

## Church Calendar

### Sunday, December 1

8:30 AM **MORNING WORSHIP**  
 9:50 AM Children's Chapel  
 10:00 AM **SUNDAY SCHOOL**  
 11:00 AM **MORNING WORSHIP**  
 4:00 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal  
 5:00 PM Christmas Music Rehearsal  
 5:30 PM Season of Prayer in the Chapel  
 6:00 PM **EVENING WORSHIP**  
 6:00 PM Wee Worship Choir  
 7:15 PM Congregational Informational Budget Meeting  
 7:45 PM **CHURCHWIDE FELLOWSHIP SUPPER**  
 A-J Main Course \* K-Z Side Dishes  
*Everyone please bring one 2-liter drink.*

### Monday, December 2

6:00 PM Diaconate Meeting  
 7:00 PM Senior High Girls' B'ball game at St. George  
 8:00 PM Senior High Boys' B'ball game at home

### Tuesday, December 3

10:00 AM WIC Bible Study  
 4:00 PM Midget Girls' Basketball practice  
 6:00 PM Evangelism Explosion Training  
 6:00 PM WIC Wreath Making

### Wednesday, December 4

6:30 AM Men's Bible Study  
 4:30 PM I-Mites Basketball practice  
 5:00 PM WIC Council  
 5:00 PM Pastoral Care Committee Meeting  
 5:45 PM **FAMILY NIGHT FELLOWSHIP SUPPER**  
 6:15 PM Covenant Choir  
 6:20 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**  
 7:45 PM Gingerbread House Tutorial  
 8:30 PM Sr. High Boys' Basketball practice

### Thursday, December 5

9:30 AM WIC Precepts  
 6:00 PM Christmas Worship at Perry Correctional  
 7:00 PM Jr. High Boys' Basketball practice

### Friday, December 6

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

### Saturday, December 7

8:30 AM I-Mites Basketball game at Finlay  
 9:30 AM Midget Girls' Basketball game at St. Matthews  
 9:30 AM Jr. High Boys' Basketball game at ARBC  
 10:00 AM Christmas Choir Dress Rehearsal & Party  
 2:00 PM Senior Girls' Basketball practice

## Upcoming Events

Nov. 28-29 Church Office Closed  
 Dec. 1 Congregational Informational Meeting to discuss 2014 Budget  
 Dec. 1 Churchwide Fellowship Supper  
 Dec. 2 Diaconate Meeting  
 Dec. 3 WIC Wreath-making  
 Dec. 4 WIC Council  
 Dec. 4 Pastoral Care Committee Meeting  
 Dec. 4 Gingerbread House Contest Tutorial  
 Dec. 7 Christmas Music rehearsal/choir party  
 Dec. 8 Called Congregational Meeting to elect Deacons and receive and support 2014 Budget  
 Dec. 8 Music of JS Bach at evening service  
 Dec. 9 Session Meeting  
 Dec. 10-11 WIC Circles Christmas parties  
 Dec. 11 Missions' Committee Meeting  
 Dec. 11 Gingerbread House Contest  
 Dec. 13 Jr. High Christmas Party  
 Dec. 15 The Lord's Supper at the evening service  
 Dec. 16 Young At Heart Christmas Luncheon  
 Dec. 18 Family Night Christmas Dinner and Program  
 Dec. 19 Jessamines Christmas Party  
 Dec. 20 Sr. High Christmas Party  
 Dec. 20 College & Career 20's & 30's Christmas Party  
 Dec. 22 Evangelism/Church Growth Committee  
 Dec. 23 Youth Christmas Caroling  
 Dec. 24 Lessons & Carols  
 Dec. 24-27 Church Office Closed  
 Dec. 25 No Wednesday evening activities  
 Dec. 29 Christmas Hymn Sing  
 Dec. 31 Church Office Closed  
 Dec. 31-Jan. 4 Church Gym Closed for Floor Refinishing

## Scripture Reading for the Week

Psalm 145:1-5

*I will extol you, my God and King, and bless your name forever and ever. Everyday I will bless you and praise your name forever and ever. Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised, and his greatness is unsearchable. One generation shall commend your works to another, and shall declare your mighty acts. On the glorious splendor of your majesty, and on your wondrous works, I will meditate. (ESV)*

## Remembering One Another

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

**Luella Henderson**  
 The Haven, Room 414  
 355 Berkman's Lane  
 Greenville, SC 29605

## Praying For One Another

Remember in prayer this week the following members.

