

Corner of River and Rhett



Annual Church Picnic

Good Food and Great Fellowship!

Monday, July 4th

5:00 P.M. to 10:00 P.M.

Deacons will provide BBQ and drinks.

Families are asked to bring generous portions of side dishes and/or desserts.



There will be inflatables, dunk booth, and games.

Watch fireworks (from Unity Park) at 9:45 P.M.

Come rain or shine!

Nonprofit Org.
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Greenville, SC
Permit No. 559

The Second Presbyterian Church

105 River Street
Greenville, South Carolina 29601-2537

Return Service Requested

WORSHIP AT SECOND

THE LORD'S DAY

July 3, 2022

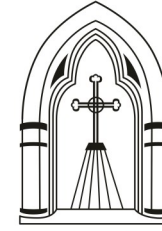
MORNING WORSHIP

8:30 & 11:00 A.M.
Rev. Dr. Richard D. Phillips preaching
He Who Speaks Last
Jeremiah 28:1-17

EVENING WORSHIP

6:00 P.M.
Rev. Dr. Richard D. Phillips preaching
Mercy for Manasseh
2 Chronicles 33:1-25

«Name»
«Address»
«City», «State» «Zip»



The West End Herald

Vol. CXXX, Edition 26

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

SECOND July 3, 2022

GOD.
CENTERED PRAYER

by Derek Thomas

Part 2

(continued from the June 26 West End Herald edition)

God-centered prayer pauses to reflect on the nature of God, what He is like—His attributes. That, too, is the focus of an account in which God tells Moses His name. The context (Ex. 34) is the nasty business of the golden calf (man's idol factory at work again). Having cleared up this mess, Moses ascended Sinai again only to be told God's name once more (*Yahweh*, Ex. 34:5), but now expanded with an explanation of His nature: "The Lord passed before him and proclaimed, 'The Lord, the Lord, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness, keeping steadfast love for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, but who will by no means clear the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children and the children's children, to the third and the fourth generation.' " Grace, mercy, and holiness are attributes that God assigns to Himself—holiness being His moral perfection that responds in retribution to lawlessness and ingratitude. God-centered prayer requires a proper knowledge of God in His Trinitarian glory.

PRAISE

Praise the Lord! For it is good to sing praises to our God; for it is pleasant, and a song of praise is fitting. (Ps. 147:1)

God is praiseworthy. Getting that fact under our skin is not as easy as we might think. Self-centered praying (which is a form of idolatry) fails to appreciate that our purpose here on earth is to praise our Creator and Redeemer. Listen to the psalmist as he extols the praiseworthiness of God again and again. The Psalter used to be the basic diet for Christians. Christians sang psalms around the dining room table and in church services on Sunday. Subliminally, the God-centered praise of the book of Psalms became the language of prayer. Since psalm-singing has waned, the rich God-exalting praise that the Psalter represents has waned as well.

J.I. Packer reminds us of the need to distinguish between praise and thanks, and to ensure that we do both:

Prayers of thanks focus to some extent on us. We thank God for particular gifts given to us and others personally, and for general gifts bestowed on all. Praise, on the other hand, focuses directly on God. We praise him for who and what he is. It is the difference between a spouse saying to the other, "You are the most understanding person I know; that's one reason I love you so much" and "Thanks for the sandwich; I needed it" (*Praying: Finding Our Way Through Duty to Delight*, p. 31).

PRESENCE

Praising God does not come naturally to us. We must be resolute about it. That's why Jesus warned His disciples in the preface to the Lord's Prayer about a religious performance more concerned about outward spectacle and ceremony than inward authenticity and true worship. "Hypocrite" is the term Jesus uses (Matt. 6:5), a term just about as offensive now as it was then. Playacting, pretending to pray, praying without the reality of knowing we are in God's presence, is a harsh judgment but a true one nevertheless. When we do such things, we are praying to exalt ourselves, not God. It is the self-centeredness that plagues us, that needs to be rooted out and destroyed. Authentic prayer, God-centered prayer, realizes that the

promise of prayer is God Himself. Being in the presence of God is the greatest reward of prayer.

"O Lord, I love the habitation of your house and the place where your glory dwells" (Ps. 26:8).

"Blessed is the one you choose and bring near, to dwell in your courts! We shall be satisfied with the goodness of your house, the holiness of your temple" (Ps. 65:4).

