

Corner of River and Rhett

**Jim McGoldrick's Final Letter
December 24, 2021**

Dear Family and Friends:

As the year 2021 is ending, it is an opportune time to reflect on fundamental issues of life—some about temporal concerns, others about eternity: God has given me a long and enjoyable pilgrimage in this life, and a firm confidence that He has prepared a home for me in heaven. I know where I came from; I know why I am here; and I know where I am going. Therefore, I believe staunchly that our Lord has created me by the exercise of His sovereign will, so I am not just another animal produced by an impersonal force.



I know why I am here: to glorify my Maker and to enjoy Him forever. This knowledge, obtained by careful study of the Holy Scripture, enables me to face the future unafraid. I know it is my Savior who has taken all my sins upon Himself, and paid the entire price of forgiveness for me and for all who repent for their offenses. As the apostle Paul wrote: "For he hath made him to be sin for us who knew no sin, that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him."

As I wrote this letter, my hand shook, not because I was excited with joy, but because I learned a few days ago that my part in this journey is likely to be complete, and I will go to heaven very soon....

Within 36 hours of this writing, Jim had lapsed into unconsciousness, and was promoted to glory on December 30, 2021.

~The Editor



The Second Presbyterian Church

105 River Street
Greenville, South Carolina 29601-2537

Return Service Requested

WORSHIP AT SECOND

THE LORD'S DAY

January 16, 2022

www.spcgreenville.org

MORNING WORSHIP

8:30 & 11:00 am

Rev. Dr. Richard D. Phillips preaching

EVENING WORSHIP

6:00 pm

Rev. Dr. Richard D. Phillips, preaching

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The West End Herald

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

January 16, 2022

**TODAY FROM OUR SENIOR MINISTER
BIBLICAL "ACCEPTABLE" WORSHIP**

In reflecting on the great blessings God has given us through His Son, the writer of Hebrews urged us, "Let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe, for our God is a consuming fire" (Heb. 12:28-29). Worship should be, according to Hebrews, acceptable to God, offered in a reverent way, by those who approach God with amazement and wonder.

This raises an essential question, namely, what is worship that is acceptable to God? Many people believe that as long as our worship is sincere and well-meant, then God must surely accept it. But according to the Bible, we are to worship God in accordance with His Word. That is, God has told us what kind of worship is acceptable to Him. The way for us to offer acceptable worship, then, is to worship in accordance with Holy Scripture.

This emphasis on biblical worship stems from the Protestant Reformation. Having returned to biblical doctrine, it was inevitable that the Reformed churches would insist on biblical worship. Two concerns motivated this conservative approach to worship. The first was a desire to exalt God's sovereignty over His church. The second was a humble belief that we, as the creatures, simply lack the competence to devise means for worshiping our holy God, especially given our tendency to sin and folly. As John Calvin wrote, "it tends greatly to establish God's authority that we do not follow our own pleasure." Meanwhile, he reminded us that we simply are not spiritually competent to devise our own means for worship: "once we have turned from the right path, there is no end to our wanderings,

until we get buried under a multitude of superstitions” Calvin warned. The experience in evangelical churches today confirms Calvin’s concern and warning.

Following these convictions, our church adheres to the Reformation approach known as the “regulative principle” of worship. The Westminster Confession of Faith, explains this principle:

The acceptable way of worshipping the true God is instituted by Himself, and so limited by His own revealed will, that He may not be worshipped according to the imaginations and devices of men, or the suggestions of Satan, under any visible representation, or any other way not prescribed in the Holy Scripture (WCF 21.1).

This states that God has told us how He desires to be worshipped and that we are to worship in obedience to the commands and relevant examples of the Bible concerning worship. Key to this approach is an emphasis on biblical “elements” in worship. Our worship service is to be made up of elements – activities – that all have biblical warrant through explicit commands or examples. These biblical elements include the reading of Scripture, the sound preaching of God’s Word, corporate prayer, the faithful administration of the sacraments, the giving of tithes and sacrifices, and the singing of praise to God. You will note that these are the primary elements in our worship service at Second Church. Indeed, from start to finish, every element in our worship service is based on a biblical command or example, since we desire to worship the Lord in a way that is acceptable to Him.

