

We pray that all of you have a blessed Christmas season. We hope to see many of you in the coming months when we come to Greenville. Please continue to pray for us during this transition. It is deeply gratifying for us to know that we will always be connected to Second church. As I mentioned in my letter when we left, so much of our family life is bound to Second church. It is exciting to take lessons learned, love received, and Christian friendship to a new field of ministry. Thank you for giving us the best possible education on how to serve Christ.

Merry Christmas and love in Christ,

The Fluhrers

2011 PCA Ministerial Relief Christmas Offering

RBI's Ministry of Relief has been providing financial assistance and encouragement to retired PCA pastors, missionaries, church servants and their families for 38 years. The predominant assistance we provide is to widows of PCA Teaching Elders. Without this financial assistance they struggle to afford the basic needs of life. In fact, many would live in near poverty without the assistance we provide. The annual Ministerial Relief Christmas Offering is the principle source of funding to meet the needs of these widows and other PCA church servants. *We need your help more than ever.* According to the recent PCA Retirement Readiness Survey conducted by RBI, the number of retiring PCA pastors will triple over the next 25 years. Since 82% of wives outlive their husbands by an average of 11 to 14 years, a large portion of those pastors retiring will leave widows who will outlive their retirement accounts resulting in incomes at or below the poverty level. Over the next 25 years, the number of families needing Ministerial Relief will quadruple. Without a substantial increase in church participation in the Ministerial Relief Christmas Offering, the Relief Fund will be depleted in 18 years. By 2035, the annual needs will exceed \$5 million.

This Lord's Day there will be an insert and an offering envelope in your bulletin. We encourage you to participate in this important ministry and ask you to please remember to pray for our widows and retired and disabled pastors in need.

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. 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

Jessamines "Cookie Exchange"

The Jessamine Group (5th-8th grade girls and their moms) will meet on Dec. 15th, at 6:30 pm at the home of Mrs. Leslie Martin for their "Christmas Cookie Exchange." Please bring 2 dozen cookies/Christmas goodies to share/exchange.

Christmas Eve Service

LESSONS AND CAROLS

Saturday, December 24th, 6:00 PM

*We will marvel with the heavenly host
as we hear the good news of our Savior's birth
retold in Scripture and song.*

There will not be a nursery at the Lessons and Carols service.

Christmas Day Services

10:30 AM Morning Worship Service

6:00 PM Evening Worship Service

Sunday School on Christmas Day has been cancelled.

*Mrs. Jean Marie Pennington
requests the honour of your presence
at the marriage of her Daughter*

Maria Joyce

to

Spencer James Player

*Son of Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Marshall
Player*

Saturday, December Seventeenth

Two thousand and eleven

at two o'clock

Second Presbyterian Church

and afterward at the reception

COLLEGE SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

resumed on

Sunday, December 11th.

Gresham Conference Room

Mr. John Duncan, teacher

The Church Office
will be closed:

December 22 - 26, 2011

and

December 29 - 30, 2011

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.

2012 Offering Envelopes

The 2012 offering envelopes have been placed on a table outside the church library. Please stop by and pick up your envelopes. The Diaconate ask that all members use offering envelopes for accounting purposes. If you or any of your children need a box of envelopes, please contact the church office, ext. 18.

Pledge/Contribution Report

225 South Academy Street Report for 12/04/11

Pledges Received: \$84,432

Contributions Received: \$65,329

History Room

The first of a new series of displays about the charter members of our church is available for viewing in the History Room. Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Martin are the subjects of the display. Also, beginning in January, the West End Herald will include historical bits about the early years of the church, as space is available. The History Room is normally open after the early service, through the Sunday School hour, and is closed at 10:55 am for the second service.

Due to Christmas holidays the West End Herald will not be mailed the week of 12/26/11.

All Wednesday evening activities have been cancelled for:
December 21st and December 28th.

