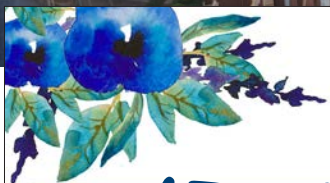
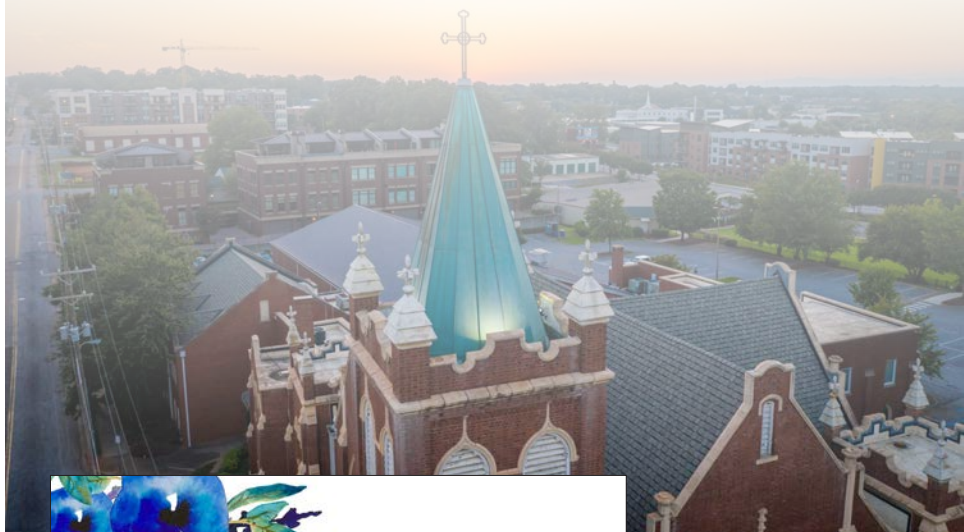


The West End Herald

Second Presbyterian Church, Greenville, SC



NEWS FROM



OXFORD
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Vol. CXXXIII, Edition 17

April 27, 2025

In This Issue

- 1** News from Oxford
- 3** Ministry of the Week
- 4** Weekly Catechism
- 5** Corner of River/Rhett
- 6** Birthdays
- 7** Calendar
- 9** Announcements
- 12** The Intercessor

continued on page 2

The last few months have been especially busy for me with two trips to the USA. It was great to reconnect with old friends and to make news ones in Charlotte, Greenville, Asheville, Nashville, Huntsville, and Chattanooga.

I have fantastic news to share with you, as well as to ask for ongoing prayer, and to give you an update on what God is doing in Oxford Presbyterian.

AMAZING NEWS!

Most of you will know that in 2023, and after three years of roller coaster negotiations, God opened the door for us to take a 35-year lease on the North Gate Hall from Oxford City Council. That lease was an amazing answer to prayer and a really good arrangement. It gave us security of tenure and the opportunity to make significant alterations to the building. The downside was it tied us and our successors to very significant rent payments every year.

Our dream and prayer was always that, at some point, we would have the opportunity to upgrade the tenancy to actual ownership. I am thrilled to tell you that, just a few weeks ago, we completed the process of buying the North Gate Hall! With incredibly generous help from external supporters we were able to buy the freehold for the North Gate Hall from the Council outright with no debt.

This is a mind-boggling development and once again we have seen our great God work in unusual and unexpected ways. Church buildings that have been converted to restaurants in England don't come back to be churches again. But this one has! Tiny evangelical church plants with tiny resources don't get buildings, in this city in particular. But God has done it! Not only did the City Council vote unanimously to sell the building to us, but the process of agreeing and exchanging the legal contracts went smoothly.

Please join us in giving thanks to God for this remarkable provision.

PRAY ON!

As fantastic as this news is, we still need your prayers and support. The Lord has wonderfully blessed our capital fund raising, yet we have pressing needs for our day-to-day operational costs and further fundraising to do for the renovation of the North Gate Hall. *continued on page 10*



Nate Johnson



Director of Media and Facilities

The online ministry of Second Presbyterian Church exists to promote and disseminate sound, biblical teaching to the people of SPC and to the world.

The online ministry of Second Presbyterian Church began to take shape between 2005–2008 with digitally recording sermons, starting up an audio-only livestream, and creating the first SPC website. Pastor Richard D. Phillips began his ministry at SPC during this time in July 2007.