Let me suggest how this approach should shape our attitude to worship together. First, this reminds us that we approach a sovereign deity who calls us to obey His Word. He says, “To obey is better than sacrifice” (1 Sam. 15:22). We do not come to God demanding to have things our way, but submitting to His good and perfect, sovereign will. Second, when we worship biblically, we have a great cause to rejoice, since God’s way of worship directs us to

the saving work of Jesus Christ. God wants us to draw near to Him, to praise Him, to pray to Him, to learn from Him, and to meet with Him. What good news this is for us! Third, and perhaps most importantly, we come for the purpose of worshipping God and not ourselves or our felt needs. Worship always has an object, and the object – the recipient – of our worship – is not the congregation, nor the visitors, but the God whose name we praise. To put it a bit differently, we do not come to church “to get something for ourselves,” but to give our praise to God: worship is for Him, and not for us. The beauty of biblical worship is, however, that when we worship in such a God-centered and God-glorifying way, we get so much out of it! He has designed it that the best thing for us is to give ourselves wholly to God, so that biblical, God-centered worship is the most evangelistic and most edifying worship possible. To Him be the glory as we worship Him today!

Paul Tripp

We forget that God's primary goal is not changing our situations or relationships so that we can be happy, but changing us through our situations and relationships so that we will be holy.



Women in the Church

WIC PRECEPTS BIBLE STUDY

Begins Feb. 3 | Studying Acts, Part 2
Thursdays, 9:30 AM | Conference Room
CONTACT MARY SETTLE BEFORE JAN. 15
TO ORDER YOUR STUDY MATERIALS.
erussell1670@charter.net



WIC RAFIKI BIBLE STUDY

Begins Feb. 7 | Studying 2 Corinthians
Mondays, 9:30 AM | Fellowship Hall
CONTACT SYLVIA LONG BEFORE JAN. 15
TO ORDER YOUR STUDY MATERIALS.
sdlong1016@gmail.com

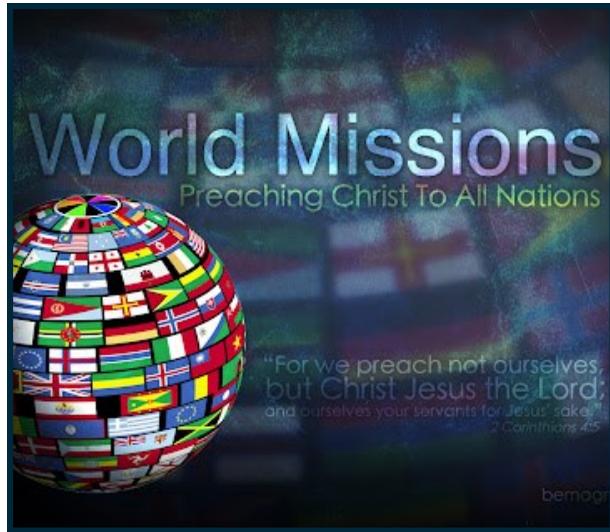


Saturday, February 12
10 AM | Fellowship Hall

Questions? Contact Chris Zimmerman

chriszimme@gmail.com

**2022 Missions Conference
January 28-30**



The Lord's Supper



Do this in remembrance of Me.
LUKE 22:19

Sunday, January 16 | Morning Worship

Replenishing Our Widows' Fund

Honor widows who are truly widows.

1 Timothy 5:3

Second Presbyterian Church established the Widows' Fund for the substantial (and often ongoing) needs that come upon some 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 abundant provision for those who look to Him.

**TEN THINGS EVERY STUDENT OF
HISTORY SHOULD KNOW AND
REMEMBER**

By

Rev. Dr. James E. McGoldrick

1. God has commanded the study of history (Deuteronomy 6), so this discipline is not an option, but an obligation for believers to pursue.
2. Christ is a genuine historical person, and the Christian faith has its basis in facts, not in myths. This makes Christianity distinctively superior to other religions.
3. God controls history through His providential supervision of all peoples, all things, and all events (Psalm 103:19).
4. Only a Christian perspective on history offers hope for the future. All humanistic and naturalistic interpretations lead necessarily to despair because they have no eternal frame of reference.
5. All theology is historical theology. God did not reveal his will in one event. He chose instead to do so through numerous events and by inspiring many writers over centuries of time. No one can understand and apply Scripture correctly who does not do so by means of a historical method of interpretation.
6. All events have causes—primary and secondary causes. God's sovereign decrees are the primary cause, and human and material factors are secondary causes. Secondary causes have validity and significance because they accomplish God's primary cause as He has decreed.
7. Without a believing study of history, people cannot know where they came from; why they are here; and where they are going. This knowledge is available only through God's revelation of Himself, which took place in history.
8. The use of historical evidences requires scrupulous honesty, or the misuse of such evidences will produce propaganda.
9. An intelligent grasp of the present requires a substantial knowledge of the past, for the best way to examine reality is in terms of its causes.
10. It is impossible to construct and maintain a biblical worldview without reference to history, which is the arena of activity in which God is at work composing the City of God, which is the goal of history.

