

Question: Is it unbiblical for the church to borrow money to purchase land?

Answer: The Bible does not prohibit borrowing or lending, but does give strong warnings against doing so foolishly. One verse that is often cited is Romans 13:8, "Owe no one anything, except to love each other." We can see from the previous verse that this does not prohibit borrowing: "Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed" (Rom. 13:7). The Bible's concern is that those who borrow should be able to pay back what is owed (see also Ps. 32:21). We may summarize the Bible's concerns by saying that we should operate annually within the budget that the church can afford and if we borrow to support expanded ministry, we should do so prudently and with good reasons to be sure we can repay.

Question: Is this a purchase the church can afford, especially since we may soon need funds to expand sanctuary capacity?

Answer: This is really a question the elders and deacons (both of which bodies strongly support this purchase) are asking you. The question is whether or not our members are willing to commit themselves to provide these extra funds above and beyond the current budget. The church officers believe that we can raise the needed funds during the time period specified. The reality is that we can afford it if our members are willing to provide the needed money. I am sure that this will require sacrificial giving to meet an extraordinary opportunity. Moreover, our treasurer pointed out last week that a substantial portion of the congregation does not seem to be giving in the substantial, regular way that the Bible calls us to do and which we have vowed to do as church members. If you are not supporting God's work here through regular tithes and offerings, please prayerfully consider trusting the Lord in such a way that our church will be able to pursue opportunities like this property.

In short, I believe that it will speak poorly of our zeal for the Lord if we are not willing to put our shoulders together to accomplish worthy goals and make provision for future generations of our church. I can assure you that our enemy is making plans for an aggressive expansion of the kingdom of evil in Greenville and the surrounding area. Do we have a vision for an expanded impact for the gospel through the growth of our church? I think that we do and I am already in prayer for God to show us how He can provide both for us and through us.

In Christ's Love,

Pastor Rick Phillips

#### CHURCH INFORMATION

Website: [www.secondpca.org](http://www.secondpca.org)

Telephone: Office (864) 232-7621

Fax: (864) 232-7622 \* Email: [info@secondpca.org](mailto: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

|            |   |
|------------|---|
| Sept. 25   | Joint Corporation and Congregation Meeting  |
| Sept. 25   | Patterson Fold Lunch in the Fellowship Hall |
| Sept. 25   | Evangelism/Church Growth meeting            |
| Sept. 30   | Men's Chili Cook-off and Kickoff Fellowship |
| Oct. 2     | Church-wide Fellowship Supper               |
| Oct. 5     | WIC Council                                 |
| Oct. 5     | Pastoral Care Committee Meeting             |
| Oct. 6     | Evangelism Explosion Training begins        |
| Oct. 9     | Worship & Music Committee Meeting           |
| Oct. 10    | Joint Session/Diaconate Meeting             |
| Oct. 11-12 | WIC Circles                                 |
| Oct. 12    | Blood Drive                                 |
| Oct. 15    | Church Fall Picnic                          |
| Oct. 16    | The Lord's Supper - evening service         |
| Oct. 17    | Young At Heart                              |
| Oct. 19    | CE Committee Meeting                        |
| Oct. 22    | WIC Fall Retreat                            |
| Oct. 26    | Reformation Party                           |
| Oct. 27    | Calvary Presbytery                          |
| Oct. 30    | Reformation Sunday                          |
| Oct. 30    | Hymn Sing                                   |

**If you have a date for the October calendar please contact the church office this week.**

#### New Members' Class

Began Sunday, September 18, 2011

9:50 am in Classroom C-209

Second Class—September 25th

**Presbyterian History**

Taught by Dr. Barry Waugh

It's not too late to join!

#### Fall Church Picnic

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Saturday, October 15, 2011 \* 9:30 - 2:00 pm

HerdKlotz Park, 126 Beverly Road, Greenville

The Deacons will be smoking BBQ.

Everyone please bring salads, side dishes, and desserts.

**There will be a dessert contest!**

Lunch will be about 11:30 am but come early and enjoy the park.

#### Music Notes

Beginning Sunday, Sept. 18, the adult choir will hold its regular rehearsals at 4:00 pm and the Christmas Cantata rehearsals will be at 4:45 pm. If you are interested in joining the choir for the Christmas Cantata, please come!

