

Christian campus groups must refuse to adopt tyrannical non-discrimination codes when it comes to Christian values and doctrines, even at the risk of being kicked off campus. Christian pulpits must speak with a bold prophetic voice as to the moral consequences of a degenerate America, even at the risk of imprisonment for "hate speech." In short, if we want America to take Christian truth seriously, we must take a costly stand for Christian truth and morality in a way with which the world will have to reckon.

3. Speak more pointedly to the true moral and spiritual issues at work destroying America. Challenge people to care about the millions of children growing up without two parents because of the scourge of "sexual liberation." Say uncomfortable truths about babies who are bloodily butchered a day before their mother goes into labor. Argue against the indignity inflicted on young women as schools promote contraceptives and urge people to consider the dignity of self-control and the beauty of chastity. Point out the goodness of God as he forgives our sins in Christ and blesses those who walk in his ways. Be willing to receive scorn for these statements, but present reasonable arguments without anger or venom, trusting God to awaken the sleeping conscience in the hearts of people you know.

4. Begin making a serious commitment to pray for the Church and for America. The moral decline of America rightly directs us to biblical passages where Christ's people were beleaguered and besieged. But those passages show God answering his peoples' prayers with saving power. Yet so far the moral debacle in our country has not moved Christians to prayer. This shows that we are not truly turning to God but are still relying on man to save our land. When Christians begin flocking to the prayer meeting and begin pouring out earnest pleas for God's grace, we then may look for more success in both evangelism and the culture war.

5. Recommit yourself as a witness to the gospel of Jesus Christ. It should not surprise us that a generation that does not know the Lord embraces a godless way of life. Our churches must respond to growing immorality not by preaching politics but by preaching Jesus. We must lift up the crucified Christ who gives forgiveness for sin, the resurrected Christ who gives power for godly living, and the returning Christ who will judge the nations by the standard of God's Word.

As Christians look upon our fellow countrymen shouting for the right to abortion, scarred and shamed by sexual "freedom", cynically bitter towards the claims of virtue and truth, we must remember our own need for the saving grace of Jesus and what his new life has meant to us.

Paul wrote: "And such were some of you. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God" (1 Cor. 6:11). Therefore, the best response to the alarming moral consensus expressed in our recent election is the one advocated by Paul in Romans 10:14-15: "How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, 'How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!'"

In Christ's love,

Pastor Phillips

CHURCH INFORMATION

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

Website: www.spcgreenville.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

Nov. 15	Jessamines
Nov. 17	WIC Shower for Lori Sparkman
Nov. 18	The Lord's Supper at the morning services
Nov. 21	Thanksgiving Dinner and Service
Nov. 22-23	Church Office Closed
Nov. 25	Informational Budget Meeting
Nov. 25	Evangelism/Church Growth Committee Meeting
Nov. 28	CE Committee Meeting
Nov. 30	Jr. High Fellowship
Nov. 30	Sr. High Fellowship
Dec. 1	WIC Decorating Day
Dec. 2	Congregational Meeting to Elect Deacons/ receive and support 2013 budget
Dec. 2	Ordination/Installation of New Deacons at pm service
Dec. 2	Churchwide Fellowship Supper/Reception
Dec. 3	Diaconate Meeting
Dec. 3	Good Grief Meeting
Dec. 5	WIC Council
Dec. 5	Pastoral Care Committee Meeting
Dec. 5	Gingerbread House Contest
Dec. 9	Selections from Handel's oratorio, The Messiah, by the Adult Choir at the evening worship service
Dec. 9	Churchwide Reception for Choir
Dec. 10	Session Meeting
Dec. 11-12	WIC Circles
Dec. 12	Christmas Dinner
Dec. 12	Christmas Youth Program
Dec. 16	The Lord's Supper at the evening service
Dec. 17	Young At Heart
Dec. 19	NO WEDNESDAY EVENING ACTIVITIES
Dec. 20	College and 20s SS Class Christmas party at the McCarthys
Dec. 21	Sr. High Christmas party at the Detmers
Dec. 24	Lessons and Carols
Dec. 24-27	Church Office Closed
Dec. 26	NO WEDNESDAY EVENING ACTIVITIES
Dec. 30	Christmas Hymn Sing in the sanctuary

December Calendar

Please call the church office this coming week if you have a December date for the calendar. We encourage Sunday School classes and other church groups to be sure and let us know the date if you are planning a Christmas party. Due to the Thanksgiving holidays, and this busy time of year, we would like to have all dates on the church calendar before Thanksgiving Day. **The office will be closed Thursday and Friday of that week.**

Deacon Elections

At a called meeting the Session approved the following men to stand for election for the office of Deacon: Kip Altman, George Cumbus, Jimmy Looper, Ron McNeely, and Jeremy Weaver.

