

to speak the truth in all things. Therefore, I hope your increased awareness of the Ten Commandments will daily influence you towards godly conduct. As the Bible says, "The testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple; the precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes" (Ps. 19:7-8).

Before concluding, let me give brief answers to common questions about the law:

Is God's law only concerned with behavior, rather than the heart? Answer: No, the law is spiritual, reaching the understanding, will, and affections, as well as actions. It was Moses, after all, who said, "Circumcise your heart" (Dt. 10:16). In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus makes it plain that we violate the law in our hearts whenever we have sinful desires.

Isn't the law the opposite of love? Answer: No, the law is all about love. The great summary of the law was given by Jesus: "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself" (Lk. 10:27).

Aren't there times when it is better not to obey God's law? Answer: No, the law is perfect, representing God's perfect character, requiring full conformity at all times and forbidding the least degree of sin.

Isn't it pointless for sinners to try to keep God's law? Isn't this just contrary to the gospel? Answer: No. There is a world of difference between an unregenerate sinner and a born again believer. We have received the Holy Spirit, Paul says, "in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us" (Rom. 8:4). The gospel saves us from the law's condemnation and then empowers us to the law's fulfillment. Part of the good news of Christ is that we no longer are slaves to sin: not only *must* we not sin, but we *need* not sin!

So thank God for his law. Thank God for its witness to his perfect character. Thank God for the law's aid in living a godly life. And thank God that when the law shows me my sin, it points me to the gospel, which says that Christ fulfilled the law for me. What an incentive a Christian has to live according to God's law, as a way of saying, "I love you!" to the Lord.

In Christ's Love,  
Pastor Rick Phillips

### About a 100 Years Ago at Second Presbyterian Church...

On October 13, 1912, "The Board of Deacons was instructed to pay the traveling expenses of all visiting ministers filling the pulpit of our Church, during the absence of the Pastor, at any time." Could it be that a visiting preacher had to go home without his expenses paid and empty pockets? On October 24, 1910, the session minutes record that, "Miss Jane Blair Smith, after the usual examination on experimental religion, was received by profession of her faith in Jesus Christ, and her name was enrolled as a member of this Church. Not having been baptized, the Session ordered that this sacrament be administered to her at the morning service to-day." Between 1906 and 1990 there were 89 persons surnamed Smith admitted to communing membership in Second Presbyterian Church.

### 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

|            |  |
|------------|--|
| Oct. 13    | FALL CHURCH PICNIC                         |
| Oct. 15    | Young At Heart                             |
| Oct. 18    | Jessamines                                 |
| Oct. 21    | The Lord's Supper at the evening service   |
| Oct. 24    | CE Committee Meeting                       |
| Oct. 25    | Calvary Presbytery at Shannon Forest PCA   |
| Oct. 26-27 | WIC Fall Retreat                           |
| Oct. 26    | Jr. High Fellowship                        |
| Oct. 26    | Sr. High Dinner and Bonfire at the Evans'  |
| Oct. 28    | REFORMATION SUNDAY                         |
| Oct. 28    | Evangelism/Church Growth Committee Meeting |
| Oct. 31    | REFORMATION PARTY                          |

### Save The Date!!

Jr. High Trip to Ridge Haven  
July 22-26, 2013

Sr. High Trip to Edisto Island, SC  
July 29-August 3, 2013

### FALL CHURCH PICNIC

Saturday, October 13  
9:00 AM - 2:00 PM (rain or shine)  
Herdklotz Park  
126 Beverly Road, Greenville

The Deacons will provide the meat and drinks.  
Everyone please bring salads, side dishes and desserts.  
**There will be a dessert contest!**

Come join us for food, fellowship and fun at the 2012 Fall Picnic. Lunch will be served at 11:30 AM but come early. There are playgrounds and lots of room to run at the park, so bring your footballs and Frisbees. Organized games will be held under the shelter and on the grounds.

### Evangelism Explosion Training

Have you ever wanted to tell a friend or relative about Jesus, but did not know how to start or what to say? Evangelism Explosion is an evangelistic training program designed to equip you to tell others the good news about Jesus Christ. The fall semester began Tuesday, October 9, at 6:00 pm in the Conference Room. Please call or see Ken Safford (419-8267) to sign up, or if you have any questions. It's not too late to join.

### Music Notes

The choir will be performing selections from Handel's oratorio, The Messiah, on Sunday evening, December 9. Please consider joining the choir for this special Christmas service. Our regular choir rehearsals are now at 4:00 pm on Sundays and our Messiah choir rehearsals are at 5:00 pm on Sundays. We would love to have YOU join us!

