

Church Calendar

Sunday, December 11

- 8:30 AM **MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE**
 9:50 AM Children's Chapel
 10:00 AM **SUNDAY SCHOOL** (for 6th grade and under)
 10:00 AM **Congregational Meeting to Elect Deacons and receive and support the 2017 Budget.**
 11:00 AM **MORNING WORSHIP**
 5:30 PM Season of Prayer in the Chapel
 6:00 PM **EVENING WORSHIP**
"A Carol Celebration" (Chancel Choir Music)

Monday, December 12

- 11:45 AM Young At Heart
 6:30 PM Session Meeting

Tuesday, December 13

- 11:00 AM WIC Circle 3 Christmas Party @ River Bluff Community Clubhouse
 11:30 AM WIC Circle 5 Christmas Luncheon @ church
 5:30 PM Mites Basketball practice
 6:00 PM Evangelism Explosion Training
 6:30 PM I-Mites Basketball practice
 7:00 PM WIC Circle 2 meets at Tammy Loopers'
 7:00 PM WIC Circle 4 meets at the church

Wednesday, December 14

- 5:30 PM **FAMILY NIGHT CHRISTMAS DINNER**
 6:45 PM **Youth and Children Christmas Program**
 8:15 PM Sr. High Boys Basketball practice

Thursday, December 15

- 4:00 PM Minors Basketball practice
 5:00 PM Jr. High Boys Basketball practice
 6:30 PM Joel Barnett Fold Christmas Party @ Barnetts'

Friday, December 16

- 12:00 PM Men's Lunch and Bible Study
 6:00 PM Chancel Choir Christmas Party @ Smokers'
 6:00 PM College & 20's Class Christmas party @ Cooks'

Saturday, December 17

- 2:30 PM Sr. High Girls' Basketball practice

Upcoming Events

- Dec. 7 WIC Council
 Dec. 7 Pastoral Care Committee Meeting
 Dec. 7 WIC Circle 6 Christmas Party
 Dec. 8 Good Grief Dinner
 Dec. 8 Chancel Choir Rehearsal
 Dec. 9 College & 20's Christmas Party @ the Cooks
 Dec. 9 Christmas Party for Kirby Kee's Fold/Fellowship SS Class/Central Home Group @ the Kees
 Dec. 9 Eastside Home Group gathering @ Barnetts'
 Dec. 10 WIC Baby Shower for Haley Maycock
 Dec. 10 Christmas Party for Kevin Mobley's Fold/ACTS SS Class/Southeast Home Group @ the Mobleys'
 Dec. 11 Congregational Meeting to Elect Deacons and Receive and Support the 2017 Budget
 Dec. 11 Chancel Choir Concert
 Dec. 11 Churchwide Reception following Choir Concert
 Dec. 12 Young At Heart
 Dec. 12 Session Meeting
 Dec. 13 WIC Circle 5 Christmas Luncheon
 Dec. 14 Christmas Dinner and Program
 Dec. 15 Joel Barnett Fold Christmas Party @ Barnetts'
 Dec. 16 Chancel Choir Christmas Party @ the Smokers'
 Dec. 18 The Lord's Supper at the evening service
 Dec. 21 Churchwide Christmas Caroling
 Dec. 21 No Wednesday Night Activities
 Dec. 23-26 Church Office Closed
 Dec. 24 Lessons and Carols
 Dec. 28 No Wednesday Night Activities

Scripture Reading for the Week

Isaiah 9:6-7

*For to us a child is born, to us a son is given;
 and the government shall be upon his shoulder,
 and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor,
 Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
 Of the increase of his government and of peace
 there will be no end, on the throne of David and over
 his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice
 and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore.
 The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this. (ESV)*

Remembering One Another

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

Vera Lane Griffin
 Shepherd's Care, Room 115
 2100 N. Pleasburg Drive
 Greenville, SC 29609

Praying For One Another

Remember in prayer this week the following members.

Judy Waite
Todd and Wanda Walton
David, Daniel, Matthew
Bill and Evelyn Watkins

2016 PCA Christmas Offering

RBI's Ministry of Relief has been providing financial assistance and encouragement to retired PCA pastors, missionaries, church servants and their families for 40 years. The predominant assistance we provide is to widows of PCA Teaching Elders. Without this financial assistance they struggle to afford the basic needs of life. In fact, many would live in near poverty without the assistance we provide.

