

# The West End Herald

Second Presbyterian Church, Greenville, SC



## Congregational MEETING

This Sunday, December 8, Jr. High through adults will meet in the Sanctuary at 10:00 A.M. The congregation will be voting to elect seven new deacons. The biographies and photos of those men standing for election are included in this newsletter.

The congregation will also vote to receive and support the 2025 Budget, and hear an update on *A Time to Build*. ♦

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**December 8, 2024**

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# Deacon BIOGRAPHIES



## Michael CAREY



Michael was born into a Roman Catholic family in New Jersey and went through all of the Catholic ceremonies in his youth with no understanding of any Biblical basis. When he was 16, his family moved to Hilton Head Island, SC, and within six months he was invited to a Bible study for high school students. A few months later he heard a clear presentation of the Gospel for the first time and God saved him. The following summer, his Bible study group attended the Bill Gothard Institute in Atlanta, GA, where he met folks who attended Clemson University and they invited him to a campus ministry called Sovereign Grace Fellowship (SGF). During his college years he participated in SGF at Clemson and attended People's Bible Church in Greenville where he met his future wife Diana. They have four daughters – Heather, Alexandra, Amanda, and Natalie – three of whom are married – and they now have four grandchildren. For a time, he was Reformed Baptist, but became convinced of Presbyterian doctrines under the ministry of Jay Adams in the early 1990's at Harrison Bridge Road ARP in Simpsonville, SC. Michael has been a member of Second Presbyterian Church since 2004.

## Mark DIGGS



Mark was saved as a teenager through the ministry of Coral Ridge Presbyterian Church and Evangelism Explosion. The trajectory of his life totally changed as his whole world opened up and he began to discover the Lord's purpose for his life. He went on to attend Christian schools in high school and college. He lived in Greenville, SC and attended Mitchell Road Presbyterian back in the 90s and worked for a nonprofit Christian ministry. Several years ago he was led to return to Greenville after the lockdowns in Chicago. He sought out Second Presbyterian because Pastor Phillips had been his pastor in Florida many years prior. Second Presbyterian has become his church family and has walked with him through the most difficult period of his life. He is very grateful for the mercies and providence of God through Jesus, the Holy Spirit, and through His church.

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# MIRACLE HILL MINISTRIES

*Missionary of the Week*



**Miracle Hill**  
MINISTRIES

Miracle Hill Ministries operates four rescue missions, two addiction recovery programs, a foster home community and foster care program, transitional houses, a food ministry, eight thrift stores, and an auto sales operation—all of which contribute to our mission to serve people experiencing homelessness.

Through Christ's provision, hard work, dedication, and the support of our generous sponsors and partners, we're able to serve thousands of people in need in the Upstate each year. ♦

## **Homeless Ministries:**

Greenville Rescue Mission  
Spartanburg Rescue Mission  
Cherokee County Rescue Mission  
Shepherd's Gate  
Food Warehouse

## **Children's Ministries:**

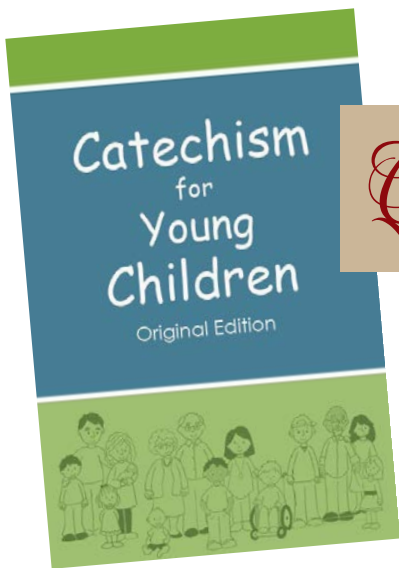
Miracle Hill Children's Home  
Foster Care  
Family Ministry Center

## **Addiction Recovery:**

Overcomers Center for Men  
Renewal For Women  
Transitional Housing

## **INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING OVER THE CHRISTMAS SEASON?**

If you would like to volunteer with a group, please either call the facility where you would like to serve or contact Candace Fritz, Director of Engagement, at 864-268-4357 or [cfritz@miraclehill.org](mailto:cfritz@miraclehill.org).



## Question 109:

How many petitions are there in the Lord's Prayer?

## Answer:

Six.

