

The West End Herald

Second Presbyterian Church, Greenville, SC



Rev. Jeffrey Early

BOLIVIA REPORT



In October of 2024 I was privileged to serve the Lord by traveling to Cochabamba Bolivia to teach a one-week intensive course on the book

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of Hebrews. This opportunity came through Teaching Missions International (TMI). TMI exists to afford active and aspiring church leaders the opportunity to receive sound Biblical Reformed



theological training that they might grow in God's grace and better lead their churches in their home countries. This was my second venture with them, having traveled last year to Cervantes Costa Rica to teach Introduction to the Old Testament.

The trip to Bolivia was long, requiring four flights each way for a total of 20 hours. Pastor Branigin assures me these are rookie numbers. Before the course started, I had to fly again from Cochabamba to Santa Cruz to preach for Iglesia Biblica Sola Escritura (Sola Scriptura Bible Church), a Reformed Baptist congregation celebrating their sixth anniversary as a church. The worship was almost exactly like ours here at Second, save the fact that it was conducted in Spanish. We sang Luther's "A Mighty Fortress" as well as "Great is Thy Faithfulness," and Psalm 29. It's such a great encouragement to me, and I hope to you as well, to know that reformed worship resonates all across the globe. This is true because it is not based on



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PRISON MINISTRY

Missionary of the Week

Second Presbyterian Church supports Metanoia Prison Ministries, which is the official prison ministry of the PCA.



SPC volunteers engage in one-on-one mentoring twice a month at Perry Correctional. Inmates and volunteers read the Bible and share struggles and triumphs. SPC volunteers also serve in a corresponding discipleship with Metanoia inmates across the country. The volunteers grade Bible courses and send letters of encouragement to the inmate-students. If you would like to volunteer to be a part of this ministry, contact Bill Watkins. ♦

The following men have been approved to stand for election to the office of deacon. A congregational meeting will be held on Sunday, December 8, at 10:00 A.M.

Michael Carey*

Mark Diggs

Paul Hastings

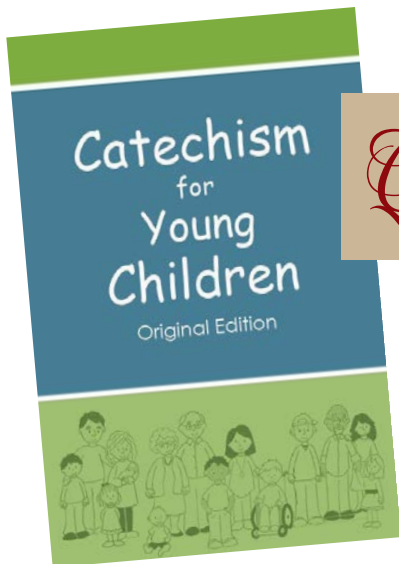
James Leathers*

Richard Olsen

Kevin Phillips

Connor Roy

previous deacon*



Question 106:

In whose name should we pray?

Answer:

Only in the name of Christ.

The Lord Jesus Christ . . .

**. . . in whom we have boldness and access
with confidence through our faith in him.**

Ephesians 3:12

When we come to God “in Jesus’ name,” we tell God that we do not expect Him to accept us or hear us because of who we are. After all, we are great sinners. God does not hear the prayer of sinners. We expect God to accept and hear our prayers because the Lord Jesus Christ stands behind us. We come asking for what we need in the name of the One who always obeyed God perfectly, even to the point of dying on the cross. It is only the person who has put his faith in the Lord Jesus as Lord and Savior who can pray in Jesus’ name. When we come in His name, we are sure God will hear us and answer us. ♦

from *Training Hearts, Teaching Minds*, Starr Meade



at the corner of

River & Rhett

Women in the Church
**WIC International
Dinner—November 8**





NOVEMBER

Birthdays

- 17 Chris Roberts
- 18 Bill O'Brien, Harper Preston, Rebecca Rine,
Vicky Uhall
- 19 George Cumbus, Caroline Farr, Marjorie Swope
- 20 Larry Briggs, Richard Wagner
- 21 Noel Boudreau, Wilma Cagle, Chase Haws,
Walker Hughes, Teddy Johnson, Welthy Senn
- 22 Carrie Anne Joiner, Fitz King III, Susanna Shiou
- 23 Brandi Ford



On November 14–16, the Gym floors will be refinished. No activities or foot traffic should be in the Gym during that time, as well as all day Sunday, November 17. The Acts Community will meet in the Sanctuary for Sunday School that day.

This Week

MORNING SERMON

Dr. Richard D. Phillips

CRUCIFY!

Mark 15:1–15

EVENING SERMON

Mr. Chase A. Harms

HOW GOD MAKES YOU FRUITFUL

John 15:1–5

Sunday, November 17

- 8:30 A.M. MORNING WORSHIP—*The Lord's Supper*
- 9:55 A.M. Children's Chapel (*Sanctuary*)
- 10:00 A.M. Membership Class (*Room C-209*)
- 10:00 A.M. Sunday School
- 11:00 A.M. MORNING WORSHIP—*The Lord's Supper*
- 5:00 P.M. Missionary Prayer Band (*Chapel*)
- 5:30 P.M. Season of Prayer (*Chapel*)
- 6:00 P.M. EVENING WORSHIP

Monday, November 18

- 6:30 A.M. Men's Bible Study (*Fellowship Hall*)
- 9:30 A.M. Rafiki Bible Study (*Conference Room*)

Tuesday, November 19

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

Wednesday, November 20

- 12:00 P.M. Winsome Widows (*Fellowship Hall*)
- 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, November 21

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

Friday, November 22

- 9:15 A.M. Raising Up Mothers (*Fellowship Hall*)
- 12:00 P.M. Men's Luncheon and Bible Study (*Gym*)
- 1:30 P.M. Mission to Main

Upcoming Events

spcgreenville.org/calendar

- November 17** Communion in the Morning Services
- November 27** Thanksgiving Service
- December 1** New Member Reception and Luncheon
- December 8** Congregational Meeting
- December 14** Masculine Mandate Seminar
- December 15** Christmas Oratorio

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a western tradition, but on the teaching of God's Word, which is true in all places and at all times. I preached two sermons in Santa Cruz, both from the letter to the Philippians. My translator



spoke very good English and is actually an online student through Westminster Theological Seminary. That evening I was also asked to do a question-and-answer time with several members of the congregation.

