

Spotlight on Ministry

SPORTS & FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE (of the Diaconate)

We are so appreciative of the Sports & Fellowship Committee which is responsible for a variety of congregational events and fellowship at Second Church. Kip Altman* is chairman of the committee for 2014. Listed below is the full membership.

*C. Kipling Altman
Kevin L. Worley
Timothy E. Johnson
Louie J. LaBombard

Called Meetings Only

The Sports & Fellowship Committee participates with the Christian Education Committee (of the Session) in scheduling and coordinating the use of the facility and oversees the relationship with approved Partner Ministry Groups.

MAJOR MINISTRY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Annual Review of approved "SPC Partner Ministry Groups"
- Church League Basketball for Youth
- Sports Banquet
- Graduation Banquet
- July 4th Picnic
- Ice Cream Socials
- Fall Picnic
- Valentines Banquet
- Other special events (Receptions)

The Second Presbyterian Church

105 River Street
Greenville, South Carolina 29601-2537

Return Service Requested

WORSHIP AT SECOND THE LORD'S DAY

March 9, 2014

MORNING WORSHIP
8:30 & 11:00 AM

BLESSING FOR BLESSING

Ephesians 1:3

Hymns: 44, 457, 521

Anthem: Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart
Dr. Richard D. Phillips preaching

EVENING WORSHIP
6:00 PM

FAITH FIXED ON JESUS

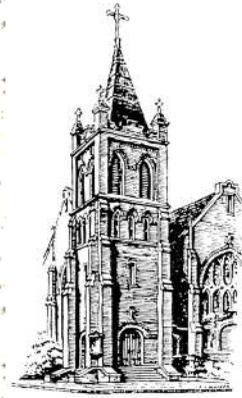
Hebrews 12:1-2

Hymns: 642, 529, 523

Psalter: Psalm 44 (verses 1-8)

Dr. Richard D. Phillips preaching

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The West End Herald

Vol. CXXII, Edition 9

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

March 3, 2014

Letter from the Senior Minister

Questions About Worship at Second Church

Occasionally I am asked questions about our worship service and I am always happy to give an answer. (Let me say, in general, that I never mind being asked honest questions about the church, theology, or Christian living. Please don't ask me about South Carolina college football, however, as I'm trying to maintain a pastoral relationship with Clemson and Carolina supporters alike!) Here are some common questions about worship; I hope my answers are a help to those who have been wondering:

Question: Why do our ministers wear robes?

Answer: Our ministers wear robes during worship services because they are exercising a formal office in the Church. Policemen, soldiers, and even doctors and nurses wear uniforms when on duty, and our ministers are likewise officers on duty, having been set apart for the ministry of Word and sacrament as they lead the church in sacred worship. The Puritan Thomas Watson wrote: "As a king speaks by his ambassadors, know that in every sermon preached, God calls to you; and to refuse the message we bring is to refuse God himself." In keeping with the long tradition of Reformed churches, the robes serve to remind church members of this divinely-given authority, rather than an authority based on the preacher's personality, charisma, or public stature.

Question: Isn't the reciting of creeds merely an exercise in tradition? How is this relevant today?

Answer: I don't know about you, but I never "recite" the creed. Instead, I stand shoulder to shoulder with the saints of

HOMECOMING ON THE LORD'S DAY

What a special Sunday we had this past week. David White came home and sang for us with his marvelous Georgia Boy Choir. The GBC has very quickly become one of the premiere groups of its kind in the South. This summer they will be the ensemble-in-residence at St Paul Cathedral in London.

A special thanks to all our GBC Host Families:

- Joel & Alice Barnett
- Joe & Monica Bianchi
- Mike & Diana Carey
- John & Karen Gray
- Scott & Sarah Grubbs
- Jimmy & Tammy Looper
- Ron & Carolyn McNeely
- Bill & Sue O'Brien
- Walter & Marcia Russell
- Dale & Tamara Savidge
- Kevin & Cindy Worley

We also welcomed Gabriel Fluhrer to the pulpit. Gabe is *almost finished* with his WTS PHD program. We look forward to celebrating with him in the months to come when he accomplishes this long pursued goal. He will be the 3rd "son of the church" to earn this kind of theological degree joining Duncan Rankin and Ligon Duncan in the achievement and one of some 30 former SPC members who are actively serving in full time gospel ministry within a reformed denomination.

-The Editor 

all ages as we join our voices in *proclaiming* the great Christian faith. By confessing our faith together we glorify God, we implant important truths in our minds, and we make a point of standing together with the one, universal Christian Church of all ages, joined by the faith we confess. The creed is therefore a highlight of worship for me, and I hope it will be for you, too.

Question: Speaking of creeds, why do we omit the phrase, "He descended into hell," from the Apostles' Creed?

