

The West End Herald

Second Presbyterian Church, Greenville, SC



Shepherding Spirit *in the*

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November 27, 2022

An overseer appointed by the Holy Spirit has a uniquely spiritual work (Acts 20:28). How do elders shepherd in the Spirit? First Peter 2:4–5 says:

As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

A three-part blueprint of the church as God's temple emerges that guides its shepherds.

The Costly Cornerstone. Peter calls Jesus a "living stone." What a mixed metaphor. Obviously, stones are not normally considered

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living. And in one very true sense, we can say that no one was ever “more dead” than Jesus. He was eternally destined to be “the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world” (Rev. 13:8, KJV). He came to Israel but was the “stone that the builders rejected” (1 Peter 2:7). At Calvary, with the weight of all His people’s sins on Him, He died and was buried.

Yet no one was ever more alive than Christ now is. For the Spirit raised Him to life from the grave. As the psalmist says, “The LORD lives, and blessed be my rock, and exalted be the God of my salvation” (Psalm 18:46). Elders must devote themselves to teaching the Spirit’s Word to God’s people so that their lives are built on this cornerstone.

The Beautiful Building. Peter describes those in union with Christ as living stones themselves. Charles H. Spurgeon says:

The house of God is built with the living stones of converted men and women, and the church of God, which Christ hath purchased with His own blood—this is the divine edifice, and the structure wherein God dwells even to this day.

As people from all different cultures, classes, and conditions come to Christ, they are fitted

together by the Spirit of God into a beautiful temple. God’s shepherds are to work diligently to help this “priesthood of all believers” achieve their service in the household of God.

The Acceptable Actions.

This service is described in the New Testament with sacrificial language. God’s people are to learn to worship and “continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God” (Heb. 13:15). Their prayers are to rise as incense to the Lord (Rev. 5:8). They are to care for one another, “for such sacrifices are pleasing to God” (Heb. 13:16). They should evangelize, seeing this work as “ministering as a priest the gospel of God” and hoping the “offering . . . may be acceptable, sanctified by the Holy Spirit” (Rom. 15:16). Ultimately, believers are to “present [their] bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God,” by offering themselves fully each day to God (12:1).

Following this blueprint will help elders describe the church as the elder in Revelation did. He said of God’s people,

They . . . serve him day and night in his temple; and . . . the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd (7:15, 17). ♦

by Barry J. York

ORDINATION

Brendon J. Branigin

**Assistant
Minister of
Evangelism
and Missions**



We look forward to Sunday night, November 27, when Brendon Branigin will be installed and ordained as an Assistant Minister here at Second Presbyterian Church.

Holidays Service **SCHEDULE**



Wednesday 11/23

- 5:30 P.M. Thanksgiving Meal (*Gym*)
- 6:30 P.M. Thanksgiving Service (*Sanctuary*)

Thursday–Friday 11/24 – 11/25

Church Offices Closed

Sunday 12/11

- 6:00 P.M. Christmas Oratorio
- 7:30 P.M. Reception (*Gym*)

Wednesday 12/14

- 5:30 P.M. Christmas Supper (*Gym*)
- 6:15 P.M. Youth Choir Rehearsal
(no Covenant Choir or Hope Choir)
- 6:45 P.M. Christmas Program (*Gym*)
- 7:30 P.M. Chancel Choir

Wednesday 12/21

- (No Meal/Activities/Service)
- 7:00 P.M. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Saturday 12/24

- 4:00 P.M. Christmas Eve Lessons and
Carols Service (*Sanctuary*)

Sunday 12/25

- (No Sunday School)
- 11:00 A.M. Combined Worship Service
- 6:00 P.M. Evening Service

Sunday 12/26 – 12/30

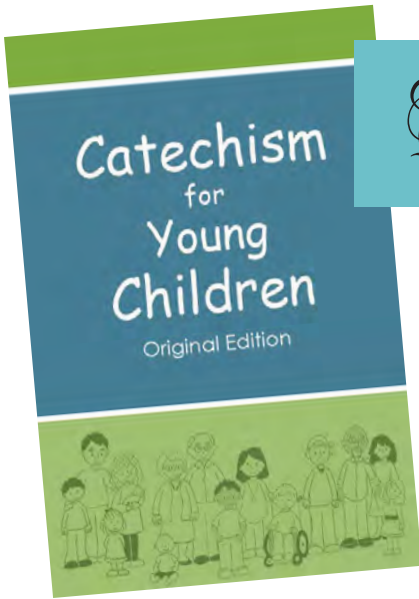
Church Offices Closed

Wednesday 12/28

(No Meal/Activities/Service)

Sunday 1/1/23

- 10:00 A.M. Sunday School
- 11:00 A.M. Combined Worship Service
- 6:00 P.M. Evening Service

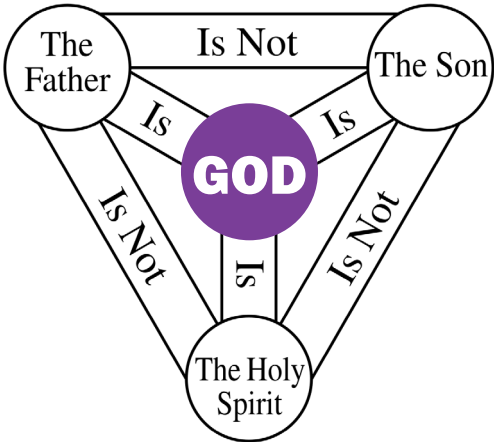


Question 7:

In how many persons does this one God exist?

