely through the *Westminster Confession* and all candidates will have passed a written test in doctrine prepared and graded by me. Moreover, an elder should be able to teach the Bible and sound doctrine. This does not necessarily mean that he possesses impressive public speaking gifts – although this is certainly a plus for an elder – but that he can competently present the Bible's doctrine and effectively refute errors.
- *Blameless in life, exhibiting a sobriety and holiness of life that becomes the Gospel.* This calls for both a negative and a positive evaluation. An elder should manage himself with self-control, having repented of serious sins and avoiding any behaviors that would scandalize the gospel and Christ's church.