

## Church Calendar

### Sunday, December 16

- 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

### Monday, December 17

- 6:30 AM Men's Bible Study  
6:30 PM Barnett Fold Christmas party @ Barnetts  
7:00 PM Young Adult Cookie Exchange/Game night

### Tuesday, December 18

- 10:00 AM WIC Bible Study  
11:30 AM WIC Circle 5 Christmas Luncheon/FH  
6:00 PM Evangelism Explosion Training

### Wednesday, December 19

#### No Wednesday Night Activities

- 5:30 PM Churchwide Christmas Caroling  
7:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal

### Thursday, December 20

- 6:00 PM Mission to Main Street

### Friday, December 21

- 12:00 PM Men's Lunch & Bible Study  
6:30 PM Mobley Fold/ACTS SS Christmas party

## Save the Date

### SPC MISSIONS CONFERENCE

January 18-20, 2019

Speakers:

Josh Rieger, Evangelical Presbyterian Church, England  
Matt Patrick, RUF @ Wofford

## Upcoming Events

- Dec. 12 Session Meeting  
Dec. 12 Missions Committee Meeting  
Dec. 12 Christmas Dinner & Program  
Dec. 13 Good Grief Dinner/Gymnasium  
Dec. 14 Playdate  
Dec. 14 Westminster SS Class Christmas party @ Joe and Leslie Martins @ 6:30 pm  
Dec. 16 The Lord's Supper at the evening service  
Dec. 17 Barnett Fold Christmas party  
Dec. 17 Young Adults Cookie Exchange/Game Night  
Dec. 18 WIC Circle 5 Christmas Luncheon  
Dec. 19 No Wednesday Evening Activities  
Dec. 19 Christmas Caroling  
Dec. 21 Mobley Fold/ACTS SS Class Christmas party  
Dec. 23 One Worship Service (10am; SS 9am)  
Dec. 24 Lessons and Carols  
Dec. 24-28 Church Office Closed  
Dec. 26 No Wednesday Night Activities  
Dec. 28-Jan.1 Ridge Haven Winter Camp (7th-12th grades)  
Dec. 30 One Worship Service (10am; SS 9am)  
Dec. 30 Christmas Hymn Sing

## Scripture Reading for the Week

Matthew 1:20-23

*Behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." (ESV)*

## Remembering One Another

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

Jerry Rice  
12 Galphin Drive  
Greenville, SC 29609

## Praying For One Another

Remember in prayer this week the following members.

Travis Gaulden  
Jeff and Bethany Gearhart  
Clara, Adeline, Eleanor  
David and Sarah George  
Benton, Ruth, Wyatt

## 2018 Ministerial Relief Fund

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](http://www.pcadonate.org). When you give, you give HOPE.

## 2019 Offering Envelopes

The 2019 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.

## Year-End Contributions

Just a reminder that in order to obtain a 2018 charitable contribution deduction for income tax purposes, contributions must be received by the church no later than Dec. 31.

## Westminster Class Christmas Party

Friday, December 14th  
6:30 pm  
Home of Joe and Leslie Martin  
Please RSVP to Leslie Martin 864-350-4575

PLEASE JOIN US IN CELEBRATING THE

*50th Wedding Anniversary*

OF

*Carolyn and Ron McNeely*

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2018

DROP IN FROM 2:00 - 5:00 PM

SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

NO GIFTS, PLEASE

*The pleasure of your company  
is requested at the marriage ceremony of*

***J. Hunter Leigh***

*and*

***N. Attee Reese***

*December 15, 2018 at 2:00 pm*

*Second Presbyterian Church*

*Reception to follow*

*Family Night Christmas Dinner and Program  
Wednesday, December 12th @ 5:30 pm, Church Gym  
Dinner: 5:30 pm \* Program: 6:45 pm*



## Christmas Parties



Dec. 12 Christmas Dinner & Program  
Dec. 13 Good Grief Dinner/Church Gymnasium  
Dec. 14 Westminster Class Christmas Party  
Joe & Leslie Martin's @ 6:30 pm  
Dec. 17 Barnett Fold Christmas party  
@ the Barnetts, 6:30 pm  
Dec. 18 WIC Circle 5 Christmas Luncheon  
11:30 am in the Fellowship Hall  
Dec. 21 Mobley Fold/ ACTS SS Class Christmas  
party at the Mobleys @ 6:30 pm

## Lessons and Carols

Sunday, December 24, 2018

6:00 pm

*We will marvel with the heavenly host  
as we hear the good news of our Savior's birth  
retold in Scripture and song.*

## Christmas Caroling



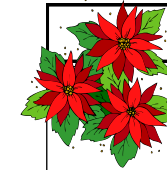
There will be an opportunity for church members to go caroling this year to shut-ins within the congregation. Mark your calendars for the night of Wednesday, December 19th @ 5:30 pm. Notify Mel Duncan (mduncan@spcgreenville.org, 232-7621 ext 102) if you would like to participate. Let Mel know if you would be willing to drive. Groups will be organized by geography and then meet at the church afterwards for refreshments.