***What is a petition?*** Today we tend to think of it only as a paper signed by many people asking the government to do something. But it simply means a request of someone in authority. God is highest authority, and in prayer we petition Him. Think of the Lord's prayer, and see if you can find the six petitions mentioned in the catechism! ♦

1 \_\_\_\_\_

2 \_\_\_\_\_

3 \_\_\_\_\_

4 \_\_\_\_\_

5 \_\_\_\_\_

6 \_\_\_\_\_



at the corner of

# River & Rhett

**Sunday, December 15** Evening Worship Service

*J.S. Bach's Christmas Oratorio, parts 5 and 6*

On December 15, our Chancel Choir along with a chamber orchestra, will be presenting parts 5 and 6 of Johann Sebastian Bach's masterwork, *The Christmas Oratorio*. This oratorio, similar to G.F. Handel's *Messiah*, is an unstaged sacred musical work for soloists, choir, and orchestra that tells the story of the birth of Christ. It is written in six parts, each celebrating a different event in the story of Christ's nativity. Bach wrote each part to be performed separately in the worship services of the Christmas season for the St. Thomas church in Leipzig, Germany in 1734. This Christmas the music ministry of Second Church will be presenting the final two sections which tell of the coming of the wise men to worship Christ and the conniving of wicked Herod. A tenor soloist sings the part of the Evangelist which follows the biblical narrative of Matthew's gospel. The story is punctuated by chorales (short choir pieces), arias (longer solo pieces), and recitatives (short speech-like pieces) by the choir and soloists which respond to and explore the theological and devotional depths of the events of Christ's birth, inviting the Christian listener to respond in worship, gratitude, and awe. ♦



- 8 Marcus Laughter
- 9 Anya Barringer, Davis Farr, Don Nickson,  
Megan Shiou
- 10 Timothy Nguyen, Josiah Schvaneveldt
- 11 Noelle Bombaro, Dempsey Bouchillon, Vonda Fish,  
Orla Johnson, Rebecca VanDoodewaard
- 12 Ella Gamble, Anna Ruth Mobley
- 13 Marcie Benner
- 14 Joe Bianchi, Shannon Flaherty

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## Paul **HASTINGS**



Paul was brought up in an Evangelical Free Church with believing parents. However, it was not until he was 45 years old that he learned about the Reformed faith. Since that time, he has been attending a PCA Church. Finally understanding the assurance of his faith and resting in the Lord for his salvation has been his purpose, with his chief end to Glorify God and enjoy him forever! He is the husband of Susan Hastings, going on 40+ years. They have three adult children, and the 13th grandchild is due in 2025. He is a retired career senior bank examiner for the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, and served in the US Army, active and Army National Guard, with three post 9/11 deployments. Paul and Susan moved to Greenville in 2019 and have been blessed to attend SPC Greenville.

# This Week

## MORNING SERMON

Dr. Richard D. Phillips

CARRYING THE CROSS

Mark 15:15–32

## EVENING SERMON

Dr. Richard D. Phillips

THE APOSTOLIC GOSPEL

Acts 13:13–41

## Sunday, December 8

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

## Monday, December 9

- 6:30 A.M. Men's Bible Study (*Fellowship Hall*)
- 6:30 P.M. Session Meeting (*Conference Room*)

## Tuesday, December 10

- 10:00 A.M. WIC Circle 3 (*Fellowship Hall*)
- 1:30 P.M. WIC Circle 5 (*Fellowship Hall*)
- 7:00 P.M. WIC Circle 2 (*T. Looper Home*)
- 7:00 P.M. WIC Circle 4 (*L. Martin Home*)
- 7:00 P.M. WIC Circle 6 (*T. King Home*)

## Wednesday, December 11

- 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*)
- 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, December 12

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

## Friday, December 13

- 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
- 6:00 P.M. Friday Night Alive! (*Phillips Home*)

## Saturday, December 14

- 9:00 A.M. Masculine Mandate Seminar (*Gym*)

# Upcoming Events

[spcgreenville.org/calendar](http://spcgreenville.org/calendar)

- December 8** Congregational Meeting
- December 8** Missionary Prayer Band
- December 8** The Lord's Supper in the Evening Service
- December 13** Friday Night Alive! (Singles @ Phillips Home)
- December 14** Masculine Mandate Seminar
- December 15** Christmas Oratorio
- December 24** Lessons and Carols Service

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## Jim LEATHERS



Jim Leathers grew up with believing parents who taught him about Jesus from his earliest days. He professed his faith in Christ at the age of eight. He and his wife Janice started attending Second in 1999 and joined shortly thereafter. Jim and Janice moved to Kentucky in 2002 where they transferred their membership to Christ Presbyterian Church in London, Kentucky.

A job change in November 2003 brought them back to Greenville County and rejoining Second Presbyterian. Jim has previously served as a deacon at Second and is looking forward to the opportunity to serve as an active deacon again if reelected. Jim, Janice, and their son James live in the Blue Ridge area of Greenville County. Jim is a retired Deputy Sheriff and a current working dog trainer for Astro Kennels in Simpsonville.

