

## Church Calendar

### Sunday, January 11

8:30 AM **MORNING WORSHIP**  
 9:50 AM Children's Chapel  
 10:00 AM **SUNDAY SCHOOL**  
 11:00 AM **MORNING WORSHIP**  
 5:30 PM Season of Prayer in the Chapel  
 6:00 PM **EVENING WORSHIP**  
 7:30 PM Worship & Music Committee Meeting

### Tuesday, January 13

10:00 AM WIC Circles 1 & 3 meet at the church  
 2:30 PM WIC Circle 5 meets at the church  
 5:00 PM I-Mites Basketball practice  
**Joint Session/Diaconate Meeting**  
 6:00 PM Supper  
 7:00 PM Meeting  
 6:30 PM Jr. High Boys' Basketball practice  
 7:00 PM WIC Circle 2 meets at Tammy Loopers'  
 7:00 PM WIC Circle 4 meets at the church

### Wednesday, January 14

6:30 AM Men's Bible Study  
 4:30 PM Mites' Basketball practice  
 5:30 PM Missions' Committee Meeting  
 5:45 PM **FAMILY NIGHT FELLOWSHIP SUPPER**  
 6:15 PM Hope Choir (4 yrs. old - Kindergarten)  
 6:15 PM Children's Choir (1st-4th grade)  
 6:15 PM Covenant Choir (5th-8th grade)  
 6:15 PM Youth Ensemble (Sr. High & College)  
 6:55 PM CAT Kids  
 6:55 PM Covenant Kids  
 6:55 PM Sr. High Bible Study  
 6:55 PM WIC Circle 6  
 6:55 PM **PRAYER MEETING FOR ALL ADULTS**  
 7:25 PM College & 20's Class  
 7:25 PM **ADULT BIBLE STUDY**  
 7:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal  
 8:00 PM Sr. High Boys' Basketball practice

### Thursday, January 15

4:00 PM Jr. High Girls' Basketball practice  
 6:00 PM Evangelism Explosion Training

### Friday, January 16

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

### Saturday, January 17

2:00 PM Senior High Girls' Basketball practice

## Upcoming Events

Jan. 11 Worship & Music Committee Meeting  
 Jan. 13 Joint Session/Diaconate Meeting  
 Jan. 13-14 WIC Circles  
 Jan. 14 Missions Committee Meeting  
 Jan. 18 The Lord's Supper at the morning services  
 Jan. 19 Young At Heart  
 Jan. 21 Administration Committee Meeting  
 Jan. 22 WIC Bible Study begins  
 Jan. 23 Jr. High Fellowship  
 Jan. 24 Calvary Presbytery  
 Jan. 25 Evangelism/Church Growth Committee  
 Jan. 28 CE Committee Meeting  
 Jan. 28 Called Session Meeting  
 Jan. 30 WIC Game Night in Fellowship Hall

## Mark Your Calendars

### 2015 MINISTRIES AND ACTIVITIES

June 8-12 General Assembly-Chattanooga, TN  
 June 13-20 Mission Trip to MTW-Cherokee  
 June 22-26 Vacation Bible School  
 July 6-11 Sr. High trip to Edisto Island  
 July 13-17 Mission Trip to Calvary Home  
 July 17-25 Mission Trip-Cajamarca Peru  
 July 20-24 Jr. High trip to Ridge Haven

*Mark Your Calendars and Plan Early!!*

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

## Scripture Reading for the Week

Psalm 130:7-8

*O Israel, hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is  
 steadfast love, and with him is plentiful redemption.  
 And he will redeem Israel from all his iniquities. (ESV)*

## Remembering One Another

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

**Sara Cater**  
 11 Colgate Avenue  
 Greenville, SC 29617  
 246-3292

## Praying For One Another

Remember in prayer this week the following members.

**Richard and Sharon Phillips**  
**Hannah, Matthew, Jonathan, Ellie, Lydia**

**Larry and Judy Pitts**

**Steve and Sheryl Plating**

## Missionary for the Week

### SPC MISSIONS

- **EVANGELISM EXPLOSION:**  
 Pray for the team as they visit.  
 Pray the Lord will prepare the hearts of the people they visit.
- **GOOD NEWS CLUBS:**  
 (Augusta Circle Elementary & Kroc Center)  
 Pray for the leaders, teachers and volunteers.  
 Pray for the children to be receptive to receive the Good News.
- **OUR SUPPORT MISSIONARIES:**  
 Pray for safety, provisions, and fruitfulness.  
 Pray for good health.



