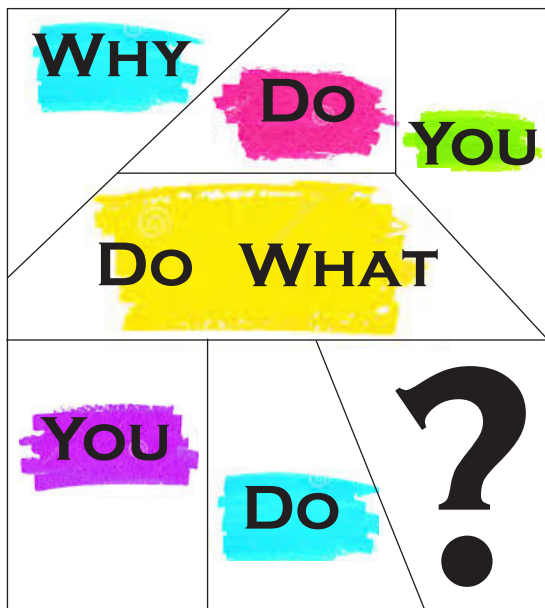


The West End Herald

Second Presbyterian Church, Greenville, SC



by Tim Challies

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Vol. CXXXII, Edition 17

April 28, 2024

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One of my favorite questions for times of small talk is “Why do you do what you do instead of doing something else?” Or sometimes a variation: “Why do you love what you do?” I ask this when I’m in the barber’s chair, on the x-ray table, or trying to articulate words as the dentist rummages around in my mouth—just about anywhere a person has devoted themselves to a particular vocation. My favorite answer so far has been from a dermatologist: “I work dentist hours but make doctor money.” Clever!

Of course, not everyone has the privilege of doing what they love and that comes out in conversation as well. I have met Uber drivers who immigrated to Canada and, as they did so, lost their engineering credentials. I have met people who were forced by their parents to pursue a field they didn’t care for and people who, through the vicissitudes of life, ended up doing something that engaged little of their passion and few of their skills.



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My dad devoted the best of his life to landscaping. And while he loved the design aspect of the job, he also loved the actual work. In most of my memories of him, I picture him digging deep holes to plant trees, lugging huge rocks to build walls, laying bricks and stones to build pathways. He

was rarely happier than when he was straining and sweating, combining artistry and brute strength to design something beautiful.

But his path to landscaping was not an easy one. Dad grew up a son of privilege and received little affirmation from his family when

it came to his love for the natural world. I never met my grandfather so do not know whether he made dad feel that landscaping was beneath a Challies or whether he had just a bit of a complex about it and assumed his father’s disfavor. Either way, he ended up dedicating most of his life to doing what he loved, but I’m not convinced he always did it with a

MALAWI REFORMATION NETWORK

Missionary of the Week

The work of Malawi Reformation Network (MRN) is to promote the growth and multiplication of solid Reformed churches in Malawi, Southern Africa, through the gospel ministry of godly, and well-trained men. Their goals are:



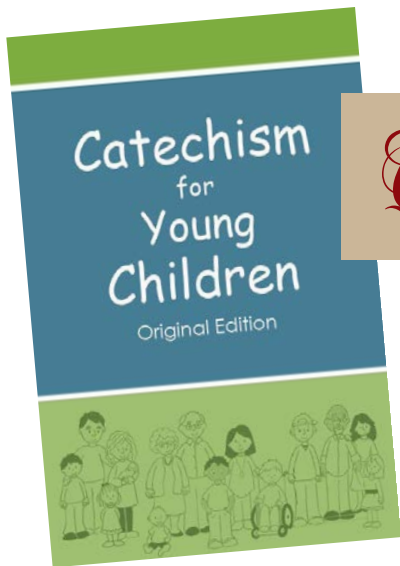
■ to provide Reformed theological education: by partnering with Puritan Reformed Theological Seminary (PRTS), MRN seeks to equip Malawian men theologically for ministry.



*Dr. William VanDoodewaard,
Board Member*

■ to provide pastoral training: by partnering with University Reformed Church, PCA, MRN seeks to equip Malawian men pastorally through internships or fellowships while they attend seminary.