The annual Ministerial Relief Christmas Offering is the principle source of funding to meet the needs of these widows and other PCA church servants. *We need your help more than ever.*

According to the recent PCA Retirement Readiness Survey conducted by RBI, the number of retiring PCA pastors will triple over the next 25 years. Since 82% of wives outlive their husbands by an average of 11 to 14 years, a large portion of those pastors retiring will leave widows who will outlive their retirement accounts resulting in incomes at or below the poverty level. Over the next 25 years, the number of families needing Ministerial Relief will quadruple.

If you would like to contribute to this worthy cause please mark your check PCA Relief Offering and put it in the offering plate or you may donate online at www.pcadonate.org

 **Basketball Schedule for the Week** 

| | | | |
|---------|----------|----------------|----------------------|
| Dec. 12 | 6:00 pm | Sr. High Boys | St. Matthew |
| Dec. 12 | 7:00 pm | Sr. High Girls | 1st Pres. |
| Dec. 15 | 7:00 pm | Men | W. Pres. 1 |
| Dec. 17 | 10:00 am | I-Mites | Christ Church-Finlay |
| Dec. 17 | 10:10 am | Mites | AYMC/FBC 1 |
| Dec. 17 | 12:00 pm | Minor Boys | W. Pres. 1 |
| Dec. 17 | 12:30 pm | Jr. High Boys | St. George |



Showering with Love
WIC cordially invites you to a baby shower for
Haley Maycock
*Saturday, December 10, 2016 * 10:00 - 1:30 am*
Fellowship Hall
Haley is registered online:
Daniel and Haley Maycock's Baby Registry on BabyList



Year-End Contributions

Just a reminder that to obtain a 2016 charitable contribution deduction for income tax purposes, contributions must be received by the church no later than Dec. 31.


Back Pack Blessing Program

Thank you for your generous food contributions to the Back Pack Blessing program at Augusta Circle. That need continues on a weekly basis, so more items are appreciated.

Family Night Christmas Dinner and Program
Wednesday, December 14th @ 5:30 pm, Church Gym
*Dinner: 5:30 pm * Program: 6:45 pm*



“A Carol Celebration”
December 11, 2016
 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 tradition.
 A Reception for the church will follow.



Young At Heart

December 12, 2016 @ 11:45 am
Fellowship Hall

Our Christmas luncheon will be extra special! We will have a delicious Christmas meal for \$8.50 per person payable at the door. Tony Vincus and Margaret Hawkins will present us with a *Musical Christmas Program*. What a way to go into the Christmas season!

December Schedule

- ⇒ There will be no Wednesday night activities on:
 Wednesday, December 21
 Wednesday, December 28
- ⇒ The Church Office will be closed:
 December 23-26
- ⇒ The West End Herald will not be mailed the week of:
 December 26.

Christmas Caroling

There will be an opportunity for church members to go caroling this year to shut-ins within the congregation. Mark your calendars for the night of Wednesday, December 21st. Notify Mel Duncan (mduncan@spcgreenville.org, 232-7621 ext 102) if you would like to participate. Let Mel know if you would be willing to drive. Groups will be organized by geography and then meet at the church afterwards for refreshments.

Good News Club

We have lost several volunteers at the Kroc Center on Friday afternoons. We currently need Grade Shepherds in order to continue that program. You can be quickly trained to sit with the children, to encourage them and help with memory verses, and to love them! Please contact Cyndi Player (864-483-4644) if you are willing to give two hours weekly (beginning mid-January) to this most worthwhile ministry.

2017 Offering Envelopes

The 2017 offering envelopes are being prepared. If you do not have offering envelopes, please contact the church office, ext. 104. The Diaconate ask that all members use offering envelopes for accounting purposes.

New Baby

We rejoice with Brian and Nicole Welch in the birth of their son, Henry Brian on November 27, 2016. Henry weighed 7 pounds 10 ounces and was 20 inches long. Both mother and son are doing well.

If you would like to take the Welchs a meal please go to www.takethemameal.com and enter:
 User name: Welch; Password, 1892

 **Christmas Poinsettias** 

Orders will need to be in by Dec. 7th.

I would like to purchase __ Poinsettia (s) at \$10.25 ea. Total: _____

In honor of: _____

In memory of: _____

Given by: _____ Telephone # _____

(Name) _____



made." This means that Jesus was working with God the Father in creating Adam.

