

day of every week, each of you is to put something aside and store it up, as he may prosper" (1 Cor. 16:2). Our data shows that our financial needs as a church can be easily met if we all give in a regular and intentional way.

2) *Our giving should be proportional.* That same teaching shows that we should give according to the way God has prospered us. The best starting place for our giving should be the tithe, which is the giving of 10% of our gross income back to the work of the Lord (see Lev. 27:30; Dt. 14:22). Some of our families have experienced significant financial downturns during the last year, and this will inevitably cause them to decrease their giving to the church. We should all do our best, however, to give faithfully to the Lord in a proportional way, in keeping with the Bible's teaching.

3) *Our giving should be cheerful and thankful.* Giving to the work of the Lord should never be thought of as a legalistic burden but rather as a privilege and joy. Paul wrote: "Each one must give as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver" (2 Cor. 9:7). Moreover, while we should never give with a thought of what God will do to reward us, the Bible does frankly state that God cares about our generosity in giving to support His work and responds in terms of His provision for us (see 2 Cor. 9:6-11 and Mal. 3:10).

4) *Our giving is something that we do together in order to accomplish God's work together.* One of the vows every member takes in joining our church is to "support the worship and work of the church to the best of my ability." This embraces our whole involvement in the church, but it also speaks to our financial support. Every member should seek to give as much as possible to the work of the gospel, both in and outside of our church. Jesus tells us that "where your treasure is, there your heart will be also" (Lk. 12:34), so that our treasuring the gospel of salvation will be seen in our giving to support and spread Christ's work.

I do not experience a great deal of anxiety over church finances, since I know that God will wonderfully provide for His gospel. But I know that it is important to each of us to be faithful in this matter and that faithful giving is an essential component of spiritual health. So let's each of us do our part individually and let us together seek to provide for the financial needs of Second Church this year. If we do that, I am sure that God will be honored and we will have what we need to minister to our congregation and reach out to the world.

Let me express my thanks again to the generous and faithful members of this church who honor God with their giving, through which God enables us to spread His saving grace both near and far, to the praise of His name.

In Christ's Love,

Pastor Rick Phillips

There will be an informal congregation financial meeting at the Sunday School hour this Lord's Day.

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

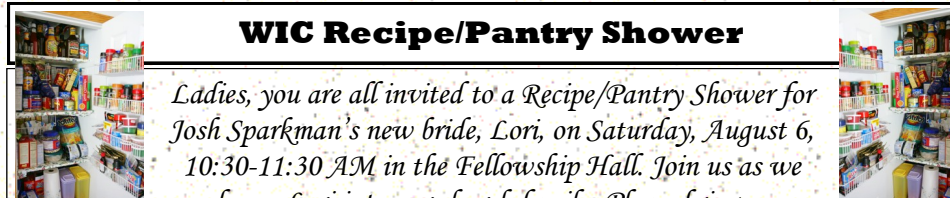
Upcoming Events

Aug. 6	Recipe/Pantry Shower for Lori Sparkman
Aug. 7	Ice Cream Social
Aug. 8	Session Meeting
Aug. 9	WIC Circles
Aug. 10	Musical CAT Kids Program
Aug. 12	Fun Friday Playdate @ Riverplace Fountains
Aug. 14	Hugh Player Fold Dinner (12:15 pm-Fellowship Hall)
Aug. 17	Musical CAT Kids end-of-summer celebration
Aug. 17	WIC Circle 6
Aug. 21	Stuart Patterson Fold Dinner (12:15 pm-Fellowship Hall)
Aug. 21	The Lord's Supper at the evening service
Aug. 24	CE Committee Meeting
Aug. 24	Regular CAT Kids resumes
Aug. 25	WIC Annual Meeting
Aug. 26	Fun Friday Playdate @ Jones Gap State Park
Aug. 28	Rally Day
Aug. 28	Evangelism/Church Growth Committee Meeting
Aug. 28	WIC Installation of Officers

Watch for Upcoming Events!