January Birthdays

January 1	Happy New Year 2022!
January 2	Todd Ford
January 3	Tamara King, Sue O'Brien
January 4	Kate Taylor
January 6	Malachi Mobley, James Schvaneveldt
January 7	Heather Uhall, Jeremy Weaver
January 8	Melissa Fultz, Margaret Holman
January 9	Elisha Bombaro, Richard Chivers, Marcia Russell
January 10	Henry Martin
January 11	Chad Bailey, Jim Bishop
January 13	Zoe Everett, Bill Watkins
January 14	Bob Anderson
January 15	Gwyn DuBose-Schmitt, Margaret Pomerlyan
January 16	Jonathan Crunk
January 17	Joffre Swait
January 18	Victoria Pujdak
January 19	Blue Early, Madeline Mobley, Lori Schvaneveldt, Kelli Smoker
January 29	Doug McDaniel
January 21	John Atwood, Toni Huff, Wolfgang Siemen, Martin Whigham
January 23	Carrie Fultz, Doug Hanson
January 26	Andrew Bailey, Margaret Hook
January 30	Cheryl Traynham
January 31	Steve Plating



Sunday, January 16

8:30 AM **MORNING WORSHIP (The Lord's Supper)**
9:55 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, January 17

6:30 AM Men's Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)
6:00 PM Joint Officers Meeting

Tuesday, January 18

10:00 AM WIC Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)
6:30 PM Lightbringers (Fellowship Hall)

Wednesday, January 19

5:30 PM **FAMILY NIGHT FELLOWSHIP SUPPER**
6:15 PM Hope Choir (K4-K5)/Covenant Choir
(Grades 1-6)/Youth Choir (Grades 7-12)
6:30 PM Administration Committee Meeting
6:50 PM WIC Circle 1 (Conference Room)
7:00 PM **ADULT PRAYER MEETING AND BIBLE STUDY**
7:00 PM CAT Kids/Covenant Kids and Jr. & Sr. High Bible Studies
7:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Friday, January 21

1:00 PM Mission to Main Street

Saturday, January 22

7:00 PM Social Dance Class (Gymnasium)



2022 SANCTUARY FLOWERS

RESERVE YOUR DATE
HONORING LOVED ONES AND
SPECIAL OCCASIONS TODAY!

Contact Judy Bishop, SPC
Flower Ministry Coordinator

judyles1947@att.net

Upcoming Events

spcgreenville.org/calendar

- Jan. 19 Administration Committee Meeting (6:30 PM)
- Jan. 22 Social Dance Class (7 PM)
- Jan. 28-30 Missions Conference (Banquet 6 PM Jan. 28)
- Feb. 3 WIC Precepts Bible Study Resumes (9:30 AM)
- Feb. 7 WIC Rafiki Bible Study Resumes (9:30 AM)
- Feb. 12 Women's Prayer Breakfast (10 AM)



A WORD FROM OUR SESSION
Moving forward, we will have one
Covenant Baptism Sunday per month.
Baptisms are never scheduled during
Lord's Supper services.



OFFERING ENVELOPES

PICK-UP ON THE TABLE OUTSIDE THE LIBRARY.
Questions? Contact Jane Warner, SPC Bookkeeper
jwarner@spcgreenville.org



SOCIAL DANCE CLASS

Saturdays, January 8 and 22, 7 PM
Second Presbyterian Gymnasium

www.CarolinaEnglishCountryDance.com

Pray for Our Country



Let every person be subject to the governing au-
thorities. For there is no authority except from God,
and those that exist have been instituted by God.

ROMANS 13:1

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

Roy Heath

By

Edna Heath

Remembering Our Shut-ins

Remember in prayer this week the following shut-in
members, sending a note of encouragement:

Iris Dillard

Westminster Independent Living

11 East August Street, #222 | Greenville, SC 29605

Weekly Wisdom

PROVERBS 3:3-4

Let not steadfast love and faithfulness forsake you;
bind them around your neck;
write them on the tablet of your heart.
So you will find favor and good success
in the sight of God and man.

CHURCH INFORMATION

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

Telephone: 864.232.7621

Website: spcgreenville.org

Email: info@spcgreenville.org

Social Media

facebook.com/spcgreenville twitter.com/spcgreenville

Office Hours: Monday—Thursday 9:AM—4:PM, Friday 9 AM—Noon

Information Centers: Church Services Information 1 * Direc-
tions 2

Hospital Information 3 * Wednesday Night Menu 4

Church Directory 5 * Weekly Activities 6 * Monthly Activities 7

Church Services: Sunday: Sunday School - 10 AM

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

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