

there is one Christian church consisting of all true believers in the Lord Jesus, along with their children, and thus our commitment to the spiritual unity of the visible church.

The second confusing statement that most churches include in the Apostles' Creed states that Jesus "descended into hell." This does not stipulate any particular theory regarding the period between the death and resurrection of Jesus, but simply makes the point that God's Son truly came under the power of death and lay in the realm of death (in Greek, hell = hades, the realm of the dead). This statement seems to have been inserted into the Apostles' Creed in response to heresies that denied that Jesus ever really experienced death. While the statement that Jesus "descended into hell" is true - His body and soul did abide in death for three days - this is also the item that has the least biblical support. Given that the New Testament has virtually no information to give us regarding the location of Jesus' spirit during the period while His body lay in death (1 Pet. 3:19 is the only direct reference, and its meaning is debatable, to say the least), I think the Southern Presbyterian tradition of omitting the statement from the Apostles' Creed is a prudent one. Therefore, we do not include this statement in our profession of the Apostles' Creed.

Some people might understandably wonder why we at Second retain the older language that seems archaic today. Why don't we use an updated version of the Apostles' Creed, referring to the "Holy Spirit" instead of the "Holy Ghost", and even replacing "catholic church" with "universal church"? First, there is nothing wrong with using a more up-to-date version of the Apostles' Creed. But there are also good reasons, I think, to retain the old language. One of the points of the Confession of Faith is to tangibly link us today with the Christians who have gone before us. I like the fact that we use the very words used by English-speaking Christians for hundreds of years. Moreover, it is important that we not surrender good and valuable words, like catholic, to those who would co-opt them in false teaching. If we surrender words, we surrender ideas, and that is greatly to be avoided. But doesn't our current practice of using old language require us to make explanations? Yes (hence this letter). But that is a good thing. It is important for us to understand what we are doing and the truths we are affirming. And the older language provokes us to ask and understand, and thus serve the purpose of the creed.

I know you will be blessed as you learn and proclaim this great statement of faith that unites all true Christians. As Christians, we are not just individuals. The Creed reminds us that we are part of something so much bigger than ourselves - one holy catholic and apostolic church, all over the world and from all centuries. As we proclaim our faith in our worship service, we join with all those other Christians in one voice. Imagine how much glory it gives to God when the whole church speaks in one voice, affirming our faith in Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, our Triune Savior God.

In Christ's Love,

Pastor Rick Phillips

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

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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

Aug. 8	Pastoral Care Committee Meeting
Aug. 8	WIC Circle 6
Aug. 8	Administration Committee Meeting
Aug. 12	Worship & Music Committee Meeting
Aug. 13	Session Meeting
Aug. 14	WIC Circles 1-5
Aug. 15	Missions' Committee Meeting
Aug. 15	Musical CAT Kids Program
Aug. 17	Fun-Friday at Jones Gap State Park
Aug. 17-18	Second Pres. Marriage Retreat
Aug. 19	The Lord's Supper at the evening service
Aug. 21	WIC Bible Study resumes
Aug. 22	CE Committee Meeting
Aug. 22	Musical CAT Kids Fun Night
Aug. 23	WIC Annual Meeting
Aug. 24	Men's Ministry-Greenville Drive Game
Aug. 24	Sr. High Fellowship at the Barnetts'
Aug. 26	Rally Day
Aug. 26	WIC Installation of Officers
Aug. 26	Evangelism/Church Growth Committee Meeting
Aug. 26	7th-12th grade Parents' Meeting
Aug. 29	Regular CAT Kids/Covenant Kids resumes

Mark Your Calendars

Upcoming September Dates

Deacon Nominations:	September 2-16
SS - Summer Missions' Reports:	September 2
SS - Website/Media Report:	September 9
New Member's Class begins:	September 16
Young At Heart resumes:	September 17

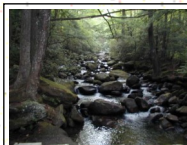
Music Notes

Please mark your calendars with upcoming dates:

Musical CAT Kids Program	Wednesday, August 15th
Musical CAT Kids fun night	Wednesday, August 22nd
Regular CAT Kids/Covenant Kids resume	Wednesday, August 29th

Note: There will be no Adult Choir Rehearsal on Sunday, August 12th.