### Basketball Schedule



Jan. 8	7:00 pm	Women	Christ Church
Jan. 8	8:00 pm	Men	AYMC
Jan. 10	8:30 am	Jr. High Girls	Christ Church
Jan. 10	10:30 am	Jr. High Boys	OLR
Jan. 10	1:30 pm	Mites	W. Pres. II
Jan. 12	8:00 pm	Sr. High Boys	W. Pres.

### 2015 Offering Envelopes

The 2015 offering envelopes are on a table outside the church library. **Please stop by and pick up your envelopes this week.** If you do not have offering envelopes, please contact the church office, ext. 18. The Diaconate ask that all members use offering envelopes for accounting purposes. Please use the 2015 envelopes beginning the first Sunday in January. Your 2015 envelope number may be different from the 2014 number.

### New Bible Study for Women

All ladies are invited to a new Bible Study beginning Thursday, January 22, 2015 and continuing for 10 weeks each Thursday morning from 9:30-11:30 am. Please join us as we study The Promised One: Seeing Jesus in Genesis by Nancy Guthrie. If you plan to attend please call Mary Russell (329-1670) or email (erussell1670@charter.net) as books need to be ordered.

### Memorial Flowers

If you would like to put flowers in the church sanctuary for our morning worship service on Sunday in honor of or in memory of someone special please contact Judy Bishop (246-0951). She will be compiling the 2015 list and there are still quite a few vacant Sundays.

### Young At Heart

The monthly luncheon of the Young At Heart will be Monday, January 19th at 11:45 am in the Fellowship Hall. The catered meal will be \$7.00 per person, payable at the door. Start your New Year by joining us for wonderful fellowship, delicious food, and very good programs. Our own Scott Cook will be our speaker at the January luncheon.

### Join the Choir!

The beginning of a new year is a terrific time to join the choir! The Chancel Choir resumes rehearsals this Wednesday, January 7. If you are interested in being a part of this vibrant ministry of singing and worship leadership, please contact Verlyn Smoker at the church office or call him at 864-979-9378. Visitors are most welcome and the only requirement for membership is a love for the Lord and the desire to sing His praises! Rehearsals take place in the choir room—directly beneath the Sanctuary—each Wednesday evening from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. Come and join your voice with ours!

### New Musical Opportunity for Children

Beginning this Wednesday evening, January 7, a new opportunity for the musical training of our covenant children will begin here at Second. The goal of this group, to be called the Hope Choir, is to provide an avenue for our young children, ages 4 to Kindergarten, to be encouraged and trained to sing and make music for the glory of God. Mrs. Sue O'Brien, who has extensive experience teaching music to children, will be leading this endeavor which will meet from 6:15 to 6:50 p.m. each Wednesday evening. To be eligible for involvement your child must have had their 4<sup>th</sup> birthday before January 1, 2015. We look forward to the participation of these young ones as they learn to use their voices and musical abilities to praise our glorious Lord. Due to this new group beginning the Wee Worship program on Sunday evenings is being discontinued.

### A Psalm for the New Year

#### A Prayer of Moses - a Man of God

Lord, You have been our dwelling place in all generations. Before the mountains were brought forth, Or ever You had formed the earth and the world, Even from everlasting to everlasting, You are God. You turn man to destruction, And say, "Return, O children of men." For a thousand years in Your sight are like yesterday when it is past, And like a watch in the night. You carry them away like a flood; They are like a sleep. In the morning they are like grass which grows up: In the morning it flourishes and grows up; In the evening it is cut down and withers. For we have been consumed by Your anger, And by Your wrath we are terrified. You have set our iniquities before You, Our secret sins in the light of Your countenance. For all our days have passed away in Your wrath; We finish our years like a sigh. The days of our lives are seventy years; And if by reason of strength they are eighty years, Yet their boast is only labor and sorrow; For it is soon cut off, and we fly away. Who knows the power of Your anger? For as the fear of You, so is Your wrath. So teach us to number our days, That we may gain a heart of wisdom. Return, O LORD! How long? And have compassion on Your servants. Oh, satisfy us early with Your mercy, That we may rejoice and be glad all our days! Make us glad according to the days in which You have afflicted us, The years in which we have seen evil. Let Your work appear to Your servants, And Your glory to their children. And let the beauty of the LORD our God be upon us, And establish the work of our hands for us; Yes, establish the work of our hands.