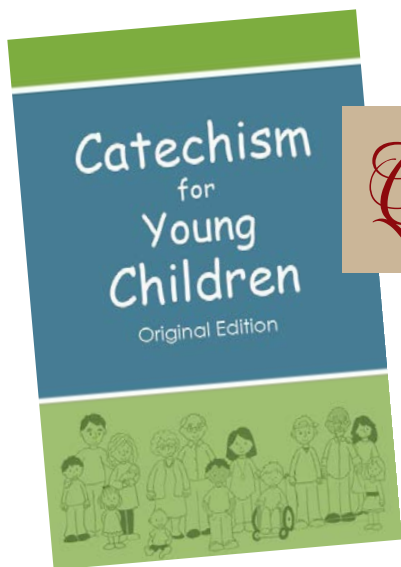
There are many tools and resources that makeup the online ministry of SPC. Some of those include the website with detailed information about the church, our livestream platforms, the sermon and teaching archives, signing up for SPC events, accessing our weekly publications, Android and IOS mobile apps, and online giving.

The online ministry of SPC started out small with an uncertain future, but has grown into a resource that assists thousands per week by connecting them to a faithful church and providing faithful teaching from the Bible. ♦



spcgreenville.org





Question 128:

In whose name are we baptized?

Answer:

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.

The Apostle Peter said . . .

Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself. Acts 2:38

Christ's command to baptize ultimately rests upon His own actions—His outpouring of the Spirit upon the nations to unite a people unto Himself—to cleanse His bride from every spot and wrinkle so that He may present her as holy and without blemish (Ephesians 5:25–27). This is what Paul called the washing of new creation, or regeneration (Titus 3:5). We baptize, therefore, in the triune name of God because God has sent His Son, who has poured out His Spirit, and He is making the new heavens and earth, is cleansing us from our sin, and has united us to Jesus, the last Adam, who is ushering in the new creation, the new heavens and earth. ♦



at the corner of

River & Rhett

Easter Sunday, April 20

Mountain View Baptist Church



Second Presbyterian Church





April & May Birthdays

- 27 Randolph Johnson, Pam Phillips, Don Wagner,
Jon Waterholter
- 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



Lightbringers held an English Country Dance on April 15!

This Week

MORNING SERMON

Dr. Richard D. Phillips

THE HANDWRITING ON THE WALL
Daniel 5:1–31

EVENING SERMON

Rev. Jeffrey M. Early

A SPECTACLE
Nahum 3:1–19

Sunday, April 27

- 8:30 A.M. MORNING WORSHIP (*Sanctuary*)
- 9:55 A.M. Children's Chapel (*Sanctuary*)
- 10:00 A.M. Sunday School
- 11:00 A.M. MORNING WORSHIP (*Sanctuary*)
- 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*
- 7:30 P.M. Evangelism Committee (*Fellowship Hall*)

Monday, April 28

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

Tuesday, April 29

- 7:00 P.M. Men's Basketball (*Gym*)

Wednesday, April 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)
- 6:30 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

Friday, May, 2

- 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*)

Upcoming Events

spcgreenville.org/calendar

April 27

The Lord's Supper in the Evening Service

May 14

Graduation Banquet

May 21

CAT Kids Program

May 24

Masculine Mandate

May 25

Baptism Sunday

May 28

Summer Children's Choir Begins

June 1

All Adult Summer Sunday School Begins

June 15

Baptism Sunday

June 16-21

Sr. High Summer Conference (Pawleys Island, SC)

June 23-27

PCA General Assembly (Chattanooga, TN)

July 7-11

Vacation Bible School

July 21-25

Jr. High Summer Conference (Ridge Haven, NC)



**ASIAN CRESCENT
EAST JAVA HUB**

VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE

EXCITING OPPORTUNITIES IN INDONESIA

- Meet Alex and Eska D who are spearheading the East Java hub launch
- Java, Indonesia has the highest concentration of Muslims in the world!
- Help us deploy the core team by sending us 2 individuals or families
- Learn more about how your gifts & skills could propel this work forward

MAY 12, 8:00PM EASTERN TIME

REGISTER HERE

FOR MORE INFO
[INFO@ASIANCRESCENT.ORG](mailto:info@asiancrescent.org)



Announcements



Graduates

Please email the church office with the names of any high school or post-high school young people who will graduate this spring or summer. Also, please provide the school from which they are graduating. These young people will be honored at the annual Graduation Banquet on Wednesday, May 14. Our speaker this year is Rev. Jeffrey Early.

