#### **Corner of River and Rhett**

DECEMBED BIDTUDAVE

	DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS
Dec. 1	Bonnie Church
Dec. 3	Charlotte Therrell
Dec. 5	John Gray, Addison Maralit,
	Ashton Scoggins, Ramona White
Dec. 6	Tony Stephens
Dec. 7	Jeff Windt
Dec. 8	Marcus Laughter
Dec. 9	Anya Barringer, Josh Briscoe
Dec. 10	Josiah Schvaneveldt
Dec. 11	Alice Bailey, Nicolle Bombaro,
	Dempsey Bouchillon, Hope Hughes,
	Ken Pujdak
Dec. 12	Ella Gamble, Anna Ruth Mobley
Dec. 14	Joe Bianchi, Shannon Flaherty
Dec. 15	Monica Bianchi, Henry Gamble, Beth Grubbs
Dec. 17	Shirley Duncan, Jeff Gearhart, Holden Trautne
Dec. 18	Deborah Tingle, Wanda Walton
Dec. 19	Brian Moore, Garison Plourde, Sam Styles
Dec. 20	Geoffrey Barnett, Matthew Griffin,
	Kate Hughes, Prarie Thompson
Dec. 21	Steven Fultz, Kevin Mobley, Jingle Robinson
Dec. 27	Chris Zimmerman
Dec. 28	Jeni Carter
Dec. 29	Rainey Hoopes
Dec. 30	Laura Whigham
Dec. 31	Grace King, Wayne Kirk, Barnetta Stephens
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#### **December Schedule**

⇒ There will be no Wednesday night activities on: Wednesday, December 23

Wednesday, December 30

- ⇒ The Church Office will be closed:
  - December 21-25
- ⇒ The West End Herald will not be mailed the week of: December 21st.

Nonprofit Org

Permit No.

The Second Preshyterian Church

105 River Street Greenville, South Carolina 29601-2537

Return Service Requested

# WORSHIP AT SECONE THE LORD'S DAY

MORNING WORSHIP

www.spcgreenville.org

Dr. Jonathan L. Master preachin EVENING WORSHIP

Rev. Chad T. Bailey preaching Hymns: 268, 324, 274 Psalm 93 CONSECRATED TO

### The West End Herald



Vol. CXXVIII, Edition 48

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

November 30, 2020

#### **Letter from the Senior Minister** The Ministry of Our Deacons

At our congregational meeting on Sunday, December 6, we will be electing men to serve our church in the office of deacons. The Bible clearly lays out two classes of office in the church: elders to oversee and shepherd, and deacons to serve and lead in the ministry of good deeds. Our Book of Church Order describes the diaconal ministry as "one of sympathy and service, after the example of the Lord Jesus; it expresses also the communion of saints, especially in their helping one another in time of need." In this ministry, the deacons minister to those in need, promote the grace of liberality in giving, collect and distribute gifts to those in need of benevolence, care for the property of the congregation, and make arrangements to facilitate the gatherings of the church congregation.

Our first response to this description of the deacons' ministry ought to be to express our collective gratitude for the labors of these faithful men. As pastor, I am especially aware of our debt to the work of the deacons; I can hardly imagine how we could conduct our services without their faithful service. I can assure you that our deacons make significant sacrifices of time and energy on behalf of our church. This inevitably means that their wives and children also make sacrifices. So let's make sure that they know how much they are appreciated. As you have opportunity, could you express your appreciation for the faithfulness and ability with which our deacons and their families serve our church?

My second reflection is to observe what an important thing it is for the Lord to provide us with new deacons. We believe,

following the example of the early church in Acts 6, that the Holy Spirit calls deacons to service through the acclamation of the church congregation. On December 6, we will continue this practice through the election of deacons. All these men have been nominated by the congregation, approved by the elders, completed an extensive training program designed to ensure their competence in both doctrine and the duties of this office, and then have each been interviewed by the Session. Most important for us are the biblical qualifications listed in 1 Timothy 3:8-13: deacons should be reverent and honest, self-controlled, not self-serving, and sound in their faith. The godliness of their wives, if they are married, should commend them to the church, as well as the good order of their households. In sum, deacons who will oversee the people and property of the church should have demonstrated such ability in their sphere of their private lives. None of these men are perfect and all have areas for Christian growth, like the rest of us. But their election should signify the congregation's confidence in their commitment to Christ, their maturity as believers, and their established reputation for godliness.

Third, having considered our debt to the deacons and our need for new deacons, let me say a word to those who will be elected. No doubt, you will quickly realize that this is a serious commitment, but there are reasons for you to take up this obligation. First, it is no small thing for the church to set you forth to serve in such an important way. It is my view that one should be reverently open to callings to serve in the church. God calls us into service, and service as a deacon is one of the highest forms. Second, there are few more important things to which one could be called in this life. We are engaged together in work with eternal significance and that is of serious concern to the Lord God Almighty Himself. Should you not be willing to sacrifice in such a cause? Third, you will be greatly blessed through faithful service as a deacon. I believe that our deacons will tell you of a great satisfaction they receive through their work and of the valuable fellowship they experience within the Diaconate. Moreover, Paul concludes his description of deacons by writing this: "For those who have served well as deacons obtain for themselves a good standing and great boldness in the faith which is in Christ Jesus" (1 Tim. 3:13). What a rich treasure is

revealed in those words!

Please pray for God to provide for our church through new deacons who will join the ranks of those already serving. For those not called to this office, please consider how you might offer your own gifts and energies to the work of the gospel in this church. Every member of our church has an important role to play, according to the gifts and graces that Christ has given to each of us. May God meet all our needs according to His riches in Christ Jesus (Phil. 4:19).

