

The West End Herald

Second Presbyterian Church, Greenville, SC



Raising Kids to Love the Nations



Like most kids her age, our four-year-old has no filter. Several months ago, she closed our front door, sat down, and announced, "I only like English."

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We had been living in a new culture for a little over a year at this point. When I asked her what she meant, she made her stance clear: “I only like people who speak English.” Then suddenly checking herself, she asked, “Does God speak English? Or does he speak [the language where we serve]?”

She couldn’t explain why she felt such a strong preference for those who spoke her language. However, as a fellow human wrecked by sin, I understood well the desire to surround myself with those who do not make me feel alien or uncomfortable. As with her, what any of us really thinks or feels about the nations is directly related to what we believe about God.

As Christians, we’re not aiming for the mere flower of common courtesy or appreciation for otherness. We want the fruit of genuine love that comes from God (1 John 4:7). This love does not end in talk, but in deed, caring for both the temporal and eternal good of others (1 John 3:16–18). Raising our kids to love the nations means raising them to obey from the heart God’s command to love their neighbor, including those from other people

groups. It’s part of bringing up any child in the Lord’s discipline and instruction (Ephesians 6:4).

So how do we cultivate that kind of love in young children? Parents can begin to draw them into God’s global work in at least five practical ways.

Tell them the whole story of Scripture.

Loving the nations begins with seeing the wider story of what God is doing in the world. We can tell our children that God created people, unlike any other creature, in his likeness (Genesis 5:1–2), but sin broke our relationship with God and one another (Romans 5:12). In the beginning, all mankind spoke one language (Genesis 11:1), but in response to humanity’s evil plan at the Tower of Babel, God confused the people’s language and scattered them to live all over the earth (Genesis 11:7–8).

Since the beginning, however, God has been sculpting the history of the nations and determining the boundaries of their dwelling place so “that they should seek God” (Acts 17:26–27). “He gave his only Son,

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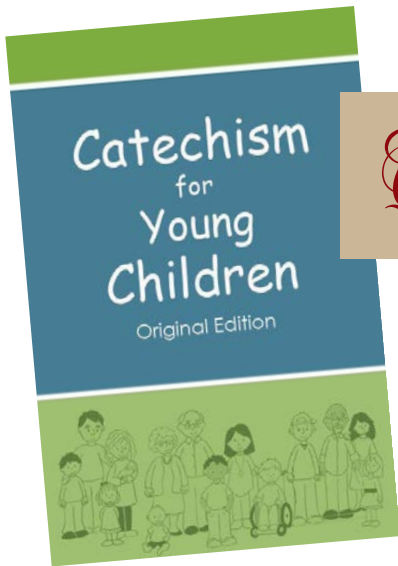
Come Over and Help

Come Over and Help (COAH) partners with churches in Eastern Europe to bring glory to God through gospel proclamation and practical ministry.



One such partnership is with the Reformed Presbyterian Church of Central and Eastern Europe (RPCCEE). COAH assists the three countries of Hungary, Romania, and Ukraine to flourish and thrive in gospel ministry.

One of the great needs in the RPCCEE is the identifying and training of men to share the burden of ministry. Pray that God would raise up officers to serve alongside pastors in this growing denomination. ♦



Question 75:

What do the last six commandments teach?

Answer:

Our duty to our fellow men.

By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. 1 John 5:2

We often hear people telling us how important it is to love yourself. The Bible never tells us how important it is to love yourself. It tells us to love other people as much as we already love ourselves. We always take care to get what we need for ourselves. God wants us to be just as careful to help meet others' needs. We go out of our way to keep from hurting ourselves. When we love others as we love ourselves, we will carefully protect them from being hurt. God commands us to look out for others in the same way that we always look out for ourselves. The last six of the Ten Commandments forbid us from doing things that would hurt others. ♦





at the corner of

River & Rhett

New Members

April 7, 2024



*Communicants Class
not pictured: Hudson Kinnear*



William Spell Baptism





April

Birthdays

14 **Tabitha Barringer**

15 **Caroline Mobley, Samuel Mobley, Ellie Mobley,
Kristen Owens, Elizabeth Pennington**