**Martin and Kathy Whigham**  
 Laura  
  
**Ramona White**  
 Linda Whitmire

## Missionary of the Week

**BECKY WHITE**  
**CHRIST COLLEGE, TAIWAN**

### PLEASE PRAY:

- **My Health** – I'm finishing antibiotics for a nasty cold/flu because such things often turn into bronchitis, asthma and sinus infections for me. Thank God for good medical care. Pray for good health & energy.
- **Mother & Dad** – Thank God both are doing fairly well. Pray for more interaction with CC students.
- **Next Semester** – We have already lined up teachers for next semester, and we're pleased to welcome back three MTW teachers, Roger & Linda Rowe and Ramona White, who plan to arrive in January. Judy Alexander will also return from her Home Ministry Assignment. In December we'll say good-bye to other MTW people, Marty Baas and Jane Smith. We hope to have Jonathan & Kathleen Shumate in the summer.
- **Seniors** – Pray as they prepare "The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe," to be performed Dec. 16 at CC. Pray for the drama itself, but also for relationships and communication as the performance stress grows! Pray that each one may come into a deeper relationship with Jesus. Pray for outreach to our community.

## WIC Decorating Day

The WIC ladies will be decorating the church for Christmas on Saturday, November 30th at 9:30 am until. 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).

## Congregational Meetings

- The Session has called an Informational Congregational Meeting on Sunday, Dec. 1, immediately following the evening worship service. David Rainey, Church Treasurer will present the 2014 budget.
- The Session has called a Congregational Meeting on Sunday, Dec. 8th, at 10:00 am to elect Deacons and to receive and support the 2014 budget.

## WIC Circles' Christmas Parties

**WIC Circle 3** will meet at the home of Grace Cooley on December 10th. Members may meet at the church parking lot at 10 am to car pool.

**WIC Circle 5** will meet at the home of Lynne Outzs on December 10th at 11:30 am.

## Jessamines' Christmas Party

Jessamine girls and moms are invited to the home of Sarah Grubbs on Thursday, Dec. 19th at 7 pm. We will celebrate the amazing gift of God's son as we sing Christmas carols, turn our hearts to Mary's song of praise in God's Word, share delicious desserts, and craft ornaments for our beloved shut ins. Please bring a favorite Christmas cookie and dessert to share. If you play a musical instrument (mom, or daughter), bring it along to play during our Christmas carol singing. Kindly RSVP to Sharon Phillips at 864-569-8765. Merry Christmas!

Join us for a special presentation of  
*"Music of J. S. Bach"*  
Sunday, December 8, 2013  
at our 6:00 evening worship service.  
*Please invite family and friends to share in this special service to the glory of God.*



## Gingerbread House Contest



Wednesday, December 11, 5:45 pm  
Categories: Difficulty, Most Creative and Theme  
Age Groups:

(3-7 yrs. old) (8-12 yrs. old) (13-17 yrs. old) (18 yrs.-adult)  
1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners for each age group.

Each contestant will need a Gingerbread Packet which will include rules, recipes and other instructions.

See Jessica LaBombard for packets.

There will be a tutorial presented on Wednesday, Dec. 4th immediately following the evening worship service.

The tutorial will help anyone making a house for the first time, or perhaps just wanting new creative tips.

## 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. 12th. 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 # \_\_\_\_\_

## WIC Wreath-Making Party



WIC invites women and girls of all ages to our Annual Wreath-Making Party on Tuesday, December 3, 6:00 PM, in the church gymnasium. An evening of fellowship and fun will be had by all as we make Christmas wreaths. Please bring a simple dessert (cookies, etc.) to add to our festive party. The cost is \$10.00 per person for wreath and supplies. Cost is \$5.00 if you bring your own PVC wreath from a previous wreath-making party. **Please sign up** on the church bulletin boards or in your Sunday School Class. Also, bring enough greenery/berries, etc. to fill your wreath and share with others. Also, please bring your own clippers/gloves. If you have any questions please call Leslie Martin at 271-2022.

## Perry Correctional Worship

On Thursday, Dec. 5, 2013, at 6 pm, Second Church will be leading a Christmas worship service at Perry Correctional. We will also be handing out a hygiene bag to 250 inmates from the dorm we are sponsoring. We need volunteers to help with the distribution and to sing in a small choir. If you would like to attend, please call Bill Watkins at 304-4737. The prison must run a background check, so even if you are simply contemplating attending, please get your name to Bill Watkins so he can get the paperwork in asap.

## College & Career 20s and 30s

### CHRISTMAS PARTY

Friday, December 20th, 6:00 - 9:00 pm

Gather with friends and celebrate the season at the home of  
Rob and Beth Gustafson

15 Grove Valley Way, Greenville, SC 29605

Bring your favorite holiday side dish or dessert!

RSVP: marjorieelizabethgustafson@gmail.com

Home: 864-438-1050

**Church Office will be closed  
November 28th and 29th.**

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 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 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

**CE COMMITTEE MEETINGS HAVE BEEN CANCELLED**

For the months of November and December the Christian Education Committee will not be meeting.