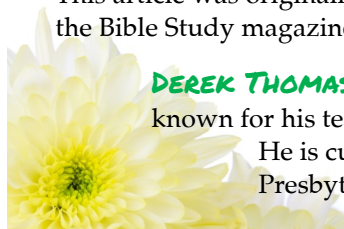
Do you know anything of this? If not, pursue Him until you find Him. "Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near" (Isa. 55:6).

PRACTICE

How can we ensure that our prayers are God-centered? Consider the following five-step strategy:

1. **Remind yourself** that there is only one God in the universe, and that you are not Him.
2. **Adoration comes first**, before confession, thanksgiving, or supplication. Worship the Lord in your praying.
3. **Read a psalm** before you pray, and attempt to emulate what you find: a preoccupation with God in all His multifaceted nature. Find psalms of joy or grief, praise or lament, and note how the psalmist spends time with God, making Him the center of his thoughts and desires.
4. **Learn to love God's names** so that saying and repeating them fills you with an inexpressible joy, a reminder of who He is and His covenant faithfulness to you in the gospel of His grace.
5. **Learn to "wait"** upon the Lord. Watch how the psalmist, "fainting" as he thinks of his own troubles, finds relief by deliberately focusing on the great things God has done: "I will remember the deeds of the Lord; yes, I will remember your wonders of old. I will ponder all your work, and meditate on your mighty deeds" (Ps. 77:11-12).

This article was originally published in *Tabletalk*, May 2022, the Bible Study magazine of Ligonier Ministries.



DEREK THOMAS is a Reformed pastor and theologian known for his teaching, writing, and editorial work. He is currently the senior pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Columbia, SC.

June/July Birthdays



Happy
Birthday!

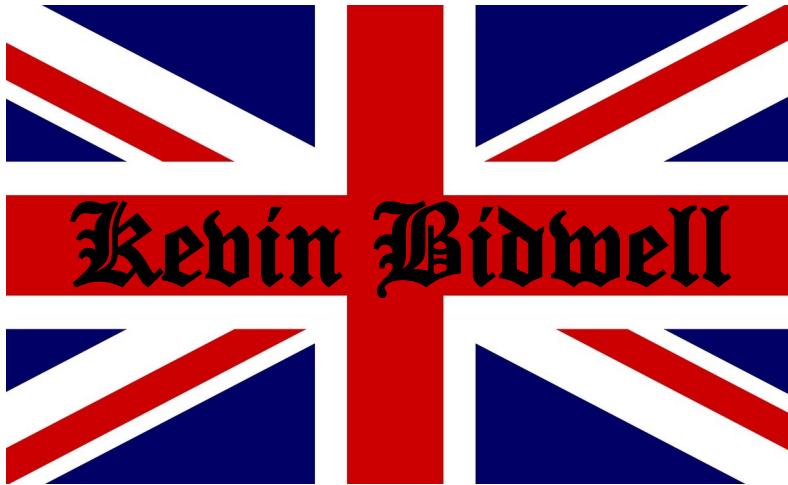
June 29	Joy Boudreau, Lee Early
July 1	Christina Bianchi, Chip Johnson, Trystan Scoggins
July 2	Ed Butler III
July 3	Janice Leathers
July 5	Seth Johnson, Elizabeth Master, John Mark Phillips
July 6	Amelia Gray
July 7	Todd Walton
July 8	Bill Cross Sr., Addison Hughes
July 11	Ponder Babington, Chad Scoggins
July 12	Trey Hoopes III, Dottie King, Mary Grace Mobley
July 13	Cole Owens, Rhonda Slayton
July 14	Scott Grubbs
July 15	Kaitlyn Bouchillon
July 16	Ezra Branigin, Audrey McKee, Nicole Plourde
July 17	Rose McConnell, Rebekah McDaniel, Rebecca Senn
July 18	Isaac Maralit, David Wright
July 20	Bob Holman, Hanna Lizak
July 23	Nicole Laughter, Doris Youngblood
July 25	Diane Detmer, Dave Weiland
July 26	Caroline Antwine, Sharon Phillips, Sam Robinson
July 29	Allen Clark, Amy Frost, David Martindale
July 30	Ernestine Waterholter
July 31	Bethany Gearhart, Anna Maria Hanson, Stephen Scott, Daniel Walton



Covenant Child

Congratulations to Chase and Faith Raper on the birth of Philip Russell Raper on June 25. Grandparents are Walter and Marcia Russell.

