

Church Calendar

Sunday, March 25

- 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**
- 5:30 PM Season of Prayer in the Chapel
- 6:00 PM **EVENING WORSHIP**
- 7:30 PM Evangelism Committee Meeting

Monday, March 26

- 6:30 AM Men's Bible Study

Tuesday, March 27

- 10:00 AM WIC Bible Study
- 6:00 PM Evangelism Explosion

Wednesday, March 28

No Regular Wednesday night activities

- 7:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, March 29

- 7:00 PM **MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE**

Friday, March 30

Church Office Closed

- 11:45 AM **GOOD FRIDAY LUNCH** in the gym
- 12:30 PM **GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE**

Scripture Reading for the Week

Psalm 29:1-2

Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength. Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness. (ESV)

Upcoming Events

- March 21 Administration Committee Meeting
- March 25 Communicants' Class begins
- March 25 Evangelism Committee Meeting
- March 28 No Wednesday Night Activities
- March 29 Maundy Thursday Service
- March 30 Good Friday Lunch and Service
- March 30 Church Office Closed
- April 1 Easter Services:
 - Sunrise Service: 7:00 am
 - Breakfast at Second: 8:00 am
 - Sunday School: 9:00 am
 - One Worship Service: 10:00 am
 - Evening Service: 6:00 pm
- April 4 WIC Council
- April 4 Pastoral Care Committee Meeting
- April 6-7 Middle School & High School Camping Trip
- April 8 Finance Committee Meeting
- April 8 Worship & Music Committee Meeting
- April 9 Joint Session/Diaconate Meeting
- April 10-11 WIC Circles
- April 11 Missions Committee Meeting
- April 15 The Lord's Supper at the evening service
- April 16 Young At Heart
- April 18 Administration Committee
- April 19 Light Bringers
- April 21 WIC Spring Luncheon
- April 22 Evangelism Committee Meeting
- April 25 CE Committee Meeting
- April 26 Calvary Presbytery

Mark Your Calendars

- Graduation Recognition Event May 2
- New Members Reception & Luncheon May 6
- CAT Kids Program May 9
- Musical CAT Kids begin May 23
- Mission Trip to Cherokee Reservation June 2-9
- General Assembly in Atlanta, GA June 11-15
- Sr. High Trip to Edisto Island June 25-30
- Church Picnic July 4
- Vacation Bible School July 9-13
- Mission Trip to Cajamarca, Peru July 20-29
- Jr. High Trip to Ridge Haven July 23-27

Remembering One Another

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

Ann Brand
P. O. Box 1416
Greenville, SC 29602-1416

Praying For One Another

Remember in prayer this week the following members.

Welthy Senn
Mary Settle
Rebekah Shreve

Missionary for the Week



Bill and Susan Carr
MTW-Northern Minnesota

Currently Bill and Susan are working with Native Americans in northern Minnesota. One of the greatest needs of the Native American church is spiritual leadership. The Carrs have accepted the challenge to help train leaders at Mokahum Ministry Center. Mokahum offers intensive training programs requiring a high degree of accountability, including a one-year discipleship track and a three-year ministry track. Both programs emphasize theological education, life skills, and ministry experience. Bill serves as educational director for the center. Susan teaches enrichment and study skills classes for the students. Please pray for Bill and Susan, and that effective Native American leaders will be equipped for gospel ministry for the Lord's glory.

Communicants Class

A Communicants Class will be held beginning Sunday, March 25th, taught by RE Kevin Mobley. The class will meet at 10:00 on Sunday mornings in classroom S-307. Parents who judge their child ready to meet with the Session for communicant membership should bring their child to the class.

Class Schedule

- March 25: What does it mean to be a Christian?
- April 8: What are the ordinary means of grace?
- April 15: What is a healthy Church member?
- April 22: What do our membership vows mean?

You may contact RE Kevin Mobley or TE Chad Bailey if you have any questions.

Upcoming Youth Events

Middle & High School Camping Trip with the Maralits
April 6th & 7th

Sympathy

We extend our Christian love and sympathy to the family of Paul Settle who went home to be with the Lord on March 19, 2018. We are thankful for the life and service of Paul and pray for Mary and the family during this time of loss and grief.

“Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of His saints.”