Congregational Meetings

- The Session has called an Informational Congregational Meeting on Sunday, November 25th, immediately following the evening worship service. David Rainey, Church Treasurer will present the 2013 budget.
- The Session has called a Congregational Meeting on Sunday, Dec. 2nd, at 10:00 am to elect Deacons and to receive and support the 2013 budget.

The Ordination/Installation of New Deacons will be Sunday, Dec. 2, at the evening service followed by a Reception at the Churchwide Fellowship Supper.

Jessamines

The Jessamines (5th-8th grade girls and their moms) will meet Thursday, Nov. 15, at 6:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. The program this month is "Christian Hospitality & Southern Etiquette" with Mrs. Ann Guest. The dinner theme is "Thanksgiving Delights of the Season." Please bring a generous portion to share.



WIC Baby Shower

All ladies are invited to a WIC Baby Shower for
Lori Sparkman

Saturday, November 17, 2012

10:30 am - 11:30 am—Fellowship Hall

Lori is registered at Babies 'R Us and Target

It's a Boy!!

It's a Boy!!



Thanksgiving Dinner & Service

Wednesday, November 21

Dinner - 5:45 PM - Gym

Service - 7:00 PM - Sanctuary



Good Grief

Good Grief is a dinner fellowship for all those at Second Presbyterian that are in mourning or grief.

Monday, December 3, 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall

Please make your reservations with:

Pastor Spears (430-7389) Barnetta Stephens (438-1962) or Judy Pitts (228-2004)



Gingerbread House Contest

Wednesday, December 5, 2012, 5:45 pm

(Judging will begin at 6:30 pm)

Categories: Difficulty, Most Creative, and Theme

Age Groups: (18 yrs. & older) (13-17 yrs. old) (8-12 yrs. old) (3-7 yrs. old)

Each contestant will need a GingerBread Packet which will include rules, recipes and other instructions. See Jessica LaBombard or Pat Shuford for packets.



Churchwide Reception for Choir

On December 9th, following the Messiah, the WIC will be hosting a reception for the choir. WIC is asking our circles and any interested parties to donate Christmas cookies. Please contact your circle chair or Judy Bishop (246-0951) for details.

Christmas Poinsettias

It's time to order the Christmas Poinsettias for the sanctuary. This year you may purchase a white Poinsettia for \$10.00. Orders will need to be in by Dec. 2nd. 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.)**

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, November 18

8:30 AM MORNING WORSHIP
 9:50 AM Children's Chapel
 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, November 19

6:00 PM Sr. High Girls' 1 Basketball game at John Knox
 7:00 PM Sr. High Girls' 2 Basketball game at John Knox
 8:00 PM Sr. High Boys' Basketball game at home

Tuesday, November 20

10:00 AM WIC Bible Study
 4:30 PM I-Mites and 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, November 21

6:30 AM Men's Bible Study
 5:45 PM THANKSGIVING DINNER AND SERVICE
 8:00 PM Sr. High Boys' Basketball practice

Thursday, November 22

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

 **Happy Thanksgiving from the Church Staff**

Friday, November 23

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

3:00 PM Sr. High Boys' Basketball practice

Saturday, November 24

2:00 PM Sr. High Girls' Basketball practice

New Baby

Antoinette Rose Bassett was born to Brian and Maria Bassett on Monday, November 12, 2012. Antoinette weighed 8 pounds, 5 ounces. Both mother and daughter are doing well. If you would like to take the Bassetts a meal please go to www.takethenameal.com and enter **Bassett 1892**. If you have any questions, please contact Janice Leathers (895-6646) or Kitty Swillen (244-7993).

Congratulations

Dr. Steve Schvaneveldt was named by Princeton Review as one of the top 300 chemistry professors in the nation. Steve teaches at Clemson University.

