

the Indian village of Patuxet, which had been completely wiped out by a disease brought to the New World by Europeans. Therefore, not only were the Pilgrims facing death by starvation but they also would have to fear potentially hostile natives on whose land they had stumbled. How could God deliver them from such deadly danger so far from any source of help or support? The answer arrived one December day when two Native Americans strolled into their village. As Pilgrims scrambled for their muskets, one of the Indians astonished them by speaking clearly in their own language. His name was Squanto, and he introduced his friend as Samoset. Squanto had grown up on this very land and had only recently returned after having been enslaved by English traders, from whom he had learned to speak our language. After a period of slavery, he had been purchased and set free by Spanish monks who had taught him about Jesus Christ. Into the midst of the Pilgrims had emerged the last thing anyone could ever have expected: a friendly, English-speaking, Christian native who possessed a detailed knowledge of the area! Even the Pilgrims, with their great faith, were astonished.

Squanto stayed with the Pilgrims and provided the help that enabled the community to survive. He showed them where herring had begun their migration. He taught them to fish with traps and to stalk game in the forest. He showed them which berries could be picked and taught them to plant corn with natives seeds purchased from a local tribe. He interceded for the Pilgrims among nearby Native Americans so as to avoid hostile attacks.

If there was ever a display of God's sovereignty, it occurred right in the founding days of our nation, among heroic Christians who risked all for the worship of the Lord. But, above all, in addition to God's holiness, power, and sovereignty, the Pilgrim story reminds us today of *God's faithfulness*. He does not forget His people and He makes provision for our needs. God's greatest provision was the gift of His Son, Jesus Christ, to die for our sins. No wonder that when the Pilgrims had survived their first year in the New World and had taken in their first year's harvest, that they invited guests from the surrounding tribes and gave a special thanksgiving feast to the Lord. We repeat that tradition this week. As we do so, let us as Christians endeavor that our nation would not forget the faithful God to whom we give thanks. And let us pray that there would be a renewal of that Pilgrim spirit as we trust God to meet all our needs as we seek to live before Him and worship Him according to His Word.

May the Lord bless you all this Thanksgiving!

In Christ's Love,  
Pastor Rick Phillips

**Church Office closed November 22nd and 23rd.**

**The new parking lot on Rhett Street is now open to the church for free parking on Sundays.**

**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. 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. 4	Jessamines Christmas Party at the home of Cindy Crunk
Dec. 5	WIC Council
Dec. 5	Pastoral Care Committee Meeting
Dec. 5	Gingerbread House Contest
Dec. 8	Messiah Dress Rehearsal in sanctuary (10am-12noon)
Dec. 8	Choir Lunch and Christmas party (12noon)
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. 14	ACTS SS Class Christmas party at the Spears
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

**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.**

**Many Thanks**

Thank you to everyone who participated in "Operation Christmas Child" by packing a shoebox. Second Pres. sent 81 shoeboxes this year. Please remember to pray for the children who will be receiving these gifts, that each child would experience God's unconditional love and provision. Thanks to Pat Tyner for coordinating this effort.

**WIC Decorating Day**

The WIC ladies will be decorating the church for Christmas on Saturday, Dec. 1 from 9am-2pm. All ladies in the church are asked to please come help beautify the church for this Christmas season. If you have any questions, please give Pat Shuford a call (244-0615).

**Perry Correctional Christmas Outreach**

Following the morning services on Sunday, Nov. 25th, the deacons will be taking up a special offering for the support of an outreach at Perry Correctional. Second Church is sponsoring a dorm for Christmas and will orchestrate a Christmas program where each inmate receives a Bible, hygiene bag, and a meal. The Gospel will be preached and hymns of praise sung. Please give generously to this outreach and mercy ministry. The actual Christmas program will be held at the prison on Thursday, Dec. 6th. If you are interested in singing in a small choir or otherwise participating in the distribution of the food and hygiene items, please see Bill Watkins (304-4737).

**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)

**Jessamines Christmas Party**



The Jessamines Christmas Party will be Tuesday, Dec. 4th from 7:00-8:30 pm at the home of Cindy Crunk. The girls will create a Festive Holiday Gingerbread House with Mrs. Jessica LaBombard and decorate their very own Gingerbread-man cookies. Please bring a party appetizer to share. If you have any questions please contact Cindy Duncan at cindyduncan@gmail.com.

**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 Dec. 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 25

8:30 AM  
9:50 AM  
10:00 AM  
11:00 AM  
4:00 PM  
5:00 PM  
5:30 PM  
6:00 PM  
6:30 PM  
7:15 PM  
7:30 PM

**MORNING WORSHIP**  
Children's Chapel  
**SUNDAY SCHOOL**  
**MORNING WORSHIP**  
Regular Adult Choir Rehearsal  
Christmas Adult Choir Rehearsal  
Season of Prayer in the Chapel  
**EVENING WORSHIP**  
Wee Worship Choir  
Informational Budget Meeting for Congregation  
Evangelism/Church Growth Committee Meeting

### Monday, November 26

6:00 PM  
7:00 PM  
8:00 PM

Sr. High Girls' Team 1 Basketball game at home  
Sr. High Girls' Team 2 Basketball game at home  
Sr. High Boys' Basketball game at home

### Tuesday, November 27

10:00 AM  
4:30 PM  
6:00 PM  
6:00 PM  
7:00 PM

WIC Bible Study  
I-Mites and Mites Basketball practice  
Evangelism Explosion Training  
Boy Scout Troop 828  
Jr. High Boys' Basketball practice