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. 101 or jgrant@spcgreenville.org)

We want to be sure we recognize all our graduates at our upcoming banquet in May.

Membership Class

March 25 @ 9:45 am in Classroom C-209
Covenant Theology
Dr. Richard D. Phillips teaching

Message from the WIC Council

In order to maintain the upkeep of the church tablecloths, a signup sheet has been posted on the door of the tablecloth closet. Please sign your name, date of use, and date of return on the sheet. Please make sure cloths are in the closet upon return. Each circle has been notified of their responsibility for maintaining the cloths after church functions. Thank you.

New Addressess

Please make the following changes to your directory:

Chris Roberts

1175 Haywood Road, Apt. 15-0
Greenville, SC 29615

Aaron and Olivia Angell

120 Alister Drive
Greenville, SC 29607

Email (Aaron): aaron@angellmolony.com

Bill and Rebekah McDaniel

209 Morning Creek Drive
Easley, SC 29640

Jacks S. Tingle

215 Berkley Ave.
Greenville, SC 29609
Cell: 864-631-1162

Jacks B. and Deborah Tingle

(Correct Mailing Address)
P. O. Box 276, Tigerville, SC 29688

Emily Weaver

Email: Eford11@hotmail.com

Art Batzig

Email: covenantalblessings@gmail.com
Home Phone: 864-663-4124

Summer Missions Information

Tentative Details About Cost:

Cherokee Mission Trip: June 2-9, 2018

Deposit \$300 will be due by April 30.
Total cost will be no more than \$700.

LEADER: Ken Pudjak

Cajamarca Peru Mission Trip: July 20-29, 2018

Deposit \$850 will be due by April 30.
Total cost will be no more than \$2100.

LEADER: Pastor Chad Bailey

Information On Youth Trips

Sr. High Trip to Edisto Island

June 25-30, 2018

Deposit \$100 will be due by April 30.
Total costs will be determined by end of March.

LEADER: New Youth Minister

Jr. High Trip to Ridge Haven

July 23-27, 2018

Deposit \$100 will be due by April 30.
Total Cost: \$300

LEADER: New Youth Minister



WHEELS FOR MEALS CHARITY RIDE

Saturday, April 28th

Trailblazer Park in Travelers Rest
5 Different rides plus a Family Fun Ride or
you can volunteer to help.

To register or volunteer go to
mealsonwheelsgreenville.org



Much ink has been spilled trying to explain why Peterson is so popular with evangelicals. I think I can offer one more reason: Peterson is a respected secular scholar who is affirming important biblical truths in non-biblical ways. This second part also explains why Peterson is so unpopular with some. For example, in his 12 Rules for Life, he comes out in favor of things like corporal punishment in parenting (Prov. 13.24), but argues for this from a common-sense and ultimately authoritarian point of view. As a Christian counselor myself, I find that these kinds of arguments breed inner conflict by affirming the truth in seemingly secular ways. On the one hand, finding a secular voice who affirms Christian values is extremely rare and exciting; on the other, Peterson's methods appear suspect.

And this is where evangelicals usually end up on issues like this: one side voices support for the common grace truth that can be found in a "thing" and the other side protests that the "thing" in view is fueled by basic presuppositions and methodology that necessarily disqualify whatever good can be found in it. It is exceedingly difficult to move beyond these poles once they have been reached. Not only is it hard to do this conceptually (for each position leaves no real room for compromise) but it is also difficult to do this personally. Try convincing a convinced homeschooler that public school options are sometimes acceptable, and vice versa!

On one hand, Peterson advocates for the importance of religion and traditional modes of living, campaigns for sanity in gender roles more courageously and clearly than most celebrity Christians, and sounds curiously biblical on many issues. Maybe he can even teach pastors a thing or two about equanimity, style, and approach. So we should allow our brothers and sisters to voice their tempered support for thinkers like Peterson. Calvin would have had it that way. Speaking on these kinds of people, he says that "so far as they do no harm, they are useful and profitable" and that "Christ declares that we ought to reckon as friends those who are not open enemies."