Sympathy

We offer our Christian love and sympathy to Joe Bianchi and his family in the death of his mother, Lucille. Our prayers are with the Bianchi family during this time of loss and grief.

Remembering One Another

Remember in prayer this week the following shut-in member.

Also, send her a note of encouragement.

Ruby Benchoff

304 Dupont Drive, Greenville, SC 29607

Praying For One Another

Remember in prayer this week the following members.

David and Julianne Diehl (new members)

Polly Duncan

Peggy Ann

Shirley Duncan

The Second Presbyterian Church

105 River Street
 Greenville, South Carolina 29601-2537

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**WORSHIP AT SECOND
 THE LORD'S DAY
 NOVEMBER 18, 2012**

MORNING WORSHIP
 8:30 & 11:00 AM

AN OPEN DOOR BEFORE YOU

Revelation 3:7-13

Anthem:

My Soul Gives Glory to the Lord

Hymns: 80, 539, 378

Dr. Richard D. Phillips preaching

EVENING WORSHIP
 6:00 PM

**THE PUZZLE PIECES OF
 REDEMPTION ACCOMPLISHED III
 "THE GREATEST CRIME EVER COMMITTED"**

Isaiah 53:7-9

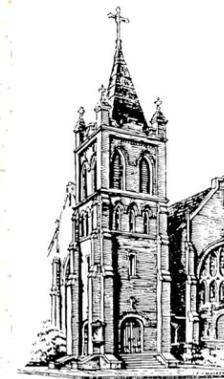
Hymns: 253, 252, 247

Psalter: Psalm 5

Rev. Seth T. Starkey preaching

«Title» «First Name» «Last Name»
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The Second Presbyterian Church
 Corner of River and Rhett Streets
 Greenville, South Carolina

November 12, 2012

Letter from the Senior Minister

Christian Response to 2012 Election

As conservative Christians, the recent national elections in America should not bring alarm merely because of the anticipated results of economic policies or concerns for the safety of our nation in a dangerous world. Economic and foreign policy matters are those in which sincere Christians can and do disagree without violence to the Bible. It is clear from the election that our nation is greatly divided on how to proceed with the economy and foreign policy, so Christians should continue to pray for God's wisdom to guide elected leaders and to bless well-intended measures that may be adopted.

There is a concern that was made glaring during the election, however, for which Christians should feel dismay and alarm. I refer to the blatant debasing of the nation's moral consciousness when it comes to personal dignity, sexuality, sobriety, marriage, and the family. It was grievous to witness a political party set forth a clear social agenda centered on the availability of abortion, the advancement of liberty for sexual sin, homosexual marriage, the legalization of narcotic drugs, and government intolerance for religious freedom. To then see this agenda lifted up in triumph over the American electorate is to witness the defeat of the conservative Christian political agenda and to tremble over the future of our morally libertine society.

For many conservative Christians, the electoral defeat of 2012 will urge a reevaluation of political strategy. The problem with this approach is that the moral degeneracy of America did not happen in the voting booth but in the living room, the classroom, and the marketplace. I would urge that alarm over the moral catastrophe of this recent election should be expressed not in the Christian political posture but in the way actual Christians relate to the culture and to non-Christian people we know. In this vein, let me propose five constructive Christian responses to the moral debasement revealed in last week's election, which by working outside the formal political process may with God's blessing have the most positive effect on the cultural and political landscape in years to come.

1. Make an increased effort to get to know your non-Christian neighbor and co-worker. It is often noted how conservative Christians live increasingly in self-constructed fortresses which not only protect our children but isolate us from non-believers. This is not to say that Christians should immediately enroll our children in public schools. But it does say that we must become more involved in neighborhood and civic life. The neo-pagan left is bent on demonizing Christians and Christian values, as the media repeatedly showed prior to the recent election. So get to know people personally, let them see the way you interact with your spouse and children, show kindness, concern and love to them, and by your good works glorify God in their sight.

2. Refuse to compromise on Christians standards even at the cost of persecution. Christian employers must refuse to purchase abortion-providing health care plans, even at the cost of their livelihoods. Christian military officers must refuse to promote homosexual behavior to their soldiers, even at the risk of court martial.