

Church Calendar

Sunday, April 14

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, April 15

11:45 AM Young At Heart

Tuesday, April 16

10:00 AM WIC Bible Study
 6:00 PM Boy Scout Troop 828
 6:00 PM Evangelism Explosion Training

Wednesday, April 17

6:30 AM Men's Bible Study
 5:30 PM Peru Mission Team Meeting
 5:45 PM **FAMILY NIGHT FELLOWSHIP SUPPER**
 6:15 PM Administration Committee Meeting
 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**

Thursday, April 18

9:30 AM WIC Precepts Bible Study
 6:30 PM Jessamines

Friday, April 19

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

Saturday, April 20

2:00 PM WIC Shower for Ali Morgan

Scripture Reading for the Week

Romans 8:15

*"For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear,
 but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out,
 'Abba, Father.'"*

Upcoming Events

April 12-13 WIC Spring Retreat
 April 15 Young At Heart
 April 17 Peru Mission Team Meeting
 April 17 Administration Committee Meeting
 April 18 Jessamines
 April 21 The Lord's Supper at the evening service
 April 24 CE Committee Meeting
 April 25 Calvary Presbytery at Downtown PCA
 April 26 Jr. High Fellowship
 April 26 Sr. High Fellowship
 April 28 Evangelism/Church Growth Committee

Mark Your Calendars & Save the Date

May 1 Graduation Banquet
 May 4 Mother/Daughter Tea
 May 8 CAT Kids Program
 May 15 CAT Kids Spring Fling
 May 22 Musical CAT Kids begins
 June 10-14 Flute Camp
 Week of June 17 General Assembly in Greenville, SC
 June 20-29 Peru Mission Trip
 June 24-28 Vacation Bible School
 July 16-19 Richmond Hill, GA Mission Trip
 July 22-26 Jr. High Trip to Ridge Haven
 July 29-Aug. 3 Sr. High Trip to Edisto Island, SC

CHURCH INFORMATION

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

Telephone: 864.232.7621

Website: spcgreenville.org

Social Media

facebook.com/spcgreenville  twitter.com/spcgreenville 

Fax: (864) 232-7622 * **Email:** info@spcgreenville.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

Remembering One Another

Remember in prayer this week
 the following shut-in members.
 Also, send them a note of encouragement
 and/or give them a call.

Marion and Iris Dillard

3504-319 Highway 153
 Greenville, SC 29611
 295-2220

Praying For One Another

Remember in prayer this week
 the following members.

David and Sharon Lock

Rick and Ronnie Long

Jimmy and Tammy Looper

Carrie, Grant, and Amy

Missionary of the Week

EVANGELISM EXPLOSION TRAINING

Meeting Tuesdays at 6:00 pm

*(Evangelism Explosion training is a training course to equip
 our members with a Scriptural and faithful presentation of the Gospel.)*

1. Pray for the trainers that they will be faithful in presenting the gospel and teaching the trainees.
2. Pray the Lord will hedge them about to keep Satan from distracting them from their preparations and their visitations.
3. Pray for the trainees that they will memorize the outline and the scriptures.
4. Pray for the people that are being visited that the Lord will use the gospel presentation to confirm their faith or convert them to Christ.
5. Pray that the whole congregation will be zealous in sharing the gospel with family, friends, co-workers, and even strangers.

Treasurer's Report

MARCH 2013 & YTD Financial Status

| | Actual | | |
|-----------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| | March 2013 | YTD 2013 | YTD Budget |
| Offerings | 103,061 | 249,073 | 265,932 |
| Outlays: | | | |
| Operating Expenses | 61,628 | 198,338 | 232,311 |
| Mission Disbursements | <u>35,608</u> | <u>35,886</u> | <u>33,621</u> |
| Total Outlays | 97,236 | 234,224 | 265,932 |
| Net Offerings | 5,825 | 14,849 | |

- ⇒ Contributions in March 2013 were \$103,061 versus budget of \$88,644.
- ⇒ Contributions in March 2012 were \$77,543. YTD contributions are behind budget by \$16,858.
- ⇒ Operating expenses for March 2013 were \$61,628 versus the budget of \$77,437.
- ⇒ Missions and Benevolences for the 1st Quarter 2013 were paid in March.
- ⇒ 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, Jeremy Weaver, or David Rainey.