However, Peterson's worldview is steeped in Jungian archetypal mythology, mixed with a dash of evolutionary psychology. Although he references the Bible, he makes sustained arguments from other religious streams of thought as well. More often than not, Peterson argues from "is" to "ought," using evolutionary developments as guidelines for successful living (cf. Peterson's love for lobsters in 12 Rules). A complete or even moderate buy in by Christians to these principles could end in unmitigated disaster, and we should listen to those brothers and sisters who warn us of this. Calvin faithfully guides as always: "whoever does not assist [in establishing the Kingdom of God] is...opposed to [Christ]." Where secular resources oppose or do not assist the advancement of God's kingdom, at these points they must be opposed themselves.

Categorizing a thinker or system of thought based upon this schema can be exceedingly difficult. Part of the reason for this is that balancing extremes is naturally difficult, as is the task of identifying what constitutes opposition to the gospel. Does a system of thought oppose the gospel, fail to assist its spread, or actually advance it? Peterson is maddening in this



regard, for he does all three at times, sometimes even in the same thought! Perhaps the chief difficulty, however, is our own lack of uniformity of understanding regarding our approach to common grace and common ground in the Reformed tradition. We often (rightly) argue that non-Christian modes of thinking find no common ground with Christian ones. As the non-Christian is diametrically opposed to God in his unrighteousness, so will his thoughts, being born out of the root of rebellion and tainted with sin, end up opposed to God. Of course, the unbeliever will often stumble upon true things, but this is due to God's common grace.

The problem with such a line of reasoning is not the line of reasoning itself --this is perfectly legitimate. The problem is the attitude we so often draw from it; namely, that we must therefore publicly and equally oppose all things non-Christian. This orientation does not actually follow from the insistence that there is no common ground between believer and non-believer. Put another way, opposition of belief does not always necessitate opposition in disposition.

How can this be? First, this is so because it is actually consistent with presuppositional thought. Calling common grace discoveries good is simply saying "Amen!" back to the God who enabled them in the first place. Even more than this, affirming the good and calling out the bad appears to be one of Jesus' favorite ways of engaging the lost. Of the many examples of this, Mark 12.28-34 is the most instructive. After a scribe comes up to Jesus and speaks correctly about the law, Jesus tells him that "you are not far from the kingdom of God." This is a double-edged statement, for Jesus is simultaneously telling this man that there is much good in his thinking and yet that it is not good enough. It is also a brilliant response, for it perfectly balances the call to affirm and challenge non-believing thought.

This does not mean that there isn't a time and place to strongly condemn evil thinking and doing; Jesus does as much in many places. But it is a call to consider the evangelistic import of how we respond to secular resources. Will Jordan Peterson come to Christ if our response to him is exclusively negative? What of his followers? More pointedly, would we have come to God if His response to us had been exclusively negative (Rom. 5.8)?

In *The Pursuit of Holiness*, Jerry Bridges tells the story of Henry Trumbull's train ride with a drunkard. Each time the drunkard took a swig, he offered one to Trumbull, who each time politely declined. Finally, the drunkard exclaimed, "You must think I'm a pretty rough fellow." In response, Trumbull said "I think you're a very generous hearted fellow," which then opened a door for him to share the gospel. We can only wonder what kind of opportunities we might gain to speak the hard truths of the gospel to seculars if we just led off with the right foot.

Brian Mesimer is a counselor at the counseling center of First Presbyterian Church (ARP) in Columbia, SC.

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



PURITANS ON CHRISTIAN LIFE (from A to Z)

L is for Law

Human laws are good to establish converse with man, but too short to establish communion with God; and therefore we must consult with the rule which is the law of the Lord, that we may not come short of true blessedness.
~Thomas Manton



Holy Week and Easter Services at Second

Mar. 29	7:00 pm	Maundy Thursday Service
Mar. 30	11:45 am	Good Friday Lunch/Gym
	12:30 pm	Good Friday Service/Sanctuary
Apr. 1	7:00 am	Sunrise Service at Wyche Pavilion
	8:00 am	Breakfast at the church
	9:00 am	Sunday School
	10:00 am	Easter Morning Worship Service
	6:00 pm	Easter Evening Worship Service
<i>There will be no Wednesday evening activities on March 28th.</i>		

Church Office will be closed March 30th.



