

Christ is the very heart of our faith. Please pray that God will use my book to honor His Son and to help Christians to stand fast at the cross.

In 1 Corinthians 15:3-5, the apostle Paul listed what he considered to be truths "of first importance" to salvation. "For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received," Paul writes, going on to name the doctrines of the cross and the resurrection. Regarding the cross, Paul states that it is essential to our salvation to believe: 1) that Christ died; 2) that His death was "for our sins" – that is, to pay in our place the penalty our sins deserved (also known as vicarious, penal substitution); and 3) "in accordance with the Scriptures," that is, as foretold and prefigured in the Old Testament. This says that every Christian should know and be able to tell others about Jesus' death on the cross, how Christ paid the penalty for our sins, and how the Old Testament foretold and prefigured the cross. Paul goes on to add the necessity of belief in the resurrection: "that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve" (1 Cor. 15:4-5). If you are unsure about the truth or meaning of Christ's death and resurrection, or if you do not know how to explain it to others, now is a good time for you to devote some study to the doctrines of the cross and the resurrection. We must stand firm in these blessed truths, apart from which there is no salvation.

Let me conclude with some recommendations for your reading. In addition to my book, I would suggest the following books on the atonement (all of which were written for regular folks):

The Heart of the Cross, James M. Boice and Philip G. Ryken
The Truth of the Cross, R. C. Sproul
In My Place Condemned He Stood, J. I. Packer and Mark Dever

May the Lord bless you all during this week and the week of the cross and the open tomb.

In Christ's Love,
 Pastor Rick Phillips

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 (bjmhmamm@att.net or 895-3351) if you have any questions.

CHURCH INFORMATION

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

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

Upcoming Events

April 1	RE Al Wills' Fold Lunch in the Fellowship Hall
April 1	Churchwide Fellowship Supper
April 4	No Wednesday evening activities
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 and Breakfast (7:00 AM)
April 8	Sunday School (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 11	Missions Committee Meeting
April 13	CAT Kids' Spring Fling
April 15	College/Career Group Luncheon in gym
April 15	The Lord's Supper at the evening service
April 16	Young At Heart
April 18	Boy Scouts' Pancake Supper
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

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

Youth Choir in Balcony (Palm Sunday)

On Palm Sunday, April 1st, members of the Covenant Choir and their families will occupy the center section in the balcony during the 11:00 am worship service. We are asking balcony regulars to please sit on sides and on the ground floor-if possible to help us accommodate choir members and their families.

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.

Holy Week Services

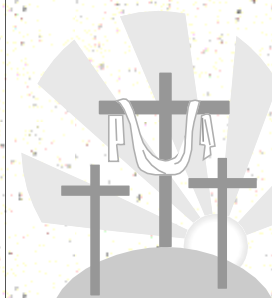
Maundy Thursday Service with Communion

April 5, 2012
 7:00 PM

Good Friday Lunch and Service

April 6, 2012
 Lunch—11:45 am * Service—12:30-1:00 pm

Community Easter Sunrise Service



Come join our celebration of
The Resurrection of Christ

7:00 am

Sunday, April 8, 2012

Wyche Pavilion
 (behind the Peace Center)
 Mountain View Baptist Church
 Second Presbyterian Church



Easter Services at Second on April 8th

Sunrise Service at Wyche Pavilion: 7:00 am
 Breakfast at the church: 8:00 am
 Sunday School: 9:00 am
 Easter Worship Service: 10:00 am (only one service)
 Evening Worship Service: 6:00 pm

Sunrise Service Info

For the Sunrise service there is limited parking available next to the Wyche Pavilion, though there is a new drop off round-about for use off of Spring Street (between the Greenville News building and the Bowater Building). If you are planning to come to the Easter Sunrise Service the best option (as in previous years) is to walk over through Riverplace and cross the bridge over the Reedy. Please avoid the construction zone behind the Peace Center. The service will begin at 7:00 am. We are asking folks to contribute \$4.00 for breakfast.

Parking on Easter Sunday

The Deacons are asking us to help make room for visitors by parking in a non-campus space (if you are physically able) on Easter morning. Options include the parking lot on River Street next to the Innovate building (north of the church), the lot on Rhett Street (south of the church where Shealy Electric used to be), and street-side parking along Camperdown Way. With a large group from Mountain View Baptist expected for the Sunrise Service and breakfast, car pooling or ride and share are also excellent options.