■ to support the planting of confessional Reformed churches: by partnering with men we have helped to educate and train, MRN seeks to financially support their efforts of planting Reformed churches in Malawi for the first four years. ♦



Question 77:

Who is your neighbor?

Answer:

All my fellow men are my neighbors.

Let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God . 1 John 4:7

When we are made new in Christ, we receive forgiveness of sins and Christ's righteousness—we are saved from God's wrath. And we also receive new life by the Spirit—we are saved to fellowship with God and love others.



This is a life-changing truth. In Christ we are given a right standing before God (justification), and we are propelled in love for God and others by the new power of his Spirit in us (sanctification).

This affects the way we see those around us. It's not because they've become something different, but because we have. God's transforming work in us puts us on a path of good works. On this path are real people with real lives full of real stories. And now when we encounter them, they are a divine call to us. They are an opportunity—a divine call—for us to be who we are in Christ. ♦



at the corner of

River & Rhett

GRADUATION Banquet

Wednesday, May 8, 2024

5:30 P.M.

Second Presbyterian Church
Gymnasium



28

**Cindy Mann, Kristin Nguyen, Cal Senn,
Daniel Strevel**

29

William Spell, Bill Wheeler

30

Jonathan Master

1

Solomon Branigin, Julia Ford, Grace Nguyen

2

Eliza Kinnear

4

Rafe Johnson

This Week

MORNING SERMON

Rev. Jeffrey M. Early

SEEK ME AND LIVE
Amos 5:1-17

EVENING SERMON

Rev. Brendon J. Branigin

THE BLOOD OF NABOTH
1 Kings 21:1-16

Sunday, April 28

- 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
- 7:30 P.M. Evangelism Committee (*Fellowship Hall*)

Monday, April 29

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

Tuesday, April 30

- 10:00 A.M. WIC Bible Study (*Fellowship Hall*)
- 6:30 P.M. Lightbringers (*Karr Home*)

Wednesday, May 1

- 5:15 P.M. WIC Council (*Conference Room*)
- 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 (*Gym*)
- 6:45 P.M. WIC Circle 1 (*Conference Room*)
- 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

Friday, May 3

- 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
- 6:00 P.M. *A Time to Build* Banquet (*Gym*)

Last class this spring

Upcoming Events

spcgreenville.org/calendar

May 3	Building Banquet
May 5	Baptism Sunday
May 8	Graduation Banquet
May 15	CAT Kids Program
May 19	The Lord's Supper in the Morning Services
May 22	Summer Children's Choir Begins
May 29	Ask the Pastor (after Prayer Meeting)
June 2	All-Adult Summer Sunday School Begins

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lot of confidence. I think he often felt the judgment of other people, whether real or imagined. That's kind of tragic now that I think about it.

I am not the kind of person who dwells much on the past or who allows myself to look back with regret. Why should I remember what God has forgotten? What good does it do to glance backward? (The answer: usually about as much good as it did Lot's wife.) Yet I do sometimes consider this: I wish I had thought to ask dad why he loved to do the job he chose to do.

Dad had skill and passion for landscaping and I wish I had

thought to ask him why he loved it the way he did. What do you love about designing gardens? What do you love about hard manual labor? And then the more detailed questions: How do you decide which plants belong in which spots? How do you decide which plants complement one another? What do you love about this particular plant and that particular flower? What are you trying to accomplish in this garden? But, alas, to my recollection I asked none of these questions. I received none of the answers. And while I know what dad dedicated his life to, I don't really know why.

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When I ask others why they do what they do, I'm often blessed to hear them describe their love for things I've never considered lovable: crafting beautiful smiles from misaligned teeth, bringing order from numerical chaos, instructing children in the basic skills of life. As I listen and ask follow-up questions, I learn—I learn to appreciate what I have often never considered before and even what doesn't especially enthuse me. God is good to give human beings skills and passions and good to allow us to express them in our vocations. He is good to allow our enthusiasm about these things to be transferable and contagious.