Answer: It is true that we use a form of the Apostles' Creed that omits this phrase, an omission that is common in Southern Presbyterian church history. The reason is that this item was a late addition to the Apostles' Creed and, while we would affirm a correct understanding of it, this phrase has some unhelpful ambiguity as to its meaning. Moreover, unlike all the other events of Jesus' life in the creed – born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, crucified, died and was buried, and rose from the grave – the Bible provides no clear teaching on the experience of Jesus' soul during his three days in death. It thus has seemed best to us, along with many others, to omit this phrase from the Apostles' Creed. (While I'm on the Apostles' Creed, *catholic* means *universal*, not *Roman Catholic*).

Question: What about the phrase, "We believe in one baptism for the remission of sins?" Does that suggest baptismal regeneration or some similar error?

Answer: The Nicene Creed is the oldest recorded confession of the church, arising out of the Council of Nicaea and its aftermath, and is a great statement of faith of the early church. We should try to interpret it correctly before we presume to revise it. The statement relating baptism to the washing of our sins is a direct quotation from the Bible (Acts 22:16). We should note, however, the creed relates baptism to the remission of sins by a preposition ("for") that is general in nature. We teach that baptism is a symbol of the washing of our sins, and declares this by confessing our belief in "baptism for the remission of our sins."

Question: Is the benediction biblical? Doesn't the benediction make the minister out to be a sort of priest invoking God's blessing on the congregation?

Answer: Yes, the benediction is biblical, but, no, it does not involve the priestly invocation of blessing. The biblical precedent for benedictions is found in the apostolic letters (in fact, our

benedictions are taken from these letters), which often end in words of pastoral blessing (*benediction* means "word of blessing"). Our benedictions are not *invocational* – that is, the minister does not have authority to make the blessing so. Rather, the benediction is declarative: God's blessing is declared upon the believing congregation from the Word of God. The benediction also takes the form of a prayer by the minister for the congregation, as is evident with the words that I always use in my benedictions: "May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you."

Question: Why do we confess our sins as a congregation? Isn't the use of a prayer of confession just rote repetition?

Answer: Again, it is not rote repetition for me. Worship always requires us to invest our hearts, and this is especially true of the prayer of confession. This is a most important part of our corporate worship, because we as a church are coming into the presence of the holy God for the sacred ordinance of gathered worship, and we can only be accepted through the atoning blood of Christ. The confession of sin preaches the good news that however bad we know we are, through the blood of Christ even such wretched and wicked sinners as you and me are received into God's love and can expect God's blessing in our time of worship.

May the Lord bless you all this week.

In Christ's Love,
Pastor Rick Phillips



CHURCH INFORMATION

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

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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

Sports' Banquet News

Congratulations to all the players, coaches, and parents for a successful basketball season. At the Annual Sports Banquet on February 26, special recognition went to:

Miss Callie Therrell
for winning the Henry Elrod Award
for outstanding senior girl

Mr. Caleb Evans
for winning the James Orders Award
for outstanding senior boy.

Players, please return your clean jersey to coaches.
Coaches, please fold and put the jerseys in the athletics closet in the gym.

Special Thanks

*Dear SPC Church family,
Many have asked about my mom, Doris Brouse, over the past two months since she fell and broke her pelvic bone. Mom is healing very well and has regained much of her strength. She has been shut in due to the fall and the extremely rough winter in Michigan this year, but is so happy to be back at home and taking care of herself. I am humbled by your prayers for her, and thankful for God's gracious care and answered prayers for her.*

Sincerely, Janet Braeckelaere

Showering with Love

*WIC
cordially invites you to a
Wedding Shower
for*

Nicole Wilson Laughter

Saturday, March 29, 2014

10:00 am - 11:30 am

Fellowship Hall

ANNUAL VALENTINE'S BANQUET

"The Memory of Love"
Friday, March 7, 2014 * 6:30 pm
Church Gymnasium

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

Nursery provided for children under 12.

Please make reservations by Wednesday, March 5,
with Ken Safford or Robert Spears.

You may also bring a check to the church office or pay online.
Make checks payable to Second Presbyterian Church.

Membership Class

MEMBERSHIP CLASS SCHEDULE

March 9	Reformed Worship
March 16	Membership Vows <i>(taught by TE Robert E. Spears)</i>
March 23	Presbyterian History <i>(taught by Dr. Barry Waugh)</i>
March 30/ April 6	Elder interviews for membership
April 13	New Members' Reception and Luncheon

Easter Lilies

If you would like to order an Easter Lily to place in the church on Easter Sunday in memory or honor of someone special, please fill out the form below and place in the church office in Judy Grant's mail box along with \$8.00 for each lily.