The first topic to consider is our reading of Genesis 1. It is frankly admitted by evolution supporters that anything like a literal reading of Genesis 1 rules out evolutionary theory. As Tim Keller wrote for *Biologos*: "To account for evolution we must see at least Genesis 1 as non-literal." I would alter that somewhat, since the issue really is not the absolute literalness of everything we read in Genesis. Rather the question is whether or not Genesis 1 is a historical narrative that intends to set forth a sequence of events. Evolution requires that Genesis 1 is teaching theology but not teaching history. But is this an acceptable categorization of Genesis 1?

First, though, does an historical Genesis 1 rule out evolution? The answer is Yes. Consider Genesis 1:21, which records that God created species by means of direct, special creation: "God created the great sea creatures and every living creature that moves, with which the waters swarm, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind." These "kinds" are species, which did not evolve from lower forms but were specially created by God. This special creation is highlighted in the case of the highest creature, man: "God created man in his own image; male and female he created them" (Gen. 1:27). If these verses are presenting a record of history, it is a history radically at odds with the history posed by evolutionary theory.

This raises the question as to the genre of Genesis 1. Literary scholars teach the widely accepted view that different kinds of literature cue different reading expectations. So what is the genre of Genesis 1? According to those who support evolution, Genesis 1 functions as a poetic rather than historical genre. The argument is that Genesis 1 employs highly stylized language and a repetitive structure. Keller's white paper argues that Genesis 1 is like the Song of Miriam in Exodus 15 or the Song of Deborah in Judges 5. It corresponds to more historical chapters by presenting a poetic rendition that must not be taken as the history itself. Just as Exodus 14 tells the history of the Red Sea crossing, followed by the Song of Miriam in Exodus 15, so does Genesis 1 relate to the more historically acceptable version of Genesis 2 (a subject that will be treated in a later article). Given this poetic form, Genesis 1 may be ruled out as teaching historical events.

The problem with this view is this: 1) there is a recognizable form to Old Testament poetry and; 2) Genesis 1 is not written in this form. You can see this by reading Genesis 1 and then reading the Song of Deborah.

Genesis 1:1-2 In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.



Judges 5:1-3 Then sang Deborah and Barak the son of Abinoam on that day: "That the leaders took the lead in Israel, that the people offered themselves willingly, bless the Lord! "Hear, O kings; give ear, O princes; to the Lord I will sing; I will make melody to the Lord, the God of Israel."

These passages are not written in the same genre. I would point out in passing, however, that while Judges 5 certainly is a poem, the history it presents is nonetheless true. This observation challenges the idea that to label a chapter as poetry serves immediately to remove its historical value. Judges 5:26 celebrates Jael slaying Sisera: "she struck Sisera; she crushed his head; she shattered and pierced his temple." That is pretty much what Judges 4:21 says happened.

While defending the historical potential of poetry, that subject is not germane to Genesis 1. The reason for this is that the Bible's first chapter has a different genre, namely, historical prose narrative. Old Testament poetry is shaped by parallelism and repetition. Consider Psalm 27:1: "The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid." Hebrew poetic parallelism involves the second line interpreting or expanding the meaning of the first. This is not what we see in the narrative of Genesis 1.

May the Lord bless you this week.

Pastor Rick Phillips

*This article originally appeared in a slightly different form on Reformation 21 online Magazine.*

**Creation Study Group, January 15th @ 7pm, Second Church  
"Can the Bible and Evolution Coexist?" Dr. Richard D. Phillips**

#### CHURCH INFORMATION

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

**Telephone:** 864.232.7621

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

#### Social Media

[facebook.com/spcgreenville](https://www.facebook.com/spcgreenville)  [twitter.com/spcgreenville](https://twitter.com/spcgreenville) 

**Fax:** (864) 232-7622 \* **Email:** [info@spcgreenville.org](mailto: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 - 6:55 PM  
Adult Bible Study - 7:25 PM

#### At the Corner of River and Rhett

#### 2015 Board of Deacons, Officers, Committees & Chairman

Class of 2015

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**Alan Farley, Sports & Fellowship**

**Marcus Laughter, Ushering**

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**Joe Martin, Stewardship & Finance**

#### New Deacons in Bold

*The Church of Jesus Christ needs gifted men to serve and lead His people. He may be calling you to this position of service. "For those who have served well as deacons obtain for themselves a high standing and great confidence in the faith that is in Christ Jesus." (Matthew 16:18) - Richard D. Phillips*

**Some historical and cultural moments.**

*The wise ministry leader will be looking ahead as watchmen—keeping an eye on both the sacred text and the calendar. Here are some key dates, anniversaries, and cultural events on my “watch list” that will shape the year ahead. By Dr. Don Sweeting of Reformed Theological Seminary.*

