

Church Calendar

Sunday, November 1

8:30 AM **MORNING WORSHIP**
 9:45 AM Membership Class
 9:50 AM Children's Chapel
 9:55 AM Diaconate Training
 10:00 AM **SUNDAY SCHOOL**
 11:00 AM **MORNING WORSHIP**
 3:00 PM Called Session Meeting
 5:30 PM Season of Prayer in the Chapel
 6:00 PM **EVENING WORSHIP**

Monday, November 2

6:00 PM Diaconate Meeting

Tuesday, November 3

10:00 AM WIC Bible Study
 5:00 PM Mites Basketball practice
 6:00 PM Evangelism Explosion Training
 6:30 PM Jr. High Boys' Basketball practice

Wednesday, November 4

5:00 PM WIC Council
 5:00 PM Pastoral Care Committee Meeting
 5:15 PM Youth Ensemble (7th-12th grades)
 5:30 PM **FAMILY NIGHT FELLOWSHIP SUPPER**
 6:15 PM Hope Choir (4 & 5 year olds)
 6:15 PM Covenant Choir (1st-6th grades)
 6:45 PM Diaconate Training
 6:55 PM **PRAYER MEETING FOR ALL ADULTS**
 6:55 PM CAT/Covenant Kids
 6:55 PM Jr. and Sr. High Bible Studies
 7:25 PM **BIBLE STUDY FOR ALL ADULTS**
 7:25 PM College & 20's Bible Study
 7:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal
 8:00 PM Called Session Meeting
 8:30 PM Sr. High Boys' Basketball practice

Thursday, November 5

9:30 AM WIC Precepts Bible Study
 9:30 AM WIC Bible Study
 6:00 PM Jessamines
 6:30 PM Midget Boys' Basketball practice

Friday, November 6

12:00 PM Men's Lunch and Bible Study

Saturday, November 7

6:30 AM Sr. High Girls' Basketball practice
 8:30 AM I-Mites Basketball practice

Scripture Reading for the Week

Psalm 111:4-5

He has caused his wondrous works to be remembered; the LORD is gracious and merciful. He provides food for those who fear him; he remembers his covenant forever. (ESV)

Upcoming Events

Oct. 28 CE Committee Meeting
 Oct. 28 REFORMATION PARTY
 Oct. 30 College & 20's Class Bonfire at the Loopers'
 Nov. 1 Daylight Savings Time Ends
 Nov. 1 Called Session Meeting
 Nov. 2 Diaconate Meeting
 Nov. 4 WIC Council
 Nov. 4 Pastoral Care Committee Meeting
 Nov. 4 Called Session Meeting
 Nov. 5 Jessamines
 Nov. 7 Basketball games begin
 Nov. 8 New Members Reception and Luncheon
 Nov. 8 Worship & Music Committee Meeting
 Nov. 9 Session Meeting
 Nov. 10-11 WIC Circles
 Nov. 11 Missions Committee Meeting
 Nov. 15 The Lord's Supper at the morning services
 Nov. 16 Young At Heart
 Nov. 18 CE Committee Meeting
 Nov. 18 Called Session Meeting
 Nov. 20 College & 20's Friends Giving
 Nov. 22 Evangelism/Church Growth Committee
 Nov. 22 Scott Cook's Ordination & Reception
 Nov. 25 THANKSGIVING SUPPER & SERVICE
 Nov. 26-27 Church Office Closed
 Nov. 28 WIC Decorating for Christmas
 Nov. 29 Congregation Informational Budget Meeting

Mark Your Calendars!

⇒ Perry Correctional Christmas	Dec. 8
⇒ Diaconate Election	Dec. 13
⇒ Chancel Choir Christmas Music	Dec. 13
⇒ Christmas Dinner/Program	Dec. 16
⇒ College & 20's Christmas party	Dec. 18
⇒ Lessons and Carols	Dec. 24
⇒ Christmas Hymn Sing	Dec. 27

Plan early and get your event on the church calendar!

We are asking that you get your event on the church calendar early as dates fill up fast. Call the church office (232-7621, ext. 10) or email (jgrant@spcgreenville.org).

Remembering One Another

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

Florence Dickerson
 The Haven
 355 Berkman's Lane, Room 203-B
 Greenville, SC 29605

Praying For One Another

Remember in prayer this week the following members.