Easter Sunrise Service

April 1, 2018
Wyche Pavilion @ 7:00 am
 Mountain View Baptist Church
 Second Presbyterian Church
 Speaker: Dr. Richard D. Phillips
 Assisted by Rev. Stacey Mills
 Breakfast at 8:00 am at Second Presbyterian Church

Gov. Henry McMaster Orders Protection of Religious Freedoms to Faith-Based Organizations

From *The Greenville News*, March 14, 2018

Gov. Henry McMaster issued an executive order Tuesday that will enable Miracle Hill Ministries to retain its foster care program catering to Christian families. The executive order requires the S.C. Department of Social Services and other cabinet agencies to protect religious freedoms. The order comes as Greenville-based Miracle Hill Ministries faced the loss of its child placing licensing from DSS if the nonprofit did not open its foster care program to all families, regardless of faith.

McMaster's executive order said the licensing and participating of faith-based organizations in South Carolina's foster care system is a long-standing and constitutionally permissible practice. "The state finds no compelling interest in limiting faith-based organizations," the executive order said. The order directs DSS not to deny licensing to faith-based CPA based solely on their religious identity or religious beliefs. It also directs all cabinet agencies to review their policies, procedures, and regulations to ensure that they are "appropriately protecting religious freedoms," a release from the Governor's Office said.

Miracle Hill is the largest provider of foster families in South Carolina for foster children who do not have significant special needs. DSS wanted Miracle Hill's foster care program to stop recruiting only Christian families because the state agency believed screening on the basis of religion was unacceptable under state regulation and federal guidelines, Reid Lehman, Miracle Hill's president and CEO, said.

Lehman said he is most grateful for the governor's intervention in the situation. "We are fighting for a robust childcare system in the state," he said." What the governor is doing is helping make sure that religious childcare providers have a fair playing field. "There are quite a few that would lose their ability to provide foster families if this action with DSS is allowed to stand," he said. "The need in our state is too great for that."

Karen Wingo, a spokeswoman for DSS, said there are 11 church-affiliated or Christian-based child placement agencies in South Carolina.

~The Editor



The Second Presbyterian Church

105 River Street
Greenville, South Carolina 29601-2537

Return Service Requested

Nonprofit Org.
U. S. Postage
PAID
Greenville, SC
Permit No. 559

**WORSHIP AT SECOND
THE LORD'S DAY**

March 25, 2018

MORNING WORSHIP

8:30 & 11:00 am

RACHEL'S PILLAR

Genesis 35:16-29

Hymns: 235, 198, 94

Anthem: No Tramp of Soldier's Marching Feet
Dr. Richard D. Phillips preaching

EVENING WORSHIP

6:00 pm

THE INSPIRATION OF SCRIPTURE

2 Timothy 3:16-17

Hymns: 154, 145, MR10

Psalms 24

Dr. Richard D. Phillips preaching



The Second Presbyterian Church

Corner of River and Rhett Streets
Greenville, South Carolina

March 19, 2018

**Being Apologetic About Jordan Peterson
By Brian Mesimer**

If you have been previously unaware of Jordan Peterson's existence and the discussion surrounding him, worry no more--the evangelical blogosphere has been working overtime to enlighten you. In fact it could be considered a major feat to have missed this debate in its entirety. I tried to resist myself, but the tide of emails, texts, YouTube videos, and blogs overcame the usual defenses.

For the uninitiated, Peterson is a Canadian secular depth psychologist who has been making waves over the last few months for his controversial yet articulate stands on social issues, witty advice, and ability to command any room into which he walks (David Robertson provides a good introduction). Peterson appeals mainly to the growing masses of disaffected young men who tend to struggle with lack of direction and self-worth--men we see all too often in the church today.

Yet some Christians see far more in him than just this. At the celebratory end of the spectrum, a few argue that Peterson represents the archetype of an emotionally intelligent pastor, one who has been strong where our accepted pastoral wisdom has been weak. At the critical end, some wonder whether Peterson's work is just a thinly veiled application of Nietzsche's transvaluation of values or a justification of pride-as-virtue. That is quite the difference. Which begs the question: what in the world are we to do with the likes of Jordan Peterson?

That evangelicals often reach diametrically opposed evaluations of secular resources is nothing new. Think about Harry Potter or "secular music" or the debates over what media Christians can use. That we keep ending up in widely divergent places on such crucial issues however should at least raise our eyebrows. Perhaps something bigger is going on here. Perhaps such surface level differences signal deeper theological and structural issues in our communities--issues that revolve around how we understand common grace and common ground.