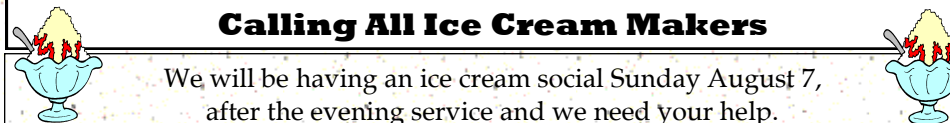
- New Wednesday night Bible Study on Thessalonians by Pastor Phillips, beginning August 24th.
- All Adult SS Ministry Fair on September 4th.
- New Members' Class begins on September 11th.
- Deacon Nominations - Sept. 11th-18th.
- Evangelism Explosion Banquet on September 14th.

WIC Recipe/Pantry Shower



Ladies, you are all invited to a Recipe/Pantry Shower for Josh Sparkman's new bride, Lori, on Saturday, August 6, 10:30-11:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall. Join us as we welcome Lori into our church family. Please bring some pantry items and a favorite recipe to share.

Calling All Ice Cream Makers



We will be having an ice cream social Sunday August 7, after the evening service and we need your help. We are asking for volunteers to churn up some good ol' homemade ice cream to share with everyone. Come enjoy some refreshing homemade ice cream and wonderful fellowship. Contact Tindell Russell (294-7540).

Fun Friday Playdate



ATTENTION:

Second Pres. Nursery Kids and Moms

Our next Fun Friday Playdate

August 12, 2011 @ 10:00 AM

Riverplace Fountains

Meet at the water area,

which is just outside the lower portion of the Hampton Inn

For questions call Kelly Woodard @ 895-1241

or Rebekah Johnson @ 430-3408

Music Notes

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

Summer Musical CAT Kids' final program:

Wednesday, August 10, at 7:00 pm.

End of the summer celebration:

Wednesday, August 17, at 6:45 pm.

Regular CAT Kids will resume:

Wednesday, August 24.

Meals for New Mothers

The WIC's program "Meals for New Mothers" is online at takethenameal.com. Two new mothers now in the schedule are Erin Harvell and Frankie Casey and their families. The login is their last name and the password for each is 1892. If you have any questions you can call Janice Leathers at 895-6646 or 616-4854.

Will You Help Make Space for Others?

Have you ever thought about switching your weekly attendance to the 8:30 am service? If asked, would you be willing? We are enjoying our large Sunday crowds, but anticipate this fall that it will become more difficult with families to find a place to sit at the 11:00 am service. If you are able, would you help our church grow our outreach to new families and visitors by making the switch to the 8:30 am service.

Richmond Hill Mission Trip Report

Your team of four adults and seven youth workers helped New Covenant PCA of Richmond Hill, Georgia, put on a Vacation Bible School to help with community outreach and evangelism. Though the New Covenant church plant has only 60-70 regular attendees, we had almost 50 children in the VBS (most were from un-churched families). Our team and the members of New Covenant worked well together and the VBS went very well. The immediate fruit of our work was evidenced by seven families that visited New Covenant the very next Sunday. Pastor Nick Batzig and the members of New Covenant were very encouraged and want us to return next year and put on another VBS. Please pray for the conversions of parents and children that heard the gospel through the book of Jonah and pray for the growth of New Covenant, especially for faithful elders and deacons. If you are able, financial support is still needed to help New Covenant with significant facility expenses incurred to put on the VBS (designate gifts to summer missions).

WIC Annual Meeting



All women in the church are invited and encouraged to attend the WIC Annual Meeting.

Thursday, August 25, 2011
Fellowship Hall
7:00 PM

Agenda:

Election of Officers

Recognition of New Members

Refreshments will be served.

Church Calendar

Sunday, August 7

8:30 AM MORNING WORSHIP
 9:50 AM Children's Chapel
 10:00 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL
 11:00 AM MORNING WORSHIP
 4:45 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal
 5:30 PM Season of Prayer in the Chapel
 6:00 PM EVENING WORSHIP
 7:15 PM Ice Cream Social

Monday, August 8

6:30 PM Session Meeting

Tuesday, August 9

10:00 AM WIC Circles 1 & 3 meet at the church
 2:30 PM WIC Circle 5 meets at the church
 7:00 PM WIC Circle 3 meets at the home of Tammy Looper
 7:00 PM WIC Circle 4 meets at Panera Bread on Augusta St.