In Christ's Love,

#### Pastor Rick Phillips

Please be in prayer for the following men as they stand for election to the Board of Deacons on December 6.

Ron Babington Garison Plourde Timothy Johnson



#### **CHURCH INFORMATION**

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

Telephone: 864.232.7621 Website: spcgreenville.org Social Media

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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 \* Wednesday night menu 4

Church Directory 5 \* Weekly Activities 6 \* Monthly Activities 7

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

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

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

Adult Bible Study - 7:25 PM

#### ALL ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS BASIC CHRISTIANITY BY JOHN STOTT (Gymnasium)



### Books may be purchased online for \$10.00 at www.spcgreenville.org

12/6 Congregational Meeting-The State of the Church
 12/13 Richard Phillips Being a Christian



#### **Christmas Poinsettias**

This year you may purchase a red Poinsettia for \$13.00.
Orders will need to be in by Dec. 6th.

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 _ In honor of:	_Poinsettia (s) at \$13.00 ea. Total:	
In memory of:		
Given by: (Name)	Telephone #	



## NEW DATE: WIC will be decorating the church for Christmas on Friday, December 4th. If you would like to help please contact Pat Shuford.



There will be a Congregational Meeting on December 6th, at 10:00 am to elect Deacons and to receive and support the 2021 budget.



Wednesday, Dec. 16th @ 5:30 pm, Church Gym Dinner: 5:30 pm Program: 6:45 pm



# Lo! He Comes A Celebration of the Incarnation



**December 13, 2020** 

This year's Chancel Choir Christmas service is entitled Lo! He Comes: A Celebration of the Incarnation. The service will include choral music for choir and chamber orchestra featuring selections by G. F. Handel, Charles Stanford, Gustav Holst, and others, along with familiar carols for congregation. Invite your friends and family to the evening service on Sunday, December 13, for this annual musical celebration of the birth of Christ Jesus, our Lord. May He be praised and glorified in music and song!

#### **New Babies**

- ~We rejoice with William and Laura Fultz in the birth of their son, Isaac Wayne Fultz on November 24, 2020. Isaac was 7 pounds, 15 ounces. Both mother and son are doing well.
- ~We rejoice with Mac and Bessie Duncan in the birth of their daughter, Jane Arlow Duncan on November 28, 2020 at Ft. Campbell, Kentucky Army Hospital. Both mother and daughter are doing well.

The flowers are placed in the sanctuary this Lord's Day to the glory of God.

#### **Church Calendar**

#### Sunday, December 6

<b>J</b> .	
8:30 AM	MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE
10:00 AM	SUNDAY SCHOOL
	(4th grade and under in regular classrooms).
10:00 AM	CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
	(5th grades-adults in the sanctuary).
11:00 AM	MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE

Season of Prayer in the Chapel

#### 6:00 PM **EVENING WORSHIP SERVICE**

5:30 PM

6:30 AM	Men's Bible Study
6:00 PM	Diaconate Meeting

#### Tuesday, December 8

Monday, December 7

10:30 AM	WIC Circle 3 Christmas Lunch in FH
7:00 PM	WIC Circle 2 at Tammy Loopers
7:00 PM	WIC Circle 4 meets at the church
6:30 PM	EE Training

#### Wednesday, December 9

5:00 PM	Pastoral Care Committee Meeting
5:30 PM	Missions Committee Meeting
5:30 PM	FAMILY NIGHT FELLOWSHIP SUPPER
6:15 PM	Covenant Choir/Youth Ensemble
6:45 PM	CAT/Covenant Kids
6:45 PM	Jr. & Sr. High Bible Studies
6:45 PM	PRAYER MEETING & BIBLE STUDY
	FOR ALL ADULTS
7:00 PM	Men's Marriage Study

#### Thursday, December 10

6:00 PM Mission to Main Street

#### Friday, December 11

12:00 PM Men's Lunch and Bible Study

#### **Precepts Bible Study**

Ladies: Precepts, Gospel of John, Part 3, begins January 21, 2021, and ends April 15, 2021. It is not necessary to have studied Parts 1 and 2 to participate in Part 3. This is an intensive Bible Study requiring approximately 5 hours of homework per week. The class will meet each Thursday from 9:30-11:30 am in the Conference Room. Please call or text Mary Settle at 864-918-2269 by December 16, 2020 if you plan to attend since books need to be ordered.

#### 2021 Offering Envelopes

The 2021 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 2020 charitable contribution deduction for income tax purposes, contributions must be received by the church no later than Dec. 31.

#### Rafiki Bible Study

We finished 1 Samuel on Nov. 9, and plan to do 2 Samuel starting in January, 18, 2021. So I need to have people sign up who want to study with us by Jan. 4, 2021. I will order all lessons on this day. It is critical that anyone wanting to come let me know in advance of ordering their lesson, and anyone who has not committed by Jan. 4th will not get a lesson and cannot start. The aim of the Rafiki Bible Study is to teach participants how to study their Bible and find answers, enabling all to know Gods' will as His Word relates to our lives. 2 Samuel will take 7 weeks to complete, so anyone who chooses to come should determine to come the full 7 weeks if possible, and definitely make it a matter of prayer that God the Holy Spirit will lead her to understand His truth, and work in her the discipline that it will take to finish the book. Anyone interested can tell me at church, or send me a email at: sdlong1016@gmail.com.

Thank you, Sylvia Long