

Church Calendar

Sunday, November 29

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 Congregation Informational Budget Meeting

Tuesday, December 1

10:00 AM WIC Bible Study
 4:30 PM I Mites Basketball practice
 5:30 PM Mites Basketball practice
 6:00 PM Evangelism Explosion Training
 6:30 PM Jr. High Boys' Basketball practice

Wednesday, December 2

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)
 6:55 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
 8:30 PM Sr. High Boys' Basketball practice

Thursday, December 3

9:30 AM WIC Bible Study & Luncheon
 6:00 PM Jessamines

Friday, December 4

12:00 PM Men's Lunch & Bible Study

Saturday, December 5

6:30 AM Senior High Girls' Basketball practice
 6:00 PM Perry Correctional Christmas Party
 Basketball games (see schedule in Herald)

Scripture Reading for the Week

Psalm 112:4-6

Light dawns in the darkness for the upright; he is gracious, merciful, and righteous. It is well with the man who deals generously and lends; who conducts his affairs with justice. For the righteous will never be moved; he will be remembered forever. (ESV)

Upcoming Events

Nov. 25	THANKSGIVING DINNER & SERVICE
Nov. 26-27	Church Office Closed
Nov. 28	WIC Decorating for Christmas
Nov. 29	Congregation Informational Budget Meeting
Dec. 2	NO WIC Council
Dec. 3	WIC Thursday Bible Study Luncheon
Dec. 3	Jessamines
Dec. 5	Perry Correctional Christmas Party
Dec. 7	Diaconate Meeting
Dec. 8	WIC Circle 3 Christmas Luncheon
Dec. 8	WIC Circle 5 Christmas Luncheon
Dec. 9	Pastoral Care Committee Meeting
Dec. 9	WIC Circle 6 Christmas Fellowship
Dec. 9	Missions Committee Meeting
Dec. 10	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Dec. 11	ACTS SS Class Christmas Party
Dec. 11	Jr. High Christmas Party
Dec. 13	Congregation Meeting to elect Deacons and receive and support 2016 budget
Dec. 13	"Sing the Songs of Bethlehem" by Chancel Choir
Dec. 13	Reception following Choir Concert
Dec. 14	Young At Heart Christmas Luncheon
Dec. 14	Session Meeting
Dec. 16	Family Night Christmas dinner and program
Dec. 18	College & 20's Christmas party
Dec. 20	The Lord's Supper at the evening service
Dec. 23	No Wednesday night activities
Dec. 24	Lessons and Carols
Dec. 24-28	Church Office Closed
Dec. 27	Christmas Hymn Sing
Dec. 30	Church Office Closed
Dec. 30	No Wednesday night activities

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 him a note of encouragement and/or give him a call.

Dave Maney
 1721 Parkins Mill Road
 Greenville, SC 29607
 963-3308

Praying For One Another

Remember in prayer this week the following members.

Marion and Iris Dillard

Mike Dillard

Heinrich and Gwyn Dubose-Schmitt

Missionary for the Week

Rev Wes & Jami Baker
Peru Missions

WHAT WES DOES:

Church Planting
 Seminary Instruction
 Vision and Strategic Planning

ABOUT THE BAKERS:

Wes is a minister in the Presbyterian Church in America. He and his wife Jami have seven children ranging in age from eleven to twenty-four. Wes serves as a pastor in the Cristo Rey Presbyterian Church in Trujillo, trains pastors and church planters in the seminary, and helps with the mission's strategic planning. The Bakers have been with Peru Mission in Cajamarca and Trujillo for almost fifteen years.

 **Basketball Schedule for the Week** 

Nov. 23	7:00 pm	Sr. High Girls	CC
Nov. 23	8:00 pm	Sr. High Boys	Home
Dec. 3	7:00 PM	Women	ARP
Dec. 5	8:30 AM	I-Mites	Finlay Hall
Dec. 5	10:30 AM	Jr. Boys	St. George
Dec. 5	12:30 PM	Midget Boys	ARP
Dec. 5	2:00 PM	Mites	W. Pres. II



2016 Offering Envelopes

The 2016 offering envelopes are being prepared. 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.

Year-End Contributions

Just a reminder that to obtain a 2015 charitable contribution deduction for income tax purposes, contributions must be received by the church no later than December 31.

The Men's Fellowship Lunch on Friday, November 27th has been cancelled.

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



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

WIC Council will not meet in December.

Thanksgiving Dinner & Service
Wednesday
November 25
Dinner :
5:30 PM - Gym
Service:
7:00 PM - Sanctuary




The Church Office will be closed
Thursday, Nov. 26th and Friday, Nov. 27th.