Missionary of the Week



KEVIN BIDWELL was baptized as an infant in the Church of England in 1965. Little by little the Gospel became clear to him and in 1990, he came to personal faith in Jesus Christ with a call to preach soon afterwards. He feasted on the books of Martyn Lloyd-Jones, Ian Murray, and the Westminster Confession of Faith. The Larger and Shorter Catechisms gave him a love for Presbyterianism the Reformed Faith.

In 2010, he began a church-planting Bible Study in Sheffield under the leadership of Evangelical Presbyterian Church in England & Wales (EPCEW). The church formally constituted in April 2011 with 11 members. Sheffield Presbyterian Church currently meets in Hill Top Chapel, a historic church begun in 1630 by English Puritans who desired to meet morning and evening on the Lord's Day. The building has been restored and an addition has been added. Two services on Sundays and a prayer meeting on Wednesdays focus on God-centered worship with a desire to recover warm-hearted Confessional Presbyterianism.

Pastor Phillips preached in the Sheffield church in 2019 and a SPC mission team also visited England in 2019. Since its constitution, Sheffield Presbyterian Church has been instrumental in church plants in Lincoln and Manchester, England, as well as Berlin, Germany.

Dr. Bidwell and his Dutch wife, Maria, have two children.

Summer Opportunities for Women

Is your regular Bible Study or Circle on break for the summer? Consider joining in some of the following for spiritual refreshment and fellowship!

Summer Playdates

Moms with young children are invited to weekly playdates.

Dates: (Tuesday mornings) June 7 through August 9 (No playdate July 12)

Time: 10:30 A.M. to noon

Place: Second Presbyterian Nursery

Contact: Hope Stevel (770-712-6499) for more information.

WIC Bible Study

Informal time of Bible Study (Psalm 1) and prayer

Light lunch fellowship afterward

Dates: (third Tuesday morning) June, July, and August

Time: 10:30 A.M. to 11:45 A.M.

Theme: *His delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night.*

Contact: Ramona White (rcgwhite@gmail.com) for more information.

Date: June 21

Meditation: *What and Why*

Place: Jennifer Superdock's home

Date: July 19

Meditation: *Who and How*

Place: TBD

Date: August 16

Meditation: *When and Where*

Place: TBD

SPC Women

Fellowship, Bible Study, prayer

Dates: (Tuesday nights) June 28, July 12, July 26

Time: 6:30 P.M. Casual coffee and fellowship; Group time 7:00 P.M.

Place: Leslie Martin's home (9 Ottaway Drive, Greenville)

Contact: Kristen Owens (864-275-3838) for more information.

July Breakfast Fellowship

Breakfast, fellowship, and prayer

Dates: (Saturday mornings) July 9, July 16, July 23, July 30

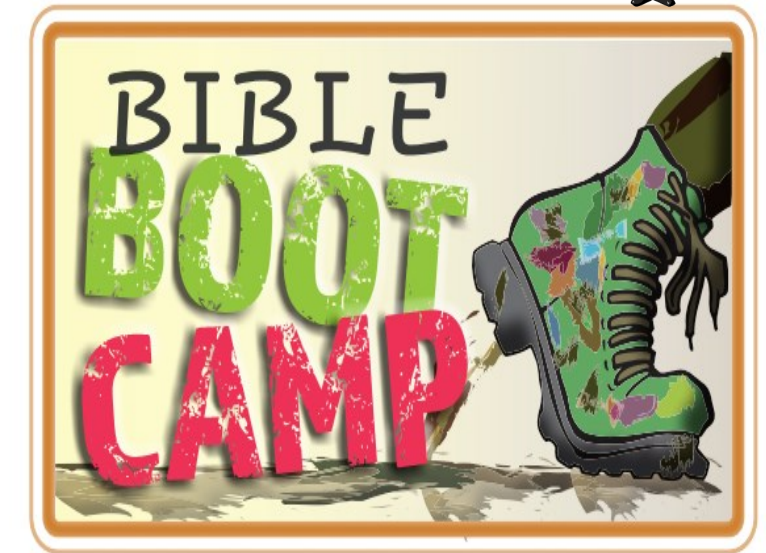
Time: 8:30 A.M. to 10:00 A.M.

Place: Helen Kee's home (400 Mills Avenue, Unit 207, Greenville)

Theme: Jesus, Our Kinsman Redeemer

Call/text: Helen (864-354-0826) to join one time or every time

IT'S TIME FOR



JULY 11-15

Join the Lord's Army as we learn about the armor of God and how we can stand firm against the enemy! All soldiers ages K4 through 6th grade (completed) will be recruited for active duty!