Fun Friday Playdate



Second Pres. Nursery Kids and Moms

Our next Fun Friday Playdate

August 17th @ 11:00 AM

River Wading at Jones Gap State Park
Meet at the Jones Gap State Park parking lot
303 Jones Gap Road, Marietta, 29661



Pack a lunch, bring lots to drink, and dress to wade in the river.

Admission fee is \$3.00 per adult, kids are free - you must have exact cash.

Questions call Rebekah Johnson @ 430-3408.

7th-12th Grade Parents' Meeting

Sunday, August 26th @ 5:00 pm

Fellowship Hall



RALLY DAY
Sunday, August 26th
Rev. Paul Settle



"One Human Family: The Bible, Science, Race and Culture"

Come hear Carl Wieland, MD, present this informative program at the next Creation Study Group meeting in the sanctuary on Friday, August 10th. Dr. Wieland sidesteps "political correctness" to paint a truly fascinating "big picture," while highlighting the real-world trustworthiness of the Bible. He is Managing Director of Creation Ministries International in Brisbane, Australia and past president of the Christian Medical Fellowship of Australia. Book table opens at 6:30 PM and the program starts at 7:00 PM.

See www.creationstudygroup.org for further details.

WIC Annual Meeting



All women in the church are invited and encouraged to attend the meeting.

Thursday, August 23, 2012

Fellowship Hall

6:00 - 9:00 PM

Agenda:

Election of Officers

Recognition of New Members

Guest Speaker: Susan Barry

Refreshments will be served.

WIC Precepts

Ladies in the church, you are invited to join us for Precepts Bible Study as we begin a 12 week study, Spiritual Gifts. We will meet each Thursday from 9:30 - 11:30 am starting September 13th. Each lesson requires approximately 5 hours of homework per week. If you plan to participate, please let Mary Russell (329-1670) know by August 24th as books need to be ordered.

Treasurer's Report

July 2012 & YTD Financial Status

	Actual		
	July 2012	YTD 2012	YTD Budget
Offerings	82,228	557,804	582,034
Outlays:			
Operating Expenses	74,174	445,998	514,233
Mission Disbursements	0	51,414	67,801
Total Outlays	74,174	497,412	582,034
Net Offerings	8,054	60,392	

If you have any questions, please contact Bobby Mann or David Rainey.

⇒ Contributions in July 2012 were \$82,228 versus budget of \$83,148.

⇒ YTD contributions are \$557,804 vs. \$537,799 for the same period in 2011.

⇒ Through July 2012, actual contributions are behind budget by \$24,230.

⇒ Operating expenses for July 2012, were \$74,174 versus the budget of \$73,462.

⇒ Missionaries have been paid one half of their annual commitment. The third quarter missionary payments will be made in August, 2012.

⇒ Please continue to pray that the Lord will provide the financial resources necessary for the programs and ministry of SPC.

Thank You

Thanks to the many folks of Second Church who extended their condolences to me in the wake of my father's recent death. I appreciate all the cards, letters, and phone calls expressing your kind regards.

Grace and peace, Dennis Zimmerman

Church Calendar

Sunday, August 12

8:30 AM **MORNING WORSHIP**
 9:45 AM Children's Chapel
 10:00 AM **SUNDAY SCHOOL**
 11:00 AM **MORNING WORSHIP**
 5:30 PM Season of Prayer in the Chapel
 6:00 PM **EVENING WORSHIP**
 7:15 PM Worship & Music Committee Meeting

Monday, August 13

6:30 PM Session Meeting

Tuesday, August 14

10:00 AM WIC Circles 1 & 3 meet at the church
 2:30 PM WIC Circle 5 meets at the church
 7:00 PM WIC Circle 2 meets at the home of Tammy Looper
 7:00 PM WIC Circle 4 meets at Panera Bread on Augusta Street

Wednesday, August 15

6:30 AM Men's Bible Study
 5:30 PM Missions' Committee Meeting
 5:45 PM **FAMILY NIGHT FELLOWSHIP SUPPER**
 7:00 PM **MUSICAL CAT KIDS PROGRAM**
 7:45 PM **PRAYER MEETING**

Friday, August 17

Marriage Retreat at Bonclarken (return on 18th)
 10:00 AM Fun Friday at Jones Gap State Park

All Adult Summer Sunday School Class
Sunday, August 12, 10:00 am, sanctuary
David Rainey - "Time, Money and God's Will"

Baptism

Ella Austin Gamble, covenant child of Jacob and Carrie Gamble received the Sacrament of Baptism on Sunday, August 5, 2012. We are thankful for the Gamble family and pray for Jack and Ella that they will love and serve the Lord all the days of their lives.