Church Directory Online

The church directory is currently being updated for the website. The new members will be added along with any changes that need to be made to existing members. If the information the church office currently has on file for you is inaccurate or has been changed please let us know. We strive to have the most updated and current information available for you on our website.

232-7621, ext. 10
jgrant@spcgreenville.org

Annual Mother-Daughter Event

It's Party Time!!

Ladies of All Ages

You are invited to the
WIC Mother-Daughter Luncheon
May 4, 2013
11:30 am

We are ALL daughters,
so come and join the fellowship!!
WIC will provide tea and coffee.
Please bring something to share:
sandwiches, cookies, brownies,
fruit or vegetable tray.
Hats and gloves are optional.
Sign up @ signupgenius.com
or call Jenny Spears @ 430-7396.

Children's Church Temporarily Suspended

For the spring and summer months there will be no Children's Church during the 11 am worship service. As young children move up from nursery age the ministry will be evaluated again for use in the fall.

Ladies Luncheon

Saturday, April 27
11:30 am
Fairview Presbyterian Church
126 Fairview Church Road, Fountain Inn, SC
Come hear Paula Hemphill's compelling story.
Be challenged to "Tell the Generations"
in your family, across the street, and around the globe.
Cost: \$8.00 prepaid / \$10.00 at the door
Reservations by April 20th: contact Debbie Spink
864-848-9514 or dpspink@charter.net

Graduation Banquet

Wednesday, May 1, 2013
5:45 PM * Church Gymnasium
Speaker: Dr. Derek Halvorson
President of Covenant College

Don't miss this time of fellowship as we honor
our 2013 graduates.

*If you are graduating in May or December, 2013, and have
not contacted the church office please do so this week.*
232-7621, ext. 10 or jgrant@spcgreenville.org

Young At Heart

The monthly Young At Heart Luncheon for April will be on Monday the 15th at 11:45 am in the Fellowship Hall. The delicious catered meal is \$8.00 per person payable at the door. Our guest speaker this month will be Dr. Barry Waugh. Mark your calendars now and join us this month for this special fellowship time.

Jessamines

The last Jessamine meeting for the year will be held on April 18th from 6:30-8:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Our guest speaker this month is Mrs. Betty Orders and her topic is "Hiding God's Word in Your Heart." Our dinner for the evening will be catered by Mrs. Kitty Swillen. Please contact Cindy Duncan at cindyaduncan@gmail.com if you have any questions.

Showering with Love

WIC
cordially invites you to a
Miscellaneous Wedding Shower
for
Ali Morgan
Saturday, April 20, 2013
2:00 - 3:30 pm
Fellowship Hall

Ali is registered at Bed, Bath and Beyond, Target, and Macy's

God's Word, O'Reilly would do better to urge Christians to become more militantly biblical. Like every other once-godly nation, we will stand or fall based on our attitude towards God's Word.

Finally, this reminds Christians that the most important institution in America today is the church. Unless our pulpits proclaim the truth and grace of Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit, and unless Christians live such bold and gracious lives that attract the interest of the watching world, there can be no hope for our generation. Whatever the Supreme Court decides and whatever confusion is wrought by the pundits of the left and of the right, there is great hope for America if God's people regain a missionary zeal for the gospel and a holy passion for God and his Word.

—Posted on Reformation 21, April 4, 2013

Follow-up posted April 5, 2013

Tim Challies was very kind to post a link to my previous post on Bill O'Reilly, the Bible, and Gay Marriage. One of his commenters brought up an objection that I thought I might respond to here. I had written that without the Bible, the only moral consensus open to man is a wicked pagan idolatry. The objection offered was that many people who do not accept the Bible nonetheless lead loving and moral lives. We therefore can have morality without the Bible. My answer is that while this is relatively true, my point pertained not to individual morality but the "moral consensus" of a society. This is a different matter entirely.

There is no doubt that many non-Christians are kind and caring people. In the context of the current debate, I should probably note as well that a great many practicing homosexuals are kind, caring, and delightful people. My point pertains to a society that self-consciously rejects the authority of God's Word, substituting its own malleable standards in the place of the Bible's standards, and exalting a human consensus to the place of sovereignty that God demands for himself. When this happens, moral chaos and a plummeting depravity are certain to result.

