

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.

Website: [www.spcgreenville.org](http://www.spcgreenville.org)

Telephone: Office (864) 232-7621

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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

Feb. 7	WIC Precepts Bible Study begins
Feb. 7	Jessamines
Feb. 9	WIC Baby Shower for Jordan McCarthy
Feb. 10	Worship & Music Committee Meeting
Feb. 11	Session Meeting
Feb. 12-13	WIC Circles
Feb. 13	Missions Committee Meeting
Feb. 15	Annual Valentine Banquet
Feb. 17	The Lord's Supper at the Evening Service
Feb. 18	Young At Heart
Feb. 20	CE Committee Meeting
Feb. 22	Jr. High Fellowship
Feb. 22	Sr. High Fellowship
Feb. 24	Communicants' Class begins
Feb. 24	Evangelism/Church Growth Committee Meeting
Feb. 27	Annual Sports Banquet

### Peru Mission Trip Meeting

There will be a meeting for all who have signed up for the Peru Mission trip on Wednesday, February 6, at 5:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. If you cannot attend please contact Pastor Starkey.

### Jessamines

The Jessamines will begin the New Year with their first meeting of 2013 on February 7th, 6:30-8:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. The guest speaker will be Mrs. Barnetta Stephens, speaking on "Serving our Seniors and Shut-ins." Girls will make Valentine cards for our shut-ins with Mrs. Jenny Spears. Dinner theme is soup and salad. Please bring a generous portion to share.

### Paul Settle to Teach Men

We welcome back the Rev. Dr. Paul Settle, beloved former pastor of the church as our Men's Ministry Coordinator. His weekly Men's Bible Study Luncheon began on Friday, February 1st at noon in the Fellowship Hall with the study being on the life of Elijah with the theme "Show Yourself a Man." Men, please come and join us—it's not too late.

### WIC Baby Shower

All ladies are invited to a WIC Baby Shower for  
**Jordan McCarthy**  
 Saturday, February 9, 2013  
 10:30 am in the Fellowship Hall  
 Jordan is registered at Babies 'R Us, Buy Buy Baby and Target.

### Communicants' Class

A Communicants' Class will be held beginning February 24 and go through March 24. The class will meet at 10:00 on Sunday mornings in the Conference Room. Parents who judge their child ready to meet with the Session for communicant membership should bring their child to the class. Please see Pastor Starkey if you have any questions.

### History Room Display

The biographical display for the fourth pastor of Second Church, Dr. E. P. Davis, is available for viewing in the hall display case in front of the history room. His call lasting twenty years is the longest of all our ministers. The charter member display for Frank and Mary Hammond is also available for viewing in a display case in the history room. The history room is normally open during Sunday School until just before the worship service at 10:55 am.



## ANNUAL VALENTINE'S BANQUET

"For Sentimental Reasons"

Friday, February 15, 2013; 6:30 pm

Cost: \$10 per person (12 years and up)

Make reservations by Wednesday, Feb. 13

with Ken Safford or Robert Spears.

Registration sheets available on shelf outside the library.



### Young At Heart Valentine Luncheon

The Valentine's Young At Heart Luncheon will be Monday, February 18, at 11:45 am in the Fellowship Hall. The catered meal is \$7.00 per person, payable at the door. Following lunch we will have a "Valentine Party" which will be a special time of fellowship with one another. Come join us.

### Baptism

Sam Timmons Starkey, covenant son of Seth and Laura Lee Starkey, received the Sacrament of Baptism on Sunday, February 3, 2013. We are thankful for the Starkey family and pray that Sam will love and serve the Lord all the days of his life.