Wednesday, August 10

6:30 AM Men's Bible Study
 5:45 PM Family Night Fellowship Supper
 7:00 PM Musical CAT Kids' Program
 7:40 PM Prayer Meeting

Friday, August 12

10:00 AM "Fun Friday" Playdate at Riverplace Fountains

WIC Circle 4

WIC Circle 4 will meet at Panera Bread Company, 1922 Augusta Street, at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, August 9. Come early if you would like to order something from the menu. If you have any questions please contact Alice Barnett (289-0536).

WIC Circle 6 will meet Wednesday, August 17 at 6:45 pm instead of August 10th.

Rally Day - August 28, 2011

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. Maryland Nelson
 The Gardens of Eastside, Room G-14
 275 Commonwealth Drive
 Greenville, SC 29615
 675-0548

The Second Presbyterian Church

105 River Street
 Greenville, South Carolina 29601-2537

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WORSHIP AT SECOND THE LORD'S DAY AUGUST 7, 2011

MORNING WORSHIP
 8:30 AM and 11:00 AM

WHEN MY STRENGTH IS SPENT

Psalm 71
 Anthem:
 Fairest Lord Jesus
 Hymns: 88, (8:30-94; 11:00-131), 32
 Rev. Richard D. Phillips preaching

EVENING WORSHIP
 6:00 PM

DAVID'S DREADFUL SIN

2 Samuel 11:1-5
 Hymns: 35, 498, 520
 Psalter: Psalm 116 (TIDINGS)
 Rev. Richard D. Phillips preaching

«Title» «First Name» «Last Name»
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The West End Herald

Vol. LXIX, Edition 30

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

August 1, 2011

Letter From The Senior Minister Church Finances Update

Praise God from whom all blessings flow...

We sing these words each Lord's Day as our deacons present our tithes and offerings. The reason is our awareness that every good gift comes from above and that it is God who provides for His Church. But we also know that when it comes to church finances, God provides through the generosity of His people. Church members should take seriously their vow to support the church to the best of their ability, and together we should embrace a commitment to achieving our church budget each year. I can scarcely express how grateful I am to serve a congregation that embraces these convictions, saying together with the apostle Paul, "I thank my God in all my remembrance of you... because of your partnership in the gospel" (Phil. 1:3-5).

The Session desires us to provide regular information on the finances of the church, and our treasurer provides the following information (through July 24, 2011):

2011 Contributions: \$521,162 (increase of \$36,871 over 2010)
 2011 Operating Expenses: \$521,790
 2011 Missions/Benevolences: \$68,745
 2011 Total Expenses: \$582,535

According to our treasurer, Mr. David Rainey, we are on target to meet budget for this year, but he projects that expenses will exceed budget by approximately \$28,650. While most expense items are below budgeted amounts, additional costs for the conference room and gym renovation have pushed up our overall expenses. Moreover, this year has seen extraordinary needs for mercy funds within our congregation, some of which come from the budgeted care fund.

Overall, this financial report indicates that while we are projecting well under our current budget, our congregation needs to continue giving as generously as possible. Our goal in giving should not be merely to meet our current needs, but to give in such a way that we may contribute more and more to the cause of the gospel both near and far. With a growing congregation, we are going to need to expand our facilities in the near future and increase our ministry efforts. Decisions on future facilities and ministry depend largely on current giving, so your generosity tangibly plays a role in the growth of our church and ministry. As the elders and deacons make plans for the 2012 church budget, our giving levels in the upcoming months will greatly influence our plans and decisions.

Christians frequently ask about what the Bible teaches about financial giving, for which I would offer the following counsel from the Scriptures:

1) *Our giving should be regular and intentional.* The biblical idea is not simply putting some money in the plate as the mood strikes us or as it seems good to us to give. Instead, we should think through our giving, plan for our giving, and give regularly as a matter of habit. Paul thus wrote to the Corinthians, "On the first