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 18th.**

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 18

8:30 AM **MORNING WORSHIP**
 9:55 AM Children's Chapel
 10:00 AM **SUNDAY SCHOOL**
 11:00 AM **MORNING WORSHIP**
 4:30 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal
 5:30 PM Season of Prayer in the Chapel
 6:00 PM **EVENING WORSHIP**
 6:00 PM Wee Worship Choir

Monday, December 19

6:00 PM College Christmas party at the Gambles
 6:00 PM Senior High Girls' Basketball game at 1st Pres.
 8:00 PM Senior High Boys' Basketball game at TLC

Tuesday, December 20

10:00 AM WIC Bible Study
 12:00 PM Men's Bible Luncheon at Tommy's Ham House
 6:00 PM Boy Scout Troop 828
 6:30 PM Sr. High Christmas party at the Worleys

Wednesday, December 21

No Wednesday evening activities

Thursday, December 22

Church Office will be closed

Friday, December 23

Church Office will be closed

Saturday, December 24

6:00 PM Lessons and Carols

Music Notes

Adult Choir, thank you so much for your hard work as we prepared for the Matthews Christmas Cantata. What a blessing to me. Elizabeth **Covenant Choir parents**, please note that your children (3rd-8th grade) will be singing for our Lessons and Carols service on Christmas eve. Please have them at the church by 5:00 pm. We will wear robes.

New Addresses

Frank and Lee Eskridge
 P. O. Box 886
 Gadsden, AL 35902

Ken and Lola Cook
 P. O. Box 893
 Westminster, CO 80036

Remembering One Another

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

Dot Porter
 National Health Care Center
 850 E. Butler Road
 Greenville, SC 29607

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 18, 2011**

MORNING WORSHIP
 8:30 AM and 11:00 AM

BIRTH OF A MIGHTY ONE

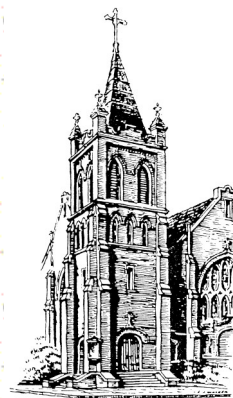
Judges 13:1-7
 Anthem: The First Noel
 Hymns: 199, 225, 226
 Rev. Richard D. Phillips preaching

EVENING WORSHIP
 6:00 PM

ORDAINED TO DEFEAT

2 Samuel 17:1-23
 Hymns: 218, 215, 246
 Psalter: Psalm 119 (105-112)
 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 49

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

December 12, 2011

Letter from the Rev. Gabriel Fluhrer

Dear Second Church Family,

Greetings from Philadelphia! We thank our God constantly for you and your labors for his glory in the gospel in Greenville. We miss you very much; there is hardly a day that goes by where Second church is not fondly remembered by our family. I pray this letter finds all of you well.

I have been asked to update you as to what's going on in our lives. First, let me say thank you to all of you for your support, in the form of generous financial contributions, thoughtful cards to my wife and me, phone calls, and, most importantly, prayer. It is truly humbling to see how much our home church has loved us when we are so far away.

Second, as many of you have heard, I have accepted a call to be the organizing pastor of Shiloh Presbyterian Church, a mission work of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church, in Cary, North Carolina, right outside of Raleigh. We are moving there December 15, after being here in Philadelphia since August of 2010.

We are very excited about God's call to minister in the Raleigh area. Shiloh is a group of Christians that is deeply committed to everything Second Church is committed to: Reformed worship, expository preaching, good works, and the proclamation of God's glorious salvation in the gospel of free grace. I will continue the latter half of my degree there in Cary. By God's grace, I will finish my PhD in the next two years.

This year has seen a number of trials, from little Anna's health to Callie's knee surgery. We deeply appreciate your prayers for us in these areas. The Lord has been good and shown himself a strong support to those whose heart is steadfast toward him. We have seen him give us joy in the midst of trials.

Our time in Philadelphia has been arduous, to say the least. Yet, reflecting upon leaving all of you, who we love so much, to come up here, Callie and I both agreed that the Lord used our time at Second to prepare us for these next steps. The people of Second, in many respects, taught us how to minister. We, of course, have much to learn, but the solid foundation laid for us there among you over some six years will directly benefit the good folks of Shiloh. I am so thankful that the Lord gave me this foundation and I hesitate to think where we'd be without it.