Friday Night Alive

All singles are invited to the Phillips Home for a meal, fellowship, and teaching time on Friday, May 2, beginning at 6:00 P.M. Please contact Sharon Phillips if you need a ride or have questions.

Financial Report

For the first three months of 2025, giving was \$413k against a target of \$487k (one quarter of the full year budget), so \$74k off pace. Actual expenses incurred through March were \$435k, resulting in a \$22k operating deficit. And yet, these are improvements compared to the same time last year when giving was \$342k and \$85k below operating expenses.

Baby Shower

All the women of Second Presbyterian Church are invited on Sunday, May 18 from 2–4 P.M. to the Gamble home in celebration of mom-to-be, Sarah Phillips and Baby Boy Phillips, due in August. The shower is being hosted by (mom-in-love) Sharon Phillips, Sarah's Aunts Maggie and Lynn, and dear friends. Please RSVP to Sharon Phillips. Sarah is registered at <https://my.babylist.com/sarahphillips>

Missionary Prayer Band

Come a little earlier on this Sunday night, April 27, and meet in the Chapel at 5:00 P.M. to hear updates about our missionaries and uphold them in prayer before the throne of grace.



continued from page 2

Please pray for internal giving to grow in the coming year. As we grow numerically as a church (see below), please pray for support to grow from within as well.

Please also pray for new partners and supporting churches. One of my recent trips to the USA was almost entirely focussed on that need. I had several very encouraging meetings and we now look to the Lord to provide.

CHURCH LIFE AND EVANGELISM CONTINUE

Whilst so much has happened behind the scenes with the North Gate Hall, we have continued to worship and witness as a church. This centres on our two Sunday services. We have seen lots of new people visit us, worship with us, and join us,

since Christmas. So much so that space in our building has on occasion been a rare commodity. We have welcomed new members and are looking forward to two baptisms in the next few weeks. This all highlights

the pressing need for us to get on with the building renovations so we can increase the seating in the North Gate Hall and so accommodate our growing numbers.

Do pray for the Lord to continue to add to us and to especially work in the many non-Christians who attend our services.

STUDENT WORK DOUBLES

Over the last few months we have seen our student work double in size. Demand was so strong for 'Rooted'—our bi-weekly evening of pizza and Bible study—we have now increased it to a weekly meeting. It has been such a delight to see 30+ students gather on Tuesday evenings to dig deep into God's Word.

We have seen even more attend our services, often inviting their friends and bringing non-Christians with them.

Please pray for us as we endeavour to shepherd and care for these students. Many are young in the faith and eager to learn, which is both a privilege and a responsibility!



continued on page 11

RENOVATIONS BEGIN

Many of you will know that last summer we were able to completely update and fix the roof of the North Gate Hall. It has since then been a joy to worship in and use a completely watertight and dry building(!) Over the last four weeks we have also begun work on the basement. This has involved excavations and preparation for new steel beams. It also meant we could not use the North Gate Hall for a month. On Sundays we have been back where we began—in St. Luke's Chapel and the Friends Meeting House. Whilst these smaller locations were a headache to fit into, it was a blessing to temporarily go back to our roots. It has also filled us with increased thanksgiving for the permanence and space of the North Gate Hall.



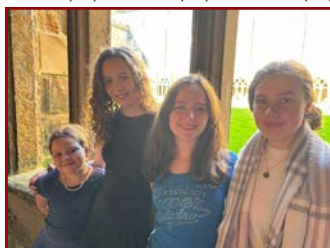
Please pray for the building work to go well. Please also pray as we move back into the North Gate Hall for our Easter Sunday services.

THANK YOU!

Thank you so much for your prayers and support for Oxford Pres. There is much more to report but that will have to wait until another update soon. Since the inception of Oxford Pres in September 2018 it has been clear the Lord has answered your prayers in surprising ways. Your interest in and support for all that is happening in Oxford Pres. continues to encourage and humble me.

On a personal note, we are busy as a family preparing for Alicia's wedding in late June. We praise God for her fiancé, Jonah, who is a godly young man. Whilst I can't promise I won't cry as I walk her down the aisle, I will nonetheless be filled with thankfulness and joy. ♦

Arabella (9), Alicia (19), Emelia (17), Beatrice (15)



Andy Young moved to Oxford with his family in 2018 to plant Oxford Pres. He is married with four children, enjoys spending time with his family, reading, and drinking good coffee.