Note that I am not asserting that a society must be totally Christian in order to be moral -- no such earthly nation has ever existed. Nor am I expecting non-Christians to embrace everything taught in the Bible. I am merely objecting to Bill O'Reilly's prescription that Christians must agree to the rejection of God's Word as a moral standard and authority. To do this is to act as if God is not there, when we believe that he is. It is for us to pretend that God does not judge men and nations, when we believe that he does.

It is for us to close our eyes to the biblical teaching on the devastating moral effects of idolatry, which this approach involves.

It is not by chance that the current moral debate is so at home in the apostle Paul's teaching in Romans 1:18-32. Paul urges that the idolatrous refusal to honor God with thanksgiving is at the root of moral perversity (Rom. 1:21). God responds with judgment on those who refuse to honor him, and this judgment includes sexual perversity in general -- "the dishonoring of their bodies among themselves" -- and homosexuality in particular -- "relations.. contrary to nature... men committing shameless acts with men" (Rom. 1:26-27). Paul goes further to list a veritable catalog of vices embraced by American culture. These include "envy, murder... insolent, haughty, boastful... disobedient to parents, foolish, faithless, heartless, ruthless" (Rom. 1:29-31). Many of these evils are promoted in children's television programs, not to mention adult reality tv shows. Paul concludes by saying that people who have first committed themselves to idolatry will not only do these things but seek approval for them (Rom. 1:32), which is the very situation we have in the Supreme Court hearings about homosexual marriage.

Notice that from a Christian perspective, the real issue is not sexual perversity, whether it is heterosexual or homosexual, but idolatry. The root cause is the refusal to grant authority to God and the exaltation of public opinion to a place of ultimate authority. Seen in this light, Bill O'Reilly's prescription for Christians to stop "thumping the Bible" amounts to Christians combating the symptom by agreeing to the cause. This advice is sound *only if the Bible is not true*. Only if God does not mind the idolatry of secular humanism can O'Reilly's approach lead anywhere but to a moral cataclysm. As Christians who believe that the Bible is true, we cannot accept O'Reilly's advice to enter the debate on the premise that God must be left out of it. We believe that for public opinion to assume the role of ultimate moral authority is idolatry, the result of which can only be disaster. When we remember that public opinion consists wholly of persons who are themselves sinful (including Christians, by the way), the exclusion of God's holy influence can only lead in a downward direction.

Christians believe, with King David, that God's Word is a lamp for our path and a light for our feet (Ps. 119:105) and, believing this, we cannot serve our country in this moral crisis without letting it shine.

May the Lord bless you this week.

In Christ's Love,

Pastor Rick Phillips

At the Corner of River and Rhett

A Report from the 2013 Twin Lakes Fellowship

This past week TE Seth Starkey and myself drove to Florence, Mississippi and participated in the PCA's only ministerial fraternal, a yearly gathering of confessional Presbyterians sponsored by the historic First Presbyterian Church of Jackson, MS. About 200 "fellows" were in attendance including about 40 first time attendees, elders and seminarians primarily from (but not limited to) PCA congregations. Over the course of 3 days, we participated in 4 worship services, 3 seminars and 8 devotionals and enjoyed hearing 2 different informational sessions on over a dozen mission works that are largely supported through churches represented at Twin Lakes. Our own Richard D. Phillips serves on the steering committee, helping to create the organization that facilitates the Fellowship.

Twin Lakes Fellowship is also a tremendous place for networking with missionaries and church planters. While in Jackson this past week I sat in on a discussion of some folks who had been inspired by our church's mission work with Dr. Jon Payne and Christ Church Presbyterian in Charleston.

The Fraternal is a great source of encouragement and information, and thanks to First Presbyterian Church of Jackson and some supporting churches it's free for elders in the PCA. Speakers this year included Sean Lucas (FPC Hattiesburg) Harry Reeder (Briarwood) David Strain (Main Street Columbus, MS) Terry Johnson (IPC Savannah) Det Bowers (Christ Church of the Carolinas in Columbia) Ligon Duncan (FPC Jackson) and Doug Kelly (RTS Charlotte).

TLF is notably a gathering place for conservative churchman (primarily situated in but not exclusively PCA) who are principally committed to the "ordinary means of grace" as a philosophy of ministry. As Pastor Starkey said Sunday night, Preaching, Prayer and the Sacraments are the main program of the local church, "there is no plan B." While there is variety amongst the churches represented (mainly of size, location, ethnicity) there is little to no difference in philosophy or confessional conviction. These men tend to accept the plain meaning of the Westminster Confession of Faith and hold to some binding form of the Regulative Principle of Worship.