#### Devotional Literature

As of August, the church is no longer receiving free *Tabletalk* magazines. The church continues to provide *Today, Our Daily Bread and Days of Praise* which can be found on the library counter and throughout the church building. Please feel free to use these and other excellent free resources that the church can provide.

### Pack a Shoe Box

**Operation Christmas Child**

**"The Power of A Simple Gift"**

Share God's love and the joy of Christmas by packing a gift-filled shoe box for a hurting child overseas. Your simple gift can make an eternal difference. Pamphlets on how to pack a shoe box and all other instructions are located throughout the church, on bulletin boards or in the church office. National Collection Week is November 14-21.

### Men's Ministry

**Chili Cook-off and Kick-off Fellowship**

Friday, September 30 \* 6:00 - 8:00 pm

Second Pres Gym

**Pastor Phillips will be speaking on "The Masculine Mandate".**

We need brave "chefs" to sign up to bring their very best chili concoction.

Our judges will award the best chili a first place prize.

Contact Bill Hedgpeth at [billhedge@bellsouth.net](mailto:billhedge@bellsouth.net)

### Jessamine Group Kick-off Celebration

Jessamine Group - Girls 5th - 8th grade and Moms

Kick-off Celebration

September 29 at 6:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall

Leslie Martin will speak to us on "Developing a Servant's Heart" which is our theme for the year.

Pot luck dinner is soup or salad. Please bring a dish to share.

The beverage will be provided.

Contact Cindy Duncan at 235-6907 or [CindyADuncan@gmail.com](mailto:CindyADuncan@gmail.com)

if you have any questions.

### Congratulations

Elizabeth Johnson will be honored at a banquet this month as **Pediatric Nurse of the Year**, presented by the Greenville Hospital Systems. Congratulations, Elizabeth!!

**The church history room will be closed until Sunday, November 6, for repairs and the installation of new displays.**

### WIC Fall Retreat

**The Great Escape 2011**

October 21-22

Saluda, NC

WIC is thrilled to announce this first-time-ever event. Located just 35 miles from our church, nestled in the Blue Ridge mountains, the quaint town of Saluda has unique shops along Main Street, nearby antique stores, hiking trails, and waterfalls, which will provide plenty of opportunities for enjoyment and beauty to complete this fabulous fall weekend. Our own Sharon Phillips will join us for this weekend, leading and teaching us from God's Word. There will be times of hymn-singing and prayer as we gather in the community room of the Saluda library. The price for the Great Escape. 2011 is \$65.00 per person, if paid by October 2 (\$75.00 for later registrations). This price includes lodging with a view at the Saluda Mountain Lodge, two meals, teaching sessions, and fellowship times. You will not want to miss this event. Space is limited, so be sure to make your reservation early. Registration envelopes are located on the counter outside the church library, or you can see Jill Mann with questions or for more information.

## Church Calendar

### Sunday, September 25

- 8:30 AM **MORNING WORSHIP**
- 9:50 AM New Members' Class
- 10:00 AM **Corporate and Congregation Meeting**
- 10:00 AM **SUNDAY SCHOOL** (6th grade and under)
- 11:00 AM **MORNING WORSHIP**
- 12:30 PM Stuart Patterson Fold lunch in the Fellowship Hall
- 4:00 PM Regular Adult Choir Rehearsal
- 4:45 PM Christmas Cantata Rehearsal
- 5:30 PM Season of Prayer in the Chapel
- 6:00 PM **EVENING WORSHIP**
- 6:00 PM Wee Worship Choir
- 7:15 PM Evangelism/Church Growth Committee Meeting

### Tuesday, September 27

- 10:00 AM WIC Bible Study
- 5:30 PM Jr. High Boys' basketball practice
- 6:00 PM Boy Scout Troop 828
- 6:30 PM 5th and 6th grades' basketball practice

### Wednesday, September 28

- 6:30 AM Men's Bible Study
- 5:45 PM **FAMILY NIGHT FELLOWSHIP SUPPER**
- 6:15 PM Covenant Choir
- 6:45 PM CAT Kids and Covenant Kids
- 6:45 PM Youth Bible Study
- 6:45 PM **PRAYER MEETING AND BIBLE STUDY**

### Thursday, September 29

- 9:30 AM WIC Precepts Bible Study
- 6:30 PM Jessamine Group Kick-off Celebration

### Friday, September 30

- 6:00 PM Men's Chili Cook-off and Kick-off Fellowship  
(Second Pres. Gym)

### Saturday, October 1

- 10:30 AM Senior High Girls' basketball practice

### Congregation Meeting

The Session has called a joint corporation and congregation meeting for Sunday, September 25, 2011, at 10:00 am (during the Sunday School hour) to vote on the recommendation made by the Long Range Planning Committee.

