

that previous generations would have recoiled in horror. What will happen if we do not pray for our children? The same could be said of our marriages, of our fearfulness about witnessing the gospel, about spiritual opposition to our ministry, and about the numerous temptations we all feel to spiritual sloth and sin. If we soberly assess both the challenges we face as Christians and the great need of our times for the gospel, then we will commit ourselves to pray.

Dear friends, let it not be said of us, "You do not have because you do not ask." Let it not be said that our pulpit lacked the power to convert and transform because we did not pray for God's power through His Word. Let it not be said that our children were lost to unbelief and worldliness because we did not pray fervently in our homes and church for their salvation. Let it not be said that our marriages failed in joy and love because we did not pray for husbands and wives. Let it not be said that important mission works dwindled because we did not pray for them. Let it not be said that we failed to glorify God and to know His power in our personal conduct because we did not pray for the outpouring of God's Spirit in our lives. Let us not look back in years to come and lament our misspent days and nights, saying, "We did not have, because we did not pray."

Both the teaching of the Bible and the challenges of the evil days in which we live call us to renew our zeal for prayer. Nothing can replace the gathering of families in the home for prayer, and some of the sweetest times we have in our church take place during our prayer meetings. Yet a relatively few number gather for prayer on Wednesday evenings and our time of prayer is relatively short. We find ourselves starting late in an attempt to urge more people from the dinner table to the sanctuary. Would that we found ourselves cutting dinner short in order to gain more time for prayer! God greatly desires our hearts. And the truest expression of a heart turned to God is a passionate zeal for prayer.

In Christ's Love,

Pastor Rick Phillips



Seminary Book Sale

Greenille Presbyterian Theological Seminary will be holding their annual all-day book sale on April 28. Everyone is invited to attend and buy! If you have used books that you would like to contribute please leave them ASAP in the reception boxes by the church library.

SENIOR HIGH FELLOWSHIP
Friday, March 23
6:30 pm
If you have any questions please call Pastor Starkey.

CHURCH INFORMATION

The West End Herald Editor: RE Melton L. Duncan, Sr.

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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

Upcoming Events

March 18	The Lord's Supper at the morning services
March 19	Young At Heart
March 21	WIC Circle 6
March 22	Jessamines Group
March 23	Senior High Fellowship
March 25	Evangelism/Church Growth Committee Meeting
March 25	Worship & Music Committee Meeting
March 28	CE Committee Meeting
April 1	Churchwide Fellowship Supper
April 5	Maundy Thursday Communion Service
April 6	Good Friday Lunch and Service
April 6	Church Office Closed
April 6	Senior High Fellowship
April 8	Sunrise Service (7:00 AM)
April 8	Easter Breakfast (9:00 AM)
April 8	Easter Service (10:00 AM)
April 9	Joint Session/Diaconate Meeting
April 10-11	WIC Circles
April 11	WIC Council
April 15	College/Career Group Luncheon in gym
April 15	The Lord's Supper at the evening service
April 16	Young At Heart
April 21	WIC Shower for Davis White (Matthew Evans)
April 22	Evangelism/Church Growth Committee Meeting
April 25	CE Committee Meeting
April 26	Calvary Presbytery at Smyrna PCA
April 27-28	WIC Spring Retreat in Saluda
April 29	Hymn Sing in the gym after evening service

If you have a date for the April calendar please call the church office ASAP.

Mark Your Calendars

Blood Drive	May 2
New Members' Luncheon	May 6
Graduation Banquet	May 9
Mother/Daughter Tea	May 11
CAT Kids Program	May 16
Hartsville, SC Missions Trip	June 10-14
General Assembly	June 18-22
Vacation Bible School	June 25-29
Senior High Trip	July 16-20
Richmond Hill, GA Missions Trip	July 17-20
Jr. High Ridge Haven Trip	July 23-27
Trujillo, Peru Missions Trip	August 3-11
Marriage Retreat at Bonclarken	August 17-18

Good News Club's Annual Golf Classic

For nine years Second Pres. has been involved in Child Evangelism Fellowship by sponsoring and staffing Good News Clubs at Augusta Circle Elementary School and Hollis Academy. Each spring CEF sponsors a golf fundraiser. This year the dates are May 7 at The Cliffs at Keowee Vineyards and June 5 at The Cliffs at Walnut Cove. Bill Knox is our church contact for these events. If you are interested in playing or sponsoring a team, please contact him at bill@fortknoxinc.com or (864) 233-9223. If you have any other questions about how you can be involved with CEF, please contact Cyndi Player at 963-8633.

Car ID's Available

If you have not picked up your car id decals, you may do so in the church library on Wednesdays or Sundays. Please register before you take a decal, and please note the \$4.00 suggested donation.

Young At Heart

The monthly Young At Heart Luncheon will be Monday, March 19, at 11:45 am in the **church gym** (for this month only). The catered lunch is \$6.00 per person, payable at the door. We will be blessed by a musical presentation by "The Yesterukes", of which our own Ernest Ray Outz is a member. Don't miss out on the good food, great fellowship, and wonderful program.

Jessamines' Group

The next Jessamines' Group (5th-8th grade girls and their moms) fellowship will be Thursday, March 22, at 6:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. The program will be "A Servant's Heart in the Garden" led by Mrs. Judy Bishop. Dinner is Garden Party Pot Luck (finger sandwiches, chicken/fruit salads, etc.) Please bring a dish to share. This is the last fellowship meeting until the fall.

Upcoming Graduates

If you are an upcoming graduate (May or December) or you know someone in the church who is, please contact the church office (ext. 10 or judy@secondpca.org.) We want to recognize all our graduates at our upcoming banquet in May.