- Jan. 18 National Sanctity of Human Life Day
- Jan. 24 50th anniversary of the death of Winston Churchill
- Jan. 27 70th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz
- March 8 Daylight Savings Time begins
- March 20 Spring Begins
- April 9 150th anniversary of the end of the American Civil War, America’s bloodiest conflict
- April 23 10th anniversary of the First YOUTUBE video
- April 24 25th anniversary of the Hubble Space Telescope launch in 1990
- May Graduation month
- May 7 National Day of Prayer
- May 10 Mother’s Day
- May 27 75th anniversary of the Dunkirk Evacuation in WW2
- June 15 800th anniversary of the Magna Carta
- June 21 Father’s Day
- June 25 150th anniversary of the founding of China Inland Mission by Hudson Taylor
- June Various General Assemblies/Denominational Gatherings
- July 5 150th anniversary of the founding of the Salvation Army
- July 6 600th anniversary of the burning of Czech reformer Jan Hus
- July NASA’s New Horizons spacecraft, launched in 2006 reaches Pluto.
- Sept. 23 Fall begins
- Sept. 23 See You at the Pole (high school students prayer gathering)
- September Queen Elizabeth II overtakes Queen Victoria as the longest reigning British monarch
- September Pope Francis makes his first papal visit to the USA
- Oct. 15-19 Parliament of the World’s Religions convenes in Salt Lake City
- Oct. 31 Sometime in 2015 will be the 500th anniversary of Martin Luther lecturing on Romans.
- Nov. 1 Daylight Savings ends
- Nov. 3 Off year election day
- Nov. 8 International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church
- Nov. 12 400th anniversary of the birth of Richard Baxter
- Nov. 17-19 ETS (Evangelical Theological Society) Annual Meeting in Atlanta
- Nov. 22-29 National Bible Week
- Dec. 8 50th anniversary of Vatican II
- Dec. 18 Star Wars: The Force Awakens

**The Second Presbyterian Church**

105 River Street  
Greenville, South Carolina 29601-2537

**Return Service Requested**

**WORSHIP AT SECOND  
THE LORD’S DAY  
January 11, 2015**

**MORNING WORSHIP**  
8:30 & 11:00 AM

**UNSEARCHABLE RICHES**

Ephesians 3:7-9

Hymns: 37, 243, 465

Anthem: Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven  
Dr. Richard D. Phillips preaching

**EVENING WORSHIP**  
6:00 PM

**HEZEKIAH’S PRAYER**

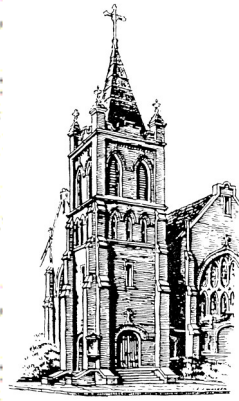
2 Kings 19:14-19

Hymns: 2, 627, 28

Psalter: Psalm 68 (verses 28-35)

Mr. Scott Cook preaching

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

January 5, 2015

**Letter from the Senior Minister  
Evolution vs. Genesis 1**

Given what World Magazine has called a "major, well-funded push" to promote the acceptance of evolution among evangelical Christians, the case must be persuasively made against the compatibility of evolution and the Bible. In answer to this pro-evolutionary stance, I am one of those Bible teachers who believe that the implications of evolution involve sweeping changes to the Christian faith and life.

While I appreciate the moderate spirit of many who want to find a way to accept evolution alongside the Bible, I find that the more radical voices are here more helpful. For instance, I share the view of Peter Enns in the conclusion to his book *The Evolution of Adam*, writing that "evolution... cannot simply be grafted onto evangelical Christian faith as an add-on," but requires a fundamental rethinking of doctrines pertaining to creation, humanity, sin, death, and salvation. But Christian ethics must also be revised. Enns writes that under evolution "some characteristics that Christians have thought of as sinful," including "sexual promiscuity to perpetuate one's gene pool," should now be thought of as beneficial. Even so foundational an issue as the Christian view of death must be remolded by evolution. An evolution-embracing Christian faith must now see death as an ally: "the means that promotes the continued evolution of life on this planet."

I am not a qualified scientist and have virtually nothing to contribute to the science involved in evolution. As a Bible teacher and theologian, my concern is the necessary beliefs that flow from the Word of God. For the ultimate issue involved with evolution is biblical authority: must the Bible submit to the superior authority of secularist dogma? Or may the believer still confess together with Paul: "Let God be true though everyone were a liar" (Rom. 3:4). From this perspective, I plan a short series of articles arguing against the idea that evolution is biblically acceptable.