One thought that comforts me as I consider gifts, passions, and talents, is that I'm reasonably certain they carry over from this life to the next. After all, we carry over from this life to the next, and surely not as people who are made into entirely new

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individuals and given entirely new personalities, but as people who, though forgiven, restored, and perfected, are still ourselves. If this is the case, then those who have not been able to do what they love in this world will be able to explore it in the next. Those whose talents have laid dormant through difficult circumstances or whose passions have been sublimated to the call of duty need only wait, for eternity will dawn with fresh and unending opportunities to engage every good desire.

And for those of us who wished we had asked the questions and learned from another person's interests, eternity offers a second opportunity to do so—to learn how they love to glorify God through the way he made them and through their expression of what he has entrusted to them. ♦

Tim Challies is a Canadian Reformed Baptist theologian, pastor, blogger, and author.



Announcements

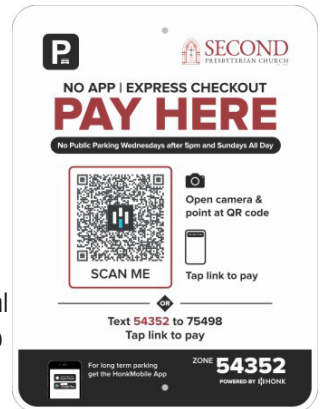
Graduates!

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 Presbyterian Church 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



A Time To Build

The Building Campaign Committee recommended the following to the Session & Diaconate of the Second Presbyterian Church of Greenville for approval on April 7, 2024 (both unanimously adopted):

to authorize the Committee to plan and host the May 3, 2024 Banquet; A Time to Build in the SPC Gymnasium—presenting the building plan to the congregation,

May 3, 2024 Banquet; *A Time to Build*

Dr. Richard Phillips, Speaker

LS3P, Architects—Trehel Construction, Builder

Ron Babington, Financial Information

Melton Duncan, Campaign Chairman/Emcee

Committee Membership: John Atwood-Ron Babington-Joel Barnett-Melton Duncan-Tyler Hughes-Nate Johnson-Helen Kee-Phil Larson-Bobby Mann-Jill Mann-Johnny Mann-Leslie Martin-Kevin Mobley-Richard Phillips-Todd Walton-Jeremy Weaver

New Hires

Three people have recently been hired to begin ministry here on May 1.

Ministerial Intern



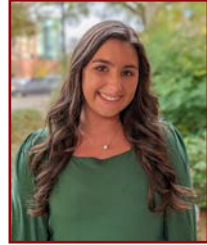
Mr. Josh Lyon will work with youth.

Missions Fellow



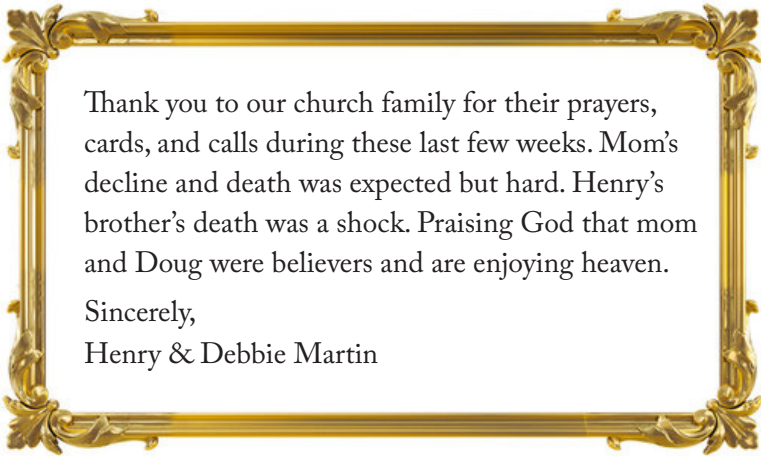
Mr. Vitor Cortial will work with missions.

Summer Youth Intern



Miss Caroline Mobley will work this summer with youth.

Thank-you Note



Sharing Your Faith Workshop

Twenty-six people attended the Workshop on Saturday, April 13, taught by Evangelist David Todd. Below are some photos from the event.