Baptism

William Tucker Weaver and Colin Edward Weaver, covenant children of Jeremy and Emily Weaver received the Sacrament of Baptism on Sunday, March 11, 2012. We are thankful for the Weaver family and pray that Tucker and Colin will love and serve the Lord all the days of their lives.

Holy Week and Easter Services

Maundy Thursday Communion Service:	April 5th at 7:00 pm
Good Friday Lunch and Service:	April 6th, Lunch-11:45 am, Service-12:30-1:00 pm
Easter Sunrise Service:	April 8th at 7:00 am
Easter Breakfast:	April 8th at 9:00 am at the church
Easter Service:	April 8th at 10:00 am

(There will be only 1 morning worship service on Easter Sunday)

Easter Lilies

If you would like to order an Easter Lily to place in the church on Easter Sunday in memory or honor of someone special, please call Judy Bishop (246-0951) by **Friday, March 30**. Also fill out the form below and place in the church office in Judy Grant's mail box along with \$8.00 for each lily.

I would like to place _____ (how many) Easter Lily(ies) in the church on Easter Sunday:

In Honor of: _____

In Memory of: _____

Name: _____ Telephone # _____

Amount enclosed: \$ _____

Church Calendar

Sunday, March 18
 8:30 AM MORNING WORSHIP
 9:45 AM New Members' Class
 9:50 AM Children's Chapel
 10:00 AM Communicants' Class
 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
 6:00 PM Wee Worship Choir

Monday, March 19
 11:45 AM Young At Heart *(this month in the church gym)*

Tuesday, March 20
 10:00 AM WIC Bible Study
 6:00 PM Boy Scout Troop 828

Wednesday, March 21
 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 WIC Circle 6
 6:45 PM PRAYER MEETING AND BIBLE STUDY

Thursday, March 22
 9:30 AM WIC Precepts Bible Study
 6:00 PM Evangelism Explosion Training
 6:30 PM Jessamines Group

Friday, March 23
 12:00 PM Men's Fellowship Lunch & Bible Study
 6:30 PM Senior High Fellowship

Great Escape 2012

SPC Women in the Church
 Spring Retreat
 April 27-28, 2012
 Saluda, NC

Space is limited * Sign up now
 Contact Jill Mann (bjmhmannr@att.net or 895-3351) if you have any questions.

Pledge/Contribution Report

225 South Academy Street Report for 03/04/12
 Pledges Received: **\$97,544**
 Contributions Received: **\$96,086**

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

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WORSHIP AT SECOND THE LORD'S DAY MARCH 18, 2012

MORNING WORSHIP
 8:30 and 11:00 AM

THE SPIRIT OF JOY
 1 Thessalonians 5:16-22

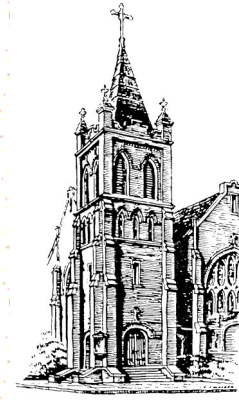
Anthem:
 Praise To The Lord, The Almighty
 Hymns: 6, 310, 378
 Rev. Richard D. Phillips preaching

EVENING WORSHIP
 6:00 PM

DAVID'S SONG OF DELIVERANCE

2 Samuel 22:2-4
 Hymns: 569, 40, 668
 Psalter: Psalm 124
 Rev. Richard D. Phillips preaching

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



The West End Herald

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

March 12, 2012

Letter from the Senior Minister Because You Do Not Ask

One of the most chilling statements in the New Testament is made by the apostle James in the 4th chapter of his epistle. James laments the spiritual failures among the early Christians, including this rebuke: "You do not have, because you do not ask" (Ja. 4:2). He is referring to a lack of prayer, and he couples it to a rebuke for wrong motives in prayer: "You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions" (Ja. 4:3).

Of these two concerns, I consider the first to be more significant today for the simple reason that our generation has largely lost our commitment to prayer. The clear meaning of James' teaching is that there are blessings that we do not receive – spiritual blessings, primarily, but also temporal blessings – for the simple reason that we have not come before the Lord in prayer. Indeed, if it will be possible to have disappointments in heaven, then when we behold in glory the manifest power and grace of our Lord we will be disappointed that we aspired to so little in this life.

At this point, I realize that I need to address an objection to this based on the sovereignty of God. Some will say, or at least think, "But doesn't God determine everything in advance, so that the reality is that our prayers don't ultimately matter?" We certainly do believe that God is radically sovereign over all things, so that nothing happens apart from His will. Yet this great truth can be misused by us. It is my experience that both the devil and our own sinful natures often conspire to take our most glorious possessions and use them against us. The doctrine of God's sovereignty is rightly dear to us. But it is never to provide an excuse for our neglect of duty or for sin. Did not our Lord Jesus spend hours in prayer, especially prior to momentous events? Were not the first believers gathered for prayer when the Holy Spirit fell on them at Pentecost? And was not Peter delivered from Herod's jail cell because the Christians were fervently praying for him? The reality is that the doctrine of God's sovereignty is set in Scripture squarely beside the doctrine of human responsibility. Our choices and actions matter greatly, especially our prayers, so that God will act in grace and power in response to our prayers or else God will withhold his power due to our neglect of prayer.

If ever there was a generation of Christians that should be committed to fervent prayer it is our generation. We stand, together with all faithful churches, in the midst of a crumbling culture. Unbelief, sensuality, and idolatry advance on every front. So great is this spiritual and moral decay that only God can stop it. The challenges facing our children are so