Answer:
In three persons.

The doctrine of the Trinity means that there is one God who eternally exists as three distinct Persons — the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. In other words, God is one in *essence* and three in *person*. These definitions express three crucial truths:



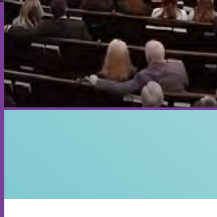
- 1 The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are distinct Persons.
- 2 Each Person is fully God.
- 3 There is only one God. ♦

at the corner of

River & Rhett

On November 20, Second Presbyterian Church welcomed 35 men, women, and children into its membership. A list of our new members may be found on page 15 of

this newsletter. Welcome these new SPC family members! ♦



November/December Birthdays



- November 22 Carrie Anne Joiner, Fitz King III
November 23 Brandi Ford
November 24 Audra Atwood, Frida Barbier,
Isaac Fultz, Luke Hoopes,
Tucker Weaver
November 25 Caroline Scott
November 26 Bill Nowak
November 27 Aaron Bouchillon, Don Bulla,
Rachel Enggasser, Byron Senn, Henry Welch
November 28 Susan McDaniel, Daniel Plourde
November 29 Mott Altman, Linda Kirk
November 30 Jack Gamble Jr.
December 1 Bonnie Church
December 2 Dena Rapp
December 3 Charlotte Therrell
December 4 Emma Uhall
December 5 Bill Chapman, John Gray, Addison Maralit,
Ashton Scoggins, Megan Thompson,
Ramona White
December 6 Tony Stephens
December 7 Jeff Windt
December 8 Marcus Laughter
December 9 Anya Barringer, Don Nickson
December 10 Timothy Nguyen, Josiah Schvaneveldt
December 11 Noelle Bombaro, Dempsey Bouchillon,
Hope Hughes, Orla Johnson, Ken Pujdak,
Rebecca VanDoodewaard
December 12 Ella Gamble, Anna Ruth Mobley
December 14 Joe Bianchi, Shannon Flaherty
December 15 Monica Bianchi, Henry Gamble,
Beth Grubbs, Richard Olsen, Ron Rapp
December 17 Jeff Gearhart, Holden Trautner
December 18 Daniel Nguyen, Deborah Tingle,
Wanda Walton
December 19 Brian Moore, Garison Plourde, Sam Styles

This Week

Morning Sermon

Dr. Richard D. Phillips

THE MAN WHO WOULD NOT HEAR
Jeremiah 36:9–32

Evening Sermon

Dr. Richard D. Phillips

BELIEVING AND SPEAKING
2 Corinthians 4:13

Sunday, November 27

- 8:30 A.M. MORNING WORSHIP
- 9:55 A.M. Children's Chapel (Sanctuary)
- 10:00 A.M. SUNDAY SCHOOL
- 11:00 A.M. MORNING WORSHIP
- 5:30 P.M. Season of Prayer (Chapel)
- 6:00 P.M. EVENING WORSHIP—Brendon Branigin Ordination Service
- 7:30 P.M. Reception (Gym)

Monday, November 28

- 6:30 A.M. Men's Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)

Tuesday, November 29

- 5:30 P.M. Bethany Early Drop-in Baby Shower (Fellowship Hall)

Wednesday, November 30

- 5:30 P.M. FAMILY NIGHT FELLOWSHIP SUPPER (Gym)
- 6:15 P.M. Hope Choir (K4–K5), Covenant Choir (Grades 1–6), Youth Choir (Grades 7–12)
- 6:45 P.M. Missions Moment
- 7:00 P.M. CAT Kids (3 years old–Grade 4), Covenant Kids (Grades 5–8)
- 7:00 P.M. Jr. & Sr. High Bible Studies
- 7:00 P.M. ADULT PRAYER MEETING AND BIBLE STUDY
- 7:30 P.M. Chancel Choir

Friday, December 2

- 12:00 P.M. Men's Luncheon/Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)

Saturday, December 3

- 10:00 A.M. Haley Schvaneveldt Bridal Shower (Fellowship Hall)
- 1:00 P.M. WIC Decorating Day

Upcoming Events

spcgreenville.org/calendar

November 27	The Lord's Supper (<i>Morning Services</i>)
November 27	Brendon Branigin Ordination
December 3	Haley Schvaneveldt Bridal Shower
December 3	WIC Church Christmas Decorating
December 10	Michaela Oldham Baby Shower
December 11	Congregational Meeting/All-Adult Sunday School
December 11	Christmas Oratorio/Reception
December 13	Light Bringers
December 14	Christmas Supper/Program
December 21/28	No Wednesday Night Meal/Activities/Service
December 24	Lessons and Carols
December 26-30	Church Offices Closed

Remembering our Shut-ins

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





SECOND
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
est. 1849



Bookstore

Need Christmas gift ideas? Give the gift that keeps on giving by purchasing good Christian books. Visit our SPC Bookstore (*across from the entrance to our Church Library, near the Chapel*).