Adam got to know Jesus better in those glorious first days of creation. Genesis 3:8 says that Adam and Eve "heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day." That is referring to Jesus, prior to his birth, who took a visible form and was a divine friend to his most beloved creatures. Imagine what it would have been like, before there was sin or anything bad in the world, when Adam and Eve were still righteous and upright in their hearts, for them to walk through the Garden talking with God's Son! Jesus wants this same kind of friendship with us. He wants us to know him. He wants to be our divine friend. He wants to teach us the glory of God in the beauty of holiness.

But Adam and Eve sinned. Sin made them hide from Jesus because they were afraid to be punished. God found them, however, and taught them to trust in Jesus, who would now be their Savior. In Genesis 3:15, God gave the first salvation promise and it was all about Jesus. He cursed Satan, who had tempted Adam and Eve into sin, by foretelling that Jesus would someday defeat him. God promised: "He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel." It would hurt to have your heel bruised, and Satan was able to hurt Jesus by causing him to die on the cross. But Jesus would crush Satan's head - that is, he would cause his complete ruin and defeat - by taking away the guilt of our sins. God pictured for Adam and Eve how Jesus would save them, and when they believed in him they were saved from their sins: "And the Lord God made for Adam and for his wife garments of skins and clothed them" (Gen. 3:21). Can you see what this pictures? God had the lamb die in the place of Adam and Eve, showing how Jesus would die for our sins so that we can be forgiven. God then clothed Adam and Eve with the innocence of the lamb, just as Jesus would clothe us in his own perfect righteousness. We call this message the gospel: the good news that God forgives our sin through faith in Christ and clothes us in his righteousness. If you believe this, you will be saved by the same faith that made Adam and Eve the first Christians.

There is one last thing to say about Jesus and Adam. Did you know that Adam was a type of Jesus Christ? This means that Adam was himself a picture of what Christ would come to be. Adam pictured Christ in one way: by being the covenant head (or leader) for all who belong to him. When Adam sinned, he acted as our representative, since all of us are born from his line. The New



Testament says, "In Adam all die" (1 Cor. 15:22). This means that because of Adam's sin - both the guilt of what he did on our behalf and the sinful nature we gain from him - we all must suffer death as the punishment for sin. But because of his love and grace, God sent Jesus to be a new Adam. By trusting in Jesus, we gain him as our covenant head and we are saved because of what he has done for us. Though by nature we are joined to Adam and his death, through faith we are instead joined to Jesus for his salvation. The Bible says that while sinners are joined to Adam for death, believers "in Christ shall all be made alive" (1 Cor. 15:22). Where Adam failed us by sinning, Jesus saves us by fulfilling God's covenant of salvation. We are no longer just members of Adam's sinful race, but by trusting in Jesus we have joined his new righteous people. Jesus was born to start a new human race made up of those who believe in him, are born again, and live forever in the joy of God's grace.

Don't you think that Adam and Eve would have been looking forward to Jesus' birth? They were made by him, he was their divine friend, and he was the Savior they were trusting for salvation. All these things are true of us as well if we believe in Jesus! We should be looking forward to Christmas as a way of thanking God for the wonderful salvation he has given through his Son.

"In him was life, and the life was the light of men" - John 1:4

This article originally appeared on Reformation 21 magazine and is used with their permission.



CHURCH INFORMATION

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

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Social Media

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

Fax: (888) 511-1949 * **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 * Wednesday night menu 4

Church Directory 5 * Weekly Activities 6 * Monthly Activities 7

Church Services: Sunday: Sunday School - 10:00 AM

Morning Worship - 8:30 and 11:00 AM * Evening Worship - 6:00 PM

Wednesday: Supper - 5:30 PM * Prayer Meeting - 6:55 PM

Adult Bible Study - 7:25 PM



SPC Bible Reading Plan

Below is the upcoming week's schedule for the SPC Bible Reading Plan. We invite all members to participate in this exciting adventure of reading through the Bible in one year.

| | |
|---------|------------------|
| Dec. 12 | Acts 20:4-23:35 |
| Dec. 13 | Acts 24-26 |
| Dec. 14 | Acts 27-28 |
| Dec. 15 | Col. 1-4; Phm. 1 |
| Dec. 16 | Eph. 1-6 |
| Dec. 17 | Phil. 1-4 |
| Dec. 18 | 1 Tim. 1-6 |