Jimmy and Leigh Anna Compton
John, Laura, James, William

Scott and Christina Cook

Midge and Grace Cooley

Missionary for the Week

The Persecuted Church
International Day of Prayer—Nov. 8, 2015

- Pray for both the repentance and redemption of those engaged in evil against the Church and for God's intervention against their evil schemes.
- Pray for disruption to the terror cycle and that God would change the hearts of all those who persecute Christians.
- Pray for our persecuted brothers and sisters who live in fear daily under threat and for those who are imprisoned and sentenced to death because they have turned to Jesus.
- For God's protection to be upon the persecuted Christians in every way, guarding their bodies, minds and spirits.

 **Basketball Schedule for the Week** 

Nov. 2	6:00 pm	Sr. High Girls	Home
Nov. 2	8:00 pm	Sr. High Boys	Home
Nov. 5	7:00 pm	Women	ARP
Nov. 7	8:30 am	Jr. High Boys	St. George
Nov. 7	11:30 am	Midget Boys	Home
Nov. 7	1:00 pm	Mites	W. Pres. I

30 Days of Prayer for World Missions

30 Days of Prayer for November is designed to encourage prayer for the work of the gospel and the growth of the Church, especially in restricted-access countries and among unreached people groups. Brochures have been placed on the shelf outside the library as a guide for your prayer time. The International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church is November 8, 2015. Join us at 5:15 pm in the Chapel as we join millions of people around the world who will be "Hearing their Cry" and praying for the Persecuted Church.

Congratulations

Congratulations to the winners of the dessert contest at our annual Fall Picnic. All entries were wonderful but the following were this year's winners:

- This year there was a 3-way tie:
- Carolyn Fields
 - Caramel Apple Cheesecake
 - Caroline Mobley
 - Presbyterian Trifle
 - Mary Grace Mobley
 - Fall Pumpkin Bars

There will be a Congregation Informational Budget meeting on Nov. 29, 2015.

 **Daylight Savings Time Ends November 1st** 
Don't forget to turn your clocks back 1 hour Saturday Night.

New Members' Luncheon

All members and visitors are cordially invited to a luncheon honoring our new members, **Sunday, November 8, 2015** immediately following the 11:00 morning worship service in the church gymnasium. **Meat and drinks will be provided by the church.** Church members are asked to bring generous portions of side dishes (vegetables, salads, breads) and desserts.



Thanksgiving Dinner & Service
Wednesday, November 25
Dinner : 5:45 PM - Gym
Service: 7:00 PM - Sanctuary




Young At Heart

The November Young At Heart Thanksgiving Luncheon will be Monday, November 16th at 11:45 am in the Fellowship Hall. The cost of this delicious catered meal is \$8.00 per person payable at the door. Carol Gibson from the Swamp Rabbit Trail will be our guest speaker. Mark your calendars and don't miss this special time of fellowship and thanksgiving.

 **WIC will be decorating the church for Christmas on Saturday, Nov. 28th. Come join them as the ladies beautify the church for this Christmas season.** 

Pack a Shoe Box

Operation Christmas Child "The Power of A Simple Gift"
 Share God's love and the joy of Christmas by packing a gift-filled shoe box for a hurting child overseas. Your simple gift can make an eternal difference. Shoe boxes with instructions on how to pack a shoe box are located throughout the church. **Our goal this year is 300 shoeboxes, so we need your help.** Boxes need to be in the church office by November 15th. Contact Pat Tyner if you have any questions.

THE SHOEBOX
 After shoeboxes are packed, sent off with prayer and prepared for overseas shipment, they travel by plane, boat and truck to countries where local churches receive them with joy. Every gift-filled shoebox provides these churches with an opportunity for evangelism and discipleship in places they otherwise might never be received. As a result, the Gospel is transforming children, families and entire communities. Don't miss the opportunity to be a part of this process. National collection week is coming up Nov. 16-23.

Perry Correctional Christmas Party

On Saturday, December 5, 2015, Second Church will be participating in a Christmas celebration at Perry Correctional in Pelzer. Inmates will receive a meal, a bag with hygiene items, and a Gospel message. Volunteers are needed to help prepare the food, sing in a small choir, and distribute the hygiene bags. If you are interested in participating, please see Bill Watkins or contact him at 864-304-4737 or wm.watkins.jr@gmail.com. Paperwork must be filled out and submitted to the prison far ahead of the event, so let him know as soon as possible.