Please contact Elizabeth Guest with any questions. 864-313-0193

### Pack a Shoe Box

#### Operation Christmas Child "The Power of A Simple Gift"

Share God's love and the joy of Christmas by packing a gift-filled shoe box for a hurting child overseas. Your simple gift can make an eternal difference. Pamphlets on how to pack a shoe box and all other instructions are located throughout the church, on bulletin boards or in the church office.

### Calvary Pres WIC Fall Retreat

Calvary Pres WIC Fall Retreat  
October 26-27, 2012

Friday, 4:00 PM until Saturday, 3:00 PM  
Bonclarken Conference Center, Flat Rock, NC  
Speakers: Debbie Gamble and Crystal Liu  
Sign-up sheets are in the church gym or  
see Margaret Holman or your WIC Circle Chairman.

### Young At Heart

The Young At Heart's monthly luncheon and meeting will be Monday, October 15, 11:45 am in the Fellowship Hall. The catered lunch will be \$6.00 per person, payable at the door. Pastor Phillips will be bringing us a special message this month. Don't miss this joyous time of fellowship and good food.

### Jessamines Group

The next Jessamine Group (SPC young ladies 5th-8th grade and their moms) will be Thursday, October 18, 6:30-8:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. "Using Your Gifts for the Lord" will be our theme as girls will bake cupcakes with our resident baker Mrs. Jessica LaBombard, and create their very own fondant decoration. Our dinner theme is Italian. Please bring a generous portion to share.

### REFORMATION SUNDAY OCTOBER 28, 2012



### REFORMATION PARTY WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2012

We need booths, prizes, and candy.

If you would like to sponsor a booth see or call Seth (ext. 25).  
If you would like to donate candy and/or prizes, please mark and leave in the gym.

### Treasurer's Report

#### September 2012 & YTD Financial Status

|                       | Actual     |          |            |
|-----------------------|------------|----------|------------|
|                       | Sept. 2012 | YTD 2012 | YTD Budget |
| Offerings             | 97,460     | 724,140  | 748,330    |
| Outlays:              |            |          |            |
| Operating Expenses    | 76,432     | 610,616  | 661,157    |
| Mission Disbursements | 0          | 79,846   | 81,173     |
| Total Outlays         | 76,432     | 690,462  | 748,330    |
| Net Offerings         | 21,028     | 33,678   |            |

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

- ⇒ Contributions in September 2012 were \$97,460 versus budget of \$83,148.
- ⇒ YTD contributions are \$724,140 vs. \$671,261 for the same period in 2011.
- ⇒ Through September 2012, actual contributions are behind budget by \$24,190.
- ⇒ Operating expenses for September 2012, were \$76,432 versus the budget of \$73,462.
- ⇒ Three months of Missionary commitments were made in August 2012. Missionaries have been paid three-fourths of their annual commitment.
- ⇒ Please continue to pray that the Lord will provide the financial resources necessary for the programs and ministry of SPC.



## Church Calendar

### Sunday, October 14

- 8:30 AM **MORNING WORSHIP**
- 9:50 AM New Members' Class
- 9:50 AM Children's Chapel
- 10:00 AM Diaconate Training
- 10:00 AM **SUNDAY SCHOOL**
- 11:00 AM **MORNING WORSHIP**
- 4:00 PM Regular Adult Choir Rehearsal
- 5:00 PM Christmas Adult Choir Rehearsal
- 5:30 PM Season of Prayer in the Chapel
- 6:00 PM **EVENING WORSHIP**
- 6:30 PM Wee Worship Choir

### Monday, October 15

- 11:45 AM Young At Heart

### Tuesday, October 16

- 10:00 AM WIC Bible Study
- 4:30 PM Mites Basketball practice
- 6:00 PM Evangelism-Explosion Training
- 6:00 PM Boy Scout Troop 828
- 7:00 PM Jr. High Boys' Basketball practice

### Wednesday, October 17

- 6:30 AM Men's Bible Study
- 5:45 PM **FAMILY NIGHT FELLOWSHIP SUPPER**
- 6:15 PM Covenant Choir
- 6:15 PM Youth Choir
- 6:45 PM CAT Kids and Covenant Kids
- 6:45 PM Youth Bible Study
- 6:45 PM **PRAYER MEETING AND BIBLE STUDY**
- 7:00 PM Diaconate Training
- 8:00 PM Sr. High Boys' basketball practice

### Thursday, October 18

- 9:30 AM WIC Precepts Bible Study
- 5:30 PM Jr. High Girls' Basketball practice
- 6:30 PM Jessamines

### Friday, October 19

- 12:00 PM Men's Bible Study and Fellowship Lunch

### Saturday, October 20

- 10:30 AM Sr. High Girls' Basketball practice
- 11:30 AM Sr. High Boys' Basketball practice

### Remembering One Another

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

**Henry and Elizabeth Montgomery**  
564 S. Buckhorn Road  
Greenville, SC 29609

### Praying For One Another

Remember in prayer this week the following members.