New Baby

We rejoice with Seth and Laura Lee Starkey in the birth of their son, Sam Timmons on Thursday, August 2, 2012. Sam weighed 7 pounds, 5 ounces and was 21 inches long. Both mother and son are doing well.

Remembering One Another

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

Kathleen Cleveland
 109 Blakely Road
 Piedmont, SC 29673
 277-5572

Praying For One Another

Remember in prayer this week the following members.

Ruby Benchoff
Shane and Rachel Berens
Leanna
Joe and Monica Bianchi
Christina

The Second Presbyterian Church

105 River Street
 Greenville, South Carolina 29601-2537

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WORSHIP AT SECOND
THE LORD'S DAY
AUGUST 12, 2012

MORNING WORSHIP
 8:30 & 11:00 AM

THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST

Revelation 1:1-3

Anthem:

Jesu Joy of Man's Desiring

Hymns: 295, 168, 173

Dr. Richard D. Phillips preaching

EVENING WORSHIP

6:00 PM

CHILDREN OF THE LIVING GOD

1 John 3:1-3

Hymns: 660, 81, 361

Psalter: Psalm 142

Mr. Joshua Sparkman preaching

«Title» «First Name» «Last Name»
 «Address Line 1»
 «Address Line 2»
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The West End Herald

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

August 6, 2012

Letter from the Senior Minister Apostles' Creed

Every week in our morning worship service, we profess our faith together. This is an important part of our worship and is most appropriate for us to do. In some respects, this is my favorite portion of the worship service. In this dark world that suppresses the knowledge of God, we the people of God have the privilege of standing together and with one voice sounding forth the truth of God and salvation. We are just one congregation, but in my mind's eye I see us standing together with all the Christians throughout the world. We are not silent, but we confess the faith that has been handed down to us. Moreover, I see us standing together with all Christians of all times. When we profess the Apostles' Creed or the Nicene Creed, we should be conscious that we are making public solidarity with the early church, faithful Christians in the middle ages, the Protestant Reformers, and our forebears the Puritans and the American pioneers. To confess the creed is to take a stand for God, Christ, and the gospel publicly. We do not "recite the creeds" but we sound them forth with one voice and full hearts.

Most frequently, Second Church confesses the Apostles' Creed. This confession of faith was developed in the early church to teach and safeguard the core truths of Christianity. It is apostolic not in that it was written by the apostles themselves – it was not – but in that it summarizes the main teachings of the apostles as acknowledged by the Church from its earliest days. In ancient times, many people were unable to read, and so a brief confession that they could memorize was a help. The Creed was also used as a form of baptismal examination. These were the truths you had to affirm to be accepted as a Christian. Similarly, knowing the Apostles' Creed is an aid to our witness of the gospel. These are the core truths that we believe about God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. So make sure you know what it all means and use the Apostles' Creed to share your faith.

One main function of the creed was to combat heresy. In the early church there was particularly a tendency for people to deny that Jesus was fully a human being. From time to time the heresy appeared that God the Son merely occupied the man Jesus, rather than the Bible's teaching that the man Jesus is God the Son. In response, the Apostles' Creed emphasizes that God's eternally existing Son "was born of the virgin Mary." As the angel assured Mary, Jesus was conceived by the Holy Spirit so that her child would properly be called "the Son of the Most High" (Lk. 1:32). Therefore, just as we confess that God's Son was "conceived by the Holy Ghost" and "born of the virgin Mary," we also insist that it was God the Son who "suffered under Pontius Pilate" and was crucified, died, and was buried. Thus the Apostles' Creed confesses the essential truth that Jesus Christ our Savior is God's only Son and our Lord.

There are two phrases in the Apostles' Creed that sometimes confuse Christians. One is the confession that we believe in the "holy catholic church." This does not entail a recognition of the Roman Catholic Church as the one true church. The word "catholic" means "universal." What we are confessing is that