### Evangelism Explosion Training

Have you ever wanted to tell a friend or relative about Jesus, but did not know how to start or what to say? Evangelism Explosion is an evangelistic training program designed to equip you to tell others the good news about Jesus Christ. The fall semester will begin Thursday, October 6, at 6:00 pm in the Conference Room. Please call or see Ken Safford (419-8267) to sign up, or if you have any questions.

### 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 Second Presbyterian Church

105 River Street  
Greenville, South Carolina 29601-2537

Return Service Requested

Nonprofit Org.  
U. S. Postage  
PAID  
Greenville, SC  
Permit No. 559

### WORSHIP AT SECOND THE LORD'S DAY SEPTEMBER 25, 2011

**MORNING WORSHIP**  
8:30 AM and 11:00 AM

#### GOD'S WORD SOUNDING FORTH

1 Thesalonians 1:8-10

Anthem:

We Will Walk in the Name of the Lord

Hymns: 16, 300, 296

Rev. Richard D. Phillips preaching

**EVENING WORSHIP**

6:00 PM

#### MOURNING FOR THE CHILD

2 Samuel 12:15-31

Hymns: 637, 528, 550

Psalter: Psalm 119 (verses 17-24)

Rev. Richard D. Phillips preaching



# The West End Herald

Vol. LXIX, Edition 37

## The Second Presbyterian Church

Corner of River and Rhett Streets  
Greenville, South Carolina

September 19, 2011

### Letter From The Senior Minister Congregational Meeting to Vote on Property Acquisition

Last Sunday we held a information meeting to discuss the potential purchase of the land located at 225 S. Academy Street. Prior to the meeting church members received a mailing providing details of this proposal. This coming Sunday, Sept. 25, 10:00 a.m., we will hold a meeting of the congregation and the church corporation to vote on this question. The motion from the Session calls for the congregation to empower the Session to arrange the purchase of this land according to the specified terms. In short, we would purchase the land for \$800,000, with a down payment of \$175,000 that is due at the end of January 2012 and the remaining amount, \$625,000, owner financed. Given the current lease to ARC Corporation, the annual projected cost to the congregation is \$13,526 per month. We hope that a renegotiation of this lease will decrease the annual cost.

I appreciated a number of good questions asked during last week's meeting and I would encourage any further questions to be brought to John Gray, David Rainey, or Mel Duncan. Meanwhile, let me anticipate some questions and try to provide answers that I hope will be helpful.

Question: What is the current need for this purchase, and if there is none why would we buy this land?

Answer: There is no immediate need for the purchase of this land. However, as soon as we begin thinking long-term about an expanded gospel presence for our church in downtown Greenville, the issue of land comes up. The main benefit of this property is that it is joined to our existing land and that it provides us future access to Academy Street and O'Neil Street. Under current master plans, it is likely that the interior of our campus (the grass field known as the Sitton property) will be increasingly converted to parking space, while the periphery is needed for buildings. If in the future we were to build a fellowship hall or if we needed to rebuild our gym (both of which are more than feasible needs), we would need the space provided by this new property. An example that we are following is that of the Sitton property, which was purchased 25 years ago when there was no immediate need. Beginning next year, we will be expanding our parking lot onto that land, so that our current growth will be accommodated by the prior investment of our church.

Question: Does this purchase mean that we are going into the real estate business?

Answer: The proposed plan has us paying off the loan for the next ten years or so, largely by means of the rent we would receive from ARC or some other tenant. This will require our officers to interact with a tenant within a business relationship. This does not mean that our church is generally seeking real estate revenues as a future source of funds. Rather, this is an opportunity the Lord has provided us, with a modest amount of risk, that will enable us to purchase this property so that it will be available when it is projected to be needed.