### Prayer For Church Family

The Prayer Email List connects us to one another and critical needs/information and is coordinated through the church office. When you receive a "Prayer" email take time briefly to pray for the specific request which will generally be limited to hospitalizations/medical emergencies, birth announcements and death notices. We ask everyone to keep the church office informed by letting us know how the church family can pray. While the prayer email list is limited in scope to immediate critical needs/information and updates, every prayer request will be noted at our two weekly prayer meetings led by Pastor Spears on Wednesday nights and Sunday afternoons. Sign up at [prayer@secondpca.org](mailto:prayer@secondpca.org) or through membership section of [spcgreenville.org](http://spcgreenville.org).

### Memorial Flowers

The 2013 Flower Roster for memorial flowers has been posted in several areas around the church. If you would like to sign up to put memorial flowers in the church on Sunday in honor or memory of someone there are many Sundays available throughout the year. Information about the procedure is found on the roster. If you would like to check an available date you may call the church office or Judy Bishop.

### Treasurer's Report

#### January 2013 & YTD Financial Status

	Actual		
	Jan. 2013	YTD 2013	YTD Budget
Offerings	67,887	67,887	88,644
Outlays:			
Operating Expenses	74,077	74,077	77,437
Mission Disbursements	115	115	11,207
Total Outlays	74,192	74,192	88,644
Net Offerings	(6,305)	(6,305)	

- ⇒ Contributions in January 2013 were \$67,887 versus budget of \$88,644.
- ⇒ Contributions for January 2012 were \$76,455.
- ⇒ Operating expenses for January 2013 were \$74,077 versus the budget of \$77,437.
- ⇒ Missions and Benevolences were not paid in January. We plan to pay three months of missionary commitments in February.
- ⇒ Please continue to pray that the Lord will provide the financial resources necessary for the programs and ministry of SPC.
- ⇒ If you have any questions, please contact Bobby Mann or David Rainey.

## Church Calendar

### Sunday, February 10

8:30 AM **MORNING WORSHIP**  
 9:45 AM New Members' Class  
 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  
 7:15 PM Worship & Music Committee Meeting

### Monday, February 11

6:30 PM Session Meeting

### Tuesday, February 12

10:00 AM WIC Circles 1 & 3 meet at the church  
 2:30 PM WIC Circle 5 meets at the church  
 6:00 PM Boy Scout Troop 828  
 7:00 PM WIC Circle 2 meets at the home of Tammy Looper  
 7:00 PM WIC Circle 4 meets at the church

### Wednesday, February 13

6:30 AM Men's Bible Study  
 5:30 PM Missions Committee Meeting  
 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 WIC Circle 6  
 6:45 PM **PRAYER MEETING AND BIBLE STUDY**

### Thursday, February 14

9:30 AM WIC Precepts Bible Study

### Friday, February 15

12:00 PM Men's Fellowship Lunch & Bible Study  
 6:30 PM Annual Valentine's Banquet

## Annual Sports' Banquet

Wednesday, February 27, 2013

Dinner: 5:45 pm \* Program: 6:45 pm

Speaker: Mr. Jim McCarthy

The entire church family is invited to this event as we honor our young people who participated in this year's sports events.

## Remembering One Another

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

**Bobbie Houser**

2 Hoke Smith Blvd., Room 203  
 Greenville, SC 29615

## Praying For One Another

Remember in prayer this week the following members.

**Pat Holbrook**

**Mildred Holcomb**

**Bob and Margaret Holman**

## The Second Presbyterian Church

105 River Street  
 Greenville, South Carolina 29601-2537

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### WORSHIP AT SECOND THE LORD'S DAY FEBRUARY 10, 2013

MORNING WORSHIP  
 8:30 & 11:00 AM

#### SILENCE IN HEAVEN

Revelation 8:1-5

Anthem:

God of Mercy, Truth, and Beauty

Hymns: 16, 320, 319

Dr. Richard D. Phillips preaching

EVENING WORSHIP  
 6:00 PM

#### THE SOURCE OF OUR SALVATION

Hebrews 5:7-10

Hymns: 523, 499, 520

Psalter: Psalm 13

Dr. Richard D. Phillips preaching

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

Vol. CXXI, Edition 5

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

February 4, 2013

## 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