I would like to place _____ (how many) Easter Lily(ies) in the church on Easter Sunday:

In Honor of: _____

In Memory of: _____

Name: _____ Telephone # _____

Amount enclosed: \$ _____

Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed to help with prep and cleanup for our Wednesday night meals. If you would be willing to help in this area of service please contact Kip Altman by email (ckaltman@yahoo.com) or calling (864-292-3353). Thank you.

Memorial Flowers

The 2014 Roster for memorial flowers has been compiled and there are still quite a few openings available throughout the year. If you would like to sign up to put memorial flowers in the sanctuary on a particular Sunday in honor or memory of someone please call the church office or see Judy Bishop.

Peru Mission Trip

In you are interested in going on the mission trip to Peru this summer (June 6-13, 2014) please contact Pastor Spears (430-7389) as soon as possible.

Upcoming Graduates

If you are an upcoming graduate (May or December) or you know someone in the church who is, please contact the church office (ext. 10 or jgrant@spcgreenville.org). We want to be sure we recognize all our graduates at our upcoming banquet in May.

Young At Heart

The monthly luncheon and program of Young At Heart will be Monday, March 17th at 11:45 am in the Fellowship Hall. The catered meal is \$7.00 per person, payable at the door. Jerry Step, organist at a local Greenville church, will entertain us with a special musical program.

Greenville Seminary's

Spring Theology Conference March 11-13
O. Palmer Robertson, Joel Beeke, Ben Shaw,
Jim McGoldrick, Derek Thomas, Joseph Pipa

Church Calendar

Sunday, March 9

8:30 AM **MORNING WORSHIP**
 9:45 AM Membership Class
 9:50 AM Children's Chapel
 10:00 AM Communicants' Class
 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, March 10

6:30 PM Session Meeting

Tuesday, March 11

10:00 AM Circles 1 & 3 meet at the church
 2:30 PM Circle 5 meets at the church
 6:00 PM Evangelism Explosion
 7:00 PM Circle 2 meets at Tammy Looper's
 7:00 PM Circle 4 meets at the church

Wednesday, March 12

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
 6:20 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**
 7:00 PM Elder Training

Thursday, March 13

9:30 AM WIC Precepts

Friday, March 14

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

Scripture Reading for the Week

Psalm 18:1-3

The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple; the precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes. (ESV)

Upcoming Events

March 5	WIC Council
March 5	Pastoral Care Committee Meeting
March 7	Rescheduled Valentine Banquet
March 9	Daylight Savings Time begins
March 10	Session Meeting
March 11-12	WIC Circles
March 12	Missions' Committee Meeting
March 16	The Lord's Supper at the morning services
March 16	Worship & Music Committee Meeting
March 17	Young At Heart
March 19	Administration Committee Meeting
March 20	Spring begins
March 23	Evangelism/Church Growth Committee
March 26	CE Committee Meeting
March 28	Jr. High Fellowship
March 28	Sr. High Fellowship
March 29	WIC Shower for Nicole Wilson Laughter
March 30	Called Session Meeting



DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS
MARCH 9. Turn clocks ahead 1 hour.

Mark Your Calendars

May 7	Graduation Banquet
May 14	CAT Kids Program
June 6-13	Mission Trip to Peru
June 7-14	Mission Trip-MTW Cherokee, NC
June 17-20	General Assembly—Houston, TX
June 23-27	Vacation Bible School
July 4	Church Picnic
July 7-12	Sr. High trip to Edisto Island
July 14-18	Mission Trip—Calvary Home
July 21-25	Jr. High Trip to Ridge Haven

Mark your calendars and plan early!

www.spcgreenville.org

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.

Roy and Edna Heath
 17 Green Hill Drive
 Simpsonville, SC 29681
 963-5824

Praying For One Another

Remember in prayer this week the following members.

Larry and Marsha Briggs
Ken

Judy Brigman

Don and Molly Bulla

Missionary of the Week

Scott & Ruth Hill
MTW Cherokee, NC

"We believe God is working in Cherokee and we are excited to be a part of what He is doing. We are working through various ideas for new outreach opportunities here in Cherokee. We will keep you updated as we see things develop, but for now we would simply ask you to pray that God would give us clear direction on the avenues to pursue and the ones that need to be placed on the back burner for a season. Our heart's great desire is to see the gospel go forth and for lives to be changed through the ministry of His word. We know that God uses some to plant, some to water, but the increase belongs to Him."

Prayer Needs:

- Pray for safety as we travel to meet with churches and individuals.
- Pray for God's wisdom as we plan for and seek future ministry opportunities in Cherokee.
- Pray for God's protection over our home as we travel.
- Pray for us as we make plans for the many summer teams who will come to minister in Cherokee.
- Pray for God to continue opening doors for us to meet people and build relationships in Cherokee.