

confidence in their commitment to Christ, their maturity as believers, and their established reputation for godliness.

Third, having considered our debt to the deacons and our need for new deacons, let me say a word to those who will be elected. No doubt, you will quickly realize that this is no small commitment, but there are reasons for you to take up this obligation. First, it is no small thing for the church to set you forth to serve in such an important way. It is my view that one should be reverently open to callings to serve in the church. God calls us into service, and service as a deacon is one of the highest forms. Second, there are few more important things to which one could be called in this life. We are engaged together in work with eternal significance and that is of serious concern to the Lord God Almighty Himself. Should you not be willing to sacrifice in such a cause? Third, you will be greatly blessed through faithful service as a deacon. I believe that our deacons will tell you of a great satisfaction they receive through their work and of the valuable fellowship they experience within the Diaconate. Moreover, Paul concludes his description of deacons by writing this: "For those who have served well as deacons obtain for themselves a good standing and great boldness in the faith which is in Christ Jesus" (1 Tim. 3:13). What a rich treasure is revealed in those words!

Please pray for God to provide for our church through new deacons who will join the ranks of those already serving. For those not called to this office, please consider how you might offer your own gifts and energies to the work of the gospel in this church. Every member of our church has an important role to play, according to the gifts and graces that Christ has given to each of us. May God meet all our needs according to His riches in Christ Jesus (Phil. 4:19).

In Christ's Love,
Pastor Rick Phillips

Pledge/Contribution Report	
225 South Academy Street Report for 11/27/11	
Pledges Received:	\$76,799
Contributions Received:	\$49,669

*Join us for a special presentation of
"The Story of Christmas" by H. A. Matthews
Sunday, December 11, 2011
at our 6:00 evening worship service.
Please invite family and friends to share in this
special service to the glory of God.*

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

Dec. 1	WIC Wreath-Making Party
Dec. 4	Congregational Meeting to elect Deacons and receive and support the 2012 budget
Dec. 4	Missionary Speaker - David Cross
Dec. 4	Deacon Ordination/Installation
Dec. 4	Fellowship Supper and Reception for new Deacons
Dec. 5	Diaconate Meeting
Dec. 7	WIC Council
Dec. 7	Pastoral Care Committee Meeting
Dec. 10	Choir Christmas Cantata Dress Rehearsal and party
Dec. 10	Young Adult SS Christmas Party at the Crunks
Dec. 11	Christmas Cantata at the Evening Worship Service
Dec. 12	Young At Heart Christmas Luncheon
Dec. 12	Session Meeting
Dec. 13-14	WIC Circles
Dec. 15	Jessamines "Christmas Cookie Exchange"
Dec. 16	Jr. High Christmas Party at the Sparkmans
Dec. 18	The Lord's Supper at the Evening Service
Dec. 19	College Class Christmas Party at the Gambles
Dec. 20	Sr. High Christmas Party at the Worleys
Dec. 21	No Wednesday activities
Dec. 22-26	Church Office Closed
Dec. 24	Lessons and Carols
Dec. 28	No Wednesday activities
Dec. 30	Church Office Closed

Congregational Meeting

The Session has called a congregational meeting at 9:55 am in the sanctuary this Lord's Day, December 4, to elect Deacons and to receive and support the 2012 budget. A joint Sunday School class will follow in the sanctuary.

Music Notes

Attention Choir: Please have these dates and times on your calendar:
Friday, Dec. 2, 6:30 pm - Pizza Party and Choir Room organizing
Saturday, Dec. 10, 10:00 - 12:00 noon - Cantata Dress Rehearsal
Saturday, Dec. 10, 12:00 - 2:00 pm - Choir Christmas Party
(Please bring heavy hors d'oeuvres and a white elephant gift.)

Young At Heart

The Young At Heart Christmas Luncheon will be Monday, December 12, at 11:45 am in the Fellowship Hall. A special catered Christmas lunch will be \$7.00 per person payable at the door. Our Christmas program will featured a piano concert in the sanctuary by Mr. Rylan Brown. Mark your calendars and make your plans to join us as we enjoy good food, fellowship, and a wonderful pro-

2012 Offering Envelopes

The 2012 offering envelopes are in the process of being prepared. If you do not have offering envelopes, please contact the church office, ext. 18. The Diaconate ask that all members use offering envelopes for accounting purposes. If any of your children need a box of envelopes, please contact the church office, ext. 18.