College & 20's Class

BONFIRE
 Friday, October 30th * 6-9pm
 Home of Jimmy and Tammy Lopper



The opponents of the gospel often picture the onward advance of secularization and of moral “freedom” as the inevitable march of historical progress. Christian orthodoxy is on the “wrong side of history.” They believe this, but, too often, so do we. The culture around us knows what it means when they see a church in perpetual outrage and bluster. They know that we are scared. How different this is from the mindset of Jesus himself.

The kindness of Jesus toward sinners is not that startling, at least on the surface. We know, after all, that Jesus was on a redemptive mission, even when it’s hard to see how we fit into that mission. But what is remarkable to me is Jesus’ kindness, at least on one occasion, to the devils themselves. When Jesus encountered the man of the graves, filled with unclean spirits, the Bible tells us the demons “begged him not to command them to depart into the abyss” (Lk. 8:31). The Scripture says that these spirits begged to be sent into a herd of pigs. My response would have been one of fear, I’m quite sure. These are, after all, terrifyingly dark beings, normally shielded from our perception. Jesus doesn’t panic. He exhibits as he does in all sorts of terrifying situations a calm tranquility. The Bible says, simply, “So he gave them permission” (Lk. 8:32).

Why? Jesus obviously was not seeking to redeem these spirits; the Bible says they are unredeemable, not even included in the atonement of Christ (Heb. 2:16). Jesus responded this way because he was not afraid. He was confident in his Father’s mission for him, and thus was free from the need, rooted in insecurity, to constantly prove himself.

If all we have to go on is what we see around us, then, of course, we will become scared and outraged, and our public witness will turn into an ongoing temper tantrum, designed just to prove to our opponents, and to ourselves, that we are still here. And in so doing we would employ the rhetorical tricks of other insecure movements: sarcasm, vitriol, ridicule. But we are not the voice of the past, of the Bible Belt to a post-Christian culture of how good things used to be. We are the voice of the future, of the coming kingdom of God. The message of the kingdom isn’t “You kids, get off our lawn.” The message of the kingdom, is, “Make way for the coming of the Lord.”



A gloomy view of culture leads to meanness. If we believe we are on the losing side of history, we slide into the rage of those who know their time is short. We have no reason to be fearful or sullen or mean. We’re not the losers of history. We are not slouching toward Gomorrah; we are marching to Zion. The worst thing that can possibly happen to us has already happened: we’re dead. We were crucified at Skull Place, under the wrath of God. And the best thing that could happen to us has already happened; we’re alive, in Christ, and our future is seated at the right hand of God, and he’s feeling just fine.

If the gates of hell can’t hold Jesus back, why would we be afraid of Hollywood or Capitol Hill? Times may grow dark indeed, but times have always been dark, since the insurrection of Eden. Nonetheless, the light shines in the darkness and the darkness has not, the darkness will not, the darkness cannot overcome it. The arc of history is long, but it bends toward Jesus.

This article is adapted from *Onward: Engaging the Culture Without Losing the Gospel* and is used by permission.



CHURCH INFORMATION

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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 - 6:55 PM
Adult Bible Study - 7:25 PM



WHAT IS THE GOSPEL? By RC Sproul

There is no greater message to be heard than that which we call the gospel. But as important as that is, it is often given to massive distortions or over simplifications. People think they're preaching the gospel to you when they tell you, 'you can have a purpose to your life', or that 'you can have meaning to your life', or that 'you can have a personal relationship with Jesus.' All of those things are true, and they're all important, but they don't get to the heart of the gospel.

The gospel is called the 'good news' because it addresses the most serious problem that you and I have as human beings, and that problem is simply this: God is holy and He is just, and I'm not. And at the end of my life, I'm going to stand before a just and holy God, and I'll be judged. And I'll be judged either on the basis of my own righteousness—or lack of it—or the righteousness of another. The good news of the gospel is that Jesus lived a life of perfect righteousness, of perfect obedience to God, not for His own well being but for His people. He has done for me what I couldn't possibly do for myself. But not only has He lived that life of perfect obedience, He offered Himself as a perfect sacrifice to satisfy the justice and the righteousness of God.