 **"Sing the Songs of Bethlehem"** 
December 13, 2015
 The Chancel Choir will present an evening of carols for choir and orchestra at the evening worship service. Mark your calendars, invite your friends and family and don't miss this Christmas celebration. There will be a reception in the church gym immediately following the service.

Young At Heart
 December 14, 2015 @ 11:45 am
 Fellowship Hall
 Our Christmas luncheon will be extra special! We will have a delicious luncheon for \$8.00 per person payable at the door. Our own Rev. Paul Settle will bless us with a Christmas meditation. What a way to go into the Christmas season!

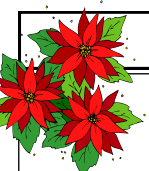
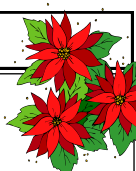
Family Night Christmas Dinner and Program
Wednesday, December 16th @ 5:30 pm, Church Gym
*Dinner: 5:30 pm * Program: 7:00 pm*

Sympathy

We extend our Christian love and sympathy to the family of Rev. John Osborne Crawford, who went home to be with the Lord Thursday, November 19, 2015. We are thankful for the life and service of Rev. Crawford and pray for David and Linda Bragdon and all the family during this time of loss and grief.

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.

 **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. 9th. 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. (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 # _____



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 a 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



DEACON NOMINEES

Please be in prayer for the following men as they stand for election to the Board of Deacons on December 13th.

- David Caldwell
- Phil Larson
- Hunter Leigh
- Hank Ludwig
- Ernest Ray Ouzts
- Spencer Player
- Ken Pujdak
- Kye Zimmerman

During the fall Deacon Training Class these men have studied the Biblical Basis for the Office of Deacon, Westminster Standards, PCA Book of Church Order, and SPC Policy Manual. They have completed an English Bible test and prepared a paper on the biblical basis for the office of Deacon.

The Session calls all communing members of Second Presbyterian Church in good standing to give prayerful consideration in preparation for participation in the important responsibility given to the church of electing godly men to the office of deacon. There are eight (8) vacancies to be filled at this time for the class of 2019.

CHURCH INFORMATION

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

Telephone: 864.232.7621

Website: spcgreenville.org

Social Media

[facebook.com/spcgreenville](https://www.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 - 6:55 PM
Adult Bible Study - 7:25 PM

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING TO ELECT DEACONS

Sunday, December 13, 2015
10:00 am

ORDINATION & INSTALLATION SERVICE

Sunday, January 3, 2016
6:00 pm

The History and Legacy of Thanksgiving

"Enter His gates with thanksgiving, and His courts with praise. Give thanks to Him and praise His name. For the LORD is good and His love endures forever; His faithfulness continues through all generations." —Psalm 100:4-5

Thanksgiving, as introduced by European explorers and settlers in the "New World," was a time set aside specifically for the purpose of giving thanks to our Creator for His manifold blessings.

French Protestant colonists at Charlesfort (now Parris Island, South Carolina) held a Thanksgiving service in 1564. In 1607, the Jamestown settlers held Thanksgiving at Cape Henry, Virginia, and there are many other records of such hallowed observances.

The first call for an annual Thanksgiving was at Berkeley Plantation, Virginia, in 1619, when Captain John Woodlief and 38 settlers aboard the ship Margaret, proclaimed, "We ordain that the day of our ships arrival at the place assigned for plantation in the land of Virginia shall be yearly and perpetually kept holy as a day of thanksgiving to Almighty God."

Henry Laurens, from South Carolina and a leader in framing the Articles of Confederation was elected the fourth President of the Continental Congress in 1777. Laurens first official act as President was to Proclaim a Day of Thanksgiving. In his first letter to the States, President Laurens wrote:

Dear Sir, The Arms of the United States of America having been blessed in the present campaign with remarkable success, Congress has resolved to recommend that one day, Thursday the 18th December next be set apart to be observed by all inhabitants throughout these States for a general thanksgiving to Almighty God. And I have it in command to transmit to you the enclosed extract from the minutes of Congress for that purpose.

~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 29, 2015

MORNING WORSHIP

8:30 & 11:00

GRACE AND GRATITUDE

Romans 1:21

Hymns: 715, 635, 98

Anthem: Thanksgiving

Rev. Robert E. Spears preaching

EVENING WORSHIP

6:00 PM

RESPONDING TO GOD

Habakkuk 3:1-19

Hymns: 2, 317, 310

Psalm 95 (verses 6-11)

Rev. Scott C. Cook preaching

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

November 23, 2015

Letter from the Senior Minister

Learning the Attribute 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."