## Richard OLSEN



Shortly after marrying his wife Cindy, they attended a Baptist Church. Their pastor visited them and shared the gospel and asked him if he would go to heaven when he died. This got Richard thinking. Very soon after that, during a church service, the Holy Spirit made it clear to him that he was a sinner and had no hope without Jesus. He repented of his sins and asked Jesus to save him.

He thanks God every day for his new life in Christ and seeks to honor Him. Scripture tells us that He is sovereign and faithful and he has learned this to be true. Richard and Cindy have two sons and six daughters.

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# 2024 HOLIDAYS Services Schedule

## Friday 12/6

5:00 P.M. Jr. High Christmas Party

## Friday 12/13

3:00 P.M. Sr. High Christmas Party/Caroling

## Sunday 12/15

6:00 P.M. Christmas Oratorio (*Sanctuary*)

7:30 P.M. Reception (*Gym*)

## Tuesday 12/17

6:30 P.M. Lightbringers Caroling

## Wednesday 12/18

5:30 P.M. Christmas Family Meal (*Gym*)

6:45 P.M. Christmas Program (*Gym*)

8:00 P.M. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

## Tuesday 12/24

5:00 P.M. Lessons and Carols Service (*Sanctuary*)

## Tues. 12/24, Wed. 12/25, Thurs. 12/26, Tues. 12/31, Wed. 1/1/2025

Church Offices Closed

## Wednesday 12/25 and January 1

No Meal, Activities, or Services

## Sunday 12/22 and 12/29

8:30 A.M. Worship Service

10:00 A.M. Sunday School

11:00 A.M. Worship Service

5:30 P.M. Prayer Meeting (*Chapel*)

6:00 P.M. Evening Service



**New Members introduced to the SPC Family, Sunday, December 1**

# Announcements



## SPC Cookbooks

The *Second Helpings* cookbook are available for purchase in the SPC Bookstore. The cost of the cookbook is \$20. Payment may be made with cash or check, payable to SPC, and placed in the Bookstore envelope (the Bookstore is down the hall from the Chapel). Envelopes should be placed in the box under the window. Pick up one for yourself and also as a gift for a relative or friend! Any questions may be directed to Sandra Saragoni.

## WIC Decorating Day

On Saturday, December 7, beginning at 9:00 A.M., all ladies are invited to help decorate the church for Christmas.

## Congregational Meeting

A Called Congregational Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, December 8, at 10:00 A.M. All Jr. High through 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*.

## Friday Night Alive!

All singles are invited to the Phillips Home for a meal, fellowship, and teaching time on Friday, December 13 beginning at 6:00 P.M. Please contact Sharon Phillips if you need a ride or have questions.

**Date Change!**

## 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!



## Christmas Oratorio Reception

Ladies of the church are asked to bring finger sandwiches, snacks, and desserts to the Reception after the Christmas Oratorio.

## Raising Up Mothers Registration

Registration for the spring Raising Up Mothers term is open now through December 20. The group will meet Friday mornings from February 7 to May 7 studying “When Sinners Say I Do”. More info and registration is at [spcgreenville.org/raisingupmothers](http://spcgreenville.org/raisingupmothers).

## New Covenant Child

Congratulations to William & Laura Fultz and family! Their sixth child, Evan Pierce Fultz, was born on November 29. Everyone is doing well!

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### Kevin PHILLIPS



Kevin, his wife Pam, son John Mark, have been members of Second Presbyterian Church since April 2022. Their daughter and son-in-law, Anna and Michael Shaw, are members also. Kevin comes from a Southern Baptist background, having professed faith in Christ as a child and having been baptized. Several years ago, through the providence of God, he came across a broadcast of *Renewing Your Mind* and the teaching of R.C. Sproul. This exposed him to the reformed tradition and the Five Solas. In particular, the Solas of grace alone and by Christ alone have been transformative for him. He is now convinced and finds great comfort in the fact that his salvation was a work of God from first to last without any contribution on his part. Out of gratitude, he would like to serve Him by serving with you.

### Connor ROY



Connor was born in Providence, Rhode Island, and was raised in Travelers Rest, South Carolina, in a Christian family. He grew up attending Travelers Rest First Baptist Church where he was saved, by grace, at a young age. He is married to a daughter of Second Presbyterian, Sarah Madison (Altman), and together they have two children – Charlie, age 3, and Annie-Claire, age 1. He played tennis at Erskine College for a year before continuing his college career at Coastal Carolina University where he graduated with a degree in Hospitality Management with a specialization in PGA Golf Management. Connor is a Class A PGA Golf Professional and is currently a Sales Representative for TaylorMade Golf Company. He has been blessed to have attended faithful churches in adulthood including being baptized at Christ Church Presbyterian in Charleston, South Carolina. He is excited to continue to serve the Lord in a new role as a deacon at Second Presbyterian.