The great misconception in our day is this: that God isn't concerned to protect His own integrity. He's a kind of wishy-washy deity, who just waves a wand of forgiveness over everybody. No. For God to forgive you is a very costly matter. It cost the sacrifice of His own Son. So valuable was that sacrifice that God pronounced it valuable by raising Him from the dead – so that Christ died for us, He was raised for our justification. So the gospel is something objective. It is the message of who Jesus is and what He did. And it also has a subjective dimension. How are the benefits of Jesus subjectively appropriated to us? How do I get it? The Bible makes it clear that we are justified not by our works, not by our efforts, not by our deeds, but by faith—and by faith alone. The only way you can receive the benefit of Christ's life and death is by putting your trust in Him—and in Him alone. You do that, you're declared just by God, you're adopted into His family, you're forgiven of all of your sins, and you have begun your pilgrimage for eternity.

At the Corner of River and Rhett

Scott Cook sustained an excellent examination by Calvary Presbytery at its meeting last week. A special service of ordination is being planned on the evening of **November 22, 2015**. Scott will (DV) become Second Church's Minister of Families & Youth.

A man being tested for ministry within the PCA is examined in the following areas:

(1) A careful examination as to:

- (a) his acquaintance with experiential religion, especially his personal character and family management (based on the qualifications set out in 1 Tim. 3:1-7, and Titus 1:6-9),
- (b) his knowledge of the Greek and Hebrew languages,
- (c) Bible content,
- (d) theology,
- (e) the Sacraments,
- (f) Church history,
- (g) the history of the Presbyterian Church in America, and
- (h) the principles and rules of the government and discipline of the church.

A Presbytery may accept a seminary degree which includes study in the original languages in lieu of an oral examination in the original languages.

- (2) He shall prepare a thesis on some theological topic assigned by Presbytery.
- (3) The candidate shall prepare an exegesis on an assigned portion of Scripture, requiring the use of the original language or languages.
- (4) He shall further be required to preach a sermon before the Presbytery or committee thereof, upon three-fourths (3/4) vote.

~The Editor



The Second Presbyterian Church

105 River Street
Greenville, South Carolina 29601-2537

Return Service Requested

WORSHIP AT SECOND THE LORD'S DAY

November 1, 2015

MORNING WORSHIP

8:30 & 11:00

INTRODUCING...GOD

Genesis 1:1

Hymns: 8, 140, 44

Anthem: Thank the Lord

Dr. Richard D. Phillips preaching

EVENING WORSHIP

6:00 PM

TELL 'EM THAT GOD'S GONNA CUT 'EM DOWN

Habakkuk 2:5-20

Hymns: 382, 61, 660

Psalter: Psalm 93

Mr. Scott Cook preaching

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The Second Presbyterian Church

Corner of River and Rhett Streets
Greenville, South Carolina

October 26, 2015

How Confidence Makes Us Kind

By Dr. Russell Moore

President of the Ethics & Religious Liberty
Commission (Southern Baptist Convention)

How do we engage the culture with convictional kindness? How do we remain compassionate and loving, even in the face of intense opposition and hostility? If we're going to be obedient in this, we must have confidence.

Paul said that the false teachers were the equivalent of Jannes and Jambres, the Egyptian magicians who mimicked Moses' and Aaron's signs from God with their own occultist power (Exod. 7:11-12). God's servants authenticated their sending from God by transforming a staff into a writhing, living serpent. But Pharaoh's court magicians turned back their argument by doing the same thing. Exodus tells us simply, "But Aaron's staff swallowed up their staffs" (Exod. 7:12). That's the point. Paul concluded a section of horrifying pessimism with the words, "But they will not get very far" (2 Tim. 3:9). This is crucial.

"This country is spiritually in decline," or "If God doesn't judge this country, he will have to apologize to Sodom and Gomorrah." Writer Marilynne Robinson notes that those who speak in such a way rarely include themselves, or their circles of friends, in this assessment. It becomes another form of "us" versus "them" demarcation. Moreover, it feeds into a sort of apocalypticism that feels invigorating, like, she says, a panic attack—with a jolt of adrenaline to fire up the passions. But this hysteria is actually a betrayal of Christianity itself, since it assumes that history is ultimately in the hands of humanity.