17 **Gerilyn McGaughran, Peggy Nickson**

18 **Russell McDaniel**

19 **Clark Brown, Chris Everett, Mary Kate Gamble,
Jazilyn Seawright**

20 **Susan Scappatura**

This Week

MORNING SERMON

Dr. Richard D. Phillips

FIRST MUST BE LAST

Mark 9:30–37

EVENING SERMON

Rev. Jeffrey M. Early

THE LION HAS ROARED

Amos 3:1–15

Sunday, April 14

- 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

Monday, April 15

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

Tuesday, April 16

- 10:00 A.M. WIC Bible Study (*Fellowship Hall*)
- 7:00 P.M. WIC Circle 2 (*T. Looper Home*)

Wednesday, April 17

- 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)
- 6:30 P.M. Administration Committee (*Conference Room*)
- 6:45 P.M. Missions Moment (*Gym*)
- 7:00 P.M. CAT Kids (Ages 3–Grade 4); Covenant Kids (Grades 5–8)
- 7:00 P.M. Jr. & Sr. High Bible Studies
- 7:00 P.M. Adult Prayer Meeting & Bible Study (*Gym*)
- 7:30 P.M. Chancel Choir

Thursday, April 18

- 9:30 A.M. Precepts Bible Study (*Conference Room*)

Last class this spring



Friday, April 19

- 9:00 A.M. Raising Up Mothers (*Fellowship Hall*)
- 12:00 P.M. Men's Luncheon/Bible Study (*Gym*)
- 1:30 P.M. Mission to Main

Upcoming Events

spcgreenville.org/calendar

- April 13** Sharing Your Faith Workshop (rescheduled from 3/16)
- April 14** Baptism Sunday
- April 21** The Lord's Supper in the Evening Service
- April 25** Calvary Presbytery (Woodruff Road)
- May 3** Building Banquet
- May 8** Graduation Banquet

that whoever believes in him”—without discrimination—“should not perish but have eternal life” (John 3:16). Jesus reconciles us now to God and one another by his blood on the cross (Ephesians 2:16). The nations will be his inheritance (Psalm 2:8), and one day they will stand before him, crying out, “Salvation belongs to our God!” (Revelation 7:9–10).

First, keep this story warm in your own heart (because our kids do learn to love what we love). Then proclaim it to your children. Before they can love the nations, our children must first behold the King of the nations and marvel at his love and salvation for every people. Let his words build

their view of the world, brick by brick. Start from a young age and tell them, in terms they can understand, the faithful story.

Pray for them and with them.

Hudson Taylor, a missionary to China in the nineteenth century, credited his parents and their prayers when asked about his love for the nations. His father was deeply moved after reading about the millions in China who were “sealed against the truth,” so he prayed that, if he had a son, one day “he might be called and privileged to labor in the vast, needy empire” (*A Retrospect*, 2). Over twenty years later, God answered his prayer.

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While raising our kids, our “primary business,” as J.C. Ryle calls it, should be prayer. If we want our children to love the nations, we should pray they would. Whether we pray through the news, through missionary newsletters, or with the help of resources like the Joshua Project or People Groups, we can invite our children to pray specific requests with us (and let them begin voicing their own simple prayers).

Parents need prayer, too. Some of us want our children to love the nations—but not if love’s expression means they give their time, talents, and money in ways we think are dangerous or wasteful. Not if it means abandoning our secret dreams for their lives. Some of us might even be quietly praying, “Anything but the mission field!” Pray against such tightfistedness, and pray that you would never be the one standing in the way of your children’s obedience to love the nations.

Look for the conclusion of this article in the next West End Herald.

T. Kim is a wife, mother, and writer. Further information is being withheld to allow for ministry among unreached peoples.