Rivertree Singers Concert

Rivertree Singers Concert
Tuesday, December 13, 2011
7:30 pm
Second Presbyterian Church
A concert of sacred and secular Christmas Music

WIC Wreath-Making Party

WIC invites women and girls of all ages to our Annual Wreath-Making Party on Thursday, December 1, 6:00 PM, in the church gymnasium. An evening of fellowship and fun will be had by all as we make Christmas wreaths. Please bring a simple dessert (cookies, etc.) to add to our festive party. The cost is \$10.00 per person. Cost is \$7.00 if you bring your own PVC wreath from a previous wreath-making party. **Please sign up** on the church bulletin boards or in your Sunday School Class. Also, bring enough greenery/berries, etc. to fill your wreath and share with others. Also, please bring your own clippers/gloves. If you have any questions please call Leslie Martin at 271-2022.

Perry Correctional Christmas Outreach

Following the morning services on **Sunday, Dec. 4th**, the deacons will be taking up a special offering for the support of an outreach at Perry Correctional. Second Church is sponsoring a dorm for Christmas and will orchestrate a Christmas program where each inmate receives a Bible, hygiene bag, and a meal. The Gospel will be preached and hymns of praise sung. Please give generously to this outreach and mercy ministry. The actual Christmas program will be held at the prison on **Tuesday, Dec. 6th**. If you are interested in singing in a small choir or otherwise participating in the distribution of the food and hygiene items, please see Bill Watkins (304-4737).

Missionary Speaker

Bill Cross, one of our support missionaries, will join us at the evening worship service on Sunday, December 4, to give us a report on his work in England.

Year-End Contributions

Just a reminder that to obtain a 2011 charitable contribution deduction for income tax purposes, contributions must be received by the church no later than December 30.

Senior High Ski Trip

January 20 & 21, 2012
Wolf Laurel Ski Resort, Mars Hill, NC
Cost: \$100 per person
(price includes Friday lodging, Saturday ski rentals and lift tickets)
(add \$14.00 for snow board rental)
Deposit of \$20.00 due by December 1, 2011
Bring spending money for 3 meals.

Christmas Poinsettias

If you would like to purchase a Poinsettia in memory or honor of someone, please fill out the form below and leave it in the church office. **(Please do not put in the offering plate.)** Cost is \$10.00 each. **Deadline is December 14th.**

I would like to purchase _____ Poinsettia (s) at \$10.00 ea. Total: _____
In honor of: _____

In memory of: _____

Given by: _____
(Name) _____ Telephone # _____

Church Calendar

Sunday, December 4

8:30 AM **MORNING WORSHIP**
 9:55 AM **Congregational Meeting to Elect Deacons and Receive and Support the 2012 Budget**
 10:00 AM **SUNDAY SCHOOL** (6th grade and under)
 11:00 AM **MORNING WORSHIP**
 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**
Missionary Speaker David Cross
Deacon Ordination and Installation
 6:00 PM Wee Worship Choir
 7:15 PM **Fellowship Supper and Reception for New Deacons**
 A - J Main Course
 K - Z Side Dishes
Everyone please bring one 2-liter drink.

Monday, December 5

4:45 PM I-Mites Basketball Practice
 6:00 PM Diaconate Meeting
 6:00 PM Senior High Girls' Basketball game at ARP
 9:00 PM Senior High Boys' Basketball game at W. Pres.