## December Schedule

- ⇒ There will be no Wednesday night activities on:  
Wednesday, December 19  
Wednesday, December 26
- ⇒ The Church Office will be closed:  
December 24-28
- ⇒ The West End Herald will not be mailed the week of:  
December 24th.
- ⇒ One Worship Services:  
December 23  
December 30  
(SS-9:00 am; Morning Worship-10:00 am  
Evening Worship-6:00 pm)

**Christmas Hymn Sing  
Sunday, December 30th  
Immediately following  
the evening service.**

## Christmas Poinsettias



It's time to order the Christmas Poinsettias for the sanctuary. This year you may purchase a white Poinsettia for \$10.25.

**Deadline extended to Dec. 16th.**

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. **(Please do not put in the offering plate.)**

I would like to purchase \_\_Poinsettia (s) at \$10.25 ea. Total: \_\_\_\_\_  
In honor of:

\_\_\_\_\_

In memory of:

\_\_\_\_\_

Given by:  
(Name) \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone # \_\_\_\_\_

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 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*

#### CHURCH INFORMATION

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

**Telephone:** Office (864) 232-7621

**Fax:** (888) 511-1949 \* **Email:** [info@spcgreenville.org](mailto:info@spcgreenville.org)

#### Social Media

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

**Information Centers:** Church Services Information 1 \* Directions 2  
Hospital Information 3 \* Wednesday Night Menu 4  
Church Directory 5 \* Upcoming Weekly Events 6  
Upcoming Monthly Events 7

### Treasury of Scripture Knowledge

#### Z is Zion

The name "Zion" was mentioned first in the account of David's conquest of Jerusalem (2 Sam. 5:6-10; 1 Chron. 11:4-9). The phrase "stronghold of Zion" may have referred to only the fortified section of the city. Jerusalem was the name of the city-state as a whole and included numerous villages and houses located outside of the fortified area of the city itself. After David captured Zion, he resided there and changed its name to the "city of David".

### Welcome to the Pulpit



We welcome to the pulpit this Lord's Day at the morning worship services, Dr. David Murray. Dr. Murray was ordained to the ministry in Scotland in 1995, and became pastor of Grand Rapids Free Reformed Church in 2013. He continues to teach at Puritan Reformed Theological Seminary. He and his wife, Shona, have five children: Allan, Angus, Joni, Amy, and Scot.

#### Widow's Fund

The Church established a Widows' fund for the substantial (and often on-going) needs that come upon some of those who are widowed and live to an old age. (This is different from the Sympathy and Service fund which meets the short-term needs of all of our members.) The reserve balance in this fund has been slowly but steadily declining over the past months. If you are able, above your tithe and other giving to the church, to give to rebuild this fund, please consider making a monthly gift to the widows' fund. We praise our God for His provision for those that look to Him.

## Corner of River and Rhett

Second Presbyterian Church has recently added Rev Kevin Bidwell, a minister of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church of England & Wales, as a new missionary supported by our congregation. His young congregation in Sheffield England has recently purchased a historic church building and has had a building campaign which Second was able to contribute to through our Missions Program.

### From Kevin Bidwell - Hill Top Chapel

After over 5 years of planning, praying, negotiating, discussing, explaining and then building, the historic Hill Top Chapel (1629 and 2018) was extended and the head builder left the site today! His work is finished. Yes, he will complete some basic snagging jobs in the next two weeks, but this Lord's Day for the first time, we will begin to use the extension as a congregation. The whole facility is 60% bigger. There is so much to say, but a photograph is given below for thanksgiving. Lord willing in 2019 we will extend the parking lot again and build an outbuilding for tools and all gardening equipment.



The Editor



### The Second Presbyterian Church

105 River Street  
Greenville, South Carolina 29601-2537

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#### WORSHIP AT SECOND

#### THE LORD'S DAY

December 16, 2018

#### MORNING WORSHIP

8:30 am & 11:00 am

#### THE DAYS OF WEeping

Genesis 50:1-14

Hymns: 199, 193, 195

Anthem: Son of the Father, the Only Begotten  
Dr. David Murray preaching

#### EVENING WORSHIP

6:00 pm

#### PURSuing CHRISTIAN VIRTUE

Titus 2:15-3:3

Hymns: 221, 591, 421

Psalms 97

Dr. Richard D. Phillips preaching

«Title» «First Name» «Last Name»

«Address Line 1»

«Address Line 2»

«City» «State» «ZIP Code»



# The West End Herald

Vol. CXXVI, Edition 50

## The Second Presbyterian Church

Corner of River and Rhett Streets  
Greenville, South Carolina

December 10, 2018

### 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