A number of you let us know you were praying for us while we gone. "Thank You." It's a great privilege to in some small way tell folks what God is doing at the corner of River and Rhett and in our covenant people.

-The Editor



Final Words from Isaiah 40-55

This past Sunday evening we finished walking through Isaiah 40-55. Words cannot accurately paint a picture to describe the spiritual value this process has been for me and I trust for you. With skill and sufficiency Isaiah, through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, causes the reader to return time and time again to the goodness of God in spite of trials and tribulations that seem unbearable to the covenant people. I want to pick out one section to leave you with by way of a conclusion. "Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; His understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might He increases strength." Here in Isaiah 40:28-29 we are confronted with truth that sustains us through all of the ebb and flow of life in a fallen world.

My question for us is this, is this passage simply good enough for a touching song, inspirational bumper sticker, and sentimental greeting card or is this passage something we are going to hide deep in our hearts for the certain day when trials invade us and tempt us to despair? You see one thing Isaiah has constantly been pressing on us is the vital importance of personally possessing and believing the good news that God gives strength to the weary as He exercises loving sovereignty from His throne above, even where Christ is seated at His right hand. Beloved, believing this passage is the difference between a pessimist and an optimist. If this passage isn't true, then we should give up any hope we've retained and fall under the weight of depression the present state of our culture has put us in. But, if it is true then the winds and waves of this fallen world are merely a part of God's plan to strengthen us in, through, and by His love in order that we may be continuous recipients of divine grace, love, and mercy. I choose biblical optimism in a world (and church) filled with pessimists. Will you?

Peace be to the brethren,
Pastor Starkey

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

APRIL 14, 2013

MORNING WORSHIP

8:30 & 11:00 AM

THE HOLY WAR

Revelation 12: 7-12

Anthem: Credo

Hymns: 465, 578, 520

Dr. Richard D. Phillips preaching

EVENING WORSHIP

6:00 PM

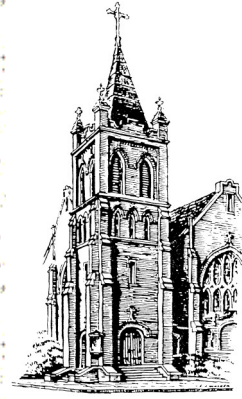
PASTOR PHILLIPS CONTINUES HIS SERIES IN HEBREWS

Hebrews 7: 1-10

Psalter: Psalm 18 (vs. 38-50)

Dr. Richard D. Phillips preaching

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



The West End Herald

Vol. CXXI, Edition 14

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

April 8, 2013

Pastoral Letter

Bill O'Reilly, Gay Marriage and the Bible

I happened to see a video in which Bill O'Reilly was arguing with Laura Ingraham over O'Reilly's complaint that conservatives need to do more than "thump the Bible" in making our case against gay marriage. Not only was O'Reilly incredibly arrogant and rude, but his colossal mistake highlights the key issue in the culture war today.

O'Reilly presupposes that the Bible is not an acceptable source of authority for our culture. Conservatives must accept that liberals will not listen to Scripture and therefore craft a moral consensus on grounds other than the Bible. What he fails to realize is that apart from God and his Word, the only moral consensus possible to man is an evil pagan idolatry. It is precisely because the Bible has been excluded from public discourse that our nation is so aggressively pursuing a debauchery like that of the ancient Canaanites and is suffering a societal breakdown of, well, biblical proportions. The only way to reverse this trend is to reassert the Bible's validity for both private and public moral standards.

Another way to say this is that Bill O'Reilly fails to realize that the Bible is the revelation of a true and living God: as Francis Schaeffer put it, he is "the God who is there." For this reason, the decisive issue of our time pertains precisely to our attitude to God's Word. Apart from a respectful embrace of biblical authority, there is nothing to halt our plunge into the abyss. Or, to put it differently, the true issue today is not what the Supreme Court will think about gay marriage but what the true and living God thinks about America.

Biblically, there is no other explanation for the wholesale breakdown of our society and the rapidly accelerating sexual perversity than God's judgment. The only solution is the Bible. So instead of persuading Christians to accept the societal marginalization of