Tuesday, December 6

10:00 AM WIC Bible Study
 12:00 PM Men's Bible Luncheon at Tommy's Ham House
 6:00 PM Jr. High Girls' Basketball Practice
 6:00 PM Boy Scout Troop 828
 7:00 PM 5th and 6th grade Boys' Basketball Practice

Wednesday, December 7

6:30 AM Men's Bible Study
 5:00 PM WIC Council
 5:00 PM Pastoral Care Committee Meeting
 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**
 7:30 PM Jr. High Boys' Basketball Practice
 8:30 PM Senior High Boys' Basketball Practice

Thursday, December 8

9:30 AM WIC Precepts Bible Study
 6:00 PM Evangelism Explosion Training

Saturday, December 10

10:00 AM Christmas Cantata Dress Rehearsal
 12:00 PM Choir Christmas Party
 9:30 AM Jr. High Girls' Basketball game at 4th Pres.
 9:30 AM Midget Boys' Basketball game at St. Matthews
 12:15 PM I-Mites' Basketball game at W. Pres. I
 12:30 PM Jr. High Boys' Basketball game at AYMC
 1:45 PM Mites' Basketball game at 2nd Pres.
 6:30 PM Young Adult SS Christmas Party at the Crunks

Remembering One Another

Remember in prayer this week the following members.
 Also, send them a note of encouragement and/or give them a call.
Henry and Elizabeth Montgomery
 564 S. Buckhorn Road
 Greenville, SC 29609
 244-4542

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 DECEMBER 4, 2011

MORNING WORSHIP
 8:30 AM and 11:00 AM

SEXUAL PURITY

1st Thessalonians 4:3-8

Anthem:

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Hymns: 194, 198, 503

Rev. Richard D. Phillips preaching

EVENING WORSHIP

6:00 PM

FLIGHT FROM JERUSALEM

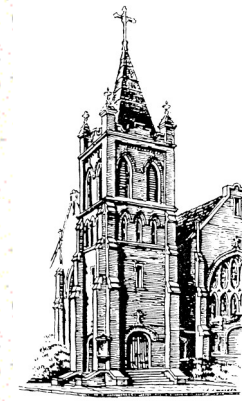
2 Samuel 16:1-23

Hymns: 196, 221, 499

Psalter: Psalm 119 (verses 97-104)

Rev. Richard D. Phillips preaching

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



The West End Herald

Vol. LXIX, Edition 47

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

November 28, 2011

Letter from the Senior Minister The Ministry of Our Deacons

At our congregational meeting this Lord's Day, we will be electing men to serve our church in the office of deacons. The Bible clearly lays out two classes of office in the church: elders to oversee and shepherd, and deacons to serve and lead in the ministry of good deeds. Our *Book of Church Order* describes the diaconal ministry as "one of sympathy and service, after the example of the Lord Jesus; it expresses also the communion of saints, especially in their helping one another in time of need." In this ministry, the deacons minister to those in need, promote the grace of liberality in giving, collect and distribute gifts to those in need of benevolence, care for the property of the congregation, and make arrangements to facilitate the gatherings of the church congregation.

Our first response to this description of the deacons' ministry ought to be to express our collective gratitude for the labors of these faithful men. As pastor, I am especially aware of our debt to the work of the deacons; I can hardly imagine how we could conduct our services without their faithful service. I can assure you that our deacons make significant sacrifices of time and energy on behalf of our church. This inevitably means that their wives and children also make sacrifices. So let's make sure that they know how much they are appreciated. As you have opportunity, could you express your appreciation for the faithfulness and ability with which our deacons and their families serve our church?

My second reflection is to observe what an important thing it is for the Lord to provide us with new deacons. We believe, following the example of the early church in Acts 6, that the Holy Spirit calls deacons to service through the acclamation of the church congregation. This week, we will continue this practice through the election of deacons. All these men have been nominated by the congregation, approved by the elders, completed an extensive training program designed to ensure their competence in both doctrine and the duties of this office, and then have each been interviewed by the Session. Most important for us this week are the biblical qualifications listed in 1 Timothy 3:8-13: deacons should be reverent and honest, self-controlled, not self-serving, and sound in their faith. The godliness of their wives, if they are married, should commend them to the church, as well as the good order of their households. In sum, deacons who will oversee the people and property of the church should have demonstrated such ability in their sphere of their private lives. None of these men are perfect and all have areas for Christian growth, like the rest of us. But their election should signify the congregation's