**LOOKING FOR AN ALTERNATIVE TO BOY/GIRL SCOUTS?**

Something big is coming to Greenville—Trail Life USA and American Heritage Girls in January, 2014. There will be a parents' informational meeting Tuesday, December 3rd at 7pm at our sister church, Devenger Road Presbyterian Church for those interested. Everyone is invited to attend. Devenger Road Presbyterian Church (Associate Reformed) is located at 1200 Devenger Road, Greer. For more information please e-mail the secretary at amandarmalphrus@hotmail.com or call the pastor at 864-350-4395. Trail Life USA and American Heritage Girls are conservative, Christian organizations dedicated to character and leadership development in young men and women and are the conservative alternatives to Boy Scouts and Girls Scouts of America. For more information on these two wonderful organizations please visit their websites at <http://ahgonline.org/> and <http://www.traillifeusa.com/>.

**SECOND PRESBYTERIAN ARTWORK**

This past summer renowned artist Susan Wilhoit painted a picture of SPC Greenville as a part of a series on historic PCA churches. It is currently being exhibited in the library. If you are interested in purchasing this the Church Administrator can provide information to you.

**MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES**

*Can you serve in one of these ways at Second Presbyterian Church?*

- Nursery Greeter
- Children Chapel Piano Player
- Children's Church Ministry Helper/Coordinator
- Nursery Age Sunday School Substitute
- Usher
- Social Media Content Provider
- Wednesday Night Cleanup Crew Member
- Youth Events, host a fourth Friday program

If so, Contact the Church Administrator  
**864.232.7621 ext. 14**

-The Editor



## George Washington's Thanksgiving Proclamation

*Whereas* it is the duty of all nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God, to obey His will, to be grateful for His benefits, and humbly to implore His protection and favor; and

*Whereas* both Houses of Congress have, by their joint committee, requested me to "recommend to the people of the United States a day of public thanksgiving and prayer, to be observed by acknowledging with grateful hearts the many and signal favors of Almighty God, especially by affording them an opportunity peaceably to establish a form of government for their safety and happiness:"

*Now, therefore,* I do recommend and assign Thursday, the 26th day of November next, to be devoted by the people of these States to the service of that great and glorious Being who is the beneficent author of all the good that was, that is, or that will be; that we may then all unite in rendering unto Him our sincere and humble thanks for His kind care and protection of the people of this country previous to their becoming a nation; for the signal and manifold mercies and the favorable interpositions of His providence in the course and conclusion of the late war; for the great degree of tranquility, union, and plenty which we have since enjoyed; for the peaceable and rational manner in which we have been enable to establish constitutions of government for our safety and happiness, and particularly the national one now lately instituted for the civil and religious liberty with which we are blessed, and the means we have of acquiring and diffusing useful knowledge; and, in general, for all the great and various favors which He has been pleased to confer upon us.

*And also that* we may then unite in most humbly offering our prayers and supplications to the great Lord and Ruler of Nations and beseech Him to pardon our national and other transgressions; to enable us all, whether in public or private stations, to perform our several and relative duties properly and punctually; to render our National Government a blessing to all the people by constantly being a Government of wise, just, and constitutional laws, discreetly and faithfully executed and obeyed; to protect and guide all sovereigns and nations (especially such as have shown kindness to us), and to bless them with good governments, peace, and concord; to promote the knowledge and practice of true religion and virtue, and the increase of science among them and us; and, generally to grant unto all mankind such a degree of temporal prosperity as He alone knows to be best.

*Given under my hand,* at the city of New York, the 3d day of October, A.D. 1789.

## The Second Presbyterian Church

105 River Street  
Greenville, South Carolina 29601-2537

Return Service Requested

### WORSHIP AT SECOND THE LORD'S DAY

December 1, 2013

MORNING WORSHIP  
8:30 & 11:00 AM

### IN THE CARE OF THE ALMIGHTY

Psalms 138

Hymns: 53, 76, 642

Anthem: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel  
Rev. Robert E. Spears preaching

EVENING WORSHIP  
6:00 PM

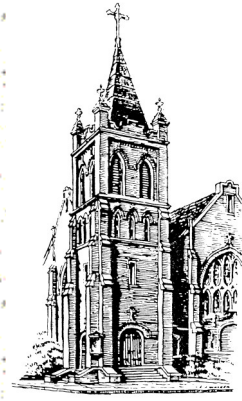
### THE NECESSITY OF PERSECUTION

Matthew 5:10-12

Hymns: 194, 347, 94

Psalter: Psalm 37 (verses 20-28)  
Rev. Seth T. Starkey preaching

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# The West End Herald

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## The Second Presbyterian Church

Corner of River and Rhett Streets  
Greenville, South Carolina

November 25, 2013

## 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."