Easter Lilies—Deadline: March 30th

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, April 1

- 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
 - 12:30 AM Al Will's Fold Lunch in the Fellowship Hall
 - 4:45 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal
 - 5:00 PM Peru Mission Team meeting
 - 5:30 PM Season of Prayer in the Chapel
 - 6:00 PM EVENING WORSHIP
 - 6:00 PM Wee Worship Choir
 - 7:15 PM Churchwide Fellowship Supper
 - A - J Side Dishes
 - K - Z Main Course
- Everyone please bring one 2-liter drink.*

Tuesday, April 3

- 10:00 AM WIC Bible Study
- 6:00 PM Boy Scout Troop 828

Wednesday, April 4

- 6:30 AM Men's Bible Study
- NO WEDNESDAY EVENING ACTIVITIES**

Thursday, April 5

- 9:30 AM WIC Precepts Bible Study
- 7:00 PM MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE

Friday, April 6

- Church Office Closed
GOOD FRIDAY LUNCH AND SERVICE
- 11:45 AM Lunch
 - 12:30 PM Service
 - 6:30 PM Senior High Fellowship

Peru Mission Team Meeting

The Peru Mission Team will meet this Sunday, April 1st, at 5:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. The agenda will be discussion of plans, preparations, requirements, and fund-raising. All team members are required to attend this meeting. If for some reason you cannot attend please contact Pastor Spears.

Pancake Supper at Second

On Wednesday evening, April 18th, come and support Boy Scout Troop 828. The Boy Scouts will be preparing and serving yummy pancakes with all the fixings for supper that evening beginning at 5:45 pm. They will also take care of all the clean-up. All other activities will remain on their regular schedule.

Remembering One Another

Remember in prayer this week the following member.
Also, send her a note of encouragement and/or give her a call.

Sara Weathers
11 E. Augusta Place, Apt. 219
Greenville, SC 29605
271-0025

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 APRIL 1, 2012

MORNING WORSHIP
8:30 and 11:00 AM

FAITHFUL TO SANCTIFY
1 Thessalonians 5:23-28

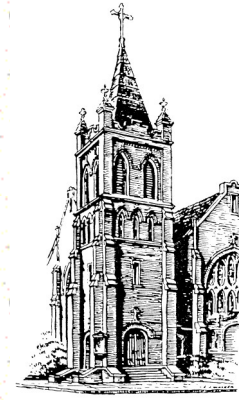
Anthem:
Palm Sunday
Hymns: 235, 237, 457
Rev. Richard D. Phillips preaching

EVENING WORSHIP
6:00 PM

BLESSED BE MY ROCK
2 Samuel 22:26-51

Hymns: 618, 499, 655
Psalter: Psalm 126
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. CXX, Edition 13

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

March 26, 2012

Letter from the Senior Minister Precious Blood

“You were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot”
(1 Pet. 1:18-19).

Like most of you, my wife and I have sat down with our children to tell them about the saving blood of Jesus: “We want you to know that we are all sinners, guilty under God’s law and deserving His just condemnation. But the good news is that God sent His Son, Jesus, to bear the penalty for our sins by dying for us. We are forgiven by trusting that Jesus died in our place on the cross.”

Christians realize that these words are offensive to many people, since we are calling everyone sinners and we insist that we could only be saved by Jesus’ death for our sins. We know this teaching is offensive to non-Christians and to many who attend liberal churches. But what is alarming is how offensive the blood of Christ is to increasing numbers of so-called evangelical Christians. Twenty years ago, liberal Episcopal bishop John Shelby Spong wrote that he “would choose to loathe rather than to worship a deity who required the sacrifice of his son.” This is to be expected from a man who denies the truth of the Bible. But more recently, British evangelical Steve Chalke describes the atonement as “a form of cosmic child abuse – a vengeful Father, punishing his Son for an offense he has not even committed.” Evangelical scholars Joel Green and Mark Baker complain that in the doctrine of the atonement, “God takes on the role of the sadist inflicting punishment, while Jesus, in his role as masochist, readily embraces suffering.” Michael Hardin compares the God of the cross to the gunman who murdered Amish schoolgirls: “For both, blood satisfied, and in both, innocent blood, truly innocent blood is shed.” These things were written about God the Father and Jesus Christ in books printed by such trusted Christian publishers as Zondervan, InterVarsity, and Baker Books.

My response to these challenges was published by Crossway Books, titled, *Precious Blood: The Atoning Work of Christ*. My purpose in editing this book was to teach the Bible’s message of the atonement and to defend Christ’s precious blood against these detractors. It is urgently necessary that Christians know what and why the Bible teaches about the cross of our Lord: if we are going to have any faith to defend in our generation, we must defend it at the cross. I make it my practice to read practically every new book that comes out on the atonement, since the cross of