Spring New Members Class



Vitor & Samara Cortial



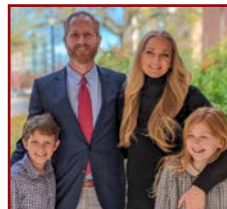
Billy Kirby



Josh & Katherine Lyon, Allie, Ziah



Steve & Peggy Maye



Jason & Diana Sauer
Jamieson, Isla



Susan Scappatura

Announcements

Service Opportunity

Greenville Presbyterian Theological Seminary is in need of some men to help with moving the seminary library to the Commons for the upcoming renovations. Responsible teens can also help out. Help will be needed:

April 13—Saturday, 8 A.M.–1 P.M., lunch provided.

Need 10–12 people to disassemble and reassemble Main Stacks shelves

Individuals willing to help at other times during the week (retirees, etc.) can contact Andy Wortman directly at awortman@gpts.edu.

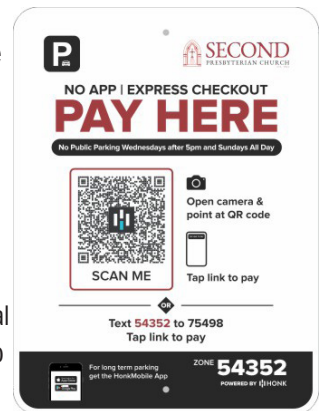
Graduates!

If someone in your family is graduating from high school, technical school, college, or university, please contact the church office so we can prepare for our Graduation Banquet on Wednesday, May 8.

Parking Lot Changes

Second Pres is implementing a public pay parking option for weekday, evening, and Saturday parking. Going forward, the parking lot will be regularly checked for illegal parkers and parking notices will be issued. Second Presbyterian members will still be able to park for free at any time. Please note the following about parking at Second Presbyterian:

- On Wednesday evenings and all day Sundays—park anywhere
- During the week, please be sure to have your Second Pres parking window sticker or rear-view mirror hang tag visible
- During the week, please park in the area reserved for church members, marked with signs
- If you receive a parking notice, please contact Nate Johnson (njohnson@spcgreenville.org) for the charge to be voided
- If you are member of Second Pres and need a new/additional parking sticker or hang tag, go to spcgreenville.org/signup to request one



Upcoming Missions Opportunity

There are still slots available for the Peru Mission Trip July 5–14! This is a wonderful opportunity to partner with our brothers and sisters in Peru as they seek to spread the gospel. Contact Brendan Branigin for details and to sign up.

Sharing Your Faith Workshop

Youth and Adults are encouraged to attend this Evangelism Explosion Workshop on Saturday, April 13, taught by Evangelist David Todd. Light snacks will be provided as you learn practical ways to share the precious truths of the Gospel with those around you. The workshop will be held in the Fellowship Hall from 9:00 A.M.–12:30 P.M. Please contact Rev. Branigin (bbranigin@spcgreenville.org) for more information or to sign up.

Kairos Announcement

Call to all bakers! Bill Watkins and the Kairos Prison Ministry team need cookies for the upcoming 4-day class on basic Christianity that will be held at Perry Correctional. This is only the second one since COVID! While only 36 inmates are in the class, all 1000 inmates during the weekend receive bags of cookies with Bible verses and visits from the Kairos ministry team. Please bake as many dozens as you feel led to do and bring them to the kitchen at Second Church on Sunday April 14, 2024. Please package them in disposable containers such as shoe boxes. Please avoid using aluminum foil or zip lock bags. If you have any questions, call Bill Watkins at 304-4737.

If you cannot bake, but are willing to pray for the Kairos team, please sign up for the prayer vigil: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B094DADAD2CA4FC1-47940753-kairos#/>.

Christianity Explored

The missions and evangelism team is hoping to lead an in-house training for church members to become prepared in leading the evangelism program Christianity Explored. The 8-week program can be utilized in a large group setting, an in-home setting, or one-on-one. We would like to equip our members with confidence and tools to evangelize friends and family in a more organized setting. If you are interested in participating in this training, please contact Gerilyn McGaughran.

Save the Date!

MAY 3
2024



**BUILDING
BANQUET**

6:00 p.m.