Written by SPC members, Barbara and David Leeman and published by Moody Publishers, these unique hymnals are ideal for family or personal worship.

Hosanna in Excelsis

Beautifully bound and designed, *Hosanna in Excelsis* offers 43 hymns for the Advent, Nativity, and Epiphany seasons.



Our Hymns, Our Heritage

This volume was written to appeal to students of all ages with 120 ancient and modern hymns.



Along with the melody and all stanzas, these books offer brief biographies of each author and composer. A section called “As you sing this hymn...” provides devotional words that point toward each hymn’s meaning and spiritual lessons. Recordings of each hymn on USB Flash Drive are also available for each book.

Announcements

Communion Sunday

The Lord's Supper will be observed on Sunday morning, November 27, in both the 8:30 and 11:00 A.M. services.

Ordination Service

On Sunday evening, November 27, Brendon J. Branigin will be ordained a PCA Minister. We congratulate Brendon and thank the Lord for bringing him to this important milestone in his life. The church family is asked to bring finger food/desserts for a reception in the Gymnasium after the service.

Baby Shower Drop-in

SPC Ladies are invited to join Joan Barringer, Bethany Gearhart, and SPC Youth Girls for a drop-in baby shower in honor of Bethany Early on Tuesday night, November 29, from 5:30–7:00 P.M. in the Fellowship Hall. Appetizers and desserts will be provided. Bethany is registered at Target and Amazon.

Christmas Poinsettias

We will be decorating the church with white poinsettias this year. If you would like to purchase a 6" plant for \$11, go to spcgreenville.org/signup. Plants can be designated "in honor of" or "in memory of" if desired. Please complete your purchase by December 7. The church will pick up and place the poinsettias in the Sanctuary. Plants may be taken home after the Christmas Day Services.

Bridal Shower

Ladies of the church are invited to attend a bridal shower for Haley Schvaneveldt on Saturday, December 3, at 10:00 A.M. in the Fellowship Hall. Haley is registered at Crate & Barrel, Target, and Amazon.

Christmas Decorating Day

SPC women are asked to help decorate the church buildings for Christmas on Saturday, December 3, beginning at 1:00 P.M. If you need more information, please contact Kim Robertson at kimrobertson1966@yahoo.com.

Baby Shower

The baby shower for Michaela Oldham has been postponed until January 2023. Details will be available soon.

From Verlyn Smoker, Director of Music

On Sunday evening, December 11, our Chancel Choir, assisted by a chamber orchestra, will present parts one and two of Johann Sebastian Bach's magnificent *Christmas Oratorio*. This six-part work was written by Mr. Bach to be utilized in the gathered worship of God's people in Leipzig, Germany, over the course of the worship services surrounding Christmas Day. Parts one and two focus on the promise and fulfillment of the birth of Christ, and the revelation of his coming to the shepherds and to the world. Though the story is well known, the musical setting may not be as familiar—rest assured, it is some of the greatest music ever written to celebrate the incarnation of our Lord! This service presents an excellent opportunity to invite friends, family, and neighbors to come and hear the gospel proclaimed in word and song as we celebrate the birth of Jesus, our Lord. A reception in the Gym will follow. May God be praised and glorified as we make music for his glory!

Tidings and Tinsel!

The whole SPC family is invited to the annual Christmas Supper and Program on Wednesday, December 14. Supper begins at 5:30 P.M. in the Gym followed by Christmas songs, special numbers, a skit, and Christmas Carols.

Perry Christmas!

Second Presbyterian Church will once again be hosting a dorm (250 men) at Perry Correctional for a meal and Christmas Program. The possible dates are December 13, 14, and 15. We are working with the facility to finalize the date. The event will likely run from 4 P.M. to 7:30 P.M. (set up, serving, singing, Gospel message). We need men and women who are willing to go into Perry and assist. If you are interested, please contact Bill Watkins at wmwatkinsjr@gmail.com or (864) 304-4737 or Hugh Player at huplayer@charter.net or (864) 483-0361.

ACTS Community Christmas Party

Date: Thursday, December 22

Time: 6:00 P.M.

Place: Mobley Home, 805 Knollwod Drive, Greenville

Food: Please bring heavy hors d'oeuvres or desserts to share.

