

## Corner of River and Rhett

### Note from Stephen Scott U.S. Navy Chaplain

My time in Hawaii has come to a close and on to the next adventure. I am heading into new territory by recruiting future Navy Chaplains. My job will be to take newly recruited individuals and prepare them for transitioning into the Navy whether they are coming from church ministry or straight out of seminary. This is a completely different job than what I have been doing the past 10 years, but I am excited about the potential to bring in Chaplains who want to continue carrying the torch of providing ministry to our Sailors, Marines and Coastguardsmen.

#### PRAYER REQUESTS:

- Please pray for me as I am learning a new type of job. This will be more administration heavy, but I'm praying for God to direct me into other doors of ministry.
- Pray also for the types of Chaplain candidates I will be interacting with and screening for ministry in the Navy.
- Because I am working with many other denominations, pray for wisdom on how to properly look at each candidate's Chaplain package.

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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

May 2, 2021

#### MORNING WORSHIP

8:30 & 11:00 am

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

#### BEFORE I FORMED YOU

Jeremiah 1:4-10

Hymns: 243, 172, 442

Anthem: Sing to the Lord a New Song

Dr. Richard D. Phillips preaching

#### EVENING WORSHIP

6:00 pm

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

#### THE SALVATION OF THE LORD

2 Chronicles 20:20-37

Hymns: 403, 149A, 237

Psalms 112

Dr. Richard D. Phillips preaching



## The West End Herald

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

May 2, 2021

### Let the Children Worship 10 Reasons to Include Children in Corporate Worship

We pulled into the driveway exhausted. Sunday is supposed to be a day of rest, but that morning felt like anything but. It was tiring not because of an early start with a meeting before church, the dressing of children, rushing out the door, conversations after the service, or even the disheartening news about a church member's diagnosis. Exhaustion reigned because our two children couldn't sit still or quiet in the worship service. Rather than worship, it felt like we experienced a tour of combat duty without any medals awarded! The hour-and-a-half service could have been four with all the negotiations, warnings, and discipline that were required. The sermon consisted of three points, and maybe between the two of us, my wife and I could recall one of them. Unfortunately, that week was not unique. Hadn't we just performed this "tour of duty" last Sunday? Hadn't we worked with our children every day since, so the next week's worship would be better than last week's catastrophe? Was it all for naught?

Many parents feel this way in the early days of bringing young children into worship. It feels like self-inflicted torture with no end in sight! But as much as it may prove a struggle and even discouraging at times, the effort is well worth it. The struggles are limited to the morning; the blessings can be eternal. Below are some of the key blessings of having our children in corporate, Lord's Day worship.

#### 1. They're in the Midst of the Means of Grace

The most important part of a local church's life is corporate worship. It is the summit of the church's life on earth because, in this weekly worship, the Lord meets with His people by Word and Spirit. He ministers to us by the ordinary means of grace (Word, sacraments, and prayer). Churches and parents can chase after the next creative means by which to impact their children, but nothing holds the promise of that which God Himself clearly ordained. These ordinary means of grace prove effectual. When our children attend corporate

worship, they dwell in the midst of these effectual means of grace. And the more we place them in the way of the means of grace, the better the opportunity for their souls to encounter the God of grace.

## 2. They Hear the Word Preached

God attaches His promises to His Word. As much as we are able, we want to place our children in the way of this ordinary means of grace. The Word does not return void (Isa. 55:11). It is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword (Heb. 4:12). We want that mighty weapon bearing upon the souls of our children. It alone works faith (Rom. 10:17) and we want our children to hear it proclaimed with power.

## 3. They See the Sacraments

The sacraments represent before our eyes the spiritual truths of the covenant. They serve as a kind of picture in which we can see, taste, smell, and feel the realities of God's grace. This is not lost on our children as they see these sacraments practiced and participated in. The children of Israel asked their parents, "What does this mean?" (cf. Exod. 13:14; Deut. 6:20). And in a similar way, our own children will have questions about what they see and hear. We answer by pointing them to a Savior who willingly died for His own.