Enlist:

SPCGREENVILLE.ORG/SIGNUP

Have any question?

Want to join the ranks?

Want to help lead the soldiers?

Contact:

CAROLINE MOBLEY (864) 775-0487

Church Calendar

spcgreenville.org/calendar

Sunday, July 3

8:30 A.M. **MORNING WORSHIP**
 9:55 A.M. Children's Chapel (Sanctuary)
 10:00 A.M. **SUNDAY SCHOOL** (All Adults in Gym)
 11:00 A.M. **MORNING WORSHIP**
 5:30 P.M. Season of Prayer (Chapel)
 6:00 P.M. **EVENING WORSHIP**

Monday, July 4

Church Offices Closed
 5:00 P.M. Picnic on Church Grounds

Tuesday, July 5

10:30 A.M. Moms/Children Playdate

Wednesday, July 6

No Wednesday night supper or activities

Thursday, July 7

6:30 P.M. Mission to Main Street

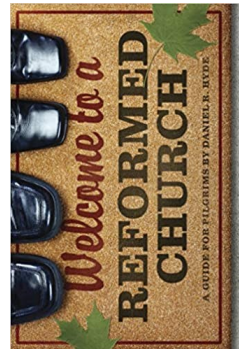
Saturday, July 9

8:30 A.M. WIC Breakfast/Fellowship (Kee home)
 9:00 A.M. VBS Workday (until noon)

All Adult Sunday School

10:00 A.M. in the Gym

*Welcome to a Reformed Church:
 A Guide for Pilgrims* by Danny Hyde



Date	Chapter Title
7/3	Church: Distinguishing Marks
7/10	Worship: Of God, by God, for God
7/17	Preaching and Sacraments: Means of Grace

Fall Sunday School Previews:

7/24	Westminster Sunday School Class
7/31	College & Young Adults Sunday School Class
8/7	ACTS Sunday School Class
8/14	Fellowship Sunday School Class
8/21	Chapel Sunday School Class

Upcoming Events

spcgreenville.org/calendar

July 4	Church Picnic
July 9	VBS Workday (Gym)
July 9, 16, 23, 30	WIC Breakfast/Bible Study
July 11-15	Vacation Bible School
July 11	Joint Session/Diaconate Meeting
July 17	The Lord's Supper (morning services)
July 23	Calvary Presbytery
July 25-29	Jr. High Ridge Haven Trip
August 28	Rally Day/WIC Annual Meeting
August 31	CAT Kids/Covenant Kids begin
September 11	Membership Class begins



Covenant Baptisms

On Sunday, June 26, three families brought their children to be baptized and solemnly admitted into the visible church.

Child:

Clark Watson Brown
Evelyn Elliot Senn
Jasper Remington Siemen

Parents:

Buck and Claire Brown
 Andy & Lyndsay Senn
 Remington & Irene Siemen

On July 6 there will be no Wednesday night supper or activities due to Independence Day.

The flowers are placed in the sanctuary this Lord's Day, to the glory of God and in loving honor of **Dr. and Mrs. Richard D. Phillips** who began their ministry amongst this congregation the first Sunday of July 2007 (*by the Session*).

Remembering Our Shut-ins

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

Georgie Campbell
 27 Riverview Drive, Greenville, SC 29611

Vacation Bible School Workday

All VBS volunteers and workers are asked to help prepare the church for VBS on Saturday, July 9, from 9:00 A.M. until noon. If you have any questions please contact Jill Mann or Caroline Mobley.



Church Information

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

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Website: spcgreenville.org
Social Media: [Facebook.com/spcgreenville](https://www.facebook.com/spcgreenville)
[Twitter.com/spcgreenville](https://twitter.com/spcgreenville)
[Instagram.com/spcgreenville](https://www.instagram.com/spcgreenville)
[YouTube.com/spcgreenville](https://www.youtube.com/spcgreenville)
[Vimeo.com/spcgreenville](https://www.vimeo.com/spcgreenville)

Office Hours: Mon-Thur: 9 A.M. - 4 P.M. Fri: 9 A.M. - Noon

CHURCH SERVICES

Sunday: Sunday School 10:00 A.M. Morning Worship 8:30/11:00 A.M. Evening Worship 6:00 P.M.	Wednesday: Supper 5:30 P.M. Prayer Meeting 7:00 P.M. Adult Bible Study 7:25 P.M.
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