**Midge and Grace Cooley**  
**John and Wilma Crawford**  
**Bill and Barbara Cross**  
**Gabriel and Rachel**

## 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 OCTOBER 14, 2012

MORNING WORSHIP  
8:30 & 11:00 AM

#### REKINDLING THE FIRST LOVE

Revelation 2:1-7

Anthem:

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

Hymns: 21, 353, 165

Dr. Richard D. Phillips preaching

#### EVENING WORSHIP

6:00 PM

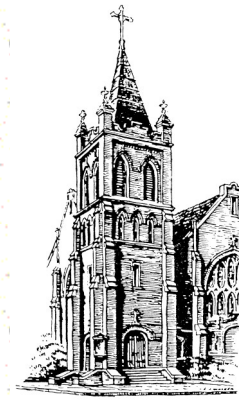
#### THE GREAT APOSTLE

Hebrews 3:1-6

Hymns: 32, 76, 520

Psalter: Psalm 150

Dr. Richard D. Phillips preaching



# The West End Herald

Vol. CXX, Edition 41

## The Second Presbyterian Church

Corner of River and Rhett Streets  
Greenville, South Carolina

October 8, 2012

## Letter from the Senior Minister How To Use God's Law

"We know that the law is good if one uses it lawfully" (1 Tim. 1:8).

Last week, I wrote a pastor's letter on the proper definition of legalism – what it is and what it is not. A related and vitally important matter for Christians is how rightly to use God's law. Some Christians wrongly believe that since Christ has come, we have nothing to do with God's law. But how wrong this is! "Oh how I love your law," David sang (Ps. 119:97). James refers to it as "the perfect law, the law of liberty" (Ja. 1:25), and those who love the law increasingly may live in the freedom of godliness and love.

God's law is a multi-use tool, much like the famous Swiss knife. Reformed theology understands three principle "uses" of God's law. In his *Institutes of the Christian Religion*, John Calvin helpfully (and biblically) identified three uses of the law of God.

The first use of the law is to *convict us of our guilt*. Calvin writes, "It warns, informs, convicts, and lastly condemns, every man of his own unrighteousness." This is why we read the law before confessing our sin in the worship service: to make clear the commandments we have transgressed. Paul writes, "Through the law comes knowledge of sin" (Rom. 3:20). Calvin compares the law to a mirror that shows us what we really are like. A mirror does not clean your face, but it shows you that your face is dirty. In this manner, the law drives us to the gospel, which is able to cleanse us from our sin. Let me encourage you, then, to make good use of this first use of the law: look into this mirror and see that you are a sinner, and then turn your heart in faith to the forgiveness offered by God in the gospel.

The second use of the law is to *restrain sin*. In other words, the law helps to keep people from sinning. Paul wrote: "Why then the law? It was added because of transgressions" (Gal. 3:19). His point was that God wanted to preserve Israel until the coming of Christ, so he gave the law to push back the influence of sin in their society. Calvin points out that even unsaved people are restrained in their sin by the law. But it is also true among believers. Therefore, it is important for the well-being of the church and of every Christian family that its members be impressed with the Ten Commandments, which remind us that it is wrong to blaspheme, to rebel against God-ordained authority, to injure others, to be unfaithful to covenants, to take what is not ours, to speak falsely or loosely, and to covet the blessings that others have. American society increasingly bears testimony to the pain and destruction that takes place when the restraining influence of godly laws are removed.

The third use of the law is to *guide the conduct of believers*. The law not only tells us what we must not do, but it also clarifies what we should do. When the law says, "You shall have no other gods before me" (Ex. 20:3), we should realize that God should be first in all things. When we read, "You shall not murder" (Ex. 20:13), we recognize the sanctity of human life. Where the law says, "You shall not commit adultery. You shall not steal. You shall not bear false witness" (Ex. 20:14-16), we recognize our calling to be pure, to seek the blessing of others, and