## 4. They Participate in Prayer

Prayer effectually shapes our hearts and aligns them with the very will of God. As our children bow their heads in prayer and listen to the congregational prayer or prayer of confession, they can't help but hear some of the words, inflections, truths, and graces present in these prayers. And how beautiful it is when they begin to join in praying these prayers.

## 5. They're Present with the Congregation

Corporate worship is corporate. The entire body gathers together. As the congregation sings, all the voices of the church unite. When God's people read the confession of faith, they confess the same truth united. When God's people hear the public prayers, they voice a loud "Amen" united. How unfortunate it is when the entire congregation witnesses and voices this unity and receives encouragement from this fellowship, but our children remain absent.

## 6. They're Present with Their Parents

Children constantly watch their parents. They learn by observing, judging what their parents deem important, and what gives them delight. Bringing our children into worship affords them the opportunity to observe the importance and delight of corporate worship in the life of their parents. If they aren't in worship, they won't ever see it. Nothing is more significant and nothing is more impactful upon our children's spiritual lives.

## 7. They Witness Our Weekly Priority

The constant routines of our life possess a formative power. This is not lost on children who attend worship. In fact, it proves formative as the Spirit works and God pours out His grace upon them. Attending weekly worship underscores the importance of worship and the centrality of God week-in and week-out.

## 8. They Benefit from Intergenerational Faith

The Scriptures clearly articulate the duty of parents to instruct their children in the things of the Lord. Psalm 78 provides one of the most beautiful statements of this calling. In the psalm, Asaph reminds his generation that they cannot hide this story. They must pass on this glorious truth to their children and grandchildren. We tell this story every Lord's Day morning as we gather in worship as the people of God. As our children participate in the service, they hear this story. They can't miss it. At least fifty-two times a year this story fills their ears, and we pray moves their hearts.

## 9. They Participate in the Redemptive Story

Nothing engages our children more with the redemptive story than their *participation* in the worship of God. As our children participate in worship, they take part in the practices of the covenant community, which picture the mighty acts of God as He lives in relationship with His covenant people. They enter the great academy of the Christian faith. We teach, instruct, and even form our children into worshippers. Of course, only God can call people to Himself and make hearts of stone into hearts of flesh (Ezek. 36:26), only the Spirit can regenerate an individual (John 3), yet, participating in the worship of God provides a shaping effect. They not only hear about this God, but encounter Him.

## 10. They Learn about a Faith *for Them*

Finally, when we include children in worship, we relay the truth that they can worship the one true God. Christianity is not an "adult-only-religion," and worship is not something only adults are able to do. God calls *all* people to worship Him. Whether we include or exclude our children from worship, we offer a loud and undeniable commentary to them. But the benefits that flow from including our children in corporate worship can impact their lives for not just twenty, forty, sixty, or even eighty years, but for all eternity. May we impart to our children the glorious faith once delivered unto the saints—for God's glory and our children's delight in Him.



**Jason Helopoulos** serves as Senior Pastor at University Reformed Church (PCA) in East Lansing, Michigan. He is the author of four books and is a council member of the Gospel Reformation Network.

*This article was on the Gospel Reformation website and used with their permission.*

## May Birthdays

May 1	Solomon Branigin
May 4	Lynne Ouzts
May 5	Malcolm Gibson, Sarah Moore Aimee Moran, Mariah Windt
May 6	Nora Hughes, Mary Settle
May 7	Sophia Scott, James Van Steenburgh
May 8	Rebekah Johnson, Noah Maralit, Hannah Swope, Pat Wheeler
May 9	Cindy Duncan, James Early
May 10	Bridgette Cassell, Reese Scoggins
May 11	Shepherd Angell, Abigail Pomerlyan
May 12	Alice Barnett
May 13	James Pratt, Fred Youngblood
May 14	Lynda Duncan, Abigail Johnson, Gina Thomas
May 17	John Griffin, Debbie Hoopes
May 18	Margaret Butler, Adam Enggasser, Ronda May, Heidi Upton
May 19	Mary Duncan, Duncan Hoopes, Sr., Liz Nowak, Faith Raper
May 20	Marsha Briggs, Claire Brown, Tim Owens
May 21	Matt Barbier
May 22	Ann Brand
May 24	Eliana Barbier
May 25	Edward Engasser, Lydia Phillips, Ethan Russell
May 26	Daniel Baxa, John King, Josh Seawright
May 27	Noah McConnell, Jack Van Steenburgh
May 28	Carl Hu
May 29	Monique Al-Rawi, Amanda Van Steenburgh
May 30	Roger Lusk
May 31	Laura Lizak