Christmas Parties

WIC Circle 6 Christmas Fellowship

Dec. 7 @ 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall

Good Grief Dinner

Dec. 8 @ 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall

Kirby Kee Fold/Fellowship SS/Central Home Group

Dec. 9 @ 7:00 pm at the home of the Kees'

Eastside Home Group Christmas Party

Dec. 9 @ 7:00 pm at the home of the Barnetts'

Kevin Mobley Fold/ACTS SS/ Southeast Home Group

Dec. 10 @ 6:00 pm at the home of the Mobleys'

WIC Circle 5 Christmas Luncheon

Dec. 13 @ 11:30 am in the Fellowship Hall

WIC Circle 3 Christmas Luncheon

Dec. 13 @ 11:00 am at River Bluff Community Clubhouse

Joel Barnett Fold Christmas Party

Dec. 15 @ 6:30 pm at the home of the Barnetts'

Chancel Choir Christmas Party

Dec. 16 @ 6:00 pm at the home of the Smokers'

College & 20's Class Christmas Party

Dec. 16 @ 6:00 pm at the home of the Cooks'

Treasurer's Report

NOVEMBER 2016 & YTD

| | Actual | | YTD Budget |
|--------------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|
| | Nov. 2016 | YTD 2016 | YTD Budget |
| Offerings | 99,068 | 1,144,081 | 1,258,588 |
| Outlays: | | | |
| Operating Expenses | 89,472 | 1,036,061 | 1,095,210 |
| Mission | <u>38,370</u> | <u>159,329</u> | <u>163,378</u> |
| Total Outlays | 127,842 | 1,195,390 | 1,258,588 |
| Net Offerings | (28,774) | (51,309) | |

- Contributions in Nov. 2016 were \$99,068 versus budget of \$114,417.
- Contributions for November 2015 were \$112,700.
- YTD contributions are behind 2016 budget by \$114,507 but are ahead 11 months 2015 by \$23,372.
- Operating expenses for November 2016 were \$89,472 versus the budget of \$99,564.
- Missions and Benevolences for the fourth quarter were paid in November.
- YTD 2016 expenses exceed contributions by \$51,309.
- **December contributions need to be \$228,919 to meet the 2016 budget.**
- Please continue to pray that the Lord will provide the financial resources necessary for the programs and ministry of SPC.
- If you have any questions, please contact Bobby Mann or David Rainey.

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The Second Presbyterian Church

105 River Street
Greenville, South Carolina 29601-2537

Return Service Requested

WORSHIP AT SECOND THE LORD'S DAY

December 11, 2016

MORNING WORSHIP

8:30 & 11:00

GOD'S CALL TO ABRAM

Genesis 12:1-3

Hymns: 230, 218, 197

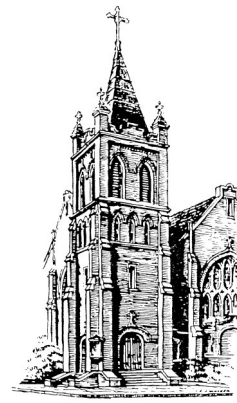
Anthem: In the Bleak Midwinter
Dr. Richard D. Phillips preaching

EVENING WORSHIP

6:00 PM

"A CAROL CELEBRATION"

The Chancel Choir will present an evening of carols for choir, congregation and orchestra. Invite your family and friends and don't miss this special worship service.



The West End Herald

Vol. CXXIV, Edition 49

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

December 5, 2016

Letter from the Senior Minister Christmas Meditation

As our families and churches prepare for the Christmas celebration, many are seeking to emphasize the biblical expectation of the promised Savior, rather than the commercial and sentimental emphasis of our society. One way to do this is to walk through the Old Testament, following the centuries-long expectation of God's people for the promised Messiah. This spirit is found in one of our advent hymns: "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus." It reads:

Come, thou long expected Jesus,
born to set thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us;
let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art,
Dear desire of every nation,
joy of every longing heart.

In this spirit, I would like to offer a series of brief meditations on how the Old Testament anticipates Jesus' coming and in which Christ appears prior to his incarnation. If these direct our thoughts to Christ during the holiday season, and especially if these meditations prove suitable for parents to read to their children, I will be greatly rewarded.

Jesus and Adam

Did you know that Adam knew Jesus? Adam was the first human being, made by God's special creation in the Garden of Eden (Gen. 2:7). Jesus was there, with the Father, as they fashioned the first man and breathed into him the spirit of life. John 1:2-3 says that Jesus "was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was