

Dear Second Church Family

2012 has been an exciting year for the Starkey family to say the least. Nothing could've prepared Laura Lee and me for the joy, love, and excitement of welcoming our first born son into our lives. We give thanks for all of the love, support, kindness, prayers, and well wishes you have sent our way through the process. I am glad we have you all to intercede for us through this joyous transition in life. December always turns me into more of a sentimentalist than I usually am. The older I get the more I reflect on days gone by. Memories of childhood, grandparents now with the Lord, and the simplicity of the holiday season. This year I have been especially reflective of my first years as a minister of the gospel of Jesus Christ. Apart from Laura Lee and Sam, nothing in life has given me greater joy than to be a herald of the King and a shepherd of His people. You all have been so gracious and patient with a rookie!

Above all else, it is my prayer that 2012 has shown us how desperately we need a Savior to make us right before a holy God. I do hope that the more failures we experience in life the more we learn the necessity of repentance. More than that, however, I pray we learn the danger of the never ending temptation to believe God could or would ever love us because of what we bring to the table. Beloved, the good news is that salvation not only makes us right before the Father but also gives us the strength and desire to become more like Christ each day. In other words, praise God that He has saved us. But also praise God that we are becoming more like Christ as His Spirit works in us. Thank God His grace changes us on this earth and makes us fit for a future with Him. Would the intensity of joy we are all experiencing as we anticipate the remembrance of the Incarnation never wain in 2013. Rather, would the mind blowing reality that "the Word became flesh and dwelt among us" cause us to grow in grace and grow in love, affection, and adoration for our God and Father forever and ever.

Peace be to the brethren,
Seth, Laura Lee, and Sam

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

On December 8, 1912, the session set the "Next Sabbath week, December 22nd, as the time for the ordination and installation of Professor George A. Buist, who was on June 2nd, 1912, regularly elected a Ruling Elder in our church." Professor Buist's ordination and installation were postponed at his request for reason(s) unknown, but it may have been due to his busy schedule as Professor of Physics at Furman University.

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

- Dec. 19 NO WEDNESDAY EVENING ACTIVITIES.
- Dec. 19 Youth Christmas Caroling
- Dec. 20 College/20s SS Christmas party at the McCarthys
- Dec. 21 Sr. High Christmas party at the Detmers
- Dec. 24 Lessons and Carols
- Dec. 24-26 Church Office Closed
- Dec. 26 NO WEDNESDAY EVENING ACTIVITIES
- Dec. 30 Christmas Hymn Sing in the sanctuary
- Jan. 1 Church Office Closed
- Jan. 2 WIC Council
- Jan. 8-9 WIC Circles
- Jan. 13 Worship & Music Committee Meeting
- Jan. 14 Joint Session/Diaconate Meeting
- Jan. 15 WIC Tuesday morning Bible Study resumes
- Jan. 20 The Lord's Supper at the morning services
- Jan. 21 Young At Heart
- Jan. 23 CE Committee Meeting
- Jan. 25 Jr. High Fellowship
- Jan. 25 Sr. High Fellowship
- Jan. 26 Calvary Presbytery
- Jan. 27 Evangelism/Church Growth Committee Meeting

If you have a date for the January calendar please contact the church office this week: judy@secondpca.org or 232-7621, ext. 10

December Schedule

- ⇒ There will be no Wednesday night activities on:
Wednesday, December 19th
Wednesday, December 26th
- ⇒ The Church Office will be closed:
December 24-26
- ⇒ The West End Herald will not be mailed the week of Dec. 24th.

Sunday School Christmas parties

- ⇒ Fellowship Class—Dec. 20th at 6:30 pm at Tim and Cindy Crunks
- ⇒ College & 20s Class—Dec. 20th, 7:00 pm at Jim & Jordan McCarthys
- ⇒ Sr. High Class—Dec. 21st at 6:30 pm at Diane Detmers

Christmas Eve Service

LESSONS AND CAROLS
Monday, December 24th, 6:00 PM
*We will marvel with the heavenly host
as we hear the good news of our Savior's birth
retold in Scripture and song.*

Christmas Hymn Sing

Sunday, December 30, 2012
Immediately following the evening worship service in the sanctuary
Join us as we sing your favorite Christmas Carols from the Trinity Hymnal.

2013 Offering Envelopes

The 2013 offering envelopes have been placed on a table outside the church library. Please stop by and pick up your envelopes. The Diaconate ask that all members use offering envelopes for accounting purposes. If you or any of your children need a box of envelopes, please contact the church office, ext. 18.

Year-End Contributions

Just a reminder that to obtain a 2012 charitable contribution deduction for income tax purposes, contributions must be received by the church no later than December 31, 2012 or postmarked by December 31, 2012.

Treasurer's Report

December Offerings:

The 2012 budget including Missions and Benevolences contingencies is \$1,015,773. Through November, contributions are \$913,072 leaving a difference of \$102,701. Contributions last December, 2011 were \$109,159. The 2012 budget can be met or exceeded if contributions in December are similar to the December 2011 contributions. With your financial support the 2012 budget can be met.