**WIC Spring Luncheon  
Mark Your Calendars**



Women in the Church  
Spring Fellowship Luncheon  
Saturday, May 8th  
11:00 am—1:00 pm  
Mary Russell Settle will be sharing her testimony.  
All women in Second Church are invited  
to this time of fellowship and inspiration.  
Lunch will be catered.



**Graduation Banquet**



Wednesday, May 12, 2021  
5:45 PM \* Church Gymnasium

Join us as we honor our 2021 graduates:

Israel Bombaro	Greenville Classical Academy
Isaac Maralit	Home School
Dean Pennington	Bob Jones Academy
Ellie Phillips	Upstate Homeschool Coop
Mark Smoker	Home School

Ezekiel Dean  
Westminster Theological Seminary  
Grace Schvaneveldt  
Charleston Southern University  
Katie Upton  
Reformation Bible College

*If you are graduating in May or December 2021, and have not contacted the church office please do so this week.  
232-7621, ext. 101 or jgrant@spcgreenville.org*

**CAT Kids Program**



Wednesday, May 19  
Supper: 5:30 PM  
Program: 7:00 PM

*Come and see what our covenant children  
have learned this year in CAT Kids.*  
Musical CAT Kids will begin June 2nd.



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

**Church Calendar**

**Sunday, May 2**  
8:30 AM MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE  
9:50 AM Children's Chapel  
10:00 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL  
11:00 AM MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE  
5:30 PM Season of Prayer in the Fellowship Hall  
6:00 PM EVENING WORSHIP SERVICE  
Renewal of Elders' Vows

**Monday, May 3**  
6:30 AM Men's Bible Study  
6:00 PM Diaconate Meeting

**Tuesday, May 4**  
10:00 AM WIC Bible Study  
6:00 PM Evangelism Explosion Training

**Wednesday, May 5**  
5:00 PM Pastoral Care Committee Meeting  
5:15 PM WIC Council  
5:45 PM FAMILY NIGHT FELLOWSHIP SUPPER  
6:15 PM Covenant Choir/Youth Ensemble  
6:45 PM CAT/Covenant Kids  
6:45 PM Jr. and Sr. High Bible Studies  
6:45 PM PRAYER MEETING AND BIBLE STUDY  
FOR ALL ADULTS  
7:15 PM Chancel Ensemble Rehearsal

**Thursday, May 6**  
7:00 PM Mission to Main Street

**Friday, May 7**  
12:00 PM Men's Lunch and Bible Study

**Saturday, May 8**  
11:00 AM WIC Spring Luncheon

**Holiness by J.C. Ryle**

All-Adult Sunday School held at 10 AM in the Gym.  
May 2nd: *The Fight* taught by Wayne Kirk.

**The Elders will renew their vows  
at the evening worship service on  
May 2, 2021.**

**Thirtieth Commencement Ceremony**

*The Greenville Presbyterian Theological Seminary  
Board of Trustees, Faculty, and Classes of 2020 & 2021  
cordially invite you to attend  
The Thirtieth Commencement Ceremony  
Pastor Carl Robbins, Speaker  
Friday, May 21, 2021 @ 7:00 pm  
Woodruff Road Presbyterian Church  
Reception to follow.*



**Evangelism Explosion  
Training**

Have you ever wanted to tell a friend or relative about Jesus, but did not know how to start or what to say? Evangelism Explosion is an evangelistic training program designed to equip you to tell others the good news about Jesus Christ. The spring semester begins April 27th, at 6:00 pm in the Conference Room. Please call or see Ken Safford (419-8267) to sign up, or if you have any questions. It's not too late to join.

**CAT Kids Spring Fling**



Wednesday, May 26  
6:45 PM  
At the church  
Musical CAT Kids will begin Wednesday, June 2nd.



**National Day of Prayer**



THURSDAY, MAY 6, 2021