### Wednesday, November 28

6:30 AM  
5:00 PM  
5:45 PM  
6:15 PM  
6:15 PM  
6:45 PM  
6:45 PM  
8:00 PM

Men's Bible Study  
CE Committee Meeting  
**FAMILY NIGHT FELLOWSHIP SUPPER**  
Covenant Choir  
Youth Choir  
CAT Kids and Covenant Kids  
Youth Bible Study  
**PRAYER MEETING AND BIBLE STUDY**  
Sr. High Boys' Basketball practice

### Thursday, November 29

9:30 AM  
5:30 PM  
8:00 PM

WIC Precepts Bible Study  
Jr. High Girls' Basketball practice  
Men's Basketball game at AYMC

### Friday, November 30

3:00 PM  
6:30 PM  
6:30 PM

Sr. High Boys' Basketball practice  
Jr. High Fellowship  
Sr. High Fellowship & Supper

### Saturday, December 1

8:30 AM  
9:00 AM  
9:30 AM  
10:30 AM  
10:30 AM  
2:00 PM

I-Mites Basketball game at W. Pres. I  
WIC Decorating Church for Christmas  
Jr. High Boys' Basketball game at St. George  
Jr. High Girls' Basketball game at John Knox  
Mites Basketball game at W. Pres. II  
Sr. High Girls' Basketball practice

## Remembering One Another

Remember in prayer this week the following shut-in member.  
Also, send her a note of encouragement.  
**Marion Wood**  
5 Creekbend Road, Simpsonville, SC 29681

## Praying For One Another

Remember in prayer this week the following members.  
**Gordon and Lee Early**  
**Brandon**  
**Reggie and Lorri Ecarma**  
**Jordan, Jenna, Josiah, Caleb, Nathan, Jonathan**  
**Sara Edwards**

## The Second Presbyterian Church

105 River Street  
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## WORSHIP AT SECOND THE LORD'S DAY NOVEMBER 25, 2012

**MORNING WORSHIP**  
8:30 & 11:00 AM

**NEITHER HOT NOR COLD**

Revelation 3:14-22

Anthem:

Unto the Hills

Hymns: 78, 660, 298

Dr. Richard D. Phillips preaching

**EVENING WORSHIP**  
6:00 PM

**THE PUZZLE PIECES OF  
REDEMPTION ACCOMPLISHED IV**  
"THE SAVIOR IS SATISFIED"

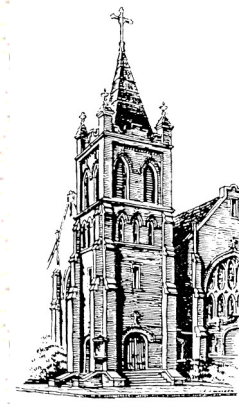
Isaiah 53:10-12

Hymns: 305, 455, 460

Psalter: Psalm 6

Rev. Seth T. Starkey preaching

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



# The West End Herald

Vol. CXX, Edition 47

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

November 19, 2012

## Letter from the Senior Minister Learning the Attributes of God through Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving is the distinctly American holiday that we celebrate as a nation, continuing a tradition of giving thanks to God that goes back literally to our earliest days as a country. It says much about the wonderful heritage of our nation that we look back to our founding to see so many instances of God's marvelous saving help, for which our forebears gladly gave praise to him and offered him thanks. As Christians, we believe that it is through the Holy Scriptures that we gain our primary and authoritative understanding of God. But, guided by the Bible, we can also learn of Him through His wonderful acts in history, including the history of America. So what does Thanksgiving tell us about the attributes of our God?

The people who celebrated the first Thanksgiving were Christian "pilgrims" who endured unimaginable sufferings in order to worship God as they believed he should be worshiped. It is hard to imagine any such people today who would literally give up everything because they refused to offer corrupted worship to the Lord. Part of a broader Puritan movement that opposed the compromises of the Anglican Church under the rule of Elizabeth I, the Pilgrims fled to Holland when her successor, King James I (of the King James Bible), whose intolerance of true religion had prompted their mistreatment. In time, the opportunity of a fresh start in the New World prompted the Pilgrims to take up the incredibly difficult proposition of moving to and settling in the wilderness of what is now America. In this way, the Pilgrims remind us of *God's holiness*. Hebrews 12:28 says, "let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe, for our God is a consuming fire."

In our thanksgiving celebrations, we retell the story of the sacrifices made by these intrepid believers. On September 6, 1620, the Pilgrim ship *The Mayflower* set sail from Plymouth, England, striking land off Cape Cod on November 11. Cramped in wet and cold quarters, many of the people were sick. Included in the passengers were three pregnant women, one of whom gave birth during the stormy voyage and another of which had a son while the passengers were waiting to disembark in America (and one of whose descendants is my own wife!). The Pilgrims sustained themselves during this exceedingly dangerous voyage by praying to the Lord for his help, reminding us of *God's power* to deliver His people through every kind of trial.

After landing in their new home, dubbed Plymouth, New England, the Pilgrims faced the immediate danger of fiercely cold winter. They began life in their new home with a prayer service and then began building hasty shelters. It soon became clear, however, that they were unprepared for the danger of starvation during the winter that soon began. Many were afflicted by sickness and almost half of the original Pilgrims died before spring arrived. How, then, did any of them survive? The answer reveals *God's sovereignty*.

The Pilgrims, it turned out, had landed in the midst of a great nation of Native Americans. The habitable land on which they had begun building had been