To All Women In the Church: Phone or Email?

The prayer chain is an effective way to communicate our urgent prayer requests with one another in real time. For the prayers of a righteous man availeth much! If you are not already on the prayer chain, please let us know your preference of either joining the telephone chain or the email chain. Come and join with the host of praying saints at Second as we continually pray for one another in times of need. To be added to the prayer chain contact Lynda Duncan at Irduncan@charter.net or leave me your phone # for the phone chain at 864-350-2693.

2013 Mission Trips

REMINDER OF COSTS AND DEADLINES:

- Trip 1: Hartsville, SC, June 9-13, \$50 per person by February 1
- Trip 2: Richmond Hill, GA, July 16-19, \$50 per person by February 1
- Trip 3: Trujillo & Cajamaraca, Peru, June 21-29, \$1,250 deposit due by January 6
- Trip 4: Dundee, Scotland, tentatively June 28-July 8, \$1,200 deposit due by Jan. 6

Mark Your 2013 Calendars

- February 27: Annual Sports' Banquet
- May 8: Graduation Banquet
- May 15: CAT Kids Program
- June 9-13: Hartsville, SC Mission Trip
- June 10-14: Flute Camp
- Week of June 17: General Assembly in Greenville, SC
- June 21-29: Peru Mission Trip
- June 24-28: Vacation Bible School
- June 28-July 8: Scotland Mission Trip
- July 16-19: Richmond Hill, GA Mission Trip
- July 22-26: Jr. High Trip to Ridge Haven
- July 29-Aug. 3: Sr. Trip to Edisto Island, SC

Church Calendar

Sunday, December 23

- 8:30 AM **MORNING WORSHIP**
- 9:50 AM Children's Chapel
- 10:00 AM **SUNDAY SCHOOL**
- 11:00 AM **MORNING WORSHIP**
- 4:45 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal
- 5:30 PM Season of Prayer in the Chapel
- 6:00 PM **EVENING WORSHIP**
- 6:00 PM Wee Worship Choir

Monday, December 24

Church Office Closed

- 6:00 PM Lessons and Carols

Tuesday, December 25



Wednesday, December 26

Church Office Closed

Regular Wednesday evening activities cancelled

Remembering One Another

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

Also, send them a note of encouragement.

John and Wilma Crawford

4 Richbourg Court
Greenville, SC 29615

Praying For One Another

Remember in prayer this week the following members.

Linda Francis

Jacob and Carrie Gamble
Jack and Ella

John and Karen Gray
Jack, Amelia, Charlie

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The Second Presbyterian Church

105 River Street
Greenville, South Carolina 29601-2537

Return Service Requested

**WORSHIP AT SECOND
THE LORD'S DAY
DECEMBER 23, 2012**

MORNING WORSHIP
8:30 & 11:00 AM

A VIRGIN WITH CHILD

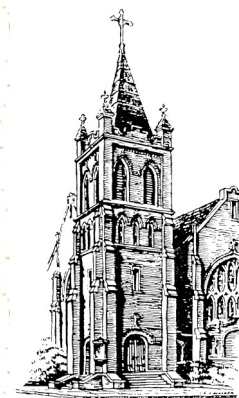
Isaiah 7:1-14
Anthem:
Nativity Carol
Hymns: 203, 214, 201
Dr. Richard D. Phillips preaching

EVENING WORSHIP
6:00 PM

A KING LIKE NO OTHER

Luke 1:31-33
Hymns: 100, 457, 195
Psalter: Psalm 8
Mr. James McCarthy preaching

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

Vol. CXX, Edition 51

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

December 17, 2012

Christmas Letters From Our Pastors

As our family approaches our sixth Christmas in Carolina, I thank God for the wonderful gifts He has given to me. God has given me the free gift of His saving grace. God has given me His own Son, to die for my sins and grant me resurrection life. God has given me the Holy Spirit and the Holy Scriptures, so that I can live in the light of His glory. Along with my whole family, I also thank God that He has given us the gift of serving and participating in the life of this wonderful church. What a gift you all are to us! We praise the Lord for the love and support you have extended to us during this year. Christmas at Second is always a highlight of my year, from the beautiful decorations, to the Messiah service, and to the Lessons and Carols. I praise God to serve a church where so much of God's beauty is on display, both in our worship and in your lives. I look forward to celebrating with you the greatest gift that came from heaven to earth, the Savior who delivers us from our sin (Mt. 1:21).

In Christ's Love
Pastor Rick Phillips

"A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another." Jesus' type of love characterizes the family of believers. We certainly see that among our brothers and sisters at Second Presbyterian Church. We most assuredly have experienced that ourselves as we approach our seventeenth Christmas with you, our Christian family. At this time of year, we thank our Heavenly Father for His greatest gift, His own Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. But we also thank Him for the gift of our brothers and sisters in the faith of the Lord Jesus Christ. We pray that our love for one another will continue to grow and abound, all to the glory of our Father and elder Brother. Many blessings to you all at this wonderful time of the year. And we are confident of His blessings to all of us in the new year.

Serving Him,
Robert and Jenny Spears