The course lasted from Monday through Friday from 3:00–8:00 P.M. on the Seminario Reformado Latinoamericano (SRL)–Bolivia campus. SRL, similar to RTS, is one seminary with multiple campuses. This one was especially impressive. There are about ten men currently enrolled full time in the school. They live there, work there, and enjoy all of their meals together. It was really encouraging to see and be a part of this group of men for the week. Unfortunately, only one of them spoke a little bit of English so nearly all of my conversations through the week were conducted via google translate. They were all extremely respectful, engaged, and eager to learn with many great questions after class.

In addition to the ten men who were full time students, the class was attended by approximately fifteen local area pastors who were looking to further their study. Around forty members of the congregation also

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attended, hungering for a deeper understanding of God’s Word. The zeal for truth is perhaps best illustrated by the trajectory of the Seminary Host Church. They were planted as a Pentecostal Arminian church. Around ten years ago they found several John MacArthur resources published by Grace to You in Spanish. As a result, they rather quickly became Calvinists. Around five years ago they adopted the 1689 London Baptist Confession of Faith as their official doctrinal standards. They have a growing interest in Reformed Presbyterianism, thanks in large part to the proliferation of resources published by Ligonier and Reformation Heritage Books.



We concluded the week-long course singing, “Before the Throne of God Above.” This rich hymn captures well the key themes of the book of Hebrews. It was a delightful way to close the week.

Before the throne of God above, I have a strong and perfect plea, a great High Priest whose name is Love, who ever lives and pleads for me. . . . I know that while in heaven he stands, no tongue can bid me thence depart.

I have been invited to return next year and teach on the Minor Prophets. I believe it is important to broadcast solid confessionally reformed teaching to as many places as possible. If there is a way I can be a small part of it, I would certainly like to do so. I am prayerfully considering this invitation, if not for 2025, then possibly for 2026. ♦

Announcements

Operation Christmas Child

This is a ministry that seeks to share the love of Christ and the gospel in both word and deed with less fortunate children around the world. Look for the red and green shoe boxes on the counter outside the church library and on the table outside the gym. **November 20th is the due date for returning your filled boxes to the table outside the Gym.** Please contact Attee Leigh with any questions.



Missionary Speaker

All are invited to join the Fellowship Community Class for a special speaker on Sunday, November 17, at 10:00 A.M. in the Fellowship Hall. Greg Slingerland, Communications Director for Come Over and Help (COAH), will be giving a missions update.

New Member Reception

On December 1 following the 11:00 A.M. Worship Service, all are invited to welcome our new members at a luncheon in the Gym. Meat and drinks will be provided. Please bring generous portions of a side dish or dessert to share.

Congregational Meeting

A Called Congregational Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, December 8, at 10:00 A.M. All adults will meet in the Sanctuary. We will be electing deacons, voting to receive and support the 2025 Budget, and hearing an update on *A Time to Build*.

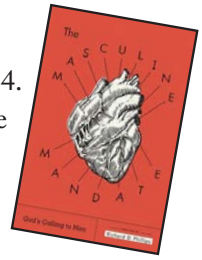


Family Thanksgiving Service

Join the SPC family for a special meal and service on Wednesday night, November 27. A delicious meal will be served in the Gym beginning at 5:30 P.M. (Costs are child/\$3, adult/\$5, family/\$18.) A Thanksgiving Service in the Sanctuary will follow the meal. Children's activities are suspended that night.

Masculine Mandate Seminar

The November meeting has been rescheduled to December 14. Breakfast will be provided beginning at 8:00 A.M. All men are invited to attend!



Treasurer's Update

Ron Babington reports that through October, giving has been \$1,328,134 against a year-to-date budgeted need of \$1,622,710. Actual expenses were \$1,426,536, resulting in an operating deficit of \$98k. Please prayerfully consider how you can help close the remaining gap to the full \$1.95m budget for this year.



	Actual YTD	Budget YTD	2024 Budget
Contributions	1,328,134	1,622,710	1,947,252
Ministerial	383,110	446,432	535,318
Outreach & Pastoral Care	6,868	7,458	8,950
Christian Education	64,989	60,792	72,950
Media	87,874	87,588	105,105
Worship & Music	152,224	166,239	199,287
Administration	232,817	249,293	298,951
Property & Maintenance	196,751	277,458	332,749
Sports & Fellowship	55,977	47,018	56,422
Missions & Benevolence	245,926	254,265	337,520
Total SPC Program Expenses	1,426,536		
Operating Surplus / (Deficit)	(98,402)		

THE WORK WHICH YOUR GOODNESS BEGAN
 THE ARM OF YOUR STRENGTH WILL COMPLETE
 YOUR PROMISE IS YES AND AMEN
 AND NEVER WAS FORFEITED YET.

Augustus Toplady